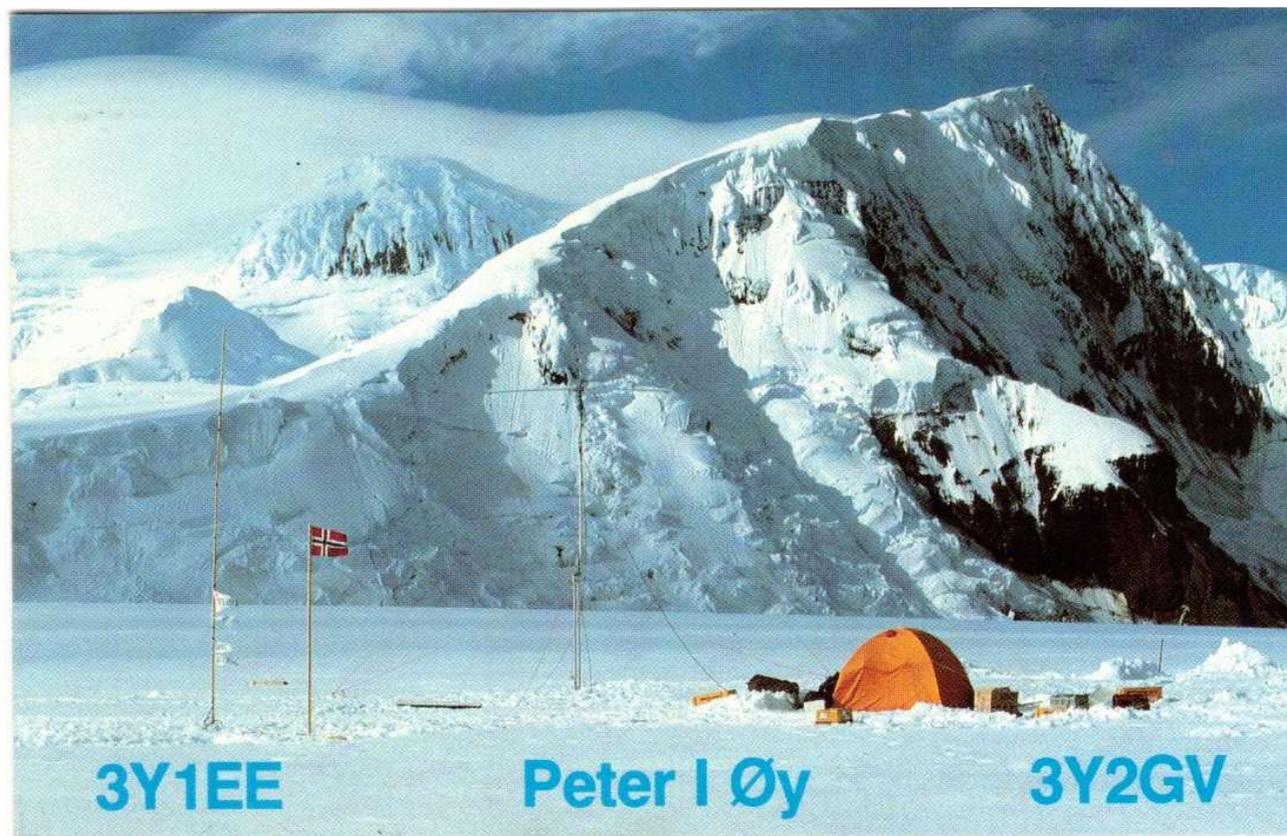


# San Diego DX Club Bulletin

August 2025



3Y1EE

Peter I Øy

3Y2GV

## MEETING PROGRAM

The August 2025 meeting program is titled:  
"Contesting 101 - Introduction to Contesting"  
and will be presented by Dennis Vernacchia, N6KI

## MEETING NOTICE

The August 2025 SDDXC meeting will be held on Wednesday,  
August 27, 2025 starting at 5:30 P.M. PDST at Elijah's Restaurant located at  
7061 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard as well as on Zoom. Come early for social  
hour and dinner.

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**Vice President/Pgm Chair:**

**Bud Hennessy, AE6BH**

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**Bob LaRose, W6ACU**

larose@shortwaves.com

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Brian.Roberts.01@gmail.com

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**Miguel Rivera, KJ6YXI**

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**Danny Floyd, WB6FWS**

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## From the Prez . . .

