



HANK'S SWAP SHOP

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

WANT: BLUE RACER BUG or any good Vibroplex
in good shape. Jim McCauley 996-6461.

BUTTERNUT HF6V vertical, and 2M VERTICAL for
sale. Jane N6NTB 584-0145.

WANT: DESK-TYPE MIC. Jud N6QAV 829-3621.

COMODORE 64C with VIC 1541 disk drive, 1701
monitor, SG-10C Star dot-matrix printer, and
software. Inquire, Jack W6NGZ 579-8061.

WANT: POWER SUPPLY, 12 Volt, 10 Amps. Bob
WA600I 542-2663.

WANT: SOLID-STATE HF TRANSCEIVER. John
W6CCY 823-1357.

HALLICRAFTERS SX-101 ham-band rcvr, manual.
WANT: CONTINUOUS-COVERAGE RECEIVER. Sale
or trade. Tony Virgillio 528-1811.

ROHN 55 10' tower sections. 4 for \$95.
Doug WA6QCL 463-1701.

AEA PK-232 all-mode, XT IBM, manuals \$200.
AEA PK64 all-mode \$65. Joe K6UKB 526-7731.

WANT: ICOM CHARGER, drop-in type for 2AT.
Jim KI6KE 538-2857.

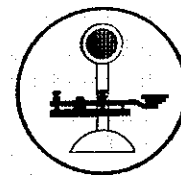
WANT: DRAKE RV3 remote vfo for TR3. David
KC6IGT 839-4567.

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

JOHN BRECKENRIDGE
WB6FRZ
574 WILD OAK DR
WINDSOR CA 95492

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SANTA ROSA, CA
PERMIT NO. 658



SHORT SKIP



Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.

