

May 2018
Vol. 43, #5

Washington Amateur Communications Inc.



A 501-C3 Tax Exempt Organization



THE WACOM HAM

Get ready for the 2018 Dayton Hamvention!

18-20 May 2018, Greene Co. Fairgrounds, Xenia, OH

pp. 9-11

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WACOM
President's Message
May 2018



Joe—N3XE

President's Message, May 2018

The weather has finally turned! While we welcome the warmer temperatures, we should also welcome all the new hams from our spring Technician class. This year we ended up with 4 Techs and 3 Generals, not bad at all. The VE session also saw another new Tech and an upgrade to General and was a great experience builder for some of our new VEs.

Dayton is this month, of course, so for all those going get your shopping lists ready.

Field Day is fast approaching as well and is less than two months away. Are you going to setup a whole station, just operate for a few hours, help others with their station, build an antenna from scratch the day of, work 80 meters all night, pound out CW QSOs, or just come and socialize? Now is the time to get serious about your plans and get your gear together.

73,

Joe, N3XE

WACOM OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, STAFF, REPEATERS, AND NETS!

Washington Amateur Communications is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to advancing the principles of Amateur Radio while making it fun for all who participate. We have been affiliated with the ARRL for over 25 years. Our club call sign is WA3COM. Because of our activity in promoting Amateur Radio, including conducting classes, public demonstrations, emergency preparedness and training, studying technical advancements in radio and mentoring of new and soon-to-be hams, WACOM has earned the designation of Special Service Club from the ARRL.

Membership

- WACOM membership is open to anyone
- Annual Dues:
 - \$20 for individuals
 - \$10 for each additional family member
 (send check & completed form to club treasurer)
- Questions? Contact the WACOM club treasurer.

Membership Meeting

- 7:30PM (1930 hrs), First Thursday of every month

Board of Directors Meeting

- 7PM (1900 hrs), Last Thursday of every month

Mailing Address

WACOM
c/o Norma Plants N3YJY
236 Chambers Ridge Road
West Alexander, Pa 15376-2270

E-Mail

General Club Correspondence: wa3com@gmail.com

2017 Club Officers

Joe Caldwell, N3XE; joe@n3xe.com
Vice President: Patrick Degnan Jr., KB3TFN; pdegnan@gmail.com
Secretary: Randy Kief, KC3EKZ; randykief@comcast.net
Treasurer: Kathleen Briggs, KC3HBO; johnw104@comcast.net

2017 Board of Directors

Director: Bob Fischer, KC3AJM; kc3ajm@outlook.com
Director: Dennis Presky, K3PSP; dpresky@mra1.com
Director: Rob Balogh, KB3ZUS; robertbalogh@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Ken Frankenbery, AA3GM; ktfrank3@gmail.com

Webmaster

Joe Caldwell, N3XE; n3xe.radio@gmail.com

VE Liaison

Bob Kinnear, KI4DHB; ki4dhb@yahoo.com

Radio Room Committee

Patrick Degnan Jr., KB3TFN; pdegnan@gmail.com

EMCOMM Training Officer

Brad McCarrell, KC3EDQ; brad_ml@verizon.net

Repeaters

- K3PSP** - 146.790+ MHz, EchoLink node - WA3COM-R
147.285+ MHz (Scenery Hill, PA)
145.250 - MHz (West Alexander)
147.390+ MHz (Smith Township)
147.315+ MHz (Greene County)
- W3CYO** - 145.490 MHz, 224.4 MHz, 443.300 MH z

Digital Net

- Mondays at 8PM (2000 hrs), on K3PSP Repeater
- Bob, KC3AJM Net Control

2 Meter Public Service Net

- Tuesdays at 8:30 PM (2030 hrs), on K3PSP Repeater

10 Meter Net

- Tuesdays at 9:30 PM (2130 hrs), on 28.340 MHz
- Bud, N3TIR Net Control

YL Net

- Wednesdays at 7:30 PM (1930 hrs), on K3PSP Repeater
- Karen, K3PUP Net Control

Elmer Net

- Wednesdays at 8 PM (2000 hrs), on K3PSP Repeater
- Bud N3TIR, Net Control

Club Elmers

- DX Contest** - Bill Sheehan, KB3LIX; kb3lix@comcast.net
QSL & DX - Bill Steffey, NY9H; ny9h@arrl.net
ARES & RACES - Bob Ketzell, KB3IN; kb3in@yahoo.com
CW - Loren McCullough, WA3WZR; lorenmcc@verizon.net
VHF - Craig Yoho, KB3RHR; craigyoho@consolenergy.com
Repeaters - Dennis Presky, K3PSP; dpresky@mra1.com
Websites - Joe Caldwell, N3XE; n3xe.radio@gmail.com
Elmer Net - Bud Plants, N3TIR; n3tir@arrl.net





