Short Skip

The Newsletter of

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.

P.O. Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402-0116 707-538-2931

http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com

Repeaters:

English Hill: 147.315+ 88.5 / 441.375 +88.5

CLUB STATION
K6SON

REPEATER STATION
W6SON

Volume 45, Number 10 October 2020

Keeping the Show on the Road

Brian Torr N6IIY led another social-distanced VE session on Saturday, September 26. This was held at a medical office complex near the former Palm Drive Hospital in Sebastopol. Thanks go to Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV for offering the location.

Helping Bill and Brian were John Breckenridge WB6FRZ, Darryl Paule KI6MSP, Ann Ivan KM6QIW, Mike Von der Porten AD6YB, and Dave McQuate WA8YWQ.

Everyone who came to be tested had at least one success. Six new tech licenses were issued. Two candidates passed two elements to join amateur radio as a general. The last candidate passed all three elements so join the hobby as an extra. The testing was done with applicants in their own cars. One proctor monitored two test-takers. The three grading stations and the administrative station were at separate tables ten feet apart. Five candidates were tested in the first session and four in the second. Applicants were required to have an FRN to come to the session. Brian then submitted the results to the ARRL-VEC electronically. The ARRL-VEC sends the forms to the FCC. On Tuesday, September 29, the new licenses were issued:

AJ6QJ Extra
KN6LDA Tech
KN6LCZ General
KN6LCY Tech
KN6LCX Tech
KN6LCW Tech
KN6LCV General
KN6LCU Tech
KN6LC Tech

That SCRA can find a a way to continue to offer VE sessions through this COVID-19 crisis shows the creativity and flexibility of SCRA volunteers.

Michael Von der Porten

Featured Articles:

Keeping the Show on the Road by Mike AD6YB Page 1

Code Class Graduation by John WB6FRZ Page 10

SCRA Loaner Program by Bill AA6BD Page 13

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE OCTOBER, 2020

Greetings. The Glass Fire has brought wildfire to the forefront once again. Many of us evacuated under orders and not all have returned. The Castle Rock repeater site burned including the club's equipment and the personal residence of our site host, Bob K6QXY. Don't expect to hear the 2M double-beep courtesy tone anytime soon. Yaesu System Fusion is down. Oakmont and Kenwood hams may find 2M more difficult since they need to reach English Hill.

The October Membership Meeting will be held online on Wednesday, October 7, 2020 at 7pm. Due to recent events, our program topic will be Glass Fire Experiences where we focus on members' experiences from the Glass Fire. Also, a practice election will be held in preparation for the following month.

Annual elections will be held at the November membership meeting on November 4, 2020. Please consider serving on the Board or on a committee. If interested, contact the Nominating Committee Chairperson, Dan KK6VIQ at danjdrummond@hotmail.com or any board member.

Club activities continue. The VE team of Brian N6IIY completed another drive-in exam session. John WB6FRZ graduated his CW class (congratulations to the four members!) and plans to co-chair the Education Committee and bring license classes online. The Growing Radio Amateurs class taught by Bill AA6BD continues to tinker connecting radios to Raspberry Pi modules.

Live Long and Prosper,
-Fred AE6SF

SCRA Membership Meeting (Online only)

We switched to Zoom. Arrive early.
Wed, Oct 7, 2020 7:00 PM
Via computer, tablet or smartphone.
Short link: https://fredee.com/mm
Full Link: https://zoom.us/j/95450532024?pwd=V25FWFM0MHNNMVVFMlFjMGFqTUtadz09
Meeting ID: 954 5053 2024
Passcode: 123698
Via one tap mobile
+16699006833,,95450532024#,,,,,,0#,,123698# US (San Jose)
Via telephone (voice only). Long distance charges may apply:
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
Meeting ID: 954 5053 2024
Passcode: 123698
Find your local number: https://zoom.us/u/acm9Tw3VzM

OCTOBER PROGRAM

"Glass Fire Experiences"

JOIN ARRL, THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE

The ARRL is the national organization of Amateur Radio. It represents Amateur Radio at International Conferences and before the FCC. Get the monthly QST magazine, insurance for your equipment and too many other benefits to mention here. Click http://www.arrl.org/membership/

If you are not getting the ARRL San Francisco Section news by e-mail and you are an ARRL member, be sure to subscribe under your Members Only information or go to this Web site:
http://www.arrl.org/Groups/view/san-francisco

2020 Club Officers

President	Fred Seitel	AE6SF
Vice President	Johnathan Brown	AK6VB
Secretary	Bill Dornbush	AA6BD
Treasurer	Iola Beckley	KK6HRE
Director	Warren Pierce	K6WRP
	Howard Sidorsky	K6SID
Past President	John Felton	KE5RI

Committee Lineup/Contacts

Activities	Iola Beckley activities@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com	
Programs	Howard Sidorsky, K6SID programs@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com	
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Short Skip Advertising Rates

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Pre-printed inserts (each)	$35 per month

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SCRA Club Meetings

Online this month, see page 2.

The club normally meets the first Wednesday of each month, socially at 6:30 pm, program starting at 7:00 pm. Exceptions are holidays or other big events.

Meeting location:
Luther Burbank Art & Garden Center
2050 Yulupa Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA

All are welcome!

Please join us at our next meeting. Anyone interested in Amateur Radio is eligible for membership. A membership application is included in this newsletter. For more information, contact any SCRA officer, director or member. ~~Hungry before the meeting? Join us for dinner! We Meet at Round Table Pizza, 2424 Magowan Dr, Santa Rosa. People start showing up at 5:15 PM. No RSVP is required.~~

Tuesday Night Net

The Sonoma County Radio Amateurs' net meets Tuesday at 7:00 PM on the SCRA repeater, 147.315, positive offset, PL 88.5.

