

We'll be ZOOMing our  
next Meeting

Time 7:00 PM

November 11 (Wednesday)

ZOOM:

meeting number \*\*\*\*\*

password \*\*\*\*

See page 4 of this issue for  
fur-ther instructions if you're  
not familiar with ZOOM (it's  
not difficult)

# Elections



## REDXA Election

It's that time of year again. Time to start planning for election of new officers.

During our November meeting, we will organize a Nominating Committee for all positions.

We will also set up a committee for the REDXA Spirit Award. We can't wait till the last minute.

# SUNSPOTS



**REDWOOD EMPIRE DX ASSOCIATION**  
P.O. Box 750834, Petaluma, CA 94975

**Volume XXIII**

**Number X**

**November 2020**

## Meeting Announcement

### Club Officers:

#### **PRESIDENT:**

Jim Selmi, K6JS  
jselmi@hotmail.com

#### **VICE PRESIDENT:**

(+CC) Roger Cooper, N3RC  
rogern3rc@gmail.com

#### **SECRETARY:**

(+Web) Doug Bender, WW6D  
ww6d@arrl.net

#### **TREASURER:**

**Fred Leoni**  
**N6YEU@aol.com**

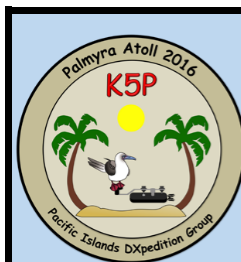
#### **DIRECTORS:**

Josh Fiden, W6XU  
w6xu@arrl.net

Bill Srivatka, WX6B (PP)  
billys95404@yahoo.com

#### **EDITOR:**

Alan Eshleman K6SRZ



We'll be meeting by ZOOM this Wednesday and are fortunate to have a return visit (by ZOOM of course) by John Miller, K6MM, in which he will reprise an earlier presentation of the K5P Palmyra Island DXpedition. Don't miss "The Cursed Paradise of Palmyra Atoll." See page 8 for more background on the expedition.

## REDXA President's Commentary

The election drama is behind us for the most part. Hopefully REDXA elections will go smooth and a new President will be elected. The COVID pan-demic is still with us as fall has officially arrived. The cooler temps and forecasts of precipitation are welcome in our neck of the woods. It sure was cold Monday morning lowering the Rohn 50' pushup mast that was holding up one end of the 80M inverted L.

REDXA BOD approved a one-time move of our club center for the ARRL Sweepstakes contest. We are competing for the coveted Sweepstakes gavel in the local club category which has a 35-mile radius and 10 log limitation. Moving the epicenter picks up N6ZFO's points from Lake County, but unfortunately it drops the Marin members. We'll move the center back to Petaluma after the SS SSB contest.

I made a 2 element Shared Apex loop for 80M, it performed fantastic on the receive end and using the 80M Inverted L over a Folded Counterpoise on transmit. I worked close to 100 stations on 80 with the combination, including all of the East coast from Maine to Florida. I also saw an RBN spot for me in EA8 in the Canary Islands.

The REDXA YouTube channel is getting plenty of activity. Frank, W3LPL's presentation is very popular world-wide, with well over 2000 hits from all

Continued next page



Continued fro page 1

over the world. If you missed it, Fred, N6YEU's presentation; 20+ years of CQP County Expeditions will be posted to YouTube as soon as I get done editing the video. I'll let you all know with a post to the new REDXA Groups.io reflector.

Reminder: Elections should occur this month. Let me know if you're interested in running for any of the positions.

I hope to see you all Wednesday evening for K6MM's presentation on K5P DXpedition: The Cursed Paradise of Palmyra Atoll

REDXA is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Redwood DX Association

Time: November 11 2020 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Every month on the Second Wed, until Dec 9, 2020, 4 occurrence(s)

Nov 11, 2020 07:00 PM

Dec 9, 2020 07:00 PM

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://marincounty-org-dpw.zoom.us/j/91781892793?pwd=MjJwUmhXaUFZMTQ0Qlg2MUdRTjBCZz09>

**Meeting ID:** \*\*\*\*\*

**Passcode:** \*\*\*\*\*

One tap mobile

+12133388477,,91781892793#,,,,,0#,,432213# US (Los Angeles)

