

The Nugget



Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

The Newsletter of the Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

MEETING DATE, LOCATION & PROGRAM

For our September meeting, we are excited to announce a joint catered BBQ with the NCCC.

WHEN: Saturday, September 19th, 2015 at 11.30.

WHAT: Delicious catered food, exciting prizes, and the all-important camaraderie of fellow NCCers and MLDXCC guests.

WHERE: Rich Cutler WC6H has kindly offered to host this event at his property, and you might even have the opportunity to operate from his station! Rich lives in Valley Springs, CA and has plenty of space for us. His address is 4737 Circle Hill Drive, Valley Springs, CA 95252 and on QRZ you'll see an impressive photo of the towers and house.

RSVP:
RSVP's for this event will be helpful for planning!

Link to the NCCC Dues Renewal Page:
<http://www.nccc.cc/membership.html>

MLDXCC DUES

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

A quick look at our financial status shows us just about breaking even for the year. We started the year with \$1346.48 and ended with \$1655.26. That looks good at first glance, but \$ 400 of that came from sale of an antenna and proceeds from Visalia Contest Dinner so we ended year with a small loss. We cannot always count on those resources. Our expenses each year are; \$ 200 for club liability insurance, \$ 250 to Northern California DX Foundation, \$ 244 for plaques, prizes & awards. These figures, while close, are subject to final analysis by Treasurer. **Dues are \$ 15 per calendar year. Dues can be brought to meeting or mailed to Carolyn at P.O. Box 273, Somerset, CA 95684-0273.**

Long-time MLDXCC member Lyle Bradt, K6QG-SK

Lyle passed away in his sleep at his home in Valley Springs at 4 PM on September 8th. He was surrounded by family and loved ones. The cause of death was advanced cancer. Arrangements are pending. God bless, and RIP, until we all meet again.



CQP 50th Anniversary

Get on the air October 3rd & 4th and you just might win a Gold Rush Coin !



<http://www.cqp.org/goldrush.html>

2015-Officers

Shirl Rose - AA6K President
Bob LeClerc - KR6N Vide-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

Up-Coming Club Events

September 19 Joint MLDXCC/NCCC meeting

@ WC6H's QTH

CQ WW RTTY Sept. 26-27

October 10 meeting

Calif. QSO Party Oct 3-4

October ... Pacificon in Santa Clara

Makrothen RTTY " 10-11

CQ WW SSB DX " 24-25

November 14 meeting

ARRL SS CW Nov 7-9

ARRL SS SSB 21-23

CQ WW CW DX 28-29

December No Meeting

ARRL 10 Dec 5-6

ARRL 160 “ 12-13

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

ATTENDEES AT OUR AUGUST MEETING



KK6EK GIVING HIS PRESENTATION



FROM THE PREZ

Greetings to all,

Well fellow MLDXCC members it's that time of year once again. The CQP is looming and we need to put forth a great effort to defend our run of CQP Club Champions! As band conditions have not been good recently we will need a greater effort from all members to exceed our score of last year. There is a good probability that we will need to top our previous score as the 2014 combined scores of PL259 and REDXA tops ours by 248K. We can do it with a little more BIC (butt in chair) time!!!

I would like to thank Bob/KK6EK (Dr. Robert W. Schmieder) for the outstanding presentation on Heard Island he gave at our August meeting. He covered the previous DXpedition and discussed plans and challenges for the March 2016 DXpedition. We had a great program and a great turnout!

Our September meeting will be a joint meeting with the NCCC at the QTH of Rich/WC6H. An email with RSVP instructions has been sent to all members so I hope to see you there.

AA6K

THE VP SEZ

Message for August 2015

I hope everyone enjoyed our last meeting with Bob Schmieder KK6EK. It was a lot of fun hearing about the upcoming planning and prep for the next Heard Island DXpedition by Bob's Cordell Expeditions group. I have just subscribed to his newsletter and am enjoying reading the background on equipment being qualified for the trip. Also, the Country Café seemed like a great central place for future meetings.

