SCRA MINUTES

February 7, 1996

Submitted by Secretary Steven Feil KD6CJR



SONOMA COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS, INC.

The meeting was called to order by President Steve Carniglia KK6VY at 7:35 PM at the HP meeting room. Other officers present were: Vice President Rick Reiner K6ZWB, Secretary Steve Feil KD6CJR, Treasurer Joel Nadler KJ6LF, Activities Chairman John Wallack W6TLK, Public Service Chairman Marie Mappus KI6QY, Members-at-Large Claude Jones AB6OL and Joe Berkman KE6LNQ.

We had 11 visitors this evening.

John Shappel has upgraded to EXTRA keeping his previous call of KM6XO.

The minutes for the January meeting were approved. WB6TMY/WD6DPE

The Treasurers report by Joel Nadler KJ6LF indicates income of \$868.50, expenses of \$846.44 and a balance of \$2217.88. The Budget was reviewed for the membership. Anticipated income for 1996 is \$12,550.00 and anticipated expenses are \$12,184.00 for a balance of \$366.00. Dues are due for the 1996 fiscal year. WB6TMY/KE6EAQ

Steve KK6VY let us know that the reason that the repeater has been in PL mode so much is because of interference when the fog rolls in.

John Wallack our Activities Chairman informed us about some upcoming events: There will be a FOXHUNT in March. It will be held on the 16th at 9:00 am. The starting location will be the parking lot at Piner High School. He told us that DOPPLER antennas will NOT be allowed this year. There will be a eatfest afterwards. Our meeting on April 3rd will be the traditional Homebrew Contest. Last years winners KK6VY and WB6FRZ will be in charge of this event. More in the future is Field Day on June 22/23. General plans are already in the works. John also solicited ideas for a club sponsored mini-DXpedition. Any ideas can be forwarded through the board.

Rick K6ZWB is currently holding an antenna class. There are 12 in the class. It is being held on Thursdays in room F1 at Elsie Allen High.

Bill KH6GJV is looking for helpers to teach a No-Code class for the Rincon Valley School District. An instructor is needed to teach a Morse Code class if there is an interest. There was some interest in a General upgrade class, anyone willing to

help? Bill also brought up the idea of starting a Youth Activity program for the club. Materials are available for anyone interested in starting this program.

Marie KI6OY our Public Service Chairperson reiterated that the first event of the public service season is getting very near. with the first event in March. She invites all to come and join the fun. Please let her know if you have preference for particular events or operating stations.

Steve KK6VY as our Public information officer let us know that voice mail slots are available for amateur radio uses. Contact Steve if you could use this service.

Lee KE6EAQ let us know that the formal review of the County Antenna Ordinance will begin on Feb. 15 at 1:00. The review process is open to the public, but there will not be any public comments taken.

Al Ferrera gave us an update on the situation at the English Hill antenna site.

Quarterly Raffle - Rick K6ZWB reminded us about the Quarterly raffle. The \$250 gift certificate from HRO will be presented to the will at the April meeting. The cost for tickets is \$5.00 each.

Please be aware that our club meeting will be held at CATTLEMAN's Restaurant next month due to a conflict at HP. Our thanks goes to them in advance.

Buckmaster is going to include pictures of hams on their upcoming CD's. They are willing to give the club a copy of the CD for every 10 pictures submitted. Hollis KE6UDH has offered to be the photographer for this effort. Pictures will be taken at the next meeting.

Larry KD6VUM is looking for interest in a mini-DXpedition to Alcatraz Island. It can be a one or two day event (not overnight on island.) He will contact the Park Service for possible dates.

The program for this evening was presented by Bob Schmieder KK6E. The topic was a DXpedition to Easter Island last year. There were many slide depicting the natural and man-made beauty of the island as well as the operating event itself.

The raffle was conducted by Merl N6VUC. Prizes were provided by ARDCO and HSC. Please patronize these fine establishments to show our thanks for this support. James KD6GSF pulled Nicholas Van Buer KE6FQE for the membership lottery.

The meeting was adjourned at about 10:05 PM. Respectfully submitted by Steven Feil KD6CJR

NEW EXTRA CLASS QUESTION POOL RELEASED.

On December 1, 1995 a new Extra class question pool was released into public domain. The new pool must be used in all Extra class license examinations beginning July 1, 1996. For copies of the new question pool send a large SASE with \$2.00 postage to the ARRL/VEC.

