

Calendar of Events

Mar 2	Fri	7:30 PM	Marin ARC Meeting, Alto Clubhouse, 27 Shell Road, Mill Valley
Mar 3	Sat	10:00 AM	Red Oak Victory ARC Meeting, Point Richmond
Mar 7	Wed	5:30 PM 7:30 PM	Dinner at Marie Callenders, 2460 Mendocino Ave, Santa Rosa SCRA Meeting, Agilent Technologies, 1400 Fountain Grove Prkwy, Santa Rosa
Mar 14	Wed	6:30 PM	SCRA Board of Directors Meeting, 3450 Airway Dr., Santa Rosa
Mar 17	Sat		CPR Saturday, Agilent Technologies, Rohnert Park; Contact the American Red Cross at 707 577-7600 for information and reservations
Mar 21	Wed	7:00 PM 7:30 PM	REDXA Meeting, Carrow's, Petaluma Valley of the Moon ARC Meeting, McDougall Hall, Sonoma Developmental Center, Glen Ellen
Mar 26	Mon	7:00 PM	Willits ARS Meeting, Brooktrails Firehouse, Willits
May 18-20			Dayton Hamvention

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.
P. O. Box 116
Santa Rosa, CA 95402-0116

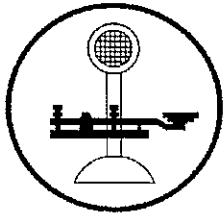
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Club Station
W6LFJ

Short Skip

newsletter of the
Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.
P. O. Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402-0116
(707) 579-9608 scra@cds1.net
<http://cgs1.net/scra>

Repeaters
146.73- • 224.48- • 441.375+



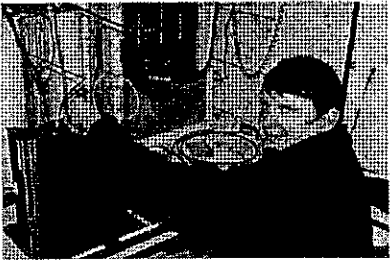
Repeater Station
W6SON

Volume 26 Number 3

March 2001

SPUNKO'S
SPARKS

By Gregory Gordon,
AC6VJ
President, SCRA



I was gathering material for my talk this month on surface-mounted parts for The Club's general meeting, and I started thinking about how hard it is to work on new amateur radio equipment, which in turn led me to think of the new software-defined radios built by Ten-Tec and Kachina. They are built like modern computers which have a motherboard and then daughterboards for different operations. If you need to do a repair or to upgrade the radio, you do not have to send it back to the factory but can either get a new board or an exchange rebuilt board. And on the software side, the FCC has just made a ruling on software-defined radios. As you can tell from the wonderful lecture we had last month by Bob Nelson KG6DLL, there are many new types of modulation and some that have not even been invented yet! On the old-style radios it would either be a matter of sending it back to the factory for modification, or it may not be compatible with that modulation scheme at all. With the new software-defined radios it's just a matter of downloading the new software from the manufacturer's website. So if you're thinking of purchasing a new radio, do consider the new style radios.

73,
Gregory
AC6VJ@cgs1.net

SCRA and County DES in Conflict
over 146.73

As reported in last month's *Shortskip*, per the County's request, SCRA began transferring its radio operations from Sonoma Mountain to English Hill and Castle Rock. The County delayed without explanation SCRA's possession of club owned equipment.

On January 29th, Chris Godley of the County Department of Emergency Services (DES) telephoned SCRA President and Repeater Committee Chairman Gregory Gordon and advised him that the County had turned on the Sonoma Mountain 146.73 repeater. At this point, the County was operating the repeater with components wholly owned by SCRA.

Very shortly after the County activated their radio, deliberate interference to ongoing QSOs on SCRA's repeater were heard on the frequency. The SCRA weekly net held on January 30th was frequently interrupted by someone "keying up" the Sonoma Mountain transmitter. There has been periodic interference from that point on.

SCRA hand delivered a letter instructing the County to stop using SCRA property without permission and to allow the club to retrieve its

(continued on page 3)

DUES ARE DUE!

