

# SHORT SKIP

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.



APRIL 1987

Club Station

W6LFJ

P.O. Box 116

Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Repeater Station

WB6PVS

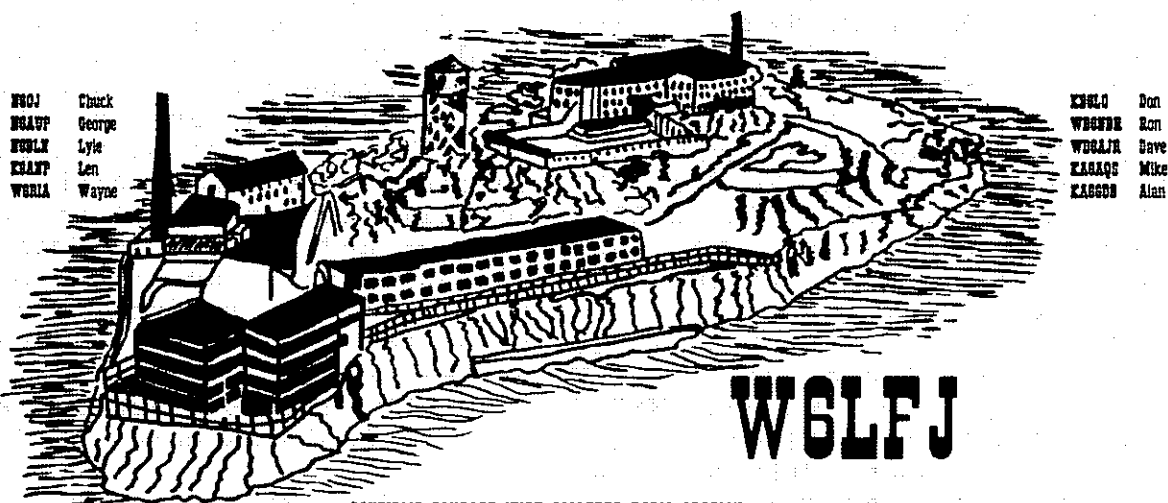
VOL 12 # 4

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs Inc.

## ALCATRAZ ISLAND

EXPEDITION

SAN FRANCISCO BAY



W6OJ Chuck  
W6AUF George  
W6ULX Lyle  
W6AUF Len  
W6RLA Wayne

K3HLO Don  
W6GNE Ron  
W6ALJ Dave  
K6AQS Mike  
K6GGS Alan

SSB CW  
10 \_\_\_\_\_  
15 \_\_\_\_\_  
20 \_\_\_\_\_  
40 \_\_\_\_\_  
80 \_\_\_\_\_  
2 Meters \_\_\_\_\_

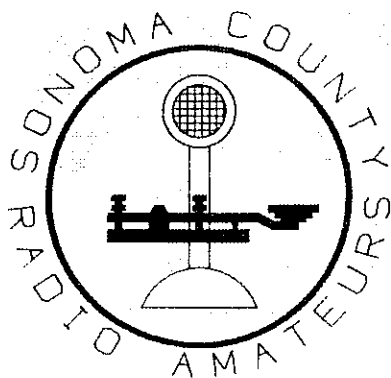
CONFIRMS CONTACT WITH AMATEUR RADIO STATION  
DURING THE ALCATRAZ ISLAND EXPEDITION CONDUCTED 2000 UTC Dec. 1 to  
2000 UTC Dec. 2, 1979.

Expedition INMATE

We gratefully acknowledge the cooperation of the GOLDEN GATE RECREATION AREA

ARE WE GOING TO HAVE ANOTHER MINI-DXPEDITION THIS YEAR?

PASS ON YOUR IDEAS TO LYLE WW6F (phone # on p2)



(\*=Acting)

## -----OFFICERS FOR 1987:-----

PRESIDENT:	Connie Freitas	N6FYV	584-6730
VICE PRESIDENT:	Russ O'Neill	N6KMJ	778-1758
SECRETARY:	Marie Mappus*	N6KUS	664-1978
TREASURER:	Alan Bloom*	N1AL	538-7115
MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:	Don Osborne	WA6ACX	829-0565
	Brian Torr	N6IIY	865-2234
REPEATER CHAIR:	Hoppy Bravin	WD6CKP	542-6750
ACTIVITIES CHAIR:	Lyle Meek	WW6F	523-1066

## -----SHORT SKIP STAFF:-----

EDITOR:	Alan Bloom	N1AL (e) 538-7115
	1578 Los Alamos Rd, Santa Rosa, CA 95405	(d) 577-3981
CIRCULATION MGR:	Tracy Reese	WB6TMY
SWAP SHOP:	Hank Davis	W6DTV 823-7885

RACES LIAS: Warren WB6RHP, Bob WD6DPE  
 ARRL LIAS: Alan Bloom N1AL 538-7115  
 ASST. DIR: Chuck Sabin N6DDK 795-2371  
 PUB. RL TNS: Hayes Hunter WB6KLU 795-5938  
 HISTORIAN: Carolyn O'Neill N6KLR 778-1758  
 BADGES : Hank Davis W6DTV 823-7885

## -----ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE-----

PUBLIC SVC: Rudy Mappus N6KLU 664-1978  
 REFRESHMENTS AT MEETINGS: Bob WD6DPE  
 GREETER AT MTGS: Marie Mappus N6KUS  
 RAFFLE: Rich KA6SSL Ken N6MHG Barry N6MHH  
 QSL MANAGER: Doug Bender WW6D  
 VEC EXAMS: Hank W6DTV 823-7885 WA6ACX  
 N1AL K6ANP AG6C WD6CKP WN6D WW6D WW6F  
 WB6FRZ KF6FX WA8LLY W6RIA WB6UDR WU6W  
 EDUCATION: WA8LLY  
 PROGRAM CHAIRMAN: Phil N6OOA 838-2912  
 AWARDS CHAIRMAN: Steve Lund WA8LLY  
 MBR-OF-YEAR CHAIR: Rudy Mappus N6KLU  
 FLEA MARKET CHAIR: Alan Bloom N1AL  
 FIELD DAY: Gene Johnson W2EBG 578-3104

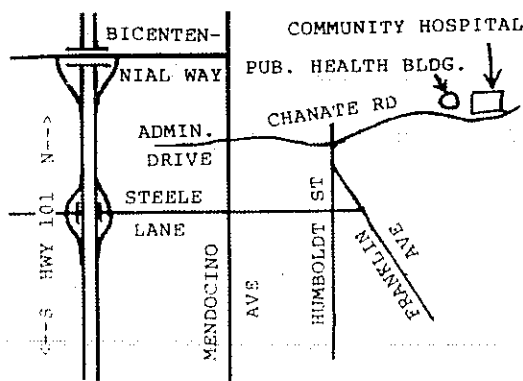
## -----REPEATER COMMITTEE-----

'73 Control Ops: WD6CKP 542-6750  
 W6DTV 823-7885 N6KMJ 778-1758  
 WB6PER 526-2972 WD6D/WB6UAZ 544-7943

## -----CLUB MEETINGS-----

7/7:30 PM first Wed each month at the  
 Public Health Bldg, 3313 Chanate Rd, SR  
 NEXT CLUB MEETING: April 1, 1987  
 PROGRAM: Homebrew Contest

Meetings open to all, member or not.  
 Dues are \$12/year, plus a one-time \$4  
 initiation fee. (Includes call sign/  
 name badge.) Family membership: \$18.



