

# THE NUGGET



Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

## The Newsletter of the Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

October 2021

Volume 26 Number 10

### **From the President – NC6R**

CQP has come and gone for another year. How'd you do? Well, I got kicked out of my chair again this year but that's ok. Congratulations go to K6SZQ for breaking her YL high score record by over 150 Q's from her previous best. It looks like I need to put up another tower and build a second station if I want to get on the air.

Current published reports that claim this solar cycle is on the upswing thankfully are proving to be very true. HF band conditions continue to improve with 10 meters even coming alive.

Also there was noticeable support and participation by MLDXCC members for the Makrothen RTTY contest. This is turning into a very popular event.

Sweepstakes is just around the corner and once again MLDXCC is looking to win the medium size club category. I'm told if we are successful, this will extend our winning streak to eight years!

Regarding the ARRL Sweepstakes contest, here our challenge – the medium size club category (which MLDXCC fits into) can have only 50 logs

submitted. This number is a culmination total of both CW & SSB logs. In order to achieve a maximum "club score", we can only submit the top 50 logs. I would ask...PLEASE do NOT submit a log for MLDXCC credit without first checking with our log flogger Bob, W1RH. I understand the frustration some of you have felt about being left out because your log didn't have enough contacts. Respectfully, this is the ONLY contest where we are limited to the top logs as we adhere to the contest rule set forth by the ARRL. In an effort to increase your score, I would encourage several of you to get together and operate as a multi-single (multi operators/single radio)...of course you'll need to agree on the callsign being used.

Our meetings continue to have quality speakers with a number of attendees logging in via zoom as well. Thanks go to our VP, Bob W1RH for his efforts in obtaining presenters. Currently we're attempting to secure an "in person" meeting location for the November meeting. It is very important very that we're all together as this is the election meeting for 2022 club officers.

How are your DX contacts & Marathon numbers? There continues to be a lot of workable DX available on the bands. Many contacts can be made on CW, SSB and FT8. For a smaller club, MLDXCC had been as high as #4 in the world. We slipped some last year, however with the amount of DX available I have hope that once again we can climb that ladder of achievement. Remember the Marathon allows DX contacts to be counted "as new" every year. So even if you've worked them in the past, they count as a new contact again this year!

## **From the V.P. - W1RH**

Let's talk CQP!

This should be our year to compete against the Southern California Contest Club, based on the revised 2021 CQP Club Competition rules. I say "should be" because I only count 25 SCCC logs listed on 3830scores.com and the new CQP rules require a minimum of 31 logs in our category. We have well in excess of 31 logs and I'm sure SCCC will also have over 31 logs, since several of their members do not post to 3830. Several options have been added for bonus points and because of this it's difficult to actually get an idea as to just which club is ahead in the raw-score category.

A quick look at posted scores (3830 and the SCCC website), shows the following:

4,035,649 - MLDXCC

4,272,604 - SCCC

Again, these are raw score numbers without figuring in any bonus points. Also, I'm really not

As always, here are websites to view upcoming contest and DX announcements -

Contest calendar dates are listed at - <https://www.contestcalendar.com/index.html>

DX operation announcements can be found at - <https://www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html>

73 & good DX,

Steve / NC6R

MLDXCC President

sure that I have all of the MLDXCC scores. There may be fractional scores from some of the big multi-ops out there such as N6RO (operating as N6O with a few MLDXCC members on the team).

There are also several MLDXCC members who belong to other clubs and can make a choice as to just who their points go to. We're quite fortunate to have had Bill's (N6ZFO) 261,116 points go to MLDXCC (not shown on 3830).

Another variable is the ARRL Club Competition Eligibility List. I have not compared SCCC's list or ours to see if our lists are up to date. In SS, this had made a huge difference for both clubs in the past.

I'm not sure just how many bonus points we have, but let's just say 200K for now. I've got to believe that SCCC will also have some bonus points. The bonus points could make the difference.

SCCC beat us last year by about 300,000 points, even though we had nine more logs than they did. 2020 was the year of Covid shelter-in-place, and the scores for everyone were at an all-time high with so many operators staying home to operate rather than doing other things on an October weekend. I expect all scores this year will be a bit lower.

The bottom line here is that, based on the raw data I have, SCCC has the advantage, but with so much data missing (bonus points, scores not posted, etc.), we will just have to wait and see.

As far as the MLDXCC scores posted at 3830scores.com, here's what I see today (and apologies for any scores I may have missed):

<b>Call</b>	<b>Score</b>
WC6H	333,792
N6TV	326,598
AE6Y	324,626
K6T	305,196
N6ZFO	261,116
W6C(@KH7Y)	255,722
N6JV	229,564
K6CQP(@KE8FT)	177,726
NR6Q	172,028
WX6V	166,212
K6MR	155,846
K6SZQ	137,142
W6CQP(KH2TJ)	136,472

K6LRN	133,551
KE6GLA	127,509
N6XI	107,085
W6EU	106,920
K2RD	87,039
KH6TU(AD6E)	83,404
W6B	82,264
K6TQ	59,616
AF6SA	56,800
K6NV	53,400
WE6Z	46,935
N6GEO	35,680
NC6R	33,900
W6RKC	32,984
KG6SVF	27,456
K6CSL	19,188
W6SF	9,266
N6NFB	7,056
KI6YYT/M	5,400
WB6BET/M	5,346
K6C(W1RH)	4,669
K6YK/M	3,600
WF6C	2,379
K6ST	2,208
AE6WT	1,530

W6LP	560
KE6MOA	572
K6AO	352
W6BRY	224
W3WRC(WE6Z)	120

I do want to note that Alan's (KH6TU) score is not in our total. He did operate from his KH6 QTH, so that puts him outside the 175 mile club circle. Nevertheless, Alan went out looking for MLDXCC members and we appreciate that!

There are some huge single operator scores. I just don't know how these guys do it. Leading the pack was Rich (WC6H) with 333,792 points, followed by Bob (N6TV) with 326,598 points, and Andy (AE6Y) with 326,626 points. Just amazing!

Also, note the great score by Sue, K6SZQ.

There are also some multi-county and mobile expeditions. Emilia (KI6YYT) and Jim (WB6BET) put some miles on their mobile as did John (K6YK), Doug (WE6Z) and Barry (K6ST).

The only other Club score over 300K was the multi-single effort of K6T, which was a Tehama County expedition. The operators were: Steve (W1SRD – Team Leader), Doris (KOBEE), Bob (W1RH), Martin (AA1ON), Dean (N6DE), and Tyler (K6TLR).

Please take a look at all of the scores. Our club was out in force with mobiles and county expeditions. Thanks to all of you! For those who don't see your score in the total, please remember to post to 3830scores.com in the future.