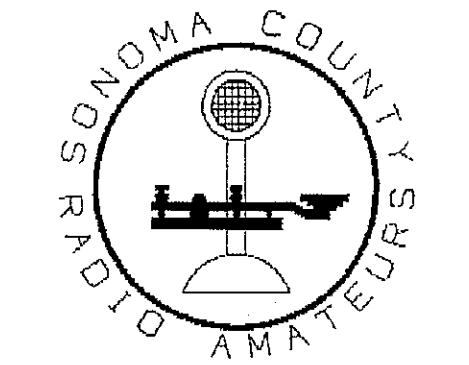
Yes, it's that time of year again. The SCRA dues for the 2001-2002 fiscal year are due. At the January membership meeting, the membership voted to change the dues to **\$20 per year for individual members** and **\$30 per year for a Family membership**. If you are a current SCRA member, a renewal envelope was included in the February issue of *Shortskip* to make it easy to send in your dues. Please take a couple of minutes and complete the membership information on the envelope flap so that we can update the roster. If the envelope is lost, please use the membership application on the inner last page. *Thanks!*

2001 Club Officials			
President	Greg Gordon	AC6VJ	707 523-7077
Vice President	Bill Hillendahl	KH6GJV	707 544-4944
Secretary	Jeff Basham	W2JAB	707 575-9354
Treasurer	Jim Cardillo-Lee	KE6VGV	415 892-0317
Director	Rich Freitas	KF6SZA	707 578-9335
Director	John Mullan	KD2L	707 575-9176
Past President	Rick Reiner	K6ZWB	707 575-4455
Activities Chairman	Bill McCall	W6WDM	707 538-2844
Public Service Chairman	John Mullan	KD2L	707 575-9176
Repeater Chairman	Greg Gordon	AC6VJ	707 523-7077
Short Skip & Web Staff			
Editor	Bill Hillendahl	KH6GJV	707 544-4944
Editor	Bill McCall	W6WDM	707 538-2844
Hank's Swap Shop	Jeff Basham	W2JAB	707 575-9354
Web Master	Jeff Basham	W2JAB	707 575-9354
Contacts			
Antenna Ordinance/Legal	Lee Dibble	KE6EAQ	707 544-1675
Public Relations	Bill McCall	W2WDM	707 538-2844
Raffles	Brain Lukrich	KG6AQT	707 527-0795
Refreshments	Ted DeCroff	KB6PTA	707 542-4008
TV/RF Interference	Alan Bloom	N1AL	707 538-7115
Volunteer Exam Liaison	John Mullan	KD2L	707 575-9176

SCRA Hotline	707 579-9608
SCRA E-Mail	scra@cds1.net
SCRA Web Site	http://cgs1.net/scra

Tuesday Night Net
Check in to the SCRA net each Tuesday evening on the 146.73-(PL 88.5) repeater at 7:00 PM . Announcements are made of upcoming SCRA and other amateur radio activities in the area and what is listed in Hank's Swap Shop. You will also hear the weekly <i>Amateur Radio Newsline</i> broadcast.

Short Skip Advertising Rates	
Business Cards	\$ 10
1 st Quarter Column	\$ 11
Each Addn'l Quarter Column	\$ 3
Full page (one side)	\$ 32
Pre-printed inserts (each)	\$ 32
Guaranteed circulation of 200 per month!	
For more information, contact the Editor.	



CLUB MEETINGS

The club normally meets the first Wednesday of each month at:

Agilent Technologies
1400 Fountaingrove Parkway
Santa Rosa, CA

The meeting starts at 7:30 PM

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Please join us at our next meeting. Membership in SCRA is open to anyone interested in Amateur Radio. A membership application is included in this newsletter.

Interested? For more information, contact any SCRA officer, director or member.

NEXT MEETING

March 7th
7:30 PM
Program:
Working with
Surface Mount Devices

HUNGRY BEFORE THE MEETING?

