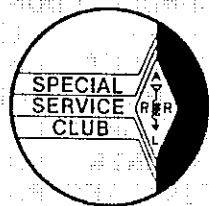


SHORT SKIP

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.



SEPT 1985

Club Station

W6LFJ

P.O. Box 116

Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Repeater Station

WB6PVS

VOL 10 NR 9

WORKED ANY LONG-HAUL DX LATELY?

(SEE NEXT MEETING'S PROGRAM PAGE #5)



---SONOMA COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS, INC--- WE NEED ASSISTANT TECH COORDINATORS

-----1985 OFFICERS-----

PRESIDENT: Chuck Sabin N6DDK 795-2371 (With incentives for volunteering)
 VICE PRES: Bob Olsten WD6DPE 546-5593
 SECRETARY: Brian Torr N6IYY 865-2234
 TREASURER: Rudy Mappus N6KLU 664-1978
 ACTIVITIES: Bob Phillips KB6EOC 542-5209
 REPEATERS: Jim Boyett WB6UBA 544-7943
 MBR-AT-LRG: Geo. Shedore KS6W 526-3233

SHORT SKIP: Alan Bloom N1AL e:538-7115
 1578 LosAlamos Rd SR 95405 d:577-3981
 SWAP SHOP: Hank Davis W6DTV 823-7885
 RACES LIAS: Jim Boyett WB6UBA 544-7943
 ARRL LIAS: Alan Bloom N1AL 838-4524
 ASST. DIR: Chuck Sabin N6DDK 795-2371
 PUB. RLATN: Kathi Boyett WB6UAZ 544-7943

-----ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE-----

CHAIRMAN: Bob Phillips KB6EOC 542-5209
 REFRESHMENTS AT MEETINGS: Bob WD6DPE
 GREETER AT MTGS: May Kobold N6GZV
 RAFFLE: Lyman WB6SMY, N6GZV, Terry WA6RNF
 QSL MANAGER: Doug Bender WA0JRB
 FIELD DAY: Gene Johnson W2EBO
 VOL EXAMS: W6DTV WA6ACX K6ANP N6BLN
 WB6FRZ KF6FX WA0JRB WA8LLY WB6UBA

EDUCATN: KS6W WB6UBA W6DTV WA6ACX AG6C
 PROGRAM CHAIRMAN: --OPEN--

HIDDEN XMTR HUNTS: Don Osborne WA6ACX
 XMAS PRY: N6GZV, WB6UAZ
 WALKATHONS: N6KLU, N6KUS, N6GZU, N6GZV
 FLEA MARKET: N1AL 538-7115

-----REPEATER COMMITTEE-----

CHAIRMAN: Jim Boyett WB6UBA 544-7943
 Alan Bloom N1AL Terry Laduke WA6RNF
 Bob Olsten WD6DPE Brian Kotzian KE6WL
 Hoppy Bravin WD6CKF (Westlink b'cast)

CLUB MEETINGS

7:30 PM 1st Wed of every month at the
 Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

NEXT CLUB MEETING: Sept 4, 1985

PROGRAM: ARRL Film / Hams in Space

Meetings are open to all, member or
 not. Need not be licensed to join.
 Full voting membership for licensed
 Amateurs only. Dues: \$12.00 per year
 plus a one-time \$8.00 initiation fee.

S <-- Highway 101

--> N

Co.!

Court! EOC!

House!

Ventura Ave

Bicentennial
 Way

Mendocino Ave.

RADIO SHACK

Store Nr. 3855

Zane Bates, Manager

510 Farmers Lane
 Santa Rosa, CA 95405

Telephone
 546-8423

THIRD ANNUAL -- SCRA FLEA MARKET

ARRL-VEC FCC EXAMS

Saturday, Sept 21, 1985

8 AM - 2 PM

(Vendor setup 7 AM)

SEBASTOPOL COMMUNITY CENTER
390 MORRIS ST., SEBASTOPOL CA
TALK-IN FREQ: 146.73

GOOD NEWS: Both the parking lot and street are paved this year -- All-Terrain Vehicles no longer required! The Center has a new hardwood floor and looks very nice.

