

# 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, January 9, 2013** at Cattlemens Restaurant, 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 Jim Brown K9YC, sharing information on 160m on a small lot.**

## REDXA President's Report

As we celebrate the start of 2013 it is a perfect opportunity to reflect on the club highlights of the last 12 months.

In January N6PSE gave a fantastic presentation on the STOR DXpedition to Southern Sudan.

February was our annual REDXA/NCCC joint meeting, with a fine presentation on Software Defined Radios for contesting by Stu Phillips, K6TU.

In March, we had John Miller, K6MM's light hearted presentation on the Dayton Hamvention – "The Good, The Bad, The Ugly".

April brought one of our own, Chuck N6OJ, who showed us all we wanted to know about LOTW, as well as pictures from his Pacific Island Cruise.



May was an informative presentation by Bob Wilson, N6TV as he shared a great tutorial on the Reverse Beacon Network.

June was our annual Field Day planning and logistics meeting.

In July we had the first annual REDXA, MLDXCC, NCCC joint meeting with a fine presentation by Paul Ewing on the 7O6T DXpedition to Yemen.

A DVD video from 2011 VP8ORK South Orkney DXpedition was on our August agenda.

Fall brought September's presentation by Fred Leoni, N6YEU on CQP County expeditions and we tried to rally the membership for more CQP participation.

For October, we watched a DVD video of the K4M Dxpediton to Midway Atoll: Stepping Stone of the Pacific by James Brooks, 9V1YC.

As November came around, our own Ron N6IE gave a fine presentation on Ham Radio by Remote.

As the year drew to a close we celebrated at our December Annual Holiday Party.

Now looking forward to 2013, we already have some great presentations lined up: We start off January with K9YC, sharing information on 160m on a small lot. Next finds February with K6SRZ, Alan sharing his Conway Reef Dxpediton experience. March brings us K6UFO, Mark Aaker discussing QRP DXing and Contesting. Followed by April and N6BV, Dean Straw, speaking to Little Gun vs Big Gun Stations. And May's program is in discussion with NCCC regarding a joint meeting.

Any good organization needs a group of dedicated people to keep things running. Here are your newly elected officers. Thank you to all who are volunteering their time and expertise.

Re-elected  
President Jim K6JS  
Vice President Ron N6IE  
Secretary Rick N6GY  
Treasurer Saraj KU6F

Directors  
Alan K6SRZ  
Bob K6QXY  
Josh W6XU

I've enjoyed writing the contesting and DX articles, contest scores and developing the REDXA honor roll page for Sunspots. However, if anyone is interested in taking over any of these items, please let me know.

With the busyness of the holidays and family, I didn't have much time left over for the articles, so check your favorite resources for additional contest and DX information.

I did carve out a few minutes to participate in Straight Key Night on New Year's Eve and enjoyed using my old J-38 novice key to make about 10 QSO's.

Thank you all for a great 2012 and I look forward to a fun and competitive 2013 filled with DX!

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## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING DECEMBER 2012**

by Rick, N6GY

NO MEETING WAS SCHEDULED

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## **DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES**

by Rick, N6GY

President Jim K6JS called the meeting to order at 08:15 pm, December 12th 2012 at the Cattlemens Restaurant in Petaluma. There were 25 members and 6 guests in attendance.

There was no presentation as we went into accepting the minutes of the last meeting and the treasurer's report as published in the last edition of "SUNSPOTS". Motion was made, seconded and carried.

Then the XYL Raffle was held, and \$75 was won by Saraj KU6F.

Then the SPIRIT AWARD was presented to.....Saraj KU6F.

Then the general membership raffle was held and gift certificates (2) \$100, (1) \$75, (1) \$50, (1) \$25 from HRO, \$25 from HSC, MANY YAESU Hats, 2 subscriptions to CQ MAGAZINE, 6 BEER Glasses with COMET/NGC Logo, 2012 ARRL HANDBOOK Soft Cover, 2012 ARRL HANDBOOK Hard Cover, HRO 8X/30 Coax Jumper with PL 259's, Two CQ AMATEUR RADIO CALENDARS 15 Month 2012/2013, ARRL PAPER Log Book, ARRL REPEATER DIRECTORY 2012-2013, POCKET REFERENCE Book, HRO Thumb Drive, POWEREX AA NIMH Battery Pack containing 4 Batteries, AND Two more YAESU Hats from HRO, a low power dummy load from ELECRAFT, and a bottle of wine from Steve K6SFK. Also several REDXA Mug Christmas centerpieces from Jim K6JS were available.

There were more than enough prizes, to the point where several members gave their tickets away to the less fortunate (Please, not ANOTHER Yaesu hat!) or simply passed when their number was drawn. A good time was had by all.

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### REDXA Survey

I recently sent out a member survey on the REDXA Reflector. I also passed it out to members at the December meeting. It asks for ways to improve the club. It covers Field Day, Meetings, etc. We want to know what you would like to change, if anything? If you would like a copy of this survey, email me at rickseal@sonic.net .

Like the fictional TV character Doctor Frasier Crane would say, "We're Listening!"