All members and guests are invited to check in. The Net includes updates on SCRA activities, and Newsline, the amateur radio community news service.

Anyone wishing to work as net control should contact Fred AE6SF at ae6sf@fredee.com for assignment. Script and logs are available on the Website at http://sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/wp/resources/net-script/

SCRA Board of Directors Meeting (Online Only)

The SCRA Board of Directors will meet monthly on the Second Wednesday online. ~~Round Table Pizza, 2424 Magowan Dr, Santa Rosa.~~ All members are welcome to attend, no reservations necessary. ~~Arrive around 5:00pm for dinner.~~ Meeting starts at 6:00pm.

We switched to Zoom. Arrive early.
Wed, Oct. 14, 2020 6:00 PM
Via computer, tablet or smartphone.
Short link: https://fredee.com/bod
Full link: https://zoom.us/j/92394941525?pwd=WXYzaW4zZ1VybGhPcHkyMmx2TGhiUT09
Meeting ID: 923 9494 1525
Passcode: 123698
Via one tap mobile
+16699006833,,92394941525#,,,,,,0#,,123698# US (San Jose)
Via telephone (voice only). Long distance charges may apply:
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
Meeting ID: 923 9494 1525
Passcode: 123698
Find your local number: https://zoom.us/u/a5vkJ0H1Z

The Weekly 160 Meter Net

Announcing the new 160 meter net which runs from 8:45pm to 9:30pm Tuesday nights, immediately following the 10 meter net hosted by Joe K6AWA. Tune your radio frequency to 1.900 Mhz. LSB. 160 meters requires a General or above license to transmit.

Your Tuesday Night Net Line-up

2 Meter Net (Membership Net) on the SCRA repeater, 147.315, positive offset, PL 88.5

10 Meter Net - starts at 8:00pm (new time) following the regular SCRA net Tuesday nights and ends at 8:45pm. Set your dial to 28.403 MHz USB. Please note that all license classes (including technician) are welcome.

160 Meter Net - runs from 8:45pm to 9:30pm. Tune your radio frequency to 1.910 MHz LSB. 160 meters requires a General or above license to transmit.

Digital Mobile Radio

Sonoma County Talk Group 31707

The club's DMR footprint continues to expand! We established a beachhead on DMR and the BrandMeister network of repeaters and hotspots by adding a talk group for Sonoma County. We are using talk group number 31707 to keep in touch on DMR and be able to discuss local news and topics of interest. The use of a talk group like 31707 allows a wider variety of Sonoma County DMR hams to be able to consistently reach each other on the air. Best of all, the 31707 talk group can be reached on hotspots as well as repeaters, meaning you can tie into your local community wherever you are!

Sonoma County DMR Net happens on Thursdays at 6:30 PM PT.

We also started a DMR net for Sonoma County (using talk group 31707) that lets us practice a little bit of traffic handling, while also allowing us to get together and talk about ways we can integrate DMR into our normal operating habits. If you have a DMR radio, make sure to program it to include talk group 31707 on any of the area DMR repeaters (there are at least four in Sonoma County) and join us on Thursday evenings!

2020 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Check the Club website for details

Many events have been canceled as shown in strikethrough text.

Oct 17	Jamboree on the Air
Oct 17	Pacificon STEM presentation
~~Oct 26~~	~~North Bay Science Discovery Day~~
Nov 6-8	Technician Class (tentative)
Nov 14	VE Testing
Dec 2	Holiday Party

UPGRADE TO GENERAL OR AMATEUR EXTRA CLASS

Get more privileges and enjoyment from your Ham Radio Hobby. Mentoring assistance is available. Contact the SCRA Education Chair, at education@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com.

Reporter Wanted for Contest Corner

Frank NQ6E has retired from Contest Corner. Short Ship is looking for a reporter to replace him in this capacity.

Qualifications for this position are mainly an interest in contesting. If you have experience in contesting that is a plus, but not completely necessary. As a reporter you could expand your current knowledge by contacting other operators and documenting their experiences. There is a lot of information available online as well. Interested persons should contact Dave KI6UGB at shortskipeditor@gmail.com.

CONTEST CORNER

Welcome to Contest Corner for October 2020.

This month we had the California QSO Party this past weekend. I hope some of you had fun with that.

Of note, from ARRL a first time contest:
The new Portable Operations Challenge is October 3 and 4, 2020. The operator may choose any 8-hour contiguous period during the 48 hours of the event to operate. Contest scores are based on a kilometers-per-watt metric, and operation is to take place on 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters. While non-portable stations can compete, the contest rules are biased towards portable operating. See the rules for the score calculation, exchange, restrictions, and the special rule requiring a "Data security and handling conditions text statement" to be submitted with each log entry. NCJ is a sponsor, however this is not an official ARRL or NCJ contest.

This coming weekend is the Arizona QSO party, so if you missed the California contest, you can get in on this one right next door.

Jamboree-on-the-Air - Unfortunately, with COVID-19 restrictions, we will not have an event locally. JOTA is a global event, though, so the International Radio Scouting personell have gone ahead with plans and it is up to local councils to comply with local regulations for participation. We have nothing formal planned locally, as the Redwood BSA council is sticking to virtual scouting. So you can participate by being available for contact on Oct. 17.

