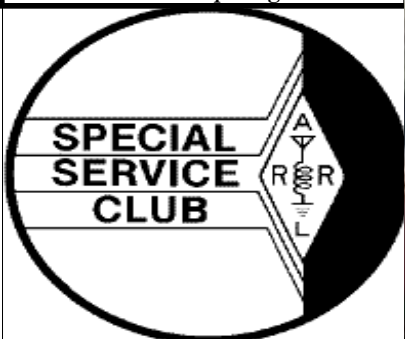


Sep/Oct 2018
Vol. 43, #9-10

Washington Amateur Communications Inc.



A 501-C3 Tax Exempt Organization



THE WACOM HAM

2018 WACOM Hamfest is Coming Up!
4 November 2018, Printscape Arena in Southpointe

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

WACOM President's Message—2
WACOM General Information —3
Regular Meeting Minutes—4
Upcoming Events—5
WACOM DX Corner—6-7
DX Feature of the Month—Niue—8-9

Paul Plants—W3PLP (SK) —10
ARRL News: Indonesian Earthquake—11
ARRL News: Hurricane Prep for Puerto Rico —12
ARRL News: Ducie Is. And Top-10 Wanted DX —13
2018 WACOM Hamfest Flyer —14
WACOM 2018 Renewal Form - 15



Paul Plants—W3PLP (SK)
P. 10

DX Feature of the Month
Niue pp. 8-9

Top Ten Wanted DX
p. 13



WACOM
President's Message
Sep/Oct 2018



Joe—N3XE

President's Message, September 2018

September means it is time for school. WACOM will be offering a General class for those wishing to upgrade, or attempt two licenses at once. Classes start September 10th and the only cost is for the instruction book, if you don't have one already. I look forward to hearing some new Generals on HF this fall.

We also have a lot of events in the coming months that need some thought ahead of time. We have a few public service activities coming up and our Hamfest is fast approaching as well. This is our first year in a new venue, so we need all hands on deck to make sure we get off to a great start.

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 N3YJJ
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

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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

1 June 2018, 7:30 PM



General Meeting was called to order at 7:30pm on Thursday, June 7, 2018 by President Joe Caldwell (N3XE)

Kay (KC3HBO) taking minutes per request of Joe (N3XE) in Randy (KC3EKZ) absence.

Membership introductions performed. Attendees: 17

Motion to accept minutes from last general meeting and treasury report made by Bob (KC3AJM) and second by Tom (KC3TOM).

Radio Room: Patrick (KB3TFN) states room is being used on Monday nights. LaserJet printer smoked fuser which he replaced; it is now operational. Joe (N3XE) reminded everyone Monday Night at the Radio Room is from 6ish until 9ish. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Run for Alex: In Brad's (KC3EDQ) absence, Dennis (K3PSP) stated everything went very well however there were some noise issues. Dennis reminded everyone to "learn your radio" and practice "mic etiquette". Every radio has a personality and you need to learn how near/far you speak into your mic and minimize background noise.

Repeaters: Dennis (K3PSP) reported hearing interference sounding like open squelch. He has scoped the issue and has plans to remediate.

Web: Joe (N3XE) reported Yahoo group moved to Groups.io. Scheduled e-mail reminder feature was used to remind membership of General Meeting. Members acknowledged receiving reminder email.

Amazon Smile: Joe (N3XE) updated the group on the success and profitability from those using Amazon Smile. Dennis (K3PSP) stated he has converted all his company purchases to Amazon Smile.

ICOM 7300 Raffle: There are 50 tickets remaining.

OLD BUSINESS:

PA QSO Party has been taken over by another group which has not yet been identified.

Radio Room lease expires December 31, 2018. Lease agreement is not up for re-negotiation. If you know of any spots to relocate that is affordable and ham radio friendly; keep us in mind.

Washington County: Dennis (K3PSP) provided an update on the \$4.1 million upgrade to the 911 Center in town and the 911 alternate/duplicate being built at the county airport.

Field Day:

4-5 plan to set-up in North Strabane and 1 plan to set-up at the Nike Site

Stations will be arranged so participants will not step on each other.

Joe (N3XE) will be manning the GOTA Station.

