Volume 19, Number 7 **July 2014**

The Nugget

Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

The Newsletter of the Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

MEETING DATE, LOCATION & PROGRAM

July Meeting Announcement

The Mother Lode DX & Contest Club is proud to announce that we will have Rick, N6RNO, give his presentation **CW for SSB Operator (You can do it without knowing code)** on July 26, 2014 at:

The Old Spaghetti Factory
2702 West March Lane
Stockton CA

General club meeting starts at 11:30am with the presentation to follow.

The restaurant requires us to pre-order the meals from the selection below so they will be able to efficiently serve us. The meal prices include: Coffee or Tea, small dessert, tax and gratuity. Soda, Beer, Wine, etc. may be individually ordered from the bar.

1. Chicken Caesar Salad: Chicken breast strips atop crisp romaine lettuce tossed with classic Caesar dressing, shredded Romano cheese, garlic herb croutons and Roma tomatoes. ($14.00)

2. Our Famous Baked Lasagna: Made from scratch in our own kitchen – layers of noodles, Marinara Sauce, ground beef and pork, and four kinds of cheese. ($16.00)

3. Chicken Marsala: Seasoned breast of chicken with a fresh mushroom and Marsala wine sauce, served alongside spaghetti with Browned Butter & Mizithra Cheese. ($15.00)

4. Spinach and Cheese Ravioli: Tender pillows of pasta stuffed with spinach and two kinds of cheese, topped with savory Marinara Sauce. ($14.00)

Vegetarians may order item #1 less the chicken for $11.00

If you plan to attend please send an email with your name, call, number of persons, and menu selection to Verne, W6VMT, at w6vmt@arrl.net by July 21st. We will collect funds and issue meal tickets at the event. See club website for a map…….

MLDXCC 2014 DUES

Our dues are voluntary; however you must pay dues, $15/yr, to be eligible for any club awards. Dues can be paid at our meetings, or send them to me at the following address:
Ms. Carolyn Wilson
P.O. Box 273
Somerset, CA 95684
Thank you. 73, Carolyn, K6TKD – Treasurer.

-**MLDXCC Meeting Dates**:
August 23-TBD
September 20-HAM Radio Propagation
October 18-TBD
November 22-SO2R RTTY
December (no meeting)

2014-Officers
President – Bob, W1RH
Vice President – Verne, W6VMT
Secretary – Dick, K6LRN
Treasurer – Carolyn, K6TKD
Director – Rick, W6RKC
Director – Shirl, AA6K

Dear Bob,

NCDXF's Treasurer Don, N1DG, just sent the Board members a list of folks who contributed to the Foundation last month. MLDXCC's $250 contribution appeared in that list. You'll receive a tax letter from Don.

Meanwhile, as NCDXF's President, I want to personally say THANK YOU. Your level of support marks MLDXCC as one of our larger contributors and it means so much to us and to the community of DXers. NCDXF could not provide necessary financial support for well-organized DXpeditions to rare, difficult and expensive entities without the encouragement and financial backing of folks like MLDXCC members. I want to make certain you know how important you are to us and how much we appreciate your contribution.

With warmest regards,

--Tom Berson, ND2T
President, NCDXF

Below are a few shots from our last meeting

WC6H and AA6K Showing-Off Their Awards

K6LRN Reading the fine Print
(Photos by Norm N6JV)

FROM THE PREZ

Hello MLDXCC'ers!

I hope that many of you had a good time at one of the several Field Day sites in our part of the state. I was at the El Dorado County ARC Field Day site, which is at the 7,000 foot level, off of Mormon Emigrant Trail, not far from the Highway 88 location that MLDXCC used to use. I did about an hour and a half of CW from the El Dorado ARES trailer, which made for a pretty deluxe Field Day operating location. The trailer has a 54 foot pneumatic mast, which had one of my Cushcraft A3S beams on top of it. The 6 Meter station used my little 5 element Cushcraft beam, and most of the stations were using one of my bandpass filters.

