

The Nugget



Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

The Newsletter of the Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

MEETING DATE, LOCATION & PROGRAM

The next MLDXCC meeting will be on September 10th, 2016 at 11:30 AM. We will discuss CQP. Bob Hess W1RH will give a presentation on AM QSLs.

Dennys	3446	Coach	Ln
Cameron	Park,	CA	95682

73, Dennis NJ6G

MLDXCC DUES

CALL FOR DUES

Our fiscal year runs July through June. While dues are voluntary, you must be a paid up member to qualify for in-club awards. You wouldn't want to miss this opportunity to support your club and Might be lucky enough to win a smashing pencil holder or something. Right?

Dues are \$ 15 per fiscal year (July 1st). Dues can be paid at our meetings or mailed to Carolyn Wilson at P.O. Box 273, Somerset, CA 95684-0273.

**73, Carolyn, K6TKD
Treasurer**

2016 Officers

Dennis Moore - NJ6G President
Open - Vice Prez
Dick Wilson - K6LRN Secty
Carolyn Wilson - K6TKD Treasurer
Steve Allred - K6SCA BoD
Rick Casey - W6RKC BoD
Bob Hess - W1RH BoD
Ken Anderson - K6TA BoD
Shirl Rose - AA6K (ex)President



Picture from our August meeting

MLDXCC Website up-date

Norm, N6JV would like to up-date the "member's stations" section of our website. Many of the pics are old and outdated, and many of us have moved. So please send Norm a photo of your smiley face at your station, as well a photo of your antenna system. Let's get our website current. BTW: Please try to keep your photo size to less than 1MB. If you can't, send it anyway.

Treasurer's Report

Balance July 1, 2016: \$1881.10

Income: Dues - WA6NHC, W6SR,
K6SCA, NR6Q \$60.00

Expenses: \$00.00

Balance July 31, 2016 \$1941.12

Carolyn Wilson K6TKD

Balance August 1, 2016: \$1941.12

Income: \$0.00

Expenses: Donation to NCDXF \$10.01

Balance August 31, 2016: \$1691.12

Carolyn Wilson, K6TKD, Treasurer

Up-Coming Club Meetings

August 27th
September 17th

Note; this is tentative. There are many other operating events. These are 'major' events that may influence choice of meeting dates. Some of these can be focus for us, some will be ones we 'co-operate' or co-ordinate with NCCC, such as NAQP & possibly SS.

Meeting Locations

Mountain Mikes, Martel
Spaghetti Factory, Stockton
Max's, Auburn
Denny's, Cameron Park
Habenero Hot's, Lodi
Thai House Restaurant, Valley Springs

THE PREZ SEZ.

From the President

My first newsletter submission as President is brought to you through unpleasant circumstances. Shirley Rose AA6K was compelled to resign due to health reasons and he may shortly be leaving the area to be closer to family back east. Shirley means a lot to this club, and guided us to our most recent CQP and Sweepstakes victories. We certainly wish him all the best and will keep him in our prayers. The feeling at the last meeting (August 27th) was that we are all eager for CQP to get here in October. Just as we caught many other clubs by surprise last year by winning Sweepstakes, we don't want to be caught unawares by any challengers to our long history in CQP. Please make sure your stations, logging software, and go-get-'em attitude are ready for the challenge. Steve Allred K6SCA mentioned running an around-the-clock effort at his QTH, if you're interested please let him know.

The XYL K6VNA and I were able to attend N6XI's BBQ in Truckee on Aug 28th, lovely QTH and great setup. I'm just glad I don't have to keep track of all the cables behind his desk. That is quite a station. Great food, put some faces to names/callsigns. If you get a

chance to attend one of his BBQs don't miss it.

Speaking of BBQs, the NCCC BBQ is in Oakley on Sept 18th at N6RO. Be nice to see some of you there.

Please make sure that your QTH information is up to date on the membership roster. If you've moved recently the secretary should know this so we can maintain member eligibility for contests.

Elections are coming up soon. If you haven't held office before, consider stepping up. Even though I've enjoyed being the VP for the past year I'd like someone to assume the duties, which mainly involves setting the meeting locations and arranging a guest speaker or topic. If you don't want all of the responsibility of Vice President but would like to manage the meeting locations and guest speakers, you can run as the Activity Chairman. Other offices will be open, take a look at the Officers section of the MLDXCC website and the duties outlined in the By-laws to see if any of those positions appeal to you. There is plenty of hand-holding available to assist you in getting up to speed.

