

The Eastern Iowa DXer

The Official Newsletter of the
Eastern Iowa DX Association



An affiliated club of the American Radio Relay League



January 2006

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Club Officers

President: Gary Toomsen, K0GT
Vice President: Tom Hauer, K0YA
Secretary Treasurer: George Carsner, W0PPF

Repeater Committee: Al Groff, K0VM
Joe Finkstein, W0MJN

Membership Committee: Jim Spencer, W0SR
Tom Vavra, WB8ZRL

Packet Cluster **WB8ZRL**

147.51, 144.91, 223.40, CRNETROM

Repeater: **N0DX/R**

144.59 / 145.19

From the President

Gary, K0GT
President, EIDXA

I suppose that everyone is looking forward to the Peter 1 operation next month. The news releases sound pretty positive, so it should be a go this year. Hope they have a good safe trip and that we get some propagation to reward their efforts.

I have been struggling with noise on 80m since summer. Toward the end of summer I realized that the source was the power supply of my new computer. It was broad and peaked from about 3.4mhz to 4.5mhz. Well, while I was visiting my son and his family in Sacramento over the holidays, I visited Fry's Electronics. I wish we had a store like that here. Besides appliances, they have a good selection of computers and computer parts, as well as component parts and test equipment. They were offering a 500w computer power supply that normally sells at \$90.00 for \$55.00 with two mail-in rebates totaling \$50.00. That resulted in a solution for my noise

problem at the cost of \$5.00. Just about right! It appears to be a much better supply than the one originally in the computer. Two fans, titanium finish (looks like chrome) and all cabling is covered by shielding and an insulating sheath. It is good but it doesn't eliminate atmospheric noise.

I hope we had a good representation of members participating in the contest season. I missed out on the CQWW SSB because of family activities. I did operate the CQWW CW all band QRP. I am always surprised at the ability of operators to pull my QRP signals out. I even had a few QSOs on 160m. We have the ARRL DX tests coming up in Feb. and March. Jump in and have some fun already. See you all on Feb. 3, 2006 for the first EIDXA meeting of the year.

73's
Gary, K0GT

Editor's Corner

By Tom KØYA
Vice President, EIDX

Well, the first thing I have decided is that the next trip to Hawaii will include a rig! We had a great three weeks on Kauai over Christmas break and really had a chance to explore the island. The condo we stay at is on the second floor and it would be very easy to put out a reasonable antenna to have to some fun. It's a small place, not one those big time-share things so the only restrictions are to not disturb the owner and the guests in the other three units!! The owners said okay so guess I'll just have to think about it next time.

Still no antenna at the house, and with Peter 1 coming up I'm not too happy about that! Don't know if I'm going to be able to do anything about it though. I can set up equipment; the room is done although the equipment position isn't built yet. But, I do have a place to set it up and it is sitting here on the floor!! Soon!!

The only challenge I have is that workload is going up, not down. And, it is going to get worse, not better. I guess that is good from a work perspective. I had been able to get away from the 50 to 60 plus hour weeks for a few years but now that I'm back pursuing new business opportunities in SATCOM it looks like it's going to be a busy couple of years. Well, at least only a few more hopefully!! Then I can slow down and relax with the rest of you!!

Good Dxing, see you at the meeting.

73's
Tom, KØYA

Thoughts from the Director

By Wade Walstrom WØEJ
Director, ARRL Midwest Division

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, presided over his final ARRL Board of Directors meeting this weekend in Hartford, CT. Jim completed his six year tenure as ARRL President.

Elected as the new ARRL President was Joel Harrison, W5ZN, who has served as a Director of the Delta Division, ARRL 2nd Vice President and ARRL 1st Vice President, won election to the ARRL top spot in a challenge from Central Division Director Dick Isely, W9GIG.

Also elected to new positions: ARRL 2nd Vice President Kay Craigie, N3KN, to ARRL 1st Vice President and Delta Division Director Rick Roderick, K5UR, to ARRL 2nd Vice President. With Roderick's new elected position, Delta Vice Director Henry Leggette, WD4Q, ascends to the Delta Division Director position.

Re-elected as ARRL International Affairs Vice President was past ARRL President Rod Stafford, W6ROD.

The Board received a report on the preparations for WRC-2007 from IARU President Larry Price, W4RA.

The Board also received in depth reports on the Grassroots plan for ARRL and thorough description of Article 11 of the ARRL's Articles of Association. Article 11 came into prominence again this past year when a potential director candidate's nomination was declared ineligible because of the Article 11 provisions. No action was taken on Article 11 at this meeting.