JUNE 1990

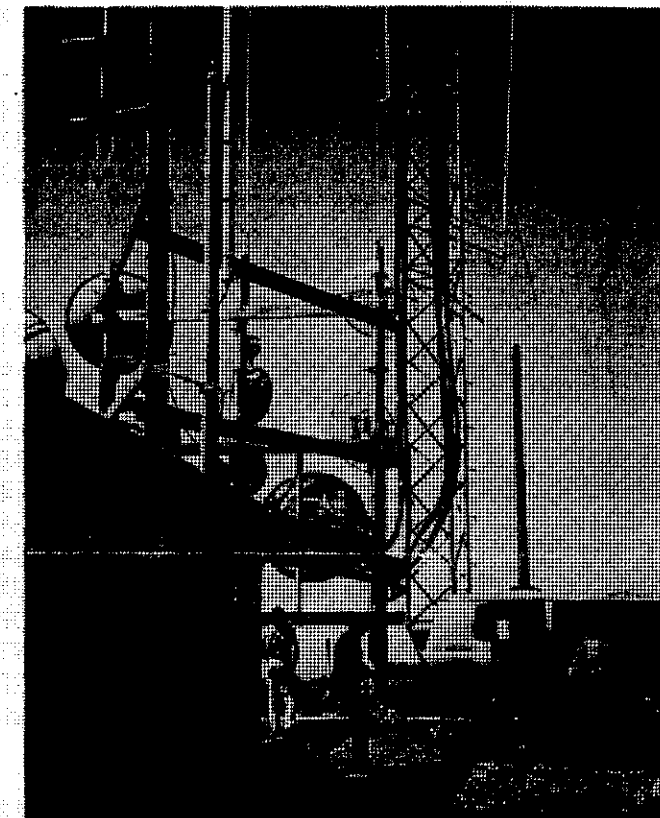
Club Station
W6LFJ

P.O. Box 116
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

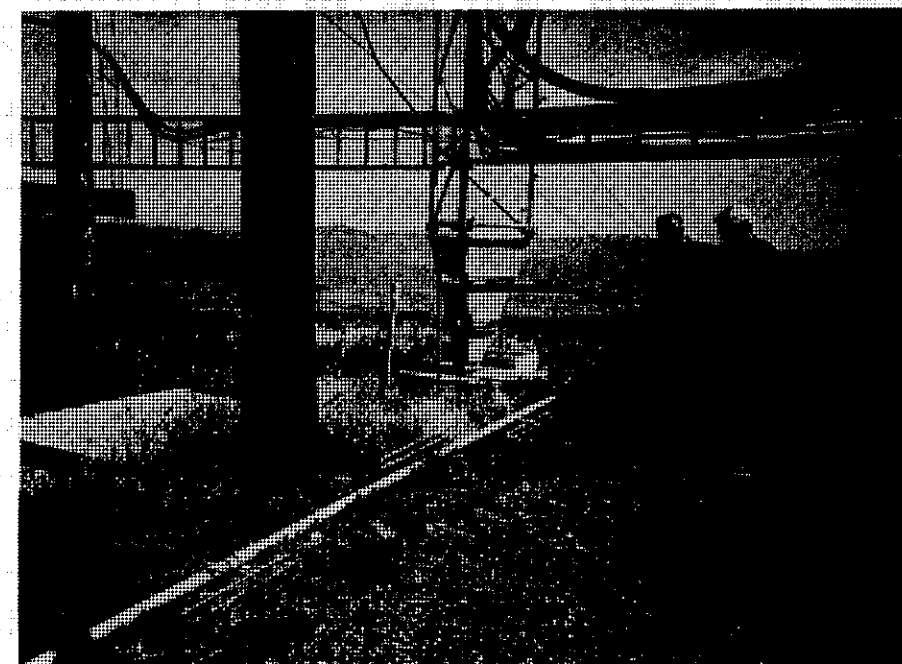
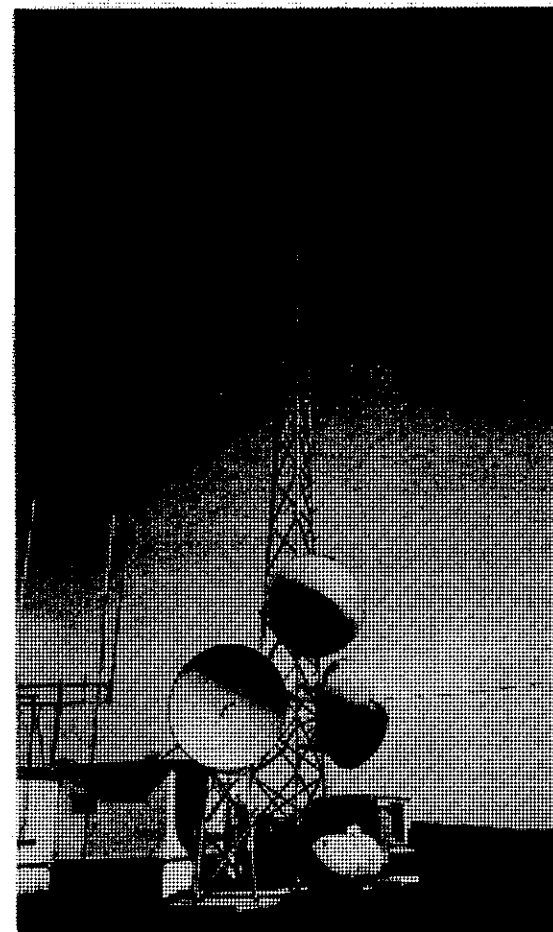
Repeater Station
WB6PVS

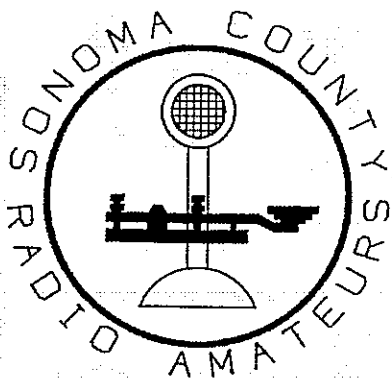
VOL 15 # 6

ANTENNA PARTY ON SONOMA MOUNTAIN



Photos tnx John W6TLK





----- OFFICERS FOR 1990 -----

PRESIDENT: John Wallack W6TLK 833-1873
VICE PRESIDENT: Jim Pelmulder N6PTM 823-7947
SECRETARY: Alan Bloom N1AL 538-7115
TREASURER: Philip Gaul KC6BSI 544-2572
MEMBER-AT-LARGE: John Breckenridge WB6FRZ 838-6398
ACTIVITIES CHAIR: Chuck Sabin N6DDK 795-2371
REPEATER CHAIRMAN: Jim Rutherford WB6PER 526-2972

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

EDITOR: Alan Bloom N1AL (e) 538-7115
1578 Los Alamos Rd, Santa Rosa, CA 95409 (d) 577-3981
CIRCULATION MGR: Harvey Lawrence K6KZ
ADVERTISING MGR: John Wallack W6TLK 833-1873
SWAP SHOP: Hank Davis W6DTV 823-7885

ARRL LIAISON: Alan Bloom N1AL 538-7115
ASST. DIRECTOR: Chuck Sabin N6DDK 795-2371
BADGE CHAIRMAN: Philip Gaul KC6BSI 544-2572
CLUB HISTORIAN: Connie Freitas N6FYV

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE:

PUBLIC SERVICE: Bill Splaine N6GHG 431-8636
(days) 577-2913
FIELD DAY: John W6TLK and Jim N6PTM (above)
EDUCATION: John Breckenridge WB6FRZ 527-8124
+WD6CKP WB7CNJ WB6TMY WA8LLY
TVI/RFI: John Lynch W6CCY 823-1357
HOMEBREW CONTST: Steve Lund WA8LLY 823-4544
AWARDS: Steve Lund WA8LLY 823-4544
VEC EXAMS: Steve Lund WA8LLY 823-4544
+N1AL WN6D WW6D WW6F WB6FRZ K6UXO
REFRESHMENTS @ MEETINGS: Bob Olsten WD6DPE
GREETER AT MEETINGS: Jane Vanderslice N6NTB
MEMBERSHIP LOTTERY: Bob Scolnick K6GEV
QSL MANAGER: Doug Bender WW6D

REPEATER CONTROL OP'S:

WD6CKP Hoppy 542-6750 N6ONZ Garry 584-3425
WB6PER Jim 526-2972 W6TLK John 833-1873
WB6UAZ Kathi 544-7943 WN6D Jim 544-7943
N6PTM Jim 823-7947
PACKET COMM: A1 N1AL, Jim WN6D, Rich 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: 10th of previous month

