

THE NUGGET



Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

The Newsletter of the Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

October 2022

Volume 27 Number 10

From the President – NR6Q

Well, it's that time of year again!! Summer is gone, although I am not sure you would ever know it by the temperature, the days are getting shorter and it's time to tune up our stations for contesting. I found out during the QSO party that my little SMUD gremlin was back in action creating hum and buzz on the higher bands right at about 60 degrees. So, I have been back on the phone trying to get the problem resolved. Hopefully by the time Sweepstakes rolls around it will be resolved.

Speaking for Sweepstakes, it is time to start planning our attack for this year. I mentioned over the last year that we as a club did very well. Mother Lode Club came in number 1 for medium sized club, and we would have taken 5th place if we had gone unlimited. Our closest competitor was Southern California Contest club who submitted more logs that we did. I am pretty sure you can count on Southern California making a showing and attempting to unseat the Kings.

I think we should strategize the best way to win the contest again this year. PL – 259 hands down beat us on log average with 165000 per log. Mother Lode averaged about 94,600 per log. While this is very respectable, it seems to me that if we can just nudge our scores up a bit we can start chewing away at the big boys. If we could hit 165000 a log with 45 logs submitted, we could be number 2 in unlimited. I ask, what is possible, can we pull those scores up by spending more time in the seat? I know that I only had about 17 hours in the chair during last sweepstakes. How many others can we prop up by augmenting and running a multi single or multi-multi? I know that many of us cannot support a multi-multi operation but what about just making sure we have ops in the seat for 24 hours or do most of the entrants operate 24 hours already?

If CAL QSO was any indicator of band conditions this will be a very busy contest. While I was only on for about 12 hours, I made 1160 Qs. While I know that that sweepstakes is a more difficult contest because of the exchange, and no duplicate bands, we should have some very

good band conditions on 10 and 15 this year. Let me know what you think. How can we up our average?

Next Meeting

Date: November – 19th

Time: TBD

Location: TBD

Presentation: TBD

MLDXCC Treasurer - K6SZQ

MLDXCC Treasurer's Report - September 2022

8/31/2022 Opening Balance	\$2,687.32
Income	\$230.00
2022 Dues - Paypal	\$100.00
2022 Dues - Checking	\$60.00
2023 Dues - Paypal	\$20.00
2023 Dues - Checking	\$50.00
Expenses	\$0.00
9/30/2022 Ending Balance	\$2,917.32

From the Secretary – W6BRY

Mother Lode DX/Contest Club
General Meeting Minutes

Meeting started at 12:35 on 10/22/2022.

Steve NC6R made a motion to approve the treasury report as posted in the last Nugget. N6RNO seconded the motion.

New business: Nominate officers for next year.

Come out and join us for our monthly meetings!!

73, Greg Glenn, NR6Q

CQP discussion: A lot of effort was made, and some new personal bests were achieved. K6SZQ made over 1600 QSOs, WE6Z made over 1700 QSOs, WC6H was about to beat K6XX but his amp died and computer froze with a white screen for an hour.

Rich WC6H made a motion to keep the officer list the same with the exception of the Secretary position. It was seconded by Rick.

Sweepstakes discussion: The strategy of switching shacks and running a second person and radio on Sunday was discussed. This is the strategy that NCCC used to beat PVRC at one time. It was mentioned that we don't have enough participants with large stations to take advantage of that strategy. In lieu of that strategy it was recommended that participating members try to put a few more hours into the contest, and operate as close to 24 hours as they can.

N6RNO made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by N6JV.
Meeting adjourned at 2pm.

Brian Mathews, W6BRY

CLUB Dues

2022 dues are due!

The Dues period runs from Jan 1 to Dec 31. Dues are \$20.00 individual, \$30.00 family

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 the Treasurer - Sue Allred K6SZQ, 17610 Red Mule Rd. Fiddletown, CA 95629

Club Log Standings

Overall

1	N6JV	Norm Wilson	235
2	W1SRD	Steve Dyer	225
3	NK7I	Rick Bates	221

CW

1	K6YK	John Lee	151
2	N6JV	Norm Wilson	131
3	W1SRD	Steve Dyer	116

Phone

1	NC6R	Steve Allred	121
2	W1SRD	Steve Dyer	112
3	K6YK	John Lee	105

Data

1	NK7I	Rick Bates	212
2	N6JV	Norm Wilson	212
3	W1SRD	Steve Dyer	202

Club Log Standings are based on worked entities during the calendar year.

