



345 West College Ave, Santa Rosa, CA 95401 (707) 527-6000

STEVE BASHAM
Manager



Electronics • Prototyping Supplies • Computers • Lasers

George Shedore
Manager
KS6W

6819 REDWOOD DRIVE
COTATI, CA 94931

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

Board Meeting Minutes (From page 11)

for the board to be in touch with all the members. We need to explore ways to facilitate members with special interests to spearhead special club projects in areas they are interested in. N6VUC suggested setting having multi-operator club entries in contests. N1AL pointed out that many clubs use the June VHF contest as a warm-up for Field Day. It's a good way to get some of the VHF-only Technician operators more involved.

NEW HAMS often have trouble getting help getting started. Dave KD6KWM has talked with members and non-members about how to get "Elmers" (experienced hams) to help out the neophytes. We need to think about how the club can facilitate this.

REPEATER: Jim WB6PER heard a report on Newsline about an LA repeater that was invaded by jammers. The repeater group is resorting to the courts to fight the problem and has set up a war chest. Jim will check into it to see if this is something SCRA should contribute to. KK6GP notes that KK6JJ in Marin Co. is the FCC contact person for the Amateur Auxiliary.

Meeting adjourned. m/s K6ZWB/N6VUC
Respectfully submitted by Al Bloom N1AL, Secretary.

DATED MATERIAL:
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

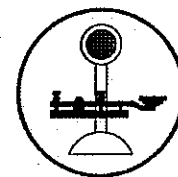


JOHN BRECKENRIDGE
WB6FRZ
574 WILD OAK DR
WINDSOR, CA 95492

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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

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



SHORT SKIP



Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.

Club Station

JANUARY 1994 W6LFI

P.O. Box 116

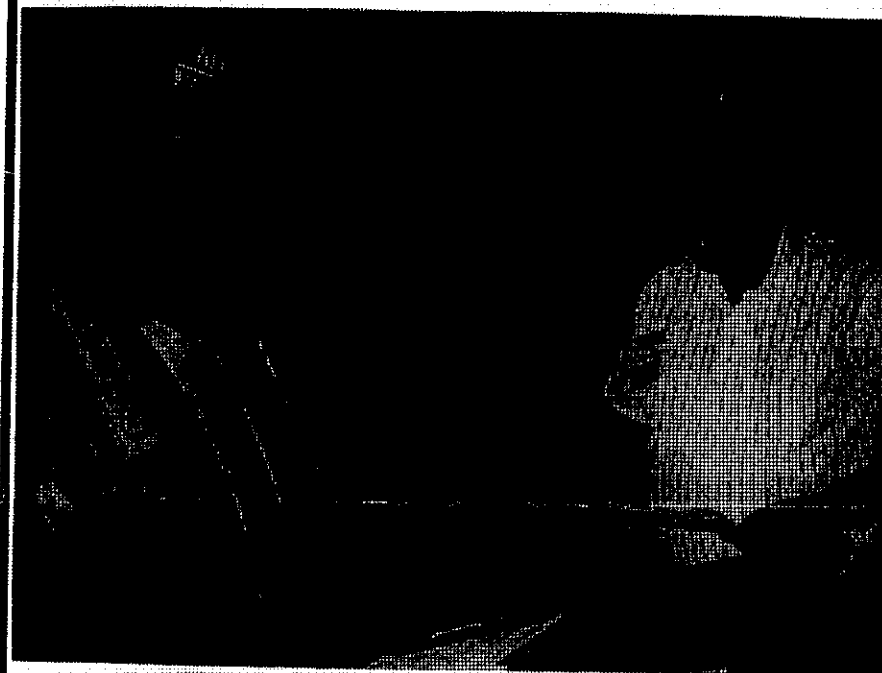
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Repeater Station

