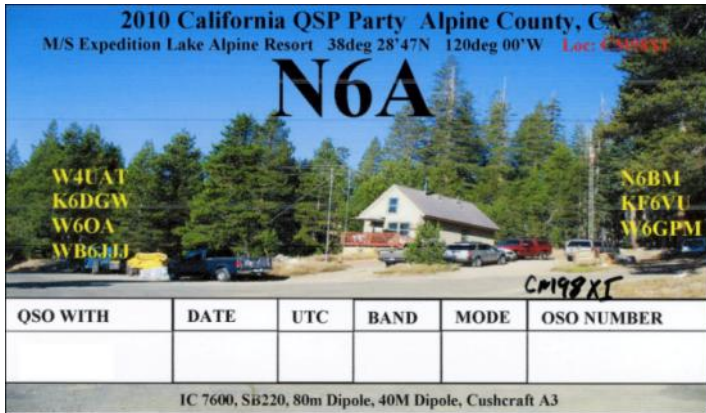


N6A 2010 - CQP Alpine Lake Lodge



N6A QSL Card designed by Larry W4UAT

After many year of traveling to Monitor Pass east of Markleville, Ca where we got caught in a very strong snow storms and high winds. We got real cold and that really got to us older guys. So after the contest we packed up it was decided to find a better protected place and at a lower altitude. 8,400 ft was a bit high.

During the summer Bill , N6BM and Larry, W4UAT went looking for a cabin we could use. During June Bill found the Lake Alpine Lodge and we drove up to the look at the lodges. We settled on the Ponderosa lodge. It sleeps 10 and has a full bath, hot water, full kitchen, and real nice beds. Bit soft for this writers back. But great sleeping. For those of you reading who do not know of Alpine Lake Resort it located east of Stockton on highway #4 past Bear Mountain ski resort in Alpine County.

Cabins are equipped for housekeeping with kitchens which include refrigerators, stoves, a basic set of pots and pans, dishes, toasters, coffee makers and a microwave oven. Bedding and towels are supplied. There are outdoor barbeque stands in the summertime. Guests need to provide food items, seasonings, condiments, toiletries and other consumables. All cabins have heat. There is no phone service or TV in the cabins. The cabins have stall showers (except Ponderosa and Sequoia, which have a tub/shower combination). In the summer, there are also three tent cabins available. The tent cabins are not heated. Our cabin had two DVD/TV setups.

Fist day we unpacked the trucks and put all the antenna materials in place. We put up the operating table and hooked up all the cables etc etc. Don, W6OA, removed the breaker box cover and installed a 220VAC breaker thus providing 220v for the amplifier. All the wall sockets were the 3 prong type so no problem there.

Weather was very nice Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. It started to cloud up late Friday evening and it sprinkled / rained lightly as we were cooking our Evening meal. We fired up the DVD/TV and watched Avatar. Hi Hi.



Equipment set up was a little different this year. We used a IC7600, Don automatic antenna tuner and automatic antenna switch. Heathkit SB220 Amp. Rotary 40M Dipole, 80 Dipole in the Pine Tree and the 3 ele Cushcraft we have used all these years.

We used N1MM software and the Toshiba laptop computer. Even though we were nearly 1000 feet lower than Monitor Pass seems that propagation was just a little better. It took several days to verify the score. We worked all 58 multipliers.



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Below is the Summary Score submitted to the contest committee.

QSOPARTY Score Summary Sheet

Operator Category :
MULTI-ONE COUNTY EXPEDITION

Software : N1MM Logger V10.9.3

Operators: W4UAT, W6OA, K6DGW, N6BM, WB6JJJ,
W6GPM,KF6VU

Band	Mode	QSOs	Pts	Sec
3.5	CW	121	363	1
3.5	LSB	173	346	0
7	CW	222	666	1
7	LSB	182	364	7
14	CW	337	1011	35
14	USB	303	606	6
21	CW	147	441	3
21	USB	185	370	5
Total	Both	1670	4167	58

Score : 241,686



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The 1670 QSO's was several hundred QSO's more than we have made in past few years. The resort facility stayed open during our stay. The restaurant was open every day for lunch and dinner. A few of us did take a few of our meals there. The contest ended Sunday at 3:00PM PST.

We tore down the station, packed the trucks, took the tri-bander down and did a walk thru of the cabin making sure was had washed and put all away and we did not leave any equipment, etc etc. We took a vote and made reservation for next year. We paid the cabin rent. The resort staff was really nice. We were told that the Ponderosa Lodge will be remodeled for next year. So it will be a little nicer inside. I'll tell you it was marvelous to wake up in the mornings and smell coffee brewing. We were never short of coffee. One of our operators had packed some dry ice in his cooler and During the day, Saturday, he open the cooler and said "who took my dry ice".

We all answered "Mother nature did it" He didn't realize it had evaporated and left nothing. Hi Hi. There was a big laugh in the cabin. We never got the Internet hookup to work. Each time we keyed the amplifier we would loose the connection. However cell calls were made home easily. This was one of the better trips to Alpine County and we will be doing it again. Hope that everyone will try to make plans for next year.

Best regards to everyone and thanks for all the contacts.
Larry W4UAT

