

# THE NUGGET



Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

## The Newsletter of the Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

July 2021

Volume 26 Number 7

### **From the President – NC6R**

Well, how did Field Day 2021 go for you? Good results? Interesting challenges? I got the opportunity to be a guest op for a period of time Saturday morning at the K6ARC Field Day event. It was nice to catch up with Dennis N6KD & Fred K6IJ, both whom were manning stations on site at the Mt Zion location.

During my visit to the K6ARC site, I was able to present Dennis, N6KD with a pin recognizing him as 25 year member of MLDXCC. Not only is he a 25 year member, but one of the original MLDXCC founding members as well.

After coming home and cooling down for a bit, I got on the air running “1E” class, (generator & solar) and managed to get quite a number of other Field Day stations in the log before calling it a night.

Well, the NAQP RTTY contest has come and gone. Were you able to get on the air? Due to my youngest granddaughter’s birthday I only had a short time to work the contest, but was

reminded how much fun RTTY can be.



Also remember the CQ DX Marathon contest. Any DX you work, whether new or worked before counts toward your final score at the end of the year.

With the solar numbers continue to improve, how your DX total coming along? Just this week I was fortunate to log Bangladesh, an ATNO for me.

Please make plans to join us this Saturday, July 24 in Lockeford at the Country Café for a talk by Steve W1SRD on his trip to South Orkney.

Mark your calendars - Saturday Sept 18<sup>th</sup> is the scheduled date for the Western Placer swap meet in Lincoln. The swap will be held at Mc Bean Park, same location as in past years.

### **From the V.P. - W1RH**

Well, the final CQP rule changes are out and those changes are not insignificant. Here are the highlights, as they relate to the in-state Club Competition:

**Keeping the 175-mile club circle.** It had been proposed to be eliminated, but the CQP Committee has decided to keep the circle, based on comments favoring retention of the circle. I am going to assume that points from MLDXCC members, in Nevada and inside the 175-mile circle, can still be added to our score.

#### **There are 5 categories of California clubs.**

Yosemite – 31+ logs submitted

Joshua Tree – 21-30 logs submitted

Sequoia – 11-20 logs submitted

Redwood – 6-10 logs submitted

Channel Islands – 1-5 logs submitted

If you haven't figured it out already, the categories are named after some of the national

As always, here are websites 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>

73 & good DX,

Steve / NC6R

MLDXCC President

parks in the state and based on the annual attendance of each park; a nice touch.

As of the 2017 rule change, the Southern California Contest Club was allowed to participate. Based on the number of logs submitted since 2017 both MLDXCC and SCCC have submitted at least 31 logs each year. Last year, MLDXCC submitted 53 logs and SCCC submitted 44 logs. Both clubs entered in what was the Medium Club Category and SCCC beat us by about 200,000 points. In 2019, MLDXCC submitted 38 logs and SCCC submitted 31 logs (their lowest number of logs since the 2017 rule change). Although the two clubs entered in different categories, had they both entered in the same category, MLDXCC would have won the competition by about 225,000 points.

It near appears that, assuming both MLDXCC and SCCC submit at least 31 logs, the two clubs will go head-to-head, and I am very much in favor of that. It's entirely possible however, that PL259, REDXA, or some other club could

compete in this category if they had 31 logs or more.

**The other major change this year is the addition of several bonus point categories.**

The final club score will be based on the total score from the logs submitted plus the total number of bonus points. I love this idea, but I do have some questions. Let's look at the bonus point categories:

**10,000 points for every log submitted with a unique callsign.** I'm really not sure I understand this one. I'm going to offer two different interpretations:

Unique's are often excluded during the log-checking process. Let's say that you have a friend down the street with a buddy-pole and a QRP rig. He gets on the air and works you, and only you, in CQP. That makes him a Unique in the contest. His call only appears in one log....yours. In some contests, this call sign may be excluded but it appears that in CQP the Club gets an additional 10,000 points for each log that contains a unique callsign.