We had a very large attendance. Probably around 40 or so member were at the site and visitors numbered into the 20's. Watching our club's 6A effort just reinforced my feeling that we, as contest club members, should be attending the local club Field Day efforts rather than doing our own. Naturally, as a recruiter for MLDXCC, I had my eyes on several of the El Dorado club members who could be future members of MLDXCC and eventually members of NCCC. Recruiting new contesters from the local clubs into MLDXCC and eventually encouraging them to join NCCC once they catch the "contest bug" is how we (both MLDXCC and NCCC) will continue to win our focus contests.

When I came back from my hour and a half of operating at the Field Day site, I did another hour or so at home. It had been a couple of months since I had the station fired up, so I fired everything up, including the amp, just to exercise the equipment. Yes, I know, using an amp on Field Day is not in the spirit of the contest, but I needed an excuse to check out things as the big contest season approaches.

I also did about an hour of operating, between applying stain to my deck and bottling 9 cases of fine, fine, Grenache, to work some of the WRTC stations and IARU contesters. I operated just 20 and 40 meters and worked 24 of the WRTC stations, including K1L, which was the station Ed, W0YK, was refereeing. I think that qualifies me for a bottle of wine from his vineyard, but I'll have to check with Ed to make sure.

CQP is just around the corner. I know that several of you are working on antenna projects. Two of our members, near me, have recently done antenna projects. Harry, W6HFM, has a really nice installation featuring a StepIR vertical. Jim, K6OLY, just installed a brand new Tennadyne log periodic (pictured) this past weekend.

Note to JIM and Harry: I'm expecting a lot of Q's from you two for CQP with those beautiful new sky hooks!

If you haven't started your station projects, better get going. We want you on for CQP. Let me know if you need assistance, and I'll try to get a group together to help.

Thanks to Verne, W6VMT, for arranging another blockbuster meeting this month. It's another "how to" for those of you who want to work CW and aren't accomplished CW operators. Those CW contacts are worth twice the SSB points, so if you don't know CW, come to this meeting and learn how to do it without decoding it in your head. This meeting, at the Old Spaghetti Factory, in Stockton, requires an RSVP, so be sure to get back to Verne as soon as you can.

I hope to see many of you in Stockton!

73, Bob, W1RH

THE VP SEZ

I hope everyone is doing well with the warm weather. Personally, I don't handle hot weather well.

This is a little off topic, however as an ARES member and part of the El Dorado County Large Animal Evacuation team, I encourage everyone to be very aware of our potential for wildfires. The drought has worsened the already bad conditions and a spark from anything could set off a disaster.

Our meeting on July 26th will have Rick, N6RNO, give a presentation entitled:

CW for SSB Operator (You can do it without knowing code)

Agenda:

- Why use CW?
- Decoder Choices (10 listed)
- Decoder Comparison
- Operating S&P
- Running
- Working DX
- Ragchew

This is a RSVP meeting, if you plan to attend please send an email with your name, call, number of persons, and menu selection to Verne, W6VMT, at w6vmt@arrl.net by July 21st. We will collect funds (**please bring cash**) and issue meal tickets at the event.

This presentation, although different from Jim's, K6OK, presentation in May, will give those SSB only operators in the southern part of our territory a chance to hear how to make CW work for them.

Signing off for now…

73, Verne, W6VMT

Treasurer's Report

Balance June 1, 2014		**$1299.42**
Income:		
Dues – N6RK, NM6K, K6LE, K6SCA, KK6EGM		75.00
Name Badge K6LE		20.00
		95.00
Expenses:	Club CQP Awards	84.66
	Name Badge K6LE	19.90
		104.56
Balance June 30, 2014:		**$1289.86**

Carolyn Wilson, K6TKD, Treasurer

In Pursuit of DXCC
Steve / K6SCA

At last month's MLDXCC meeting I was asked to write down some thoughts relating to my pursuit of DXCC. Using LoTW for QSO confirmation, here are some points I believe helped me achieve that goal.