Rob, WA3IHV

The Summer BASH was a great success enjoyed by everyone. In addition to our members and families, we had many of our friends and colleagues from Orange and LA counties join us this year. A special thanks to Bob Brehm, AK6R of Palomar Engineers and Ray Waldemar, WA6NVL who brought prizes which were raffled. Ray also took the wonderful candid photos highlighted elsewhere in the Newsletter. A thanks to our Board who brought back this wonderful event after many years of no BASHES.

The Board has proposed and unanimously approved an Amendment to ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP of the SDDXC CCONSTITUTION. The new text is available else in this Newsletter. In a nutshell, we are proposing to eliminate ASSOCIATE membership and open REGULAR membership to any licensed ham with an interest in working DX as well as abiding by the constitution and by-laws of the Club. We will discuss this amendment and plan to vote on same at the upcoming general membership meeting on August 27<sup>th</sup>. Per our constitution this “requires a two-thirds majority vote of the voting members present” to be ratified.

Our upcoming meeting welcomes Dennis Vernacchia, N6KI current club member presenting “CONTESTING 101, INTRODUCTION TO CONTESTING”. Our meeting will be in person at Elijahs Restaurant (7061 Clairemont Mesa Blvd, SD) or via Zoom (Zoom meeting information on Page 4)..

73,

GUD DX, and hope to see everyone on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

Rob, WA3IHV

## SDDXC YouTube Channel

Recordings of monthly meetings are available on the San Diego DX Club YouTube channel.

[\(1201\) San Diego DX Club - YouTube](#)

# LIFE IS SIMPLE



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SLEEP



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## Board Meeting Minutes

Bob, W6ACU



### SDDXC Board Meeting August 11<sup>th</sup> 2025

In attendance- Rob Reichmann, Brian Roberts, Jim Wellington, Jerry Stafford, Steve Handrop, Bud Hennessy, Bob LaRose

**CONSTITUTION CHANGE** – We have been discussing the need to change membership requirements to allow members that have not yet received their DXCC to be elected as club officers and board members. This has been necessitated because there has been a lack of volunteers among existing members. Rob presented proposed changes for the SDDXC Constitution, and they were accepted by a unanimous vote of the BOD. The changes will be published in the next Newsletter and be voted on in the next meeting.

**SANTA MARIA DX CONVENTION** – In lieu of the discontinued Visalia convention, this venue is being promoted by Jim Neiger, N6TJ. There are still a lot of unknowns and there apparently is no opportunity for Club revenue. Jim has asked us to support it. The Board was concerned about any implied financial support. We unanimously voted to “Endorse” the convention without any further obligation.

**SUMMER BASH REVIEW** – Everyone considered it a great success, including significant attendance by the Orange County contingent. Ray took some great pictures, and they will be shared via the Newsletter. The preliminary plan is to try to repeat the venue and menu next year with some adjustments in the parking situation. We thanked Rob for his personal financial support of the Bash!

**CHRISTMAS PARTY** – We had preliminary planning discussions. It will be held the first or second Sunday in December, subject to venue availability. There was general concern about the cost and the room that the Brigantine gave us despite promises otherwise. We will be exploring alternative sites, including Tribal Casinos that may be mutually convenient.

**TREASURER’S REPORT** – This is listed separately. The Snafu with the Zoom cost was because of a Zoom error (double charging us). Brian took care of it.

#### UPCOMING MEETINGS –

**August 27<sup>th</sup>** – Dennis, N6KI, will be presenting his “Contesting 101” Update.

**September 24<sup>th</sup>** – James Wilson, K6WRJ, will be presenting “AI in Ham Radio” At this meeting we will plan to give the two candidates for ARRL Regional Director time to make short presentations.

**October 23** – New WAZ Ambassador Program replacing the CQ by Jose Castillo, N4BAA

**November** – No meeting due to Thanksgiving

**December** – No meeting due to Christmas Party.

Bob, W6ACU

## SDDXC Treasurer's Report

Brian, KN6MJK



### JULY 2025 REPORT FIGURES *(Full Month)*

#### INCOME:

\$159.90 – Refund for Second Zoom Payment from Brian Roberts

#### EXPENSES:

\$159.90 – ZOOM Payment

CASH BALANCE 07-31-2025: \$4,127.30 Checking \$3967.40, PayPal 159.90

*Submitted by: Jim Wellington, Treasurer SDDX Club*

Brian, KN6MJK

## August 2025 Meeting Notice

San Diego DX Club is inviting you to our August 2025 meeting on August 27th. Zoom opens around 6PM, meeting starts at 6:30PM, .