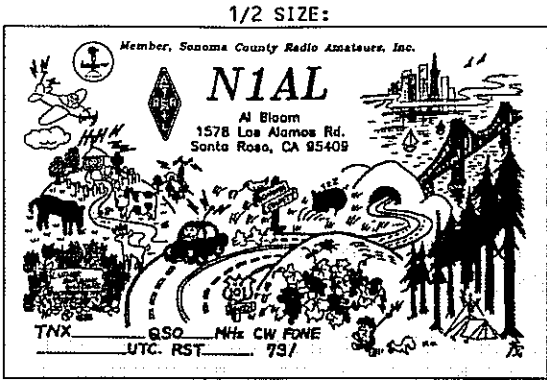
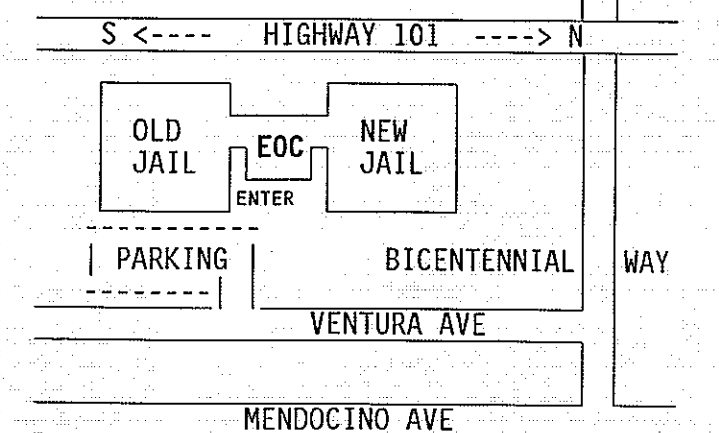
ARE YOU NOT AN SCRA MEMBER?

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) Anyone interested in ham radio is welcome.

NEXT MEETING: June 6, 1990
PROGRAM: 1990 SCRA FIELD DAY

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



CLUB QSL CARDS

We still have club QSL cards available. Be aware that we wait for at least two same-quantity orders before taking them to the printer unless you order "Express" service.

Payment must accompany your order. If you want the cards mailed to you, so indicate by adding \$3.00 postage/handling. Bring your order to a club meeting or send to: SCRA QSL, PO Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402.

PERSONALIZED CARDS:

# CARDS	NORMAL SERVICE	EXPRESS SERVICE
250	\$19.00	\$28.00
500	\$29.00	\$40.00
1000	\$49.00	\$60.00
2000	\$89.00	\$100.00

"BLANK" CARDS: (No Call/Name/Address)
\$4.00 per hundred cards.
(Available at club meetings)

Cards are black/red/blue on a light blue background. Enter the information EXACTLY as it should appear on the card:

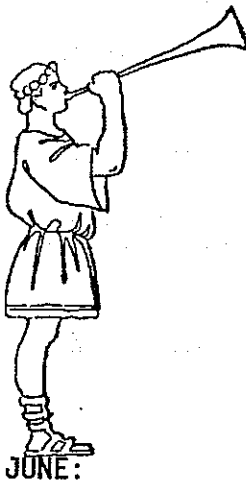
***** SCRA MEMBERS ONLY *****

ADD ARRL CALLSIGN: _____
DIAMOND? _____
YES ☐ NAME: _____
NO ☐ ADDR: _____

EXPRESS SERVICE? _____
YES ☐ \$ _____ + \$ _____ = \$ _____
NO ☐ CARDS POSTAGE TOTAL

QUICK QSL'S

We wait to print up personalized club QSL cards until we have at least 2 orders for the same quantity (unless you order "Express" service). Right now, we have a club member who has been waiting for his 250 cards for 2 months. If you would like some club QSL's, do it now, and we can send in your order right away.



COMING EVENTS:

SCARS NET: 146.73 MHz
Tuesdays at 7 PM.
VE EXAMS HOTLINE NR:
408-984-8353

- JUNE:
- 4 - RACES etc. Net 7:30 PM
 - 6 - SCRA meeting 7/7:30 PM
 - 9 - Foothill College Flea Market
 - 10 - Guerneville Stump Town Days
 - 15 - Deadline for July Short Skip
 - 17 - Santa Maria Swapfest
 - 18 - RACES etc. Net 7:30 PM
 - 21 - CDF/VIP Meeting 7:30 PM
 - 23 - "Terrible Two" 200 mile Bike Tour
 - 23-24 - Field Day

HANK'S SWAP SHOP (continued from back cover)

RADIO SHACK LINE 7 printer, new \$75.
COMMODORE 64-801 printer, ZENITH amber monitor, 1541 disc drive \$225.
HEATHKIT SB301/401 transmitter and receiver, cables, manual \$200. CUSHCRAFT A3 new \$125.
CUSHCRAFT X YAGI 2 mtrs 8 el 12' boom \$50.
ANTENNA SPEC. 5/8 WAVE 2M mobile, new in box w/cable \$15. HI-GAIN 2-el TRI-BAND used \$75.
HI-GAIN 2-el QUAD with bent spreader \$75.
GE 1/4 WAVE vhf vert., complete boxed \$10.
STEEL MILITARY MASTS 80' of 5' sections \$35.
3/4" HARDLINE 200' new 50 ohm some dents \$50.
YARD SALE every day of May and June. Tons. 3200 Tobin Lane. Signs on Primrose and Todd, west of 101. Don KB6LO 546-7047.

