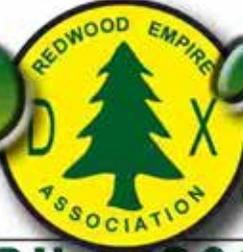


# SUNSPOTS



**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, February 10, 2016** at Boulevard Cafe & Grill, 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 by our own REDXA member Bob K6QXY who will present a program on 6 meters. As most of you know, Bob is an avid 6 meter enthusiast.**



## REDXA President's commentary

Welcome to the February Newsletter and congratulations to all for chasing those DXpeditions and getting multiple band slots on the leaderboard. My personal observation senses an unprecedented level of excitement, enthusiasm, teamwork and perseverance. One could say it's the epitome of what chasing DX is all about. We are witnessing some of the best and top DX spots in recent history and it truly has been fun being an amateur radio operator at this present time.

I have to admit that I have concerns about what I have seen and heard over the last two months. I wonder at what point did the hobby evolve into a disease and if there is a cure or means to control the outwardly signs of a morphological change in each of us. So I googled the definition of hobby and disease so we could exam what is happening

here.

Definition of Hobby: A hobby is an activity that you do in your spare time for fun. Your hobby may be putting together model train sets and driving your mom crazy from all the noise. An activity that you do for pleasure when you are not working. An activity or interest pursued for pleasure or relaxation and not as a main occupation:

www.thefreedictionary.com hobby An activity or interest pursued outside one's regular occupation and engaged in primarily for pleasure

Definition of Disease: a condition of the living animal body or of one of its parts that impairs normal functioning and is typically manifested by distinguishing signs and symptom.

Dictionary.com A pathological/psychological condition of a body part, an organ (brain), or a system resulting from various causes, such as environmental stress, and characterized by an identifiable group of signs or symptoms.

If over the last couple of months you found yourself losing sleep, avoiding family/friends, missing work, having food passed under your doors, devoting countless hours of sitting and staring at LED's/panadaptors, exhibiting signs of poor hygiene and acting in a way that is uncharacteristic of who you normally are then I believe you have been inflicted with this disease. You have escalated this hobby into something outside of the typical definition and I suspect it will have profound implications going forward. If you mentioned that you worked Palmyra at a cocktail party, you'll get blank stares. If you're at a local bar and tell some beautiful blonde that you got a 5 9 signal report from Sandwich Island, your wingman quits his job and you're just another loser. There's little hope for those of us with this disease unless we wean ourselves off the radio, take up needle-point or the solar flux takes a dive. Just know that your loved ones are there for you and perhaps an intervention is close at hand.

So good luck in the coming months with Heard Island and other new countries. I look forward to seeing more of you in February and hope your log books are full of ATNO's.

K5P member John Miller will speak to the club in March regarding the Palmyra DXpedition!

Your Prez and Life Coach! WX6B

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING JANUARY 2015

by Ed, K6ELE

NO MEETING SCHEDULED

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### JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

by Ed, K6ELE

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by the club president, Bill WX6B. Bill gave a Power Point presentation that included a review of his tower construction. He also discussed some of his goals for the club in 2016.

#### Announcements:

Bill, W6IYS, gave the Treasurers report. Balance is \$4059. He announced that all club badges have been distributed. If any members still need a badge they should contact him. There are 64 members on the roster, 39 have paid dues for 2016. Al, K6RIM, agreed to phone past members to encourage them to renew.

Fred, N6YEU, said there are still 2 XL club tee shirts available for purchase.

The raffle was for \$120. Ed, K6ELE, won and donated his share to the club.

#### Old Business:

Minutes of the December meeting were approved.

#### Program:

Jim, K6JS, made a presentation on Club Log and its use for DX'ers.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.

Treasurer's Report  
January 2016

by Bill, W6IYS

Bal Brt. Fwd	1/1/16				<u>\$4,059.96</u>
Receipts					
	Raffle (net to Club)	\$261.00			
	Dues	\$ 370.00			
	Sale of REDXA shirts	<u>\$56.00</u>			
	Total receipts			<u>\$ 543.00</u>	
Disbursements					
	Office Supplies	\$10.00			
	Spirit Award Plaque	\$100.46			
	2015 Postage	<u>\$15.39</u>			
	Total Disbursements			<u>\$125.85</u>	
Cash Flow				.	<u>\$417.15</u>
New Bal. 1/31/16					<u>\$4,471.11</u>

### Monthly San Francisco Section News Summary

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

### REDXA Calendar of Upcoming Events: by Doug, WW6D

- |               |                                |
|---------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Feb 10</b> | * <b>REDXA Monthly Meeting</b> |
| Feb 20-21     | ARRL International DX CW       |
| Feb 27-28     | North American QSO Party RTTY  |
| <b>Mar 9</b>  | * <b>REDXA Monthly Meeting</b> |
| Mar 26-27     | CQ WW WPX SSB                  |
| <b>Apr 13</b> | * <b>REDXA Monthly Meeting</b> |
| Apr 16-17     | Int'l DX Convention Visalia    |
| May 7-8       | 7QP (7th Call Area QSO Party)  |
| <b>May 11</b> | * <b>REDXA Monthly Meeting</b> |
| May 28-2      | CQ WW WPX CW                   |
| <b>Jun 8</b>  | * <b>REDXA Monthly Meeting</b> |
| Jun 11-13     | ARRL June VHF Contest          |
| Jun 25-26     | ARRL Field Day                 |

If you have events that you would like to have posted here, PLEASE let me know!

