

LARA Newsletter

Volume 3 - Issue 3 March 12th, 2018



Denton Maker Faire held February 24th, 2018



Breakfast & Club Members Meetings - February, 2018

Breakfast

3 - Saturday @ 8AM Site A.
10 - Saturday @ 8AM Site A.

Business

17 - Saturday @ 8AM Site B.

Breakfast

24 - Saturday @ 8AM Site A.

Key:

Site A. - Main St. Cafe, 321 E. Main St., Lewisville, TX

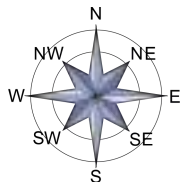
Site B. - Lewisville Central Fire Station Training Room
188 N. Valley Parkway

Association Contact Information:

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 292282
Lewisville, TX. 75029
Email Address:
W5LVC.Club@gmail.com

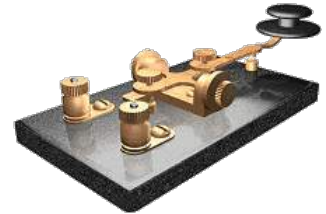
Check us out:

Facebook: facebook.com/w5lvc/
Twitter@W5LVCCLUB



Welcome New Members

Joe Magnusson, N5PLY
and
Rob Williams - KG5YAT



Think "CW"

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Special Report

by Steve Kline
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1093 W. Main St. Lewisville, TX.
75067
Phone (972) 219-7333
10 percent discount to LARA
Members

February 2018

LARA Treasurer's Report - February 2018

Checking Account

Beginning Balance \$2,929.97

Income

Dues \$50.00

Donations \$0.00

ARRL \$0.00

Stickers \$0.00

Shirts \$25.00

Total Income \$75.00

Expenses

Fees \$1.03

Repeater \$0.00

Miscellaneous \$153.58

Total Expenses \$154.61

Ending Balance \$2,850.36

Savings Account

Beginning Balance \$38.02

Deposits \$0.00

Withdrawals \$0.00

Ending Balance \$38.02

CLUB ASSETS

For Sale \$920.00

Stock (Not for Sale) \$1,235.00

Loaner Equipment \$1,780.00

\$3,935.00

LARA NET VALUE \$6,823.38

Treasurer's CORNER

Treasurer's Corner

By: Ron KF5OMH

You can now support LARA by using AmazonSmile. AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection, and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You can choose from nearly one million organizations to support. To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you need to select Lewisville Amateur Radio Association Inc. as charitable organization to receive donations from your eligible purchases before you begin shopping. AmazonSmile will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation to the Lewisville Amateur Radio Association.

Applications to several super markets have been submitted but as of this writing they have not been confirmed. As soon as we received confirmation instructions will be published in the newsletter.

LARA Meeting Minutes, February 17, 2018

Treasurer. Ron Ford, KF5OMH, called the meeting to order at 8:01 AM with the reciting of the United States Pledge of Allegiance.

Officers in Attendance:

- Secretary: Tim Monk, WZ5TM
- Treasurer: Ron Ford, KF5OMH
- Technical Officer: Jim Horton, WB8YWA
- Operations Officer: Mike Reitz, W5EVT
- Public Information Officer: Ron Bath, KG5VIS

Attendance:

Members:

- Scott Boutwell, KG5RJR
- Dale Chatham, WA5WNI
- John Courtney, No Callsign
- Clark Highsmith, K5LGX
- Benjamin Highsmith, KG5NIN
- Lee Norup, K5WXR
- Lonnie Pringle, KG5KNT
- Ron Swain, KG5VIV
- Jay Sanford, KE5BCP

Meeting Minutes from Last Meeting

The January 2018 meeting minutes were e-mailed to all members on February 14, 2018. No corrections were noted. A motion to approve the January 2018 minutes was made.

Motioned by: Lee Norup, K5WXR

Seconded by: Jim Horton, WB8YWA

Approved by the Members

Treasurer's Report

Ron Ford, KF5OMH, presented the Treasurer's Financial Report as of January 19, 2018.