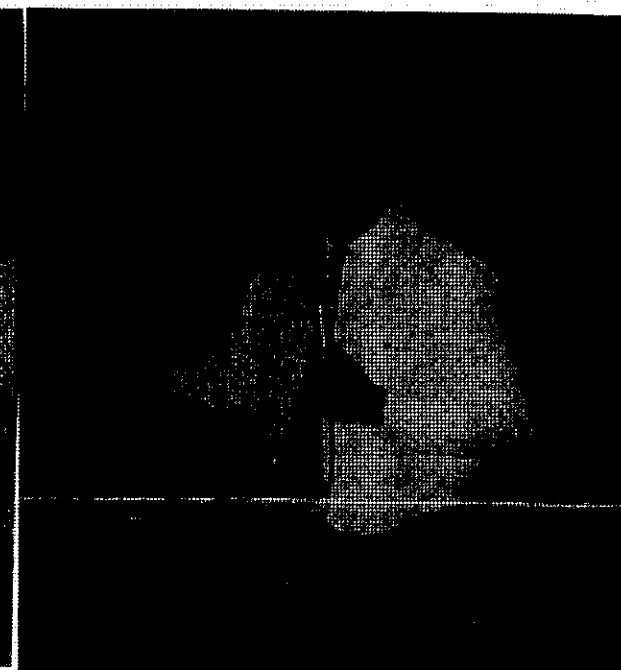
WB6PVS

VOL 19 #1

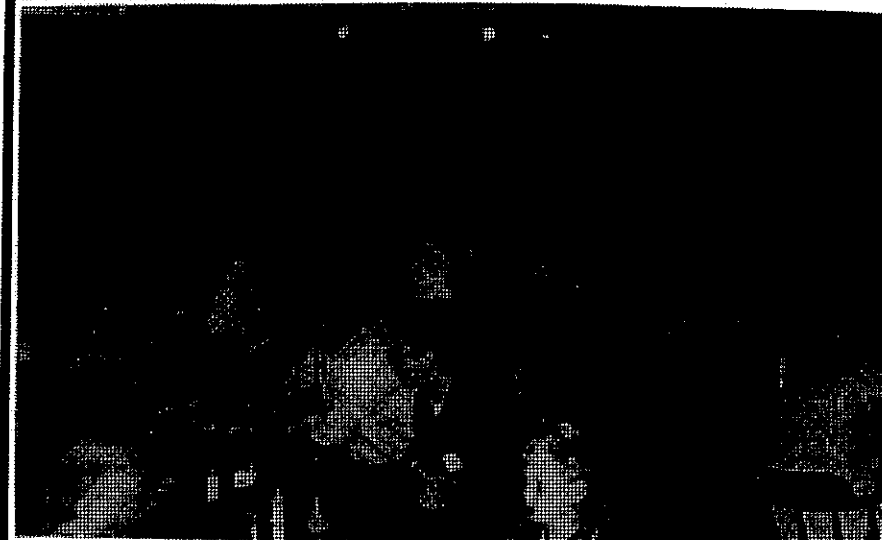
1993 SCRA CHRISTMAS PARTY



ARRL SM John Wallack W6TLK and
successful fighter of City Hall
Don Boosinger KD6HQ



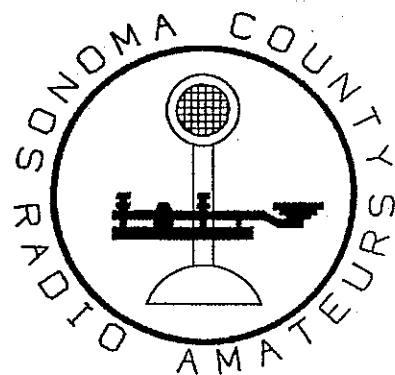
Outgoing SCRA President
Rick Reiner K6ZWB



We had a good turnout!



Kathy Mahan KC6UXJ reacting
to the announcement of the
1993 Member of the Year



OFFICERS FOR 1994

PRESIDENT:	Merlyn Pfeiff	N6VUC	584-3898
VICE PRESIDENT:	R. L. Caron	KK6GP	875-2601
SECRETARY:	Alan Bloom	N1AL	538-7115
TREASURER:	Mike Michlig	KN6JQ	526-9655
MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:	Kelly Cureton	KD6CJQ	837-9434
	Marie Mappus	KI6QY	664-1978
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:	June Linnehan	KD6LSU	
SWAP SHOP:	Dave Willey	KD6KWM	577-0558
HAM NEWS:	R.L. Caron	KK6GP	875-2601

BBS EDITORS: Pete Sourek KC6UXM, and Allan Chapman W6MEO
 AUDIO TAPING: John Breckenridge WB6FRZ, Laurel Meyer KC6FKX, Bob Phillips N6RMW

Activities Committee:

Pub. Service: Maris Mappus KI6QY 664-1978
Pub. Relatns: Steve Carniglia KK6VY 538-7658
QSL Mgr: Bill Splaine N6GHG 431-8636
TVI/RFI: Al Bloom N1AL 538-7115
Antennas: Joe Senft KM6TN 578-5824
 John KM6LI, Shep NH6ZY, N1AL
Awards: Steve Lund WA8LLY 823-4544
VEC Exams: Dave New AA6YX 527-0981
 N1AL WX3K WN6D W6DTV
 WB6FRZ AB6OL N6OLD AA6RD
 K6UXO KK6XT KC7VS WA8LLY
Education: Steve Carniglia KK6VY 538-7658
 N1AL WB6FRZ KC6RHA KK6VY
 WB6TMY K6XZ K6ZWB KC7VS
Refreshmnts at meetings: Bob Olsten WD6DPE
Greeter at Meetings: Shelly Sourek KD6AFZ
Raffle at meetings: Adam McLaughlin KD6POC
Membership lottery: Jim Andrews KC6PJW
RACES RO: Jim Pelmulder N6PTM 823-7947
ARRL Liaison: Alan Bloom N1AL 538-7115
Badge Chair: Fred Leoni N6YEU 431-8202

Repeater Control Op's:

WB6PER Jim 526-2972 N6PTM Jim 823-7947
 WD6CKP Hoppy 542-6750 N6VUC Merl 584-3898
 KD6CJQ Kelly 837-9434

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

Club Meetings:

7:30 PM, 1st Wednesday each month at the Hewlett Packard plant in Santa Rosa. (See map below.) All are welcome.

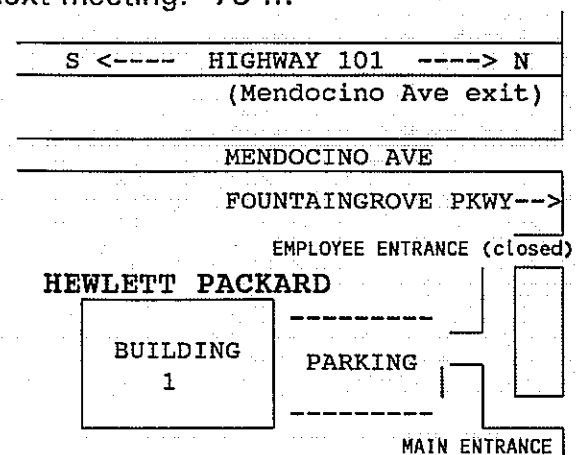
Next Meeting:

January 5, 1994

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 radio, 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 7PM. You will hear the latest Amateur Radio Newslines broadcasts, announcements of SCRA activities and a Swap Shop. Membership in SCRA is open to anyone interested in Amateur Radio. If you would like to join, there is a membership application on page 11. Hope we can have an "eyeball" QSO with you at the next meeting! 73 ...