JOIN US FOR DINNER! We meet at Marie Callenders restaurant, 2460 Mendocino Avenue (corner of Mendocino & Chanate), Santa Rosa. People start showing up at 5:30 PM. No RSVP is required! See you there!

AO-40 (continued)
Haighton, VE3FRH, have continued to be optimistic that AO-40 will have a useful life of Amateur Radio service. Command stations James Miller, G3RUH, Stacey Mills, W4SM, made a long-term prediction of AO-40's new orbit. They say that even after last year's incident--which silenced the satellite for nearly two weeks--and the resulting decrease of perigee, AO-40's orbit will be stable, although perigee will oscillate by several hundred kilometers.

AMSAT-DL says the recovery effort has been slowed somewhat because of limited access time on the part of the command team, due to AO-40's current orbital parameters.

Discussions of the future of AO-40 are expected to dominate the eighth AMSAT-DL Symposium on March 17, AMSAT-DL said. (From ARRL)

Letter to the Editors

Dear Editor,
Recently two messages were posted to the email list of the ACS (Auxiliary Communications Service, a.k.a. RACES, the county-sponsored amateur emergency communications group). They were complaining about interference to the ACS 146.73 repeater on Sonoma Mt. from the SCRA 146.73 repeater on English Hill. I posted the following reply:

Unfortunately hams, being human beings, are tribal animals. "My

group is the good guys. The other group is the enemy." Why is it so hard to see the other group's viewpoint?

Who is interfering with whom is very much a debatable issue. SCRA had their repeater on the air for several weeks before the ACS repeater on Sonoma Mt. came back on.

The SCRA leadership clique is convinced that ACS is intentionally, illegally interfering with their machine.

The ACS leadership clique is convinced that SCRA is intentionally, illegally interfering with their machine.

And neither group is ready to admit that there is any validity at all to the other's position. As Rodney King said, "Why can't we just get along?"

We can argue about who has the NARCC sanction. I just checked the NARCC web page and they still list SCRA as the sponsor. However, looking through the NARCC Policies and Procedures, it appears to me that NEITHER group has a valid sanction at this point.

But frankly it doesn't matter. I don't care who is to blame for this mess. It looks to me like there is plenty of blame on both sides. What matters now is where do we go from here? What matters is to get amateurs in Sonoma County back together.

SCRA and its predecessor SCARS have had a working relationship with the county for something like 30 years. It seems a shame to throw all that away because of a personality conflict between basically two individuals. The fight is between them. We as members of SCRA and ACS should not let ourselves be drawn into participating in this stupid us-versus-them game.

Alan Bloom N1AL

Letters to the editors do not reflect the opinions of SCRA, Inc., its Board of Directors or the *Shortskip* editors. The opinions expressed are personal to the writer. Eds.

Please Print Clearly

Membership Application

New [] Renewal []

Name _____

Call Sign _____

License Class _____

Date _____

Address _____

Hm Phone _____

Wk Phone _____

City/State _____

Zip _____

E-Mail _____

Dues & Fees: (SCRA dues year is from 3/1 to 2/28)

Individual/Associate Member \$ 20 (\$5.00/qtr)

Family Membership \$ 30 (\$7.50/qtr)

Under 18 Membership \$ 10 (\$2.50/qtr)

Badge \$ 7

ARRL Dues (over 65) \$ 34 (\$28)

Payment Calculations: Make checks payable to SCRA

Dues - Full Year (3/1 to 2/28) \$ _____

Dues - Prorated ____ Qtrs. X \$ ____/qtr \$ _____

Badge \$ _____

ARRL Dues \$ _____

Donation \$ _____

Total \$ _____

When renewing your ARRL membership, please do it through SCRA. We get to keep \$2 for each SCRA member. Thanks!

Mail to: SCRA, P. O. Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Badge Information

Call Sign _____

First Name _____

City _____

Autoslot Request:

Licensed SCRA members are able to request an auto-dialing "autoslot" for the repeater phone patch. Complete the information below and send the form to the club.

