

The Nugget

The Newsletter of the Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

MEETING DATE, LOCATION & PROGRAM

When: Saturday, 16, December 11:30AM-2:30PM

Where: Round Table Pizza in Martell.

What: Steve Wilson, KA6S will talk about the High Performance Software Defined Radio project (www.hpsdr.org) for which he is doing FPGA design. Early next year, the first boards will be available for purchase from TAPR. These will be a sound card replacement to be used with SDR's such as the Flex Radio and Soft Rock, enabling wider bandwidth and higher dynamic range than possible with off the shelf sound cards. Follow on boards will form a board set allowing the construction of a complete software defined radio. This is an all volunteer non-profit, open source effort. Someday, maybe we'll be doing S&P by clicking on a displayed signal on the screen instead of tuning manually. I can even envision, in the far future, a software radio that automatically constructs a band map by tuning and decoding CW signals, so that you get the benefit of packet while in single op class. The possibilities are endless. **de N6RK**

FROM THE PREZ

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

Time for a swan song...another year has past. Election time is here, but more on that later. Thank you all for allowing me the honor of presiding over the club this past year. We have had an interesting year and have grown a bit. Field Day and CQP were memorable, with a good showing by the club. Special thanks to Jim Venneman, WX6V, for organizing Field Day, and to everyone who attended. Field Day is an opportunity for the Club to show off our skills in the field. Bravo to the Field Day team. Awesome.

We continued our winning run in CQP, it appears. Thanks to all who participated or supported or encouraged our effort.

While attendance was down a bit this year, our joint meeting with NCCC went well. Thanks to the kitchen detail who worked hard

under hot conditions to organize the table and clean up the aftermath. Thanks also to those who bought and brought food, drink and other necessities to make the event work. Hats off to all of you.

Our hard working officer, Rick Karlquist, N6RK, has found interesting and useful presentations throughout the year. Bravo, Rick.

Carolyn Wilson, K6TKD, and Kay Anderson, K6KO, take care of the finances and records. We all owe a debt of gratitude to these two for making sure the real business of the club is handled.

Thanks also to our Directors, Ken Anderson, K6TA, and Dick Wilson, K6LRN, who helped this novice avoid too many gaffs in settling in to the club presidency. Thank you for your assistance and guidance.

Without Nugget Editor Rick Samoian, W6SR, we would not be so well informed. Rick has been managing the Nugget for some time. Thanks Rick, for your support.

QSL Manager Norm Regan, WA6SJQ, makes sure that the club's on-the-air efforts are matched by our final courtesy. Thank you Norm for handling our QSLs.

Our public face is made possible by the efforts of our Webmaster, Jeff Stai, WK6I. Jeff designed our current web pages and keeps them current. Thanks, Jeff.

Thanks to all the club members who have attended meetings and events, and to those who support the club from afar. I'm sure you will all assist the next president and officers as you have helped me this year.

2007 Dues are due in January. Why wait? 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.

Elections

November is the month for elections. On a vote of the members, it has been postponed. I'm a bit surprised we don't have members anxious for an opportunity to serve this fine club, especially because it takes little time and we have a good support system. As the all-powerful El Presidente, my duties have been to coordinate meetings (see the agenda below), remember events (and accept reminders from the Board and other members), prepare my monthly column (on time preferred), and run the monthly meeting. I probably spend an hour or so each month outside of meetings. Each of us is capable of this duty and all should take a turn. It is good learning experience for those who have not had an opportunity. Most clubs find that about 5-10 % of the membership takes on an officer position. Those who have cycled through several or many times often are willing, but would prefer to see support from the rest of the club. These old hats are more than willing to help you learn the ropes. I'll be a Director next year, and will be there to help you out. Won't you take a cycle as an officer? We need your support to keep the club going. You will do just fine, have the gratitude of your club, and have another warm memory when your time is past.

Meeting agenda (Time "suggested"):

- 12:00 Call to order and Agenda Review
- 12:03 Officer Roll Call
- 12:05 New Member/Guest Introductions
- 12:10 Recognition of achievements, milestones, new equipment and other
- 12:15 Old/Ongoing business
 - Minutes review and acceptance
 - Treasurer report, including presentation of proposed budget or issues
 - Club Goals/Planning
 - o Elections, 2007 Nominating Committee.
- 12:45 New business
 - Upcoming contests/DX
 - Review action items
- 13:15 Break/Presentation Setup
- 13:30 Guest Speaker/presentation: TBA
- 15:00 Adjourn

Contesting

As this is written, the contest season is well underway, Sweepstakes CW is past and I'm preparing for SS SSB. I'm looking forward to operating from Rick, W6SR's, station as NU6T on Saturday, and will operate from home on Sunday.

CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW, is coming up right after Thanksgiving. I'll be listening, and hoping your working more than I. I'll be looking for contacts during Straight Key Night, which has been my primary CW "contest" so far.

I expect I'll be in the ARRL 10-meter contest this year. Good luck all.

DX? None here so far. I'll be looking for the VU7s, and zones 26 and 34 to complete my WAZ. Wish me luck. That's All, Folks.

Thanks, Rich; NU6T@ARRL.net; 916-962-2431

THE VP SEZ

As my term of office comes to a close, I can look back and feel that I arranged a lot of good programs for the club. When I agreed to be a candidate, I didn't know I was supposed to also be contest chairman. Unfortunately, I am not familiar enough with the details of many contests to be able to do this, so I am sorry if it got neglected. I appreciate the vote of confidence shown by the effort to nominate me for President, but I need a break. It is a 5+ hour round trip for me to attend a meeting, and it is too difficult to do this every month. I will probably be attending fewer meetings in the future. However, this may free up some time to attend more NCCC and NCDXC meetings. If the opportunity presents itself, I may try to snag speakers at these meetings for our club to help out the future program chair. I will throw out the suggestion that the board consider having fewer meetings per year. Fewer meetings might be better attended. Also, it would help with the problem of dodging contests. For example, NCDXC skips April, due to Visalia. I think they also skip August.

The latest on station improvements is that I just received one of the first set of heavy duty Slipp-Nott clamps, to prevent the M2 rotor and MonstIR from slipping on the mast. Both slip badly as originally designed. This is the final piece of the puzzle I need to get the MonstIR up on the 106 ft tower.