VENDORS! This promises to be our biggest and best swapfest ever! Although we have room for about 55 spaces indoors, we are likely to run out, so if you don't want to end up in the parking lot, reserve your table early: \$5.00 in advance (\$6.00 at the door.)

EVENTS:

- Auction (around noon)
- VEC Exams
- Radio clinic (Test out your HT!)
- CW Contest
- Old-time radio exhibit
- Packet Radio demo
- ARRL display and Ham Radio video.
- Meet our Pacific Div. Director and San Francisco Section Manager.

DIRECTIONS:

Take Hiway 101 to Santa Rosa and turn west onto Hiway 12. Sebastopol is about 10 miles. Watch for the Community Center and Flea Market signs. (You turn right on Morris St just as you cross the Sebastopol city line.)

Flea Market Chairman:
Al Bloom N1AL
1578 Los Alamos Rd
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
(Eves) 707-538-7115

Saturday, Sept. 21, 1985

SEBASTOPOL COMMUNITY CENTER
390 MORRIS ST., SEBASTOPOL, CA

Plan to arrive 15 minutes early:

TIMES:	Code	Written
8:00-9:30	20 WPM	4B (EXTRA)
9:40-11:10	13 WPM	3 (GENERAL)
11:30-2:30	WRITTEN TESTS ONLY	

Applications MAILED IN ADVANCE of test day will have a reserved seat. Send a completed FCC 610 form, photcopy of license if any, and a check for \$4.00 made out to "ARRL/VEC".

WALK-IN applicants will be accomodated on a space-available basis (25 seats total available).

A VE table will be located near the entrance with 610 forms. Be sure to BRING YOUR ORIGINAL LICENSE and code credit certificate if any. If not pre-registered, bring check-book & photocopy of your license. HANDICAPPED: bring a physician's statement stating the nature of your disability if special test procedures are required, and call W6DTV to make arrangements.

WE ALSO NEED ID: Calif driver's license or other photographic ID or two of the following: non-photo ID, birth certificate, postmarked envelope mailed to you, minor work permit, school report card, passport.

Other items to bring: #2 lead pencil(s), ink pen, calculator (programmable is OK.)

As your turn comes for the test you will be called on the PA system. This year tests will be conducted in the Flea Market building.

Send applications to:

Hank Davis W6DTV
7822 Washington Ave.
Sebastopol, CA 95472
707-823-7885

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF SCRA AUGUST 7, 1985

The August meeting of the Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. was called to order by our President, Chuck N6DDK, at 7:40 PM. The following three visitors were introduced: Raymond Heil KF6RS, Ed Goei KA5LGC, John Rose (studying for Novice). There have been no upgrades or new calls since the last meeting.

PROGRAM: The program consisted of a slide show by Chod Harris VP2ML on his DXpedition to Christmas Island (highest elevation = 5 feet AMSL). He was there as part of an Earthwatch expedition. Some of the local hams there have some very impressive antenna arrays. Chod fielded questions from the audience after.

BUSINESS: The business part of the meeting began at 8:27 PM.

MINUTES: It was moved and seconded that the minutes be approved as printed in the August issue of Short Skip. It was voted on by the club and passed.

BILLS & COMMUNICATIONS: The Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club is having their annual Flea Market on Sunday, August 11 in Sonoma.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The following Treasurer's Report was given by Rudy N6KLU:

	General Fund	Repeater Fund
Beginning Balance	1552.05	1867.49
Receipts	109.21	132.51
Payments	316.45	0.00
Ending Balance	1344.81	2000.00

The Repeater Fund has reached its maximum limit of \$2000.00.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Hank W6DTV has 3 or 4 people signed up to take the class that he and Don WA6ACX will be teaching at Hank's house in Sebastopol. George KS6W will start his Thursday night classes on September 5 at the EOC.

