

The Nugget

The Newsletter of the Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

MEETING DATE, LOCATION & PROGRAM

When: Saturday, 21 October, 11:30AM-2:30PM

Where: Round Table Pizza in Martell.

What: Program will be the NCCC SO2R DVD starring K6VVA, produced by N6BV, and shot on location at N6RO. I am going to try to set up a stereo audio system with detachable speakers to get the true flavor of two radios, one in each ear. **de N6RK**

FROM THE PREZ Rich; NU6T@ARRL.net; 916-962-2431

Halloween, Thanksgiving, Chanukah, Ramadan, Diwali, Yule and a host of other fall/winter celebrations are just around the corner! Oh, and another contest season... I have to thank Rick, N6RK, for his fine work as Vice President and program chair this year. He has done a great job for us. I do have to thank him extra this month for his currier work in transporting a 40m add on kit for my A3S from the NCCC meeting. Rick is also bringing a copy of the SO2R training that resulted from the event at Ken Keeler's N6RO shack a while back. I believe we will see that as a presentation. Thanks, Rick. You have been a workhorse this year on many levels.

I went to Pacificon last weekend. Congratulations to Jettie Hill, W6RFF, who was awarded a lifetime achievement award. Bravo, Jettie. Well deserved!

I had heard that all hams had to go through the Woulf-Hong ceremony at some time and this year was mine. Now I know why it is a once in a lifetime event <grin>. Glad I did it. Glad I can check that off my life list. I did more networking at Pacificon this year than sitting in forums. Perhaps I've finally reached some level of experience that is diverting my attention, but it seemed that more and more of the agenda is oriented towards VHF/UHF and Emcom and less and less about DX or Contesting, or even long distance VHF/UHF. The QRP events were extensive, but seemed a bit separate. I sat in on Barry Bettman's new ham presentation and enjoyed it and met a number of eager new hams. I didn't find a radio set up demonstrating DX dominance and encouraging

attendees make contact with Kermadec. I missed the Boy Scout booth working JOTA, which is next weekend. Seemed too tame to me. I'll go again for sure, but I'd be pleased with a bit more attention to DX and Contesting.

The BPL discussion was cancelled, sort of, because the ARRL has entered into a suit against the FCC for writing new law, which they are not authorized to do. The new Report and Order has a small section that says that licensed mobile services have to accept interference from BPL as long as BPL is following the FCC guidance—or something like that. More (accurate) information is on the ARRL web.

There will be a Pacific Division meeting on December 2 (I believe) to learn how the clubs and others feel about the state of affairs. Each club may send two members to inform the leadership of our concerns. I would like to attend for the club, and would be pleased if we had two people there.

We will likely have a guest this month who will attend with our Section Manager, Jettie Hill, W6RFF. Casey McPartland, W7IB, is currently the Assistant Section Manager. Casey will be visiting various clubs to learn more about them and their member's interests.

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
 - Elections, 2007 Nominating Committee.

12:45 New business

- Upcoming contests/DX
- Review action items

13:15 Break/Presentation Setup
13:30 Guest Speaker/presentation
15:00 Adjourn

Contesting

I ran CQP from home for the first time. No rate! I did learn to use the software digital voice keyer (DVK) in N1MM for CQing and a few other exchanges such as TU, QRZ, AGN and so on. Really easy with the microKeyer set up so my Heil Pro-Set mic is routed through the microKeyer and the computer sound card and back to the radio. Hit a couple of control keys and an F key, and I speak into the mic and record on the fly. The recording sounds like the rest of my contact I've been told. With a total of 151 contacts (2 dupes) for some 18-20 hours of effort, I needed the DVK! (OK, I need a real antenna too!). I may try recording letters and numbers for serial numbers and such, but I have not heard of any great reports from most anyone who has done that. DX?

Been listening for Kermadec and Western Sahara but no joy. Spots! I need sunspots!
Rich; NU6T@ARRL.net; 916-962-2431

THE VP SEZ

CQP: was able to get on enough for a little over 400 QSO's. We had really bad "power line" noise (worst I've ever seen). We think it was actually an electric fence that we never knew existed before. This greatly hampered calling CQ, because too many weak stations were calling under the noise. Murphy's timing was perfect; a few days after the contest the noise calmed down. We also couldn't get on the air until Saturday night due to family responsibilities. We also wasted a couple of hours getting N1MM Logger to show the right multipliers. After that fix, it was fine, except for logging the county line stations. I still need to go back and tweak the log for the 2 of those stations I worked. Can you believe I missed Nevada (the state)? OTOH, I was called by VR2, VK, ZL, YV and some Europeans.

