Volume 18, Number 7 **July 2013**

The Nugget

Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

The Newsletter of the Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

MEETING DATE, LOCATION & PROGRAM

When:. Saturday, 27 July 2013 at 11:30AM.

Where: The July meeting of the Mother Lode DX / Contest Club will be at Los Pinos restaurant 3420 Palmer Drive in Cameron Park, Ca. See the club's website at http://www.mldx-cc.org/ and click on "meetings" for a map and more information.

What: The speaker for Saturday's meeting is Ira Stoler K2RD. (You will hear him in most contests with a great signal). Ira is a very competitive contester and DXer and does this from a small city lot. He is going to let us know how he does it and how you can have a great signal from a small lot as well.

MLDXCC Meeting Dates:

December (no meeting)

2013-Officers

President – Bob, W1RH
Vice President – Rich, WC6H
Secretary – Kay, K6KO
Treasurer – Carolyn, K6TKD
Director – Ray, ND6S
Director – Shirl, AA6K

FROM THE PREZ

Happy July, MLDXCC'ers! I hope you've had time for some DX'ing and/or contesting.

I have had little time for radios. I have been working on the El Dorado County ARC repeater upgrade but, other than that, I have spent very little of my time on ham radio. Re-finishing my deck has been getting the bulk of my weekend time as of late.

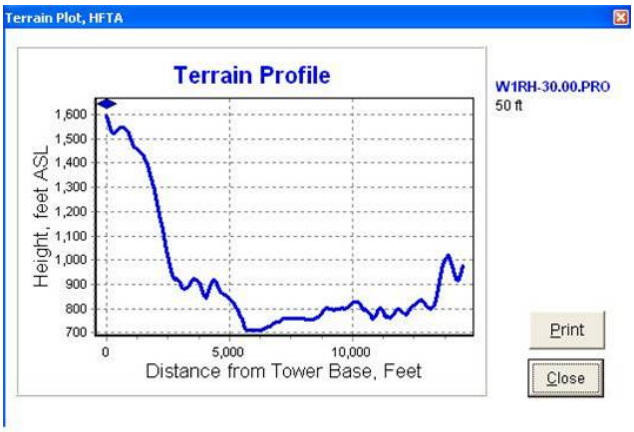
I did spend about an hour one evening on 20 meters recently. Rich, WC6H, and I decided to see which one of us had the best signal into Europe.

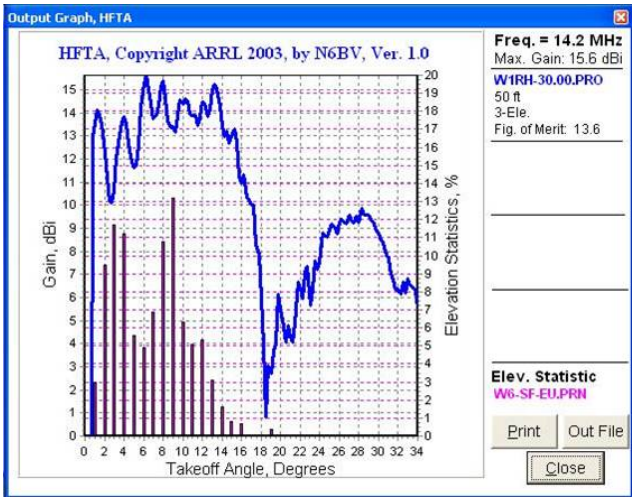
We had done this once before with a bunch of guys on the East Coast, on 40 meters. Needless to say, Rich had me beat by 3-6 dB. My 40 meter sloper, which actually works pretty well hanging off the top of the tower and running down my east-facing hill side parallel to the slop, just doesn't compare to Rich's big 40 meter monobander.

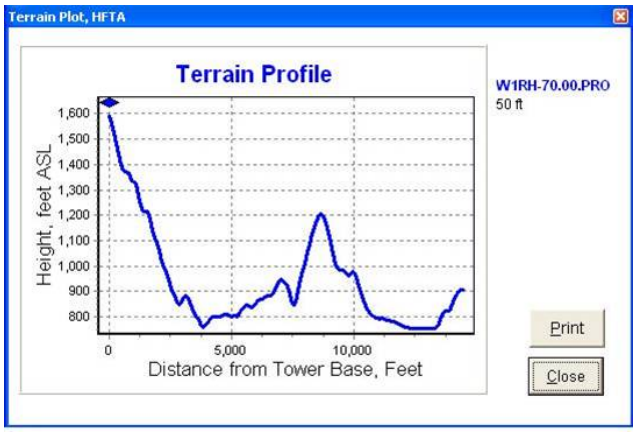
So, we decided to do the same thing on 20 with Rich promising to keep the power down to 1.5 KW (just kidding!). We were on or about 14,210, between 10:00 PM and 11:00 PM, local time, and conditions were good. A single CQ got it going and in no time at all we worked many countries in Western and Eastern Europe. We also had a ZS call us along with a guy in the Caribbean and a few Stateside stations. I think Rich would agree that my signal was pretty consistently 3-6 dB stronger than his in Europe and at ZS. We were about equal into the Caribbean and Stateside.

My Force12 C19XR, at 50 feet does perform really well into Europe and just about anywhere from about 0 – 220 degrees. That's why I bought the house at this location, after having Dean, N6BV, review the HFTA plots. This is especially true for the low-angle DX.

As you can see in the picture, I really do have a clear shot towards Europe, and the view in the direction of Africa is even better.







I seem to do nothing but contesting and working the occasional new one on HF, so this was a nice, casual way of spending some time on 20 meters, without watching a rate meter. You can do it too! Get a friend on the air and see who's going to be heard the best in a particular part of the world. We could even get a bunch of club members on the air to have some fun!

Several years ago, I bought a YCCC stack-match kit, and I've finally begun to assemble it. This kit gives you the ability to choose any combination of three yagis, so I'm going to do a 3-stack of tribanders on my second tower. The top one will be on a rotator and the other two will be fixed at 70 degrees. More often than not, signals are actually stronger on a 3 element tribander that I use for receive-only, and it's only 10 feet off the ground. A look at the HFTA terrain profile tells the story. A stack of tribanders should play really well for CQP, SS, and NAQP. Can't wait to get this going. If I can squeeze it in between refinishing the deck, I hope to have it all working prior to CQP.

I've included some HFTA screen-shots for 20 meter performance from my place to Europe and to the East Coast of the US.

I have a business trip on the date of our next meeting, so Rich will be running the party. It will be a good one. Ira, K2RD, will be giving his DX'ing on a Small Lot talk at the Los Pinos restaurant, in Cameron Park. It works out well for Ira, since he will be on his way to the K6IDX site, near Georgetown. It's a terrific talk, so plan to show up!

Last, but not least, I'd like to remind everyone of the MLDXCC / REDXA / NCCC Joint Meeting, which will be held on August 10th. The nearly 100, who attended last year, all agreed that the location was good, the food was good, and the presentations and camaraderie were great! Ira says he's bringing the latest version of the CW Pileup software, so bone up on your CW, and let's make MLDXCC win this one! This year, NCCC is planning the presentation so I'm not sure yet just who our speaker will be. Remember the date: Saturday, August 10th. It goes from Noon to 3 PM, and it's at the Rockville Grill, on Suisun Valley Road, in Fairfield. Specifics will be posted soon. I'll see you there!

See you there!
73, Bob, W1RH

THE VP SEZ

Hello MLDXCC, I am looking forward to the Saturday July, 27th meeting. It has been so long since the last meeting I attended. It will be good to see all my ham radio friends again. The speaker for Saturday's meeting in Ira Stoler K2RD. (You will hear him in most contests with a great signal). Ira is a very competitive contester and DXer and does this from a small city lot. He is going to let us know how he does it and how you can have a great signal from a small lot as well. This will be very interesting and informative, and the food at the restaurant is pretty good too. At the home QTH, my XYL is from Finland and for the past 3 weeks has been visiting family in OH8 land. She will be coming home on the 24th of this month. I have spent some time on the radio in the evenings mostly on 20 meters. The fall contest season is just around the corner that means CQP is getting close. While the weather is still good it is time to finish any antenna projects you have planned. We will have stiff competition this year. If we want to continue our

dominance we must be prepared. Sitting in the chair for 24 hours can become difficult. But this is how you win. I use tricks like sitting on a pillow, standing, knee bends, all this while hitting the F1 key. For food I like to eat mixed nuts (when on cw) and yogurt (when on phone) and keep a water bottle or two close at hand. Make sure the bathroom is not to far from the shack as well. With all this in place you're ready to Go! Go! Go! And MLDXCC wins again. Ira's talk is very timely with CQP three months away. Also the Joint meeting is the 10th of August; you don't want to miss this one. The meeting is a lot of fun and always has a great program.

