

The Nugget



Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

The Newsletter of the Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

MEETING DATE, LOCATION & PROGRAM

When: Saturday, 14 September 2013 at 11:30AM.

Where: The September meeting of the Mother Lode DX / Contest Club will be at Mountain Mike's Pizza in Martell on Saturday, September 14th at 11:30AM. Mountain Mike's is located in the Amador Plaza shopping center with Save-Mart on Highway 88, just west of Highway 49.

What: Our program will be an update from Paul, N6PSE re: his group's

latest visit, and their effort to re-establish amateur radio in P5, PRK-North Korea. See the club's website at <http://www.mldxcc.org/> and click on "meetings" for a map and more information.

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

Welcome to September, MLDXCC'ers!

Without a doubt, this has been the busiest summer I think I have ever had. And, it's gone so fast!

I can break the summer down into four activities, and in no particular order:

- 1 - Rebuilding the El Dorado County ARC repeater system
- 2 - Refinishing our deck
- 3 - Winemaking
- 4 - Contesting Projects

I have spent virtually no time on the HF bands, other than that little "shoot-out" with Rich that I mentioned last month.

The repeater project has my primary focus right now. This includes an all new two-meter system which will reside in the State vault on Mt Danaher, replacing the old stuff. It's all racked up in my garage and basically playing. I need to clean up some cabling, set audio levels and let it burn in for a week or so and then install it at its permanent home. The system consists of 8 new UHF voting link receivers, a new voter, a new controller, a couple of home-made items, and a new 2 meter transmitter.

The deck....well there's always honey-do projects. Need I say more?

I spent all day yesterday picking, crushing and pressing at a friend's vineyard. Yesterday was all whites. The reds are yet to harvest. Maybe next weekend. We have also had a few bottling sessions during the summer months. I must say, the '09 Rhone Blend is quite good!

As far as the contesting projects go, the YCCC Stack Controller kit is just about ready to install on the lower tower. I

hope to have it all working prior to CQP. We'll see. I picked up a Mosely tribander from Dana, N6DW, prior to his moving to the East Coast. That antenna will go on top of the lower tower. I need to paint it camouflage, to keep it neighbor friendly. I also picked up another A3S from W6SR and it along with the other A3S will be the two lower antennas in the stack.

Rick, W6SR has offered to modify my AL-1200 and install the updated relay board from Ameritron. I've ordered the board and await it's arrival.

Oh, and I was in error when I said I haven't been on HF much. A couple of weeks ago, I got on 80 meters to say hi to a morning group of local El Dorado County guys. I was running barefoot and all of a sudden the SWR went to infinity. The antenna relay in my second FT-1000MP bought the farm. I have already replaced the same relay in the other MP, so I know the drill. This time, I ordered two. I'll have a spare just in case it happens in the middle of CQP. Add that on the to-do list. I'll probably have it replaced this afternoon.

Next week, I'm taking some time out to help Steve, W1SRD, build his super station. I took a look at the two new towers and the two new SteppIR's on the ground and I must say that I was envious. These are big-boy antennas. The Monster is a monster. It's going to be fun getting those in the air. Steve's station should make a lot of CQP points for us this year

I hear that W6SR has his antenna and tower up, and Rick says that the station will be active for CQP, with K6OK spending some quality time there.

I'm sure there have been several other antenna projects within the club. I know

that Mel, N6MCM, one of our newer members, has his remote controlled station operating with a tribander now at a location in Rescue. I know that Mel wants to have it playing for CQP.

And, speaking of CQP, Martin, AA1ON, phoned me and said he'll be flying out here from the East Coast this time, and not Hong Kong, to do CQP for the fifth year in a row. He will be leaving early, however, so Karen will take him to the airport on Sunday morning while I finish out contest on my own. We have received the First Place, M/S plaque three out of the last four years and we hoping to do it again this year.

CQP is our focus now, as a club. Jim, K6JS, was happy to present us with a case of wine at the Joint Meeting, but he made it real clear to me that this time REDXA will be a formidable force for CQP. They want a case of wine from us. I will be the guest speaker at this month's REDXA meeting. I'm giving my Tall Tower talk to our arch rivals. I did promise to plug my ears when they talk CQP strategy, however!

I tried a bottle of Jim's wine. It's a 70/30 mix of Zinfandel and Petite Syrah. Very, very good stuff. The deal was that officers of the winning club get the wine. That leaves us with a few extra bottles and these will be awarded to some of our deserving members. In the meantime, the bottles have being stored in my wine cellar.

Will you be on the air for CQP? I hope so. If you can't, please consider offering your station to someone who needs a place to operate. Last time, it was the small stations that made the difference. We need you guys and gals with small stations or minimal operating time to get on and make some points for CQP.

Remember, this is the one time of the year when the rest of the world WANTS to work California. They'll be looking for you. No matter what your power or what kind of antennas you have, please take some time to call CQ CQP. You'll have fun and you will be supporting the club. Remember, all of those 100 or co contact logs add up and, again, last year it was the little pistols who made the difference.

N6PSE will be our guest speaker at this month's meeting. I'm looking forward to hearing Paul talk about his efforts to operate in P5 land. North Korea is one of the few that I still need to work, so I'm really hoping that Paul has some good news for us.

We'll see you in Martell on the 14th. This should be a really good meeting. Be prepared to talk CQP contesting and DX'ing in North Korea!

See you there!

73, Bob, W1RH

FROM THE VICE PREZ

Sorry for the delay I have been out of town on business.

Good September to all, contest season is almost upon us. The California QSO Party will be the kick off. I would like to see the MLDXCC continue to keep the first place plaque. In order for us to win we need lots of club members to get on the air. If we can get most members to make some effort, this will greatly increase our odds of winning in 2013. For the more serious contester adding a few more hours in the operating chair than last year will make a huge difference. I am looking forward as a club to toast another winning season when the results are in.

On the home front I am getting the hardware together so I can finally fix my 40 meter beam this month. I have also added a new contesting computer to the shack. My old computer was running windows 2000 and that was an upgrade. I think my old computer had tubes. The newer computer is much faster, and the sound card sounds very good when I record the exchanges.