1. Set a goal and stay focused on achieving it.
2. Find an elmer(s) you can relate to.
    a. Ask questions, then listen to the wisdom being offered.
    b. Be respectful of their time.
3. Upgrade to Extra Class.
    a. How frustrating would it be for you to hear that rare DX station calling CQ, only to have them operating in a part of the band where your license doesn't allow you to go?
4. Be active in the contest.
    a. Many of the "not often heard" stations become active during a contest. You can't work 'em if you're not on the air.
    b. If you're not breaking through a contest pileup, move frequency. Remember it's a contest - you need all the contacts you can

get. The more stations you work, the greater the odds become of working that all time new one!

5. Work the bands.
    a. Tune around a band that's open looking for new DX contacts. Don't rag chew.
    b. Work the high frequency bands. Propagation on those bands can be awesome, however they can close quickly, so work 'em when they're open.
    c. Band conditions change everything. The DX you couldn't work yesterday might be that new one you log today. Don't give up!
6. Upload your log frequently. (LoTW)
    a. How do you know where you are in your pursuit of DXCC if you're not getting your contacts confirmed?
    b. How does the DX station you're working verify his QSO? Does he upload to LoTW?
7. Listen, listen, listen.
    a. Make sure you know the callsign of the DX station before you call. Get it correct.
    b. Is he working split?
    c. Is he working by call zone or a specific geographic area?
    d. If possible use the same phonetics as the DX station - this is what he's accustomed to hearing. You can't afford to have your callsign logged incorrectly!
8. Have fun!

73,
Steve / K6SCA

Editor's Notes de Rick, W6SR

Hi all……..

Well…. surviving the past month's heat was top priority at the old radio ranch, so not much was done on outdoor stuff. The only antenna related project was to pick-up a couple of sections of Rohn 45 from Al, K6RIM. Al is selling his QTH in Corte Madera and wanted to get rid of the sections, so Norm, N6JV provided the truck and an extra pair of hands and off we went. However, both of us were alarmed at how steep the road to Al's place was. After a lot of wheel spinning, hair-pin turns, and cussing, I now have some Rohn 45 to plant in the pasture. I am hoping that a 6M EME array will find it's way to the top of that tower later this year.

It was also a very busy month for our other hobby, the "Cameron Park Corvette Club".

There were lots of outings and car shows, so when the bands are lousy in the summer, we just switch gears. No pun intended.

I purchased an older Icom 2M vhf multi-mode radio as a IF driver for a 1296MHz station. And picked up a 1296MHz transverter, and 60W power amp. from K0YW in CO. Yeah I know, 1296 is not exactly a DX band, but that's what makes it a bit special. I'll let you know who I work (I hope).

Since we are on the subject of high frequencies, I want to make a pitch for the ARRL 10GHz contest, the 3nd weekend of August and September. This contest is fun, making that 600+km contact is as much fun as a new DXCC country, well almost. Check out the ARRL contest website for the rules. We would love to see more interest in the microwave bands.

As far as new DX goes, the A and K index has been up pretty high much of last month so the HF bands have not been wonderful. And neither has my progress toward RTTY DXCC. I'm up to 80 countries confirmed, all via LOTW, with 120+ worked.

I worked EA8BDM on 6M July 7th, and have confirmed it already via LOTW. Not bad DX on 6M, huh? I finally received my 160M XW card from the JA manager for a new one there.

Lastly, there was a HUGE 6 Meter opening to JA on July 11th that lasted more than 5 hours. I worked so many JA's on both phone and CW, that I got tired of logging em' and finally went to bed about mid-night. It's just too bad the opening was just to JA and nothing else.

Enough for now, CU all in Stockton.……**de Rick, W6SR**

The following is the latest 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.

The History Of Amateur Radio Chapter 7

Our Founding Fathers knew that the United States would have to enter into legal and binding agreements with foreign countries, thus in Article II, Section 2 of the Constitution, they gave the President the power to make treaties, with the approval of two-thirds of the Senate. Over the years, the Supreme Court has ruled that provisions of a treaty are constitutional and legally binding, even if the exact same provisions contained in a law not covered by a treaty would not pass the constitutional test.

Under the Radio Act of 1927, and the regulations issued by the Federal Radio Commission, amateurs were "in the catbird seat" (to use a popular phrase of the day). They had over 2700 kc of spectrum between 160 and 20 meters, plus another 15,000 kc at 5 meters. They had a Secretary of Commerce (Herbert Hoover) who was a strong proponent of amateur radio. Congress was supportive and sympathetic. Nothing could go wrong--or could it?