73 Rich, WC6H

Our members enjoying lunch at Los Pinos in Cameron Park at our June 15th meeting.

July 2013 Treasurer's Report

Balance June 1, 2013		**$1443.96**
Income:	Badges:	
WA6NHC, W1SRD AG1RL		60.
Donations:	N6RK, W6HFM,K6OLY	15.00
Dues: WA6NHC, N6RK, K6OLY, N6DW		75.00
150.00	Expenses:	Badges:
Arnolds Awards		52.50
Liab. Ins.:	Hays Companies	200.00
		$252.00
Balance June 30, 2013:		**$1341.96**

$1443.96

Carolyn Wilson, K6TKD, Treasurer

N6ZFO Biography - June 6, 2013

Bill began ham radio life as **KN6OPI** while attending A. P. Giannini Jr. High in San Francisco. With help from mentors **K6PBX**, **W6UO** and **W6JWF** Bill achieved WAS and WAC as a Novice mainly on the still fairly new 15m amateur band. Operating from 48th and Santiago St. in SF, KN6OPI was the only novice station worked by the 1956 SM8KV Spitsbergen DXpedition. Among his radio friends was Dick, **KN6LRN**.

Bill, K6OPI multitasking AM Phone and CW in 1956. Note the Heath VFO with home built modulator sitting on top, Viking Adventurer transmitter and Hallicrafter SX-71 receiver.

While attending the Drew High School in San Francisco Bill upgraded to General and chased DX, entered contests and conducted phone-patches from Pacific island military personnel to their families across the US. Bill won the 1958 ARRL Sweepstakes for the SF Section,

beating the perennial winner Bip, **W6BIP** and earned DXCC and WAZ awards. Bay Area ham radio friends in that period included **W6OZC**, **K6VDN** and **K6ZXS**. As a member of the SFRC Bill participated in the ARRL Field Day extravaganzas at MacLaren Park, SF, in the din of the infamous **W6GGC** (Golden Garbage Can) 5KW smoke-belching generator.

At Harvey Mudd College Bill was the founder and first president of the Claremont Colleges ARC, **WA6LYL** ("six lovely young ladies" – a fantasy rather than reality). He received a degree in Chemistry, and four years later at Purdue Univ. in Indiana, became a PhD Chemist.

In 1990, while at the USDA's Western Regional Research Center in Albany, Bill was re-licensed as **N6ZFO** and became interested in contesting after a QSO with **K6LRN** in the 1991 CQP. He also pursued DX on 30m after a fierce wind snapped off the top few feet of the 40m vertical.

With encouragement from Marin County neighbor Al, **K6RIM** Bill joined both NCCC and REDXA in 2000 and served as NCCC VP/Contest Chair in 2001. Shortly afterwards Bill invented the NCCC Sprint Ladder competition, now in its 17th running. www.ncccsprint.com He serves as director of Thursday Night Contesting for the NCCC.

In 2008, following a 2 ½ year post-retirement gig with the Quest Diagnostics' Nichols Institute in San Juan Capistrano, Bill and XYL Barbara moved to a 27-acre QTH at the summit of Mt. Dali Dona in Lake County. Details are on QRZ.com. Bill and Barbara operate the Talleyrand Winery - Talleyrandwinery.blogspot.com They have three children, Jennifer, a CPA-nonprofits auditor in Seattle; Kim, a volleyball expert with BS degrees in Applied Math and in Kinesiology and an MS in Operations Research from the College of William&Mary, recently promoted into locomotive operations for the CSX Railroad in FL; and Adam, who is finishing a Political Science PhD at Georgetown University in the field of nuclear disarmament and deterrence.

de Bill Haddon N6ZFO

The following is the first installment of a multi-part series that was suggested by Dave, W6DE. It was compiled and written by W2XOY; I found it very interesting and hope our readers do as well. de Ed.

OUTLINE OF AMATEUR RADIO HISTORY

1894-1899--Marconi conducts his wireless experiments in Europe and sends a message across the English Channel. First article on building a wireless set appears.

1901-Marconi sends a wireless signal across the Atlantic.

1900-1908--Thousands of Americans experiment with wireless. Few at this time are interested in it as a hobby only.

1904-J.A. Fleming develops the 2 element (Diode) vacuum tube.

1906-Lee deForest develops the 3 element (Triode) vacuum tube. R.A. Fessenden uses the Alexanderson Alternator to make the first voice & music transmissions.

1908-A possible beginning of amateur radio. Prior to this time, interest in wireless had primarily been either as an experimenter or as an entrepreneur. By 1908, definite hobby interests exist among users.

1909-The first radio clubs are formed. Spark and the longwaves (300-6000meters) are king.

1912-The Titanic disaster points out the need for Wireless Regulation. The Radio Act of 1912 is passed, which limits "private stations" (i.e. amateurs) to 200
meters, a "useless" frequency. The number of "private stations" drops from an estimated 10,000 to 1200.

1913-Edwin Armstrong develops the regenerative receiver and also discovers
that the "Audion" (Triode) can oscillate. CW is born.

1914-The ARRL is organized by H.P. Maxim to help relay messages, given the limited range on 200 meters at that time. (25 miles).

1914-1917--The number of amateurs increases from 1200 to over 6000. The ARRL has an effective traffic handling network set up. David Sarnoff, (future head of RCA) proposes a "Radio Music Box" receiver. deForest (and some amateurs) make experimental broadcasts. The ARRL starts a little magazine, called "QST".
1917-The US enters WWI. All amateurs are ordered to dismantle their transmitters and receivers. With no radio operations, and 4000 hams in uniform, QST ceases publication.
1918-Major Armstrong develops the superheterodyne receiver while serving in France. C.W. is used by the military during the war.
1919-Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels tries to get the Navy a total monopoly on all wireless communications. The ARRL's "blue card" appeal saves the concept of private radio operations. Amateurs get back on the air in November, 1919.
1919-Woodrow Wilson becomes the first President to speak over radio when he broadcasts a speech to American Troops in Europe.
1919-1920--King Spark's last stand, with the success of CW in the war & the availability of tubes, Spark was doomed. Some amateurs experiment with broadcasting, including 8XK (KDKA). The number of hams = 5719.
1920-"Amateur Police Radio" becomes popular. Amateurs operated as an intersystem police communications service to relay broadcasts of crimes and stolen vehicles.
1921-The National Amateur Wireless Association becomes active. It's main success is the broadcast of the Dempsey-Carpenter fight. Many amateurs helped in this broadcast, from acting as relay stations to setting up receivers and loudspeakers in public places.
1921-1922--The Transatlantic tests are a success. Amateurs discover that frequencies below 200 meters (above 1500 kc) work even better. Amateur Broadcasting ("Citizen Radio") is popular with up to 1200 amateurs, but is prohibited in 1922 with the first broadcast regulations issued.
1923-The amateur census is at 14,000. Shortwave development continues. The MacMillian Arctic Expedition is the first to carry two way radio; an amateur 200 meter station. Over the next 10 years, dozens of Arctic and Antarctic expeditions, including those of Commander Byrd, used amateur radio as their primary communications.
1924-Amateurs get new bands at 80, 40, 20, and 5 meters. Spark prohibited on the new bands. Broadcast band expanded. The ARRL adopted Esperanto as the international auxiliary language
1925-The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) formed. Amateurs finally are successful in working around the world on shortwave.
1926-Crystal control of transmitters developed. A Federal Court declared the Radio Act of 1912 to be unenforceable in regards to broadcasting & the shortwaves. The "Summer of Anarchy" commences in the broadcast world, but amateurs stay within their bands.
1927-The Radio Act of 1927 creates the Federal Radio Commission. The word "amateur" is used for the first time in a Federal Statute. The International Radiotelegraph Conference is held in Washington. 70 Nations send representatives. Amateurs, represented by the ARRL & the IARU, fight overwhelming odds, keep 160, 80, 40, 20 & 5 meters, gain 10 meters, but lose 37.5% of our overall frequencies. International callsign prefixes are assigned.
1929-1936--Despite the Depression, Amateur Radio enjoys it's greatest growth--from 16,829 to 46,850. Low cost components make it possible to build a quality station for $50. VHF phone operation becomes popular with the superregenerative receiver (developed by Armstrong) and the modulated oscillator. Phone operation begins to appear on some HF bands. But C.W. & crystal control are still number 1.
1932-The Madrid Conference. No changes to Amateur Radio.