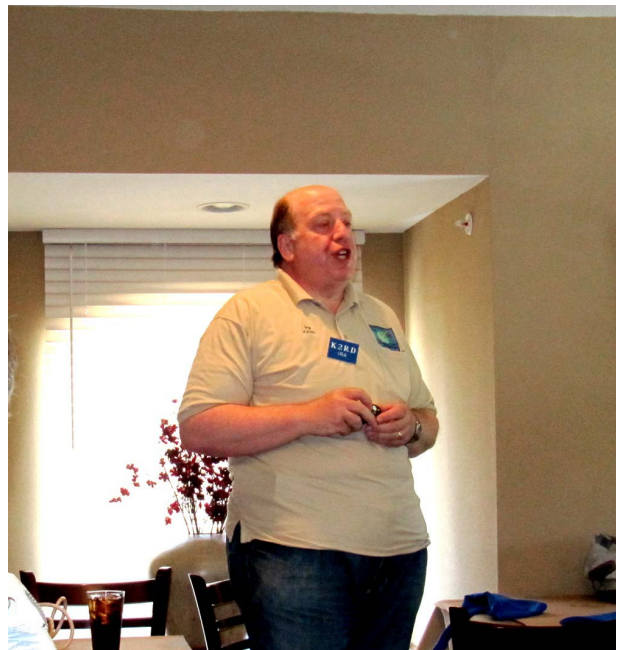
That's about it from here, see you at the meeting.

73, Rich WC6H

Our members enjoying lunch at Los Pinos in Cameron Park at our July meeting.



July guest Speaker, Ira, K2RD



Below are 3 Pics. of the (joint meeting)
August of the MLDXCC, NCCC & REDXA



Sept. 2013 Treasurer's Report

Balance Aug 1, 2013	\$1340.96
Income: Dues:	15.00
Expenses:	00.00
Balance Aug 31, 2013:	\$1355.96

\$1443.96

Carolyn Wilson, K6TKD, Treasurer

The following is the second 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 1

OK, I knew it would happen. When I started this article, I expected three questions would be asked: "When did ham radio start?"; "Who was the first ham?"; and "Where did the word 'ham' come from?". To answer these questions, let's set the Wayback Machine to Warp Factor 9, and head back 100 years.

Practical "wireless" had its start in 1896, when Marconi first sent a signal over a distance of two miles. By 1899, he succeeded in sending a wireless message across the English Channel, a distance of 32 miles. The year 1899 also marks the first construction project, which appeared in "American Electrician" magazine.

In December, 1901, Marconi was able to bridge the Atlantic, a

feat which caught the world's attention and fueled the imagination of thousands of potential amateurs, who took their first steps into wireless.

In the early days, everything was "spark". What exactly was spark? Well, sit down some summer night, listen to your AM or SW radio, and count the static crashes. Now turn on the vacuum cleaner, or an electric shaver, and listen to your radio again. Hear that noise? In short, spark wireless was merely a form of "controlled static". A high voltage inside a spark coil would jump across a gap, which was coupled to an antenna. The spark was keyed on and off to transmit the code. The signal generated was extremely broad. A "state of the art" 1906 spark transmitter operating on 400 meters (750 khz) would actually generate a signal from about 250 meters (1200 khz) to 550 meters (545 khz). Receivers were no better, before 1912 all systems were basically unamplified detectors.

Tuners were primitive or nonexistent. As might be expected, by today's standards, the early wireless stations were terribly inefficient. Transmitting ranges varied from as little as 600 feet with a 1/2 inch coil to perhaps 100 miles from a kilowatt station and a 15 inch spark coil. Ships at sea with 5 kw transmitters might get as much as 500 miles maximum range.

It was into this world that the early amateurs ventured. Actually, if we were to concentrate on the years prior to 1908, it

would be more appropriate to say "experimenters" rather than "amateurs". For in the first decade of wireless, there was little or no interest in personal communications with other stations; rather, the concentration was on technical development, either in the interest of pure science, or (more often than not) with an eye towards cashing in on this new medium. Experimenters were unorganized and, with the exception of those immediate stations with whom they ran tests, had no knowledge or interest in other pioneer stations. Any true "amateurs" prior to 1908 have been lost in prehistoric obscurity.

By 1908, however, the face of wireless began to change. Technical

developments had reached their first plateau, and a number of major competitors

had formed the first "wireless trust"--United Wireless. With a temporary truce in effect, equipment was now more readily available to the public. Along with this, new magazines, such as "Modern Electrics", were formed with wireless communication as the primary thrust. The circulation of "Modern Electrics" jumped from 2000 to over 30,000 in just two years. The year 1908 also saw the first "handbook", "Wireless Telegraph Construction for Amateurs". It is difficult to know exactly how many amateur stations were on the air in this completely unregulated, laissez-faire era, but reliable estimates put the number of "major" stations (i.e. those capable of communicating

over 10 miles) at 600, while "minor" stations with a one or two mile range probably numbered 3000 or more. Thus, if a year had to be arbitrarily chosen as the start of amateur radio, it would probably be 1908.

As for the "first" amateur, that's a harder one. Without licensing, regulations, or a written record, there will never be a definitive answer to this question. However, the Wayback Machine has come up with the name W.E.D. Stokes, Jr.. He was a founding member and the first President of the first amateur radio club--the Junior Wireless Club, Limited, of New York City. This organization was formed on January 2, 1909. Other founding members who might lay claim to the title "first amateur" were George Eltz, Frank King and Fred Seymour. Later the same year, the Wireless Association of America, and the Radio Club of Salt Lake City were created. By 1910, wireless clubs were springing up all over the country, and the first call book--"The Wireless Blue Book" was published. Since there were no regulations

in this period, the call signs listed in the Blue Book were self assigned--which brings us to our third question--where did the word "ham" come from? Legend has it there was a phenomenal station on the air with a 5kw station, who could be heard at all hours of the day and night at distances of over 500 miles. The station operator used his initials for his callsign--H.A.M.. I

don't know if this is the real story, but I've always liked this explanation best.

Amateur radio continued to grow. By 1911, Modern Electrics had a circulation of 52,000, and there were 10,000 amateurs in the country. With thousands of stations on the air, both amateur and commercial, interference was becoming a serious problem, especially in marine communication. Ships, because of their restricted antenna length, were limited to frequencies between 450 and 600 meters (666 to 500 khz). As we have seen, one spark station could take up this entire spectrum. Thus, it was imperative that all stations cooperate and stand by when the others were transmitting. Sadly, this often was not the case. In addition to interference between amateurs and commercial stations, there was more interference and sometimes deliberate jamming between commercial stations of different companies. Prodded by the Navy (which was using inefficient and outdated equipment and thus suffering from excessive interference), the U.S. Congress was starting to take a serious look at wireless regulation. However, before they could take up proposed legislation, an incident happened that would quickly and dramatically alter the structure of the wireless spectrum.

