

# SUNSPOTS



**REDWOOD EMPIRE DX ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 750834, Petaluma, CA 94975

A DX and Contest-minded Amateur Radio Club serving the California coast north of the Golden Gate Bridge

**VOLUME 34**

**NUMBER 12**

**DECEMBER 2013**

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Visit our Web Site at <http://www.redxa.com/>

## MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

**Wednesday, December 11, 2013** at Boulevard Cafe & Grill, Petaluma. If you need directions, please call one of the club officers.

6 pm — Social Hour in the Lounge  
7 pm — Dinner and Meeting  
8 pm — Program

**PROGRAM: We celebrate our 33rd REDXA holiday party this month with special items donated by several ham radio sponsors and members. Be sure to get plenty of tickets for the raffle!!!**

## REDXA President's Report

It's hard to believe the holidays are upon us and the contest season is in full swing. We celebrate our 33rd REDXA holiday party this week with special items donated by several ham radio sponsors and members. Be sure to get plenty of tickets for the raffle; all proceeds go to the club treasury. All are welcome at our holiday party, so I'm hoping to see a large turnout. Daniel from the Boulevard Café is offering a choice of a turkey or prime rib dinner.

As my REDXA presidency winds down, I reflect back on my introduction to this fine club. It wasn't long after I moved to Petaluma in the early 90's that I set the rig up and ran into Chuck, N6OJ several times on the bands. I was invited over to his house and we shared tales about our radio backgrounds and realized we had a mutual friend; I believe he was one of the first REDXA members and also my high school ham radio club advisor some 20 years earlier, Bill, K6WAP (Ex-WB6QBJ). I was invited to attend a meeting and I've been hooked ever since. The meetings were held at the old Carrows in Petaluma back then and I



always look forward to the next REDXA meeting, anticipating the great presentations and the camaraderie of this special group of folks. I've always wanted to give back to the club what it has provided me over the years; and it is my hope I've provided you with the same anticipation for the each meeting.

Looking back on the past couple of years, I've done my best to get quality presentations that are new and informative. I facilitated venue changes from the all you-can-eat Asian restaurant, to Cattlemens and finally, thanks to Chuck, N6OJ the Boulevard Café. I truly believe we've found our home and will be here for a long time. I started the REDXA Honor Roll in the Sunspots in hopes of sparking members' interest in some friendly competition amongst club members. It has spurred some additional activity, be sure to give me your numbers and get your call on the list.

We continue to build and nourish a very healthy, friendly but competitive relationship with our arch rival club, MLDXCC, with bragging rights and maybe a glass of wine going to the winner.

In the past year an additional contest has come into focus for the club: the ARRL 10 Meter contest - club competition. It appears to be gaining traction and club support. Don't forget to get on the air this weekend and submit your log for REDXA (Spell it out). See the article titled "*REDXA and the ARRL 10 Meter Contest this weekend*" in this edition.

A changing of the guard will occur at our December meeting. Please congratulate and welcome our new slate of officers.

President	Fred, N6YEU
Vice President	Rick, N6GY
Treasurer	Bill, KH6GJV
Secretary	Ed, K6ELE
Director	Jim, K6JS
Director	Josh, W6XU
Director	Alan, K6SRZ

Although club officers are elected to a one year term, it has been our long standing tradition to have them serve two consecutive terms.

Looking ahead to future meetings, January will be

our joint meeting with the NCCC and a presentation on the K9W Commemorative DXpedition to Wake atoll by K6MM, John Miller. I look forward to a great 2014 for REDXA.

In closing, it has been an honor and privilege to serve this extraordinary club. I am honored to continue to serve the club as a Director. These past two years I've worked hard to uphold the high standards of the club and at the December meeting I'll pass the gavel to Fred, N6YEU, a past REDXA president and very capable ham that will keep this well-oiled machine running smoothly into the future.

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING NOVEMBER 2013

by Rick, N6GY

NO MEETING WAS HELD

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## NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES

by Rick, N6GY

President Jim K6JS called the meeting to order at 7:49 pm, November 13, 2013 at the Boulevard Cafe in Petaluma. There were 25 members and 1 guest in attendance. Jim had everyone introduce themselves and tell the group what DX they had worked lately. Everyone contributed information.

Treasurer and ARRL section manager Bill KH6GJV spoke about a ARISS-TELEBRIDGE exercise that went quite well with contact to the ISS (International Space Station).