+12532158782,,91781892793#,,,,,0#,,432213# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 213 338 8477 US (Los Angeles)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 206 337 9723 US (Seattle)

Meeting ID: \*\*\*\*\*

Passcode: \*\*\*\*\*

Find your local number: <https://marincounty-org-dpw.zoom.us/u/ab48R4xzKT>

Club members' recent contest scores

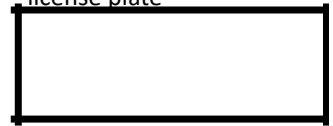
Call	Class	CW Open		Score
		QSO	Mults	
K6MM	SOHP	133	133	17,689
K6MM	SOHP	114	109	12,426
K6CTA	SOLP	10	10	100
K6MM	SOHP	100	100	10,000
N6ZFO	S OHP	16	16	256
<b>Kansas QP</b>				
K6MM	SOHP	65	37	6,564
N6ZFO	SOHP	43	28	3,812
K6CTA	SOLP	9	3	162
<b>HiQP</b>				
N6IE	SOABHP 58		13	1,417
<b>Russian RTTY WW</b>				
N6IE	SOABHP 66		22	9,900
<b>NAQP SSB</b>				
N6ZFO	SOLP	441	100	44,100
K6CTA	SOLP	75	61	4,575
W6PZ(K6SRZ)	SOLP	132	34	4,488
K6JS	SOLP	55	32	1,760
K6MM	SOLP	50	25	1,250







Blame your editor for the license plate



Steve, W6SFK, writes:

Not radio [*it's radio now that I've added his ham radio vanity plate—ed.*] but here's an update on my 190SL roadster project.

I met my goal of finishing the body work and getting the bare metal body painted before winter.

It was close as I missed a lot of time first with the weather well over 100 degrees for weeks on end then with all the unhealthy air quality that followed.

Fortunately the air cleared so I could get back to work and the first few days of November were ideal for painting with mid to high 70's.

On Thursday November 5th I painted the car with 2 wet coats of epoxy primer. I was very relieved as the weather forecast came true with windy low 60's and drizzle starting on Friday the 6th. There won't be any warm weather now before Spring.

I should have it running in the next few weeks then finish wiring and reassembly to be ready for finish paintwork next year.



Palmyra Atoll National Wildlife Refuge and six other national wildlife refuges are seemingly just dots near the equator of the Pacific Ocean, but upon a closer look these island, islets, and atolls are at the epicenter of Pacific Remote Islands National Monument, the largest marine conservation area in the world. These refuges host terrestrial and marine life in numbers and unique and specialized life forms beyond our imagination and they provide a safe haven for millions of birds and marine life that swarm to shallow areas and islands to rest, to feed, to mate, and to give life to their off-spring.

Located a 1,000 miles south of Hawaii, Palmyra Atoll is one of the most spectacular marine wilderness areas on Earth. The Nature Conservancy bought Palmyra in 2000 from the Fullard-Leo family, who had previously turned down offers to have the atoll used as a nuclear waste site and a casino.

Today, Palmyra is a national marine monument and the Conservancy and the [U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service](#) are partnering to protect it. Through the [Palmyra Atoll Research Consortium](#), it is also being developed as a center for scientific study. What we can learn at Palmyra—about global climate change, coral reefs, marine restoration and invasive species—promises to inform conservation strategies for island ecosystems throughout the Pacific and around the world. It's also the site of a double murder in 1974, chronicled in Vincent Bugliosi's "And the Sea Will Tell".

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## OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES

by Doug WW6D, Secretary

The monthly meeting was held via Zoom on October 14, 2020 beginning at 7:05pm. It was hosted by President Jim Selmi, K6JS. Three guests attended the meeting, Steve Sarhad, KK6VZE, Wendy KN6DON and John K6MI. A total of 22 participants were signed into the meeting.

A motion was made to approve the minutes and treasurer's report from the September meeting as published in the September Sunspots. Motion was seconded and approved.

Old Business. None.

New Business. Jim K6JS reported that a Nominating Committee will be formed to prepare a slate for the REDXA elections at next month's Zoom meeting. Further, he will be seeking a Spirit Award panel to handle Spirit Award nominations for select this year's Spirit Award, to be presented at the December meeting. Please contact Jim ASAP if you are interested in helping out.