On April 15, 1912, the R.M.S. Titanic struck an iceberg in the North Atlantic and sank. Thanks to wireless, and the first S.O.S. in history, 713 lives were saved. However, it has been

argued that the number of survivors could have been doubled or even tripled, if there were stronger wireless regulations in effect.

We are going to leave the Way-back Machine hovering over the year 1912, keeping a sharp eye on the Titanic, and on a 22 year old experimenter in Yonkers, N.Y., who would soon make some major contributions to radio.

So, until then, keep that spark gap adjusted and those raspy CQ's coming.

"William Continelli, W2XOY, Copyright 1996, 2001, All rights Reserved. Reprinted with permission."

Editor's Notes de Rick, W6SR

Hi all.....

Well after several months of mucking around with the county building dept., digging holes, pouring concrete and the like, the new tower had it's final completion signed-off.

And..... I during this process I only had one neighbor ask "what is that?"

The last antenna installed was a derelict Force-12 C4-SXL that I secured from a bay-area HAM which I modified and re-built. It's at the very bottom of the mast, next up is a 6 element 6m beam, and at the top is a rotating 40M dipole. The modified C4-SXL has gain, and directivity, on 10, 15,17,20 and 30 Meters. So at the moment I can cover all bands from 6 to 40 meters with a directional antenna.



Now to finish things off I need to install the 75/80M and 160M antennas. So I

have been keeping the ol' computer working by stuffing it with EZNEC antenna designs that I think will fit my needs. I'm still evaluating stuff, but by the end of this month I should have my final design nailed-down, and the matching for them worked out. The easy part of the project will be installing the antenna itself.

An antenna job like this is NEVER done by just one person, so I really need to thank, K6OK, N6JV, W6DE, and W1SRD for their help with this project.

As a side-note, K6OK, our club P.E., said the following: **"I do think you set an important precedent in El Dorado County because your tower was approved based on meeting code only in the crank-down position. The TIA-222 code is silent on this concept, so ED County had every opportunity to say "No." Fortunately the Florida approval I cited convinced ED County to the "Yes" side. Now, if any other ham in El Dorado County wants a crank-up approved that doesn't meet code when fully cranked up, they can point towards your installation as precedent. I think that's pretty cool! de Jim, K6OK**

ENF fer now, see you all the 14th.**de Rick, W6SR**

Member News, Items For Sale & ARRL Announcements & Feedback

**Contest, Contest, don't miss a Contest
it's TEN GIG a HERTZ and up.**

The weekend of August 17th was the first of a split weekend contest. The object of which is to work as many stations on the Microwave bands on and above 10GHz.

There were nearly 60 stations, who listed they would be operational in California, Arizona, and Nevada. The contest start is a little different than most. The gun goes off at six AM local time and ends at Midnight the next day.

Well I went out to a little knob of land about 3 miles to my Southwest. I hoped to clear a large ridge blocking my path to the Los Angeles area. (Didn't go west enough, rats) Any way I was able to work 11 different stations at distances of up to 115 Km. There were several stations working as Rovers (Mobile) all along Interstate 5 and on nearly every easily reached mountain top. Several club members were on the air, but I was unable able to work all of them, due to path blockage.

All the signal levels were well above any existing noise levels and the reports were all, of course, the every contest report of 59. There was not a need to use the good old J-38 and work anyone on CW this year. The modes used are normally SSB (usb), but CW and FM have been used. Digital modes are available but you need to haul along too much stuff and anyway computer screens are hard to read in bright sunlight.

Speaking of sunshine, If you like sitting in the sun, and listening to the endless chatter of stations on the coordination frequencies (450 band and 900 band). You check in and get a position in the queue and await your turn. A lot like the 40 and 80 meter WAS nets. But unlike HF DX, there is no constant UP UP or SPLIT SPLIT dummy. Your aim your antenna like a rifle, tilt it up or down a little a little to the left or right and BANG there the other station is. You exchange the protocol and listen to work another station.

All that is needed is a 2 meter rig, a converter for 10GHz and a dish or horn. If you are interested in joining in the fun, the next outing is Sept 21st. Contact Rick, W6SR or me Lyle K6QG and maybe a ride along can be arranged. Other than the 2m rig, it's generally all home brew stuff. Maybe now is time to get your hands into an interesting HAM project again?

Lyle, K6QG

Hi All.....

I made Honor Roll this Spring and got my Plaque in July.. at 341/332,I'm now at 342/333.

73's **Chuck, W6RD-Modesto**
(congrats! ed)

I won a MA-40 US tower at the 2013 IDXC, which I am offering up for sale. If you would assist me, and not mind announcing within your regional vicinity and surrounding area, I would greatly appreciate it. The tower is located at US Towers location in Woodlake and could be picked up from or shipped from there. I have spoken with Vicky Contreras at US Tower and she will honor a transfer of the certificate/tower to the new recipient provided I simply provide her with the name and contact information of the buyer. **Asking price is \$700.00.**

As stated on the certificate **"Value \$1806.00, shipping not included. ."**

Thank you and 73,

Bradford S. Enockson – W6EA
25777 Harzburg Road
Menifee, CA 92584-8673
W6EA@verizon.net

PACIFICON 2013- October 11-13, 2013

- **The Great West Coast Ham Radio Convention!**
- **Largest West Coast Vendor Show of Amateur Radio Gear!**
- **More Than 75 Outstanding Technical Forums!**
- **Great Swap Meet!**
and...much, much more!

Returning to the Magnificent Santa Clara Venue

Marriott Santa Clara Hotel
2700 Mission College Blvd.
Santa Clara, California

For Events, Latest Updates and Registration go to:

www.PACIFICON.org

If Hotel lodging is needed:

Make reservations before September 26, 2013, to qualify for the special Pacificon rate of \$109/night. To make reservations on-line with special Pacificon Group Code rate already entered, [CLICK HERE](#). Or, call the Marriott Hotel Reservations Desk at 1-800-228-9290 and ask for the Pacificon rate.

PACIFICON 2013 Events, Forum Topics, and Exhibits Include:

- Friday All-Day Antenna Seminar • Friday Evening New Media Elmers and Podcasters • Saturday Morning Kickoff with Speaker Gordon West • More Than 75 Outstanding Technical Forums • Largest West Coast Vendor Show of Amateur Radio Gear • Saturday Amateur Radio and the Law Seminar
- Great Saturday Swap Meet • Ham License Exams • Daily Radio Prize Drawings • Direction Finding/Fox-Hunting, Beginner and Advanced • Great QRP Programs • Amateur Television (ATV/DATV) • HFpack Activities • Saturday All-Day Technician License Class • Working Satellites • DXpeditions • Contesting
- A Full Slate of Youth Projects and Activities • Kit Building • Emergency Communications • Saturday Evening Banquet with Guest Speaker • Annual ARRL Pacific

Come and Experience the Many Facets of Ham Radio!