I just put up a second 90 ft vertical for 160 meters. As many times as I have done this, it is still amazing that I can levitate 90 ft of flimsy irrigation tubing. I am going to try to have a 2 element driven array ready for the ARRL 160m contest. It will be reversable and give me

4+ dB gain east or west. I have converted to N1MM from Writelog and am very happy with it. Next is to learn SO2R on N1MM.

Happy holidays and good luck in SS and CQWW. Maybe I'll work some of you on 160.

Rick N6RK

Member news/feedback/Announcements.

Yaesu FT1000MK5, perfect condition, ~30 hours of run time. Asking \$1750.

email NZ60@arrl.net, or call Ron, 530-409-7755

FT736R + RF Concepts RFC 2-317 (2MTR Power Amp.) and RFC 4-310 (430-450 Power Amp.)--

Best Offer

TS 50 +AT 50--Best Offer

Contact Mike at: W6FI@arrl.net

I've gotta downsize my RF/Tech accumulation of stuff, and want to list a few items to start: 125 ft of 7/8" Andrew COAX, with eia connectors. Cell company style connectors, would need adapters to get to N connectors... Corrugated Copper shield, and hollow center conductor, Make offer. Tek 7904 400 MHz scope with 2 plug ins Make offer Lots of other stuff... call me
Pat AA6EG (916) 315-9271

AMATEUR RADIO "OMNIBUS" RULES CHANGES TO GO INTO EFFECT DECEMBER 15

A little over a month after the Federal Communications Commission released the Report and Order (R&O) in the so-called "Omnibus" Amateur Radio proceeding, WT Docket 04-140 (FCC 06-149) to the public, a revised version appeared November 15 in the Federal Register

<<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20061800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/v/2006/pdf/E6-19189.pdf>>. The changes in the R&O will take effect Friday, December 15, at 12:01 AM EST, 30 days after its publication.

As expected, the Report & Order clarified two items that had raised some concerns when it was first released last month: That the 80/75 meter band split applies to all three IARU Regions, and that FCC licensees in Region 2, which includes North America, can continue to use RTTY/data emissions in the 7.075-7.100 MHz band.

Still to be resolved are three controversial aspects of the Proceeding:

* Expansion of the 75 meter phone band all the way down to 3600 kHz (thus reducing the privileges of General, Advanced and Amateur

Extra class licensees, who had RTTY/data privileges in the 80 meter band, and CW privileges of General and Advanced class licensees)

* The elimination of J2D emissions, data sent by modulating an SSB transmitter, of more than 500 Hz bandwidth. This will make FACTOR III at full capability illegal. Other digital modes effectively rendered illegal below 30 MHz include Olivia and MT63 (when operated at bandwidths greater than 500 Hz), 1200-baud packet, Q15X25 and Clover 2000.

* The elimination of access to the automatic control RTTY/data subband at 3620-3635 kHz.

The ARRL Board is discussing the possibility of a petition to reconsider several items in the R&O.

ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist Dan Henderson, N1ND, commented: "The release of the R&O in the Federal Register has started the countdown clock. We are all looking forward to being able to use the reformed frequencies starting on December 15. We are still anxiously awaiting the release of the Report and Order for 05-235, the Morse Code Proceeding. We are hopeful that the Commission will be able to move on that petition and address the outstanding issues in the Omnibus R&O soon."

For more information, see the band chart http://www2.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt04-140/Hambands3_color.pdf and the Frequently Asked Questions on WT Docket No. 04-140 <http://www2.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt04-140/faq.html>. Both have been updated to reflect the R&O as it was published in the Federal Register.

EDITOR'S NOTES

First I would like to thank N6RK for doing a first class job as our VP, I can't think of a better year's programs since I have been affiliated with the MLDXCC. Thanks Rick!!!

And while I'm at it, I don't want to forget Rich, NU6T. Under his leadership another fine year was enjoyed by all. And another CQP championship gathered by the MLDXCC, a FB Field Day outing and an improved score. In fact, all our officers did an outstanding job! Thanks for your efforts!

Rich NU6T, and Jim WX6V, were at the ol' W6SR station the past weekend (each operating for one day) during the SS Phone operation from our station. I tuned up the low-band antennas and loaded the new version of N1MM. On Sat. Rich had some problems getting started cause' N1MM was giving him problems. But he finally got on track and I hope had some fun. Rich, before he left, had per-setup the software for Jim, so Jim got off to a fast start and operated from 8AM to 7PM as K6AO, he logged close to 660 QSO and a sweep before it was over. Thanks for getting the W6SR station on the air for SS guys! I sure don't have any interest in it.

Don't forget the CQWW CW the 25-26 of this month, lot's of FB DXpeditions gonna' be on, so it's a good time to snag some new ones.

Karen and I had a great 9 day trip to PJ2. Operating as PJ2T in the CQWW Phone Contest, our 18.7 Meg Multi-Multi score is currently #2 in the world. Not too bad for a bunch of old guys, huh? I have a bunch of photos and enough info to do a short program on the PJ2T station and our operation there. If there is an interest, maybe at a future meeting?

Oh, I even worked a bit of DX and added few new band countries over the last month. Putting ZL8R and VK9CGG in the log on 160 and R1FJT and 3XD2Z in on 17M.

Last but not least, Karen and I want to wish all a very joyous and happy holiday season. May the new year bring us all peace, tolerance and a closer relationship with those we love. **C U all the 16th de Rick W6SR**

MLDXCC - FINANCIAL REPORT November 2006

Balance October 1, 2006:	\$673.69
Income: Dues	60.00
Expenses: Donation NCDXF	100.00
QSL Postage	<u>10.31</u>
	110.31

Balance October 31, 2006: \$623.38
Carolyn Wilson, K6TKD, Treasurer

MLDXCC General Meeting, 21 October 2006.

Call to Order and Agenda Review. Club President Rich, NU6T, called the General meeting to order at 12:05 PM at Round Table Pizza in Martell, California, with 15 members and 1 guest present. Discussion regarding a donation to the Northern

California DX Foundation (NCDXF) was added to the agenda. No Board meeting was held. Officers' Roll Call. Officers present were President Rich Hill, NU6T, Vice President Rick Karlquist, N6RK, Director Dick Wilson, K6LRN, Director Ken Anderson, K6TA and Secretary Kay Anderson, K6KO.

New Member/Guest Introductions. Casey McPartland, K7IB, was introduced by retiring Sacramento Valley Section Manager Jettie Hill, W6RFF. Casey will be assuming Jettie's duties for the remainder of the current term. He was voted in and welcomed as a new member.