We stopped working on the MonstIR project after it became apparent it would not be ready for this contest season. Time to get ready for the 160 meter season. Just received my certificate for 1st place in grid field CM in the 160m Topband Distance Challenge (AKA Stew Perry) contest.

Rick N6RK

Member news/feedback/Announcements.

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

email NZ6O@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

The ACARC Swap meet will be at the K-Mart parking lot on the Same day as the MLDXCC meeting. Come early for the raffle, bake sale and usual stuff. We'll have a special CD set of 60 years of QST in the raffle thanks to Lew Dickerson. This treasure is over 20 Cd's. Spaces are ten bucks for sellers. Call Ray 209-267-5958 to reserve yours.

I need help with Lew's tower, antenna and rotor. Van WL7NN is still in AK trying to finish some construction. The tower is about 40'...and has a tilt over base. The antenna is a tribander. No manuals. There is a rotor. Ham something. If you are interested give me a call. Ray ND6S 209-267-5958.

Ham Cram return on November 11th in Pioneer. HC Is a one day class and Tech VE session. Fee is 20-bucks including the VE test fee and 10 year Ham license.

No one has failed Ham Cram in the past year. Call Ray for registration and details. nd6s@arrl.net or 209-267-5958.

CQP was a blast. My brain was completely absent. When the voice keyer would speak, but not to the radio, I was destined to croak out the contest. The VOX on the ICOM 745 cut off words or delayed keying, so I disconnected the voice keyer to see if this would help the VOX problem. It didn't! I had a whole string of new four letter county abbreviations.

Barbara Streisand and I were on a role. While disconnecting the voice keyer I

discovered the mike plug output was plugged into the mike plug input. More four letter code groups! Once I corrected the electronic incest, the voice keyer worked ok.

Now you think this would be enough aggravation for one weekend. There is more.

I had downloaded the new county abbreviations earlier in the week. This totally corrupted WIN-EQF, so I deleted all of my EQF files and reloaded the latest version with the new county abbreviations. I didn't work any CA counties until the second hour of the contest. That's when I learned my logging software would not log any county in CA. I'd type in the four letters, hit return and the county would disappear and save the Q.

I logged the counties the old fashion way with paper and pencil. Cabrillo saved the day and allowed me to add the new abbreviations into the final log during submission.

CQP final raw score for ND6S 63,896. Advice for next year, use TR. **73 Ray**

Here are some CQP scores from various reflectors & reports; (as reported by K6LRN and N6RK) Total as of Thursday morning, Oct. 12,

K6KO	249,980	
K6LRN	180,234	
K6IDX	316,863	(K2RD-op)
AE6Y	312,040	
N6XI	156,222	
N6TV	86,400	CW only
NU6T	11,324	
W6RFF	86,550	
K6GT	136,629	
ND6S	60,208	
W6ISO	23,480	
AA6K	39,312	
KF6T	297,888	
N6RK	73,139	
W1RH	89,517	(as N6FR)
WX6V	27,993	
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2,147,779		

EDITOR'S NOTES

My new 2007 Corvette came in the 12th and I have been spending time driving the little beast instead of DXing. But, I did take some time out to work the ZL8R guys the morning of the 15th on 160 and that's about it for this month's radio operation.

But I still have not forgot abt radio altogether, Karen and I leave the 25th for PJ2T and will be looking for contacts during the CQWW Phone contest from the MLDXCC folks. We will be back late evening 2 November and hope to have added a bunch of

QSO's over our week's stay. **C U all the 21st de Rick W6SR**

MLDXCC - FINANCIAL REPORT SEPTEMBER 2006

Balance September 1, 2006: \$673.69

Income: 00

Expenses: 00

Balance September 30, 2006: \$673.69

Carolyn Wilson, K6TKD, Treasurer

MLDXCC General Meeting, 16 September 2006.

Club President Rich, NU6T, called the General meeting to order at 12:05 PM at Round Table Pizza in Martell, California, with 17 members present. No Board meeting was held.

Officers' roll call and agenda review were completed with all officers present.