Pacificon Committee - pacificoninfo@pacificon.org
www.pacificon.org - (925) 945-8007

**** Pacificon is looking for volunteers to assist with the
convention ****

Contact AF6PU@arrl.net for information or to volunteer

—

Tube of the Month de Norm, N6JV

833

In 1937, RCA developed a high powered tube that remains popular today. The 833 was a big, stocky tube about the size of a Mason jar. It has a special filament socket and heat dissipating connectors for the grid and plate. At maximum power, it has an output of 800 watts without forced air cooling. This tube could be used by hams who wanted a single tube that would run the legal limit. RCA promoted the tube for hams but it was also adopted for use in many commercial AM broadcast transmitters. The tube had a large zirconium coated plate that had a bad habit of turning red hot in its center when pushed too hard. If the voltage was increased from 3300 to 4000 VDC, and forced air applied, the tube could be pushed to 1800 watts input. By the start of WWII, the tube was designated the 833A.



After WWII and the large number of power tubes like the 304TL being so cheap, the 833A had limited popularity with hams, but was used in several commercial RCA and Gates broadcast transmitters. I remember seeing a pair of them in the big transmitter at the Voice of America in Dixon, CA. They can still be found today in industrial heating oscillators and small town AM stations. In recent years the Russians have been making the 833C that has a carbon plate. The 833(A) is an impressive looking tube and they are popular with audio amplifier builders. The sockets are getting more expensive than the tubes.

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

Meeting Minutes, 27 July 2013

Meeting was called to order at 12:03 PM by VP Rich Cutler WC6H. There were 23 persons attending at Los Pinos restaurant in Cameron Park.

CQP: Rich reminded us there are little more than a couple of months remaining before the 2013 running of the California QSO Party (CQP). Suggested that NOW is the time to do repairs, upgrades, etc. to antennas, gear, computers.

Dave W6DE wanted to know how many read article in 'Nugget' about 'History of Ham Radio'.

Norm N6JV had QSLs & stories about Russian stations.

Dick K6LRN asked about 2.8 khz in CW bands. (Not much info about...will do some research.)

W6DE submitted 1000 cards to qualify for Challenge Plaque.

W6SR had 'final inspection' on his tower installation. Not using TH-11, going for a C-3 or similar.

Break to eat.

Presentation by Ira Stoler K2RD about DXing & Contesting from a 'city' lot. Much good info on dealing with limitations of operating from a suburban sized property.

Meeting not formally adjourned.

Those present at the meeting were:

CALL	NAME	QTH
K6LRN	DICK	OMO RANCH
K6TKD	CAROLYN	OMO RANCH
WD6EIW	JOHN	SACRAMENTO
N6JV	NORM	SACRAMENTO
N6JV/XYL	MARY	SACRAMENTO
KI6GSJ	DENNIS	CAMERON PARK
WX6V	JIM	AUBURN
W6RFF	JETTIE	ROSEVILLE
WA6NHC	RICK	CAMERON PARK
ND6S	RAY	SUTTER CREEK
W6VMT	VERNE	PLEASANT VALLEY

N6MCM	MEL	EL DORADO HILLS
K6OLY	JAMES	SHINGLE SPRINGS
W6HFM	HARRY	PILOT HILL
K2RD	IRA	SAN CARLOS
W6SR	RICK	PLACERVILLE
W6DE	DAVE	PLACERVILLE
RICH	WC6H	VALLEY SPRINGS
K6SCA	STEVE	FIDDLETOWN
K6SZQ	SUE	FIDDLETOWN
AA6K	SHIRL	STOCKTON
N7HUC	JOHN	CAMERON PARK
NU6T	RICHARD	FAIR OAKS

Respectfully submitted,

Dick Wilson K6LRN

Kay Anderson, K6KO
Secretary

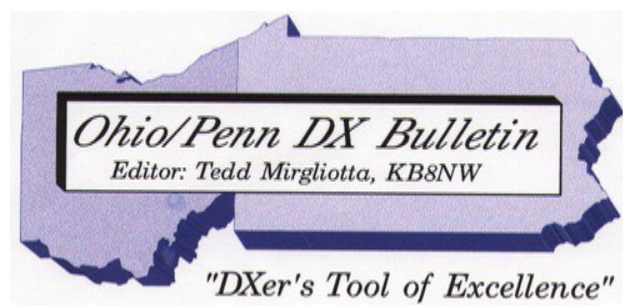
Click on the Hyperlink below to check-out the MLDXCC scores in the latest contests.

<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>



OPDX Bulletin 1126
September 2, 2013

The Ohio/Penn Dx PacketCluster
DX Bulletin No. 1126

BID: \$OPDX.1126

September 2, 2013

Editor Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW

Provided by BARF80.ORG
(Cleveland, Ohio)

3B9, RODRIGUEZ ISLAND (Just A Reminder)

By the time you read this, members of the Verona DX Team will be active as 3B9EME from **Rodriguez Island (AF-017)** until September 13th. They will have 2 stations on at the same time on the HF bands, with an emphasis on 160/80/40/30/17/12 meters, using CW, SSB, RTTY, JT65hf and PSK31. Also, some EME activity on 144 and 432 MHz. See OPDX.1122 for suggested frequencies. For more details and the QSL route, visit the 3B9EME Web site at:

http://www.ari.verona.it/veronadxteam/3b9_2013.htm

8Q, MALDIVES

Operators Christian/DL2MDU and his XYL Heike/DO3HDA will be active as 8Q7CF from Biyadhoo Island Resort between September 15-27th. Activity will be holiday style on 80-10 meters, possibly 160 meters if they can use a long wire, and they will use an Elecraft K3. Christian will operate mainly CW, while Heike will operate on SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via DL2MDU.

A2, BOTSWANA

Operators Arnold/WB6OJB and Frosty/K5LBU will be active as A25JK and A25CF, respectively, from the Lotsane Gameand Safari Lodge in the extreme eastern part of Botswana between September 5-12th. They plan on having two stations set up and running, but the A25JK will be the main station. Look for A25JK

to operate SSB on 20/17/15/12/10 meters and possibly 40 and 75 meters. K5LBU will be operating some PSK on whatever bands might be open and A25JK is not on. QSL via their home callsigns.