Do not forget to check out http://www.contestcalendar.com

Contact shortskipeditor@gmail.com for questions/comments/suggestions regarding Contest Corner or to become a reporter.

72/73,
Dave KI6UGB

Bruce Draper, AA5B, aa5b.corral@gmail.com

Contest Corral October 2020

Check for updates and a downloadable PDF version online at **www.arrl.org/contest-calendar**.
Refer to the contest websites for full rules, scoring information, operating periods or time limits, and log submission information.

Start - Finish Date-Time		Date-Time		Bands	Contest Name	Mode	Exchange	Sponsor's Website
1	1700	1	2000	3.5	SARL 80-Meter QSO Party	Ph	RS, serial, grid or QTH	www.sarl.org.za
1	1700	1	2100	28	NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 6-char grid square	nrau.net/activity-contests
1	1900	1	2100	1.8-50	SKCC Sprint Europe	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.skccgroup.com
3	0600	4	0600	1.8-28	Oceania DX Contest, Phone	Ph	RS, serial	oceaniadxcontest.com
3	0600	4	1800	3.5-28	TRC DX Contest	CW Ph	RST, serial, "TRC" (if member)	trcdx.org/rules-trc-dx
3	0700	3	1000	3.5, 7	German Telegraphy Contest	CW	RST, LDK (if DL)	agcw.org/index.php/en
3	1200	4	1159	3.5-28	RTTYOps WW RTTY	Dig	RST, 4-digit year first licensed	rttyops.wordpress.com
3	1200	4	1159	1.8-28	Russian WW Digital Contest	Dig	RST(Q), 2-char oblast code (if UA)	rdrclub.ru/ustav-rtsrk
3	1400	4	0200	All	YLRL DX/NA YL Anniversary Contest	CW Ph Dig	Serial, RS(T), SPC	ylrl.org/wp/dx-na-yl-contest
3	1600	4	1100	3.5, 7	International HELL-Contest	Dig	RST, serial	www.darc.de
3	1600	4	2200	1.8-28	California QSO Party	CW Ph	Serial, county or SPC	www.cqp.org/Rules.html
3	1700	3	2100	3.5-28	FISTS Fall Slow Speed Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	fistsna.org
3	1800	4	1800	All	SKCC QSO Party	CW	RST, SPC, name, 4-char grid	www.skccgroup.com
4	0500	4	2300	3.5-28	RSGB DX Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
4	0600	4	0900	3.5	UBA ON Contest, SSB	Ph	RS, serial, ON section (if ON)	www.uba.be/en
4	2200	4	2359	7,14,21	Peanut Power QRP Sprint	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, peanut nr or power	www.nogaqrp.org
5	1900	5	2030	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Autumn Series, CW	CW	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
6	0100	6	0300	3.5-28	ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, power	arsqrp.blogspot.com
7	1700	7	2000	144	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	Dig	4-char grid square	ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
7	1900	7	2300	432	432 MHz Fall Sprint	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid square	svhfs.org
7	2000	7	2100	3.5	UKEICC 80-Meter Contest	Ph	6-char grid square	www.ukeicc.com
10	0000	10	2359	1.8-28	QRP ARCI Fall QSO Party	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	qrparci.org/contests
10	0000	11	1559	3.5-28	Makrothen RTTY Contest	Dig	4-char grid square	pl259.org/makrothen
10	0000	11	2359	50-1296	ARRL EME Contest	CW Ph Dig	Signal report	arrl.org/eme-contest
10	0001	10	2359	28	10-10 International 10-10 Day Sprint	CW Ph Dig	Name, mbr or "0," SPC	www.ten-ten.org
10	0300	11	2100	1.8-UHF	Nevada QSO Party	CW Ph	RS(T), county or SPC	nvqso.com/contest-rules
10	0600	11	0600	1.8-28	Oceania DX Contest, CW	CW	RST, serial	oceaniadxcontest.com
10	0800	10	1400	902 and up	Microwave Fall Sprint	CW Ph Dig	6-char grid square	svhfs.org
10	1200	11	1200	3.5-28	Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB	Ph	RST, serial	www.sactest.net
10	1200	11	2359	1.8-50	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
10	1500	11	0459	1.8-144	Arizona QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), county or SPC	www.azqsoparty.org
10	1600	11	2200	1.8-UHF	Pennsylvania QSO Party	CW Ph	Serial, county or SPC	paqso.org
10	1700	10	2100	3.5-28	FISTS Fall Unlimited Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.fistsna.org
10	1800	11	1800	1.8-144	South Dakota QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), county or SPC	www.sdqsoparty.com
10	2000	11	2000	1.8	PODXS 070 Club Great Pumpkin Sprint	Dig	RST, SPC	www.podxs070.com
11	0530	11	0800	3.5	UBA ON Contest, CW	CW	RST, serial, ON section (if ON)	www.uba.be/en
11	0800	11	1000	50	UBA ON Contest, 6 Meters	CW Ph	RS(T), serial, ON section (if ON)	www.uba.be/en
12	0000	12	0200	1.8-28	4 States QRP Second Sunday Sprint	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, mbr or power	www.4sqrp.com
14	0030	14	0230	3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	naqcc.info
14	1700	14	2000	432	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	Dig	4-char grid square	www.ft8activity.eu
14	1900	14	2030	3.5	AGCW Semi-Automatic Key Evening	CW	RST, serial, year first used a bug	agcw.org/index.php/en
14	1900	14	2030	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Autumn Series, Data	Dig	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
17	0000	18	1600	50, 144	Araucaria World Wide VHF Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), 6-char grid square	avhfc.com/rules/en.pdf
17	0000	18	2359	3.5-28	JARTS WW RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, age of operator	jarts.jp/rules2020.html
17	0001	18	2359	28	10-10 International Fall Contest, CW	CW	Name, mbr or "0," SPC	www.ten-ten.org
17	1400	18	0200	All	New York QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), county or SPC	www.nyqp.org
17	1500	18	1459	3.5-28	Worked All Germany Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), DOK code or "NM" or serial	www.darc.de
17	1500	18	1500	1.8	Stew Perry Topband Challenge	CW	4-char grid square	www.kkn.net/stew
17	2000	17	2359	1.8-7, 21-50	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	RST, mbr, SPC, grid	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub
17	2130	17	2230	7	Argentina National 7 MHz Contest	Ph	RS, year first licensed	lu4aa.org/wp/concurso-nacional-40m
18	0000	18	0200	14-21	Asia-Pacific Fall Sprint, CW	CW	RST, serial	jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt
18	1400	21	0800	1.8-144	Classic Exchange, Phone	Ph	Name, RS, SPC, rig	classicexchange.org
18	1700	19	0100	1.8-144	Illinois QSO Party	Ph	RS(T), county or SPC	w9awe.org/ILQP.html
18	1900	18	2030	3.5	RSGB RoLo CW	CW	RST, 6-char grid of previous QSO	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
18	2300	19	0100	1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	qrpcontest.com/pigrun
19	1300	23	2359	All	ARRL School Club Roundup	CW Ph	RS(T), class (I/C/S), SPC	arrl.org/school-club-roundup
19	1800	20	0300	1.8-UHF	Telephone Pioneers QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), chapter (if member), name	www.tpqso.com
19	1900	19	2030	3.5	RSGB FT4 Contest Series	Dig	4-char grid square	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
24	0000	25	2359	1.8-28	CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB	Ph	RS, CQ zone	www.cqww.com/rules.htm
28	0000	28	0200	1.8-28	SKCC Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.skccgroup.com
28	2000	28	2100	3.5	UKEICC 80-Meter Contest	CW	6-char grid square	www.ukeicc.com
29	2000	29	2130	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Autumn Series, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
30	1600	30	2359	3.5-14	Zombie Shuffle	CW	RST, SPC, Zombie nr/area code, name	www.zianet.com/qrp
31	1200	1	1159	1.8-28	Russian WW MultiMode Contest	CW Ph Dig	RST(Q), oblast or serial	rdrclub.ru/ustav-rtsrk
31	1200	1	1200	3.5-28	UK/EI DX Contest, SSB	Ph	RS, serial, district (if UK/EI)	www.ukeicc.com