Yes it could. An International Radiotelegraph Conference was scheduled for Washington, D.C., on October 4, 1927. Here, participants from 74 nations would gather to hammer out an international treaty covering the entire known radio spectrum. Once this treaty was accepted by the Senate, it would become Law, and supersede anything contained in the 1927 Act. Although amateurs could count on the full support of the U.S. Delegation, we had only one vote, the same as any of the other 73 participants.

So how much support could we count on from the other countries? Sadly, not much. Democracy was still a foreign idea to most nations; many hovered in that gray area between Old World Monarchy and Fascism/Communism. Communications were a government monopoly. Individual private stations were feared; they could compete with the Government Stations, or they could be used in anti-government activities. This attitude was even present in the representatives from England and France. As for the other countries, many were blatantly anti amateur radio. Germany, for example, stated that private stations could violate "the rights of the State". Switzerland was on the record against amateur radio. Japan would tolerate amateurs, however they would have to use "phantom" (i.e. non radiating) antennas. In other words, you could have a transmitter, you just couldn't radiate a signal!!!! One proposal would only give amateurs frequencies below 13 meters (above 23 Mc).

Fortunately, the ARRL and the International Amateur Radio Union (founded in 1925) were well aware of this hostility and had made detailed preparations. The IARU and the ARRL both had made presentations to the various delegations prior to the start of the conference. Support of the amateur community was also received from private radio interests and radio manufacturers. The ARRL and the IARU would both have delegates attending the conference.

And so, after the opening session, which was addressed by President Calvin Coolidge and Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover (who was also president of the Conference), the delegates divided themselves into subcommittees and began to work. England, the European country most favorable to amateur radio, made it's first proposal: Amateurs would be allowed the 150 to 200 meter band (1500 to 2000kc) with a maximum power input of 10 watts. The ARRL/IARU delegates, K.B. Warner, H.P. Maxim and C.H. Stewart, as well as W.D. Terrell, who was Chief of the Radio Division in the Department of Commerce, indicated that this was unacceptable. The British then came up with a compromise position: amateurs would have the 150 meter band, as well as bands at 2.75, 3.66, 5.50, 11.00, 22.00, and 44 Mc. Except for the 1500-2000 kc segment, each band would be 100 kc wide. The total amateur allocations under the British proposal were 1100 kc, of which 900 kc was in the known usable spectrum below 15 Mc. This was a 60% reduction for American hams in the frequencies below 15 Mc, and a whopping 93% reduction when you counted our 4 to 5 meter band! Nevertheless, many delegates urged the U.S. and ARRL/IARU representatives to accept this proposal. They pointed out that it was far more generous than many countries were willing to give on their own. With the use of cw and crystal control, it was argued, there would be enough room for all amateurs. Many were afraid that if the British compromise wasn't accepted, a more restrictive band plan for amateurs would take it's place.

The ARRL/IARU delegates had one thing in their corner, however; the strong support of Secretary Hoover and the American Delegation. With that, they found the strength to (carefully) carry on. They were diplomatic, but they were persistent. Maxim, Stewart and Warner proceeded step by step. The 160 meter band was the first agreed on--1715 to 2000 kc. Next, it was decided that the remaining amateur bands would be at the 80-40-20 meter spots.

How wide they would be was the next argument. On the 80 meter band,everyone was at a stalemate until it was suggested that the band could be 3500-4000 kc on a non-exclusive basis. This was accepted by all the delegates. Each country could decide for themselves how much of the 500 kc they would allocate to amateurs. Next on the agenda was 20 meters. The U.S. wanted 14,000 to 16,000 kc. There was no way any of the other delegates would agree. After much debate, the U.S. delegation realized that 400 kc was the maximum they were going to get, and acquiesced.