WACOM General Meeting Minutes

5 April 2018, 7:30 PM



- Meeting called to order – N3XE – 7:30 pm
- Membership & visitor introductions performed
- Meeting minutes & treasury report approved – KB3TFN/NY9H
- **Radio room** – KB3TFN – tech class going on now. Monday's will resume after tech class. Lease renewed with FD till December.
- **ACS** – KC3EDQ – Marrianna canoe race on 28th of April. Sign up sheet passed around. Red cross event on the 14th of April. Details unknown at this time. South repeater is currently down. Brad & Dennis are working on it.
- WACOM drawing for an Icom IC-7300. Ticket sales will be on-line soon with a paypal service.
- Amazon smile account on-line still going.
- Joe - N3XE - show & tell small 12vdc adapter.
- **Club ID cards** – photo ID's are being made by Brad – KC3EDQ – Brad will also be performing renewals of the region 13 badges.
- Field Day time is approaching again – North Strabane park location – looking for ideas for any additions to last year.
- WASH club is getting the same person transmitting harmful transmissions on their repeater. Brad will work with WASH club to narrow down signal.

Adjourn – 8:03pm – KC3HW/W3CYO

Randy Kief
KC3EKZ

Next Regular WACOM Meeting - Thursday, 3 May 18 at 7:30 PM!

2018 WACOM Upcoming Events Calendar

Meetings, Contests & Other Significant Club Events (Subject to Change)

Thu, 3 May 2018, WACOM Meeting at 7:30PM, Washington County Building

18-20 May 18—DAYTON ARA HAMVENTION®, Green County Fairground, Xenia, OH

26-27 May 18— CQ WPX Contest –CW, <http://cqwp.com>

2-3 Jun 18—Breezeshooter's Hamfest, <http://breezeshooters.org>

Thu, 7 Jun 2018, WACOM Meeting at 7:30PM, Washington County Building

9-11 Jun 18—ARRL June VHF Contest, <http://www.arrl.org>

23-24 Jun 18—ARRL Field Day; North Strabane Park

Thu, 5 Jul 2018, WACOM Meeting at 7:30PM, Washington County Building

14-15 July 18, IARU HF Championship Contest

21-22 Jul 18—CQ World Wide VHF Contest (6 & 2m), <http://www.cqww-vhf.com>

13-14 Oct 18—Pennsylvania QSO Party, <http://www.nittany-arc.net/pqppdf/paqso17rules.pdf>

4 Nov 18—WACOM Hamfest! Printscape Arena at Southpointe

WACOM HAM DX CORNER—MAY 2018

COURTESY: <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

2018 May01	2018 May03	Wake I	KH9	WW6RG Direct	TDDX 20180424	By WW6RG as V73/WW6RG; 0430-0530z, 0600-0800z; 14190-14240kHz; SSB; 100w
2018 May02	2018 May04	Ogasawara	JD1BLY	J15RPT	J15RPT 20180317	By J15RPT fm Chichijima I (IOTA AS-031); 630-6m; CW SSB + digital; see Web for QSL details; op updates
2018 May02	2018 May15	Mozambique	C8T	ON1DX	DXW.Net 20170929	By ON8KW ON7TQ CS8ABG + team fm Bilene-Macia, Gaza; 160-6m, incl 60m, also 2m EME; CW SSB + digital; QSL also OK via Club Log
2018 May02	2018 Jun01	Hawaii	KH6	N2HX	N2HX 20180316	By N2HX as KH6/N2HX fm Maui (BL10pw); mainly SSB RTTY
2018 May04	2018 May06	Panama	3F6IC	HP1AVS	HP1AVS 20180413	By HP1AVS HP1CDW HP1ECA HP1MRA HP8MAK HP1JCC fm Cebaco I (IOTA NA-071); 80-10m; SSB + digital; QRV on 60m (5.357 MHz) 22:30-23:59z each day
2018 May05	2018 May09	Mozambique	C98RRC	R7AL	TDDX 20180102	By R7AL RA1ZZ RZ3K RK8A RN3BZ fm Inhaca I (IOTA AF-066, KG63lx); 40-10m; CW SSB + digital;
2018 May05	2018 May12	Malta	9H3JI	Auto Buro	TDDX 20180322	By F5SGI; 80-6m; CW; QSL also OK via F5SGI direct
2018 May06	2018 May11	Aland Is	OH0KA	LotW	TDDX 20180406	By OH3KAV fm Eckero (IOTA EU-002); HF, incl 60m; CW FT8; holiday style operation; QSL also OK via OH3KAV
2018 May07	2018 May11	Turkey	TC0AX	LotW	DXW.Net 20180420	By MM0NDX IK8LOV ON9CFG fm Buyukada I (IOTA AS-201); 80-2m; holiday style operation; QSL
2018 May08	2018 May11	South Cook Is	E51KMR	LotW	KM7R 20180331	By KM7R fm Rarotonga I (IOTA OC-013, BG08ct); @E51JD; mainly SSB; holiday style operation; QSL
2018 May08	2018 May13	Aruba	P4	DF5AU	DF5AU 20180406	By DF5AU as P4/DF5AU; QRV for CQ-MIR-DX-Contest using P40AU (CW/SSB)
2018 May10	2018 May15	Curacao	PJ2	LotW	DXNews 20180417	By SV2AEL as PJ2/SV2AEL fm IOTA SA-099; HF; QSL also OK via SV2AEL direct and eQSL
2018 May11	2018 May16	Rodrigues I	3B9RUN	EA7FTR Direct	DXW.Net 20180409	By FR4NP FR4PF FR4PM FR5CB FR5FC; 80-10m; SSB FT8; 500w; Hexbeam, vertical; QSL: Francisco Lianez Suero, Asturias 23, 21110, Aljaraque-Huelva, Spain
2018 May11	2018 May18	Lord Howe I	VK9LI	LotW	DXNews 20180308	By VK3QB VK3YB VK3HJ fm IOTA OC-004; 160-17m; CW SSB FT8; QSL also OK via VK2CA and Club Log
2018 May12	2018 May13	Liechtenstein	HB0	PD7YY	PH0NO 20180410	By PD7YY PG8M PH0NO as HB0/PG8M and HB0/PH0NO; 80-2m; CW SSB, perhaps digital;
2018 May17	2018 May21	Gibraltar	ZB	DF8AN	TDDX 20180417	By DF8AN as ZB/DF8AN; 6 4 2m +70cm; SSB CW FSK MSK; 100w; looking for Es; QSL OK via DARC
2018 May20	2018 May27	Sint Maarten	PJ8	LotW	TDDX 20180430	By JH1AJT as PJ8Z and JN1RVS as PJ8RV; 40-10m; SSB CW RTTY FT8; also QRV fm FS
2018 May24	2018 May31	Malta	9H3SV	SV2CLJ Direct	SV2CLJ 20180412	By SV2CLJ fm JM75gv; @9H1AE; 80-2m; CW SSB RTTY PSK FT8; holiday style operation
2018 May26	2018 May29	Svalbard	JW8DW	LotW	DXW.Net 20180123	By LA8DW fm Spitsbergen I; HF; CW SSB