There are a number of weekly contests not included in the table above. For more info, visit: **www.qrpfoxhunt.org**, **www.ncccsprint.com**, and **www.cwops.org**.
All dates refer to UTC and may be different from calendar dates in North America. Contests are not conducted on the 60-, 30-, 17-, or 12-meter bands. Mbr = Membership number. Serial = Sequential number of the contact. SPC = State, Province, DXCC Entity. XE = Mexican state. Listings in blue indicate contests sponsored by ARRL or *NCJ*. The latest time to make a valid contest QSO is the minute listed in the "Finish Time" column. *Data for Contest Corral is maintained on the WA7BNM Contest Calendar at* **www.contestcalendar.com** *and is extracted for publication in* QST *2 months prior to the month of the contest. ARRL gratefully acknowledges the support of Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, in providing this service.*

Education Committee Co-Chair Solicited

By John, WB6FRZ

All, I would like to co-chair the Education Committee next year and I am looking for a member (or members) that would be passionate about co-chairing the committee with me.

Also known as the Mentoring Committee, this committee exists as one of the eight standing committees as described in Article 7 of the club by-laws.

Its purpose is to promote interest in and the competency of amateur radio electronics technology and communication practice.

In past years the primary focus of the committee has been to coordinate classes such as the Technician Classes and the Code Class.

Knowledge of radio or electronics or the ability to teach would be helpful but are NOT required.

I need help with basic logistics such as contacting students, distributing study guides, ZOOM telecommunications details, finding classroom locations (Covid restrictions notwithstanding), etc.

If being part of a team that helps others enter amateur radio and supports their continued learning excites you then let's talk.

Contact me via email at WB6FRZ@ARRL.NET

or via telephone (voice only please) at 707-217-1017

SCRA Membership QST

The SCRA membership stands at **254**.

Welcome new and returning members:
- Steve Schaffer KD6GC (E) Santa Rosa
- Tuck Nommsen Associate Rohnert Park

New call signs:
- Nick Barber K6NMB

License Class Upgrades:
- Jennifer Iscol KN6HVJ - Amateur Extra
- Malcolm Wing KN6FCL - Amateur Extra
- Ron Fahey KN6HVQ – General

If you have recently achieved a new license class, obtained a new call sign, or changed your address, email or phone, please email membership@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com with your update. And don't forget to report your address change to the FCC!

Membership Count by License Class	
License Class	**Count**
Advanced	**2**
Amateur Extra	**73**
General	**67**
Technician	**98**

We have **13** Associate members.

