



## HANK'S SWAP SHOP

Dave Willey KD6KWM PO Box 3514  
Phone: 577-0558 Santa Rosa CA 95402  
Noncommercial ham ads printed free. Please  
call when item is sold. Ads run 2 months.

**PALOMAR P-410X** HF preamp. Covers 160  
thru 6 meters. Exel. condition. \$75.00.  
AA6WW Ralph (916) 689-7195

**2 METER COPPER J-POLE** antenna \$25.00.  
**NOVA PORT. BAT. PACK** 12V 6.5AH \$35.00.  
**RADIO SHACK 2 MTR MAG MOUNT** antenna  
\$25.00. AB6XR Dave (707) 585-7363.

**HELICAL RESONATOR** bandpass filters freq  
range 116-150 h/d silver plated 4 stages type  
N connectors, military surplus. each \$35.00.  
**3 WANG COMPUTERS** w/w/o hard/floppy  
drives. Hi res mono monitors w/swing arms  
mounts. Great for packet. ea \$25.00.  
**WANG TAPE DRIVES** for packet. each  
\$10.00. KB0GX Jack (916) 728-5555.

**WANT: NO FRILLS CW BUG** KC6IRQ George  
(707) 874-2713.

**BUTTERNUT BEAM** for 10/12/15/17/20 mtrs.  
Compact size. Can be turned w/ tv rotor. Fully  
assy. New out of box. Pick up only. \$150.00.  
**PACKET READY XT COMPUTER** clean 10  
MHz, enhanced keybrd, I/O card, 30 meg h/d  
Hercu. mono video card \$250.00. KC6PJW  
Jim (707) 795-2163.

**HIGAIN 18AVT/WB-SS** vertical HF ant, covers  
80/40/20/15/10 meters \$75.00. KC6WTO  
Sal (707) 539-4661.

**WANT: KENWOOD YG-455C** (not CN) 500 Hz  
CW filter. KD6KWM Dave (707) 577-0558.

**WANT: TUBE 6AH62** & socket NA200R2.  
KD6POC Adam (707) 573-0277.

**WANT: A TRUE 2 METER BASE**, trade? (2)  
**MOTOROLA 1950'S VINTAGE TRANCIEVERS**  
both for \$50.00. **REGENCY 10 CHANNEL**  
**SCANNER** VHF/UHF, rock bound \$40.00.  
**REGENCY 4 CHANNEL BASE SCANNER**, rock  
bound \$10.00. KD6TYL Lynn (707) 526-3778

(continued page 11)

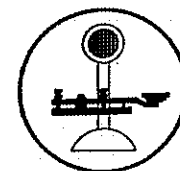
DATED MATERIAL:  
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

JOHN BRECKENRIDGE  
WB6FRZ  
574 WILD OAK DR  
WINDSOR, CA 95492

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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



# SHORT SKIP



Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.

Club Station  
FEBRUARY 1994 W6LFIJ

P.O. Box 116  
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Repeater Station  
WB6PVS VOL 19 #2

## SCRA Public Service, 1993



Scraps picnic KC6UXJ, N600A, KD6KWM, KD6KVO N6NSG



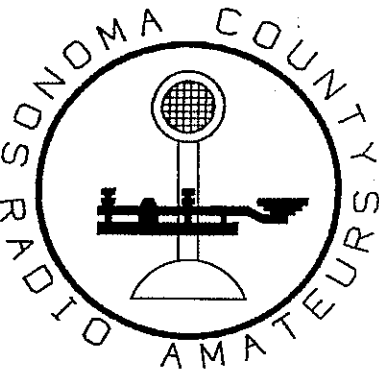
Super Cities KD6KRW, KC6UXJ, AB6QL



KB6PTA, AB6QL, WA2EWE, KD6CJQ, KD6POC



Clo's Classic



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 WW6D WB6FRZ  
AB6OL K6UXO AA6UY KC7VS  
KK6VY KK6XT WA8LLY  
Education: Steve Carniglia KK6VY 538-7658  
N1AL WB6FRZ KC6RHA KK6VY  
WB6TMY K6XZ K6ZWB KC7VS  
Refreshmnts at meetings: Bob Olsten WD6DPE  
Raffle at meetings: Pat Reynolds KD6TYJ  
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

