

CLUB STATION  
K6SON

# Short Skip

The Newsletter of

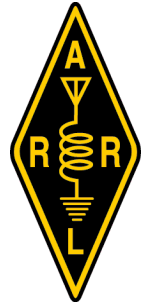
Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.

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

<http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com>

Repeaters:

English Hill: 147.315+ 88.5 / 224.480- 88.5 /  
441.375+ 88.5



REPEATER STATION  
W6SON

Volume 42, Number 6

June 2017

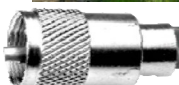
## SoNoMas - The Mother of all Singletrack



"Once again this year the SCRA club provided radio support for the SoNoMas mountain bike race at Lake Sonoma. The difficulty of the race, rugged terrain, and lack of cell phone coverage over much of the course makes the Club radio support critical for awareness of what is happening on the course and enhances rider safety. Our volunteers did a fantastic job, and enjoyed a beautiful day at the Lake. One of the rest stops even saw the appearance of some very supportive and encouraging prehistoric race fans. We hope you will consider joining us as a volunteer next year on this great event! --Matt KJ6LJI".



*Continued on page 5...*





**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE MAY 2017**

***Sonoma County  
Radio Amateurs  
Club members visited  
the Maritime Radio  
Historical Society's two  
locations***

Twelve members of the Sonoma County Radio Amateurs Club visited the Maritime Radio Historical Society's two locations ~ Bolinas and Inverness, California, on Saturday, May 27, 2017. The KPH receive site is open for visitors every Saturday 1200 to 1700 local time. Visitors are welcome! The receive site is located at [17400 Sir Francis Drake Blvd](#) in the Point Reyes National Seashore, just past G Ranch on the way to the lighthouse. Whisper "True Believer" when you visit for access to our Treasure Room!

The MRHS has returned the iconic KPH call sign to the air from its ancestral home at Bolinas/Point Reyes. KPH is on the air every Saturday from 1000 to 1600 Pacific time (Zulu times changes with daylight/standard time).

**MRHS Offers Radiotelegraph Exams!**

The Maritime Radio Historical Society is now authorized to administer the examination for the commercial radiotelegraph license. Yes, the FCC still issues this ticket!

Sonoma County Radio Amateur Club has a newly radiotelegraph licensed operator in John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ. Congratulations, John!

According to their website, they describe themselves as: "Let's be honest... We're a bunch of radio squirrels. And very lucky radio squirrels at that. We inherited the last remaining Morse code coast station in North America. It was off the air but it was an intact time capsule.

"We made the restoration of KPH to operational status our life's work. That was back in 1999 - the year the last commercial Morse code message in the U.S. was supposedly sent.

"Through the trust and vision of the Point Reyes National

Seashore we were given permission to begin our project of restoration, documentation and operation. And we've never looked back.

"As True Believers in the importance of our maritime radio heritage we have tried to research and document every aspect of the field. Our area of specialization is the coast stations, ships and companies of the west coast of the United States. But anything to do with maritime radio anywhere in the world is of interest to us.

"Dedicated MRHS volunteers are busy with the preservation, restoration and repair of the historic artifacts with which we have been entrusted. That work is the foundation on which the real goal of our project rests. That goal is to assure that the culture, techniques and traditions of the men and women who came before us are not forgotten. We feel that the best way to achieve that goal is through actual on the air operations."

*[Continued on page 14...](#)*

Have a great summer and 73.  
Iola kk6hre  
President

**JUNE PROGRAM**

FIELD DAY

Brian Torr, N6IIY

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**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>

## 2017 Club Officers

President	<a href="#">Iola Beckley</a>	KK6HRE
Vice President	<a href="#">Joe Fortuna</a>	K6AWA
Secretary	<a href="#">Kathy Wells</a>	KK6KGW
Treasurer	<a href="#">Aaron Marroquin</a>	KK6ZDB
Director	<a href="#">John Felton</a>	KE5RI
	<a href="#">Laura Tighe</a>	AG6PE
Past President	<a href="#">Patrick Coyle</a>	KG6JSL

## Committee Lineup/Contacts

Activities	Laura Tighe, AG6PE	laurati@hotmail.com
Programs	John Felton, KE5RI	jrfke5ri@aol.com
Community Outreach	Darryl Paule, KI6MSP	ki6msp@arrl.net
DX/Contesting	Doug Payne, KF6LMB	dougpayne1@earthlink.net
Education	Dave Harrison, W6IBC	w6ibc@arrl.net
Emergency Services Liason	Pat Coyle, KG6JSL	coylaw@sonic.net
Field Day	Brian Torr, N6IY	n6iyy@arrl.net
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Roster Editor	Bill Dornbush, KM6BYD	bill@dornbush.net
Volunteer Examiners	Brian Torr, N6IY	n6iyy@arrl.net
Weekly Email Blog	Pat Coyle KG6JSL	coylaw@sonic.net

## Short Skip & Web Staff

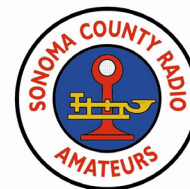
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SCRA Web site	<a href="http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com">http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com</a>

## Short Skip Advertising Rates

Business Cards	\$12 per month
1st Quarter Column	\$13 per month
Each Additional Quarter Column	\$4 per month
Full page (one side)	\$35 per month
Pre-printed inserts (each)	\$35 per month

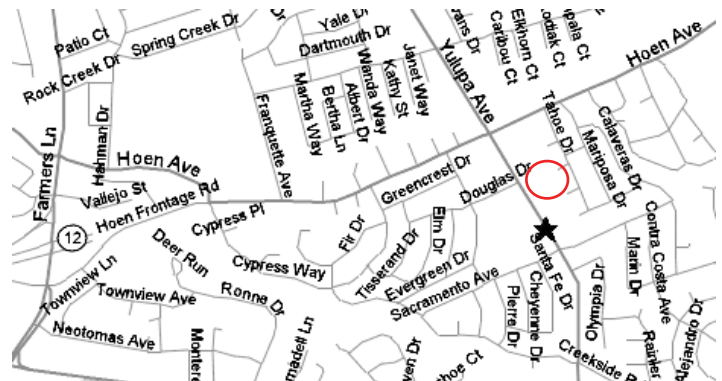
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## SCRA Club Meetings

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 may be 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 IHOP restaurant, 4th and Farmers Lane, Santa Rosa. People start showing up at 5:15 PM. No RSVP is required.