A3, TONGA

Masato "Masa", JA0RQV, will once again be active from Tonga, but this time as A35JP/N and from **Niuaatoputapu Island (OC-191)** between September 19-24th. This operation will be depending on weather and flight to the island, and on the air will be limited because of limited supply of electric power. Operations will be on 80-6 meters using CW and SSB. His rig is an IC-7000 (100w) and GP Full-size. In case his flight is cancelled, Masa might be active from **Tongatapu Island (OC-049)** or **Haapai Island (OC-169)** or **Vavau Island (OC-064)** instead. QSL via his home callsign, by the Bureau, direct or LoTW. For more info, visit Masa's Web page from his last trip at:

<http://www.sato3.com/a35jp/index.html>

ASIAN TOUR

Pekka, OH2YY, will activate Nepal (9N) between October 2-5th. He has applied for the callsign 9N2YY, but the final confirmation will take place upon arrival in Nepal. After Nepal, between October 6-10th, Pekka will be visiting the Kingdom of Bhutan (A5). He has been assigned a Bhutanese license with a callsign A52YY. Both in Nepal and Bhutan, Pekka will be traveling mainly during the daytime hours, but during his evenings and nights, he will

be active on 20-10 meters using SSB. He cannot take any amplifier or yagis with him, so the operations will be basically with a 100w transceiver and dipoles. QSL via OH2YY, by the SRAL Bureau or direct to: Pekka Ahlqvist, Vapaalanpolku 8B, 01650 Vantaa, Finland. or via SRAL QSL bureau. Also, he will use LoTW.

CE0Y, EASTER ISLAND

Operators Jose/CE0HYO, Gustavo/CX2AM, Humberto/CX3AN, Gustavo/CX3CE, Mario/CX4CR, Gen/EA5HPX and Francisco/EA7FTR will be active from Hanga Roa, Easter Island, between November 1-7th. Callsign has not yet been announced. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. They will have 3 stations operating simultaneously. QSL via EB7DX. They have a Web site available at:

<http://easterisland2013.com>

D4, CAPE VERDE

Operators Babs/DL7AFS and Lot/DJ7ZG will be active as D44TXT from **Santiago Island (AF-005)** between October 19th and November 7th. Activity will be on 80-6 meters using SSB, RTTY and PSK31. QSL via DL7AFS.

DXCC NEWS

Bill Moore, NC1L, ARRL Awards Branch Manager, reports that the following operations are approved for DXCC credit:

TX5K Clipperton Island; 2013 Operation

XZ1Z Myanmar; 2013 Operation

NOTE: If you've had this rejected in a prior application,

send a note to bmoore@arrl.org to be placed on the list for an update to your record. Also, please note the submission date and/or reference number where the rejection was noted to help expedite the search for any rejected QSOs.

E6, NIUE

Operators Alan/VK4WR and Graeme/VK4FI will once again be active as E6RQ and E6SG, respectively, from the Coral Gardens Motel, Alofi, **Niue (OC-040)**, between December 7-17th. Activity will be on the HF bands. Alan informs OPDX [edited],

"Our operation is primarily for 6 meters as we are going in the middle of the southern hemisphere sporadic E season. Hopefully, there will also be TEP into Asia and who knows what else on the magic band. We will have some HF, am taking an OCF dipole for 40 through 10 meters and plan to have a play in the ARRL 10meter Contest. 100 Watts only."

QSL both callsigns via VK4FI.

FO, FRENCH POLYNESIA (IOTA Tour)

Yoshi, JJ8DEN, will once again be active as FO/KH0PR between September 3-25th. He will activate the following French Polynesian Tuamotu Islands as follows:

September 3-8th - Ahe Atoll (OC-131)

September 9-16th - Napuka Atoll (OC-094)

September 18-25th - Reao Atoll (OC-238)

Activity will be on 80-10 meters using CW and the Digital modes. QSL via JJ8DEN, direct or by the Bureau.

HP0, PANAMA (IOTA Tour)

Operators Christian/EA3NT, Raul/EA5KA, Vincent/ F4BKV and Col/MM0NDX, from the Invoker

Team, will activate six Panamanian island groups as HP0INT(/1,2,3,4 or 9) between September 5-19th. Activity will be on 40-10 meters using CW and SSB. The team tentative schedule is as follows:

September 5-8th - Naos Island (NA-072);
callsign HP0INT/1; evening only

September 6-8th - Boca Brava Island (NA-071);
callsign HP0INT/3

September 9-11th - Ogobsibu (San Blas) Island (NA-170);
callsign HP0INT/2

September 11-13th - Grande Island (NA-202);
callsign HP0INT/2

September 13-15th - Iguana Island (NA-203);
callsign

HP0INT/9 September 16-18th - Colon [Bocas del Toro] (NA-088);
callsign

HP0INT/4

Please be careful with HP0INT/2 as it will be used from two different IOTA groups. Listen carefully to the operator to know the exact location/IOTA. Direct QSLs are via F4BKV (OQRS preferred) [if you use IRC, he only accepts the new model valid until 2017]. Bureau QSLs are via F5CWU (OQRS preferred). More details and the OQRS are available at:

<http://www.invoketeam.com/hp0int>

IOTA NEWS

NA-124. Operators Manuel/XE2HUQ, Saul/XE2HQI, Craig/XE2HWJ and Jose/ XE2I will be active as XF1P from **Partida Island** between December 7-14th. More details to be forthcoming.

OC-109/ (POSTPONED) Operators John/YB5NOF, Anton/YB5QZ, Joni/YB9WZJ

OC-122. and YE5WM planned to activate **Tambelan (OC-122)** as YE5T between August 28th and September 1st, and **Natuna Selatan (OC-109)** as YE5S between September 4-9th. John, YB5NOF, informs OPDX that this has been postponed. They hope to do all they can to try to activate the IOTAs at the end of September or

early October, but is depends on the weather, transport and the renewal of their licences.

IOTA PACIFIC TOUR CONTINUES (Update)

By the time you read this, Ralph, H44RK, is expected to be active as H40IOTA from **Vanikolo Island (OC-163)** for only 2-3 days. Activity will probably be on 40/20/15 meters SSB. Ralph informs OPDX that he will head to Vanuatu (YJ) and operate as YJ0RK as well as activate a few more IOTAs. He states that he will activate Torres Island (OC-110) first and then Banks Island (OC-104). No set dates are known at this time. Ralph states, "We will be cruising Vanuatu waters (on the "SV Hafskip") for about 2 months before we continue via New Caledonia back to VK4-land. QSL H40IOTA and YJ0RK via NR6M.