On a more local note, WØEJ was once again elected to the Executive Committee for a second term.

73 es best DX!
Wade, WØEJ

BPL Can Work!

Editors Note: This article was posted just prior to Christmas on the RFI Reflector.

Two weeks ago, the Nemours Hospital ("the Mayo Clinic for Pediatrics") and JEA (formerly the Jacksonville Electric Authority, now including the water utility in addition to being the electricity provider) made a presentation of their BPL implementation at NTIA here in Washington, DC. NTIA funded this small pilot project, which uses BPL as the communications technology for the Nemours staff to monitor pediatric asthma patients in their home.

The program itself is quite impressive in its scope, simplicity and success. The hospital is to be commended for the work they are doing. See http://www.nemours.org/internet?url=no/news/releases/2005/050325_home_monitoring_broadband.html

Also to be commended is the JEA, who took the right approach in their BPL implementation. The JEA has an extensive and very robust fiber network that ties their substations together. The BPL system uses BPL as the home-to-substation link, after which it ties into the fiber network for distribution to the hospital.

During the Q&A I asked the JEA program manager a couple of questions: how extensively had they researched the BPL vendors; what criteria did they use to award the contract; and how they saw BPL in the market place.

The answers were quite good. JEA looked long and hard at all the BPL vendors and chose Current (the same as those who are going into Dallas). Their basic criteria was to identify a BPL provider who had a solid financial standing, a product that worked and worked well, and a strong customer support mechanism. Understanding that

the JEA program manager is not in the marketing department, the comments on why the JEA opted for BPL had a different slant. The potential revenues for JEA from a commercial BPL service are relatively small, considering the cheap competition. JEA is interested in BPL for their own system management purposes, and found that it is significantly less expensive to implement and operate than their present wireless system, which, if I remember correctly, is a combination of CDPD and other LMR/Cellular systems. With BPL, they can read meters and manage their systems far more easily and efficiently.

What was most impressive is that before they began to look at vendors, they went to the amateur radio and public safety community to understand the issues of those communities and integrate their issues into their criteria for awarding the equipment and system contract. They impressed me as being a smart business that did not like surprises!

What was most interesting to me is that the comments regarding their outreach were made as part of the presentation, and not as a result of questions (there are only three other hams at NTIA, one of whom was at this briefing).

In the end, I was impressed. As I've said, both sides of the project are commendable -- medical and technical. It proved to me that if the system operator is responsible and designs their system properly, and holds the vendor to a high standard, BPL and amateur radio can co-exist.

73,
Eric W3DQ
Washington, DC



*Peter I
Press Release
#2006-5*

Date: January 10, 2006

From: Team co-leaders:

Ralph Fedor, KØIR and
Bob Allphin, K4UEE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

We are pleased to announce that the 3YØX DXpedition has been given a substantial grant by the ARRL/Colvin Award. This is a prestigious award and is important to our overall DXpedition financing. Our special thanks to the Awards Committee.

Our twenty-two-man team now includes Wayne, KU4V and Robert, SP5XVY. Their special expertise rounds out the team.

Our sea container containing all of our equipment, and most of the team's personal gear is aboard the vessel DAP Mares which is now in the S. Shetland Islands. Our foodstuffs are also aboard after being purchased in Punta Arenas, Chile. The team will be reunited with their equipment and gear on or about Feb, 2nd to begin the four-day voyage to Peter I. Remember these dates are

target dates and weather-dependent.

The team has been assigned the special Chilean Antarctic call sign of XR9A for use to/from Peter I. We hope to be QRV from Punta Arenas for a few days and then maritime mobile to and from Peter I. There is also a possibility that the team will also be QRV from the S. Shetlands for a few days after the Peter I DXpedition is complete.

Our website, www.peterone.com, will be updated regularly and should be checked often. The website should be considered the best source of updated and correct DXpedition news direct from the DXpedition leaders.

We are currently designing a special "souvenir" QSL card to commemorate your QSOs. Please QSL via N200.

Please visit our website often as we have worked hard to enable you to be a part of this incredible adventure. We are seeking financial support, so consider a donation please! Pay Pal is accepted!

If you want to be a part of the adventure by contributing financially, click on one of the yellow "Contribute" buttons.