Board Meeting Minutes

November 10, 1993

The joint board meeting of the old and new boards was called to order at 5:45 PM in the Northbay Savings meeting room by President Rick Reiner K6ZWB. Other Board members present were Secretary Al Bloom N1AL, Repeater Chairman Jim Rutherford WB6PER, and Members-at-Large Kelly Cureton KD6CJQ and Merlyn Pfeiff N6VUC. New officers present were Vice President R.L. Caron KK6GP, Treasurer Mike Michlig KN6JQ and Member at Large Marie Mappus KI6QY. Members Jim Pelmulder N6PTM, Kathy Mahan KC6UXJ, Dave Willey KD6KWM, Hoppy Bravin WD6CKP, and John Wallack W6TLK also attended.

The BUDGET was the main topic of conversation. The new Treasurer will type up the results of these discussions to be presented at the January board meeting. m/s KN6JQ/KK6GP

KK6GP's two main duties as Vice President are to come up with meeting programs and to maintain the club property list. R.L. wondered if it would be appropriate to have speakers on non-ham radio subjects. The consensus was that there should be at least some vague tie-in to ham radio.

On the subject of club property, N1AL has received a well-used but working 8558 spectrum analyzer, donated by Hewlett Packard.

CORRESPONDENCE: N1AL has received a reply to his query to *World Radio* magazine about getting SCRA listed in the "Visit Your Local Radio Club" listing. It costs \$60 and includes 8 free subscription cards plus some other minor bene's. The consensus was not to do it.

Application for Membership in SCRA

Name _____ Callsign _____ Lic. Class _____
 Addr. _____ Phone Nr _____ () New Mbr
 _____ ZIP _____ Date _____ () Renewal

Dues: \$12/year, \$18/year family. New members also pay a \$6/person initiation fee. Dues for new members *only* are pro-rated \$1 (\$1.50 family) per month, starting at renewal time, March 1.

I WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN:

- () Public Service Events
- () RACES or ARES Emergency services
- () Field day, other operating events
- () Helping with SCRA Flea Market
- () Acting as club Net Control Station
- () Helping with *Short Skip* newsletter
- () Taking a Novice class
- () Teaching a Novice class
- () Taking an upgrade class
- () Teaching an upgrade class

() Other _____

The ANTENNA COMMITTEE questionnaire has been mailed out to all hams with a Santa Rosa address who are not already SCRA members. Replies are already coming in.

The Treasurer will send in about \$50 to the Postal Service each month to cover *Short Skip* mailing expenses.

Other correspondence: Insurance bill from Wohler's, letter from North Bay Savings re minimum balance, Postal Service solicitation re bulk mail, Dayton ARA letter asking for ham of the year nominations, T-shirt ad, and Ventura hamfest flyer.

Ed AB6QL still has the items recently donated to SCRA. KK6GP will contact Ed, obtain the equipment, and be the contact person for those wishing to buy it. It will be listed in "Hank's Swap Shop" and any left over items sold at the September Flea Market.

Merl N6VUC discussed volunteers for various 1994 club positions. Marie KI6QY will have an article for February *Shortskip* requesting volunteers for Public Service events.

Kelly KD6CJQ has had complaints about new members not receiving the membership packet (with the autopatch codes). The Secretary or the Treasurer should be giving a packet to all new members.

The ARRL CABINET MEETING is in Livermore this Saturday. Jim N6PTM plans to attend.

Jim notes that SCRA is currently the biggest and most active club in Sonoma County. It would be easy to slip off our pedestal if we don't cover the varied interests of all the members. N1AL feels the club has gotten so big that it's hard (continued page 12)

Badge (New Members only)

Fill in this section exactly as you want it to appear on your badge.

Callsign _____

First Name _____

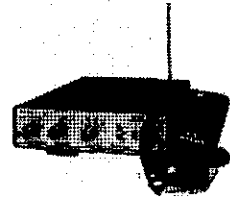
City _____

HSC ELECTRONIC SUPPLY

GOODIES FOR THE RADIO AMATEUR:

RAMSEY KITS:

- 2 Meter Synthesized FM Transceiver
- 2 Meter 30 W
- All-mode HF receivers
- QRP CW Transmitters
- Etc...



ARRL BOOKS:

- ARRL Handbook
- License Manuals
- Antenna Books
- Etc...



POPULAR BRANDS:

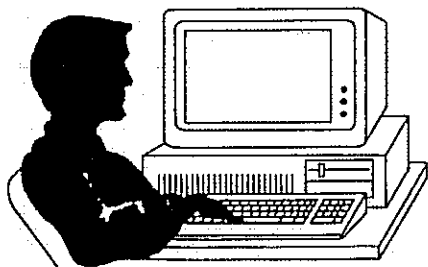
- MFJ
- Ameco
- Larsen
- Antenna Specialists
- Sangean
- Etc...

NECESSITIES:

- Code keys
- Wire Antennas
- Surplus Electronics
- Tools, parts, Etc...

YOUR IBM CLONE HEADQUARTERS

FROM PC-AT's TO STATE-OF-THE-ART 80486 SYSTEMS,
YOU'LL FIND IT AT HSC



- Complete systems
- Cases, Supplies, Motherboards
- Hard/Floppy Discs, Monitors
- I/O Cards, Memory Chips
- Software, Etc...

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

Christmas Party



The last club activity of 1993 was the traditional SCRA Christmas party, held again this year at Cattlemens' restaurant in Montgomery Village. Lots of good food and good fellowship (in the non-gender-specific sense of the word, of course!)

