

HSC Web Specials!

The items below can be found in the "Specials" area of our on-line shopping pages at www.halted.com...check them out and use our secure site to place your order for the holidays!

Fujitsu FPG-310 Color Pen Plotter GPIB (IEEE-488) interface Boxed, w/manual, cord, 90-day warranty HSC# 19131	Computer Power Supply, ATX, 145W HSC# 18350	\$9.95
Rechargeable 12VDC Battery 40 AH, lead/acid, Yuasa NPX-150R HSC# 18917	Network card, ISA bus, 10-Base T HSC#18943	\$4.95
Server Cabinet, ATX rack mount, with Power Supply, White color HSC# 80541 New Price!	Computer Speakers, powered HSC# 18662	\$179.95 \$9.95
Battery charger, NiMH HSC# 19151	Game-pad, Microsoft "Sidewinder" HSC# 80486	\$17.50 \$12.50
SCSI Controller, Initio, PCI Bus HSC# 18218 New Price!	Compact AC Inverter for the car, 100W HSC# 19021 New Price!	\$9.95 \$14.95
SCSI Controller, Adaptec 1505, ISA Bus HSC# 17895 New Price!	Motherboard, 486DX1 AT HSC# 18529 New Price!	\$7.50 \$9.95
Mouse, 2-button HSC# 18731	Motherboard, Baby AT, 486VLB HSC# 19003	\$3.95 \$9.95
Mouse, w/ numeric keypad HSC# 80539	Multimeter, analog, VOM HSC# 18260	\$4.95 \$9.95
Scrolling mouse, translucent body HSC# 18828	Multimeter, DMM, with transistor check HSC# 80370	\$9.50 \$14.95
Computer Power Supply, ATX 200W "Mini-Tower"-style HSC# 18665 New Price!	Multimeter, DMM, tilt-up display, nice! HSC# 80504	\$14.95 \$39.95
	Computer Joystick, "FX2000" HSC# 18772 New Price!	\$3.00
	Tower Chassis, 7-Bay "RAID" HSC# 80544	\$42.50

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- Special... buy this drive & get a 50-pin (8BCA23700) or 66-pin (8BCA23720) Adapter for \$10.00!
Normally a \$20 + \$0 value!

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- Intel "PRO/100" PCMCIA Network Adapter Card
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- Full duplex support (10Mbps network only)
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VHS Video To Go!



- "Videocontrol" Model No. VHS-108 player Jack
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- Magnavox Model No. VHS-100AT01 video player
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- Dual digital meters for voltage and current
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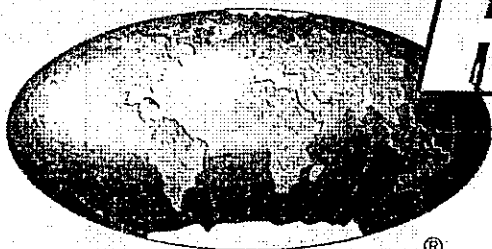
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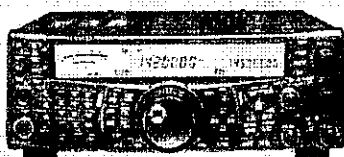
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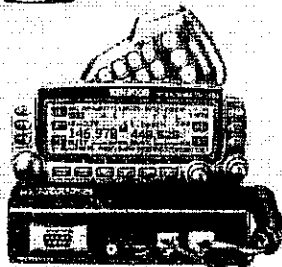
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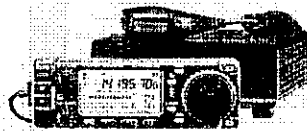
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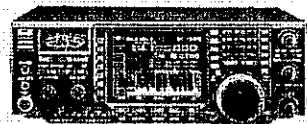
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The Ultimate Radio!

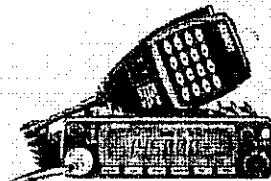
ALINCO



DJ-196T 2M/HT

- 5 Watt out.
- 40 memories
- Alphanumeric display
- CTCSS + DCS built in
- "S" meter
- Auto Dialer

Low Pricing!