73,
Ralph, KØIR and Bob, K4UEE
Peter I DXpedition co-leaders



National Weather Service Severe Weather Spotter Training

Saturday, 25 February 2006 In Cedar Rapids, Iowa

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>BASIC SPOTTER TRAINING 9:30 AM - Registration 10:00 AM - Training Session (2 hours)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Basic storm feature identification <input type="checkbox"/> Spotter safety <input type="checkbox"/> Reporting procedures/protocol |
| <p>ADVANCED SPOTTER TRAINING 1:00 PM - Registration 1:30 PM - Training Session (2 hours)</p> <p><i>Prerequisite: Basic Spotter Training in the last two years</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Radar and thunderstorms <input type="checkbox"/> Gleaning information from local products and SPC products <input type="checkbox"/> Meteorological terminology <input type="checkbox"/> Estimating wind speeds based on damage |

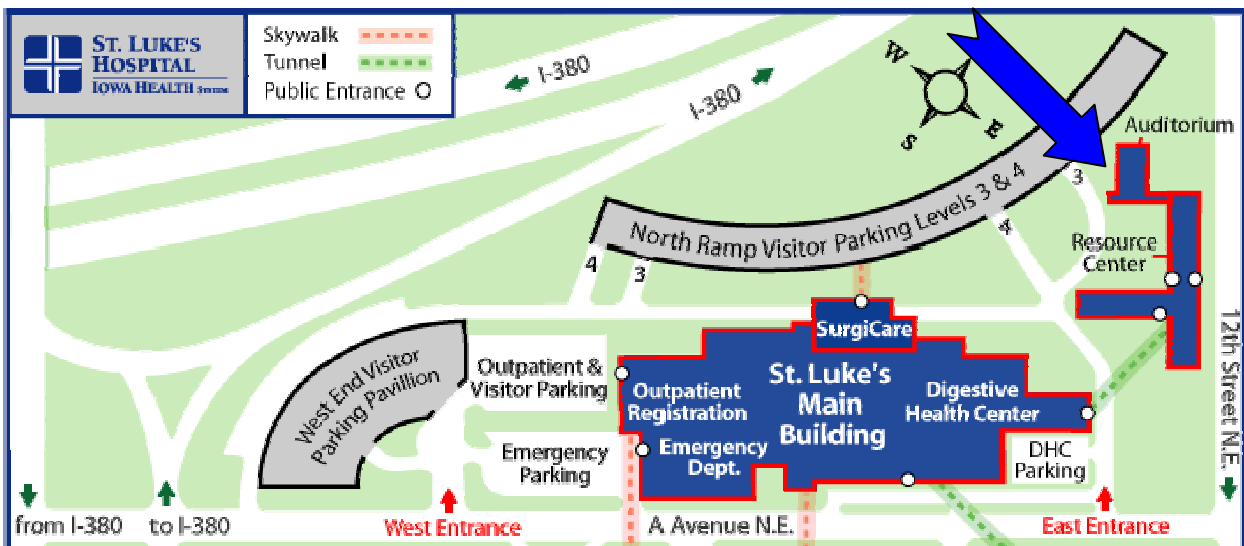
Training will be conducted by Warning Coordination Meteorologist Donna Dubberke (KC5MDO) from the Quad Cities National Weather Service Office.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

There is no charge for this training. You are not required to be part of any organization or agency to participate in this session. However, if you anticipate sending a large group, please let us know so we can arrange for additional handouts.

LOCATION

Park in level 3 or 4 of the parking ramp behind St Luke's Hospital, 1026 A Avenue NE, Cedar Rapids. The auditorium entrance is at the north end of the parking ramp. For further information, contact event coordinator Bill Caldwell at 295-8624 (work), 378-8636 (home).



Sponsored by the Linn County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and the Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club. "Talk-in" for Amateur Radio operators will be 146.745 MHz (-600kHz, no tone). To find out more about ARES or CVARC, visit <http://ares.rf.org/> or <http://cvarc.rf.org/>.