With 160, 80, and 20 out of the way (and the U.S. assured of at least adequate domestic and international allocations) the subcommittee turned to 40. The American delegation wanted 7000 to 8000 kc; the most any other country was willing to offer was 7000 to 7200. Germany, in fact, put a high power station on 7200 kc in order to thwart a larger amateur allocation on 40 meters. Back and forth the debate went, the other delegates finally offered 225 kc. Maxim and Stewart felt they had played their last hand and wanted to accept the proposal, Warner, however, still pushed for 400 kc. More debate followed. Finally, the other delegates agreed to 300 kc. Additional bands were set up at 10 and 5 meters. When the dust had settled, the Conference had approved the following amateur bands: 1715--2000, 3500--4000, 7000--7300, 14,000--14,400, 28,000-30,000 and 56,000--60,000 kilocycles. This was a 37.5% reduction in the frequencies amateurs had under the U.S. regulations, however, it was a vast increase for the amateurs of most other countries. Furthermore, the frequencies approved by the Conference established amateur radio under international law-something which had not existed before. Given the circumstances, this was a major victory for amateur radio.

Initially, there was some opposition by a minority of U.S. hams to the ratification of the Treaty. The ARRL and the vast majority of amateurs, however, supported it, knowing that a small loss in frequencies was insignificant in comparison to the international recognition now given to amateur radio. The Senate agreed and, on

March 21, 1928, ratified the Treaty. As a postscript, Herbert Hoover, the Secretary of Commerce who had always supported amateur radio 100%, was elected President of the United States in November 1928. Although most remember his administration as coinciding with the depths of the Great Depression, it was also the time of the greatest growth in amateur radio history. From the 1929 total of 16,289 to the 1933 count of 41,555, amateur radio grew 255% in 4 years. Before his death at the age of ninety on October 20, 1964, Hoover would live to see his son, Herbert Hoover Jr. W6ZH, elected President of the ARRL, and see an amateur running for President of the United States (Senator Barry Goldwater, K7UGA/K3UIG). Whatever historians may think of his administration, hams will always remember him as a Friend to Amateur Radio.

Next month, the Wayback Machine will begin to explore the battle over the VHF spectrum in the mid 40's. Did you ever wonder what happened to TV Channel 1?

The Wayback Machine will have the answers.

Member News, Items For Sale & Feedback

Radio For Sale

I have reduced the price of my trusty Icom 765 PRO III. This is a late production run (high serial number) radio that has the 7600 type finals in the output stage. The radio is in perfect condition, includes the original manual, hand mic and power cord. It is in the original Icom box. Now, $1700 picked up in Placerville California.

Contact Dave @ 530-409-7877.

I have for sale

ICOM 746Pro Includes original manual, box, hand mic and power cord. Very good condition from a non-smoking shack. $850 **de Doc NM6K placerdoc@sbcglobal.net**

The XYL and I are moving back to Amador County as soon as well sell off our property over here. We have a rental on the east coast that we are just about to put on the market. Once that is sold we will sell our new home at the south end of the island. **So our HI QTH is for sale/trade.**

The property is three acres with a new 4000 sq. foot home. Large Radio Shack with full bath and extra bedroom, plus 4 more bedrooms and 2 baths. A number of records have been made from this very quiet site.

We are asking $485k for the home and that includes the 100 foot (permitted) tower, a four square, and 30 foot Rohn tower next to the house. Also it has a net metering solar system 4KW, power bill is $20 per month. We can also do private financing. I really do not want to leave but my wife

wants to be closer to friends and family. If your interested we can give all the details.
Email kh7y@alohabroadband.net or call 808-557-9022. Aloha, Fred, KH7Y
I'm still selling some of KF6T's stuff. Here's the list:

Ham Gear:
HB 3CX1200A7 Amp - $500 OBO
MFJ 9020 20 Meter CW Transceiver - $40

Test Gear:
HP Model 53131A Frequency Counter - $600 OBO
Tektronix Model 2246 100 Mhz Scope with Rolling Stand - $350 OBO
Boonton Model 41A Microwatt Meter - $200 OBO
Signotek Model ITC-3 High Resolution Counter - $45
HP 6217A 0-50V, 200 ma. Power Supply - $30
Instek PS-1830 0-18V, 3A Power Supply - $50
Simpson 464 Digital Multimeter - $30
Tektronix Model 130 L-C Meter - $75
Micronta 22-204C Analog Multimeter - $25
HP Model 500C VHF Signal Generator - $10