Or, could mean that a unique callsign is one that has never ever submitted a log to CQP? In this case, your neighbor down the street joins MLDXCC prior to the contest, works you and only you and submits his log, now Unique in the history of CQP and, since he's a member, he's earned the Club a 10K bonus.

**50,000 points for every California County Expedition.** I am going to assume that if one of our members in Sacramento County decides to operate from El Dorado County, this will be considered a County Expedition and give the

club an additional 50,000 points. A true expedition, to a rare county, such as Alpine, Tehama, etc. will, of course, add 50,000 points for each expedition. Does this mean, however, that Dave, K6TQ, operating from his station, in Folsom, Sacramento County, can drive across the line into El Dorado County, make a few contacts, and give the Club an additional 50,000 points? I'll need some clarification on that one.

**50,000 points for every California Mobile. 3 County minimum.** That's pretty clear, but it still doesn't answer my question above? Can Dave just drive across the Sacramento-El Dorado County line, set up a portable station, or a mobile, and declare himself a County Expedition, despite being in a mobile and despite also bringing in a big score from his home station in Sacramento County? Oh, and by the way, can he make a Q in Sacramento County and another Q in Placer County and also qualify for this bonus?

If I'm right about this one, Dave, K6TQ, can submit a score from his very nice Sacramento County station, earning a score of 88,000 points as he did in 2020. When he would normally take a break, he jumps in his mobile and takes an hour to make one Q in Sacramento County, one Q in Placer County, and one Q in El Dorado County, earning the Club an additional 50,000 points as a California Mobile. While at the El Dorado County line, Dave sets up his buddy pole and makes one more Q, using his KX-2 or some QRP rig, apart from his mobile setup and makes another 50,000 points for MLDXCC. In this case, Dave becomes a MLDXCC Rock Star, making the Club a total of 188,000 points. Can we do this? If so, it's easy to make happen.

**50,000 points for at least one non-California mobile.** I'm going to assume, again, that one of our Nevada members can jump in a mobile, make a few Q's, and generate an additional 50,000 points for MLDXCC. Now, the rules state that:

*The intent of this bonus is to inspire the mobile stations active in other QSO parties to use CQP as a test run, which in turn could provide more QSO's from an uncommon state/province.*

This does not appear to preclude a Nevada MLDXCC mobile from contributing 50K to the Club. The MLDXCC Nevada mobile station has probably operated in 7QP and Nevada is, indeed, a fairly uncommon county, even for CQP. Can this mobile also operate in Nevada, Placer and El Dorado counties and also qualify for California Mobile 50,000 points?

**50,000 points for at least one YL S/O log submitted.** At first, this seems pretty clear, and we have some really good YL contesters in our club. Thinking about this, however, let's say that our President, Steve, NC6R, wants to go wall-to-wall in CQP this year. This means that Steve's wife, Sue, K6SZQ, while Steve is taking a potty break, can make the minimum of 10 Q's to qualify, and generate 50,000 points for MLDXCC. I am also assuming that the cap for this one is 50K, meaning that if we had 6 YL's operating, we would still only get a total of 50K points.

**50,000 points for at least one Youth S/O log submitted.** A Youth Operator is defined as 18 years old or younger. Same assumption here: If we have three under 18 operators, it still means a total of 50K goes to the club and not 150K. To qualify for the bonus, the Youth Operator needs

to make at least 10 Q's. Again, I am assuming that the cap is 50K, regardless of how many Youth Operators we have.

**50,000 points for at least one New Contester C/O log submitted.** A New Contester is defined as someone who has never submitted a log with 100 or more Q's in any contest. In order to qualify for the 50,000-point bonus, the New Contester must submit at least 100 Q's to qualify for this bonus. Again, I am assuming that the cap is 50K, regardless of how many New Contesters we have.

