

THE NUGGET



The Newsletter of the Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

May 2018

Volume 23 Number 5

From the President NJ6G

May's meeting conflicted with the NCCC meeting, so we canceled ours to take advantage of the topic being presented at the NCCC meeting. I hope you can attend, May 12th at the Cattle-men's in Livermore. Contact Ian W6TCP for more info, or check the NCCC site at nccc.cc.

Visalia has come and gone. Seemed to be a bit smaller this year with not as many international visitors or vendors but it was still a great time. I've always enjoyed this convention for its social aspect, and a smaller crowd just made it more so. Friday night we attended the MLDXCC Contest Dinner, and as usual Jeff WK6I outdid himself. Great dinner, plenty of raffle prizes, and an impressive presentation by Tim Duffy K3LR on his amazing contest station in Western Pennsylvania.

I was manning the MLDXCC booth for much of the day Saturday so didn't really get a chance to attend the forums, but those I was able to peak into were well attended and in some cases

standing room only. I didn't really hear anything from the ARRL Forum so maybe it won't be a controversy this year. We'll see what gets reported. I'll tell you one thing, there were plenty of attendees sporting "I Support N6AA" buttons on their lapels.

Saturday night for the XYL and I is always date

Next Meeting

Next meeting is June 16, 2018

Location TBD

We are always on the lookout for new places to hold our meetings, or for volunteers to help make arrangements. Please contact the Activities Chair, Vina K6VNA if you can help out! vina@sign-tek.com

night, so we skipped the banquet and had dinner at Fugazzis. Our first time there, and I have a feeling we'll go back. Seemed to be a very popular place with convention attendees. If you haven't tried it, give them a chance the next time you're in the area.

On the equipment front, the only new items I saw were the Serial Box from Bob N6TV, and an amplifier kit from RF-Kit. Bob has really expended the capabilities of his Y-Box, so if you're a K3 owner you might want to check it out his new Serial Box.

As far as purchases, Vina K6VNA outfitted herself with a new climbing harness so she can perform some occasional antenna work on the tower, and I picked up a bunch of Mastrant guy lines and accessories. Also got a box of ferrite split beads to combat some minor RF in the shack issues, but I think I really just got them so I didn't go home empty handed hi hi.

I'm already looking forward to next year.

73, Dennis NJ6G

From the Treasurer K6TLR

March/April 2018 Treasurer's report:

Feb 28 Bal	\$2,258.54		
	Income:	W6DE - Dues	15
		W6DE - Donation	5
		KA9MDP - Dues	15
		KA9MDP - Donation	5
	Expense:		
March 27 Bal	\$2,298.54		

March 28 Bal	\$2,298.54		
	Income:	N6GHZ - Name-badge	20.87

	Expense:	CQP Plaque 2017	-60
		ARRL Insurance	-200
		N6GHZ Badge	20.87
April 23 Bal	\$2,038.54		

Paying Dues:

Paypal – Send to:MotherLodeClub@gmail.com. use the Friends and Family option.

Cash or Check - Given to a club officer at a meeting. Or mail to K6TLR, 3141 Rushall Ct, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

ARRL News

A third public test of the nascent FT8 “DXpedition Mode” is set for Saturday, May 5, the WSJT Development Group has announced. A fourth “release candidate” now is available, and participants in the May 5 public test should install WSJT-X version 1.9.0-rc4, beforehand.

“Once again, the goal is to simulate a rare-DXpedition pileup by having many stations (‘Hounds’) calling and trying to work a designated pseudo-DXpedition station (‘Fox’),” Joe Taylor, K1JT, said on behalf of the WSJT Development Team. “Everyone participating in the test must use WSJT-X v1.9.0-rc4.” Taylor urged participants to “read, understand, and carefully follow” the FT8 DXpedition Mode User Guide, which contains some operating procedure details that differ from earlier versions of the beta mode software.

“If you have legitimate access to more than one call sign (spouse, a club call, or whatever), please feel free to call and work each Fox more than once,” Taylor said. “The more Hounds, the better; we want the test pileup to be as

2018 MLDXCC Meeting Dates

January 27
 February - None
 March 10
 April - none (Visalia)
 May 12 – *Canceled*
 June 16
 July 28
 Aug 25
 Sep 15
 October 13
 November 10
 December - None

Dates are arranged to accommodate major contest dates. Meeting dates are subject to change. MLDXCC traditionally holds a mid-year combined meeting with NCCC.

deep as possible.”