73, KB!  
Rick Sealock N6GY  
Secretary Redwood Empire DX Association

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### Monthly San Francisco Section News Summary

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

### Treasurer Report

by Saraj, KU6F

#### REDXA TREASURER'S REPORT

11/30/12 Balance Forward		\$2,564.22
INCOME		
10M Beam-WB6DXR	50.00	
Antenna-KE6UAR	40.00	
Dues	420.00	
Raffle	310.00	
TOTAL INCOME		820.00
EXPENSES		
HRO & YL Certs	433.90	
TOTAL EXPENSES		(433.90)
12/31/12 Ending Balance		\$2,950.32

REDXA membership renewal is due for 2013. Those of you who've already paid will be receiving receipts via email, at the next meeting, or by snail mail, which ever is best. Those of you who've paid but are not updated yet on the Roster, I haven't been to the PO Box since the December meeting, have patience. Those of you who still wish to pay your dues, please send direct mail to my home address, 1283 Mark West Springs Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95404, or to the REDXA PO Box.

Thank you for the Spirit Award, 2012.

There's a scene from the movie "Wayne's World" where Wayne and Garth, preparing to meet their idol, Alice Cooper, fall to their knees chanting "We're not worthy!". I smilingly thought of that moment when it was announced I'd won the Spirit Award for 2012. Really? Are you sure? WOW! I'm Not Worthy!

But back to reality, I truly love ham radio, the giddy joy of helping set up field day or CQP, run sideband like mad, then tear it all down and go home; it's more fun than theater and I don't have to worry about the costumes as much. Thanks for letting me play and learn from such a well of experienced hams. It is truly a pleasure to be part of this club. And that said, if you haven't already sent me your 2013 dues, please "due" so.

## Contesting

by Jim, K6JS

I want to thank the members that participated in the 10 Meter contest. It appears we have more than 12 logs submitted, which puts us in the Medium (<50 logs) club category. I believe this is the first time REDXA has competed as a club other than Field Day and CQP. We might consider the November Sweepstakes as an additional club competition, if the NCCC continues to choose not to compete in it.

Friday night's conditions for the 10 Meter contest were somewhat of a Worked All REDXA, with N6OJ, N6ZFO, K6JS, K6SRZ, KE6LPO, N6GY, K6LRN, N6YEU all on the air.

Bill, N6ZFO found "10m to be challenging, but with fairly good results. There was an interesting mix of F2, Sporadic E and backscatter QSO's; heard some meteor pings, but can't say any Q's resulted. Unable to get Yagi at its full height, so just about 20 feet AGL."

Most members had similar conditions on Saturday with apparent pipelines to OH, MI, FL and NC and only a handful of 7's and 0's. DX would occasionally come out of the noise with QSO's to D4, ZS, V5 and EA8. We also had good signals from the Caribbean and Central and South America.

Sunday saw a good run of JA's and Oceania before the end of the contest.

January 9th is the deadline to submit your 10 meter log.

When submitting your log, the club line is:  
CLUB: Redwood Empire DX Assn

Bill, N6ZFO received the classy new ARRL certificate for last year's 10 Meter contest, LP Mixed Class for SF, annotated as  
1st Place SF section  
8th place United States  
Division Winner (on an affixed gold star).

Alan, K6SRZ received ARRL 10 meter 2011:  
K6SRZ 1st place M/S HP SF Section

W6SFK completed the REDXA hat trick – 3

REDXA members garnered 3 First place categories from last year's 10 Meter contest

First Place 2011 ARRL 10 Meter Contest  
Phone Only  
Single Operator  
High Power  
San Francisco Section

Congrats Bill, Steve and Alan!

The ARRL RTTY RU has just ended as I type this, I heard quite a few REDXA members on the air over the weekend.

There are a few contests to keep you busy this month. The NAQP's, CW and SSB. A couple sessions of CWops Mini-CWT Tests. If you need a fix, these are fun, short 1 hour contests during the week. We have the ARRL VHF contest and the CQ 160 CW at the end of the month.

Happy contesting and have fun.

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## The Six Meter Report from Bob, K6QXY

Bob reports working EA8/G8BCG via EME on 11/7/12 in the Canary Islands for DXCC #170. Finally after several years of skeds. Thanks for the reports Bob...

## REDXA Calendar of Upcoming Events:

by Doug, WW6D

<b>Jan 9</b>	<b>* REDXA Monthly Meeting</b>
Jan 12-13	NA QSO Party CW
Jan 19-20	NA QSO Party SSB
Jan 25-27	CQ 160 meter CW
Feb 9-10	CQ WW WPX RTTY
<b>Feb 13</b>	<b>* REDXA Monthly Meeting</b>
Feb 16-17	ARRL Int'l DX CW
Feb 23-24	NA QSO Party RTTY
Mar 2-3	ARRL Int'l DX SSB
<b>Mar 13</b>	<b>* REDXA Monthly Meeting</b>
Mar 30-31	CQ WW WPX SSB
<b>Apr 10</b>	<b>* REDXA Monthly Meeting</b>
Apr 19-21	Int'l DX Convention - Visalia
Apr 27-28	Florida QSO Party

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

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### FOR SALE:

Jim, K6UUW  
Pres, VOMARC

The Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club (VOMARC) has the following items for sale:

HY-Gain Rotator, HAM IV. Was recently taken down from a local ham. Appears to be in good working order.

