



Bulletin



March 2024

Founded In 1958

Our Next Meeting & Speaker

Date & Time: March 21, 2024
Location: Zoom meeting, 7:00 – 9:00 PM
Speaker: Kyle Krieg, AAØZ
Topic: Using Node Red



From the Prez *(de John Tramontanis, N4TOL)*

March is now upon us, and as I set my clock forward this past weekend, thoughts of springtime DX, and the anticipation of warmer weather for antenna projects, motivated me to get ready to take advantage of the band conditions as this sunspot cycle continues to rise.

It appears from the spots on the bands and the chatter among club members that the 2024 DX Marathon is off to a great start.

After tallying 100 entities in January for the 2024 DX Marathon, my pace has dropped off a bit, and I now stand at 143 in mid March. I suspect the pace will level off even further as the year goes on and the entities become tougher to

find as the common ones are accounted for. However, in 2024, I have picked up some nice band fills, and even scored one ATNO!

I see at this time we have 6 members that have eclipsed the 200 entity count in the Marathon and are still going strong. Are your totals reflected in Club Log?? If so, are you tied in with the SEDXC as your club in the Club Leagues section? Try to get in on the action. Once you start working a few, the DX bug will bite. It is a great way to keep your stations and your supporting systems (including yourself) in tune for when that rare one comes along.

The Dalton hamfest in February drew a nice crowd with fine weather. The club had a table and many familiar faces checked in, along with some folks not seen in a while. Here is a glimpse of some of the action.

Photos courtesy of Steve Mays, KS4KJ - many thanks for sharing



Wes, W3WL Nathan, K4NHW Gary, WB4SQ



Chuck, AE4CW



John, N4TOL Gregg, W6IZT



John, AA4AN (ex N4IHV)



Jim, W4UCK haggling in the boneyard



Wes, W3WL Nathan, K4NHW Warren, KD4Z

I look forward to seeing you all at the March Zoom meeting, on Thursday, March 21st at 7:00 PM. This month, the SEDXC will welcome Kyle Krieg, AAØZ, as our guest speaker.

Here is the link for joining the Zoom event:

<https://www.sedxc.org/sedxc/zoom/index.htm>

73 John N4TOL



sedxc.org/sedxc/DXElmers



March Humor

De Neil Foster – N4FN



On a serious note:

Join YJØVV in Vanuatu for the CQ WW SSB Contest in October

Van, N4VGE and John, K4QQG, have made arrangements to operate MM2 for this contest as YJØVV. In addition, we'll be able to activate IOTA 035 Efate Island and POTAs VU-0016 and VU-0014. The POTA parks have never been activated. We are looking for SSB operators and a set of high power BPFs. If you can help or have questions about either please contact Van at vanheridge@gmail.com or 843-303-1885. Experience is not required and spouses are invited.

Special arrangements have been made with a travel agency to reduce the cost of the airlines so don't be swayed by the high prices of Price Line or Google Flights. All-in, the travel and luxury accommodations will cost about \$5,000 per person.



