

The Nugget



Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

The Newsletter of the Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

MEETING DATE, LOCATION & PROGRAM

The MLDXCC May meeting will be held on May 14th at 11:30 AM at Max's/Holiday Inn in Auburn, May 14th at 11:30 AM.

Max's/Holiday Inn – Auburn*
110 Grass Valley Highway
*Auburn, Ca 95603 *

Program: TBD.

General club meeting starts at 11:30am with the presentation to follow.

We do not have a set menu, we have a reservation in the back dining room and if a meeting room is open they will put us there instead. So, currently, the menu is open. I would appreciate RSVPs to me so I can provide them with an accurate headcount.

See you there! 73, Dennis NJ6G

MLDXCC DUES

MLDXCC dues are voluntary; however you must pay dues, \$15/yr, to be eligible for club awards.

Dues are \$ 15 per fiscal year (July 1st). Dues can be paid at our meetings or mailed to Carolyn

**Wilson at P.O. Box 273, Somerset,
CA 95684-0273.**

**73, Carolyn, K6TKD
Treasurer**

2016 Officers

Shirl Rose - AA6K President
Dennis Moore - NJ6G Vice-President
Dick Wilson - K6LRN Secty
Carolyn Wilson - K6TKD Treasurer
Steve Allred - K6SCA BoD
Rick Casey - W6RKC BoD
Bob Hess - W1RH BoD
Ken Anderson - K6TA BoD

North Hills Radio Club Hamfest

Start Date: 05/15/2016
End Date: 05/15/2016
Location: Carmichael Elk's Club
5631 Cypress Avenue
Carmichael, CA 95608
Website: <http://k6is.org>
Sponsor: North Hills Radio Club
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Talk-In: 145.190(-) PL 162.2
Public Contact: Doug Emerson , N6NFF
3530 Morse Avenue, Apt. #2
Sacramento, CA 95821
Phone: 916-488-5717
Email: dsemerson@att.net

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 Many of the pics are old and outdated, and many of us have moved.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. BTW: Please keep your photo size to less than 1MB.

Treasurer's Report

Balance on March 1, 2016		\$1854.00
Income: Dues	W6DR	\$15.00
	K6DN	\$15.00
	W6RD	\$15.00
Expense: P.O. Box		\$50.00
	(Reimburse Ken Anderson)	
	Speaker/XYL	\$30.45
	(lunch at Denny's)	
Balance on April 30, 2016		\$1818.55

Carolyn Wilson, K6TKD, Treasurer

Up-Coming Club Events/Meetings

May 14th
June 18th
July 23rd
August 27th
September 17th

Note; this is tentative. There are many other operating events. These are 'major' events that may influence choice of meeting dates. Some of these can be focus for us, some will be ones we 'co-operate' or co-ordinate with NCCC, such as NAQP & possibly SS.

Meeting Locations

Mountain Mikes, Martel
Spaghetti Factory, Stockton
Max's, Auburn
Denny's, Cameron Park
Habenero Hot's, Lodi
Thai House Restaurant, Valley Springs



Sweet Rides at our March meeting



Members chowing-down at our March meeting

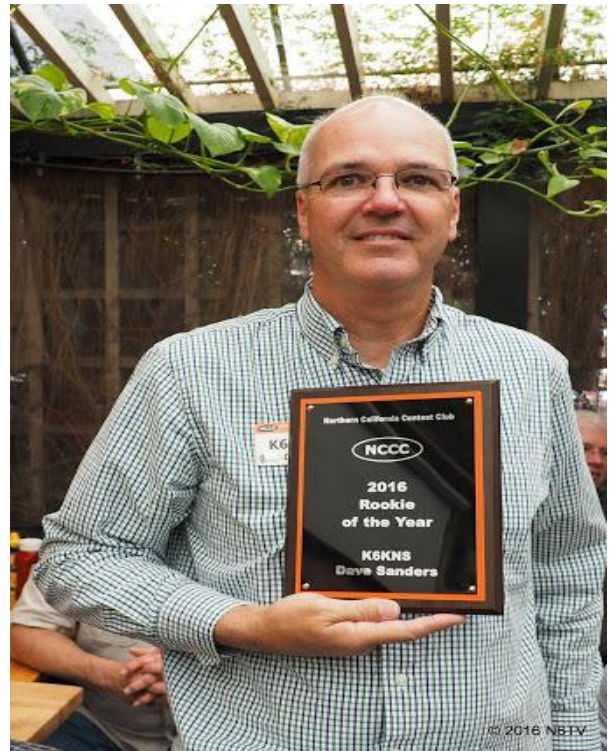
K6MM presenting our March program, Palmyra, the K5P Dxpedition