Checking Beginning Balance:	\$2,904.27
Checking Ending Balance:	\$2,854.97
Savings Beginning Balance:	\$38.02
Savings Ending Balance:	\$38.02
Club Assets Balance:	\$3,404.60
LARA NET VALUE	\$6,297.59

We have Club assets that have not been entered into the the system. Ron Ford, KF5OMH, and Jim Horton, WB8YWA, will work on this issue

Lewisville Amateur Radio Association

Weekly Update – March 07, 2018

LARA Activities

- Wednesday, March 07 – 7:00 PM- 8:00 PM – Information and Help Net. Repeater 145.17 MHz, - offset, 110.9 tone. NCS: Jim Horton, WB8WA.
- Saturday, March 10 – 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM – Saturday Breakfast. Main Street Cafe, 231 E Main Street, Lewisville, TX.
- Saturday & Sunday, March 10 & 11 – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM – Technician License Class – Lewisville Central Fire Station – Enter through back door to the right of the gas pump – \$15.00 including the testing fee.
- Saturday, March 10 – 7:30 PM – 8:30 PM – Saturday Night Study Net. Repeater 145.17 MHz, - offset, 110.9 tone. NCS: Tim Monk, WZ5TM.
- Sunday, March 11 – 1:00 AM – Daylight Savings Time Begins – Spring Ahead One Hour.
- Sunday, March 11 – Approximately 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM – License Testing – Lewisville Central Fire Station – Enter through back door to the right of the gas pump – Testing begins at the end of the Technician License Class – \$15.00.

Local Club Activities

- Wednesday, March 7 – 8:00 PM – 9:00 PM – LAARK Simplex Net – Starts on Repeater 147.38, + offset, 110.9 tone. The Net will then move to Simplex frequencies as determined by the NCS. NCS: Bill Earhart, W5FQP.
- Sunday, March 11 – 9:00 PM – 10:00 PM – LDS Church Net on Amateur Radio and General Preparedness – Repeater 147.38, + offset, 110.9 tone – NCS: Bob Zome, KG5AYU and Bill Earhart, W5FQP.

Contests

- Saturday & Sunday, March 10 & 11, 9:00 AM – 8:00 PM Saturday & 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM – Oklahoma QSO Party – Rules at: <http://k5cm.com/okqp2018rules.pdf>.
- Saturday & Sunday, March 10 & 11 – Saturday 8:00 AM – Sunday 9:00 AM – QCWA 2018 QSO Party – Rules at <http://www.qcwa.org/2018-qso-party-rules.pdf>.
- Saturday & Sunday, March 10 & 11 – Saturday 19:00Z – Sunday 19:00Z – Idaho QSO Party – Rules at <http://idahoarrl.info/qsoparty/rules.htm>.

To have an activity added to this update, please send it to Tim Monk, timmonk@gmail.com, by Tuesday afternoon for publication on Wednesday.



Texas State Parks on the Air contest

By: Ken , AC5EZ - Member of the Lake Area Amateur Radio Klub, LAARK (<https://www.k5lrk.com/>), in The Colony, Texas.

LAARK is, once again, sponsoring the Texas State Parks on the Air contest this year. If you are not familiar with the TSPOTA contest I invite you to visit <http://www.TSPOTA.org> for complete rules and park activation information. But first, let me give you a brief overview of TSPOTA.

TSPOTA is an annual event that takes place on the second full weekend in April, (except when Easter falls on the second weekend, then the contest is moved to the first weekend of April). This year it will be April 7-8, 2018. TSPOTA is a low pressure, fun contest, designed to give Texas hams that have been house bound during the winter, a chance to go to a local state park and make a few contacts. It is a great opportunity to check out your radio gear and enjoy a little sunshine in the park.

The purpose of this email is twofold. First is to familiarize you with TSPOTA, and second to try to encourage your club to join us in this event. And maybe, convince your club to activate a park.