[Currently Active Operations as reported at <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxod.html>]

[NG3K Home](#) [AD XO](#) [ARLDX](#) [DXNL](#) [OPDX](#) [Contest](#) [ARLP](#) [DXCC](#) [CIS-Pfx](#)

Announced DX Operations

[\[About AD XO\]](#) [\[Search AD XO\]](#) [\[AD XO Text Version\]](#) [\[AD XO RSS Feed\]](#)

[\[Abbreviations\]](#)

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Active 2006 | Expired 2006 | Expired 2005 | Expired 2004 | Expired 2003 | Expired 2002 | Expired 2001 | Expired 2000 | Expired 1999 | Expired 1998 | Expired 1997 | Expired 1996 |
| Expired Contest and Special Operations (1996+) | | | | | | | | | | | |

[Currently Active Operations]

| DXCC Entity | Call | Start Date | End Date | QSL via | Reported by | Info |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------------------------------|--|
| Andaman & Nicobar Islands | VU4 NEW | 2006 Apr18 | 2006 Apr20 | | OPDX 20060123 | By DL7DF DK1BT SP3DOI SP3GEM SP3CYY fm Port Blair; dates of operation uncertain; perhaps as early as Apr 15 |
| Antigua | V26 | 2006 Jan18 | 2006 Feb01 | G4OOC | 425DXN 20051203 | By G4RCG KI7VR as V25G and V26VR fm NA-100; focus on 160 80 40 30m; mainly CW; V25G QRV in CQ 160m CW as SOLP |
| Aruba | P40YW | 2006 Mar07 | 2006 Mar22 | W7YW | OPDX 20060102 | By W7YW; all bands; SSB CW; callsign requested |
| Austral Islands | FO/a | 2006 Feb01 | 2006 Feb14 | DL3APO | DL3APO 20060112 | By DL1AWI DL5XU DL9AWI fm Raivavae (OC-114 FO-122); focus on low bands, esp 160m; 2 stns; QRV as ZL/homecall/m while in transit |
| Bahamas | C6 | 2006 Feb13 | 2006 Feb20 | Home Call | 425DXN 20060114 | By N4BP (C6AKQ) K4PG (C6APG) W4OV (C6AOV) N8PR (C6AHR); focus on WARC bands; QRV in ARRL DX CW as SOSB entries |
| Belize | V31 | 2006 Jan12 | 2006 Feb20 | | 425DXN 20060107 | By DJ4KW DK9GG as V31YN (CW, focus on 160 80m) V31GW (RTTY); QRV fm Southwater Caye (NA-180) Feb 1-8, 40m and up |
| Benin | TY NEW | 2006 Mar15 | 2006 Mar30 | See Info | 425DXN 20060121 | By PA3EWP IK1PMR K2LEO GM4FDM as (requested) TY5WP TY1MR TY2LEO TY4TW; 160-10m; all modes; QSL TY1MR and TY2LEO via IK1PMR, TY5WP via PA7FM, TY4TW via GM4FDM; QRV for WPX SSB + BARTG RTTY contests |
| British Virgin Islands | VP2V | 2006 Feb23 | 2006 Mar01 | G3SWH | OPDX 20060102 | By G3RTE G3SWH as VP2V/G6AY fm Anegada Is (NA-023); 80-10m, perhaps 160m; mainly CW, some SSB; 2 stns; QSL OK via Buro, E-mail request, or direct (w/ SAE + RP) |
| Cambodia | XU7ADI | 2006 Jan06 | 2006 Mar06 | SM5GMZ | SM5GMZ 20050825 | By SM5GMZ; HF + 6m; CW SSB PSK31 RTTY; spare time operation |