164 SCRA members are ARRL members.

SCRA HAM Of THE MONTH RECIPIENTS			
Year	Month	Name	Call Sign
2020	Sep	Joe	K6AWA
2020	Aug	Brian	N7MOE
2020	July	John	KE5RI
2020	June	Darryl	KI6MSP
2020	May	Charlie	KZ6T
2020	Apr	David	N5PSM
2020	Mar	Bill	AA6BD
2020	Feb	–	–
2020	Jan	Cornell	W6HMN
2019	Dec	–	–
2019	Nov	Doug	KF6LMB
2019	Aug/Sep/Oct	Scott	KJ6QIQ
2019	June/July	Carol	KK6OLL
2019	May	Randy	AA6RH
2019	Apr	John	WB6FRZ
2019	Mar	Erin	K6ERI
2019	Feb	Fred	AE6SF
2019	Jan	Dave	KI6UGB
2018	Dec	–	–
2018	Nov	Iola	KK6HRE
2018	Oct	Dan	KK6VIQ

KUDOS

Hammy: Our statue for ham of the month.

Fred AE6SF gave kudos to our new director Howard K6SID for volunteering as Program Manager to arrange for meeting topics.

Les KN6HZS gave kudos to Darryl KI6MSP who came over and helped Les get his radio working.

Kimberly KN6DJP gave kudos to Darryl KI6MSP who helped her get her radio working.

Dan KK6VIQ would like to suggest Joe K6AWA for the September *Ham of the Month*, for his service to the club as past Vice President and Director, previous Loaner Program chair, battery and solar power guru, and for being our eyes in the sky from Mount Jackson during all the wildfires.

Darryl KI6MSP gave kudos to Bill AA6BD for teaching the Raspberry Pi course.

Dan KK6VIQ relayed Tony Goodwin KN6KIC who gave kudos to Darryl KI6MSP and Brian N6IIY and Iola KK6HRE and John WB6FRZ to get him set up in Cazadero.

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs Membership Meeting Minutes for September 2, 2020

Call to order and review agenda: The meeting was called to order at 7 pm. Fred AE6SF reviewed the agenda.

The president, Fred Seitel AE6SF, and the secretary , Bill AA6BD, determined that a quorum is present. Board members present: Fred Seitel AE6SF, Johnathan Brown AK6VB, Iola Beckley KK6HRE, Bill Dornbush AA6BD, Howard Sidorsky K6SID

Absent: John Felton KE5RI, Warren Pierce K6WRP
40 participants on Zoom attended.

New members: none

Guests: Tony Navarra

NET CONTROL: The following members are the net control stations for:
September 8 – Iola KK6HRE
September 15 – Mike AD6YB
September 22 – Rick WW6RC
September 29 – Clayton KN6EMO
October 6 – Dan KK6VIQ

Announcements Upgrades Lies and Brags:
Upgrades - none
Announcements
Fred AE6SF announced that Joe (Darrell J Louvar) KO6PS is a Silent Key. Remembrances were noted.

Fred AE6SF announced that Member of the Year Nominations are now open through September and you should send them to Fred.

Darryl KI6MSP announced that the FCC proposed a $50 fee for amateur radio licenses on their website.

Lies and Brags
Darryl KI6MSP noted that he contacted Auckland, NZ ZL1WN.

Kimberly KN6DJP talked on her radio for the first time with Darryl KI6MSP.

Iola KK6HRE had her 15th great grandchild.

Darryl KI6MSP noted the Sept 12-20 Route 66 event contest. See ARRL website for more information.

Kudos
Fred AE6SF gave kudos to our new director Howard K6SID for volunteering as Program Manager to arrange for meeting topics.

Les KN6HZS gave kudos to Darryl KI6MSP who came over and helped Les get his radio working.

Kimberly KN6DJP gave kudos to Darryl KI6MSP who helped her get her radio working.

Dan KK6VIQ would like to suggest Joe K6AWA for the September Ham of the Month, for his service to the club as past Vice President and Director, previous Loaner Program chair, battery and solar power guru, and for being our eyes in the sky from Mount Jackson during all the wildfires.

Darryl KI6MSP gave kudos to Bill AA6BD for teaching the Raspberry Pi course.

Dan KK6VIQ relayed Tony Goodwin KN6KIC who gave kudos to Darryl KI6MSP and Brian N6IIY and Iola KK6HRE and John WB6FRZ to get him set up in Cazadero.

Approval of minutes: John WB6FRZ moved that minutes for the August Membership Meeting as published in Short Skip be approved, Iola KK6HRE seconded, and the motion carried by voice vote.

REPORTS

Treasurer report: Iola KK6HRE reported on club finances.

Growing Radio Amateurs: Bill AA6BD reported that he surveyed the class and they would like to see Winlink on the Raspberry Pi and then on Windows, using Signalink USB as the audio interface if the radio

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Minutes continued from page 9...

does not have one built in.

Education: John WB6FRZ reported that the code class is going well with 4 members and will conclude on September 28, and John would like to share education responsibility after the code class is done. Fred AE6SF reported that the September tech class is cancelled. Andru KJ6YFD is working with a budding radio club at SSU.

Field Day: Brian N6IIY noted that the awards were sent out and paperwork has been done.

VE testing: Brian N6IIY noted that the third drive up testing will be September 26 at an office park in Sebastopol on Palm Avenue. There are 10 signed up with a waiting list of 1. There is interest in remote exams due to less certain weather coming.

Merchandise: Dan KK6VIQ said there is a non-working link in Short Skip to Hall's for ordering shirts. He is working to mail badges.

Membership: Dan KK6VIQ reported that we have 251 members. We have 37 new members this year.

Radio loaner program: Bill AA6BD announced that he is now coordinating the program. The September Short Skip has a list of all equipment in the program. Please send all requests to aa6bd@arrl.net

DX Team: Cancelled for 2020

Short Skip: Dave KI6UGB did a lot of research for the lead article, and he needs more articles. JOTA may happen at least on the Internet.