As far as my own CQP experience, it is always a blast operating with a team, and the K6T team members were all great to work with. Doris (KOBEE), as always, kept us well fed with great lunches and dinners and also used her "3 dB" advantage to make some Q's. The last time we operated from this Tehama QTH was in 2019 and our score was 2K higher than this year. I'll note that in 2018 and 2019, the Air B&B we operated from, which is off the grid, was dead silent as far as noise is concerned. We were surprised that the site had a higher noise level this year. In the past, there has not been a house in view of our house but this year I noticed a new house about a mile away. Also, the owner of our house has added LED lights and additional electronics which all contributed to a higher noise level and may be a reason for our reduced score. The noise was not bad, but last year, with absolutely no locally generated noise, we had really good ears.

With 6 operators this year at K6T, Dean (N6DE) spent much of Saturday operating in Lassen County, which was in need of activation. I also took a break from the K6T team and used my FT-857 and a 20-meter HamStick and managed to 53 Q's in exactly one hour of operation. I used the call, K6C, and drove about a mile away from the K6T site. I had no noise whatsoever on the hill I parked on and was just amazed at what I could do with a HamStick and the FT-857, running 80 watts.

Our next major club focus contest is Sweepstakes, and that is only a few weeks away. Watch the reflector for our strategy discussions.

K6T, Tehama County



The K6T site is about 10 miles off the grid with about a 45 minutes of driving on dirt roads once you get off the pavement. Equipment was:

K3/P3

Alpha/ETO 91B

2 element SteppIR

M2 40 meter rotatable dipole

30 foot tower trailer

80 meter inverted Vee

N1MM logging software

Bob W1RH

### **Next Meeting**

**Date:** November – 13<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** TBD

**Location:** TBD

**Presentation:** TBD

## **MLDXCC Treasurer - K6SZQ**

MLDXCC Treasurer's Report - September 2021

8/31/2021	Opening Balance		\$2,638.06
	Income		\$20.00
	2021 Dues	\$20.00	
	Expenses		\$0.00
	none		
9/30/2021	Ending Balance		\$2,658.06

## **From the Secretary - KI6YYT**

MLDXCC October 23, 2020 Meeting Notes

President Steve, NC6R, called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm. There were 21 people in attendance at The Break Room, in Shingle Springs. There were approximately 6 people attending via Zoom.

The August Secretary minutes and Treasurers report were approved as published in the last newsletter.

Treasurers Report; September started with \$2,638.06 and ended with \$ 2,658.06. The increase was due to one dues payment being received. The report accepted.

A new member application was received from Ernie Kappahn, W6KAP. Ernie's application was accepted by a unanimous vote of the members present.

Nominations for 2022 Club Officers were announced by Steve, NC6R;

President	NR6Q, Greg Glenn
Vice Pres	N6RNO, Rick Eversole
Treasurer	K6SZQ, Sue Allred
Secretary	W6BRY, Bryan Mathews
Director	WC6H, Rich Cutler
Director	W1SRD, Steve Dyer
Director	NC6R, Steve Allred

### **Achievements;**

WB6BET, Jim, 4<sup>th</sup> place rover, in the US Islands on the Air contest

WE6Z, Doug, Two new countries

N6JV, Norm, 160M new band country

NC6R, Steve, 80M new band country

W1RH, Bob, had a CQP score, roughly between 383,000 to 500,000.

ARRL Sweepstakes coming up! There are limited log submissions per club. There was discussion on different ways to insure that only the highest logs are submitted. Details will follow on how this will be handled by the club.

The next MLDXCC meeting will be on November 13<sup>th</sup>. A location is needed for the meeting. Please send location suggestions to the President.

The business meeting was closed at 12:37 pm.

The program was put on by Rick Samoian, W6SR, on his Dxpedition 2006 to PJ2T, in Curacao. Thank you Rick for an interesting program.

Emilia Seiferling, KI6YYT

## **CLUB Dues**

**2021 dues are due!**

The Dues period runs from Jan 1 to Dec 31. Dues are \$20.00 individual, \$30.00 family

PayPal – Send to: [motherlodeclub@gmail.com](mailto:motherlodeclub@gmail.com). Use the Friends and Family option.

Cash or Check - Given to a club officer at a meeting. Or mail to the Treasurer - Sue Allred K6SZQ, 17610 Red Mule Rd. Fiddletown, CA 95629

## **Club Log Standings**

### **Overall**

1	N6JV	Norm Wilson	202
2	NK7I	Rick Bates	189
3	NJ6G	Dennis Moore	185

### **CW**

1	K6YK	John Lee	133
2	N6JV	Norm Wilson	120
3	W1SRD	Steve Dyer	98

### **Phone**

1	NC6R	Steve Allred	122
2	K6YK	John Lee	83
3	K6TQ	Dave Sanders	73

### **Data**

1	NK7I	Rick Bates	182
2	NJ6G	Dennis Moore	179
3	N6JV	Norm Wilson	170

*Club Log Standings are based on worked entities during the calendar year.*

## **Member Reports**

3 ATNO's from CQWW RTTY including S9OK  
Doug WE6Z

### **Pacificon Swap**

The Pacificon swap meet turned out great. It wasn't as big as it has been in the past, but it was well attended.



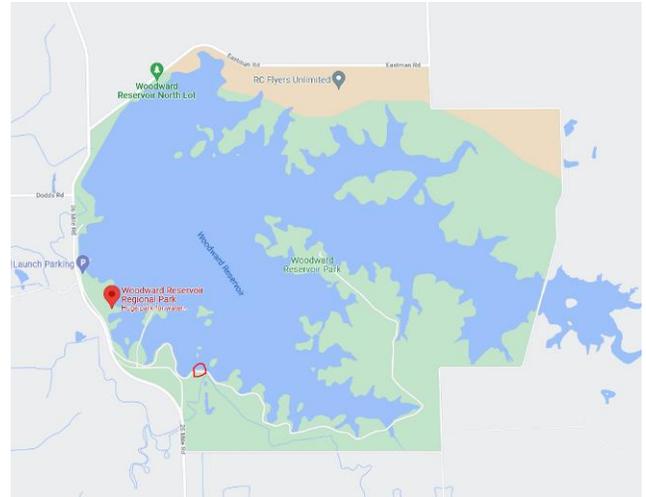


Doug WE6Z

## **CQP 2021**

### **W6B, W6BRY, WE6Z, W3WRC CQP**

CQP 2021 is in the books. Brian W6BRY and I had a great time. We decided to do a Multi/Multi low power 8-hour county expedition. Our original plan was to operate from a spot near Kirkwood, but the Caldor fire canceled those plans. After consulting with Dean N6DE, he said Stanislaus County would be a rare county, and needed help. I did some research and looked for camping spots, Air B&Bs, and parks. I finally narrowed the list down to Woodward Reservoir. There were some camping spots available, but by the time we got around to reserving one, they were all taken for the CQP weekend. This was because we were waiting it out to see if we could get into Kirkwood. But one good thing about Woodward, was that they have day use areas available and miles of shoreline. Google earth showed flat terrain for miles around, so I decided to take a drive and scout it out a week beforehand.



