

We'll be ZOOMing again

7:00 PM August 11

(Wednesday)

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There's also a direct link to

ZOOM posted at: [http:](http://www.redxa.com/)

www.redxa.com/ Check your

email for the "Meeting ID" and passcode.

You should have received an email with
this information. If not, contact one of

SUNSPOTS



REDWOOD EMPIRE DX ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 750834, Petaluma, CA 94975

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Meeting Announcement

Traveling with Ham Radio in Europe - Aug. 11

On August 11, Jim Stockwell, W6KC, will present a talk about his travels with ham radio equipment in Europe. He will cover highlights from his five-month 1971 trip throughout Europe in a VW camper and continue with his more recent 2019 three-month visit. He will present a number of slides, videos and comments highlighting his operations in 14 different cities in four countries in Europe. He has written an article about his travels which was published in the November 2019 issue of "Solid Copy," a newsletter for members of CWops, an international club that promotes the use of CW on the ham bands. (cont. next page)

President's Commentary

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Alan Eshleman K6SRZ

Well looks like we declared victory over Covid a little early. I Spoke with Daniel at Boulevard Café and he said they are having real trouble staffing so no meetings possible there for the near future. A couple of people have suggested finding another venue. I would appreciate some feedback on that thought. We can discuss this at the next Zoom meeting. I personally have not been doing much hamming, some 6m ft-8 grid chasing and occasionally working a new 6m country plus an occasional contest. (cont. next page)

President's Commentary (cont.)

Being optimistic, the xyl and I have scheduled a month vacation in October to revisit Croatia which we loved and perhaps charter a sailboat in Greece for a week. We have never been to Greece so looking forward to seeing the country. Bill WX6B visited my shack and heard my pitch on using big 4k tvs as monitors. Don't know if he decided to do that but it sounds like his shack is coming together.

As an avid tennis player I enjoyed watching Olympic tennis and other venues but I have an Xfinity tv/internet account and could not integrate all the slightly different interfaces each of the networks used in a coherent fashion. There were just too many variables involved with so much streaming.

Nice to see K4s getting delivered. If delivery continues to improve I might even send in some money rather than just putting my name on a list.

Watching the comments on the new Flex amp and tuner. Sounds like they have solid state amp noise issues just like the KPA-1500. The KPA-1500 prompted me to buy some Bose noise-cancelling earphones which makes things much better. As a Flex user it would be nice to have the xcvr, amp, tuner all communicating via Ethernet, might be easier to jump into SO2R.

CQP coming up and if we aren't travelling out the country might try doing some county activations in the RV.

Looking forward to time when we really meet which means things have reverted to some degree of normalcy! 73, Roger, N3RC

Meeting Announcement cont.

Jim was born in Los Angeles and has been a long term resident of Santa Monica. At age 13 he obtained his Novice license (WV6GDS) and later upgraded to General, Advanced and Extra and received his W6KC vanity call in 1996. He is a USC MBA graduate and retired 3 years ago after a long career in IT. He enjoys CW contesting, operating in the California QSO Party and the "Route 66 on the Air" annual special event.

This will be a very interesting and informative presentation, covering interesting places, as well as techniques and equipment for traveling with ham radio.

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JULY MEETING MINUTES by
Doug WW6D, Secretary

The monthly meeting was held on Zoom July 14, 2021. Social hour began at 6:30 pm, hosted by President Roger Cooper, N3RC. Formal meeting began around 7 pm; my apologies for arriving late. During the meeting, 11 participants were noted.

Old business: none.

New business: Minutes and Treasurer's report for June were approved as published in the Sunspots newsletter.

Roger noted that discussions continue with Daniel on returning safely to the Boulevard Café. The primary reason for the delay is hiring wait staff to serve at that time of day. Check the club website for updates.