Our next meeting will be at Rich's (WC6H) house in Valley Springs. The date is September 19 starting around 1130. This is an NCCC BBQ that MLDXCC has been invited to be a part of. The RSVP sheet has been posted on the MLDXCC reflector. Bob Vallio, W6RRG, ARRL Pacific Division Director, and our original MLDXCC speaker will be there as well. It should be very interesting to sit and chat with him for a while. I understand Rich's big station will be available for guest operators to test drive. Please respond to Joanna if you are able to attend via the RSVP sheet. Hope to see a big MLDXCC turnout at Rich's place for this great BBQ.

Bob KR6N,

MLDXCC VP

Treasurer's Report

Balance Aug 1, 2015: \$1866.70

Income:
 Donation: WK6RF 5.00
 Dues: WK6RF, N6JV, N6TV 45.00

Expenses: Speaker Lunch 15.00
 NCDXF Donation 250.00

Balance Aug 31, 2015: \$1851.70

**Carolyn Wilson, K6TKD
 Treasurer**

Editor's Notes de Rick, W6SR

Hi all.....

Well it's been a month now and all is still quiet at the ol' W6SR radio ranch. No more radio noise, at least not when I'm awake. Whew!

I operated in the 10Ghz and up Contest last month, and plan to operate the last half (this month) from Frazier Peak, which is about 80 miles north of Los Angeles. Unfortunately the last half of the contest falls on our meeting date. Since I will be staying overnight I will not be able to attend this month's meeting.

BTW: I made several 527KM contacts, considering I was only running 5W to a 2' dish that ain't bad.

For the home station, I picked-up 150' of 1 1/4" Heliac from W6DE. The Heliac will be used on 1296MHz, as well as the 6M EME antenna system. EME is probably the only way any of us "old farts" will add a new 6M country to our DXCC in our lifetime.

Not much HF operating last month because of very disturbed conditions for most of the month, and nothing new out there I need.

KK6EK had a very interesting presentation on the 2016 Heard Island DXpedition at last month's meeting. This is probably the last radio expedition to this very rare and remote place in our lifetime. So if you need this one, don't plan any vacations when they are QRX. Thanks to Bob, KK6EX for a great presentation.

Enough for now, see you all at the October meeting **de Rick, W6SR**

MLDXCC Meeting August 22, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 12:35 PM by President Shirl Rose.

Carol Milazzo, KP4MD, the incoming ARRL Section Manager Introduced herself. She is replacing Ron Murdock, W6KJ, who elected not to run. She takes office on October 1. After introductions, a few words were said about recently deceased KO7X, W6FI's wife and firefighter Michael Hallenbeck, son of member Kirby. Our condolences to friends & family.

Applications were read for KD6MKV & K6AAM and were unanimously approved for membership.

A motion was made, seconded and carried to donate two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) to the Northern California DX Foundation.

Under brags, complaints & awards: Bob W1RH noted he is nearing DXCC Honor Roll. He also announced Northern California Contest Club's barbecue to be held at Rich Cutler's location in Burson on September 19. This is to be a catered affair. MLDXCC is invited. (Watch NCCC website for updates, directions and other information.)

Vice-president Bob Leclerc introduced out speaker for the afternoon, Bob Schmeider KK6EK who is leading a DXpedition to Heard Island in March of 2016. The team members are to board the 'Braveheart' in Capetown, South Africa, sail for ten days to Heard Island, set up and operate to twenty-one days, then sail another ten days to Fremantle, Australia. Bob filled us in on some of the scientific aspects as well as the innovative shelters they will be using. He told us that there will be an emphasis on giving an ATNO (all-time new one) to as many operators as possible. The operators are DXpedition experienced, so with any sort of propagation, that goal should be achieved. After a Q & A session, meeting wrapped up about 3:00 PM.

