

THE NUGGET



Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

The Newsletter of the Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

September 2023

Volume 28 Number 9

Editor's Report

Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

General Meeting Minutes

August 26th, 2023

George's Country Café, Lockford

Meeting was called to order at 12:25 p.m. by Steve Allred, NC6R, standing in for President Greg Glen, NR6Q. 13 members were in attendance.

Steve welcomed everyone, and each person present introduced themselves.

No July meeting minutes were submitted.

The July treasurer's report was published in the August newsletter. Norm Wilson, N6JV moved to accept the report as published. Rick Eversole, N6RNO seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

We looked ahead at the next two meeting dates and had some discussion regarding the dates:

- September is scheduled for 9/16/23, which is also the Lincoln Swap Meet. Many in attendance indicated that they were planning on attending the Swap. It is difficult to find a location in Lincoln that can host a group like ours, so it was agreed that we will skip the September Meeting.
- October 22nd is the NCCC BBQ at N6RO in Oakley (this is a Sunday). Our October meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 21st. Discussion among those present indicated that they would not attend a MLDXCC meeting on Saturday if they were going to the NCCC BBQ the next day. It was decided that we would just promote the BBQ and have a small side meeting there as October is nominations month for Officer Elections.

Announcements / Discussion:

Treasurer's Report

MLDXCC Treasurer's Report - August 2023

· Steve reminded everyone that many members were attending the funeral for Nancy Harmor, NG6PNP which was also held today. He noted that a sympathy card had been sent to Jay and the family on behalf of the club.

· Steve Allred, NC6R gave a recap of upcoming contests (lots of state QSO Parties) and shared the Weekly DX Bulletin for upcoming DX.

Member Highlights / Achievements:

· Ron Eaves, W6RPM announced that after 25 years as a ham, he was please to now have a decent antenna system, having just installed some JK's.

· Doug Murray, N6BU noted that Dick Wilson, K6LRN was currently in Cotati awaiting a 2nd Great Grandson/

Presentation:

Due to one of the presenter's having a family emergency, and George's Country Café was undergoing remodeling, and we did not have a place to set up the presentation, no talk was given. It is anticipated that this subject will be presented soon as a future meeting.

Next Meeting:

Rick Eversole, N6RNO made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bryan Mathews, W6BRY seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 12:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Allred, K6SZQ

for Secretary – Bob Hess - W1RH

7/31/23 Opening Balance \$3209.07

Income: \$0.00

None

Expenses: \$0.00

None

8/31/23 Closing Balance \$3209.07

DELETED COUNTRIES



Portuguese Timor

Before the colonial period the island of Timor was a point along the trade route from China through Indonesia to India. Initially the Dutch settled into the whole of Indonesia including Timor. The island of Timor was split and shared with the Dutch East Indies. Portuguese Timor (CR8), the east portion on the island, was established in 1702 and lasted until decolonization in 1975.

The first Europeans to set foot on East Timor in 1515 were Portuguese. Dominican Friars established a Portuguese presence in 1556. The eastern portion of Timor became a colony of Portugal. There were numerous uprisings and attacks from local tribesmen. Control of the region was fractured and divided among the Dominican Friars, sometimes the Dutch and the Timorese. Basically, Portugal had control of the around the colonial seat, Dili.

A major rebellion was crushed in 1912 when Portugal brought in soldiers from neighboring colonies and killed over 3,000 East Timorese.

Japan began exerting influence in 1930, investing in the Portuguese plantations. Both Britain, Netherlands and Australia placed detachments of soldiers to keep them at bay. Japan invaded Timor in 1942 and had a rough time fighting the soldiers who took guerilla action against them killing over 1,000. The Japanese retaliated brutally killing over 60,000 Timorese.

After the war Portugal reasserted their claim. Dutch West Timor had gained it's independence. In 1974 a coup in Portugal transpired and the new government began the decolonization process. This gave rise to three Timorese political parties who went to war over control, an armed conflict. Timor was still under Portuguese rule however the governor left Dili and established his administration on a nearby island. Portugal sent ships in to quell the conflict. In 1975, one of the three rival parties unilaterally declared the territory independent. Of course, it was the communist faction who named it the Democratic Republic of East Timor (*Why do they always call it Democratic when they unilaterally take over a country?*) Indonesia got into the mix and attacked Dili with a significant force. The governor fled to Darwin, Australia. In 1976 Indonesia formally annexed Timor. It was not recognized by the UN which still recognized Portugal's claim. Indonesia skedaddled in 1999 and after a three year transition period East Timor (4W) gained it's independence. In recent times it has been a violent and unsettled region.