## Board of Directors Meeting

The SCRA Board of Directors will meet monthly on the Second Wednesday at the IHOP Restaurant, Fourth Street, Santa Rosa (in the Safeway/CVS Pharmacy center). All members are welcome to attend, no reservations necessary. Arrive around 5:15- 5:30pm for dinner. Meeting starts at 6:00pm.

## LOANER RADIOS AVAILABLE

The Club has a variety of radios available to members to try out and improve their skills. We have a Kenwood T590 SG HF radio; Yeasu FT 2900 2 meter mobile; Yeasu FT1D, an analog/digital 2 meter and 440mhz HT; Yeasu FT 60, a 2 meter and 440 mhz HT; and a TYT TH-F5 VHF 2 meter HT. Trying these out is an excellent way to learn some radio and test before you buy. Contact Joe, K6AWA, at [k6awa@yahoo.com](mailto:k6awa@yahoo.com) with your request. Joe will forward an information form to you by return email.

## UPGRADE TO GENERAL OR AMATEUR EXTRA CLASS

Get more privileges and enjoyment from your Ham Radio Hobby. [Mentoring assistance](#) is available. Contact Dave W6IBC, SCRA Education Chair, at 707-838-8155 or [w6ibc@arrrl.net](mailto:w6ibc@arrrl.net).

### 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 News-line, the amateur radio community news service.

Anyone wishing to work as net control should contact lola kk6hre, at [K6SON@ARRL.NET](mailto:K6SON@ARRL.NET) for assignment. Script and logs are available on the Website at <http://sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/wp/resources/net-script/>



### 10 Meter Net

There will be a net on 10 meters hosted by Joe K6AWA at 8:30pm (new time) following the regular SCRA net Tuesday nights. Set your dial to 28,402.00 SSB, USB. Please note that all license classes (including technician) are welcome.

## Technician License Class

The next SCRA-sponsored Technician Licensing Class will be held on July 14-16, 2017 at the Graton Fire Protection District station on State Route 116 north of Sebastopol. Our classes have been very successful in training and licensing new hams. If you know of anyone who is interested in obtaining their Technician Class ham radio license, please have her/him contact Dave Harrison, W6IBC at [w6ibc@arrrl.com](mailto:w6ibc@arrrl.com).

73, Dave W6IBC  
SCRA Education/Mentoring Chair



### Weekly SBARA Youth Net New Day and Time!

- For young people 18 and under
- Licensed youth or youth with a licensed control operator are welcome to check-in
- Check-in via EchoLink, if you are outside of the area
- Adults can check-in towards the end of the Net to answer questions and mentor the youth.

Please join our new, 13-year-old net control operator, Truman Lindsey, KM6AQS, and help us grow this important Net for young hams!

- SBARA Youth Net
- Every Tuesday evening, 6:30pm (1830), PACIFIC
- N6NFI repeater, Palo Alto, CA (145.230 MHz, -600 kHz, PL 100 Hz.)
- EchoLink Station: KR6DD-R

Steve Wilson KG6HJU  
South Bay Amateur Radio Association  
Fremont, CA  
[kg6hju@arrrl.net](mailto:kg6hju@arrrl.net)

## Kids Net

Kids Net meets Thursdays at 7:30 pm on the Sonoma Mountain Repeater Society repeater at 146.910 MHz - PL 88.5 Petaluma.

Hosted by Ellen KJ6BHG and Joseph KJ6BHH for kids of all ages. It is focused on kids still in school, but all are welcome. They said to bring jokes to share.





# CW Net Time Change

...SoNoMas continued from page 1

## The CW net has moved their start time to 7:30 pm Fridays

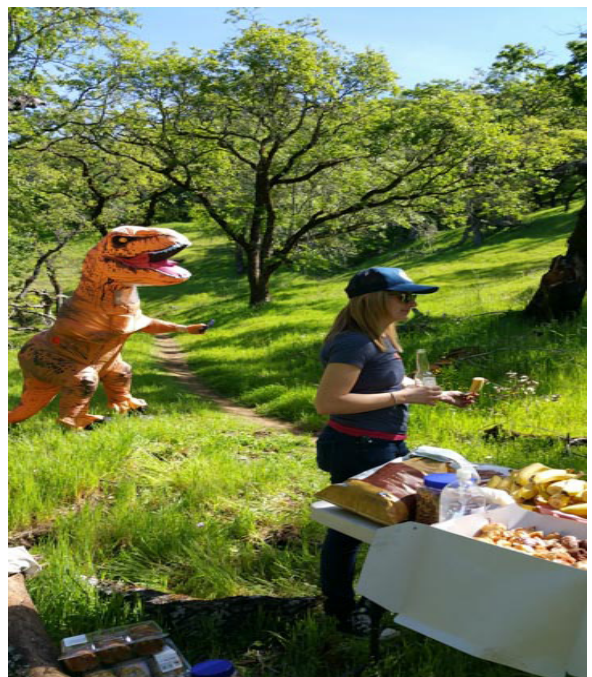
The net will operate with a Net Control and a simple operating structure. Briefly, after opening the net and taking check-ins, Net Control will announce and send a short message to another participant via CW audio tones. After sending, a voice break will take place to assess the message content and then the receiving party will send a CW tone reply. Voice discussions will be alternated after sending to allow for discussion and feedback.


Those interested can also stick around after the formal net and rag chew to their hearts content. Oh what radio fun.

Anyone interested in the net or wanting more information can contact Duane Reese, N6DMR at email address [N6DMR@dmreese.com](mailto:N6DMR@dmreese.com) or call at 717-271-2055, check that area code it is a Pennsylvania 717 number and not the local area code.

There is a written Net Control Script available and a brief description of the operating process that can be forwarded for review.

Duane  
N6DMR



**I**   
**MORSE**  
**CODE**



"I repeat: Charlie, Golf, X-ray, Yankee, Zulu, Romeo, Juliet, Whiskey, Kilo..."