## ARE YOU NOT AN SCRA MEMBER?

IF SO, then this is a complimentary copy. Our club is into almost every aspect of amateur radio: repeaters (13/73), Field Day, license classes (novice/upgrade), volunteer exams, RACES, DX programs, packet radio, hidden xmtr hunts -- you name it.

We invite you to attend our next monthly meeting (see below) or check into the SCARS net on the 146.13/73 repeater every Tues. night at 7 PM. You will hear the latest Westlink Amateur Radio news broadcast, SCRA announcements, and a Swap Shop. If you would like to join SCRA, please refer to the dues listed below. 73!

## SHORT SKIP ADVERTISING RATES:

Business cards: \$10

\$14 First 1/4 Column  
 \$2 Additional 1/4 Columns  
 (\$28 Full Page, 1 side)

Pre-printed inserts: \$28/sheet

Guaranteed circulation: 200/month  
 AD DEADLINE: 15th of previous month

## RADIO SHACK

Store Nr. 3855

Zane Bates, Manager

510 Farmers Lane Telephone  
 Santa Rosa, CA 95405 546-8423

PACKET COMMITTEE: Al N1AL Jim WN6D  
 Terry WA6RNF Rich KA6SSL

**THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

There have been some changes with the Board of Directors for the club. Acting Treasurer is Al Bloom N1AL. Any questions regarding club dues, ARRL memberships etc. please contact Al at 538-7115. Acting Secretary is Marie Mappus N6KUS, and Sarah Davis N6FAX will be greeter and in charge of the lottery raffle, and the Repeater Chairman is Hoppy Bravin WD6CKP. If you have any questions regarding repeater operations, please feel free to contact Hoppy at 542-6750.

The program for April will be the Homebrew Contest. If time allows, Lyle WW6F will show some slides of Field Day on Angel Island.

There will be several public service events coming up. If you could help out with any of these events, please contact Rudy Mappus N6KLU at 664-1978. Your help will be appreciated.

If you are interested in any of the upcoming activities in the club, please contact Lyle Meek WW6F. He has planned quite a few interesting activities to take place during the year.

If anyone is interested in attending SCRA Board meetings, they are held the second Wednesday of the month at the EOC at 7:30. If you have any subject you would like to bring to the Board, please put it in writing and send it to the acting Secretary, Marie Mappus N6KUS, 374 Spraven Rd, Petaluma, CA 94952 or to me at PO Box 4553, Petaluma, CA 94953-4553, and you will be put on the agenda.

The Two Rock site we had for Field Day last year will not be available to us this year. Ragle Ranch has been looked into, but there is no overnight camping there. If anyone has any suggestions for a Field Day site, please call Gene Johnson W2EBG at 578-3104.

Have a good month. 73's,

XX Connie N6FYV XX

**SONOMA COUNTY 10 METER SPRINT**

You missed a fun 60 minutes if you didn't hear in time about the SCRA mini-contest on March 20. In honor of the Novices' & Technicians' new 10 meter phone privileges, the club sponsored a 1-hour contest (9 PM - 10 PM) on 28.3-28.5 MHz SSB.

There were at least 27 stations active, assuming Pam KB6LVI didn't have any "dupes." Her 26 QSO's may have been the record -- we'll have results next month.

Is there any special award for most QSO's (21) using an 80 meter dipole?

- N1AL

**COMING ATTRACTIONS:**

Coming soon to a ham band near you: the SCRA "50/50" Event. Work 50 states in 50 days. Details at the next club meeting.

**YOU'RE APPRECIATED**

Many thanks to the following 34 members who have volunteered for walkathons, bikeathons, parades, etc. during 1987. They are:

Phil N6KZS, Brian N6IIY, Bob K6GEV, Warren WB6RHP, Ray KF6RS, Lyman WB6SMY, John W6TLK, Phil N6OOA, Hans KA6HXP, Jane N6NTB, Candy N6NSG, Dale N6MRV, Susan N6IRJ, Marie N6KUS, Sarah N6FAX, Hank W6DTV, Rich KA6SSL, Bob WB6DPE, Connie N6FYV, Rudy N6KLU, Russ N6KMJ, Wilbur N6MGY, Ken N6MSJ, Kermit KB6GBV, Glen N6DNB, Hans KI6PD, Hoppy WD6CKP, Chuch N6DDK, Terry KF6CA, Bob KB6EOC, Barry N6MHH, Al KD6NT, Ken N6GXI, and Georgia N6GZU.

We are still looking for more volunteers. If interested in helping out, please call Rudy N6KLU 664-1978.

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF SCRA, FEBRUARY 4, 1987**

**VISITORS:** Aaron Ridling KA6YXF, Bob Coomer KI6OT, Hal Gwaldvey WA6AVD, Don Morris N6OLB, Bill Katz WB1CBH, Mike Ferrara WA2ZDQ, Mike Weihman N1DJE, Ted DeCroff KB6PTA, Bob Morrison WA6YXU/KT, and Bob Sones WB6EKV.

The meeting was called to order by Connie, the President at 7:30.

