

# The Nugget

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

### MEETING DATE, LOCATION & PROGRAM

**When:** Saturday, 22 July, 11:30AM-2:30PM

**What:** Joint meeting with NCCC, guest speaker Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ: presenting "The 2005 K7C DXpedition".

**Where:** The meeting will be held at the Senior Services Center, 229 New York Ranch Road, Jackson, Ca. (For directions, see below).

Please bring the following to share based on the first letter of the suffix of your call sign:

**A-G-** Chips/dips/salsas

**H-N-** Salad (potato, macaroni, fruit, green, etc.)

**O-U-** Relishes (assorted pickles, olives, carrot sticks, veggies w/sip, etc.)

**V-Z-** Desserts (simple desserts, cookies, fresh fruit, etc.)

### **Directions to the meeting site:**

Take State Highways 49/88 to Jackson. From the West (Highway 88) or the North (Highway 49), go through the Martell traffic light at 49/88 intersection and proceed to the bottom of the hill, turn left at the 2nd downtown Jackson traffic light (Safeway and Campbell's KwikServ gas station will be on your right), onto Highway 88 East toward Lake Tahoe. Follow signs to Senior Center and turn left onto Court Street (approximately 1 mile). New York Ranch Road will be the first stop sign (1/4 mile). Turn right and the Senior Center will be on the left approximately 100 yards from the intersection and behind an apartment complex (signs will direct you to "Oak Manor"). Parking is available in both the front and the back. Additional parking is available next door at the Quail Hollow Professional Center with stairs at the rear that lead to the Senior Center. Please do not park in the spots marked for the Oak Manor Convalescent Home.

**DUES ARE NOW "WAY" OVERDUE!!!**

Basic dues are \$15 minimum. It is \$10 more, if you want a paper copy of the 'Nugget'. Donations gladly accepted. Please, pay at meeting...next best, mail to Treasurer, Carolyn Wilson, K6TKD at Box 273, Somerset, CA., 95684-0273.

The following people have NOT paid their 06 dues: W6AJW, W6DE, K6GT, N6GWT, W6HFM, N6TV, K6TTT, AE6Y and will be removed from our mailing list on 7/30.

### FROM THE PREZ

We're half way through the year! This one is moving fast.

Field Day. I had a great time. Not quite what I expected...ears not quite ready for prime time. I played as time permitted in the IARU and worked on CW skills, N1MM's CW macros and my WinKey. First contact on CW was with Dick, K6LRN. Thanks, Dick. I dumped the 599 speed-up macro right after our contact <grin>. Made 27 contacts on CW and 38 on phone. Had fun. I'm not sure I want to see the log check results.

Meeting agenda (Time "suggested"):

- 12:00 Lunch and Conversation
- 12:30 Call to order and Agenda Review
- 12:33 Officer Roll Call
- 12:35 New Member/Guest Introductions
- 12:40 Recognition of achievements, milestones and other
- 12:50 Old/Ongoing business
  - Minutes and Treasurer report review and acceptance
  - Club Goals/Planning
    - o FD review
- 13:00 New business
  - Upcoming contests/DX
- 13:05 NCCC Introductions and business
- 13:30 .Break/Presentation Setup
- 13:45 Guest Speaker/presentations: Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ: The 2005 K7C DXpedition.
- 15:00 Adjourn

DX?

No DX chasing this month.

Contesting

Field Day and IARU, from cacophony to hush. What a contrast. I'm looking forward to more sunspots. I thought I'd do better with WRTC stations since I usually do well with SA stations. Only managed two: one phone and one CW. I found N1MM CW easy to set up and the automation was a lot of fun. I'm sure the ops I worked preferred the N1MM 20 wpm sent code more than they would have my still shaky 20 wpm hand code.

New members.

None this month. We'll have to work on that.

**Rich; NU6T@ARRL.net; 916-962-2431**

### **Bio of Bob Hess, W1RH**

I guess it all started with that Heathkit crystal receiver my Dad got me when I was 10 or 11 years old. I was fascinated by the nearby hams I was hearing in the South Sacramento area. It did not take me long to ask my Dad for a Heathkit GR-91 receiver with the condition that I supplement the cost with my lawn mowing money. I loved this receiver. It was the peak of one of the best sunspot cycles ever and I was hooked. When I got into 7<sup>th</sup> grade, the electronics shop teacher had a code class. I took it and got my license (WN6EUQ) when I was 13 years old. I upgraded to a Conditional class license less than a year later and got WB6EUQ. The same shop teacher ran the metal shop so I made my own chassis and built my first transmitter, running a 6L6. Later, I got into ARC-5's. At that time I considered serious power to be around 200 watts. DX'ing, however, was something I was not into and, looking back on things, I think it was because I just assumed I could not work DX with wire antennas and relatively low power radios. I held on to this thought for years.

My ham radio activity for many years was 2-way radio. I got into repeater building with some high school buddies. We established a repeater on 443.450, which is still operational today from Walnut Grove. My first mobile radios were Link commercial units - separate receiver and transmitter in the trunk running off of a dynamotor.

I went to college at San Diego State University, majoring in geology and specializing in micro-paleontology (finding oil). I worked my way through college at radio and television stations. When it was time to graduate, I was offered a full time job at the San Diego State TV station, KPBS.

