

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, October 10, 2012 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 a video of the K4M Dxpediton to Midway Atoll: *Stepping Stone of the Pacific* by James Brooks, 9V1YC.

REDXA President's Report

I hope you all had a great time in the CQP contest. It appears REDXA and MLDXCC are posting some big claimed scores. I always look forward to CQP as it's one of the highlights of my ham radio year.

Saraj, KU6F and I loaded our cars and drove 5 hours to Plumas County for CQP. We setup our stations at a friends' "off the grid" cabin 5 miles outside the town of Chester. We decided to run M/M this year. The plan was for 2 QRO stations, but we quickly realized that wasn't going to work. The CW station had a Force 12 C3 at 50' and a windom for the low bands at 70' in the trees. The SSB station had a Mosley classic 33 beam at 20' and a dipole in the trees for the low bands.

We ran a low power M/M with one CW and one SSB station. Murphy was alive and well and gave us fits right up to the start of the contest. We've been very fortunate over the years getting setup and operational without many issues. We had a multitude of issues crop up this year, from faulty patch cords, static discharges, intermittent connections and



generator line noise to forgetting sleeping bags and the great coffee bean fire of CQP 2012. Coffee beans (5 pound bag) do burn when left too close to a burner. We kicked Murphy out of the party 8 minutes before it started.

We handed out over 1600 QSO's, 95% running with a score of 234,500. CW and SSB QSO's were evenly distributed with 20 and 15 being the money bands.

This month we'll see a video of the K4M Dxpediton to **Midway Atoll: Stepping Stone of the Pacific** by James Brooks, 9V1YC. Upcoming programs include a presentation by Alan, K6SRZ on his recent 3D2C Conway Reef DXpedition and a Remote Station presentation by Ron, N6IE.

My work and family life have been very busy recently. My YL's birthday falls on October 3rd every year, which makes this a very busy time, planning birthday parties in addition to getting ready for CQP, station teardown, travel, setup and teardown and REDXA articles. I just ran out of time to write the Sunspot articles before I left for Plumas. I thought I might have time in Plumas, but Murphy took every available minute. Let me know if anyone is interested in writing the DX or Contest articles.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING SEPTEMBER 2012

by Rick, N6GY

NO MEETING WAS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES

by Rick, N6GY

President Jim K6JS called the meeting to order at 08:00 pm, September 12, 2012 at the Cattlemens Restaurant in Petaluma. There were 23 members and 1 guest in attendance.

He asked that the minutes of the previous meeting

and the treasurer's report be accepted as published in the last issue of "SUNSPOTS". They were accepted.

He asked if anyone was available to help Rick N6GY with a tower move on Saturday, September 15th, that they should see Rick after the meeting.

He turned the meeting over to Alan K6SRZ, Chairman of the NCCC CQP. Alan encouraged everyone to take part in the CQP (California QSO Party) so we could finally beat the Mother Load DX Club in the club contest this year. He and several others will be unavailable this year because of travel plans. (A dxpedition to Conway Reef, a trip to Turkey, a whitewater trip down the Colorado River, etc.) Alan then handed out the following awards from last years CQP:

Best New Contester Earl W6GMP

1st Place - Marin County Al K6RIM

1st Place – Sonoma County Josh W6XU

2nd Place – Sonoma County Ron N6IE

He then asked every one to check out the CQP spot on the NCCC Web site. <http://www.cqp.org/> to become familiar with the new rules and the "Multipliers PDF" download at http://www.cqp.org/pdf/cqp_mults.pdf for a handy print out of the California County abbreviations.

Fred N6YEU then gave a talk and a slide show about the many mini dxpeditions he has done over the years for the CQP.

The 50-50 raffle was held and the winner was Earl W6GMP who took home \$58.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Treasurer Report

by Saraj, KU6F

REDXA TREASURER'S REPORT

8/31/12 Balance Forward		\$2,405.22
INCOME		
Dues	60.00	
Raffle	58.00	
TOTAL INCOME		118.00
EXPENSES		
TOTAL EXPENSES		(0.00)
9/30/12 Ending Balance		\$2,523.22

REDXA membership renewal is due. Please submit your dues to Saraj, KU6F, 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.

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

Oct 6-7	California QSO Party
Oct 10	* REDXA Monthly Meeting
Oct 12-14	ARRL National Convention at Pacificon
Oct 27-28	CQ Worldwide DX SSB
Nov 3-5	ARRL Sweepstakes CW
Nov 14	* REDXA Monthly Meeting
Nov 17-19	ARRL Sweepstakes SSB
Nov 24-25	CQ Worldwide DX CW
Nov 30- Dec 2	ARRL 160 meter Contest (Note dates!)
Dec 8-9	ARRL 10 meter Contest
Dec 12	* REDXA Monthly Meeting
Dec 16	ARRL Rookie Roundup CW
Dec 29-30	Stew Perry Topband Challenge
Jan 1	ARRL Straight Key Night
Jan 9	* REDXA Monthly Meeting
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
Feb 13	* REDXA Monthly Meeting
Feb 16-17	ARRL Intl DX CW
Mar 2-3	ARRL Intl DX SSB
Mar 13	* REDXA Monthly Meeting
Mar 30-31	CQ WW WPX SSB

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

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