WACOM DX Feature of the Month— 3B9RUN

Rodrigues Island (11-16 May 2018)

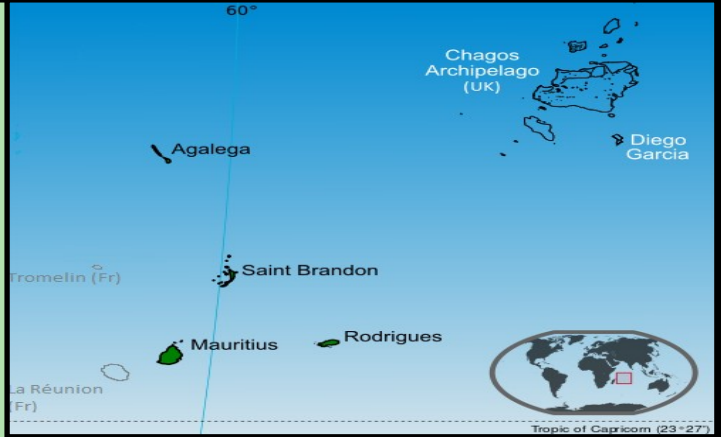
Rodrigues Island is a 42 sq mile autonomous outer island of the Republic of Mauritius in the Indian Ocean, about 560 kilometres (350 mi) east of Mauritius. It is part of the Mascarene Islands which include Mauritius and Réunion. It is of volcanic origin and is surrounded by coral reef, and just off its coast lie some tiny uninhabited islands. The island used to be the tenth District of Mauritius; it gained autonomous status on 10 December 2002, and it is governed by the Rodrigues Regional Assembly. The capital of the island is Port Mathurin.

Its inhabitants are Mauritian citizens. As of 2014, the island's population was about 41,669, according to Statistics Mauritius. Most of the inhabitants are of mixed African and French descent. Its economy is based mainly on fishing, farming, handicraft and a developing tourism sector. The island (together with Agaléga and Saint Brandon) forms part of the larger territory of the Republic of Mauritius with the President as head of state and the Chief Commissioner as head of government.

History

The uninhabited island was named after the Portuguese explorer Diogo Rodrigues in February 1528. Many maps also describe it as Diego Roiz. From the 10th century, Arabs have been known to visit the Mascarene Islands. The island was located again in February 1507. Part of the fleet of Afonso de Albuquerque and Tristão da Cunha, Diogo Fernandes Pereira's *Cirne* spotted Réunion on 9 February after a cyclone diverted their course. The other two islands were subsequently rediscovered. The initial name was **Diogo Fernandes**; **Domingo Froiz** was given as a name some years later, and by 1528 it had been again renamed after the Portuguese navigator D. Diogo Rodrigues and has remained so since. The orthography has been less stable at first, with the name being transcribed **Diogo Rodriguez**.

Due to the island lying far off the beaten track of seafarers at that time, it received few visits. From 1601, the Dutch began visiting the island somewhat more regularly for fresh supplies of food. In 1691, the Huguenot François Leguat and seven companions landed on the island, intending to set up a farming colony of Protestant refugees. Farming was not successful, but there was an abundance of tortoises, turtles, birds, fish and other seafood. During the 18th century several



attempts were made by the French to develop the island. African slaves (ancestors of the present population) were brought to Rodrigues to develop stock-breeding and farming. In 1735 a permanent French settlement is established, subordinated to Île Bourbon. In 1809, after a brief battle with the French, British troops took possession of Rodrigues. With British occupation, slavery was abolished.