The Novice and Technician pools will be updated later this



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SCRAPS

SCRA PUBLIC SERVICE

By Marie Mappus KI6QY



The season for the Public Service Events draws closer. By the time you receive this issue of Short Skip it will be the end of February or close to it and March is just around the corner and so begins the bike races, tours and runs.

The first one is on Saturday, March 30th and is the Korbel Classic Road Race in Windsor. It is quite a sight to see, somewhere between thirty or more riders in a cluster taking the curves at a fast pace and not interfering with one another or having any kind of mishap. The course is grueling and on a hot day is rough. We still need approximately 5 more hams for this event.

A reminder that April has the Super Cities Walk on the 14th. This is sponsored by the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Northern California. It is a delightful walk through Santa Rosa starting at the Santa Rosa Plaza to Summerfield and back again. It is on a Sunday morning and should be a relaxing walk for anyone who participates in the event as a walker. We need approximately 9 hams for this event.

The Wine Country Century Bike Tour is coming up on May 4th. Since that event comes at the beginning of the month, it is necessary that I have the names of the people who wish to participate in that event at either the March or April club meeting. Information packets will be mailed around the 25th of April. So if you are interested, get your name in early. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT I HAVE THIS INFORMATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Approximately 20 people will be needed.

If you are interested in participating in any of the above events, please let me know at the SCRA meetings or call me at 664-1978.

Again, if for some reason you find you will not be able to fulfill your commitment to help with an event that you signed up for, please let me know so I can replace you with someone else. It is practically impossible to find someone who can fill in at the last moment. On this your cooperation is greatly appreciated.



VOMARC Hamfest

The Valley of the Moon ARC is gearing up for their annual spring hamfest and are making plans for the many activities that will go on there. The hamfest is on Sunday, April 21 this year because of scheduling conflicts with the Vet's building, but will still include it's usual "ham" and egg breakfast featuring pancakes, eggs, sausage and drink for \$5, with pancakes only going for \$3.50. Breakfast will be served from 8 until 10:30 so everyone is encouraged to show up early, get something good to eat and go on to the swapmeet and various radio related forums, demonstrations and activities.

This year VOMARC is inviting all hams and their families to not only visit but to participate in the various activities. We will have a special event station operating from 8 am to 2 pm on the phone portions of 20 and 40 meters. In years past we have had some guest operators, but this year we are asking for Sonoma County hams from all clubs to join in and reserve their own operating block of time. We will be working two hour shifts with the two phone positions as well as a QRP 40 meter CW position and are asking for both operators as well as loggers. You can trade off or operate more than one shift, so come on over and help with our own special event.

We are also welcoming anyone who would like to enhance their enjoyment of the day even more by joining in on any of our other activities. If you don't get enough pancake flipping at the SCRA swap in the fall, give us a call and join the glory with the VOMARC kitchen crew. We will run two crews for breakfast, from 7 am to about 9 and then from 9 until about 11 for wrap-up and kitchen clean-up. Any and all offers of help will be gratefully accepted.

We will have demonstrations on QRP, direction finding and AMSAT but are still looking for a few good hams who would like to show the public packet radio, antenna building or any other special interest you might have. Non-commercial demonstrations and displays will be given space and tables free of charge, so let us know if you have that special interest relating to amateur radio that you would like to share.

The swap meet will set up starting at 7 am and will run from 8 am to about 11. Spaces are \$10 each so bring your valuable stuff and turn it into a little cash. If we get rain we still have plenty of room inside the main building in which to set up.

Remember, we will also be hosting a walk-in VE session, so this is another good opportunity to upgrade.

As a final note, VOMARC will be operating a special event station commemorating the Sonoma Sesquicentennial with a multi-band station set up right in front of the Sonoma City Hall on Saturday, June 22. We know that this is the Field Day weekend this year, but because this was the only date available to us, the club thought it would operate "CQ FIELD DAY, CQ FIELD DAY FROM SONOMA SPECIAL EVENT STATION..." and send certificates to all the stations who QSL. We are again looking for more than a few good operators, so let us know if you would like to participate in this event also.

If you have a favorite spot or job for either event, be sure to give me a call right away at 707-996-4494 and I'll sign you right up. So, until I hear from you, 73 and TNX.

Darrel, WD6BOR

FCC ISSUED CALL SIGN UPDATE

The following is a list of the FCC's most recently issued call signs as of February 1.