The next meeting of the MLDXCC will be on September 10th at 11:30 AM at Denny's, 3446 Coach Ln, Cameron Park, CA 95682

Upcoming events:

Sep 10th – MLDXCC September Meeting – Cameron Park

Sep 18th – NCCC BBQ - Oakley
73 and Good DX! Dennis NJ6G

The VP's Corner

From Last month "From the VP"

It's about time for some club business. As many of us saw in the recent NCCC emails, that club's number one spot in the 2015 10M Contest was lost due to ineligible logs. It's unfortunate but likely avoidable. We need to verify our membership info for submission to ARRL so that it doesn't happen to us! Make sure that your QTH information is up to date on the membership roster.

Elections are coming up soon. If you haven't held office before, consider stepping up. Even though I've enjoyed being the VP for the past year I'd like someone to assume the duties, which mainly involves setting the meeting locations and arranging a guest speaker or topic. Other offices will be open, take a look at the Officers section of the MLDXCC website and the duties outlined in the By-laws to see if any of those positions appeal to you. There is plenty of hand-holding available to assist you in getting up to speed.

The August and September meetings will only be a couple of weeks apart due to scheduling conflicts and contest activities. We need to gear up for CQP and Sweepstakes so let's make sure we have our ducks in a row.

73 and Good DX! Dennis NJ6G/VP MLDXC

Editor Notes de Rick, W6SR

Hey! I need some input from you, yes you! I received one input this month. I suspect many of you have been doing something other than radio. It's super hard to produce a newsletter when there is VERY LITTLE INPUT, consequently, this issue is (like the last) gonna' be short.

So what I have been doing with myself the last 2 months? I have been putting the final touches on the 6M EME array, and operating.

We (K6IJ and I) completed construction of the EME array about 3 weeks ago. With the help of a company called "ECO SIGNS". Dick, K6LRN suggested them, they are a sign maint. company and Electrical Contractors, so they know what we are doing. Scott is a very competent guy, who understood what we were trying to do. Now for the best part, we directed him, and he did all the work! This company has 3 trucks and if you have access for their truck, they can work on stuff up to 60' high.

Immediately after getting the array up we put together the 90' of 1 1/4" coax to the shack. After that we hooked it up to my HB-GS-35B, 6M home-brew power amplifier, and down-loaded WSJT-10. So the next thing to do is let's see if we can make all this crap work. Right? After a week, and many operator induced faux pas, while trying to get WSJT 10 setup correctly with the K3, it was all working.

So far I have worked 10 stations off the moon, the first being S57RR, followed by G8BCG, K4PI, K7GW, LZ2CC, GW4WND, S57A, SP9RZZ, K2ZD and F6BKI. So 5 new countries in about a week and half of operating. Not bad since it took me 50 years to work 65 countries. 30 more to work DXCC on 6M!

Recently a HAM friend of mine asked what it would cost for him to duplicate this setup. So I thought about it, and this is what I came up with.

1. 2- M2 6m7 antennas \$900
2. TX2 Rotor \$750
3. MT-3000A elevation rotor \$2750
4. Rohn 45 sections, top plate, rotor plate and concrete \$1500
5. 2X power splitter \$175
6. Coax & connectors all (new) surplus, \$250
7. Power Amplifier, if you buy it \$4000.

Or a little over 10 grand! Let's see I needed 35 countries, divided into 10,000 that's a mere \$285/contact. Yes you are right! There has to be a lot of crazy in you too!



Above are a couple of pictures of the completed EME array.

I will not be able to make the September meeting, so ya' all in October.....**de Rick, W6SR**

Tubes Of The Month de N6JV

The New Transmitting Tube Museum

The original idea for a transmitting tube museum was for it to be a web page with photos of all the tubes I had collected since I was about 5 years old. It became obvious that often I didn't know what I had and I didn't know where I had it. A room was constructed where I could mount the tubes in some logical order and protect them. This worked fine for several years. Problems in my neighborhood eventually required me to move after 32 years. I needed a bigger place. Our current location is in Wilton,

California on 5 acres. This property has a large garage/shop with a second story. Lots of room for tubes. The garage is shaped like a barn and the upper level has sides that curved inwards. The solution was to frame a room that would fit inside and give vertical sides to mount the shelves of tubes. After a few months we were able to finish the room with a drop ceiling, carpet, LED lighting and an air conditioner. It took several trips over a week to get all the tubes moved. The last tube was the 1.5 million watt that was too big to pick up. A ramp was built over the stairs and the tube pulled up with a block and tackle.