I found plenty of open space available. So Woodward it was.

Brian and I did a dry run of setting up the tower trailer and antennas at my house the day before, because the Spiderbeam antenna was new and to make sure we had all of the equipment, ladders, and miscellaneous stuff loaded. Good thing, because I would have forgotten the sledge hammer and socket set.



I had to wake up at 3:45 AM to get ready and drive to Stanislaus County. We paid our \$15 for the day and we rolled through the gate at 6:09 AM. The gate guard warned us that it was the opening day of duck season, so don't be worried if you hear a lot of gunshots. As it turns out, there was a lot of shooting.



All those black specs are ducks and geese. The shooting continued throughout the day. Fortunately, the closest hunters were about a half mile away.

We set up in the day use area on the south west side of the lake. Setup took about 3 hours. We had to assemble the antennas, put up the tower trailer, and set up all of the gear. I got started a few minutes late because I had to finish assembling my station and erecting the 40 meter dipole.

I used my newly made GoBox with a Yaesu FT-450, Dell laptop, and Johnson Matchbox. The antenna was a 40 meter inverted vee dipole at 36 feet suspended from a 40ft Spiderbeam fiberglass mast. I ran 100 feet of 450 ohm ladder line. And with a Link-coupled tuner, the loss should be near zero.

The weather was excellent, with temps in the 60s in the morning and getting to the 90s in the afternoon. We had 6 or 7 visitors stop by and ask what we were doing.

One new thing for us during CQP was adequate cellular coverage. All of the previous sites had zero or very little cell coverage. Woodward not only had cell coverage, but full bars of 4G LTE. Last year we used a simple network switch and Ethernet cables for networking between the two laptops. This year, we tried something new. I

used the Mobile Hotspot feature on my phone to provide networking and internet. N1MM connected our laptops with no issues for the whole day.

As for power, I ran my little Honda EU2000i generator. It worked like a champ, and we were able to run it over 10 hours without having to put gas in it.

This year we ran bandpass filters on each radio, and a coax stub on the multiband beam station. Believe it or not, we had zero interference between the two stations. The radios were about 10 feet apart, and the tower trailer was about 75 feet from the dipole.

We 543 contacts and worked 57 of the 58 multipliers. Conditions were very good, and we got half a dozen dx stations in the log.

Tower trailer ready to go.



Beautiful sunrise



Tower trailer with Spiderbeam and my truck with Spiderbeam dipole.

Operating position



Dipole and tower trailer



Brian's operating position



Tower trailer with Spiderbeam antenna.



Setting up at sunrise



Assembling the Spiderbeam antenna



GoBox with Johnson matchbox and laptop.



After 8 hours of operating, we packed up and headed home.

To take advantage of the new club bonus points for this year, I also did a mobile operation from STAN, CALA, and ELDO counties. I used the call W3WRC.

I used the GoBox on the passenger seat and two different antennas on the back of the cab. I used a Hustler on 40 meters and a Swantenna 45 on 80 meters. The plan was to do SSB, but with low power, I had more success on CW.

Swantenna 45 antenna



After doing the mobile operation, I got home around 10:45 PM.

Mobile setup



I was also interested in trying to set a record for QRP in El Dorado County. So I operated my station under the call WE6Z for a couple hours Saturday night and through the rest of Sunday. I was amazed to make 361 contacts with just 5 watts. The 80 meter dipole and SteppIR DB18E at 75 feet worked great!

Working QRP in the shack



DB-18E



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### N6DE SO(A) Cnty1DayExp LP

One-Day Expedition to Lassen County on Saturday.

Elecraft K3

40m vertical dipole

Pictures at:

<https://public.fotki.com/N6DE/cqp/cqp-2021/>

I was with the K6T Tehama County team on Friday for setup, and I operated the K6T station for about 5 hours overnight Saturday night / Sunday morning.

In Lassen County, I operated at the edge of a 22-degree downslope toward the USA.

I got a late start on Saturday morning. My Acom 1010 keying connector got damaged and dislodged from the chassis, ruling out high power. Then my K3 developed an "ERR 12V" message off and on throughout the day. I made some QSOs with 10W and others with 100W.

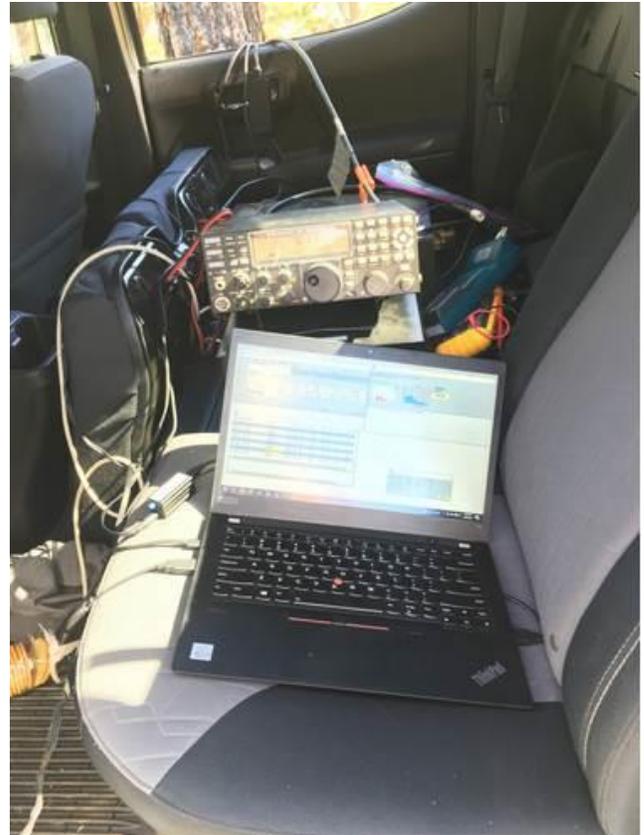
I was shocked to make EU QSOs with this setup. I thought I was too late for the EU opening on Saturday until G3WGN called me. Then SP5SA called in. Then OM2VL. And then HA9RE and DL3DXX at almost noon local time. I couldn't believe it.

Most of my 40m QSOs were with W7, which was OK because it gave them the opportunity to log Lassen on CW when otherwise it is difficult for them on 20m. K9CT called in very early on 40m at about 2:30pm local time with a great signal.

But it was another hour and a half before others could hear me east of W0. 40m seemed to open east later this year than last year.

I operated Assisted because I looked at my SNR readings from RBN to determine how and where I was being heard.

I operated less than the driving time and setup/teardown time required! But I hope it gave stations an extra county that they needed.



73...