Program: VP6R Pitcairn Island 2019 DXpedition by Arnie Shatz, N6HC. As Arnie provided as an intro to his talk: "Remember Dxpeditions? Haven't heard about any amateur radio trips in the past 18 months? Take a trip down Memory Lane to Pitcairn Island which was activated just before Covid-19 reared its ugly head. Learn a little history about The HMS Bounty, mutineers and amateur radio on this very isolated South Pacific Island."

In addition to the items above, Arnie noted that this was likely the first DXpedition making exclusive use of the FlexRadio transceivers as the primary radio. Interesting too is that the most QSO's were still on CW, followed by FT8 and then the number of SSB. Europe was a DXpedition focus and that goal was achieved. QSO total for all modes was 82,222.

The website for the DXpedition is still up; check it out at:
<https://pitcairndx.com/>

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

REDXA Calendar of Upcoming Events by
Doug WW6D

Aug 11 * [REDXA Monthly Meeting](#)

Sep 8 * [REDXA Monthly Meeting](#)

Oct 2 Valley of the Moon ARC Hamfest (in Sonoma) <http://vomarc.org/events/hamfest.html>

Oct 2-3 California QSO Party
<http://www.cqp.org/>

Oct 13 * [REDXA Monthly Meeting](#)

Oct 15-17 Pacificon 2021 - ARRL Pacific Div Ham Radio Convention
<http://www.pacificon.org/>

Refer to <https://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html> for more contest information.

Bouvet 2023 progress report

On June 18th, we announced that we were continuing to seek new transportation to Bouvet in support of our Bouvet 2023 project. At the same time, we have refunded all donations as there was a high degree of uncertainty that we could move forward.

We are pleased to announce that we have found a suitable / affordable vessel willing to take us to Bouvet. We are negotiating the terms of that charter contract now.

We have submitted a new application to the Norwegian Polar Institute.

We have revised the Leadership of our team as follows:

- David Jorgensen-WD5COV Co-Leader, Operations, Antennas.
- Kevin Rowett-K6TD Co-Leader, Systems/Networks, Procurement, Logistics
- Paul Ewing-N6PSE Co-Leader, Planning, Public Relations, Tents, Logistics.

Together, this leadership team will assemble 12 operators to make this vision a reality.

We are revising our website and soon we will begin fundraising for this renewed effort.

We are extremely grateful for all our past Sponsors and Donors and we hope that you can support this renewed effort.

Sincerely,

The Bouvet 2023 Team



Was Bouvet ever a
Nuclear test site? Officially denied, but
controversial



A revised prediction from the NASA High Altitude Observatory based at the University Of Colorado.

NASA Heliophysicists have released a revised prediction for Solar Cycle 25. The report generated by Ricky Egeland a Solar Physicist working in the NASA Space Radiation Analysis Group now calls for the peak of Solar Cycle 25 to top out at a value of 195 ± 17 based upon the new scale for calculating Smoothed Sun Spot Number. For reference Solar Cycle 21 peaked at an SSN 233 (new scale) while Solar Cycle 23 peaked at an SSN of 180 (new scale). If this predictions holds up Ham Radio will see Excellent Worldwide F Layer Conditions on 10 Meters for several years around Solar Max. 6 Meters conditions should be good in the Equinox Periods before and after Solar Max with consistent openings on Medium Haul Polar Routes. 6 Meter routes traversing the equator should experience consistent openings ± 9 months from Solar Max.

Ricky Egeland is a participating member in the group headed up by Scott McIntosh and Bob Leamon that published a paper 9 months ago outlining the existence mag-

Will 10 meters ever open?

netic bands within the Sun that govern the Sun-spot and Hale Cycles. At the time of its publishing the paper went on to predict the peak of Solar Cycle 25 could be as high Solar Cycle 21. Today's released is a revised prediction based upon data observed since the original paper was published. To be sure we are still in early days.

