



HANK'S SWAP SHOP

Hank Davis, W6DTV 7822 Washington Avenue
Phone 823-7885 Sebastopol, CA 95472
(Noncommercial ham ads are printed for free)

HEATHKIT 10-21 Gen. purpose scope, \$40.00.
BUTTERNUT HF6VX 80-10 vertical, 30 meter
addition \$75.00. K6UKB 526-7731.

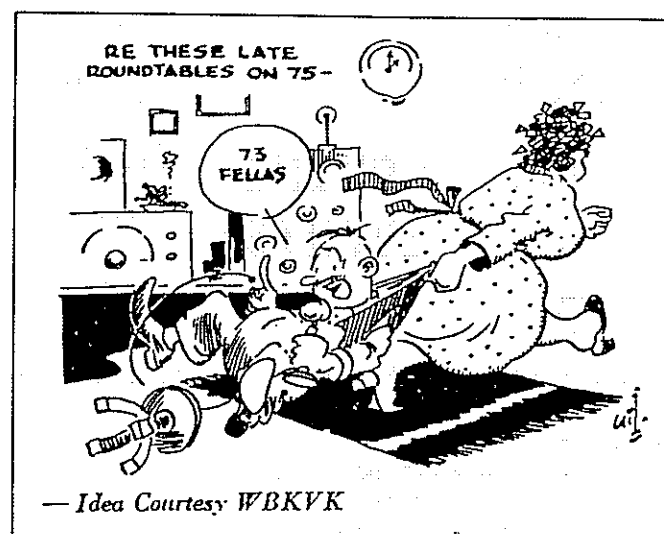
ICOM 3200A 2 mtr & 440 MHz Duo-bander. With
manual, \$350.00. Jack K6WE 942-4768.

12V Muffin fans, \$3.00. WANT: ICOM 4AT hand
held. N6ONZ 584-3425.

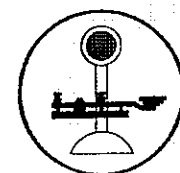
KENWOOD AT-250 automatic antenna tuner.
New, \$275.00. Gary AA6CC 538-9283.

WANT: B&W 40TVL coil - banana plugs.
WB6TMY 527-8124. ■

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



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SHORT SKIP



Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.

Club Station
NOVEMBER 1988 W6LFJ

P.O. Box 116
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Repeater Station
WB6PVS VOL 13 # 11

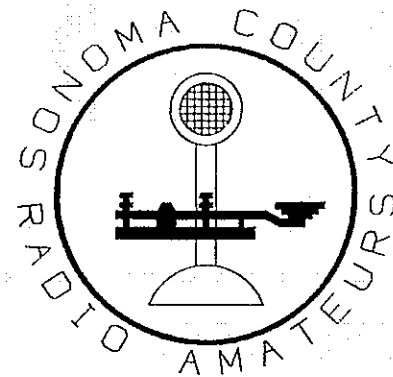
NOMINEES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

PRESIDENT:	Glen Crownover N6DNB
VICE PRESIDENT:	John Wallack W6TLK
SECRETARY:	Al Bloom N1AL
TREASURER:	Jim Pelmulder
MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:	Bob Olsten WD6DPE Chuck Sabin N6DDK

(Nominations will also be solicited from the floor.)



Marilyn Franc, Bill Thomas WD6DXW, Don Osborn WA6ACX, Irma Osborn KF6FX, and kneeling (I think) Chuck Sabin N6DDK, setting up the club table at the Flea Market. See story on p 3.



----- OFFICERS FOR 1988 -----			
PRESIDENT:	Russ O'Neill	N6KMJ	823-9691
VICE PRESIDENT:	Glen Crownover	N6DNB	938-5986
SECRETARY:	Alan Bloom	N1AL	538-7115
TREASURER:	Jim Pelmulder	N6PTM	823-7947
MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:	Chuck Sabin	N6DDK	795-2371
	Bob Sones	WB6EKV	546-3873
REPEATER CHAIR:	Hoppy Bravin	WD6CKP	542-6750
ACTIVITIES CHAIR:	Steve Schaffer	KD6GC	546-8860
----- 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

ARRL LIASON: Alan Bloom N1AL 538-7115
 ASST. DIRECTOR: Chuck Sabin N6DDK 795-2371
 BADGES CHAIR.: Hank Davis W6DTV 823-7885
 CLUB HISTORIAN: Connie Freitas N6FYV

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE:

PUBLIC SERVICE: Bob Sones WB6EKV 546-3873
 PROGRAM CHAIR.: Bob Olsten WD6DPE 546-5593
 REFRESHMENTS @ MEETINGS: Bob Olsten WD6DPE
 GREETER AT MEETINGS: Jane Vanderslice N6NTB
 MEMBERSHIP LOTTERY: Warren Klinger WB6RHP
 QSL MANAGER: Doug Bender WW6D
 VEC EXAMS: Steve Lund WA8LLY 823-4544
 WA6ACX N1AL K6ANP AG6C WD6CKP WN6D WW6D
 W6DTV WW6F WB6FRZ KF6FX W6RIA WB6UDR WU6W
 EDUCATION: Steve Lund WA8LLY 823-4544
 WA6ACX, WW6D, WB6PDP, W6TLK, KF6WV
 AWARDS CHAIRMAN: Steve Lund WA8LLY 823-4544
 XMAS PARTY: Steve Schaffer KD6GC 546-8860
 INTERFERENCE CHR: John Lynch W6CCY 823-1357