Service awards were handed out to some hard-working members. Kathy KC6UXI and Dave KD6KWM both got "Guilt Works!" T-shirts to remind them how to find Public Service volunteers. Bob WD6DPE has been serving up coffee and donuts at club meetings for longer than anyone can remember. Former Ham of the Year, *Short Skip* taper, and Novice Field Day Chairman John WB6FRZ recently retired from yeoman duty as Education Chairman. John W6TLK is another former Ham of the Year, ARRL Section Manager, and veteran of many hours of Public Service events. Bill Campbell KB6SOU presented the ARRL Excellence in Recruiting award to Jim McCauley AB6EU. Unfortunately Rick K6ZWB's President's award didn't arrive in time. But we all appreciate the great job Rick did spearheading a very active year for SCRA.

Joe KM6TN ramrodded a very successful Antenna Committee. Al N1AL was RFI Chairman, *Short Skip* Editor and Secretary. Hoppy WD6CKP fixed up the emergency generators, acted as repeater control op, and played the Newsline broadcast on the net every week.

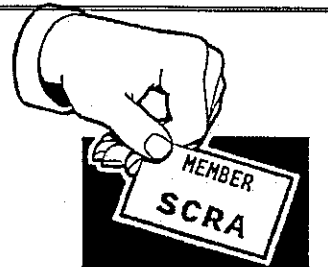
SCRA again this year will donate \$200 to the Fire Department's "Toys for Tots" program. The club approved by acclamation. m/s WB6PER/AA6YX

N6YEU, wearing his Redwood DX Assn. hat, presented the Field Day trophy back to SCRA. (Supposedly, we won by 48 points.) It's been living at REDX so long, we'll have to lock it up to keep it from trying to find "home."

Next the new officers for 1994 were presented. Merl N6VUC thanked the following members for their contributions: Steve KK6VY Education Chairman and ARRL PIO, Dave AA6YX Volunteer Exam leader, Jim KC6PJW ARRL Asst Section Manager and PBBS sysop, Jim AB6EU Section Traffic Manager, and Bill KA6JLP 10 meter Net Control Station.

Finally, the moment we had been waiting for: The announcement of the Member of the Year. MOY Committee Chairman W6TLK stated that there was little discussion among the committee. Kathy Mahan KC6UXJ was the unanimous choice. She will wear with pride the embroidered sweatshirt made by Connie Pfeiff (N6VUC's XYL). Be nice to Kathy — traditionally the Member of the Year is the Chairman of next year's MOY Committee!

New Members & Corrections



STEVE LOOMIS KE6AXH 1529 RAINIER AVE PETALUMA, CA 94954 762-4879	JEFF FOSTER KD6RC 1514 KONA PL SANTA ROSA, CA 95403 526-0547
---	---

PAUL E HEATER KE6BCR 5540 EL ENCANTO DR SANTA ROSA, CA 95409 539-8525	JIM STRICKLAND KD6TID 617 GREENVIEW DR SANTA ROSA, CA 95403 525-1110
--	---

OLIVER KILBEY KB6IOT 2985 FULTON RD FULTON, CA 95439 545-8175	BRIAN KOTZIAN KE6WL 2917 BAY VILLAGE CIR #2018 SANTA ROSA, CA 95403 528-3004
--	--

SILVIA CAMERON KD6PKE POB 5026 GUALALA, CA 95445	WILLIAM SMITH KC4WVL USCGC SHERMAN WHEC-720 FPO, AP 96678-3923
--	--

We now have 293 members.



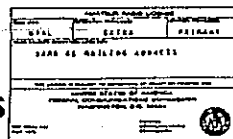
SCRAPS Column:

Hoppy's real callsign is WD6CKP. Hoppy has worked a total of 17 hours in public service. Mark's real callsign is KM6XU.

MINUTES:

The winner of the vote for Treasurer was Mike Michlig KN6JQ.

Marin/Sonoma VE Council FCC Exams



Date	Time	Sponsor	Place
Jan 8	0900	SCRA	HP, Rohnert Park
Feb 12	0900	VOMARC	Sonoma Dev Center
Mar 5	0900	MARC	Hamilton Field Novato
Mar 26	1700	SMRS	USCG Two Rock
Apr 9	0900	SCRA	HP, Santa Rosa
Apr 30	0900	VOMARC	Sonoma Swap meet
May 14	1700	SMRS	USCG Two Rock
Jun 4	0900	MARC	Hamilton Field Novato
Jul 9	0900	SCRA	HP, Santa Rosa
Aug 13	0900	VOMARC	Sonoma Dev Center
Sep 10	0900	MARC	Hamilton Field Novato
Sep 17	0900	SCRA	Sebastopol Flea Mart
Oct 8	1700	SMRS	USCG Two Rock
Nov 12	0900	VOMARC	Sonoma Dev Center
Dec 3	0900	MARC	Hamilton Field Novato
Dec 17	1700	SMRS	USCG Two Rock

(Note: Pre-registration recommended for VOMARC and SMRS sessions. Call the appropriate contact person listed below.)

Contact Persons:

SCRA:	Sonoma County Radio Amateurs Dave (707) 527-0981
MARC:	Marin Amateur Radio Club Recording (415) 883-9789
VOMARC:	Valley of the Moon Am. Radio Club Jim (707) 996-6461
SMRS:	Sonoma Mt. Repeater Society Dale (707) 762-9414

Willits VE Program:

March 12, June 11, September 10, December 10. 1000 hours at Brooktrails Fire Dept. Contact Don (707) 459-3980.