#### **In Person**

Elijah's Restaurant 7061 Clairemont Mesa Blvd

#### **Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81959884773?pwd=UbGhJXJPIXXBhNPU3zLT4Z0XZPylgW.1>

Meeting ID: 819 5988 4773

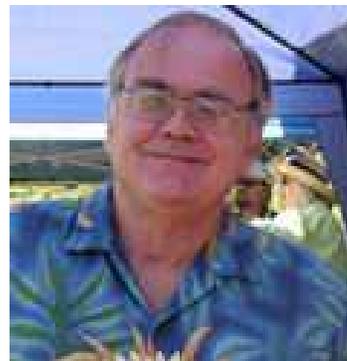
Passcode: 171836

Join instructions

[https://us06web.zoom.us/meetings/81959884773/invitations?signature=4MmS3RXkNEmrFDQwx\\_tPp4Gg63rDHWdXMuzl663MQws](https://us06web.zoom.us/meetings/81959884773/invitations?signature=4MmS3RXkNEmrFDQwx_tPp4Gg63rDHWdXMuzl663MQws)

## SDDXC Contest Results

*John, K6AM*



K6AM taking this month off to reflect on how things used to be back in the "good old days".

Be back in Sept.

*John, K6AM*



## SDDXC Bulletin Archives

Past issues of the SDDXC Bulletin are available on the Club website at:

<https://www.sddxc.org/docs/newslist/>

## From the Editor

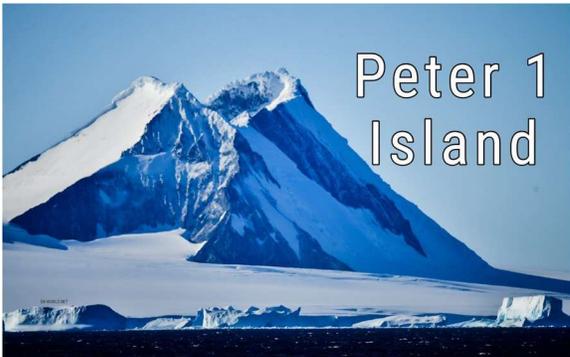
Bob, K9RHY



# Peter 1 Island on the Long Path: A DXer's Quest

Long before FT8 powered nearly 80% of today's DX contacts, ham radio DXing was a hands-on pursuit defined by CW, SSB and the art of navigating propagation. In the 1970s and 1980s, operators chased elusive stations by navigating noisy bands and tricky propagation with persistence and ingenuity, effectively connecting a global community of hams. For us Old Timers, it's a storied past; for newcomers, it's the heritage behind today's digital tools. Here's a tribute to the hams and technology that shaped those unforgettable pre-digital days.

Picture this: January 1987. The DX world is buzzing like a live wire. Peter 1 Island, that ice-locked speck in the



Bellingshausen Sea, is about to hit the airwaves—a rare entity so elusive it's the stuff of ham radio legend. For us grizzled DXers, it's not just a new DXCC counter; it's the ultimate quest, a chance to snag a signal from a frozen nowhere. From my shack in Libertyville, Illinois, I'm gearing up for the fight of my life: working 3Y1EE. This wasn't just a QSO—it's a battle won through strategy, grit, and sometimes the blessings of the propagation gods, and a triumph that would push me closer to the DXCC Honor Roll.

My long path DX journey started back in the late '70s, under the wing of two old-timers, Jerry DeWalt, W3BL (the "Big Lover" from Vero Beach) and Al Hix, W8AH (Double You Eight Alpha Hotel). Those guys were giants, roaring **CQ DX, long path!** on 20 meters. They tutored me in the art of long path DXing—sending your signal the *wrong way* around the globe, skipping the easy and far more familiar great-circle route. To reach Antarctica, we're talking up to 16,000 miles, weaving over the Arctic, dodging auroral hiss, instead of the direct 8,000-mile shot. It's a high-wire act—part patience, part propagation wizardry, part sheer nerve. Those narrow 30-minute openings, crackling with faint signals, became my proving ground. I practiced long path DXing by working VU and 4S stations, pointing my antenna south from Libertyville while short path signals looped north over the Arctic, losing themselves in the ether along the way. These 30-minute long path openings were electric, connecting me to 10 and 20 watt stations with dipoles or verticals, their signals dancing across 16,000 miles through the ionosphere's whims without the operator's knowledge that their signals were travelling 3/4 of the way around the globe.