DR-135TP 2M mobile

- 50 Watt out • Alpha numeric display
- 100 mems • Built-in TNC 1200 & 9600 Baud
- Front Panel GPS in • Rear DB-9 port
- CTCSS/DCS Encode/Decode built in

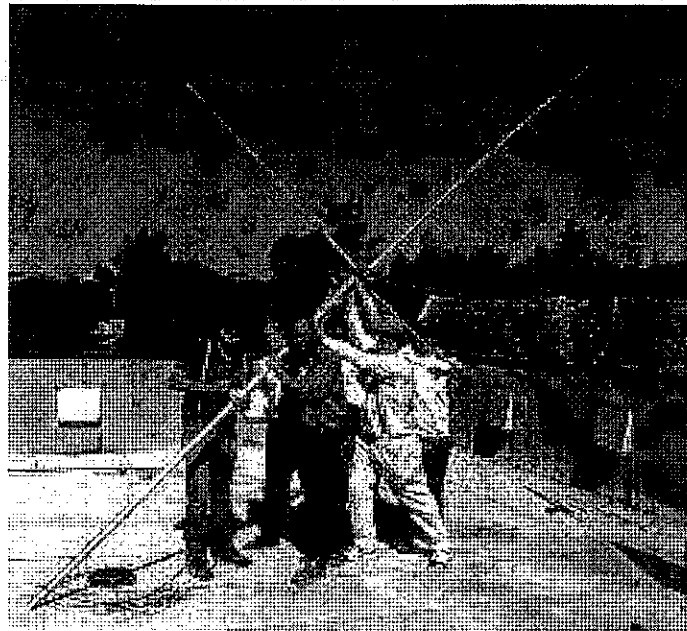
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ARES Comm Log

by Rich Freitas KF6SZA
Sonoma County District
Emergency Coordinator

Antenna Raising at
Blood Bank of the Redwoods



Members of SCRA and ARES put up antennas and set up the radios at the Blood Bank of the Redwoods on Saturday, October 11th. Note the heroic effort of the group in the following photos.

The weekly ARES net for the greater Santa Rosa area is conducted on Mondays at 7:30 PM on 146.835 MHz, - offset, 88.5 PL; it is currently linked to 444.900 MHz, + offset, 88.5 PL. You may use either of these frequencies. All ARES members and guests are invited to check-in. Please



Rich Freitas KF6SZA & Brian Torr N6IY cut uni-strut for the supports.

join us.

Photos by KH6GJV



- Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.
Membership Meeting 10-1-2003
MINUTES
1. Call to Order, Verification of Quorum - The meeting was called to order by President Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV at 7:33 PM at the Finley Center, 2060 W. College Avenue, Santa Rosa. There were more than 31 people present.

a. Introductions

i. Officers & Directors - The club officers and directors introduced themselves.

ii. Guest Speakers/Program - Video "Secret Wireless War"

iii. Visitors - The visitors included Bill Meeden and Loren Eggleston WB6KDF

iv. New Calls & Upgrades - Josh Fiden changed his call from AD6XI to W6XU

2. Approval of Minutes -Bill Waters AC6MA moved that the minutes of the September 3, 2003, be approved as printed in Shortskip. The motion passed.

3. Officer & Director Reports

i. President - Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV - Bill reported on the change in meeting place.

ii. Vice President - Brian Torr N6IY - Brian expects to have the roster soon.

iii. Secretary - no report

iv. Treasurer - Jeff Basham KK6JAB - Reported on account balances.

v. Directors

i. Josh Fiden W6XU - Nothing to report.

ii. Jim Lee KE6VGV - Nothing to report.

iv. Past President - Greg Gordon AC6VJ - Nothing to report.

4. Committee Reports

a. ARES - Rich Freitas KF6SZA - Rich needs help setting up the station at the blood bank. CPA training was offered at the 9/15 ARES meeting. Several people took advantage of the certification.

b. Mobile Comm Van - Greg Gordon AC6VJ - Greg said that the antenna supports were being installed by John Breckenridge.

c. Activities Committee - Josh Fiden W6XU -Josh advised that the CQP expedition to the Geysers was scrapped. He is holding a CQP open house at his station for club members.

d. Newsletter - Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV - Nothing to report.

e. Public Service & VE - John Mullan KD2L - Not present. The next VE session will be on 10/25.

f. Repeater Committee - Greg Gordon AC6VJ

d. Net control volunteers - Greg requested Net Control volunteers.

e. Status of Repeaters - Greg reported on the status of the repeaters.

f. SCRA v NARCC - Greg reported on the status of the case.

5. Unfinished Business -None

6. New Business

1. Karl Johnston K6QMT reported on a future T-hunt.

2. The Board of Directors appointed Jim Lee KE6VGV as the nominations chairman. Those interested in running for office or nominating someone for office should contact Jim.

