

# Information = Power

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South Florida DX Association



The Golden Rule of DX is PEPSI:

Patience,

Energy,

Persistence,

Skill, and

Information. ← Today's topic.

# Notice

What you are about to see contains lists of web sites and other products available on the Internet. Therefore, it may contain personal opinion, viewpoints, prejudices, and other subjective, unsubstantiated drivel with which you may disagree.

# Today's Class

- References
  - Books, web sites, videos, and other publications
- Near-Real-Time Information
  - DX bulletins and publications
  - Email reflectors
  - More web sites
- Real-Time Information
  - Packet cluster system
  - Chat

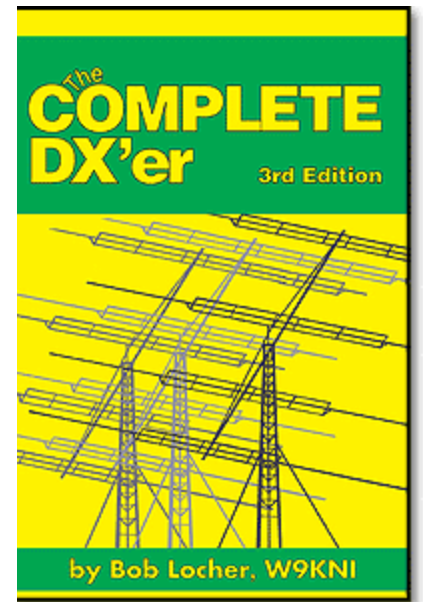
# References

# The Complete DX'er

Locher proceeds to spill the beans about operating techniques [that are] dark mysteries to most operators. A more apt title for his book might have been “The Complete Operator,” because most of what he has to say can apply to every time we turn our radios on ... Locher has put it all together in a readable fashion. His easy, conversational style never condescends to the reader ... “The Complete DX'er” leaves other tutorials behind: it not only advises what to do, it tells how to do it ... Sections on choosing a station and selecting antennas are particularly useful...

[*The DX Bulletin*]

Bob Locher, W9KNI, *The Complete DX'er*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Geyserville, CA: Idiom Press. 2003. 223 pp. ISBN 0-9617577-0-1.



<http://www.idiompress.com/books-complete-dxer.html>

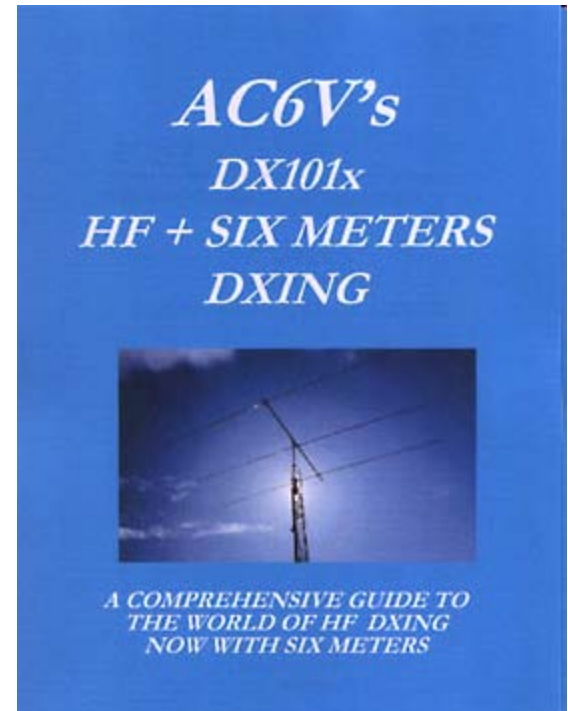
# AC6V's DX101x

The book is the culmination of lots of time and effort, and the contents show it. Subjects covered include transceivers, and their specifications, antennas, Yagi beams, vertical antennas, cubical quads, computer equipment, antenna tuners, microphones, ESP hearing, foot switches, logging programs, grayline programs, beacons, the Big Gun myth, pileups, low band DXing, DX packet, awards ... the list is practically endless! And that's just the main part of the book. Also included are several appendices with subjects like prosigns, CW contesting equipment, SSB contesting, DXer phonetics, CQ zones, ITU zones, beacons, DX clubs, and much much more!

[*World Radio Magazine*]

Rodney R. Dinkins, AC6V, *AC6V's DX101x: HF + Six Meters Dxing Reference Guide*. Iola, KS: AC6V Publications. 2004. 236 pp. ISBN 1-43489-485-1.