**KR6N and his RU-500 award
W1SRD and his RTTY RU-1000 award
at NCCC**



WC6H and his RU-1000 award



K6KNS RECEIVED THE NCCC "ROOKIE OF THE YEAR" AWARD

WK6I & big RTTY win from W7RN



K6LRN accepts the 2015 CQP Top Club California award for MLDXCC



NJ6G, K6VNA, K6SZO, K6SCA IN VISALIA
 N6JV AND YOUR EDITOR SWAPPING DX LIES IN VISALIA

Bob W1RH receiving the AZ QSO Party award for the NCCC

All photos taken at Visalia IDXC, and the NCCC Awards Banquet, courtesy of Bob, N6TV

THE PREZ SEZ.

Greetings to all,
 In the event you have not yet heard the news here it is; the MLDXCC is the

official winner of the gavel for the ARRL Sweepstakes medium club. Congratulations to all who made this happen! At our next few meetings we need to discuss the possibility of defending this title. If the NCCC does not go for the Sweepstakes we should have another run at it but it won't be as easy this year as we have set ourselves up as the visible target.

It has been an impressive spring for our club but it seems that we need to keep working that new DX just to maintain status quo. Early this spring we were in 43rd position on Club Log with an average of 262 DX entities per member. As a result of today we have increased our average to 265 but we remain in 43rd position. We have some members with impressive DX totals who are not on our Club Log roster. Please try to find the time to join Club Log and boost our count.

It appears that we will soon have some new DXCC Honor Roll members in our club. With the recent group of rare DX activations (Heard Is, Juan de Nova, and Iran) along with the deletion of Kingman Reef I have surpassed the minimum requirement and I believe N6RK has also. Are there any others?

Personally I shall not be making my Honor Roll application until after I have received my QSL cards. When I entered Heard Is and Juan de Nova into LOTW all of my QSO's did not confirm yet they all confirmed on the

OQRS so I want to get them all counted.

I hope to see you all at the May 14 meeting. As of this time the program is not yet set but the discussion items will be club awards and the November Sweepstakes.

Shirl/AA6K

President/MLDXCC

The VP's Corner

Good to see all the activity on the MLDXCC reflector about band openings and DX spots. Some very serious efforts to work VK0EK and FT4JA, I'm hoping that everyone had a chance to work them. No joy here. Work on the tower is progressing. I want to keep all of my cables underground between the house and the tower so I need to run 2" conduit for coax and rotor control, and another 3/4" conduit for AC. Plus while I have the open trench run another 1-1/4" water line for faucets and sprinklers. The problem is the seven feet of concrete sidewalk I have to go under for all three of these pipes. Dug out both ends and spent a few days getting to the point where I could drive a metal pipe through, then ran a chain through it and tied a ball of chain to the other end. Used the tractor to pull that ball of chain through then repeated the process several times with progressively larger balls of chain. Nice big hole all the way through, about two feet below grade.

Late add: Trench is finished, conduits are run between house and tower site. Just need to pull cable and bury the conduits.

I was discussing the tower project with a friend of mine who is a new ham. Mentioned the major hurdle for me is the rebar cage and concrete. Turns out that as industrial electrician he has a lot of experience with cage forming and concrete pours for new construction. Plus he can run the AC out to the tower! Score!

Had a great time at Visalia. The XYL says she wants a room at the Marriott next year.

73 and Good DX! Dennis NJ6G

Editor Notes de Rick,W6SR

Well it has been an exciting couple of months for DXers. With Heard Island and FT4JA bursting onto the DX scene and providing many with their 339th. They are couple of super rare ones that don't come around everyday. I was lucky enough to work em both, adding to my DX Challenge totals. Worked the VK0 on 80,30,17 and 40M rtty and the FT4 on 30, 17 and 20 RTTY.

Karen and I went to Visalia, as usual, this is the 34th consecutive year we have attended. The first convention I attended was in 1969 (when I was 29). Ohhhh, a lot of water has gone under the bridge since then! As usual it was a lot of fun, plenty of interesting vendors, but seeing old friends is always the highlight of the weekend. This year I even won a copy of K7NV's "Yagi Stress". So that should make it a lot easier than calculating from the

MARKS' Mechanical Engineering Handbook. Hi Hi

We also added to our convention trip by going to LA for a few days to see our kids. After that we continued to the Bullhead City/Laughlin area to check on our other house, and Karen's cousin who is living in it.