Thanks for your time and I hope to hear you on TSPOTA. If you don't mind, would forward this email to your club members.

You may contact any one of these TSPOTA committee members if you need more information.

73,

Ken, AC5EZ

Contact information:

TSPOTA information info@tspota.org

Ken Rainey, ac5ez ac5ez.tx@arrl.net

Ken Mitchell, kd2kw kd2kw@yahoo.com

Tim Curtiss, kc5dct kc5dct@arrl.net



HAM LEARNING CENTER

2018 MENTORFEST

ARRL North Texas Section

Amateur Radio in North Texas

MENTOR PROGRAM



www.arrlntx.org

Free Event! - Hosted by the **Hella Hams** and the **ARRL North Texas Section**

When: April 28, 2018 **Time:** 8:00am - 4:00pm

Location: **Hella Shrine Center**, 2121 Rowlett Rd., Garland, TX 75043

The Garland Hella Hams and the ARRL North Texas Section would like to invite all current and prospective Hams to attend Mentorfest! This event is a great way for Hams, especially those recently licensed, to meet and learn about a variety of subjects. Amateur radio operators have a great tradition of helping each other learn about and gain experience in the many facets of the hobby. Mentorfest is designed to build on this tradition by providing a place for Hams of all ages and experience levels to come together, exchange knowledge and make new friends while having fun and enjoying the great hobby of Amateur Radio.

Mentorfest will feature....

- Formal presentations on a number of topics.
- Local clubs providing information on their activities.
- "Elmers" (ham-speak for mentors) available for informal discussions on just about any topic.
- Tours of emergency communications vehicles.
- Representatives from the ARRL, ARES/RACES, REACT, National Weather Service and others showing how you can get involved.

Mentoring

In addition to the formal presentations, mentoring will be available on a large range of topics. Many amateur radio clubs, individual Hams and organizations with ties to amateur radio will be at Mentorfest to answer questions and provide demonstrations in a very informal setting.

If you have something amateur radio related that you would like to show and tell about, please consider attending Mentorfest. Your excitement about a favorite subject might be an inspiration to another Ham. Come share your knowledge and experience. Email mentorfest@arrlntx.org to be a mentor.

Participants & Volunteers

All ARRL affiliated clubs are encouraged to participate in Mentorfest by at least having an information table with club representatives. The ARRL will be promoting Mentorfest to new Hams so there should be opportunities for clubs to recruit new members. If your club or group is interested in participating in Mentorfest, please send E-mail to mentorfest@arrlntx.org. This event is free for everyone!

Volunteers are needed to help with the following tasks.

Parking lot control for EmComm vehicle static displays.

Greeters to help direct attendees to where to get the answers they seek.

Email mentorfest@arrlntx.org to volunteer.

Breaking News



LARA 2018 Election Status

The following candidates have been nominated:

President: Ron Ford
Vice President: Mike Reitz
Secretary: Ron Swain
Treasurer: Clark Highsmith
Technical Director: Jim Horton
Operations Director: Dale Chatham

If you would like to volunteer for any position, or submit more nominations for additional candidates, please send email to k5wxr@arrl.net
Lee Norup
Election Committee Chairman



Member Statistics:

Active Members: 37
Expiring Soon Members: 0
Total: 37

Rank Statistics: (Active Members+)
Member: 30
Officer: 5
Appointee: 2
Total: 37



Sweden

In Sweden, the SSA, the country's national amateur radio organization, recently asked the government to revisit legislation that bans the use of mobile phones while driving. The radio group is hoping to clarify the wording which it fears may impact on hams operating mobile in their vehicles as well as on those in the transport industry. The group is asking, in its letter to the Ministry of Food and Transport, that the wording make it clear that the ban is not applicable to hand-held microphones attached to radios mounted inside the vehicles.

For Amateur Radio Newsline,
Jeremy Boot G4NJH.