OFFICERS FOR 1994

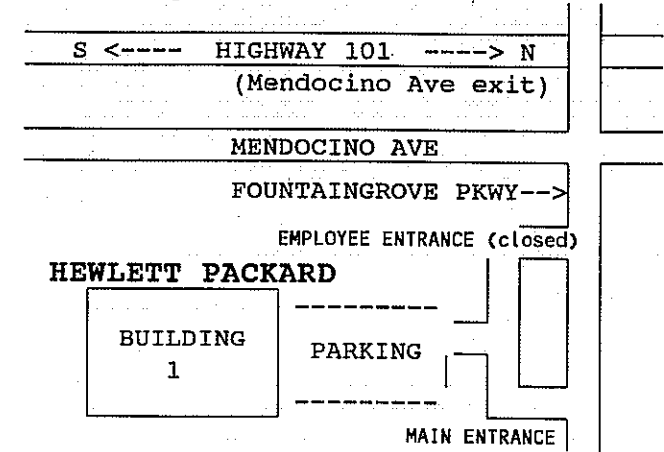
PRESIDENT: Merlyn Pfeiff N6VUC 584-3898  
VICE PRESIDENT: R. L. Caron KK6GP 875-2601  
SECRETARY: Alan Bloom N1AL 538-7115  
TREASURER: Mike Michlig KN6JQ 526-9655  
MEMBERS-AT-LARGE: Kelly Cureton KD6CJQ 837-9434  
Marie Mappus KI6QY 664-1978  
REPEATER CHAIRMAN: Jim Rutherford WB6PER 526-2972  
ACTIVITIES CHAIR: Mike Knope KD6LYU 762-3236  
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

Club Meetings:

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

Next Meeting: February 2, 1994  
Program: Everything you always wanted  
to know about the 146.73 Repeater

**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  
Newsline 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 ...



Hank's Swap Shop (from page 12)

HIGH POWER 6 POS COAX TYPE N SWITCH.  
(2 switches ganged together) \$50.00.  
KD6ZZD Mike (707) 545-7520.

TRISTAO 60 FOOT CRANKUP tower w/ stain-  
less steel guywires, thrust bearing \$300.00.  
ALLIANCE H/D 73 ROTOR w/ 2 control boxes  
and cables \$75.00. WILSON SYS 33 triband  
2KW beam. Nice shape \$150.00.  
KENWOOD HS-5 headphones \$25.00.  
KK6AN Don (415) 467-9669.

200KHz NICOLET DIGITAL STORAGE  
OSCILLOSCOPE. Mainframe w/ pen output. 2  
channel 12 bit res. 2 MHz sample rate. Disk  
recorder. Cart. Software \$400.00.  
KENWOOD TS520 HF transceiver. Classic in  
exec. con. 80/40/20/10/10 meters. SSB and  
CW. Tube finals and stable VFO \$350.00.  
TRS-80 LINE PRINTER VII. Parallel printer for  
TRS-80 model computers/packet \$20.00.  
KNIGHT R-100A general coverage rcvr. 550  
KHz-30 MHz plus ham bands. Old tube set as  
is \$25.00. KNIGHT P-2 SWR meter \$10.00.  
HOMEBREW PWR SUPPLY 13.8V 10A \$50.  
CODE PRAC TAPES 10-15 wpm, All About  
Vert Ant, HF Ant for all Locations, Practical  
Wire Ant, Solid State Design for the Radio  
Amateur. All for \$40.00. KM6DJ Don  
(805) 562-1168.

MAC PERFORMA 400, 40 meg drive VGA  
mon, Stylewriter printer. Sale or trade for dual  
bander VHF/UHF, or HF rig. Will consider all  
offers \$800.00. N6DBZ Mike (707) 823-0697.

BELDEN COAX 9913, (the good stuff), new  
150 feet, .45/ft, must take all \$67.50.  
AEA ISOPOLE 144, used \$30.00. AEA  
ISOLOOP old model, cable, controler \$175.00.  
LARSEN KG 144 PL glass mount 2M mobile  
ant. Brand new \$50.00. HEIL MA-1 boom &  
clamp assy for Heil mikes \$30.00. DIAMOND  
DUAL BANDER antenna 2M/440 MHz Super  
Gamer 7900A \$60.00. N6GHG Bill (707)  
431-8636.

TRS-80 MODEL III (disk) software, modem,  
high res board. Runs packet \$100 or trade for  
HT/mobile rig. N6RYA Steve (707) 823-5882.

PANASONIC KX-P1124 printer for packet.  
\$85.00. W6MEO Allan (707) 538-4935.

ASTRON RS-7A DC power supply. 13.8V, 5A  
continuous, 7A intermittent. \$35.00.  
WB6FRZ John (707) 838-6398.

KENWOOD TS-430 w/ manuals, mike, & pwr  
cord. No filters, no fm board \$500.00.  
ASTRON 20 pwr supply. Make offer.  
WB6NOV Ken (707) 792-2634.

