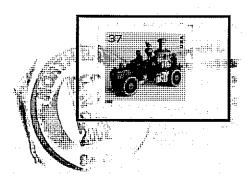
			Calendar of Events
Jan 3	Fri	7:30 PM	Marin ARC Meeting, Alto Clubhouse, 27 Shell Road, Mill Valley
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Jan 4	Sat	10:00 AM	Red Oak Victory ARC Meeting, Point Richmond
1		ODEOLAL N	그렇다 그렇게 되는 아이지는 이 사람이라고 하면 되는 것 같은 생각 같은 사람들이 되었다.
Jan 8	Wed	SPECIAL N	na na 11 mai a an mai gati na mana di akamanan na mana ana akamanan na mana ana ana ana an mana 1990
		5:30 PM	Dinner at Marie Callenders, 2460 Mendocino Ave, Santa Rosa
		7:30 PM	SCRA Meeting, Agilent Technologies, 1400 Fountain Grove Prkwy, Santa Rosa
Jan 15	Wed	6:30 PM	SCPA Poor of Directors Marting of Later to Agriculturals
, Jan 13	wea	0.50 FW	SCRA Board of Directors Meeting (Location to be determined)
Jan 15	Wed	7:00 PM	REDXA Meeting, Carrow's, Petaluma
	Wed	7:30 PM	Valley of the Moon ARC Meeting, McDougall Hall, Sonoma Developmental Center,
			Glen Ellen.
Jan 18	Sat	9:00 AM	VE Test Session - SCRA Agilent, 1400 Fountaingrove Prkwy, Santa Rosa
			Contact: John KD2L (707) 575-9176
Jan 21	Tues	7:30 PM	Hamilton Wireless Assoc., Bldg 549, Hamilton Field, Novato
Juli 21	1 405	.7.50 1141	: indimental and a second place of the second
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Repeater Station W6SON

Volume 28 Number 1

January 2003

# Happy New Year

Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV SCRA President

Straight Key Night

December 31st to 1600 PST January 1st, local).

Straight key Night" for more information.)

I only had two crystals.



SPECIAL MEETING NIGHT Wednesday, January 8th

With SCRA's regular meeting night falling on January 1<sup>st</sup>, this month, and Agilent being closed for the holiday, SCRA's January meeting will be held on January 8th at the usual place and time. See you at the meeting!

# 2002 Member of the Year



John Mullan KD2L accepts the 2002 MOY award from 2001 recipient Al Ferrera K6MXI

I'll make a contact or two and listen for operators that I can nominate for Best Fist before I head off to the New Year's parties. Haven't played with a hand key in a while? Dig it out of the box and wire it up. Don't have a hand key or access to an HF rig? Give someone who does a call and ask if they can help you make a contact. Most of all, have fun with it! 73 and Happy New Year!

One of my favorite ways to start off the new year is

SKN is promoted by the ARRL as an opportunity to

I will dust off my straight key that I used as a Novice

to make a contact during Straight Key Night (SKN) which runs from 0000 to 2400 UTC January 1st. (That's 1600 PST

enjoy a good old fashioned QSO with a straight key, like the

"old days." Sorry, no bugs or electronic keyers allowed. The

emphasis is on rag-chewing rather than racking up the contacts. You can even apply for a Rag Chewers certificate if you submit a log with a QSO of at least 30 minutes in

duration. (Check the ARRL website and search for "2003

some 35 years ago. I still have my Brown Brothers Machine Company key with bright red dual-button on a chrome lever mounted to a black wrinkle finished heavy base. I have fond memories of getting home from school or after evening

homework and plopping down in front of my rig and

pounding out a contact or two at 75 watts on 40 or 15 meters.

John Mullan KD2L was selected as SCRA's Member of the Year for 2002. The presentation was made at the annual holiday party. John has been a real resource for the club serving as it's Public Service Chairman, Volunteer Examiner Coordinator and Chef Extraordinare at Field Day for several years. Many thanks, John, for your years of service.