The third public test will include three 1-hour sessions.

UTC	Frequency	Fox Call Sign	Operator
1400	14.090 MHz	W1/KH7Z	N1DG
1500	14.090	W7/KH7Z	AA7A
1600	14.090	K1JT	K1JT

Any last-minute instructions will be announced on the Ping Jockey Relief chat page.

Installation packages for WSJT-X v1.9.0-rc4 on Windows, Linux, Macintosh, and Raspian Jessie have been posted on the WSJT website.

Participants are asked to report their test results and any problems encountered to the WSJT-X development lists on sourceforge.com or to the Yahoo WSJT-X Development Group reflector. You must be a subscriber in order to post to these lists.

The third beta release of the new DXpedition Mode has been tested over the past several weeks, including during a public test on April 7. “A few additional bugs were identified and corrected, and the -rc4 release also includes some minor enhancements,” Taylor said. “A general availability (GA) release of WSJT-X Version 1.9.0 will be announced at a suitable time, probably in the near future. After that you should stop using any -rc# release candidate.”

Logbook of The World (LoTW) now has a full-time status monitor. The system’s status is displayed in real time and is available offsite, offering a single spot for all users — web, Facebook, Twitter, etc. — to quickly check what’s happening with the online repository of contacts and confirmations.

At a glance, the LoTW status monitor shows if the system is up, paused, or down; overall up-time statistics, and quick stats. A green status means all systems are go, a red status means the system is down, and a black status means the system has been paused. The monitor indicates overall uptime for the past 24 hours, the

past 7 days, and the past 30 days, as well as the most-recent downtime occurrence.

<https://status.lotw.arrl.org/>

MLDXCC – Outgoing ARRL Bureau

The Mother Lode DX/Contest Club will provide Outgoing QSL Bureau services to paid club members. The policy is as follows:

The club will cover packaging, shipping, and the \$7.00 ARRL fee. Members will be responsible for the \$1.15 per ounce fee, payable to the club. A scale will be provided at the designated meetings to weigh the cards.

Twice per year, at the March and October meetings, members will bring their outgoing cards (or have delivered by another club member) to the meeting for collection and collating.

All regulations set forth by the ARRL must be met, including:

- Members must be ARRL members to use outgoing bureau.
- Must provide proof of membership (QST mailing label, ARRL membership card)
- Cards need to be sorted according to ARRL requirements when brought to club.

I would anticipate that the after-meeting program at those meetings would be dedicated to weighing, merging the cards, and making sure the paperwork is in order.

For more information regarding the ARRL Outgoing Bureau, please visit <http://www.arrl.org/outgoing-qsl-service>

Tube of the Month

6339 “The Mushroom”

I once saw something in a ham’s pile of junk and I had no idea what it was. It was 2 inches long and looked like a mushroom with 2 wires out the bottom. I ask the ham about it and all he said was “Don’t know. Don’t care. One buck”. Sounded reasonable to me.



When I had time to do some research, I found that Amperex had made it circa 1955 for use as a clipper diode in RADAR circuits. It can handle

a pulse of 10 KV at 8 amps if it is immersed in silicon oil. The small size seems to indicate that it was intended for RADAR in aircraft. The diameter is the same as a 60 amp fuse which simplified the mounting.

Visit the museum at N6JV.com

Norm N6JV

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.

ARRL Awards Checkers

Ken Anderson, K6TA
(DXCC, WAS, VUCC, 160M)

Rick Samoian, W6SR
(DXCC, WAS, VUCC, 160M)

Dennis King, N6KD
(WAS, VUCC)

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>

UPCOMING Events

7QP – May 5-6

NEQP – May 5-6

NCCC May meeting – May 12

Dayton Hamvention – May 18-20

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>

Classifieds

Dennis NJ6G has the following items for sale:

Astron RS-50 Power Supply - \$95 OBO

M2 RC2800 Rotator Controller - \$225

SDRplay RSP1 – New in box - \$90

Dennis, NJ6G dennis@mail4life.net

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.

Bob, W1RH W1RH@yahoo.com

Bill N6GHZ is looking for an 811-A tube for his Collins 30L-1 amp. Let him know if you have one you're willing to part with.

n6ghz@arri.net

Need QSL cards, business cards, club banners?