ACTIVITIES: The club picnic will be Saturday August 24 at Doyle Park in Santa Rosa, starting at 10:00 AM. Members are asked to bring the main meal and something else for potluck. The club will provide the coals and softdrinks.

May N6GZV has received a letter from the American Diabetes Assoc. requesting communications assistance at their September 29 Bikeathon. They will need about 3 people in cars to work at fixed locations and some pickups to move to various locations. Steve KD6GC will chair the event and May will be the assistant chairperson.

Bob KB6EOC requested suggestions for next month's meeting's program. No suggestions were made.

QSL COMMITTEE: Doug WA0JRB has received one QSL card as a result of our Field Day exercise.

BADGES: Hank W6DTV has badges for Howard KB6AAD and Dwayne N6YLR.

NEW BUSINESS: Elections will be held at the November meeting. A Nomination Committee need to be selected. Bob KB6EOC, Steve KD6GC, and George KS6W volunteered to be on the nominating committee.

Lyle N6BLN has resigned as our Board Member at Large. George KS6W has volunteered to fill out the term. Lyle made a motion that the vote to install George as Board Member at Large be made by acclamation. The motion was seconded and passed by the club. George was voted in unanimously by acclamation.

Doug WA0JRB reported that KCBS radio had a piece on a San Jose youth group that had a chance to talk to the Space Shuttle Discovery during its last mission.

The Attendance Raffle was won by Pat KF6AG. She took home \$35.80.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

-- Respectfully Submitted, Brian D. Torr N6IIY, Secretary, SCRA.

UPGRADING AND NOVICE CLASSES ARE ON THE UPSWING IN SONOMA COUNTY!

At present, Jim Boyett WB6UBA is conducting a Technician and higher class to help members with their Sept 21 FCC-VEC test period. Jim's classes cover the theory for the four grades of Amateur licenses.

Betty AG6C is working with the handicapped and has just completed and given the test for a Novice, Ken Rossi. Ken plans to upgrade in September and is now waiting for his call letters and license to arrive.

Don Osborne WA6ACX and Hank W6DTV have a Novice class going with five students. They have hopes of some new Novice cw folk soon.

George Shedore KS6W is opening his novice classes again this September at the County EOC. Anyone knowing of interested candidates, please let Geo know.

The FCC ARRL/VEC program is still going strong in Sonoma County with around 10 to 12 VE's available. Sonoma County Radio Amateurs were first in this area and plan to be strong in 1986.

-- W6DTV

GET YOUR NOMINATIONS to the Nominating Committee before the October meeting. Elections are in November.

The CLUB PICNIC at Doyle Park Aug 24 went off well -- lots of people showed up, the weather was nice, and fun was had by all. Thanks to Steve KD6GC and helpers for making the arrangements.

-- DXing ABOVE the Ionosphere --

The PROGRAM for the Sept 4th meeting will be a video tape of "AMATEUR RADIO'S NEWEST FRONTIER", distributed by ARRL. An interview with several of the hams responsible for the "Ham in Space" mission follows the main feature.

NEW MEMBERS SINCE AUGUST:

Ed Goel KA5LGC
2323 McBride # 68
Santa Rosa, CA 95401
579-1681

THE "ART" OF QSLing (Part III)

Well, it's been quite a lapse since Part II. Just to recap a bit, we have now obtained our very own QSL cards, and have obtained the necessary cards for the Worked All States award. Now we would like to get some confirmations from our brothers/sisters outside the continental U.S., that is, DX! First, fill out the card as we discussed in previous articles, but one point on the date. European countries use a different convention than the U.S. If you don't have the designations M, D, and Y on the card or something similar, and you need to write out the date, use this format: day, month, year. And put the month down as a Roman numeral. For example, 28-VIII-85. This will prevent mixing up the date and month. If your card is going to an English language country, spelling out the month is also OK.