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION

For A HRO 72 Page Communication Equipment Catalog Send \$1.00 to any HRO Store



HAM RADIO OUTLET

LARGEST HAM OUTLET IN THE WORLD

NOW 9 STORE BUYING POWER







All Major Brands in Stock Now!



Bob Ferrero W6RJ
President/Owner
Jim Rafferty N6RJ
VP-National Sales Manager

ANAHEIM, CA 92801
2620 W. La Palma
(714) 761-3033, (213) 860-2040
Between Disneyland & Knott's Berry Farm

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

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

OAKLAND, CA 94606
2210 Livingston St.
(415) 534-5757
Rich, Mgr. WA9WYB
IS-880 at 23rd Ave. Ramp

PHOENIX, AZ 85015
1702 W. Camelback Rd.
(602) 242-3515
Bob K7RDH, Gary WB7SLY, Mgr.
East of Hwy. 17

SALEM, NH 03079
224 N. Broadway
(603) 898-3750, 1-800-444-0047
Curtis, Mgr. WB4KZL
28 miles north of Boston exit 1 I-93

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

WOODBRIDGE, VA 22191
14803 Build America Drive
(703) 643-1063, 1-800-444-4799
John, Mgr. WB4GJZ
Exit 54, I-95 South to US RT 1

VAN NUYS, CA 91411
6265 Sepulveda Blvd.
(818) 986-2212
Al, Mgr. KB5RA
San Diego Fwy. at Victory Blvd.

STORE HOURS 10 AM-5:30 PM
CLOSED SUNDAYS

CALL TOLL FREE

IN CALIFORNIA CALL STORE NEAREST YOU

1-800-854-6046

1-800-444-7927

1-800-444-4799

1-800-444-0047

Call any of our 800 numbers coast to coast from most parts of the country.

MID-WEST/WEST

SOUTHEAST

MID-ATLANTIC

NEW ENGLAND

ANAHEIM, 9 to 5:30 PST

ATLANTA, 9 to 5:30 EST

WOODBRIDGE, 9 to 5:30 EST

SALEM, 9 to 5:30 EST

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, Georgia and Virginia residents please add sales tax. Prices, specifications, descriptions subject to change without notice.

FIELD DAY SIGN-UP

Field Day this year is the weekend of June 23-24 at the Healdsburg Salvation Army, 200 Lytton Springs Rd. We have a good radio site with two small hills for antennas. Antenna setup will be Friday afternoon.

Food will be provided by WB6PER and N6IRJ. I have heard rumors of steaks, partially subsidized by SCRA. (Note: no alcohol on the Salvation Army site.)

We have some volunteers already. We have 3 Drake transceivers for phone and a 4-line on CW. We could use another Drake or Collins line for CW. We also have beams for 20/15/10 and wire antennas for the low bands.

Help us fill in the blanks! Give John W6TLK (833-1873) or Jim N6PTM (823-7947) a call and volunteer.

BAND CAPTAINS:

CW:	3.5 MHz	Al Bloom N1AL
	7 MHz	
	14 MHz	
	21 MHz	
PHONE:	28 MHz	
	3.5 MHz	
	7 MHz	
	14 MHz	John Wallack W6TLK
NOVICE CW:	21 MHz	Jim Pelmulder N6PTM
	28 MHz	
	VHF/UHF	
	PHONE:	(See John Breckenridge WB6FRZ to sign up.)

BONUS POINTS:

Packet Radio	
Pub Relations:	
Message Orig:	
Satellite QSO:	
Natural Power:	
WIAW message:	

FOOD: Jim and Susan Rutherford WB6PER/N6IRJ

Directions: Go north from Santa Rosa on Hwy 101 to the North end of Healdsburg (Lytton Springs Road exit), go left under the freeway and then take the 2nd left. It's near the Healdsburg CDF station.

IS ANYONE INTERESTED IN A DAY TRIP to Mt. Saint Helena in preparation for Field Day? The mountain is over 4000 feet elevation and located in the Robert Lewis Stevenson State Park, at the corners of Lake, Sonoma and Napa counties. The park is undeveloped, but there is a 7-mile trail to the summit. I intend to use a mountain bicycle to transport a battery, antenna and transceiver there some weekend day. If anyone is interested in joining in, please call Vince at (707) 526-4506. - Vince Migliore N6UMC

Page 10

Page 3

The FORUM

AMATEUR RADIO

- ANOTHER WAY

By Hank Davis W6DTV

There are other interests in Amateur Radio besides VHF, UHF, FD, DX and nets, etc. One aspect that was more noticeable in the past (sociability) seems to be coming back in many rural parts of California.

On a recent weekend trip, Sarah and I attended a small ham swap meet in Lake County. The number of Amateurs present was small (24 cars counted at one time), but no matter.