District	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
1	Extra	Advanced	Tech/Gen	Novice
0	AB0AO	KI0AV	++	KB0VFH
1	AAIPL	KE1EA	NIWOJ	KBlBWP
2	AB2AA	KG2FN	++	KB2WXM
3	AA3NK	KE3VY	N3WTW	KB3BNF
4	AE4QB	KT4KE	++	KF4GNF
5	AC5GK	KK5WI	5 11 50000	KC5SQT
6	AC6SH	KQ6DN		KF6BGO
7	AB7OR	KJ7UK	++	KC7PBF
8	AA8VV	KG8VF	++	KC8CGD
9	AA9RE	KG9FK	+-+	KB9MOU
N.				-
Mariana	KHOV	AH0AW	KH0ER	WH0ABE
Guam	WH2S	AH2DB	KH2PL	WH2ANP
Hawaii	++	AH6OK	++	WH6CZW
Amer.			-	
Samoa	AH8O	AH8AH	KH8CK	WH8ABF
Alaska	-}- }-	AL7QI	++	WL7CRO
Virgin	WP2V	KP2CJ	NP2IU	WP2AIA
Puerto				
Rico	++	++	++	WP4NIR

++All call signs in this group have been issued in this area.

SECRETARY NOTE:

(Is something missing?)

The following individuals do not have phone numbers listed in the SCRA roster data base:

Roger Valentine, Leland S Hall KA6DYY, Ross Collins AC6ET, Norman Owens KE6FFR, Jim Durkin KE6FSK, Myron Randall KD6GCI, Ray Hope KA6IVK, Jim Shoberg KE6IYT, Allan Chapman W6MEO, Thomas K Raboin WB6MQW, Jeremiah Keyes KC6NEI, Rachel Collins KE6NXA, Stephan M Woytowicz KI6PB, Harold Baldwin KB6UCM, Mark Walsh KM6XU, Craig Combes KC6YKD, Ray Clary Jr. KJ6YV.

Additionally we need to know the licence class of the following individuals:

Myrna Andrews, Roger Valentine, Greg Lenard KC5EGD, Charles Coffel WA6BPA, Max Meierhans KE6BXX, Chris Botka KE6EAP, Norman Owens KE6FFR, Jim Durkin KE6FSK, Jack L Trimingham KN6IO, Walter J Donahue W6ITU, Jim Shoberg KE6IYT, Matthew Rapaport KD6KVH, Nancy A Andrews KD6KVJ, Dave Duchesneau KD6LSA, David Houghton KC6LSN, Rachel Collins KE6NXA, Adam Mclaughlin KD6POC, Kerry Connelly KD6RJO, James Connelly KD6RJP, Darien Hall KE6RMD, Fred Morgan KD6SAQ, Cullen Tendick W6TDR, Tom Kaminska KC6WUF, Craig Combes KC6YKD, Allen M Burke KE6YQT, Mike Hall KE6YQV, Shep Jenks NH6ZY.

Please contact Steven Feil, SCRA secretary, at 579-8346 and let him know what your licence class or your phone number is or if you want it unlisted. Additionally if any of your information has changed please call me. It costs extra postage every time a newsletter is returned. Thanks a bunch.

Steve KD6CJR

The ARRL Letter

Vol. 15, No. 2, February 9, 1996

SOLAR CYCLE NEAR BOTTOM

Despite some earlier reports that the current sunspot cycle had bottomed out, it could be another year before things start looking up, depending on which data you use. Solar prognosticator Tad Cook, KT7H, reports that solar activity is still very low, and "we are very close to the solar minimum." The latest projections show 10.7-cm solar flux--actually a radio measurement of the amount of energy at that

wavelength--reaching minimum around a year from now, during January and February 1997. Solar flux seems to correlate with density of ionization in the ionosphere and consequent HF propagation.

But other projections, based on direct telescopic observations of sunspots, show the sunspot number reaching minimum during April through June of this year, and a big increase starting late in 1997. The sunspot number is derived by counting visible dark spots on the sun and factoring in their area. Last summer, astronomers observed what they believe to be the first spots of the new cycle on the sun's polar regions. Spots shift in magnetic polarity from one cycle to another, Cook says, making it possible to differentiate the "new" spots from the current ones. In any case, just when Cycle 23 begins often is not "officially" determined until well after the event transpires. "There's some overlap" between cycles, he explains.

