

# 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 35**

**NUMBER 12**

**DECEMBER 2014**

**CLUB OFFICERS:**

**PRESIDENT:**

Fred Leoni, N6YEU  
9627 Westside Road  
Healdsburg, CA 95448  
H (707) 431-8202  
n6yeu@aol.com

**VICE PRESIDENT:**

Rick Sealock, N6GY  
1372 Miramonte Place  
Rohnert Park, CA 94928  
rickseal@sonic.net

**SECRETARY:**

Ed Essick, K6ELE  
90 Coleman Drive  
San Rafael, CA 94901  
e.essick@comcast.net

**TREASURER:**

Bill Hillendahl, KH6GJV  
PO Box 4151  
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

**DIRECTORS:**

Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ  
210 Nila Mae Way  
Penngrove, CA 94951  
H (707) 665-5790  
doctore@well.com

Josh Fiden, W6XU  
4590 Timber Lane  
Occidental, CA 95465  
H (707) 874-3940  
w6xu@arrl.net

Jim Selmi, K6JS  
7470 Monique Place  
Rohnert Park, CA 94928  
H (707) 664-9769  
jselmi@hotmail.com

**CONTEST CHAIRMAN:**

Jim Selmi, K6JS  
7470 Monique Place  
Rohnert Park, CA 94928  
H (707) 664-9769  
jselmi@hotmail.com

**EDITOR:**

Steve Bertsch, K6SAB  
673 Plum Street  
Novato, CA 94945  
H (415) 320-1591  
sabertsch@gmail.com

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

## MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

**Wednesday, December 10, 2014** 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: Our Program for the evening will be our annual holiday party. Don't forget significant others are welcome also. The more the merrier!**

## REDXA President's Report

Well, here we are. December already and the holiday season is in full swing. I trust you all had a nice Thanksgiving with family and friends. I certainly did. It's also nice to see some actual rainfall arriving here. Every drop helps!

Reflecting back on this past year I feel I could have done a bit more to promote our club and its purposes of DXing and contesting but overall I feel I did at least a presentable job as president of REDXA. (Those who disagree with me please feel free to run for office, hi!) I feel that holding an office is a way to help give back in some small way to REDXA. While the occasional controversy or disagreement does show up, overall I believe we have one of the finest DX clubs there is anywhere. I am proud to be associated with such a great group of people.

This coming year I don't see making any major changes in how I operate. I will be looking for quality programs and anyone who might have suggestions please contact me. I will do my best to provide us with



quality programs but I cannot guarantee every month will have a great one.

I would like to see us participate more as a whole this year in CQP and Field Day. It seems to me participation in terms of total numbers of members being active in these two events has been going down each year. Any suggestions as to how to get more "butts in the chair"?

Well folks, I am hoping to see as many of you, if not all of you, at the annual holiday party. Don't forget significant others are welcome also. The more the merrier!

Take care and 73, Fred

---

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING NOVEMBER 2014**

by Ed, K6ELE

NO MEETING SCHEDULED

---

## **NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES**

by Ed, K6ELE

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 by the club president, Fred, N6YEU. The raffle collected \$215, half to the club treasury.

### **Announcements:**

The club sends it condolences to Steve Bertsch, K6SAB, on the passing of his mother.

The clubs Spirit Award nominations are now open. Contact Fred if you would like to nominate a club member.

Several club shirts are still available, contact Fred if interested.

Jim, K6JS, will no longer continue his Sunspots contesting news, DX news, contest scores, and propagation reports. Fred is asking for a club member to take his place. K6JS will continue to support the REDXA Honor Roll page.

Ron, N6IE, reported that the Field Day results put the club as number one in the SF division, the Pacific division, and California.

### **Old Business:**

The treasurers report was approved as posted in Sunspots.

The slate of officers for 2015 elections was approved by unanimous vote. All of the current officers were nominated and will run for election.

The holiday party will be at the next monthly meeting. Fred asked how much should be budgeted for the party gifts. It was approved by vote to spend \$475 for gifts.

### **New Business:**

It was discussed and agreed that previous members would be contacted to see if they would like to join the club again.

A new member was voted in for membership, Jim Colleto, N6TQ, of Tiburon.

### **Club Presentation:**

A25TQ Botswana DXpedition was presented by Jim N6TQ. His was a single operator operation that included the repair of antennas at the lodge he stayed at in country.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10pm.

---

## **Monthly San Francisco Section News Summary**

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

## Treasurer Report - October

by Bill, KH6GJV

### REDXA TREASURER'S REPORT

10/31/14 Balance Forward \$2,515.71

#### RECEIPTS

Badge	44.00	
Donation	10.00	
Dues 2014	20.00	
Dues 2015	80.00	
Raffle (net)	108.00	
Shirtd/Hats	48.00	
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>310.00</b>

#### DISBURSEMENTS

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS (0.00)

11/30/14 Ending Balance \$2,825.71

Now collecting dues for 2015. Please pay early and pay often!

### REDXA Calendar of Upcoming Events:

by Doug, WW6D

Dec 5-7	ARRL 160-meter Contest
<b>Dec 10</b>	<b>* Holiday Party and Raffle</b>
Dec 13-14	ARRL 10-meter Contest
Dec 21	ARRL Rookie Roundup CW
Dec 27-28	Stew Perry Topband Challenge
Dec 31-Jan 1	Straight Key Night
Jan 10	NA QSO Party CW
<b>Jan 14</b>	<b>* REDXA Monthly Meeting</b>
Jan 17	NA QSO Party SSB
Jan 23-25	CQ 160m Contest CW
<b>Feb 11</b>	<b>* REDXA Monthly Meeting</b>
Feb 14-15	CQ WW WPX RTTY
Feb 21-22	ARRL International DX CW
Feb 28-Mar 1	NA QSO Party RTTY
Mar 7-8	ARRL International DX SSB
<b>Mar 11</b>	<b>* REDXA Monthly Meeting</b>
Mar 28-29	CQ WW WPX SSB

If you have events that you would like to have posted here, PLEASE let me know!