92-2 will be delivered Friday afternoon; spotting of truck and generator will be in parking lot near pavilion.

Use of Ground Rods was heavily emphasized. Grounding Rods making contact with dirt provides discharge connection when running on portable power. Items such as a dog auger with clip on clips, #6 or #8 wire, RG8 braid flexible ground straps can be used. Don't make yourself the return!

Club laptops will be utilized for networked logging.

Logging system shows mode and band of each station to help prevent interference.

Catered dinner will be served Saturday afternoon provided by North Strabane Public Service (Rob - KB3ZUS).

Early set-up will occur Friday evening after work if weather co-operates.

There will not be an announcement in the local paper.

Whiskey 3 Rebellion: Special event station will be on-air July 3 – 15th.

BITX Project: printed in CQ Magazine.

NEW BUSINESS:

HamFest: Insurance Coverage for Print Scape Arena is sufficient. Bud (N3TIR) will provide Dennis (K3PSP) with the following information that will be included in an appendix to our contract: number of rooms, # tables & # chairs and venue layout. We are booked at Print Scape Arena for next five years.

BreezeShooters Hamfest was June 2 & 3. WACOM had two tables; ICOM 7300 Raffle Tickets and Sarris Candy were sold. Tom (KC3TOM) and Brad (KC3EDQ) each presented at the Western Pennsylvania Section 2018 Convention Forums. Go-Kit Demos and Discussions was presented by Tom (KC3TOM). Net Control Stations and Net Managers Workshop was presented by Brad (KC3EDQ). Brad (KC3EDQ) has been invited to present at several regional meetings. Brad (KC3EDQ) addressed issues from the last Red Cross Drill.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn at 8:45PM made by Jim (KC3AJM) and second by Bob (KC3AJM).

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Briggs, Treasurer (KC3HBO)

2018 WACOM Upcoming Events Calendar

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

Thu, 6 Sep 2018, WACOM Meeting at 7:30PM, Washington County Building

18-19 Aug 2018, ARRL September VHF Contest, <http://www.arrl.org>

Thu, 4 Oct 2018, WACOM Meeting at 7:30PM, Washington County Building

13-14 Oct 2018—Pennsylvania QSO Party**, <http://www.nittany-arc.net/pqppdf/paqso17rules.pdf>**