1933-1934--The Communications Act of 1934 creates the Federal Communications Commission. Amateur Licenses are reorganized into Class A, Class B, and Class C. Major Edwin Armstrong develops wideband FM.
1936-H.P. Maxim, founder of the ARRL & it's first President, dies.
1938-The Cairo Conference. Amateurs lose the exclusive use of 40 meters, now shared with Broadcasters. The FCC gives us 2 new "UHF" bands, 2 1/2 meters (112 Mc) and 1 1/4 meters (224 Mc).
1939-1940--We are joined in the "UHF" range by two new users--the first FM Broadcast Band (42-50 Mc) featuring stations such as W1XPW, W2XMN, and W2XOY; and the first Television Broadcast Band, above 60 Mc, with stations such as W2XBS.
1940-1941--With the war raging in Europe, our ability to have international QSO's is severely limited. When the US enters the War, all amateur activity is suspended
1942-1945--Except for WERS (the War Emergency Radio Service) on 2 1/2 meters, no amateur operations take place. New "UHF" tubes and circuits are developed as a result of the war.
1945-A major battle develops over postwar frequency allocations. The ARRL (amateurs), Major Armstrong (FM Broadcasting), and Brigadier General David Sarnoff (RCA/NBC Television), all fight over the low end of the VHF spectrum between 44-108 Mc. At one point, the FCC submits 3 Alternatives--#1 gives us a 7 meter band (44-48 Mc), #2 our 5 meter band (56-60 Mc), and #3 a 6 meter band (50-54 Mc). Alternative #3 wins and our 6 meter band is located between TV Ch 1 (44-50 Mc) and Ch 2 (54-60 Mc). FM is moved (over Armstrong's objections) from 42-50 to 88-108 Mc. The FCC moves our 2 1/2 meter band to 144-148 Mc (over the ARRL's objections) because they want it to be next to government & military allocations. On November 15, 1945, amateurs are allowed back on the air--but just on 10 & 2 meters only.
1945-CQ magazine is first published.
1946-The military leaves our HF bands in stages, hams gradually get their frequencies back, all except for 160 meters, which will be used for the LORAN Radio navigation system. The FCC creates the Tenth Call District (using the numeral -0-), and realigns the District boundaries. War surplus equipment finds its way into the ham market.
1947-The Atlantic City Conference--Amateurs lose the top 300 kc of 10 meters (29.7--30), and will lose 14.35--14.4 Mc on 20 meters. But they will gain a new band at 15 meters (21.0--21.45 Mc) in the future. To compensate hams for their loss, the FCC allows them to use the 11 meter band (26.96--27.23 Mc) on a shared basis with Industrial, Scientific & Medical devices. TVI is starting to become a problem--the ARRL determines that Ch 2 is very vulnerable to TVI & recommends it be eliminated, but the FCC removes Ch 1 instead. The Transistor is developed by Bell Labs.
1948-Single Sideband is fully described in the amateur publications. The FCC creates Class A & Class B CB radio between 460--470 Mc.
1951-The FCC completely reorganizes the amateur license system. The Class A, B, & C Licenses are replaced by the Advanced, General, & Conditional Class respectively. Three new license classes are created--the Amateur Extra, Novice & Technician. The Technician Class is created for experimentation, not communication, and has privileges only above 220 Mc. Novices are given limited HF CW subbands, 75 watts, crystal control only. They may also use phone on 145--147 Mc. It is a 1 year, non renewable license.
1952-The FCC allows phone operation on 40 meters, which had been CW only. The 15 meter band is opened. The Advanced Class is withdrawn from new applicants, although present holders can continue to renew, and the "exclusive" 75 & 20 meter phone bands are opened to Generals & Conditionals. Everyone, Conditional & above, has the same privileges.
1953-The FCC starts issuing "K" calls to amateurs in the 48 States due to the

increased ham population.
1954-Depressed and broke from his patent fights with RCA over FM, Major Edwin Armstrong commits suicide. His wife continues the fight, winning the last battle in 1967, when the Supreme Court rules that Armstrong did indeed invent FM.
1955-Technicians are given 6 meter privileges to help populate the band & encourage experimentation. The ARRL & most hams oppose 2 meters for Technicians. Wayne Greene becomes editor of CQ magazine.
1956-1960--A gradual technical revolution on 2 fronts: Transistors find their way into the ham shack, first in power supplies, then audio sections, then receivers and finally QRP transmitters. But most equipment was still 100% tubes. Also, SSB is catching up on AM in terms of popularity. By the 1960's, SSB pulls ahead of AM.
1957-Sputnik, the first artificial satellite, is launched by the USSR. Amateurs copy it's beacon on 20 & 40 Mc.
1958-Explorer is launched by the US. Amateurs copy it's signal on 108 Mc. The ham population is 160,000--3 times the 1946 total. The FCC has to issue "WA" calls in the 2nd & 6th call areas, as the "W" & "K" 1x3 prefixes have run out. Slow Scan TV is first described in QST. In September, amateurs lose their shared use of 11 meters, as Class D CB is born.
1959-The Geneva Conference held, no major amateur changes. Technicians get the middle part of 2 meters (145-147 Mc), but not without some controversy over the purpose of the license. The FCC restates their "experimental, not communication" policy.
1960-Wayne Greene fired as CQ editor, forms 73 magazine.
1961-OSCAR I, the first amateur satellite, is launched. Thousands of Amateurs copy it's 50 mw beacon on 144 Mc sending out ".... .."
1962-CONELRAD is replaced by the Emergency Broadcast System. Amateurs no longer have to monitor 640 or 1240 kc while operating their stations.
1963-The ARRL, responding to some complaints about Generals being allowed on 75 & 20 phone, proposes an "incentive licensing" system. Under the ARRL proposal, Generals & Conditionals would lose 75, 40, 20 & 15 meter phone privileges over a 2 year period. The Building Fund, to construct the ARRL Headquarters at 225 Main St., Newington, is in full swing. The amateur population is over 200,000, but CB licenses now outnumber hams.
1964-A ham in the White House? Barry Goldwater, K7UGA/K3UIG is the Republican Candidate for President. (He is defeated). Herbert Hoover dies at the age of 90. As Secretary of Commerce in the 1920's, and President of the United States from 1929-1933, his strong support of amateur radio was invaluable. He lived long enough to see his son (Herbert Hoover, Jr, W6ZH) elected President of the ARRL.
1965-The FCC comes out with it's own incentive licensing proposal. General/Conditional Class operators would lose 50% of the 75-15 meter phone bands. A new "Amateur First Class License", with a 16 wpm code speed, would be the stepping stone between the General and the Extra. Advanced Class amateurs would not be "Grandfathered" into the "First Class", rather, they would be bumped down to General upon renewal. OSCAR III & OSCAR IV allow 2 way QSO's via satellite.
1967-The FCC announced the new Incentive Licensing rules: over the next 2 years, General & Conditional operators would lose 50% of the 75-15 meter phone bands, the "First Class" idea was dropped, the Advanced Class was reopened to new applicants, Extra & Advanced Class operators get exclusive subbands on 80-15 and 6 meters, the Novice license term is doubled to two years, but Novices lose their 2 meter phone privileges, the FCC restates the "Technicians are experimenters, not communicators" policy, and states that the next license step for Novices is the General, not Technician, class.