| DXCC Entity | Call | Start Date | End Date | QSL via | Reported by | Info |
|--------------------|----------------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------------------------------|--|
| Chad | TT8PK | 2006 Jan01 | 2006 Feb28 | F4EGS | F5NQL 20051130 | By F4EGS; 20-10m, perhaps 40m; digital modes, perhaps SSB; band requests OK via E-mail |
| Congo | 9Q | 2006 Jan22 | 2006 Jan28 | F5HRH | F5NQL 20060111 | By F5HRH as 9Q/F5HRH/p |
| Crozet | FT5WK | 2006 Feb04 | 2006 Mar31 | | 425DXN 20060114 | By TU5KG; sporadic operation fm land while sailing in the area; dates approximate |
| Dominica | J79 NEW | 2006 Feb11 | 2006 Feb21 | See Info | K5KG 20060123 | By K5KG/J75KG KK9K/J79RV WI9WI/J79WI W4IX K1XX; QRV for ARRL DX CW as J70J; QSL J70J J75KG via KU9C, others via home call |
| Dominican Republic | HI9 | 2006 Jan18 | 2006 Feb02 | | HA0HW 20060104 | By HA7TM as HA7TM/HI9 fm Las Terrenas (Samana); 7 ele log periodic, dipoles, wires |
| Gabon | TR8FC | 2006 Jan01 | 2006 Apr30 | F4BQO | F5BQL 20051229 | By F4BQO; fm 1800z; 14190 21020 24900 kHz; skeds OK ; QSL OK via Buro or direct (Claude Franck, 56 rue de la Treille, 95490 Vaureal, France) |
| Ghana | 9G5XA NEW | 2006 Jan27 | 2006 Feb06 | G3SWH | OPDX 20060123 | By G3XAQ; HF; CW; 100w; doublet |
| Glorioso | FR/g | 2006 Mar17 | 2006 Apr07 | F5OGL | F5NQL 20051026 | By 8 operators; all bands; 5 stations; dates are tentative; operation subject to cancellation; QSL OK via REF Buro or direct |
| Grenada | J37LR | 2006 Feb01 | 2006 Apr05 | VE3EBN | VE3EBN 20060119 | By VE3EBN; 40-10m; RTTY PSK SSB CW |
| Guadeloupe | TO2FG | 2006 Feb17 | 2006 Mar03 | F6HMJ | OPDX 20060116 | By F6HMJ; 80-10m; CW SSB RTTY; perhaps QRV fm La Desirade Is; will use TO2ANT callsign during the 3rd Antarctic Activity Week (Feb 20-26) |
| Guantanamo Bay | KG4 | 2006 Jan21 | 2006 Jan31 | Home Call | OPDX 20051219 | By N4BAA W4WV as KG4SB and KG4WV; 160-6m; all modes; KG4WV also QRV Lighthouse GIT-001 for 2-4 days |
| Guernsey | GU | 2006 Jan20 | 2006 Jan30 | Home Call | DJ8NK 20051206 | By F6EXV DJ8NK as MU0EXV and GU0VNK; 160-10m; SSB CW Digital |
| Juan Fernandez | CE0Z | 2006 Jan21 | 2006 Jan28 | See Info | N2WB 20051206 | By XQ3SA CE3BYL F2JD CE3BFZ CE3VII K4SV N2WB N6OX CE3GFN CE3GL CE3GRG; 160-6m; QSL managers: N2OO F6AJA CE3BSQ |
| Kerguelen | FT5XP | 2006 Jan15 | 2006 Mar31 | | 425DXN 20060114 | By TU5KG; sporadic operation fm land while sailing in the area |
| Liechtenstein | HB0 NEW | 2006 Feb25 | 2006 Mar04 | | WA3FRP 20060124 | By DL2SBY as HB0/DL2SBY; 160-10m; CW SSB RTTY PSK31 |
| Madagascar | 5R8HL | 2006 Jan15 | 2006 Jan30 | SM1ALH | ADXB 20060119 | By SM1ALH; 20 17m; CW SSB |