Jim K6JS is also pulling together the ARRL Contest Eligibility List for REDXA. Please let him know if you are planning to enter ARRL events using REDXA as your club designation.

Jim then announced that REDXA now has a You Tube Channel. Search on REDXA and there should be videos of two recent Zoom meetings.

Program: Fred Leoni, N6YEU, was already to present his program "24 years of California QSO Party County DXpeditions" - but the power went out at Jim K6JS's QTH right before he was scheduled to begin. A hasty rescheduling was done and ultimately presented on October 27.

October 14 meeting adjourned at 7:42pm.

## REDXA Calendar of Upcoming Events

by Doug WW6D

**Nov 7-9 ARRL Sweepstakes CW**

**Nov 11 \* REDXA Monthly Meeting**

**Nov 21-23 ARRL Sweepstakes SSB**

**Nov 28-29 CQ WW DX CW**

**Dec 4-6 ARRL 160m Contest**

**Dec 9 \* REDXA Monthly Meeting**

**Dec**

**12-13 ARRL 10m Contest**

**Dec 26-27 Ste**

**w Perry Topband Challenge**

**Jan 1 ARR**

**L Straight Key Night**

**(continued next page)**



Jan 2       ARR Kid  
          L   s   Day  
  
Ja       ARR RTT  
n 2-3   L   Y   Roundup  
  
Ja 9-1   North American QSO Party  
n 0     CW

*Jan 13 \* REDXA Monthly Meeting*

Jan 16-17 North American QSO Party SSB

Jan 29-31 CQ 160m Contest CW

Refer to <https://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html> for more contest information.





REDXA is pleased to announce the creation of our own Youtube Channel.

Presentations are available online if you were unable to attend our monthly Zoom meetings or want to watch it again

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvANpw-F6QPAe8T41tzK3w/>

We currently have 2 presentations online.

History of Transoceanic Radio Communications - Frank Donovan W3LPL

Amateur Radio Tower Safety—Jim Idelson K1IR

Coming soon: Twenty Years of California QSO Party County Expeditions—Fred Leoni, N6YEU





Not ham radio, but definitely local. By 1922, when this picture was taken, my maternal grandparents had a chicken ranch west of Petaluma. At times my grandfather would take a load of chickens like this to market in San Francisco, making the bumpy trip to San Francisco down pre-highway 101 and then on to the Sausalito ferry. The round trip spanned two days. The caption is obviously a joke. The driver isn't identified, but it's possible (with a magnifying glass and a little imagination) that could have been my grandfather at age 34.

The photo comes from Alice van Ommeran and KC Greaney's *Petaluma in Vintage Postcards*, available locally at Copperfield's



# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

In view of the severity of the present

## **Epidemic of Influenza**

and in order that all efforts may be concentrated on the stamping out of the disease, the local Board of Health, after consultation with Kingston Medical Society and the Mayor, has enacted that after Oct. 16th, and until further notice,

1. Theatres and Moving Picture Houses shall be closed and remain closed
2. Churches and Chapels of all denominations shall be closed and remain closed on Sundays.
3. All Schools, Public or Private, including Sunday Schools, shall close and remain closed.
4. Hospitals shall be closed to visitors.
5. No public shall be admitted to courts except those essential to the prosecution of the cases called.
6. The Board advises the public most strongly not to crowd into street cars and to avoid as much as possible any crowded train or an assembly of any kind.

Provisions have been made by the Kingston Medical Society whereby all cases applying for assistance will receive the same either by registered practitioners or by final year medical students acting under instructions. Therefore every case of illness should send in a call to a physician.

A. R. B. WILLIAMSON,  
Medical Health Officer.

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**THREE SHOT IN STRUGGLE WITH MASK SLACKER**

**Blacksmith Strikes Health Inspector Striving to Enforce Order**

Two men and a woman were shot yesterday at Powell and Market streets when Henry D. Miller, an inspector in the city Health Department, discharged his revolver in a battle with James Wisner, a blacksmith, who refused to don a gauze influenza mask at the order of the health officer.