In 1883, the eruption of the Indonesian volcano Krakatoa was heard at Rodrigues Island and it remains the furthest point at almost 4,800 km (3,000 mi), at which the explosion was heard.^[8] The sound was described as "the roar of heavy guns". Naval ships were ordered to investigate as it was feared the sound was due to a ship in distress firing its guns. Having been heard from about 5,000 km (3,100 mi) away on the other side of the Indian Ocean, the noise remains the loudest sound in recorded history.

In 1968, Rodrigues was joined with Mauritius when it attained independence; In 2002 when it became an autonomous region of Mauritius, the island was made the seat of the Roman Catholic Vicariate Apostolic of Rodrigues.



WACOM DX Feature of the Month— 3B7A (Con't)

St. Brandon Island (5—17 April 2018)

Geography

Rodrigues is a volcanic island rising from a ridge along the edge of the Mascarene Plateau. The tectonically active Rodrigues Triple Point lies on the sea-floor nearby. Rodrigues is only 1.5 million years old, even if the plateau under the lagoon surrounding Rodrigues may be much more ancient than the island. Over time Rodrigues has developed a unique environment, including many endemic species.



Rodrigues is situated about 350 miles to the east of Mauritius. It is about 11 miles long and 4.0 miles wide with an area of 42 sq miles. The shape is that of a whale back with a central ridge and deep cut valleys. The island is hilly with a central spine culminating in the highest peak, Mountain Limon at 1,306 ft. Rodrigues is the only Mascarene island with extensive limestone deposits and caves. A large fringing reef surrounds the island forming a lagoon within which lie eighteen small islets.

The coral reef of Rodrigues is of particular interest as it is self-seeding – it receives no coral zooplankton from elsewhere. This has led to an overall species-poor but highly adapted ecosystem. A species of coral, two species of *Pomacentrus* damselfish and many species of crustaceans are only found on Rodrigues' reefs.

Climate

The isolation and location of the island give a microclimate specific to Rodrigues, with two seasons. Rodrigues enjoys a mild tropical maritime climate with persistent trade winds blowing throughout the year. Mean summer temperature is 78.6 °F and mean winter temperature is around 72.1 °F. January to March are the hottest months and August is the coolest month. The wettest month is February; September and October are the driest months. The climate is hotter and drier than in Mauritius. Cyclones may arise from November to April, and Rodrigues is more often hit than Mauritius.

Demographics

The population estimate (as of 24 December 2012) for the island of Rodrigues was 39,242. The main religion is Christianity, dominated by Roman Catholicism with small minorities of other Christian branches like Jehovah's Witnesses, but also religions like Hindus, Muslims and Buddhists. Most of the inhabitants are of African descent and there is a minority of mixed-raced peoples; descendants of the first European settlers.



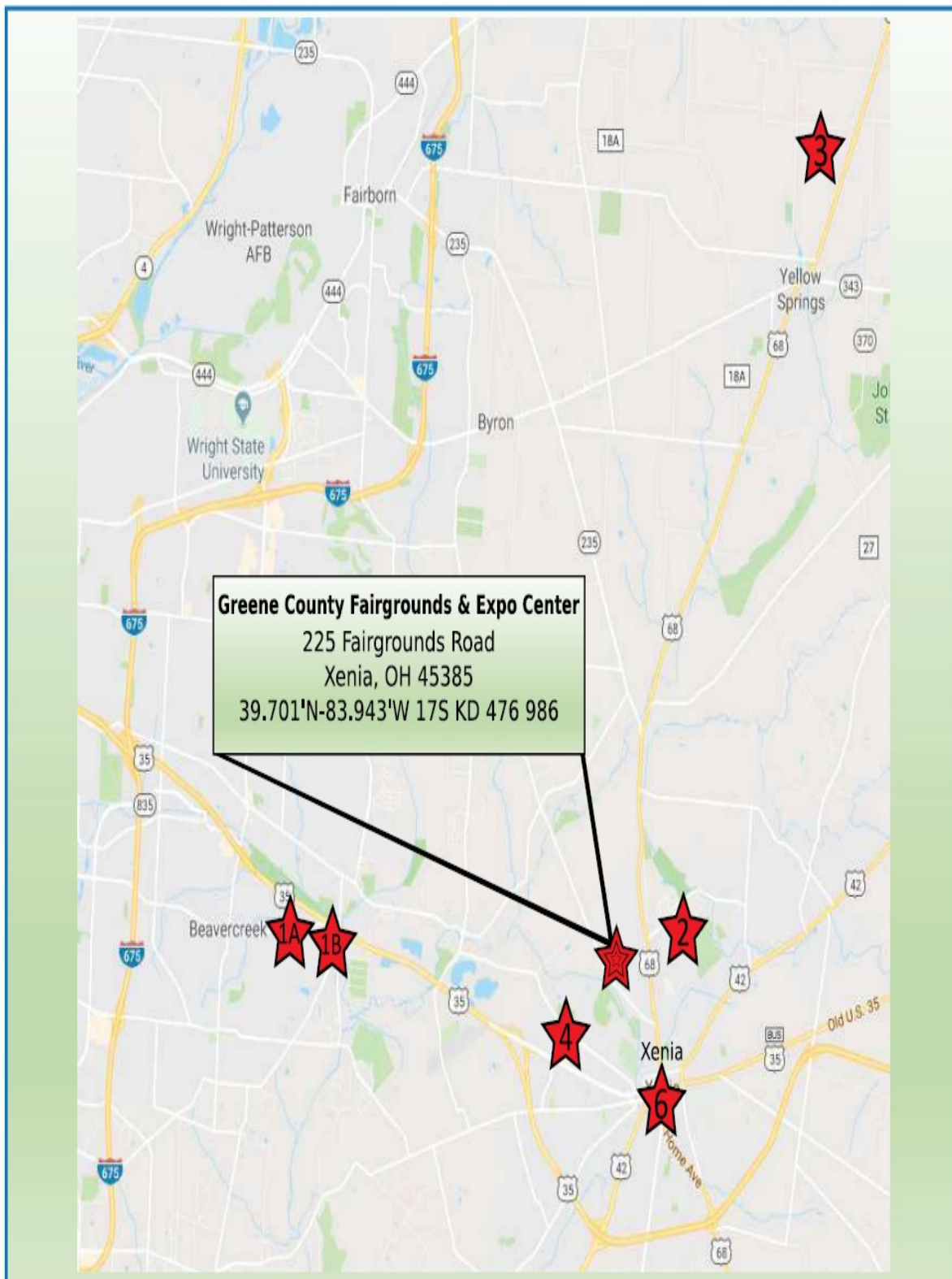
The main language is Rodriguan Creole, English and French, but however English and French are most used as the languages of government administration, the courts and business. Rodriguan Creole is very similar to Mauritian Creole, though some words are pronounced differently. People born in Rodrigues island are called Rodriguans.