QSLing DX stations can be achieved by three distinct methods: 1) Direct, 2) QSL Manager, and 3) via the bureau (or "buro" on CW). Let's expound on the "buro" method for this and the next article.

One of the privileges your ARRL membership provides you is access to the ARRL Outgoing QSL Service, also called the ARRL Bureau. This is the cheapest way to get your cards into the hands of that DX station you worked. Here's what you do:

- 1) Fill out your cards -- again use GMT/UTC time and date.
- 2) When your next issue of QST arrives, don't be too hasty in finding out what's new and make the mistake of throwing away the cellophane wrapper with your address label on it! Cut out your address label--it's your "ticket" for one month's worth of QSL's!
- 3) Sort your cards -- alphabetic/numeric. For example: A4, A9, C6, CE2, CE0, DL, F, JY, KQ4, LZ, PJ8, ZA, 1S, 3Y, 5X, etc.
- 4) Enclose \$1 (check or money order, no cash) for 1 to 155 cards. (155 cards is approx. 1 pound.) If you have more than 155 cards, send \$1 per pound.
- 5) Wrap a rubber band around your cards, check/MO, and address label, and place in a 5 x 7 1/2 inch envelope. (Most stationery stores have these.) Don't use a small business size envelope unless you have only a few cards.
- 6) Postage: I use a small scale, but remember that any partial ounce is rounded up to the next highest. Even if your envelope is 1.0001 ounces, you better put on 2 oz. of postage. Current rates are \$.22 for the first oz. and \$.17 for each additional oz.

The ARRL Outgoing QSL Service is a good deal. As a League member you should take advantage of it! Particularly after a contest when you've worked literally hundreds of stations! The Bureau sends QSL's to DX countries only, and not all countries are served by the ARRL Bureau (those that do not have a post office.) If you have any doubt about whether a country is served by the ARRL Bureau, check in the ARRL's latest country list, which includes a checklist for the 5 band DXCC. This list is also included in the ARRL Operating Manual, 2nd Edition p. 15-3. This book was used in preparing this article, and I highly recommend it for any active ham or "soon-to-be" active ham!

Next time: the Incoming Bureau. "You have to work 'em if you want QSL's" so see you On-The-Air!

....- 73 de Doug WA0JRB

N - E - W - S of Amateur Radio

NEW HAM BAND!! Effective 0001 UTC Sept 28 Technician and above may use 902-928 MHz using a wide range of emission modes. (PR Docket 84-960) Operation is on a secondary, non-interfering basis to radiolocation. Amateurs within 150 miles of White Sands test facility in NM are limited to 50 Watts. (ARRL)

420-430 AXED ABOVE "LINE A". To protect Canadian Fixed/Mobile, hams are now prohibited from this band segment above a line extending from Aberdeen WA, thru Duluth MN, and Bangor ME to Searsport ME. (ARRL)

ARRL MODIFIES NOVICE PROPOSAL. In reply comments filed Aug 12, ARRL agreed with comments filed by KA1KPH and others, and modified its proposal to preserve the 250 Watt limitation for all licensees on Novice bands below 28 MHz. Higher-class ticket holders would be permitted full power on all freqs 10 meters and above. The League also proposed requiring two examiners (as opposed to present one) for Novice exams to preserve license integrity in light of the increased desirability of the ticket. (ARRL)

CONTESTING ON 24 MHZ? According to ARRL GM Dave Sumner K1ZZ, the major reason for no ARRL contests on the 10 MHz band is our secondary allocation worldwide. It would not take many complaints for some foreign administrations to eliminate amateur access to the band. The interesting point is this does not apply to 24 MHz. Should we allow contests here? Let your director know. (DX Bulletin via Westlink)

"12-12 WORLDWIDE" is a new club for users of the 24 MHz band. Modeled after the long-established 10-10 organization, charter membership in the non-profit club is available until June 1986. QSO a club director or official membership stn. After June '86, you must work 12 members. Send \$4.00 dues and lifetime membership number request to 12-12 World-

wide, Steve Walz WA5UTD, Box 222, Cherokee OK 73728. 405-596-3487 (WR)