Well, I used the word, ASSUME, several times in my interpretation of the new rules, above. I suppose that means I need some clarification before we design our strategy to WIN the Club Competition in the Yosemite Category this year.

I noted that last year we lost by around 200K and the year prior we would have won by around 200K. This makes the bonus points VERY important to MLDXCC's strategy to WIN this year. If the supposed "loopholes" I mentioned above are legal, then let's get ready to rock and roll!

Bob W1RH

## **Next Meeting**

**Date:** August – 28<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** TBD

**Location:** TBD

**Presentation:** TBD

## **MLDXCC Treasurer - K6SZQ**

MLDXCC Treasurer's Report - June 2021

|           |                     |          |            |
|-----------|---------------------|----------|------------|
| 5/31/2021 | Opening Balance     |          | \$2,668.06 |
|           | Income              |          | \$100.00   |
|           | 2021 Dues           | \$40.00  |            |
|           | 2022 Dues           | \$60.00  |            |
|           | Expenses            |          | \$200.00   |
|           | ARRL Club Insurance | \$200.00 |            |
| 6/30/2021 | Ending Balance      |          | \$2,568.06 |

## **From the Secretary - KI6YYT**

MLDXCC July 24, 2020 Meeting Notes

President Steve, NC6R, called the meeting to order at 12:15pm.

The attendance was 29 people at George's Café in Lockeford. There were about 10 persons who signed in to attend the meeting on Zoom. There was a problem with the internet and this appears to have been unsuccessful.

Treasurer Sue, K6SZQ, reminded everyone that membership renewals are due. The dues are \$20 single and \$30 family. Many people renewed their membership at this meeting. Final balance is \$2568.06. The ARRL club insurance is paid.

Member Achievements – a partial list:

John, K6YK, is third place in CA for SOTA, that's about 6000 QSO's. Steve, W1SRD, our speaker got Monaco. Doug, WE6Z, and Steve, NC6R, got

Bangladesh. Many members continue to work to build marathon scores.

Field Day occupied many members; Jay, KE6GLA, was with the El Dorado Club with three stations. Jim, WB6BET, worked portable from the windmill farms west of Rio Vista. Jim mentored a new ham, Ron W6RMR, for his first HF experience.

The next scheduled MLDXCC meeting will be August 28, 2021. Suggestions for a location are needed.

Steve, W1SRD gave his South Orkney Island Dxpediton, VP8PJ, presentation at the meeting. This Dxpediton was most likely the final one for the ship, the Braveheart. It is now for sale. The Dxpediton had 84,000 QSO's. 25% were unique calls. The cost for the event was \$327,000 with \$172,000 total income. That meant that Dxpediton members paid about \$15,000 each to participate.

See <https://sorkney.com/> for information on the expedition.

The Western Placer Radio Swap will take place on September 18, 2021 at McBean Park in Lincoln. A MLDXCC meeting is suppose to happen on the same day. A location site for the meeting is needed.

The October meeting needs a slate of officers for the election in November. The President and Vice President are both term limited out of office. The Secretary has decided to not seek another term of office. Please consider stepping forward to assume a leadership role in the Mother Lode DX Contest Club.

Upcoming contests: 10-10 SSB Contest Aug 7, NAQP CW Aug 7, All Asia DX Phone Sept 4 & 5,



ARRL VHF Contest Sept. 11 – 13, CQ WW DX RTTY  
 Sept. 25 – 26.