Refer to <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/> for more contest information.



REDXA Honor Roll

WARC BANDS					
30M		17M		12M	
W6XA	326	W6XA	335	W6XA	327
K6RIM	319	K6RIM	329	K6RIM	294
KC6AWX	258	N6OJ	322	N6OJ	252
N6TQ	257	KC6AWX	307	KC6AWX	263
N6OJ	238	W6SPK	275	N6TQ	248
W6SPK	221	N6TQ	269	W6SPK	205
K6ANP	169	N6YEU	210	N6YEU	187
N6IE	165	N7PIB	167	N6IE	134
K6SRZ	154	N6IE	165	N7PIB	120
N6YEU	101	K6ANP	162	K6SRZ	106
K6JS	18	K6SRZ	143	N6GY	77
AJ6I	17	N6GY	116	K6ANP	72
K6JS/m	10	K6JS	53	K6JS	50
N6GY	31	K6JS/m	45	K6JS/m	26
		AJ6I	45	AJ6I	8

N6GY works 24 new ones

K6JS adds 8 more

K6JS adds 2 more.

ARRL DX Challenge	
W6XA	2985
K6RIM	2530
KC6AWX	2336
N6OJ	2231
N6TQ	2176
K6ANP	2131
K6SRZ	1770
W6SPK	1719
N6IE	1256
N7PIB	1123

N6TQ knocks K6ANP out for 5<sup>th</sup> place

160 Meters	
W6XA	224
K6ANP	158
K6SRZ	150
K6RIM	55
N6OJ	59
N6TQ	59
KC6AWX	49
N6IE	37
N7PIB	15
W6SPK	11
N6YEU	3

N6TQ and W6SPK are on the board

1.5K Club	
W6XA	1689
K6RIM	1588
KC6AWX	1434
N6OJ	1420
K6ANP	1371
N6TQ	1342
K6SRZ	1124
N6YEU	1106
N6IE	1043
W6SPK	1005
K6JS	607
N6GY	148

W6SPK breaks the 1K barrier and K6JS passes the 600 mark

**Rules for REDXA Honor Roll Listings.**  
Provide me with your total countries (including deleted) worked for: WARC Bands, 160 Meters, Digital modes, Mobile, 6 Meters. Add your total entities for 80,40,20, 15 and 10 for 1.5K Club. Countries do not count until HQ Awards Committee takes action and announces a start date for a new country.

Six Meter DXCC	
K6QXY	173
W6XA	130
KC6AWX	15
K6RIM	14
K6ANP	6
N6OJ	5
W6SPK	2

N6OJ enters the fray on the magic band

RTTY/Digital	
N6OJ	304
KC6AWX	302
K6RIM	253
W6SPK	243
N6IE	185
W6XA	162
K6SRZ	140
K6ANP	123
N6GY	93

N6GY gets 7 new ones!

Send your REDXA Honor Roll updates to:  
[jselmi@hotmail.com](mailto:jselmi@hotmail.com)  
Updated 2-03-16

Mobile DX	
N7PIB	121
K6JS	113
W6SPK	3

K6JS adds 2 new ones - Vroom!

DXCC Mixed	
K6RIM	366
N6OJ	360
W6XA	352
KC6AWX	348
K6SRZ	346
N6TQ	330
W6SPK	305
N6GY	281
AJ6I	260
K6JS	239

N6GY adds 49 new ones

## **The 67th Annual Visalia International DX Convention**

The 67th Annual International DX Convention sponsored by the Southern California DX Club will be held at the Visalia Convention Center April 15 - 17, 2016.

The International DX Convention is the world's foremost DX convention. If you are a DXer or interested in any aspect of ham radio you need to be at Visalia. Top DX operators from around the world will be there. Meet the big guns from the US, Asia, Europe, Africa and Oceania. Meet the people on the other side of the mic or key. Shake hands with the person you have had that sked with for the past 10 years. Renew friendships.

Top DXpeditioners from every continent tell you how they did it. Learn the secrets for big signals on the top band, how to have fun and adventures chasing IOTA, contest forum, DX forum, seminars for everyone from the seasoned pro to the beginning DXer. Bring your latest QSL card arrivals for checking. Don't forget the raffle prizes which top even the famed Dayton Hamvention!

REDXA always has a large representation at this annual convention with upwards of 20 members making the trip south. Don't forget your REDXA badges, hats and shirts.

The beautiful Visalia Convention Center, will once again host the IDXC. The Convention Center has 17 meeting rooms and 2 Board Rooms, which allows for several concurrent presentations.

The Center can easily handle 80 to 100 Vendors in their Exhibit Hall, as well as a banquet for 1,000 attendees.

There is ample free parking in the area and convenient shuttle busses running to nearby hotels.

Food and beverage needs will be catered by the recently remodeled Marriott Hotel, which is the host hotel immediately adjacent to the Convention Center.

Don't miss the Special Saturday Banquet Presentation on the VKØEK Heard Island DXpedition with a Live Feed from the Team aboard the RV Braveheart.

Tickets are still available. For additional information check out their website  
<http://www.dxconvention.org/index.html>

We hope to see a lot of REDXA members in Visalia.  
Jim, K6JS

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



**Nick Scotto**  
Manager  
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673 Plum Street  
Novato, CA 94945

**MEETING: FEBRUARY 10, 2016**