Candidate requirements:

1. Photo identification or two non-photo IDs.
2. Original and photocopy of license, if any.
3. Original CSCEs from earlier tests, if any.
4. Radiotelegraph license, if held.
5. Doctor's medical exemption, if applicable.
6. Fee is \$5.75, except Novice test is free.

Warning: Test dates subject to change or cancellation without notice.

Directions to the Test Sites:

ROHNERT PARK HEWLETT-PACKARD (SCRA), 1212 Valley House Dr. (1/8/94 ONLY) Talk-in 146.730-. AAA map Sonoma County G9. From Highway 101, Rohnert Park, take Rohnert Park Expressway east to Petaluma Hill Road. Turn right on Petaluma Hill Road, go to second signal light, turn right onto Valley House Dr. Stop at HP gate, guard will direct you to parking and exam site.

SONOMA DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER (VOMARC), Glen Ellen. Talk-in 145.35-. AAA map Sonoma County G11. From the south, take Hwy 116 from Petaluma (or Hwy 37 to 121 to 116), then north to Arnold Drive. Go past El Verano, toward Glen Ellen. When you enter the State Hospital "Sonoma Developmental Center" in Eldridge, turn left at Wilson (one block before flashing light/stop sign). Go west on Wilson to the McDougall building.

From the north, go south on Hwy 12 to Arnold Dr. Turn right, go through Glen Ellen to the state hospital "Sonoma Developmental Center" in Eldridge. Turn right onto Wilson (one block past the flashing light/stop sign) and go to the McDougall building.

HAMILTON FIELD (MARC), Building 549, Novato. Talk-in 147.33+, AAA map Marin County D4. From Hwy 101 take Nave Lane or Hamilton Field exit. Get on east side Frontage Road. Go to main gate of Hamilton. Drive east, over railroad overcrossing. Turn right onto Crescent Dr. Keep to right (one way), follow MARS signs, going left to San Carlos Drive. Turn left, then right up access road toward red/white checkered water tower to Bldg 549. Note: speed limits enforced!

US COAST GUARD BASE (SMRS), Two Rock. Talk-in 146.91- AAA map Sonoma County H8. From Hwy 101 in Petaluma, take East Washington St exit and go west through central Petaluma. Washington turns into Bodega Ave. About 10 miles west, turn onto Tomales Road (Coast Guard signs are posted). Go west on Tomales Rd to "USCG Training Center" main gate. Turn left, go up road to Colorado St, turn left and go down to the Bauer building. Note: Speed limits enforced!

SANTA ROSA HEWLETT-PACKARD (SCRA), 1400 Fountain Grove Parkway. (Same as club (next page))

— 11 STORE BUYING POWER —



WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION

SUNNYVALE, CA 94086
510 Lawrence Expwy. #102
(408) 736-9496
(800) 854-6046

OAKLAND, CA 94606
2210 Livingston St.
(510) 534-5757
(800) 854-6046

Phone Hours: 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM
Store Walk-In Hours:
10:00 AM to 5:30 PM Closed Sundays

ANAHEIM, CA 92801
933 N. Euclid St.
(714) 533-7373
(800) 854-6046

OAKLAND, CA 94606
2210 Livingston St.
(510) 534-5757
(800) 854-6046

Rich, W8VYB, Mgr.
1-880 at 23rd Ave. ramp

SUNNYVALE, CA 94086
510 Lawrence Expwy. #102
(408) 736-9496
(800) 854-6046

VAN NUYS, CA 91411
6265 Sepulveda Blvd.
(818) 988-2212
(800) 854-6046

Jon, KB6ZBI, Mgr.
San Diego Fwy.
at Victory Blvd.

Bob Ferrero W6RJ
President/Owner

PORTLAND, OR 97223
11705 S.W. Pacific Hwy.
(503) 598-0555
(800) 854-6046

Earl, KE7OA, Mgr.
Tigard-99W exit
from Hwy. 5 & 217

DENVER, CO 80231
8400 E. Iliff Ave., #9
(303) 745-7373
(800) 444-9476

Joe, K0BGA, Mgr.

PHOENIX, AZ 85015
1702 W. Camelback Rd.
(602) 242-3515
(800) 444-9476

Gary, W8TSLY, Mgr.
East of Highway 17

ATLANTA, GA 30340
6071 Buford Highway
(404) 263-0700
(800) 444-7927

Mark, KJ4VO, Mgr.
Doraville, 1 mi.
no. of I-285

WOODBRIDGE, VA 22191
14803 Build America Dr.
(703) 643-1053
(800) 444-4799

Curtis, W4KZL, Mgr.
Exit 54, I-95, South to US 1

SALEM, NH 03079
224 N. Broadway
(603) 898-3750
(800) 444-0047

Chuck, KMANZ, Mgr.
Exit 1, I-93;
28 mi. No. of Boston

AZ, CA, CO, GA, VA residents add sales tax.
Prices, specifications, descriptions, subject
to change without notice.

ALINCO

DJ-580T

2M/440 Dual Band
40 Mem Channels
DSQ, Dual Display
CTCSS Enc/Dec Built-in
Cross Band Full Duplex

**CALL FOR
SPECIAL
LOW PRICE**

YAESU

HANDHELDS



FT-416
Black Shown
Gray Available

FT-416/FT-816

2 Mtr 440 Mhz
2W 2M/2W 440
5W optional
Direct DC input
Built-in VOX, 41 Mem.
DTMF paging, CTCSS built-in

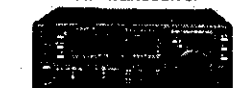
FT-411

2M HT
Standard 2.5W; 49 Mem
2m/140 to 174 MHz
EXTENDED RECEIVE

KENWOOD

TS-50S

HF Transceiver



World's smallest HF transceiver
100W out, SSB, CW, AM, FM, 12V
Gen. Cov. RX, 6.4 lbs., 7.16 x 2.4 x 9.32"
105 db dynamic range, 100 Mem.
Optional external ant. tuners available
CALL FOR SPECIAL LOW PRICE!