From Cook's point of view, the solar flux is a more reliable indicator of how solar activity will affect HF propagation on Earth. As most hams know already, solar disturbances, primarily solar flares, can disrupt radio (and other) communication. "These throw out huge amounts of protons," Cook explains about the flares. "If they're aimed right at the earth, they can be

very disruptive." Among the most disturbed days in recent weeks was January 29, when the A index reached 18, and the K index was as high as five. Otherwise geomagnetic conditions were quiet over this period, Cook says. Solar flux should head down toward 70 by February 12 and then back above the mid-70s late in the month. Sunspot numbers in late January had a mean of 13.7.

CONGRATULATING OUR 70, 60 and 50-YEAR MEMBERS

Hard as it might be for some of us younger hams to believe, three amateurs have been recognized for logging 70 years as League members! Others recently hit the 60 and 50-year marks. ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, recently sent letters of congratulation to these and other long-time members, including a lengthy list of 40-year members. In addition to certificates of membership, the 70-year members receive an engraved plate. Congratulations!

50-year member

Bradley W. Wyatt, K6WR, Los Gatos, California (Brad is the Pacific Division Director--Ed.)

The ARRL Letter is published by the American Radio Relay League, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111

Board Meeting Minutes

February 14, 1996



Minutes of the Sonoma County Radio Amateurs board meeting held February 14, 1996 at the Northbay Savings Bank community room. Members of the board present were: President, Steve KK6VY; Vice President, Rick K6ZWB; Secretary, Steven KD6CJR; Treasurer, Joel KJ6LF; Members-at-large, Claude AB6OL and Joe KE6LNQ; Past President, Kelly KD6CJQ and Public Service Chairman, Marie KI6QY. There were also 3 other SCRA members present.

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 PM by President Steve KK6VY.

Steve KK6VY discussed ideas and a draft copy of an agenda for our regular club meetings.

Joel KJ6LF commented on the need for members requesting reimbursement for club oriented expenses to provide the original or a copy of the actual receipt. There will be very few exceptions to this guideline. Joel would also like to have as many membership renewals as possible be mailed and to be sure to include your ARRL renewal.

Steve KD6CJR provided a copy of the Constitution for review prior to distribution to the club. A job description for the new board position of Public Service was also presented.

Marie KI6QY informed us about the Korbel Road Classic that will be on Saturday March 30th.

Joe KE6LNQ requested a presentation at a regular club meeting on the REDX club. He also requested that the 10 meter net be more education oriented.

Kelly KD6CJQ indicated a need to check the display case at the EOC to verify its contents, especially the dates of the various documents stored there.

Rick K6ZWB asked Hank's Swap Shops status in the newsletter. Claude AB6OL will solicit submissions in the newsletter. He also requested that the language and topics of discussion during board meetings be more professional.

There was some discussion regarding the protocol for being selected for committees, specifically the Repeater Committee.

Bill KH6GJV our Education Chairperson discussed the Technician class being taught in the Rincon Valley School district. Tracy WB6TMY is willing to take on a 0 to 25 WPM code class and/or an Extra theory class. Any interest in a General class? For any of these classes call the voice mail number and leave a message. Contact Bill if you can help out or can teach a class. Bill has asked Renee KE6ULU to head up the Youth Activities committee. She requested any members that have ideas for future events or feedback on past events to please contact her. 579-8346.

Hoppy WD6CKP played a portion of the Newsline preamble that indicated that they are nearing bankruptcy again and soliciting funds. It was decided that at the next regular club meeting that additional funds would be solicited from the general membership to supplement the \$100 that is already budgeted.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Steven Feil, KD6CJR.

VE Exams for March

March 2, 9am at:

>>> Novato (MARC) at Kaiser Hospital, Building 2, San Rafael WALK-IN 147.330 - RPT AAA MAP MARIN COUNTY E10

From Hwy 101 take Freitas Parkway west bound, turn left onto Gallinas Ave. Turn right onto Nova Albion Way, Right onto Montecillo Road and park in lot A. Enter building 2 at south door.

March 23, 5pm at:

***Petaluma (SMRS) at Petaluma Senior Citizen Center
TALK-IN 146.350 - RPT AAA MAP PETALUMA K7

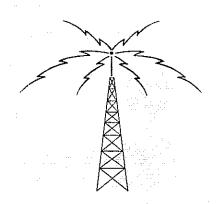
TALK-IN 146.350 - RPT AAA MAP PETALUMA K7
Take East Washington Street off ramp from 101 freeway. Go east on Washington to first signal (McDowell Blvd.). Left (north) on McDowell Blvd to first signal light, East Madison Ave. Turn right to Novak Drive. Turn left, building to left of circle. Park in back parking lot.