Member Reports

ATNO: TY0RU on 80, 40, 30, 20, and 17 meters
Doug WE6Z

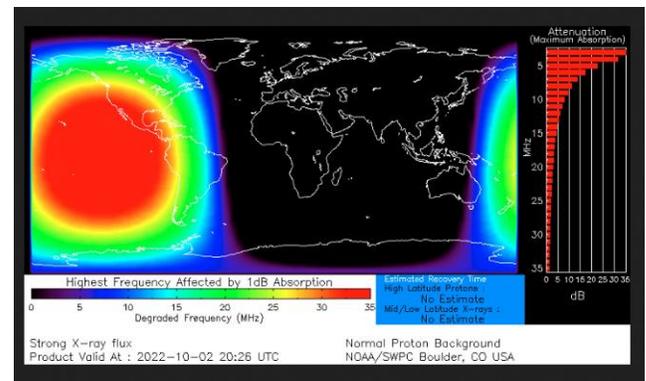
Solar news

At the end of CQP we had a solar event that changed band conditions. See below from Solarham.net:

Solar activity continues at high levels on Sunday. Multiple solar flares were detected on the Sun,

including an X1.0 event at 20:25 UTC (Oct 2) by AR 3110. Just like the previous events around this region, a fairly narrow band of plasma appears to have been flung into space and not directly towards our planet. More updates regarding this event whenever necessary. It also appears that an M-Flare was in progress at nearly the same time around large AR 3112 in the northeast quadrant. Additional solar flares above the M1.0 threshold will remain likely during the next 24 hours with an increased chance for a major X-Class event. With the addition of AR 3112, the solar flux index rose to 154. It should be noted that X-Flare from earlier today was the first Earth facing X-Class event since May 10, 2022.

<https://www.solarham.net/>



Doug's commo shelter project update

The commo shelter is coming along nicely. I fully repainted the inside and the outside and repaired several punctures. I painted two 19" racks to match and installed them inside. I have a UPS, power supply, speakers, HF transceiver, tuners, VHF, UHF, and scanner all mocked up. I also plan to install a Collins R390A. Next I'll have to work on the wiring and final mounting of the radios.



Doug WE6Z



WE6Z CQP

Band conditions were awesome. I haven't had this much fun in a long time. This year I decided to operate Single-OP Assisted from home and try to set an El Dorado county record. That way I could put in as close to 24 hours of operating as possible. I managed to operate 23.5 hours in the chair. I set an initial goal of 1000 QSOs, then upped my goal to 1500 after I met the first one. Despite over 1700 Qs I missed NT. 1702 QSOs in a 24 hour contest is a new personal best.

It sure is a lot of fun being the DX.

CA QSOPARTY Summary Sheet

Start Date : 2022-10-01

CallSign Used : WE6Z

Operator(s) : WE6Z

Operator Category : SINGLE-OP

Band : ALL

Power : HIGH

Mode : MIXED

Default Exchange : # ELDO

Gridsquare : CM98MN

ARRL Section : SV

Band	Mode	QSOs	Pts	Mu1	Pt/Q
1.8	CW	10	30	0	3.0
1.8	LSB	4	8	0	2.0
3.5	CW	69	207	0	3.0
3.5	LSB	43	86	0	2.0
7	CW	183	549	2	3.0
7	LSB	122	244	0	2.0
14	CW	386	1158	46	3.0
14	USB	164	328	1	2.0
21	CW	290	870	6	3.0
21	USB	123	246	0	2.0
28	CW	207	621	0	3.0
28	USB	101	202	2	2.0
Total	Both	1702	4549	57	2.7

Score : 259,293

Doug WE6Z

Pacificon swap meet

The Pacificon swap meet had an excellent turnout. There were plenty of deals to be had. I ended up with a handheld, a couple antennas, and some Arduino parts.







Doug WE6Z

State & Province QSO Party Calendar

<https://qsoparty.eqth.net/index.html>

73,

Steve / NC6R

California QSO Party 2022

Band conditions for CQP were excellent! The 10 and 15 meter bands were open almost the whole time. Some really impressive scores have been turned into 3830.

M/M HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K6A(@KH7Y)				1355	609	57	30		300,789	MLDXCC

M/M LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
NZ6Q				531	450	58	24		144,594	MLDXCC
K6ST				0	191	42	9		16,044	MLDXCC

M/M CntyExp LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
NZ6Q				531	450	58	24		144,594	MLDXCC
K6ST				0	191	42	9		16,044	MLDXCC

M/M YL LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
NZ6Q				531	450	58	24		144,594	MLDXCC

M/M Youth LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
NZ6Q				531	450	58	24		144,594	MLDXCC

M/M New-Contester LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
NZ6Q				531	450	58	24		144,594	MLDXCC

M/S HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
N6T				1316	779	58	30		319,348	MLDXCC
K6CQP(@KE8FT)				629	517	57	20		166,497	MLDXCC
W6SRR		x		562	245	58	8:20		126,034	MLDXCC