## The SCRA Book Lending Library ~ Don't Buy it, Borrow it!

The list is growing. Thank to members who have donated their excess reading material. The list as of this month:

Antenna Physics: An Introduction, Robert J. Zavrel, Jr. W7SXj

Adventures in DXing, Nifty E-Z Guide to, Jeffrey A. Cantor, K1ZN

Eliminating Electronic Noise,

EXTRA MANUAL

EXTRA Q&A, Upgrade to Extra Class

The ARRL GENERAL MANUAL

GENERAL Q&A, Upgrade to a General Class

The ARRL Handbook for Radio Communication

The ARRL 2010 edition Handbook for Radio Communication

The ARRL 2016 edition Operating Manual for radio amateurs

The ARRL x2 Propagation and Radio Science, Eric R. Nichols, KL7AJ

The ARRL RFI Book, 3rd Edition

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs ARRL Technician Video Course Companion Notes and Study Course

Work the World With JT65 and JT9, Digital Communication via Amateur Radio, Steve Ford, WB8IMY

Small Antennas for Small Spaces; Project and Advice for Limited-Space Stations

Basic Antennas; Understanding Practical Antennas and Designs, Joel RI Hallas, W1ZR

The Library is available at all SCRA General Meetings, the first Wednesday of each month. Contact Iola KK6HRE,

## Next Exam Session: Saturday, June 10, 9:00 am

Our next exam session is scheduled for Saturday, June 10, from 9:00 am until noon. The location will be the Bennett Valley Hall, 4145 Grange Road, Santa Rosa. Walk-ins will be accepted and all test elements will be administered.

([http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/ve\\_testing.html](http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/ve_testing.html)) .

Please arrive by 8:45am to be signed in. Testing will begin shortly thereafter.

Directions: From Hwy 101, take Highway 12 East to Farmers Lane. Turn right onto Farmers Lane and then left onto Bennett Valley Road. Stay on Bennett Valley Road approximately 4.1 miles and turn right onto Grange Road. Bennett Valley Hall is 0.5 miles from Bennett Valley Road on the right

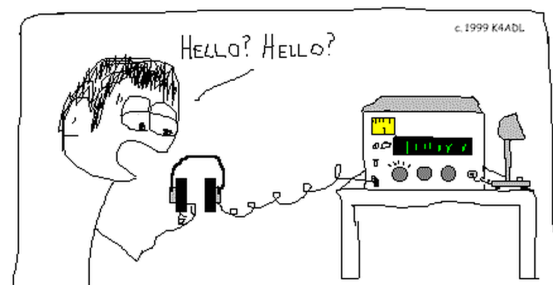
Candidates should bring the following:

- One (1) photo ID or two (2) non-photo ID
- FCC Registration Number (FRN, if you have one) or Social Security Number (if you do not have an FRN) If you have had any FCC license assigned to you, amateur or otherwise, or had any prior business with the FCC, you probably have an FRN.
- Original and photocopy of your current amateur radio license (if licensed)
- Original and photocopy of any valid CSCEs (if applicable)
- #2 Pencil and eraser
- \$15.00 exam fee. Checks may be made payable to "ARRL-VEC"

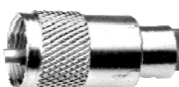
Calculators may be used, but it must be demonstrated that all memories and programs have been erased. The calculator function in a cell phone or PDA may not be used! If you have any special needs, please contact Brian Torr, N6IY in advance.

Good Luck!

Brian Torr, N6IY  
[n6iyy@arrl.net](mailto:n6iyy@arrl.net)  
(707) 575-5871



THE TRANSITION FROM SHORT-WAVE-LISTENER TO HAM OPERATOR WAS SOMEWHAT DIFFICULT FOR EDMUND.







## CONTEST CORNER by Kevin Alt, K6BSG

Hello testers. It's Field Day time again. Lots of other interesting contests this month. Check out the Cookie Crumble QRP Contest on June 11<sup>th</sup>. You need to request a cookie number via e-mail, and if you make contact with a "Cookie Monster" you get a huge multiplier. On the other hand if you contact a "burnt" cookie, you lose points. There is also a contest to work all Australian "shires" on the same weekend. Happy DX'ing!

1 Jun – **NRAU 10 Meter Activity Contest** – All modes, 10 meters. See: [www.nrau.net](http://www.nrau.net).

3 Jun – **Wake-Up! QRP Sprint** – CW, 40-20 meters. See: [grp.ru/contest/wakeup](http://grp.ru/contest/wakeup).

3-4 Jun – **PVRC Reunion** – CW/SSB, 160-10 meters. See: [pvrc.org/reunion/reunion.htm](http://pvrc.org/reunion/reunion.htm).

3-4 Jun – **10-10 Int. Open Season PSK Contest** – Digital, 10 meters. See: [www.ten-ten.org](http://www.ten-ten.org).

3-4 Jun – **DigiFest** – Digital, 80-10 meters. See: [www.mixw.net](http://www.mixw.net).

3-4 Jun – **SEANET Contest** – CW/SSB, 80-10 meters. See: [seanet2017.com/seanet-contest](http://seanet2017.com/seanet-contest).

3-4 Jun – **UKSMG Summer Contest** – All modes, 6 meters. See: [uksmg.org/contest.php](http://uksmg.org/contest.php).

3-4 Jun – **IARU Region I Field Day** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: [www.darc.de](http://www.darc.de).

3-4 Jun – **Dutch Kingdom Contest** – CW/SSB, 40-6 meters. See: [dkars.nl/index.php?page=rules](http://dkars.nl/index.php?page=rules).

3-4 Jun – **RSGB National Field Day** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: [www.rsgbcc.org/hf](http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf).

3-4 Jun – **Alabama QSO Party** – CW/SSB, 160-10 meters. See: [www.alabamagsoparty.org](http://www.alabamagsoparty.org).

5 Jun – **RSGB 80 Meter Club Championship** – Digital, 80 meters. See: [www.rsgbcc.org/hf](http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf).

7 Jun – **ARS Spartan Sprint** – CW, 80-10 meters. See: [www.arsqrp.blogspot.com](http://www.arsqrp.blogspot.com).

9 Jun – **HA3NS Sprint Memorial Contest** – CW, 80-40 meters. See: [radioamator.honlapetes.hu](http://radioamator.honlapetes.hu).

10 Jun – **Asia-Pacific Sprint** – SSB, 20-15 meters. See: [jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt](http://jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt).

10-11 Jun – **DRCG WW RTTY Contest** – RTTY, 80-10 meters. See: [www.drcg.de/drcgww](http://www.drcg.de/drcgww).

10-11 Jun – **VK Shires Contest** – CW/SSB, 80-10 meters. See: [www.wia.org.au](http://www.wia.org.au).

10-11 Jun – **Portugal Day Contest** – CW/SSB, 80-10 meters. See: [rep.pt/portugal\\_day\\_contest](http://rep.pt/portugal_day_contest).

10-11 Jun – **SKCC Weekend Sprintathon** – CW, 160-6 meters. See: [www.skccgroup.com](http://www.skccgroup.com).