Economy

The economy of Rodrigues is mostly dependent on Mauritius. The main sources of income and economic activity are tourism, fishing, agriculture (especially of onions, garlic and chilli), and animal rearing. The handicraft industry has proven to be beneficial to the economy of the island. However, the income derived from the export of sea products, cattle, and food crops is smaller than the costs of imported products, creating a deficit.



Dayton Hamvention Greene County Fairgrounds, Xenia, OH Location Map



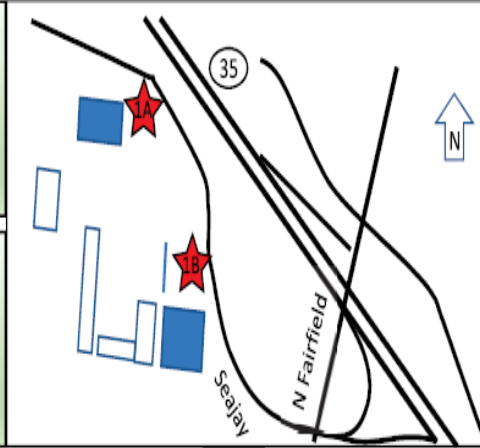
Dayton Hamvention Greene County Fairgrounds, Xenia, OH Remote Parking Map

1A Closed Car Dealer

3401 Seajay Drive
Beavercreek, OH 45430
39.723°N -84.064°W

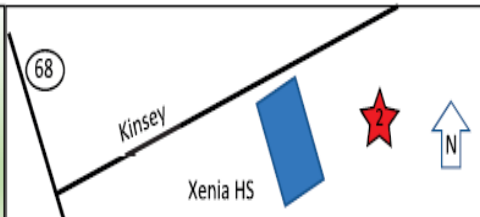
1B Closed Grocery

3325 Seajay Drive
Beavercreek, OH 45430
39.721°N -84.062°W



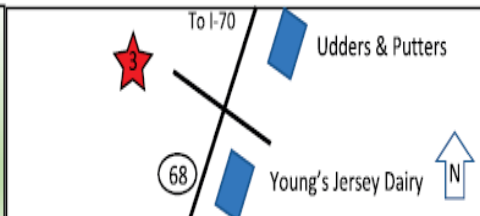
2 Xenia High School

303 Kinsey Road
Xenia, OH 45385
39.710°N -83.926°W



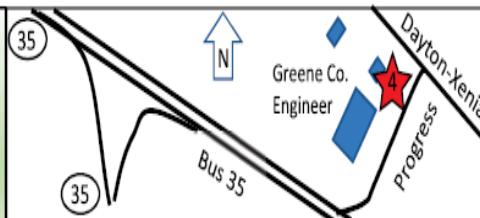
3 Young's Jersey Dairy

6881 Springfield-Xenia Rd US 68
Yellow Springs, OH 45387
39.828°N -83.871°W



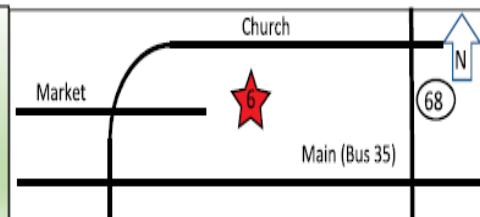
4 Greene Co. Gov't Campus

667 Dayton-Xenia Road
Xenia, OH 45385
39.695°N -83.961°W



6 Old K-Mart Parking Lot

84 Xenia Town Square
Xenia, OH 45385
39.685°N -83.932°W



Getting to Hamvention



*Welcome to the Dayton Hamvention!
We hope you enjoy your visit. While here,
please use Talk-In 146.94-, we're here for you!*