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 \_\_\_\_\_

Badge (New Members only)

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

Callsign \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

# HAM RADIO OUTLET

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  
Rick, W4SWYB, Mgr.  
1-800 at 23rd Ave. ramp

**SAN DIEGO, CA 92123**  
5375 Kearny Villa Rd.  
(619) 560-4900  
(800) 854-6046  
Tom, K6LUC, Mgr.  
Lawrence Expwy.  
So. from Hwy. 161

**SUNNYVALE, CA 94086**  
510 Lawrence Expwy. #102  
(408) 736-9496  
(800) 854-6046  
Tom, K6LUC, Mgr.  
Lawrence Expwy.  
So. from Hwy. 161

**VAN NUYS, CA 91411**  
6265 Sepulveda Blvd.  
(818) 888-2212  
(800) 854-6046  
Jon, K6ZBL, Mgr.  
San Diego Fwy.  
at Victory Blvd.

**Bob Ferrero W6RJ**  
President/Owner

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

**PORTLAND, OR 97223**  
11705 S.W. Pacific Hwy.  
(503) 598-0555  
(800) 854-6046  
Earl, KE7OA, Mgr.  
Tigard-90W exit  
from Hwy. 5 & 217

**DENVER, CO 80231**  
8400 E. 18th Ave., #9  
(303) 745-7373  
(800) 444-9476  
Joe, KD8GA, Mgr.

**PHOENIX, AZ 85015**  
1702 W. Camelback Rd.  
(602) 242-3515  
(800) 444-9476  
Gary, W8TSLV, Mgr.  
East of Highway 17

**ATLANTA, GA 30340**  
6071 Buford Highway  
(404) 263-0700  
(800) 444-7927  
Mark, KJ4VD, Mgr.  
Doraville, 1 mi.  
no. of I-285

**WOODBRIIDGE, VA 22191**  
14803 Build America Dr.  
(703) 643-1063  
(800) 444-4799  
Curtis, WB4ZL, Mgr.  
Exit 24, I-95, South to US 1

**SALEM, NH 03079**  
224 N. Broadway  
(603) 898-3750  
(800) 444-0047  
Chuck, K4MHZ, Mgr.  
Exit 1, I-93;  
28 mi. No. of Boston

## 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/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-21A, 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!**

## Next SCRA Meeting Wednesday, February 2

7:30 PM at Hewlett-Packard, Santa Rosa  
**Everything You Always Wanted to  
Know About the 146.73 Repeater  
... and More!**

with Repeater Chairman Jim Rutherford WB6PER

What about the autopatch?

What to do about jammers.

How does it work?

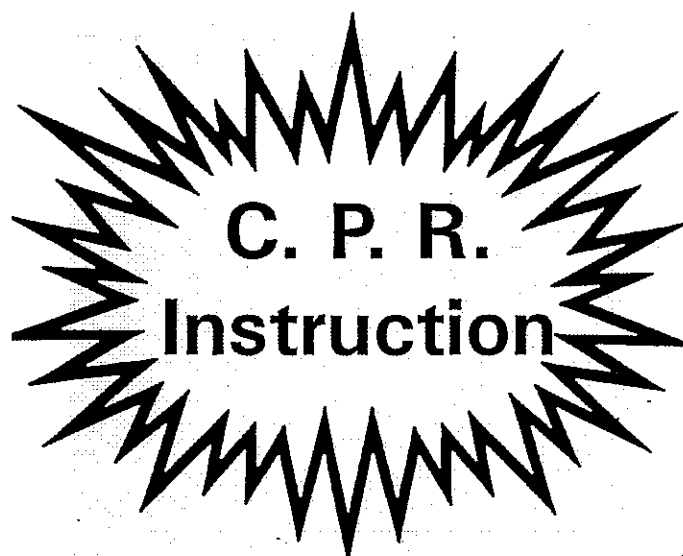
What about the pizza rule?

What do control operators know  
that I don't?

Why can't I put a repeater on the air?

Who owns this thing?

Who can use it? For what? How far does  
it get out?  
and many more! Don't miss it.



January 27th 1900 hours at the Sonoma  
County Office of Emergency Services,  
Emergency Operation Center, 600  
Administration Drive, Santa Rosa, CA.

We have room for 30 people in the class. For  
further information, contact: Paul Weichel  
KD6FBN, 571-1782. Cost is \$15 per person. ■

## New Sonoma Valley Repeater

[Thanks VOMARC News]

Over the past few months, a small number of  
inspired individuals have banded together to  
form and finance a local repeater in the Valley.  
Up to this point the machine has just been a  
gleam in AA6GV Randy's eye. Eran KD6KVO  
then took up the gauntlet and beat the bushes  
for the initial financing.