3-5 Nov 2018, ARRL November Sweepstakes (CW) Contest, <http://www.arrl.org>

Thu, 1 Nov 2018, WACOM Meeting at 7:30PM, Washington County Building

4 Nov 2018—WACOM Hamfest!** Printscape Arena at Southpointe**

17-19 Nov 2018, ARRL November Sweepstakes (SSB) Contest, <http://www.arrl.org>

24-25 Nov 2018, CQ Worldwide DX Contest (CW), <https://www.cqww.com>

30 Nov—2 Dec 2018, ARRL 160-meter Contest, <http://www.arrl.org>

8-9 Dec 2018, ARRL 10-meter Contest, <http://www.arrl.org>

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

2018 Sep 20	2018 Oct 10	Dodecanese	SV5	DL3DRN	TDDX 20180904	By DL3DRN as SV5/DL3DRN; HF; CW SSB RTTY; QSL OK via DARC
2018 Sep 20	2018 Oct 22	Tristan da Cunha	ZD9CW	LotW	TDDX 20180904	By G4EDG; 40-15m, perhaps 80m; mainly CW RTTY, some
2018 Sep 21	2018 Oct 06	Mayotte	TO6OK	LotW	DXNews 20180711	By OK1BOA OK1FCJ OK1GK OK2ZA OK2ZC OK2ZI OK6DJ fm IOTA AF-027; 160-10m; CW SSB RTTY FT8; QSL also OK via OK6DJ and Club Log
2018 Sep 24	2018 Oct 09	Panama	H88X	I0SNY Direct	TDDX 20170912	By I0SNY IV3FSG HB9BXE YO8SS OE3FTA fm Playa Farallon, Provincia Coclé (EJ98w); 160-6m (no WARC); CW SSB + FT8 on 6m; 600w; dipoles, verticals; QSL also OK via 9A5URI Büro
2018 Sep 26	2018 Oct 10	Rwanda	9X0T	LotW	IK7JWY 20180515	By I1HJT I2YSB IK2CIO IK2CKR IK2DIA IK2HKT IK2RZP JA3USA; 160-10m; CW SSB, RTTY and FT8 (using 9X0Y) on 20m only; 3 stations; QSL also OK via online OQRS and I2YSB direct (see Web)
2018 Sep 28	2018 Oct 14	Samoa	5W0GC	LZ1GC	DXNews 20180416	By LZ1GC in Apia (OC-097); 160-6m, focus on 160 80m; CW SSB RTTY; @5W1SA; QSL
2018 Sep 29	2018 Oct 06	Christmas I	VK9XT	LotW	DXNews 20180528	By A65DC A65DR SM0CXU VE7HDW fm IOTA OC-002; 160-10m; CW SSB + digital (perhaps FT8); QSL also OK
2018 Sep 30	2018 Oct 12	Nauru	C21GJ	W7GJ	425DXN 20180602	By W7GJ fm IOTA OC-031; 6m; mainly EME but some CW SSB, FT8 (50.313 MHz)
2018 Oct 01	2018 Oct 12	Albania	ZA5V	S59A	TDDX 20180702	By S59A + OE6V club members fm Lake Shkodra Resort (JN92rd); 80-2m; CW SSB JT65 FT8 MSK144 JT65B for EME; 1.5kw; call sign requested (else ZA5A)
2018 Oct 02	2018 Oct 13	Uganda	5X7W	LotW	TDDX 20181003	By SM0HPL fm Kampala; 20m; FT8 JT65 CW; QRP; quarter wave vertical; QSL also OK via Club Log and SM0HPL

