The French Blind Radioamateurs National Union (Union Nationale des Aveugles Radioamateurs de France) will operate special event station TM2LBR from 28 December to 11 January to commemorate the bicentenary of Louis Braille. QSL via operator's instructions.

GM - Terry, GM3WUX will be active as GB2HLB from 26 December to 22 January to celebrate the bicentenary of the birth Louis Braille, whose tactile language for the sightless has been adapted world-wide. Each QSO made by GB2HLB will receive a special QSL card depicting Braille and raising awareness of the Royal National Institute of Blind People. A fund raising web page can be found at http://www.justgiving.com/louisbraille

HB9 - Celebrating the 80th anniversary of USKA, the Swiss IARU Society, amateur radio operators from Switzerland can replace their HB9 or HB3 prefixes with HE8 and HB8 respectively. These special prefixes will be in use from 1 January through 31 December 2009.

S2 - Korea DX Club members Kim/6K5YPW, Kang/DS2AGH, Lee/DS2BGV, Kim/HL3QP, Choi/HL5FUA and Yoon/6K2AVL will be active from Dhaka, Bangladesh on 7-12 March. They plan to operate (callsign TBA) on 160-10 metres CW, SSB and digital modes, with three amplifiers, verticals and beam antennas. Suggested frequencies are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Band</th>
<th>CW</th>
<th>SSB</th>
<th>Digi</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>160m</td>
<td>1822</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80m</td>
<td>3515</td>
<td>3795</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40m</td>
<td>7015</td>
<td>7095</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30m</td>
<td>10115</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20m</td>
<td>14015</td>
<td>14195</td>
<td>14082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17m</td>
<td>18075</td>
<td>18130</td>
<td>21082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15m</td>
<td>21015</td>
<td>21295</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12m</td>
<td>24895</td>
<td>24950</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10m</td>
<td>28015</td>
<td>28460</td>
<td>28100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

QSL via HL5FUA. Logs will be available at http://dxpedition.co.kr/

SP_ssh - According to the information posted by Henryk,SP9JPA on his blog (http://sp9jpa.blogspot.com), Janusz,SP9YI is expected to stay at the Polish Antarctic station "Henryk Arctowski", South Shetland Islands (AN-010) until early November 2009. QSL via SP9YI.

T32 - Toshi, JA8BMK has been active as T32YY [425DXN 919] from Christmas Island (OC-024), East Kiribati since 22 December and is expected to remain there for a few more days. QSL via home call, direct only.
T8 - Hide, JM1LJS will be active as T80W from Palau (OC-009) between 28 December and 5 January. He will operate CW and SSB on 80-6 metres in his spare time. QSL via home call. [TNX The Daily DX]

VE - Amateur radio operators from Canada are allowed to use four special prefixes between 1 January and 28 February: VA can use CF, VE can use CG, VO can use CH, VY can use CI. This is to commemorate Galileo’s first use of an optical telescope and to promote the International Year of Astronomy [TNX VA3RJ]

VQ9 - Jim, ND9M is back on Diego Garcia (AF-006), Chagos Islands until April. He is active as VQ98JC through the end of the year, after that he will use VQ9JC. Expect him to be QRV in his spare time, typically on 12-16.30 UTC (from Sunday to Thursday) and on 12-17.30 UTC (Fridays and Saturdays). Occasional overnight operating will allow him to remain QRV until 1 UTC. QSL via ND9M. [TNX OPDX Bulletin]

W - VE3IKV will be active as W4/VA3RA from Sanibel Island (NA-069) from 29 December to 3 January. He plans to operate primarily CW on 20 and 40 metres. QSL via VE3IKV, direct or bureau. [TNX www.rsgbiota.org]

W - Special event call K3Y will be aired on 1-31 January to celebrate the third anniversary of the Straight Key Century Club, “the fastest growing group of straight key, morse code operators in the world”. Information on the event and QSLling instructions can be found at www.skccgroup.com/k3y/

XE - The Daily DX reports that Ramon, XE1KK might be active as XE1KK/XF1 from Isla Espiritu Santo (NA-124) during a sea lion photograph safari with his family on 31 December, between 16.30 and 23 UTC. He will operate QRP on 20 metres SSB for a couple of hours only. QSL via XE1KK.