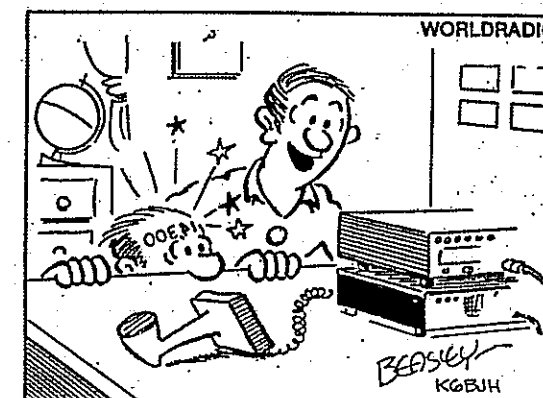
The machine came on the air Thanksgiving day  
on 146.205 (+) with an 88.5 P/L. The  
frequency is still experimental to see if we  
bother anyone else. Anyone and everyone is  
encouraged to become a member of the  
"repeater group" which will include autopatch  
and other privileges. Membership will cost  
\$15 per year, which pays for maintenance,  
electricity, phone line, etc.

Even those who chose not to become  
members may still use the repeater, which is  
"open" for all users. The P/L is only to avoid  
interference with co-users of the frequency.  
Coverage will be limited to the Valley. The  
ARES/RACES group in the Valley will probably  
start to use the new repeater for the local  
Monday night nets, at approximately 7:15 PM.

Use of the machine is encouraged in order to  
judge coverage and any interference that may  
occur, and where. ■

BUGS BUGS

Last month's board meeting minutes listed the  
date as Nov 10. It should have been Dec 8. ■



BOY, THAT READOUT REALLY JUMPS RIGHT OUT  
AT YOU, DOESN'T IT?



## SCRAPS: SCRA Public Service

By Marie Mappus KI6QY

### 1994 Public Service Events

Here it is another new year. It seems as though we just finished the Public Service Events for 1993 and now it is time to start planning for 1994. The first event this year will be the Super Cities Walk on April 10th. We will need at least 14 volunteers.

Many more volunteers will be needed in the months ahead. While there are always a few dedicated people who give as much of their time as is requested, they are too few to do the job, particularly on the larger events that call for over 40 volunteers. *We need you to get involved !!!*

It was announced at the last SCRA club meeting that we now have over 300 members. Surely we should be able to get at least 1/3 of the membership, or 100 members, to volunteer for this activity. The runs and bike rides are a lot of fun and offer challenges that you do not get from just talking to your friends on the radio. Furthermore, public service events give you an opportunity to fine-tune your communication skills for RACES activities.

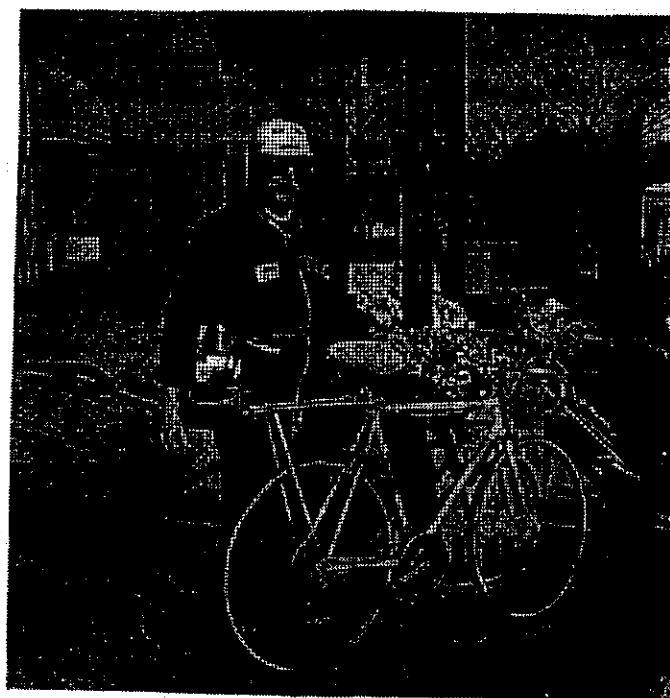
In addition, there is a lot of satisfaction in knowing that you have helped someone in need. Try it and you will see what I mean. If, for instance, someone is hurt you are there to report the injury and expedite help to the injured party. Such a quick response could save a life, depending upon the nature of the injury. Perhaps a child has gotten separated from their parents or friends. Here again, you are there to help.