10-11 Jun – **GACW WWSA CW DX Contest** – CW, 80-10 meters. See: [www.wwsatest.org/english](http://www.wwsatest.org/english).

10-11 Jun – **REF DDFM 6 Meter Contest** – CW/Phone. See: [concours.r-e-f.org](http://concours.r-e-f.org).

10-12 Jun – **ARRL June VHF Contest** – All modes, 6 meters and up. See: [www.arrl.org/june-vhf](http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf).

11 Jun – **Cookie Crumble QRP Contest** – All modes, all bands. See: [w3atb.com/cookie-crumble](http://w3atb.com/cookie-crumble).

12 Jun – **4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint** – CW/SSB, 160-10 meters. See: [www.4sqrp.com/SSB](http://www.4sqrp.com/SSB).

14 Jun – **NAQCC CW Sprint** – CW, 80-20 meters. See: [naqcc.info](http://naqcc.info).

14 Jun – **RSGB 80 Meter Club Championship** – CW, 80 meters. See: [www.rsgbcc.org/hf](http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf).

17 Jun – **AGCW VHF/UHF Contest** – CW, 2-0.7 meters. See: [www.agcw.org](http://www.agcw.org).

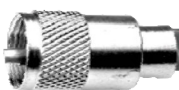
17 Jun – **Feld-Hell Sprint** – digital, 160-6 meters. See: [sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/](http://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/).

17-18 Jun – **All Asian DX Contest** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: [www.jarl.org/English](http://www.jarl.org/English).

17-18 Jun – **SMIRK Contest** – CW/Phone, 6 meters. See: [www.smirk.org](http://www.smirk.org).

17-18 Jun – **Ukrainian DX Classic RTTY Contest** – RTTY, 80-10 meters. See: [urdx.org/rtty](http://urdx.org/rtty).

*Continued on page 8...*



...Contest Corner continued from page 7

17-18 Jun – **ARR BPSK63 Contest** – Digital, 160-10 meters. See: [ct1arr.org](http://ct1arr.org).

17-18 Jun – **IARU Region 1 50 MHz Contest** – CW/Phone, 6 meters. See: [concours.r-e-f.org](http://concours.r-e-f.org).

17-18 Jun – **Stew Perry Topband Challenge** – CW, 160 meters. See: [www.kkn.net/stew](http://www.kkn.net/stew).

17-18 Jun – **West Virginia QSO Party** – All modes, 80-10 meters. See: [qsl.net/wvsarc/wvqp](http://qsl.net/wvsarc/wvqp).

18 Jun – **WAB 50 MHz Phone** – Phone, 6 meters. See: [wab.intermip.net/](http://wab.intermip.net/).

18 Jun – **Kids Day Contest** – SSB/FM, 80-2 meters. See: [www.arrl.org/kids-day](http://www.arrl.org/kids-day).

19 Jun – **Run for the Bacon QRP Contest** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: [qrptest.com/pigrun](http://qrptest.com/pigrun).

22 Jun- **NAQCC CW Sprint** – CW, 80-20 meters See: [naqcc.info](http://naqcc.info).

22 Jun – **RSGB 80 Meter Club Championship** – SSB, 80 meters. See: [www.rsgbcc.org/hf](http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf).

24 Jun- **UFT QRP Contest** – CW, 80-10 meters. See: [uft.net/reglement/eng.pdf](http://uft.net/reglement/eng.pdf).

24-25 Jun – **Battle of Carabobo International Contest** – CW/SSB, 40-10 meters. See: [radioclubvalenciaac.org.ve](http://radioclubvalenciaac.org.ve).

24-25 Jun – **His Majesty King of Spain** – SSB, 160-10 meters. See: [concursos.ure.es/en/](http://concursos.ure.es/en/).

24-25 Jun – **Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest** – Digital, 80-10 meters. See: [www.izmail-dx.com](http://www.izmail-dx.com).

24-25 Jun – **ARRL Field Day** – All modes, all bands. See: [www.arrl.org/field-day](http://www.arrl.org/field-day).

28 Jun – **SKCC Sprint** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: [www.skccgroup.com](http://www.skccgroup.com).

For additional contest calendars and resources check:  
[WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)  
[ARRL Contests Page](#)

## 2017 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Check the [Club website](#) for details

Sat Jun 10 - VE Testing

Sat/Sun Jun 10/11 - Hot Air Balloon Classic

Sat Jun 17 - [Terrible Two](#)

Sun Jun 18 - [ARRL Kids Day](#)

F/S/S Jun 23-25 [FIELD DAY](#)

F/S/S Jul 14-16 - [Technician Licensing Class](#)

Sat Jul 29 - [IRONMAN Full Triathlon](#)

Sun Aug 13 - [Tour D'Organics](#)

F/S/S Aug 18-20 DXing Campout/North Am QSO Party

Sat Aug 26 - VE Testing

F/S/S Sep 1-3 - SOCO Homage Day (?)

Sat/Sun Sept [23-24](#) - Waves to Wine

Sat Sep 30 - [Levi's Gran Fondo](#) & [Info Booth](#)

Sat Oct 14 - VE Testing

Oct 16-20? School Roundup

Sat Oct 21 - Jamboree on the Air (JOTA)

Sat Oct 28 - [North Bay Science Discovery Day](#)

F/S/S Nov 17-19 - Technician Licensing Class

Sat Dec 2 - VE Testing

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## Not planning on coming to Field Day?

You can still participate and help us out.

One of the bonus point tasks is to send or receive formal messages.

From the 2017 Field Day Rules:

7.3.6. Message Handling: 10 points for each formal message originated, relayed or received and delivered during the Field Day period, up to a maximum of 100 points (ten messages). Copies of each message must be included with the Field Day report. The message to the ARRL SM or SEC under Rule 7.3.5. does not count towards the total of 10 for this bonus. Available to all Classes. All messages claimed for bonus points must leave or enter the Field Day operation via amateur radio RF.

This year we will be using the VHF station to send and receive messages via Winlink. I am looking for 15 members to help out with this endeavor.

The caveat is that you cannot operate at the Youth Park at any of the radio stations. So if you can't make it down to the Park, this is your opportunity to still help out.

*Continued on page 9...*





*...Not coming to Field Day continued from page 8*

We are still working out the details. If you have the capability of utilizing the full Winlink system great (Radio +TNC), if you just have email capabilities we can work with that as well.