The Solar Rotation Cycle as marked by Sunspot Activity was established on April 19, 2021 so we are only 90 Days into actually observing Cycle 25 Activity. It is now agreed the dramatic run-up in Sunspot Activity we experienced late Last Fall while tied to Cycle 25 was an outlier. When asked directly about whether they can declare if the Terminator Event they wrote about in the Fall 2020 Paper has occurred Scott McIntosh stated *"We can't be sure just yet but we are very very close"*. It also should be noted that while it has been over a year since the sun produced a Cycle 24 Region with a Sunspot worthy of a NASA Classification the Sun has been steadily producing Spotless SC 24 Active Regions the last of which formed right on the Solar Equator at N00-W54 on July 24, 2021 as recorded by Jan Alvestad's Solar Terrestrial Activity Report Website. These Active Regions being part of a Solar Cycle in its final stages of existence produce no spots and only last for a few hours before they dissipate away. The previous SC24 Active Region formed on June 28, 2021. Once the SC24 active regions cease forming Solar Cycle 25 will take off in earnest.

Bob Marston AA6XE

The Point Reyes National Seashore has resumed normal operations of KPH, KFS as of 17 July.



KPH is a wonderful institution right here in REDXA territory. Back in the day, I used to hear its signal when I tweaked my little bedside radio somewhere below KSFO on the AM broadcast band. —ed.

Schedule:

MRHS stations KPH and KFS are on the air every Saturday. KPH and KFS broadcast press, keyed for Pacific time. At 1200 Pacific time keying control is transferred to the receive site where operators listen for high seas weather. KFS runs a wheel during this period.

K6KPH, which uses the original KPH transmitters, receivers and antennas, listens for calls from amateur operators in casual conversation beginning at 1200 Pacific time. The active K6KPH frequencies (see below) depend on operators available.

Frequencies:

KPH CW: 426, 500, 4247.0, 6477.5, 8642.0, 12808.5, 17016.8, 22477.5

KPH RTTY: We have been unable to provide RTTY service for more than two years, this due to a large and extensive antenna repair and restoration project was undertaken at the Bolinas transmit site. We hope to resume service here for details and subscribe to our Newsletter (via the link on the home page) for the latest information.

KFS CW: 12695.5

KPH and KFS will listen for calls from ships on 500kc and ITU Channel 3 on HF. Here are the frequencies: 4184.0, 6276.0, 8368.0, 12552.0, 16736.0, 22280.5

K6KPH CW: 3550, 7050, 14050, 18097.5, 21050

Email: info@radiomarine.org

Postal mail: PO Box 392, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956 USA

REDXA Members' Scores appear on the following pages. These are compiled by Jim, K6JS from postings on the 3830 Web site. If you don't already use 3830, please consider using it when you have future contest results to share.

Almost Heaven?

Coming in October, N6YEU/8 for CQP

As most of you know CQP is the highlight of my ham radio year. I have gone portable field day style for over 20 years. I look forward to my annual journey to a rare, or somewhat rare, county. I had good fun last year operating from Mendocino county with Frank-KG6N. Unfortunately it looks like I will be operating outside of California this year as my wife wants to drive back to West Virginia to visit our daughter and family and to celebrate our two granddaughters birthdays in early October. I did this once before with a simple dipole and my IC-7300. I hope to operate as a guest op from a local station near my daughter's. A beam and possible amplifier should get me through to CA. Keep an ear open for me. N8II is the perennial WV mult and I would like to give him a run for his money. Take care and see you in October.

Fred, N6YEU



WPX CW

<u>Call</u>	<u>Op</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>QSO</u>	<u>Prx</u>	<u>Score</u>
KU6F	K6SRZ		1076	508	1,345,692
NB6U	N6ZFQ	942	504		994,896
AK6M	K6MM	SOABHP 638	433		516,136
N6TQ	N6TQ	SOABHP 482	290		315,520
WQ6K	N6IE	SOABHP 358	350		294,700
K6RIM	K6RIM	SOABHP 455	327		272,391

