

VK9WA INSIDERS NEWSLETTER

Thank You!

Our list of donors and sponsors has doubled since the last newsletter was sent. We are doing our best to ensure a budget-conscious operation and are incredibly grateful for the support we've received. The vast majority of our planned expenses will go toward our charter vessel.

We're especially appreciative of notable sponsorships by INDEXA and the German DX Foundation.

Club Log Uploads

We anticipate using a satellite phone to make regular (optimally several times per day) uploads of our log to Club Log. Being able to search our log online will minimize duplicate contacts and verify QSOs. To minimize unnecessary contacts, we will not be enabling the leaderboard functionality.

VK9WA Online

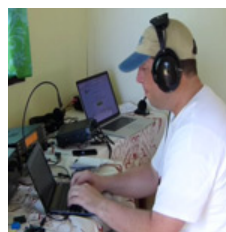
Our web site is vk9wa.com. Follow us on Twitter at [@VK9WA](https://twitter.com/VK9WA) or on Facebook at facebook.com/VK9WA

The VK9WA Team

In this edition we will highlight the amazing VK9WA team.

Our international team consists of eight operators from the U.S., Canada, and Sweden. Each bring an incredible amount of expertise and experience with well over 50 DXpeditions and international operations among us. You can get full bios for our team members at <http://VK9WA.com/team>

The VK9WA team leaders are Robert Fanfant (N7QT, photo at right) and Jared Smith (N7SMI, below). They met through mutual friends and each had a desire to put a highly demanded entity on the air. Willis Island fit the bill perfectly and they're excited for the opportunity to help coordinate this



DXpedition. Rob has previously operated from the Austral Islands, Christmas Island, and several Caribbean islands. Jared was a team leader for the TX7G Marquesas Islands DXpedition in 2014.

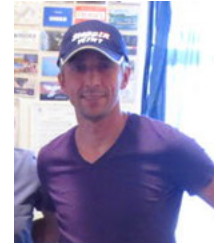
The Swedish operators are Hawk Eriksson (SM5AQD, right) and Gus Widell (SM3SGP). Both have backgrounds in electronics and telecommunications and have immense operating experience. Hawk has operated from Aland Is., Comoros, Bhutan, and Swains Island



(among others). Gus has travelled the world operating from various locations and is currently building the incredible [SK3W contesting and DXing station](#).



The Canadian contingent consists of Sandro Nitoi (VE7NY, photo at right) and Allan Buckshon (VE7SZ, left). Sandro has operated from 25 countries in the last 25 years, including Vatican City (HV0A), Sovereign Military Order Of Malta (1A0KM), and Chatham Island (ZL7AAA). Allan has operated from St. Pierre & Miquelon and Curacao, and has put together an incredible contesting and DXing station in British Columbia.



The remaining American team members are Adam Blackmer (K7EDX, left) and Hal Turley (W8HC, right). Adam is an active contester and has operated from South Cook Is., Sint Maarten, and St. Martin. He also is coordinating support efforts from his employer and VK9WA sponsor SteppIR. Hal brings significant DXpedition experience to the team having operated



numerous places around the world including Swains Island (NH8S) and Wake Island (K9W). He'll be part of the Palmyra DXpedition in January 2016.

Pilots

We've organized a great team of pilots to monitor propagation, collect feedback from amateurs, and communicate to us on the island so we can best meet the worldwide demand for Willis Island. Mike Greenway (K4PI) is our North American pilot, Cédric Morelle (F5UKW) is our EU pilot, and Andre Pretorius (V51B) is our Africa pilot.

Off-island Support

Paul Newman (VK4APN) and Mark Forster (VK4JU) are helping with ground operations and equipment coordination in Cairns, Australia. Greg Wilson (N4CC) and Jon Utley (K7CO) are providing support and are backup operators. While planning his own TX3X Chesterfield Island DXpedition, Gene Spinelli (K5GS) has provided incredible support and recommendations for our DXpedition. Several other DXpedition organizers have also provided tips and feedback.

This operation wouldn't be possible without the support and insight of so many people.

Middle Cay Debris Cleanup Initiative

We're happy to announce a partnership with Tangaroa Blue Foundation and the Australian Marine Debris Initiative, in conjunction with Parks Australia and the Department of the Environment, to conduct an island cleanup and debris inventory of Middle Cay. This cleanup and our ecology and animal reports will provide valuable data and help protect the many sensitive and threatened species of Middle Cay.



AUSTRALIAN
MARINE DEBRIS INITIATIVE



We're looking forward to being on the air in November! Thanks for your support! 73,

The VK9WA Team

VK9WA SPONSORS