I took the job and never worked in geology! I got married to Karen (yes, we are still together!) and we bought our first house in Lakeside, a San Diego suburb. I had a HW-101 in my apartment while I was going to school but was otherwise inactive on HF during my years in San Diego while remaining very active on 6, 2, and 440 FM. I did manage to buy an HBX-40 self-supporting tower at an auction for \$30. I eventually moved from KPBS to the NBC station in San Diego.

In 1976, we moved to Fresno where I took a job as Chief Engineer of the NBC station. We had a house in Madera County and I finally put up that HBX-40 with a TH-6 on top. Worked a few JA's and that was about it. I still had not been bit by the DX'ing or contesting bug. Still big-time into 6, 2, and 440 FM. Operated a repeater on 146.16/76. My son, Robert, was born in Fresno. He now works for ESPN in Bristol, CT. His call is N1UVA and he has been quite active with RTTY contesting.

In 1982, we moved to Sacramento where I accepted the Engineering Manager job at KOVR. One of my major projects (with my counterpart at KXTV) was the construction of the 2000 foot candelabra tower in Walnut Grove in 1986. We lived in El Dorado Hills. I put up that same HBX-40 and finally got the DX bug in 1987 right at the beginning of Cycle 22 after completely wasting many years of my life, during Cycle 21, on VHF FM! I worked my first 200 or so countries between 1987 and 1990 when I was drafted to go to work at WBZ radio and television in Boston. My daughter, Keri, KB1DZM, was born while we were in El Dorado Hills. She is entering her second year at Cosumnes River College.

I got the contesting bug when I was in New England. I was inactive for the first few years after I moved to Hopkinton, about 25 miles west of Boston. I threw up my first antenna in 1994 and immediately began meeting serious contesters. It seemed like everyone out there was a contester. Listening on the bands to stations like K1EA, K1AR, K1DG, K5ZD, K1VR, and many others, run Europeans really got my adrenaline going. When I first started contesting from my own modest station, I learned right away that WB6EUQ was NOT a good contesting call sign. I needed a 1<sup>st</sup> area call and it had to be shorter. To do that, I needed to upgrade to an Extra. I

did the Advanced and Extra over a two week period. Code speed had never been a problem for me even though I had not done much of it since my high school years. I got AA1KY in 1994 and changed the call sign to W1RH in 1996. I joined YCCC and got to meet some of those legendary contesters I had heard on the radio. They all started out contesting when they were in their teens while I was messing around on VHF. I could not believe what I had been missing! The propagation for contests like ARRL DX and CQWW is absolutely magic in New England.

A good friend and contester, Martin, AA1ON, who had always done single op, invited me to his place to do a multi-single. He has a nice station with a 115 foot tower, TH-11 and several other HF beams including a 40 meter beam at the very top. From that point on, he and I did multi-single efforts for many years contributing fairly large scores (but nothing compared to the multi-multi powerhouses like KC1XX and K1TTT) to YCCC. It felt good to be honored with many other YCCC members for contributing over 4M to YCCC over the course of a contest season. As a result, I have many YCCC coffee cups, hats, etc.! My home station consisted of a full wave 80 meter rectangular, vertical, loop and a kilowatt. With that antenna, I could easily run Europe on just about any band. Not a chance of doing it from 6 land with that antenna, at least on the higher bands. Besides YCCC, I was also a member of the Framingham ARA for several years, 3 of those as president.

I did ARRL DX CW (I think it was 2000) from Grenada with AA1IZ. It was a two-transmitter setup with amplifiers. Got 1st Place, Grenada (we were the only station operating that year from Grenada). A group of us also did the IOTA contest several times from NA-148, an island in Boston Harbor. The IOTA effort was very serious with multiple beams, transmitters, amps, etc. The last year we did it, we made #1 North America.

I spent 14 years in Boston and was responsible for three TV stations and two radio stations. One of the radio stations was WBZ, a legendary 50KW AM station on the East Coast. The two tower directional array was in a salt marsh on the ocean with all of the power pointed west. Nevertheless, we had boxes and boxes and boxes of QSL's from Europe and just about everywhere else in the world. It was a good source of IRC's! Many AM DX'ers also sent audiotapes with their

QSL requests. During my tour of duty, my able staff replaced the tube transmitter with a solid state 50 KW transmitter. We also rebuilt the towers. The biggest project I did there, however, was to take the top 350 feet off of our 1200 foot TV tower and replace it with 450 feet of new sections... All to accommodate digital television. We had four TV stations on that tower and all remained on the air with temporary antennas lower down the tower.

In 2004, my company, CBS, moved me back to Sacramento to oversee the technical side of the consolidation of KMAX (channel 31) and KOVR (channel 13). CBS had owned KMAX for years but bought KOVR in 2005. I now have a new house on 10 acres near Lotus. I hope to have the first tower up by contest season this year along with wire antennas for the low bands. Besides, MLDXCC, I am also a member of the El Dorado ARC. **73, de Bob, W1RH**

**THE VP SEZ**

Nothing much to report. Still recovering from FD and trying to get the station put back together. Work continues on the tilt plate for the MonstIR. Too hot to do antenna work.