Enough for now. CU all at the May meeting in Auburn.....**de Rick,W6SR**

Tube Of The Month

TUBE WARS - EPISODE 3

The Rise of the Clones: UX-201A

With the end of WWI, interest in the use of radio for the general public became the latest tech fad. Tubes were developed for the public to make their own sets and later for sets off the shelf. General Electric, for their client RCA, first made the UV-201 in late 1920. The UV tubes had short pins and required 1 amp of current at 5 volts for the filament. Batteries were required as AC power sources weren't available and six-volt batteries had become standard in automobiles. As sets were made that required more tubes, the battery drain was a big problem. UV tubes required a bayonet type socket. In 1924, GE solved several problems with their new UX-201A. It required only .25 amp for the filament and the pins were longer and could be plugged into a less expensive socket.

Many sets were made that used the new tube for all its stages. The demand was great and many retailers went into making new receiving sets. Then the madness started. With or without the permission of GE/RCA, many of the 201A tubes were

produced with the brand name of the retailer on the tube. You could now buy an Air Scout, Aladdin, Arrow, Blue Bell, Blue Grass, Blue Ribbon, Blue Streak, Double Life, Kleentone or Sky Sweeper. Sounds like CB antennas.

In recent years, some tube collectors had a goal of collecting as many of the clone names as possible. I think several collectors were driven into poverty and divorce looking for new 201As. A list was developed by some prominent collectors and everyone added new names. The last list that I am aware of contained no less than 775 different names and they are still turning up. I am sure that in their day, there were arguments among receiver owners that surely their Sky Sweepers were better than the other guy's sissy Blue Bells.

More photos at <http://n6jv.com>.



Mother Lode DX/Contest Club Meeting Minutes and Attendees.

The March meeting of the MLDX/CC was called to order by President Shirl AA6K at 11:38 AM.

Members & guests introduced themselves.

Treasurer report and minutes were approved as printed in 'Nugget'.

Shirl turned meeting over to VP/CC Dennis. First item was to determine which contests that had a 'club competition' MLDX/CC would enter.

After discussion it was decided by members present, we would participate as a club for the following contests;

WPX Phone in March & CW in May-MLDX/CC- RTTY in February
NAQP contests-CW, SSB & RTTY-NCCC

ARRL Sweepstakes Phone & CW-no decision as NCCC has not yet decided.

ARRL 10 & 160-MLDX/CC

ARRL RTTY Round-up-NCCC

...and of course, California QSO Party in October-MLDX/CC.

Dennis then projected the proposed By-laws changes which consisted mostly of changing wording in membership sections. (See web-site for new & old wording).

M/S/C to accept # 3 of Article III

M/S/C to accept # 4 of Article III with changes

M/S/C to accept # 1 of Article VI

M/S/C to strike #2 of Article VI

M/S/C to add section #3 to Article VI making fiscal year run July 1 through June 30.

Dennis then turned meeting over to John Miller K6MM who gave an interesting and informative accounting of the recent DXpedition to KH5-Palmyra Island.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Dick Wilson K6LRN
Secretary MLDX/CC

List of attendees

Dick Wilson	K6LRN	Omo Ranch
Carolyn Wilson	K6TKD	Omo Ranch
Rick Karlquist	N6RK	Galt
George Staudacher	KI6CG	Penn Valley
Dave Sanders	K6KNS	Folsom
Alex Nicov	KK6VIX	El Dorado Hills
Stefan Nicov	AF6SA	El Dorado Hills
Bob Leclerc	KR6N	El Dorado Hills
Steve Dyer	W1SRD	Placerville
Rich Cutler	WC6H	Valley Springs
Steve Allred	K6SCA	Fiddletown
Verne Terwilliger	K6DN	Pleasant Valley
Rick Bates	WA6NHC	Cameron Park
Jim Seiferling	WB6BET	Rio Vista
Emilia Seiferling	KI6YYT	Rio Vista
Nancy Harmor	KG6PNP	El Dorado Hills
Jay Harmor	KE6GLA	El Dorado Hills
Aaron Tassin	KK6MCY	Cameron Park
Ken Anderson	K6TA	Pine Grove
Kay Anderson	K6KO	Pine Grove
Norm Wilson	N6JV	Wilton
Rick Samoian	W6SR	Placerville
Brandt Woodward	K6BEW	Jackson
Shirl Rose	AA6K	Stockton
John Miller	K6MM	San Jose
Mary Miller		San Jose
Dennis Moore	NJ6G	Valley Springs

Member News, Items For Sale & Feedback

For Sale...