Treasurer Bill KH6GJV is collecting dues for next year. The dues remain at \$20

A short report on members Rich W6UDS and Chuck N6OJ was given. Both are recovering and are available for phone calls. Rich at 415-479-3136, Chuck at 707-762-9403.

The 50-50 raffle was held with Member John KM6XO winning \$43.

Prime Rib. That will be held on December 11th at the Boulevard Café.

The next contest REDXA is concentrating on is the 10 meter CW/PHONE Contest on December 14th and 15th. Please contribute logs to the contest and specify REDXA as the Club.

The January 2014 meeting will probably be in Petaluma, and held in conjunction with the NCCC (Northern California Contest Club).

A new slate of officers were chosen and elected for 2014:

President Fred N6YEU  
Vice President Rick N6GY  
Secretary Ed K6ELE  
Treasurer Bill KH6GJV  
Board Member Jim K6JS  
Board Member Josh W6XU  
Board Member Alan K6SRZ

Fred N6YEU has sold three of the Club's antennas so far, netting \$225. He has the possibility of selling at least two or three more.

The evening's presentation was given by Ira K2RD on DXing and Contesting from a city lot.

The meeting concluded at 9PM.

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## Monthly San Francisco Section News Summary

Here is the link for the News Summary:  
<http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=SF>

## Treasurer Report

by Bill, KH6GJV

### REDXA TREASURER'S REPORT

10/31/13 Balance Forward		\$2,285.01
Reconciliation Adjustment	(46.16)	
RECEIPTS		
Dues 2014	330.00	
Raffle (net)	<u>43.00</u>	
TOTAL RECEIPTS		326.84
DISBURSEMENTS		
Awards	101.99	
Equipment Repair *	212.56	
Guest Meals	<u>23.00</u>	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		(337.55)
CASH FLOW		
		(10.71)
11/30/13 Ending Balance		<u>\$2,387.29</u>

\* SteppIR Repair

Also, 2014 Dues are due!

Dues are \$20 for individual and \$25 for families.

Please mail the the club address:

REDXA  
PO Box 750834  
Petaluma, CA 94975-0834

or, I'll be collecting at the December party.

## Contesting

by Jim, K6JS

### REDXA and the ARRL 10 Meter Contest this weekend.

The ARRL 10-Meter Contest is this weekend from 0000Z, Dec 14 to 2359Z, Dec 15. Please try to clear some time on your calendar and give REDXA some points. This contest is pretty much a daytime affair, so it leaves some time for the family.

We entered this contest as a club last year and had a nice turnout of members. It was a good contest for REDXA to enter in the club competition and we just missed winning the "local" club category, once again being edged out by the MLDXCC.

There are three club competition categories; Local 1 to 10 logs, Medium 11 to 50 logs and Unlimited at 50+ logs. We'll compete against other similar sized clubs. We'll find out what category we're in when all the logs are submitted.

Ten meters is opening up as cycle 24 comes to its peak(s) which should make this a fun contest. It has world-wide participation with numerous classes of CW only, SSB only, Mixed and Multi categories. If you have time, get on the air for some REDXA fun during the ARRL 10M contest. Rules are here: <http://www.arrl.org/10-meter>

We'll have to wait and see how we did in CQP. Kudos to all the members that participated! I hope everyone got their log submitted before the deadline. It appears we have an edge on paper. Thank you all for another fantastic effort.

I hope everyone found time to get on the air for the CQ WW CW contest. There was plenty of DX activity from around the world, with some pretty amazing scores being claimed. The CQ WW web site states they've received over 5000 logs, just 48 hours after the end of the contest. I was able to work quite a few new ones and had a lot fun from a little pistol station.

Don't forget about Getscores.org, it's a real time score posting website that accepts and displays score postings from contesters that choose to post

there. It can add a little twist to your contest experience. Gerry, W1VE says Getscores is ready and running for the upcoming contest season.

You can view real time contest scores from stations submitting data during the contest. There are two methods for submitting data, There is a manual data entry window on the webpage or most logging program are providing interfaces for automatic live updates to the application. Gerry also has made some improvements in the display.

When you are viewing the results, you can now hover your mouse over the callsign, and the break down for that station will show in a floating, popup window. This feature does not work on the Test page, just live results.

Get Scores also utilizes social media and you can now keep track of Getscores activity and who's doing what using Twitter and Google+! Just follow getscores\_live on Twitter, or follow / add "Getscores org" to your Google+ ring. You can filter tweets using the Cabrillo name of the contest: #CQ-WW-SSB for CQ World Wide SSB. During any live contest, you'll get tweets/posts showing who is leading (on Getscores) in each category. This feature is beta quality, and he'll be tweaking it over the coming months. From the YCCC Scuttlebutt and Gerry, W1VE

Congrats to Alan, K6SRZ he received wallpaper for 1st Place 2012 ARRL SF Section 160 Meter HP

DXCC reminder: The end of the year tally with the DXCC desk is fast approaching. Be sure to keep your DXCC records up to date.