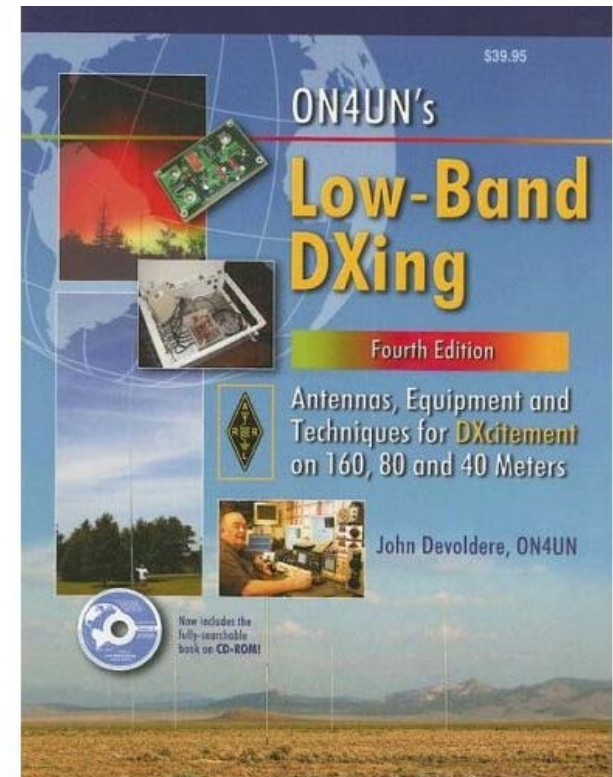
<http://www.ac6v.com/DXSAMPLE.htm>



# ON4UN's Low-Band DXing

Antennas, Equipment and Techniques for DXcitement on 160, 80 and 40 Meters ... “Not a book – the Bible for low-band operation.”

John Devoldere, ON4UN, *Low-Band DXing*. 4<sup>th</sup> ed.  
Newington, CT: American Radio Relay League.  
2005. 585 pp. ISBN 0-87259-914-0.

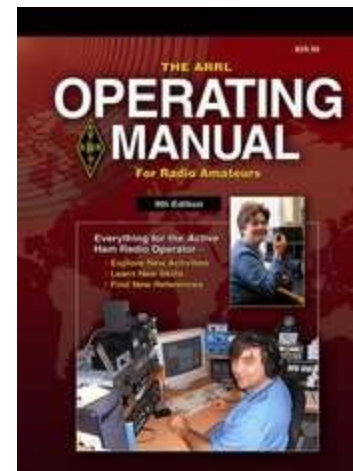
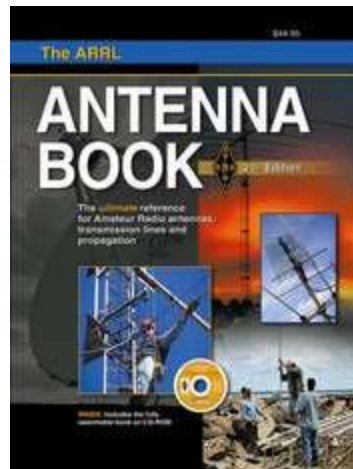




# ARRL Bookshelf

<http://www.arrl.org/catalog/> :

- ARRL Handbook (86<sup>th</sup> Ed.)
- ARRL Antenna Book (21<sup>st</sup> Ed.)
- Low Profile Amateur Radio (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.)
- ARRL Operating Manual (9<sup>th</sup> Ed.)
- RSGB Radio Communication Handbook (9<sup>th</sup> Ed.)
- Etc.



# The DX Magazine

- Published: Bi-monthly
- Publisher: N4AA, *CQ* DX Editor
- Subscription: Yes
- Web site: <http://www.dxpub.com/>
- Personal Comment: Snail mail. Annual “most wanted” entities survey considered the gold standard. Color, with photos and advertisements.



# Bookmarks-General

- <http://www.qsl.net/k4fk/>
  - South Florida DX Association web site
- <http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/index.html>
  - Main DXCC web site
- <http://www.rsgbiota.org/>
  - Main Radio Society of Great Britain Islands On The Air site.
  - See also <http://www.islandchaser.com/>
    - IOTA fan site
- <http://www.deltadx.net/ABCDx/ABCDx.htm>
  - “A, B, Cs of DX” – essentially, this course on the web...excellent.