Contact Vina K6VNA vina@sign-tek.com

Dick K6LRN has the following items for sale: Alpha 9500 HF Power Amplifier. Back from repair & updates in un-opened carton. Asking \$4700.

Yaesu FT-1000 MP. Has filters & a recorder. Good condx, both electrically & cosmetic. Asking \$1100.

Dick, K6LRN k6lrn12@gmail.com

Doug Murray has the following items for sale: Astron VLS-35M DC power supply 0-40 VDC metered 5-32VDC (front panel adjustable), 0-40 AMP metered, , 3-27AMP current limiting (front panel adjustable) \$125.

Econco Rebuilt/tested (zero hours) 3CX3000A tube \$500.

3CX3000A Socket: \$75.

FILAMENT XFMR:

7.5VAC 52A \$95.

50 AMP Filament choke: \$50.

HV XFMR:

Tapped PRI:220 VAC input

SEC. 5230-5670-6800-7480VAC 3AMP

\$350.

Doug – N6BU

209-286-9583

Jim Singer will be managing the station liquidation of WD7S (SK)

PLEASE NOTE: ALL MANUALS PERTAINING TO WD7S ARE AVAILABLE ON WEBSITE

<http://home.earthlink.net/~wd7s/>

1. HKV HI-POT TESTER \$100.00
2. BIRD 2.5 KW WATER COOLED DUMMY LOAD, PUMP INCLUDED WITH METER \$250.00
3. BIRD 500 WATT DUMMY LOAD, AIR COOLED \$100.00
4. RF APPLICATIONS P-3000 DIGITAL RF/VSWR INDICATOR WITH 2 EACH P-3000-C DIRECTIONAL COUPLER, AC ADAPTER INCLUDED \$250.00
5. YAESU G-1000 DXA ROTATER WITH CONTROL BOX \$400.00
6. NYE VIKING RF POWER MONITOR, MODEL RFM-003 3 KW WATT METER \$200.00
7. NYE VIKING RF POWER MONITOR, MODEL RFM-005 5 KW WATT METER \$250.00
8. DRAKE W-4 2 KW WATT METER \$ 50.00
9. DRAKE WV-4 VHF 1 KW WATT METER \$ 75.00
10. YAESU YS-500 VHF/UHF WATT METER 200 WATT \$ 50.00
11. YAESU YS-500 VHF/UHF WATT METER 200 WATT \$ 50.00
12. BIRD MODEL 43 WATT METER/NO CASE INCLUDES 1 EACH ; 2500 C SLUG/ 10,000 B SLUG/ 2500 H SLUG/ 50 H SLUG/ 3UHF QC CONNECTORS/ 2 EACH N QC CONNECTORS \$350.00

