

SUNSPOTS



REDWOOD EMPIRE DX ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 750834, Petaluma, CA 94975

A DX and Contest-minded Amateur Radio Club serving the California coast north of the Golden Gate Bridge

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CLUB OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT:

Ron Castro, N6IE
1355 N. Dutton Avenue, Suite 225
Santa Rosa, CA 95401
ron@n6ie.com

VICE PRESIDENT:

Josh Fiden, W6XU
15885 Coleman Valley Road
Occidental, CA 95465
H (707) 874-3940
w6xu@arrl.net

SECRETARY:

San Smith, N7PIB
PO Box 624
Vineburg, CA 95487
H (707) 939-1242
n7pib@att.net

TREASURER:

Jim Selmi, K6JS
7470 Monique Place
Rohnert Park, CA 94928
H (707) 664-9769
jselmi@hotmail.com

DIRECTORS:

Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ
210 Nila Mae Way
Penngrove, CA 94951
H (510) 540-8790
doctore@well.com

Bob Magnani, K6QXY
1500 Los Alamos Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95409
H (707) 538-3801
k6qxy@aol.com

Wally Pugh, N6AD
109 Alta Drive
Petaluma, CA 94954
H (707) 769-1065
n6ad@comcast.net

CONTEST CHAIRMAN & WEBMASTER:

Doug Bender, WW6D
3638 Hemlock Court
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
H (707) 526-5131
ww6d@aol.com

EDITOR:

Steve Bertsch, K6SAB
673 Plum Street
Novato, CA 94945
H (415) 898-5159
sabertsch@gmail.com

Visit our Web Site at <http://www.redxa.com/>

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Wednesday, October 13, 2010 at Gourmet Garden Restaurant, (the old Carrows) Petaluma. If you need directions, please call one of the club officers.

6 pm — Social Hour in the Lounge
7 pm — Dinner and Meeting
8 pm — Program

PROGRAM: Our Program for the evening will be a double feature! Field Day 2010: The Movie by Alan K6SRZ and we'll also feature some of the excellent still photography by Marilyn, N6VAW. And then Alan will show a carefully selected DXpedition from his vault of 'greatest hits'!

REDXA President's Report

California QSO Party, 2010

The 2010 California QSO party is now history, and after a great weekend of contesting, I'm happy to say that based on having been a participant in the contest for 20 years that this was the best ever! There were several things that I noticed that lead me to believe that. The first thing is that I saw a huge number of out-of-state stations that had garnered scores in the triple digits early on in the contest, and many who had over 1,000 QSO's at the end. In years past many of the reports I received were in the teens or ones like "I guess you're my number one...do ya' need to know my county?" It was great to hear the VE's with QSO numbers over 300 and many EU stations over 100, which considering the band conditions is pretty good. Some of the top multi-multi scores were awesome, like K6IDX, Eldorado who gave me a QSO number of 3586 an hour and a half before the end of the contest.

Another thing I noticed was less griping from the non-contesters about the bands being crowded with CQP'ers. Believe it or not, I operated for a couple of hours on 75 meters and nobody jammed me, played music over me or sent "FU" in CW! This is a first!



Band conditions were generally good with openings to EU on 15 Saturday morning and midday and on 20 almost all day Sunday...something I haven't seen in a long time. I had a couple of good EU runs with one station in England commenting that I was "an honest S9 +10 dB"! Sunspots are still mighty slim, but the worst of the bad propagation is behind us.

Much of the success of this year's CQP was probably the great publicity NCCC gave the event with ads in QST and other publications, plus visits to clubs, including REDXA. Rick "The Rhino", N6RNO and his colleagues at NCCC have a lot to be proud of! I'm sure when the scores are tallied, we'll see the biggest totals in CQP history.

I was very happy to hear the number of Sonoma and Marin county stations on the air in the contest. There were at least six ops in Rohnert Park alone, four in Petaluma and several other REDXA members in Sonoma County and Marin...KB!

There was one downer: the last-minute cancellation of the Treasure Island operation due to a bureaucratic SNAFU (In the Navy, we also called that a 'FUBAR'...you can figure out the letters!). Alan, K6SRT and Garry, NI6T had their carefully planned county expedition shot down hours before the event was to start after getting many assurances that all systems were go. Equipment had been loaded, unloaded and taken up stairs for deployment on the roof when the axe fell. They had even purchased a weekend's worth of food. I'm sure Alan will fill us in the details at the meeting.