Haven't been on the air much lately. Sorry to hear W5YU is SK. I used him as a "beacon" station on 3795 in the morning.

**Rick N6RK**

**CQ CQ FD de K6AO!!**

Here are the results of our club's Field Day effort this year. Before I launch into a few personal observations, here are the numbers:

<u>Band</u>	<u>CW</u>	<u>SSB</u>	<u>Total</u>
80	146	115	261
40	635	322	957
20	476	730	1,206
15	50	19	69
6	0	59	59
2	0	47	47
GOTA	<u>93</u>	<u>154</u>	<u>247</u>
Totals	1,400	1,446	2,846

**Scoring:**

QSO Points            8,492

Bonus Points 990

Claimed Score 9,482

Folks - that's the highest Field Day score our club has made in the past four years! And - we did this with only 8 operators running four stations. Not too shabby!! Last year's score was 8,902, which landed us in 13th place nationwide in Class 2A and third place in California in that class.

One of our discoveries this year was the ability to run two stations on 20 meters at the same time. That will be a necessity over the next three or four years until Cycle 24 improves conditions to the point where we no longer need to do this. Several of us also discovered the ability of "stubs" to dramatically reduce inter-station interference instead of band-pass filters. Our thanks to Jeff, WK6I, for this introduction to a topic that I have heard about since my early days as a ham operator, but never saw in practice until now.

The absolute highlight of the weekend, though, was watching our two teenage guests making their very first QSOs on the GOTA station. One of them is in his senior year at Placer High and was so impressed with his experience that he is going to earn his amateur license as part of his senior project this coming school year. While we can be proud of our score, this is really one of the main purposes of Field Day - which is introducing the magic of radio to young people.

My hearty thanks go out to all of our participants who worked hard to put this all together - (in no particular order) KF6T, K6LRN, K6TKD, N6RK, WK6I, NU6T, WB6GEF, W6SR, and WX6V, as well as our young brothers Paul Cecil and Greg Cecil, both from Auburn.

I also want to thank the club for allowing me to be your Field Day Coordinator for another year. We had a great time together on Peddler Hill again this year, in spite of the wind storm that tried to blow us all off of the mountain-top early Sunday morning. Believe me, while it was roasting at over 100 degrees in the valley - we were quite comfortable with our 80-degree weather. In fact, it was even warm at night - no need to wear long shirts or sweaters to keep warm. That's quite unusual when you are at 6,500 feet. We all had a great time, made a whole

bunch of contacts, no one was hurt, and some young folks discovered that ham radio and hanging out with a bunch of "older" folks was fun. Go figure! I'm already looking forward to what next year has in store.

**See y'all this coming Saturday at the annual joint NCCC/MLDXCC meeting in Jackson. Jim -WX6V-**

#### **4 sale stuff, member news & feedback.**

**NEW Yaesu FT1000MkV, Stock from the factory (filters).** Probably has about 30-40 hours of run time on it. Asking \$1850(O.B.O). It is perfect, right out of the box. Also I have 2 (two) Icom IC-208H Dual band mobile rigs, one is unused and the other is the little use but in the same shape (new). Asking \$175 (each) email: [nz6o@arrl.net](mailto:nz6o@arrl.net) or call Ron 530-409-7755

**We're in Maine visiting** grandkids but will be back in time for joint meeting. Our e-mail service has been spotty at best. Kay promises to get minutes done this week. Before leaving California we both worked YT6AO phone and cw for new one; #370 mixed, #360 Phone and #344 CW for me. **Ken - K6TA/1**

Ken and Kay were back at ARRL HQ last week see em' at <http://www.arrl.org/blog/DXCCDialog/52>

**The following operation is approved for DXCC credit: YU6AO - Montenegro Operation** beginning July 4, 2006 73 es DX! Bill Moore NC1L, DXCC Branch Manager.

**ND6S worked the IARU contest CW only for a few hours. I was surprised** to make a few Q's on Ten and Fifteen meters. I haven't massaged the log and scored yet, but more CW Q's than any previous years. I did Not hear one PY operator. CU Saturday. **Ray ND6S**

#### **EDITOR'S NOTES**

Thanks to Rick and Ira, K2RD (a new member) for last month's meeting, he did a great job and sent all of us into the investigative mode to track down our local noise sources. I wonder if shooting my neighbor's tractor would be a problem if I can prove it's where all my noise is coming from?