## DX News

by Jim, K6JS

MONACO, 3A. Special event station 3A60ARM is QRV during the month of December in celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Association des Radioamateurs de Monaco. QSL via bureau. I actually need this one...

SENEGAL, 6W. Mark, AA1AC plans to be QRV as 6W/AA1AC from Somone from December 8 to 14. QSL to home call.

AZORES CT8,. Siegfried, DF9WB, is now active as CT8/DF9WB from (EU-009) until December 18th. Activity has been on 20/15/10 meters SSB. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the Bureau.

BARBADOS, 8P. Look for Mike, K1IU, Mike, N1TA and Bruce, K0BJ to be QRV as 8P9IU, 8P9TA and 8P9BJ, respectively, from December 9 to 16. Activity will be on 160 to 2 meters including 60 meters and straight keys, using CW, SSB and RTTY. They may also be active on Satellite SO-50. They will be QRV as 8P8T in the upcoming ARRL 10 Meter contest. QSL all calls via K1IU.

MALTA, 9H,. Leo, DJ7PR, is once again active as 9H3YQ from Malta (EU-023) until December 11th. Activity is holiday style and has been mostly 40 meters CW this past week. However, Leo informs OPDX, "My antenna is a small vertical for all bands built up on my balcony and I only work CW. With 100 watts and CW, it works perfect. Also for DX. My working hours are mostly in the evening which means 1700-2300 GMT and mostly 20m and 40m. I don't think it is a good time for USA. I also try 10m between 0900 and 1200 GMT if the band is open." QSL via his home callsign.

CHILE, CE. A group of operators are QRV as XR150CBS during the month of December to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Santiago Fire Department. Activity is on all HF bands using SSB and various digital modes. QSL via XQ7UP.

NIUE, E6. Operators Alan, VK4WR and Graeme, VK4FI will be QRV as E6RQ and E6SG, respectively, from December 7 to 17. Activity will

be on 40 to 6 meters, with an eye towards good sporadic-E and TEP propagation into Asia. QSL both calls direct via VK4FI.

NEW CALEDONIA, FK. Freddy, F5IRO will be QRV as FK8RO from Ouvea Island, IOTA OC-033, from December 9 to 13. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters using CW. QSL to home call.

SVALBARD, JW. (Update to OPDX.1139/Callsign). Alex, PY2SEX/DL1NX, informs OPDX that he just got permission from Norwegian Post Communication Authority to use his home callsign as LA/PY2SEX and JW/PY2SEX. So look for Alex to be active from Svalbard (EU-026) during Christmas (December 24-25th) for only those two days as JW/PY2SEX. QSL via DL1NX with SAE and a valid IRC or 2 green stamps.

XW, LAOS. Champ, E21EIC, will once again be active as XW0YJY from Vientiane between December 12-17th. Activity will include the ARRL 10M Contest (December 14-15th) as a Single-Op/Mixed-Mode/Lower-Power entry. Operations before and after will be CW on 80-10 meters. QSL via E21EIC or OQRS (ClubLog) and LoTW. No eQSL. Visit it his FaceBook and Web page at:  
<https://www.facebook.com/SomChamp>  
<http://www.e21eic.net/index.php>

BULGARIA, LZ. Members of the Radio Club Blagovestnik are QRV as LZ867MWB during December to honor St Mihail Voin. QSL via LZ1KCP.

EASTERN KIRIBATI, T32. A group of operators are QRV as T32RC from Christmas Island, IOTA OC-024, until December 11. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. This includes an entry in the ARRL 160 Meter contest. QSL via N7RO.

T33A LOG/QSOS UPDATE. The T33A team has just compiled the final logs from the island and uploaded them to Clublog on November 29th. This upload does not reflect corrections that are presently being made via the inquiries sent to the QSL Manager. The QSL Manager is working to clear all the inquiries and then will upload that new file upon

completion. He expects to clear all inquiries by mid to late December and will upload that file. To those with missing calls or possible busted calls, they'd recommend patience prior to making an OQRS request and allow the QSL Manager to complete the inquiries that he receives. Please visit Clublog occasionally to see if the corrections have been implemented for those with inquiries. The E-mail for contacting the QSL Manager (W2IJ) is <Banaba2013@outlook.com>. To all with questions please forward your concerns to that E-mail address. He has now begun to respond to those inquiries. The QSLs won't be ready for at least 6-8 weeks.