Recognition of Achievements, Milestones, New Equipment and Other. Norm Wilson, N6JV, has been elected President of the Tube Collector's Society. Jettie, W6RFF, was honored as Ham of the Year at this year's PACIFICON in Santa Rosa. Rich, NU6T won 1st USA Call Area 6, and 3rd North America in the Japanese International DX Contest. Ken, K6TA won Top Score Central/South America (as P40TA) in the 2005 Stew Perry 160m DX Contest. Kay, K6KO noted that her 1st Aruba SO/HP (as P40K) in the 2005 ARRL 10m Contest also won 3rd World.

Old/Ongoing Business. The Secretary's minutes and the Treasurer's report were accepted as printed in the Nugget newsletter. Dick, K6LRN, announced that the Club currently shows a shade over 2 million points for CQP, while REDX apparently has just under a million. Discussion ensued, with the following Action Items assigned: In order to ensure that all appropriate logs are counted toward the Club, Ken, K6TA, will send via the Secretary a list of members participating in CQP; Rich, NU6T, will request the administrator of the 3830 website to list MLDXCC on the pull-down menus for both CQP and CQWW. In closure of this year's Field Day activities, Rich, NU6T, will get the Certificates of Achievement for Paul and Greg Cecil to the Field Day Chairman, Jim Venneman, WX6V. Shirley Rose, AA6K, reported that the Nomination Committee has been unable to fill the roles of President and Vice-President for the 2007 term. Secretary Kay, K6KO, and Treasurer Carolyn Wilson, K6TKD will carryover their duties through the next term. Ken, K6TA, passed around copies of the dupe sheets used in paper logging. Rick, N6RK, attended the September Northern California DX Club (NCDXC) and was told that no additional help was required of our Club for the 2007 International DX Convention in Visalia

next April. Rick also noted that "all the RK's" were in attendance at the meeting - see the NCDXC newsletter.

New Business. The next major upcoming contest is ARRL Sweepstakes. Members should work both weekends of the contest and submit to the NCCC. The same should be done for both modes of the CQWW contest. Rick Samoian, W6SR, has a station available for those contests. He also has a Pelican case available for borrowing, and Rick, N6RK, has one of the large television camera cases available. W6SR also reported on the proposed 2007 Field Day site at the Ice House fire lookout. He will check with Field Day Chairman Jim, WX6V, on Jim's availability to check out the site. It appears that all the Forest Service needs in the way of a reservation is the intent of the group and the number of persons involved. Dick, K6LRN, proposed that the Club make a donation to the NCDXF; it was moved and seconded.

Program and Adjournment. Rick, K6VVA's DVD presentation on the Single Operator/2 Radios clinic held at N6RO's QTH amused, amazed and edified. The General meeting was adjourned at 2:15 PM.

MLDXCC General Meeting, 11 November 2006.

Call to Order and Agenda Review. Club President Rich, NU6T, called the General meeting to order at 12:05 PM at Round Table Pizza in Martell, California, with 14 members and 1 guest present. No Board meeting was held.

Officers' Roll Call. Officers present were President Rich Hill, NU6T, Vice President Rick Karlquist, N6RK, Director Dick Wilson, K6LRN, Director Ken Anderson, K6TA and Secretary Kay Anderson, K6KO.

Member/Guest Introductions. Chuck Patterson, K6RK, was introduced as today's guest speaker. Recognition of Achievements, Milestones, New Equipment and Other. Rick Samoian, W6SR, operated from PJ2T during CQWW Phone and their M/M results are still listed as 1st World. Rick Karlquist, N6RK, reported a clean sweep of multipliers in last weekend's Sweepstakes CW test.

Old/Ongoing Business. The Secretary's minutes and the Treasurer's report for the October meeting will appear in the joint November/December Nugget newsletter. Ken, K6TA, reminded all to submit their CQP scores, and a discussion regarding truncated score submittals followed.

New Business. The next major upcoming contest is ARRL Sweepstakes Phone. Ken, K6TA and Kay, K6KO will be on the air from Aruba, P4, during the ARRL 10-meter and 160-

meter contests. Rich, NU6T, will be attending the ARRL Pacific Division's annual meeting in Livermore. Jim Venneman, WX6V, announced that the Club came in 13th out of the 455 clubs operating in our class during Field Day. No names were nominated for Club President and Vice President for the upcoming year, so the discussion was tabled. Carolyn Wilson, K6TKD, and Kay, K6KO, will continue as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. Program and Adjournment. Chuck Patterson, K6RK, shared handouts and knowledge gleaned from years of working 160-meters and constructing antennas designed to make the job easier. The General meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.

Kay Anderson, K6KO, Secretary

UPCOMING EVENTS

Old Foothill Flea Market

1st Sunday of each month at DeAnza College, intersection of I280 and State Highway 85. The flea market is going under the name "ASVARA"

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

UP-COMING CONTESTS

CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW 0000Z, Nov 25 to 2400Z, Nov 26

December

ARRL 160-Meter Contest 2200Z, Dec 1 to 1600Z, Dec 3

ARRL 10-Meter Contest 0000Z, Dec 9 to 2400Z, Dec 10

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest 0100Z-0300Z, Dec 18

Stew Perry Topband Challenge 1500Z, Dec 30 to 1500Z, Dec 31

January, 2007

ARRL RTTY Roundup 1800Z, Jan 6 to 2400Z, Jan 7

Kid's Day Contest 1800Z-2400Z, Jan 7

North American QSO Party, CW 1800Z, Jan 13 to 0600Z, Jan 14

The Ohio/Penn DX PacketCluster

DX Bulletin No. 784 and 784 November 19

2006 Editor Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW

Provided by BARF80.ORG (Cleveland, Ohio)

4L, GEORGIA. Mamuka, 4L2M, will be active during the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 25-26th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (40m)

entry. QSL via K3PD only; "OK" direct or by the Bureau.

4L, GEORGIA. Vaho, 4L8A, will be active during the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 25-26th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (20m)/High-Power entry. QSL via DJ1CW, by the Bureau or direct.