# Bookmarks-Reference

- <http://www.ac6v.com/prefixes.htm>
  - Part of AC6V's massive ham radio site (*which see*), a detailed listing of all callsign prefixes assigned to the amateur bands
- <http://www.hamatlas.eu/>
  - SP6NVK's massive Internet atlas of all DXCC entities
- <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html>
  - The CIA's World Factbook
    - Just what you'd expect...comprehensive and detailed.
- <http://sunrisesunset.com/>
  - Sunrise and sunset times world-wide.

# Bookmarks-QSLing

- <http://www.qrz.com/>
  - The “go-to” site to find station information, QSL routes, etc.
- <http://www.ik3qar.it/manager/>
  - Extensive list of QSL managers.
- <http://hamcall.net/call>
  - “World’s largest QSL database,” by Buckmaster.
- Incoming QSL bureau:
  - System overview: <http://www.arrl.org/qs1/qs1in.html>
  - Single-letter prefixes: <http://www.cdxa.org/w4qs1.html>
  - Two-letter prefixes: <http://www.qs1.net/sterling/QSLBuro4/QSLBuro4.html>
- Outgoing QSL bureau: <http://www.arrl.org/qs1/qs1out.html>

...much more in a later class!

# DXpedition Videos

- To get a feel for what it's really like on those great DXpeditions to the back of beyond
  - 9V1YC: <http://www.dxvideos.com/>
  - K4UEE: <http://www.k4uee.com/dvd>
  - NCDXA: <http://www.ncdxf.org/services/videos.cfm>
  - Many others . . .

# “Near-Real-Time” Information

- DX Bulletins
- Email Reflectors
- Web Sites

# DX Bulletins

The best way to hear of rare DX operations, learn of last-minute changes to operating plans, and just know what's going on in the DX world in general, is by subscribing to DX bulletins.

There are a few major ones and lots of regional ones; some free, some subscription-based; some daily, some weekly.



# The Daily DX

- Published: Daily
- Publisher: W3UR, *QST* DX Editor
- Subscription: Yes
- Web site: <http://www.dailydx.com>
- Personal Comment: The *crème de la crème* of DX bulletins. Daily news updates make a difference. Breaking news sent via separate email. Has a Twitter account for up-to-the-minute news Tweets. Also has *The Weekly DX*, a weekly summary.

# QRZ DX

- Published: Weekly
- Publisher: N4AA, *CQ* DX Editor
- Subscription: Yes
- Web site: <http://www.dxpub.com/>
- Personal Comment: PDF format sent as an email attachment. Color, with photos and advertisements.

# 425 DX News

- Published: Weekly
- Publishers: I1JQJ and IK1ADH
- Subscription: Free
- Web site: <http://www.425dxn.org/>
- Personal Comment: Has detailed companion calendar, emailed separately. Available in English, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish editions...

# DXNL

- Published: Weekly
- Publisher: DARC “DX and HF-Contesting” Committee, DL7MAE
- Subscription: Free
- Web site:  
<http://www.dxhf.darc.de/mailman/listinfo/dxnl>
- Personal Comment: Excellent IOTA news; also available in German.

# Ohio Penn DX (OPDX)

- Published: Weekly
- Publisher: KB8NW
- Subscription: Free
- Web site:  
<http://hamnet.org/mailman/listinfo/opdx>
- Personal Comment: Good IOTA, SOTA, CASHOTA, and lighthouse news. Has weekly DXCC entity activity report.

# Email Reflectors

- Email reflectors can be a great way to ask questions to a group of (self-selected) subject matter experts
  - Caveat Lector, of course
- DX-QSL mailing list
  - <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/dx-qsl>
- <http://lists.contesting.com/>
  - TowerTalk, Topband, RTTY, etc.
- Read the archives!

# Bookmarks-DXpeditions

- <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>
  - NG3K's Announced DX operations site
- <http://www.dailydx.com/Calendar.htm>
  - Free resource from *The Daily DX*
- <http://dx-hamspirit.com/>
  - Beautiful site of upcoming DX operations
- <http://www.n0hr.com/wk34/index.htm>
  - Upcoming DXpedition maps
- Individual DXpedition websites

# Bookmarks-Propagation

- <http://dx.qsl.net/propagation/>
  - Worldwide HF propagation
- <http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/SWN/>
  - Space Weather Now – what the sun is up to
- <http://www.spaceweather.com/>
  - More of what the sun is up to

...much more in a later class!