**UPGRADES:** Marie Mappus N6KUS has worked her way to an Advanced class license. **CONGRATULATIONS!**

**BADGES:** Hank has 8 badges to hand out to new members, but had no takers at the meeting.

The **MINUTES** of the Feb general meeting were read by Connie as some did not receive Short Skip before the meeting. The minutes were approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The General Fund currently has \$603.40, and the Repeater Fund has \$1852.73. Garry submitted an itemized report. He also read the club bills to be paid; they were approved.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. The club received a sample of dacron guy rope. Sample was passed around.
2. Garry has dues receipts for members who have renewed their membership by mail.
3. 73 Magazine now for sale by the club. The club gets the profits.
4. Garry received an inquiry on reading Swap Shop items. Answer: Hank reads new items on the net and passes out a list at club meetings.
5. Garry read a letter from himself to the club resigning his position as Treasurer of the club. "I was threatened, slandered, falsely accused, and hindered in the running of the Treasury, which in all, was detrimental to the betterment of this organization. So I chose to resign, and stop the constant battle that has been going on between this clan and myself..."
6. Susan read a letter from herself to the club resigning as club Secretary. "I feel there are serious personality conflicts between a select group within this club and the rest of the club, causing very negative energy and stifling the forward direction of the Board and the club. This Board has been fraught with needless arguments, unfair accusations, and untrue rumors. I choose to dissasociate myself from these conflicts."
7. Connie read a letter from Hans Berg DJ6TJ, a member of SCRA and of SCRA's sister club in Luebeck, Germany. He is happy to receive Short Skip every month and sent a contribution to mailing costs. Two important upcoming events in the Luebeck club are a 40th year club anniversary dinner on May 23 and a biennial "City-festival" on Sept. 19-20th. The club will have an amateur radio demonstration during this event and would like to arrange a sked with SCRA on Saturday.
8. Connie read a letter from the Naval Telecommunications Center in Vallejo. The 38th Annual Armed Forces Day Military to Amateur Crossband test will be on Armed Forces Day, May 16. More information on this event will be available after a March 21 meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**REPEATER COMMITTEE:** Paul read off the names of the members of the Repeater Committee, relieving them of their duty, and then resigned as Repeater Chairman. Paul returned \$250 given to him by the Board to buy a 440 control radio. His stated reasons were, "I am tired of being circumvented by certain members of the Board in operation of the Repeater Committee. These Board members took repeater policy suggestions to the public before the Board had a chance to vote on the policy. I am also disappointed in the Boards inability to make a decision and then stick to it."

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE:** A Technician/General class will start 7:30, March 12, at the EOC, using the ARRL Handbook and taught by Steve WA8LLY. George KS6W offered the Ham Room at HSC Electronics for a Novice class.

**RACES:** Bob WD6DPE reported that the Board met on Feb. 24 and unanimously voted to re-elect Jim WB6PER as Chief Radio Officer. Jim said there is an upcoming county-wide medical drill April 11. Also, Lyle is offering a net control training exercise next Saturday March 7.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS:** Hayes had a nice 2-page article published in the Santa Rosa News Herald. He said he had 6 phone calls from non-hams who read the article. He has an interview coming up on KSRO radio.

**PUBLIC SERVICE:** Rudy gave a list of future public service events the club will be involved in: March of Dimes and Coddington Lions (Apr 26), Santa Rosa Bicycling Club 100-Mile Race (May 3), Luther Burbank Rose Parade and Armed Forces Day Military to Amateur Crossband Test (May 16), Santa Rosa Bicycling Club 200-Mile Race (June), Ass to Ass Race (July).

**PACKET COMMITTEE:** An anonymous person donated a TNC kit which Terry WA6RNF assembled. Al made a motion to allocate \$250 to purchase a radio, antenna, power supply, feedline, and connectors. (m/Al,s/Rich). Motion passed.

### OLD BUSINESS:

Connie read a memo from herself stating that she had reviewed the financial records for 1986 and found them accurate. She accepts the books as such without an audit.

The motion to change the Constitution concerning the Treasurer's checkwriting requirements was defeated.

**PROGRAM:** The new Activities Chairman, Lyle WW6F, said he would like to start a point award to members for participating in club activities. Members would collect points like stamps and turn them in at the Christmas Party for prizes. Lyle then introduced Don KB6LO as tonight's speaker on Weather Facsimile. Don started in this field 5 years ago. Facsimile machines have been made for 30 years but not until 2 years ago did the FCC allocate frequencies for Amateur Radio use. Two-way communication is

possible, black and white images reverse with each transmission. Until the recent introduction of digital facsimile, all machine drums turned at the same rate, so old and new machines could send to each other. An 8 1/2 by 11 inch high-resolution print takes about 6 minutes to receive. A polar orbiting weather satellite is transmitting in the 137-8 MHz band and is most easily tracked with a scanner. The Bible of the subject is the Weather Facsimile Handbook. A great slide show concluded Don's presentation.

Steve reminded everyone that the Homebrew Contest is next club meeting.

Membership lottery of \$44.50 was lost by George Shedore KS6W.

Badge raffle of nut drivers was won by Barry N6MHH.

Meeting adjourned at 10:34.

Submitted by Susan Schuyler,  
Secretary

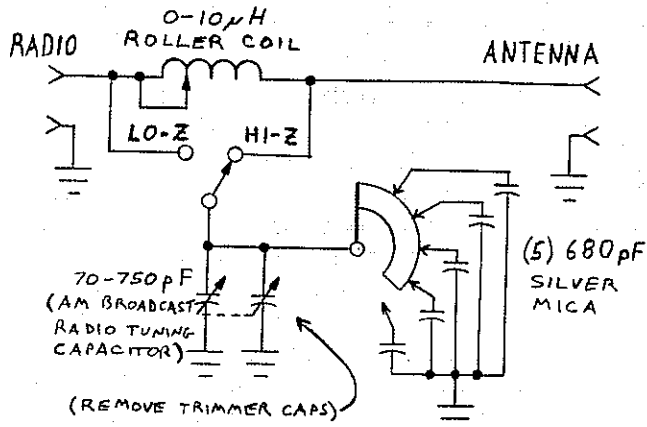


### TREASURER'S REPORT FOR MONTH ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 1987

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENSE</u>
ARRL Memberships	79.00	73.21
Coffee & Donuts	13.12	7.92
Dues & Initiations	598.00	264.00
Raffle	35.00	
Badges	3.18	34.98
Misc		7.25
Treasurer's Expense		7.72
Repeater Fund	268.00	250.00
Short Skip Expense	66.00	1.30
Hats & Patches		223.81
	-----	-----
	1062.30	870.19

### ASSETS:

Cash on hand	34.35
General Acct (Exchange Bank)	569.05
Rptr Fund (Northbay Savings)	1852.73



### MACHO ANTENNA TUNER

Here's a tuner for those off-the-wall antennas. Any wimpy matchbox can match a dipole, for heaven's sake. This unit will match any SWR (any phase angle) up to 6:1 on 160 meters and up to 20:1 or more on any HF ham band above 3.5 MHz!