United States

AMATEUR BECOMES PRESIDENT OF HARVARD

STEPHEN/ANCHOR: Add to the long list of achievements by amateur radio operators the presidency of Harvard University. The newest university president taking office this summer has a mission - and a call sign.

HEATHER: Lawrence S. Bacow, KA1FZQ, of Brookline, Massachusetts, is taking office as the 29th president of Harvard University this summer. A graduate of MIT, Lawrence earned three additional degrees on the Harvard campus and now he can add "president" to that list. Bacow will take the reins of the campus effective July 1.

Lawrence, who grew up in Pontiac, Michigan, is the son of a ham radio operator: the call signs W8JYZ and N4MB were used by his father Mitchell, who died in 2007.

There's another reason Lawrence should feel right at home on campus: Harvard University is home to amateur radio station W1AF.
For Amateur Radio Newsline,
Heather Embee KB3TZD.

Japan

The month of March brings a special festival for YLs in Japan and they're going - where else? - on the air to celebrate. Jeremy Boot G4NJH has those details.

JEREMY: If YLs in Japan are a little busier than usual right now, it's because they're preparing to take part in a celebration that's believed to be at least 900 years old. It's called the Doll Festival, also known as Hina-matsuri, and it celebrates the birth of a baby girl while offering hope and prayers for her future happiness. Japanese families do that with an elaborate display of dolls at home, figurines dressed in ancient costumes.

The day of the festival is March 3 - or on the calendar, three-three, the same numbers that YLs use to say goodbye to one another in ham radio. So on that day, the Japan Ladies Radio Society is operating the "3.3 Hina Contest" as a way of encouraging YLs to use three-three to say hello instead.

Yukiko Maki 7K4TKB told Newsline that the event grew into a national contest from its humble beginnings 14 years ago. She said it's a way for YLs to meet other YLs on the air. By the way, it's not just for YLs - although a contact with a YL counts as 10 points while non-YL counts as only 1 point. The contest begins on the 2nd of March at 1500 UTC and continues until 1500 UTC on March 3. All modes and all bands, except for the WARC bands, may be used.

For Amateur Radio Newsline,
Jeremy Boot G4NJH.
(www.jarl.dot.com/jlrs)

World of DX

In the world of DX, Arnaud, JG1XMV, is active through the third of March as FK/JG1XMV from Grande Terre in New Caledonia. He is operating with Yves FK4RD. The duo will also activate two other islands - Lifou and Mare as FK/JG1XMV. Arnaud may also try to activate a few SOTAs. Send QSLs direct via JG1XMV, by the Bureau or by FK/JG1XMV via LoTW or eQSL.

John, KB7LBY, is in Tanzania operating as 5H2LBY while ascending Mt. Kilimanjaro through March 2nd. His operating hours will be limited during his climb. He will be running QRP on 40/20 meters into a magnetic-loop antenna. QSL via LoTW.

In Honduras, Clay, WC6YJ, will be active as HR8/WC6YJ from Rus Rus Hospital until the 28th of February. He is operating holiday style on 80 through 17 meters. Clay is using 10 to 15 watts into an end-fed wire antenna. QSL via LoTW or ClubLog.

(OHIO PENN DX)



Denton Mini Maker Faire®

Denton Maker Faire held February 24th, 2018



Steve Chenoweth - LAARK



Bob Strickland

Ron Bath - L.A.R.A.

The Denton Maker's Faire was a huge success this year as opinions were recently voiced in our email traffic from other participating Club members. The following are a few examples:

"The effort of each club came together in a way that interest was generated for us to present our hobby. Lots of folks visited with them leaving thinking 'I can do this.' Not having any idea what the maker fair would be about I was impressed with the variety of things there and the interest folks showed in each. I hope to work with the team again should we get the chance".

Ken Mitchell - KD2KW

"THANK YOU each and everyone for your contributions in making our inaugural mini maker faire entry a success! I hope everyone had as much fun as I did. I enjoyed meeting and working with each of you and learned a lot in the process".