Emilia Seiferling KI6YYT

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

## CLUB Dues

**2020 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](mailto: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 | NJ6G | Dennis Moore | 180 |
| 2 | NK7I | Rick Bates   | 179 |
| 3 | WU6W | Rick Palio   | 168 |

### CW

|   |      |               |     |
|---|------|---------------|-----|
| 1 | K6YK | John Lee      | 121 |
| 2 | N6JV | Norm Wilson   | 109 |
| 3 | WE6Z | Doug Phillips | 91  |

### Phone

|   |      |              |     |
|---|------|--------------|-----|
| 1 | NC6R | Steve Allred | 113 |
| 2 | K6YK | John Lee     | 77  |
| 3 | K6TQ | Dave Sanders | 73  |

### Data

|   |       |              |     |
|---|-------|--------------|-----|
| 1 | NJ6G  | Dennis Moore | 174 |
| 2 | NK7I  | Rick Bates   | 172 |
| 3 | K7QDX | Mike Steiner | 140 |

## Member Reports



Following a spectacular 6M opening launching me to 26 entities (mostly EU now) worked, then a day later (Sun) a two hour opening to work more JA, topped off with adding Korea (#27); this arrived (one slot added after the card request):

And on LOTW, the last 6M EU confirmation arrived today too, now 27 confirmed on 6M, which I started on a year ago.

Yes, the last one to arrive was a Czech in the

(LOTW) mail. ☺

But summer arrived here, at least a month early; some forest fires have and are happening already. My lawn is already crunchy. Only the weeds are smiling.

GUD DX ES 73,  
Rick NK7I

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Z81D (Rep of South Sudan) 15M FT8 17:40  
UTC

I just worked him. 400 watts, he gave me a -11 on my 4el beam pointed 38 degrees. ATNO also.

73, Dennis NJ6G

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ATNO: S21RC Bangladesh  
7-13-21@ 15:44Z  
Doug WE6Z

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Logged 550 Q's while running 1E during field day.

Work Bangladesh for an ATNO.  
73, Steve / NC6R

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We have had a few good 6-meter openings to Europe and Asia and I have added a few new countries including IS0, Z3 and UA4 for a total of 142. With several new grids, I now have over 900 on 6.

73, Norm N6JV

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### **HAM Radio Has Lost its Voice**

In the fall of 1953 I was a 13 years old attending my first Electric Shop class at Horace Mann Jr.

High School in Los Angeles. Upon entering the classroom there was group huddled around an old National receiver and HB transmitter. Our teacher, Paul Kitagaki, W6NDA, brought-in his rig to demonstrate radio SWLing and HAM radio to the class. Paul had installed a 40M dipole on the building's roof so he could make a few contacts, and the class could listen to foreign broadcasts. Paul used CW to contact a couple of guys in neighboring states, then worked a station in Northern Cal. I really liked that you could actually have a conversation with someone at distance, and not have go thru an operator. The CW part "599 ur 599 73" was OK, but that was not for me. Then he tuned to the SW bands. Wow! These stations were in foreign countries, many speaking English and reporting the news or commentary of the day. OK I was hooked. For my next birthday I asked my folks for a SW radio. I had \$55 saved (and my folks dumped in the other \$30) and I purchased a used Hallicrafters S-40A from a local TV repair shop. Yes, the owner was a HAM also. So my interest in HAM radio started as an SWL.

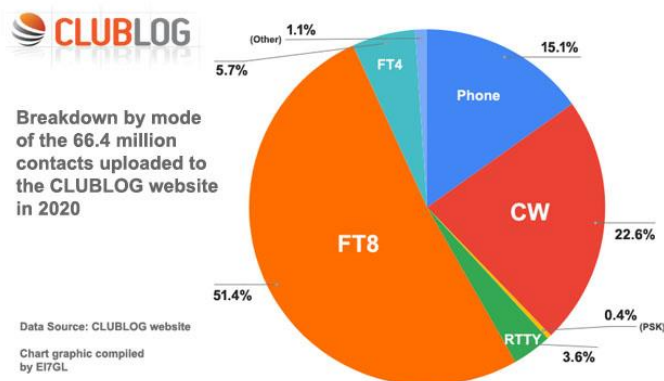
I was always interested in voice operation, so I am biased toward phone, and SSB. Why? The 599 ur 599 73 of CW is just "not me". I like to talk, and besides, in the early sixty's when I got my license, SSB was still kinda' new. I worked in the technology field as a newly minted engineer, so it was also a learning experience. Yada, Yada, Yada, time marches on.