5A, LIBYA. The international team is up and active now as 5A7A with 8 stations on various modes on all bands through November 29th. QSL via DL9USA. Check also their Web site at: <http://5a7a.gmxhome.de>

6E/6F/6G/6H/6I/6J, MEXICO. In 2007 the Federacion Mexicana de Radio-experimentadores A.C. (FMRE) will celebrate its 75th anniversary (LMRE and FMRE), and XE stations will be using new prefixes during this special event. Look for the following prefixes/callsigns in 2007: 6G1LM - From January 1st through December 31st, 2007 6F75A - From January 1st through December 31st for contests for FMRE 6H1 for XE1 stations 6I2 for XE2 stations 6J3 for XE3 stations (foreign stations) 6E4 for XF4 Revillagigedo stations

8J, JAPAN (Special Event). Look for special event station 8J1ANT to be active between now and March 31st to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Japanese Scientific Research Expeditions (JARE) in Antarctica. The 8J1ANT special station will be active from the JARL building in Tokyo, operated by JA Hams. QSL via JARL Bureau. The JARE Web page is available at: <http://www.nipr.ac.jp/jare/> The World-Wide Antarctic Program (WAP) staff has issued a WAP reference number for 8J1ANT and/or 8J1ANT/1; which is WAP-76. These stations will count for the WAP AWARDS: WAP-WACA &/or WAP-ASEA according to the rules.

8P, BARBADOS. Tom, W2SC, will be active as 8P5A during the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 25-26th) as Single-Op/All-Band/High-Power entry. QSL via NN1N.

8Q, MALDIVES. Operators Igor/RA9CMO, Willy/RN4WA, Vladimir/UN9LW, Igor/RA3AUU and Igor/UA9CDC will be active as 8Q7DV during the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 25-26th) as a Multi/2 entry. QSL via UA9CLB.

9M6, EAST MALAYSIA (IOTA and Contest Op). Saty, JE1JKL, will be active as 9M6NA from Labuan Island (OC-133) during the CQWW DX CW Contest November 25-26th as a Single-Op/Single-Band (20m) entry. QSL via JE1JKL (E-mail requests for QSL Bureau cards are

welcome at: 9m6na@jsfc.org). See Saty's station at 9M6NA on: <http://jsfc.org/jeljkl/9m6na.html>

A6, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES. Michel, OD5TX, who has operated from the UAE as A6/OD5TX until late July 2006, has now been issued authorization to now operate as A61TX. The license was issued on November 14th and is valid for one year. His QSL Manager, as in the past, will be Jack, W4JS.

AH2, GUAM. Operators Toshinobu/JI3ERV, Mikawa/JR7OMD and Nozumu/JE8KKX will be active as AH2R for the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 25-26th) as a Multi-Single entry. QSL via JH7QXJ.

C6, BAHAMAS. Brian, ND3F, will be active as C6AQQ during the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 25-26th) as Single-Op/All-Band/Low-Power entry. He is also expected to be active in the ARRL 160 Meter Contest (December 1-3rd) as a Low-Power/DX entry. QSL via ND3F, direct preferred.

CANADIAN SPECIAL PREFIXES. To celebrate the 100th anniversary of Reginald Fessenden's first AM voice broadcast on December 24, 1906, all Canadian Amateur Radio operators may use a special prefix during the period of December 1, 2006, to January 31, 2007. For example, the special callsign CG1 could be use by all callsigns with the VE1 prefix.

CF1 = VA1	CG1 = VE1	CG8 = VE8
CF2 = VA2	CG2 = VE2	CG9 = VE9
CF3 = VA3	CG3 = VE3	CH1 = VO1
CF4 = VA4	CG4 = VE4	CH2 = VO2
CF5 = VA5	CG5 = VE5	CI1 = VY1
CF6 = VA6	CG6 = VE6	CI2 = VY2
CF7 = VA7	CG7 = VE7	CI0 = VY0

QSL via the individual operator's own personal callsign.

CX, URUGUAY. Operators CX3AL, CX5AO, CX5BW, CX9AU, CX7CO and CX9BT will be active as CX7BY during the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 25-26th) as a Multi/Single entry. QSL via CX5BW. Activity is to pay homage to their late friend Raul, CX7BY. Operations will be from CX5BW's station.

DP0, ANTARCTICA. A new radio operator will be active from the Neumayer Base (WAP-DEU-02) starting in December through February 2008. Look for Mirko, DG9BHQ, to be active using the club's callsign DP0GVN and a Yaesu T-897D (100W) and wire antennas. QSLs for this operation will be handled by DL5EBE.

EA8, CANARY ISLANDS. Leppala, OH2BYS, will be active as EA8/OH4NL during the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 25-26th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (80m) entry (possibly 160m). QSL via OH2BYS.

EI, IRELAND. Wieslaw, SP4Z, will active as EI/SP4Z again in the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 25-26th) as a Single-Op/All-Band/Lower-Power entry. He will use IC7000 and a rotary Spiderbeam, inverted VEE and dipole. Read about his effort two years ago described at: http://www.hamradio.biaman.pl/sp4z/ireland_eng.htm

FO, French POLYNESIA. Alain, F2HE, is once again active as FO5RH, and will stay on the Tatakoto Atoll (IOTA OC-066) until December 4th. He will also return there again starting January 10th.

GD/MD, ISLE OF MAN. Members of the Manx Kippers will be making another trip to GD-land for the CQWW DX CW Contest: MD6V - Operator Dave, G3NKC, will be active on 160m as a Single-Band entry. He will be looking for JA's before the contest using GD3NKC/P; since there is a big demand from there. QSL via G3NKC. MD4K - Operator Martin, G4XUM, will be active on 80m as a Single-Band entry. QSL via G3NKC. GD8T - Operator Peter, G4MJS, will be active on 40m as a Single-Band entry. QSL via G4SHF. Please be sure to include sufficient postage for all direct QSL requests- 1 USD is now not enough for outside of EU (but 1 IRC is !!)

HH, HAITI. Jean-Marc, F1ABQ, will be active as HH2FJM as of November 18th. He will be on every day between 0500-0700z and 1800-2200z around 14126, 18126 and 21226 kHz. QSL via F5RPB.

IOTA NEWS.....