I met people not seen in a year or so. Some from last year's rained-out SCRA Flea Market in Santa Rosa (they plan to come back in Sept.), and others from other swaps. Sales were not the most important activity this day. Over-the-air friends met for the first time, going from table to pick-up to van just to visit. As the day was hot, all sales and social events, breakfast and lunch excluded, ended by Noon, but a great day for all.

Another activity was a Picnic -- the 145.13 club had their annual gathering at the country cabin of WD6AMG. It is about 10 miles north of Upper Lake. About 25 Amateurs arrived, and a good time was had by all. We met many new Amateurs in this north area.

At the swap meet, I met an Amateur all the way from Guernsey Island (near England). He was on his way to a police conference, working repeaters along the way.

Different clubs are using this picnic, breakfast, or lunch idea for the social side of Amateur Radio, and I think it's good.

The Valley of the Moon ARC holds a breakfast the first Saturday of every month. It's fun to visit other areas.

The senior citizens of Amateur Radio, QCWA, meet once a month for lunch and sometimes include a field trip.

The VIP group with the California Dept. of Forestry had a breakfast for about 40 and plan another soon.

Perhaps our club could try a breakfast or lunch somewhere in Santa Rosa. It does not have to have a big turnout, as each time different members will come. Let's give it a try.

NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERS

SINCE LAST MONTH

Ruth Lawrence WA6AQA
521 Teresa Ct.
Sebastopol, CA 95472
829-2350

Donald E. Dickey W6CPE
7635 Mandolin Way
Rohnert Park, CA 94928
795-1269

Frank LaPointe KI6GG
19753 Phoenix Lake Rd
Sonora, CA 95370
209-532-6569

Brian Torr N6IIY
1625 Gamay St.
Santa Rosa, CA 95401
575-5871

Rudy Mappus N6LKU
374 Sprauer Rd.
Petaluma, CA 94952
664-1978

Harvey Lawrence K6KZ
521 Teresa Ct.
Sebastopol, CA 95472
829-2350

Fred Plante W6LOU
10020 Sky Ct. CLR
Kelseyville, CA 95451
277-7377

Jim Pelmulder N6PTM
2801 Gravenstein Hwy
Sebastopol, CA 95472
823-7947

Marie Mappus KI6QY
374 Sprauer Rd.
Petaluma, CA 94952
664-1978

Rick Sealock N6RXA
1372 Miramonte Pl
Rohnert Park CA 94928

Joe Cozzolino K6UKB
1309 Crestview Ct.
Santa Rosa, CA 95401
526-7731

Cliff Rein N6YIG
6595 Bridgewood Dr.
Santa Rosa, CA 95409

Lou Schneider N6YMQ
7 Hammondale Ct.
San Rafael, CA 94901
415-454-7653

We now have 136 paid-up members.

SCRA MINUTES

May 2, 1990

The meeting was called to order by President John Wallack W6TLK at 7:33PM. Other officers present: Vice President Jim Pelmulder N6PTM, Secretary Al Bloom N1AL, Treasurer Phillip Gaul KC6BSI and Member-at-Large John Breckenridge WB6FRZ.

VISITORS presented by Greeter Jane N6NTB: Jeff Young, Reed White, & Don Dickey W6CPE.

A NEW AMATEUR, courtesy of WB6FRZ's class, will be Dave Shutt who just passed the exam.

The MINUTES of the last meeting were approved as printed in last month's *Short Skip*. m/s K6GEV/N1AL

The TREASURER'S REPORT by KC6BSI shows \$1571.45 in the General Fund and \$755.43 in the Repeater Fund. Approved m/s WA8LLY/N6IIY

The REPEATER problem appears to be the antenna, according to N6PTM. A new Station Master antenna is on order. Jim has done the modification to the Repco emergency repeater to allow remote turn-on via the 450 control link. He also fixed the ID'er.

PUBLIC SERVICE: Bill N6GHG reported on our successful handling of 3 recent events: the Diabetes Assn. run, the Green belt alliance event, and the March of Dimes Walkathon this past weekend. Bill listed upcoming events for which volunteers are needed. The Board will take up the question of whether we need to cut back on any of these activities.

EDUCATION: John WB6FRZ has 14 students in his Novice class as they approach the 4th session. Age ranges from 7 to 60 or so.

FIELD DAY: Since our FD chairman will be out of town on June 23-34, Our President and Vice President W6TLK and N6PTM will do the honors. John and Jim have checked out the location, and it looks like a fine radio site -- trees for antenna supports on hills with good visibility in all directions.

"OLD" BUSINESS: John WB6FRZ was kind enough to point out Al N1AL's birthday today.

NEW BUSINESS: Bill WA6OLW read a story in the *Westlink* newsletter expressing concern over the future of 40 meters at the upcoming World Administrative Radio Conference.

UPGRADE EXAMS will be May 17 at 7PM at the EOC, says Steve WA8LLY. Walk-ins only. Steve will have the HOMEBREW CONTEST PLAQUE updated. m/s N6PTM/N6OLD

HAM RADIO MAGAZINE is no more, according to N1AL. It has been bought out by CQ magazine.