ICOM

HANDHELDS



IC-2GAT
2 Meter HT • 7 Watt
IC-D1A
2M/440/1.2 Tri-Band
IC-W2A/IC-X2A
IC-W21AT, 2M/440
IC-2iA, 2 meter
IC-P2AT, 2 Meter
IC-P3AT, 220 MHz
IC-P4AT, 440 MHz
IC-24AT, Duo Band
IC-2SRA, 2M + Wide Rx

ALINCO

DR-600T

2M/440 FM Transceiver



45W/35W + Airband RX
Detachable/Removable Head
Keyboard freq. entry from microphone!
CALL FOR SPECIAL PRICE

YAESU

FT-990



100W HF Gen Cov Transceiver
DDS, QSK • 500Hz CW Filter Included
CALL FOR LOW PRICE

KENWOOD

HANDHELDS



TH-28A
2M/2.5W DTSS
240 Mem. w/optional
mem. unit
UHF RX
TH-48A
440/1.5W DTSS
240 Mem. w/optional
mem. unit
2 MTR RX

TH-225A
2 MTRS/5W
TH-315A
220MHz/2.5 W

**CALL
FOR
GREAT
PRICES**

ICOM

IC-737

HF Transceiver



12V 100W w/auto Ant. Tuner
Built-in Gen Cov. RX, 101 Mem.
DDS, QSK, Passband tuning
Priced So Low, We Can't Print It!
Call For Your Low Discounted Price!



COMING EVENTS:

SCARS NET: 146.73 MHz
Tuesdays at 7 PM.
KIDS' NET: 146.73 MHz
Thursdays at 7 PM.

SCRA CLASS HOTLINE:
(707) 579-9608
VE EXAMS HOTLINES:
(408) 984-8353/255-9000

RACES net: 1st/3rd Mondays 7:30 PM
CDF/VIP meetings: 3rd Thursdays 7:30 PM

JANUARY: 1994

Dec 31-Jan 1 - Straight Key Night
2 - LARK Flea Mart, Livermore WU7R
3 - RACES etc. Net, 7:30 PM
5 - SCRA meeting 7/7:30 PM
8-9 - ARRL RTTY Roundup
8-9 - North American QSO Party, CW
15 - Deadline for February *Short Skip*
15-16 - North American QSO Party, phone
16 - Monterey Winterfest, 408-663-6117
17 - RACES etc. Net, 7:30 PM
20 - CDF/VIP Meeting 7:30 PM
21-23 - CQ Worldwide 160M Contest, CW
22-23 - ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes
Jan 29-Feb 6 - ARRL Novice Roundup

FEBRUARY:

2 - SCRA meeting 7/7:30 PM
7-11 - ARRL School Club Roundup
12 - Deadline for March *Short Skip*
19-20 - ARRL DX Contest, CW
25-27 - CQ Worldwide 160 M Contest, Phone

MARCH:

2- SCRA meeting 7/7:30 PM
- 1992 DUES PAYABLE!
5-6 - ARRL DX Contest, Phone
12 - First Foothill College Flea Market
19 - Deadline for April *Short Skip*
26-27 - CQ Worldwide Prefix Contest, Phone

APRIL:

6 - SCRA meeting 7/7:30 PM
15-17 - International DX Conv., Visalia K6ITL
16 - Deadline for May *Short Skip*
22-24 - Dayton Hamvention

MAY:

4 - SCRA meeting 7/7:30 PM
7-8 - Fresno Hamfest 209-222-3105

14 - Deadline for June *Short Skip*
28-29 - CQ Worldwide Prefix Contest, CW

JUNE:

1 - SCRA meeting 7/7:30 PM
10-12 - ARRL Nat. Convention, Arlington TX
18 - Deadline for July *Short Skip*
19 - Terrible Two Bike Tour, KK6GP
25-26 - Field Day

JULY:

6 - SCRA meeting 7/7:30 PM
9-10 - IARU HF World Championship
9-10 - CQ Worldwide VHF Prefix Contest
17 - Deadline for August *Short Skip*

AUGUST:

3 - SCRA meeting 7/7:30 PM
6-7 - ARRL UHF Contest
20 - Deadline for September *Short Skip*

SEPTEMBER:

7 - SCRA meeting 7/7:30 PM
17 - SCRA Flea Mart, Seb. Holy Ghost Hall
17 - Deadline for October *Short Skip*
24-25 - CQ Worldwide RTTY Contest

OCTOBER:

5 - SCRA meeting 7/7:30 PM
15 - Deadline for November *Short Skip*
29-30 - CQ Worldwide DX Contest, Phone

NOVEMBER:

2 - SCRA meeting 7/7:30 PM
5-7 - ARRL Sweepstakes, CW
19 - Deadline for December *Short Skip*
19-21 - ARRL Sweepstakes, Phone
26-27 - CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW

DECEMBER:

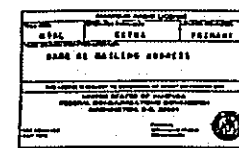
- Pay PO box fee and liability insurance
?? - SCRA Christmas party
10-11 - ARRL 10 Meter Contest
17 - Deadline for January *Short Skip*
31 - ARRL Straight Key Night

Jim Pelmulder (707) 823-7947
N6PTM

NOB HILL ELECTRONICS REPAIR

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

Sta. Lic. No. 26191 2801 Gravenstein Hwy. No.
Sebastopol, CA 95472



Next SCRA VE Test Session

by Dave New AA6YX

Mark your calendars for Saturday January 8th. That is when the next VE testing session will be held, at the Hewlett Packard facilities in Rohnert Park.