Name _____ Call _____

Phone # for slot _____

meet with the SCRA Board of Directors next Thursday evening. This meeting will work for the board members present, and will be held at the home of Lee Dibble KE6EAO, at 6:30pm on Thursday February 22nd. Discussion ensued regarding Greg's recent email communications with NARCC. Bill KH6GJV suggested that the meeting move forward, and that we continue the repeater issues discussion at the end of the meeting. There being no objections, this action was taken.

- ii. Net Control Operators for the Weekly Net - 3-6 VJ, 3-13 ABA, 3-20 SUE, 3-27 VGV
5. Unfinished Business
 - a. Meeting Programs - Mar - Greg AC6VJ on Surface Mount Technology; Apr - Homebrew Night; May - Jeff W2JAB on NA Logging for Field Day; Jun - Field Day Prep
Future program ideas - Force 12 antennas, Butternut antennas
 - b. Club Calendar - Not Yet Issued - Jeff W2JAB reported that he will work with Bill KH6GJV on this.
6. New Business - There was no new business.
7. Announcements - Brian N6IY reported that the club would be unable to meet in building 1 next month. The meeting will be in the Cafeteria. Members attending will need to check in at Building one, and then drive down to the cafeteria. John KD2L is going to email Jeff and Bill copies of a map for the website and Short Skip newsletter.
8. Executive Session - Jim KE6VGV moved that the remainder of the meeting be held in executive session. A vote was taken; 3 Ayes, 2 Nays. The motion carried. Bill KH6GJV asked for comments on the repeater issues at hand from those who were attending the meeting as guests. Bill moved that Sue Mullan K8SUE be allowed to attend executive session due to the present circumstances. The motion passed, and the meeting went into executive session at 7:42 PM.
9. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 PM

Dayton Hamvention 2001

May 18 through 20, 2001 is really just around the corner. That is when the next grand-daddy of all Ham radio conventions and swap meet occurs in Dayton, Ohio. If you have not experienced the Hamvention, now is the time to sign up to go in 2001. Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV has started to collect names of those who are interested in going. The hard part is getting room reservations as the Hamvention attracts about 30,000 from all over the world, so rooms are scarce. Bill has blocked 10 rooms at a nightly room rate of \$68 plus taxes, and that is whether you have 1 or 2 people in the room. That is a significant reduction from the room rates paid in the last couple of years. The group is getting ready, so if you are interested in going, contact Bill at 707 544-4944 or kh6gjbv@arrrl.net

MAINE LAWMAKERS KILL MOBILE HAND-HELD DEVICES BILL

A Maine legislative committee has killed a bill that would have made it illegal to use hand-held electronic devices such as cellphones and two-way radios while driving. ARRL State Government Liaison Zane Keeler, AA1WV, reports the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation on February 21 reported out an ought-not-to-pass recommendation for LD 95.

The bill would have restricted the use of hand-held cellular telephones as well as "computers, Citizens Band radios, dictaphones, microphones and other electronic devices" not essential to the operation of a vehicle on Maine's highways.

The same legislative panel also turned away a similar, but less restrictive bill, LD 102. Both bills would have permitted the use of hands-free accessories for cellular

telephones used on the road.

The committee's vote on both bills was 7-1. Keeler said both bills are dead for the current session. Those opposing the bill included several Maine Amateur Radio operators, cellular telephone providers, emergency medical service providers, and the American Automobile Association. The state Highway Safety Bureau took "a neutral position" on the measures.

Several hams, including Maine Section Manager Bill Woodhead, N1KAT, were on hand February 12 for a public hearing before the legislature's Transportation Committee. Keeler said a half-dozen Maine hams showed up for the February 21 legislative workshop.

In Maryland, a bill to ban the use of hand-held cellular telephones while driving was killed February 15 by a House of Delegates committee on a 14-7 vote. Several other states are considering similar measures. While no states have banned cellular telephone use altogether, California, Florida and Massachusetts impose some restrictions on their use. Nearly 40 states have considered such legislation since 1995. Five municipalities require drivers to use hands-free technology within their borders. *(From ARRL)*

AO-40 FUTURE RESTS ON REDUCING SPIN, REGAINING ATTITUDE CONTROL

The key to a successful AO-40 recovery effort continues to be a matter of reducing the satellite's spin and regaining the ability to adjust its attitude from the ground. "The current problem is the lack of accurate AO-40 attitude data," AMSAT News Service said. Accurate data are not available because AO-40's sun sensor is not seeing the sun because of the satellite's attitude.