Achievements, milestones and new equipment were announced. The Certificates of Achievement for Paul and Greg Cecil of Auburn, guests of Jack, KF6T, at this year's Field Day and whose first on-the-air experience occurred at that event, were presented to the Club for approval and signed. Certificates will be routed to Jack for presentation to the boys. Rich, NU6T, announced that he had worked Wales on 20 Meters one afternoon. Shirley, AA6K, announced that he had read up on Logbook of the World for three days and had accessed it successfully. Bob, W1RH, announced that he'd spent two months rebuilding equipment for CQP, and short of needing his tower now, all was proceeding well.

The Treasurer's report and Secretary's minutes of 19 August were accepted as printed in the Nugget newsletter.

Discussion of CQP planning followed. Dick, K6LRN, advised that REDX was keeping a low profile regarding this year's friendly competition with the Club. Gary, KI6T, asked for recommendations on logging software for CQP. Rich, NU6T, stated that he had originally used CQPWIN and was currently using TRLOG; however, N1MM seemed as easy to use as any other. K6LRN inquired about the new list of county abbreviations and Ken, K6TA, advised that the new list could be found on the NCCC website and that the ASCII files for TRLOG, N1MM and WRITELOG have all been updated. Rick, W6SR, advised that N1MM appears slow on CW but that WINKEY remedies that problem; WINKEY kits cost approximately \$17. Ray, ND6S, and Rich, NU6T, agreed in their poor opinions of RigBlaster. NU6T will operate from a tent

in Alpine county; Rick, N6RK, will have a cloud-warmer on 80 meters to switch from SSB to CW quickly and to work the California counties.

Election of Officers will be held at the December meeting, with nominations to be announced at the November meeting. Ray, ND6S and Shirley, AA6K, are the nominating committee; new officers will take over in January.

Remaining old business from this year's Field Day was discussed. The portable toilet cost \$200 this year, and general supplies will have to be purchased for next year. Use of a small camping trailer was once again suggested. Rick, W6SR, recommended a new location: The Ice House fire lookout, at 6100 feet and off Highway 50 near the St. Pauli Inn, is run by the Forest Service and offers a restroom, water, a paved road, auxiliary power and close proximity to the Ice House Inn restaurant and bar. Rick will check into its availability. The small camping trailer will be tabled until Rick has information on Ice House, and Dick, K6LRN, will then follow up on the trailer.

New business included announcements from Ray, ND6S, regarding the Amador Club's next HamCram at 0900 at the Jackson Senior Center on 25 September and the Swap Meet at 0700 on 21 October in the Kmart parking lot.

Rick, W6SR, advised that PJ2T was looking for an operator for the upcoming CQWW SSB contest; costs would be approximately \$90 a day.

Shirley, AA6K, inquired about dupe sheets; the Ohio QSO party requires one with any paper log of over 200 entries. Ken, K6TA, advised that he would bring one to the next meeting, but all computer logging programs will generate dupe sheet automatically.

Rick, W6SR, was looking for a spare DBS2; Ken, K6TA, has one to sell and will bring it to the next meeting.

The following Action Item were generated during the meeting: Rich, NU6T, will get the Certificates of Achievement and information regarding HamCram sessions to Jack, KF6T; Rick, W6SR, will check into the availability of the Ice House fire lookout for next year's Field Day; dependent on Rick's action, Dick, K6LRN, will check on a small camping trailer; Ken, K6TA, will bring a dupe sheet and the DBS2 to the next meeting; and Rick, N6RK, will get an SO2R video.

Following a short break, members watched the PVRC /W3LPL DVD on antennas and antenna modeling.

The General meeting was adjourned at 2:22 PM.

Kay Anderson, K6KO
Secretary

UPCOMING EVENTS

Old Foothill Flea Market

1st 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

UP-COMING CONTESTS

W/VE Islands QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 21 to 2359Z, Oct 22
50 MHz Fall Sprint	2300Z, Oct 21 to 0300Z, Oct 22
Illinois QSO Party	1700Z, Oct 22 to 0100Z, Oct 23
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Oct 28 to 2400Z, Oct 29
November, 2006	
PSK63 Sprint	2000Z-2200Z, Nov 3
IPARC Contest, CW	0600Z-1000Z, Nov 4 and
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW	2100Z, Nov 4 to 0300Z, Nov 6
WAE DX Contest, RTTY	0000Z, Nov 11 to 2359Z, Nov 12
ARRL EME Contest 50-1296 MHz - Part 3	0000Z, Nov 11 to 2359Z, Nov 12
Kentucky QSO Party	1400Z, Nov 11 to 0600Z, Nov 12
CQ-WE Contest	1900Z, Nov 11 to 0500Z, Nov 13
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB	2100Z, Nov 18 to 0300Z, Nov 20
RSGB 2nd 1.8 MHz Contest, CW	2100Z, Nov 18 to 0100Z, Nov 19
NA Collegiate ARC Championship, SSB	2100Z, Nov 18 to 0300Z, Nov 20
EU PSK63 QSO Party	0000Z-2400Z, Nov 19
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Nov 20
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Nov 25 to 2400Z, Nov 26