Now, please remember to send your CQP log to NCCC and be sure to indicate REDXA for the club competition. REDXA logs with more than 100 QSO's will earn a free REDXA 30th Anniversary coffee mug to be distributed at our Christmas meeting! Also, Bruce, W6OSP will have a bottle of wine for every log with more than 150,000 points. I know of at least four club members who will be enjoying a wonderful 'adult beverage' courtesy of Bruce!

New DXCC Countries on 10/10/10!

By the time of our next meeting, the DX world will have several new entities as well as two deletions for the first time in many years. The Netherlands Antilles DXCC entities of Bonaire/Curacao (PJ2, PJ4, PJ9) and the current island group of St. Maarten, Saba and St. Eustatius (PJ5-8) will cease to exist as of 0400 UTC, 10/10/10 to be replaced by several new entities, although how many is still not certain...most likely four or five according to "well placed sources". Curacao (PJ2) and Sint Maarten (PJ7) will each be new entities, but there is some question about the rest of the islands due to the distances between one another. According to DX guru Bernie, W3UR, the "BES

Islands" (Bonaire, St. Eustatius, Saba) and will wind up giving us two new entities, Bonaire (PJ4) and one comprised of St. Eustatius (PJ5) and Saba (PJ6). DXpeditions are planned for each of the five islands starting on 10/10/10 and continuing for about two weeks. Time to update your DXCC tracking software database!

At our upcoming meeting, we will see another REDXA 'motion picture spectacular'...Field Day 2010: The Movie! Alan K6SRZ has done the final edit and will present the show which will also feature some of the excellent still photography of Marilyn, N6VAW. But wait...there's more...a double feature! Since the 2010 video is a bit short, Alan is going to dig into his vault of video classics for one of his carefully selected DXpedition 'greatest hits'! Join us for a great time at our new location, The Gourmet Garden in Petaluma...CU there!

Treasurer Report

by Jim, K6JS

REDXA TREASURER'S REPORT

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------|-------------------|
| 8/31/10 Balance Forward | | \$2,163.03 |
| INCOME | | |
| Raffle | 75.00 | |
| TOTAL INCOME | | 75.00 |
| EXPENSES | | |
| Meals | 22.00 | |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | | (22.00) |
| 9/30/10 Ending Balance | | <u>\$2,216.03</u> |

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING SEPTEMBER 2010

by San, N7PIB

NO MEETING WAS SCHEDULED.

SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES

by San, N7PIB

The September 8, 2010 meeting of REDXA was called to order at 7:41 P.M. at our new venue of Goumet Garden in Petaluma. There were 26 members and guests in attendance. Two guests were introduced: KM6XO, John from Petaluma, and our speaker N6RNO, Dick from Sunnyvale.

The minutes and treasurer's report were moved for approval, seconded and adopted without revision.

Under Old Business and general club news, REDXA

is still looking for a contest coordinator to try to fill WW6D, Doug's shoes.

A coffee mug, commemorating our 30th anniversary, will be awarded to any member who works at least 100 Q's in the Cal QSO Party the first weekend in October, or who has worked at least 30 countries during the 2010 calendar year.

Siraj is looking for a copy of the picture taken of her at Field Day at 2 A.M.

N6OJ, Chuck, expressed concern that the Club had not properly notified Mr. McGoo's that we had moved our meetings to the Garden Gourmet. President Ron stated that the owner had been notified recently but it may have been after Chuck's visit there.

Under New Business discussion was made on a change in our by-laws to create a new class of members, to be called "Members in good standing by acclamation" for amateurs who live within 175 miles of the club's legal domicile in Petaluma and who submit logs for REDXA in the Cal QSO Party. This is particularly aimed at amateurs who do not belong to another club, for whom they cannot submit logs in that club's name, i.e. NCCC. The motion was made by Bruce W6OSP, seconded by Alan K6SRZ, and passed by a vote of 20 aye and 2 nay.

We are still looking for a presenter for the November meeting on vacation rental DX sites.

Alan will be the presenter at our October meeting--a combination of the 2010 Field Day video and wrap-up and either a return visit to Kure or Banaba.