Secty note: Meeting room was good, with plenty of space for more attendees. It was easy to find, parking was not a problem.

Note two: Those not attending, IMO, missed a very interesting & informative meeting.

August Meeting Attendees

K6LRN	Dick
K6TKD	Carolyn
K6YK	John
K6REK	Renee (guest)
WK6RF	Warren
W6RD	Chuck
N6JV	Norm
W6SR	Rick
WC6H	Rich
K6OK	Jim
W1RH	Bob
K6SCA	Steve
K6SZQ	Sue
N6RK	Rick
K6BEW	Brandt
K6KNS	Dave
K6DN	Verne
KP4MD	Carol (guest)
KI6FYF	Roger
AA6K	Shirl
KI6YYT	Emilia
WB6BET	Jim
KK6EK	Bob (speaker)
K6TA	Ken

K6KO Kay
KR6N Bob

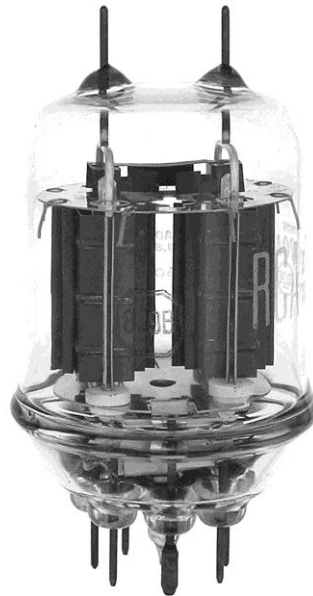
de Dick, K6LRN

Tube of the Month de Norm, N6JV

829B

In 1938, RCA developed a twin beam tetrode for the military. When the confidential status of the tube was dropped, it was marketed to the public as the 829. A higher voltage version, the 829A was quickly replaced by the ruggedized version, the 829B. These tubes could operate up to 200 MHz at full ratings and as push-pull operation was very common especially at VHF, the tube was a natural for ham equipment. During WWII, the tube was used as an amplifier and multiplier, but a special pulse rated version, the 3E29, was extensively used as a pulse modulator in RADARs.

After the War, RCA promoted the 829B for HAM equipment. It was a popular tube for VHF amplifiers published in HAM handbooks. Commercial 2-way VHF equipment became popular in the early 1950s and the 829B was used by General Electric and Motorola for base stations and mobiles used by industry, fire departments and the police. The first units were powered by dynamotors that were so loud that it was good that the unit was placed in the trunk and operated remotely. When high current transistors were developed, the Dynamotors were replaced by the "T-powered" units. Early units used a pair of 2E24s and the higher powered strips used the 829B. When this bulky equipment was replaced by more modern equipment, the HAM market became full of the Progress Line (PROG-LINE) units that were quickly built into affordable FM repeaters and mobiles.



Visit the museum at N6JV.com

Norm N6JV

Member News, Items For Sale & Feedback

For Sale: Cushcraft R-7 vertical antenna; recently overhauled and tuned for low end of the General band. Asking \$300, contact Deborah KF6GZO at 916-769-8233

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

I have a variac and plate transformer that I wish to sell. The details on the transformer are written on it. And the ratings of the variac are also listed.



The transformer measures:

H - 8 1/4, W - 10 3/4, D - 9 1/4

And weighs 115 pounds.



Best offer on each
Thanks, 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>

The K7RA Solar Update

Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: Solar activity remains soft, although sunspot numbers and solar flux both increased this week. Average daily sunspot numbers for August 6-12 increased from 70.3 to 82.3, compared to the previous 7 days. Average daily solar flux went from 104.5 to 112.4. Geomagnetic activity was moderate.

Predicted solar flux for the near term is 100 on August 13; 95 for August 14-15; 90 for August 16-21; 95 on August 22; 100 for August 23-26; 105 for August 27-28; 110 for August 29-31, and then peaking at 115 for September 1-7. Solar flux drops below 100 for September 13-18.