-Dean - N6DE

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### **WB6BET & KI6YYT 2021 Mobile CQP**

Like last year, we operated the California QSO party mobile. We activated 8 counties in two days and drove 274 miles. On Saturday we operated in San Francisco, Marin, Sonoma, Napa, & Solano Counties. On Sunday we did Contra Costa, Sacramento, and San Joaquin. We operated on 40, 20, & 15 meters with 200 watts from a Kenwood TS-480HX. The antenna was a Hustler mast & resonators mounted on the truck aluminum toolbox.

San Francisco, at 9am, was the toughest hour to make contacts. We had a RF noise free location on a 360-degree view hill, but the bands were not cooperating at that time of the morning. It took 1 hour for Emilia to make 10 contacts and 6 were ground wave, on 20 meters, within the SF bay area. By 10am we had to move on to Marin County, so Jim didn't get to activate San Francisco.

As the day progressed the band conditions improved, making contacts easier. Since we were operating under our own call signs, we made sure each of us had at least 10 contacts before moving to the next county. After we had 3 counties qualified, to meet the rules for a mobile operation, we still kept our goal to make 10 or more contacts per person in each county.

DX was interesting. We heard Slovenia (S5), Slovak Republic (OM), & Brazil (PY). It wasn't worth the time to jump into the pile ups for those contacts. Working states was the goal for

this weekend. We worked both New Zealand (ZL) and Australia (VK) with ease; just one call and done. It also helped with many contacts by signing our call signs with "mobile" after our call signs. This opened up many doors for making a contact. Most hams will "clear the decks" to make a clear frequency for a mobile or QRP station. This is the ham spirit we should all strive to obtain.

Working from true RF interference quiet locations is also big key. Trying to find these locations is a real challenge. It required many "expeditions" and lots of miles to find them, so I won't be publicizing them; they're our secret! This also proved that the receiver in any modern rig is only limited by your local environment and not the receiver itself. I can't tell you how many California stations we could hear via NVIS back scatter. It was a lot. Don't obsess over not having the most modern rig. It's your environment that counts, not the rig or antenna. Just think about what we did with an antenna that's only 7 feet long mounted on a tool box and the Kenwood TS-480HX, made in 2004.

Like last year we worked Bob, W0BH in Kansas from 6 of the 8 counties we activated. Bob is a big time mobile QSO party operator from Kansas (look him up on QRZ and open the article at the bottom of his page). We became ham buddies and we were on a first name basis after the first county we worked him. We actually had real QSO's with him during the contest and not just the basic serial number and county exchanges. He even encouraged us to travel to Kansas to do their QSO party as a mobile. Great fun!!

Like our previous mobile operations, we kept our sanity by having proper sit down meals to

give us a break between operating and driving between counties. No fast food eating in the truck while on our mobile operations. We were home in the evening sleeping in our own bed and not in a motel.

By doing this type of operation we were able to give the Mother Lode DX/Contest Club 120,000 bonus points. Emilia, KI6YYT, or Sue, K6SZQ, will give the club 50,000 bonus points for having at least one YL submission for the club. Our operation was all about making the bonus points for the club, rather than contest points. There are many members of the MLDXCC club more capable than us for making operating points, from their home stations.

I hope we can do this again next year, but will pick different counties. We have a year to find RF quiet locations in each county. It really is a tough challenge and will take much research and "expeditions" to find these. Try finding a road or location without any power lines nearby. They're pretty darn rare.

73,

Jim, WB6BET

Emilia, KI6YYT

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### **N6TV California QSO Party - 2021**

Operator(s): N6TV  
Station: N6TV

Class: SO HP  
QTH: SCLA  
Operating Time (hrs): 23.7  
Radios: SO2R

Summary:

Band CW Qs Ph Qs

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160: 53  
80: 214  
40: 477  
20: 698  
15: 431  
10: 4  
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Total: 1877 0 Mults = 58 Total Score = 326,598  
Club: Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

Activity and conditions seemed greatly improved compared to last year. Many thanks to the great CQP organizers especially CQP Chair N6DE, webmaster K6MM and CQP log uploader developer NS6T.

It's been a long time since I worked a sweep operating only CW. Thanks to KOJP/M for my only ND and to VY1CO for NT to finish the sweep.

Rig: Elecraft K4D (2)  
Amp: Elecraft KPA1500 (2)  
Ant: 5 el 10, 5 el 15, 5 el 20, 3 el 40, 1 el 80, shunt-fed tower 160  
Rx Ant: VE3DO Loop, N6RK Loop  
SO2R: Top Ten DX Doubler  
Software: DXLog.net v2.5.23

Cabrillo Statistics (Version 10g) by K5KA & N6TV  
<https://bit.ly/cabstat>

CONTEST: CA-QSO-PARTY  
CALLSIGN: N6TV  
CATEGORY-OPERATOR: SINGLE-OP  
CATEGORY-TRANSMITTER: ONE

Hour	160	80	40	20	15	10	Rate	Total	Pct
1600	0	0	0	129	22	0	151	151	8.0
1700	0	0	0	60	80	0	140	291	15.5
1800	0	0	0	54	37	0	91	382	20.4
1900	0	0	0	56	49	0	105	487	25.9
2000	0	0	0	48	33	0	81	568	30.3
2100	0	0	0	50	24	0	74	642	34.2
2200	0	0	0	48	27	0	75	717	38.2
2300	0	0	77	16	8	0	101	818	43.6
0000	0	0	95	33	0	0	128	946	50.4
0100	0	0	90	3	0	0	93	1039	55.4
0200	0	32	71	2	0	0	105	1144	60.9
0300	0	97	38	0	0	0	135	1279	68.1
0400	4	42	19	0	0	0	65	1344	71.6
0500	49	17	1	0	0	0	67	1411	75.2
0600	0	21	6	0	0	0	27	1438	76.6
0700	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1438	76.6
0800	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1438	76.6
0900	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1438	76.6
1000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1438	76.6
1100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1438	76.6
1200	0	1	24	0	0	0	25	1463	77.9
1300	0	4	41	11	0	0	56	1519	80.9
1400	0	0	15	29	0	0	44	1563	83.3
1500	0	0	0	33	16	0	49	1612	85.9
1600	0	0	0	37	18	0	55	1667	88.8
1700	0	0	0	13	18	0	31	1698	90.5
1800	0	0	0	7	27	0	34	1732	92.3
1900	0	0	0	16	30	4	50	1782	94.9
2000	0	0	0	30	20	0	50	1832	97.6
2100	0	0	0	23	22	0	45	1877	100.0
Total	53	214	477	698	431	4	1877		
Gross QSOs=1890		Dupes=13		Net QSOs=1877					

Gross QSOs=1890    Dupes=13    Net QSOs=1877

Unique callsigns worked = 930

The best 60 minute rate was 156/hour from 1603 to 1702

The best 30 minute rate was 168/hour from 1603 to 1632

The best 10 minute rate was 204/hour from 1749 to 1758

The best 1 minute rates were:

- 5 QSOs/minute 6 times.
- 4 QSOs/minute 58 times.
- 3 QSOs/minute 167 times.
- 2 QSOs/minute 300 times.
- 1 QSOs/minute 514 times.