14 October 2006 A.R.I. DX Bulletin
No 806
***** 4 2 5 D X N E W S *****
****** DX INFORMATION ******

3B7 - The Five Star DXers Association (FSDXA, of 9M0C, D68C and 3B9C fame) has

announced its next DXpedition, to St. Brandon (requested call 3B7C) to take place in September 2007. This will be a major effort, with a target of more than 100,000 QSOs. There will be up to twelve stations on the air, many using amplifiers and monoband beams, 24 hours a day, for almost three weeks. A multinational team is close to being complete, and 18 operators (9M6DXX, DK7YY, DL7AKC, EI5DI, G0OPB, G3BJ, G3IZD, G3NHL, G3NUG, G3SVL, G3XTT, G4KIU, G4TSH, K3NA, N6HC, SM5AQD, W3WL and WF5T) have already signed up to take part. FSDXA is seeking contributions from sponsors to help defray the very significant logistics costs of this DXpedition. Read the full announcement with the details on how to contribute at <http://www.3b7c.com/index.html> (website under construction). [TNX G3XTT]

7Q - Harry, 7Q7HB is back in Malawi for a period of not less than 3 months. He will try to work low bands if he can get the antenna to work. QSL via G0IAS (direct only). [TNX G0IAS]

EA6 - DK2ZF and DK4VW will operate as EA6/homecall from Mallorca, Balearic Islands (EU-004) on 14-26 October. Their main objective is testing 144 MHz EME from JT65b, but they also plan to operate CW on 40 and 30 metres in their early morning hours (3-5 UTC). QSL via bureau. [TNX DK2ZF]

EA8 - Andy, DL8LAS reports he will be active as EA8/DL8LAS from Lanzarote, Canary islands (AF-004) on 14-27 October. He will operate on 10-80metres mostly CW. QSL via home call.

FT5X - Gildas, FT5XP (TU5KG) [425DXN 800] operated from Port aux Francais, Kerguelen on 9 October. According to Gil, F5NOD he expects to return there around 25-26 November. QSL via F4EFI.

HI - Antonio, IW2OAZ [425DXN 803] reports that he expects to operate as HI2/IW2OAZ from Catalina Island (NA-122) on 26 and 27 October, for about 8 hours starting around 13 UTC. Look for him signing HI2/IW2OAZ mainly on 20 and 17 metres. QSL via home call, direct or bureau. [TNX IZ8CCW]

HR - Andrei/NP3D (EW1AR), Boris/N3SY (UU5SY), Alex/K2PAL (ex UB5XAZ) and Joe/KB2PDW will be active from Honduras between 22 and 30 October. On 22-25 October they will operate - along with HR2J and others from Tigre Island (NA-060) with a special HQ4 callsign (QSL via W3HNK). Expect activity on 6-80 metres CW, SSB and RTTY. Then they will participate in the CQ WW DX SSB Contest as SOSB entries (callsigns TBA). [TNX K1XN]

I - Weather and sea conditions permitting, IK8UHA, IK8VRH and IW8BVN will be active as IR8DX from Santo Ianni (EU-144, IIA PZ-001) on 14-15 October. They plan to operate SSB, CW and RTTY on 20, 17 and 15 metres. QSL via IK8VRH. [TNX IK8VRH]