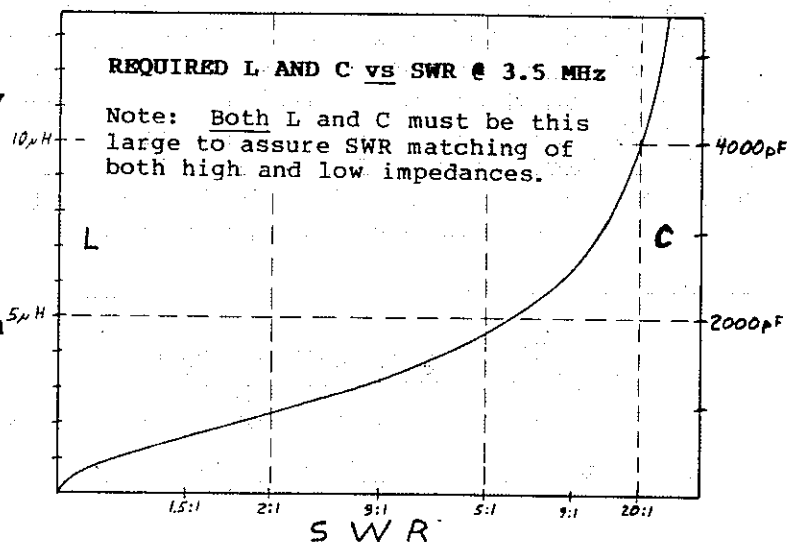
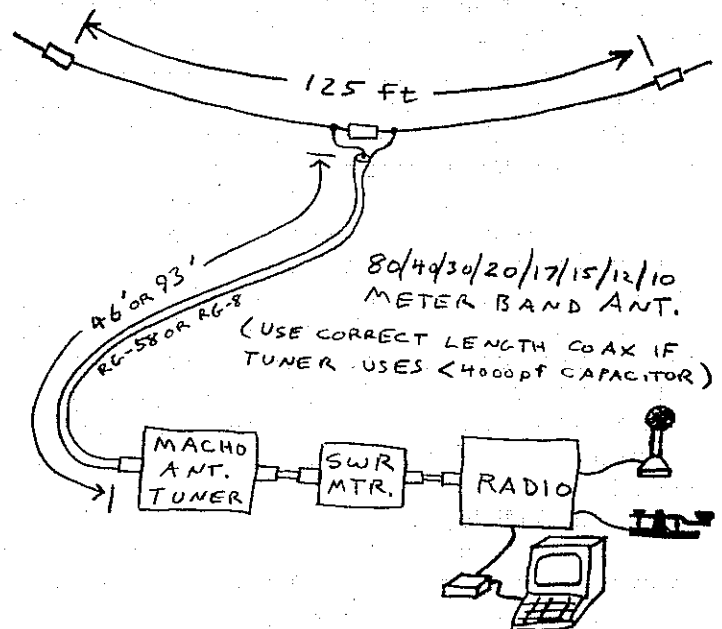
It's just a simple "L" network with provision to switch the shunt capacitor to either the input or output. If you can't find a 10 microhenry variable inductor, use a fixed inductor with a multi-position rotary switch to short out various portions of the coil. Find the optimum connection for your antenna on each band, and wire the switch accordingly.

If you don't have the specified components, the graph shows the SWR you can expect to match for various L and C values at 3.5 MHz. For 7 MHz, use half the value for L and C. For 14 MHz, use 1/4, etc.

The max capacitor value is most critical for low-impedance loads. Fortunately, most off-resonant antennas tend to be greater than 50 Ohms, rather than less. You can use as little as 1000 pF and still match between 23 and 1000 Ohms at 3.5 MHz (and better on the higher bands).

If you do this, use a multiple of 1/2 wavelength of coax between the antenna and tuner. (About 110 feet for foam, 93 feet for solid coax at 3.5 MHz. Half this for 7 MHz, etc.)

- N1AL

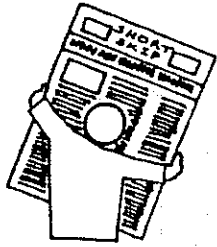


### FREE COMPUTER BULLETIN BOARD SYSTEM!

The SCRA telephone bulletin board system, provided free by HSC Electronics, is available anytime after business hours to anyone with a computer and a 300 or 1200 baud modem. We are now uploading Short Skip every month (for those of you who just can't wait to receive it in the mail). Also other news of ham radio interest as well as HSC sales specials, free public domain IBM-compatible software, etc.

The phone number is 792-2357. Check the Sonoma County Amateur Radio section of the (M)essage board, as well as section 7 of the (F)ile section.

- N1AL

**NO MORE SHORT SKIP!**

This is your last issue of Short Skip if you haven't paid your dues. Look near your address label on this issue: If there's a red "Dues are Due" stamp, then the Treasurer has no record of your payment.

It's \$12 for full and sponsoring members, \$18 for family membership.

**NEW MEMBERS SINCE MARCH:**

L. Paul Dixon N6AVD  
18759 King Ct.  
Sonoma, CA 95476  
938-1472

Raul Taibo KI6JC  
PO Box 27  
Vineburg, CA 95487  
938-9175

Bill Harris W7KXB  
2324 Rte 1  
Marshall, CA 94940  
415-663-1033

Bob Coomler KI6OT  
888 West Ave #5  
Santa Rosa, CA 95407  
528-8901

Robert Morrison KA6YXU  
537 El Dorado Ct.  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404  
544-4893

We'll have an updated list of all paid-up members next month.

**NEW CALLS AROUND THE COUNTY**

Was... Is...

N6LYR KI6IA Dwayne Kennedy

**NEWS FLASH:** N6MRV Dale told Candy N6NSG in front of KB6HT and N6KMJ that he was wrong. - N6KMJ

**CDF-VIP**

At the March meeting VIP coordinator Darrel Mead reported the tower and ant. are ordered; the radios should be ordered before fire season. There will be a full-scale fire camp training drill May 26-27-28.

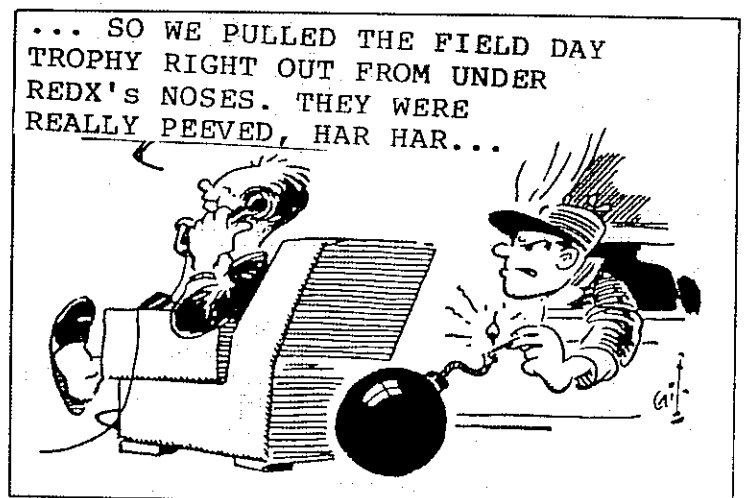
Guest speaker Steve Smith of the CDF spoke on the Dept of Forestry's resource management program.