Steve Chenowith - KD5YFV

"Reading through this thread makes me feel good. So many people stepping up and taking ownership of an event and following through. When you have several people pitching in and not just relying a few folks to do everything the output rises exponentially. Great job to everyone involved".

Laird Lind - KC5LL

Lake Cities Realty

"As I told you in the parking lot afterwards this event was GREAT fun. I'd do it again any time. It was very rewarding getting to talk about our hobby and helping some get in on our local repeater fun for the first time".

Scott Boutwell - KG5RJR

"It was a fun day and you did a great job of managing the activity Steve Chenowith).

I have never seen an event that generated so much interest in our hobby. I was particular pleased to see a lot of young people and women that expressed a serious interest. I hope half of them follow through with taking a test with the VE's in Denton. Maybe we should have collected names and an email address to follow up with folks and help them along.

I felt it was organized well and the pace of people coming around worked well. Everyone involved did a good job of stepping up and offering information and stories".

Bob Stricklin - N5BRG

I wish to offer a special word of appreciation to our own Scott Boutwell - KG5RJR An Example of Spontaneous Generosity

A teenage boy of about 15 wandered up to our exhibit with his family. Scott immediately engaged him in dialog of amateur radio. The young man proudly told us that he had passed his test and received his license 2 months ago, but didn't have a radio, so he hadn't made his first contact yet. Without any hesitation, Scott told the young operator that he would "fix" that. A colleague of Ron's, Kelly Roark slipped out to the parking lot and returned with a handheld radio which Scott presented to the young man. The big, tearful smile that the lad was able to muster paid for the radio 100 times over, or so it felt like to the three of us that witnessed it. Kelly sneaked around to the other side of the building as Scott encouraged the young fellow to make his first contact. The radio hesitated, and then resounded as the boy's first contact was made. After the teenager and his family left, we learned that it was Kelly from across the building that was his first contact. Scott and Kelly started a young operator on the right path that day. I, for one, am proud of them both for the example they set for the rest of us. Ron Bath - KG5VS, Editor

Denton Mini Maker Faire®

(Continued)

Denton Maker Faire held February 24th, 2018



3Y0Z Bouvet Island DXpedition



Story by: Steve Kline - W5JK

What does it take to put together a successful major DXpedition – Let's find out!

Twenty team members from six nations attempted to activate Bouvet Island this past January 2018. Bouvet Island is the DXCC #2 most sought after DXCC entity in the world. This project was started ten years ago by Ralph K0IR, Bob K4UEE and Erling LA6VM after their return from Peter I (3Y0X) in 2006. Plan is to be active on all available bands using most common modes, including FT8.

I was fortunate to have worked 3Y0X crew in 2006 on both 20 and 40 meters, voice/cw.

What is Bouvet?

Bouvet is an uninhabited subantarctic island, basically an ice island capped glacier. It lies in the South Atlantic Ocean just north and outside the Antarctic circle about 1,600 miles south-southwest of South Africa. It is the most remote island in the world. It has an area of about 49 square miles of which 93% is covered by a glacier. At the center of the island lies an ice-filled crater of an inactive volcano. This island was first discovered in 1739, not spotted again until 1808, and has a storied history of claimed discovery. It was declared a Norwegian dependency in 1930 and became a nature reserve in 1971.

So what "right-stuff" does it take to launch a dxpedition you may ask?

A major dxpedition requires large financial funding and significant sponsorship both from business and private sector. A DXpedition to Bouvet is a serious and dangerous location; it demands attention to safety, serious planning, physical and mental endurance, significant transit time to allow for storms and rough seas, and a team with the right balance of size, experience, talent, emotional stability and sense of purpose.

The DXpedition budget goal was a hefty \$740,500. The team itself committed \$400,000 cash (\$20K per person), as well as paying for their own transportation, food and hotel expenses. DX Clubs have stepped up adding additional contributions, as have many individual DXers.