1968-The FCC authorizes SSTV in the Advanced/Extra Class subbands.
Generals & Conditionals get SSTV later.
1969-The FCC removes the ability for a Technician to hold a Novice license at
the same time. The ARRL announces a new policy, they now consider
Technicians to be communicators and petition the FCC to give them full VHF
privileges, a 10 meter segment from 29.5-29.7 Mc, and Novice CW subbands.
"Long Delayed Echoes" appear. Were they real, or a hoax?
1970-The amateur population is 250,000 but stagnant. The license fees &
Incentive Licensing are blamed. Meanwhile, 2 meter FM is starting to boom. New
equipment designed for the amateur market joins the surplus wide band
commercial radios which were converted for use on 146.94. "Mhz" & "khz"
replace "Mc" & "kc". Amateur Radio is dragged into the Vietnam War protest
movement with the "Student Information Net" in operation on College Campuses
nationwide.
1971-The Japanese are starting to dominate the amateur markets. National,
Hammarlund, Hallicrafters and Gonset were beginning to fade away, but Drake,
Ten-Tec, Heathkit and Collins were still going strong.
1972-A national 2 meter FM band plan was announced, 146.52 was chosen as
the national simplex frequency. The FCC released the first repeater rules,
expanded the Technician 2 meter allocation to 145-148 Mhz, and relaxed mobile
logging requirements.
1974-The Electronics Industry Association proposed a new "Class E CB" using 2
Mhz of our 220 band. The FCC proposed a "Dual Ladder" license structure which
would take privileges away from Generals and Technicians (again) and would
create a new code free "Communicator" license. Both proposals eventually were
scrapped. "WR" prefixes began to appear on repeater callsigns.
1975-1976--A new repeater subband is established at 144.5-145.5 Mhz.
Technicians now have 144.5-148 Mhz on 2 meters, and finally have Novice
privileges. Novices are given a power increase to 250 watts. The "mail order"
Technician license is eliminated--applicants must appear at a FCC examination
site. The Conditional class is abolished.
1977-The FCC expands CB radio from 23 to 40 channels. Hundreds of hams
purchase "obsolete" 23 channel CB sets at fire sale prices and convert them to
10 meters.
1978-Technicians finally get all privileges above 50 Mhz, and can obtain a
RACES Station authorization. The Novice license is made renewable. The FCC
relaxed some of it's regulations, and instituted a new callsign system using 4
"groups", corresponding to the class of license held. "WR" repeater callsigns are
phased out. The amateur population stands at 350,000--33% more than in the
early 70's. "Packet" radio first appears on the hambands, on an experimental
basis.
1979-The World Administrative Radio Conference, or WARC-79, takes place in
Geneva. The ARRL, IARU & other groups have been preparing for years. We
lose nothing & gain 3 new bands at 10, 18, & 24 Mhz, which are phased in over
the next 10 years.
1980-Spread Spectrum appears on an experimental basis, and the FCC
authorizes ASCII on the ham bands. Packet is starting to grow.
1982-The "Goldwater" Bill is passed. It allows the FCC to set industry standards
regarding RFI.
1983-A ham in space!! Owen Garriott, W5LFL, becomes the first amateur to
operate on board a Space Shuttle. He makes hundreds of QSO's on 2 meters.
Another "Code Free" license idea pops up. Amateurs are overwhelmingly
opposed, & the proposal is dropped.
1984-The 10 year license replaces the 5 year one. The FCC stopped giving
examinations, turning the duty over to the new Volunteer Examiner Program. The
HF phone bands are expanded. The amateur population is up to 410,000.
1985-State and local rules which restrict amateur antennas must now comply

with the FCC's new policy, expressed in PRB-1. The FCC gives itself preeminence in antenna regulations, and states that local ordinances must provide for "reasonable accommodations" regarding amateur antennas.

1987-Novices & Technicians get 10 meter SSB privileges from 28.3-28.5 Mhz. Novices also get phone operation on portions of 220 & 1296 Mhz. The Element 3 written exam is broken into 2 segments--3A (Technician) and 3B (General). Technicians who passed their exam prior to March 1987 get permanent credit towards the General written exam.

1989-Amid growing calls for a code free license, the ARRL comes out in favor of one. (The ARRL's version does not include voice privileges on 2 meters).

1990-1991--MARS operations increased as amateurs became involved in Operation Desert Shield/Storm. As the war in Kuwait increases, tens of thousands of Americans discover Shortwave Radio, to get the latest news.

1991-Amateur Radio gets it's first code free license--the "No Code Technician". "Regular" Technicians are renamed "Technician Plus". The first all amateur Shuttle, the "Atlantis", goes into space.

1991-1998--Amateur Radio grows from 500,000 to over 710,000 hams. The ARRL is at its highest membership ever. Despite the "Doomsday" crowd, amateur radio is healthier than ever. The Internet hasn't killed us. Schoolchildren talk with hams in space. Our Public Service activities are wanted & appreciated. And Amateur Radio looks forward to the next Millennium, confident that it will evolve and grow.

Compiled from the following sources:

"Empire of the Air", by Professor Tom Lewis of Skidmore College, HarperCollins, 1991.
"200 Meters & Down, the Story of Amateur Radio", by Clinton DeSoto, The American Radio Relay League, 1936.
"QST", 1920---
"CQ", 1945---
"73", 1960---

Editor's Notes de Rick, W6SR

Hi all

Hope the hot weather and the lack of propagation the past month hasn't slowed you down too much. It sure has brought my new tower project to a snail's crawl.

However, I do have the tower vertical, the rotor is installed, as well as a 40M rotating dipole, and a six element 6M beam is on it. My plans were to add a TH-11DX to finish things off. Well that's not going to work, since the TH-11DX seriously overloads my rotor and replacement of my existing rotor with one, that fits my tower would cost nearly as much as the whole tower project to this point. Oh well…… So I'm (again) shopping for another antenna that would be more compatible with my existing down-sized system.

Don't forget that Ken, K6TA and I can check your QSL cards for ARRL awards, including WAS, DXCC & 160M. Ken and I usually attend all the MLDXCC meetings, so bring your cards and let us go to work for you.

ENF fer now, see you all the 27th. ……**de Rick, W6SR**

Member News, Items For Sale & ARRL Announcements & Feedback

Hi: I've been requested to provide a piece for "The Nugget" the subject: **The unlikelihood of working any real DX on the six (6) meter band**.

The old saying goes; Every dog has its day! Well the day came and went not just once but three times. The normal workable range of a six meter station is line of sight (maybe 130 miles) or riding along on a weather duct up to several hundred miles. This could be considered average for maybe nine (9) months of a given year. However around the middle

of May things start to happen! The summer "E" season begins and normally continues through to the first of September, when the nine (9) months of waiting start over again. There comes a smattering of openings during December, but not a lot.

Year after year the crazy six meter crackpots, not unlike fishermen, await opening day of the season. The day when more new girds are to be worked and confirmed, to complete 488 US grids needed for the "Fred Fish Award". One of are own has only nine (9) more to reach that goal, N6JV. There always the WAS-6 when all fifty (50) states are in the box. All this , of course, depends on the summertime crazies. Compounded by the eleven year sun cycle and its effects on six meters. "E layer" skip and if really lucky "F layer" also, multiple hop zones, but still an expected range of no more that 2500 miles over land. Left coast to East coast is considered about the best, even in the high cycle years.

I've been a licensed Ham for over 49 years, my half century anniversary will be in September of 2013. During that whole period of time, well up too June a year ago, I would sit and watch the clusters, seeing stations all up and down the East coast working European six meter stations by the hands full. Then a year ago the MAGIC of the six meter band shined on my antenna in 2012 and bingo there it was a European station OH4GG, clean crisp CW well out of the noise. Springing into action, the amp switch was thrown and less than 20 seconds later, (grounded grids warm up quick) I was on the key like a duck on a June bug. Holding my breath, hoping I wasn't just hearing things and then there it was the 5NN roaring like the MGM Lion into my headphones. I had actually worked a DX station in Europe. Card was send, and after an appropriate time. I begin making daily trips to my mailbox. Days pasted like months, and then there it was, the conforming QSL card from OH4GG. Great joy, I quickly added it to my collection of 6m DXCC cards confirmed, 51 to date. Now the other 49 should be easy.

Now a year has passed and the summer activity window is open. However, I was lucky again, YES there they were, the coveted stations from the across the pond. An OH6 followed by a S57, then a S59, and another 9A8 a PA2M and then the path went poof and was over. Four long days passed without anything, not even local DX stateside. Well then one the 17th, my birthday. What better day to get lucky. There they were back, an SM2 another OH1, SM5 and then the band died it was over again. Six meters long haul DX is for the quick it will last for only several seconds, long enough to exchange information or hang around for hours. You get distracted and oh damn you missed the opening.