WACOM HAM DX CORNER—SEP/OCT 2018

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

2018 Oct02	2018 Oct29	American Samoa	KH8 [spots]	DL2AH	DL2AH 20180107	By DL2AH as WH8/DL2AH fm Ofu I (IOTA OC-077); 80-10m; SSB FT8 RTTY; QRV for CQWW DX SSB; holiday style operation
2018 Oct03	2018 Oct10	American Samoa	KH8	VK4MAP Direct	TDDX 20181002	By VK4MAP as KH8/VK4MAP; 80-10m (no WARC); SSB; 100w; G5RV, Moxon, dipole; QSL: Darren Johnston, PO Box 3140, Browns Plains LPO, QLD 4118, Australia
2018 Oct03	2018 Oct27	Vietnam	XV9WJR	LotW	WA7WJR 20180921	By WA7WJR fm Vung Tau, Con Son I (IOTA AS-128) and Phu Quoc I (IOTA AS-128); 40 20 15m; mainly CW, some PSK31 and SSB; QSL also OK via WA7WJR and eQSL
2018 Oct04	2018 Oct09	Palau	T88 [spots]	See Info	TDDX 20180904	By JH7IPR as T88UW, JA6KYU as T88HS, JA6FQI as T88WM; 160-6m; CW FT8 FSK SSB; yagis, wires; for QSL see qrz.com page
2018 Oct06	2018 Oct16	Niue	E6Y	LotW	ZL4TT 20180413	By ZL3PAH ZL3GA ZL3AB ZL4TT fm IOTA OC-040 (AH50bx); 160-10m, perhaps 60m; 500w; Hexbeams, verticals, wires; Oceania DX contest SSB and CW; QSL also OK via Club Log; ZL3PAH (Buro or direct) also OK, but LotW/CL preferred
2018 Oct06	2018 Oct21	Cape Verde	D44TWO	M0OXO	TDDX 20181001	By DF2WO fm Praia Baixo, Santiago (IOTA AF-005); focus on 160 80m; CW SSB FT8 JT65; multiband dipole, toploaded vertical
2018 Oct09	2018 Oct14	Norfolk I	VK9	LotW	DXW.Net 20180713	By JO7GVC as VK9/JO7GVC and JK7LXU as VK9/JK7LXU; 40-10m; CW PSK FT8; holiday style operation; QSL also OK via Club Log and eQSL
2018 Oct09	2018 Oct19	Norfolk I	VK9N	Home Call	TDDX 20180910	By N7BF as VK9BF, ZL2HM as VK9PM, N7QR as VK9QR and W6ABM as VK9EV; 40-6m; SSB FT8; 100w; VK9EV will use LotW
2018 Oct09	2018 Oct21	Chad	TT8KO	LotW	DXW.Net 20180822	By LA7GIA fm N'Djamena; 160-10m; CW, perhaps SSB; QSL also OK via LA7GIA direct
2018 Oct09	2018 Oct27	Reunion	FR	DJ7RJ	TDDX 20180910	By DJ7RJ as FR/DJ7RJ; 160-10m; CW SSB; 600w; QSL OK via DARC Buro or direct
2018 Oct10	2018 Oct15	Svalbard	JW	LotW	LA7XK 20180327	By LA7XK LA9DL LA6VM as JW7XK JW9DL JW6VM (JW5X during SAC Phone) fm IOTA EU-026; CW SSB + digital; QSL also OK via LA7XK
2018 Oct10	2018 Oct16	Vietnam	XV9RH	OE1ZKC	TDDX 20180919	By JH4RHF; HF; mainly CW; spare time operation
2018 Oct10	2018 Oct24	Guantanamo	KG4	Home Call	TDDX 20180914	By W4WV as KG4WV and W6HGF as KG4HF; focus on 160 80m; SSB FT8 PSK RTTY, some CW; QSL also OK via Club Log
2018 Oct10	2018 Nov06	St Kitts & Nevis	V47JA	LotW	W5JON 20180826	By W5JON fm Calypso Bay, St Kitts; 160-6m, incl 60m; SSB FT8; yagi on 6m, verticals, dipole; QSL also OK via W5JON direct
2018 Oct12	2018 Oct16	Laos	XW1IC	LotW	DXNews 20180919	By E21EIC; 40-6m; QSL also OK via E21EIC
2018 Oct12	2018 Oct19	Aruba	P4	Home Call	TDDX 20180924	By NN5E as P4/NN5E and NT5V as P4/NT5V; 80-10m; CW SSB RTTY FT8
2018 Oct12	2018 Oct22	Laos	XW4XR	LotW	TDDX 20180920	By 3W3B; 40-6m; CW RTTY FT8; QSL also OK via E21EIC
2018 Oct15	2018 Nov04	Vanuatu	YJ0GC	LZ1GC	DXNews 20180416	By LZ1GC OM5ZW OK2WM fm Efate I (OC-035); 160-6m, focus on 160 80m; CW SSB RTTY; QSL also OK via Club Log
2018 Oct16	2018 Oct22	Ceuta & Melilla	EA9	LotW	OPDX 20180820	By JA1XGI as EA9/W1XGI fm Melilla; likely 40-10m; mainly CW FT8; QSL also OK via JA1XGI direct and Club Log

WACOM DX Feature of the Month—Niue—E6Y



Niue (*NEW-ay*) is an island country in the South Pacific Ocean, 1,500 miles northeast of New Zealand, east of Tonga, south of Samoa, and west of the Cook Islands. Niue's land area is about 101 sq miles and its population, predominantly Polynesian, was about 1,600 in 2016. The island is commonly referred to as "The Rock", which comes from the traditional name "Rock of Polynesia". Niue is one of the world's largest coral islands. The terrain of island has two noticeable levels. The higher level is made up of a limestone cliff running along the coast, with a plateau in the center of the island reaching approximately 200 feet high above sea level.



sociation is currently paving way to a Multilateral Environmental Agreement (MEA) committed to making Niue the world's first fully organic nation by 2020. A leader in green growth, Niue is also focusing on solar power provision, with help from the European Union. Niue aims to become 80% renewable by 2025.

In January 2004, Niue was hit by Cyclone Heta, which caused extensive damage to the island, including wiping out most of the south of the capital, Alofi. The disaster set the island back about two years from its planned timeline to implement the *Niue Integrated Strategic Plan* (NISP), since national efforts concentrated on recovery.