ZF - Gary, W2VQ (ZF2VQ) and Paul, WQ2N (ZF2NN) will be active from Grand Cayman Island (NA-016) from 28 December to 3 January. They will operate CW, SSB and RTTY on 160-6 metres, with an emphasis on Europe and Asia. QSL via home calls. [TNX The Daily DX]

*** 4 2 5 D X N E W S ***
**** GOOD TO KNOW ... ****

Edited by I1JQJ & IK1ADH
Direttore Responsabile I2VGW

CASHOTA IRELAND ---> The Irish CASHOTA (Castles and Stately Homes on the Air) will be launched on 1 January 2009. The web site for this new award can be found at http://cashota-ireland.org/ [TNX F5NQL]

NOT THE MANAGER ---> Ted, K1BV says he is not the QSL manager for D22CW [425DXN 920], which is suspected of being a pirate. [TNX The Daily DX].

NOT THE MANAGER ---> Valery, ER1DA says he is not the QSL manager for ER4DX [425DXN 910]. We apologize to them for any misunderstandings.

RAEM CONTEST ---> Sponsored by Soyuz Radioljubitelej Rossii (SRR, the
Russian IARU society), the Ernst Krenkel Memorial, RAEM International Contest will be held on 28 December, from 2 UTC to 09.59 UTC, on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 metres CW. Complete rules (pay attention to the exchange report!) can be found at http://www.srr.ru/CONTEST/cup_raem_engl_08.php

[TNX F5NQL]

+ SILENT KEYS + Recently reported Silent Keys include Vladimir Viktorovic Michajlov (RK3ABY), Valentin Ivanovic Skvortsov (RW4CTT), Jurij Nikolaevic Kromin (RW9WF), Luciano Losi (SU9LL and EA7CHR), Viktor Komzjuk (UA0FDX), Damir Abdulchaevic Khajretdinov (UA3ABW), Boris Nikolaevic Baranov (UA4WE) and William E. Sadler (VK3AMH).

QSLs received direct or through managers: 3C7Y, 3D2YA (OC-121), 3DA0JK, 3V8BB, 5H3AP/3 (AF-054), 5H3G, 5H3VB, 5H3VMB/3 (AF-075), 5H3VMB/5 (AF-074), 5U5U, 5X1NH, 5X1VB, 5Z4/UA4WHX, 7Q7VB, 7X2GX, 8Q7FD, 8Q7XR, 8R1PW, 8S6KOS (EU-043), 9A/S51PB (EU136), 9H3YL, 9J2BO, 9J2VB, 9LI (AF-056), 9M2AX, 9M2MRS, 9M6XRO/p, 9U0VB, 9X0VB, 9X4W, A25/DL7DF, A352S, B10DX, BG7JSQ, BT1OB, BT1OH, BT1OJ, BT1ON, BT10Y, BU2AI, BY4JN/4 (AS-150), C21DL, C31CT, C31JM, C91TK, C91VB, C91VB/6 (AF-088), CE0Y/JJ2NYT, CE1/K7CA, CN2IPA, CN8IG, CQ9U (AF-047), D20VB, D4C, D60VB, E73M, EL2DX, ER4DX, FM/F5LGE, FM5CD, FM5LD, H7/AJ9C, HC5WN/HC8, HQ9R, HT2N, J20VB, J28JA, J88DR, JD1BMM, JY4NE, KP2M, L5OE, LA/F4BKv/p (EU-056), N3MK (NA-083), OH1VR/VP9, OJ0B, OJ0J, OY1CT, P29NI (OC-041 & OC-181), PJ7/K2GJSJ, PW2M, PYOFF, PZ5RA, PZ5Z, R1ANR, RA2FF, R23AMW/1 (EU-162), S79UH, S88BHI, SV2ASP/A, T32CXX, T77C, T80X, T88IW, TB37F, TF4M, TI9KK, T05DX, TR8CA, TY5Z, TY6A, UN7/JH4RH, V25NY, V26B, V44KA1, V51VV, VE2XAA/2, VE8RCS/VY0 (NA-008), VO2A, VP2ETN, VP6DX, VP9KF, VQ9LA, VU7S, VY2ZM, WA2YUN/KH9, UX7ABN, UX7ACY, UX7AEA, UX7AEB, UX7MDY, WX1B, YA4F, YJ0AQY, YJ0AQT, YJ0AVE, YK9G, YL2KOS, YU8/OH2R, Z2/UA4WHX, Z29KM, ZD7X, ZF2AH, ZK1EH, ZK3AH, ZL7/DL2AH, ZP6/N3BNA, ZS6CCY.

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