To get there, take Hwy 101 to the Rohnert Park Expressway. Go east on the expressway until it dead ends at Petaluma Hill Road. Go south (right) on Petaluma Hill Road until you reach Valley House drive. Go west (right) on Valley House until you reach the HP Main gate. Tell the guard that you are there for the SCRA testing session. They will give you a pass and directions to the Main lobby. Sign in with the guard in the lobby and they will show you where the "OAK" room is. Easy huh?

Registrations will be from 8:30 until 9:30 AM. Testing will start at 9:30. Please try to be on time as late registrations disrupt the session. All written tests Novice through Extra, and the 5, 13 and 20 WPM code tests will be given.

At the time of this printing (2-Dec) the test fee is still \$5.60. [Changed to \$5.75 as of Jan 1, 1994. -ed] Please, checks are preferred. Make them out to the ARRL VEC. Also bring with you: Your current license (if any) and a photocopy, any CSCE's held for credit (if any) and a photocopy. Code-Technicians need to bring proof of code credit and a photocopy. Everyone needs photo I.D., a pen and a pencil. Calculators are optional and may be checked by examiners for stored memory.

So grab your backpack and throw all that stuff into it and come get tested!

Examiner Information

Are you a current VE and haven't yet received a 1994 update letter from me? Do you hold a General or higher class license and are interested in becoming a VE? Or are you someone who would just like to come and help with the setup and/or take down of the testing sessions? If you answered yes to any of these questions, I would like to hear from you! You can phone, write, send email via packet or call me on our club's 146.730 MHz. repeater. Being a VE is a rewarding job — It

sure is nice to be able to help folks become hams or upgrade up through the classes! Hope to be hearing from you! 73

Dave New - AA6YX
1923 Tonja Way
Santa Rosa, CA 95401
(707) 527-0981
Packet:
AA6YX@KC6PJW.#NOCAL.CA.USA
or AA6YX@WB2CHO.#NOCAL.CA.USA ■

(from page 4)

meeting place.) Talk-in 146.730-. AAA map Sonoma County E9. Coming from 101 south, take Bicentennial off ramp, go east until it joins Fountaingrove Parkway. Enter the visitors gate (second gate). Coming from the north, take the first offramp into Santa Rosa, follow the signs to Mendocino Ave, going over the freeway. After crossing the freeway, go straight onto Fountain Grove Parkway. Enter the visitors gate, second gate at HP.

SONOMA SWAP MEET (VOMARC), Sonoma Veterans Building, 126 First Street (4/30/94 ONLY) Talk-in 145.350-. AAA map Sonoma County G11. From the south take Hwy. 12 into Sonoma, drive to the Plaza. Turn left, then right onto First Street west to #126. From the North, drive into Sonoma. As you reach the Plaza, turn left onto First Street West and go to #126.

SEBASTOPOL FLEA MARKET (SCRA), (9/17/94 ONLY) Holy Ghost hall, 7960 Mill Station Rd. Talk-in 146.73-. AAA map Sonoma Co. F7. From the south, take Hwy 101 to Cotati then Hwy 116 north (second 116 exit) to Sebastopol. From Santa Rosa take Hwy 12 west to Sebastopol and turn right onto Hwy 116. Turn left onto Mill Station Rd: the Holy Ghost hall is on your immediate right (1/2 block). ■

Law Offices of
CHARLES J. TARR AND ASSOCIATES
WA6VAG

CHARLES J. TARR
Attorney at Law

REPRESENTING INJURED PEOPLE AND
THOSE ACCUSED OF CRIME

■ 418 B STREET • FOURTH FLOOR
SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA 95401
(707) 546-5858

□ 1304 SOUTHPOINT BLVD., SUITE 230
PETALUMA, CALIFORNIA 94954
(707) 778-1114



by R. L. Caron KK6GP

SAREX SUCCESSFUL: Now that the STS-58 Space Shuttle Columbia astronauts have packed away the Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment (SAREX) gear, it can be said that this SAREX flight was one of the most successful to date. All facets of this SAREX flight were performed superbly. This was a testament to the outstanding support and preparation by the Astronauts on-orbit and the SAREX team on the ground. For SCRA DX chasers, this mission will probably be remembered for the special effort that was made on the part of the astronauts to make as many general voice QSO contacts as their busy schedule would allow. The astronauts were available on voice for all the "scheduled" general QSO opportunities and many additional passes over the North Bay. Estimates of the number of voice contacts are difficult without hearing the tape logs but are probably in the high hundreds. On many of the passes, clear, full-quieting transmissions were heard with nothing more than a HT with a rubber duckie. With respect to packet QSOs, well over 800 at this time is a good estimate. Until the SAREX logs have been completely examined, these are only preliminary estimates.

School group contacts had great success this mission. The probability of a successful school contact on the first attempt was nearly 90%. During previous missions, the success rate was between 66-75%. If you heard or worked the STS-58 station of Bill McArthur, KC5ACR or packet station W5RRR-1 and you would like to receive a QSL card, then please send your QSL card to the following address: ARRL, STS-58 QSL, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT, 06111. Allow up to 6-10 months for the card to be mailed. Please include with your QSL card all the specific QSO information such as, date, time, mode, frequency, etc. Also, and most importantly, if you wish to receive a QSL card confirming a contact, *you must include a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) with proper postage!* If you do not include a SASE, you will not receive a QSL card. Also aboard were ham/astronauts Marty Fettman KC5AXA, and Rick Searfoss, KC5CKM. Tnx to AMSAT es Frank Bauer KA3HDO.