REPEATER CONTROL OP'S:

WD6CKP Hoppy 542-6750 W6DTV Hank 823-7885
 WB6PER Jim 526-2972 N6KMJ Russ 823-9691
 WB6UAZ Kathi 544-7943 WN6D Jim 544-7943
 PACKET COMMITTEE: Al Bloom N1AL, Jim Boyett
 WN6D, Rich Freitas KA6SSL

SHORT SKIP ADVERTISING RATES:

Business cards: \$10

\$11 First 1/4 Column
 \$3 Additional 1/4 Columns
 (\$32 Full Page, 1 side)

Pre-printed inserts: \$32/sheet

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

ARE YOU NOT AN SCRA MEMBER?

IF SO, then this is a complimentary copy. Our club is involved with almost every area of Amateur Radio: Repeaters (13/73), Field Day, license classes (Novice through Extra), volunteer exams, RACES, DX programs, packet (145.03), hidden xmtr hunts -- you name it.

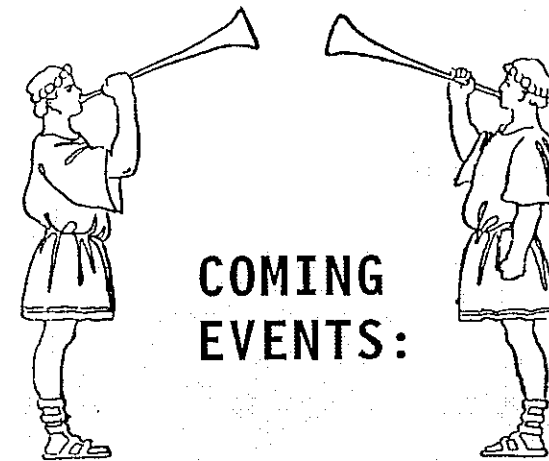
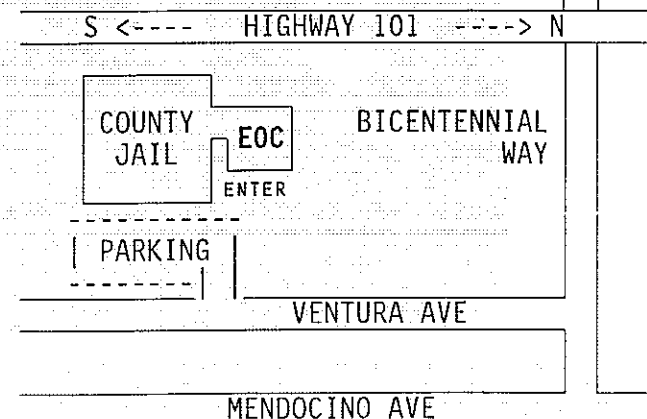
We invite you to attend our next monthly meeting (see below) or check into the Tuesday night SCARS net on the 146.13/73 repeater at 7:00 PM. You will hear the latest Westlink Amateur Radio News broadcast, announcements of SCRA activities, and a Swap Shop. If you would like to join SCRA, please refer to the dues listed below. Hope to have an "eyeball" QSO with you at the next meeting! 73 ...

CLUB MEETINGS:

7:30 PM, 1st Wednesday each month at the EOC (Emergency Operations Center, see map below) All are welcome to attend.

NEXT MEETING: November 2, 1988

PROGRAM: ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS, plus: short talk by KA6HGW on the Insurance Initiatives.
 DUES: \$12 per year, plus a one-time \$4.00 initiation fee. Dues are pro-rated \$1/month for new members. With membership, comes an SCRA call/name badge. Family membership: \$18



Don't forget SCARS net on Tuesdays at 7 PM.

NOVEMBER:

- 2 - SCRA meeting 7/7:30 PM
- 5-6 - 10-10 CW 10 Meter Contest
- 5-7 - ARRL Sweepstakes, CW
- 7 - RACES etc. Net, 7:30 PM
- 17 - CDF VIP Meeting 7:30 PM
- 19-21 - ARRL Sweepstakes, Phone
- 21 - RACES etc. Net, 7:30 PM
- 26-27 - CQ Worldwide CW DX Contest

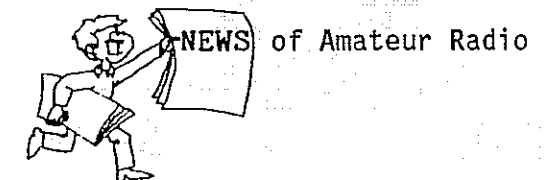
DECEMBER:

- 2-4 - ARRL 160 Meter Contest
- 5 - RACES etc. Net, 7:30 PM
- 10-11 - ARRL 10 Meter Contest
- 15 - CDF VIP Meeting 7:30 PM
- 17 - SCRA Christmas Party
- 19 - RACES etc. Net, 7:30 PM