AF-018. Members of the Tikirriki Contest Club will be active as IH9P from Pantelleria Island (African Italy - CQ Zone: 33, IIA: TP-01, WAIP: TP, WLOTA: LH-0041) in the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 25-26th) as Multi-Multi entry. This is the group's ninth

effort in the CQWW DX Contest and second time in the CW leg. QSL via KR7X and LoTW. Operators mentioned are: I1HJT, I1NVU, I2YSB, IK1QBT, IK2AHB, IK2ANI, IK2CIO, IK2HKT, IK2RZP, IK7JWY, IK8ETA, IT9BLB, IT9VDQ, IT9ZGY, IT9ZMX, IV3SKB and IZ1GAR. Expect some activity before the contest, starting around November 20th by operators as IH9/homecall on SSB and the digital modes. Visit the Tikirriki Contest Club Web page at: <http://www.ih9p.com>

NA-219. (Update to OPDX.783) A group of German operators will be active from Elbow Cay which belongs to Cay Sal Bank Cays Group in the Bahamas early in 2007. The ARLHS Lighthouse is BAH 018. IOTA NA-219 is on the most wanted IOTA lists in North America. Daniel, DL5YWM, informed OPDX that the group was issued the callsign C6ARI. The QSL Manager is DL3OCH. For more updates and information, please check the following Web site at: <http://www.qslnet.de/member/na219/english/index.htm>

IS0, SARDINIA. Martin, OL5Y, will be active as IS0N (possibly IS0/OL5Y) during the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 25-26th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (40m, possibly 80m) entry. QSL via OK1MG.

J20, DJIBOUTI (IOTA Op). Operators Alfeo/I1HJT, Vinicio/IK2CIO, Angelo/IK2CKR, Carlo/IK1AOD, Marcello/IK2DIA and Silvano/I2YSB will be active from Moucha Island (AF-053), February 1-15th. Callsigns will be J20M and J20R. Activity will be on all bands 160-10 meters including the WARC bands, CW, SSB and RTTY. They plan to have three stations on the air. QSL is via I2YSB. Their Web page is available at: <http://www.i2ysb.com/j2/>

J2, DJIBOUTI. Eric, ON7SAT, will be active as J20SA from November 20th through December 16th. His activity will be limited since he is there on a work assignment. Eric hopes to have the possibility of putting an antenna on the hotel there (nothing is sure at this time). Activity will be SSB on 40/20/15/10 meters (if his QTH permits). The equipment is a half size G5RV antenna and a Yaesu FT100 transceiver running 100 watts barefoot. Eric states, "Please understand that I'm there on business, so I might have to stop operating abruptly and get

back to work." QSL via ON7SAT, direct or by the Bureau.

J4/SV1, GREECE. Tomas, LY1F, will be active as J41A during the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 25-26th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (160m) entry. Look for him before and after the contest as SV1/LY1F. QSL via LY1DF. Visit his Web page at: <http://www.grz.lt/ly1df/>

J5, GUINEA BISSAU. Father Gianfranco, J590FM, operates from the Catholic mission at Caboxangue, Guinea Bissau. He is active only on Sundays and Wednesdays between 1615-1645z on 14321 kHz (+/-). Father Gianfranco does not speak English, but answers to calls in Italian, Spanish and Portuguese languages. QSL via I3LDP: Lucio Bresciani, Via Locchi 29, 37124 Verona - VR, Italy.

J7, DOMINICA (NA-101). Operators Michel/F6COW and Dominique/F6EPY will be active as J79CO and J79EP, respectively, between November 20th and December 5th. Activity will include the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 25-26th). Precontest activities will be on 160-15 meters, CW, SSB and some Digital. QSL via their French callsigns, direct or by the bureau.

JW, SVARLBARD. Members of the Svalbardgruppen av NRRL will be active as JW5E during the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 25-26th) as Multi-Op/All-Band entry. Operators mentioned are Stellander/LA1CCA/JW1CCA, Math/LA5NM/JW5NM and Trond/LA9VDA/JW9VDA.

KH2, GUAM (OC-026). Operators Masanori/JA1OZK/AA9WZ, Masao/JA1OHP, Tadao/JF1TAB, Ken/JH1FUD, Hiroshi/JL1LOW and JK1DRM will be active from here using the callsign K2G between November 25-28th. Activity will be on the HF bands including the WARC bands, SSB, CW and the digital modes. They will not participate in a CQWW DX CW Contest. If operators use the homecall/KH2, QSL via the bureau (or direct) to each operator's home callsign. QSL K2G via JA1OZK.

KP3, PUERTO RICO. Operators Al/WP3C, Felipe/NP4Z and Eric/NP3A will be active as KP3Z during the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 25-26th) as a Multi-Single entry. QSL via WC4E.

MZ5, SCOTLAND. Operator Ian, G3WVG, will be active from the Scottish Shetland Island

(IOTA EU-012) as MZ5A during the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 25-26th) as Single-Op/All-Band entry. QSL via Nigel, G3TXF.

OX3, GREENLAND. Dwayne, KD4POJ, has been active as OX3PG from Thule (FQ56, NA-018) since July 7th and will be here until July 30th. He mentions that he is active on most bands and modes mainly during his spare time and weekends. This past week Dwayne was heard on 20 meters SSB after 2000z, 40 meters after 2100z and 80 meters after 2200z. QSL is direct via his QSL Manager WA0SMQ. NO e-QSL or LoTW.

PACIFIC ISLAND HOPPING. Susan, W7KFI, will once again be heading out to sea. This 70 year old Grandmother be leaving Majuro Atoll (V73, OC-029), Republic of Marshall Islands in January. She is expected to head towards Tarawa Atoll (T30, OC-017), Gilbert Islands, Kiribati. Keep listening for her to activate other IOTA references while en route. Her departure will also include Kwajalein Atoll (V73, OC-028), Republic of Marshall Islands. QSL via K6FAF, direct only with the required SASE. This amazing lady has an interesting story. It is highly recommend to visit the following Web pages to see where she has been, and there is a Real Audio recording of her radio interview with Art Bell. Visit the Web pages at: <http://ussvdharma.net>
<http://www.grz.com/callsign/W7KFI>

P3, CYPRUS. Operators Bob/5B4AGN, George/5B4AGC, Stephen/G3VMW and Andy/ZC4VJ/G3AB will be active as P3F during the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 25-26th) as a Multi/2 entry. QSL via 5B4AGN.