| DXCC Entity | Call | Start Date | End Date | QSL via | Reported by | Info |
|----------------------|--------------------------|------------|------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Madeira | CT3 | 2006 May15 | 2006 May22 | OE3JAG | OPDX 20060116 | By OE3JAG as CT3/OE3JAGi fm AF-014; QRP; 30 20m; CW PSK RTTY |
| Mariana Islands | KH0 NEW | 2006 Jan27 | 2006 Jan29 | JM1LJS | OPDX 20060123 | By JM1LJS as KH2VL/KH0 fm Saipan (OC-086) |
| Marquesas | FO/m | 2006 Jan16 | 2006 Jan28 | DL3APO | DL3APO 20060112 | By DL1AWI DL5XU DL9AWI fm Ua Pou (OC-027 FO-023); focus on low bands, esp 160m; 2 stns; QRV as ZL/homecall/m while in transit |
| Marquesas | FO | 2006 Jan28 | 2006 Feb18 | HA8IB | 425DXN 20051231 | By HA9RE fm Nuku Hiva (OC-027) and Ahe (OC-131); 160-10m; CW SSB RTTY; QSL: Szabo Karoly, Aradi u. 42, H-5525 Fuzesgyarmat, Hungary |
| Netherlands Antilles | PJ2 | 2006 Jan19 | 2006 Jan27 | Home Call | 425DXN 20060114 | By W9JUV W9VA as PJ2/homecall fm Signal Point, Curacao (SA-006); focus on low bands |
| Ogasawara | JD1 | 2006 Feb19 | 2006 Feb28 | Home Call | OPDX 20051114 | By JI5USJ JI5RPT as JD1BLX and JD1BLY from Chichijima Is; 160-10m; CW SSB RTTY PSK31 Satellite; focus on lowband CW; QSL OK via Buro or direct |
| Palau | T80W | 2006 Mar18 | 2006 Mar21 | JM1LJS | OPDX 20051205 | By JM1LJS fm OC-009; all bands |
| Peter I Island | 3Y0X | 2006 Feb07 | 2006 Feb19 | N2OO | NG3K 20051209 | By K0IR K4UEE FM5CD N6JRL W8MV; dates are tentative |
| Samoa | 5W0 | 2006 Jul28 | 2006 Aug10 | TBA | K8AQM 20060107 | By K8AQM N8CC KG8CO JF3MYU; focus on 160-30m; CW SSB digital, perhaps satellite |
| Sao Tome & Principe | S92RI | 2006 Jan18 | 2006 Jan28 | CT1APE | F5NQL 20060114 | By CT1APE CT2GLO fm Ilheu das Rolas (AF-023); all bands; all modes |
| Senegal | 6W | 2006 Feb04 | 2006 Feb17 | G3SWH | G4WFQ 20051211 | By G4WFQ as 6W/G4WFQ; 160-10m; mainly CW RTTY, some SSB; QSL OK via Buro or direct |
| Sint Maarten | PJ7 | 2006 Mar01 | 2006 Mar08 | DL7DF | DL7DF 20051206 | By DL4WK DL7UFR DL7VOA DL7DF SP3DOI; 160-10m; SSB CW Digital; focus on low bands for EU; QSL OK via Buro or direct |
| Somalia | 6O0N | 2006 Jan19 | 2006 Feb01 | I2YSB | I2YSB 20051216 | By I1HJT I2YSB IK1AOD IK1HJS IK2DIA IK2CIO IK2CKR fm Galkayo; all bands; all modes; QSL OK via Buro or direct |
| South Cook Islands | ZK1VFA | 2006 Jan19 | 2006 Jan28 | LA9VFA | DXMB 20060112 | By LA9VFA fm OC-013; SSB + digital modes |
| St Martin | FS | 2006 Feb21 | 2006 Feb28 | DL7DF | DL7DF 20051206 | By DL4WK DL7UFR DL7VOA DL7DF SP3DOI; 160-10m; SSB CW Digital; focus on low bands for EU; QSL OK via Buro or direct |
| St Martin | FJ | 2006 | 2006 | LotW | OPDX | By SM7DKF fm St Barthelemy (NA- |

| DXCC Entity | Call | Start Date | End Date | QSL via | Reported by | Info |
|-----------------|---------------------------|------------|------------|---------|-----------------------------------|---|
| | NEW | May10 | May20 | | 20060123 | 146, DIFO FJ-001); HF; QSL also OK via SM7DKF direct |
| St Peter & Paul | PY0S NEW | 2006 Jan21 | 2006 Jan31 | | W3LPL 20060125 | By PS7JN as PY0S/PS7JN; perhaps 160m operation; end date unknown |
| Svalbard | JW NEW | 2006 Mar24 | 2006 Mar31 | F8DVD | F5NQL 20061123 | By F8DVD as JW/F8DVD fm the Longyearbyen ARC (EU-026); HF; SSB CW; 500w; 5 ele yagi; QSL OK via REF Buro or direct |
| Tanzania | 5H1C | 2006 Jan23 | 2006 Feb02 | F5TVG | F5NQL 20051109 | By F4AJQ F6AML F5JSD F5VHQ F9IE F8BJI F8BUI F2VX F8IXZ fm Zanzibar Is (AF-032); 160-10m; CW SSB digital (RTTY PSK31 PSK63); QSL OK via Buro or direct |
| Tunisia | 3V8DLH | 2006 Jan24 | 2006 Jan31 | DJ3FK | DJ3FK 20060116 | By DJ3FK; 160-6m; CW SSB digital |
| Uganda | 5X1RI | 2006 Jan01 | 2006 Feb02 | WD4ELG | ADXB 20060119 | By VU2CAC fm Kampala; 40 20 15m; CW SSB |

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Bill/NG3K

Bill@ng3k.com (Corrections, additions, suggestions are welcomed)

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Meeting Notice

The next meeting of the Eastern Iowa DX Association will be on Friday February 3rd, 2005 at 7:30 in Room 219C Linn Hall on the Kirkwood Community College campus. Doors open at 6:30 pm for eyeball QSOs. Monitor 145.19 for directions if needed. See you there!



Tom Hauer K0YA
P. O. Box 11654
Cedar Rapids, IA 52410-1654