Well the only operating that I have done in the past month was working a few guys

on 6M e-skip. Unfortunately, none of them was outside the USA, but other parts of the US are racking up a lot of EU and AF, the band has been hot. The kicker is ya' got to be 1200 miles farther East than us, oh well. The only other radio related stuff I have done, was re-building both 80M verticals and straitening out the shack in preparation for this fall. Karen and I have made a several weekend trips with the Corvette club this past month to Lake Tahoe, Oregon and next weekend to Reno. So we will not be making the joint get together next weekend, and we have family obligations in August, so I guess I will not CU all until September 16th. **de Rick W6SR**

**MLDXCC - FINANCIAL REPORT July 2006**

<b>Balance June 1, 2006:</b>	<b>\$798.36</b>
Income:	
Dues	35.00
Field Day (pot)	<u>90.00</u>
	\$125.00
Expenses:	
July Mtg Rm	50.00
Field Day (pot)	<u>200.00</u>
	\$250.00
<b>Balance June 30, 2006</b>	<b>\$673.36</b>

**Carolyn Wilson, K6TKD, Treasurer**

**MLDXCC General Meeting, 20 May 2006.**

**Kay Anderson, K6KO, Secretary**

**The Ohio/Penn DX PacketCluster DX Bulletin No. 767, July 17, 2006 Editor Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW Provided by BARF80.ORG (Cleveland, Ohio)**

**407, SERBIA.** As of July 1st, the "World Wide Young Contesters" group has activated the special callsign 407WWYC (Four Oscar Seven) through August 31st to celebrate the 7th anniversary of establishing the WWYC club. Their special activity will be during the third meeting of WWYC members in Novi Sad, Serbia, between August 9-14th. Activities will include HF and maybe 6 meters, both CW/SSB, and an entry in WAE CW Contest. They were spotted this past week on 160/40/20/10 meters CW. QSL via YT7AW. Please note that this activity will be from SERBIA (not Montenegro as many may suspect). Information about the WWYC's club and upcoming meeting can be found at: <http://wwyc2006.atspace.com>  
<http://www.wwyc.net>

**5W, SAMOA.** Operators Ted/K8AQM (5W0TR), Jeff/N8CC (5W0JB), Dennis/KT8X (5W0DW) and Kirk/JF3MYU (5W0KI) will be active from Upolu Island (OC-097) from July 27th to August 10th. Activity will be on 160-6 meters CW, SSB and RTTY. They plan to have three stations active, and will participate

in the IOTA Contest (possibly as 5W0XX). More details, schedule and their operating frequencies are available via the following Web page at: <http://www.geocities.jp/jm3uml/samoa2006/index.html>

QSL 5W0DW, 5W0JB, 5W0TR via KT8X; QSL 5W0KI and their IOTA Contest callsign via JF3MYU.

**9A, CROATIA** (Island Op). Look for Aniko/HA5TAA (ex-9M2/HA5TAA) and Feri/HA5AZZ to be active as 9A/homecall from Murter Island (Not a IOTA, ACIA IC-318, CIA-28, IOCA CI-074), through July 30th. They will try to visit as many Croatian islands as possible for the CI award. Activity will be SSB on their preferred bands 40/20 meters. QSL via HA Bureau.

**C6, BAHAMAS.** Gary/W2VQ and his son Paul/KC2NMZ will be heading to Treasure Cay, Abaco Island (NA-080), July 23-31st. Their activity will likely include an entry in the RSGB IOTA Contest (July 29-30th) that week. Paul tells OPDX that they will have 1 or 2 stations setup (100w and 50w). Operation will be on all modes by both of them. Activity will be on 80-6 meters, with an emphasis on RTTY, PSK31, CW, SSB and maybe some SSTV. They will use dipoles and verticals. QSL via KC2NMZ, by the bureau or direct.

**C6, BAHAMAS.** Peter/W2GJ and Jim/K4QO will be active as C6APR from Crooked Island (NA-113) between July 26-31st. Activity will include an entry in the IOTA Contest (July 29-30th). QSL via K3IXD.

**DXCC NEWS.** Bill Moore, NC1L, ARRL DXCC Branch Manager, reports that the following operation is approved for DXCC credit: YU6AO - Montenegro; Operation beginning July 4, 2006. ADDED NOTE: From the "DXCC Dialog Weblog" - YU6AO is setting up an HF contest station and will be active starting July 20th with numerous operators for 10 to 20 days. Interestingly, this is the same date that YT6A has chosen for the start of the the Montenegro DX

Festival (<http://www.yu6scg.cg.yu/international-dx-festival.html>). With so much activity, this should be a great opportunity to work a new one and even fill out many band-country slots.

**FP, ST. PIERRE AND MIQUELON** (Update). Paul/K9OT and Peg/KB9LIE will be making their sixth annual trip to Miquelon Island (NA-032), July 28th-August 6th. They will sign FP/K9OT (prefers CW on 40/30m) and FP/KB9LIE (strictly SSB, mostly 17/20/40m unless higher bands are open). They will

try to run a breakable 6M beacon on 50.120. Both will be in the IOTA Contest as Single-Ops, and Paul will also be in the CW North American QSO Party. Note: he just needs to confirm Alaska for his FP/WAS. QSL to their home callsigns, same address, either direct with return postage/IRC or via the bureau. Logs will eventually be uploaded to LOTW. No eQSLs. Visit the following Web page at: <http://www.mhtc.net/~k9ot/>

**FR, REUNION ISLAND.** Stewart, GM4AFF, will be active as FR/GM4AFF for one day (July 30th) during the upcoming RSGB IOTA Contest (July 29-30th). QSL via M0CMK.