What about operations, logistics and accommodations?

Team will use maximum legal power, the best antennas, world-class transceivers, propagation studies, the best location on the island, a safe vessel and crew, highly qualified helicopter pilots, the complementary resources of many manufacturers, and a very deep following of serious and casual dx'ers world wide. Two stations on every open band will be running whenever humanly

possible, gain and directional antennas where possible, high power stations and a propagation-driven operation. The primary modes will be CW, SSB and RTTY. FT8 will be utilized if it is the only productive mode.

Near real time information will flow to and from the team through an extensive networking system being piloted, enabling them to maximize their primary purpose — ***providing QSOs on as many bands and modes as possible.***

Four or five Antarctic shelters will house the stations, sleeping quarters, and eating and meeting facility. Shelters were selected to survive the high winds, precipitation, and temperatures expected on Bouvet. The operating shelter, meeting and eating tent will be heated. Sleeping shelters won't be heated for safety reason.

Final Count Down, Planning/Testing - T minus 12 months and counting down chronology

17-January:

Five of the 3Y0Z team members meet with DX Engineering staff to discuss development of masts and antenna support hardware capable of withstanding the winds and weather of Bouvet. Working drawings were developed and prototypes built. Some of this experimental work may actually end up as commercially available products serving unique needs of other radio amateurs.

17-May:

Preliminary propagation studies are generated predicting operating conditions for January/February 2018. Final transportation arrangements aboard the DAP M/V Betanzos are completed. The Betanzos is a Chilean vessel equipped with heavy-duty helicopters. The vessel will take the team from Punta Arenas Chile to Bouvet Island.

17-August:

Total of fourteen (14) stations will be put in operation. All equipment is tested and packed in pelican cases. Flex 6500 or 6700 transceivers including power supply and computer are packed. Each station will have it's own computer.

Unique 160 meter vertical antenna is inventoried and packed. It consists of 70 feet of aluminum tower sections and a 20 foot stinger on top. It's top loaded and tuned with two base coils. How do you erect such an antenna on a remote frozen island? It's raised with a custom designed 40 foot falling derrick. I'm not certain exactly what this device looks like, however, it was part of the special custom development work provided by DX Engineering. The antenna has been field checked prior to packing. It operates with a VSWR of 1:1.0 at 1.825 Mhz and 1:1.7 at 1.880 Mhz. It will only be used as the transmit antenna, separate receive antennas will be utilized. Should make for awesome opportunity for rare, possibly once in a lifetime, 160 meter contact.

Ten HF beams will be deployed along a 240 degree to 60 degree line to keep the antennas from beaming into each other when aimed at Europe, Japan, and North America.

Remaining antennas are checked and packed. How much radial wire does a DXpedition team need? Answer- quite a bit!! This DXpedition will have a single vertical for 160 meters, two verticals for 80 meters, single vertical for 60 meters, a four-square and single vertical for 40 meters and a vertical for 30 meters. All radials were pre-cut and wrapped on spools, totaling 24,000 feet of wire – WOW factor 4.5 miles of wire.

17-September/October:

Many hours were spent unpacking and then staging all equipment. Everything was inventoried and slowly moved from temporary storage to a 40-foot sea container. Team began preparing customs documentation of some 6,000 items.

September 30th the sea container packing and documentation was completed, processed through customs and shipped from Savannah, Georgia to Chile where the team will converge in January 2018. Container journey: from Savannah, Georgia by sea to Manzanillo Mexico, by rail to Balboa Panama, by sea to San Antonia Chile, then to Copihue Chile, and finally to Punta Arenas Chile where it was put on yet another ship and will meet the team at King George Island in South Shetlands, January 13, 2018. It's expected the container journey will take 45-60 days to get from U.S. port to Punta Arenas Chile.

17-December

The container arrived in King George Island and clears customs on December 16th.