By '87, I'd built a shack to be proud of in Libertyville—a quiet Chicago suburb perfect for chasing DX. My setup was a beast: a 70-foot crank-up tower topped with a four-element 20-meter monobander, a Kenwood TS-950SD, and an SB-220 amp with those glowing 3-500Zs humming like a warm hearth. This was a station ready to slug it out with the big guns.

Peter 1 Island was no ordinary target. Added to the DXCC list in '83, it needed a legit operation to count. The LA-DX-Group, with ops like Einar Enderud (LA1EE), was taking on the challenge, backed by rumors of Northern California DX Foundation support. Getting to that wind-blasted rock was half the fight; firing up the bands was the other. When 3Y1EE came on in January, 20 meters erupted into chaos. Solar Cycle 22, loafing at 100–120 SFU, gave us fleeting F2-layer openings. The short path—8,389 miles at 170 degrees south—was a wall of QRM, a pileup from every continent that sounded like a bar fight. I threw everything at it: split operation, delayed calls, tail-ending. Nothing broke through.

Then came the moment of truth. Long path.

See, long and short path openings happening at the same time? That's rare, like catching lightning in a bottle. The short path was a lost cause, but the long path—350 degrees north, 16,515 miles over the Arctic, Asia, and down to Antarctica—was a gamble worth taking. It's a brutal route, demanding four to six ionospheric hops, flirting with auroral distortion. But sometimes, just sometimes, it's quieter. It's the road less traveled, where a savvy DXer can slip through the cracks.



That night, January 1987, at 7:41 PM Central, the Illinois cold was creeping into the shack, my 3-500Z's casting a warm glow. I swung the beam north, twisted the dial on the 950S, and listened. The band was alive, quiet, but hissing with just a hint of static and no QRM, but then—there he was. 3Y1EE, his CW signal sharp as a blade, cutting through the noise like a beacon from another world. My heart raced. I sent my call twice, holding my breath. And then—BAM! Einar came back. I was in the log! That QSO, caught just outside the gray-line window, was pure DX sorcery—a signal that danced 16,000 miles the hard way around the globe.

The thrill of that long path contact wasn't just about logging Peter 1. It was the choice—the calculated risk of turning my beam away from the pileup and chasing a whisper over the Arctic. Long path DXing isn't brute force; it's chess. It's knowing the ionosphere's mood, timing the opening, and trusting your gut. That QSO with 3Y1EE is among my proudest moments in 60 years of DXing, a story I still tell at club meetings, over coffee with other old-timers who get it.

Oh, and later? I did bag 3Y2GV on the short path, on SSB, during a brief afternoon F2 peak. Erling Wiig's voice came through after some split-operation hustle, adding another Peter 1 QSO to the log. But that long path contact with 3Y1EE? That's the one that burns bright. The '87 operation, with its tight 10-day window, wasn't just a DXpedition—it was a proving ground. It locked in Peter 1's DXCC status and gave thousands of us a tale to tell.

Now, with the 2027 Peter 1 DXpedition on the horizon, that old fire's roaring again. That icy island still calls, daring us to chase it. For you veteran DXers out there, you know the rush—cranking the beam, spinning the knobs, waiting for that faint signal to break through. Long path is our quest, our legacy. It's about outsmarting the globe, snagging the impossible, and adding another chapter to your DX saga. So, fire up the tubes, dust off the logbook, and let's hunt Peter 1 together. Who's ready to go long (path)?

