

# SPOT VILLAGES

Rev - 8 Mar 2018

**SPOT VILLAGES** is a DX Spotting Network for The Villages. It operates via texting only. It also works on any texting application on phones, computers etc. A smart phone is not required.

## **Purpose:**

Allows any member to send a spot message regarding unique, semi-rare and rare DX operations real time.

Spots must be for active DX stations, presently online and should at least provide frequency and mode.

It is intended to provide spots to hams in The Villages from other hams in The Villages. In essence, if heard and worked by one Villager, they can be heard and worked by another (maybe).

## **Guidelines:**

SPOT VILLAGES is NOT intended for chat or comments. All messages should be solely related to DX spotting.

General messages about upcoming DXpeditions and/or DX station operations should be sent out on another communication method - e.g. The Reflector.

Comments on a spot should be limited to corrections or clarifications of a spot.

Messages such as 'Thanks for the Spot' should not appear on this network - use the reflector or direct text/email.

## **General Operation:**

At present, the self-appointed, volunteer, network administrator (KA1AF), will be responsible for adding and deleting members.

At present, the network is planned to be limited to members of TVARC residing in The Villages. For snowbirds, it is requested that you be removed when you return "Up North". It is a simple process to add you back when you return to The Villages.

If you have a friend that wants the information, just send them a direct text. The limitation is intended to keep the number of people controllable. I also ask that you only request to be on the list if you intend to use the information to try and make contact - not necessarily on every spot. Please do not ask to be a member 'for information' only.

There will be no definitive description of what constitutes a unique, semi-rare or rare DX station. In the beginning, common sense should apply. Some of us are very active DX seekers and are only interested in the last few countries and some of us will be new DX seekers where Hawaii is on their list. We will adjust our guidelines as we learn how the network performs. For sure, the network needs to be capable of supporting new hams as well as more seasoned veterans.

## **Network Management:**

Hopefully, no specific rules, regulations, or staffing will be required.

This network is for us and needs to be simple and easy.

For now, KA1AF, will perform network administration and, hopefully, that will be limited to adding and deleting members at their request.

If abuses occur, they will be handled discreetly and behind the scenes. Comments and feedback should be directed to KA1AF.

On rare occasions, KA1AF may send out a notice/information alert to all members regarding operation for this network.

As stated above, the network will be limited to members of TVARC residing in The Villages. However, at this time, this network should be treated as outside the purview of TVARC. There is no need to add more administrative activities to TVARC. This can be reviewed in the future.