Niue, whose capital is the village of Alofi, is a self-governing state in free association with New Zealand; and New Zealand conducts most diplomatic relations (though not all) on its behalf. Niueans are citizens of New Zealand, and Queen Elizabeth II is head of state in her capacity as Queen of New Zealand. Between 90–95% of Niuean people live in New Zealand, along with about 70% of the speakers of the Niuean language. A bilingual country, Niue has over 30% of its population speak both Niuean and English, though the percentage of monolingual English-speaking people is only 11%, while 46% are monolingual Niuean speakers.

Niue is not a member of the United Nations (UN), but UN organizations have accepted its status as a freely-associated state as equivalent to independence for the purposes of international law. Niue is subdivided into 14 *villages* (municipalities). Each village has a village council that elects its chairman. The villages are at the same time electoral districts; each village sends an assemblyman to the Parliament of Niue. A small and democratic nation, Niueans hold legislative elections every 3 years.

In 2003, Niue became the first country in the world to provide state-funded wireless internet to all inhabitants. Niue Island Organic Farmers As-



WACOM DX Feature of the Month—Niue—E6Y (Con't)

History

Polynesians from Samoa settled Niue around 900 AD. Further settlers arrived from Tonga in the 16th century. Until the beginning of the 18th century, Niue appears to have had no national government or national leader; chiefs and heads of families exercised authority over segments of the population. Around 1700 the concept and practice of kingship appears to have originated through contact with the Tongans who settled around the 1600s, a succession of *patu-iki* (kings) ruled, beginning with Puni-mata. Tui-toga, who reigned from 1875 to 1887, was the first Christian king.

The first Europeans to sight Niue sailed under Captain James Cook in 1774. Cook made three attempts to land, but the inhabitants refused to grant permission to do so. He named the island "Savage Island" because, as legend has it, the natives who "greeted" him were painted in what appeared to be blood. The substance on their teeth was hulahula, a native red fe'i banana. For the next couple of centuries, Niue was known as Savage Island until its original name, Niuē, which translates as "behold the coconut", regained use.

Christianity was first taught to the Mutalau people before it spread to all the villages. Originally other major villages opposed the introduction of Christianity and had sought to kill Peniamina. The people from the village of Hakupu, although the last village to receive Christianity, came and asked for a "word of God"; hence, their village was renamed "Ha Kupu Atua" meaning "any word of God", or "Hakupu" for short.

In 1889 the chiefs and rulers of Niue, in a letter to Queen Victoria, asked her "to stretch out towards us your mighty hand, that Niue may hide herself in it and be safe". After expressing anxiety lest some other nation should take possession of the island, the letter continued: "We leave it with you to do as seems best to you. If you send the flag of Britain that is well; or if you send a Commissioner to reside among us, that will be well". The British did not initially take up the offer. In 1900 a petition by the Cook Islanders asking for annexation included Niue "if possible". In a document dated 19 October 1901, the "King" and Chiefs of Niue consented to "Queen Victoria taking possession of this island". A dispatch to the Secretary of State for the Colonies from the Governor of New Zealand referred to the views expressed by the Chiefs in favor of "annexation" and to this document as "the deed of cession". A British Protectorate was declared, but it remained short-lived. Niue was brought within the boundaries of New Zealand on 11 June 1901 by the same Order and Proclamation as the Cook Islands.

The New Zealand Parliament restored self-government in Niue with the 1974 constitution, following a referendum in 1974 in which Niueans had three options: independence, self-government or continuation as a New Zealand territory. The majority selected self-government, and Niue's written constitution was promulgated as supreme law. Robert Rex, ethnically part European, part native, was appointed the first premier, a position he held until his death 18 years later. Rex became the first Niuean to receive a knighthood – in 1984.

In January 2004 Cyclone Heta hit Niue, killing two people and causing extensive damage to the entire island, including wiping out most of the south of the capital, Alofi.

Geography

Niue is one of the world's largest coral islands. The terrain consists of steep limestone cliffs along the coast with a central plateau rising to about 200 feet above sea level. A coral reef surrounds the island, with the only major break in the reef being in the central western coast, close to the capital, Alofi. A notable feature is the number of limestone caves near the coast.