Only when ground controllers can accurately determine the satellite's attitude will it be possible to change it and correctly aim AO-40's high-gain antennas for optimal reception on Earth--and that's assuming the transmitters are functioning on bands other than 2.4 GHz. Ground controllers have had no luck hearing AO-40's transmitters on the omnidirectional antennas on 2 meters, 70 cm or 1.2 GHz. Since the satellite's computer was reset and telemetry resumed December 25, the AO-40 ground team has been analyzing telemetry sent via the 2.4 GHz beacon--the only transmitter now operating.

AMSAT-Germany described AO-40 as "in the fog" because its high angle with respect to the sun temporarily prevents the sun sensors from providing attitude data.

Ground controllers have been pinning their hopes on a previously announced "de-spinner" programming routine that would permit AO-40 spin control without having to rely on the sun sensors. The satellite's current spin rate is reported to be 17.7 RPM. But even if the programming fix fails, "it's no cause for panic," AMSAT-DL said. By April, controllers reason, the satellites sensors will again see the sun and "thanks to magnetorquing, spin and attitude can be actively improved upon the rising tide." Once the spin is reduced, sun angle improved, and antennas pointed, testing can resume. Still outstanding are tests of the VHF and UHF transmitters, the arc-jet motor, and the reaction wheels, among others.

Both AMSAT-DL President and AO-40 Project Leader Karl Meinzer, DJ4ZC, and AMSAT-NA President Robin

146.73 Dispute *(continued)*

equipment. Government use of personal property without authorization is a federal offense. Once the County's legal department was made aware of the situation, County DES removed the SCRA owned equipment and made it available for the club to pick up on February 6th.

County DES has applied to the Northern Amateur Relay Council of California, Inc. (NARCC) to take over the coordination on 146.73 from SCRA. SCRA has objected in that pursuant to NARCC's published Policies and Procedures, SCRA held a coordination for its English Hill location since June of 2000. Also, SCRA, including the 1982 merger with the Sonoma County Amateur Radio Service, has operated the 146.73 repeater since 1974. SCRA has evidence that NARCC has violated its own guidelines and bylaws in responding to the situation.

An important issue being raised is the concept of a local government agency seizing an amateur radio frequency under the guise of needing a public safety frequency. Public safety services have separate licenses in the commercial bands for just such a purpose. By definition, frequencies in the amateur radio service are not available to government agencies in this manner.

SCRA has filed a complaint with the FCC naming the County of Sonoma and Jack Rosevear KD6LSO as involved parties. Rosevear is Deputy Chief of the DES and his call sign is being transmitted as the ID on the County's Sonoma Mountain transmitter.

ARRL Pacific Division Director Jim Maxwell W6CF offered to act as an intermediary between the SCRA and the County. ARRL San Francisco Section Manager Leonard Gwinn WA6KLLK welcomed Jim as Len himself has had a less than positive experience with County DES and desired a potentially unbiased mediator to assist. Jim approached SCRA President Gregory Gordon and met with the SCRA Board of Directors on Thursday evening, February 22nd, after having met with County DES personnel earlier in the day. At this writing, Jim has heard from SCRA and County DES, and, is working to find an amicable solution.

In the meantime, SCRA President Gregory asks all users of the SCRA 146.73 repeater (PL 88.5) to respect any ongoing QSO on the frequency regardless of which repeater is being used.

SCRA members desiring additional information should contact Greg or any of the SCRA Board members.

Are you a budding author? Write an article for *Short Skip* on a Ham radio-related subject, technical or non-technical. E-mail the article to kh6gjbv@arrrl.net. We'd love to see YOU in print!

That's Not an OO!