MICRONESIA, V6. Haru, JA1XGI is QRV as V63XG from Chuuk, IOTA OC-011, until December 12. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. This includes an entry in the ARRL 160 Meter contest. QSL to home call.

SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS, RI20,. To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Russian Robinson Club (RRC), RRC club members/operators Alexander/RW3RN (RRC #256??) and Oleg/UA3HK/ZS1OIN (RRC #349) will be active as RI20ANT from the Russian Antarctic station "Bellingshausen" on the Island of King George (AN-010) between December 17-31st. Activity will be mainly on 20 meters using CW and SSB. Equipment is a Yaesu FT-1000MP transceiver and an all band antenna. QSL via RW3RN. At the Bellingshausen station, the beacon RI1ANG works around the clock on frequency 14101 kHz. If the beacon is heard, you can then callsign RI20ANT on frequency 14160 kHz  $\pm$  QRM. For more information about the Russian Bellingshausen station, read the article written by its chief Oleg Neruchev (RI1ANU) "Antarctica, 58th RAE" in the journal "Radio" issue number 10 dated 11/2013 at:

<http://www.radio.ru>

QSOs with RI20ANT count for the "Russian Robinson Club - 20 years" Jubilee Diploma and are worth 3 points (repeatable on different bands), and count for the rule of having one mandatory contact with the main jubilee callsign R2ORRC. Those who did not make the contact with R2ORRC have a chance to make it before the end of the year with RI20ANT. Rules for the RRC-20 diploma can be seen on <<http://www.robinsons.ru/>>.

VIET NAM, XV. Mats, is QRV as XV2LRR from Phan Tiet until December 14. Activity is holiday style on 40 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via LoTW.

## Propagation

Solar activity bounced back this week, with average daily sunspot numbers increasing from 63.6 to 102.9, and average daily solar flux from 130 to 132.9. There were no periods of disruptive geomagnetic activity, although November 30 and December 1 were slightly unsettled. There was another uptick in activity yesterday, December 5, when the solar flux readings at Penticton were 157 at 1800 UTC, 149.6 at 2000 UTC and 156 at 2200 UTC. The daily reading at 2000 UTC (local noon in British Columbia) is always the official solar flux value for the day. The sunspot number for December 5 was 103, up from 98 the day before.

Predicted solar flux for December 6-7 is 155, on December 8-9 it is 150, then 145 on December 10-11, 135 on December 13-14, 130 on December 15-16, 135 on December 17, 130 on December 18-19, 125 and 130 on December 20-21, 125 on December 22-23, 130 on December 24-26, and 125 on December 27-28.

There is an odd solar flux peak at 165 predicted for January 8, but this seems to be a remnant of a prediction from November 25 through December 1, when there were many days in mid-December, late December and early January with solar flux predicted at 160-165. On December 2 these predictions were radically revised downward, with the exception of January 8. From November 25 to December 1 the solar flux prediction was 165 for January 4-10, but starting on December 2 that prediction was revised to solar flux at 130 on January 4-7 and 135 on January 9-10 and 130 on January 11-12, with January 8 standing alone at 165.

Thanks to the ARRL DX News, Propagation De K7RA and KB8NW/OPDX/BARF80

## REDXA Calendar of Upcoming Events:

by Doug, WW6D

<b>Dec 11</b>	<b>* REDXA Monthly Meeting</b>
Dec 14-15	ARRL 10 meter Contest
Dec 28-29	Stew Perry Topband Challenge
Jan 1	Straight Key Night
<b>Jan 8</b>	<b>* REDXA Monthly Meeting</b>
Jan 11-12	North American QSO Party CW
Jan 17-19	ARRL VHF Contest
Jan 18-19	North American QSO Party SSB
Jan 24-26	CQ 160m Contest CW
<b>Feb 12</b>	<b>* REDXA Monthly Meeting</b>
Feb 15-16	ARRL Intl. DX Contest CW
Feb 21-23	CQ 160m Contest SSB
Feb 22-23	North American QSO Party RTTY
Mar 1-2	ARRL Intl. DX Contest SSB
<b>Mar 12</b>	<b>* REDXA Monthly Meeting</b>
Mar 29-30	CQ WW WPX SSB

Refer to <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/> for more contest information.