SCRA Homebrew Contest

Entry Form

Project Title: Entrant's Name:	The second secon	Call Sign:			
Project Description:					
					*
		# #			
Hours Spent on Project:					
 10 pts max) Proof of operation (15 Utility and operating co Neatness, appearance, Use of surplus and/or r 	onvenience (10 pts max) workmanship (20 pts max) eadily available parts (15 pts				
 Judge's discretion (15) 	pts max)	Arguego National		·	
		To	otal		

Public Service:	Marie Mappus	KI6QY	664-1978
Public Relations:	Steve Carniglia -	KK6VY	579-9608
QSL Mgr:	Fred Leoni	N6YEU	431-8202
TVI/RFI:	Al Bloom	NIAL	538-7115
Antennas:	Joe Senft	KM6TN	578-5824
Awards:	Steve Lund	WA8LLY	823-4544
RACES RO:	Jim Pelmulder	N6PTM	823-7947
Field Day:	Steve Carniglia	KK6VY	579-9608
VEC Exams:	Claude Jones	AB6OL	527-8593
Education:	Bill Hillendahl	KH6GJV	542-4304
Badge Chair:	Fred Leoni	N6YEU	431-8202
Refreshments:	Jim Hudson	KD6WIS	
Raffle at meetings:	Greg Cowles	KE6FXK	
Membership lottery:	James Cureton	KD6GSF	
Packet BBS:	Jim Andrews	KC6PJW	795-2163
	Dave Willey	KD6KWM	577-0191



Repeater Contro	ol Op's
Jim WB6PER	526-2972
Hoppy WD6CKP	542-6750
Kelly KD6CJQ	837-9434
Steve KK6VY	579-9608
Jim N6PTM	823-7947
Merl N6VUC	584-3898
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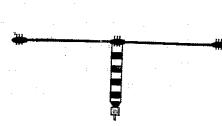
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- Antenna Books
- Etc...





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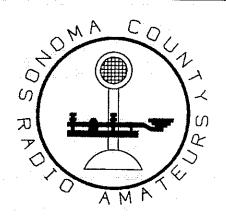
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Club Meetings

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

NOT AN SCRA MEMBER?

If not, then this is a complimentary copy of Short Skip. Our club is involved with almost every area of Amateur Radio: Repeaters (146.73), Field Day, License classes (Novice through Extra), Volunteer exams, RACES, DX programs, Packet radio, Hidden transmitter hunts -- you name it.

We invite you to attend our next monthly meeting (see below) or check into the Tuesday night SCRA net on the 146.73 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 in this issue. Hope we can have an "eyeball" QSO with you at the next meeting! 73 ...

Next Meeting: March 6, 1996 Location: Cattlemen's Restaurant, Santa Rosa

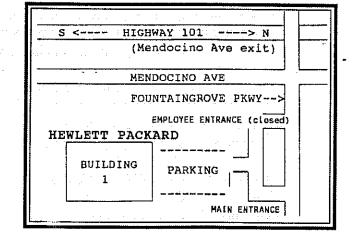
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EDUCATION



By Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV

A No-code Technician class has been started for the Rincon Valley School District's GATE students. The ten week course started February 15th and is full. Bill KH6GJV is teaching the class.

Tracy Reese WB6TMY has graciously offered to teach a code and Extra Class license course for those interested. Tracy will start the code portion at beginning level (0 WPM) to 25 WPM. The theory portion will be the Extra Class text only. Please contact Tracy directly at 527-8124, radions@aol.com, or WB6TMY@N0ARY.#NOCAL, or leave a message on the Education Voicemail Box at (707) 579-9608.

There has been some interest in a General course. If you are interested in upgrading to General, please leave me a message and we will collect names. We will also be looking for an instructor, so if you want to help your fellow Ham, think about teaching a class.

The Sonoma Mountain Repeater Society runs a series of classes for the No-code Technician class license. Feel free to call Dale at (707) 762-9414 for more information.

DUES ARE DUE!

Your 1996 SCRA dues now due. Starting this year the dues are: \$18.00 individual, \$27.00 family. To make it easier on the club treasurer (and reduce traffic at the club meeting) it is preferred that you renew by mail using the membership application below. At the very least print your call sign on your check and write "Renewal" on the envelope and mail to the club P.O. box.

While you are at it, this would be a good time to also renew your ARRL membership. When you renew through the club, the club gets \$2.00 per membership at no extra charge. When you join ARRL for the first time (through the club) the club gets \$5.00. So why not save yourself a stamp, and direct some of your ARRL dues to *YOUR* club. Just include your ARRL renewal slip and add the ARRL dues to your check total and we'll do the rest.