To date, about 95% of the tubes have been installed and the remaining will require new shelves and brackets. Most of the original shelves were cut to fit a smaller room so new longer shelves will be made and add room for more tubes. I'm always looking for new ones.



Visit the museum at <http://n6jv.com>.

Mother Lode DX/Contest Club Meeting Minutes and Attendees.

Joint Meeting Notes 7/31/2016

As this was not a business meeting as such & as I was the only 'secretary' present, I took a few notes. There may have been some business or announcements that I missed as we arrived late thanks to I-80's inability to handle a volume of autos. This was supposed to have been a joint meeting with the Northern California Contest Club, the Redwood Empire DX Association, PL-259 and the Mother Lode DX/Contest Club. The attendance of 44 people at Rockville was 20 MLDX/CC, 2 REDXA and balance NCCC members + several via Web-ex. There was a buffet lunch of Chicken Alfredo, a pasta dish with a Marinara sauce, salad, rolls and coffee. President Bob of NCCC presided and started by passing

microphone so we could announce our presence.
There were comments by Pres. Shirl of MLDX/CC regarding CQ's DX Marathon & SS. Ron N6IE spoke for REDXA talking about Field Day.
Bob Vallio W6RGG gave an interesting talk about 'Voodudes' and their operations from Africa & Kuwait.
Tom K5RC spoke via the Webex connection outlining ideas for a new contest involving Maidenhead grid squares.
After a break Steve W1SRD gave a talk on the TX3X operation from Chesterfield Reef.

Dick Wilson K6LRN
Secretary MLDX/CC

Minutes from MLDXCC Meeting **8/27/2016**

Meeting called to order 12:10.
16 members present
Shirley Rose AA6K announced that due to health issues he could no longer act as club president and resigned, named Dennis Moore NJ6G as acting President.

Dennis NJ6G took over the rest of the meeting.

As Dick and Carolyn were not present, reading of the minutes of the last meeting and budget information was waived.

Kay Anderson K6KO had the renewal paperwork for the club callsign K6AO. It was signed by NJ6G and will be returned to the ARRL by Kay. No fee to the club.

The members present voted on and approved a \$250.00 donation to the NCDXF.

Rick W6SR and Norm N6JV asked for input for the club newsletter. Activity has been low and submissions have been light.

California QSO Party was discussed. We need a good club effort to make sure no other club sneaks up on us.
Steve K6SCA would like an around-the-clock operation of the party from his QTH, contact him for details. He previously has used a 1x1 call for this but may instead use the club callsign K6AO.

Sweepstakes was discussed.
Shirley AA6K did a great job of log flogging last year but will be unable to do it this year.
Bob W1RH volunteered to take it over this year.

Shirley AA6K reminded everyone to submit logs for the annual CQ DX Marathon. Note from NJ6G: Logs may be submitted any time during the year, and must be submitted NLT January 10 2017. More information available at <http://www.dxmarathon.com/Submission/2016/Submission2016.htm>

Members present voted and approved application for membership from Tyler Lauren K6TLR. Tyler is a General class. Bob Hess W1RH told several stories of Tyler's interest and apparent knack for RTTY contesting.

Steve K6SCA has a TS-790 for sale. Contact him for price and details.

The NCCC BBQ will be at N6RO in Oakley on September 18th.

The next MLDXCC meeting will be on September 10th, 2016 at 11:30 AM. We will discuss CQP. Bob Hess W1RH will give a presentation on AM QSLs
Dennys
3446 Coach Ln
Cameron Park, CA 95682

List of attendees

Dennis	NJ6G	Valley Springs
Ken	K6TA	Pine Grove
Kay	K6KO	Pine Grove
David	K6KNS	Folsom
Bob	KR6N	El Dorado Hills
Bob	W1RH	Lotus
Shirl	AA6K	Stockton
Jim	K6OK	Carmichael
Rick	N6RK	Galt
Rich	WC6H	Valley Springs
Rick	W6SR	Placerville
Norm	N6JV	Wilton
Dennis	N6KD	Jackson
Steve	K6SCA	Fiddletown
Brandt	K6BEW	Jackson
Ray	ND6S	Sutter Creek

Respectfully submitted,

Dick Wilson K6LRN/NJ6G
Secretary MLDX/CC

Member News, Items For Sale & Feedback

N6JV has moved to Wilton California and Comcast has been dropped. All email must go to

N6JV@N6JV.com I am now located at 10170 Reigl Road, Wilton 95693

73, Norm

**N6JV@N6JV.com
<http://N6JV.com> (MUSEUM)**

For Sale...