Thanks to the Southern California DX Club Newsletter

Tube of the Month

8877

With the success of EIMAC's focused cathode tetrodes, new product lines were explored to produce truly zero bias triodes using the new technology. In 1968, a research program began with the goal of developing the construction techniques required to make tubes of this type. They started with components from existing tubes like the 4CX1500B which already had a focused cathode. They initially wanted to experiment with a range of tube sizes up to 5 KW, but decided to concentrate on the 400 and 1500-watt sizes. Initial trials with a 400-watt tube were so promising that they built a triode based on the 4CX1500B. This was also very successful and they continued to refine the geometry of the cathode and grid to peak the performance.

One of the goals of the project was to get tubes that didn't require complex and expensive socket systems. This would also result of lower production costs. The tubes of the 4CX1500B family, used the bulky breach block construction. The solution was to use a common header to hold all the pins that would fit an inexpensive existing socket. The 1500-watt triode was completed in 1969 and was designated the [8877/3CX1500A7](#). The tube could operate with 4000 VDC at 1 amp on the plate and 5 volts at 10.5 amps on the heater. Maximum frequency for full power is 250 MHz and the amplification factor is 200. The tube will work at zero bias below 3000 VDC but requires bias above that. The tube was designed to use a zener diode to provide the bias. The heater is isolated from the cathode so it doesn't require chokes in the leads to the transformer. The input impedance at the cathode is about 54 ohms so is easy to drive with solid state transceivers. The bias zener and the metering circuits are directly connected to the cathode. The socket is the 7-pin septar socket like the old 829B uses with a finger stock ring to make contact with the grid ring.

The 8877 was a big success and was adopted by several amateur radio amplifier builders. EIMAC built an amplifier that featured it in their [Amateur Service Newsletter AS-45](#) and in the September 1971 issue of QST. The most successful application for the 8877 was in MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) equipment.

Norm N6JV

Visit the museum at N6JV.com



Club Log Standings 2023

Overall

1	W1SRD	Steve Dyer	236
2	K6OK	Jim Varney	218
3	W6DE	Dave Engle	216

CW

1	K6YK	John Lee	188
2	K6OK	Jim Varney	132
3	K6IJ	Brian Mathews	124

Phone

1	K6YK	John Lee	130
2	K6IJ	Brian Mathews	120
3	W1SRD	Steve Dyer	118

Data

1	W1SRD	Steve Dyer	216
2	W6DE	Dave Engle	203
2	NK7I	Rick Bates	203

Awards Checkers ARRL

Rick Samoian, W6SR

(DXCC, WAS, VUCC, 160M)

*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

Postal Increase

Product	Price before Jan. 22	Price after Jan. 22
Letters (1 oz.)	60 cents	63 cents
Letters (metered 1 oz.)	57 cents	60 cents
Domestic Postcards	44 cents	48 cents
International Postcards	\$1.40	\$1.45
International Letter (1 oz.)	\$1.40	\$1.45

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

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

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

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

South Bay Swap Meet

The [Electronics Flea Market](#) will be on Sunday, October 8, 2023. The location is parking lot 3 at West Valley College in Saratoga: West Valley College 14000 Fruitvale Ave Saratoga, California 95070. Parking=\$3.

The hours are from 6:00 am until 12:00 Noon.

PACIFICONSM 2023
October 20-22, 2023

San Ramon Marriott
2600 Bishop Drive
San Ramon, CA 94583

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>

2023 Meeting Dates

June 17, Shingle Springs
July 22, Shingle Springs
August 26 Lockeford
September none

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

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/>

ARRL Pacific Division

Pacific Division Director
Kristen A. McIntyre K6WX
k6wx@arrl.org

Pacific Division Vice Director
Anthony Marcin W7XM
w7xm@arrl.org

East Bay Section Manager
Mike Patterson N6JGA
n6jga@arrl.org

Nevada Section Manager
John Bigley N7UR
n7ur@arrl.org

Pacific Section Manager
Joe Speroni, AH0A
ah0a@arrl.org

San Francisco Section Manager
Bill Hillendahl, KH6GJV
kh6gjb@arrl.org

Santa Clara Valley Section Manager
James Armstrong NV6W
nv6w@arrl.org

Sacramento Valley Section Manager
Dr. Carol Milazzo KP4MD
kp4md@arrl.org

San Joaquin Valley Section Manager
John Litz NZ6Q
john@litz.com

Officers of the MLDXCC

President, Greg Glenn, NR6Q

nr6q@arrl.net

Vice President, Rick Eversole, N6RNO

rick@eversoles.com

Director, Rich Cutler, WC6H

wc6h@yahoo.com

Director, Steve Dyer, W1SRD

w1srd@arrl.net

Director, Steve Allred, NC6R

sallred@volcano.net

Secretary, Bob Hess W1RH

w1rh@yahoo.com

Treasurer, Sue Allred, K6SZQ

sueallred@volcano.net

Publicity Manager, Bob Hess, W1RH

w1rh@yahoo.com

Editor...OPEN

Webmaster and acting Editor, Norm Wilson,
N6JV

n6jv@n6jv.com

The MLDXCC NEWSLETTER

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