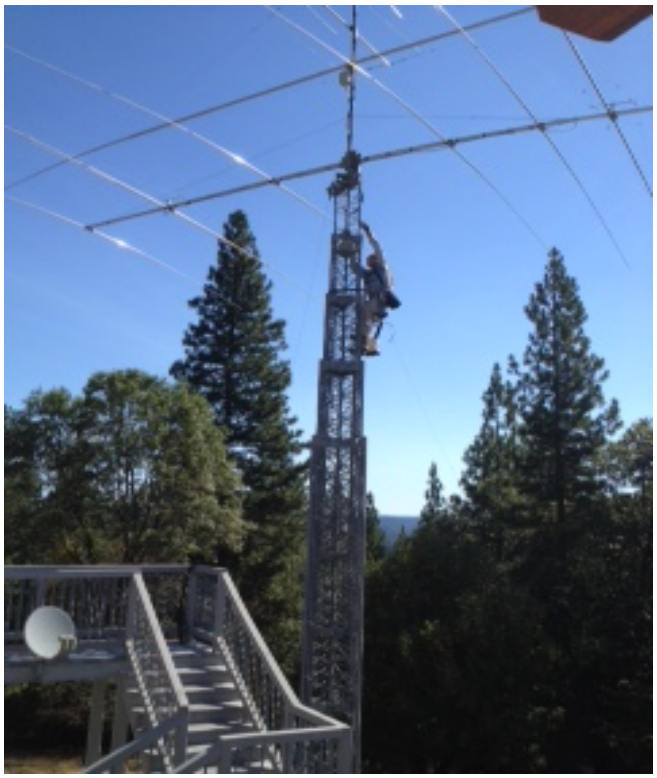
I've have sent out the cards out and now I play the waiting game. In a couple of weeks I'll be racing back and forth to the mailbox again, like an 8 yr old waiting for the Lone Range Silver Bullet, made of real plastic or the Captain Midnight code breaker thinger.

SIDE NOTE: The six meter band this season has been different. West Coast to Europe. Japan and Taiwan to the Mid US states. All us guys with long gray beards are scratching our heads. This is unheard of in the 60 years that records have been kept. We read and listen to the soothsayer warnings about this sun cycle being a dud. Maybe they are right, but so far it has been truly different and we on six meters are always optimistic we wait to see what the rest of June all of July August will bring, the thrill of winning or

the agony of defeat. Either way we'll say wait until next year. Thanks and 73'
Lyle K6QG, A confirmed Six Meter nut case.

Hi All, not much going on out here six meters was very quiet this summer but I did work 9X0EME on 2 meters eme for the first QSO on two meters between KH6 and 9X0. It was number 78 for me on two meters. Low bands very poor here also. I hope to see you guys, we will in Amador county for a week or so celibrating our 50th.
Aloha, Fred, KH7Y

Below are a couple of photos of Kurt, K7NV on the lowered 89 foot crankup doing PM in 101F temps! Kurt is amazing and highly recommended for tower/antenna work.



de Ken, K6TA

For Sale

I have a virtually new Hy-Gain TH-11DX Yagi antenna, it covers10,12, 15, 17, & 20M . This antenna is 3 years old, however it was never installed, so all the parts are as new and all alum. is shiny and bright. I have assembled, the antenna, saving someone 8 hours work, 6 feet above ground, for your inspection. It is very easy to dis-assemble into bite-sized sections that could easily be transported with a full size PU, or on a roof rack of an SUV. Photos are available if your interested.

This antenna was purchased for my new QTH, however, after going through the wind exposure calculations here, it's too

much antenna for my small tower/rotor to handle. Oh well.....my loss is your gain. Texas Towers sells the exact antenna for $1039 + shipping. I will sell this one for $550 and you pick it up in Placerville, Thanks de Rick, W6SR (530) 344-9085

Often one finds their UPS has failed. Due to lack of supply, one opts for the more expensive solution of replacing the whole unit. Fine, if you want to upgrade. If you are satisfied with unit, I suggest looking at www.replaceupsbattery.com.
I replaced the battery in one UPS last year and now need to replace in two other units.
I found what I needed at about $20.50 each with no shipping fees.
It took me longer to find & remove screws than it did to place order. The company accepts PayPal & credit cards**. de Dick,K6LRN**

Tube of the Month de Norm, N6JV

6146 etc etc

In 1952, RCA introduced the 6146. It was an octal base, 20 watt, beam tetrode that would operate up to 175 MHz. It was basically a 2E26 on steroids. The need for more powerful finals in 2-way VHF equipment was filled with the new tube. In military and amateur equipment the new tube became popular with the production of the first HF transceivers like the Collins KWM-1 and 2. Amateur kit transmitters like the DX100 and DX40 from Heathkit and from Johnson the Viking, Valiant, Ranger, Pacemaker and Invader transmitters all used the new tube. New variants of the 6146 started with the 6146A, which had a "dark heater" for mobile operation.

The 6146B was rated at 27 watts and the 6146W or 7212 was ruggedized. It made some sense that the military would want one for aircraft with a 26.5 volt filament, so they made the 6159 followed by the 6883 with a 12.6 volt filament for the new 12 volt cars. The 6293 was made for pulse operation and would stand 3500 volts on the plate. A new "dark heater" version was made with a 13.5 volt filament that was named the 8032. All this numbering madness came to a head with the 6883B/8032A/8552 with a combination of different features. In the period when there was equipment that was part transistor and part tube, they made the 8042 that had a 1.6 volt filament that lighted in 100 msec. The tube would light as soon as you hit the PTT button so it saved batteries. The cheaper 4652 was similar, but it took an entire second to light.

In recent years production ceased in the US, but I they are currently made in China.

.Visit the museum at N6JV.com..... Norm N6JV

Meeting Minutes, 15 June 2013. President Bob, W1RH, called the meeting to order at 12:10 PM at Los Pinos Restaurant in Cameron Park, with 17 members and 1 guest present.

Introductions. Round-the-room introductions were made and guest Rick, WA6NHC, was welcomed.

Officers' Roll Call. Present were Bob, President; Carolyn, K6TKD, Treasurer; Kay, K6KO, Secretary; Shirl, AA6K, Director; Ray, ND6S, Director; Norm, N6JV, website administrator; and Rick, W6SR, *Nugget* newsletter editor.

Secretary's Minutes and Treasurer's Report. The 18 May 2013 Secretary's minutes and Treasurer's report were approved as published in the June *Nugget* newsletter, with the followings corrections: In the Members Present section, Warren's call sign WK6RF was incorrectly entered as WK6RFF. Minutes were accepted as amended.

News and Comments. Kirby, AF6OP, was involved in a rescue mission in the Death Valley Wilderness. His account of the mission appears in the June *Nugget* newsletter. K6KO/K6TA auctioned off a 6-month subscription to the Daily DX, with the money going to the Club treasury.

Recognition of Achievements. Shirl, AA6K, reported that his cards that were checked at the May meeting are in the system, and he now stands at 1500 in the Challenge. Jettie, W6RFF, received recognition as the CW LP/SO division leader. Steve, W1SRD placed 1st, HP, Sac Valley, in the RTTY Round Up, while Jeff, WK6I, scored 3rd Place over-all. Rick, N6RK, came in 1st Place, LP, for the Pacific Division in the ARRL 160m test.

Upcoming DXpeditions/DX News. The NCDXF has approved a DXpedition to Juan Fernandez, CE0Z, while Paul, N6PSE, is back in Shanghai, on his way to North Korea for another round of negotiations.

Station Projects. Rick, W6SR, has completed his tower project, with 4.5 yards of concrete and a good deal on a fully-built rebar cage. Steve, W1SRD, has a used LM470 70' crank-up tower to sell, and is looking for something to use in moving towers off a trailer.

Awards Committee. Discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
Future Meeting Dates, Venues and Presentations. The July meeting will be held on the 27th, at a venue to

announced later. The joint meeting between the Club, the NCCC and REDXA will be held on 10 August in Fairfield, while the September meeting will be held on the 14th, at Mountain Mike's in Martell. Future venues in discussion remain Auburn, Cameron Park, Lodi, Martell, Roseville, Galt, Stockton and WK6I's winery in Murphys; locations in Auburn, Stockton and Roseville will need to be coordinated. Presentations discussed were Dick, N6AA, DXing in all 40 zones; Alan, K6SRZ, experiences as a DXpedition doctor; Dean, N6BV, terrain/HFTA; Jim, K9YC, contesting on a small lot; KE6GLA on software defined radio kits; Stu, K6TU, software defined radios and remote station operation; and Rick, W6SR, antenna modeling/10 GHz contest. Jeff, WK6I, was suggested for a program on SO2R RTTY contesting at the Joint meeting, or at a meeting in Stockton.