1. Hy-Gain TH-11 beam. Covers 10-12-15-17 & 20. Disassembled. Have new trap boots. I need space...make me an offer.
2. Yaesu FT-1000 MP. Has filters & a recorder. Good condx, both electrically & cosmetic. Asking \$ 1100.
3. Rotator plate for TX-455 (USTowers) punched for Yaesu rotator. Good condx. Make an offer.
4. Rotator plate for Rohn 25...appears to be punched for Hy-gain rotator...make an offer.

Approx 140' of 16 conductor cable for 4 element SteppIR antenna. (Actually 145' with a cut close to end). Presently selling at \$1.10/ft good shape. Make offer **Contact Dick Wilson. k6lrn12@gmail.com**

In the log confirmed!

EP2A Iran, new country, 20m ssb.
TA2DX Turkey, new mode and band, 20m ssb.

Working the YJOCOW Vanuatu and VP6J Pitcairn DXpeditions. Need VP6 on 40m & 80m for new bands.

Jerry Olive KD6WKY

From Chuck, W6RD

Items for Sale: HamIV Rotor #1 Latest Series..Unused since rebuild..Controller has added brake delay. Controller cosmetics are a little rough but works 100% **\$250.**

HamIV Rotor #2 Latest Series with pigtail..Was used about 2 years on KT34. In excellent condition. Controller has factory Brake Delay & Jones Plug. Comes with about 75 feet of cable with Plugs. **\$350.**

Alliance HD-73 Rotor and controller. Works well. Has lower mast clamp for mast mounting . Comes with 100 feet of new 6 wire control cable. **\$200.**

KLM LP-1030 10 to 30 Mhz Log Periodic. 32 foot 3 inch boom. Needs some TLC but is all there. **\$250.**

Dentron MT-2000 2KW tuner. Works great. **\$200.**

I can arrange pickup for everything except the antenna in Sacramento as I am there several days a week.

Chuck W6RD Modesto. 209-247-2952.

From K6KM's estate, we have the following items for sale:

(5ea) Rohn GB-45 guy bracket, (2ea) Rohn 45 rotor plate, (1ea) Rohn GB-55D guy bracket, missing some hardware, (2ea) BLP, (6ea) Misc. guy wire assemblies. Don't know length but can verify if necessary. (5ea) PLP Big Grip BG-2144 1/4 inch, (2ea) Phillystran Big Grip HPTG-670001 / BG-MS-2755 3/8 inch, (1ea) 20 foot mast - quarter inch wall (approximate), (1ea) 15 foot mast - quarter inch wall (approximate) Also have a large lot of ICE grounding/surge protection items. Most if not all of this stuff can be available at the Saturday MLDXCC meeting, with advance notice. I will deliver at the meeting. Rick, W6SR, will determine pricing and take your money. **de Bob, W1RH**

w1rh@yahoo.co

The NOAA Solar Update

Click the link below to display the latest NOAA solar predictions.

<http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/products/weekly-highlights-and-27-day-forecast>

UP-COMING DX and Dxpeditions

Click the link below to display up-coming Announced DXpeditions:

<http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

Click on the Hyperlink below to check-out the MLDXCC scores in the latest contests.

<http://mldxcc.org/scores.html>

UP-COMING CONTESTS

(complete)

For the latest contest info. click on the following link:

<http://hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>

The MLDXCC NEWSLETTER

Information may be reproduced provided credit is given to MLDXCC.

2016 Officers of the MLDXCC

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Secretary – Dick, K6LRN

k6lrn@arrl.net

Treasurer, Carolyn Wilson, K6TKD

k6tkd@arrl.net

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roses1@prodigy.net

Director, Bob Hess, W1RH

w1rh@yahoo.com

Director, Rick Casey, W6RKC

w6rkc@arrl.net

Director, Ken Anderson, K6TA

k6ta@volcano.net

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ARRL Awards Checkers

Ken Anderson, K6TA

(including 160M cards)

Rick Samoian, W6SR

(including 160M cards)

Note: ARRL Card Checkers

can check DXCC, WAS and VUCC Awards.