There were 564 band changes and 285 (15.2%) probable 2nd radio QSOs.

73,  
Bob, N6TV

### K6CQP California QSO Party - 2021

Call: K6CQP  
Operator(s): KE8FT W6AW  
Station: KE8FT

Class: M/S HP  
QTH: Davis - CA  
Operating Time (hrs): 24

Summary:  
Band CW Qs Ph Qs

-----  
160:  
80: 107 70  
40: 43 43  
20: 298 283  
15: 214 170  
10:  
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Total: 662 566 Mults = 57 Total Score = 177,726

We did again a lot better than last year and reached our goal of well over 1000 QSOs in spite of the unexpected tripping of a next door GFCI (Ground-Fault Circuit Interrupter) that really messed up the 40 meter run.... Thanks to NCCC for letting us use the K6CQP call and to all the stations that answered our CQs.

KE8FT

Goal achieved - Sue broke her YL record!  
K6SZQ - 1,203 Q's / 137,142 points  
NC6R - 339 Q's / 33,900 points  
K6AO - 22 Q's / 352 points  
W6LP - 20 Q's / 560 points

A big thanks to all who participated. You are what makes MLDXCC great!  
73,  
Steve / NC6R

**NR6Q**

Total Contacts = 1,483

Total Points = 172,028

Operating Period: 2021/10/02 16:40 - 2021/10/03 21:59

Total op time (breaks > 30 min deducted): 18:33:07

Total op time (breaks > 60 min deducted): 20:14:03

Avg Qs/Hr (breaks > 30 min deducted): 79.9

Total Contacts by Band and Mode:

Band	CW	Phone	Dig	Total	%
80	0	79	0	79	5
40	0	474	0	474	32
20	0	766	0	766	52
15	0	164	0	164	11
Total	0	1,483	0	1,483	100

Greg

**K6T**

Operator(s): N6DE W1RH AA1ON K6TLR K0BEE W1SRD

Station: K6T

Class: M/S HP

Class Overlay: CntyExp QTH: TEHA

Operating Time (hrs): 30

Summary:

Band CW Qs Ph Qs

160:

80: 267 33

40: 248 89

20: 466 462

15: 260 187

10:

Total: 1241 771 Mults = 58 Total Score = 305,196

Club: Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

Returned to same off grid location used in 2018 and 2019. Local noise level was up from prior visits and we felt we were missing a layer of stations we would have heard in prior years. Overall score is slightly lower than our last effort from this location with fewer total QSO's but more CW QSO's.

Great time had by all together again after missing 2020. Good food, friends and radio. Doesn't get any better. Until next year...

TU,

K6T Team Tehama

**KH6TU CQP**

Another rousing rendition of the classic.

I hate to say it but there are some out there with really good front to back beams.... unfortunately.

SO1R - I have two radios but only used one at a time.

I kept one on 10 meters most of the day but never saw a single signal. The K3 DVR failed so CQ on PH was a real pain.

K3 + KPA1500 to 3 element SteppIR at 60ft. One element on 40, wire on 80/160.

Low bands were pretty good. Probably because the CA front to back wasn't so big.

Time: 17:35

Band Summary			
Score: 83,404			
	CW	PH	Mul
160m	9	0	0
80m	63	24	1
40m	58	19	0
20m	136	81	36
15m	94	55	21
10m	0	0	0
Total	360	179	58

Aloha, Alan AD6E / KH6TU

Call: WX6V  
Operator(s): WX6V  
Station: WX6V

Class: SO(A) HP  
QTH: PLAC  
Operating Time (hrs): 16

Summary:

Band	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs
160:		0		
80:		136		
40:		312		
20:		389		
15:		135		
10:		0		

Total: 972 0 Mults = 57  
Total Score = 166,212

Club: Mother Lode DX/Contest  
Club

Comments:

Always fun being a mult.  
Thanks for the Qs and KBs.

**K6TQ CQP**

Call: K6TQ  
Operator(s): K6TQ  
Station: K6TQ  
Class: SO HP  
QTH: Folsom, CA  
Operating Time (hrs): 11

Summary:

Band	Ph	Qs
40:	34	
20:	378	
15:	140	

Total: 0 552 Mults = 54 Total Score = 59,616

Club: Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

Thanks for the Q's !  
Worked 25 counties. Missed RI, AK, BC, and NT.

Dave K6TQ

Kenwood TS-990 / KPA1500 / 3-el SteppIR / JK401

---

Call: WC6H  
Operator(s): WC6H  
Station: WC6H

Class: SO HP  
QTH: CALA  
Operating Time (hrs): 23:45

Summary:

Band	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs
160:	30	17		
80:	223	36		
40:	255	285		
20:	453	448		
15:	310	241		
10:	1	0		

Total: 1272 1027 Mults = 57 Total Score = 333,792

Club: Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

Comments:

Had fun thanks for all the Q's.  
See you in SS.  
73 Rich WC6H

Call: WF6C  
Operator(s): WF6C  
Station: WF6C

Class: SO HP  
QTH: NEVA  
Operating Time (hrs): 1.1  
Remote Operation

Summary:  
Band CW Qs Ph Qs

-----  
160: 61  
80:  
40:  
20:  
15:  
10:  
-----

Total: 61 0 Mults = 13 Total Score = 2,379

Club: Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

**K9JM CQP 2021**

Callsign: K9JM  
Entry-Class: Single-Op  
Power Level: High  
Sent QTH: NEVA  
Special Categories:  
Club: Mother Lode DX/Contest Club  
Received at: 2021-10-03 22:38:55 +0000  
Deadline at: 2021-10-18 23:59:59 -1200  
Total QSO Lines: 890  
Valid QSO Lines: 890

I missed one section... just about all on CW.  
Conditions last night were fantastic.

73 de  
Jim K9JM

Call: KE6GLA  
Operator(s): KE6GLA  
Station: KE6GLA

Class: SO HP  
QTH: ELDO  
Operating Time (hrs): 20

Summary:  
Band CW Qs Ph Qs  
-----  
160:  
80: 73 50  
40: 126 115  
20: 178 163  
15: 89 87  
10: 3  
-----

Total: 469 415 Mults = 57 Total Score = 127,509

Club: Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

Comments:  
Missed NT : (  
IC-7300 Hexbeam and Dipole

**W3WRC CQP**

CallSign Used : W3WRC  
Operator(s) : WE6Z  
Operator Category : SINGLE-OP  
Band : ALL  
Power : LOW  
Mode : CW  
ARRL Section : SV  
Club/Team : Mother Lode DX/Contest Club  
Software : N1MM Logger+ 1.0.9275.0

Band Mode QSOs Pts Mul Pt/Q  
3.5 CW 15 45 0 3.0  
7 CW 5 15 2 3.0  
Total Both 20 60 2 3.0  
Score : 120

Mobile operation for bonus points.