Miscellaneous:
Ohmite VT-8 120V, 7.5A Variac - $75
Powerstat Model 236 220/120V, 9A Variac - $150
Trippe PV-400 400W Inverter - $ 40
Jennings JBS-400 Vacuum Capacitor - offer?
JAN 872A Tubes in boxes - $10 each
Several 6146B Tubes in boxes -$20 each

Radio wise - I'm using the summer to hopefully prepare for the installation of KF6T's 40' crank-up tower in my yard with a OWA 10/6 meter beam and 2-element 12 meter beam on it. However, we also have some home repair items that need to be addressed first.
I just bought an LP-PAN Panadaptor and sound card to have panadaptor capability for the K3 during the upcoming contest season. Still need to get the IF Out board from Elecraft.

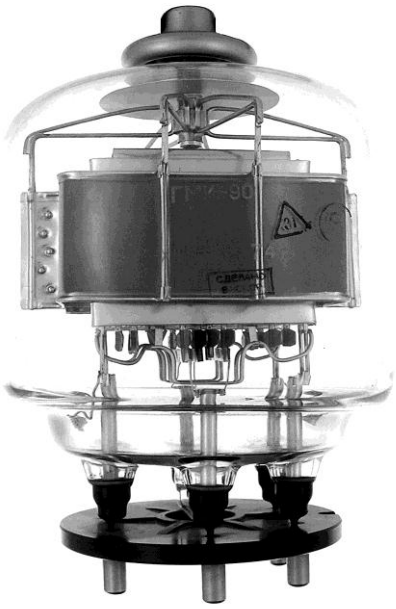
Otherwise - staying busy teaching my Government Accounting class for UC Davis this summer in addition to my regular job. No dull moments!

I'll try to make the next club meeting.

Take care,
de Jim WX6V
Eight Annual Sacramento Valley Hamfest
Saturday, Sept 6, 2014
0700 to 1200 Hours
Presented by Western Placer Amateur Radio Club
65 McBean Park (Hwy. 193), Lincoln CA
Bandstand Parking Lot
License Exam Sessions
Exam Info - Dennis KI6HHA@aol.com
Drawing Prizes
Buy and Sell
Ham Radio Related Stuff Only
$10 per space Approx. 10' x 10'
Bring your own tables
Hamfest Info at WWW.WPARC.US

Tube of the Month de Norm, N6JV

GMI-90 / ГМИ-90



The progressive development of early transmitting tubes was usually concerned with making more powerful tubes that would operate at higher frequencies. Shortening internal lead lengths and the minimalizing of element capacities allowed new tube generations to outperform their predecessors. As WWII approached, a need for special purpose tubes that would serve as high power switches became important. The operating plate voltage of a typical transmitting tube is much less than what the tube can actually withstand before corona breakdown. A standard 250TH triode has a maximum plate voltage of 4000 VDC for RF/AF amplifier service but can handle 25,000 volts as a switch.

Without the requirement of high frequency operation, new tubes were made that could handle the high voltage and current required to pulse modulate the new RADAR oscillators. Pulse tubes in the U.S. tended to look much like the standard transmitting types and were cosmetically pleasing. The Soviet Union wasn't into cosmetics as much as dependability and ease of construction. The GMI-90 or ГМИ-90 is a classic example. There are four separate grid assemblies with opposing surfaces of the plate. The plate is arranged like a maze to maximum dissipation and is spot welded together. This tube must withstand 33,000 volts so it has a large, anti-coronal, plate cap and a plate structure that is mounted very high in the envelope to give some distance from any metal.

Visit the museum at: http://n6jv.com.

Meeting Minutes, 21 June 2014

Meeting was called to order at 12:20 PDST by President Bob Hess.

Introductions followed. There were 26 in attendance…22 members & 4 guests.

Rick N6RK spoke as President of NCCC encouraging membership in the club to help competition with the behemoth clubs on the east coast particularly ARRL Sweepstakes in November.