VE EXAMS HOTLINE NR: 408-984-8353



1920 First advertised public program, a song recital, broadcast from Marconi Works.



220 MHZ NEWS:

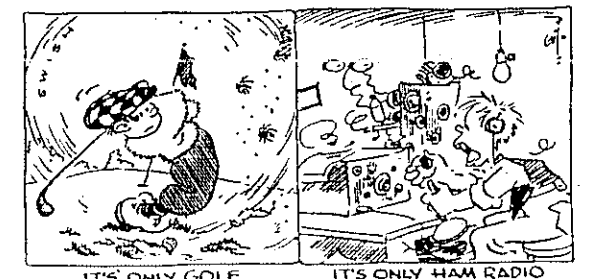
A NATIONAL TELECONFERENCE RADIO NET on Oct 2 drew an audience estimated in the "tens of thousands", using 46 links, including a commercial satellite transponder (Telstar 303) plus numerous telephone and Amateur Radio links. ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay N3AKD cited numerous procedural and factual flaws in the FCC's action. For example, although nearly 6,000 amateurs filed comments (3rd largest response EVER), NOT ONE was cited in the FCC Report & Order. Numerous other "names" in Amateur Radio took part in the panel discussion, followed by a Q&A session with dozens of callers jamming the phone lines. There have been more Congressional inquiries on this than on any previous FCC action in history. [Westlink]

NATIONAL PROTEST MARCHES are planned for Thanksgiving Sunday, November 27 by a group in Omaha Nebraska. WBØCMC urges hams to take advantage of a normally "slow" news weekend to get our message to the media. [Westlink]

THE US CONGRESS IS ON RECORD as favoring the Amateurs' fight. "Sense of Congress" Resolution 127 was added to the FCC authorization bill S-1048 as Section 10. It was adopted by the House & Senate as of Oct 19 and sent to the President for his signature. [WIAW]

VIETNAM SHOULD BE ON THE AIR by the time you read this. Ferenc HA5MY confirms they have the license and plan to operate non-stop using 3 rigs, 2 amplifiers, a beam, vertical and dipoles through Nov 28, including CQWW SSB. Callsigns: 3W8DX and 3W8CW. [TDXB]

Thanks to The DX Bulletin, Westlink Report and WIAW bulletins for the above info. ■



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BURLINGAME, CA 94010
999 Howard Ave.
(415) 342-5757
George, Mgr. WB6DSV
5 miles south on 101 from SFO

PHOENIX, AZ 85015
1702 W. Camelback Rd.
(602) 242-3515
Bob, Mgr. K7RDH
East of Hwy 17

SAN DIEGO, CA 92123
5375 Kearny Villa Rd.
(619) 560-4900
Tom, Mgr. KM6K
Hwy. 163 & Claremont Mesa Blvd

VAN NUYS, CA 91411
6265 Sepulveda Blvd.
(818) 988-2212
Al, Mgr. K6YRA
San Diego Fwy at Victory Blvd

ATLANTA, GA 30340
6071 Buford Hwy.
(404) 263-0700
Larry, Mgr. WD4AGW
Doraville, 1 mi. north of I-285

OAKLAND, CA 94606
2210 Livingston St.
(415) 534-5757
Al, Mgr. WA6SVK
17N 5th Ave / 17S 16th Ave

Bob Ferrero W6RJ
President

Jim Rafferty N6RJ
VP So. Calif Div.
Anaheim Mgr.

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CALL TOLL FREE (800) 854-6046
Toll free including Hawaii. Phone Hrs: 7:00 am to 5:30 p.m. Pacific Time. California, Arizona and Georgia customers call or visit nearest store. California, Arizona and Georgia residents please add sales tax. Prices, specifications, descriptions subject to change without notice.

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NEW/RENEWED MEMBERS

SINCE LAST MONTH

Charles Coffel WA6BPA
1933 East Haven
Santa Rosa, Ca 95404
546-9189

Waldo T. Boyd K6DZY
PO Box 86
Geyserville, CA 95441
857-3434

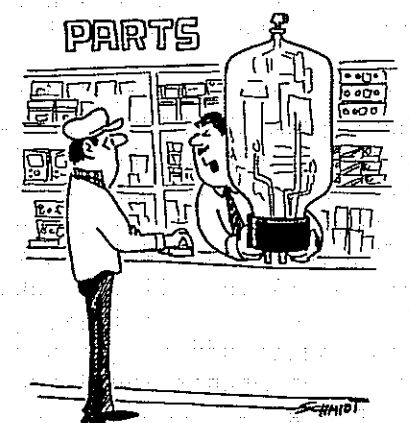
Bill Patterson KJ6HY
2307 Maher Dr. #5
Santa Rosa CA 95405
546-4787

Steve Carniglia KB6LSB
4711 Annadel Hts. Dr.
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
538-7658

Charles Carniglia KB6PBD
PO Box 1120
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
578-5832

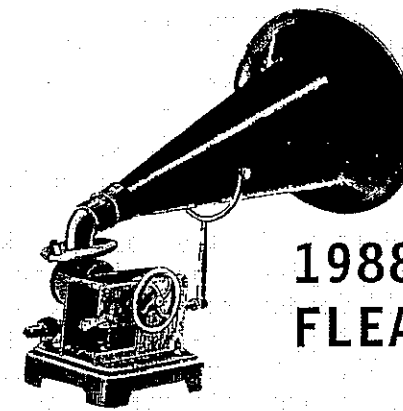
Steve Miller N6RHQ
5359 McFarlane Rd
Sebastopol, CA 95472
823-8015

We now have 180 members. ■



"DIDN'T YOU SAY THE AMPLIFIER YOU'RE BUILDING WAS FOR A HAM IN CALIFORNIA?"