Fast forward to 2017, I like many HAMS already had my computer doing a lot of the heavy lifting in my shack. My radio is tied via my computer logging/control program to control freq, mode, auto-antenna switch, turning the rotor, running CW, RTTY, and my "canned" voice messages.

Oh, and it also sends qso's automatically to my log and LOTW. Yeah, all EZ right? But I won't tell you how much F----ing time it takes me to fix this crap when a component go belly-up, or Win doz decides it does not like my add-on program. Or it arbitrarily decides one of my programs is just too old to support, or I'm just stupid for using it. So it deletes it. Enough said re: computer software!

So where am I headed with this? Voice communication (SSB in particular) is becoming extinct. The human interface of HAM radio is going the way of the Dodo. As a DXer I hoped to one day get to top of the DXCC Honor Roll on both Phone (339, I need one) and CW (338, I need 2). I'm close, but probably will never make it. My age, world politics, and statistics are against me. The Pie Chart below indicates that only 15% of all contacts were made on any phone mode in 2020! 58% were made on FT-4 or FT-8. So.....If I'm planning a DXpedition I will put the effort and operating time where the action is. Right? Chances are slim to none that your next DXpedition is going to put great effort or time into their SSB station for a 15% ROI.

But I feel much more than that is involved. I was drawn to HAM radio because of the human need to communicate. Now the only communicating taking place is "my computer talking to another computer" over the ether. And..... there are FT-8 programs that run automatically, so I don't have to waste my valuable time answering callers, the program completely takes me out of the loop. Which..... gives me more free time to enjoy the other more important hobbies in life. You know? Like, drinking beer and watching cat videos on YouTube with my feet on the Coffee Table.



As an old Righteous Brothers song proclaimed I guess " You (I've) lost that loving feeling". Just my 2 cents worth....

de Rick, W6SR

Since the DXing has been so slow recently, I've been keeping an eye on the SOTA action. I've been a "chaser", not an "activator", but have made almost 6000 SOTA QSOs in the last 2 years, and 30,000 chaser points. (The higher the mountain, the more points), which puts me into 3rd place all-time in California. The next step is WAY up there, it's going to take years to move up 1 step.

73 John, K6YK

At last I have actually accomplished something. After almost 10 years, 10BWAS. The vast majority were worked on CW and of course I had a nice ride thru the peak of the last solar cycle. On 160, the last 10 or so states were on FT8 and about 75% of 6m was also FT8. All confirmed on LOTW. Boy, that chart looks great. My next goal is another 30+ countries on 160. That may take awhile.

73, Gary NA6O



| WAS Award | New LoTW QSLs | LoTW QSLs in Process | WAS Credits Awarded | Total |
|-----------|---------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------|
| Mixed *   | 0             | 0                    | 50                  | 50    |
| 160M      | 50            | 0                    | 0                   | 50    |
| 80M       | 50            | 0                    | 0                   | 50    |
| 40M       | 50            | 0                    | 0                   | 50    |
| 30M       | 50            | 0                    | 0                   | 50    |
| 20M       | 50            | 0                    | 0                   | 50    |
| 17M       | 50            | 0                    | 0                   | 50    |
| 15M       | 50            | 0                    | 0                   | 50    |
| 12M       | 50            | 0                    | 0                   | 50    |
| 10M       | 50            | 0                    | 0                   | 50    |
| 6M        | 50            | 0                    | 0                   | 50    |



## Doug's GoBox project

I've been wanting to build a GoBox for quite a while. Last December I won this iPortable Pro 2 box in a raffle. I paired that with a Yaesu FT-450, Signalink USB, LDG Z-100 tuner, Yaesu FT-3200D, and an HP HSTNS-PL14 38 amp switching server power supply.