If you are willing to help out, please respond back to me at [KZ6T@arrl.net](mailto:KZ6T@arrl.net) copy to [KZ6T@winlink.org](mailto:KZ6T@winlink.org).

In a nutshell, Winlink is a way to send and receive email via RF. It works on VHF or HF. At the heart of the system are RMS (Radio Message Station) stations which receive RF requests from radio operators and connect them into the internet. SCRA is one of those RMS stations operating as W6SON-10 on 144.910 Mhz. Try it out sometime.

For more information on Winlink, visit this website: [www.winlink.org](http://www.winlink.org)

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## It's Beginning To Feel More Like Field Day Weather!!

After a winter and early spring that has brought an end to several years of drought, things are starting to warm up. And that means that Field Day can't be far away..

In fact, it's just less than two months away.

The big event begins at around 5pm on Friday, June 23 and ending around 3pm on Sunday, June 25. The location will be the same as last year, Youth Community Park (aka Skateboard Park) at 1725 Fulton Rd, in Santa Rosa, across the road from Piner High School.

We've had two planning sessions so far and I'd like to thank all of those that participated. Lots of good ideas shared and some changes are being made from last year. For example:

- Station locations will be moved around to better facilitate the distribution of 12V power from the solar array. This should also help to consolidate some of the coax runs.
- We will have a dedicated Digital station. Martin, KJ6BQM will be the station captain
- We are planning improved signage for Fulton Rd and the entrance to the park.
- Station captains have been assigned
- As many logging computers as possible will be networked.

### Station Captains

Our Station Captains this year are as follows:

- SSB – Dennis Colthurst, KI6REO
- CW – Frank Oddy, NQ6E
- Digital – Martin Kilgore, KJ6BQM
- Get-On-The-Air (GOTA) – Jeff Tonelli, KI6PBF
- VHF/UHF/Satellite – Charlie Sikes, KZ6T

Please contact the appropriate station captains if you would like to reserve an operating spot.

### Wanted: Dipole Antenna Erection Team Leader

The one position we have not yet staffed is the Dipole Antenna Erection Team leader. We would like to see a relatively new ham take this one on. It's a skill that every ham should learn to do. If this sounds like something you'd like to try, please let me know.

### Educational Activity

The Educational Activity will take place at 2pm on Saturday, June 24 The activity will be learning the basics of using a multimeter. The multimeter is a tool all hams should own and know how to use

So, I want to hear from YOU if one or more of the following apply:

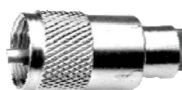
- You would like to volunteer for Field Day. Even if it's only for an hour or two, every little bit helps.
- You have suggestions, any suggestions, regarding Field Day.
- You are curious to know more about Field Day
- You have equipment or ideas that could be put to use on Field Day

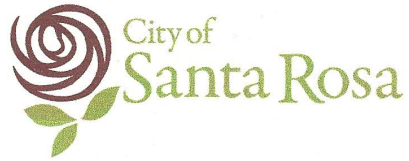
### TH-6 Antenna Assembly and Erection Practice Session

On Saturday, June 10, at 9am, we will meet at Doug Payne, KF6LMB's QTH to practice assembling the TH-6 tri-band beam, mounting it onto the crank-up mast, and raising it to full height. Anyone intending to volunteer to participate in setup on Friday June 23 is strongly encouraged to come to this session. Knowing how to execute this part of the setup goes quickly and efficiently is key to ensuring that the rest of Field Day setup goes smoothly as well.

Let's make Field Day 2017 even better than last year!

Brian Torr, N6IY  
Tel: (707) 575-5871  
[n6iyy@arrl.net](mailto:n6iyy@arrl.net)





## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the State of California is home to more than 104,716 Amateur Radio operators who repeatedly demonstrate their immense value to the citizens of this state by providing emergency communications during natural disasters and other non-weather related calamities; and

**WHEREAS**, these Amateur Radio Operators generously operate privately owned communications resources for the welfare and common good of California's citizenry; and

**WHEREAS**, these Radio operators diligently monitor amateur radio frequencies in preparation for any emergency on a state and world-wide basis; and

**WHEREAS**, these Amateur Radio operators always practice and refine their communication skills especially during the American Radio Relay League's (ARRL) annual Field Day exercises; and

**WHEREAS**, the annual Amateur Radio Field Day event is June 24-25, 2017.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that, I, Chris Coursey, Mayor of the City of Santa Rosa, on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby proclaim June 19-25, 2017, as

### AMATEUR RADIO WEEK



Mayor Chris Coursey  
June 16, 2017



## SONOMA COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS CLUB

## Membership Meeting Minutes

May 3, 2017

The May 2017 regular Membership meeting of SCRA was called to order by President Iola Beckley KK6HRE at 7:00 PM.

A quorum of 50 members were present. After introduction of officers and directors, two guests who just completed the Club's Technician class were introduced: Jesse, KM6AGY and Neil Wheeler. ANNOUNCEMENTS, NEW CALLS, UPGRADES, LIES AND BRAGS - Duane, N6DMR made an announcement for the Friday CW Practice Net from 6 - 8 pm. Looking for mentors who know CW to help with the Net. Contact Duane to be scheduled for a Friday CW Practice Net.

Aaron's, KK6ZDB father passed the test for his Technician license. Karen, KK6GJW, upgraded her license to General and her new call sign is K6KSM.

## Net Control Assignments for:

May 9 = Joe, K6AWA  
 16 = Dennis, KI6REO  
 23 = Andrew, KE6HID  
 30 = Iola, KK6HRE  
 June 6 = Duane, N6DMR

This month's program, ARISS Contact with Brook Haven School students, was presented by Tim Bosma, W6MU .

His presentation was very informative. The ARISS Contact was filmed and the video was shown. The students practiced asking their question because they only had 11 minutes to ask 19 questions. To view the real time location of the space station, go on the internet at [www.N2YO.com](http://www.N2YO.com).

After a ten-minute break, President Iola KK6HRE began the business meeting.

The Refreshment Committee Co-Chair's name is corrected as Carrie Breckinridge.

Personal Equipment for Sale – Radio Equipment for sale (Andrew KE6HID)

APRS Show and Tell – Byonics Micro-Trak RTG 10W Transmitter for the car

The minutes of the April 2017 membership meeting were discussed. The minutes were approved on motion by John KE5R1, seconded by Marcus, KG6GHW. Motion passed.

Treasurer Aaron KK6ZDB reported income of \$150 and expenditures for shirts of \$1,248.

