

# **DXCC**

**Chase, Work and Confirm Your First 100  
Presented to Milford Amateur Radio Club  
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**Dave Vest, K8DV**

# Who is K8DV?

- Dave Vest
- First Licensed in 1978
- Past President Milford Amateur Radio Club
- DX'ing and Contesting over 40 years
- DXCC, WAS, WAC, VUCC Card Checker for ARRL
- Q Letter Manager for 8 the Area QSL Bureau
- 9 Band DXCC
- 9 Band WAC
- 9 Band WAS (Need KL7 to complete 6)
- TPA (Triple Play Award ARRL LoTW) #63
- DXCC Totals
- Mixed 335 CW 321 Phone 292 Digital 293
- Challenge (band slots) 2283
- 5 time M/M winner Ohio QSO Party (K8DV)
- 5 time M/S winner Kentucky QSO Party (K4Y)
- 4 time M/M winner Indiana QSO Party (W9I)



# How do you answer:



How far can you talk on that radio?

# Do you enjoy a Challenge?



- DXCC DX Century Club
- The Premier Operating Award
- To Qualify
  - Contact and Confirm 100 Entities per ARRL DXCC List



# The First 100

- Contacting your first 100 DXCC entities
- Challenging but not difficult
- Contest weekends will offer lots of DX
- Even a casual operator can earn DXCC
- Call CQ DX often



# The First 100

- 100 to 150 of the 340 total entities
- DX stations may need you too (state or county)
- Some DX stations looking to practice English
- Most QSO are short (name, QTH, weather, etc)



# The First 100

- First 100 easy accomplished using SSB
- Digital modes like FT8 can ease the journey
- After the first 100-150 learning CW is helpful
- Use spotting networks



# The Station

- A modest station can earn DXCC
- No matter the station it takes:
  - Patience
  - Persistence
  - LUCK





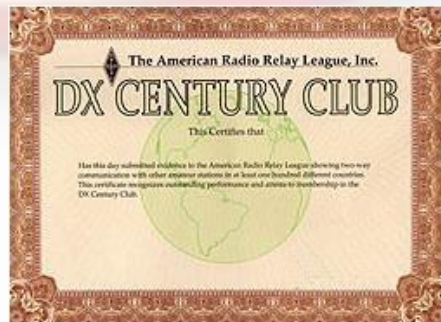
# The Station - Radio

- Comfortable to you
- 100 watts (QRP special skill set)
- Variable filtering, passband, notch, etc
- Speech processor, keyer, DVR (helpful)
- Keep the manual nearby
- Not going to make recommendations
  - *That is like Ford vs Chevy*



# The Station - Radio

- Amplifier (nice to have but...)
- Tuner (manual or automatic)
- Headset with boom mic
- Computer for Ham Shack
- Interface for digital modes
- Get the best you can afford



# The Station - Antenna

- Wire antennas
  - Dipoles (single and multiband)
  - End feds
- Verticals
  - Single and multiband
  - Flagpole
- Yagis/Beams
  - Single and multiband

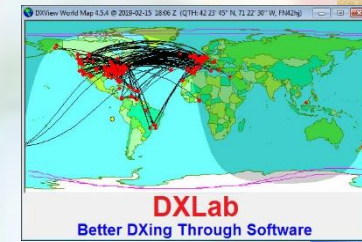


Keep the everyone happy



# QSOs and Logging

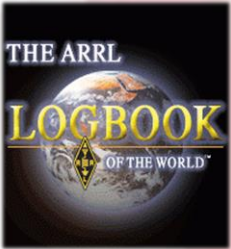
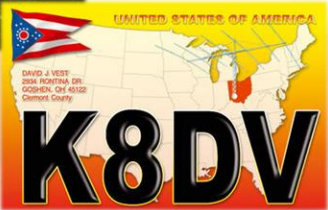
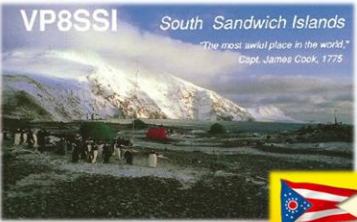
- Most QSO are short (name, QTH, weather, etc)
- Paper or computer logging
- Paper works but is manual no automation
- Computer logging is preferred
  - Tracks QSOs, Award progress, QSL confirmations
- Most of all have FUN!