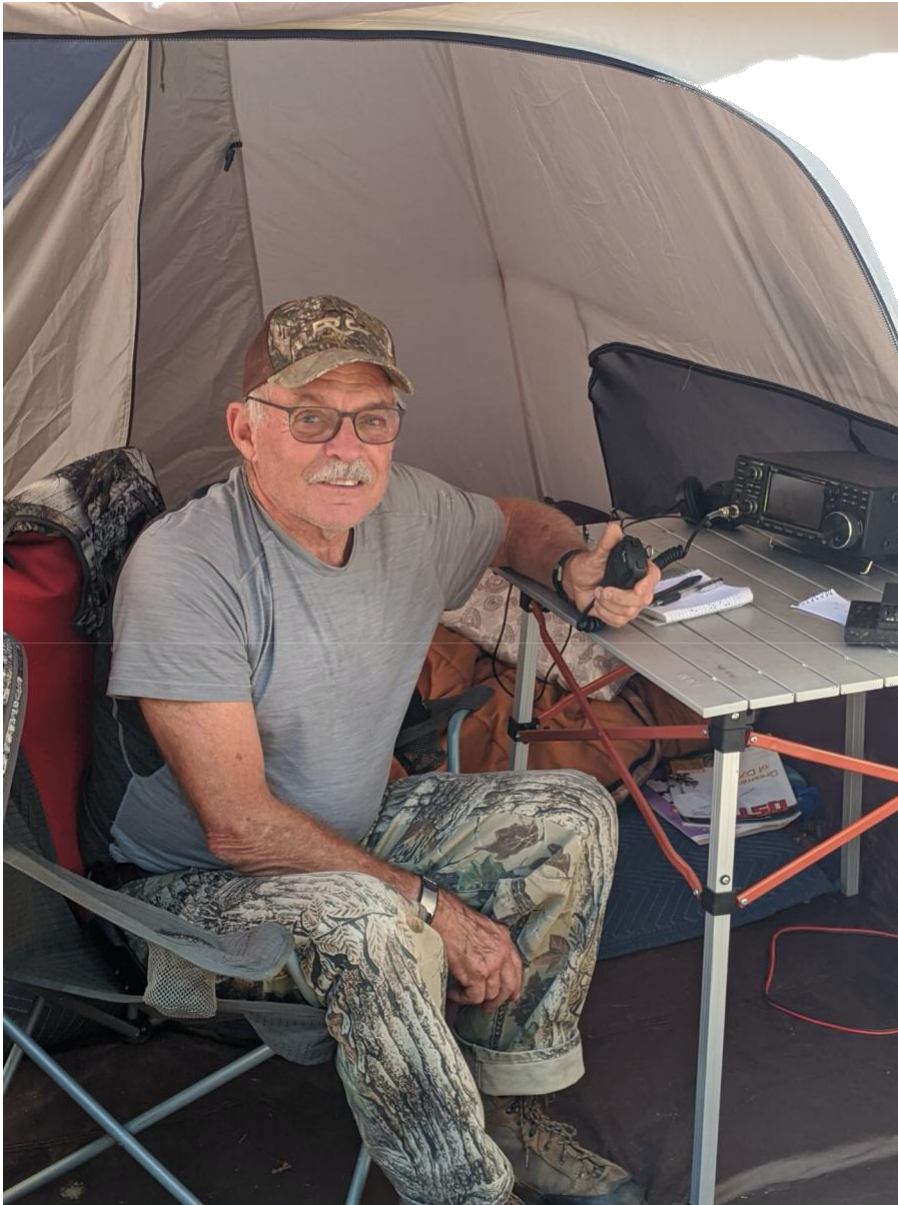
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Above: hope it doesn't come to this

Right: probably not sexist by 1918 standards. Apparently there's been a recent worldwide decline in lipstick sales.