Club Focus and Upcoming Contests. Sweepstakes continues to be an NCCC-focused contest this year, with the MLDXCC donating our points. Contests with a Club focus will be CQP, CQWW, and the ARRL DX-10m-160m tests, while we will support the NCCC in the CQ WPX CW/SSB/RTTY (2013), NAQP CW/SSB/RTTY and the RTTY Round Up.

NEW BUSINESS.
Membership. An application for membership was received from guest Rick, WA6NHC. The application was read, voted and approved, and Rick was welcomed as a new member in good standing.

Dues and Badges. The fine points of dues, including an increase in member cost, a possible grace period for new members, and the definition of "voluntary" and its privileges was tabled and will be continued on line.

Program Presentation and Adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 1:30 PM, and a 20-minute video on the TT8TT Chad DXpedition was presented.

Those present at the meeting were:

CALL	NAME	QTH	MLDXCC	NCCC
K6KO	KAY	PINE GROVE	X	X
K6TA	KEN	PINE GROVE	X	X
AA6K	SHIRL	STOCKTON	X	X
N6MCM	MEL	EL DORADO HILLS	X	
W6RFF	JETTIE	ROSEVILLE	X	X
W6HFM	HARRY	PILOT HILL	X	X
ND6S	RAY	SUTTER CREEK	X	X
K6LRN	DICK	OMO RANCH	X	X
K6TKD	CAROLYN	OMO RANCH	X	X
AF6OP	KIRBY	SHINGLE SPRINGS	X	X
WA6NHC	RICK	CAMERON PARK	X	
N6JV	NORM	SACRAMENTO	X	X
W1RH	BOB	LOTUS	X	X
K6OLY	JIM	SHINGLE SPRINGS	X	
W6SR	RICK	PLACERVILLE	X	X
N6DW	DANA	GRANITE BAY	X	X
W1SRD	STEVE	PLACERVILLE	X	X
N6RK	RICK	GALT	X	X

Kay Anderson, K6KO
Secretary

Click on the Hyperlink below to check-out the MLDXCC scores in the latest contests.
http://mldxcc.org/scores.html

UP-COMING DX and Dxpeditions
Click the link below to display up-coming Announced DXpeditions:
http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html

20 July 2013 A.R.I. DX Bulletin No 1159

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***** 4 2 5 D X N E W S *****
****** DX INFORMATION ******
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Edited by I1JQJ & IK1ADH
Direttore Responsabile I2VGW

3DA - Roger, ZS6RJ and others will be active as 3DA0ET from

Swaziland on 18-27 November, including and M/2 entry in the CQ WW CW Contest. There will be three stations active on 160-6 metres CW and SSB, and a fourth station entirely dedicated to RTTY and PSK. Complete details will be given in due course, a website is currently under construction. [TNX ZS6RJ]

5B - Look for Tamer 5B4AHE/p, Pavlos 5B4AMF/p, Spyros 5B4MF/p and Philip 5B4ZN/p to be active with two stations from Agios Georgios Island (AS-120) from about 18 UTC on 19 July until around 3 UTC on the 21st. They plan to be QRV mainly on 20 and 17 metres SSB, with some QRS CW on 30 metres. QSL via home calls. "We will try to focus on DX stations needing AS-120 for an all-time new one", 5B4MF says. "If you work one of us please do not duplicate the QSO with another one of us!". [TNX 5B4AHJ]

9M6 - Steve, 9M6DXX will be active again as 9M8Z (OC-088) on 24-29 July, including an entry in the IOTA Contest. QSL via M0URX (OQRS preferred: http://m0urx.com/oqrs/). Logs will be uploaded to LoTW as soon as possible after the operation. [TNX 9M6DXX]

BV - A large multi-national team will participate in the IOTA Contest as BP0A from Peng Hu Island (AS-103). QSL to Amateur Radio Taipei, see http://www.art.org.tw/en/qsl_en.aspx for instructions.

C3 - Special callsign C37UN will be activated on 26-28 July to celebrate Andorra's 20th anniversary as a full member of the United Nations. QSL via C37URA, direct or bureau.

CN - Once again Richard, F8FGU will be active as CN2RN from the Middle Atlas range from 24 July to 20 August. He will operate SSB and CW on the HF bands. QSL via home call, bureau preferred. [TNX F8REF]

DL - Mike, DG5LAC will be active as DG5LAC/p from the island of Juist (EU-047) from 27 July to 9 August. He will be QRV on 40-10 metres SSB, with part time participation in the IOTA Contest. QSL via home call, bureau or direct, plus LoTW and eQSL. [TNX rsgbiota.org]

EA8 - Andrew, G7COD will be active as EA8/G7COD from Gran Canaria (AF-004, WWL IL27dt) on 9-31 August. He will operate SSB and CW on 30-6 metres. QSL via home call, direct or bureau, plus eQSL and LoTW. [TNX G7COD]

EI - The Papa Lima DX Group will participate in the IOTA Contest using their brand new contest call, EJ1Y. The team (EI3KG, EI4GK, EI5GM, EI5JQ, EI7KD, EI9FBB, EI9KC, SP7IDX and SP9NWN) will be on Inishmore, Aran Islands (EU-009) on 23-29 July [425DXN 1153], and will still be QRV as EJ0PL outside the contest. QSL via EI5JQ.[TNX NG3K]

ES - Juri, ES5GP will be active as ES5GP/8 from Kihnu Island (EU-178) on 24-29 July, including and entry in the IOTA Contest. [TNX ES1QD]

G - G0FDZ, G0PZA, G0UKN, G0VJG, G7GLW and M0UAT will be active from St Mary's Island (EU-011) on 25-30 July. They will participate in the IOTA Contest as M8C (QSL via G4DFI). [TNX M0UAT]

GM - A team from the Cockenzie & Port Seton Amateur Radio Club will participate in the IOTA Contest as GM2T from the island of Tiree (EU-008). Before the contest they will be using MM0CPS/p. QSL via GM4UYZ. [TNX NG3K]

GM - Gordon, MM0GPZ will be active from the Orkeny Islands (EU-009) on 24-29 July. He will participate in the IOTA Contest

as MM2N, outside the IOTA event he will operate holiday style. QSL via home call. [TNX rsgbiota.org]

GM - Graham, M6GCS will be active as MM6GCS/p from the Outer Hebrides (EU-010) on 24-31 July, including an entry in the IOTA Contest. QSL via M6GCS, direct or bureau. [TNX rsgbiota.org]

GM - Paul, M3KBU will be active as MM3KBU/p from the Outer Hebrides (EU-010) between 26 July and 2 August. He will participate in the IOTA Contest from South Uist. QSL via M3KBU, direct only. [TNX rsgbiota.org]

GM - Lanarkshire Contest Group's members GM0ELP and M0GBK will be active as MM3T from the Isle of Bute (EU-123) on 27-28 July for the IOTA Contest. QSL via eQSL only, as 'we do not have paper QSL cards' (but IOTA chasers will be able to claim credit online once the contest logs are uploaded to www.rsgbiota.org).

HR - Dan, HQ8D went QRT from Vivorillos Cay (NA-223) around 8 UTC on 18 July, after being QRV for some 48 hours. He will return to the island this coming week, for the last time. As always, his plans depend on the Honduran Navy's schedule. After NA-223, Dan expects to be QRV for the IOTA contest from NA-160 as HQ3W. QSL via KD4POJ. Bookmark http://hriotas.com/ for updates.

I - Look for Marco IV3/IZ3GNG and Joris IV3/IZ3QHA to be active from Grado Island (EU-130) on 20-21 July. They will operate SSB and digital modes on 40-6 metres. QSL via home calls. [TNX IZ3GNG]

I - ARI Verona DX Team's members Walter I3VJW, Silverio IK3IUL and Ampelio IK3JBP will participate in the IOTA Contest as II3VR/IV3(CW and SSB) from the island of Santa Maria di Barbana (EU-130). For a few hours before and after the contest they will operate on 30, 17 and 12 metres. QSL via IQ3VO (e-mail requests for bureau cards can be sent to veronadxteam[@]ari.verona.it). [TNX I3VJW]

IS0 - Massimo, I0PNM will be active as IM0/I0PNM from San Pietro Island (EU-165) from 20 July to 20 August. He will be QRV on 20-10 metres SSB, RTTY and PSK31, and will participate in the IOTA Contest. QSL via home call (direct).

OH - Jari, OH1JO and Juha, OH1LEG will be active as OH1K from Kaunissaari Island (EU-140) on 25-31 July, IOTA Contest included. They will be QRV on 80-6 metres SSB and digital modes, with 20m as the main band. QSL via OH1JO, direct or bureau.