The assistance that the hams give is recognized by all event officials. Many have told us after the events that they wonder how they ever managed them before the Amateur Radio operators got involved. The bikers and walkers particularly praise the hams for the sense of security and safety we give them by our presence.

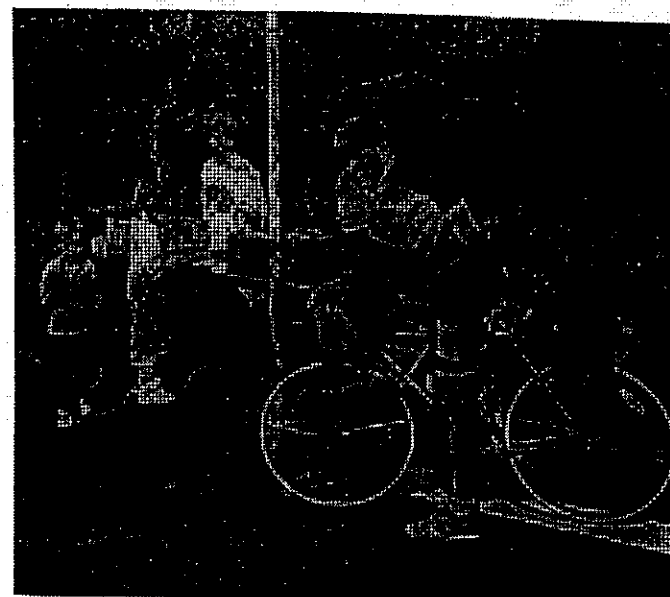
Call me at 707-664-1978 and be among the first to say "count me in". If you volunteer, and we hope you will, do so with the commitment that you *will* participate.

My thanks to the members who signed up as volunteers at the January meeting. We're counting on you !!!

### Super Cities Walk, 3/28/93:



At the start: Ted KB6PTA



Rest stop #3: Ed AB6QL

# HSC ELECTRONIC SUPPLY

## GOODIES FOR THE RADIO AMATEUR:

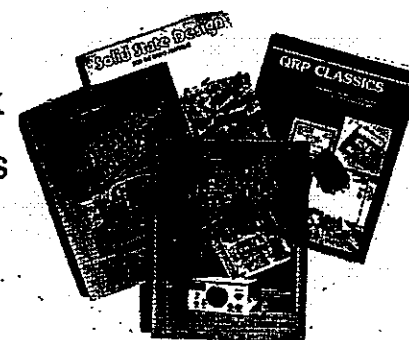
### RAMSEY KITS:

- 2 Meter Synthesized FM Transceiver
- 2 Meter 30 Watt Amplifier
- 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
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- Software, Etc...

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George Shedore  
Manager  
KS6W

6819 REDWOOD DRIVE  
COTATI, CA 94931

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



## SCRA MINUTES

January 5, 1994



The meeting was called to order by President Merl Pfeiff N6VUC at 7:35 PM. Other officers present were Vice President R.L. Caron KK6GP, Secretary Al Bloom N1AL, Repeater Chairman Jim Rutherford WB6PER, and Members-at-Large Kelly Cureton KD6CJQ and Marie Mappus KI6QY.

**VISITORS:** We had 11 visitors at the meeting. The club now numbers almost 300 paid-up members.

**REPEATER:** WB6PER was asked if the club has a 450 MHz repeater. No, but the RACES repeater on 441.375 has good coverage from Sonoma Mt. The new FCC rules re business use of amateur radio will be covered at the next meeting.

**PUBLIC SERVICE:** Marie KI6QY is looking for volunteers (both event coordinators and communicators) for the coming season. The first event in March is not too far away.

**EDUCATION:** Steve KK6VY needs instructors and assistants. Rick K6ZWB will give a 4-class (1/week) Antenna Basics course sometime in early February. The Education Hotline is a voicemail system for getting information and leaving questions about classes. The number is 579-9608.

**THE NEXT VE EXAM** is this Saturday at the Rohnert Park Hewlett-Packard plant. Exam schedules and 610 forms are available from Dave AA6YX. Someone mentioned that they thought the CW exams should be multiple-choice.

**ACTIVITIES:** We need an Activities Chairman for 1994. Meanwhile, Paul KD6FBN is planning a CPR class.

**OLD BUSINESS:** 1993 President Rick K6ZWB presented an award to Joe Senft KM6TN for his outstanding performance heading up the Antenna Committee. Joe reported that talks are upcoming with the Santa Rosa City Attorney's office in a couple weeks to work out antenna regulations.