N6QAV, Wayne Light W6RIA, Dave Spencer N6RIF, Bill Meyer K6TCD, John Wallack W6TLK, Kathi Boyett WB6UAZ, Sam Brewer WN6W, Marilyn Franc, and Zach Light. ■



HOPE YOU
GOT LOTS
OF GOOD
STUFF
AT THE

1988 SCRA
FLEA MART

Despite the last-minute change in venue, the 1988 SCRA Flea Market was a rousing success. We did have about 10% fewer tables than last year, due mainly to several cancellations from folks who did not want to set up outdoors. The weather was perfect, however, and we had a good turnout.

Even with the \$329.51 we had to pay to the Fairgrounds, we still made out OK financially:

	INCOME	EXPENSE	NET
Rent for facility		200.00	(200.00)
Food	534.05	244.47	289.58
Food concession fee		129.51	(129.51)
Printing		160.68	(160.68)
Postage		284.50	(284.50)
Advertising	300.00		300.00
Door Prize		33.92	(33.92)
Raffle	351.00	243.80	107.20
Tables	394.00	15.00	379.00
Club Table	93.00		93.00
Auction	101.00		101.00
Misc	(4.18)		(4.18)
TOTAL:	1768.87	1311.88	456.99

(Tnx N6PTM)

The list of SCRA members who helped out is long. (I hope I don't miss somebody!)

Don Osborne WA6ACX, Al Bloom N1AL, Betty Bravin AG6C, Hoppy Bravin WD6CKP, Chuck Sabin N6DDK, Glen Crownover N6DNB, Bob Olsten WD6DPE, Bill Thomas WD6DXW, Bob Sones WB6EKV, Sarah Davis N6FAX, John Breckenridge WB6FRZ, Irma Osborne KF6FX, Bill Koczon W2HWQ, Brian Torr N6IIY, Russ O'Neill N6KMJ, Jeremy Light KB6KUI, Steve Lund WA8LLY, Dick Joy WB6MCE, Garry Palmer N6ONZ, Phil Schleyer N600A, Jim Pelmulder N6PTM, Jud Spruce
(continued next column)

MY DIARY OF THE 1988
ARRL NAT. CONVENTION

By Aaron Ridling KA7YXF

I left Santa Rosa Thurs. Sept 8th to fly to Portland for the ARRL National Convention. After I arrived, while I was waiting on a bench for the airporter, an odd-looking fellow sat down next to me. A while later, the odd fellow introduced himself. Guess what? It was Wayne Green W2NSD/1! I'll tell you this, this guy likes to suck on Tootsie Rolls! I had a strange sensation about this man. I was relieved when he caught his shuttle bus for Alamo rent-a-car. (I wonder if he was the one driving that trashy 1973 Honda?) When I got to the hotel, I did some looking around; nothing had started yet. Shortly my friend came and picked me up to go to her house.

On Friday, just as I walked into the hotel, I met Father Moran 9N1MM from Kathmandu, Nepal. I had a nice chat with this wonderful person. He has the nicest smile that I have ever seen. Of course, he had QST articles about him dating from the 50's. I asked him if he transmits on 10 meters, but he told me he only works 20 meters.

After talking with 9N1MM, I decided to check out the CW speed contest. Wow, there was an old timer just making the keys fly on his electronic typewriter. He was copying at about 65 words per minute to start. Whew, what a start for the convention!

As I left to get registered, I ran into the Board members from the W7DG club -- they were surprised to see me there. Then I walked around a bit and found everyone's favorite room, room 402, the convention station. The call was W7KYC; they were transmitting on 145.57, 147.64, and 449.325 MHz and 10-80 meters. All these guys were working their butts off to get a high QSO rate. Here I met Dennis SVØFG from Pataras, Greece, who had a very good sense of humor. I also met W5HHB, who had the neatest badge I have ever seen! It had his name, call, city, and two radio towers on it with flashing LED's!

A while later, when I was checking out the flea market, I was surprised to run into Terry WA6RNF. He asked if any other fellows

from the club had come up, and I said not that I know of. After chatting with Terry and browsing around, I went back to the QSO room and managed to work quite a few stations from there. The rig was an ICOM IC-785, everyone's dream radio (for \$6,500!)

I left at 7 PM to go to the casino. While I was having fun playing craps, I noticed that "Mr. Wonderful" Gordon West was standing next to me. I stopped playing for a bit to talk to him. After the gambling session was over, everyone cashed in their funny money for raffle tickets. Oh, darn, I was one number away from winning a PK-232. After the drawings, I was given a ride home from a ham who lives in Portland.

Saturday Oct 10: Oh no! I overslept until 13:00, and missed my upgrade test. Oh well, I'm a happy Novice anyway. At the convention I ran into Terry again. After he left, I noticed it was 16:50, 10 minutes before closing time at the exhibit hall. I dashed in to sign up for ARRL membership. I met Larry Price W4RA, President of the ARRL. I talked with him for a few minutes, then left the exhibit hall to go up to the radio shack where I got a few QSO's here and there.