**GD, ISLE OF MAN.** The "Worked All Britain Awards Group" (WAB) is pleased to announce that they will be holding a joint event with the "Isle of Man Amateur Radio Society" (IOMARS) and "The British Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society" (BARLS) between August 19-26th. This activity week was mutually arranged with the IOMARS to encourage new licensees to gain experience in portable, mobile and net activity. They hope that it will provide publicity for the Island and increase activity around the bands and generally promote an interest within our hobby. The Activity Week will coincide with the International Lighthouse/LightShip Weekend (ILLW) and a visit by two of the WAB Committee members, Dave and Judith Brooks (G4IAR and G4IAQ), plus members of the "British Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society" (BARLS). The "plan" for the week is as follows: All three lighthouses on the Calf of Man will be activated on both days of ILLW event (August 19-20th) by members of WAB and BARLS. Chicken Rock will be activated (Sea State permitting) on August 19th. All the major lighthouses on the island will be activated on the afternoon of the 19th; by both WAB and BARLS jointly. Callsigns of those taking part - GD0SGB/P, GD0VML/P or /M, GT4LAB/P/M (IAR and IAQ in disguise). ALL 14 areas on the island will be activated during the week. Members of the IOMARS will position themselves around the island. More details will be posted on the Worked All Britain Web site at: <http://www.worked-all-britain.co.uk>

Two new certificates have been produced especially for the event. There will be a "Basic Activity Week Certificate" stating how many areas have been worked and a "Premier Class Certificate" for all 14 IOM areas. They all hope that the event will prove to be a great success and encourage newcomers to come forward to join in the fun. Please give all concerned your support by calling them. This may well become an Annual Event.

#### **IOTA NEWS.....**

**AS-115. Berkin,** TA3J, will participate in the IOTA Contest (July 29-30th), as TA3J/0 from Antalya - Sican Adasi (Rat Island, MIA MTC-099 and KM56JU). QSL via Nilay, TA3YJ, direct (only SASE and 1 IRC, no green stamps please) or by the bureau. No eQSL. SWL QSL cards are "OK".

**AS-117.** Operator Kenji, JA4GXS, will be active as JA4GXS/4, from Kasado Island (JIIA AS-117-096), JA4 Yamaguchi Prefecture, starting July 29th, including the IOTA Contest (July 29-30th). Activity will be on all HF bands CW and SSB. QSL via his home callsign, by the bureau or direct to: Kenji Sasaki, 2-15 Ishikannon-cyo, Yamaguchi-City, 753-0038 JAPAN.

**EU-014.** Vittorio, IK1RAC, will be active as TK/IK1RAC from the Island of Corsica (DIFM TK-001, MIA MCO-001, WLOTA LH-1390) between August 19th and September 1st. Look for activity from between 1200-1400z and from 2000-2200z, on QRP HF + 6 meters. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the bureau.

**EU-034.** Rolf, DK2ZF, will be active as ES/DK2ZF from the Island of Saaremaa, Estonia, between July 21st and August 3rd. Activity will be mostly CW on HF, 6 meters and 144/432 MHz. QSL via home call (QRZ.com).

**EU-052.** Massimiliano, IK2XYG, will be active as SV8/IK2XYG from Corfu Island, between July 24th and August 12th. Activity will include an entry in the IOTA Contest (July 29-30th). QSL via IK2XYG.

**EU-057.** Jan, PC2T (ex-PA1TT) will be active as DL/PC2T from Rugen Island during the IOTA Contest (July 29-30th). Look for activity before and after the contest. QSL via PA1TT, by the Bureau.

**EU-088.** Ric, DL2VFR, will be active as OZ/DL2VFR from Laeso Island July 23-30th. Activity will be mostly on CW. He will also participate in the IOTA Contest (July 29-30th) as Single-Op on CW for 12 hours. Laeso Island is NK-003 for the Danish Island Award. Ric is also planning to visit Hornfiskroen (NK-005 - same IOTA group) with QRP/CW-gear for some hours. QSL via his home callsign/bureau.

**EU-092.** Members of the Summer Isles Radio Club will be active as MM0Q from Tanera Mor during the IOTA Contest (July 29-30th). QSL via MM0BQI.

**EU-122.** Look for GN0ADX/p to be active from Rathlin Island during the IOTA Contest (July 29-30th). QSL via GM0ADX.

**EU-125.** Michael, DL3FCG, will be active as OZ/DL3FCG from Bolilmark, Romo Island (NS-001 for the Danish Islands Award), August

5-19th. Activity will be on all bands, CW and SSB. QSL via his home callsign, direct, through the bureau, or LoTW.

**EU-143.** Operators Manuel/EA7HY, Antonio/EA7HW, Juan/EA7AVW, Martin/EC7AEJ, Jose Manuel/EC7ALT, Oscar/EA4TD, Alfonso/EA4ATA, Javi/EC4DX, David, Pepe and Jeronimo will be active as ED7SPI from Sancti-Petri's Island in Chiclana de la Frontera (Cadiz- Spain), July 28-30th. Other reference numbers for this activity are: DIE S-002, FEA D-2388, DCE CCA-007, DMHE MCA-195, and DME-11015. The group will be active in the IOTA Contest. They also plan/try to activate different Farallones with other different references numbers: DIE S-225 Sancti-Petri's Farallon Grande, S-235 Farallon Chico de Sancti-Petri and S-236 Los Farallones de Sancti-Petri. They plan to have three stations on 80-10 meters on SSB, CW and Digi modes. QSL via the Bureau to EC7AEJ.