M/S CntyExp HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
N6T				1316	779	58	30		319,348	MLDXCC

M/S LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
W6TCP(@N6DZ)				313	290	58	10		88,102	MLDXCC

SO HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
WC6H				1265	1081	58	23		344,926	MLDXCC
AE6Y	SO2R			1216	470	57	21		261,516	MLDXCC
N6JV				1121	562	55			246,785	MLDXCC
K6SZQ(@NC6R)				0	1618	58	20		187,688	MLDXCC
K6LRN				958	0	56	13.3		160,608	MLDXCC
N6TV	2BSIQ			921	0	57	9		157,491	MLDXCC
N6RK				693	228	56	9.75		141,960	MLDXCC
K6RB				720	0	57	6:45		123,120	MLDXCC
K6OK				223	477	56	13		90,888	MLDXCC
K6XV				467	50	55	8		82,555	MLDXCC
K6TQ				0	720	55	13		79,200	MLDXCC
WX6V				278	0	45	4		37,530	MLDXCC
W6EU				276	0	44			36,432	MLDXCC
NC6R				0	115	45	1		10,350	MLDXCC

SO YL HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K6SQQ(@NC6R)				0	1618		58	20	187,688	MLDXCC

SO LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
KE6GLA				604	311		58	20	140,998	MLDXCC
K6CSL				192	0	64	24:00		25,344	MLDXCC
K6C(W1RH)				103	0	33	1.25		10,197	MLDXCC

SO CntyExp LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K6C(W1RH)				103	0	33	1.25		10,197	MLDXCC

SO Cnty1DayExp LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K6C(W1RH)				103	0	33	1.25		10,197	MLDXCC

SO QRP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AA6W				1	0	1	1.0		3	MLDXCC

SO(A) HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
WE6Z				1145	557	57	23.5	259,293	MLDXCC	
N6GEO				352	282	55	14:47	89,100	MLDXCC	
KH6TU(AD6E)				384	193	55	15	78,650	MLDXCC	
K2RD				232	179	54	12	56,970	MLDXCC	
WD6T				179	0	40	2	21,480	MLDXCC	

SO(A) LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
W6CQP(KH2TJ)				739	292	56			156,688	MLDXCC

Tube of the Month

8873 - 8874 - 8875

In 1971, EIMAC, started selling a new line of small triodes. The new line incorporated a new base called the elevenar which obviously had eleven small pins. Tubes of this size often required an expensive socket system. The elevenar socket could be plastic and injection molding made the price come down. Amateur radio appears to be the target user for these tubes. All the types were electrically identical and only differed as to how they were cooled. The filaments were 6.3 volts at 3 amps and the cathodes were the new focused type. The amplification factor is 240 and the maximum frequency is 500 MHz.

The [8874](#) AKA 3CX400A7, is axially cooled and is rated at 400 watts of dissipation. The 8873 is conduction cooled and is de-rated to 200 watts. The

ARRL Contesting Certificates

If you have participated in ARRL Contests by submitting your log, enter your call sign and see your available certificates. You can view and download them. The certificates show where you placed in the contest.

<http://contests.arrl.org/certificates.php>

Awards Checkers ARRL

Rick Samoian, W6SR

[8875](#) is transverse cooled and rated at 300 watts. In 1974, a coaxial base was mounted on the basic tube for operation to 1 GHz and was designated the 8961 or [3CX400U7](#).

The 8874 was used in the Alpha 76, 274 and 374 amplifiers. The 8873 was used in the Henry 2K Ultra and the Heathkit SB230. The 8875 was used in the Dentron MLA-2500. All these tubes are hard to find today and I have received many inquiries from prospective buyers looking for them.

Sadly, all my examples are flat.



Visit the museum at N6JV.com
Norm N6JV

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

*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.

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

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>

UPCOMING Events

For the latest contest info, click on the following link:
<http://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html>

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.

Looking for a Motorola Micom 2 or 3 with ALE.

Looking for an EF Johnson 5300 VHF radio.

Looking for a VHF air band transceiver.

Doug WE6Z we6z@hotmail.com

Swapmeets

The Northern California Swap

Thursday evenings at 8 PM local on the N6ICW repeater system 147.195 +123

Join Armand WB2ZEI and the group to buy, sell, or trade amateur radio related gear. Check-ins and visitors welcome.

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

2022 Meeting Dates

January – none
Feb – none
March – 19th
Apr – 16th
May – 14th
June – 18th
July – 23rd
August – 27th
September – 17th
October – 22nd
November – 19th
Dec – TBD

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

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/>

Please contact the editor to have your club listed here.

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The MLDXCC Newsletter

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