ON - King Albert II of the Belgians will formally end his twenty-year reign on 21 July and leave monarchy to Prince Philippe. To celebrate this event, Belgian amateur radio operators may replace their ordinary ON prefix with OO (Oscar Oscar) from 21 July until 20 September. [TNX ON4CAS]

ON - Special event station OQ4CLM will be active from between 16 October and 15 November. The suffix stands for Canadian Liberation March, the annual event that celebrates the liberation of th Belgian town of Knokke on 1 November 1944. QSL via ON3AIM, direct or bureau. Further information on the activity and the relevant award can be found on qrz.com. [TNX ON4RO]

OY - Ulf, DL3UB will be active holiday style as OY/DL3UB from the Faroe Islands (EU-018) from 29 July to 9 August. He will operate mainly CW on 30, 17 and 12 metres. QSL via home call. [TNX NG3K]

OZ - Olaf, DL7CX will be active

as OZ/DL7CX from Mors Island (EU-171) from 20 July to 1 August, including an entry in the IOTA Contest. QSL via home call. [TNX rsgbiota.org]

OZ - Olaf, DL4HG and Andy, DL7AT will be active as OZ0TX from Mando Island (EU-125) on 26-28 July, including an entry in the IOTA Contest. QSL via DL7AT. [TNX rsgbiota.org]

OZ - Look for OZ7BQ/p to be active from Fur Island (EU-171) on 26-29July. QSL via home call (bureau preferred) and LoTW. [TNX rsgbiota.org]

OZ - Lars, OZ1IVA will be active holiday style from Laeso Island (EU-088) from 27 July to 4 August. Main activity will be during the IOTA Contest. QSL via bureau. [TNX rsgbiota.org]

PA - Ron, ON6CQ will participate the IOTA Contest as PA/ON6CQ from Schouwen-Duiveland (EU-146). QSL via home call (bureau preferred)and LoTW. [TNX ON4TO]

PA - Special callsign PA6SAIL will be active between 19 August and 10 September for the Sail de Ruyter, the annual gathering of historic ships in Vlissingen. Look for activity on the HF bands CW, SSB, PSK and RTTY, plus 6m and 2m. QSL via PA3GEO, direct or bureau.[TNX PA7XG]

PY - Celebrating the World Youth Day to be held in Rio de Janeiro, special event station ZX1WYD is active until 31 July on the HF bands CW, SSB and digital modes. QSL VIA PY1AA and LoTW.

SV - Rich, M5RIC will be active as SW8CC from the island of Zakynthos (EU-052) on 23-30 July. He will operate SSB and RTTY on 80-10 metres, and will participate in the IOTA Contest. QSL via home call (direct).

SV9 - Gordon, MM0GOR will be active as SW9GG from Crete (EU-015) on 23-30 July, including an entry in the IOTA Contest. QSL via home call, bureau preferred.

TN - The TN2MS expedition to the Republic of the Congo [425DXN 1157] has been rescheduled, and is now expected to take place on 12-24 October. Bookmark www.tn2ms.nl for further information and updates.

UA - Vasily R7AA, Alexei RN1ON, Igor UA3EDQ and Aliy UA6YW will be active as R20RRC/1 from the Morzhovets Islands (EU-119) [425DX 1158] on 24-28 July. They will participate in the IOTA Contest as RT6A/1. A side trip to Sosnovets Island (EU-161) is planned for 25 July, if the weather is fine. QSL R20RRC/1 via RZ3EC, QSL RT6A/1 via R7AA. [TNX RN1ON]

UA - RA1ZZ/p, RA3AV/1, RK3AW/1, RW3QNZ/1, RZ1ZZ/p and UA1ZZ/p will be active from Glov Island (EU-162) on 24-29 July. They will participate in the IOTA Contest as R20RRC/1 [425DXN 1158]. [TNX NG3K]

UR - UR3GO, UR4QTP, UR8GX, US0GM, UT7GV, UV5QAW and UV5QQ will operate as homecall/p from the Kalanchakskiye Islands (EU-179) on 24-31 July, with activity during the IOTA Contest. [TNX UR5GDX]

V2 - Tim, VE6SH will be active as V29SH from Antigua (NA-100) from 26 July to 3 August. QSL via LoTW or direct to VE6SH.

VK - Miles, VK6MAB will be active holiday style as VK6MAB/p from Rottnest Island (OC-164) on 26-28 July. He will be QRV on 40, 20,15 and 10 metres. QSL via home call, direct or bureau. [TNX rsgbiota.org]

W - Jon, WB8YJF will be active again as WB8YJF/4 from Ocracoke

Island (NA-067) on 21-28 July. He will operate mainly CW on 80-10 metres, and will participate in the IOTA Contest. QSL via home call. [TNX NG3K]

XE - Andrea, IZ2LSC will be active as XF3/IZ2LSC from Isla Mujeres (NA-045) on 24-31 July. Activity as XE3/IZ2LSC between 16 and 23 July is from mainland Mexico. He will operate CW (QRS), SSB and digital modes on 30-6 metres. QSL via EB7DX (direct) or IZ2LSC(bureau), and LoTW. Further information via Twitter (@iz2lsc) and at http://www.timpy.it/xf3/. [TNX IZ2LSC]

XW - Steve, 9M6DXX, and James, 9V1YC will be active as XW8XZ and XW1YC from Laos on 5-10 September. They will use two stations, with XW8XZ operating SSB and XW1YC operating mainly CW with some SSB. QSL XW8XZ via M0URX, QSL XW1YC via W5UE. [TNX 9M6DXX]

YO - YO4AR, YO4HAB, YO4HAI, YO5OHO, YO8AXP, YO8SGZ and YO8SS will be active as YP13S from Sacalinu Mare (EU-183) on 24-29 July. They will be QRV on 80-10 metres CW and SSB, including an entry in the IOTA Contest. QSL via YO8AXP (direct only). Logsearch and further information at www.amatoradio.ro [TNX YO5OHO]

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***** 4 2 5 D X N E W S *****
****** GOOD TO KNOW ... ******

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Edited by I1JQJ & IK1ADH
Direttore Responsabile I2VGW

CLUB LOG OQRS AND BUREAU CARDS --->
Club Log is conducting a survey about bureau cards requested through its Online QSL Request System. At present, two important rules apply to all users who wish to use CL OQRS: (1) Bureau cards must be offered, and (2) No-one may charge for a bureau card in CL OQRS. Club Log is now considering allowing users to choose to charge for bureau cards, or choose not to offer bureau cards. Please complete the survey at https://cdxc.wufoo.eu/forms/bureau-cards-via-oqrs/ and let them know what you would prefer.

H44IOTA (OC-168) ---> This note was published on qrz.com on 16 July: "We regret to inform all those stations that made contact with us on OC-168,that a validation for this IOTA may not be possible due to computer hardware failure and human error. We are seeking your understanding while we do the best we can to retrive what is possible. In the meanwhile, please wait with sending cards".

QSL Z81X ---> Some 400 OQRS envelopes were mailed on 16 July and the rest will be completed within the next few days. Direct QSLing has also started and several hundred envelopes are mailed out daily. Turnaround times for both OQRS and direct are just a day or two. OQRS bureau cards will be
answered only after this initial phase. Traditional direct cards should be sent to OH0XX: Olli Rissanen, Salmelankuja 14, FI-90940 Jaali, Finland. It is also reported that plans for the upcoming South Sudan CQWW and low-band operations remain on track and the operator roster will be finalized this month. [TNX OH2BH]

QSL VIA G3SWH ---> With immediate effect, Phil G3SWH is the new QSL manager for G0ORH, M3I and MM3I (which will be QRV from the Isle of Arran, EU-123, during the IOTA Contest). There are already pages with log searches on Phil's website (www.g3swh.org.uk). OQRS is preferred, but traditional mail or RSGB bureau will also work. [TNX G3SWH]

YASME SUPPORTS EQUIPMENT ACQUISITION FOR NEW ETHIOPIAN

AMATEURS --->

Ethiopia came back on the air May 30, 2011 with the re-opening of the Ethiopian Amateur Radio Society station ET3AA. To support the re-establishment of amateur radio in Ethiopia, the Yasme Foundation(www.yasme.org) made a grant to pay for the fees associated with the license examination for 25 club members. Many were successful but under Ethiopian regulations could not receive a license without proof of ownership of an amateur radio station. To further support amateur radio in Ethiopia, the Board of Directors is pleased to announce that it has made an additional grant to be used to purchase amateur radio transceivers for three club members so that they can satisfy the requirements of the Ethiopian licensing process. The Board acknowledges with appreciation the substantial efforts of Ken Claerbout,K4ZW, in facilitating the acquisition of the equipment and mentoring the EARS members, as shown here with club member Adula at the microphone during the 2013 IARU HF Championship contest. [TNX W6SZN]