# “Real-Time” Information

- The Packet Cluster System
- Chat

# Background

- “Back in the day,” DXers relied on phone trees to spread the word of rare DX activity
  - Late night phone calls → annoyed spouses!
- Later (late 1960s), 2m FM repeaters were used
  - Spots were neither filter-able nor archive-able
  - Still used today (SFDXA: 147.330/.930 - PL 103.5)
- In the early 1980s, 2m packet appeared
  - Dick Newell, AK1A, of Pavilion Software wrote “PacketCluster” for the Yankee Clipper Contest Club
  - “Clusters” of stations exchanging formatted data
  - Data was filter-able and archive-able
  - But still local, and mostly in urban areas

# Today's Web-based Cluster System

- DXers send “spots” of DX stations heard to a web site, where they are displayed for all to see (and, hopefully, work)
- Web sites (usually) exchange spots received, for the benefit of all
- Differences include user interface, “bells and whistles” (DX entity ID, links to QRZ.com, maps, etc.)

# Two of My Faves

- DX Watch (<http://www.dxwatch.com> )
    - Progressive use of new features
    - SMS alerts sent to your cell phone
  - DX Summit (<http://www.dxsummit.fi/> )
    - The “original”; recently received a facelift
- Spots are also integrated into almost all electronic logging programs

# DX Watch

DXWATCH.COM

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[www.NoiseBot.com](http://www.NoiseBot.com)  
Ads by Goooooogle

## 1 Tip of a flat belly :

Cut down 3 lbs of your belly every week by using this 1 weird tip.

[show/hide my last filters](#)

band: [160m](#),[80m](#),[60m](#),[40m](#),[30m](#),[20m](#),[17m](#),[15m](#),[12m](#),[10m](#)

rows to show:

[cancel filter selection](#) / [send a spot](#) / [search spot by callsign](#)

de	dx	freq	obs	time
<a href="#">RU9CI</a>	<a href="#">LX1HO</a>	14026.6	cq fb 599	<a href="#">1715z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">F6EAZ</a>	<a href="#">A61BK</a>	14005.0		<a href="#">1715z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">W1YY7</a>	<a href="#">LX1HO</a>	14026.8	CQ	<a href="#">1715z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">SQ2HHH</a>	<a href="#">UA1ZFL</a>	14076.0	JT65 -7dB	<a href="#">1713z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">PD1AIH</a>	<a href="#">YB4IR</a>	14214.0	[LoTW] 4 x QSL DIRECT NO Return!	<a href="#">1713z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">W9LX</a>	<a href="#">VU2PAI</a>	14003.2	Wrkd easily up 1 KC	<a href="#">1713z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">SP9RQJ</a>	<a href="#">SP9JZT</a>	18079.0	cq dx	<a href="#">1713z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">W7DTG</a>	<a href="#">OE/DJ7PR</a>	14027.0	559 in NWVA state	<a href="#">1712z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">EA5EH</a>	<a href="#">9M8DX</a>	14014.0	IM97KX<>	<a href="#">1712z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">H6RK</a>	<a href="#">VU2PAI</a>	14003.0	Wrkd up 1.2	<a href="#">1712z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">IW9DAF</a>	<a href="#">EA5GPC</a>	28485.0	56	<a href="#">1711z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">VU3USJ</a>	<a href="#">T6AD</a>	14017.0	CQ listening up 1	<a href="#">1711z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">EC80J</a>	<a href="#">EA4ESI/1</a>	7105.0	IL18BP<>	<a href="#">1711z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">YO60AF</a>	<a href="#">MD0CCE</a>	18074.0	[LoTW] UP 1 pse correctly my call trx	<a href="#">1711z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">EA8DD</a>	<a href="#">A61RJ</a>	14251.0	59 in Tenerife Island	<a href="#">1711z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">UR8GM</a>	<a href="#">GD0BCJ</a>	10108.9	PAUL 73%21 GL	<a href="#">1710z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">EA7IBK</a>	<a href="#">F4UKP/P</a>	14260.0	EU-032	<a href="#">1710z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">UA0SW</a>	<a href="#">YB1AOB</a>	14023.0	qsl via dj3kr trx qso	<a href="#">1710z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">IZ1HVD</a>	<a href="#">IE9X</a>	28502.0	IOTA EU-051 TNX	<a href="#">1710z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">K7GSE</a>	<a href="#">A61H</a>	14280.0		<a href="#">1710z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">IZ8HVV</a>	<a href="#">IH910KLV</a>	28496.7	Short Skip Open	<a href="#">1709z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">LA9TJA</a>	<a href="#">EX2F</a>	14002.0		<a href="#">1709z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">VE3HBZ</a>	<a href="#">MD0CCE</a>	18073.7	[LoTW] 2 up	<a href="#">1708z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">K2UMM</a>	<a href="#">UA6GR</a>	18085.0		<a href="#">1708z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">WB7BBI</a>	<a href="#">HC4SW/B</a>	28265.0	NC beacon	<a href="#">1708z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">H2JR</a>	<a href="#">UA3CH</a>	14076.0	JT65-A > FM18CO	<a href="#">1707z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">HB9EFJ</a>	<a href="#">IZ7FLP/P</a>	7080.0	DCI TA007	<a href="#">1707z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">IK2SAV</a>	<a href="#">IZ7FLP/P</a>	7080.0	NUOVA FREQ.	<a href="#">1707z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">IK8III</a>	<a href="#">IH910KLV</a>	28496.8	5/9 IN NAPLES ISL PANTELLERIA	<a href="#">1707z 17 Aug</a>
<a href="#">K2UMM</a>	<a href="#">IX0FF</a>	18080.5	IL18DANIK	<a href="#">1707z 17 Aug</a>