PJ2, NETHERLANDS ANTILLES (Update). Members of the Caribbean Contesting Consortium (CCC) will operate as PJ2T from Signal Point, Curacao (SA-006, WLOTA LH-0942) in the CQWW CW Contest (November 25-26th). Operator Jeff, K8ND, (Station Manager for PJ2T) will stick around after the contest and be active as PJ2T in the ARRL 160 Meter Contest (December 1-3rd) as Single-Op/High-Power entry. Also, look for Jeff/K8ND and Jim/W8WTS to be active as PJ2T during the CQ 160-Meter CW Contest (January 27-28th) as a Multi-Op entry. QSL both operations via N9AG. ADDED NOTE: COBRAS member Gerry, G0RTN/GI0RTN, will be active as PJ2T during the CQWW DX CW

Contest with the contest team PJ2T. Outside of the contest, he will be active as PJ2/GORTN.

ST, SUDAN. Operators Jovica/ST2A and Fernando/ST2BF will be active as ST2A during the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 25-26th) as a Multi-Single entry. Activity will be on 40/20/15/10 meters only. There will be more activity on Saturday than on Sunday (which is a work day). QSL via T93Y.

SV9, CRETE. Dimitrios, SV9COL, will be active in the CQWW CW Contest (November 25-26th) as a Single-Op/All-Band/High-Power entry.

T8, PALAU. Mike, K9NW, will be active as T88MR during the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 25-26th) as Single-Op/All-Band entry. QSL via K9NW. Mike will be here between November 20-28th, and will try to pay special attention to the low bands outside of the contest.

TN, CONGO. Well known German DXers Baldur/DJ6SI and Franz/DJ9ZG will be on a DXpedition to Congo in late November and early December. Baldur will use the callsign TN6X on CW and Franz will use TN0Z on SSB and RTTY. Activity will be on 160-10 meters with two stations on the air. QSL to their home callsigns via bureau.

V3, BELIZE. Joe, K8JP, informs OPDX that he will be operating back home in Belize as V31JP from mid-November through early April 2007. Activity will be mostly CW on 160-6 meters. He mentions that he will try to get into some contests this year. QSL via his QSL Manager KA9WON.

VP2M, MONTSERRAT. George, K2DM, will be active as VP2MDG during the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 25-26th) as a Single-Op/All-Band/High-Power entry. QSL via K2DM.

VP2M, MONTSERRAT. Operators Phil/G3SWH and Jim/G3RTE will be active from the Island of Montserrat between February 21-28th, 2007. Callsign will be announced later. Activity will be primarily on CW with some possibly RTTY and PSK31 on all bands 160-10 meters. Propagation permitting, they plan to have two stations on the air for as many hours every day as is possible. Their main objective is to work as many European, North American and ROTW stations on as many bands as possible. QSL via G3SWH, either direct with SAE and adequate return postage or via E-mail for a bureau reply or via the bureau.

Phil's E-mail address is:
phil@g3swh.demon.co.uk

VU7RG NEWS (Lakshadweep Islands). Press releases from the past week: November 15th - The WPC, Govt. of India, has initiated the process of issuing reciprocal licences to the applicants of VU7 HAMFEST participants. The first batch of 10 reciprocal licences are received today. More are expected to be issued in due course. November 17th - We are pleased to inform that the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Department of Telecommunications, WPC wing has released the first list of Special permission issued to foreign hams holding Indian amateur radio license to operate amateur radio stations from Bangaram, Kadmat and Agathi in Lakshadweep Islands. VU7RG - The special callsign for hams participating in Hamfest. Amateur Radio Operations will start on January 15th, 2007. Regards, Mohan, VU2MYH. For more details please check the official VU7 webpage (<http://www.vu7.in>) on regular basis since from now on more interesting information regarding dates, callsign(s), planning status will get published there.

YI9, IRAQ. Carlos, N4THW, is now active as YI9HW. In addition, he also has a MARS license, AEM3BD. Carlos informs OPDX that he will be active on all bands from 80-10 meters.

V4, NEVIS. Mark, K0EJ, will be active as V49A during the ARRL International DX CW Contest (February 17-18th) as a Single-Op/All-Band/Low-Power entry. Look for activity outside of the contest (signing V44/K0EJ). QSL via K0EJ.

V51, NAMIBIA. Klaus, DJ4SO, will be active as V51/DJ4SO between now and December 1st. Activity will be on 160-6 meters, CW, RTTY and PSK31. There will be an emphasis on the low bands. Klaus will also be in the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 25-26th). QSL via DJ4SO, direct or by the bureau.

V7, MARSHALL ISLANDS (Kwajalein Atoll, OC-028). Neil, WD8CRT, will once again be active as V73NS around January 5th and remain there for at least two years on the Island of Roi-Namur. Activity will be mostly CW on 160-6 meters. QSL by the Bureau or direct to: Neil Schwanitz, Box 8341, APO, AP 96557 (USA). QSLs for his 2003 to 2005 QSOs are "OK" to the same

address. Visit his Web site at:
<http://www.qsl.net/v73ns>

VU7, LAKSHADWEEP ISLANDS (edited VU7LD PRESS RELEASE - 4; November 11 2006): "In an earlier press release we had given the name of Franz Langner, DJ9ZB, who had kindly agreed to be our collection point for European contributions. Franz has now indicated to us his inability to continue doing this and so we would request that contributions be only sent to our Indian address or to the one in USA. Japanese contributors may kindly use our Japan hub. Our webpage <http://www.arsi.info/vu7> has been updated. It has a new look and readability has been improved. All contributions received so far have been acknowledged under the sponsors/donations page. This will be updated weekly as more information is received from our different collection hubs. When we have the contributors e-mail addresses we will acknowledge the contributions immediately as they are received....Stay tuned... 73, de Gopal VU2GMN"

XT2, BURKINA FASO. Michael, F1IQH, is expected to stay here for one month starting on November 13th and will be active as XT2WC (from WW Grid IK71). His activity will be mainly on 40 and 20 meters using only 100 watts and dipoles. Possible skeds could be managed using the following Internet address: XT2WC@AOL.COM. Michael also thinks he will be able to go to XT2 several times next year. QSL via his home callsign.