I - Special calls ED8SRT (QSL via IZ8EDJ), EF8SRT (QSL via IZ8EDJ), L30BST (QSL via IZ8EDJ), V55SRT (QSL via IZ8EDJ), YIOSRT (QSL via IZ8EDJ), IIOSRT (QSL via IOYKN), IOOSRT (QSL via IZ0BTV), IROSRT (QSL via IS0LFZ), IOISRT (QSL via IZ1GJK), IO2SRT (QSL via I2JJR), IO3SRT (QSL via IV3ZXQ), IR3SRT (QSL via IN3JJI), IO5SRT (QSL via IZ5BTC), IO6SRT (QSL via IZ6FZS), IO7SRT (QSL via IZ7FLT), IO8SRT (QSL via IK8WEJ), IU8SRT (QSL via IZ8GGF) plus IQ0OS (ARI Ostia) will be aired on 20-22 October for the 3rd Strange Radio Team special event. Proceeds beyond out-of-pocket expenses will be donated to charity. Information is available at <http://www.strangeradioteam.com/> or from the Event Manager Marco De Carlo, IZ7DOK (iz7dok@strangeradioteam.com) [TNX IZ8EDJ]

J3 - Bill, VE3EBN will operate SSB, CW and PSK31 as J37LR and J37T from Grenada from 19 October to 26 November. QSL direct to home call. [TNX NG3K]

PJ4 - Andy, W9NJY will be active as PJ4/W9NJY from Bonaire (SA-006) on 20-31 October. He will operate mostly CW on 40-10 metres, with some SSB and digital. QSL via WD9DZV. [TNX The Daily DX]

SM - Anders/SM3XGV, Jorgen/SM3CXS, Staffan/SM3JGG and Sten/SM3NXS will be working on Grimskar Island (EU-176) on 20-22 October and will operate as SD3N and SG3U on 80-15 metres CW and SSB. QSL via SD3N via SM3NXS, QSL SG3U via SM3CXS (both preferably through the bureau). [TNX SM3CXS]

SP - Special event station SN0JP will be active on 15-17 October to commemorate the 28th anniversary of the election of the late pope John Paul II. QSL via SP9PKZ (bureau) or direct. [TNX SP9GKM]

SV - Special event station SX1VAR will be activated from Greece during the JOTA (Jamboree On The Air) on 21-22 October. QSL via SV1VS. [TNX SV1VS]

UR - Special event station EM750W is active through 31 October to celebrate the 750th anniversary of the city of Lviv, Ukraine. For information on the relevant award, issued by the Lviv Shortwave Club (LKK), please

contact George Chlijanc, UY5XE
(uy5xe@utlwpr.ampr.org). [TNX UY5XE]

UR - Special stations EM10E (QSL via UR5EDX), EM10I (QSL via UT5IM), EM10J (QSL via UU7JM), EM10K (QSL via US7KA), EM10L (QSL via UR5LO), EM10M (QSL via UR3MP), EM10T (QSL via UR7TO), EM10U (QSL via UT3UZ) and EM10V (QSL via UR5VDA) will be active on 14-17 October to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Ukrainian State Centre of Radio Frequencies. [TNX UT3UZ]

V3 - Hart, DL7BC will operate as V31HK from Belize from 16 October through the end of the month. He will participate in the CQ WW SSB DX Contest. QSL via DL7BC, direct or bureau. [TNX NG3K]

V6 - The new dates for the operations from Micronesia by V63JQ (QSL via JA1KJW), V63JY (QSL via JA1JQY), V63VE (QSL via JA8VE) and V63FP (QSL via JI1FPO) [425DXN 805] are as follows: 1-7 November Kosrae OC-059 7-9 November Pohnpei OC-010 9-14 November Chuuk OC-011 On 14-15 November they will operate as KH2/AK0J (QSL via JA1KJW) from Guam (OC-026). [TNX JI6KVR]

W - Dennis, WA2USA will operate on 80-10 metres SSB and CW as WA2USA/5 from Grand Isle (NA-168) on 19-30 October, including activity during the CQ WW SSB DX Contest. He plans to concentrate on 20 metres during the day and on 40/80 metres on the evenings. QSL via home call. [TNX www.rsgbiota.org]

XT - The Provins ARS (F6KOP) has announced plans for a DXpedition to take place from Ouagadougou, Burkina-Faso on 6-20 January 2007 (callsign TBA). The operators will be F2JD, F2VX, F4AJQ, F5LMJ, F5TVG, F8BJI, F9IE, N2WB, N6OX and OE8KDK. They will be active on 160-6 metres CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK 31 & 63 and SSTV (plus possibly WSJT on 6 metres) with six transceivers, two amplifiers and a wide range of antennas. QSL via F9IE, direct or bureau. A web site is under construction, more details to follow. [TNX F5NQL]