The **PACKET BBS** has moved from 145.73 to 145.09 MHz as of Dec 1, according to John WX3K. The 145.73 node on Sonoma Mt. should be back on the air soon after recent wind damage to the antenna is repaired. A neat graphical Automatic Packet Reporting System by WB4APR is available for downloading. It maps the current position of other packet stations, including moving ones (mobiles).

The **SWAP SHOP** is going great guns. Dave KD6KWM reports 42-48 items, with some coming in via packet.

**NEW BUSINESS:** With a little prompting by Merl, we have a NCS station for January — Claude AB6OL volunteered. The 10 meter net is still going strong with Bill K9ASL as NCS.

**REFRESHMENTS:** Bob WD6DPE has been doing coffee and donuts for 11 years. He would like someone to help by picking up the donuts before each club meeting.

We need a **LOTTERY CHAIRMAN** for 1994. Patrick KD6TYJ volunteered to sell **RAFFLE** tickets at meetings.

WB6PER says some new members have not been getting **MEMBERSHIP PACKETS**. N1AL will have some more printed.

KD6ZZB brought some free surplus RG58 and RG59.

**PROGRAM:** Bill Mann, television critic on radio and TV, gave a lively and humorous talk about the current state of the "vast wasteland." He is starting a new show on KSRO Sundays.

**LOTTERY:** Ken Christensen W6LCA would have won had he been present.

The **FIELD DAY** plaque has returned to SCRA after a 3-year journey to REDX-land. We won in 1993 by a hair.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM. m/s K6ZWB/KB6PTA

Respectfully submitted by Al Bloom N1AL, Secretary.



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STEVE BASHAM  
Manager

Jim Peimulder  
N6PTM

(707) 823-7947

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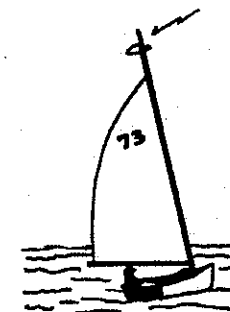
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## Do You Have a Phone Patch?

Can anyone handle phone patches to an 887 number in Forestville? 887 is a free call from a very large area in Sonoma County.



The situation is: I am currently living on my ham-equipped boat in Mexico. My callsign is XE2/KD6UHV (soon to be XE2/KN6OA when the Mexican government processes my upgrade.) I plan to head for French Polynesia next March or so. I wonder if any local hams listen to the Maritime Mobile nets and have phone patch capability and like to use it! I have never heard anyone from the Santa Rosa area check in, but I don't listen very often.

Manana Net 14340 1830/1900 UTC  
Pacific Maritime 14313 +/- 0400/0430

Pacific Maritime has a roll call beginning at 0430 of vessels underway in international waters. I will probably get on that roll call, and that would be when I would like to patch through to my son in Forestville.

Once I make landfall in French Polynesia, I am off the roll call. The French, who *do* offer reciprocal licenses, do *not* allow any third-party traffic, which includes phone patches.

Is there anyone out there interested in being a radio/phone patch link between me and my son while I attempt to sail to the South Pacific? The Forestville phone number is 887-0865. My name is Mary, my son is Berkeley. I will be in Forestville for a short time in February; otherwise I am in Mexico — at the moment in the Sea of Cortez near Lorito, Baja Sur. The boat's name is "Sapo."

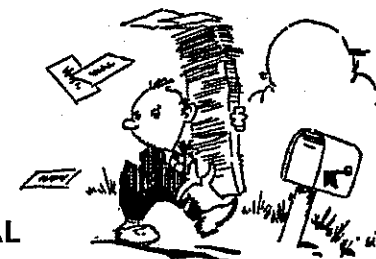
I frequently come up on the Chubasco Net 7294 kHz at 1530 UTC (1600 for traffic), but Manana probably has better propagation. Anyone interested could try to contact me by radio (what a concept!), or call/write to me in Forestville and I will respond when I get the message in February.

Thank you,

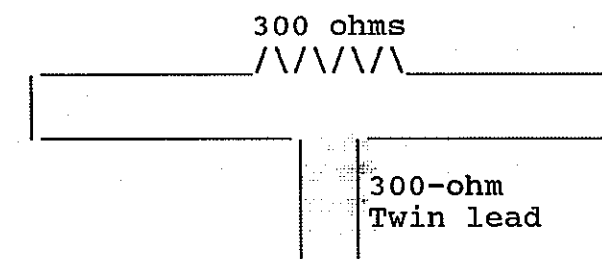
Mary White KN6OA, 887-0865, 6294  
Anderson Rd, Forestville, CA 95436.