N3RC	N3RC	SOABHP 340	239	160,130
K6CTA	K6CTA	SOABLP 11	9	243
W6XU	W6XU	SOABLP 12	12	204

Soapbox

K6MM - "Yes, dear, I'll be there soon"... "Pull weeds? "Sure. Just a few more minutes". Closed the shack door, called CQ and 14 hours later found 600+ Qs and 0.5M points in the Log. Was hoping for more on 15M, but was happy to see 20M, the money band, open late into the evening. Had some great runs on 20M, using a new technique: I just called "CQ AK6M". I figured those around me knew I was in the WPX contest. Everyone else below 14.100 was on FT8:>) Very enjoyable time. Thanks for all the Qs. 73, John, K6MM / AK6M Station: K3 / ACOM 1000 / 2-ele SteppIR / G5RV / N1MM+

N6ZFO - Just 200 watts, awaiting amp repair. A somewhat casual effort.

K6SRZ - I really hate cut numbers!

ARRL Field Day

<u>Call</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>QTH</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>CW</u>	<u>SSB</u>	<u>Dig</u>	<u>Score</u>
N6YEU	1B LP	SV	8.0	67	16	0	150
N3RC	1E LP	CA	11	0	0		44
K6CTA	1D LP	SF	10	0	0		20
K6SRZ	1D LP	SF	13	1017	0	0	4,068
N6IE	1D LP	SF	9	379	167	14	3,812
K6JS	1D LP	SF	7	250	0	0	1,000

Soapbox:

K6JS - Got on the air in between chores, visiting grand-kids and taking care of Mom.

Signals were weak on 20/40. S9 noise on 80. Thanks for the Q's. 73, Jim K3 @ 100W - DB18 @ 50'

K6SRZ - missed KL7, NL, NT

N6YEU - Portable at Lake Tahoe, CA (Placer county) Carnelian Bay while on vacation with family. Club actually REDXA/MARS but not listed.

All Asian CW

<u>Call</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>QSO</u>	<u>Mults</u>	<u>Score</u>
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N6ZFO	SOAB HP	5:30	238	101	24,038
K6CTA	SOSB/20 QRP		10	10	100
N6TQ	SOAB HP	2	73	55	4,015
K6RIM	SOAB HP		56	45	2,520

ARRL June VHF

<u>Call</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>QSO</u>	<u>Mults</u>	<u>Score</u>
K6SRZ	Single Op HP	0:33	6	6	36
W6XU	Single Op HP	6	117	53	6,201

N3RC	SO 3Band LP		104	48	5,040
N6ZFO	SO 3Band LP	14	100	45	4,500
K6MM	Single Op LP	1.5	38	14	532

Soapbox:

N6ZFO - Easy to calculate score with exactly 200 Q's.

FT8 -- 87

SSB -- 3

CW -- 10

Three of the CW QSO's provided grid squares not worked on FT8.

Most distant QSO was KH6TU. One KL7, one XE2 and several VE7's No JA's heard and the usual openings to VE6 never materialized here. Very little east coast. 73 Bill n6zfo

K6SRZ - five QSOs with CW. FT8? Meh!

RAC Canada Day

<u>Call</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>CW</u>	<u>SSB</u>	<u>CWmults</u>	<u>SSBmults</u>	<u>Score</u>
N6ZFO	SOAB HP	10	296	45	31	21	111,136
N6TQ	SOAB HP	2	67	0	13	0	7,332

Soapbox:

N6ZFO - HP was just 200 w. 73 Bill n6zfo

<u>Call</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>NAQP RTTY</u>		
			<u>QSO</u>	<u>Mults</u>	<u>Score</u>
K6MM	Single Op LP	1.5	50	28	1,400
K6ELE	Single Op LP		120	57	6,840
N6ZFO	Single Op LP	5.5	198	97	19,206
W6XU	Single Op LP	3	119	54	6,426
K6SRZ	Single Op LP	9:42	354	115	40,710
N3RC	Single Op LP		372	94	34,968

Soapbox:

N6ZFO - The only high point was 10m which had good, although brief, openings to almost all parts of the country, including southern CA and the East Coast. We attended a dinner and concert at the local Ell Stage Stop. . .the entertainment, cowboy music star Dave Stamey (note. . not country music, but cowboy music) was so good that I just couldn't leave early and return to fairly miserable conditions. Returning home left just 30 mins at close during which the score increased from 11,000 to almost 20,000. The concert recalled, for me, my first SWL experience in Denver, straining to hear a cowboy-music station in Goodland KS, 140 mi distant.