1. Hy-Gain TH-11 beam. Covers 10-12-15-17 & 20. Disassembled. Have new trap boots. I need space...make me an offer.
2. Yaesu FT-1000 MP. Has filters & a recorder. Good condx, both electrically & cosmetic. Asking \$ 1100.
3. Rotator plate for TX-455 (USTowers) punched for Yaesu rotator. Good condx. Make an offer.
4. Rotator plate for Rohn 25...appears to be punched for Hy-gain rotator...make an offer.

Approx 140' of 16 conductor cable for 4 element SteppIR antenna. (Actually 145' with a cut close to end). Presently selling at \$1.10/ft good shape. Make offer

Contact Dick Wilson.
k6lrn12@gmail.com

I've ordered the Icom IC-7300 with AH-4 tuner for my trailer (all back ordered, but loads a wet rag). I'll have a report when I actually get one in hand and can spend time with it. It seems to be a good FD or RV radio. de **Rick, WA6NHC**

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. **de Bob, W1RH**
w1rh@yahoo.co

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>

UP-COMING DX and Dxpeditions
Click the link below to display up-coming Announced DXpeditions:

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

Click on the Hyperlink below to check-out the MLDXCC scores in the latest contests.

<http://mldxcc.org/scores.html>

UP-COMING CONTESTS
(complete)

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

<http://hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>

May 2016

- + Indiana QSO Party 1500Z, May 7 to 0300Z, May 8
- + Delaware QSO Party 1700Z, May 7 to 2359Z, May 8
- + FISTS Spring Slow Speed Sprint 1700Z-2100Z, May 7
- + New England QSO Party 2000Z, May 7 to 0500Z, May 8 and 1300Z-2400Z,
- + NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, May 13
- + NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, May 13
- + CQ-M International DX Contest 1200Z, May 14 to 1159Z, May 15
- + Arkansas QSO Party 1400Z, May 14 to 0200Z, May 15
- + Run for the Bacon QRP Contest 0100Z-0300Z, May 16
- + NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, May 20
- + NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, May 20
- + Feld Hell Sprint 1600Z-1759Z, May 21 and 2000Z-2159Z, May 21
- + NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, May 27
- + NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, May 27
- + CQ WW WPX Contest, CW 0000Z, May 28 to 2359Z, May 29

June 2016

- + NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, Jun 3
- + NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Jun 3
- + Alabama QSO Party 1600Z, Jun 4 to 0400Z, Jun 5
- + NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, Jun 10
- + NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Jun 10
- + ARRL June VHF Contest 1800Z, Jun 11 to 0259Z, Jun 13
- + NAQCC CW Sprint 0030Z-0230Z, Jun 15
- + Phone Fray 0230Z-0300Z, Jun 15
- + CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, Jun 15 and 1900Z-2000Z, Jun 15 and 0300Z-0400Z, Jun 16
- + RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW 1900Z-2030Z, Jun 15
- + NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, Jun 17
- + NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Jun 17
- + All Asian DX Contest, CW 0000Z, Jun 18 to 2400Z, Jun 19 23
- + NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, Jun 24
- + NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Jun 24
- + ARRL Field Day 1800Z, Jun 25 to 2100Z, Jun 26

The MLDXCC NEWSLETTER

Information may be reproduced provided credit is given to MLDXCC.

2016 Officers of the MLDXCC

President, Shirley Rose, AA6K

roses1@prodigy.net

Vice President, Dennis, NJ6G

dennis@mail4life.net

Secretary – Dick, K6LRN

k6lrn@arrl.net

Treasurer, Carolyn Wilson, K6TKD

k6tkd@arrl.net

Director, Bob Hess, W1RH

w1rh@yahoo.com

Director, Rick Casey, W6RKC

w6rkc@arrl.net

Director, Ken Anderson, K6TA

k6ta@volcano.net

Director, Steve Allred, K6SCA

k6sca@volcano.net

QSL Manager, Norm Regan, WA6SJQ

qsl@att.net

Publicity Chairperson, Brandt Woodard, K6BEW

k6bew@yahoo.com

Nugget Editor, Rick Samoian, W6SR

samoian@directcon.net

Webmaster, Norm Wilson, N6JV

n6jv@n6jv.com

ARRL Awards Checkers

Ken Anderson, K6TA

(including 160M cards)

Rick Samoian, W6SR

(including 160M cards)

Note: ARRL Card Checkers can check DXCC, WAS and VUCC Awards.