options:

[show/hide](#)

language:

spots format:

map (beta version):

show

hide

LoTW users:

show

hide

# Cell Phone Alerts

DXWATCH.COM

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## N4II - Alert filters

edit alert filter:

dx	de	band	mode
C2 - Nauru	any	any	any

### notify me via:

- email (██████████@adelphia.net)  
 alternate email (██████████@tmomail.com)

### send daily email reports on this spot to:

- ██████████@adelphia.net

*(the reports are generated every day, around 00:00 UTC)*

proceed

**attention:** If you want to use msn alerts, please add the user **notifier@dxwatch.com** to your friends list.

# Spot Filtering

DXWATCH.COM

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create your filter, or choose one on the list at the right side of the screen >>>

	DX station	DE station	band	mode
dxcc:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YA - Afghanistan	<input type="radio"/> any	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> all	any
itu zone:	<input type="radio"/> any	<input type="radio"/> any	<input type="checkbox"/> 137kHz	
cq zone:	<input type="radio"/> any	<input type="radio"/> any	<input type="checkbox"/> 160m	
continent:	<input type="radio"/> any	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NA - North America	<input type="checkbox"/> 80m	
			<input type="checkbox"/> 60m	
			<input type="checkbox"/> 40m	

proceed

the **DX station** column refers to the station which is being spotted.

the **DE station** column refers to the station where the spot comes from.



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## ready made filters

HF last 50 HF  
137kHz HF/CW  
1.8MHz HF/SSB  
3.5MHz  
5MHz 1.8/3.5/7MHz  
7MHz 14/21/28MHz  
10MHz 10/18/24MHz  
14MHz  
18MHz  
21MHz  
24MHz  
28MHz  
  
VHF+ VHF+/CW  
50MHz VHF+/SSB  
70MHz  
144MHz  
430MHz  
1.2GHz

## my last filters:

band: 160m,80m,40m,30m,20m,17m,15m,12m,10m,6m

DX dxcc: 3DA - Swaziland / DE continent: NA - North America

DX dxcc: 3DA - Swaziland

band: 160m,80m,60m,40m,30m,20m,17m,15m,12m,10m

[click here to create a filter](#)

# Filter Result

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[support us](#)



## 1 Tip of a flat belly :

Cut down 3 lbs of your belly every week by using this 1 weird tip

[show/hide my last filters](#)

