The DX community worldwide mourns the loss of James B. Smith, VK9NS, who passed peacefully away on Norfolk Island on 10 February after a short illness. First licenced in 1947 as VS1BQ (Singapore), over sixty years Jim operated under a large number of callsigns and from many countries all over the world, including new and rare DXCC entities and IOTA groups (A35MR, A51JS, A52JS, H40AB, S212A, T31JS, T33JS, VK0JS, VK9WW and W1RZ/KH9, just to name a few). "I mention being dragged 'kicking and screaming' into the hobby", he said in his autobiography ("The Old Timer"), "but once there now feel that I have participated in the hobby in many ways. I have been lucky (if that is the right word) to have travelled extensively and often the travel has been related to Amateur Radio in the sense of DXpeditions. I have always been interested in DXing and being able to give something back to the hobby has been lots of fun and dare I say it often hard work". The stories of a number of his DX operations can be found on the website of the Heard Island DX Association (www.hidxa.nlk.nf), formed in 1980. Jim's inestimable contribution to DXing was acknowledged in 1986, when he was inducted into the CQ DX Hall of Fame.

Jim is survived by his wife Kirsti (VK9NL) and his four children: Bruce (G3HSR), Stuart, Sheena and Fraser, all living in the UK. Condolences can be sent to Kirsti at jimkirsti@ni.net.nf

"A Tribute to Jim B. Smith, VK9NS" can be found on the Documentary Archive Radio Communication's website (http://www.dokufunk.org/vk9ns).

>>> K5D * DESECHEO ISLAND <<<

Due to continued questionable weather (large waves, dangerous surf, high winds and rain unusual for this time of year), the K5D Team decided that all personnel and equipment (more than seven tons) would be transported to Desecheo Island by helicopter. The first flight with five team members took off from Rincon, Puerto Rico at 12.40 UTC on 12 February, but heavy winds during the day delayed several helicopter flights. The team was quite a bit behind schedule, and K5D became QRV only at 16 UTC on 13 February.

The team consists of 22 operators: eight of them (K4UEE, K9SG, N4GRN, NA5U, VE7CT, W0NB, W0RUN and W8OI) will remain on the island through 26 February; other seven (K0IR, K5AND, N6MZ, W0GJ, W2GD, W6IZT and WB9Z) will leave Desecheo on 19 February and be replaced by the third group of seven (K0JGH, K1KD, K5AC, N4NX, NP4Z, VA7DX and WP3MW).

K5D will be QRV on 160-10 metres CW, SSB and RTTY, with eight stations for the HF bands, plus one station for 6 metres (SSB and CW). Suggested frequencies (please read the Special Notes on the website) where to find K5D
are: 1826, 3523, 7023, 10106, 14023, 18072, 21023, 24892, 28023 and 50106 kHz (CW); 1843.3, 3781, 7084, 14190, 18165, 21295, 24987, 28470 and 50130 kHz (SSB); 3589, 7089, 10149, 14089, 18108, 21089 and 28089 (RTTY).

Bookmark www.kp5.us for updates, propagation charts, on-line logsearch and detailed information on how to contribute, as financial support is still being sought and very welcome.

An Online QSL Request System (OQRS) will be activated after the DXpedition goes QRT. You will be able to request your QSLs one of four ways: QRS Direct, OQRS Bureau, direct mail to N2OO (Bob Schenck, P.O. Box 345, Tuckerton, NJ 08087, USA) or via bureau to N2OO.

8Q - After operating as 4S7FMG from Sri Lanka (AS-003, 9-12 February), Stavros, 5B4AFM has moved to the Maldives (AS-013) and will be active holiday style as 8Q7FM until 19 February. He operates CW and SSB mainly on 30 and 40 metres. QSL for both calls via M0BBB. [TNX NG3K]

C6 - Once again Bob, N4BP (C6AKQ) and Kevin, K4PG (C6APG) will be active from the Bahamas on 18-22 February. They plan to operate on 160 metres and either 40 or 80 metres during the ARRL DX CW Contest, and to concentrate on 30, 17 and 12 metres between antenna jobs. QSL via home calls. [TNX NG3K]

GU - Lionel, MU0GSY will air two special event callsigns from Guernsey (EU-114) to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Worked All Britain Awards Group: GP4WAB on 14-15 February and GP7WAB on 21-22 February. All of the QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau. [TNX VA3RJ]

J3 - Bill, K4LTA (J37BO) and Ruby, K4UPS (J37RO) will be active again from Grenada from 18 February until 4 March. Bill will participate in the ARRL DX CW Contest as J38A. They will be joined by AK4Z, KT4E and KE4TG, who will be QRV as J3/home call. [TNX QRZ-DX]