ZL8 - The Microlite Penguins DXpedition team (EI6FR, HB9ASZ, K9ZO, N6MZ, N0TT, VK6DXI, W7EW and 9V1YC) became active as ZL8R from Raoul Island in the Kermadec group (OC-039) on 10 October. Plans are for a 8 or 9-day activity on as many bands and modes as possible. QSL via VE3XN. [TNX K5TR]

ZS - Special event station ZS90DW will be active through the end of the year to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the Battle of Delville Wood during WWI. QSL via ZS4SM. [TNX The Daily DX]

EUROPEAN TOUR ---> Rick, NE8Z reports he will be touring Europe between 19 October and 5 November. He plans to operate QRP from EA, G, HB9, I, SV1, TA4, 3A, CT1 and as 9H3EE. QSL via NE8Z.

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

D20VB ---> According to first hand information collected by Cezar (VE3LYC), Vlad (UA4WHX) "was never on AF-108 and whoever spotted him like that made a rather bad joke". Vlad added that "he has no plans at this time to activate any of the D2 IOTAs", because travelling through the country is extremely difficult, the islands are much less safer than the mainland and the terrain is very rough. [TNX www.islandchaser.com]

DXCC NEWS ---> The following operations have been approved for DXCC credit: 9Q1D, 9Q1TB and 9Q1EK (Democratic Republic of the Congo), current operation beginning 22 September 2006. [TNX NC1L]

QSL 9N1AA ---> Satish is back on the air after being inactive for the past three years or so. His QSL manager (Carl Smith, N4AA) says that apparently Satish now has access to his old logs (previously reported as lost), even though he cannot provide a copy of them. Carl will be sending him a list of the "several hundred unanswered requests on hand at N4AA", and hopefully he will be able to confirm those old contacts. "I will answer these cards as soon as possible and to the best of my ability", Carl says. [TNX QRZ-DX]

QSL VK0JLX ---> Paul, VK2JLX/VK0JLX says he has decided not to select a QSL manager, he himself will reply to the many QSL cards that await his for his return to Australia around mid 2007. He is still working at Davis Station, Antarctica and his current operating times on the amateur radio bands are 6-7 UTC and 10-16 UTC (weekdays) and 5 UTC onwards (weekends)

QSL YU6AO ---> The following was published on the DXCC Dialog Weblog (<http://www.arrl.org/blog/DXCC%20Dialog>) on 11 October: "Reference our recent comments about YU6AO credits [425DXN 805, ed.], we have decided to continue crediting any YU6AO QSOs made on or after July 4, 2006. While we are still concerned that for some reason there

are apparent date errors on certain YU6AO QSL cards, we will continue to count these credits pending further investigation. If you have received a YU6AO QSL card showing a date of July 4 or later which actually represents a QSO made prior to July 4, 2006, please let us know in an email to dxcc@arrl.org". [Bill Moore, NC1L]

9Q1EK Georges Schleger, United Nations MONUC - Radio Okapi, Kinshasa 12 Av. des Auteurs B.P. 8811, Democratic Republic of Congo

BA4XA Kevin Yang, P.O. Box 59, Lian Yun Gang, JS 222002, China BD1DRJ He Lei, Rm 1705, Tower B, No. 36 Beisanhuan East Road, Dongcheng Dist., Beijing 100013, China

CT1BWW Manuel Alberto C. Marques, P.O. Box 41, 2780-901 Oeiras, Portugal

CT1EKF Antonio Jose Xara da Costa, Rua do Centro Vidreiro 917, Bustelo, 3720-626 Oliveira de Azemeis, Portugal

ER1DA Valeri Metaxa, P.O. Box 3000, Chisinau, MD-2071, Moldova

G3KHZ Derek Cox, 18 Station Road, Castle Bytham, Grantham, Lincs NG33 4SB, United Kingdom

GM0HCQ Mike Gloistein, 27 Stormont Way, Scone, Perthshire PH2 6SP, Scotland, UK

IW9HLM Angelo Mai, Via Carlo Pisacane 18/a, 95030 Mascalcucia - CT, Italy

LU8XP Cosme Alfonso Averna, 17 de Mayo 515, 9410 Ushuaia, Tierra del Fuego, Argentina