**FIELD DAY COMING!**

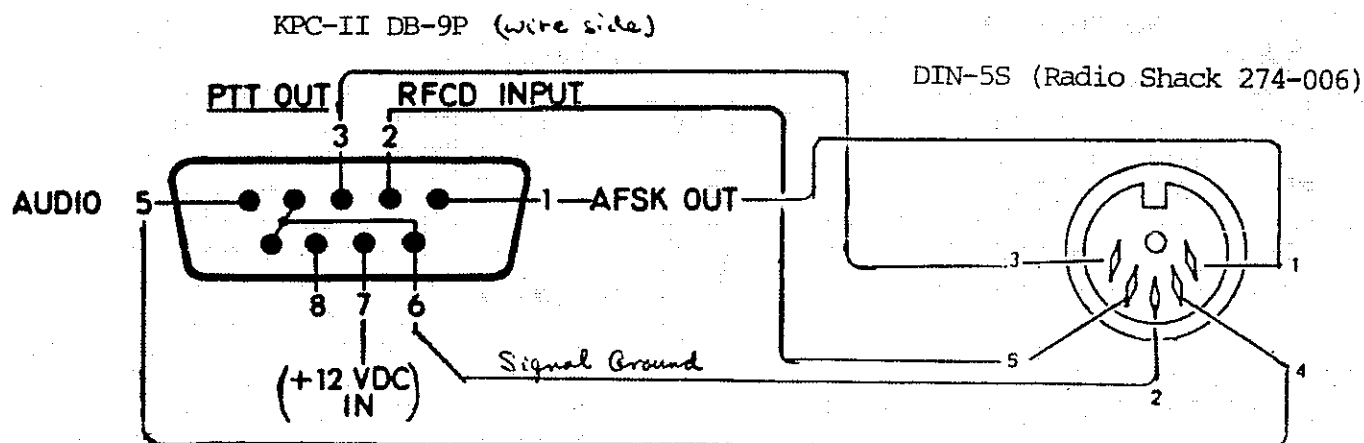
June is only 2 months away. The REDXA club is still smarting from the inglorious humiliation we heaped upon them last year. According to their newsletter, they <quote> "will not suffer the ignominy of another defeat." <unquote>

They already have three band captains appointed, and are well on their way to getting things organized. If you would like to volunteer your services for SCRA, call Gene Johnson W2EBG 578-3104.

Last I heard, we can't get the Two Rock site this year, so if you have any ideas, give Gene a call.



**DON'T FORGET THE HOMEBREW CONTEST!**



KPC-II to TNC-2 ADAPTER

### PACKET NEWS

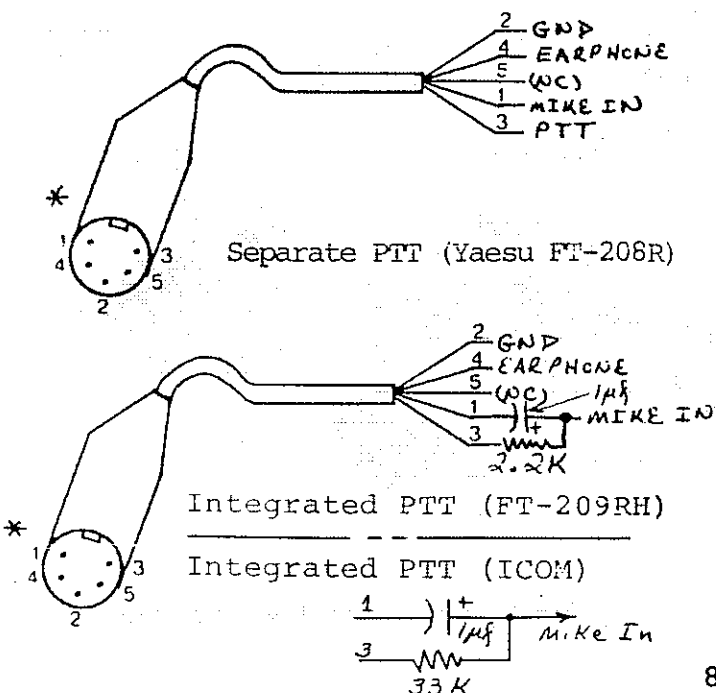
In Santa Clara County, they have standardized on the 5-pin "DIN" connector used in the TNC-2 for all their packet TNC's. That way, every TNC will plug directly into every radio without re-wiring.

If you have a TNC-1 or Kantronics KPC-II with the 9-pin connector, the drawing shows you how to make an adapter.

Also, if you have an HT with the audio and PTT brought out on the same lead, here's how to adapt it to your TNC.

Thanks to Skip Stevens WA6VFD for info.

\* DIN-5P (Radio Shack 274-003)



### AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE EXAMS IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA/NEVADA.

Updated 14 March 87. Test Fee \$4.35  
Tnx KK1A via N6IIU-1 Packet BBS

#### APRIL

- 4 Auburn NR6N (916)722-3598
- Cupertino AE6Z (408)243-8349
- 5 Pleasant Hill WX6A (415)932-0491
- 11 South S. F. WO6F (415)755-5784
- LosAltosHills W6NLG (408)255-9000
- 12 Eureka KB6FIW (707)442-9245
- 18 Reno NV K7HRW (702)972-3933

#### MAY

- 2 Fresno W6DPD (209)431-2038
- 3 Chico KE6EP (916)893-5208
- Campbell AE6Z (408)243-8349
- 4 Cupertino AE6Z (408)243-8349
- 9 LosAltosHills W6NLG (408)255-9000
- 14 Sacramento WA6RPB (916)483-3293
- (Novice, Pre-Reg ONLY)
- 16 Sacramento WA6RPB (916)483-3293
- (Tech-Extra, Pre-Reg ONLY)
- 19 Eureka KB6FIW (707)442-9245
- 23 Novato N6AQY (415)897-8950

#### JUNE

- 6 Eureka KF6FY (707)822-4541
- Visalia W6MUV (209)627-5346
- 7 Pleasant Hill WX6A (415)932-0491
- 13 Novato N6AQY (415)897-8950
- LosAltosHills W6NLG (408)255-9000
- 16 Eureka KB6FIW (707)442-9245
- 20 Fairfield W6NLG (408)255-9000
- 27 Auburn NR6N (916)722-3598