PY - Participating stations in the South American Lighthouses Weekend (20-22 February, http://www.grupodxbb.com.ar/faros.htm) include Hamilton, PY6HD as ZZ6Z from Subauma Lighthouse (QSL via PY6HD); Ramon, PY6KY as PS6T (requested call) from Itapua Lighthouse (QSL via PY6KY) and Scout station PY1GE from Ponta Negra Lighthouse (QSL via PY1NEZ). [TNX PY1NEZ]

TU - Paolo, F8ENY will be active as TU/F8ENY from San Pedro, Ivory Coast from 16 February to 2 March. He will operate mainly on 20 metres. [TNX F5NQL]

UA_ant - Nick, RW6ACM (ex R1ANL) is active as R1ANB from the Russian Antarctic station Mirny. He operates CW and SSB on the HF bands and will remain there for the next few months. QSL via RN1ON, direct or bureau. [TNX RN1ON]

UR - Celebrating the 50th anniversary of Ukrainian club station UB5KFF, special callsign EM50KFF will be aired on all bands and modes from 14 February to 1 March. QSL via US0KW, direct or bureau. [TNX US0KW]

V6 - Mike, KM9D (V63MY) and Jan, KF4TUG (V63TO) are now lying to anchor in the lagoon of Nukuoro Atoll (OC-259), Micronesia. They will remain there "for not less than 3 days". QSL via OM2SA. Their next
stop might be Kapingamarangi Atoll (OC-163), some 300 kilometres south of Nukuoro. Keep an eye on their course at http://www.findu.com/cgi-bin/track.cgi?call=KM9D [TNX The Daily DX]

YN - Hank/K8DD (YN2DD), Stan/AC8W (YN2WW), Lee/N8LJ (YN2LJ) and Jim/ will be active on all bands and modes from Nicaragua on 17-24 February. They will participate in the ARRL DX CW Contest as YN2DD. Check www.qrz.com for QSL information. [TNX K8DD]

YS - Eric, K9GY will be active again from El Salvador on 18-23 February, including an entry in the ARRL DX CW Contest (21-22 February). He plans to concentrate on 160, 30, 17 and 12 metres before the contest. QSL direct to home call, or (preferably) via LoTW. [TNX The Daily DX]

Z3 - Members of the Macedonian Telegraphic Group (MCWG) will be active as Z30MCWG from 20 February through 31 December. They will operate mainly CW on all of the HF bands. QSL direct to Z35M. [TNX Z35M]

ANTARCTIC ACTIVITY WEEK ---> The Worldwide Antarctic Program has announced that the sixth Antarctic Activity Week will be held from 16 to 22 February. The aim of this annual event is to promote worldwide interest in the Antarctic continent. Several special event call signs from around the world are expected to take part in this year's AAW. Participating stations (QSL via operator's instructions) are announced from the following countries:

- Bulgaria      LZ06ANT, LZ09IPY
- Canada        VA2WAP, VA3AAO, VA3WAP, VA7AAW
- England       GB0ANT, GB4IPY
- EU Russia     UE6ICE
- France        TM0ANT, TM1ANT, TM5ICE, TM8ICE
- Germany       DA0ANT, DR09ANT
- Italy         IA0IPY, II2ANT, II5AM, II5ANT, IP9IPY, IR1ANT, IR1WAP, IR2WAP, IU2ANT, IU8ANT, IY8WAP
- Morocco       5D0IPY
- Slovenia      S50IPY
- Spain         EG2ANT
- Switzerland   HE8ICE
- Ukraine       UR2XO/WAP, UR5KCC/WAP, UR5KGG/WAP, UR8LV/WAP, UT1KY/WAP, UT7UA/WAP
- USA           K4A, N5T/ANT, W6A

Full information on the AAW can be found at http://www.waponline.it

ANTARCTIC ADVENTURE ---> CE9XX, FT5YJ and VP8DLM are the call signs issued to Mehdi, F5PFP for the Antarctic cruise [425DXN 888] that will take place between 18 February and 17 March (http://www.french-polar-team.fr/). Plans are to visit and operate from several Antarctic bases located in the South Shetlands (AN-010) and Palmer Archipelago (AN-012), as well as on the Antarctic mainland (AN-016). Mehdi and Jean-Pierre, ON7ZM plan to operate mainly SSB on 20 metres (14315 kHz), with some activity on 17, 30 and 40 metres. QSL via F5PFP, direct or bureau. [TNX F5PFP]

CQ WW WPX RTTY CONTEST ---> A number of changes have been made in the 2009 rules, including the SWL category (thanks to Marek, SP7DQR, who has written SWL log check software and to Dan, I1-12387, who will lead the SWL log
checking). Please visit http://www.cqwpxrtty.com/ for complete information on the contest. The following stations have announced their participation in this year's event (14-15 February):

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Do not forget to give a look at the Announced Operations listing maintained by Bill, NG3K at http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/cq_legwpx2009.html - good contest to you all!