13. BIRD MODEL 4275ADJUSTABLE RF SAMPLER WITH N CONNECTORS \$ 50.00
14. 30 AMP 0-280 VOLT VARIAC \$150.00
15. PETER DAHL PLATE TRANSFORMER PRIMARY 220/240 VAC SECONDARY 3000 VAC @ 1 AMP 1CAS 46 LBS. \$400.00
16. MIRAGE D 26N 430-450 MHZ AMPLIFER-NEW IN BOX \$ 50.00
17. CDE TAILTWISTER CONTROL BOX FREE
18. MFJ 6 POS ANTENNA SWITCH SO-239 \$ 10.00
19. ICOM IC-560 50 MHZ ALL MODE TRANSCEIVER 10 WATT \$ 50.00
20. TE SYSTEMS 6 METER RF POWER AMP MODEL 0552G AS NEW 375 WATT 50 MHZ 55 AMP \$450.00
- ~~21. 8877 FULL OUTPUT SOLD \$250.00~~
- ~~22. 8877 FULL OUTPUT SOLD \$250.00~~
- ~~23. 8877 FULL OUTPUT SOLD \$250.00~~
- ~~24. 8877 YU 158 FULL OUTPUT SOLD \$250.00~~
25. 8877 FULL OUTPUT \$250.00
26. SECO MODEL 107B TUBE TESTER \$ 25.00
27. 8877 SK2210 SOCKET WITH CHIMNEY \$ 50.00
28. 8877 SK2210 SOCKET WITH CHIMNEY \$ 50.00
29. 8877 SK2210 SOCKET WITH CHIMNEY \$ 50.00
30. 3CX800 SOCKET WITH CHIMNEY \$ 40.00
31. WD7S HV-2 (12 AVAILABLE) \$ 20.00
32. WD7S TRIODE CONTROL BOARD (5 AVAILABLE) \$100.00
33. WD7S TRIODE CONTROL BOARD \$100.00
34. WD7S TRIODE CONTROL BOARD \$100.00
35. WD7S TRIODE CONTROL BOARD \$100.00
36. WD7S TRIODE CONTROL BOARD \$100.00
37. WD7S TRIODE CONTROL BOARD/ BOARD ONLY (23 AVAILABLE) EACH \$ 10.00
38. WD7S TU6B (4 AVAILABLE) EACH \$ 50.00
39. WD7S DSPS (6 AVAILABLE) EACH \$ 15.00
40. WD7S DS1 (4 AVAILABLE) EACH \$120.00
41. WD7S DS1 EACH \$120.00
42. WD7S DS1 EACH \$120.00
43. WD7S DS1 EACH \$120.00
44. WD7S DS1 BOARD AND 2 LENSES ONLY WITH DS-PS BOARD HIGH AND LOW POWER LENSES (9 TOTAL) EACH \$ 50.00
45. BIRD MODEL 74 6 POSITION COAX SWITCH \$ 10.00
46. KENWOOD MODEL SM-220 STATION MONITOR \$ 75.00
47. ASTRON 35M POWER SUPPLY \$ 90.00
48. ASTRON 35M POWER SUPPLY \$ 90.00
49. WD7S 2X3CX800 50 MHZ LEGAL LIMIT AMPLIFIER. USES ALL WD7S BOARDS AS SEEN ON WD7S WEBSITE. INCLUDES NEW TUBES \$1,200.00
50. KENWOOD TS-790A DUAL BAND ALL MODE VHF/UHF TRANSCEIVER WITH SP 31 SPEAKER AND HAND MIC. \$900.00
51. YAESU MARK-V FT-1000MP HF TRANSCEIVER WITH YAESU FTV-1000 50 MHZ TRANSVERTER \$1,400.00
52. JAPAN RADIO MODEL JST-245 HF AND 6 METER 150 WATT TRANSCEIVER WITH JRC NVA-319 SPEAKER \$1,000.00
53. SWAN MODEL ST-1 ANTENNA TUNER \$ 50.00
54. MIRAGE MODEL B2516G 2 METER 160 WATT AMPLIFIER \$100.00
55. TOWER PACKAGE # 1: 80 FEET TRIEX MODEL T-15 WITH TOP SECTION AND HINGE BASE/INCLUDES 6 WIRE TORQUE BRACKET \$450.00

56. TOWER PACKAGE #2: 50 FEET ROHN 25G WITH TOP SECTION AND NEW HINGE BASE \$250.00

57. TOWER PACKAGE #3: TRI-EX HS-6105 105 FOOT GUIDE CRANK UP TOWER. INCLUDES HINGE BASE, YAESU G-2700 SDX ROTOR WITH CONTROLLER, MOSLEY PRO 67-B 10 THRU 40 METER ANTENNA, M2 6M-2WL 6 METER 9 ELEMENT BEAM, MOSLEY A-142 2 METER, 14 ELEMENT VHF BEAM, ALL GUY WIRE INCLUDED ALONG WITH ROTOR CABLE COAX. TOWER IS CRANKED UP

Jim can be reached at (707)631-4269

Rick W6SR has the following available:

Ameritron AWM-30 Peak reading SWR/Wattmeter

DuneStar 300-21 15M 200W band-pass filter
DuneStar 300-21 160M 200W band-pass filter
10GHz slot antenna with a magnetic base.

Bird slugs:

1ea 25W 200-500MHz
1ea 50W 100-250MHz
2ea 250W 100-250MHz
1ea 500W 50-125MHz

2ea Transco KW "Y" relay/switch 28V "N" connectors"

1ea KW HF-VHF relay/switch 28V "N" connectors"

1ea Icom 211 2M all mode 10W radio works 100%

1ea Landwehr 2M mast mounted (switched) pre-amp, .5dB noise figure 12V relay.

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>

Please contact the editor to have your club listed here!

750W non-switched, 150W switched.

3 element 2m Cushcraft Yagi.

7 element M2 430-450 yagi.

Make offer on each, pick-up in Placerville, or U pay shipping.

Please contact me directly (530) 344-9085 or e-mail. Please no "not to all" group e-mails.

For more info or pics etc.

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Pacific Division Vice Director
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