ISWL CALLSIGNS (For September)

The following ISWL club callsigns will be used throughout the month of September 2013:

GX4BJC/A - Operated from Ivybridge, in Devon, by Peter, G4VFG (ISWL Honorary Secretary). (WAB Square SX65, England; IOTA **EU-005** and WLOTA LH-1841).

MX1SWL/A - Operated from Hove, in Sussex, by George, G3VBE. (WAB Square TQ20, England; IOTA **EU-005** and WLOTA LH-1841).

ALL QSLs will be handled by Herbie, G6XOU, and NOT the individual operator. The I.S.W.L. is a member of the European PSK Club. All QSL info is on www.iswl.org.uk or www.qrz.com or via www.eQSL.cc

. NO LoTW. I.S.W.L. Awards are available to all Hams and SWLs, see www.iswl.org.uk for full details. The

eQSL.cc cards ARE welcomed for their awards.

KH9, WAKE ISLAND (Update)

Tentative dates (Wake Time-Zone Dates) have been posted on the K9W Web page www.wake2013.org. The team expects to arrive on October 5th, set up on October 6th, operate on October 7th, stop/teardown on October 18th and depart on October 19th. Also suggested frequencies are:

CW - 1826.5, 3523, 5405, 7023, 10103, 14023, 18079, 21023, 24894 and 28023

SSB - 3790, 5403.5, 7082, 14185, 18140, 21285, 24955 and 28485

RTTY - 3580, 7035, 10142, 14080, 18099, 21080, 24912 and 28080 kHz

6M - 50107/CW and 50107/SSB

OJ0, MARKET REEF (Update/Change)

Pasi, OH3WS, will be on **Market Reef (EU-053)** as a voluntary worker between September 7-13th, and will be active as OJ0W during his spare time. Activity will be on 40-10 meters mostly CW. QSL via OH3WS, by the Bureau or direct to: Pasi Bergman, Tuulipolku 4, 13500 Finland.

ADDED NOTE. A YL Mirja (not Pasi's YL) will be there on the Reef with him and was very interested in HAM radio in Sept. 2012. When they were there last time, she made some QSOs. Pasi states, "I will give her a possibility to make QSOs as a second operator on SSB. It has been a long time since OJ0 was QRV by any YL-operator. We'll see what happens."

ONLINE HAM RADIO LOG STATISTICS WEB SITE

Yan, XV4Y, runs as Web page called "QScope"

<http://www.qscope.org/>

QScope.org is an online application that provides statistics and charts

from HAM Radio logs. While some features are designed with contesting in mind, most of the statistics will be useful for DXers and DXpeditions. You just import your ADIF 2 or Cabrillo logs into QScope database and then browse the statistic and charts pages. The application allows for exporting your results in PDF and to share the web links to the charts you produced with your friends. QScope permits you to create as many containers as you want and import as many logs as you need into them, so you can classify or aggregate the data the way you want. QScope offers informations like:

- Number of QSOs, Operating Time
- Unique callsigns worked, unique DXCCs entities, CQ and ITU Zones
- Average and Maximum QSO Rates over periods of 10, 30 and 60 minutes
- Activity Map showing which band, mode, operating position was more productive during a contest
- Charts with number of QSOs per unique callsign, band, mode or operator
- Charts with number of Points per unique callsign, band, mode or operator
- Charts with number of QSOs per CQ and ITU Zones
- Charts showing hour by hour, the Number of QSOs and Points, Number of new CQ and new ITU Zones worked, Number of new DXCC entities and new Prefixes worked
- Charts with Operating Time per band, mode or operator with parameter for pause duration
- Charts showing minute by minute how much was your QSO Rate for your whole log, per operator or per band, with parameter for the sample duration from 5 minutes to 60 minutes
- Charts with Maximum QSO Rates per band, mode or operator with parameter for the sample duration from 5 minutes to 60 minutes

*** Note** that the informations you can display depends on the data available in your logfile. ADIF logs containing more details than Cabrillo.

More features and statistics are planned to be included in future versions. Suggestions are

welcome. Registration and access to the website are free.

PACIFIC TOUR (EME Op)

Hermann, DL2NUD, will once again be active from the Pacific, this time as H44HP from Solomon Islands and YJ9HP from Vanuatu sometime in October and November (dates and specific islands not provided). Activity will be focused on VHF Bands for EME QSOs. QSL via his home call-sign, direct or by the Bureau.

PROPAGATION FORECAST/REPORT (September 2-8th)

Sep/02nd AN	Sep/05th AN
Sep/07th AN	
Sep/03rd AN	Sep/06th AN
Sep/08th AN	
Sep/04th AN	

SOLAR REFERENCE KEYS/INDEXES AND
GEOMAGNETIC REFERENCE

NORMALITY		GEOMAG
K Values	Alpha	
-----		-----
AN - Above Normal		Quiet
K=0-1	0-7	
HN - High Normal		Unsettled
K=2	8-15	
LN - Low Normal		Active
K=3	16-29	
BN - Below Normal		Minor Storm
K=4	30-49	
DIS - Disturbed		Major Storm
K=5	50-99	
VRY DIS - Very Disturbed		Severe Storm
K=6-9	100-400	

ADDED NOTE: Has anyone heard or seen from Lee, KH6BZF? Your editor has been sending him E-mails for 3 weeks and has not received an answer.....

QSL INFO AND NEWS

HS4AK via E20YLM

HS5AM via HS5IGY

Randy, W5UE, reports [edited],

"I now have an online log search and OQRS Web application for many of the stations I manage. Logs currently online: 9V1YC, 9V9HQ, AK6W, EY3M, EY8ZE, HC8GR, HC8N, NA5NN and ZP5YW. 9V1YC's upcoming DXpedition to Laos (XW1YC) will also be supported. Daily updates from James is anticipated while he is QRV from XW. The Web link is <http://w5ue.net/qs1-w5ue-logsrch.html>." **QSL RECEIVED VIA LoTW:** None reported this week!

