

THE NUGGET



Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

The Newsletter of the Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

January 2023

Volume 29 Number 1

President's Report

Belated Happy New Year to everyone!

If you hadn't heard, we had a great meeting in December with a lot of familiar faces. It was an exceptional turnout despite it being held during the holiday season.

As we had not elected officers in November due to scheduling conflicts, the election for 2024 officers was held during the December meeting. I'm very pleased to see members stepping up, volunteering to fill spots.

Also during the course of the meeting we voted to financially support the Clipperton Expedition. One of our own, Steve W1SRD will be on that trip working the pileup. Make time to get on and work a "rare one"! If you'd like to work them, but don't feel you have the station to do so, contact me (nc6r4dx@gmail.com) and we'll try to make arrangements for you to get on the air.

HF band conditions continue to improve. This is great news for both our DX and contest operators.

The 2023 CQ DX Marathon has just completed and once again another great showing was put forth by

MLDXCC members. As a club MLDXCC continues to excel.

Have you been working DX or logged "an all time new one"? Let us know what you've been doing and we'll get it in the newsletter. You never know who you might be encouraging.

Here is website info where you can go to view upcoming Contest and DX announcements -

Contest calendar dates are listed at -
<https://www.contestcalendar.com/index.html>

DX operation announcements can be found at -
<https://www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html>

That's all for now....73 & good DX.

Steve / NC6R

MLDXCC Pres.



Treasurer's Report

MLDXCC Treasurer's Report - December 2023

11/30/2023 Opening Balance \$3,229.07

Income \$0.00

None

Expenses \$1,600.00

NCCC - CQP Plaque Sponsorship \$60.00

PDXG Expeditions, LLC - Clipperton Donation
\$1,000.00

12/31/2023 Ending Balance \$1,629.07



Sue Allred, K6SZQ

Secretary's Report

Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

General Meeting Minutes

December 16, 2023

Los Hermanos Restaurant, Sutter Creek

Meeting was called to order at 12:53 p.m. by President Greg Glenn, NR6Q. 18 members and 2 guests were in attendance.

Greg welcomed everyone, and each person present introduced themselves.

The minutes of the August 26th meeting (the last one held) were published in the September newsletter. It was moved and seconded that those minutes be accepted as published; motion passed unanimously.

The September treasurer's report was published in the October newsletter. It was moved and seconded to accept the report as published. The motion passed unanimously. Sue Allred, K6SZQ also reminded everyone that dues are due in January - \$20 for individuals and \$30 for a family membership.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

· Since we did not have a November meeting, elections will be held this meeting for Officers & Directors. Greg mentioned that we had a slate of individuals who agreed to serve, and asked if anyone else present desired to run for office. No one did. Greg presented the following slate of officers:

President – Steve Allred, NC6R

Vice President – Bob Hess, W1RH

Secretary – Lee Gravesen, KM6VNZ

Treasurer – Sue Allred, K6SZQ

Directors (3)

Steve Dyer, W1SRD

Rich Cutler, WC6H

Greg Glenn, NR6Q

Ron Eames, W6RPM moved to accept the entire slate; Rick Karlquist, N6RK seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

· Sue Allred, K6SZQ stated that we traditionally sponsored one of the plaques for the CQP contest, and that it was needed to be paid. It was agreed that we want to continue sponsoring and Sue will pay NCCC for the sponsorship fee.

· Steve Allred, NC6R noted that our member Steve Dyer, W1SRD will be going on the TX5S Clipperton Island DXpedition as part of the Perseverance DX Group. It was suggested that MLDXCC might want to help the project with some funding. After some discussion, Steve moved to give \$1000 toward the DXpedition; Bob Hess, W1RH seconded the motion. Motion pass unanimously.

· Sue Allred, K6SZQ stated that we needed to appoint a new trustee for the club call since it was still in Ken Anderson's name (K6TA). The individual who would hold this call for the club cannot hold another club call. Steve Dyer, W1SRD stated that he would be eligible and would like to serve as club call trustee. It was moved and seconded to appoint Steve to the position; motion passed unanimously. Sue will complete and submit the paperwork to ARRL.

Announcements / Discussion:

· Greg Glenn, NR6Q gave a quick run-down of the upcoming DX opportunities from the Weekly DX Bulletin.

· Steve Allred, NC6R reminded everyone that the CQ DX Marathon for 2023 finished the end

of December and files will be due. It was stated that it is now even easier to submit with an ADIF log file. There was some additional discussion/information on the Marathon and members who had not participated in the past were encouraged to do so in 2024.