XU7, CAMBODIA (Update/Micro-DXpedition). A group of Thai amateurs from the TAMSAT Group and SIAM DX Group plan to be active in Sihanouk Ville (aka: Kampong Som), Southern Cambodia, between November 23-29th. Activity will be on 160-10 meters plus the WARC bands, 6m, 2m and 70cm. Modes will include CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK-31, FM and Satellite. Some team members will be active in the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 25-26th). Look for the following operators: Champ/E21EIC - Active as XU7ADE on HF and the CQWW CW Contest as SOLP Bruce/AA4XR/HS0ZCY- Active as XU7ADF on HF and the CQWW CW as SOSB(?)LP Narongdej/E21YDP - Active as XU7ADK on HF RTTY/PSK-31 and CQWW CW as SOSB(40m)LP Part/E20PFE - Active as XU7ADL on HF and the CQWW CW as SOSB(?)LP Supong/E21QEB - Active as XU7ADM on UHF and Satellites Tanan/HS1JAN - Active as XU7ADN on VHF, Satellites and 6m Noppadol/HS5IGY - Active as XU7ADP on VHF, Satellites and 6m. QSL via operator's home callsign or per

operators' instructions. Updates and more information are on their Web site at:
<http://www.tamsat.org/xu7>

XU7, CAMBODIA. Peter, NO2R, will be active as XU7ACY from Sihanouk Ville between January 7-30th. He will be concentrating on the lowbands, CW and SSB. Peter will also be active in the CQ 160-Meter CW Contest (January 27-28th). Doug, W2EN, will act as his pilot station. QSL via K2NJ.

Z3, MACEDONIA. A group of Hungarian operators will join members of the "Nikola Tesla" Radio Club (Z38M) to be active as Z38N during the CQWW DX CW Contest (November 25-26th) as Multi-Multi entry. QSL via HA6KNB.

QSL INFO AND NEWS.....

BA4VE via BA4EG
HA505BA via HA5BA
BV0BSD via BX4AN
HA505MY via HA5MY
GB6WWT via GW0KJZ
HG195BR via HA3HK

KH8/K8YSE QSL STATUS. John, K8YSE, advises that all QSL requests for his July, 2006, operation from Pago Pago, American Samoa, have been answered. If you need a card, QSL direct to his QRZ.com address. To see what the QSL looks like, please visit John's Web page at:
<http://www.papays.com/qslcardfronta.jpg>

LAST REMINDER!!! Alan, VK4AAR, states, "I am desperately trying to help DXers by reminding them of the nearness of the cut-off date for the current style of IRC (expires 31/12/2006). I have not managed to get a reminder published on any bulletin since the first information a couple of months ago (ed. that is not actually true Alan; read OPDX.778, October 2nd). I have not yet received a NEW style IRC and that worries me! Seven weeks to go and the post office will not accept the present one so the DXer loses. DXers can E-mail me for FULL and GENUINE details which I received from the Universal Postal Union in Switzerland." His E-mail address is: al-mee@aapt.net.au

ADDED NOTE: Alan also states that if anyone can use some IRCs (due to expire 31/12/2006) he can supply them at a good rate. He receives 1.85 (AU dollars) in value for each at his post office (that's 1.50 USD). Alan can supply at the same price 10 for 16.00 USDs (that is 15.00

USDs plus 1.00 USD for postage). "E-MAIL HIM FIRST!"

Vasilij, RW6HS, informs OPDX that he is the QSL Manager for the following stations:

3DA0BL, 4J4KM, 4K2BY, 4K2OX, 4K4BCU, 4K4CDE, 4K6CM, 4L1FP, 4L1QX, 4L1RK, 4L1UN, 4L4KA, 4L6FU, 4L6QL, 4L6QQ, 4Z5BZ, 4Z5FL, 4Z5FW, 9H1ED, CE2EZE, CT3FF, DU1EIB, EK60DZ, EK6DZ, EK60LX, EK6LX, EK60SB, ER2OG, ER5AL, EX2F, EX7ML, EX8NC, EX8NK, EX8NP, EX8NR, EX8NV, EX8NX, EX8VAB, EX8VI, EY8VV, EZ14V, EZ25V, EZ5AR, EZ6DB, EZ6DM, EZ6DK, EZ60V, EZ7AD, EZ7AI, EZ7AL, EZ7AV, EZ7AW, EZ7V, EZ8AI, FP5EK, GM0SDV, GM0WRR, JL8GFB, JT1FDD, KP3EM, LY2ER, OD5EH, OD5NO, OD5SE, R0/UT1EO, R1FJC, RA1WL, RA1WP, RA6QA, RA6QAS, RA6QD, RA9FHW, RA0BU/A, RA0BY, RA0CAH, RA0FAC, RA0FAN, RK6QWA, RN4CA, RU0LX/mm, RV0AM, RW0BM, RW0LIA, RX3DQN, RX6LMQ/0, RX9CEV, RZ6LL/0, RZ9DX/0, TA1AZ, UA2FBR, UA2FGU, UA2FFM, UA3QJC/VR2, UA6QL, UA6QR, UA6WIL, UA9CDE/UA0B, UA9ZBN, UA0BC, UA0BCU, UA0BD, UA0LDY, UA0LQJ, UE6ADI, UI8IAW, UI9BWO, UI9B/RB3MO, UK50AZ, UK7AV, UK7AW, UK8ABT, UK8AIE, UK8AJ, UK8BEG, UK8BEP, UK8BN, UK8BQ, UK8BWO, UK8CAD, UK8CCD, UK8CK, UK8CWA, UK8DAN, UK8FC, UK8FCN, UK8GA, UK8GBO, UK8GDW, UK8GWW, UK8GI, UK8GK, UK8IAO, UK8ICP, UK8ICQ, UK8IG, UK8IWK, UK8IWT, UK8LBB, UK8LBZ, UK8LBX, UK8LC, UK8OAU, UK8QL, UK8VA, UK8ZAG, UK8ZAH, UK8ZAV, UK8ZC, UK8ZD, UK8ZK, UK8ZL, UK8ZU, UK8ZX, UK9BB, UM51BWO, UM8AWP, UM8IG, UK8IT, UK8LWA, UK8QQ, UK8ZAB, UK8ZR, UM9AA, UN2O, UN5J, UN7AD, UN7AO, UN7BL, UN7BU, UN7EED, UN7GDL, UN7GDV, UN7GHG, UN7GKR, UN7GN, UN7GZ, UN7IG, UN7MM, UN7MN, UN7MV, UN7QBQ, UN7QN, UN7SK, UN7TO, UN7TX, UN8BG, UN8BR, UN8BW, UN8CK, UN8LA, UN8LWZ, UN9LV, UN0GN, UO2000T, UO2000TFN, UO2000TO, UOOL, UO2000TS, UO2000TX, UP0SAT, UP1SAT, UP2SAT, UP3SAT, UP4SAT, UP5SAT, UP60CAD, UP60CC, UP60CD, UP60CH, UP60CI, UP60CJ, UP60CM, UP60CN, UP60CS, UP60M, UP60MV, UP7GN, UP9L, VK4SJP, VR2EH and YV5DEH. Send QSL direct ONLY to RW6HS. NO bureau cards please. He requests that you PLEASE use "sticky" tape on your envelope to prevent postal pilferage. Vasilij also states that he can help get any QSL card hard to obtain in Russia and the other CIS. Send your request to RW6HS direct, with your address (a label) + an IRC. Never send USDs. His address is: Vasilij M. Kasyanenko, Stavropolskiy kr., 357300, g. NOVOPAVLOVSK, P.O. BOX "0"(zero), RUSSIA. His E-mail address is: rw6hs@narod.ru His Web page is: <http://www.rw6hs.narod.ru>