Someone has been spreading a false rumor that the Official Observers of the Amateur Auxiliary of the FCC would issue a "pink slip" to anyone heard operating on the County's Sonoma Mountain 146.73 repeater. Nothing could be further from the truth. False statements such as this rumor only serve to inflame the situation, which evidently was the intended purpose.

OOs do not issue "pink slips," the term used for the violation notices sent by an FCC monitoring station. If warranted, an OO sends a postcard advising the recipient of any alleged transgression of Part 97.

Merely operating on either 146.73 repeater does not constitute a violation. It is hoped that all Hams will observe common courtesy and good operating practice while the frequency issue is resolved by others.

Hams are welcome to contact me if they have any questions on this matter.

Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV

Assistant Section Manager/Official Observer Coordinator

San Francisco Section - ARRL

kh6gjbv@arrrl.net 707 544-4944

Agilent Access Policy Has Changed

Agilent has changed their security system at the Fountaingrove campus. There will no longer be a guard at the gate. However, all non-Agilent employees are still required to go to Building 1 and sign in, regardless of where the club meets. Please be sure to respect this policy. We appreciate Agilent allowing us to use their meeting rooms.

The March 7th meeting will be in the cafeteria again.

PARTS PROFESSIONALS // WHOLESALE-RETAIL // NO REPAIRS

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ARES Comm Log

by Rich Freitas KF6SZA
Greater Santa Rosa
Emergency Coordinator

Awhile back we had a face-to-face and the subject was "Emergency Kits" (or "Go Kits" or whatever else you wish to call them). Anyway, there is a lot of information published by a lot of authors in a lot of books about what should be included in these kits. At this meeting I found that a few minutes talking to some people who have field experience is worth all the books in print. Don't get me wrong, I'm not downplaying the importance of books it's just that they should be used as a starting point for putting together your own kit rather than being viewed as a definitive treatise on the subject.

Everyone knows the kit basics - 2-meter HT, pencil and paper, extra batteries, appropriate clothing, and food and water. From there, most lists propose more of the same - extended amounts of equipment, food and personal items. This is the point where I learned some "new" items that common sense says could be really important in an emergency situation. I have never seen these items appear on suggested kit items and I thank the ARES members who attended the face-to-face for their input. I'll leave the relative importance for you to decide if you wish to include them . . . just give them some serious consideration.

First Aid pages from the phone book: There is a wealth of first aid information in each and every phone book and it's there for taking. Just rip out the pages from an old one and keep them in your kit.

Dust masks: You never know when you might be in a high-dust environment and these will keep you from hacking and wheezing into your microphone.

Hemostats: These handy emergency room tools are great for holding wires to be soldered or clamping off an artery.

Metallized blanket: Weighing only a few ounces, these blankets will keep you dry and warm when the going gets rough.

Finally, there are whistles for signaling your location, ponchos to keep you dry in the rain, and a leatherman tool to fix just about anything. And, don't forget some candles - flashlights are great but you may need those batteries for communications and a candle will give you light for quite a few hours.

Remember, your emergency kit is kind of like car insurance you hope you never need it but it's good to know you have it just in case. Get yours ready while you have the time to give it some thought - it's a lot easier than trying to scramble the items together at the last minute.

March Program

The March meeting will be held in the cafeteria. Please be sure to check in at Building 1 before proceeding to the cafeteria. Thanks!

The March program will be an introduction to the care and feeding of surface mount devices. You know, those really tiny components that have no visible leads that make you use your most powerful glasses and magnifiers to see what makes up the insides of that new transceiver you just got! Our own President **Gregory Gordon AC6VJ** will show us the basics of how to work with these miniature creatures that are the current technology. SMDs are the future of our home-brew projects so join us and see how to work with them.

Many thanks to **Bob Nelson KG6DLL** for his very interesting presentation on cellular phone technology. Bob demystified all the alphabet-soup of terminology related to FDMA, TDMA, CDMA, etc. so that we know when the salespersons are trying to confuse us. Thanks again, Bob!