[DX dxcc: YA - Afghanistan](#) / [DE continent: IIA - North America](#)  
[cancel filter selection](#) / [send a spot](#) / [search spot by callsign](#)

rows to show: 50

de	dx	freq	obs	time
<a href="#">Follow dxwatch.com at twitter.com/dxwatch</a>				
<a href="#">W9KHI</a>	<a href="#">T6AD</a>	14010.0	calling you	<a href="#">1547z 11 Aug</a>
<a href="#">W9KHI</a>	<a href="#">T6AD</a>	14046.3		<a href="#">1621z 09 Aug</a>
<a href="#">H6SC</a>	<a href="#">YA3TCJ</a>	14215.0		<a href="#">0539z 26 May</a>
<a href="#">KD8IJ</a>	<a href="#">YA3TCJ</a>	14240.0	thanks for the dx	<a href="#">0537z 26 May</a>
<a href="#">K6AWB</a>	<a href="#">YASU</a>	14175.0	SY2WT	<a href="#">2330z 25 May</a>
<a href="#">H3LL</a>	<a href="#">YAV4AB</a>	50025.0	in el86 579 now also	<a href="#">1151z 22 May</a>
<a href="#">AB9M</a>	<a href="#">YA4EQW</a>	14070.6	PSK PSK31	<a href="#">1245z 26 Mar</a>
<a href="#">KG6EDD</a>	<a href="#">YA5TR</a>	7010.0	very rare, afghan strn	<a href="#">1450z 14 Mar</a>
<a href="#">H5XZ</a>	<a href="#">YA/IW0HPJ</a>	14340.0	VIA IW0EFA	<a href="#">1455z 01 Mar</a>
<a href="#">K5OVC</a>	<a href="#">YA/IW0HPJ</a>	14340.0	Luca VERY STRONG Simplex	<a href="#">1440z 01 Mar</a>
<a href="#">H4JDU</a>	<a href="#">YA4LCH</a>	14200.0		<a href="#">1240z 21 Sep</a>
<a href="#">K5OAZ</a>	<a href="#">T6AA</a>	14180.0	I think that is t6ab via it9yvo	<a href="#">1751z 31 Jul</a>
<a href="#">HE8Z</a>	<a href="#">T6AB</a>	14270.0	44 in Michigan	<a href="#">1332z 04 Jul</a>
<a href="#">KG2RG</a>	<a href="#">T6AB</a>	14266.1		<a href="#">1402z 21 Jun</a>

options:

[show/hide](#)

language:

english

spots format:

dxwatch

map (beta version):

show

hide

LoTW users:

show

hide



# DX Summit

**DXSUMMIT BY RADIO X ARCALA**

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## DX SUMMIT SOON READY FOR 2-WAY COMMUNICATION WITH OVER 110.000 MONTHLY USERS

[www.dxsummit.fi/dxspots.aspx](http://www.dxsummit.fi/dxspots.aspx)

The Radio Arcala DX Summit portal is celebrating the milestone of one million monthly hits over a course of several months and more than 110.000 people spending an average of 35 minutes on the site daily. The top five nations using the service are as follows:

USA (28.5%) followed by Germany, United Kingdom, Italy and Japan. In total, users from 170 DXCC countries have entered the service portal. With new visits approaching 19% during the month of May, an increase of users is quite evident.

In the process of making the DX Summit service more focused on younger user segments and non-amateur radio population, two features have been added recently.

Each spotting and spotted callsign is automatically linked to QRZ.COM, providing a more human link to the personal profiles of people and to their pictures. Just click the callsigns and you will automatically enter the relevant QRZ.COM page. Additionally, each line carries the name of the DXCC country spotted.

In a few months time, custom selected filters will be provided to the public allowing users to receive personalized spots that they would like to receive. While initially the selected spots will be sent to your personal email address, the ultimate aim is to offer an SMS (short message service) option to DX Summit users.

This service is a non-profit exercise for Radio Arcala, OH8X but we are pleased to recognize Yasme Foundation and Nokia Corporation for their support of further development and defrayment of operating expenses of the portal. As the servers are in the hands of a professional service provider in the United States, some interruptions are recorded and changing the service provider is in process.

Also, a Help Desk for regular users and for S/W developers is being set up. Here it is suggested that DX Summit open a channel for accepting voluntary donations to keep the Help Desk operational. On a trial basis, through PayPal, DX Summit accepts donations and, additionally, following a donation of 10 USD or 10 EUR, Radio Arcala will send you a full-color Radio Arcala wall calendar postpaid. This option is valid only for the months of July and August.