Doug

CallSign Used : WE6Z  
Operator(s) : WE6Z

Operator Category : SINGLE-OP  
Band : ALL  
Power : QRP  
Mode : MIXED  
Default Exchange : # ELDO  
Gridsquare : CM98MN

ARRL Section : SV

Software : N1MM Logger+ 1.0.9252.0

Band	Mode	QSOs	Pts	Mul	Pt/Q
3.5	CW	24	72	2	3.0
3.5	LSB	11	22	1	2.0
7	CW	43	129	10	3.0
7	LSB	7	14	0	2.0
14	CW	135	405	29	3.0
14	USB	14	28	0	2.0
21	CW	119	357	3	3.0
21	USB	8	16	0	2.0
Total Both		361	1043	45	2.9

Score : 46,935

QRP operation 😊

**W6B CQP**

CallSign Used : W6B  
Operator(s) : WE6Z W6BRY  
Operator Category : MULTI-OP  
Band : ALL  
Power : LOW  
Mode : MIXED  
Default Exchange : # STAN  
Club/Team : Mother Lode DX/Contest Club  
Software : N1MM Logger+ 1.0.9275.0

Band	Mode	QSOs	Pts	Mul	Pt/Q
7	CW	95	282	5	3.0
7	LSB	61	122	2	2.0
14	CW	189	564	10	3.0
14	USB	58	114	24	2.0
21	CW	113	333	14	2.9
21	USB	27	54	1	2.0
Total Both		543	1469	56	2.7

Score : 82,264

Stanislaus county 8 hour expedition

WE6Z, W6BRY

Call: N6JV  
Operator(s): N6JV  
Station: N6JV

Class: SO HP  
QTH: Wilton, CA  
Operating Time (hrs): 20

**Summary:**

Band CW Qs Ph Qs

160:	27
80:	189
40:	199 48
20:	480 160
15:	204 124
10:	

Total: 1099 332 Mults = 58 Total Score = 229,564

Club: Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

**Norm**

A short mobile outing this time.  
Gave out Alameda, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Calaveras.

Total 50 QSOs , 3600 points  
17 watt QRP mobile with Hustler antenna.

73,  
John, K6YK

---

CA QSOPARTY Summary Sheet  
Operator(s) : **N6RK**

Operator Category : SINGLE-OP  
Power : HIGH  
Mode : MIXED  
Default Exchange : # SACR  
Club/Team : Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

Band	Mode	QSOs	Pts	Mul	Pt/Q
3.5	CW	25	75	0	3.0
7	CW	210	630	3	3.0
14	CW	426	1278	11	3.0
14	USB	135	270	0	2.0
21	CW	280	840	41	3.0
21	USB	97	194	2	2.0

Total CW 941  
Total Phone 232

Total Both 1173 3287 57 2.8

Op time: 13.5 hours

Score : 187,359

---

California QSO Party - 2021

Call: **N6XI**  
Operator(s) : N6XI  
Station: N6XI

Class: SO HP  
QTH: SCLA  
Operating Time (hrs): 5.6

Summary:  
Band CW Qs Ph Qs

-----  
160: 0 0  
80: 100  
40: 127  
20: 219  
15: 204  
10: 0  
-----

Total: 650 0 Mults = 55 Total Score = 107,085

Club: Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

Comments:

Missed AK (!), ND, NT

---

The old guys were at it again. We were looking to put up a new record for Amador County Multi-Multi H/P CQP, which we did! Not bad for a couple of octogenarians. Oh BTW we had a great time doing it! 73 all and thanks to all for the QSO's.....de KH7Y and W6SR

California QSO Party - 2021

Call: **W6C**  
Operator(s): W6SR KH7Y  
Station: KH7Y

Class: M/M HP  
QTH: Amador County  
Operating Time (hrs): 30

Summary:  
Band CW Qs Ph Qs

-----  
160: 9 0  
80: 105 2  
40: 287 76  
20: 499 270  
15: 199 193  
10: 11 1  
-----

Total: 1110 542 Mults = 58 Total Score = 255,722

Club: Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

---

Call: **WB6BET/M**  
Operator(s): WB6BET  
Station: WB6BET/M

Class: SO HP  
Class Overlay: Mobile  
QTH:  
Operating Time (hrs):

Summary:

Band	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs
160:				
80:				
40:		7		
20:		46		
15:		28		
10:				

Total: 0 81 Mults = 33 Total Score = 5,346

Club: Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

Comments:

Activated 7 counties mobile.  
4 Saturday 3 Sunday.  
Club Bonus Points  
Unique call = 10,000 points  
Mobile = 50,000 points

CA QSOPARTY Summary Sheet  
Operator(s) : **N6RK**

Operator Category : SINGLE-OP  
Power : HIGH  
Mode : MIXED  
Default Exchange : # SACR  
Club/Team : Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

Band	Mode	QSOs	Pts	Mul	Pt/Q
3.5	CW	25	75	0	3.0
7	CW	210	630	3	3.0
14	CW	426	1278	11	3.0
14	USB	135	270	0	2.0
21	CW	280	840	41	3.0
21	USB	97	194	2	2.0

Total CW 941  
Total Phone 232

Total Both 1173 3287 57 2.8

Op time: 13.5 hours

Score : 187,359

Call: W6EU  
Operator(s): W6EU  
Station: W6EU  
  
Class: SO HP  
QTH: CA  
Operating Time (hrs): 7

Summary:  
Band CW Qs Ph Qs  
-----  
160: 0 0  
80: 127 0  
40: 206 0  
20: 161 0  
15: 154 0  
10: 0 0  
-----

Total: 648 0 Mults = 55 Total Score =  
106,920

Club: Northern California Contest Club

Comments:

Missed: NT, AB, LA. Thanks to KOJP and KOMKL for  
making ND possible in this  
CQP. Thanks Jack and Shelley!