Al also mentioned the upcoming Santa Maria swapfest, and a request by Vince N6UMC for a companion for a Field Day warmup mountain-topping expedition to Mt. St. Helena. Reed White is looking for QRP GEAR for when he gets his license (soon!).

A GET-WELL CARD for Wilbur Dale N6MGY was passed around by Hoppy WD6CKP. The PROGRAM was a slide show on ARRL Headquarters presented by John W6TLK. The MEMBER LOTTERY was lost by KB6PBD who would have been \$32 richer had he attended.

Meeting adjourned 9:10 PM. m/s KB6PTA/WA6ACX
Respectfully submitted Sec. Al Bloom N1AL.

TREASURER'S REPORT

FOR MONTH ENDING March 31, 1990

ACCOUNT	REVENUE	EXPENSE
Refreshments at meetings ..	4.34	7.20
Raffle at meetings	25.00	
Dues and Initiations	365.00	
Badges		8.50
Misc(New checks)		15.60
Repeater ..(50% March dues)		286.00
(Connector)		6.36
Short Skip Newsletter	10.00	44.05
Amateur Radio Newsline		105.52
Membership Supplies.....	2.00	
Officers' Expenses		5.00
	406.34	478.23
ASSETS:		
General Fund Account	1533.00	
Cash/checks on hand	38.45	
Total General Fund	1571.45	
Total Repeater Fund	755.43	de KC6BSI

Page 4

Page 9

WHAT KIND OF INFO IS ON A PACKET BULLETIN BOARD?

For those of you who are not familiar with Packet Bulletin Board Systems, here's a list of bulletins on our local KJ6FY "PBBS" originated in the last 24 hours.

Note that these are only the public bulletins -- personal messages between individuals are not listed:

From	Date/Time	Subject
WA6AEO	0522/0410	COMPUTER HARDWARE FOR SALE
KE6PT	0522/0409	TRS-80 COLOR COMPUTER 4SALE
KE6PT	0522/0409	RGBI COLOR MONITOR FOR SALE
N6NFE	0522/0305	Software
K5DI	0522/0210	Parameters part 2
W6NLG	0522/0209	Need a FCC Form 610?
WA6FWI	0522/0208	Uniden HR2510 and 2600
N9IRX	0522/0019	SHACK FOR SALE
KJ6TC	0522/0016	WX BULLETIN AS OF 05-21
N6FAB	0521/2219	COCO MOD 2/64K
N6FAB	0521/2219	BUTTERNUT HF2V
WA6EQU	0521/2133	ORGAN DONOR NEEDED
WE6A	0521/2132	WANTED: TEN-TEC TRITION OR
N6EEG	0521/2132	20m and 40m ports needed ..
KD2BD	0521/2127	News From OSCAR-11 03May90
KJ6NA	0521/1702	TO ALL NODE CONTROL OPS
KD6ZM	0521/1702	flyback transformer wanted
N6UII	0521/1620	So.Cal.updates 33cm bandpln
N7MRP	0521/1536	FOR SALE!!!!
NM7U	0521/1410	How does Knwd Digital Code
W3IWI	0521/1117	UO-14 9600 BAUD UPDATE
W3IWI	0521/1116	OPERATIONS NET SCHEDULE
W3IWI	0521/1115	ZRO TEST SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED
WA6VQP	0521/1114	30 Watt 900 MHz Amp
KF6A	0521/0712	GEAR FOR SALE
W3IWI	0521/0710	AO-13 TRANSPONDER SCHEDULE
KG6LV	0521/0454	STOLEN Icom 735 & 2400

I still haven't gotten around to hooking up the club W6LFJ digipeater, so to connect, put your packet station on 144.93 MHz, type "C KJ6FY-1" or "C KJ6FY-1 V WA6LIA-1" or "C KJ6FY-1 V KD6RC".

- de N1AL

Jim Pelmulder
N6PTM

(707) 823-7947

NOB HILL ELECTRONICS REPAIR

Amateur - Commercial - Scanners
TV - VCR's - Audio

Sta. Lic. No.
26191

2801 Gravenstein Hwy. No.
Sebastopol, CA 95472



950 Piner Road • Santa Rosa, CA 95401 • (707) 527-6000

STEVE BASHAM
Manager

Radio Shack

STORE NO. 3855

ZANE BATES
MANAGER

WB6SRU

510 FARMERS LANE
SANTA ROSA, CA. 95405

TELEPHONE
546-8423

HSC Halted
specialties co.

Electronics • Prototyping Supplies • Computers • Lasers

George Shedore
Manager
KS6W

6819 REDWOOD DRIVE
COTATI, CA 94931

PHONE: (707) 792-2277
FAX: (707) 792-0146

EDITORIAL: SAILORS WHO CAN'T SWIM



In June 1990 *World Radio*, Editor N6WR had the following comments:

We probably will have a no-code license. I base that on this: A few days ago the US Navy announced that its sailors no longer have to know how to swim...

So If we can have sailors who don't have to be able to swim, we can have radio operators that don't know the code. The result will be the same in both cases.

Exactly. Sailors don't NEED to know how to swim. They have boats and ships to carry them over/through the water -- muscle power is not needed.