-Ron Cramer, KD8ENJ Gen. Chairman

Bus Schedule: Fri 7 AM to 7 PM,
Sat 7 AM to 6 PM,
Sun 7 AM to 4:30 PM

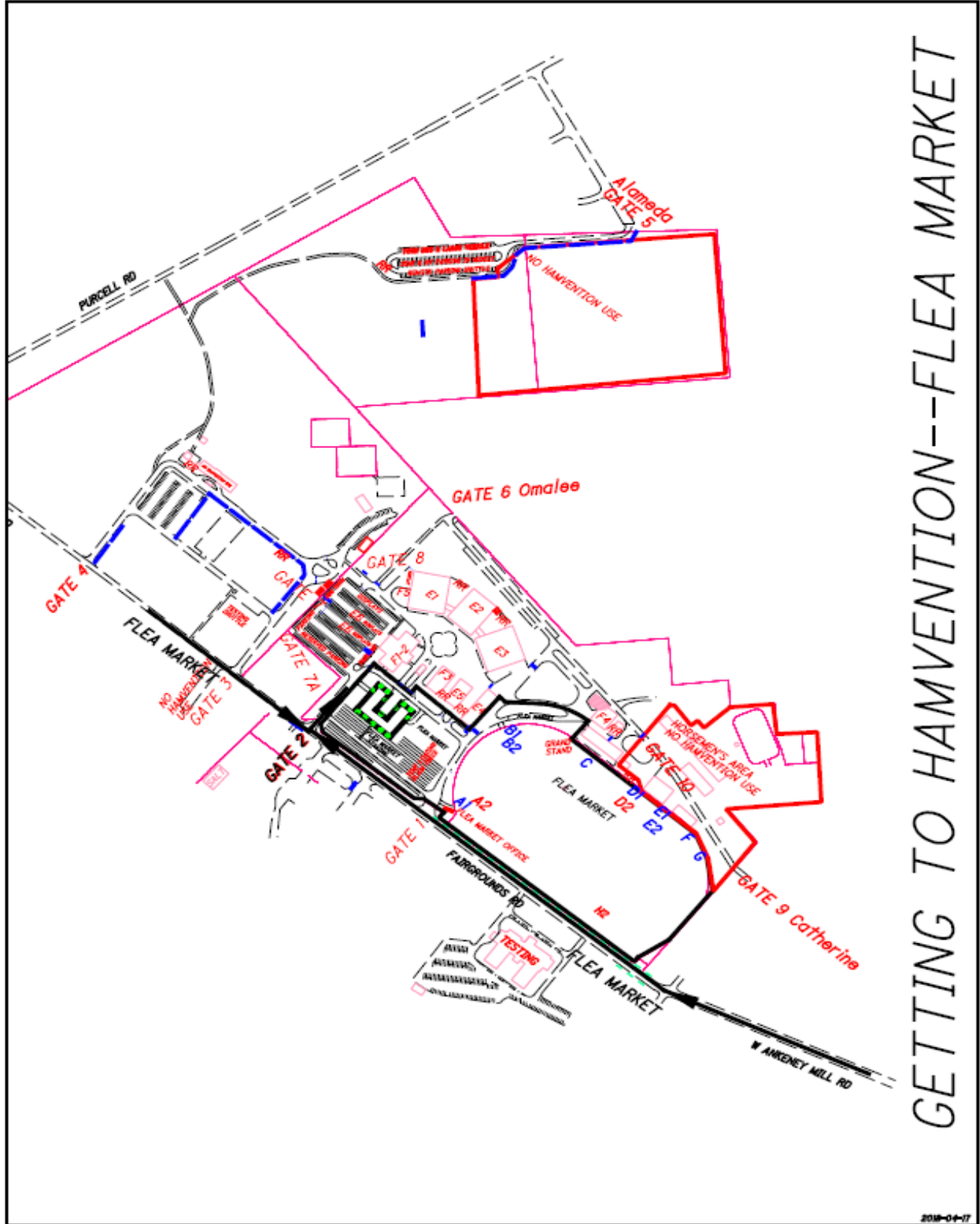


Greene County Fairgrounds & Expo Center

225 Fairgrounds Road
Xenia, OH 45385
39.701°N -83.943°W 17S KD 476 986

On-Site Parking is Weather Dependent!