### 2003 Club Officials

President	Bill Hillendahl	KH6GJV	707 544-4944
Vice President Secretary	Brian Torr	N6IIY	707 575-5871
Treasurer	Jeff Basham	W2JAB	707 542-3860
Director	Josh Fiden	AD6XI	707 874-3940
Director	Jim Lee	KE6VGV	415 892-0317
Past President	Greg Gordon	AC6VJ	707 523-7077
Activities Chairman			
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
Hank's Swap Shop	Jeff Basham	W2JAB	707 542-3860
Web Master	Jeff Basham	W2JAB	707 542-3860

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Refreshments	Ted DeCroff	KB6PTA	707 542-4008
Volunteer Exam Liaison	John Mullan	KD2L	707 575-9176

SCRA Hotline 707 579-9608
SCRA E-Mail scra@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com
SCRA Web Site http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com

# **Tuesday Night Net**

Check in to the SCRA net each **Tuesday** evening on the **146.985-(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 *Amateur Radio Newsline* broadcast.

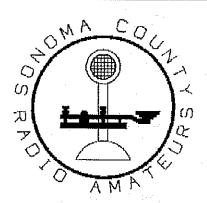
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Full page (one side)	\$ 35
Pre-printed inserts (each)	\$ 35
Guaranteed circulation of 150	per month!

For more information, contact the Editor.

# 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!



January 2003

# NEXT MEETING January 8th 7:30 PM

# Program:

Amateur Radio on Intnl. Space Station by Tim Bosma W6ISS

(See article)

# **CLUB MEETINGS**

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

Agilent Technologies 1400 Fountaingrove Parkway Santa Rosa, CA

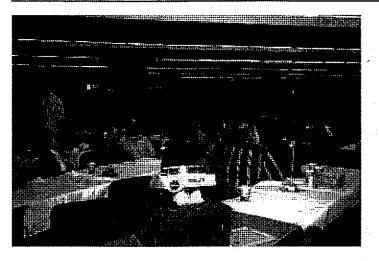
The meeting starts at 7:30 PM

#### 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.

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# January 8th Program Amateur Radio on the **International Space Station**

SHORT SKIP

Tim Bosma W6ISS will head up our program for the January meeting. Tim has been involved in the Space Amateur Radio Experiment (SAREX) and the space station program (ARISS) for many years. Tim is one of the founders of the SAREX/ARISS stations at the Santa Rosa Junior College which acts as a link between the astronauts in space and school children throughout the world. Currently, Tim is the coordinator for school contacts for the SAREX/ARISS program. Come join us for an update on Amateur Radio's walk in space.

# Weekly Ragchew Night

Calling all SCRA members... dust off your microphone and loosen up your jaw! We're having a weekly ragchew following the Tuesday night net on the club repeater (146.985-). Everyone is welcome and please join in, even if you just want to say "hello".

Do you have any ideas for future club events? Need help with your shack or a new antenna? Found a great restaurant? Let's talk about it. All topics are fair game, so make it lively!

73, Josh AD6XI

# SCRA v NARCC

NARCC has yet to file the required answer to SCRA's complaint. A two week extension was granted which expired just after Thanksgiving.

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 kh6gjv@arrl.net. We'd love to see YOU in print!



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RICHARD C. O'HARE

# **SCRA Holiday Party A Blast!**

This year's holiday party was the biggest in many years. Just under 60 people showed at Agilent's cafeteria with dishes to share. There was more than enough wonderful dishes to eat for the crowd including the turkey and ham that was supplied by the Agilent caterer. Ted DeCroff KB6PTA graciously supplied music for the evening. Ted was prepared with sing along sheet music if the group had gotten to it. A slide show of activities during 2002 was presented.

The outgoing officers, directors and club volunteers were thanked for their service to the club. The 2003 officers and directors were introduced. John Mullan KD2L was presented with the Member of the Year, also dubbed as the HOTY (Ham of the Year) by 2001 recipient Al Ferrera K6MXI.

Everyone said that they had a great time and preferred a pot luck to a formal restaurant. Some photos are in this newsletter. Many thanks to Brian Torr N6IIY for arranging the party. Many thanks to everyone who attended and shared their food dish. We will do it again next year!