Application :	for membership in	ı SCRA
Name	Callsign	License Class
Address	Phone	Date
City ZIP	() New	() Renewal
	Dues for new members only a me. age. (Under 21 rates requir hecks payable to SCRA	are prorated at \$1.50/month for individuare application form).
Name Badge Information (new member Fill in exactly as you want it to appear on your bath Callsign First Name	SCRA Dues Individual \$ Initiation fer Prorate disco ARRL Dues \$31 or \$25	118, Family \$27 + e \$6.00 + ount X (# months) (rate) s: if over 65 +
WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION AI		donation to SCRA: +
() Public Service Events () RACES or ARES Emergency Services () Taking a Novice or Technician class () Teaching a Novice or Technician class () Taking an upgrade class () Teaching an upgrade class	() Helping with VE () Field day, other () Helping with Sh	Net Control Station EC license exams operating events

SCRA INCOME AND EXPENSE **STATEMENT as of 2/21/1996**

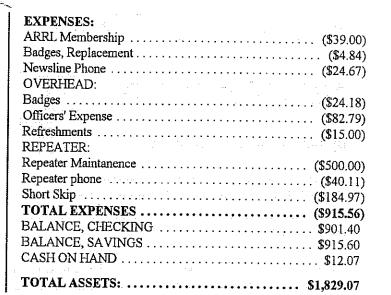
	, or processor or Pagesto
BEGINNING BALANCE:	
CHECKING	
SAVINGS	\$915.60
INCOME:	
ARRL	\$41.00
Capital Equipment	\$2.00 \$2.50
Cash on hand	\$2.50
Dues	\$259.00
Flea Market Income (1995)	\$49.25
Initiation	\$6.00
Monthly Raffle	\$46.00
Quaterly Raffle	\$110.00
Refreshment	\$13.50
TOTAL INCOME	\$529.25
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345 West College Ave, Santa Rosa, CA 95401 (707) 527-6000

STEVE BASHAM

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George Shedore Manager KS6W

6819 REDWOOD DRIVE

PHONE: (707) 792-2277

PLEASE DO NOT DELAY DATED MATERIAL:

MIND20B' CV 82485 214 MILD OAK DR **ЛИНИ БИЕСКЕИКІЛОГ МЕФГР**

well bit / but 81\$ and are saud 86.

DEKMIL NO: 028 SANTA ROSA, CA U.S. POSTAGE PAID BULK RATE

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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



SHORT SKIP SERVICE CLUB



Club Station W6LFJ

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

Repeater Station WB6PVS

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March 1996

HOMEBREW CONTEST -- APRIL MEETING!!

Steve Carniglia, KK6VY John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ

All club members are invited to bring in their "pride and joy" projects for the annual SCRA Homebrew Contest, which will take place at our April meeting (April 3). Here's your chance to see what your fellow hams have built up in their shacks and workshops, and to show others what kind of activities interest you. Think about what you learned from the experience of building your project and be prepared to share those thoughts with the rest of us.

This is a good time to find other club members with interests similar to yours. For this to work, though, you need to bring in YOUR project. You don't have to be building the next Space Shuttle to participate!! Antennas, computer software, mechanical-items, modified or improved gear, kits; in fact everything related to the hobby is encouraged

Since well be looking at several aspects of the entries, the most/complicated project won't have an unfair advantage. For example, judging criteria will include how well the work was documented, workmanship, utility, and so forth. A clever weekender project often has more interest to other club members than a very specialized long-term effort, and it has just as good a chance in the contest.

There will be two entry categories this year, as in 1995. "Large" projects are those that took more than 15 hours to complete "Small" projects are less than 15 hours. Photographs, printer listings, and QSL cards are all good to bring, especially if your tower is too big to move

We reserve the right to slightly change the rules of the contest to best serve the participants and the spirit of the contest. For instance, last year it seemed appropriate to categorize projects by time spent building them and award two winners to preserve fairness between groupings of projects. So if you want to have a say in changing the contest rules next year, then bring a project and win the contest!!

Included in this issue of Short Skip is a Homebrew Contest entry form, which includes relative point values for the different judging criteria. For your convenience and ours, fill out this form and bring it to the April SCRA meeting with your project.

So look around your station -- we're sure there's something right now up on the shelf that would appeal to others. You have about four weeks left to dust it off, tune it up, and make the finishing touches. In any case, PLEASE bring it to the meeting!!