Doug WE6Z

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## **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**

Ken Anderson, K6TA

(DXCC, WAS, VUCC, 160M)

Rick Samoian, W6SR

## **Tube of the Month**

### **WE 416 (\*)**

Microwave techniques developed during the war years led to significant improvements in the performance of the telephone system starting in the 1950s. Western Electric designed and manufactured a new microwave telephone relay system employing the WE 416 triode tube. This tube has a  $\mu$  of 200 and could deliver useable

broadband power at 4 GHz. The backbone of the new system was the TD2 microwave relay equipment. In the output of the TD2, three of the WE 416 tubes were cascaded to produce 23 dB of gain over a bandwidth of 30 MHz. The amplifier assembly photo was taken from the WE TD2 manual. When the first WE 416A tubes were used, the system could handle 2400 circuits and by the time the more powerful WE 416D tube was in use, the circuit count went up to 19,800. These relay stations were for the long-haul traffic and were often from one mountain top to another. We have all seen the big horn antennas that look like a giant ear. These ears have a gain

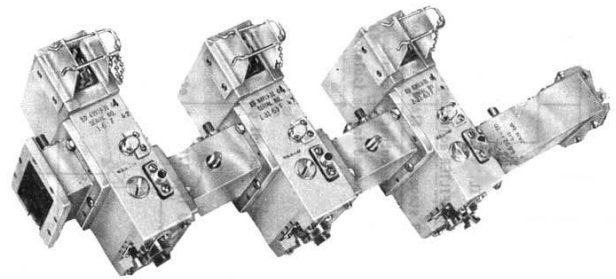
of about 40 dB. Branch links into the cities and towns was often done on 10 GHz.

The WE 416 tubes are only 1 inch in diameter. The high gain is achieved because of the design of the grid. The grid wires are wound with a pitch of 1000 turns per inch. The grid wires are .0003-inch in diameter which is 61 AWG. The tungsten grid wire was first drawn to .0005 and then further reduced with an electrochemical etch. The depth of the etch was monitored in real time by measuring the wire's resistance as the grid was being wound. The last of the approximately 100,000 tubes that were used were replaced by 1982 with solid state GaAs devices. The "C" and "D" tubes were capable of higher gain than the earlier devices with an output of 1 watt. These tubes were also used in test equipment, converters and even low noise receiving pre-amplifiers. Much of this information came from Bernard Magers' book on WE tube manufacturing.

EIMAC wanted to try and make these tubes so they acquired some surplus equipment from Canada including the giant grid winder. They made 100 tubes of which 50% passed testing. They couldn't find a buyer so abandoned the project. They gave me #66 some years later. Note that the white insulator is BeO (beryllia).



EIMAC 416C  
#66



TD2 AMPLIFIER ASSEMBLY

Visit the museum at [N6JV.com](http://N6JV.com)  
Norm N6JV

## Field Day 2021

Emilia and I hope those of you that participated in this year's Field Day had a good time. Jim worked on the VHF/UHF bands, using the radios in the truck. Emilia primarily ran the HF station in the MeerKat trailer, using a FT-857 and the PAR end fed quad band wire antenna.

Like last year, we worked portable in the wind mill farm area west of Rio Vista. It was windy and cool/cold the entire time; with winds this year up to 50 MPH Saturday night. It was a very interesting (read tiring) night in our tiny trailer. We hit the

sleeping bags at 10:00 pm. It was like trying to sleep on a vibrating mattress gone wild! The intense wind shattered one of the fiberglass support poles for the wire antenna. After doing a quick and dirty repair of the antenna, we made our first Sunday contact about 7am.

We were joined Sunday morning by Lodi club member, Captain Ron, W6RMR. He is a real ship's captain on container ships and can't wait to operate maritime mobile from one of his runs from LA to Honolulu. We had previously mentored him in the June VHF contest. This was his first experience with HF SSB operation (contesting). I think he was



enlightened about how far you could make contacts with just 100 watts and a 65 foot wire only 20 feet off the ground.