QSLs RECEIVED VIA MAIL: 6O3A, FH5EJ, J28AA and UT1FG/MM

QSLs RECEIVED VIA THE BUREAU: 4O8A, 5B/DG6MFA, 9K2/SP4R, 9M6/N6MUF, 9N7CB, A65BB, CT7/DL5MFW, H40FN, H44MS, LX0RL, HS0ZGQ, MJ/DL2SBY, PJ2/DB5IJ, VP2MXF, SU/DJ5IW, TA4/DL2DXA, Z21LS and ZD8XF

SATELLITE ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to John, K8YSE, for working and confirming all 488 USA lower 48 States grids. John states,

"Satellite operators come and go and grids come and go with them. A grid might have a very active operator in it and then it is off the air when that person goes away for whatever reason. Interestingly, about half of the 488 grids that were worked were from those operating portable, not in the sense of using a radio with batteries, but in the traditional sense of operating away from their home station location. Once you have experienced being on the other end of a small pileup, you will want to do it again." He also states, "I started with satellites in June 2006 and only had 47 USA grids by August 2008. From August 2008 till Jan 2009 I worked another 109. In 2009 199 were worked. 2010 was 76 and 2011 was 44. Only 4 new grids were worked in 2012 and 9 were snagged in 2013." John is possibly the first person to ever work all 488 USA lower 48 States grids (at least in the past 10 years) on the satellites. HOWEVER, the sad part about this is there is NOT an

award for this wonderful accomplishment.

SOUTHEAST TOUR

The "DX-World.net" reports that operators Fusa/JR3CNQ and Take/JS6RRR will be active from Singapore (9V1 - IOTA AS-019) and West Malaysia (9M2) on the following dates:

September 20-21st and 23rd - Callsigns 9V1/JR3CNQ and 9V1/JS6RRR

September 21-23rd - Callsigns 9M2/JR3CNA & 9M2/JS6RRR

Activity will be on 40-10 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. In case of heavy rain or other conditions, the operation conditions may vary. QSL via their home callsigns (see QRZ.com).

T10, TRANSNISTRIA

Vladimir, UA4WHX, is now active as T10VB from the breakaway territory between the River Dniester and the eastern Moldovan border with Ukraine called "Transnistria". They declare independence in 1990 from the Republic of Moldova. You can read more about Transnistria at:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transnistria>

<http://www.transnistria.info>

Currently, Transnistria is NOT a DXCC entity because it does not meet the current DXCC Criteria. Vladimir started his activity on Friday, August 30th, and has been on 80/40/30/20/17/15 meters mainly on CW but some SSB. QSL via UA4WHX.

T32, EAST KIRIBATI (Update)

Tim, NL8F, will be active as T32TM from East Kiribati between November 26th and December 11th. He states that he is bringing an IC-7000 with an ALS600, and is working on getting a CrankIR vertical (if this does not work, it will be Butternut HFV9

vertical on the beach). Activity during the first week Tim will be using T32TM. QSL via K8NA. During the second week, he will join up with the T32RRC team (4-5 guys) on [Kiritimati Island \(OC-024\)](#), and they will be bringing more radios and antennas. A Web site is still under construction.

T8, PALAU

Madison, W5MJ, will be "on another sole DX adventure" to Palau as T88TV between September 10-16th. Activity will be CW only on all bands with an emphasis on 80 and 160 meters. He will use an inverted L, with 500 watts and a tuner. He mentions, "Palau is nine hours ahead of GMT". QSL via W5MJ.

V5, NAMIBIA

David, BA4DW, is now active as V5/BA4DW from Windhoek until September 6th. Reports indicate that his activity will be holiday style with a focus on Asia on 20 meters using CW and SSB. However, QSNs show that he has been mainly on 15 meters CW. QSL via his home callsign.

VQ9, CHAGOS ISLAND

By the time you read this, Kazeno, JO1GWT/KJ6ZHM, will be active as VQ9KA near Diego Garcia until September 8th. Look for his activity to be on the following specific days: September 1st, 2nd, 7th and 8th, starting at 0300z. He states that if it rains there will be no operation. Operations will be on 40-10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via JO1GWT, direct or by the Bureau.

YO, ROMANIA (WFF Op)

A Hungarian group along with YO5AJR, will operate from the Muntii Maramuresului (Maramarosi NP.) [YOFF-023] between September 6-8th. The members of the group are: Istvan/HA0KA (team leader), Pista/ HA0DI, Mate/HA0MT and Miki/YO5AJR (and possibly Iaci/HA0HW Iaci). Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via their home callsigns, by the Bureau or direct.

XW, LAOS

Just a reminder that operators Steve/9M6DXX and James/9V1YC will operate as XW8XZ and XW1YC, respectively, from Vientiane between September 5-10th. They plan to have two stations on the air. XW8XZ activity will be on SSB and XW1YC will mainly be CW with some SSB. QSL XW8XZ via M0URX and XW1YC via W5UE.

ADDED NOTE: It has been reported that operators George/EA2TA, Christian/EA3NT, Raul/EA5KA, Vincent/F4BKV, Don/G3XTT and Col/MM0NDX are joining Steve and James and now plan to operate five stations on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. OPDX has not verified this yet.

XW, LAOS (And JARL Ham Fair Wrap-Up!!)

Champ, E21EIC, informs OPDX [edited],

"I had very great time at the JARL Ham Fair 2013, and it was very nice to attend the Japan DX meeting 2013 which had many famous hams attending: OH2BH, NN1N, W6VNR/ZF2AH, KK6EK, DS4EOI, DF200 and JAs hams. All Story and pictures will show up on RAST website

<http://www.qsl.net/rast>

and I operated as JH1TEQ from the best station in the world from JH1AJT Zorro's station. I made about 400 QSOs, and QSL will be sent automatically via the Bureau."

He also states to look for XW0YJY in the All Asian DX SSB Contest (September 7-8th) as a Single-Op/All-Band/Low-Power entry. QSL via E21EIC.

XZ, MYANMAR (Update)

Zorro, JH1AJT, will be in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, between September 18-23rd, signing XZ1Z again. He has spotted a better location on top of a 1557 ft. hill, and expects to have better signals. He will bring a 10-15-20m tri-band Yagi in addition to the GPs used last month. The operation will be mainly CW this time and focus on NA/SA. In mid November, the Foundation for Global Children (FGC) will have a multi-national team DXpedition to Myanmar for about 10 days with three to four stations, 24 hours, 16010 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. Stay tuned! QSL via ClubLog OQRS (preferred) or JH1AJT.