3. The Board of Directors appointed John Mullan KD2L as Chairman of the Member of the Year committee. Members with nominations for the MOY award should contact John.

7. Member Biography - Darin Wick KG6GFQ said that he got interested because his Dad had a license and used an HT while hang gliding. Darin did a report on Amateur Radio for school and was able to participate in a SAREX/ARRL contact from his school. Darin now holds a General class license.

8. Show and Tell - Josh Fiden W6XU showed the FISTS certificate he was awarded for top performance in a contest. He also showed a QSL card for working W1AW. Bill KH6GJV was at the W1AW console during the contact and delivered the card.

9. Recess - a recess was held from 8:20 PM until 8:35 PM

10. Program - The video "The Secret Wireless War: Beyond Bletchley Park" was shown.

11. Raffle

1. 50/50 -Bill Waters AC6MA split \$16 with the club.

2. Membership - The membership raffle was lost by AH6CY.

12. Announcements

1. Next Program - The second hour of "The Secret Wireless War."

2. Board Meeting is next Wednesday at 6:30 PM at Marie Callendars.

3. Pacifcon - San Ramon, CA October 17 - 19, 2003

13. Adjournment - There being no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM

- Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting 10-8-2003
MINUTES
- Board Members Present: Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV, Brian Torr N6IY, Jeff Basham KK6JAB, Josh Fiden W6XU, Jim Lee KE6VGV and Greg Gordon AC6VJ.
Guests Present: Rich Freitas KF6SZA, John Mullan KD2L and Sue Mullan K8SUE.
1. Call to Order, Verification of Quorum, Introductions - The meeting was called to order by President Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV at 6:44PM. The meeting was held at Marie Callendar's, 2460 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa. A quorum was present in that six of the seven voting board members were present.

2. Approval of Minutes -Jeff KK6JAB moved that the minutes of the 9-10-03 meeting be approved as amended. The motion passed.

3. Officer & Director Reports

1. President - Bill KH6GJV -Nothing to report.

2. Vice President - Brian N6IY - Brian said that he is working on the roster.

3. Secretary - office vacant

4. Treasurer - Jeff KK6JAB - Jeff reported the account balances.

5. Directors

1. Josh W6XU - Nothing to report.

2. Jim KE6VGV - Nothing to report.

6. Past President - Greg AC6VJ - Nothing to report.

4. Committee Reports

1. ARES - Rich KF6SZA - An antenna party will be held at the Blood Bank on Saturday, 10-11.

2. Mobile Comm Van - Greg AC6VJ - ComVan is at John WB6FRZ's for the antenna supports.

3. Activities Committee - Josh W6XU

1. Josh reported the CQP open house he held at his station.

4. Newsletter - Bill KH6GJV - Nothing new to report.

5. Public Service & VE - John KD2L - There may be a new event, a marathon on January 1st. The next VE session will be on Saturday, 10-25 at a location to be announced.

6. Repeaters - Greg AC6VJ

1. Status of Repeaters - All up and running.

2. Weekly Net Control - 11/4 - AC6VJ; 11/11- W6XU; 11/18 - N6IY; 11/25 - KG6OXW

5. Unfinished Business

1. Meeting Programs

January - ARISS

February - Hollowstate Devices

March- Stealth Antennas

April "Homebrew Night"

May -Ham Radio Squares

June - "Field Day" & Contesting

July - Field Day review

August -Al Bloom N1AL on Grid Dip Meters

September - Echolink

October - "The Secret Wireless War"

November - Elections - Video or Audio Tape

December - "Christmas Party" & Photos

2. Club Calendar - No changes

3. Meeting Place - Greg AC6VJ will head up the search for a permanent meeting location. All officers and directors need to be on the look out for a location.

6. New Business

1. Club Insurance Renewal - Bill KH6GJV reviewed the renewal proposal for the club's liability insurance policy through the ARRL. Brian N6IY moved that the policy be renewed at the approximately \$332 annual premium. The motion passed.