The island is roughly oval in shape (with a diameter 11 miles), with two large bays indenting the western coast, Alofi Bay in the center and Avatele Bay in the south. Between these is the promontory of Halagigie Point. A small peninsula, TePā Point (Blowhole Point), is close to the settlement of Avatele in the southwest. Most of the population resides close to the west coast, around the capital, and in the northwest.

Agriculture is very important to the lifestyle of Niueans and the economy, and around 204 square kilometres of the land area are available for agriculture. Subsistence agriculture is very much part of Niue's culture, where nearly all the households have plantations of taro. Taro is a staple food, and the pink taro now dominant in the taro markets in New Zealand and Australia is an intellectual property of Niue. This is one of the naturally occurring taro varieties on Niue, and has a strong resistance to pests. The Niue taro is known in Samoa as "talo Niue" and in international markets as pink taro. Niue exports taro to New Zealand. Tapioca or cassava, yams and kumara also grow very well, as do different varieties of bananas. Coconut meat, passionfruit and limes dominated exports in the 1970s, but in 2008 vanilla, noni and taro were the main export crops.

Tourism is one of the three priority economic sectors (the other two are fisheries and agriculture) for economic development. In 2006, estimated visitor expenditure reached \$1.6 million making tourism a major industry for Niue. Niue will continue to receive direct support from the government and overseas donor agencies. The only airport is Niue International Airport. Air New Zealand is the sole airline, flying twice a week from Auckland.



Paul Plants—W3PLP (SK)



It is with great sadness we report the passing of Paul Plants W3PLP, 66, of Washington, PA on Saturday, August 4, while recovering from major surgery. Paul was an Extra Class licensee, and was currently Chairman of the Western Pennsylvania Repeater Council. Several years ago, Paul was a candidate for WPA Section Manager. He was an active member and

past President of Washington Amateur Communications (WACOM), a member of Breezeshooters and a frequent patron and supporter of Western Pennsylvania hamfests.

Professionally, Paul was a retired municipal Police Officer, and more recently was employed in the automotive parts industry.

He is survived by his wife Patty, N3XAR.



Amateur Radio Volunteers in Indonesia Link Earthquake Zone with Outside World

10/01/2018

Following a devastating 7.7-magnitude earthquake and tsunami in Central Sulawesi, Indonesia, on September 28, members of International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) member-society Organisasi Amatir Radio Indonesia (OARI) and other volunteers have been providing emergency communication for community and government interests. The quake and tsunami destroyed the city of Palu, completely cutting power and telephone connections, as well as the cellular communication infrastructure.

New IARU Region 3 Disaster Communication Coordinator Dani Halim, YB2TJV, said Amateur Radio operators in Indonesia immediately responded to the unfolding disaster, establishing an emergency net on 7.110 MHz. Amateur Radio volunteers from other regions also pitched in to support radio communication for emergency news on 7.110 MHz and 7.065 MHz. OARI has asked that radio amateurs not involved in the emergency response avoid those frequencies. OARI also activated the LAPAN-OARI IO-86 satellite as a back-up communication channel. Some radio amateurs with mobile stations have traveled to the affected region to help.

According to Budi Santoso, YF1AR, on Java Island, the local Palu OARI repre-

sentative Ronny Korompot, YB8PR, was among the first contacted. Through his mobile station, he reported on conditions and the response, including evacuations. Sutrisno Sofingi, YB8NT, was also heard on 7.110 MHz using an emergency station he assembled at the disaster site. He said Amateur Radio was the only available communication with the outside world.

Amateur Radio also has assisted government agencies following severe damage to the telecommunication infrastructure. Hams operating on 2 meters were communicating information on which roads were open to allow traffic from the outside.

Halim reported that communication was established from the Luwuk Disaster Management Agency some 430 miles from the earthquake's epicenter to obtain information on landslides and blocked roads and highways.

Salmin Sahidin, YB8IBD, in Southeast Sulawesi has been **live streaming audio** of the activity on 7.110 MHz via his Facebook page.

The earthquake and subsequent tsunami has claimed upward of 900 lives and caused widespread devastation. Some victims have been reported to be trapped in the debris. The Indonesian National Disaster Mitigation Agency has told news media that, in addition to communication, heavy equipment for rescue operations is limited.