Predicted planetary A index is 5 for August 13-16; 14 on August 17; 10 on August 18; 8 for August 19-20; 10 for August 21-22; 12 on August 23; 10 on August 24; 5 for August 25-26; 12 on August 27; 10 for August 28-29; 5 for August 30-September 1; 12, 22, and 15 for September 2-4; 20, 22, 12, and 8 for September 5-8, and 5 for September 9-12.

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>

September 2015

- + NCCC RTTY Sprint Ladder 0145Z-0215Z, Sep 11
- + NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Sep 11
- + FOC QSO Party 0000Z-2359Z, Sep 12
- + WAE DX Contest, SSB 0000Z, Sep 12 to 2359Z, Sep 13
- + Arkansas QSO Party 1400Z, Sep 12 to 0200Z, Sep 13
- + ARRL September VHF Contest 1800Z, Sep 12 to 0300Z, Sep 14 +
North American Sprint, CW 0000Z-0400Z, Sep 13
- + NCCC RTTY Sprint Ladder 0145Z-0215Z, Sep 18
- + NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Sep 18
- + ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest 0600 local, Sep 19 to 2400 local, Sep
20
- + South Carolina QSO Party 1400Z, Sep 19 to 0300Z, Sep 20
- + New Jersey QSO Party 1600Z, Sep 19 to 0359Z, Sep 20 and 1400Z-
2000Z, Sep 20
- + Washington State Salmon Run 1600Z, Sep 19 to 0700Z, Sep 20 and
1600Z-2400Z, Sep 20
- + North American Sprint, RTTY 0000Z-0400Z, Sep 20
- + NCCC RTTY Sprint Ladder
0145Z-0215Z, Sep 25 + NCCC Sprint
0230Z-0300Z, Sep 25 + CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY
0000Z, Sep 26 to 2400Z, Sep 27 + Maine QSO Party
1200Z, Sep 26 to 1200Z, Sep 27 + Texas QSO Party
1400Z, Sep 26 to 0200Z, Sep 27 and 1400Z-2000Z, Sep 27

October 2015

- + NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Oct 2
- + YLRL DX/NA YL Anniversary Contest 1400Z, Oct 2 to 0200Z, Oct 4
- + Oceania DX Contest, Phone 0800Z, Oct 3 to 0800Z, Oct 4
- + California QSO Party 1600Z, Oct 3 to 2200Z, Oct 4
- + NCCC RTTY Sprint Ladder 0145Z-0215Z, Oct 9
- + NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Oct 9
- + Arizona QSO Party 1600Z, Oct 10 to 0600Z, Oct 11 and
1400Z-2359Z, Oct 11
- + Pennsylvania QSO Party 1600Z, Oct 10 to 0500Z, Oct 11 and
1300Z-2200Z, Oct 11
- + NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, Oct 16
- + NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Oct 16
- + Iowa QSO Party 1400Z-2300Z, Oct 17
- + New York QSO Party 1400Z, Oct 17 to 0200Z, Oct 18
- + Stew Perry Topband Challenge 1500Z, Oct 17 to 1500Z, Oct 18
- + South Dakota QSO Party 1800Z, Oct 17 to 1800Z, Oct 18
- + Illinois QSO Party 1700Z, Oct 18 to 0100Z, Oct 19
- + ARRL School Club Roundup 1300Z, Oct 19 to 2359Z, Oct 23
- + NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, Oct 23
- + NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Oct 23
- + CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB 0000Z, Oct 24 to 2400Z, Oct 25
- + RSGB 80m Club Sprint, SSB 1900Z-2000Z, Oct 29

+ NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, Oct 30
+ NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Oct 30
+ ARRL EME Contest 0000Z, Oct 31 to 2359Z, Nov 1

The MLDXCC NEWSLETTER

Information may be reproduced provided credit is given to MLDXCC.

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(including 160M cards)

Rick Samoian, W6SR

(including 160M cards)

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