Good luck. If you know of tests not on this list, please leave me a message in the W6CUS-1 PBBS, and I will add them to the list. KK1A/6





## NEWS of Amateur Radio

**WM4T WINS TOWER CASE.** John Thernes has won his suit vs the City of Lakeside Park, KY. The city must pay all his legal fees incurred since PRB-1 passed in Sept 1985. As of March 1, WM4T was still in the hole \$7,000 for costs incurred before then. The Northern KY Tower fund will be kept open: any extra funds will be available for future tower cases. (WM4T)

**NOVICE ENHANCEMENT:** ARRL will mail a free supplement to the Novice study guide, Tune In The World, to anyone who had ordered the 1987 edition. Available separately for \$1 postage. The Tech/General License Manual supplement can be ordered from dealers or from HQ for an SASE. (ARRL)

**ARRL WANTS MORE TIME ON DOCKET 87-14,** FCC's plan take 220-222 MHz from the Amateur service. If the request is approved, comment deadline would move from April 6 to May 21. ARRL plans strenuous opposition. (ARRL)

**SACRAMENTO OES** (Office of Emergency Services) callsign is now W6HIR (W6HIR-1 on packet). (Westlink)

**NEW DXCC COUNTRY.** Peter I is now officially country #3117 on the DXCC list. QSL's may be submitted after June 1. Golden Jubilee credit may be claimed immediately. (ARRL)

**NEW SUPERCONDUCTING MATERIALS** have been announced that reach zero ohms resistance at the temperature of liquid nitrogen. Previous superconductors required cooling to near absolute zero. Applications include super-speed IC's, particle accelerators, and practical fusion reactors. Producing the material is "low-tech": Anyone with "\$50 worth of materials and a microwave oven" could make their own. (NY Times)

Thanks to John Thernes, ARRL Letter, Westlink Report, and the New York Times for the above info.

EVENTS CALENDAR:

Don't forget SCARS nets on Tuesdays.

APRIL:

- 1 - SCRA meeting 7/7:30 PM
- 4-5 - Sebastopol Apple Festival
- 6 - RACES etc. Net 7:30 PM
- 8 - Board meeting EOC 7:30
- 11 - Foothill College Flea Market
- 13 - ARRL 144 MHz Sprint
- 16 - CDF VIP Meeting 7:30 PM
- 20 - RACES etc. Net 7:30 PM
- 21 - ARRL 220 MHz Sprint
- 24-26 - Dayton Hamvention
- 26 - March of Dimes Walkathon
- 29 - ARRL 432 MHz Sprint

MAY:

- 16 - Luther Burbank Rose Parade
- Armed Forces Day
- 23-25 - Golden Gate anniversary

JUNE 27-28 - Field Day **BEAT REDX!**

AUG 15 - SCRA Picnic, details later

SEPT 19 - SCRA Flea Market

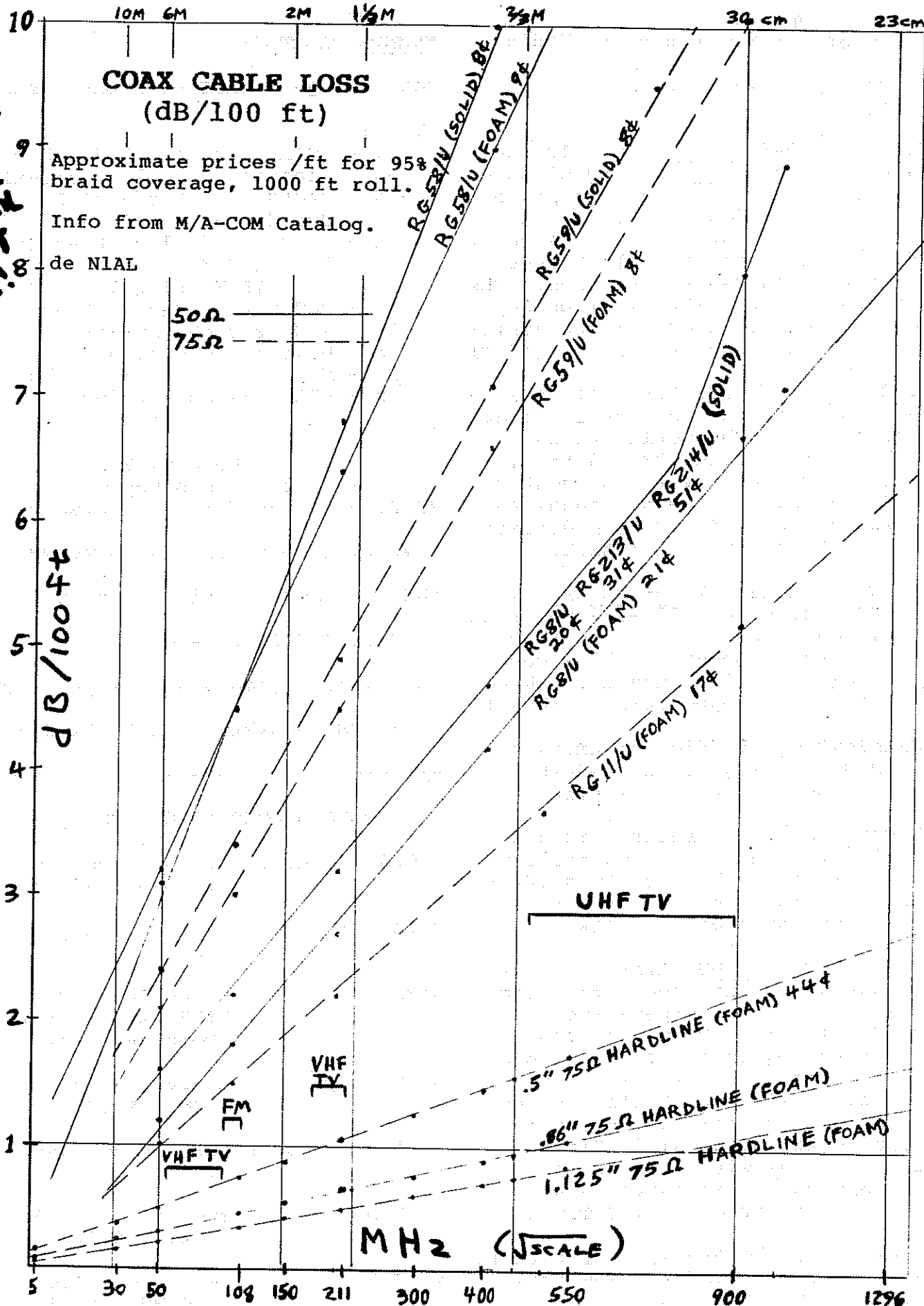
OCT 17-18 - Simulated Emergency Test

VE EXAMS HOTLINE NR: 408-984-8353

NETS AROUND SONOMA COUNTY:

- RACES etc net: 1st/3rd Mondays  
7:30 PM, 146.73
- SCRA 2 M net: Every Tuesday  
7 PM, 146.73
- SCRA 10 M net: Every Tuesday  
7:15 PM, 28.15/28.40  
(Note changes)
- So Mt Rpt Asn: Every Tuesday  
8 PM, 146.91
- Valley of Moon: Every Wednesday  
7:30 PM, 147.47
- REDX DX Net: 2nd/4th Wednesdays  
8 PM, 146.73
- YL Net: Every Thursday  
7:30 PM, 146.73

SEE  
APPX  
QST  
P32!





### HANK'S SWAP SHOP

Hank Davis W6DTV 7822 Washington Ave  
Sebastopol, CA 95472 823-7885  
(Noncommercial ham ads printed free)

YAESU SP-901P Phone patch, Ext Spkr,  
matches 902 HF Transceiver. \$50.00  
W6WXU 938-4197.

ICOM 735, CW filter, Keyer, PS55.  
\$900. 500YK-88C-1 Kenwood CW filter  
\$50. Sam WN6W 575-0400.

DRAKE R4, JOHNSON Ranger, DOW  
antenna relay, McHenry Key \$175.  
KD6GC 542-8116.

AEA CP1 Computer RTTY interface with  
RS-232. Could be modified for  
packet. \$75. WW6D 526-5131.

VOM, Solid-state Sabtronics model  
2000 \$20. TIMEX-SINCLAIR computer,  
printer, interface, books, programs  
- make offer. RANDIX SC/R-610  
boomer radio AM/FM - make offer.  
KENWOOD TS820S Just back from  
factory, realigned, serviced, clean  
with mic, manuals \$400. DUMMY LOAD  
with oil. W6DTV 823-7885.

KLM FORCE 5, mobile rig, 80-10 SSB,  
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TEKTRONIX 564B dual-trace storage  
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WANT: TRI-BAND BEAM, 5 el. WA6PDP  
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CONFIRMING QSO WITH: W6 LFL

Date	UTC	MHZ	Mode	R-S-T

REMARKS:

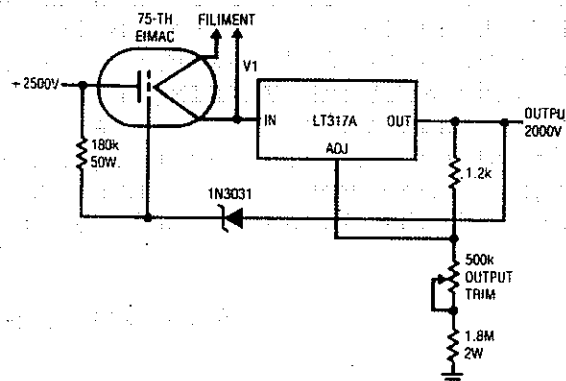
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TNX QSO

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## Radio Hams to the Rescue

Through fire, flood and quake, it's hard to keep a good amateur radio operator off the air. And they're proud that their "hobby" — the only one regulated by international treaty — can be far more than just fun and games.

As local radio buff Hayes Hunter says, "Emergencies not only give us an opportunity to put our skills to work, but also a chance to say thanks to the American public for allowing us to use the airways for free communication."

Here in Sonoma County, it was "radio to the rescue" during last year's flooding of the Russian River. And, says Hunter, "During the Mexico City earthquake, Sonoma County amateurs passed 'welfare messages' in and out of the city to friends and relatives living here. During such disasters, theirs is

usually the first and only line of communication until the public agencies can muster their forces and establish communications."

Many local radio operators belong to RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service), which offers disaster training. The U.S. Department of Forestry also relies on amateurs to help out during fires; they're organized under the banner of VIP (Volunteers in Prevention).

"Frankly," says Santa Rosa "ham" operator Warren Reese, "It's just good business to have your population trained like this. And it's all on our own nickel; it doesn't cost the government anything."

— Dennis Wheeler

**COMPUTER CONTROL OF AERIAL ROTATORS WITH IBM-PC TYPE COMPUTERS.**

Excerpts of article by DAVID HRYCKIEWICZ - VK2ZDE & KEN WATSON - VK2TKW  
(via N6IIU packet BBS via Westlakes ARC Feb. 1987 Newsletter)

A number of years ago I got hooked on the more unusual side of amateur radio: the tracking of space-craft and satellites. I found you need at least 3 pairs of hands to operate aerial control boxes, uplink & downlink transceiver controls, and microphone P.T.T. etc. The going was reasonably easy on satellites like Oscar 10 but it was a different matter when trying to work the fast-moving satellites like the RS, UO9, UO11, and Oscar 12.

One night as I listened to the weekly Amsat-Australia broadcast on 80M, I heard Graham VK5AGR mention that he had an article written by GEOFF VK2ZAZ called Antenna Controller. The only problem was that the software was not suitable for an IBM-PC type computer but was for a KAYPRO 4/84 or similar Z80 machine. I consulted our local computer expert KEN VK2TKW.

For some time I had been using a satellite tracking program written by R.D. WELCH WOSL obtained from Amsat Australia. It allows the tracking of up to 20 satellites. Eight satellites can be visually tracked on a colour map of the world in real time. While tracking, data for each satellite such as azimuth, elevation, range, height, etc is shown on the screen. I approached KEN to see if he could modify this program to incorporate software control of the satellite tracking aeriels whilst viewing where the satellite is on the world map in real time... The resulting program is user friendly & has been given a real workout over the last few weeks.

The software has been donated to AMSAT-AUSTRALIA to raise funds to assist the launching of future amateur satellites. For your copy, write to AMSAT-Australia, G.P.O. BOX 1234, Adelaide 5001. If anyone wants to save the trouble of making their own printed circuit board, I have an arrangement with Rudi VK2FIM to supply the boards at a very reasonable cost. Rudy MEINSMA VK2FIM, Flat 1, 6 Ida Street, Charlestown, NSW. 2290.

I feel that this may create a lot of interest as this idea could be interfaced to a data base program which contains other amateur station bearings. Then you could enter the call sign of the party you wish to contact and the antenna would automatically position to the bearing...