73, Jim & Emilia

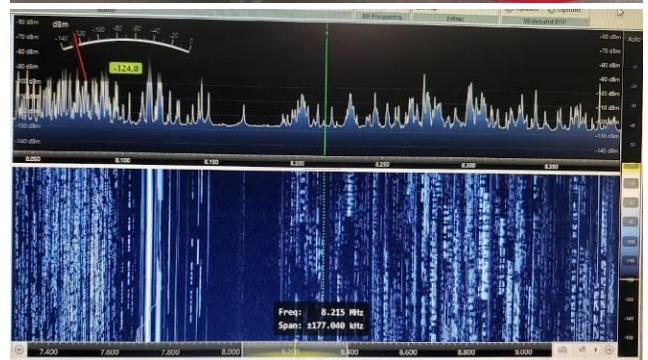
WB6BET & KI6YYT

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### W3WRC Field Day @ WE6Z

Field day was a lot of fun. This year I decided to do a 1D operation from my house. Great time, great food, and great people. I got to test out my new SteppIR DB-18E, and it worked fantastic.

We ended up with 918 contacts and 3,458 points.







**Summary**

Entry received at: 2021-06-27 18:16:04 UTC  
 Submitted by: **Doug Phillips, WE6Z**  
 Call Used: **W3WRC** GOTA Station Call: **(NONE)** ARRL/RAC Section: **SV** Class: **1D**  
 Participants: **1** Club/Group Name: **THE WORLD RADIO CLUB**  
 Power Source(s): **Commercial**  
 Power Multiplier: **2X**  
**Preliminary Total Score: 3,458**

**Bonus Points:**

| Bonus                                  | Points     | Status |
|--|------------|--------|
| Site visit by invited elected official | 100        |        |
| Site visit by invited served agency    | 100        |        |
| Social media                           | 100        |        |
| Entry submitted via web                | 50         |        |
| <b>Total bonus points</b>              | <b>350</b> |        |

**Score Summary** - Cabrillo log/dupe sheet file: W3WRC field day combined.log

|                     | CW  | Digital | Phone | Total       |                  |
|---------------------|-----|---------|-------|-------------|------------------|
| <b>Total QSOS</b>   | 446 | 191     | 280   |             |                  |
| <b>Total Points</b> | 892 | 382     | 280   | <b>1554</b> | <b>Claimed S</b> |

**Band/Mode QSO Breakdown:**

| Band | CW   |        | Digital |        | Phone |        |
|------|------|--------|---------|--------|-------|--------|
|      | QSOs | Pwr(W) | QSOs    | Pwr(W) | QSOs  | Pwr(W) |
| 160m |      |        |         |        |       |        |
| 80m  | 17   | 100    | 4       | 100    | 12    | 100    |
| 40m  | 185  | 100    | 31      | 100    | 25    | 100    |
| 20m  | 213  | 100    | 139     | 100    | 238   | 100    |
| 15m  | 31   | 100    | 17      | 100    | 5     | 100    |
| 10m  |      |        |         |        |       |        |

Here's a video that I put together:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A4z\\_QletVY8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A4z_QletVY8)

Additional photos from Carol KP4MD's album  
<https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipPk-Gzk-260zmi0np7X1wsYx8myPNJmttXQDkHrHZBXRyIUhJUhtcvzZvsb8njUw?fbclid=IwAR2p2UJwx7N9H2Nqw4p2tPKwAaQgEFkRN5uTJuX6718zqRnzvhiatYEOCs&key=R2Fzd2N2bWFSUDFZWjE3NC1PVXpoVEdKY1hKcHh3>

Here's a post with pictures from Ken Cooley  
<https://www.facebook.com/ken.cooley>

73s,  
 Doug WE6Z

**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

## **MLDXCC – Outgoing ARRL Bureau**

The Mother Lode DX/Contest Club will provide Outgoing QSL Bureau services to current 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 may 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.