7. Executive Session - The Board selected the second member of the Member of the Year committee.

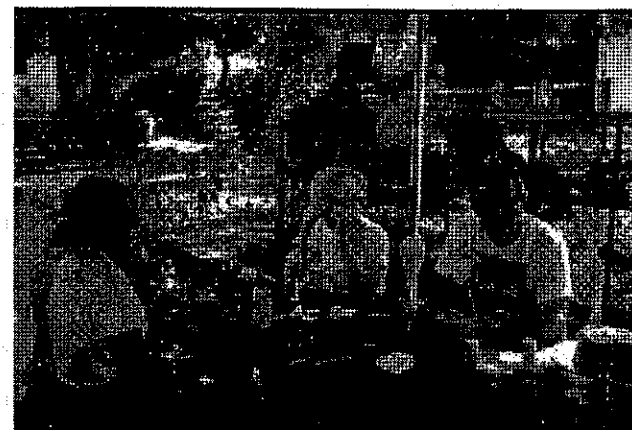
8. Announcements - None.

9. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at ended at 8:03 PM.
- 7

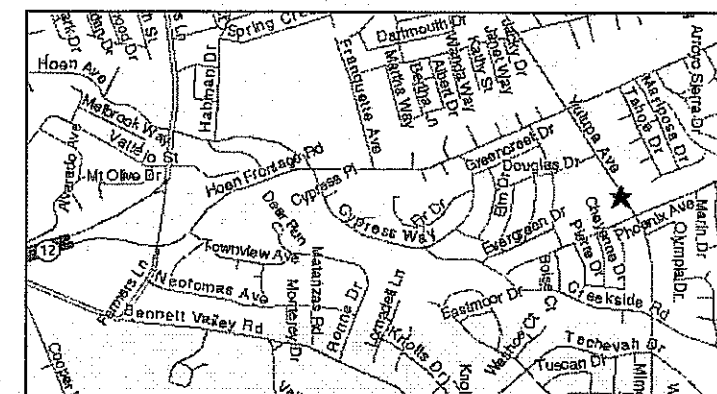
SCRA 2003 Picnic Photos



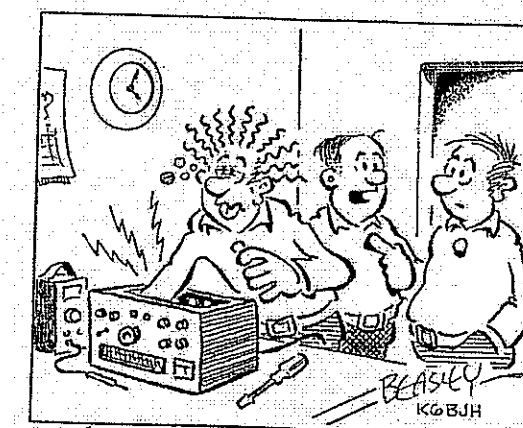
Photos by
KH6GJV



NEW MEETING LOCATION



Luther Burbank Art & Garden, 2050 Yulupa Ave, Santa Rosa (Bennett Valley)



THAT'S OBVIOUSLY A.C.---LOOK AT THE WAVEFORM

From "The Best of Beasley"; Worldradio Books

November Program
The Secret Wireless War:
Black Propaganda
 (Video Part 2)
 or
Hilarious Contesting Tips
 (Audio Tape of Contests)

Depending on the time available, there is a choice of programs for the November meeting.


One choice is Part 2 of the video *The Secret Wireless War: Black Propaganda*. The membership was fascinated by Part 1 of the video shown at the October meeting. Part 2 continues to reveal the work that was done at Bletchley Park during WWII where members of the Radio Society of Great Britain were able to put their radio skills to use in the defense of the island kingdom.

The second choice are three short contest audio training tapes. This is great vintage material produced very "tongue-in-cheek" by the NCCC for Sweepstakes. They give you a pretty good idea what contesting is all about and will have you in stitches. Following, we'll have some "real" contest practice where everyone can join in to make it as realistic as possible. Will you be ORM or ORN?

Of course, the first order of business will be the election of the 2004 officers and directors.

See you at the meeting at the new location!

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@ar1.net. We'd love to see YOU in print!

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Fax (707) 527-1368

2003 Club Officials			
President	Bill Hillendahl	KH6GJV	707 544-4944
Vice President	Brian Torr	N6IYY	707 575-5871
Secretary			
Treasurer	Jeff Basham	KK6JAB	707 542-3860
Director	Josh Fiden	W6XU	707 874-3940
Director	Jim Lee	KE6VGV	415 892-0317
Past President	Greg Gordon	AC6VJ	707 523-7077
Activities Chairman	Josh Fiden	W6XU	707 874-3940
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	KK6JAB	707 542-3860
Web Master	Jeff Basham	KK6JAB	707 542-3860

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Raffles	Karl Johnston	K6QMT	
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.