## Contest Scores

by Jim, K6JS

### CQ Worldwide CW

Call	QSOs	Zones	Countries	Time	Score
SOAB(A) HP K6RIM	433	120	316		524,072
SOAB(A) LP K6JS	472	106	217	18:29	431,205
K3FIV	26	16	21	2:00	2,775
SOAB Classic LP N6YEU	201	49	81	12:00	81,282
SOSB(80)HP K6SRZ	22	39			19,736

### November Sweepstakes CW

Call	QSOs	Mults	Time	Score
SOHP N6ZFO	957	82	22.5	156,948
K6LRN	710	83	15:04	117,860
K6CTA	305	73	4.5	44,530
SOLP N6YEU	413	82	22.5	67,732
SOHP(U) K6SRZ	1154	83	23:59	191,564
K6JS	687	83	22:00	114,042
SOLP(U) K3FIV	300	83	15:00	49,800



## November Sweepstakes SSB

Call	QSOs	Mults	Time	Score
SOHP K6LRN	400	79	10:22	63,200
SOLP N6ZFO	1039	82	19.5	170,396
N6YEU	424	83	14.5	70,384
K6JS	248	71	9.0	35,216
SOHP(U) W6PZ (K6SRZ)	1539	83	23:28	255,474
K6MM	527	81	9:00	85,374
SOLP(U) K3FIV	190	67	10:00	25,460

## ARRL 160 Meter Contest

Call	QSOs	Sections	Countries	Time	Score
SOLP N6ZFO	134	57	2	8:00	15,516
SOHP K6SRZ	534	76	8	? *	95,256

\* ? hours--a great deal of football and basketball watching interspersed with contesting.



### REDXA Honor Roll

#### WARC BANDS

30M		17M		12M	
W6XA	326	W6XA	335	W6XA	327
K6RIM	319	K6RIM	329	K6RIM	294
N6OJ	233	N6OJ	322	N6OJ	250
KC6AWX	238	KC6AWX	303	KC6AWX	250
K6ANP	169	W6SPK	231	W6SPK	149
N6IE	165	N7PIB	167	N6IE	134
K6SRZ	154	N6IE	165	N7PIB	120
W6SPK	153	K6ANP	162	K6SRZ	106
AG6V	3	K6SRZ	143	K6ANP	72
N6GY	3	K6JS	27	N6GY	47

W6SPK adds 8 new ones.

W6SPK adds 5 new ones

W6SPK adds 6 more

#### ARRL DX Challenge

W6XA	2985
K6RIM	2530
KC6AWX	2148
K6ANP	2131
N6OJ	1805
K6SRZ	1770
W6SPK	1328
N6IE	1256
N7PIB	1123

W6SPK passes N6IE

#### 160 Meters

W6XA	224
W6OSP	178
K6ANP	158
K6SRZ	150
K6RIM	55
N6OJ	59
N6IE	37
KC6AWX	27
N7PIB	15
W6SPK	6

W6OSP adds a new one

#### 1.5K Club

W6XA	1689
K6RIM	1588
KC6AWX	1405
K6ANP	1371
N6OJ	1367
K6SRZ	1124
N6IE	1043
W6SPK	802
N6GY	148

W6SPK moving up

**Rules for REDXA Honor Roll Listings.**  
Provide me with your total JOTAs worked, or countries (including deleted) worked for: WARC Bands, 160 Meters, Digital modes, Mobile, 6 Meters or your total for 80,40,20, 15 and 10 for 1.5K Club. Countries do not count until HQ Awards Committee takes action and announces a start date for a new country.



#### Six Meter DXCC

K6QXY	173
W6XA	130
K6RIM	14
KC6AWX	14
K6ANP	6
W6SPK	2

K6QXY adds 2 new ones, AWX moving up



#### RTTY/Digital

N6OJ	302
KC6AWX	296
K6RIM	253
W6SPK	189
N6IE	185
W6XA	162
K6SRZ	140
K6ANP	123

W6SPK moving up

Send your REDXA Honor Roll updates to:

[jselmi@hotmail.com](mailto:jselmi@hotmail.com)

Updated 12-09-13

#### Mobile DX



N7PIB	121
K6JS	111
W6SPK	3


K6JS adds 3 new ones

#### DXCC Mixed

K6RIM	366
N6OJ	360
W6OSP	353
W6XA	352
KC6AWX	348
K6SRZ	346
W6SPK	282
K6JS	201

W6SPK works 2 new ones!!!

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



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673 Plum Street  
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MEETING: DECEMBER 11, 2013