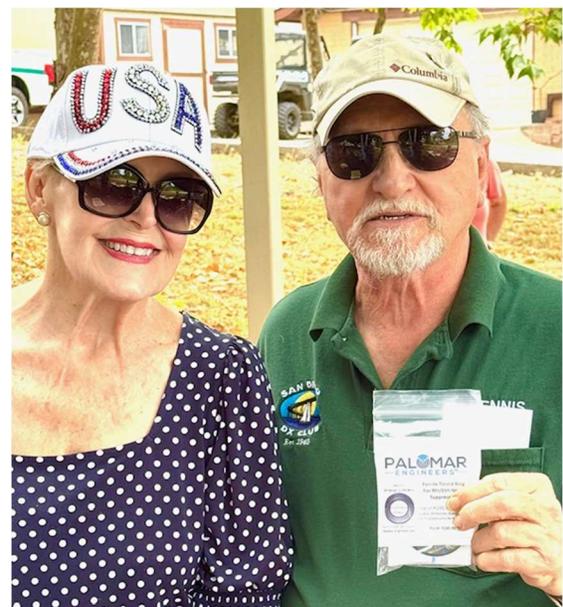
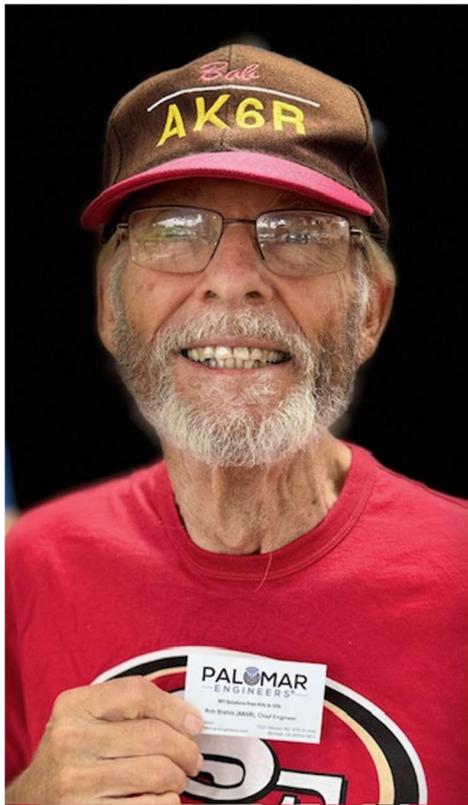
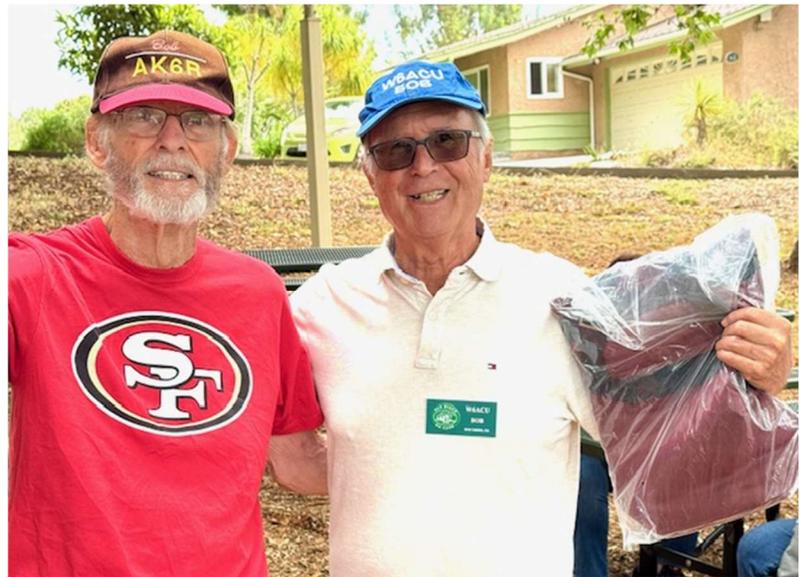
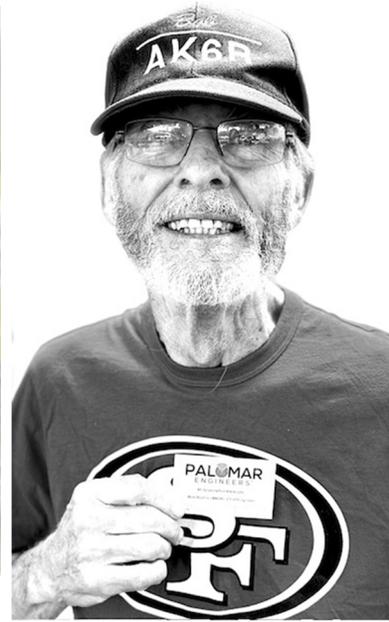
## Proposed Amendment to the San Diego DX Club Constitution and By-Laws

August 4, 2025

RE: SDDXC Constitution ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP AMENDMENT

### ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1            Membership is open to any licensed amateur radio operator interested in working DX and abiding by the constitution and by-laws of this club. Membership may not be denied based upon age, race, color, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, political affiliation, marital status or any other reason that would be biased or prejudicial.
- Section 2            The by-laws shall provide for the payment of annual dues by members. Eligibility for membership shall be divided into the following categories:
- A. **Regular:** A voting member who has an interest in working DX and advancing the Club’s objectives. A regular member is eligible to hold office.
  - B. **Student:** A full-time student under the age of 23 is eligible. Dues are payable at 50% of regular dues. Student members shall have full voting privileges.
  - C. **Honorary:** An amateur may be made an honorary member by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. Honorary members pay no dues and have no voting privileges.
    - 1) Any outside presenter at a club meeting will become an honorary member for one calendar year.
- Section 3            To be considered a Regular member, a person must attend at least two club meetings (in-person or via Zoom), submit a membership application and pay the prescribed dues. An affirmative vote of 2/3 of the voting members present (in-person or via Zoom) at the meeting is required for membership.
- Section 4            Membership may be revoked in the event a member no longer possesses a valid amateur radio license, is convicted of a felony of violence or moral turpitude, or exhibits a pattern of behavior that may be considered detrimental to the reputation of the Club. A written petition signed by ten (10) or more voting members stating the reason(s) for removal of a member shall be presented to the President or Vice President. Alternatively, the Board of Directors may prepare the written petition. After investigation and a majority vote of approval of the Board of Directors, the petition will be presented to the general membership for discussion and voted upon within 15 days at the next general membership meeting.
- Removal of a Club member requires a two-thirds vote by voting members present (in-person or via Zoom) at the designated meeting. To preclude the foregoing process, the member shall be granted by the President the opportunity to resign from the Club.



**BASH  
2025!**



**BASH  
2025!**



# 3Y0K DXpedition to Bouvet Island, February 2026

ClubLog #10 most wanted DXCC entity  
Dependency of Norway in South Atlantic Ocean  
Volcanic origin, 49 km<sup>2</sup>, 93% covered by glacier

*The most remote uninhabited island on Earth*



LOC JD15pn  
CQ ZONE 38  
ITU ZONE 67

# 3Y0K

## Bouvet 2026

IOTA AN-002 | POTA BV-0001 | WWF LAFF-0044

*The Most Remote Uninhabited Place on The Planet*



• **[UPDATE]** –

We are pleased to announce that well known DXer and POTA Administrator KB2FMH, James Gallow has joined the 2026 Andaman Island DXpedition Team. His DX experience and POTA knowledge are important to the Team to improve the Andaman Dxpediton's QSO rate and activation of three rare POTA locations on Andaman Island.

The Andaman Island DXpedition is scheduled to begin transmitting on October 19, 2026. Then it will be entering the 2026 CQ WW SSB Contest representing India with a goal of first place for Asia. Three POTA locations, IN-0003, IN-0005, and IN-0007, will be activated between October 27-29. This will be the initial activation of all three locations

If you are interested in joining the 2026 Andaman Island DXpedition Team please contact Van Herridge, N4VGE, immediately at [N4VGE@worlddxpedition.org](mailto:N4VGE@worlddxpedition.org).

## Peter I Island Dxpedition 2026



Peter I Island DXpedition 2026 preparation has started!

Peter I is the #8 DXCC in ClubLog most wanted list.

We have secured a vessel, and we're now building a team of 19 operators that will go to Peter I Island in February 2026 and stay there for 14 days. The vessel is a proper Antarctica vessel with 2 helicopters, two Expedition leaders and with all permits needed.

We are working closely with the Norwegian Polar Institute to obtain the landing permit. A website has been created and additional information about Peter I Island DXpedition will be released shortly. Fundraising is expected to start 2024

Team leader Ken LA7GIA, Co-leader Adrian KO8SCA, Co-leader Cezar VE3LYC and Co-leader Dave WD5COV.

Media Officer: James Gallo KB2FMH.