## Ask Mr. Science

by Alan Bloom N1AL



Last month, we printed a question posted to the Internet asking whether the following antenna was any good:



Since then the following interesting reply appeared:

*Hi Chase and Alan,*

*I saw your e-mail addresses concerning the T2FD antenna. I'm curious as to what your experiences with the antenna had been. I had put one up with nearly the identical dimensions that Roger had specified, except that I was told to use 390 ohms as the terminating resistor instead of 300 ohms for use with 300-ohm transmission line. I also used a Palomar 6:1 balun to feed the whole thing with 50-ohm coax.*

*I put it up at the same height as a 40-meter half-wave dipole and a TA-33 triband beam (40 feet). I found the T2FD to typically be 2 S-units below the dipole on 40 and about 6 S-units below the TA-33 on 20, 15, and 10. Turned out to be a real loser at my location.*

*73, Bob K2PH, Kresgeville, PA*

Told ya so! On the low bands (160, 80 and 40 meters), a plain old dipole, up as high in the air as you can get it, is hard to beat.

Please send in your questions to *Ask Mr. Science* c/o SCRA, POB 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402. We can pose your question anonymously, if you desire.



by R. L. Caron KK6GP

**PICK YOUR CALL SIGN!** The FCC has released its Notice of Proposed Rule Making, in PR Docket 93-305, to permit amateurs to choose a "vanity" call sign. Individuals as well as club stations would be eligible to request an available call sign from the block assigned to their license class or a lower license class.

The Communications Act specifies a fee of 7 dollars per year for amateur service vanity call signs, and allows the Commission to require payment of small fees in advance for a number of years not to exceed the relevant license term. Fee issues would be resolved under a separate FCC rule making proceeding, and a vanity call sign system would not be started until then, the FCC said.

The applicant would provide a list of up to 10 total call signs desired. The FCC would assign the first available requested call sign from the applicant's list. If none of the desired call signs was available, the applicant's current call sign would be reassigned.

Call signs of lapsed or deceased licensees would not be available for reassignment for two years. A call sign relinquished under the vanity call sign program would be available for reassignment immediately.

The FCC said that even with its new automated licensing process it did not expect to be able to offer amateurs on-line access in order to check for call sign availability, and asked for comments on how such a service could be provided. The FCC said its eventual goal is to accept license applications electronically. The comment deadline for this NPRM is March 7, 1994. Reply comment deadline is April 7, 1994.

At the same meeting, the first under new FCC Chairman Reed Hundt, Private Radio Bureau staff began by telling the FCC commissioners that recent Nobel Prize winners Joseph Taylor and Russell Hulse had begun their scientific education as radio amateurs.

FCC has scrapped proposed plans to establish private call sign administrators, and proposals

to provide instant operating privileges for new licensees at VE sessions. It is felt that when the new PRB computer is fully operational, the electronic filing of applications will provide those services automatically. The FCC also has dropped the requirement for a street address on the printed license. The mailing address is now the only means available for contacting hams. *TNX ARRL.*

**HAM CONVERTERS TO BE EXEMPT FROM 93-1**, the FCC prohibition on scanners and converters capable of receiving cellular transmissions. Wording in the new regulations will not specifically exclude ham equipment, but will mention the rule on converters only applies to those designed and marketed for use with scanning receivers. *TNX HAMNET.*

**MORE CLUTTER ON THE 902-928 BAND** can be expected with approval of another NPRM proposing expanded use of this spectrum by AVM (automotive vehicle monitoring) systems. This has always been a shared band for hams, but the trend recently has been to throw almost any service requesting more frequencies into this space. Most ham use is for ATV. *TNX ARRL.*

**NO FCC LICENSE HAS EXPIRED IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS** due to conversion to 10-year terms. But some of these longer terms are now nearing renewal time. Check your license and file a new 610 soon if yours is expiring within the next 60 to 90 days. That way, you may continue to operate beyond the expiration date if a paperwork bottleneck at the FCC causes a delay in sending you a new license. *TNX ARRL.*

**SPACE HAPPENINGS** include a new crew on the MIR space station. Alexander, ROMIR, the chattiest Soviet cosmonaut in memory, has returned to terra firma. Replacing him are Victor, U9MIR, Yuri, R3MIR, and Valery, U3MIR. Interesting to note that Valery is a medical doctor who will attempt to break the record for remaining in space by staying aloft until April of 1995. Hopefully, these hams will become as friendly as the past crew. Listen for them on 145.55 for both AX-25 packet and regular NBFM simplex voice. If you get lucky, QSL via Serge Samburov, RV3DR, P.O. Box 73, Kaliningrad-10 City, Moscow Area, 141070, Russia.