October 10, 2010 will be the start up date for as many as four new DXCC entities with the upcoming change in status of the various islands that previously made up the Netherlands Antilles. Look for Curacao, the former Netherlands St. Martin, Bonaire and Saba/St. Eustatius which will replace the Curacao/Bonaire and Netherlands Leeward Islands which will be deleted from the DXCC list.

The raffle was won by Rick, N6RXA, who generously gave all the proceeds to the Club as he was the previous month's winner as well.

Our presentation was made by Dick, N6RNO, who gave us a pep talk for competing in this year's Cal QSO Party. Changes in the 2010 rules, current (at that time) planned county activators, and the 2009 activity reports were all touched upon. There is a new youth award for hams under the age of 18 years old. Logs will be due October 31, instead of November 15 as in previous years. There is a new log server on line. Last year saw over 800 logs submitted with in excess of 260,000 Q's.

The meeting adjourned at 8:37 P.M.

Contesting and DX News

by Doug, WW6D

If you haven't already done so, submit your California QSO Party log! They have made it quite easy to submit — even with on-line submission.

Go to: <http://cqplogs.appspot.com/upload.jsp> and follow the directions. (If you need help, give me a call. See page 1 for my info.)

California QSO Party

| Call | Class | CW Qs | PH Qs | MLts | Score |
|--------|----------|-------|-------|------|-----------------------|
| N6RXA | SOLP-PH | 0 | 100 | 25 | 4,950 |
| N6IE | SOHP-MXD | 637 | 987 | 57 | 221,331 |
| WW6D | SOHP-MXD | 440 | 161 | 52 | 85,228 |
| K6ANP | SOHP-MXD | 464 | 167 | 54 | 92,772 |
| K6RIM | SOHP-MXD | 1024 | 614 | 55 | 236,500 |
| K6CTA | SOHP-CW | 177 | 0 | 38 | 20,178 |
| N6OJ | SOLP-PH | 0 | 1018 | 58 | 118,088 |
| KE6LPO | SOLP-PH | 0 | 171 | 45 | 15,390 |
| W6PZ | SOHP-MXD | 1154 | 903 | 58 | 305,544 (op K6SRZ) |
| NM6E/5 | MSLP-MXD | 80 | 147 | 49 | 26,166 |
| N6ZFO | SOLP-MXD | 745 | 309 | 58 | 165,474 |

CQ WW RTTY

| Call | Class | Qs | S/Ps | DX | Zones | Score |
|-------|--------|-----|------|-----|-------|---------|
| K6LRN | SOABHP | 774 | 146 | 138 | 74 | 537,000 |

NA Sprint SSB September

| Call | Class | Qs | MLts | Score |
|-------|-------|-----|------|-------|
| K6LRN | SOHP | 142 | 39 | 5,538 |

NA Sprint CW September

| Call | Class | Qs | MLts | Score |
|-------|-------|-----|------|--------|
| K6SRZ | SOHP | 265 | 41 | 11,130 |

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Oct 13 | * REDXA Monthly Meeting |
| | See redxa.com — new meeting QTH! |
| Oct 30-31 | CQ WW DX SSB |
| Nov 6-8 | ARRL Sweepstakes CW |
| Nov 10 | * REDXA Monthly Meeting |
| Nov 20-22 | ARRL Sweepstakes SSB |
| Nov 27-28 | CQ WW DX CW |
| Dec 3-5 | ARRL 160 meter Contest |
| Dec 10 | * REDXA Monthly Meeting |
| Dec 11-12 | ARRL 10 meter Contest |
| Dec 18-19 | Stew Perry Topband Challenge |

Our Meeting Location

The REDXA meeting will be held at:

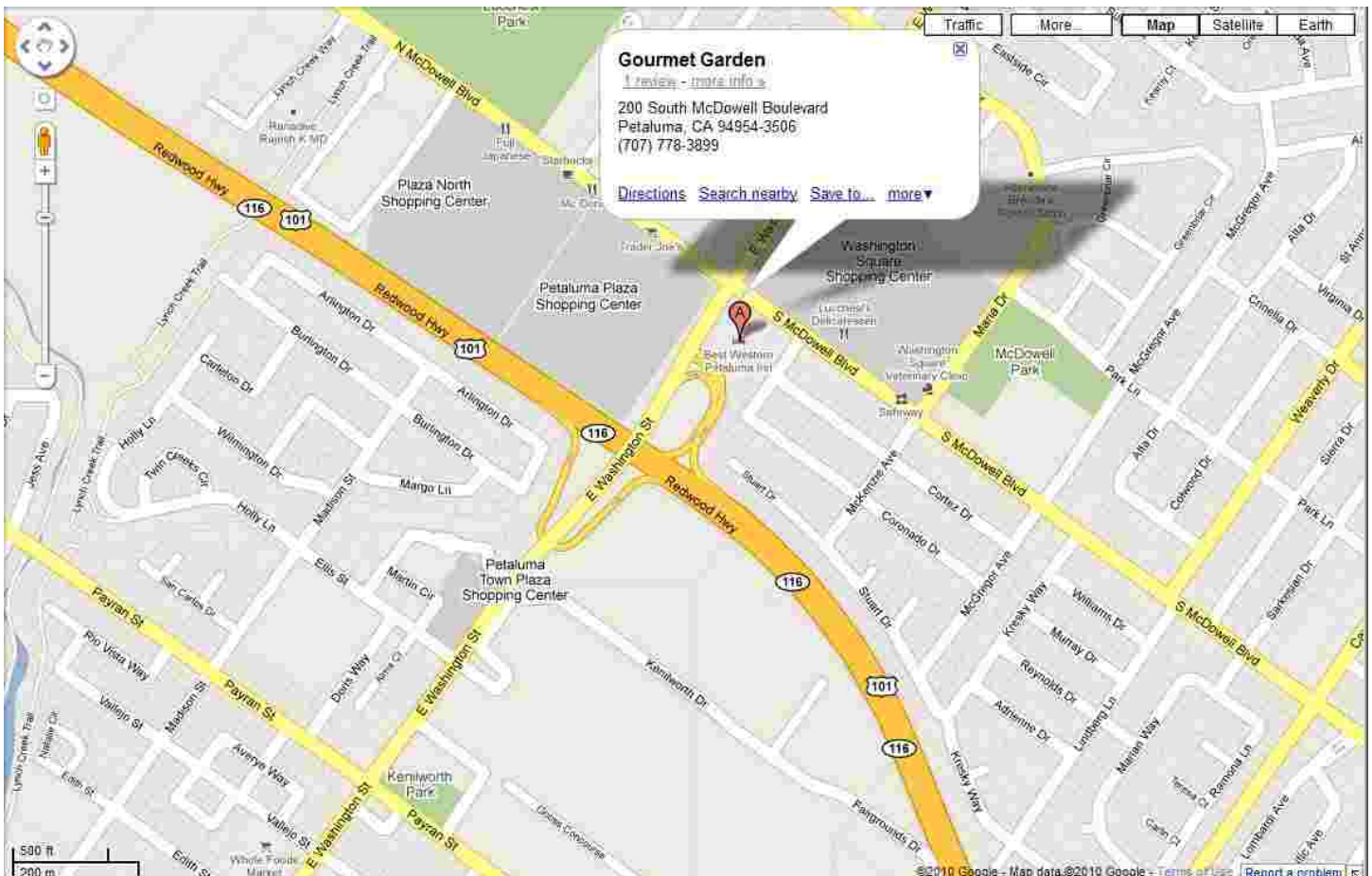
GOURMET GARDEN, PETALUMA
(All you can eat Asian and some American food)
\$11.99 plus tax tip and beverage
Happy Hour 6:00 PM in bar, meeting at 7:00

Which is our old meeting location,
formerly known as CARROW'S.

200 South McDowell Blvd.

Directions:

Get off 101 at the East Washington Exit
Go east until you come to McDowell Blvd.
Gourmet Garden is on the right



Swap Shop

For Sale:

SteppIR Biggir III 6-40 M vertical (32') with 80M base loading coil, controller box, interface cables, Y-cables. Includes mounting pipe in the ground if you can get it out! Located in Petaluma, east side, pick-up only. Paid \$1,400, asking \$1,150 or best offer. Contact Jim, N6JWP, 707-778-6640 or jim@marincc.com

Monthly San Francisco Section News Summary

Here is the link for the News Summary:
<http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=SF>

673 Plum Street
Novato, CA 94945

MEETING: OCTOBER 13, 2010



WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



Mark Nowell
Manager
WITYN

2210 Livingston Street
Oakland, CA 94606
(510) 534-5757 • 800-854-6046
(510) 534-0729 Fax

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