Short Skip Advertising Rates	
Business Cards	\$ 12
1 st Quarter Column	\$ 13
Each Addn'l Quarter Column	\$ 4
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!

NEXT MEETING

November 5th
7:30 PM

Program:

The Secret Wireless War:
Black Propaganda
OR
Hilarious Contesting Tips

NOTE MEETING LOCATION CHANGE

CLUB MEETINGS

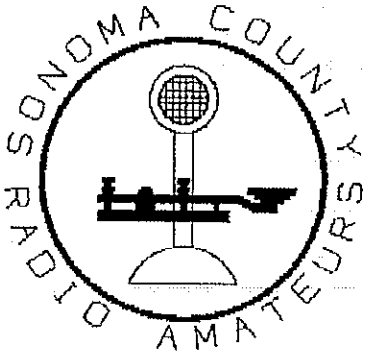
The club normally meets the first Wednesday of each month. This month's meeting will be at:

Luther Burbank Art & Garden Center
2050 Yulupa Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA

The meeting starts at 7:30 PM
ALL ARE WELCOME!

Please join us at our next meeting. Anyone interested in Amateur Radio may be eligible for membership. A membership application is included in this newsletter.

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



CONTEST CORNER by Kevin Alt, K6BSG

Hello testers. Well, the big contest season is fully underway. Highlights for November are the ARRL Sweepstakes phone and CW contests as well as the CQWW CW contest. These are the biggest contests of the year, so don't miss them. Here are the highlights for November:

Nov 1-3 - **ARRL November Sweepstakes**--CW, 160-10 meters, see <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2003/novss.html>.

Nov 2 - **High Speed Club CW Contest** - 80-10 meters, See <http://www.hsc.de.cx/>.

Nov 1-2 - **Ukrainian DX Contest**--CW/SSB/RTTY, 160-10 meters, See <http://www.qsl.net/ucc>.

CHARLES J. TARR
Attorney at Law
W6VAG
REPRESENTING CONSUMERS AND SMALL BUSINESSES,
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411 RUSSELL AVENUE
SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA 95403
(707) 546-5858

Nov 2 - **DARC 10-Meter Digital "Corona"**--RTTY/AMTOR/PACTOR/PSK31/Clover, 28.050-28.150 MHz, See <http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/cqdlcont/corona03.htm>.

Nov 8-9 - **Japan International DX Contest**--Phone, 80-10 meters, See <http://www.jzap.com/jelcka/jidx/jidxrule-e.html>.

Nov 8-9 - **European DX Contest (WAEDC)**--RTTY, 80-10 meters, See <http://www.waedc.de/>.

Nov 8-9 - **OK/OM DX Contest**--CW, 160-10 meters, See <http://okomdx.radioamater.cz/rules03en.htm>.

Nov 8 - **1st Annual Radio Club of America CW QSO Party**, 3.650 to 3.700 MHz, 100 W max. See <http://www.radio-club-of-america.org/>.

Nov 15-17 - **ARRL November Sweepstakes**--Phone (see Nov 1-3).

Nov 15-16 - **ARRL International EME Contest**, Any frequency >50 MHz, See <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2003/rules-eme.html>.

Nov 15-16 - **RSGB 1.8 MHz Contest**--CW, 1.820-1.870. MHz, See <http://www.rsgbhfcc.org/>.

Nov 22-23 - **LZ DX Contest**--CW/SSB, 80-10 meters, See <http://www.qsl.net/lz1fw/contest>.

Nov 29-30 - **CQ WW DX Contest**--CW, 160 - 10 meters, See <http://cqww.com>.

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Address _____ Hm Phone _____ Wk Phone _____

City/State _____ Zip _____ E-Mail _____

ARRL Member? [] Yes [] No

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

Badge Information

Call Sign _____

First Name _____

City _____

Payment Calculations: Make checks payable to SCRA

Dues - Full Year (3/1 to 2/28)	\$ _____
Dues - Prorated _____ Qtrs. X \$ _____/qtr	\$ _____
Badge	\$ _____
Other - _____	\$ _____
Donation	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

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

Calendar of Events

Nov 1	Sat	10:00 AM	Red Oak Victory ARC Meeting, Point Richmond
Nov 5	Wed	5:30 PM 7:30 PM	Dinner at Marie Callenders, 2460 Mendocino Ave, Santa Rosa SCRA Meeting , Luther Burbank Art & Garden Center, 2050 Yulupa Avenue, Santa Rosa
Nov 7	Fri	7:30 PM	Marin ARC Meeting, Alto Clubhouse, 27 Shell Road, Mill Valley
Nov 12	Wed	6:30 PM	SCRA Board of Directors Meeting, Agilent Technologies
Nov 18	Tues	7:30 PM	Hamilton Wireless Assoc., Bldg 549, Hamilton Field, Novato
Nov 19	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.