YX0A/YX0LIX QSL STATUS. Steve, KU9C, is still waiting for the QSLs to show up. He states that he should have them shortly and is sorry for the delay. Once Steve receives them he will begin to send them out.

PROPAGATION FORECAST

Propagation Forecast Bulletin 47
>From Tad Cook, K7RA Seattle, WA November 17, 2006

This week saw the odd combination of the average daily sunspot number declining while the solar flux rose. It isn't so odd for this to happen when there are very few sunspots, and one rises slightly while the other declines slightly. But this time, the solar flux rose quite a bit. The average daily sunspot number dropped nearly 19 points to 27.7, and average daily solar flux rose over 8 points to 94.3.

There is a big sunspot, number 923, currently moving off center to the western limb. This sunspot is so large that it could be seen unaided at sunset, although this is not safe viewing. Perhaps this spot radiated plenty of energy at 2.8 GHz (the frequency at which solar flux is measured), but the combined area and number of spots didn't make a high sunspot number.

Solar flux is measured daily near Penticton, British Columbia since 1991. Prior to 1991, measurements were made at Ottawa. You can see a photo of the 2.8 GHz antenna here, <http://tinyurl.com/ycf8y3>, and you can read about it at, <http://tinyurl.com/yk4oym> and <http://tinyurl.com/yzjmx>.

This week is the phone weekend of ARRL Sweepstakes. Sweepstakes is a very popular activity in which the emphasis is on working domestic stations in as many ARRL Sections as possible in the United States and Canada, rather than DX. You can only work any station one time, even if you change bands, and the multiplier is the number of ARRL Sections that you work. You can see the rules at, http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2006/no_vss.html.

Conditions should be good this weekend, although today (November 17) unsettled geomagnetic activity is expected. After today geomagnetic conditions should stabilize. Predicted planetary A indices

for November 17-20 are 15, 10, 5 and 5. Geophysical Institute Prague predicts unsettled to active conditions for November 17, unsettled November 18, quiet to unsettled November 19, quiet November 20-22, and quiet to unsettled on November 23.

The predicted solar flux is 95 through the weekend. This is relatively high for this point in the sunspot cycle. If we had zero sunspots we would expect to see the solar flux nearly 30 points lower, around 67.

10 and 12 meters continue to produce openings over long distances, even though the Fall sporadic-E season probably peaked in October. Ray Parker, ND6S of Sutter Creek, California reports that on November 10 he worked VR2BG and VK5BC just after 0200z on 10 meters, and heard a JA and ZL station. On the same day, but 7 hours earlier Roger Edwards, K1GBS in Tampa, Florida worked Arizona and Wyoming.

Mike Schatzburg, W2AJI of Tryon, North Carolina reports fantastic 20 meter conditions every evening into South Africa and the South Pacific. Mike wrote, "20 Meters has had fantastic short path propagation both into the South Pacific, and into South Africa each evening. On 11/11 and 11/12, between 0500 and 0630 UTC, the band has been fully open, with low noise conditions, and very little stateside QRM on SSB."

He continues, "Most 100 watt dipole stations produce S7 signal reports, with the high power DXers and Yagis producing S9 plus 10 DB signals on my calibrated Mark V S-meter. There is very little fading, and the contacts are solid. Outstanding contacts were had with ZS2EC, ZS1AU, ZS4U, and ZS1YL amongst many more strong stations on Nov. 11. On Nov. 12, the same bi-directional conditions existed, about the same 8,000 mile plus skip distances with VK3SS, VK2GWK, VK2MAD, and ZL2AIA. These stations report very little activity being heard from the US, and the pileups which ensued after calling just one CQ were very large indeed." He goes on to say, "As usual I was using a five element mono-band Yagi, with a 44 foot boom at 75 feet (see <http://home.earthlink.net/~cherokeehillfarm/id2.html>). The base of the tower is at 1002 feet on a very steep hill in the Blue Ridge." Mike ends with, "I believe that conditions will be improving, but more ideal propagation could not be found this late at

night when you have quiet as well." Mike sure has a wonderful 20 meter antenna.

Hector Garcia, XE2K wrote in a week ago after returning from the XF4 operation on the Revillagigedo Island Group in the Pacific. He said he worked many JA stations on 10 meters, and there seemed to be several good openings on 10 and 12 meters with strong signals, but not many stations actually on the air.

I received an email noting that Thomas Ashcraft, mentioned in last week's propagation forecast bulletin isn't really an astronomer. This is the fellow who recorded Sun noise on HF with 2 receivers on 18.7 and 22.2 MHz, then made stereo recordings out of them. Ashcraft is actually an artist, and if you do a web search for his name, you'll see reviews of his interesting and unusual work in the New York Times and Art In America. Last week I said he used antennas aimed at the Sun, but in fact these are just two dipoles cut to frequency. You can see his web site at, <http://www.heliotown.com/>. If you would like to make a comment or have a tip for our readers, email the author at, k7ra@arrl.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/k91a-prop.html>. An archive of past propagation bulletins is at, <http://www.arrl.org/wlaw/prop/>.

Sunspot numbers for November 9 through 15 were 29, 13, 13, 18, 30, 41 and 50 with a mean of 27.7. 10.7 cm flux was 89.4, 91.1, 97, 96.7, 95.2, 94.5, and 96.1, with a mean of 94.3. Estimated planetary A indices were 10, 36, 20, 7, 2, 4 and 5 with a mean of 12. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 7, 29, 20, 9, 1, 3 and 6, with a mean of 10.7.

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

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

The MLDXCC NEWSLETTER

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page (<http://www.kqlz.com/qslibureau6/>)