Website: Dave KI8UGB is fixing what is breaking on the website as it happens.

Program:

Zooming in on Wildfire – Dan KK6VIQ – presented Zoom and how to use it and get support. He presented alertwildfire.org which shows cameras from many points around CA, NV, OR, and more.

Next month: **Calling from MARS** – Dennis N6KL

OLD BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS - none

Iola KK6HRE moved that the meeting be adjourned. Howard K6SID seconded the motion and it carried on voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:49 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Bill Dornbush AA6BD

Hearty Congratulations to the year 2020 Code Class Graduates

By John, WB6FRZ

17 weeks of consistent practice has paid off for the following club members whose efforts have resulted in a beginning mastery of the 43 individual International Morse Code characters amateur radio operators use:

- Mark Aldridge, W6GOL
- Johnathan Brown, AK6VB
- Richard Downing, K6ZGN
- Jim Panttaja, KM6GUO

The course began on June 1st and concluded on September 28th – Yes FOUR months long!

Classes were held Monday evenings via teleconference with supporting on-air practice sessions over the club 2m repeater on Friday evenings.

Please join me in congratulating these tenacious amateurs in earning their place in the CW portions of the amateur radio bands.

What code speeds are they able to copy? I won't tell; you will have to ask them individually.

I will say that I heard comments from them like "5 words per minute sounds painfully slow."

SCRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
Date: September 9, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Fred Seitel AE6SF at 6:00 pm. A quorum was present.

Board members present: Fred Seitel AE6SF, Johnathan Brown AK6VB, Iola Beckley KK6HRE, Bill Dornbush AA6BD, Howard Sidorsky K6SID, Warren Pierce K6WRP, John Felton KE5RI

Absent: none

Others: Brian Torr N6IIY, Dan Drummond KK6VIQ, Andrew Raike KK6HID, Dave Kraybill KI6UGB, Darryl Paule KI6MSP, Mike Von der Porten AD6YB
Approval of previous meeting minutes: John KE5RI moved approval of the minutes of the prior board meeting as published in Short Skip, Howard K6SID seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by voice vote.

OFFICER AND DIRECTOR REPORTS

Treasurer report: Iola KK6HRE reported about the club finances.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Social – Iola KK6HRE – no report

Activities – Iola KK6HRE – no report

Community Outreach – Darryl KI6MSP – no report

Growing Radio Amateurs – Bill AA6BD reported that the next session on Winlink is next week and about 12 people have been participating.

Education & Mentoring – Fred AE6SF said there has been no movement, which can possibly change with John WB6FRZ getting involved after his Morse Code class ends. Fred asked that those who can mentor, please volunteer and we will add them to the web page. Iola KK6HRE, Darryl KI6MSP, and John KE5RI commented they are mentoring.

Emergency Service – Pat KG6JSL was not present

Field Day – Brian N6IIY said he may be doing something for winter field day.

Volunteer Examiners – Brian N6IIY – We have a drive up session Sept 26th and all 10 candidate slots are filled for the technician exam, and people are coming from as far away as Long Beach. There are 3 on the waiting list. He is working on fully remote sessions by participating in some other remote sessions. Participants are well prepared and they use both computer camera and cellphone camera. John KE5RI commented about the FCC proposal to increase license fee and asked about impact on license applications. Brian responded that if you took all three exams, you would pay $65 per exam, and acknowledged it is a good question. Fred AE6SF noted that comments are being accepted online by the FCC even though the official window is not yet open. John KE5RI suggested we send a letter as a club to comment. Fred AE6SF suggested we could leave it to the members. Brian and Fred will draft a letter for the club.

Membership –Dan KK6VIQ – We have 251 members, and of them, 37 are new so far this year. It was suggested ways we could increase our membership. Bill AA6BD noted that there is a new roster available and Fred AE6SF asked Iola KK6HRE to send it out. Howard K6SID suggested he could work with Dan to increase members and attract former members. Dan will provide information to Howard who will work on outreach.

Merchandise – Dan KK6VIQ – He is working to distribute badges.

Newsletter – Dave KI6UGB – He still needs a contest columnist and always more articles.

Website – Dave KI6UGB – He is still maintaining the website. He noted that for JOTA, the local BSA council won't be promoting a gathering.

Programs – Howard K6SID – "Calling from MARS" is the program for October with Dennis Vernacchia N6KI.
Continued on page 12...

BoD Minutes continued from page 12...

Public Service – No events are scheduled for the remainder of this year.

Radio Loaner program – Bill AA6BD noted that he has received current loan information from Joe K6AWA. He has received one loan request and one return.

Refreshments – Fred AE6SF said to bring your own.

Repeater – Erin K6ERI – not present

Member of the Year – Fred AE6SF noted that he has formed a committee and nominations are open. The committee will bring a recommendation to the board in October and the board will approve in executive session.