14TH IOTA DINNER ---> The 14th Annual Islands On The Air (IOTA) Dinner will be held on Friday, 17 April 2009, in the Plaza Room of the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center, in conjunction with the 60th annual Visalia International DX Convention (http://dxconvention.org/). For additional information regarding this event, please contact Ray Benny, N6VR (rbenny@sbcglobal.net) or Will Costello, WC6DX (wc6dx@sbcglobal.net). [TNX N6VR]

ANDORRA ---> The Andorran Radioamateurs Union (URA) reminds that the local administration has not implemented the CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01. Therefore any C3/homecall activity should be regarded as illegal. The up-to-date list of licenced amateurs can be found at http://www.ura.ad/

DXCC NEWS ---> TT8JT (Chad, 2008 Operation) has been approved for DXCC credit. [TNX NC1L]

IARU NEWS ---> Balloting by IARU Member-Societies on four proposals
presented to them in September 2008 was completed on 10 February 2009. Seventy-three Member-Societies cast votes or abstentions on the four proposals, which have been adopted. They concerned the ratification of the nominations of Timothy S. Ellam (VE6SH/G4HUA) and Ole Garpestad (LA2RR) to serve respectively as President and Vice President of the IARU for a five-year term beginning on 9 May 2009, and the admission to the IARU of the Emirates Amateur Radio Society (EARS) and the Kazakhstan Federation of Radiosports and Radioamateur (KFRR).

QSL 9M6JC ---> Buzz, NI5DX is the new QSL manager for John Lee, 9M6JC. Buzz will be able to answer all requests for contacts made with John, but there will be a delay in sending out cards until 9M6JC sends some blank cards to NI5DX. New cards will be ordered shortly and will take about 5 weeks to arrive after the order goes to the printer. [TNX K1XN and The Golist]

WAAB AWARD ---> Sponsored by the Radio Club Rio de la Plata (www.lu5da.org.ar), is it issued to licenced amateurs and SWLs for contacting amateur radio stations located at the various Argentine Antarctic bases. The Award Manager is Horacio Ledo, LU4DXU (lu4dxu@hotmail.com). [TNX W9KNI]

+ SILENT KEYS + Other recently reported Silent Keys include George Beasley (5B4AGC/G3LNS), Niklaus Oser (HB9EAA), Bill Leahey (K02L), Karyn W. Allen (KA0K), Harry Nishiyama (KH6FKG), Luis Soares Beira (S92LB), Leo J. Boberschmidt (W3LEO/MM0LEO), Donald G. Lemley Sr (W8DL) and Brice Anderson (W9PNE).

*** 4 2 5  D X  N E W S ***

******* QSL ROUTES *******

Edited by I1JQJ & IK1ADH
Direttore Responsabile I2VGW

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4U1VIC   Amateur Radio Club, Vienna International Centre, P.O. Box 500, A-1400 Vienna, Austria
D44AC    Carlos Pulu, P.O. Box 398, Mindelo, Cape Verde
DL7DF    Sigi Presch, Wilhelmsmuehlenweg 123, D-12621 Berlin, Germany
DL9HCU   Udo Moeller, Mienenbuettel 4, 21629 Neu Wulmstorf, Germany
P4DYW    Florentin Bard, 5 rue Frederic Mistral, 07300 Tournon-sur-Rhone, France
G3TXF    Nigel Cawthorne, Falcons, St George's Avenue, Weybridge, Surrey KT13 0BS, England, UK
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IK5JAN Marcello Ceccherini, Via Torricella 165, 50017 Campi Bisenzio - FI, Italy
IZ1BZV Giorgio Tabilio, Casella Postale 95 - SP Centro, 19100 La Spezia - SP, Italy
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K5XX Ron Evans, 2 Pembroke Drive, Bella Vista, AR 72715-8823, USA
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NI5DX William M. Loeschman, 717 Milton, Angleton, TX 77515, USA
OM2SA Juraj Sipos, P.O. Box 29, 94603 Kolarovo, Slovak Republic
VQ9LA Larry Arneson, PSC 466 Box 24 (DG-21 Annex 30), FPO AP 96595-0024, USA
W7YAQ Robert S. Norin, P.O. Box 2188, Sisters, OR 97759, USA

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