PA1K Bert van Holst, Ien Dalessingel 357, 7207 LJ Zutphen, The Netherlands

PZ5RA Ramon Kaersenhout, P.O. Box 4048, Paramaribo, Suriname

SM6CVX Hans Olof Hjelmstrom, Kalltorpsv. 2, 543 35 Tibro, Sweden

UA4WHX Vladimir M. Bykov, P.O. Box 2040, 426000 Izhevsk, Russia

VE1VOX Dana Rushton, P.O. Box 1862, Truro, NS B2N 6C7, Canada

VE3XN Garry V. Hammond, 5 McLaren Avenue, Listowel, ON N4W 3K1, Canada

W3HNK Joseph Arcure Jr, 115 Buck Run Road, Lincoln University, PA 19352,

WB6Z John Furuya, P.O. Box 747, Mercer Island, WA 98040, USA

XU7ADX Hiroo Yonezuka, Aiyara Apartment, 260 Rama 9 Rd. Soi 17, Japanese School, Latphaow, Bangkok 10320, Thailand

ZC4VJ Andy Chadwick, P.O. Box 36575, 5526 Dasaki Achnas, Cyprus

PROPAGATION FORECAST

Propagation Forecast Bulletin 42 ARLP042
From Tad Cook, K7RA Seattle, WA October 13, 2006 To all radio amateurs

From on the road in Eastern Washington this morning, here is the weekly Propagation Bulletin. Last week's bulletin (ARLP041) reported the week's solar flux and sunspot numbers rose slightly, and this week they declined. Average daily sunspot numbers were about half, sinking from 34.6 to 16.9. Wednesday and Thursday of this week had 0 sunspots, and likely we'll see more of no spots as the solar cycle continues its decline. Geomagnetic conditions were very stable, with an average mid-latitude A index of 3.1, about half the previous week's number. We may see some unsettled to active conditions on Sunday, October 15, when the planetary A index is predicted at 20. The same number may come up around October 21 and again on October 28.

Last week's bulletin mentioned the California QSO Party, and Kevin Rowett, WB6S of Cupertino, California sent in a very interesting link comparing activity in the 2006 contest with the 2005 event.

See it yourself at, http://logs.cqp.org/2005vs2006rate_total.html.

Note there are links on the left side of the page comparing activity on different bands. If you click on the 15 meter link, you'll see that this year on the first day of the event the QSO rate was much higher than last year, but last year there was a large peak of activity around 1900z on the second day. Also, this year the 15 meter activity constituted a much larger portion of the total reported QSOs. The remaining bands track pretty closely from year to year.

Dan Ferguson, K4VOA of Little River, South Carolina corrected our description in last week's bulletin of smoothed sunspot numbers, and how they are derived.

The smoothed sunspot number can't ever be calculated for the current date. Because it needs data six months before and six months after any month to calculate the smoothed sunspot number for that month, it is always at least six months behind the current date. To calculate the smoothed sunspot number for March 2006, you need the monthly averages of daily sunspot numbers for each of the months from September 2005 through September 2006. You take half the value of the September 2005 average, add it to half the value of the September 2006 average, then add it to the full value of each of the intervening 11 months. Take this total and divide by 12, and that is your smoothed sunspot number for March 2006. You cannot know the April

2006 smoothed sunspot number until the last day of October 2006.

The procedure is described on a web page from the National Geophysical Data Center, located at, <http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/stp/IONO/sunspot.html>.

For this week, expect more of the same with little or no sunspots. This means the higher bands, such as 15, 12 and 10 meters, won't be as promising as a few years ago. But on this Friday the Thirteenth, we can look forward to October 2007, when the sunspot count by many estimates will be higher than it is now, and climbing too.

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/k9la-prop.html>. An archive of past propagation bulletins is at, <http://www.arrl.org/wlaw/prop/>.

Sunspot numbers for October 5 through 11 were 27, 23, 24, 22, 11, 11 and 0 with a mean of 16.9. 10.7 cm flux was 77.3, 76.4, 76.5, 75.2, 75, 75.3, and 73.6, with a mean of 75.6. Estimated planetary A indices were 3, 3, 9, 7, 5, 2 and 3 with a mean of 4.6. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 2, 2, 7, 6, 3, 0 and 2, with a mean of 3.1.

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

Nov 11

Dec 16

Membership Criteria

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

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The MLDXCC NEWSLETTER

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Comments or questions on this bureau's operation may be directed to kc6awx@arrl.net See the W6 Bureau home page (<http://www.kqlz.com/qslibureau6/>)