

SUNSPOTS



REDWOOD EMPIRE DX ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 750531, 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, November 12, 2008 at Mister McGoo's 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 CW Skimmer by Bob N6TV.

REDXA President's Report

For November's meeting we are honored to have a presentation by CW contester extraordinaire Bob Wilson, N6TV.

CW may be a primitive binary digital language, but as practiced by N6TV, cw is technological tour de force with SO2R. Bob will talk about the new and controversial VE3NEA CW xskimmer technology. If you're not familiar with VE3NEA's skimmer, see: <http://www.radio-sport.net/skimmer.htm>. Bob's presentation at this year's Visalia DX convention--about the implications of skimmers and software defined radios for amateur radio contesting--is available on line at <http://tinyurl.com/3ok29m>. Check them out and come to the meeting and bring your questions.

REDXA members made excellent showings in both CQP and CW Sweepstakes. Conditions were much better for CW SS than they were for CQP. It was a real pleasure to have 15 M open for Sweepstakes. My thanks to Fred, N6YEU for encouraging our members to get on the air for CQP. I suspect REDXA members will be county winners from Marin, Sonoma, Mendocino, and Trinity County, and that a few will also be among the wine winners. I really enjoyed seeing the photos of CQP operations that we shared at the October meeting.

I am four DXCC entities short of having worked them all. Until somebody activates FR/G, FR/T, VK0 (Heard), and Yemen (well, I did work Yemen, but you all know *that* story!), I will remain four entities short. So, like so many other DXers, I stay active chasing band-countries and entering contests. My latest obsession is 160 meters. When I lived on a small lot in Berkeley, Top Band was not a serious option. Now that I have enough space for some modest low band antennas (1.01 acres, according to the deed) and the nights are getting longer, I am spending more time on that band.

The most frustrating aspect of working 160 is hearing a DX station calling CQ over and over again while the stateside pileup gets bigger and nobody gets through. Then one of the 160 big guns get through (locally, that would be Bruce W6OSP). With qrz.com up on my monitor, I sometimes check out the Web sites of the W6 and W7s that do get through. A common theme emerges: these guys have lots of acreage. W7RH, for example, mentions that he has devoted six acres (of desert) to his 160 M antenna farm.

By the time you read this, the United States will have a new President elect. If you come to November's meeting, you will also have the chance to elect a slate of officers for REDXA. Here is the proposed slate:

President	K6SRZ
V.P	KE6UAR
Secretary	WW6D
Treasurer	K6JS
Director	K6RIM
Director	N6IE
Director	K6QXY

For my part, I will keep my hat in the ring for another term, but I will not be insulted if any of you choose to challenge me. And whoever is the next president, he or she will definitely need your help in scheduling programs for our meetings. Please let me have your suggestions for future programs and consider doing a presentation yourself.

See you at Mr. McGoo's.

73,

Alan/K6SRZ

Treasurer Report

by Jim, K6JS

REDXA TREASURER'S REPORT

8/31/08 Balance Forward		\$2,992.76
INCOME		
Dues	90.00	
Raffles	62.00	
StepIR	<u>275.00</u>	
TOTAL INCOME		427.00
EXPENSES		
StepIR	<u>605.50</u>	
TOTAL EXPENSES		(605.50)
9/30/08 Ending Balance		<u>\$2,814.26</u>

*Note: The 2 El StepIR was purchased for \$705.50. We had \$50 pledges from K6RIM, K6ANP, WW6D, N6IE, W6UDS W6OSP K6JS W6FQS. The club paid 302.75 each to W6OSP and W6UDS, which reflects their \$50 contributions. We also received \$25 from K6PHD. We still need \$50 from WW6D. Additionally, K6SRZ had pledged some money and possibly W6XU.

Treasurer Report

by Jim, K6JS

REDXA TREASURER'S REPORT

9/30/08 Balance Forward		\$2,814.26
INCOME		
Dues	20.00	
Raffles	<u>22.00</u>	
TOTAL INCOME		42.00
EXPENSES		
	<u>0.00</u>	
TOTAL EXPENSES		(0.00)
10/31/08 Ending Balance		<u>\$2,856.26</u>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OCTOBER 2008

by Doug, WW6D

NO MEETING SCHEDULED.

OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES

by Doug, WW6D

President Alan K6SRZ called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm, October 8, 2008 at Mr. McGoo's Restaurant, Petaluma, CA. In attendance were 19 members and one guest, N6KM Ken McTaggart.

Old business. Alan K6SRZ opened the business meeting by asking for a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting and treasurer's report as published in Sunspots. Chuck N6OJ so moved and it was seconded by Len K6ANP. Motion passed. Alan also heartily thanked those individuals who contributed over and above their dues toward the new SteppIR Antenna fund.

New business. Alan updated the group on upcoming programs: November – CW Skimmer by Bob N6TV, December – Traditional Holiday Party, January – Elecraft K3 Panel Discussion and Annual Joint Meeting with NCCC.

Fred N6YEU conducted the REDXA raffle. \$44 was collected. The winning ticket was Fred N6YEU who won \$22. The club thus retained \$22.

The program presented was a re-cap of the various California QSO Party activities by the membership. Fred N6YEU went on his annual County Expedition and this time activated Mendocino County on BLM property (where it rained both Friday and Saturday). Jim K6UUW and others from the Valley of the Moon ARC activated the W6AJF club call from Sonoma County. Jim KE6UAR activated Lake County. Bill KH6GJV and others activated K6EAR from Sonoma County. Alan K6SRZ then presented his video of his 2001 County Expedition to Trinity County along with a 2008 update.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Contesting and DX News

by Doug, WW6D

Contest Season is here! As kicked off by the California QSO Party, there certainly has been more activity on the bands and it was great to see all the REDXA members' participation.

Now... it is IMPERATIVE that you get your log turned in. Please be sure to credit REDXA as your club! If you need help, let us know -- one of the club officers or myself will try to help you.

CALIFORNIA QSO PARTY 2008

Call	Category	CW	SSB	Mlts	Score
KD6OTC	SOLP	0	97	?	?
W6PZ	SOLP	816	305	55	168,190
(K6SRZ op)					
W6XU	SOHP	801	971	57	247,665
N6YEU	SOLP	589	221	57	?
AA6YX	SOLP	359	191	52	75,868
K6ANP	SOLP	175	0	40	2,100
K6CTA	SOLP	485	0	50	72,750
N6ZFO	SOLP	484	277	56	112,168
K6RIM	SOHP	955	582	58	233,682
WW6D	SOHP	383	144	54	77,598
N6IE					165,938
K6JS	MSHP	518	469	56	139,552
KE6UAR					?
N6VAW	MS				4,100
W6UDS	MS				440
W6AFJ (K6UUW+others)				?	?
N6AD					?
KE6ZSN					?
W6OSP					58,050
Total REDXA (10/29/08)					1,358,101

CQ World Wide RTTY

Call	Class	Qs	St/Prov	Ctrys	Zones	Score
N6IE	SOABHP	725	136	109	63	421,344

CQ World Wide SSB

Call	Class	Qs	Ctrys	Zones	Score
K6LRN	SOABHP	290	105	47	118,560
K6RIM	SOABHP	495	188	68	347,136

North American Sprint RTTY

Call	Class	Qs	Mlts	Score
K6CTA	SOHP	70	23	1,610

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

Nov 1-3	ARRL Sweepstakes CW
Nov 12	* REDXA Monthly Meeting
Nov 15-17	ARRL Sweepstakes SSB
Nov 29-30	CQ World Wide CW
Dec 5-7	ARRL 160m Contest
Dec 9	* REDXA Monthly Meeting
Dec 13-14	ARRL 10m Contest
Jan 14	* REDXA Monthly Meeting
Jan 24-25	CQ WW 160m CW
Feb 7-8	CQ WPX RTTY
Feb 11	* REDXA Monthly Meeting
Feb 14-15	ARRL Intl DX CW
Feb 21-22	CQ WW 160m SSB
Feb 21-22	NA QSO Party

Fellow Members of REDXA:

Below is the 2009 REDXA Slate of Officers and Directors:

President	K6SRZ
Vice President	KE6UAR
Secretary	WW6D
Treasurer	K6JS
Director	K6RIM
Director	N6IE
Director	K6QXY

The election will be held at the November meeting.

Nominations will be open from the floor, so if you would like to run for office, don't be bashful - nominate yourself!

73,
Al, K6RIM
Nominating Committee

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: NOVEMBER 12, 2008