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>

### **QSL bureau rates have changed.**

Outgoing QSL Service

QSL Service Fee Structure (effective May 15, 2019)

ARRL members — including foreign members, QSL Managers, or managers for DXpeditions — should enclose payment as follows:

Effective May 15, 2019, the rate structure is:

\$2 for 10 or fewer cards in one envelope.

\$3 for 11-20 cards in one envelope, or 75 cents per ounce, for packages with 21 or more cards.

[For example, a package containing 1.5 pounds of cards -- 24 ounces, or about 225 cards -- will cost \$18.]

Under the new fee structure, there are no transaction service fees.

You should use an accurate scale to weigh your cards. Most post offices have scales that you may use.

Please pay by check (or money order) and write your call sign on the check. Send cash at your own risk. DO NOT send postage stamps or IRCs. Please make checks payable to: "The ARRL Outgoing QSL Service."

Packages received with insufficient payment will not be processed until the balance is paid in full. The outgoing QSL bureau does not keep money on account.

## **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.*

### **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.

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**New! "The Serial Box"** (SBOX) by N6TV – Combination Serial Port Splitter, ACOM / Elecraft / SPE Amplifier Interface, FSK/CW/PTT keying interface, and Breakout Box

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<https://www.eham.net/reviews/detail/13971>

Serial Box



Serial Box

**"The Y-BOX"** by N6TV – 4-way Elecraft K3/K3S ACC port splitter, Elecraft Amplifier Interface, and Breakout Box

<https://www.eham.net/reviews/detail/13296>



Y-Box  
N6TV

Need QSL cards, business cards, club banners?  
Contact Vina K6VNA [vina@sign-tek.com](mailto:vina@sign-tek.com)

Not giving up...just making space.

1994 ARRL Handbook Hard Bound offer  
1995 ARRL Handbook Soft Bound offer  
FT-5000 MP \$1800/offer have box, manual Late serial # Display seems OK  
FT-890 'AT' w/manual & mobile bracket (AT may or may not work) \$250/offer  
FT-1000 MP with filters, accessories & box \$995/offer (ex WZ6Z radio)  
50' coax with center & end insulators for dipole...new, never outdoors- \$ 60/offer  
Wild BlueSatellite & old DirecTV dish...free  
Old Novice & Tech License Guides, Tune in the World, Operating Manuals  
IMAC (old-unkown condx) with kb & mouse...???

May take labor instead of \$ on some items.

email: [k6lrn@arrl.net](mailto:k6lrn@arrl.net)

Thanks & 73,  
Dick

## Swapmeet

**Fifteenth Annual Sacramento Valley Hamfest**

Hi-Tech Liquidators Saturday, Sept 18, 2021  
0700 to 1200 Hours

Presented by Western Placer Amateur Radio Club  
65 McBean Park Dr. (Hwy. 193) Lincoln CA

Bandstand Parking Lot  
License Exam Sessions

Drawing Prizes  
Vendor Setup 0600

Buy and Sell  
Ham Radio Related Stuff Only  
\$10 per space-Approximately 9' x 12'  
Bring your own tables  
COVID Restrictions May Apply

Hamfest Info at [WWW.WPARC.US](http://WWW.WPARC.US)

Talk-in Frequency 147.300 (+) 67 Hz

Please Support Our Sponsors

## 2021 Meeting Dates

January – 23<sup>rd</sup> Zoom  
Feb – none  
March – 20<sup>th</sup>  
Apr – 17<sup>th</sup>  
May – 15<sup>th</sup>  
June – 19<sup>th</sup>  
July – 24<sup>th</sup>  
August – 28<sup>th</sup>  
September – 18<sup>th</sup>  
October – 23<sup>rd</sup>  
November – 13<sup>th</sup>  
Dec – 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.*

## **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.*

## **ARRL Pacific Division**

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Vacant

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## **The MLDXCC Newsletter**

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