Puerto Rico Amateurs Beefing Up Hurricane Preparedness

09/20/2018

September 20 is the first anniversary of Hurricane Maria's devastating arrival in Puerto Rico. Today, many amateurs there are better prepared for the next storm or other disaster that could disrupt conventional telecommunications. With this in mind, the ARRL Puerto Rico Section is hosting monthly meetings in various cities around the island commonwealth as part of an effort to establish an Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) organization in Puerto Rico, to be headed by Section Manager Oscar Resto, KP4RF, and Section Emergency Coordinator Juan Sepulveda, KP3CR. The overall initiative would involve recruiting volunteers and holding topic-specific workshops on several topics:

- Using *Winlink* to send emails over the air, using radiograms, introducing the National Traffic System (NTS), and explaining the new ARES online filing system. Presenters would be Section Traffic Manager Pedro Irizarry, KP3PI, and Section Technical Coordinator Carlos Roig, WP4AOH.
- Constructing NVIS antennas for local HF communication, updating the WP4MR repeater system, where various nets take place, and assembling an

Amateur Radio “Go-Kit” for portable emergency communication.

- Continuing to build relationships with hospitals and municipal emergency management agencies, as well as maintaining the ones established with the Red Cross and the Puerto Rico Energy Power Authority (PREPA-AEE).

Based on the new Puerto Rico Emergency Management Bureau (PREMB – NMEAD) zone divisions, a 2-meter simplex band plan has been developed, in the event that repeaters go down. Many simplex drills and nets are taking place on a weekly basis.

At a September 8 meeting, it was decided to create a new formal net for handling formal traffic via the 145.410 MHz repeater located in the El Yunque summit. Radio amateurs living in the US Virgin Islands were invited to participate as well. Eventually an HF net will be available to send formal traffic to the NTS nets in the US mainland. The 2-meter net is set to start on September 24 at 2200 UTC.

Special event station K1M will be on the air September 20 – 28 to commemorate the anniversary of Hurricane Maria. “Kilo One Maria” was the call sign used by US Amateur Radio volunteers deployed to Puerto Rico as Red Cross volunteers to help with hurricane recovery. K1M will operate on or around 14.292 MHz and 7.188 MHz. — Thanks to Puerto Rico Section Public Information



Ducie Island VP6D DXpedition, Other Pacific Operations on Target

09/11/2018

The VP6D Ducie Island DXpedition is set to get under way October 20 and continue until November 3. According to Jacky Calvo, ZL3CW, the equipment, already en route, has been **loaded** aboard the M/V *Braveheart* in New Zealand. The *Braveheart* sets sail for Tahiti in late September, and the team of operators will catch up with the gear in Tahiti to begin their voyage to Ducie Island.

Elsewhere, from September 29 until October 6, Martin Wennergren, A65DC, and friends will operate from Christmas Island as **VK9XT**. They plan to be on 160 through 10 meters, excluding 60 meters, kicking things off with the CQ World Wide RTTY Contest for the first 48 hours, with SSB and CW on non-contest bands, then CW, SSB, and RTTY on HF, using FT8 “only when no other operation is happening or on bands that are opening or closing,” they’ve said. VK9XT logs will go to LoTW and Club Log.

Stan Vatev, LZ1GC, is heading to Samoa and will be on the air by September 28 as 5W0GC. He’ll meet other operators for the YJ0GC operation from Vanuatu, set to begin on October 15. Logs will be uploaded to LoTW. HF operation will concentrate on 160 and 80. **More details** are on the 5W0GC/YJ0GC website..

Top 10 Most Wanted DXCC Entities List Updated

09/06/2018

Club Log’s [DXCC Most Wanted](#) entities list has been updated as of August 28. The list includes 340 entities, and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK), or North Korea, is the #1 most-wanted DXCC entity, as it has been for quite a few years.

The other top ten most-wanted entities, listed in descending order, are: 3Y/B Bouvet Island; FT5/W Crozet Island; BS7H Scarborough Reef; CE0X San Felix Islands; BV9P Pratas Island; KH7K Kure Island; KH3 Johnston Island



Bouvet Island



Johnson Island

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Exit 48 off Interstate 79

8:00 A.M –3:00 P.M—Admission \$5.00

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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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2018

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