LBG&AC Re-entry planning – nothing to report
Pandemic exit planning – nothing to report

OLD BUSINESS

a. Zoom account – was created by Fred AA6SF. Committee members are welcome to use the account.

b. NVIS event – cancelled – Fred AE6SF said it was due to not enough participation. Brian N6IIY wants to contact those interested in the event to see if there is local interest.

c. LBA&GC contract – Iola KK6HRE – Fred AE6SF noted we can request a postponement of an event with 60 days notice. Iola will contact them about what could happen. Mike AD6YB will join on the call.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Nominating Committee – Fred AE6SF – Dan KK6VIQ has agreed to head up the committee. Johnathan AK6YB and Iola KK6HRE will join the committee.

b. Mike AD6YB noted there is a new version, 12, of Roberts Rules of Order (RROO) which includes a way to use online polling. Fred AE6SF moved that the club purchase 2 copies of RROO, and Iola KK6HRE seconded the motion. Fred suggested that the copies be maintained by the VP and secretary. The motion approved by voice vote.

c. Johnathan AK6VB noted that Howard K6SID should be listed as a director on the website.
Iola KK6HRE moved that we adjourn, Johnathan AK6VB seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by voice vote at 7:18 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bill Dornbush AA6BD

YAESU SYSTEM FUSION WEEKLY NET

A number of YOU have expressed interest in attending a Yaesu System Fusion Digital Voice Net. As a result, every THURSDAY night at 7:00pm Pacific Time, Bill AA6BD will coordinate a Fusion Digital Voice Net on the W6SON repeater at 441.375 MHz on the SONOMACOUNTY (#62732) Room. If you have any device that can access Fusion / WIRES-X / C4FM, why not come join us on this interesting and really high quality voice mode! This will give you an opportunity to try out your rig, ask questions, and exchange ideas. And join in for the Question of the Week. We'll see you there!

For more information on Fusion, have a look at the "Presentation on Fusion from 7-1-2020" at http://sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/wp/irlp/yaesu-system-fusion-wires-x/

For those who do not have a Yaesu System Fusion / C4FM radio, the club equipment loaner program has several units. Contact Bill AA6BD about availability at AA6BD@ARRL.net

For questions on the Fusion Net, contact Bill AA6BD at AA6BD@ARRL.net.

SCRA Equipment Loaner Program

SCRA has a variety of radios and other equipment available to members to try out and improve their skills.

- Trying these out is an excellent way to learn and test before you buy.
- Did you just learn Morse Code and want to check out a different keyer or key?
- Have you been thinking about digital voice?
- If you have a radio malfunction, borrow a radio to keep you on the air until you can get your radio repaired.
- Borrow something like an antenna tuner, that you wouldn't normally buy but could benefit from a short term loan.
- After reviewing equipment capabilities online, contact Bill AA6BD at aa6bd@arrl.net with your request. Bill will send an information form to you by return email.

Please consider borrowing something from the Loaner Program to explore something you haven't tried yet. We can usually provide a loaner for at least a month.

We have the following items available in our program. Check with Bill AA6BD at AA6BD@arrl.net to find out what is available now.

- Elecraft KX3
- Yaesu FT-991
- Kenwood TS-590SG
- Kenwood TS-440S
- Kenwood TS-430S
- MFJ 40M CW transceiver
- Yaesu FT-2900R
- Yaesu FT-60R
- Yaesu FT-1DR
- Yaesu FT-2DR
- Anytone AT D868UV
- Astron RS 35 M power supply
- Straight and paddle keys and keyers
- Tigertronics Signalink USB interface
- Yaesu SCU-17 USB interface
- MFJ 269C antenna analyzer
- MFJ antenna tuner 80-10 meter bands
- MFJ-1622 Window mount antenna
- Several wire antennas

--Bill AA6BD

CASTLE ROCK REPEATER SITE BURNED DOWN

The Glass Fire destroyed the Castle Rock repeater site, taking with it the Club's radio equipment and the personal residence of our site host, Bob K6QXY. Our 2M repeater (147.315 + 88.5) no longer has "ears" at Castle Rock, so hams in Oakmont and Kenwood may find 2M more difficult since they need to reach English Hill. The Yaesu System Fusion repeater and the voter link radio are no more. We offer our condolences on property loss to Bob K6QXY. The opening photo in this album shows the destroyed communications building: https://fredee.com/crfire . The "before" photo is here: https://fredee.com/photo/cr2017.jpg . – Fred AE6SF

The 2020 SCRA Board of Directors Election

Wednesday, November 4th

Become a Candidate for Officer

President ✧ Vice President

Secretary ✧ Treasurer

or either of the two

✧ Directors ✧

Please consider serving the club in this rewarding capacity.

Ooh, ooh, I have a Question!
From the NEW 2019 -2023 General Class Question Pool:

G7A06 (D)
What portion of the AC cycle is converted to DC by a full-wave rectifier?
A. 90 degrees
B. 180 degrees
C. 270 degrees
D. 360 degrees

And What About This?

From the NEW Extra Class Question Pool:

E2E05 (A)
Which of these digital modes does not support keyboard-to-keyboard operation?
A. PACTOR
B. RTTY
C. PSK31
D. MFSK

New Amateur Extra Question Pool Released
01/27/2020 (http://arrl.org)

The new Amateur Extra-class license examination question pool, effective from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2024, has been released and is available at the National Conference of Volunteer Coordinators (NCVEC) website.

The 2020 – 2024 Extra-class pool incorporates significant changes compared to the 2016 – 2020 question pool, which expired on June 30. The number of questions in the pool was reduced from 712 to 622. The result was 239 modified questions, 49 new questions, and 139 questions removed due to changes in what was felt to be an abundance of outdated questions, while areas of new technology and subjects were added.

In addition, an effort was made to balance the difficulty level, removing or replacing some questions deemed too easy or too difficult compared to the rest of the pool. The 2020 pool has 10 diagrams, which have been renumbered because the new question pool has two fewer than the 2016 question pool.