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## Board Meeting Minutes

January 12, 1994

The meeting was called to order by President Merle Pfiess N6VUC, at 5:50pm in the meeting room at the Northbay Savings Bank. Others present were Vice President R.L. Caron KK6GP, Members-at-Large Marie Mappus KI6QY and Kelley Cureton KD6CJQ. Jim Pelmulder N6PTM, represented Treasurer Mike Michlig, KN6JQ, who was unable to attend. In the absence of Secretary Al Bloom N1AL, R.L. took the minutes of the meeting. Also present were SCRA members James Cureton KD6GSF, Joe Senft KM6TN, Dave Willey KD6KWM, and Hoppy Bravin WD6CKP.

**BUDGET:** The first order of business was the line-by-line examination of the 1994 budget, as revised by the combined board at the December meeting. This year's budget projects income of \$5950 and expenses of \$6335, for a net operating loss of \$385. The primary reason for the increase in expenses over 1993 is the \$1500 upgrade to the repeater which will give us battery backup during power failures. The budget was unanimously accepted. m/s KK6GP/KI6QY.

**ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR:** Mike Knope KD6LYU, who had previously expressed an interest in the position, was nominated by N6PTM and seconded by KD6CJQ. The appointment is subject to Mike's acceptance of the full voting position of Activities Director, the primary responsibility being the organization of Field Day.

**REFRESHMENTS:** Bob Olsten WD6DPE, is asking for some relief in organizing refreshments at the membership gathering. He would like someone to pick up the donuts on the way to the meetings. A volunteer will be sought at the February meeting.

**GREETERS:** President Merle will select one or two greeters at each meeting and will provide them with a short form to give to guests and visitors so that each may be introduced in a consistent manner. He also declared his intention to revive the 25 cent fine for members not wearing a badge to the meetings.

**RAFFLE CHAIRMAN:** The club still needs someone to take on this responsibility. It would involve picking up the donated prizes from the contributing stores, selling tickets before meetings and during the break, and conducting the raffle at the conclusion. A pitch for this high-visibility position will be heard at the next meeting.

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE:** Steve Carniglia, KK6VY, is still looking for an instructor to teach a Novice/Technician class. This is a great way to contribute to the hobby in a very meaningful and rewarding way. Call Steve at 579-9698.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Public Service Chairman Marie KI6QY announced final arrangements have been completed on the first event of 1994, the Super Cities Walk on April 10th. She also has reserved a portion of Finley Park for the SCRAPs Picnic on August 20th.

**PUBLIC SERVICE:** R.L. KK6GP expressed his concern and that of many others who have worked some public service events in the past where poor planning by the organizers has placed

radio operators in a position of having to make important decisions on the allocation of resources. He emphasized that this observation pertained to only a few of the many events covered by SCRAPs, as most have proven to be an extremely pleasant learning experience, providing invaluable training for possible emergency service by our members. The board suggested Marie inform all special event coordinators that a person of authority be assigned to net control for the duration of the time SCRA maintains communications.

**ANTENNAS:** Joe Senft KM6TN reports he has an appointment with Santa Rosa City Attorney Leavitt to discuss the re-working of the city ordinance on antennas. Joe's committee has made landmark progress in the past year, successfully convincing the city council that it's rules were overly restrictive, leading to the upcoming meeting where hams will have a voice in coming to a reasonable compromise. Joe also suggested that regular repeater users who are not SCRA members be invited to join. Jim N6PTM mentioned that this practice has been in effect for quite some time, albeit without any formal procedure or appointed individual.

Jim also presented a telephone bill for the repeater site that was due for payment, mentioning that the county no longer will absorb that expense. In Al's absence, he reviewed for the board a few other items from the mailbox that were determined to not be of great urgency.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52pm. m/s KK6GP/N6PTM ■

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## Ham News (from page 6)

Meanwhile, the next US Shuttle flight scheduled for a late February launch will be another SAREX mission with several hams aboard. This one will be in a 57 degree orbit resulting in many high overhead passes over Northern California ideal for relatively easy voice and packet contacts. When SAREX is flying, the MIR cosmonauts go silent on 145.55 to allow the US craft to use it as a downlink-only frequency. Voice and packet uplinks to the shuttle are on 144.91, 144.93, 144.95, 144.97 and 144.99 only. Happy hunting. *TNX AMSAT.*