

# 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

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

## MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

**Wednesday, May 13, 2015** 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 T32C Kiritimati (Christmas Island) DXpedition DVD Video by the 5 Star DX Association, the famous British group. If time allows there is also bonus footage on the 3B7C St. Brandon DXpedition.**

## REDXA President's Report

Welcome to May. Didn't we celebrate new year's a couple of weeks ago?! Well a group of REDXA members traveled south to Visalia last month for the annual International DX convention. A good time was had by all who attended. None of our crew came home with a big prize this year but we did manage to take home some of the smaller hourly raffle prizes. I personally enjoy this annual event. There are always great presentations and the vendors area is fun even if your like me and just wander around wishing. Did I just hear someone call me a tight wad? Hi! One thing I did notice is the crowd doesn't seem to be getting any younger which is too bad.

Field Day is arriving quickly and while I am not going to be able to attend this year I would hope each of you will be able to support REDXA in some way. Such things as helping set up and tear down are always appreciated and putting in some operating time is always fun. I would like to see as many of you attend as possible if to do nothing



more than offer moral support. Just stop by and say hi!

I am again having to show a DVD this month for the program. I picked it up at the convention. I will make sure it is tested and ready at the meeting. My apologies for last month's mess up with the dvds form NCDXF. If anyone wants to complain feel free. I want you to know that will bring on an instant appointment to club program chair!

Take care and see you at the meeting,

Fred

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## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING APRIL 2015**

by Ed, K6ELE

NO MEETING WAS SCHEDULED

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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>

## **APRIL MEETING MINUTES**

by Ed, K6ELE

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by the club president, Fred, N6YEU.

Announcements:

Fred said that he is still working on several presentations for future meetings.

A new member was voted into the club, Gabe Krupa, KJ6AZU.

Bill Zaner, W6IYS, has assumed the position of club treasurer.

Fred reported that the last of our surplus antennas not sold were to be sold for scrap.

Eight club members said they were attending the DX convention in Visalia April 17-19.

Ron, N6IE, announced he would stay on the NCCC board in support of the new club president. He stated that NCCC may start affiliation clubs with one in the North Bay.

Old Business:

Two club members, Rich, W6UDS and Norm, WA6CLK, repaired the antenna for Steve, K6SAB, our newsletter editor. Al, K6RIM paid for the rental of equipment to do the antenna work.

The raffle was for \$104.

New Business:

Ron, N6IE, our club coordinator for field day, announced that he needs a captain to run a 3A station for Field Day June 27,28. The 3A station would run SSB and CW with 2 main stations and one backup. These would be in addition to the 2A station we normally run.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm for the program of the evening. The program for the evening was videos of previous DXpeditions.

## Treasurer Report - April 2015

by Bill, W6IYS

### REDXA TREASURER'S REPORT

3/31/15 Balance Forward		\$3,705.83
RECEIPTS		
Dues 2015	20.00	
Raffle (net)	52.00	
Sale of unusable antennas as scrap	56.00	
TOTAL RECEIPTS		128.00
DISBURSEMENTS		
	0.00	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		0.00
Cashflow		128.00
4/30/15 Ending Balance		<u>\$3,833.83</u>

### REDXA Calendar of Upcoming Events:

by Doug, WW6D

May 9-10	CQ-M Intl DX Contest
<b>May 13</b>	* <b>REDXA Monthly Meeting</b>
May 30-31	CQ WPX CW
<b>Jun 10</b>	* <b>REDXA Monthly Meeting</b>
Jun 20-21	ARRL June VHF
Jun 20-21	All Asian DX CW
Jun 27-28	ARRL Field Day
Jul 1	RAC Canada Day Contest
<b>Jul 8</b>	* <b>REDXA Monthly Meeting</b>
Jul 11-12	IARU HF World Championship
Jul 18-19	NA QSO Party RTTY
Jul 18-19	CQ WW VHF Contest
Jul 25-26	RSGB IOTA Contest
Aug 1-2	NA QSO Party CW
Aug 8-9	WAE DX Contest CW
<b>Aug 12</b>	* <b>REDXA Monthly Meeting</b>
Aug 15-16	NA QSO Party 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.