Mentors

Having a problem with your equipment? Can't get the SWR down or your radio won't tune up? Notice some smoke escaping from you transceiver? You may need some help but where to go for this help? You could come to the club meetings and talk to people to see if they can help. You're bound to find someone to help you.

Help can also be found at the SCRA web site (sonomacountyradioamateurs.com). Just log in and click on the Member Area and then click on Mentors. Here you will find a list of hams that are willing to help out so you can your problem solved and get back on the air.

SCRA Education Chair

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.
PO Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402
(Please print & fill out the form and mail it in with your check payable to SCRA.)
(Please check all ✓ that apply)

Date: _____ New Member: ◯ Renewal: ◯
1) Name: _____ Call Sign: _____ License Class: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____
Email: _____ Show contact info in Roster: ◯
ARRL Member: ◯

SCRA Dues: The renewal date for SCRA dues is January 1st. Dues are $20/year for individual, $30/year for families, and $15/year for youth (under 18).

*** Prorated Dues for <u>New Members Only</u>:** Reduced dues after the 1st quarter.
2nd Quarter April–June: $5.00 off — 3rd Quarter July–September: $10.00 off
4th Quarter October–December: Pay the yearly dues for next year and get the rest of this year free.

Family Membership Members:

2) Name: _____ Call Sign: _____ License Class: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____
Email: _____ Show contact info in Roster: ◯
ARRL Member: ◯

3) Name: _____ Call Sign: _____ License Class: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____
Email: _____ Show contact info in Roster: ◯
ARRL Member: ◯

4) Name: _____ Call Sign: _____ License Class: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____
Email: _____ Show contact info in Roster: ◯
ARRL Member: ◯

I would like more information about:

◯ a) Public Service Events
◯ b) Field Day (4th Saturday in June)
◯ c) Contesting & DXing
◯ d) Emergency Services
◯ e) SCRA Net Control
◯ f) SCRA Loaner Radio Program
◯ f) Training Classes
◯ g) VE License Exams
◯ h) Field Trips
◯ i) Short Skip Newsletter
◯ j) SCRA Committees
◯ k) Other _____

SCRA Dues: Individual $20, Family $30, Youth (under 18) $15 (*see Pro-Rated Dues above) $ _____
Name Badge: $10 each Please circle clasp type, either Clip or Magnet. $ _____

1) Call Sign: _____ First Name: _____ City: _____ Clip or Magnet
2) Call Sign: _____ First Name: _____ City: _____ Clip or Magnet
3) Call Sign: _____ First Name: _____ City: _____ Clip or Magnet
4) Call Sign: _____ First Name: _____ City: _____ Clip or Magnet

SCRA Logo Patch: $5 each $ _____
SCRA Logo Decal: $2 each $ _____

Please make check payable to SCRA. Total Amount Due: $ _____

Version: 3/28/2019

HAM RADIO OUTLET

MULTI-STORE BUYING POWER!

ICOM

IC-9700
All Mode Tri-Band Transceiver

IC-7300
HF Transceiver

IC-7100
All Mode Transceiver

ID-5100A Deluxe
VHF/UHF Dual Band Digital Transceiver

IC-705
HF/50/144/430 MHz All Mode Transceiver

KENWOOD

TS-590SG
HF/50MHz Transceiver

TM-D710G
2M/440 Dualband

TM-V71A
2M/440 DualBand

TM-281A
2 Mtr Mobile

TH-D74A
2M/220/440 HT

YAESU
The radio

FT-991A
HF/VHF/UHF Transceiver

FT-891
HF+50 MHz All Mode Transceiver

FTM-300DR
C4FM/FM 144/430 MHz Dual Band

FTM-400XD
2M/440 Mobile

FT-70DR
C4FM/FM 144/430 Xcvr

5 Ways to Shop!

- RETAIL LOCATIONS – Store hours 10:00AM - 5:30PM - Closed Sunday
- PHONE – Toll-free phone hours 9:30AM - 5:30PM
- FAX – All store locations
- ONLINE – WWW.HAMRADIO.COM
- MAIL – All store locations

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PLANO, TX (877) 455-8750
OAKLAND, CA (877) 892-1745
SAN DIEGO, CA (877) 520-9623
PORTLAND, OR (800) 765-4267
DENVER, CO (800) 444-9476
PHOENIX, AZ (800) 559-7388
ATLANTA, GA (800) 444-7927
MILWAUKEE, WI (800) 558-0411
NEW CASTLE, DE (800) 644-4476
WOODBRIDGE, VA (800) 444-4799
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WWW.HAMRADIO.COM

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SHORT SKIP ARCHIVES AVAILABLE

Mike, AD6YB, has set up archives for past and present issues of Short Skip. They are available on the Website under the tab, Our Club. Mike has scanned in the old paper issues and it is really interesting to browse through them to see what those guys were doing. There are historical photos as well. An important record of our history and ham radio in general. Good Stuff.

(Click Me)

DIDN'T FIND WHAT YOU NEEDED?

If you are looking for something more on a topic or your topic of interest hasn't been covered lately, let us know. Something you'd like to see in Short Skip?

Contact the editor, shortskipeditor@gmail.com or for general questions and /or suggestions, k6son@arrl.net

SHORT SKIP NEEDS YOUR INPUT

SHORT SKIP ARTICLES WANTED

Dave, KI6UGB, our Short Skip editor is always looking for articles of interest. They can be technical, a good (or bad) experience that other members may learn from, hints or kinks that worked for you in solving a problem, or just about anything ham radio related. Send your contributions to Dave at shortskipeditor@gmail.com