## A Note from John KD2L

Thank you for honoring me with the 2002 Ham of the Year Award. It is a tremendous feeling to be recognized by your peers in this way. As I stated at the banquet, it is not really my award, it truly belongs to each and every one of you who has made me successful in the projects I have undertaken for the amateur radio community. Without you, the volunteers, we would not be successful in supporting the community through the public service events. Without you, the volunteer examiners and the test takers, we would not be successful with the VE program. So, let me say thank you for the honor, and thank you for your participation and support.

John Mullan, KD2L

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#### ARES Comm Log

by Rich Freitas KF6SZA Greater Santa Rosa **Emergency Coordinator** 

SONOMA COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS, INC.

### Go Kits

As I'm sitting here nice and warm in the comfort of my home, I'm looking out the window at the torrential rain that has been the norm for the past two days; we've already received two-thirds of the total rainfall we got last year. The flood warnings have been sent out and the Russian River is predicted to rise above flood stage and I'm thinking about why most people get caught in predictable events and still wonder how the emergency occurred. Hopefully the rain will subside soon but what about the next time?

Are you ready for an emergency? Every emergency - whether it's a tornado, hurricane, flood, forest fire, ice storm, missing person, 911-phone center outage, or 9/11 itself -- is different. However, the planning process and the basic checklist remains the same. Are your handheld (and larger) batteries charged, are your radios and antennas packed and ready to go, do you have a small "go kit" or bag with whatever personal stuff (and your radios) which you might need for a day or two, is your generator serviced and filled, do you have any forms you may need (e.g., Radiograms), do you know what HF/VHF/UHF nets will be used, when was the last time you checked into your local ARES net, have you made contact with your local EC lately, do you know who your EC is? And the list goes on. Nothing can take the place of good planning. And once the emergency starts, it is run on experience, training, and good judgement... but it all starts with planning.

So... are you ready for an emergency?

Many of us take a HT along on our daily activities. Obvious accessories are an extra nicad/nimh battery pack, external power cord, some sort of gain antenna and comfort and safety items in case of some unexpected event. It only takes your battery to "go south" when you need to access the repeater to report a traffic accident, or to get lost or break down on the road in an unfamiliar place to appreciate the value of being "prepared."

The best kit for you may not fit a "canned" list, but should be based upon your operating mode, experience and local conditions. It is better to have the bare necessities always handy than to leave a bulky pack someplace where you can't get to it. A larger kit bag is more practical if you are almost always in or near your home or car.

The trunk is the best place to store emergency gear because it is dry, relatively secure and is accessible either at home or away. I actually have two kits and I plan on having

a third. An "everyday" kit accompanies my HT and is small enough to fit in a briefcase. A larger "backup" bag stashed in my shack is ready to go at a moment's notice (I only live 8 minutes from where I work) and provides 24 hours of auxiliary power, a spare HT, coax and accessories for extended operating. The planned "disaster" bag will have emergency cash, food and water, rain gear, a larger gel cell battery, clothing and shelter to sustain a 3-day activation or evacuation.

The ARRL ARES Field Resources Manual provides excellent guidance on "go-kits." If you travel through rural areas like Sonoma County, you should also include fire making supplies, a pocket knife and a compass in the kit. In the suburbs, you'll want a local street atlas, change for a pay phone and emergency cash or a credit card. A compact, sturdy flashlight, extra batteries, first aid kit, extra HT battery pack and spare eyeglasses (thank goodness I had Lasik surgery!) are useful everywhere. If you regularly take prescription medications, you should plan to rotate a current supply in the kit.

A typical "go-kit" should sustain a day of continuous operation and be easily supplemented for overnight or weekend trips. The bare essentials are a 2-meter or dualband HT, some sort of "gain" antenna, auxiliary power source, writing materials, comfort and safety items. You can do a lot with a minimum kit if you plan its contents carefully. There is risk of not having something you may need if you go "too" light, but obvious "bells and whistles" should stay at home. Next month I'll provide a list of items you may wish to gather for your own go-kit.

The ARES net meets on Mondays at 7:30 PM on the 146.985 MHz, - offset, 88.5 PL. Everyone is welcome to participate.



The crowd gathers at the 2002 holiday party.



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