[www.dxsummit.fi/donate.aspx](http://www.dxsummit.fi/donate.aspx)

We thank you for your support of and interest in Radio Arcala DX Summit. The OH8X Team

## DX SUMMIT IS NOW USING TWITTER

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**A+ A-**

**Solar-Terrestrial Data**  
**2009 Aug 17 0601 UTC**  
Solar Flux: **69**  
A-Index: **1**  
K-Index: **0 / 4 nT**  
X-Ray: **LT A1.0**  
SunSpots: **0**

**Calculated Conditions**

Band	Day	Night
80m-40m:	Fair	Good
30m-20m:	Poor	Poor
17m-15m:	Poor	Poor
12m-10m:	Poor	Poor

Click to Install Solar Data On your Web Site  
<http://www.n0nbh.com>  
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**Don't get lost in transmission.**



# DX Summit Spot Page

## DX SUMMIT BY RADIO X ARCALA

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NEWS **DX SPOTS** ANNOUNCEMENTS CUSTOM SPOTS SEARCH SEND SPOT HELPDESK DONATE RADIO ARCALA



» 25 » 50 HF » 50 VHF » HF/CW » HF/PHONE » VHF/CW » VHF/PHONE » 250 » 1000 » 10000 » **Most Wanted** » Old view < » 25 plain text » 25 mobile spots

A+ A-

### » LAST 25 DX SPOTS - RELOADED EVERY MINUTE

UTORM	14005.0	ZD8RH	tnx qso	1758	17	Aug	Ascension Island
W8VI	14242.7	OE3DIA	Evan	1757	17	Aug	Austria
IK3COJ	1296830.0	SV3GKE/B	s 9+30 1037km jn65<>km08	1757	17	Aug	Greece
EA6VQ	50008.0	EA3RCC/B	TR 599	1756	17	Aug	Spain
EA2URD	18073.0	KH7XS	up2 tnx ea2aaZ	1756	17	Aug	Hawaii
PA3CJP	14008.2	VU2RAK	559 hr.73's TNX	1756	17	Aug	India
SV2CWV	7080.0	IZ7FLP/P		1755	17	Aug	Italy
SP6FVP-@	14256.0	5H4BL	TNX NEW ONE	1755	17	Aug	Tanzania
E74WN-@	14005.2	ZD8RH	up tnx new one 73	1755	17	Aug	Ascension Island
YO6OAF	21010.0	TF8GK	up 1,2 via KT6YL Gulli	1754	17	Aug	Iceland
DF6PW	14219.0	V55L	Lighthouse Swakopmund	1754	17	Aug	Namibia
SS1TJ	14000.0	C21TI	Where is he nw??? Any info???	1754	17	Aug	Nauru
RA6FCX-@	14225.0	EA3DTD	cq cq	1754	17	Aug	Spain
UT4UFL	28517.0	DL3UP	K050GN<ES>JN48HU	1754	17	Aug	Germany
SV2FLQ-@	21070.0	RA6CY	PSK 3l, (+ 1917HZ) , TNX & GL,	1754	17	Aug	European Russia
CT1ILT	18079.0	F6HKA	CQ NA	1754	17	Aug	France
SV2FLQ-@	21070.0	DL0HST	PSK 3l, (+ 1321HZ) , TNX & GL,	1753	17	Aug	Germany
UT4UFL	28493.0	IK3UD	K050GN<ES>	1753	17	Aug	Italy
IZ5ILX	144300.0	EA5TT	CQ CQ 599++ <IM99SL>	1753	17	Aug	Spain
W6SAW-@	14280.0	G4AKC/PM	5/7 here wud like to try 17M	1753	17	Aug	England
EA8AFW	18143.0	UX0FF		1753	17	Aug	Ukraine
F0GAJ	10114.0	HB0/DL2LRT	swl 559	1752	17	Aug	Liechtenstein
EA2JB	7058.0	EA4ESI/EA1	MVAV-614...5/9...73	1752	17	Aug	Spain
IK1RAN-@	1296200.0	EA5TT	JN44<TR>IM99 km 980 1 watt 5/7 tnx	1752	17	Aug	Spain
EC7AMY	28005.3	4X4DK	tnx	1752	17	Aug	Israel

F6BIV YI1SR is PIRATE!Don't call her 1750 17 Aug  
 WFF-@ http://www.ew4dx.org/WFFsearch.html more 400 eLogs 1745 17 Aug  
 HA8LLK To EA8YN: tnx good contact on 10m.... 1713 17 Aug  
 HA8LLK Prop is go down on 10m..here. 1712 17 Aug  
 HA8LLK QSL via QRZ.COM..only! 1709 17 Aug