Doc NM6K spoke about his lightning strike on a 12 KV line and experience with Pacific Gas & Electric's response to & resolution of his noise problem involving insulators.

Jim O'Shea KK6EGM was voted in as a new member. Welcome to MLDXCC.

Treasurer report and minutes were approved.

A California QSO Party plaque was presented by President Bob to Rich Cutler WC6H for # 2 California single operator high power in the 2013 event. A plaque was presented to MLDXCC for # 1 in the California Club competition.

K6SCA Steve announced he has achieved DXCC (100 countries) and gave a few hints he found helpful in his quest.

Future meetings:

July 26 Spaghetti Factory Stockton N6RNO Code Proficiency
August 23 Martell
September 20 Lodi(?or TBD) K6TU Propagation
(Consult web site and watch for announcements on reflector for updates)

A motion was made, seconded & carried to allow Jim WX6V to sell 204 BA antenna owned by MLDXCC and forward proceeds to Treasurer.

Awards for CQP intra-club competition were handed out by Dick K6LRN. WC6H took two…one for high power single op + another for most 'phone contacts. Shirl AA6K was top low power operator. K6OK was high scoring 'rookie'. Andy AE6Y won a cup for most CW contacts.

A motion was made, seconded & carried to make Dana Phillips N6DW an honorary member.

Meeting ended at 1:50 or so.

Respectfully submitted,
Dick Wilson K6LRN
Secretary, MLDX/CC

List of June meeting attendees

Dick Wilson	K6LRN
Carolyn Wilson	K6TKD
Shirl Rose	AA6K
Rick Casey	W6RKC
Norm Wilson	N6JV
Ray Parker	ND6S
Dave Engle	W6DE
Rick Samoian	W6SR
Verne Terwilliger	W6VMT
Rich Cutler	WC6H
Bob Hess	W1RH
Jim O'Shea	KK6EGM
Bob Leclerc	KR6N
Dave Sanders	K6KNS
Doc Dashiell	NM6K
Don Hay	WB6LPJ
Ken Anderson	K6TA
Kay Anderson	K6KO
Brant Woodward	K6BEW
Rick Prater	K6LE
Steve Allred	K6SCA
Rick Karlquist	N6RK

Chuck Tifft	W6RD
Sue Allred	K6SZQ
Dennis King	N6KD
Jim Locke	W3NRJ

(Note: Not all signed list…I added last two…were there others??)

Dick Wilson K6LRN

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

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

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

July 2014

+ RSGB IOTA Contest	1200Z, Jul 26 to 1200Z, Jul 27

August 2014

+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 1
+ North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Aug 2 to 0559Z, Aug 3
+ ARRL August UHF Contest	1800Z, Aug 2 to 1800Z, Aug 3
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 8
+ WAE DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Aug 9 to 2359Z, Aug 10
+ Maryland-DC QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 9 to 2400Z, Aug 10
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 15
+ SARTG WW RTTY Contest	0000Z, Aug 16 to 1600Z, Aug 17
+ ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	0600 local, Aug 16 to 2400 local, Aug 17
+ North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Aug 16 to 0559Z, Aug 17
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 22
+ Hawaii QSO Party	0400Z, Aug 23 to 0400Z, Aug 25
+ Ohio QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 23 to 0400Z, Aug 24
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 29

September 2014

+ NCCC RTTY Sprint Ladder	0130Z-0200Z, Sep 5
+ All Asian DX Contest, Phone	0000Z, Sep 6 to 2400Z, Sep 7
+ AGCW Straight Key Party	1300Z-1600Z, Sep 6
+ North American Sprint, CW	0000Z-0400Z, Sep 7
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint Ladder	0130Z-0200Z, Sep 12
+ FOC QSO Party	0000Z-2359Z, Sep 13
+ WAE DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Sep 13 to 2359Z, Sep 14
+ Arkansas QSO Party	1400Z, Sep 13 to 0200Z, Sep 14
+ ARRL September VHF Contest	1800Z, Sep 13 to 0300Z, Sep 15
+ North American Sprint, SSB	0000Z-0400Z, Sep 14
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint Ladder	0130Z-0200Z, Sep 19
+ ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	0600 local, Sep 20 to 2400 local, Sep 21
+ Washington State Salmon Run	1600Z, Sep 20 to 2400Z, Sep 21
+ BARTG Sprint 75	1700Z-2100Z, Sep 21
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint Ladder	0130Z-0200Z, Sep 26
+ CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY	0000Z, Sep 27 to 2400Z, Sep 28
+ Texas QSO Party	1400Z, Sep 27 to 2000Z, Sep 28