NEW FCC RULES ON PERMISSABLE COMMUNICATIONS were adopted in a re-write of Section 97.113 which became effective on September 13th. The new rules permit amateurs greater flexibility in providing noncommercial communications while maintaining the traditional character of Amateur Radio by continuing to prohibit business communications. But please check with repeater control operators before using their machine if you are unsure about some of the newly-defined procedures. It may be legal, but it is still up to the repeater owner/trustee to decide what kind of activity to allow.

OUR NEIGHBORS TO THE NORTH, the Radio Amateurs of Canada, report spectacular growth in their ranks. As of October 1, there were 41,014 hams with VE calls, an increase of 15,787 over April, 1990 when a restructuring of the Canadian Amateur service was implemented. The RAC also reports that nearly 72 percent of those 41,000 have attained the highest level of qualification! Look for them on those cold winter nights on 80, 40 and 20 meters, and congratulate them for outstanding effort in bringing new folks into the hobby. Tnx ARRL.

FCC Proposes Instant License

The FCC has released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, PR Docket 93-267, which proposes an instant temporary license for those who pass their first Amateur license exam. The temporary license would be valid for up to 120 days or until a permanent license is received from the FCC.

The temporary callsign would be WZ, a number, the applicant's initials, and a license class designator. For example, John Doe of Quincy, IL passes a general class exam. His temporary callsign would be WZ9JZD/AG.

A temporary license would not be available to a former Amateur licensee whose license was revoked or suspended or who is subject to a cease and desist order. The FCC believes this program would eliminate 11,000 calls annually to inquire about pending licenses.

Comments are due Jan 10, 1994 and Reply Comments are due Feb 10. You can get a copy of PR Docket 93-267 by sending a business sized SASE to the RID at ARRL HQ. Tnx ARRL Director W6DPD.

220 MHz Band Changes

ARRL Bulletin 115 December 1, 1993

The FCC has acted to expand privileges for Novice class licensees on the 222 MHz band and create a subband for "weak signal" work on that band, in PR Docket 92-289, in response to petitions for rule making from the ARRL. The changes will allow Novice operation in the entire 222-225 MHz band; Novices currently have access to 222.10-223.91 MHz.

In its proposal, the League advocated expanding Novice privileges to include the entire 1.25 meter band since they already may use SSB and CW on portions of the HF bands, and there was no reason why they should not be permitted to utilize those same modes in the entire 222-225 MHz band, where other licensees use those modes.

The FCC agreed with the ARRL, saying that it was a good idea to let Novices "become proficient in a wider variety of amateur service operations," and to give them "more flexibility in selecting the mode of transmission."

At the same time, the FCC denied a proposal to allow Novices to be licensees and control operators of repeaters on both the 222 and 1240 MHz bands. The Commission had in fact proposed that in its NPRM in 1992, but the ARRL argued against the idea, saying such privileges were not justified by the technical proficiency demonstrated by Novices on their examinations and that such a change would blur the distinctions between the Novice and Technician class licenses.

The League also proposed that a "weak signal" segment be established at the bottom end of the band, — at 222.0 to 222.15 MHz, similar to what previously existed at 222.00-222.50 MHz. This proposal was in response to amateurs' loss in August 1991 of 2 MHz of the band (220-222 MHz) to the land mobile service and that a weak-signal subband, which could not be enforced through voluntary agreements or formalized band-planning by amateurs, was necessary to allow amateurs to carry on experiments in propagation and operating techniques. The FCC agreed that this proposal had merit and acted accordingly.

The new rules are not yet in effect.

Ask Mr. Science

by Alan Bloom N1AL

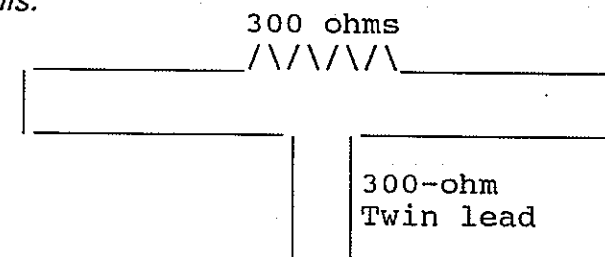


How is a new ham to get his/her "newbie" questions answered? That was the question brought up at the most recent SCRA board meeting. The long-term solution is to connect each newcomer with an "Elmer" — an experienced ham willing to help and tutor. If anyone has any ideas on ways for the club to do that, please tell someone on the board.

A short-term solution is this column. Club members (newcomers *or* old-timers) send in their questions about amateur radio. If I don't know the answer myself, I'll find a guest author who does. I hope this column will be a regular feature of *Short Skip*. That will only happen if you send in questions.

To get the ball rolling, here's a question someone asked recently on the Internet:

I recently came across a design for a broadband antenna. It is claimed to have a bandwidth of over 4:1. It looks something like this:



Does this work? Has anyone ever tried it?

Mr Science: Yes, it probably works. I once talked from Pennsylvania to Illinois using a light bulb for an antenna, which goes to prove that you can transmit into almost anything and make contacts.

However, I doubt that it works very well. A resistor can only dissipate power, not radiate. The 300-ohm resistor makes the antenna broadband by absorbing power. Remember that a 50-ohm dummy load has a perfect 1.0:1 SWR, but it doesn't radiate at all. You would be much better off using a random-length antenna with an antenna tuner to tune it to resonance on each band you want to use.