NSIN SFI=69, A=1, K=2, No Storms -> No Storms 1502 17 Aug  
 NSIN SFI=69, A=1, K=0, No Storms -> No Storms 1207 17 Aug  
 NSIN SFI=69, A=1, K=0, No Storms -> No Storms  0902 17  Aug

**Solar-Terrestrial Data**  
**2009 Aug 17 0601 UTC**  
 Solar Flux: **69**  
 A-Index: **1**  
 K-Index: **0 / 4 nT**  
 X-Ray: **LT A1.0**  
 SunSpots: **0**

**Calculated Conditions**

Band	Day	Night
80m-40m:	Fair	Good
30m-20m:	Poor	Poor
17m-15m:	Poor	Poor
12m-10m:	Poor	Poor

Click to Install Solar Data On your Web Site  
<http://www.n0nbh.com>  
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The YASME FOUNDATION  
 PO Box 2079 • Castro Valley, California 94594  
[www.yasme.org](http://www.yasme.org)

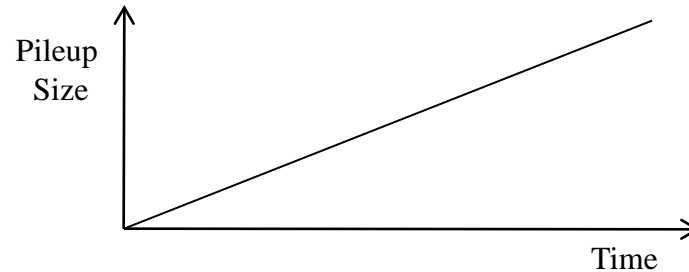
Don't get lost in transmission.



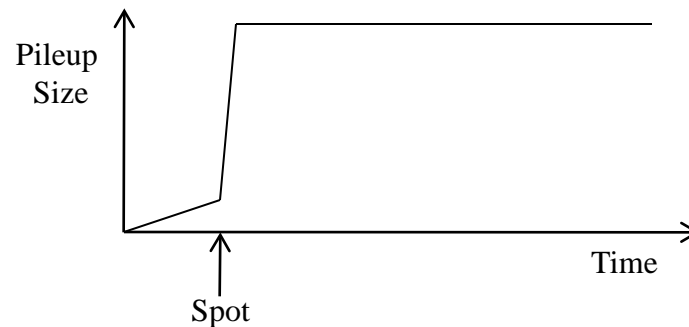
**qik**  
 See what happens

# Law of Unintended Consequences

- Before cluster web sites, pileups grew “organically,” as people tuned across them and found the DX:



- With cluster web sites, pileup growth changed:



# Cluster Etiquette 1

- Don't self-spot
  - Let others have the joy of discovering your CQ
  - Exception: Rare digital modes, e.g., Olivia
- Don't spot your entire log
  - Save your spots for “interesting” DX
    - DL, F, G, VE, etc. usually not “interesting”
      - Exceptions: IOTA, SOTA, CASHOTA, and Special Event stations; unusual bands
  - But it's OK to spot DX that's nearby, if it's rare somewhere else
    - JAs appreciate our spots of Caribbean DX

# Cluster Etiquette 2

- Try to spot “new” stations, not those already spotted eleven times in the last ten minutes
  - Exception: If you’re the first on your continent or entity to spot the DX
    - To help those filtering spots by spotting entity
  - I prefer to spot DX CQs, myself
- Remember that the system is a “spotting” system, not a “QSO announcement” system
  - You don’t have to work ‘em to spot ‘em!

# Coming Soon to a Computer Near You

- Automated DX spotting, using *CW Skimmer* or similar software
  - Digital modes to follow
- Further integration into logging tools

# Chat

- Chat can be useful as a “back channel” between DXers
- Many choices
  - <http://www.on4kst.info/chat/start.php>
    - Low-band (160, 80 & 40m) DX; also 6m DX
  - <http://www.obriensweb.com/sked/>
    - Schedule-making

# Chat Etiquette

- Don't "help" a QSO in progress
  - If the info can't be correctly received over-the-air, **it's not a QSO.**
- Coordinating schedules, however, is fine, useful, and fair game.
  - Great for getting new band/entity points for DXCC Challenge, as well as those last states for WAS, "Triple Play", etc.
  - Don't let it be a crutch, though; there's no substitute for time in the chair, listening



Questions?