Dayton Hamvention Greene County Fairgrounds, Xenia, OH Flea Market Map



GETTING TO HAMVENTION--FLEA MARKET



More Frequent Spotless Days Now, Can Signal Solar Activity in the Future, Top Contester Says

04/09/2018

The sunspot numbers have not been good, and it does not seem they'll be getting much better anytime soon. According to the April 6 "K7RA Solar Update," only 2 days of the March 29 – April 4 reporting week saw sunspots, and that was at the bare minimum. No sunspots showed at all for the previous reporting week. Solar flux has been sitting in the 60s lately and are forecast to remain at that level for the next 45 days. Better days lie ahead — eventually. Top contester Frank Donovan, W3LPL, asserts that solar precursors like spotless days, which correlate physical solar phenomena with future solar activity levels, are much better indicators of progress toward a solar minimum — a broad phase of the solar cycle — than of a specific event, such as the bottom of a broad solar minimum. Not only that, these and other solar precursors are useful in predicting the likely strength of Cycle 25, although accurate predictions of the strength and timeframe of the Cycle 25 solar maximum aren't possible until the new sunspot cycle is under way.

"We entered the Cycle 24 solar minimum with the onset of 8 spotless days in June 2016," Donovan pointed out. "We had only 32 spotless days in 2016. We had 15 spotless days in a row in March 2017, followed by relatively infrequent spotless days for the next 7 months."

The frequency of spotless days accelerated in early November 2017, with 13 spotless days in a row. That was followed by many more spotless days over the next 5 months. In all, 2017 experienced 104 spotless days (see chart).

"The frequency of spotless days accelerated again last month, when we had 25 spotless days," Donovan noted. "We've already had 54 spotless days during the first quarter of 2018. This data and comparisons to frequent spotless days during the last solar minimum suggests that we may have just begun a period of very frequent spotless days for ap-

proximately the next 2 years, similar to the period of September 2007 through January 2009.

Donovan said the next solar precursor is frequent extended periods of spotless days. For example, 2016 saw 14 spotless days in a row, March 2017 had 15, November 2017 saw 13, and early March experienced 14.

"Long periods of spotless days will become even more frequent as we go deeper into solar minimum," Donovan predicted. Once extended periods of spotless days become more frequent, another solar precursor will become important, he said.

"New high-latitude, opposite-polarity Cycle 25 sunspots will then begin to appear more frequently, perhaps by late next year," Donovan said. "More frequent Cycle 25 sunspots will signal that we're approaching the bottom of the [Cycle 24] solar minimum phase."

An ongoing solar precursor that could herald the future strength of Cycle 25 is the intensity of the solar polar magnetic fields *prior* to the Cycle 24 solar minimum, Donovan said. "The good news is that the solar polar magnetic field strength is already slightly stronger than it was prior to the last solar minimum," he said. "This suggests that Cycle 25 will be somewhat stronger than Cycle 24."

Donovan said if the long periods of spotless days end in about a year, that will be a precursor of a stronger Cycle 25. If they take more than 2 years to end, however, it will portend a weaker Cycle 25.

He takes issue with reports suggesting that the solar minimum has arrived, based entirely on the very frequent incidence of spotless days over the past 6 weeks. "More comprehensive physical evidence suggests it's more likely that we've just begun a lengthy deep solar minimum phase — similar to late 2007 through late 2008 — that's likely to last well into next year," he told *The Daily DX*. He said **solar polar magnetic field** strength peaks at least 1 year before solar minimum, and, while the south polar region peaked last year, the north polar region has not yet done so, suggesting that solar minimum is not likely to occur until 2019 at the earliest.



New 630-Meter Band Reported “Very Busy”

04/24/2018

Amateur Radio got two new bands last year, but is anyone actually using them? Ralph Wallio, W0RPK, of Greenville, North Carolina, and others who took part in ARRL’s WD2XSH Part 5 Experimental operation or have a deep interest in what now is the 630-meter band, 472 – 479 kHz, say activity is picking up on the new allocation. Wallio has been maintaining an informal database tracking the activity of stations on a state-by-state basis, as well as how many states each station has worked. Topping the list is Eric Tichansky, NO3M, in Pennsylvania, with 36 states worked on 630 meters, and 35 confirmed, including Hawaii and Alaska. NO3M, who also operates as W3CDX, reports 8 DXCC entities worked on the new band. Wallio said his list will be updated weekly.

“During the past 6 months our list of stations in the US participating in QSOs on 630 meters has steadily increased to 108 stations across 39 states,” Wallio told ARRL. “As of mid-April 2018, we have 6 months of operating experience over the past winter. Our 630-meter band has been very busy.”

Wallio said modes frequently used for 630-meter contacts include CW, JT9, WSQ (weak-signal QSO), and FT8 with occasional additional digital mode experiments and SSB. Numerous US stations are also participating in WSPR beacon transmission, reception, and reporting on 472 kHz. “An analysis of the past 30 days finds 59 stations occasionally transmitting 630-meter WSPR beacons in the US,” Wallio added.

Transatlantic and transpacific contacts on the new band also have been reported.

John Langridge, KB5NJD, posts a daily discussion of 630-meter operations and conditions. He advises stations operating on 630 meters to upload their logs to Logbook of The World, so 630-meter operators participating in the 2018 ARRL International Grid Chase (IGC) can receive credit.

Another WD2XSH participant, Rudy Severns, N6LF, discusses LF-MF antenna design on his website, with notes. An archive of 600MRG discussions also is available.