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

## More thoughts on HF radio.

Go out and meet people.

Communication is about people! I am not knocking "filling band slots" for places not worked before. Nor am I saying anything bad about DX chasing or contesting. I do both enthusiastically! (KB!).

But where the QSO rate is not a critical element, I do like to rag chew. An old timer told me when he had worked all 340 entities on all bands and all modes, he would have no reason to turn his radio on. Think about that. It's kind of sad!

I enjoy meeting people and asking about themselves, their families, their locations, their jobs, and even their dreams. It's all in what they feel comfortable in sharing. My radio is a tool to help me get to know other people and cultures. Some people are open and friendly. Others are more reticent. As is the case with all friendships, until you get to know someone, you don't know whether you will like them or not. There is a place for both.

I try not to fall into the trap of just giving 59 or 599, my name, QTH, and the weather. Find an open space on a band and call CQ. There are probably several listening, and some will come back to you! Whether its Nancy K9DIG in North Dakota (or recently in the Caribbean! Nice lizard [or is it an iguana?] on the QSL card), or Mike VE6AO in the frozen tundra of Calgary (Sorry Mike), or Andy E51AND on South Cook Island in the Pacific (who was gracious enough to pass a relay from friend Frank KG6N in Redding) and, who invited me to visit, and even told me what to expect and see! (Especially the non-stop flight from Los Angeles International to Rarotonga!) Maybe you can talk to Stephen NQ0F, Kriss KA1GJU, Erik WB7QGI, or others, as they aeronautical mobile at 20 thousand feet? Or "chat up" Fred K6DGW or his friends putting "summits on the air"? Or work VK6FZM/MM on the MS BRAVEHEART on the way to deliver the hams to the FT5ZM Amsterdam Island DX-pedition? There is A WHOLE WORLD OF PEOPLE OUT THERE!!!

Getting to know people is what's best about ham radio, and we ought not to let it slip away.

As Randy Jonson W6SJ concludes at the end of his op-ed piece in a popular magazine "It takes an investment in time and energy to create a friend-



### REDXA Honor Roll

#### WARC BANDS

10M		17M		12M	
W6XA	326	W6XA	335	W6XA	327
K6RIM	319	K6RIM	329	K6RIM	294
KC6AWX	258	N6OJ	322	KC6AWX	285
N6OJ	238	KC6AWX	312	N6OJ	252
W6SFK	191	W6SFK	260	W6SFK	188
K6ANP	169	N6YEU	209	N6YEU	187
N6IE	165	N7PIB	167	N6IE	134
K6SRZ	154	N6IE	165	N7PIB	120
N6YEU	101	K6ANP	162	K6SRZ	106
AI6II	17	K6SRZ	143	N6GY	77
K6JS/m	10	N6GY	116	K6ANP	72
N6GY	7	K6JS/m	45	K6JS/m	26
		AI6II	45	AI6II	8

KC6AWX adds 34 new ones

KC6AWX adds 5 more

KC6AWX adds 22 new ones on 12 meters

#### ARRL DX Challenge

W6XA	2985
K6RIM	2530
KC6AWX	2400
N6OJ	2231
K6ANP	2131
K6SRZ	1770
W6SFK	1584
N6IE	1256
N7PIB	1123

KC6AWX adds 64 points.

#### 160 Meters

W6XA	224
K6ANP	158
K6SRZ	150
KC6AWX	73
K6RIM	55
N6OJ	59
N6IE	37
N7PIB	15
W6SFK	9
N6YEU	3

KC6AWX adds 24 on the top band

#### 1.5K Club

W6XA	1689
K6RIM	1588
KC6AWX	1496
N6OJ	1420
K6ANP	1371
K6SRZ	1124
N6YEU	1106
N6IE	1043
W6SFK	934
N6GY	148

KC6AWX adds 62 points

#### Rules for REDXA Honor Roll Listings.

Provide me with your total 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
KC6AWX	15
K6RIM	14
K6ANP	6
N6OJ	5
W6SFK	2

KC6AWX adds 34 on the magic band



#### RTTY/Digital

KC6AWX	307
N6OJ	304
K6RIM	253
W6SFK	228
N6IE	185
W6XA	162
K6SRZ	140
K6ANP	123
N6GY	86

KC6AWX passes OJ for the top spot

Send your REDXA Honor Roll updates to:

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

Updated 12-01-14

#### Mobile DX



N7PIB	121
K6JS	113
W6SFK	3

K6JS adds 2 new ones - Vroom!

#### DXCC Mixed

K6RIM	366
N6OJ	360
W6XA	352
KC6AWX	348
K6SRZ	346
W6SFK	295
AI6II	260
N6GY	232
K6JS	212

W6SFK adds 2 new ones

ship. The good news is, it's worth it"!

73,  
Rick Sealock N6GY

---

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



**HAM  
RADIO  
OUTLET**

**Nick Scotto**  
Manager  
AK6DX

2210 Livingston Street  
Oakland, CA 94606  
(510) 534-5757 • 877-892-1745  
(510) 534-0729 Fax  
oakland@hamradio.com

ANAHEIM, CA • ATLANTA, GA • BURBANK, CA • DENVER, CO  
NEW CASTLE, DE • OAKLAND, CA • PHOENIX, AZ • PORTLAND, OR  
SALEM, NH • SAN DIEGO, CA • SUNNYVALE, CA • WOODBRIDGE, VA

673 Plum Street  
Novato, CA 94945

**MEETING: DECEMBER 10, 2014**