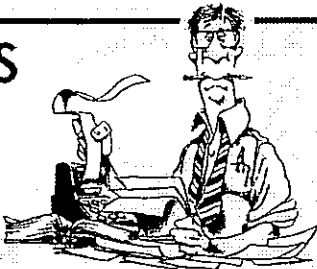
At 20:00, the W7KYC crew & I went downstairs to go to the banquet. I just remembered that I did not make reservations, but Stu Farmer K7WF helped me get a plate. (Of course I still paid.) Boy, the dinner and dessert sure were good. The banquet program was hosted by Judge Greg Milnes W7AGQ. He introduced Larry Price W4RA, Pres. of ARRL who warmed up the crowd with some humor. Larry presented an award to Father Moran 9N1MM.

Next was Dr. Tony England WØRE, the retired NASA astronaut. After his talk, film, and slides, there was a skit of "Poortronics Radio". It sure was a good skit. After the program, I got in line for the Wouff Hong initiation, which was pretty good. Then my ride came, and I hit the sack for the night.

On Sunday, after I was dropped off at the convention, I gave my friend a good hug, because I was to leave directly for the airport after the convention. I dropped off my luggage at the shack and operated for awhile. Later, I walked by the 73 Magazine booth where Wayne Green was putting stickers (continued next page)

SCRA MINUTES

OCTOBER 5, 1988



The meeting was called to order by President Russ O'Neill N6KMJ at 7:49 PM. Other officers present were Vice President Glen Crownover N6DNB, Treasurer Jim Pelmulder N6PTM, Secretary Al Bloom N1AL, and Repeater Chairman Hoppy Bravin WD6CKP.

GUESTS: We had quite a few visitors this month: Bill Patterson KJ6HY, Charles and Steve Carniglia KB6PBD and KB6LSB, Ed Hajny W6ACW, Larry Gustafson, Jim Stone, Waldo T. Boyd K6DZY, Jim Ericson KG6EK, and Cliff Battschardt W6HDO.

The MINUTES of the last meeting had an error, according to WA6ACX: Jane did NOT introduce the visitors unless she somehow did it by remote control. The minutes were accepted as corrected and as printed in Short Skip. m/s WA6ACX/WB6RHP

The TREASURER'S REPORT by N6PTM listed \$1434.57 in the General Fund and \$1943.67 in the Repeater Fund. N1AL promises a full financial report on the Flea Market in the next Short Skip. The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented. m/s WB6RHP/K6GEV

PROGRAM: "Low-fers" Jim Ericson KG6EK and Herb Vanderbeek WY6G were kind enough to come up from Palo Alto and describe life on the 1750 Meter band. Yes, that's 160-190 KHz! No license at all is required, but you are limited to 1 Watt input power and a 50-foot antenna. About 100 people in the U.S. are currently active.

--- INTERMISSION ---

REPEATER: Regarding intermodulation crud on the 146.73 repeater, Hoppy WD6CKP notes that there are about 4 times as many transmitters on the hill as there were a few years ago.

EDUCATION: Steve WA8LLY reported that the Flea Market test session had our lowest pass rate ever: 14 of 24 applicants upgraded. Actually, the low percentage may help keep the FCC from getting suspicious about our previous high pass rates.

CLASSES: We desperately need Novice class instructors. WA8LLY will probably be teaching a small class at his home, but we have 47 people on the list. Call Steve if you can help (823-4544).

PUBLIC SERVICE: Bob WD6EKV rounded up 6 people last Sunday on very short notice to help with the YMCA "10K/3K Harvest Festival Run."

CHRISTMAS PARTY: Russ N6KMJ will make up a reservation form for Short Skip. Cost will be \$8 per person, with the club chipping in \$2 towards the total cost of \$10.

R. I. P. Don WA6ACX announced that the 10-METER SCRA 10-meter net is no more, due to QRM from JA and South America.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE is Bob Sones WD6EKV, Rudy Mappus N6KLU, and Sarah Davis N6FAX. MEMBER OF THE YEAR selection committee Chairman is Hoppy Bravin WD6CKP. Get your nominations in now!

QSL CARDS: Club QSL cards are back from the printer. Al N1AL handed them out to those who ordered.

CORRESPONDENCE: N1AL has cards for a discount on Callbooks. P4ØV wants us to work them in the CQ DX contest. N6PTM has BADGES to be picked up.

DEAR JOHN, W6CCY: Dear, dear, John... I'm so sorry to have to inform you through the pages of Short Skip that you lost \$31.50 in the membership lottery through not coming to the October club meeting...

Meeting adjourned at 9:55. m/s N6FAX/WA6ACX

Respectfully submitted by Al Bloom N1AL, Secretary.

H.S.C. Electronic Supply

PHONE: (707) 792-2277

of Santa Rosa

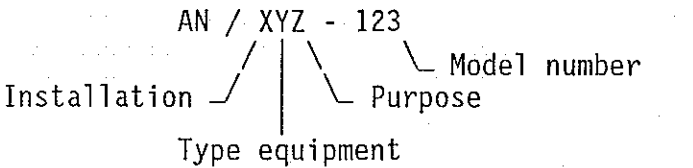
DIVISION OF HALTED SPECIALTIES, INC.
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GEORGE SHEDORE
K56W MANAGER

IDENTIFY
THAT BOAT ANCHOR!