**HOME BREW CONTEST -- ENTRY FORM**

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**JUDGING CRITERIA**

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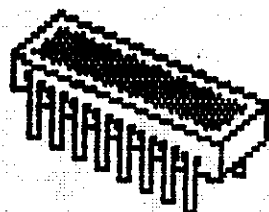
Utility and operation convenience \_\_\_\_\_ (10)

Neatness, appearance, workmanship \_\_\_\_\_ (15)

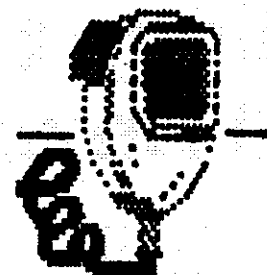
Use of surplus and/or readily available parts \_\_\_\_\_ (15)

Judges' discretion \_\_\_\_\_ (20)

TOTAL , \_\_\_\_\_ (100)



# H.S.C.



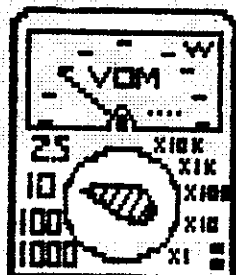
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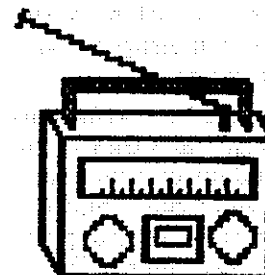
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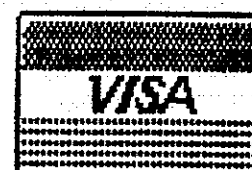
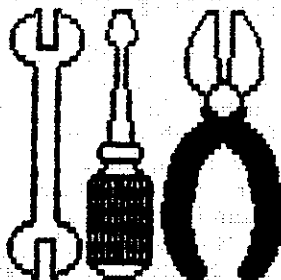


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# Talking to the World and Beyond

Congrats to Hayes Hunter  
WB6KLU for the FB PR!

THE NEWS HERALD FEBRUARY 24, 1987

BY DENNIS WHEELER

**W**hile you sit there reading this newspaper, radio waves are wriggling all around you. The air is full of voices, unheard voices — unless you're one of the Santa Rosa folks who enjoy "hamming it up."

Out on Los Alamos Road, for example, a guy is chatting with a Soviet citizen, free of censorship. In another part of town, two men are bouncing radio waves off the moon. Elsewhere another Santa Rosa resident occasionally receives desperate SOS messages from ships sinking far out at sea.

The radio buffs are affectionately called "hams," and they're among the 178 members of Sonoma County Radio Amateurs (SCRA). Al Blume, who edits the group's monthly newsletter, *Short Skip*, says members come from every profession...

Warren Reese, another Santa Rosa resident, is lucky enough to combine his hobby with his profession. For more than 10 years he's been a radio telegrapher out at RCA's station KPH in Point Reyes. Founded in 1903, the station is one of the oldest on the West Coast.

Reese "talks" with ships on the high seas every day, using Morse Code, teletype, and computer terminals. He transmits and receives business messages, personal calls from families, and medical help — "worldwide," he says, "but mostly on the Pacific Ocean."...

Reese (whose call sign is "Whiskey Bravo Six Tango Mike Yankee," more succinctly known as WB6TMY) echoes Blume's remarks about the low cost of the hobby. "The average person sees photos of guys with all that complicated equipment, and thinks ham



Al Blume is a whiz at Morse code.

operators are all wealthy. But I have a 6L6 transmitter that only operates on Morse Code. It's very old, and I think I only paid about \$14 for it. But with it I can talk to people all over the world."

And out of this world, in a way. Some local hams are good friends with "OSCAR," who's beeping around in orbit above the planet. OSCAR is the eighth "Orbiting Satellite Carrying Amateur Radio," and hams can bounce their messages off him rather than relying on earthbound relay systems.

Some operators go even farther, and bounce signals off the moon itself. That's what Al Ferrera (WA6MXI) and Bob Magnani (K6QXY) of Santa Rosa are doing.

Ferrera chose his home on Los Alamos Road precisely because it's so electrically "quiet." In his backyard, four 36-foot-long antennae are mounted on a rotating 40-foot-tall tower that can be elevated. They're the result of approximately eight years of work, and perhaps \$200,000, Ferrera estimates...

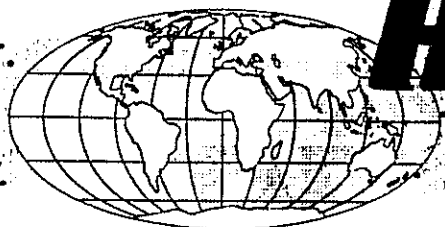
## Amateurs Welcome New Members

**S**onoma County Radio Amateurs (SCRA) meets the first Wednesday of each month in the Conference Room of the Public Health Center, 3313 Chanate Road, Santa Rosa. Non-members are welcome at the meetings.

Membership includes a subscription to the group's newsletter, *Skip Notes*. Classes for beginners, as well as for amateur radio operators who are upgrading their licenses, are held continuously.

The next meeting is set for Wednesday, March 4, when an SCRA member will demonstrate his Weather Fax machine, which uses radio to copy information from weather satellites, including weather maps and informational print-outs. An upcoming meeting will feature the pilot of the *Voyager* aircraft which recently flew non-stop around the world.

For more information, call Hayes Hunter at 795-5938.



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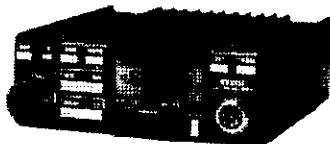
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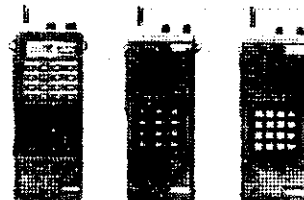
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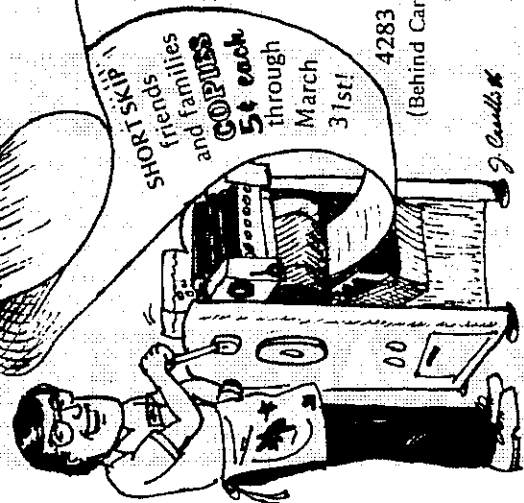
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