**EU-170.** Norbi, HA3FIN, will be active as 9A/HA3FIN from Pasman Island (ACIA IC-348, CIA-34, IOCA CI-085 and MIA MC-291), July 25-31st.

Activity will be on HF bands. Look for him to use the callsign 9A/HG3X during the IOTA Contest (July 29-30th). QSL via his home callsign for both callsigns.

**EU-170.** Peter/HA9MDP and Tamas/HG9MET will operate as 9A/homecall from August 3-13th, from Pasman Island (CI-085), and than Ugljan Island (CI-134) and some others island in the EU-170 group depending on the weather and other "local things". They will be operating on 80-6 meters, and also on 2 meters. They will take part in the Alps Adriatic VHF Contest as 9A/HG9VHF from JN73QW. The equipment is a FT-897, FT-736, multiband dipole for 80-40m, Gp for 20-10m, 6 element Yagi for 6m, and 14 element DJ9BV and 9 element F9FT Yagi for 2m. QSL via their home callsigns, via the HA QSL bureau is "OK".

**EU-171.** Hans, OZ7BQ, will be active as OZ7BQ/p from Fur Island during the IOTA Contest (July 29-30th). He will use a vertical antenna. QSL via OZ7BQ.

**EU-174.** A group of Hungarian operators will activate Thassos Island during the end of July. They plan to be active from 3 different locations on the island. Some will be in the IOTA Contest. Look for the following callsigns and locations (Grid Squares): J48NAR - Operator Laci, HA0NAR, from Skala Rachoni (KN20HS) J48IM - Operator Endi, HA0IM, from Pothos (KN20HO) J48PL - Operator Laci, HA7PL, from Astris (KN20IN). IOTA entry: 12HR/SSB/HP/Islands expedition. J48NL - Operator Laci, HA6NL, from Astris

(KN20IN). IOTA entry: 12HR/CW/HP/Islands expedition. J48PS - Operator Zsolti, HA6PS, Astris (KN20IN). IOTA entry: 12HR/CW/LP/Islands expedition. J48JJ - Operator Sanyi, HA7JJS, Astris (KN20IN). IOTA entry: QRP/24HR/Islands expedition. All stations will be active as SV8/homecall outside of the contest (few days before and after) on all the HF bands plus 6m and 2m, CW/SSB with some digital modes too. QSL via the HA QSL Bureau or direct to addresses on QRZ.com.

**EU-179.** Operators Tom/UT3IB, Medvedev/UT9IO, Alex/UX2IQ and UR8IR will be active as UX2IQ/p from Berezan Island during the IOTA Contest (July 29-30th). QSL via UX2IQ, by the bureau or direct.

**NA-038.** Heinz, VA7AQ, will be active from Madeleine Island during the IOTA Contest (July 29-30th). QSL via VA7AQ.

**NA-038.** Operators Fred/VE1FA, Helen/VA1YL, Alphonse/VO1NO, Reginald/VE2AYU, William/VE1MR, Howard/VE1DHD, Rich/VA1CHP and Gary/VE1RGB will be active as VC2W from Ile aux Meules during the IOTA Contest (July 29-30th). Activity will be on 80-10 meters CW/SSB. QSL via VE1RGB.

**NA-034.** Operators Fred/VE1FA, Helen/VA1YL, Bill/VE2MR, Lynn/VE2ENT, Al/VO1NO, Shelley/VE1NOS, Rich/VE1CHP, Reg/VE2AYU and Howard/VE1DHD will be active as VC2W from Ile du Cap aux Meules (QC-004 for the Canadian Islands Award), in the Magdalen Islands Group from July 26th to August 1st. They will also participate in the RSGB IOTA Contest as a Multi-Op/Expedition entry. Look for activity on 80-6 meters, CW and SSB. The Magdalens Group includes 6 Canadian Islands (which are not separate IOTAs) and three lighthouses which they will try to visit and activate briefly. QSL via VE1RGB (QRZ.com).

**NA-046.** Alec, W2JU, will be active as W2JU/p from Martha's Vineyard during the IOTA Contest (July 29-30th). QSL via W2JU.

**NA-067.** Nathan, N4YDU, will be active from Ocracoke Island during the IOTA Contest (July 29-30th) as a Single-Op/Mixed/Low-Power entry. QSL via N4YDU direct.

**NA-091.** Operators John/VE7JOH and Rick/VE7ADN will be active from the Malcolm Island Amateur Radio Club, on Malcolm Island (BC-019 for the Canadian Islands Award, Grid Loc. CO60), located in the Queen Charlotte Strait, British Columbia, July 29-30th. John will use the club callsign VE7MIV. Activity will be on 80, 40 and 20 meters. QSL both VE7MIV and VE7ADN via VE7JOH.

**NA-112.** Stephen, W3HF, will be active as W3HF/4 from Bogue Banks during the IOTA Contest (July 29-30th). QSL via W3HF.

**NA-112.** Kyle, W4KTF, will be active as W4KTF/p from Bald Head Island during the IOTA Contest (July 29-30th). QSL via W4KTF.