Military electronic equipment is identified by an "AN" number having the format:



The three letters after AN/ indicate what the equipment does, according to the following code:

INSTALLATION	TYPE EQUIPMENT
A- airborne	A- invisible light
B- underwater	B- pigeon
mobile submarine	C- carrier (wire)
C- air transportable	D- radioactivity
D- pilotless carrier	F- photographic
F- fixed	G- telegraph/teletype
G- ground, gen. use	I- interphone/P.A.
K- amphibious	K- telemetry
M- mobile	L- countermeasures
P- pack or portable	M- meteorological
S- water surface	N- sound in air
craft	P- radar
T- ground transprtble	Q- sonar
U- general utility	R- radio
V- ground vehicular	S- special types
	T- telephone (wire)
	V- visual/visibl light
	X- FAX/television

PURPOSE:	
A- aux. assembly	N- navigational aids
B- bombing	P- reproducing gear
C- communications	Q- special types
D- direction finding	R- receiving
G- gun/searchlight	S- range/bearing det.
H- recording	T- transmitting
L- searchlite control	W- remote control
M- maintenance & test	X- ID & recognition

Examples:
AN/PRC-20 is a portable radio transceiver.
AN/APX-6 is a radar IFF transponder.
AN/ALQ-165 is an airborne ECM system.

The above list is useful for identifying surplus junk at hamfests. It is of Korean-War vintage and is incomplete.

Frank, W9MKV. Relayed by Tad, KT7H @ KE7OM via N6IIU BBS. ■

TREASURER'S REPORT

FOR MONTH ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1988

ACCOUNT	REVENUE	EXPENSE
Activities (Picnic)	41.85	57.15
Refreshments at meetings ..	5.59	7.96
Dues and Initiations	10.00	
Fund-Raisers	1346.40	1088.58
Badges		15.90
Short Skip Newsletter	126.00	224.25
Membership Supplies.....	1.75	
Officers' Expenses		8.82
	1531.59	1402.66

ASSETS:	
General Fund Account	1420.94
Cash/checks on hand	13.63
Total General Fund	1434.57
Total Repeater Fund	1943.67



- de N6PTM

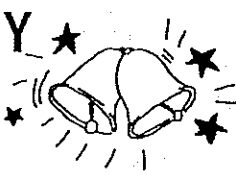
1888-
1988

Heinrich
Hertz

In 1888, when Heinrich Hertz proved James Maxwell's theory that electromagnetic waves travel through space the way light waves do, no-one has imagined just how much of an influence his scientific work would have on the development of communications over the next hundred years. Today all of us come into contact with the terms "hertz", "kilo-hertz" and "megahertz" when tuning in our radio or television sets, but very few of us realize that these terms are named in honour of the physicist Heinrich Hertz. Short-wave listeners in particular are confronted every day with frequency data in kilohertz when choosing that frequency from those offered by their favourite broadcasting station that can best be picked up where they live.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday, Dec 17
Windsor Mobile Home Park



RESERVATION FORM FOR 1988 SCRA XMAS PARTY:

SCRA MEMBER: _____

NUMBER OF PEOPLE COMING: _____

Price will be \$8.00 per person, payable to SCRA. (Payment will be made at the door.)

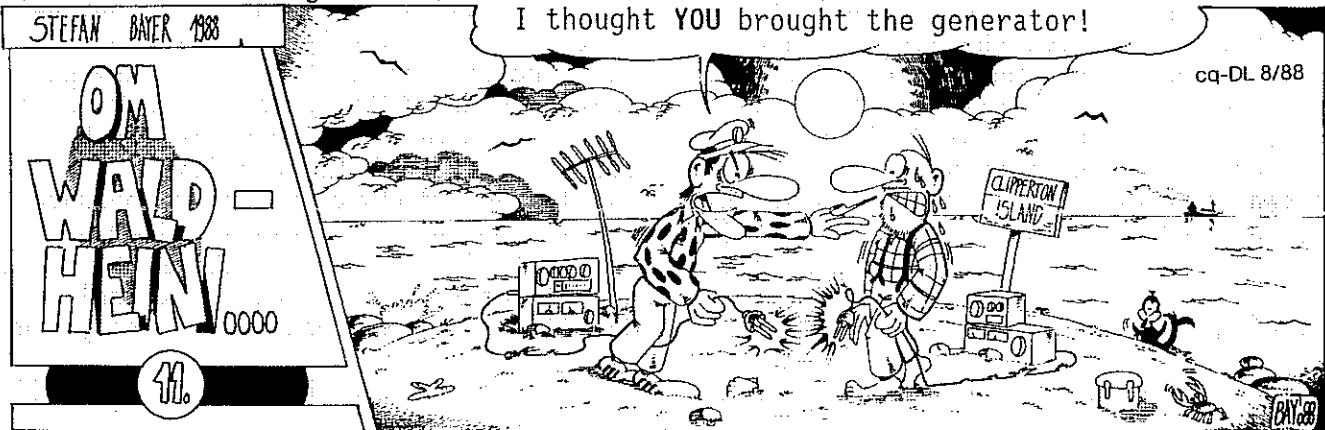
The catered dinner will include:

- Ham with honey apple glaze
- Rice pilaf
- Veggies in season
- Tossed green salad with toasted almond dressing
- Orange cheesecake

Bring this form to the November meeting. or Mail it to Steve Schaffer KD6GC, 2320 Mark West Springs, Santa Rosa, CA 95404. or Call me at home (546-8860) or at work (576-4880). - de KD6GC ■

(from page 4)
on people that said "I hate Wayne". They also had "I hate Wayne" T-shirts, but they were out of my size. Again I ran into Terry, but he was too busy poking in the parts bin to talk to me. Later, back at the radio shack, I was surprised to work Tom KB6U0J on 40 meters. At 15:00, after saying goodbye to the W7KYC crew, I met my Dad in front of the convention site. We shopped, went out for pizza, and then drove to the airport where we said our goodbyes.