Our man, Fred, N6YEU, just can't get enough of the out-

door life. Here he is giving the deer a break while on-safari in Idaho. Fred is also our treasurer and, since I have the space here, here's his latest report:

*Balance in treasury at end of*

*September: \$3356.56*

*Income during October:*

*\$103.33*

*( prorated and multiple year*

*dues from,AA6AE,KK6BC and*

*NN6D)*

*Balance at end of October:*

*\$3,459.89*

*Payment due for p.o.box by end of November is*

*\$59.00*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Fred N6YEU. Treasurer*

*Fred writes: Last month I threw caution to the wind ( again) and taking all precautions during this Covid situation I traveled to Idaho to join up with a couple old friends ( literally and figuratively) on their annual deer hunting trip to the wilds of Boise National Forest about 60 miles east of Boise. We were there. for 9 days. One good/ bad thing there was no cell service/ internet where our camp was. Not being a hunter myself I had to bring something to entertain myself. Yes that would be my trusty ham radio gear. I brought my IC-7300 and home brew linked Dipole which I held up with a Spider Pole inverted vee style at 24 ft. apex.*

*While I didn't spend a huge amount of time on the air it was reassuring to know I could get on and call for help if an emergency came up. I checked into "The Noontime Net" a few times. (7283.5) I asked if someone could make a phone call for me and Ralph-*

*N3ZB in Montana offered to do that for me. We moved off frequency and he called my wife Debbie at home and put her on speaker phone so I got to enjoy a short talk with her and to let her know we were all ok in camp. Pretty cool!*

*I also gave out a few qsos for the Parks on the Air program for park K-4474. I had 3 cw qsos on 20m in the Illinois QSO Party, several 40 cw rag chews, did one CWT contest (1900-2000 utc 20meters) and made 16 qsos in CQWW-Phone including 6 JAs. Considering my qth was in a narrow river canyon surrounded by steep mountains I was amazed I could even be heard.*

*I always enjoy operating portable, if not CQP then incorporating ham radio in my travels. Great fun!*

# WEAR A MASK

## AND SAVE YOUR LIFE!

The Emergency That Now Confronts Our City  
Is Beyond the Facilities of the Health Department



### The RED CROSS



has come to the assistance of the Board of Health. Doctors and nurses can not be obtained to take care of the afflicted. You must wear a mask, not only to protect yourself but your children and your neighbor from influenza, pneumonia and death

**"FLU" MASKS  
CAN EASILY BE  
MADE AT HOME**

The Oakland Chapter of the Red Cross has issued the following instructions for the home construction of influenza masks:

- 1—Take a piece of gauze a yard square.
- 2—Cut this into strips 9 inches wide.
- 3—Fold each strip into halves, then into thirds, making ten thicknesses of gauze.
- 4—Turn in one edge and stick all four sides to hold firm. Mask now measures seven inches by six.
- 5—Put three planks in seven-inch ends, toward sides deeper than other two to allow room for nose.
- 6—Attach a strip 11 inches long to each of the two lower corners. Attach a strip 14 inches long to each of the two upper corners.
- 7—Fasten up middle by a black thread.

## A GAUZE MASK IS 99% PROOF AGAINST INFLUENZA

Doctors wear them. Those who do not wear them get sick. The man or woman or child who will not wear a mask now is a dangerous slacker.

**DIRECTIONS  
FOR USING  
"FLU" MASK**

Mask should be worn with the same side out.

If mask is used for preventive purposes only, be sure to boil it every night for ten minutes in clear water.

If mask is used in sick room caring for influenza patient, you should have two at least, changing every two or three hours, and boiling for ten minutes in clear water.

In taking care of the patient, the nurse should wear a coverall apron, and take it off before leaving the room. On entering the room the apron should be put on again.

OAKLAND CHAPTER AMERICAN RED CROSS

# WEAR MASKS

GOING TO WORK  
AT WORK  
GOING HOME  
AT HOME

This statement was authorized at a meeting of the undersigned, who are convinced that it is the only way to stamp out the epidemic. You must do your part

## Alameda County Relief Committee

- |                            |                                    |                              |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| County of Alameda          | Oakland Chapter American Red Cross | Associated Charities         |
| City of Oakland            | Oakland Clearing House Association | Retail Dry Goods Association |
| Board of Health of Oakland | Oakland Chamber of Commerce        |                              |

True in 1918 and still true today





## **Boulevard Café & Grill**

1096 Petaluma Blvd. North,  
Petaluma, CA

The Café is open again for socially distanced inside and patio service. They're not able to host gatherings like our REDXA meetings, but I encourage you to stop in for breakfast or lunch. It's one way to thank Daniel and his staff for their support over the past years.