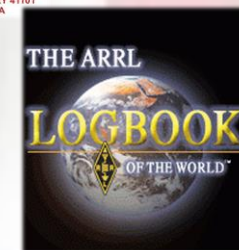
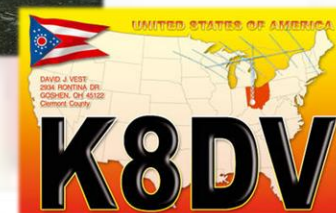
# QSLs, Paper, Electronic or Both?

- DXCC requires confirmation to count
- Traditional QSL cards
- LoTW (Logbook of The World)
- Can be a combination of both
- eQSL and QRZ Logbook do not count



# QSOs and QSLs = DXCC

- Submit LoTW QSOs for Credit
- Use online or manual DXCC application
- Contact field card checker to verify QSLs
- Checker submit form on your behalf
- DXCC certificate AWARDED!



# DXCC Taking The Next Step

- Going past the first 100
- Best practices
- Operator skills
- The pileup
- Dxpeditions





# DXCC, Now What?

- Continue adding to your totals
- Earn DXCC on multiple bands
- Work towards Honor Roll (331)
- Work DXCC Challenge (1000)
- Share your stories, recruit new DX'ers
- Make and work towards personal GOALS





# DXCC Best Practices

- The Operator
- Learning about DX and bands
- Recognizing patterns
- Timing your calls



# DXCC The Operator

- Number One Rule – LISTEN
- Develop good listening skills
- Follow the DX operator's instructions
- Timing, understand when to transmit
- Call CQ DX



# DXCC The Operator

- Use proper phonetics
- Use spotting clusters
- Keep up with current DX Bulletins
- Join a DX club
- Listen



The Daily DX



# DXCC The Pileup

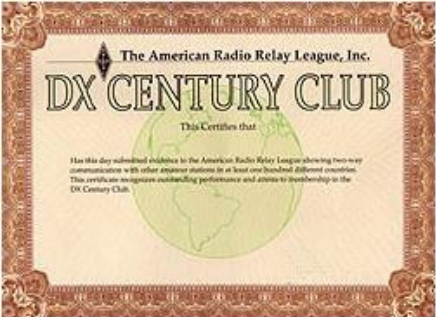
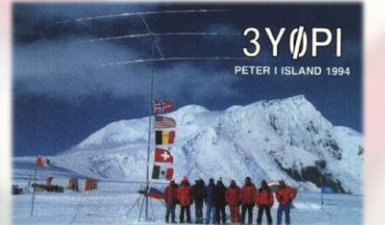
- Recognizing patterns
- Don't be intimidated
- Follow DX instructions
- Both sides of the pileup





# The DXpedition

- Aren't they just a vacation
- Are they really needed
- Why do they happen
- Why don't go to the one I need
- What's the cost



# DXCC Hints and Final Thoughts

- Be available on as many bands and modes as possible
- Listen, Listen and Listen some more
- Call CQ
- Use spotting networks
- Use LoTW
- Use computer logging program



# DXCC Hints and Final Thoughts

- Upgrade antenna before buying an amplifier
- Learn CW, enough to recognize your call/5NN
- Use a keyer both voice and CW
- Join a DX club
- Follow the DX Code of Conduct
- Have FUN as DXCC can be a journey of a lifetime



# DX Code of Conduct



1. I will listen, and listen, and then **listen** again **before calling**.
2. I will **only call**, if I can **copy** the DX station properly.
3. I will **not trust the DX cluster** and will be sure of the DX station's call sign before calling.
4. I will not interfere with the DX station nor anyone calling and will **never tune up on the DX frequency or in the QSO slot**.
5. I will **wait** for the DX station to **end a contact** before I call.
6. I will always send **my full call sign**.
7. I will call and then listen for a reasonable interval. I will **not call continuously**.
8. I will **not transmit** when the DX operator calls **another call sign**, not mine.
9. I will **not transmit** when the DX operator queries a **call sign not like mine**.
10. I will **not transmit** when the DX station requests **geographic areas other than mine**.
11. When the DX operator calls me, I will **not repeat my call sign** unless I think he has copied it incorrectly.
12. I will **be thankful** if and when I do make a contact.
13. I will **respect my fellow hams** and conduct myself so as to earn their respect.



Follow DX Code of Conduct will help you succeed in DXCC



# Questions



# Thank You

## 73 de K8DV