In conclusion, I think the ARRL National Conventions are fun to go to! ■



CDF-VIP



By Hank Davis W6DTV

Since the last report in early Summer, the Sonoma Ranger Unit VIP program has been quite active. As of the time this was written (September), we are approaching 15 days of service to CDF.

September started with a Red Flag Day, but before that was terminated, the River Fire started, and VIP got busy. This and another fire added up to about 9000 acres of burned area. VIP set up voice communications, packet, shadow and lots of paperwork.

Three days of space and away we go... The largest fire, or fires, in this area started, and when finished, had consumed around 30,000 acres. This was the Miller and Blue Fires in the Lake-Napa Ranger Unit.

The VIP program's main activity at this time was packet. A packet station was set up at the Region I office, or ECC, and was maintained for seven days.

32 VIP members of the Sonoma Ranger Unit participated. This is the largest participation in any activity so far. Two other VIP units worked on these Miller and Blue Fires: the Lake-Napa VIP unit and the Santa Clara VIP unit. This has been a real Plus for the VIP program. ■

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT NICAD BATTERIES



CAPACITY: Expressed in terms of Ampere-hours (Ah) or milliamperere hours (mAh). This is a measure of the discharge rate needed for the battery to drop to one volt per cell within one hour. For example, a fully-charged 4 Ah battery used with a HT needing 2 A will discharge in approximately 2 hours. When a battery's capacity drops to 80% of its rating, replace it.

VOLTAGE: When in use, the voltage of the nicad battery pack is about 1.2 volts per cell. This voltage remains until the cell approaches discharge. In normal operation, the voltage should not drop below 1.1 or 1.0 per cell. Note: if the battery pack is used to provide current above the rated value there will be a severe drop in voltage when discharge is approached. This reduces the capacity and can render the pack useless.

CYCLES: Used to measure the life of a battery pack, a cycle is a full charge and discharge. Nicad battery packs should last 1000 or more cycles (two to three years of use assuming eight hours days, five days a week) under normal conditions.

POLARITY REVERSAL: This occurs when one of the cells reaches zero voltage before the others. Because all cells are connected in series, a reversal in polarity occurs. Although this situation can be reversed, it should be avoided, since it can shorten the life of the battery pack.

MEMORY EFFECT: Although more common in the power plate batteries of yesteryear, this can still occur if the proper care isn't given. When a repeated shallow discharge of the same amount occurs more then 200 times, a battery can show a memory effect. This rarely occurs with normal use. Even if it were to occur, the battery will seem to have a reduced capacity of only about 10% which is not noticeable. This means you'll still have access to 90% of its original capacity.

FACTS:

1. Be sure to use the charger that was

designed for the type and capacity of the battery pack to be charged. Continuous overcharging may shorten battery life.

2. Always use a charger that switches to a trickle charge after the battery reaches 60 to 80% of full charge. This avoids battery damage caused by charging a battery at greater than a 10 hour rate for long periods of time.
3. Undercharging a battery causes the most damage. The causes for this are usually one of two: 1. Mismanagement. 2. Defective charger.
4. Do not fast-charge batteries that have been stored for more then 6 months. Start them off on a slow charge over a 14 to 20 hour period. After the first charge, (slow charge) a fast charge can be used for subsequent charges.
5. Never fast charge batteries below 40 deg F. Chemicals react slower below this temperature. This means a battery pack can't accept high current. If a high current is used to charge the battery under these conditions, pressure will build up in the cells and there will be a loss of capacity.
6. Check new battery packs as they arrive to be sure the capacity is still at the level needed for your equipment.
7. Check the capacity of nicad battery packs every three months when used every day. Check every six months when used less often. If the battery is less then 80% of its rated capacity, then the battery is near the end of its life and should be disposed.
8. Avoid deep discharges. If a battery should be discharged below one volt per cell, polarity reversal may occur and the battery would be rendered useless.
9. Avoid short circuits. This can be done carrying them in your pocket with coins or keys. If a pack short circuits you'll probably burn your fingers or something else, according to which pocket it is in.
10. Resist the temptation to buy extra battery packs on sale, then let hem set idle for long periods of time. Battery packs that have sat idle for a long period of time may take as many as ten cycles to bring the battery pack back to capacity.
11. When storing batteries, be sure to store them in a cool place. Storing batteries in high temp. causes the battery to self discharge, speeding natural deterioration and reducing capacity. ■