Similarly, for many purposes, there are far better modes than CW for carrying out communications. Packet for transmitting computer data. Voice for phone patches. Facsimile or ATV for images.

But, when the chips are down, when the signal-to-noise level approaches 0 dB, when the bands are crowded and it's hard to find a clear kiloHertz, CW will get through when no other mode can.

If I were a sailor, I would want to know how to swim!
- N1AL



MENTAL ENERGY

by Vince T. Migliore N6UMC

After that "Dark Sucker Theory" in the April issue, I wonder if my "Mental Energy Theory" has any merit.

The mind runs on electricity, and the brain is like a battery. When you are born, you are given only so much "juice". Every time you concentrate on something, you are using up that energy. Therefore, it's important to do as little thinking as possible. I personally keep my mind at a complete blank most of the time. Staring at a blank TV screen, or even one that's on, is a good way to save brain energy by avoiding such hazards as studying, tests, creativity and problem-solving. There is a simple phrase to remind you to shut off your mental circuits, but I forget what it is.

1990 HOMEBREW CONTEST RESULTS

by Steve Lund WA8LLY

The eighth SCRA Homebrew Contest had fewer contestants than expected, but the entries were great. Jim Pelmulder N6PTM was the runner-up with his Lafayette CB to 10 meter conversion. The interesting part of this project was that this radio was not one of the newer synthesized ones that only require a new crystal and a minor tune-up. Jim added a VXO and the mechanics to tune it from the front panel.

The winner was Bill Kaiser N6OLD who entered his homebrew 1296 MHz / 10 GHz transverter. This is based on N6GN's design which was published in *Ham Radio Magazine*. It's good to see that home construction has not totally died. Bill's station works, as he has helped several others earn their 10 GHz VUCC awards.

HAM KILLED IN TOWER FALL

By David Black KB4KCH

A March 31 tower accident in Enterprise, AL has claimed the life of Jack Burns KA5HNV. Burns was one of two Amateurs at the top of a 150-foot tower changing out the club's 2 meter repeater antenna, when his safety harness apparently gave way. Club member Jim Ketchum KA4AFI was standing about 30 feet away and was witness to the tragedy.

"They had already replaced the antenna... and they were just hooking up the pigtailed for the coax... apparently Jack's safety strap broke... The other Amateur that was on the antenna with him said that he was working and looked up and Jack was gone. As he looked down, he could see him falling. It looked obvious that he was dead when he impacted the ground. At that time, I went over and I found a short piece of the safety belt, and you could see where the leather had dry-rotted and cracked. Apparently, that is what caused him to fall."

Ketchum says that the radio club has been badly shaken by Jack Burn's death, and has a plea to other hams: "Don't climb with a leather belt. Their use has been out for several years now. OSHA standards require nylon web-type belts and straps." He adds that a lot of hams appear to be relying on the older telephone-pole climbing belts, noting, "they are death traps." Jack Burns worked as a pilot instructor. Radio and sailing were his favorite hobbies. He is survived by his wife, a son and two brothers. Tnx Westlink Report.

SILENT KEY

Ray Miller KB6HT became a silent key the weekend of April 7. Ray was a past member of REDX and an employee of HSC Electronics. Time and location of services are unknown. Tnx Hank W6DTV



CORSICA ISLAND. Wolfgang will be active as TK/DL7HZ from the May 20 until June 4. Main activity will be 14 & 21 MHz on RTTY/AMTOR and CW & SSB on the WARC bands. QSL to CBA.

SOVIET UNION Harvard University exchange. The Harvard Wireless Club will be traveling on May 22 to Leningrad, USSR. They Expect to be on the air from May 24 to June 2 using the call USIA. The hosts for this trip will be student members of club station UZ1AWT. QSL to WIAF, the Harvard Wireless Club, 6 Linden Street, Cambridge, MA 02138. This is a new QTH as of 1990 for the club. In Oct. 1990, UZ1AWT club members will journey to Cambridge to operate for ten days from WIAF.

ROTUMA 3D2. Bing, VK2BCH, will make his third visit to Rotuma in the South Pacific starting on May 20th. Bing will operate 80 through 10 meters using mostly SSB with some CW. QSL to his home call.

DODECANESE SV5. starting May 21st for 10 days, N200, WA3TYF and SVOAA will sign /SV5.

KERGUELEN ISLAND FT4XG. Francois has been very active on 10 SSB on the weekends. Listen on 28574 KHz around 1500z working 5 up. Also, FT5XH and FT5XA show up on 14165 KHz several mornings a week at 1100z or later via long path. QSL for FT4XG via FDIASS or FIASS to 1990 CBA.

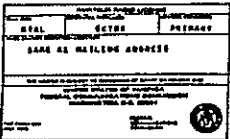
ANGOLA PY4VB is in Lusaka waiting for a license. Watch 14025 KHz at 2200z daily. QSL to PY40D.

SEYCHELLES S79CW has been QRV around 0100z on 20 CW. QSL to WA5Y. S79FT has been very active this past week on CW. QSL to DL7FT.