ULS at SCRA Meetings

John Mullan KD2L will have a computer at the meeting for members to register with the FCC's Universal Licensing System. Most Hams have not registered which is required to make any changes or upgrades to your license, even an address change. John will be available to help you through the process. The FCC computers run on east coast time, so you have to use the ULS before the meeting or at the break.

CPR Training

Saturday, March 17th will be CPR Saturday at Agilent Technologies in Rohnert Park. The free Adult CPR courses will be put on by the American Red Cross which tries to train 1,000 people in CPR at this Sonoma County event. Please call the local chapter at **707 577-7600** to sign up. A great way to get your CPR card renewed!

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.
Membership Meeting 2-7-2001

MINUTES

1. Call to Order, Verification of Quorum - The meeting was called to order by President Greg Gordon, AC6VJ at 7:41 PM at the Santa Rosa Agilent Technologies facility. There were 45 people present.
 - a. Introductions
 - i. Officers & Directors - The club officers and directors introduced themselves.
 - ii. Guest Speaker - Bob Nelson KG6DLL
 - iii. Visitors - Mike N1DJE, Robert, Brad KB1ZZQ, David N5PSM, Larry KD6VUM, Glenn KF6AKT, Joel NN6J, Dave KD6KWM
 - iv. New Calls & Upgrades - Rich Freitas KF6SZA to Extra, Randy Black KE6VMZ to General
2. Approval of Minutes - Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV moved that the minutes of the January 3, 2001, be approved as printed in Shortskip. The motion passed.
3. Officer & Director Reports
 - i. Treasurer - Jim Lee KE6VGV reminded the membership that 2001 dues are due on March 1st.
 - b. Officers - There were no officer reports.
 - c. Directors - Rich Freitas KF6SZA invited all club members to check into the Monday night ARES net at 7:30pm on 147.45Mhz.
4. Committee Reports (Outgoing Committee Chairmen)
 - a. Activities Committee - Bill McCall W6WDM did not have anything to report.
 - b. Newsletter Editor - Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV and Bill McCall W6WDM - Bill H. asked for comment on the newsletter and invited anyone to write an article and submit it to the newsletter.
 - c. Public Service - John Mullan KD2L reported that this was the "quiet time" for public service operations. The first events will begin in April.
 - d. Repeater Committee - Greg Gordon AC6VJ said that the club has activated its 2 meter repeater (146.730 Mhz) on the English Hill site. Greg also said that he had received most of the items that they club had asked for back from the county on February 6th, 2001. Discussion ensued on various topics related to the club's repeater issues. Al WA6MX1, from CalSites, explained how the club could maximize the coverage from English Hill and Castle Rock. The discussion was tabled to the end of the meeting at 8:05pm, to allow time for that evening's program. The discussion resumed at 9:18pm.
5. Unfinished Business - There was no unfinished business.
6. New Business - There was no new business.
7. Recess - The meeting went into recess at 9:02 PM and resumed at 9:12 PM.
8. Show & Tell - No one had any Show & Tell items.
9. Program - Bob Nelson KG6DLL gave a lecture on cell phone technology.
10. Raffle
 - a. Regular - There was no raffle conducted.
 - b. Membership - Sue Mullan K8SUE conducted the membership raffle. The raffle was lost by Fred Leoni N6YEU.
11. Announcements
 - a. Next Program - The next program will be Surface Mount Technology.
 - b. Board Meeting next Thursday at the home of Lee Dibble KE6EAQ, 1290 Parsons Drive, Santa Rosa.
 - c. Dayton Hamvention - May 18 - 20, 2001. Contact Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV for more information.
 - d. Al Bloom N1AL announced that he has access to a free tower. Contact him for more information.
12. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 PM.


Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting 2-15-2001

MINUTES

Board Members Present: Gregory Gordon AC6VJ, Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV, Jeff Basham W2JAB, Jim Lee KE6VGV, John Mullan KD2L, Rick Reiner K6ZWB
Board Members Excused: Rich Freitas KF6SZA
Committee Chairmen Present: John Mullan KD2L, Greg Gordon AC6VJ
Committee Chairmen Absent: Bill McCall W6WDM, Brian Lukrich KG6AQT

Guests Present: Brian Torr N6IY, Sue Mullan K8SUE, Mark Pedroia KF6TYS

1. Call to Order, Verification of Quorum, Introductions - The meeting was called to order by club President Gregory Gordon AC6VJ at 6:44 PM. The meeting was held at the home of Lee Dibble KE6EAQ, 1290 Parsons Drive, Santa Rosa. A quorum was present in that six of the seven voting board members were present.
2. Approval of Minutes - Rick K6ZWB moved that the minutes of the January 10th Board of Directors meeting be approved as printed in Short Skip. Brian N6IY corrected item 6, part b, Other appointments, sub-part iii. The corrected item reads: Education - Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV. The minutes were approved as corrected.
3. Officer & Director Reports
 - a. Treasurer
 - i. Current Financial - Jim KE6VGV had nothing to report.
 - a. Bill KH6GJV reported that the club check Jim had issued and mailed to Bill to deposit to the club's bulk mail account had finally arrived. The check will be deposited the next time the club is short on funds in the bulk mail permit account.
 - c. Greg AC6VJ moved that the club reimburse him \$157.17 for a variety of expenses. The motion passed.
 - d. Jim KE6VGV moved that the club reimburse his office \$100 for expenses incurred while carrying out his position as Treasurer. Greg AC6VJ asked for an itemized bill, this will be presented at the next meeting. The motion was tabled until next month.
 - e. Jeff W2JAB moved that the club reimburse him \$7.18 for postage and copying fees. The motion passed.
 - ii. Review & Acceptance of Audit Report - There being no objections, this item was deferred to the next meeting.
 - b. Officers
 - i. Secretary
 - Mail & Communications - Jeff W2JAB distributed the mail to the appropriate officers. Jeff also reported that his parent's store Basham's Electronic Supply had graciously donated the use of their photocopier to the club.
 - c. Directors
 - Bill KH6GJV presented the World Radio subscription prizes that the club had received in conjunction with our clubs listing in World Radio Magazine. Bill also suggested that Brian KG6AQT be provided guidance at the next meeting on how to run the raffle. There was no raffle at the February meeting, due to it not being announced to the membership present. Greg AC6VJ will remember to announce the raffle next meeting. Jeff W2JAB is going to help Brian with the raffle next month.
4. Committee Reports
 - a. Activities Committee - Bill McCall W6WDM was not present to make a report.
 - b. Newsletter - Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV & Bill McCall W6WDM
 - i. Bill KH6GJV reported that the deadline for submission of articles for the March edition of Short Skip will be early next week.
 - ii. Discussion ensued regarding the letter to the editor submitted by Al Bloom N1AL. Bill will print this letter in the March Short Skip.
 - iii. Discussion took place regarding articles to be printed in Short Skip.
 - c. Public Service Committee - John KD2L reported that events would be starting up in April, with the MS Walkathon. John will provide more information once he receives it. John also reported that he has not received any Volunteer Examiner schedules for the year at this time.
 - d. Repeater Committee - Greg Gordon AC6VJ
 - i. Status of Repeaters - Greg advised that the club is now operating 2 meters on 146.73 Mhz, and 70 centimeters, on 441.375 from its English Hill location. He also said that the club had purchased a 220 antenna from Bill KH6GJV, and that the repeater class will be working on getting 220 on the air from English Hill this weekend. Greg also reported that he has been in contact with Jim Maxwell W6CF, the ARRL Pacific Division Director, and that Jim would like to act as moderator between the SCRA and the County of Sonoma regarding the current repeater issues. Jim is going to meet with County of Sonoma personnel next Thursday afternoon, and would like to




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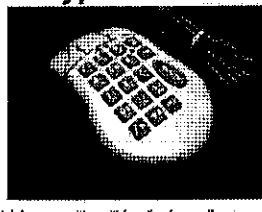

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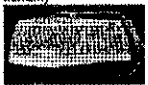
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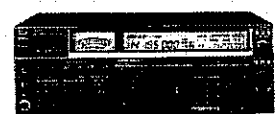
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