18-January

January 19, 2018 the team is scheduled to depart to Bouvet aboard the DAP M/V Betanzos using a Garmin InReach SE satellite-tracking device to enable dx'ers worldwide to follow their sailing route to Bouvet Island. The device uses Iridium satellite technology and sends way-points along the route every thirty (30) minutes.



Trip to Bouvet Island is expected to take 9-11 days, putting arrival at Bouvet between January 23rd and 25th. When the weather allows, the team will land on the island by helicopter. Hope is to be on the air within a few days of arrival. First priority will be to inspect the terrain, select a site clear of crevasses and establish team's shelters stocked with emergency supplies. Once secured, equipment will be brought ashore via helicopter and radio operations commence as soon as possible. Team expects to be at Bouvet for 21 days, and allowing for weather, hope to be on the air for 14 to 16 days.

DAP is a Chilean maritime and aviation company that took a DXpedition (3Y0X) to Peter I in 2006, the company also has a fleet of 16 helicopters. Two medium duty, twin engine BO-105 helicopters will be loaded on the DAP M/V Betanzos accompanied by two pilots and mechanics with extensive Antarctic flying experience. For this specific trip the ship was refitted with a hanger to house the two helicopters during transit and poor weather conditions.

Conditions at Sea:

January 13th, heavy sea and ice reports east and north of King George Island could make navigation between King George Island and Bouvet slower than expected and of increased risk. The Betanzos finally leaves Putnas Arinas Chile on January 19th. Approximately half way two very strong south Atlantic storms were encountered. Shifting winds and turbulent seas changed ship's motion from severe pitching to pitching and yawing to very marked rolls. At one point during second storm the ship was literally rising to the crest of oncoming wave and surfing down the backside crashing bow first into the next oncoming wave, repeat ad nauseum (literally). Anything not secured furniture, personal items, radios, was strewn throughout quarters.

January 31st Bouvet Island first came into view. Team was greeted with thick dense fog, temp of 2 degrees Centigrade and cold freezing rain driven by thirty-five knot winds. They lay anchor about half mile off east coast of Bouvet to wait for break in storm and possible landing window. The crew and team lie in wait anchored for three days awaiting a weather window. Winds, low clouds, fog, and rough seas have prevented helicopter operation. No improvement in weather conditions is forecasted for the next four days. What happens next is heart-wrenching news.



During the night of February 4th an issue developed in one of the ship's engines. The morning of the 5th the captain of the vessel declared it unsafe to continue and aborted the DXpedition, heading the vessel directly back to closest land point Cape Town, South Africa, at a slow 6 knots, with one of two engines out.

End of the road?

Sure sounds like it. After ten years of planning, capital raising, obtaining sponsorships, designing

special equipment, provisioning, contracts/execution, complex itineraries, and scrutiny of thousands of items and work down to the last nut and bolt is nothing less than extreme disappointment and exhaustion for all. After enduring and conquering all of that, it turns out the last half-mile proved to be the most difficult.

Lost Opportunity - Not so fast!!! News Flash:

A new team, 3Y0I, had also been planning an activation of Bouvet Island in 2018 in parallel with the 3Y0Z team. The latter was able to complete plans sooner and launch quicker. Late last year the 3Y0Z team requested 3Y0I team stand down and cancel their planned activation, request was accepted and 3Y0I closed down their project. It has been announced late last month that the 3Y0I team now has re-activated their project to operate from Bouvet yet this year in 2018. They plan to use special landing craft in lieu of helicopters to breach equipment and personnel onto the island once reached. Stay tuned and follow the 3Y0I team. Truly an adventure in the making. They're promising live video feeds while in route at sea and of the landing itself. Quite a story and promises again to be a big event in the amateur radio community, not to mention getting that QSL card from storied Bouvet Island (#2 DX entity in the world) on your wall or desk. Many many ops will work this DX with nothing more than wires. Hopefully JT8 will be supported too. Hundreds of thousands QSO's should be expected from this team. Be one of them!!

73 es gud DX'ing. – W5JK