Field Day Committee Chair Brian N6IYY has leaders identified. Looking for setup, tear down, and especially operators for Field Day. Signup sheets are available. The location of Field Day is at Youth Community Park, 1725 Fulton Road, Santa Rosa CA. Setup will begin at 5pm on Friday June 23, 2017. Final setup will be completed by 11am, Saturday June 24, 2017. Field Day Operating is from 11am Saturday to 11am Sunday. Tear down will begin at 11am Sunday. The education component will cover "How To Use A Multimeter" and is scheduled for 2pm Saturday June 24, 2017. Dinner is cooked by "Chef" Pat, KG6JSL on Saturday afternoon and will be available for pre-pay purchase. A practice crank up antenna setup exercise is scheduled for June 10, 2017 at Doug, KF6LMB home.

President Iola, KK6HRE discussed the club trip to the Maritime Museum on May 27, 2017. We will see the Transmitter Station in Bolinas first, followed by the Receiving Station. 12 members have signed up and there is room for more people.

Community Outreach Chair Darryl KI6MSP is looking for two more HAM bike riders with APRS capability for the Human Race. He also thanked everyone who made the Brook Haven School ARISS Contact successful.

President Iola KK6HRE reported that membership is now up to 140 members.

DX Team Doug KF6LMB reminded the club about Ocean Cove DX Expedition Camping Trip from Aug 18-20, 2017. Same time as the North American QSO Party. You will get experience in contesting. The cost is \$26 per night or \$7 for daytime access.

Emergency Services Chair Pat, KG6JSL reported that the Advance Messaging Class went well. The class could be repeated in the future.

Merchandising Chair Dan KK6VIQ thanked everyone for buying the new shirts.

Radio Loaner Program Chair Joe K6AWA as a top of the line HF radio to loan out.

*Continued on page 12...*

...Minutes continued from page 11

Additionally, the Radio Loaner program now has two Antenna Analyzers to loan.

VE Testing Chair Brian N6IYY reported the next open testing session will be June 10, 2017 from 9am to 12pm. The cost is \$15 and will be held at the Grange Building.

Unfinished Business:

Martin, KJ6BQM, has made up a basic code plug that can be plugged into a person's MD380. Martin will prepare a 20-30 minute presentation about DMR. Darven and Joe are working on a revamped Net Control script. They will present the script at the next Board of Directors meeting.

New Business:

Meeting format went over very well.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Wells, K6KDW

Secretary



The new Mobile Shack ready for field day...complete with all the extras!

Take a look at my new 2 meter beam...I shore are proud of it!

--<http://www.hamuniverse.com/humor.html>

## Minutes SCRA Board of Directors Meeting

May 10, 2017

The May 2017 Board of Directors regular meeting was called to order by Vice President Joe K6AWA at 6:02 pm at the IHOP restaurant, 2745 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Santa Rosa, CA. SCRA Board members present included Vice President Joe K6AWA, Director John KE5RI, Director Laura AG6PE and Past President Pat KG6JSL. A quorum of Officers and Directors were present. Other SCRA members in attendance included John WB6FRZ, Mike AD6YB, Steve KK6VMZ, Brian N6IYY, Charlie KZ6T, Darryl KI6MSP, Dan KK6VIQ, Dave W6IBC, Cornell W6HMN and Martin KJ6BQM.

Minutes of the April 2017 Board Meeting were approved on motion by Pat KG6JSL and seconded by John KE5RI.

### Committee Reports and Business:

Activities Chair Laura AG6PE mentions that there are 12 people signed up for the trip to KPH and that there is still room for some more.

Emergency Services/Liaison chair Pat mentioned that Mendocino County will be having Emcom practice on May 11, 2017 and will be having hams doing all the traffic handling. They will be using the ARRL message form format. They will also have a digital setup.

Field Day Committee Chair Brian N6IYY reported that he has received the permit for use of Youth Community Park. Things are going well. He is trying to get help from Dave for public service sign ups. There will be a planning meeting at Youth Community Park (skate board park) on the 20<sup>th</sup> of May.

Community Outreach Chair Darryl KI6MSP reported that the Human Race went well. Several people interested in getting a ham license stopped by the booth. The Monte Rio Vineman Triathlon is on June 4<sup>th</sup> and there are still some open spots.

Merchandise Committee Chair Dan KK6VIQ reported that shirt sales are going well. He would like to have auto forward set up on Pay Pal to make it easier to fill orders. He had a chance to order ball caps cheap.

*Continued on page 13...*



*...BoD Minutes continued from page 12*

Dan would like to know if people are interested in getting caps.

Program chair John KE5RI said that he would like to have an outline of the digital program before it is given. Some discussion of the digital presentation followed.

Education Committee chair Dave W6IBC reported that the next Technician Class will be held July 14-16, 2017. There are 6 people signed up at the moment and would like a few more. It was mentioned that there will be several opportunities to sign people up before the class.

Refreshment Chair John WB6FRZ. It was mentioned that the refreshments have been great.

Repeater. John KE5RI would like to see uhf/vhf repeaters linked because the uhf repeater is not used much. There was discussion about what would happen if the repeaters are linked and someone was using IRLP. Does fusion convert from digital to analog and visa versa?

Radio Loan-out Program manager Joe K6AWA said that we have loaner radios available. Joe would like Martin to practice using the Kenwood TS90B with PSK-31 before field day to make sure everything works for field day.

#### **Unfinished Business.**

A proclamation was issued by the City of Santa Rosa that proclaimed Ham Radio week is set for June 10-25<sup>th</sup>, to culminate with Field Day. Another proclamation from the County Supervisors will be present on June 6<sup>th</sup>.

CW practice net meets on Fridays at 6pm and lasts for about an hour depending on how people feel. They are trying to stay flexible.

It was mentioned that the DMR committee has been terminated.

Joe K6AWA passed out net script changes he would like to see used. He would like to put traffic ahead of

roll call. Have all traffic together instead of having separate traffic for officers and regular members. Email Joe if you have any suggestions or comments. Want to have a list of members who check in on the net regularly on the web site so it is easily available to net control if he wants to use it.

Darryl KI6MSP would like the ARES video on the web site and have it as a mast head. He would like to see the mast head change like ARRLs. Pat thinks it should have its own space. Dave mentioned Iola should have some say how the mast head works.

Darryl encourages the board to be a more active sponsor of the STEM program. Dave W6IBC said that ham radio is not just about STEM but has other activities such as contests, etc. John KE5RI thinks the board should not micro manage the stem program.