**OC-022.** Adhi, YC3MM, will be active as YC3MM/9 from Bali Island during the IOTA Contest (July 29-30th) on 15 meters only (CW/SSB) using 100 watts into a 3 element yagi. QSL via YC3MM.

**SA-070.** Danilo/XQ4CW and Marco/CE6TBN will be on the air as CE5S from Santa Maria Island (WLOTA LH-543) for the next IOTA Contest (July 29-30th). Before and after the contest, they will be on the air on 30/40 meters CW and 20 meters CW/SSB. QSL via HA1AG.

**ISLAND NEWS.** During the weekend of July 8-9th, Nenad, VE3EXY, was operating from the Island of Bonaventure (NA-177). Nenad informs OPDX: "The island itself is easily accessible by regularly operating boat lines, but the stay is strictly limited to the tourist season, and only during daylight operating hours of the National Park. I was allowed to operate for 5 hours each day. There is no electricity on the island, and I was allowed to use battery only. The reason is that the Island of Bonaventure is a bird sanctuary (Ganets colony), and they do not want them upset. I was not even sure if they will allow me to operate during daylight, and I did not announce my operation before. The island has IOTA designation NA-177, and CISA designation QC002. The call used was VE2/VE3EXY/p. In early evening (on Sunday) I activated the Rock itself (QC012) using VX2/VE3EXY call. The rock is connected to the mainland by tiny strip of land, but only during low tide (abt 2 hours). It is submerged otherwise. Even during the low tide, the waves may swipe the tiny strip of land which may put any operation in danger. 250 stations made QSOs with NA-177, and about 30 QSOs from the Rock (Pierced Rock)."

**OH0, ALAND ISLANDS (EU-002).** Juha, OH9MM, will be active as OH0Z during the RSGB IOTA Contest (July 29-30th) as a Single-Op/24-HRS/SSB/Island entry. QSL via W0MM.

**OY, FAROE ISLANDS (EU-018).** Tom/DL2RMC and Katrin/DO3MSH will be active as OY/home-call from here August 21-23rd. Activity will be limited to their spare time but look for them on all HF bands on CW, SSB and digital modes, with 400 watts and a vertical antenna. QSL via DL2RMC, bureau preferred. RUSSIA CALLBOOK.

**The HAM Radio Association distributes a Russian CallBook (English Version)**

containing detailed and updated information on all Russian HAM radio operators. It also contains: 1. Detailed information about the DX Expeditions which will take place in the nearest future. 2. Information about the diplomas. 3. List with names and addresses of Russian collectors of HAM equipment. Should you be interested in ordering this directory, please write to: [zakaz@post.e.ru](mailto:zakaz@post.e.ru) The price is 52 USDs, including the shipping to your country.

**SPECIAL EVENT.** On July 22nd, the Union de Radioaficionados de Estella (URDE) is organizing jointly with the City Council of the town of Lerin (50 KM South of Pampelona, Navarra) some ham activities, part of the Twin Cities partnership Lerin/Pompignac (Near Bordeaux) festivities. Among the Ham activities will be a flea market and the airing of the special callsign ED2HLP (HLP = Hermanamiento Lerin Pompignac = Jumelage Lerin Pompignac = Twin cities partnership Lerin Pompignac). QSL via the operator's instructions. More information is available at: <http://ea2ccg.blogspot.com>

**SPECIAL EVENT.** Members of the Club RadioAmateurs de Lanester (F6KPQ) will activate the special callsign TM0FIL from July 24th to August 6th, during the Inter Celtic Festival of Lorient (French Brittany) activities. Activity will be on all bands and modes. QSL via F6KPQ. **TF, ICELAND (EU-021).** Tom/DL2RMC and Katrin/DO3MSH will be active as TF/homecall between August 24th and September 6th. Their activity will be limited to their spare time but will include an entry in the SSB Field Day Contest. Operations will be on all HF bands on CW, SSB and digital modes, with 400 watts and a vertical antenna. QSL via DL2RMC, bureau preferred.

**V47, ST. KITTS AND NEVIS.** Remember to look for Reiner, DL2AAZ, to be active as V47/DL2AAZ from the Island of Nevis (NA-104), July 20th to August 10th. Activity will be on 40/20/15/10 meters SSB and CW, with 100 watts, dipole and groundplane antennas. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the bureau.

**VP5, TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.** Look for Kelly/N0VD and Alan/WB9JTK to be active as VP5/homecall between August 1-6th. They will be there primarily for business but plan to be active during their spare time. N0VD will make a special effort on the low bands with attention given to the EU and JA sunrise. This, of course, will depend on the noise level. Both operators will be

concentrating on CW with some operations in the U.S. general bands. QSL to their homecalls.

**VP9, BERMUDA.** Frank, K3TRM, will be returning to Hamilton Parish, Bermuda, again this summer for a short vacation from from August 3-8th. He will be operating as VP9/K3TRM. Activity will be on 160-6 meters, including the WARC bands using SSB, RTTY and CW. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the bureau. Additional information will be available on his Web site at: <http://www.k3trm.com/>

**VQ9, CHAGOS (Top-bander Take Note!).** Larry, VQ9LA (aka WDOHSP), on Diego Garcia, announced this past weekend that he will be on the Island for one more year. He is now scheduled to leave December 2007. The company he works for won their contract and will be staying. During Larry's stay, he plans to get several things fixed (Alpha 99, FT-1000, VQ9X K9AY loop, etc..) and really clean up the shack (a makeover).