Thanks to Paul KB1BE, the Connecticut DX Association and WIAW for the above info. ■

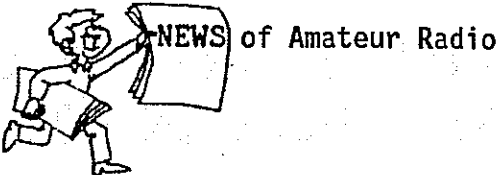
AMATEUR EXAMS

IN NORTHERN CA



- UNLICENSED-EXTRA:
1. WALK-INS ONLY
2. SOME WALK-INS
3. PRE-REG. PREFERRED
4. PRE-REGISTER ONLY
- UNLICENSED-TECH ONLY:
A. WALK-INS ONLY
B. SOME WALK-INS
C. PRE-REG. PREFERRED
D. PRE-REGISTER ONLY

JUNE 02 CONCORD----1:30 PM 1 415 254-5090
JUNE 02 CUPERTINO-----9 AM 1 408 243-8349
JUNE 02 SOUTH S.F.---10 AM 3 415 333-1916
JUNE 02 SACRAMENTO---9 AM 4 916 483-3293
JUNE 02 OAKLAND-----9 AM 1 415 986-5055
JUNE 02 VISALIA-----9 AM ? 209 734-9516
JUNE 07 SAN CARLOS-7:30 PM A 408 255-9000
JUNE 07 MODESTO----6:30 PM 1 209 883-2968
JUNE 09 LOS ALTOS HILLS ***FLEA MARKET***
JUNE 09 EXAMS-SEE SUNNYVALE-----
JUNE 09 SUNNYVALE----11 AM 1 408 255-9000
JUNE 09 STOCKTON--11:30 AM 1 408 255-9000
JUNE 09 NOVATO-----9 AM 1 415 897-8950
JUNE 09 SANTA MARIA---8 AM 1 805 922-0538
JUNE 09 OAKHURST-----8 AM 1 209 683-8245
JUNE 14 SAN CARLOS-7:30 PM A 408 255-9000
JUNE 16 VACAVILLE----11 AM 1 408 255-9000
JUNE 16 CUPERTINO----9 AM 1 408 243-8349
JUNE 17 SUNNYVALE----11 AM 1 408 255-9000
JULY 28 SAN CARLOS-7:30 PM A 408 255-9000
JULY 01 CLEARLAKE----11 AM 1 408 255-9000
JULY 05 SAN CARLOS-7:30 PM A 408 255-9000
JULY 08 HANFORD-----NOON 1 408 255-9000
JULY 12 SAN CARLOS-7:30 PM A 408 255-9000
JULY 14 LOS ALTOS HILLS ***FLEA MARKET***
JULY 14 SUNNYVALE----11 AM 1 408 255-9000
JULY 14 STOCKTON--11:30 AM 1 408 255-9000
JULY 14 REDDING-----? ? 916 243-7382
JULY 14 JACKSON-----9 AM 2 209 295-7947
JULY 21 MONTEREY-----9 AM 1 408 624-2564
JULY 26 SAN CARLOS-7:30 PM A 408 255-9000
JULY 29 SUNNYVALE----11 AM 1 408 255-9000
AUG. 02 SAN CARLOS-7:30 PM A 408 255-9000
AUG. 04 STOCKTON--11:30 PM 1 408 255-9000
AUG. 09 SAN CARLOS-7:30 PM A 408 255-9000
AUG. 11 LOS ALTOS HILLS ***FLEA MARKET***
AUG. 11 SUNNYVALE----11 AM 1 408 255-9000
AUG. 11 CONCORD----1:30 PM 1 408 255-9000
AUG. 11 SANTA MARIA---8 AM 1 805 922-0538
AUG. 18 PORTERVILLE-930 AM 1 408 255-9000
AUG. 09 SAN CARLOS-7:30 PM A 408 255-9000
AUG. 23 SAN CARLOS-7:30 PM A 408 255-9000
AUG. 26 SUNNYVALE----11 AM 1 408 255-9000
AUG. 30 SAN CARLOS-7:30 PM A 408 255-9000
SUNNYVALE VEC, BOX 60142, SUNNYVALE CA 94088
UPDATES & CORRECTIONS TO: SP W6NLG @ KA6JLT



RIP HAM RADIO MAGAZINE. It has been sold lock, stock and barrel to CQ Communications, publisher of CQ magazine. The June issue will be the last issue of Ham Radio -- existing subscriptions will be fulfilled by CQ. Tnx ARRL Letter.

"ATLAS RADIO" CON MAN JAILED AND FINED. Michael Harrison WB2PTI has been sentenced to prison and fined \$125,000, after pleading guilty to mail fraud. This was the follow who advertised the Uniden radios which were never delivered. Tnx ARRL Letter.

ARRL WITHDRAWS HF PACKET PETITION. RM-7248, which would have allowed automatic control of packet BBS's on HF, was opposed by a group of RTTY and CW operators. The ARRL withdrew the petition "without prejudice", implying it plans to resubmit a modified plan. Tnx Westlink Report.

"TRANSMITTING TOWERS" ARE ILLEGAL in Gainesville, Fla. Amateurs are being ordered to remove their antennas. Los Angeles has also enacted a restrictive antenna/tower ordinance. ARRL Asst. Section Manager N6AHU is leading the fight. Tnx Westlink.