QSLs received direct or through managers: 3D2RX, 3D2XC, 3DA0VB, 4K9W, 5H1DX, 5H3VMB, 5N7M, 5N7Q, 5Q4B, 5R8VB, 5W0M, 5X1VB, 5X8C, 5Z4/UA4WHX, 7P8VB, 7P8ZM, 7Q7VB, 7T50ARA, 7Z1SJ, 8Q7DV, 8Q7EJ, 8Q7KP, 8Q7QX, 8R1AK, 9A17RBM, 9N7SZ, 9Z4M, A25RJ, A41KJ, A71AM, A73A, A92HK, AL7RT, AN7EUR, BX5AA, C31KC, C50C, C5A, C6AGN, C6AGU, C98RF, CE3SX, CQ7OA (EU-040), CT9/DL7JAN, CX1AA, CX6DZ, CY0/VE1AWW, D20VB, D60VB, D85C (OC-085), DU1/R6AF/p (OC-090), E51FOC, EA9IB, EH7ITU, EK5KE, EL2DT, EP3SMH, ET3AA, FJ/K5WE, FJ/N5WR, FO8WBB, FS/K9EL, FS/LY2IJ, FY/F5UII/p, GB75FOC, GT4FOC, H40T, H70ORO, HC2/RC5A, HC3/DL5YWM (SA-034), HP1/S54ZZ, HR1AGC, J20VB, J69DS, J69MV, J79WTA, J87GU, J88DR, J8DX, JD1BMH, JE8DVU/8 (AS-147), JT1AA/3, JT1CO, JW7XM, JX5O, JX9JKA, JY4CI, K5N, K6VVA/KL7, KH2L, KL7NO, LP5D, LT1F, LU1DMG (SA-055), LU7HF, LU8HH, LV6E, NP4A, OA6Q, OJ0R, OJ0UR,P43A, PJ4/SP6AXW, PJ4/WI9WI, PJ4NX, PJ5/SP6IXF, PT0S, RZ0AF, S21XV, SE6Y,ST2AR, ST2VB, SU8N (AF-109), SU9AF, SU9VB, SV2ASP/A, SV5/DJ7RJ, T46RRC, T48RRC, T6MO, TA4AU, TG7/NC2N, TG9AHM, TK0INT (EU-100), TK1INT (EU-104),TK2INT (EU-164), TK5JJ, TL0A, TN2T, TO7RJ, TX5K, TZ6BB, UA9FAR, V51AS, V51VV, V85TL,V85XD, VK9CZ, VK9NT, VP2ETE, VP5/W5CW, VP53V, VP9/W6PH,VR 2XMT, VU7KV, VY0/VE3VID, XE1RBV, XR0Y, XX9THX, YB8P (OC 208), YS1/NO7B,YV1FPT, Z2/UA4WHX, Z81X, ZB54FK, ZD7FT,ZD7VC, ZK3N.

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425 DX NEWS HOME PAGE:
http://www.425dxn.org
425 DX NEWS MAGAZINE:
http://www.425dxn.org/monthly

UP-COMING CONTESTS (complete)
For the latest contest info. click on the following link:
http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.htm

August 2013

+ ARRL August UHF Contest	1800Z, Aug 3 to 1800Z, Aug 4
North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Aug 3 to 0600Z, Aug 4
WAE DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Aug 10 to 2359Z, Aug 11
Maryland-DC QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 10 to 2400Z, Aug 11
SARTG WW RTTY Contest	0000Z, Aug 17 to 1600Z, Aug 18
+ ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	0600 local, Aug 17 to 2400 local, Aug 18
North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Aug 17 to 0600Z, Aug 18
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Aug 19
Hawaii QSO Party	0700Z, Aug 24 to 2200Z, Aug 25
+ Ohio QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 24 to 0400Z,

	Aug 25

September 2013

+ All Asian DX Contest, Phone	0000Z, Sep 7 to 2400Z, Sep 8
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0600Z-0800Z, Sep 7
+ WAE DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Sep 14 to 2359Z, Sep 15
ARRL September VHF Contest	1800Z, Sep 14 to 0300Z, Sep 16
+ North American Sprint, SSB	0000Z-0400Z, Sep 15
ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	0600 local, Sep 21 to 2400 local, Sep 22
Washington State Salmon Run	1600Z, Sep 21 to 2400Z, Sep 22
+ CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY	0000Z, Sep 28 to 2400Z, Sep 29
Texas QSO Party	1400Z, Sep 28 to 2000Z, Sep 29

The K7RA Solar Update 07/19/2013

Unsettled geomagnetic conditions continued this week, punctuated by periods of relative quiet. The most active days were July 14-15. The planetary A index was 20 and 25, and the mid-latitude A index was 15 and 33 on those dates. Of course Alaska's College A index was higher, at 58 and 34.

The A index is a daily value, and it is calculated from eight measurements per day (once every three hours) of the K index. The K index is a quasi logarithmic value based on magnetometer readings, so each one-point change represents a large difference. The K index is averaged into the daily A index, a linear scale.

This gives a pretty good explanation: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/K-index. Note the graph labeled "The relationship between K and A."

The planetary A index is based on the planetary K index, which is derived from readings at a network of geomagnetic observatories. The mid-latitude K and A index are from a single magnetometer at Fredericksburg, Virginia, near the intersection of Observatory Road and Magnetic Lane, inside the Fort A.P. Hill Army base, about 8 miles southeast of downtown Fredericksburg, Virginia.

You can sometimes find street names with appropriate references where magnetometers are located, for instance, Geophysical Observatory Road for the magnetometer at Newport, Washington, near 48.27 degrees north, 117.13 degrees west.

Over the past week, the average daily sunspot number declined nearly 33 points to 76.9, while average daily solar flux was down 14 points to 113.9. The average planetary A index barely moved, while the average mid-latitude A index rose two points to 12.9.

But yesterday (Thursday, July 18) the sunspot number jumped to 112, far above the average for the previous seven days.

The latest forecast shows solar flux at 120 on July 19, 125 on July 20-21, 120 on July 22-23, then 115, 110 and 105 on July 24-26, 110 on July 27-28, then 120, 125 and 130 on July 29-31, 135 on August 1-2, then 130, 125, 130 and 135 on August 3-6, 140 on August 7-8, 135 and 120 on August 9-10, 125 on August 11-12, 120 on August 13, and 125 again on August 14-16. It then declines to a minimum of 100 on August 20-21, before rising again.

Predicted planetary A index is 20 on July 19-20, 15 and 10 on July 21-22, 5 on July 23-25, then 30 and 10 on July 25-27, 5 on July 28 through August 3, 10 on August 4-5, 15 and 8 on August 6-7, 5 on August 8-12, 10 on August 13, and 15 on August 14-17.

Petr Kolman, OK1MGW, sends a geomagnetic forecast from the Czech Propagation Interest Group. He says that a growing solar wind "may cause remarkable changes in the magnetosphere and ionosphere on July 19-22 and 25-28."

He predicts quiet to active geomagnetic conditions on July 19, active to disturbed July 20, quiet to active July 21, quiet to unsettled July 22, quiet July 23-24, quiet to unsettled July 25, quiet to active July 26-27, quiet to unsettled July 28, quiet July 29-31, quiet to unsettled August 1, quiet to active August 2, active to disturbed August 3, quiet August 4, mostly quiet August 5, active to disturbed August 6-7, and quiet to unsettled August 8-10.

At 2330 UTC on July 17 Australia's IPS Radio and Space Services sent a geomagnetic warning, predicting unsettled to active conditions July 18, active with minor storm periods July 19, and quiet to unsettled conditions July 20.

Check the K9LA tutorial at http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Technology/propagation/W6elprop.pdf, and you can download the software at http://www.qsl.net/w6elprop/. W6ELprop is free, but K6TU tells me he is about to add some great new features to his service.

If you would like to make a comment or have a tip for our readers, email the author at, k7ra@arrl.net.

The MLDXCC NEWSLETTER

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