UP-COMING CONTESTS (complete)

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

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.htm>

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	0000Z-0400Z, Sep 15

Sprint, SSB	
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

October 2013

TARA PSK Rumble Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Oct 5
+ Oceania DX Contest, Phone	0800Z, Oct 5 to 0800Z, Oct 6
EU Autumn Sprint, SSB	1600Z-1959Z, Oct 5
+ California QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 5 to 2159Z, Oct 6
+ Oceania DX Contest, CW	0800Z, Oct 12 to 0800Z, Oct 13
Arizona QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 12 to 2359Z, Oct 13
Pennsylvania QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 12 to 2200Z, Oct 13
+ North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Oct 13
New York QSO Party	1400Z, Oct 19 to 0200Z, Oct 20
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Oct 19 to 1500Z, Oct 20
+ Feld Hell Sprint	2000Z-2200Z, Oct 19
+ Illinois QSO Party	1700Z, Oct 20 to 0100Z, Oct 21
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Oct 21
+ ARRL School Club Roundup	1300Z, Oct 21 to 2359Z, Oct 25
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Oct 26 to 2400Z, Oct 27
+ ARRL EME Contest	0000Z, Oct 26 to 2359Z, Oct 27

The K7RA Solar Update 08/30/2013

Solar activity slipped this week, with the average daily sunspot number declining nearly 50 points to 77 and average daily solar flux

down nearly 10 points to 116.4. In fact, those “nearly” numbers were 49.9 and 9.9.

The latest solar flux predictions from NOAA/USAF (Thursday, August 29, 2013):

August 30-September 1: 108, 105 and 108

September 2-3: 110

September 4-5: 112

September 6-7: 115 and 120

September 8-14: 125

September 15: 120

September 16-17: 115

September 18: 110

September 19-21: 105

September 22-23: 110, 105

September 24-25: 100

Until August 27-28, the forecast had solar flux dropping below 100 on August 30 through September 2, but the outlook was upgraded for this period. But flux values are predicted to drop below 100 on September 26-28 (95, 90, 90, respectively).

Predicted planetary A index:

August 30-31: 20

September 1: 12

September 2-3: 5

September 4: 8

September 5-9: 5

September 10-12: 10, 15, 18

September 13-14: 8

September 15-16: 5

September 17-19: 12, 18 and 15

September 20-21: 5

September 22-23: 12, 8

September 24-26: 5

Every day — typically between 2100 and 2200 UTC — an [update](#) of all these above data becomes available. Today the August 29 prediction was revised and re-released at 0839 UTC today, about 11 hours after the earlier version. The numbers reported here did not change, however.

Much talk lately has centered around a possible dual peak in the current solar cycle. This would follow a pattern established in recent solar cycles. If this is so, the first peak probably occurred in the fall of 2011. Now it appears that perhaps the second peak was in spring 2013.

We are just a day away from the end of the month, so we won't see the actual averages until next week, but we can get a pretty close reading knowing the actual numbers for 29 of the 31 days in August.

The average daily sunspot number for the first 29 days of August was 92.2. This is above the levels for June and July, 80.2 and 86.2, but lower than April and May. This also pegs the three-month average of daily sunspot numbers (centered on July) at around 86.1, based on data from 90 of the 92 days in that period. This is higher than all of the three-month moving averages centered on September 2012 through

March 2013, but lower than the previous three periods centered on April and May (106.4) and 97.5 for June.

The two stand-out periods were both when the three-month moving average was above 100. Those were centered on October through December 2011 (118.8, 118.6 and 110) and April and May of this year, when average for both months was 106.4.

We began tracking a three-month moving average in early 2007, in the February 9 [bulletin](#) and have continued in each or the 78 months since then. For those unfamiliar with this concept, a moving average is used to smooth out the day-to-day variations in noisy data to make it easier to spot trends. If you wanted to create a 30-day moving average of any data, such as stock prices, temperature or sunspot numbers, you would add all the numbers for the previous 29 days to today's value, then divide by 30. Tomorrow you would drop off the first number in the series and include tomorrow's number. This continues, day after day, and what emerges is a graph that smoothes out day-to-day variations, making it easier to spot trends.

Because this bulletin was always text-based (47 years ago as a child, I copied my predecessor's weekly propagation bulletins in Morse code from W1AW), I needed a simple way to present a moving average without the aid of graphics, in order to spot trends in the upcoming cycle. In this simple method, I would do an arithmetic average (adding all the daily sunspot numbers, then dividing by the number of days) for a three-month period.

On the first day of April I would add all the numbers from January 1 through March 31, then divide by 91 in a leap year, and 90 in all other years. This reveals an average either described as centered on February, or the period ending in March.

On May 1 I could average all the data for February through April, so every month, one old month drops off, and a new month is added. [Wikipedia](#) has a page explaining this, and you can see there are many ways to slice and dice the data.

Next week when we will present the data described above, we will see the two peaks and the decline since then.

For some reason (it's summer?) there were no reports from readers this week.

I haven't looked at [this site](#) in a long time, and I see it has added many attractive and useful features. Note the fantastic images under the Active Solar Regions heading. If you click on the image, it will take you to a more detailed picture, such as [this one](#). You can then hack that URL to see a series of images of successive days. Note the date in this URL is for 8-29-2013, expressed here as /AR_CH_20130829_hres.jpg. You can change it to 20130828, 20130827, etc, then use the back-forward button on your web browser to see the images from successive days, along with the solar rotation.

Sunspot numbers for August 22 through 28 were 125, 127, 101, 46, 35, 61, and 44, with a mean of 77. The 10.7 cm flux was 131.6, 124.1, 117.4, 112.6, 111.2, 109.7, and 108.1, with a mean of 116.4. Estimated planetary A indices were 13, 15, 7, 7, 5, 15, and 9, with a mean of 10.1. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 11, 14, 8, 7, 4, 12, and 8, with a mean of 9.1.

For more information concerning radio propagation, see the ARRL Technical Information Service [page](#) on the topic. For an explanation of the numbers used in this bulletin, see [this article](#) on the ARRL website, "What the Numbers Mean, and Propagation Predictions — a brief introduction to propagation and the major factors affecting it," by Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA.

The MLDXCC NEWSLETTER

Information may be reproduced provided credit is given MLDXCC.

2013 Officers of the MLDXCC

President, Bob Hess, W1RH
w1rh@yahoo.com

Vice President, Rich Cutler, WC6H
wc6h@yahoo.com

Secretary – Kay, K6KO
k6ko@arri.net

Treasurer, Carolyn Wilson, K6TKD
k6tkd@arri.net

Director, Shirley Rose, AA6K
roses1@prodigy.net

Director, Ray Parker, ND6S
nd6s@sbcglobal.net

QSL Manager, Norm Regan, WA6SJQ
qsl@att.net

Publicity Chairperson, Brandt Woodard, K6BEW
k6bew@yahoo.com

Nugget Editor, Rick Samoian, W6SR
samoian@directcon.net

Webmaster, Norm Wilson, N6JV
n6jv@n6jv.com

ARRL Awards Checkers

Ken Anderson, K6TA
(including 160M cards)
Rick Samoian, W6SR
(including 160M cards)