# Club Log DX Report for August, 2025

## Most active bands

Band	QSOs	% DX	Graph
160M	3,973	10.22	
80M	28,914	16.01	
60M	6,615	21.50	
40M	162,246	17.73	
30M	66,408	44.87	
20M	263,905	41.30	
17M	93,257	61.94	
15M	151,438	62.88	
12M	36,987	66.80	
10M	50,095	61.90	
6M	31,753	14.54	

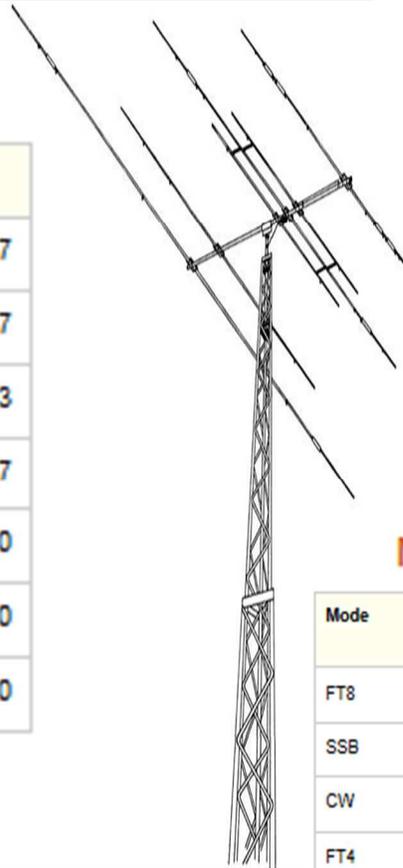
Rank	Prefix	Entity Name
1.	P5	DPRK (NORTH KOREA)
2.	BS7H	SCARBOROUGH REEF
3.	CE0X	SAN FELIX ISLANDS
4.	BV9P	PRATAS ISLAND
5.	KH7K	KURE ISLAND
6.	KH3	JOHNSTON ISLAND
7.	FT/G	GLORIOSO ISLAND
8.	3Y/P	PETER 1 ISLAND
9.	FT5/X	KERGUELEN ISLAND
10.	YV0	AVES ISLAND
11.	3Y/B	BOUVET ISLAND
12.	ZS8	PRINCE EDWARD & MARION ISLANDS

## Active expeditions

Callsign	DXCC	Last QSO	# QSOs
OG0C	ALAND ISLANDS	2025-08-20 13:23	127,203
5H8HZ	TANZANIA	2025-08-19 18:48	28,311
TO3K	MAYOTTE	2025-08-09 17:19	25,589
JD1BRC	OGASAWARA	2025-08-07 22:43	1,919
TY5FR	BENIN	2025-08-05 15:21	12,225
3D2XD	FIJI ISLANDS	2025-07-24 00:46	4,357
C93RRC	MOZAMBIQUE	2025-07-19 18:55	15,058
C94RRC	MOZAMBIQUE	2025-07-12 14:09	15,771
VP9/JL8AQH	BERMUDA	2025-06-30 11:45	2,797
FS/K9EL	SAINT MARTIN	2025-06-18 15:41	59,091
TX5U	FRENCH POLYNESIA	2025-06-11 09:50	8,098

## Solar activity

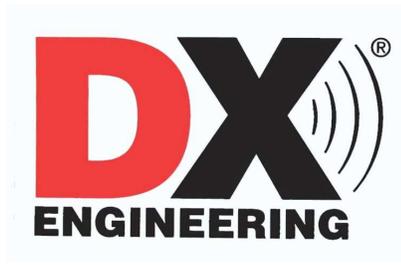
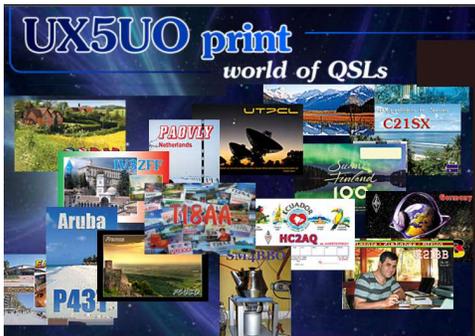
Date	SFI	A	K
2025-08-20	116	19	2.67
2025-08-19	114	7	2.67
2025-08-18	117	5	2.33
2025-08-17	122	6	1.67
2025-08-16	123	7	2.00
2025-08-15	130	11	2.00
2025-08-14	140	15	3.00



## Most active modes

Mode	% Use	QSOs	Graph
FT8	65.53	597,757	
SSB	12.72	116,014	
CW	12.28	111,990	
FT4	5.97	54,471	
RTTY	2.50	22,790	

**Many Thanks to our Supporters, Friends and Sponsors**  
**We are pleased to recognize the many businesses that help contribute to the success and vitality of the SDDXC**



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