#### **New Business.**

Dave W6IBC mentioned that he was asked to serve as chair of Ham of the Year Award. He says that the president is the chair of this committee according to the bylaws. Ham of the year is in the hands of the board and they need to decide how this committee is set up. Joe feels we need to be careful about choosing people for member of the year. The board needs to pass a resolution to start the process for ham of the year award. This is to be put under unfinished business for next month.

Martin KJ6BQM gave a demo on using DMR and D-star. He said the DMR radio works with analog or digital. The radio he used is the TYT MD380. He showed how to make contacts in different parts of the world. He contacted a ham on the East coast.

He said a lot can be done with D-star and connector with a reflector in England. Heard English hams talking but did not make contact. A ham must register to use D-star.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cornell Chesnik W6HMN

## Sonoma County Radio Amateurs Club members visited the Maritime Radio Historical Society's two locations

*Continued from page 2*

### Members Comment on their experience visiting the MRHS:

“Morse code used to be the key to communicating with ships at sea and it was BIG business.

It was an enjoyable day to see a different side of the radio hobby. Darv KK6OVH”

1.) How a volunteer organization can have a huge impact on the safe keeping of history. The only operational commercial radio site in the US, this is an accomplishment of large magnitude. The passion for radio history is amazing.

2.) The complexity of commercial wireless messaging and the investment it took to develop and operate a world wide messaging center. The fact that it was a major revenue source for RCA where the company could profit while maintaining the equipment and processes.

Duane  
N6DMR

1. The volunteers that drive to and from Bolinas every Saturday to spend the day working at the station, putting it on the air, and hosting visitors embody the essence of the word dedication. They're fantastic.

2. The station is holding on by a shoestring. Trees, insects, and time have seriously damaged antennas and antenna supports. They need monetary support.

3. Thank you MRHS for keeping the history of KPH alive for all to discover.

John  
WB6FRZ



Photo Op in front of the Receive Station in Point Reyes.

Front Row - Left to Right: John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ; Phil Kenny, K6AXY; Darryl Paule, KI6MSP; Kathy Wells, K6KDW; Iola Beckley, KK6HRE and Duane Reese, N6DMR

Back Row - Left to Right: Ned Scott, KI6REQ; Matt Moller, AK6RF; Arlen Thienes, KK6UIS; Darv DeShazer, KK6OVH; John Barkdoll, W6JEB.



*Continued on page 15...*

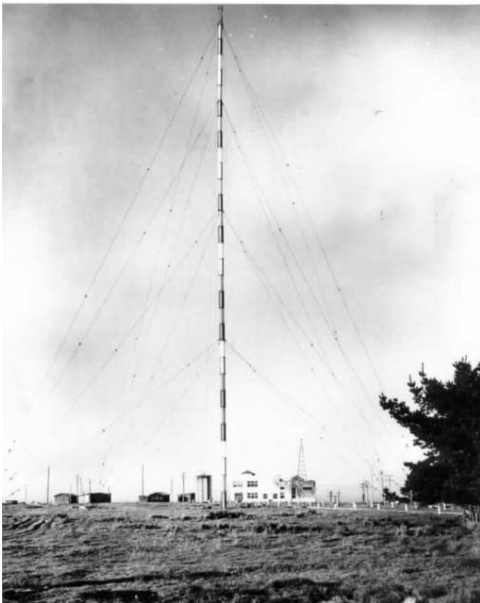




...SCRA Visits Maritime Historical Society cont. from page 14



Iola kk6hre and Matt ak6rf, inspects a teletype machine similar to a machine Iola operated in the middle '60's.



Marconi mast

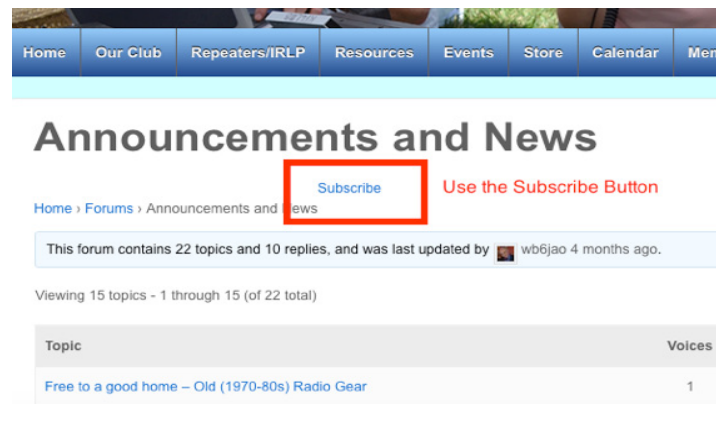
This photo gives a better view of one of the Marconi masts. Eleven of these supported the multiple tuned Alexanderson antenna. The bases of these masts and their guy anchors still exist.

### SCRA Website Forum

So how many of you know that the SCRA website has a forum page? Its there for all members to use. There is a Section for Activities, Announcements and News, Public Service, and Technical Issues. To visit the site,

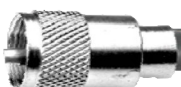
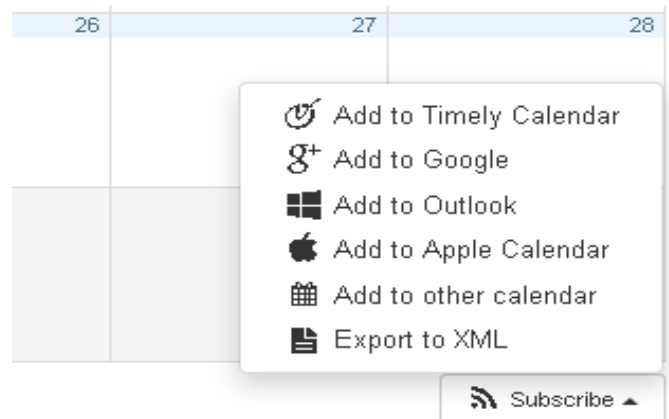
- Navigate to the SCRA website,
- Log in as a member
- Click on Member Area, then [Forums](#)

While you are on the individual Forum pages, make sure to click on SUBSCRIBE. This will send you an email when a new question gets posted. Don't worry about your inbox getting flooded with junk emails. Only valid members can post to the site.



### How to Subscribe to the SCRA Calendar

Subscribe to the SCRA calendar and automatically import event dates into your electronic calendar(s). Go to the calendar page on the SCRA website and click the Subscribe button in the corner. Select the type of calendar you want to subscribe to. You will be taken to your sign-in page to finish adding the subscription.