- Tnx VE7DIE @ WB6ASR via N6IIU BBS

AMATEUR RADIO EXAMS

IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

PO=PREREG. ONLY.
PP=PREREG. PERFERRED
WO=WALK-INS ONLY
SW=SOME WALK-INS

10 19 EUREKA-----WO-707-442-6631
10 20 LOS GATOS-----7PM-WO-408-243-8349
10 22 NAPA-----10AM-WO-707-224-1530
10 29 NEVADA CITY-----PP-916-273-2326
10 29 CASTRO VALLEY-9AM-WO-415-886-1557
11 01 **NEW ELEMENT 4B (EXTRA) WRITTEN*
11 03 BAKERSFIELD-----WO-805-833-8846
11 05 CONCORD----1:30PM-WO-408-255-9000
11 05 CUPERTINO-----9AM-WO-408-243-8349
11 05 S. S.F.-----10AM-WO-415-333-1916
11 12 LOS ALTOS H.-11AM-WO-408-255-9000
11 12 JACKSON---9:30AM-PP-209-295-7947
11 12 SANTA BAR.-8:30AM-WO-805-966-6620
11 16 EUREKA-----WO-707-442-6631
11 17 SACRAMENTO-9:00AM-WO-916-483-3293
11 19 CUPERTINO-----9AM-WO-408-243-8349
11 19 REDDING-----WO-916-243-7382
11 20 SUNNYVALE----11AM-WO-408-255-9000
11 20 SANTA CRUZ---1PM-WO-408-255-9000
12 03 CONCORD----1:30PM-WO-408-255-9000
12 03 VISALIA-----WO-????????????
12 03 CUPERTINO-----9AM-WO-408-243-8349
12 03 NOVATO-----WO-415-897-8950
12 03 ROSEVILLE---9AM-WO-916-484-1155
12 04 CHICO-----1PM-PP-916-342-1180
12 10 LOS ALTOS H.-11AM-WO-408-255-9000
12 10 NOVATO-----WO-415-897-8950
12 17 CUPERTINO-----9AM-WO-408-243-8349
12 18 SUNNYVALE----11AM-WO-408-255-9000
01 07 SACRAMENTO---9AM-PO-916-483-3293
-----TECHNICIAN---EXTRA CLASS-----
01 14 LOS ALTOS H.-11AM-WO-408-255-9000
01 15 SUNNYVALE----11AM-WO-408-255-9000
01 29 SANTA CRUZ---1PM-WO-408-255-9000
02 05 CHICO-----1PM-PP-916-342-1180
02 11 LOS ALTOS H.-11AM-WO-408-255-9000
02 19 SUNNYVALE----11AM-WO-408-255-9000
03 11 LOS ALTOS-11:30AM-WO-408-255-9000
03 16 SACRAMENTO-6:30PM-PO-916-483-3293
-----TECHNICIAN ONLY-----
03 18 SACRAMENTO---9AM-PO-916-483-3293
-----GENERAL-EXTRA CLASS ONLY-----
03 19 SUNNYVALE----11AM-WO-408-255-9000

TNX TO: N6IIU PBBS and the SUNNYVALE VEC ARC
BOX 60142, SUNNYVALE, CA 94088-0142
UPDATES & CORRECTIONS TO: SP W6NLG @ W6CUS

SNOOPY AND CHARLIE
(SHULTZ, NOT BROWN)

Over 1000 runners covered either 3 or 7 miles Sunday Oct 23 in the Snoopy Young-at-Heart run. The route started at the Redwood Empire Ice arena, crossed over Bicentennial Way and went up and around the HP plant on Fountaingrove Pkwy.

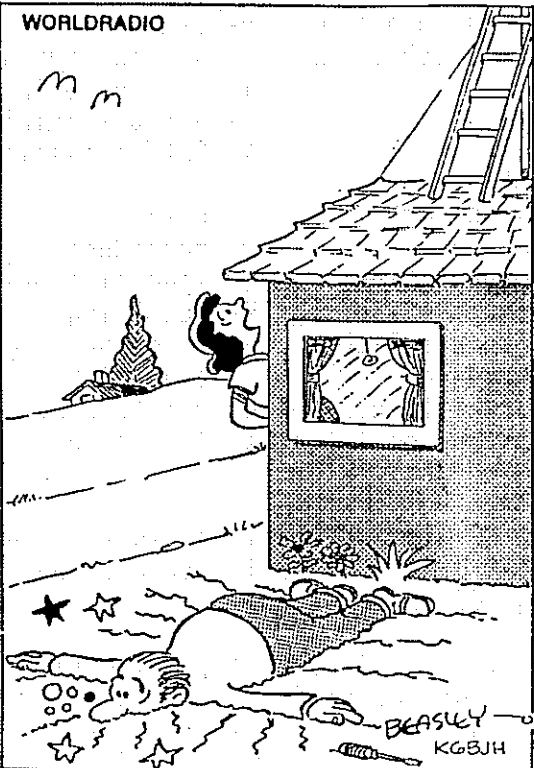
Young and "Young-at-Heart" runners were attracted to a celebrety roller-skater: Snoopy himself in full regalia. Not as many noticed that cartoonist Charles Shultz was wandering around taking in the doings.

The youngest runners were early elementary school age. Perhaps the oldest was one amazing lady of 81 years. Her husband claims she has run 50 marathons since her 71st birthday.

The race was a benefit for Memorial Hospital. Club members participating were Chuck N6DDK, Bob WD6DPE, Hank W6DTV, Bob WB6EKV, Sarah N6FAX, Rudy N6KLU, Phil N600A, Marie KI6QY, and Kathi WB6UAZ. ■

- Tnx WB6EKV

WORLD RADIO



COME DOWN OFF OF THE ANTENNA AND CONSOLE ME, WILLIAM--- I THINK I JUST FELT AN EARTHQUAKE!

BEASLEY
KG3JH