Presentation:

Bob Hess, W1RH shared his thoughts and some statistics on the recent Sweepstakes contest.

Next Meeting:

TBD

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Gravesen, KM6VNZ ,Secretary



Next Meeting

WHEN

Saturday, January 27
11:30

WHERE

Los Hermanos Mexican Restaurant
60 Ridge Rd, Sutter Creek, CA 95685

WHAT

Dave, W6DE and our DX Lab Guru, will give a presentation on this popular, and free, general logging program.

Assuming we have good internet, we will stream this meeting.

+

April 12, 13 & 14, 2024



manufacturers' midway where you can talk to the people who design and use the latest and best equipment.

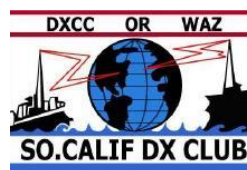
Do you have a great idea for a program? Want to be a vendor? Are you a DX station that needs assistance? Please see the contact page to e-mail the appropriate person for your questions.

The International DX Convention has been proudly sponsored alternately by the Southern California DX Club & Northern California DX Club for the past 75 years.

The 75th Annual International DX Convention sponsored by the Southern California DX Club and to be held at the Visalia Convention Center.

The International DX Convention is the world's foremost DX convention. If you are a DXer or interested in any aspect of ham radio you need to be at Visalia. Top DX operators from around the world will be there. Meet the big guns from the US, Asia, Europe, Africa and Oceania. Meet the people on the other side of the mic or key. Shake hands with the person you have had that sked with for the past 10 years. Renew friendships.

Top DXpeditioners from every continent tell you how they did it. Learn the secrets for big signals on the top band, how to have fun and adventures chasing IOTA, contest forum, DX forum, seminars for everyone from the seasoned pro to the beginning DXer. Bring your latest QSL card arrivals for checking. Attend the traditional Saturday night banquet where great friends and good food are met with lively presentations. The Sunday breakfast buffet has ample selection and variety. Visit the



Early Christmas

On Christmas eve, LOTW came up with confirmations from ZD9W for QSOs on 160 and 80 meters. I had been waiting for those to come in for a long time. I promptly made a DXCC application on LOTW. Endorsement stickers will be 225 on 160, 300 on 80, 325 on 12 and 150 on 6 meters. My DXCC Challenge total sits at 2980. ARRL has already processed my application on the day after Christmas. The next big milestone is 3000 on challenge, but those 20 QSLs will be hard to get. de N6JV

Papua Territory and Territory of New Guinea

Papua was discovered by the Spanish and Portuguese in the early 1500s. There is evidence that the island was inhabited tens of thousands of years earlier. In 1545 a Spaniard, Inigo Ortiz de Retez named it New Guinea due to the similarity between the Africans living in New Guinea and the native population of the island who are Melanesian. They called it Papua.

Australia annexed the island preventing a German claim. England declined the act and, in 1884 declares, it a protectorate. In 1888 Britain annexed the southeastern half of New Guinea and surrounding islands. They named it British New Guinea. In 1903 it was subsequently transferred to Australia who named it Papua Territory.

Northeastern New Guinea was controlled by the German government and all of Western New Guinea was under the control of the Dutch, Dutch New Guinea, as well as most of what is today Indonesia. In WWI Australia expelled the Germans and transferred German New Guinea naming it Territory of New Guinea.

In WWII the Japanese all of Dutch New Guinea and former German New Guinea. They failed at occupying Papua Territory which was the first defeat of the Japanese in WWII. In 1949 the Territory of New Guinea and Papua Territory came under one administration. Finally it was unified and named Papua New Guinea. The region became the Independent State of Papua New Guinea.

The Western portion of New Guinea is part of Indonesia and called West Irian.



Thanks to the Southern California DX Club Newsletter

Tube of the Month No. 150

Y-448

When EIMAC saw an opportunity to develop a new tube for the public or military market, they attached “X” numbers to the different tubes produced in the experimental stages. Occasionally a customer needed a special tube for a specific use. Often existing tubes were available that would work but the variability wouldn’t be usable when they wanted all tubes to draw grid current in a tight range for instance. For these tubes, a “Y” number was assigned. The characteristics of these Y tubes was somewhat confidential as they were meant for a particular customer. A few of these tubes had a wider appeal and were eventually available to the market with the Y number or with a new standard product number.