**Enforcement of Section 23123.5 of the California Vehicle Code  
Hands Free Law**

-----Original Message-----

From: Comm-Net Message [<mailto:noreply@chp.ca.gov>]  
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 8:23 AM  
To: @CHP  
Subject: Comm-Net: Enforcement of Section 23123.5 of the California Vehicle Code

Enforcement of Section 23123.5 of the California Vehicle Code

To: All Commands  
Reference: Action Required  
Subject: Enforcement of Section 23123.5 of the California Vehicle Code

Effective January 1, 2017, Section 23123.5 of the California Vehicle Code (CVC) was amended by Assembly Bill 1785, which substantially expanded the scope of Section 23123.5 CVC, from simply prohibiting the use of a wireless phone to text while driving, to prohibiting holding and operating a handheld wireless telephone or an electronic wireless communications device while driving.

However, a driver may still use a handheld wireless telephone or an electronic wireless communication device while driving when:

The handheld wireless communication device is mounted to a windshield (in compliance with Section 26708[b] CVC), dashboard, or center console in a manner which does not interfere with the drivers view of the road, and;

The drivers hand is used to activate or deactivate a feature with a single tap or swipe of the drivers finger.

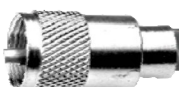
Pursuant to Section 23123.5(f) CVC, the definition of an electronic wireless communications device includes, but is not limited to: a broadband personal communication device, a specialized mobile radio device, a handheld device or laptop computer with mobile data access, a pager, or a two-way messaging device.

Section 23123.5 CVC does not apply to manufacturer-installed systems which are embedded in the vehicle, nor does it apply to an emergency services professional using a wireless telephone while operating an authorized Emergency vehicle, in the course and scope of employment.

For the purposes of Section 23123.5(f) CVC, a radio installed and mounted in a vehicle with a wired hand microphone (e.g., business band or citizen band [CB]radio) is not considered a wireless communication device, nor is it considered a specialized mobile radio device, and therefore is not subject to enforcement under this section.

This information will be added to an upcoming revision to Highway Patrol Manual 100.68, Traffic Enforcement Policy Manual, Chapter 5, Other Enforcement Issues.

CHP Headquarters/Office of the Commissioner/061/18227







**Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.**  
**PO Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402**  
(Please print this, fill it out, and send it in with your check.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign \_\_\_\_\_ License Class \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ New Application \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail (if any) \_\_\_\_\_ Add to Roster (Yes)\_\_\_ (No) \_\_\_

Please Send Short Skip & Roster to my E-mail address ( )YES! ( ) No thanks

**FAMILY MEMBERS, CALL SIGNS & EMAIL ADDRESSES:**

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign \_\_\_\_\_ License Class \_\_\_\_\_ Add to Roster (Yes)\_\_\_ (No) \_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Short Skip & Roster to my E-mail address ( )YES! ( ) NO
2. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign \_\_\_\_\_ License Class \_\_\_\_\_ Add to Roster (Yes)\_\_\_ (No) \_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Short Skip & Roster to my E-mail address ( )YES! ( ) NO
3. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign \_\_\_\_\_ License Class \_\_\_\_\_ Add to Roster (Yes)\_\_\_ (No) \_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Short Skip & Roster to my E-mail address ( )YES! ( ) NO
4. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign \_\_\_\_\_ License Class \_\_\_\_\_ Add to Roster (Yes)\_\_\_ (No) \_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Short Skip & Roster to my E-mail address ( )YES! ( ) NO

**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).

**PRO-RATED DUES** for new members only: Reduce standard dues rate by \$5.00 per quarter. (ie. Second Quarter, April – June \$15.00; Third Quarter – July – September \$10.00; Fourth Quarter, October – December \$5.00 to end of December of current year or \$25.00 through December of the following year)

**I WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT:**

- ( ) Public Service Events
- ( ) ARES Emergency Services
- ( ) Taking a Novice or Technician class
- ( ) Teaching a Novice or Technician class
- ( ) Taking an upgrade class
- ( ) Teaching an upgrade class
- ( ) Acting as club Net Control Station
- ( ) Helping with VEC license exams
- ( ) Field day, other operating
- ( ) Helping with *Short Skip* Newsletter
- ( ) Other \_\_\_\_\_

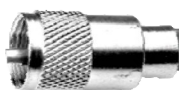
**SCRA DUES:** Individual \$20, Family \$30, Youth, under 18, \$15 + \_\_\_\_\_  
**Name Badge** (complete info below) \$10 each Circle: Magnet or Clip attachment + \_\_\_\_\_

**Name Badge Information** Fill in exactly as you want it to appear on your badge.  
Callsign \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
Callsign \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
Callsign \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

**SCRA Patch** \$5/ea + \_\_\_\_\_  
**SCRA T-Shirt** \$11.50/ea Size: s m l xl xxl + \_\_\_\_\_

**Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

(Please make checks payable to **SCRA**. Send to SCRA, Box 116, Santa Rosa, 95402)





# HAM RADIO OUTLET

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VHF/UHF Dual Band Digital Transceiver



**ID-51A Plus**  
VHF/UHF Dual Band 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



**FTDX1200**  
100W HF + 6M Transceiver



**FT-450D**  
A100W HF + 6M Transceiver



**FTM-400XD**  
2M/440 Mobile



**FT-60R**  
2M/440 5W HT



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

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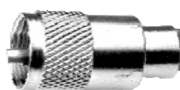
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\*Except 60M Band. \*\*Frequency coverage may vary. Refer to owner's manual for exact specs. \*\*Optional UX-9100 required. QST March 2017. The Icom logo is a registered trademark of Icom Inc. Toll-free including Hawaii, Alaska and Canada. Call will be routed to the nearest store. All HRO 800-lines can assist you. If the first line you call is busy, you may call another. AZ, CA, CO, GA, TX, VA, WI residents add sales tax. Prices, specifications and descriptions subject to change without notice.







## SHORT SKIP ARCHIVES AVAILABLE

Mike, AD6YB, has set up archives for past and present issues of Short Skip. They are available on the Website, log into Members Area, Short Skip, click on the first sentence. 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](mailto:shortskipeditor@gmail.com) or for general questions and /or suggestions, [k6son@arrl.net](mailto:k6son@arrl.net)

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## 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](mailto:shortskipeditor@gmail.com)