The K7RA Solar Update
07/11/2014

Solar activity strengthened recently, with average daily sunspot numbers for the seven days ending June 25 at 72.3, rising 43.3 points to 115.6 for the seven days ending July 2, then rising 89.5 to an average of 205.1 for the period ending July 9.

Similarly, average daily solar flux for the seven days ending on June 25 was 98.8, which rose 30.7 points to 129.5 on July 2, and then rose 64.4 points to 193.9 on July 9.

We don't have predictions for daily sunspot numbers, but the predicted average solar flux for the seven days following July 9 is 152.5, a decline of 41.4 points from the previous seven days.

Predicted solar flux for the near term is 175, 160, and 150 on July 11-13, then 140, 135 and 130 on July 14-16, then 125, 110 and 105 on July 17-19, 100 on July 20-21, 95 on July 22-23, then 100, 110, 125, 135 and 140 on July 24-28, and 160 on July 29-30. Solar flux then peaks at 205 on August 3-5, and

declines to 95 on August 18-19, before rising again in the following days.

Predicted planetary A index is 5 on July 11-12, then 10, 8, 12 and 8 on July 13-16, 5 on July 17-25, 8 on July 26, 5 on July 27 through August 4, and 8 on August 5-10, and 12 on August 11.

F.K. Janda, OK1HH, predicts the geomagnetic field will be quiet to active on July 11, mostly quiet July 12-13, quiet to active July 14, quiet to unsettled July 15, quiet to active July 16-17, quiet July 18-20, quiet to active July 21-22, mostly quiet July 23-24, quiet to unsettled July 25-26, quiet July 27-28, mostly quiet July 29, quiet to unsettled July 30-31, quiet August 1-2, quiet to unsettled August 3, quiet to active August 4, and mostly quiet August 5-6.

Ray Soifer, W2RS, of Green Valley, Arizona also had an EA8DBM report. "Yesterday (July 5) started out frustrating. From here in DM41 I heard W5s and W0s working all sorts of 50 MHz DX that I could not hear. I worked a few East Coast stations on double-hop Es, but that was all.

"Finally (1747Z), I worked EA8DBM, a new one for me on 6 and the only DX station I heard all day. I wonder, though, about the propagation mode. I gave him a 55 report, but his signal later built up to S8. That seems awfully strong for 4- or 5-hop Es (the distance is 5456 miles). With the solar flux so high, could it have been F2? On six I am running 150 watts to a multi-band vertical (Hy-Gain AV620)."

Here is a nice comparison of smoothed sunspot cycles: http://www.stce.be/newsletter/images/2013/19SolarCycleFC2.png

For more information concerning radio propagation, see the ARRL Technical Information Service at http://arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals. For an explanation of the numbers used in this bulletin, see http://arrl.org/the-sun-the-earth-the-ionosphere. An archive of past propagation bulletins is at http://arrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive-propagation. More good information and tutorials on propagation are at http://k9la.us/.

Monthly propagation charts between four USA regions and twelve overseas locations are at http://arrl.org/propagation.

Instructions for starting or ending email distribution of ARRL bulletins are at http://arrl.org/bulletins.

Sunspot numbers for July 3 through 9 were 179, 199, 213, 256, 197, 209, and 183, with a mean of 205.1. 10.7 cm flux was 178.1, 187.6, 193, 201, 197.9, 201.4, and 198.4, with a mean of 193.9. Estimated planetary A indices were 6, 5, 4, 5, 6, 6, and 7, with a mean of 5.6. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 8, 6, 5, 6, 5, 8, and 8, with a mean of 6.6.

The MLDXCC NEWSLETTER

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