GR9RW will be Royal Wedding Special Event Call Sign

04/25/2018

To celebrate the marriage of Great Britain’s Prince Harry to American actress Meghan Markle, special event call sign GR9RW will be on the air May 19 – 23. It’s believed that this will mark the first use of a GR9 call sign prefix in the UK.

The **royal wedding** will take place on May 19 at St. George’s Chapel in England’s Windsor Castle. Members of the Cray Valley Radio Society (CVRS) will operate GR9RW from their club station in Eltham. GR9RW will primarily use SSB and CW, with the addition of FM on VHF and UHF.

Two HF stations and one VHF station will cover all bands from 80 meters to 70 centimeters





Report: Former Hamvention® Home Hara Arena Getting a New Owner

05/02/2018

The *Dayton Daily News* is reporting that a Louisville, Kentucky-based developer, Michael Heitz, of Garrett-Day LLC Properties, is in the process of buying Hara Arena, which served as home to Dayton Hamvention® from 1964 until 2016. Heitz told the *Dayton Daily News* that he bought out income tax liens on the property from Montgomery County and is hoping to close on some bank liens later this week. It's not known how much Heitz has invested in the property so far. The six-building Hara Arena complex includes some 120 acres of real estate, 25 acres alone devoted to parking. Heitz said his priority is to "clean it up and secure the property." Hara Arena has been visited by camera-carrying urban explorers as well as by vandals since it closed.

The IRS put the Hara Arena complex on the auction block last August to satisfy a tax lien, but no successful bidder came forward. An IRS staff member who was involved in the 2017 auction told ARRL early this year that the agency would not try again to auction the parcel, but suggested that other lienholders, including a mortgage holder and the Town of Trotwood, might go that route. At one point, the asking price for Hara Arena was \$775,000.

The *Dayton Daily News* reported in March that Hara property owners-trustees owed back taxes and around \$350,000 to banks. Heitz is known for buying distressed properties and getting them "shovel ready." He plans a Monday news conference to discuss the purchase and his plans.

According to the *Dayton Daily News*, Heitz has purchased other properties in the area by buying up tax and property liens, and his reputation for buying up derelict properties and turning them around goes back several years. A former West Virginia University basketball player and distance cyclist, the 7-foot tall Heitz is said to be a fearless investor.

The Wampler family had owned and operated Hara Arena since its humble origins in the 1950s, when Wampler Ballarena — then a dance hall and later an exhibit hall familiar to Hamvention visitors — was built in what had been a family-owned orchard. When Hara closed in August 2016, the estimated economic hit to the Dayton area was said to be \$36 million a year.

Second 3Y0Z Bouvet DXpedition Attempt Unlikely for 2018 – 2019 Austral Season

04/30/2018

The ill-fated **3Y0Z DXpedition** to Bouvet Island, halted earlier this year because of poor weather and engine problems with its transportation vessel, will very likely not be rescheduled for the 2018 – 2019 Austral season, organizers say.

"It has become apparent that the chance of finding a suitable and affordable vessel for the 2018 to 2019 Austral season is becoming less and less likely," the team said in an April 26 news release. "It appears that the very earliest we could mount a second attempt to activate Bouvet would be the 2019 to 2020 season, or possibly beyond."

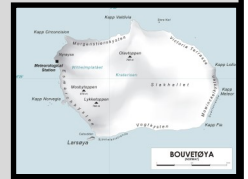
The 3Y0Z team reports that it has reached "a fair settlement" with transportation contractor DAP and has received a partial reimbursement of its payments. "Our vessel *Betanzos* is now back in Punta Arenas, and we believe that the container with our personal gear and equipment is intact. We will be arranging to transport the container back to the US, arriving in a few months."

The 3Y0Z organizers say they want to offer prorated returns of the DXpedition funds in their account, although this will not happen until after the shipping container has arrived and the DXpedition has paid its bills and knows how much money will remain.

"[T]his is going to be an enormous task, with 137 DX clubs and foundations and 3,700 individual DXers," the announcement said. "The process will take some time. We ask that you be patient as we complete this."

The process to claim a refund has not yet been established at this point, but the 3Y0Z DXpedition team plans to offer a choice of a prorated refund, or contributors may designate a foundation or club to receive the contribution. Any "unclaimed" refunds will be proportionally distributed to the major contributing foundations, and the 3Y0Z books will be closed.

"We all are unhappy and extremely disappointed that the project was not completed due to a mechanical failure on our vessel," the announcement said. "This left the captain no choice but to abort the mission for safety reasons. Please accept our team's heartfelt thanks for your outstanding support of this project."



NEW UPDATED LOCATION

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Washington Amateur Communications Inc.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4th 2018

The Printscape Arena at Southpointe

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Exit 48 off Interstate 79

8:00 A.M –3:00 P.M—Admission \$5.00

Doors open early for **VENDOR SETUP** Saturday Nov 3rd 6:30 p.m.

Talk in on 146.790 City-147.285 East-147.390 North-145.250 West -147.315 South- All PI-131.8

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BLACK BOX PRIZE'S ONLY 50 TICKETS Sold

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2018

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What are your favorite amateur activities? _____

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