A 20 KHZ ALLOCATION PLAN FROM NARC, to be presented at the summer meeting supposedly finds a spot for every current repeater with even a few empty channels for future expansion. (Westlink)

SPACE SHUTTLE OPERATION A SUCCESS. After a two week delay and problems with premature engine shutdown, Space Shuttle Challenger roared into space July 29 carrying Amateur Radio. Astronaut Tony England WOORE reports: "I put the ham gear together on the end of flight day two. I didn't transmit until the end of day three because the antenna wasn't up in the window. The first we transmitted was a (slow-scan TV) scene from the cockpit." Nearly a hundred two-ways were completed. The flight included the world's first instance of an uplink picture being received in space.

"The most exciting contacts were the ones with the clubs... This is what I was after... There were several Boy Scout groups. The kids would get on and ask questions about space. It was a lot of fun to answer those questions!" (W5YI)

RECIPROCAL OPERATING WITH JAPAN begins Sept 8. It will allow the millions of "no code" Japanese operators on all bands above 30 MHz. With Japanese tourism at an all-time high, expect massive numbers of JA's on two meter FM. (Westlink)

G's ON SIX METERS? On June 28 Mr. Geoffrey Pattie, British Minister of State for Industry, proposed to the House of Commons that Amateur operation be permitted between 50 and 50.5 MHz now that VHF TV band I is being phased out. (Westlink)

A VHF/UHF OPENING TO HAWAII occurred July 12 with strong signals on 144 and 420 MHz. Club member WABLLY made QSO's on both bands mobile from the hills east of Santa Rosa.

RACES PLANE CRASH DRILLS PAID OFF in EVENTS CALENDAR:

Dallas after the L-1011 crash from which less than two dozen survived. Jim Badgett, Dallas Co. Director of Civil Defense reported the amateur work was very, very valuable. The State Police said they received a great deal of desperately needed info by monitoring the 28/88 RACES machine. One Airport official was heard to say "I guess our drills paid off." (W5YI)

WORK MUCH DX LATELY? The sun has reached a new low for this solar cycle, a 66 on August 17. (Westlink)

VE COORDINATORS MET WITH ECC Aug 9 in Gettysburg. 14 VEC's were represented. FCC's Ray Kowalski said that no new VEC's will be approved for the time being; FCC seems to be anticipating a reduction in # of VEC's. Regarding cheating, he agreed with ARRL's assessment that the volunteer system has proven to be much more secure than FCC Field Office testing had been. ARRL will introduce a new 3-part, no-carbon Certificate of Successful Completion. A majority voted that all VECs should use ARRL's multiple-choice question pools. (ARRL)

CALLSIGNS ISSUED (as of Aug. 1):
 GROUP A GROUP B GROUP C GROUP D
 (EXTRA) (ADV) (TEC/GEN) (NOVICE)
 WK6C KG6VV N6MKF KB6JPY

Thanks to the following for permission to reprint: The ARRL Letter, W5YI Report, Westlink Report and Worldradio News.

T - E - C - H N - E - W - S

TAPR INC2 WAS AVAILABLE AUGUST 19. 280 TNC's were available initially with another 300 planned for mid-September. Price including shipping/handling was \$200.85.

Why talk about it in the past tense? 650 orders were placed in the first two days that TAPR was accepting orders. At noon on the first day, they got a call from the

SEPTEMBER:

- Sep 2 - RACES Nets, 7PM/7:30 PM
- Sep 4 - Club meeting EOC 7:30 PM
- Sep 14/15- VHF QSO Party
- Sep 16 - RACES Nets, 7PM/7:30 PM
- Sep 21 - SCRA Flea Market
- VEC Exams: Sebastopol
- W6DTV Hank Davis 823-7885
- Sep 28 - VEC Exams: Marin County
- N6AQY Nels Lecklikner 415-897-8950

OCTOBER:

- Oct 4/6 - ARRL National Convention (Louisville, KY)
- Oct 5/6 - ARRL QSO Party, CW
- Oct 7 - Club meeting EOC 7:30 PM
- Oct 7 - RACES Nets, 7PM/7:30 PM
- Oct 12/13- ARRL QSO Party, Phone
- Oct 19 - VEC Exams: Monterey
- KA6VSE Keith Beard 408-649-876
- Oct 19/20- Simulated Emergency Test
- Oct 21 - RACES Nets, 7PM/7:30 PM
- Oct 26/27- CQ WW DX Contest, Phone

NOVEMBER:

- Nov 2 - VEC Exams: Pleasant Hills
- WD6G Guy Corynen 415-837-3080
- Nov 2/3 - Sweepstakes, CW
- Nov 4 - RACES Nets, 7PM/7:30 PM
- Nov 6 - Club meeting EOC 7:30 PM
- Nov 16/17- Sweepstakes, Phone
- Nov 18 - RACES Nets, 7PM/7:30 PM

DECEMBER:

- Dec 2 - RACES Nets, 7PM/7:30 PM
- Dec 7 - SCRA Christmas Party
- Dec 7/8 - 160 Meter Contest
- Dec 14/15- 10 Meter Contest
- Dec 16 - RACES Nets, 7PM/7:30 PM

/ Tucson phone company complaining the switching system in the area had completely shut down three different times! Davis Markham AFB in Tucson could not talk to the outside world! You could not even get a dial tone. The poor telephone company engineer couldn't figure out why this lone little telephone number was getting all this attention from callers all over the world (Japan, Australia, South Africa, etc.)

Thanks to Gateway magazine & W5YI Report for permission to reprint.

ARRL CABLE TVI QUESTIONNAIRE - CHANNEL E, 145.25 MHz

Date: _____ Serial No. _____ (for ARRL use)

Repeater location: _____

Area Served by Repeater: _____

Repeater Call Sign and Frequency: _____

Name of Person Reporting Interference: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name of Cable Company: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name & Title of Contact Person: _____

Area Served by Cable System: _____

Date Cable System was advised of observed interference: _____

General locations where interference prevented or limited use of repeater

Describe the interference: _____

Steps taken or contemplated by cable operator to comply with FCC Rules:

Please provide any additional remarks or information on the reverse side of this form:

Interim ARRL 902-928 MHz BAND PLAN:

HEATH SB301/401 Rcvr/Xmtr with
cables & books \$275. Plus:
COLLINS KWM2/516F Xcvr \$595
" 75S3/3293/516F Rx/Tx \$695
" 75S1 Gen-Covg. Rcvr \$200
" 312B4 Stn. Console \$125
Chuck N6OJ c/o Turner's Office
Supply, Petaluma.

DON'T FORGET TO BRING ALL YOUR
EXCESS GOODIES TO THE FLEA MARKET
IN SEPTEMBER!

IF YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH TO FILL A
TABLE, THE CLUB TABLE WILL SELL
YOUR TREASURES ON COMMISSION..

902-904	Narrow-band Weak Signal
902-902.8	SSTV FAX ACSB Experimentl
902.8-903	EME CW Expansion
903-903.05	EME
903.07-.08	CW Beacons
903.1	CW/SSB Calling Frequency
903.4-.6	Crossband Lin Xlator Inputs
903.6-.8	" " " " Outputs
903.8-904	Experimental Beacons
904-906	Digital Communications
906-907	FM simplex (every 25 kHz)
906.5	National Simplex Freq.
907-910	FM Repeater Inputs (119
	pairs every 25 kHz from 907.025)
910-916	Amateur Television
916-918	Digital Communications
918-919	Control Links/Remote Base
919-922	FM Repeater Outputs
922-928	Wide-band experimental,
	Simplex, ATV, Spread Spectrum.

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.
PO Box 116
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

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! Santa Rosa, CA
! Permit No. 658

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