**VU3, INDIA.** Rene, DL2JRM, is now active as VU3RYO from New Delhi, until July 24th. Activity is on 160-10 meters CW with 100 watts, wires and a vertical. He was heard this past weekend on 80/40/30 meters CW between 1630-2130z. QSL via DL2JRM.

**VY0, CANADA (IOTA Activity).** Operators Mike/K9AJ and Bruce/KD6WW will be active as K9AJ/VY0 and KD6WW/VY0 from Nunavut (Hudson Bay - Quebec Coast) Centre Group (NA-195), July 19-23rd, and from Nunavut (Hudson Bay - Quebec Coast) North West Group (NA-156), July 23-26th. QSL to their respective home callsign

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **OLD Foothill Flea Market**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month moved has to DeAnza College, intersection of I280 and State Highway 85. The flea market is going under the name "ASVARA" (Assn. of S. Valley Amateur Radio Assns)?

#### **Livermore Swap Meet**

(see website for new location), 7:00 AM to noon, all year. Talk in 147.045 from the west 145.35 from the east. Check at: [larkswap.com](http://larkswap.com)

### UP-COMING CONTESTS

Thursday NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jul 21
RSGB IOTA Contest	1200Z, Jul 29 to 1200Z, Jul 30
August 2006	
10-10 Int. Summer Contest	SSB 0001Z, Aug 5 to 2359Z, Aug 6
North American QSO Party	CW 1800Z, Aug 5 to 0600Z, Aug 6
ARRL UHF Contest	1800Z, Aug 5 to 1800Z, Aug 6
WAE DX Contest	CW 0000Z, Aug 12 to 2359Z, Aug 13
Maryland-DC QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 12 to 0400Z, Aug 13 and 1600Z-2359Z, Aug 13

ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	0600 local, Aug 19 to 2400 local, Aug 20
North American QSO Party	, SSB 1800Z, Aug 19 to 0600Z, Aug 20
Hawaii QSO Party	0700Z, Aug 26 to 2200Z, Aug 27
Ohio QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 26 to 0400Z, Aug 27
Kentucky QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 27 to 0400Z, Aug 28

### PROPAGATION FORECAST

QST de W1AW Propagation Forecast Bulletin 28 ARLP028 From Tad Cook, K7RA Seattle, WA July 14, 2006 To all radio amateurs SB PROP ARL ARLP028 ARLP028

Propagation de K7RA Sunspot numbers and solar flux declined this week. Average daily sunspot numbers dropped 10 points to 25.6, and average solar flux was down nearly 11 points. There were no remarkable geomagnetic disturbances. July 9 saw a weak solar wind from a coronal mass ejection, followed by another period two days later, but every day the IMF pointed north, protecting Earth's geomagnetic field. The latest forecast calls for solar flux around 70 over the next week, lower than it has been lately. Sunspot numbers should also be low. Predicted planetary A index for July 14 is 8, and then 5 for the next week. Eric Hall, K9GY of Lansing, Illinois reminds 6-meter operators (or anyone with a 6-meter radio for that matter) to operate the CQ World Wide VHF Contest this weekend. Six meters continues to amaze. July 12 saw great openings, with European stations working North America. A check of 6-meter DX spots for the previous 36 hours on July 13 at <http://www.dxers.info/> showed several thousand entries over a 24-hour period. EH8BPX in Canary Islands showed up 35 times in 36 hours, entries either from or about him. He seemed to work many stations on the East Coast and in the Midwest. If you would like to make a comment or have a tip for our readers, email the author at, [k7raarrl.net](mailto:k7raarrl.net). For more information concerning radio propagation, see the ARRL Technical Information Service at <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>. For a detailed explanation of the numbers used in this bulletin, see <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/k9la-prop.html>. An archive of past propagation bulletins is at <http://www.arrl.org/wlaw/prop/>. Sunspot numbers for 2006 July 6 through 12 were 34, 35, 34, 33, 18, 18 and 12 with a mean of 25.6. 10.7 cm flux was 85, 79.9, 77.4, 74.6, 72.8, 71.2, and 70.6, with a mean of 75.9.

Estimated planetary A indices were 11, 6, 3, 5, 11, 7 and 12 with a mean of 7.9. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 7, 5, 2, 5, 12, 5 and 9, with a mean of 6.4.

**MLDXCC 2006 Meetings 3rd Saturday (pending contest or other conflicts).**

Aug 19

Sept 16

Oct 21

Nov 11

Dec 16

**Membership Criteria**

Membership criteria may be obtained by writing the Secretary/Treasurer at:

**MLDXCC**

PO Box 1073

Pine Grove, CA 95665-1073

The club website is: [mldxcc.com](http://mldxcc.com)

**The MLDXCC NEWSLETTER**

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**WAS & others Dennis King, N6KD**

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