

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

### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

**Wednesday, December 8, 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 celebrating our 30th annual REDXA Holiday Party! As is our tradition, we will have our special raffle with items donated by various ham radio sponsors and by several of our club members. Be sure and grab up a bunch of tickets!**

### REDXA President's Report

#### Ham for the Holidays

It's hard to believe that the holidays are upon us again as we prepare for our 30th annual REDXA Holiday Party! As is our tradition, we will have our special raffle with items donated by various ham radio sponsors and by several of our club members. Be sure and grab up a bunch of tickets. Another tradition is the naming of our REDXA Spirit Award winner for the year. At our annual Holiday Party we welcome everyone, including non-ham family members and friends, so I certainly hope we will pack the house!

Also, we'll have a silent auction for that top-of-the-line Tarheel HF mobile screwdriver antenna donated by Bob K6QXY. This is an extra heavy-duty unit that covers 160-6 meters, 1 kW+ rated and will not only give you a band-busting signal from your car, truck or RV, with a few radials and an improvised mount, it will render excellent service for fixed use in antenna-restricted areas, as an easy way to run SO2R or for portable use when away for home. Proceeds go to the club treasury.



Those of you who submitted a CQP log with at least 100 QSO's or who worked at least 30 countries in 2010 will be able to take home one of our REDXA 30th Anniversary coffee mugs! There are plenty to go around since the minimum order was six dozen cups which were received in October. Much to my surprise, we received another six dozen with a notation that they were "re-do's" although, for the life of me, I can't see any difference between the cups in the two shipments. Suffice to say we have a boat-load, and we'll be handing them out for various purposes and incentives for many months to come!

Although we don't conduct much club business at our December meeting, it is the time when we offer a slate of candidates for club officers and Board of Directors. Our slate for 2011 is as follows:

President: Ron, N6IE  
 Vice President: Josh, W6XU  
 Secretary: Wally, N6AD  
 Treasurer: Jim, K6JS  
 Board of Directors: Alan, K6SRZ  
 Bob, K6QXY  
 San, N7PIB

Club officers are elected for one-year terms, but our long-standing tradition is to have them serve for two consecutive terms. If anyone wants to 'throw their hat in the ring' for any of these offices, please let me know prior to the meeting so that we can arrange to have a 'run-off' election. Even though it's still a year off, we will be looking for volunteers to fill these offices for the 2012 term, so if you want to make a difference in our club and help take it to the next level, please talk to me in the next year about becoming a club officer or director.

I hope you all enjoyed my presentation at last month's meeting on Exotic DX Vacation Rentals. Several folks have requested that I put the presentation on the Internet and if you would like to re-run it in the privacy of your own home, you can find it on my website at [www.n6ie.com](http://www.n6ie.com) in both the PowerPoint version or as a .pdf file. The PowerPoint file is quite large (80 MB), but the .pdf is only about a quarter of that size.

Looking ahead to future meetings, January will feature Bruce W6OSP with a presentation on his PJ7E DXpedition that bagged nearly 75,000 QSO's for the new DX entity of Sint Maarten. February will be our joint meeting with NCCC with the presentation "to be announced".

Please let me take this opportunity to wish you and yours the warmest of holiday cheer and all the best in 2011!

Ron, N6IE

## Treasurer Report

by Jim, K6JS

### REDXA TREASURER'S REPORT

10/31/10 Balance Forward		\$2,341.03
INCOME		
Dues	40.00	
Raffle	37.00	
TOTAL INCOME		77.00
EXPENSES		
BiMark Coffee Mugs	86.33	
TOTAL EXPENSES		(86.33)
11/30/10 Ending Balance		<u>\$2,331.70</u>

REDXA membership renewal is due. Please submit your dues ASAP. Dues can be mailed to me via my home address, which is current on QRZ.com or mailed to the REDXA P.O. Box or given to me personally at our regularly scheduled meetings.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING NOVEMBER 2010

by San, N7PIB

The Board of Directors met at the Goumet Garden on November 10, starting at 6:45 P.M. Present were Ron (N6IE), Josh (W6XU), Alan (K6SRZ), Bob (K6QXY), Wally (N6AD) and San (N7PIB), constituting a quorum of the Board.

Alan, W6SRZ, on behalf of the Spirit Award Committee, gave his report, the results of which will be disclosed at the December dinner meeting. A proposed slate of officers was put forward, comprising the current officers and directors with the exception that San (N7PIB) will be replaced by Wally (N6AD) as Secretary.

A copy of the By-Laws is on hand and will be updated to reflect the changes that were made earlier this year. Copies of a list of vendors for the raffle were distributed to the board members in order that they may be contacted. Any results may be brought to the December meeting or sent directly to Ron who will bring them to the meeting.

The REDXA coffee mugs should be available for distribution at the December meeting and are available to any member who made 100 QSO's in the Cal-QSO Party or has contacted 30 or more countries during the 2010 calendar year.

The board meeting was adjourned at 7:00 P.M.

## NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES

by San, N7PIB

The November meeting of REDXA was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by President Ron. There were 28 members and guests in attendance. Guests were introduced and bottles of wine were donated by Bruce for prominent CQP contest participants. An example of the new mug was available for display.

John (KM6XO) from Rohnert Park was introduced as a new applicant for membership and his membership was duly approved by acclamation. The Treasurer's report and minutes for the October meeting were presented and approved by the membership.

Jim (K6JS) was introduced as the new contest editor, replacing Doug (WW6D) who has served the club in that capacity for many years. Our thanks go to Doug for his fine service and to Jim for agreeing to assume that important responsibility.

Under new business: The Field Day results have been published and REDXA came in sixth in the nation--the only West Coast station to score in the top ten. The By-Laws have been found and are in the process of being revised to reflect the changes made earlier this year. The election for new officers and directors will be held at the December meeting. The slate is the same as this year with the exception of Wally (N6AD) replacing San (N7PIB) as Secretary.

All family members are invited to join us for the December meeting, which will be held on December 8 at the usual location--the Gourmet Garden Restaurant.

Future programs are projected to be the PJ7E Dxpediton for January, our joint meeting with the NCCC in February, and an update from our ARRL Section Manager at the March meeting.

A new order of REDXA shirts has been made and will be available shortly.

Our program was on Exotic DX Vacation Rentals, given by President Ron (N6IE). We were given choices of Senegal, Greece, Hawaii, the US Virgin Islands, Bonaire, Curacao, Belize, Prince Edward Island or the British Virgin Islands. The NCC website has a list of rental sites.

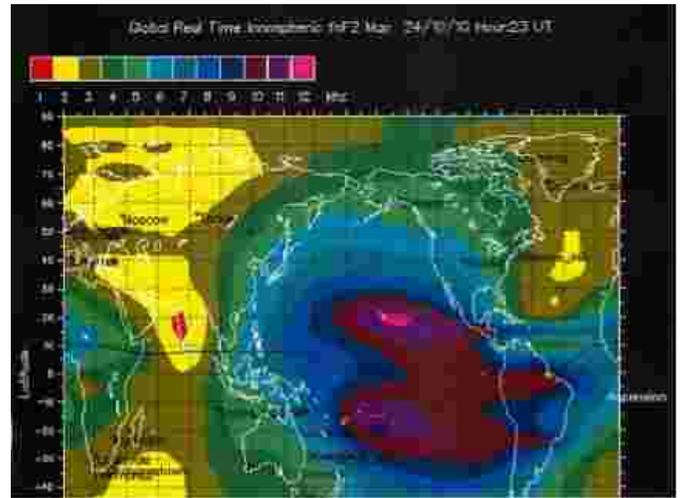
The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

## Contesting and DX News

by Doug, WW6D

DXCC Reminder: the end-of-the-year tally with the DXCC Desk is approaching. Be sure to keep your DXCC records up to date!

Bob K6QXY reports that the VHF community now feels that they have discovered a new propagation mode, calling it ESSSP for Equatorial Summer Solstice short path propagation. (Of course, in the southern hemisphere, it would be called EWSSP for Winter.)



It appears that this mode is related to the summer Sporadic E (Es) but links into a TransEquatorial (TE) mode. Part of the proof of this new mode was a QSO Bob made with ZL3NW and ZL1RS. Bob will certainly be investigating this more this winter.

Happy New Year!

### ARRL SS CW

Call	Class	Qs	Mlts	Score
K6JS	SOUHP	442	80	67,520
N6YEU	SOLP	571	78	89,232
K6RIM	SOUHP	1000	80	160,000

### ARRL SS SSB

Call	Class	Qs	Mlts	Score
K6RIM	SOUHP	950	80	152,000
K6JS	SOUHP	435	77	66,990

### CQ WW SSB

Call	Class	Qs	Zones	Ctrys	Score
K6RIM	SOAB(A)HP	405	88	220	345,576

## CQ WW CW

Call	Class	Qs	Zones	Ctrys	Score
K6RIM	SOAB(A)HP	791	123	344	1,031,603
K6ANP	SOAB(A)HP	894	145	393	1,359,526
K6JS	SOAB(A)LP	188	61	115	92,576
WW6D	SOABHP	158	46	60	47,700

## Calendar of Upcoming Events:

Dec 3-5	ARRL 160 meter Contest
Dec 8	* REDXA Monthly Meeting
Dec 11-12	ARRL 10 meter Contest
Dec 18-19	Stew Perry Topband Challenge
Jan 1(Z)	Straight Key Night
Jan 8-9	NA QSO Party CW
Jan 12	* REDXA Monthly Meeting
Jan 15-16	NA QSO Party SSB
Feb 9	* REDXA Monthly Meeting
Feb 12-13	CQ WPX RTTY
Feb 19-20	ARRL DX CW
Feb 26-27	NA QSO Party RTTY

*See <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>  
for more Contest Schedules.*

## Monthly San Francisco Section News Summary

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

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**MEETING: DECEMBER 8, 2010**