Start Date : 2021-10-02  
CallSign Used : K6DGW  
Operator(s) : K6DGW  
Station : K6DGW  
Operator Category : SINGLE-OP  
Band : ALL  
Power : LOW  
Mode : CW  
Default Exchange : # NV  
Gridsquare : DM09DN  
ARRL Section : NV  
Club/Team : Mother Lode DX/Contest Club  
Opr Time : ~3 hrs all Sat evening  
  
Band Mode QSOs Pts Mu1 Pt/Q  
3.5 CW 55 165 17 3.0  
7 CW 33 99 17 3.0  
Total Both 88 264 34 3.0

Score : 8,976

CQP is a whole lot more fun if you're in California. 100 W to the  
WOOF [decidedly NVIS  
all bands], could hear NEVA, PLAC, ELDO [weakly], PLUM on 20 Sat  
midday, not much else  
in CA. Sat evening, signals on 40 were loud, and crushing on 80 Sat  
night. Very limited  
time for this one. Thanks for all the Q's and KB's

---

#### California QSO Party - 2021

Call: N6XI  
Operator(s): N6XI  
Station: N6XI  
  
Class: SO HP  
QTH: SCLA  
Operating Time (hrs): 5.6

Summary:  
Band CW Qs Ph Qs  
-----  
160:  
80: 100  
40: 127  
20: 219  
15: 204  
10:  
-----

Total: 650 0 Mults = 55 Total Score =  
107,085

Club: Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

Comments:

Missed AK (!), ND, NT

Call: KI6YYT/M  
Operator(s): KI6YYT  
Station: KI6YYT/M

Class: SO HP  
Class Overlay: Mobile YL  
QTH:  
Operating Time (hrs):

Summary:  
Band CW Qs Ph Qs

-----

160:		
80:		
40:	7	
20:	59	
15:	24	
10:		

-----

Total: 0 90 Mults = 30 Total Score = 5,400

Club: Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

Comments:

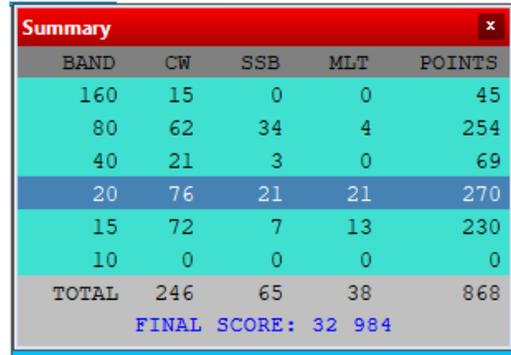
Activated 8 counties mobile.  
5 Saturday 3 Sunday.  
Club Bonus Points  
Unique call = 10,000 points  
Mobile = 50,000 points

---

Any time my score reaches 10% of WC6H's score, it is a great contest for me and this one was.

Under the stellar tutelage of NC6R, I integrated an SDR-IQ receiver with my rig and logger to use as a panadapter and it worked well. I spent way too much time playing with point and click, otherwise I might have gotten to 12% of WC6H's score.

73,  
Rick, W6RKC



BAND	CW	SSB	MLT	POINTS
160	15	0	0	45
80	62	34	4	254
40	21	3	0	69
20	76	21	21	270
15	72	7	13	230
10	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	246	65	38	868
FINAL SCORE: 32 984				

---

## ARRL Contesting Certificates

If you have participated in ARRL Contests by submitting your log, enter your call sign and see your available certificates. You can view and download them. The certificates show where you placed in the contest.

<http://contests.arrl.org/certificates.php>

## Awards Checkers ARRL

Ken Anderson, K6TA

(DXCC, WAS, VUCC, 160M)

Rick Samoian, W6SR

## Tube of the Month

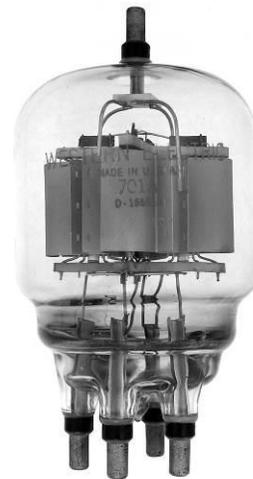
### WE 701A

In the early days of RADAR development, many tubes were developed and tested for special applications. The output tubes and pulse modulators were the subjects of much of the research. Some oddball pulse modulators were intended only for this application. In 1940, Western Electric introduced a hard pulse tube, the [701A](#). It is large, fat and has 4 base pins arranged in a non-standard arrangement. The 701A is a tetrode made by paralleling the insides of four WE 350A tubes. The filament is 8 volts at 7.5 amps and with 12.6 kV on the anode; you could pull 12 amps in pulse mode. The average power is only 100 watts.

The 701A only had a short period of service but is still popular with tube collectors. They were replaced by better and less expensive tubes that had standardized bases. I had one in a tube display at a swap meet and was asked why it was special. I ask them to look inside at the grids and they noted that the grids looked gold. The grids are actually gold plated. It took a while to explain that feature as best as I understand it.

The 701A is a high-speed switch used to transmit pulses of voltage to the RADAR output tubes. This required very fast pulses with a sharp rise and a very steep trailing edge. In between pulses, the RADAR needs to go into receive mode. If the voltage doesn't drop off fast, the receive period would be

compromised and could mask close in targets. When you take a 100-watt tube and pulse 150,000 watts through it, a lot of heat is generated on the plate and the grids. It was found that when a grid got white hot, it started emitting electrons like the filament. This is called secondary emission and it was a big problem. It was discovered that plating the grids with platinum or gold would reduce this emission and helped make sure the Navy didn't miss a threat that was trying to sneak up on them. Gold plated grids were a feature of many subsequent pulse tubes throughout the War.



Visit the museum at [N6JV.com](http://N6JV.com)

Norm N6JV

## **MLDXCC Focus Contests**

The following lists all contests in which MLDXCC would appreciate your efforts.

ARRL SS CW/PH  
ARRL DX Phone\*  
ARRL DX CW\*  
ARRL 10M\*  
ARRL 160M\*  
California QSO Party

\*Proposed and approved at the November 12, 2016 MLDXCC general meeting.

Northern California Contest Club (NCCC) announced their focus contests at their August 2018 meeting. This list can be found in the Aug 2018 NCCC newsletter.

ARRL RTTY RU  
CQ WPX RTTY  
CQ WPX SSB  
CQ WPX CW

## **The NOAA Solar Update**

Click the link below to display the latest NOAA solar predictions.

<http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/products/weekly-highlights-and-27-day-forecast>

## **UPCOMING DX and DXpeditions**

Click the link below to display upcoming DXpeditions.

<http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

## **MLDXCC Reflector**

The MLDXCC reflector is maintained at groups.io. Visit <https://groups.io/g/mldxcc>

We also maintain a spotting reflector at <https://groups.io/g/MLDXCC-Spots>

We are also on Facebook!  
<https://www.facebook.com>

## **UPCOMING Events**

For the latest contest info, click on the following link:

<http://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html>

## **Classifieds**

*Members are requested to review their classified ads each month for accuracy and to resubmit their ads or confirm their desire to keep it running in the next issue.*

### **The Northern California Swap**

Thursday evenings at 8 PM local on the N6ICW repeater system 147.195 +123  
Join Armand WB2ZEI and the group to buy, sell, or trade amateur radio related gear. Check-ins and visitors welcome.

