

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 38

NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2017

CLUB OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT:

Bill Sirvatka, WX6B
PO Box 3602
Santa Rosa, CA 95402
billys95404@yahoo.com

VICE PRESIDENT:

Gabe Krupa, KJ6AZU
PO Box 750273
Petaluma, CA 94975
kj6azu@bluekelp.com

SECRETARY:

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

TREASURER:

Bill Zaner, W6IYS
4661 Valley Quail Lane
Santa Rosa, CA 95401
w6iys@arrl.net

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

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

CONTEST CHAIRMAN:

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

WEBMASTER:

Doug Bender, WW6D
3638 Hemlock Court
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
H (707) 526-5131
ww6d@aol.com

EDITOR:

Steve Bertsch, K6SAB
673 Plum Street
Novato, CA 94945
H (415) 898-5159
sabertsch@gmail.com

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

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Wednesday, February 8, 2017 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 by Mr. John Miller. K6MM will explore and discuss what happens in the minds of ham operators.



REDXA President's commentary

"Why we do what we do"! If you really look in depth at this hobby it's relatively unique and almost difficult to describe to most common folks. I once remember someone telling me that it was an old man's hobby, a dying hobby or replaced by cell phones. We can all vaguely remember what it was that drew us into this hobby. A hobby where we spend thousands of dollars to talk to perfectly good strangers near and far. It might even boil down to the collection mentality many humans have and the urge to see how many countries we can collect from our home shack. Whatever it was that lead us down this path of ham radio, here we are!

This month Mr. John Miller, K6MM will explore and discuss what

happens in the minds of ham operators. It will be interesting to hear his take on this subject and to have him share his long history of being an amateur radio operator and the folks he's met throughout the world. This subject is a bit different from our technical or Dxpediton presentations but I look forward to some lighthearted discussions and the romancing of our hobby. I suspect we will all have the opportunity to share some of our special moments and why we devote the time and energy to pursue one of the most unique hobbies that exist today. On some level I have to admit that I worry that it's not a growing hobby and that soon REDXA will be down to just a few lonely souls who talk about the good old days and how fun it was to chase those Dxpeditons. Let's hope I'm wrong and that this is not the case...

So as always I look forward to seeing our REDXA family on Feb the 8th. I get the feeling that it's been rather quiet but this might be a good time to reflect on what is coming, things we need to work on, prepare ourselves for some future contests or rare DX and enjoy the company of our fellow hams.

Cheers! WX6B

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING JANUARY 2017

by Rick, N6GY

NO MEETING SCHEDULED

JANUARY 2017 MEETING MINUTES

by Rick, N6GY

The January REDXA meeting was held at the Boulevard Café at 7pm on Wednesday January 11th. There were approximately 45 members in attendance. The guest speaker was Chris Tate N6WM.

An announcement was made from Treasurer Bill W6IYS, that the roster now has 73 members, but only 45 members have paid their dues for 2017. The Club slightly overspent their money for Christmas raffle items, but the raffle was very successful, and the Club Treasury now has a balance of \$3,850.

The Board of Directors were polled via email previously by Ron N6IE about using the "monkey ranch" as a Field Day site for 2017, like we did in 2016. The Board had unanimously given their approval, although the price was raised to \$750 for the weekend. This is \$300 more than was charged last year. President Bill WX6B asked for a show of hands from anyone AGAINST the Club operating from there, and no one complained.

Ron N6IE has repeatedly tried to get an OK from the Marin Club, who usually shares our site, but was unsuccessful in getting any replies. Rich W6UDS said he would try to get an answer from them.

Chris Tate asked to be a REDXA Club member, and was unanimously voted in.

Jim K6JS announced he had two radios for sale. A IC7700 for \$3,500 and a TS-570D for \$500.

The 50-50 raffle took in \$229 and \$114 was won by John K6VXI.

After dinner, Chris Tate N6WM gave his slide presentation on Software Defined Radios, and their ability to search multiple band segments for winning Contests.

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------|-----------|--|----------|-------------------|
| Bal. Brt. Fwd. | 1/1/17 | | | | <u>\$3,846.42</u> |
| Receipts | | | | | |
| | Raffle (net to Club) | \$ 115.00 | | | |
| | Dues | \$ 245.00 | | | |
| | Total receipts | | | \$360.00 | |
| Disbursements | | | | | |
| | CQP Plaque ((2016) | \$ 60.00 | | | |
| | Guest Dinner | \$ 28.50 | | | |
| | Field Day Site Rental (2017) | \$ 750.00 | | | |
| | Total Disbursements | | | \$838.50 | |
| Cash Flow | | | | | \$ (478.50) |
| Balance 1/31/2017 | | | | | <u>\$3,367.92</u> |

Monthly San Francisco Section News Summary

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

REDXA Calendar of Upcoming Events: by Doug, WW6D

Feb 8 * **REDXA Monthly Meeting**
Feb 11-12 **CQ WW RTTY WPX**
Feb 18-19 **ARRL International DX CW**
Mar 4-5 **ARRL International DX SSB**
Mar 8 * **REDXA Monthly Meeting**
Mar 25-26 **CQ WW WPX SSB**
Apr 12 * **REDXA Monthly Meeting**
Apr 21-23 **Intl DX Convention Visalia**
May 10 * **REDXA Monthly Meeting**
May 19-21 **Dayton Hamvention 2017**
May 27-28 **CQ WW WPX CW**
Jun 10-12 **ARRL June VHF Contest**
Jun 14 * **REDXA Monthly Meeting**
Jun 24-25 **ARRL Field Day**

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.

DXCC Card Checker

I would like to let the Club know that I am officially a DXCC Card Checker and can check 160M CARDS.

I volunteered for this position, as I mailed my cards to ARRL (21) and they were delivered, but there is no record at ARRL of them receiving the cards. The Post Office receipt says delivered Nov 19, 2016. So the cards are LOST. I have since sent new requests to DX Stations for new cards to replace them. I usually have been going through Chuck, N6OJ, when I had cards but unfortunately he could not check my 160M cards so I mailed them ARRL!

So I figured why not volunteer for this as that way maybe what happened to me would not happen to anyone else. So I volunteer my services to check cards for anyone needing 160M cards checked.

However, I will not be available from Feb 13 – Mar 20 as the XYL and I are going on a South America cruise. After that I should be available if needed.

73

Robert T. Devine, KC6AWX
Manager, ARRL 6th District Incoming QSL Bureau

Dues Reminder

For those who have not yet paid their annual dues, please remember to do so at the upcoming February meeting. Dues are \$20 for single members, \$25 for a family and \$18.50 for full time students under 18. You can make your payment by check or cash. If you are unable to attend the meeting you can mail your dues to: REDXA, PO Box 750834, Petaluma CA, 94975-0834. All checks should be made out to “REDXA”.

Bill, W6IYS
Treasurer

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: FEBRUARY 8, 2017