## NEW DX RULES as of 1 April 2015

1. If you come upon a pileup, find the exact DX frequency and slowly tune up your KW right on his frequency. Take your time doing this as it has the maximum effect this way. The longer you take, the better. It lets others know that YOU are going to call the DX.
2. If you cannot wait to find out the DX call sign, ask, "What is the DX call sign?" On CW send ?DX?? Call?" Do NOT listen, this takes time. DO this repeatedly until someone gives you the DX call. This will show all others on frequency that you are serious about wanting to work this DX. This is called sharing.
3. When you find out the DX call, repeat your call over and over again on the DX frequency. Even if he is working split there is a chance he may be listening on his transmit frequency.
4. When the DX says "ABC only"- Don't believe him. If he says "Europe only" - Don't believe him. If he says, "2's only" - Don't believe him. Keep giving your call "XYZ? !!.XYZ !! .XYZ !! How Copy MARIO?" Make sure you use his name when you call him, he may think you are someone he knows. It must work as we hear it on bands all the time so it has to be effective. Don't pay attention to directional calls. When did any DX know what they wanted? What matters most is what YOU want.
5. To get the DX to work other modes tell him you want to set up a schedule later which is convenient to you. You should wait until the pileup has built up to several hundred and just before the band is about to go out, then ask him to meet you on CW, PSK31, RTTY or SSB at a set time and frequency. Above all, make sure you tell him that YOU need him on these modes. This will endear you in the hearts of all on frequency, it shows that you can work more than one mode and are a well- rounded amateur.
6. If you have worked the DX previously make sure you call him and tell him that he is stronger than the last 6 times you worked him this week. The DX station will want to know this. Others on frequency

will respect you more, you will be recognized as a Big Gun DXer.

7. When you find a DX pileup, to bring your operating skills to a higher level and impress all those on frequency - Zero beat the DX send "QRL? Is this frequency in use?" This shows character and that you are truly a caring person.

8. When finally making the DX contact, give the DX some background about yourself, TX, RX, ANT, WX, how many children and grandchildren you have, where they went to college, what size bedroom slipper you wear, or any other items of interest to the DX. This shows that you are not just a 59 kind of guy. This is most effective when the band is just about to fold.

9. After you have worked the DX you will need the QSL route. Although this will be listed on the DX packet cluster, in ARRL & DX News Letters, and on the Internet, there is no reason for you to go to all the bother of reading these sources. You can just keep calling on the DX frequency. "What is the QSL Information?" If you don't get a reply with the information after 8 or 10 calls, keep it up, your persistence will payoff. There are plenty of other stations on frequency who are waiting to work the DX who have read these publications and they willing and ready to help you.

FURTHER.....

1. For a split operation, spend most of your day listening and transmitting on the DX sending frequency.

On CW, if someone calls on the DX transmitting frequency, right away using your J-38 at 4 WPM, send VP.UG.NP .UP. until you get it right. If the station continues to call on the DX frequency, then send LSD LIB LED. LIDuntil you get it right.

This has three benefits.

A. Others waiting to work the DX will be forever indebted to you for informing the offending station that the DX is working split.

B. The offending station will be grateful.

C. You will get some needed code practice to get you over that 5 WPM hump.

2. For those with CW and voice memory keyers this will be easy. All you have to do is program in "UP" and "LID". For the more advanced operators

you can add "SPLIT" "YOU IDIOT, WORKING SPLIT" .

Using the memory keyers for your day's activity will save your voice. Should you happen by chance to have a QSO you will need it.

As always.... Work'em First and never confirm! ;)

PS. If You can't get good signal report ?! just simply go higher .....see how it does in other countries:)

Just thought you should know the rules!!!!

Rick N6GY

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### Editor's Note:

I would like to thank Norm, Rich and Al, along with the two guys who did the climbing, Anthony, "The Antenna Tech" guy and my friend, Paul, for the repairs of my Hex Beam.

## For Sale:

Yaesu FT-1000MP, Mark V Field.  
Serial # 40000201. Fully loaded, all options.  
Excellent condition, with manual. No microphone.  
Pickup or will ship.  
W6FQS73@gmail.com. 530-891-1649.  
\$1,550 OBO.



673 Plum Street  
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**MEETING: MAY 13, 2015**