VP's Corner de K4NHW

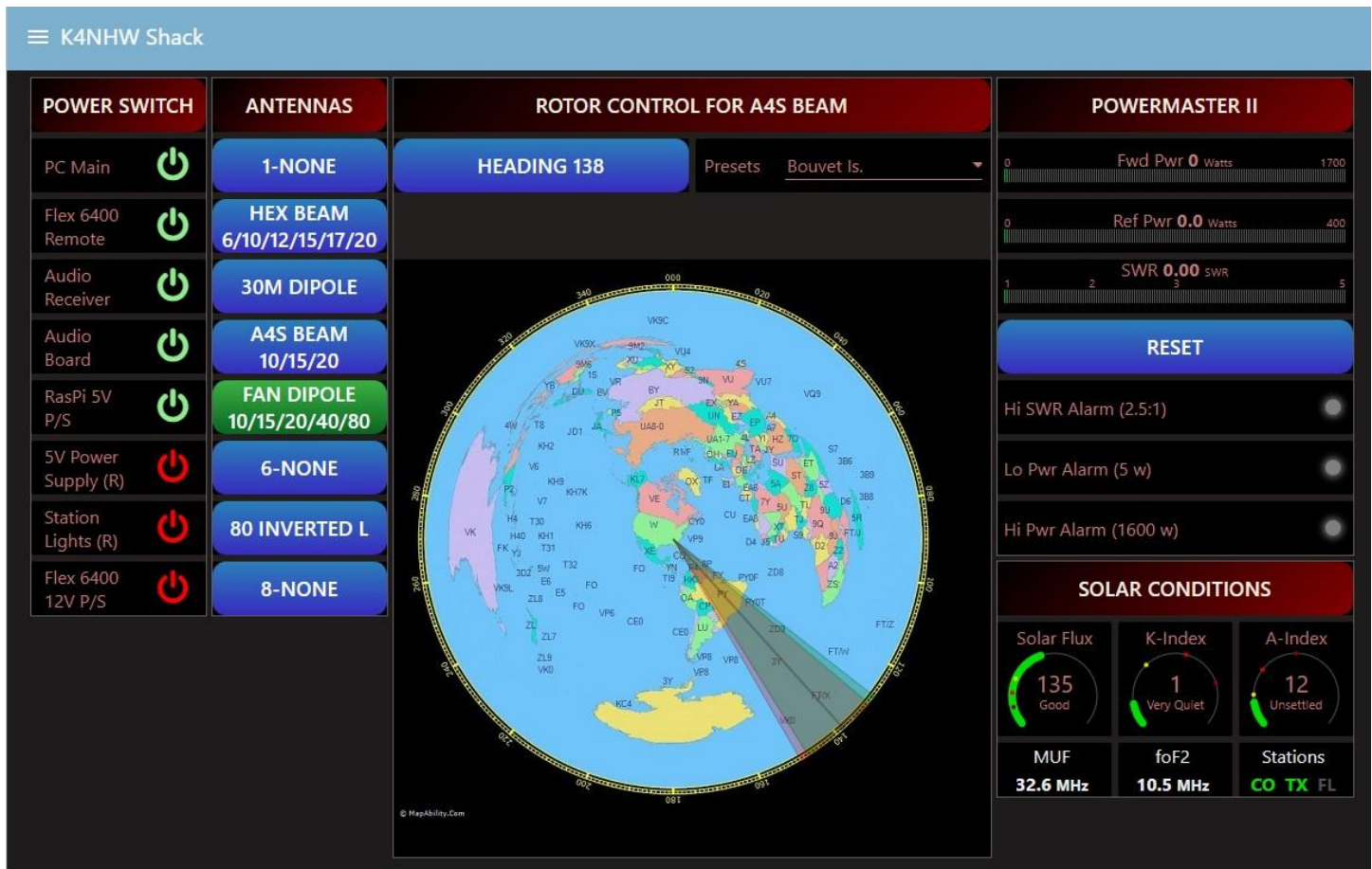
(de Nathan Wood, K4NHW)

I hope everyone survived the time change! For me, it's just a reminder of how things are constantly changing whether we like it or not. Some good friends are no longer with us. The seasons often change here in the south within the same day. Our priorities may change from what used to be important to us. Whatever season of life that you may be in, I hope you find the time to enjoy the little things! AND change your batteries in your dinner bells... I mean smoke alarms!

If you haven't noticed, DX has been on FIRE lately! I have had a blast chasing some new DX for me. I have added 4 ATNO's for me this month along with multiple band fills. Many of you are doing quite well with the DX Marathon. Someone told me just the other day that

they have already crossed over 200 DXCCs in 2024! That's amazing! It is also an encouragement for me to step up my game! I'm a bit behind.

For my March version of "What's on Your Desk?", I'd like to share something that has been a work-in-progress for a while. It is a Node Red dashboard to control much of my station by the click of a mouse! Below you can see my dashboard that is able to turn 120V devices on and off, switch antennas, turn my rotor and monitor my power output along with Solar conditions! I can access this dashboard locally and remotely. And it is fully customizable. I did have some help from various friends including this month's speaker, AAØZ! If this interests you at all, you don't want to miss this month's presentation!



Presentations

Last month, the SEDXC welcomed Bob Schmieder, KK6EK, as our guest speaker! Bob gave us a very in-depth look as to where he sees the hobby (DXing) in the decades to come. He pointed out some obstacles that we'll need to overcome and shared some great insight along the way. If you missed the presentation, you could check it out on the website at sedxc.org/zoom.

For March, you want to join us for a highly anticipated presentation. On March 21st at 7PM, Kyle, AAØZ, will be presenting how you can use Node-RED to enhance your station with automation and web based con-

trol of your radio, amp, tuner rotator and beyond!

For those who are not familiar with Node-RED, it is a low code development tool for visual programming. It is excellent for wiring together hardware devices, API's and online services. There is little to no programming experience needed since many of the "Flows" used in Node-RED are already written and available online for free. Many of these are essential for ham radio! Even if you do run into some trouble, there is an extensive

community online that is willing to help you in many ways!

Kyle was licensed in 1995 as KBØRPM and previously held NØKTK. Kyle enjoys operating portable and expedition style in contests, but loves a good multi-op. He is currently a member of the ARRL, St. Louis & Suburban Radio Club, Society of Midwest Contesters, Elayer Contest Club, Mississippi

Valley DX & Contest Club and Long Island CW Club. When not on the radio, he likes to play pickleball and tennis, play the piano, make ham radio YouTube videos and geek out on the latest technology. Kyle works in IT for his day job..

The zoom credentials can be found at the top of the front page of sedxc.com.



Treasurer's Journal *(de Jeff Cantor, K1ZN)*

Greetings, Fellow DXers!