---

**New! "The Serial Box"** (SBOX) by N6TV –  
Combination Serial Port Splitter, ACOM /  
Elecraft / SPE Amplifier Interface, FSK/CW/PTT  
keying interface, and Breakout Box

---

<https://www.eham.net/reviews/detail/13971>

Serial Box



Serial Box

"The Y-BOX" by N6TV – 4-way Elecraft K3/K3S ACC port splitter, Elecraft Amplifier Interface, and Breakout Box

<https://www.eham.net/reviews/detail/13296>



Y-Box  
N6TV

Need QSL cards, business cards, club banners?  
Contact Vina K6VNA [vina@sign-tek.com](mailto:vina@sign-tek.com)

Not giving up...just making space.

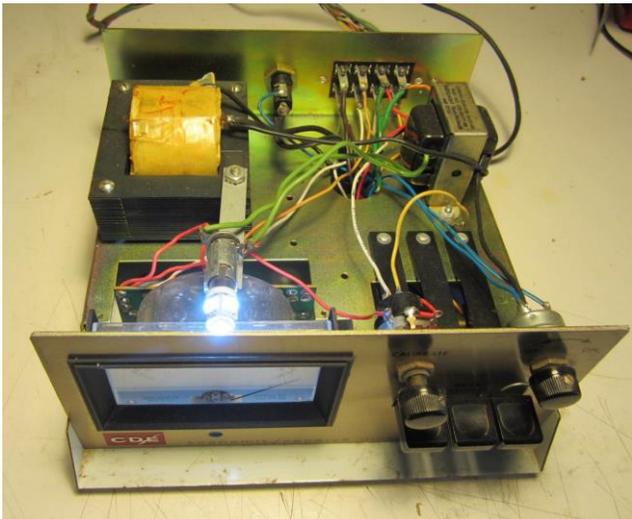
1994 ARRL Handbook Hard Bound offer  
1995 ARRL Handbook Soft Bound offer  
FT-5000 MP \$1700/offer have box, manual Late serial #  
FT-890 'AT' w/manual & mobile bracket (AT may or may not work) \$250/offer

FT-1000 MP with filters, accessories & box \$995/offer (ex WZ6Z radio)  
50' coax with center & end insulators for dipole...new, never outdoors- \$ 60/offer  
Satellite & old DirecTV dish...free  
1992 International Callbook (remember those?) offer  
Old Novice & Tech License Guides, Tune in the World, Operating Manual  
IMAC (old - unknown condition) with kb & mouse...???  
Email: [k6lrn@arrl.net](mailto:k6lrn@arrl.net)  
Thanks & 73, Dick

FOR SALE: \$240.00 - Complete CDE HAM III Series 2 antenna rotor system. The controller has the LED dial light modification and includes about 50 feet (or more) of the 8 conductor rotor cable and the original factory owner's manual. The system operates just fine.

For questions: Bill - N6GHZ in Camino at (530) 409-9782. [N6GHZ@ARRL.NET](mailto:N6GHZ@ARRL.NET)





FOR SALE: \$140 - HP 8640B 0.1 to 512 MHz signal generator (military version). The generator performs right on with up to +20 dBm RF output (in CW mode). It has FM and AM modulation. The picture shows it at 500 MHz and 0 dBm output.

For questions: Bill – N6GHZ in Camino at (530) 409-9782 N6GHZ@ARRL.NET



## **2021 Meeting Dates**

January – 23<sup>rd</sup> Zoom

Feb – none

March – 20<sup>th</sup>

Apr – 17<sup>th</sup>

May – 15<sup>th</sup>

June – 19<sup>th</sup>

July – 24<sup>th</sup>

August – 28<sup>th</sup>

September – 18<sup>th</sup>

October – 23<sup>rd</sup>

November – 13<sup>th</sup>

Dec – none

*Dates are arranged to accommodate major contest dates. Meeting dates are subject to change. MLDXCC traditionally holds a mid-year combined meeting with NCCC.*

## **Area Clubs**

Northern California Contest Club -

<https://www.nccc.cc>

Lodi Amateur Radio Club -

<http://www.lodiarc.org>

Stockton Delta Amateur Radio Club -

<http://www.w6sf.org>

Pizza Lovers 259 -

<https://www.pl259.org>

El Dorado Amateur Radio Club -

<http://edcarc.net>

Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club -

<http://www.w6ek.org>

Redwood Empire DX Association -

<http://www.redxa.com>

Calaveras Amateur Radio Society

<http://calaverasars.org/>

Tuolumne County Amateur Radio Electronics Society (TCARES)

<https://tcares.net/>

*Please contact the editor to have your club listed here.*

## **ARRL Pacific Division**

Pacific Division Director

Kristen A. McIntyre K6WX

[k6wx@arrl.org](mailto:k6wx@arrl.org)

Pacific Division Vice Director

Vacant

East Bay Section Manager

Jim Siemons, W6LK

[jim@siemons.com](mailto:jim@siemons.com)

Nevada Section Manager

John Bigley, N7UR

[n7ur@arrl.org](mailto:n7ur@arrl.org)

Pacific Section Manager

Joe Speroni, AH0A

[ah0a@arrl.org](mailto:ah0a@arrl.org)

San Francisco Section Manager

Bill Hillendahl, KH6GJV

[kh6gjb@arrl.org](mailto:kh6gjb@arrl.org)

Santa Clara Valley Section Manager

James Armstrong

[nv6w@arrl.org](mailto:nv6w@arrl.org)

Sacramento Valley Section Manager

Dr. Carol Milazzo, KP4MD

[kp4md@arrl.org](mailto:kp4md@arrl.org)

San Joaquin Valley Section Manager  
John Litz NZ6Q  
[john@litz.com](mailto:john@litz.com)

## **Officers of the MLDXCC**

President, Steve Allred, NC6R  
[sallred@volcano.net](mailto:sallred@volcano.net)

Vice President, Bob Hess, W1RH  
[w1rh@yahoo.com](mailto:w1rh@yahoo.com)

Director, Rich Cutler, WC6H  
[wc6h@yahoo.com](mailto:wc6h@yahoo.com)

Director, Steve Dyer, W1SRD  
[w1srd@arrl.net](mailto:w1srd@arrl.net)

Director, Jeff Stai, WK6I  
[wk6i.jeff@gmail.com](mailto:wk6i.jeff@gmail.com)

Secretary, Emilia Seiferling, K16YYT  
[ki6yyt@arrl.net](mailto:ki6yyt@arrl.net)

Treasurer, Sue Allred, K6SZQ  
[sueallred@volcano.net](mailto:sueallred@volcano.net)

Publicity Manager, Bob Hess, W1RH  
[w1rh@yahoo.com](mailto:w1rh@yahoo.com)

Editor, Doug Philips, WE6Z  
[we6z@hotmail.com](mailto:we6z@hotmail.com)

Webmaster, Norm Wilson, N6JV  
[n6jv@n6jv.com](mailto:n6jv@n6jv.com)

## **The MLDXCC Newsletter**

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