IARU

<u>Call</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>CW</u>	<u>SSB</u>	<u>ZN</u>	<u>Mults Score</u>	
N6TQ	SOABCW HP	3	119	0	37	23	21,180
N6ZFO	SOABCW LP	10.5	471	0	64	55	193,137
K6MM	SOAB(A)CW HP	3	103	0	22	27	13,475
K6SRZ	SOABCW HP	1:08	33	0	16	5	2,205
N6YEU	SOABCW LP	4.8	103	0	22	24	12,926
N6IE	SOAB(A)CW HP	0.75	53	0	29	22	7,191

REDXA MEMBER TOTALS FROM CLUB LOG

CW

	<u>Callsign</u>	<u>160</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>DXCC</u> ▼	<u>Slots</u>	<u>Range</u>
1	<u>N6IE</u> +1	12	22	64	0	85	2	38	0	10	0	103	233	43 yrs

2	<u>K6ANP</u>	0	14	44	2	70	2	27	0	8	0	81	167	<u>76 yrs</u>
3	<u>KC6AWX</u> ★	5	8	21	3	34	7	6	0	1	0	77	85	<u>33 yrs</u>
4	<u>K6JS+2</u>	0	14	37	0	63	1	32	1	6	0	72	154	<u>15 yrs</u>
5	<u>N6YEU</u>	0	3	18	1	51	4	19	0	0	0	61	96	<u>31 yrs</u>

SSB

Ran k	Call sign	160	80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	DX CC ▼	Slots	Ran ge
1	<u>K6V</u> <u>XI</u> ★	0	0	2	0	38	3	14	0	1	0	44	58	<u>10 yrs</u>
2	<u>N6Y</u> <u>EU</u>	0	1	12	0	19	2	17	0	2	0	27	53	<u>31 yrs</u>
3	<u>W6</u> <u>GM</u> <u>P</u>	0	1	3	0	18	0	1	0	0	0	20	23	<u>12 yrs</u>
4	<u>N6I</u> <u>E+1</u>	2	4	3	2	5	6	5	0	0	0	18	27	<u>43 yrs</u>
5	<u>KC6</u> <u>AW</u> <u>X</u> ★	0	0	2	0	12	1	0	0	0	0	13	15	<u>33 yrs</u>

DIGITAL

Ran k	Call sign	160	80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	DXCC ▼	Slots	Range
1	<u>KC6AWX</u> ★	0	17	30	10	79	32	11	1	0	15	141	195	<u>33 yrs</u>
2	<u>N6IE+1</u>	25	28	45	46	65	59	25	22	4	4	124	323	<u>43 yrs</u>
3	<u>W6GMP</u>	0	20	36	51	94	56	31	13	11	4	118	316	<u>12 yrs</u>
4	<u>N3RC</u>	6	25	19	11	64	35	46	7	8	18	101	239	<u>64 yrs</u>
5	<u>N6AD</u>	1	8	26	11	80	20	26	18	13	6	95	209	<u>25 yrs</u>



Here are some pictures of the rebuild of Castle Rock, K6QXY The container houses racks for commercial customers and the end rack is for K6QXY with amps, power supplies, and a desk for a new temporary operating position.

The tower is new for my commercial customers. Not shown is the tower for ham activities with two 6M8QXY 6M yagis fixed on ASIA and two 6M6LN 6M yagis fixed on Europe.

It's all slowly taking shape..

73 Bob, K6QXY