TREASURER's Report – March 2024

- Checkbook Balance on March 1st: \$12,995.03
- Payments Made, month of February 2024:
 - a. Postage \$8.76
 - b. IT related 8.55
 - c. Plaque sponsor GA QSO 31.00
 - d. DX Card Mailing 40.80

As we move closer to 2024, I need to highlight a few things:

- 1. I have now served a decade as your Treasurer, and it has been an honor to do so. This past June I agreed to stay in office one additional year with the proviso that a new person come forward to “understudy” the SEDXC bookkeeping process and DXPedition funding application vetting process, etc., so as to make for a seamless transition to a new officer. I call for a volunteer to come forward and begin that understudy.**

2. Likewise, our WebMaster has asked for a volunteer to begin that under-study. Please, SEDXC members, we ask for the next generation of officers to step forward.

73s & GUD DX,
Jeff / K1ZN, Treasurer

Around The Shack (*de Hal Kennedy N4GG*)



Around the Shack

March 2024

Editor's Note: Hal's column will be back in April.

25 Years Ago... (*de Van Herridge, N4VGE, Bulletin Editor*)

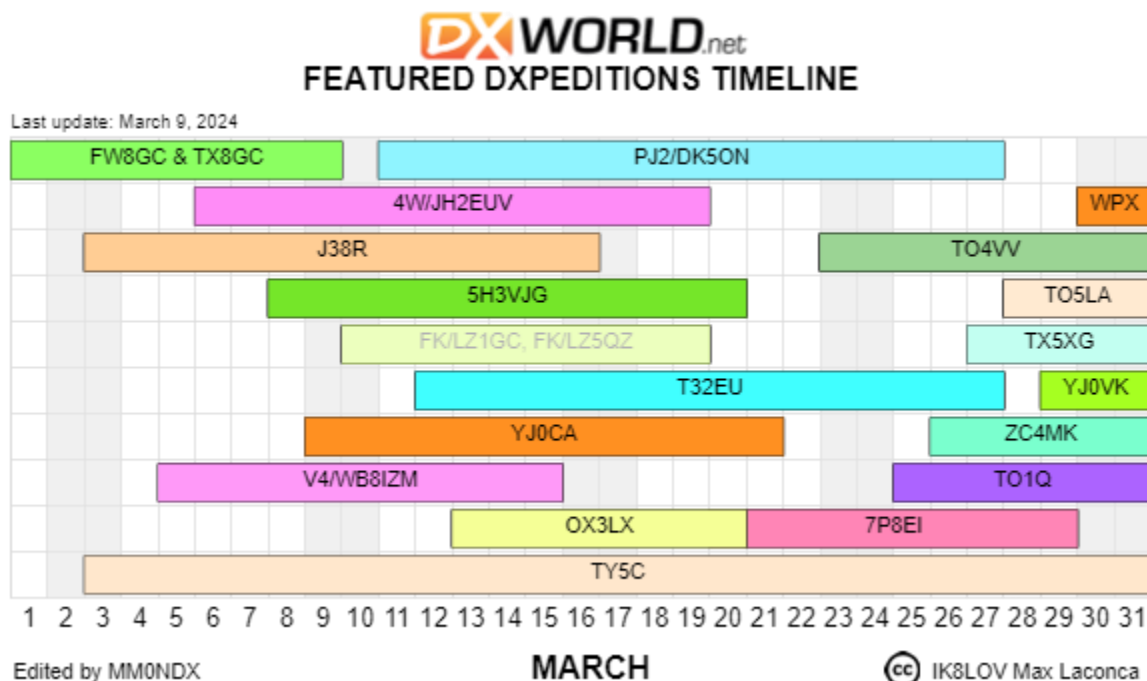


Greetings from the Editor. Don't forget to check SEDXC's website to get the latest club information. www.sedxc.org.

See link below for the SEDXC Bulletin from 25 years ago.

sedxc.org/sedxc/bulletins/sedxc0399.pdf

The *DX World* Calendar/Timeline for March



The *DX World* Calendar features a timeline of all DXpeditions anticipated for the current month and is a great way to plan your chase for the next, All-Time New One (ATNO). The Calendar is updated regularly; use this link to see the latest version:

https://www.hamradiotimeline.com/timeline/dxw_timeline_1_1.php

SEDXC Officers & Positions

John Tramontanis, N4TOL – President – iam4rb@gmail.com

Nathan Wood, K4NHW – Vice President -- nathan.wood23@gmail.com

Joel Levine, WA4HNL – Secretary -- jlevine@bellsouth.net

Jeff Cantor, K1ZN – Treasurer -- jacantor9@gmail.com

Verne Fowler, W8BLA – Activities Manager -- w8bla@arrl.net

SEDXC Appointed Positions

Chaz Cone, W4GKF – Webmaster – w4gkf@chazcone.com

Van Herridge, N4VGE – *SEDXC Bulletin* Editor – vanherridge@gmail.com