Asking \$300.00

HY-Gain TH7-DX Tri Band Beam. Looks fine. All nonmetallic parts look good.

Asking \$200.00

Call Jim, K6UUW, at 935-7441 or [jhill@vom.com](mailto:jhill@vom.com)

## SUGAR AND SPICE COOKIES

3/4 cups room temp. unsalted butter  
1 cup of sugar  
1 egg  
1 tsp vanilla  
1/4 cup of molasses  
2 cups of flour  
2 tsp of baking soda  
1/4 tsp Salt  
1 tsp cinnamon  
3/4 tsp ground cloves  
3/4 tsp ginger  
1/2 cup raw sugar for rolling the cookies

Instructions  
Pre-heat oven to 350

Cream butter and sugar, add egg, vanilla then molasses.

Sift together dry ingredients and add to the butter mixture until just combined.

Using a cookie scoop form small balls and roll in sugar.

Bake on Silpat liners or parchment paper for 10-12 minutes, one sheet at a time.

Let cool on cookie sheets for about 5 minutes then transfer to a cooling rack.

By far, the best cookies for contesting I ever enjoyed!

73, Rick Sealock N6GY

## Contest Scores

by Jim, K6JS

### ARRL 10 Meter contest

Call	Class	Time	CW	SSB	Mults	Score
K6SRZ	SOAMHP	13:33	817	20	101	334,108
N6ZFO	SOLPM	15:00	457	334	72	234,624
N6YEU	SOLP		370		92	102,856
K6JS	MOLP		185	82	77	64,372
K6TU	SOHP		304		46	55,936
WW6D	SOALP		82		30	9,840
K6MM	SO MIXED LP		38		16	2,144

Other active REDXA members worked or heard.

KG6N

N6OJ

N6PIA

KE6LPO

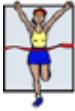
W6OSP

### STEW PERRY TBDC

Call	Class	Band	QSOs	Pts	Score
N6ZFO	SOLP	1.8	142	609	913.5
K6ANP	SOHP		191	?	?

### ARRL 160M - December 2012

STN	CLASS	QSO's	SECTIONS	COUNTRIES	SCORE
K6SRZ	SO HP	547	70	8	91,416
N6ZFO	SO LP	216	58	3	26,901
K6MM	SO HP	78	34	0	5,304



### REDXA Honor Roll

WARC BANDS					
30M		17M		12M	
W6XA	326	W6XA	335	W6XA	327
K6RIM	319	K6RIM	329	K6RIM	294
N6OJ	221	N6OJ	317	N6OJ	233
K6ANP	169	N7PIB	167	N6IE	134
N6IE	165	N6IE	165	N7PIB	120
K6SRZ	154	K6ANP	162	K6SRZ	106
W6SFK	66	K6SRZ	143	W6SFK	113
AG6V	3	W6SFK	144	K6ANP	72
N6GY	3	N6GY	8	N6GY	47
		WW6D	6		

W6SFK adds 30 new ones

W6SFK's new antenna is working fine, 22 new one

W6XA still at the top

ARRL DX Challenge	
W6XA	2985
K6RIM	2530
K6ANP	2131
K6SRZ	1770
N6OJ	1674
N6IE	1256
N7PIB	1123
W6SFK	931

W6SFK moving on up

160 Meters	
W6XA	224
W6OSP	177
K6ANP	158
K6SRZ	150
K6RIM	55
N6OJ	57
N6IE	37
N7PIB	15

N6IE enters the fray

1.5K Club	
W6XA	1689
K6RIM	1588
K6ANP	1371
N6OJ	1352
K6SRZ	1124
N6IE	1043
W6SFK	610
N6GY	148

W6XA still at the top

**Rules for REDXA Honor Roll Listings.**  
Provide me with your total IOTAs worked, or countries (including deleted) worked for: WARC Bands, 160 Meters, Digital modes, Mobile, 6 Meters or your total 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	170
W6XA	130
K6RIM	14
K6ANP	6
W6SFK	2

K6QXY adds another new one

RTTY/Digital	
N6OJ	298
K6RIM	253
N6IE	185
W6XA	162
W6SFK	152
K6SRZ	140
K6ANP	123

WSFK adds 8 to his total

Send your REDXA Honor Roll updates to:  
[jselmi@hotmail.com](mailto:jselmi@hotmail.com)  
Updated 1-6-13

Mobile DX	
N7PIB	121
K6JS	76
W6SFK	3

K6JS adds 5 new ones

DXCC Mixed	
K6RIM	366
N6OJ	360
W6OSP	353
W6XA	352
K6SRZ	346
W6SFK	258

W6SFK works 12 new ones!!!

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



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**MEETING: JANUARY 9, 2013**