All seasoned DXers are familiar with the [4-1000A](#) tetrode. The Stanford Linear Accelerator Center (SLAC) in Menlo Park, CA had been using the 4-1000A or the pulse rated 4PR1000A version. These tubes were born on the same assembly line but the PR tubes passed a higher voltage breakdown test so they were separated and marked for pulse. SLAC wanted a 4PR1000A that had a longer life and higher emission. The solution was to make a pulse tube with a higher current filament. The current was raised from 21 to 30 amps and this tube was designated the [Y-448](#). In time, Y-448 tubes started appearing on the surplus market. There was no data sheet published and hams started trying them in their amps with mixed results. They worked fine until the filament transformer failed. I recently saw an amplifier with one 4-1000A and one Y-448 in it. EIMAC has stopped making the glass tubes and Triton (as seen in the second example) has taken over production. Amperex has also made the Y-448 as seen in the last example. If you don’t know what you have, bring it over as I have several clamp-on ammeters.

Visit the museum at N6JV.com



Awards Checkers ARRL

Rick Samoian, W6SR

(DXCC, WAS, VUCC, 160M)

Postal Increase

Product	Price before Jan. 24	Price after Jan. 24
Letters (1 oz.)	66 cents	68 cents
Letters (metered 1 oz.)	63 cents	64 cents
Domestic Postcards	51 cents	53 cents
International Postcards	\$1.50	\$1.55

*Proposed and approved at the November 12, 2016 MLDXCC general meeting.

Northern California Contest Club (NCCC) announced their focus contests at their August 2018 meeting. This list can be found in the Aug 2018 NCCC newsletter.

ARRL RTTY RU
CQ WPX RTTY
CQ WPX SSB
CQ WPX CW

The NOAA Solar Update

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

Product	Price before Jan. 24	Price after Jan. 24
International Letter (1 oz.)	\$1.50	\$1.55

MLDXCC Focus Contests

The following lists all contests in which MLDXCC would appreciate your efforts.

ARRL SS CW/PH
ARRL DX Phone*
ARRL DX CW*
ARRL 10M*
ARRL 160M*
California QSO Party

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

Upcoming Events

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

<http://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html>

Upcoming DX and DXpeditions

Click the link below to display upcoming DXpeditions.

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

MLDXCC Reflector

The MLDXCC reflector is maintained at groups.io. Visit <https://groups.io/g/mldxcc>

We also maintain a spotting reflector at <https://groups.io/g/MLDXCC-Spots>

We are also on Facebook!
<https://www.facebook.com>

Classifieds

Members are requested to review their classified ads each month for accuracy and to resubmit their ads or confirm their desire to keep it running in the next issue.

Need QSL cards, business cards, club banners?
Contact Vina K6VNA vina@sign-tek.com

COAX FOR SALE

For Sale: 272 feet of 1 ¼" Andrew Superflex VXL6 Heliac. \$750, connectors available. Brand new, still on original 5' diameter spool. All or nothing, no cutting to shorter lengths. Good for long run to antenna field. 0.146 dB attenuation per 100' at 30 MHz. 0.996 dB attenuation per 100' AT 450 MHz. I will deliver with-in most of Northern California (distance and location negotiable) for cost of gasoline. This will take a pick-up truck or large flat-bed trailer to move. Pick-ups with a 5' bed you will risk breaking your cab back window, plan accordingly. Dave, W6DE, 530-409-7877

I wish to purchase an antenna tuner, specifically an Ameritron ATR-30 or Palstar AT2K.

***May consider other tuners if they will handle full power and have multiple inputs. What have you got in that's excess to your needs?

Please reply to my email address, or phone (530) 672-2885 to keep reflector traffic down.

Thanks de Rick, W6SR

Area Clubs

Northern California Contest Club -

<https://www.nccc.cc>

Lodi Amateur Radio Club -

<http://www.lodiarc.org>

Stockton Delta Amateur Radio Club -

<http://www.w6sf.org>

Pizza Lovers 259 –

<https://www.pl259.org>

El Dorado Amateur Radio Club -

<http://edcarc.net>

Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club -

<http://www.w6ek.org>

Redwood Empire DX Association -

<http://www.redxa.com>

Calaveras Amateur Radio Society

<http://calaverasars.org/>

Tuolumne County Amateur Radio Electronics
Society (TCARES)

<https://tcares.net/>

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The MLDXCC NEWSLETTER

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