MAIL \$15 CHECK TO BRIAN TORR

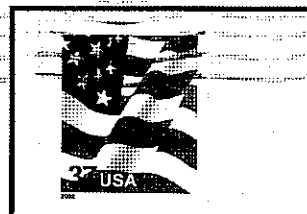
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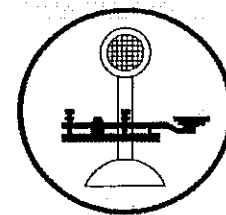
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Bob Olsten
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WD6DPE



Club Station
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Short Skip

newsletter of the

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Repeater Station
W6SON

Volume 28 Number 11

November 2003

VIRGINIA BPL STARTUP SPARKS ARRL RESPONSE

The ARRL this week put officials in Manassas, Virginia, on notice that the League will act on behalf of its members to ensure full compliance with FCC regulations when the city's Broadband over Power Line (BPL) system starts up in a few months. The League was responding to media reports that Manassas--a Washington, DC, suburb--has approved plans for a citywide BPL rollout. Manassas City Council reportedly voted unanimously October 16 to grant a 10-year franchise to Prospect Street Broadband to expand a BPL field trial and offer high-speed Internet service to the entire community over municipal power lines. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, on October 22 faxed Manassas Mayor Marvin L. Gillum to point out BPL's dark side--the potential for RF interference from and to any BPL system.

"Your advisors no doubt have made the Council fully aware of the great potential for radio interference from such a system," Sumner said. "In particular, you are no doubt well aware that Title 47 CFR §15.5 requires that no harmful interference is caused to any radiocommunication service, and that the operator shall be required to cease operation upon notification by a Federal Communications Commission representative that the device is causing harmful interference." Sumner noted that the same FCC Part 15 rule also provides no protection against interference from the operation of an authorized radio station.

"Tests conducted by ARRL technical personnel have shown that the system planned to be deployed in Manassas causes harmful interference to the Amateur Radio service," Sumner said. "We also have reason to believe that the system will be susceptible to interference from normal amateur station operations."

An article in Potomac News.com touted the impending Manassas BPL rollout as the first of its type in the US. Sumner said he was writing to alert the City of Manassas "on behalf of its members who live in and use the public thoroughfares of Manassas" that the ARRL "will ensure that there is full compliance with the FCC regulations" once the city's BPL system is in operation.

Prospect Street Broadband reportedly will offer the BPL service for \$29.95 a month. One estimate predicts the city stands to gain up to \$4.5 million over the 10-year life of the contract, due to be signed this week.

The Manassas BPL field trial is one of the smallest now

NEW MEETING LOCATION

The November 5th meeting will be held at:
Luther Burbank Art & Garden Center
2050 Yulupa Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA

under way and involves fewer than a dozen homes and businesses. It was installed in an area that has underground utility wiring and no Amateur Radio licensees nearby.

BPL articles in major media have proliferated in recent weeks, many of them painting the service in rosy hues and neglecting to point out the potential for radio interference to and from BPL by other HF spectrum occupants. An October 13 article in The Wall Street Journal, "A New Outlet," by Walin Wong, quotes one trial user who calls the service "fantastic." But Wong also notes that one "Achilles' heel" of BPL is that serving rural areas would require installing costly repeaters every mile or so along the power line. The article also deals with the reluctance on the part of some electric utilities to embrace the technology.

Sumner also reacted to the WSJ article. In a letter to the editor not yet published, he pointed out that BPL "amounts to sending a wideband radio signal over unshielded wires that were not designed for the purpose" and that do not work well for the 2 to 80 MHz signals common in BPL systems. Instead, "they function as antennas," he said, and that can lead to interference to radio services, including some involved with public safety.

Sumner said potential broadband technology and delivery investors would be far better off considering fiber in densely populated areas and adaptations of wireless LAN technology in rural areas.

Additional information on BPL and video clips from field trial sites are on the ARRL "Power Line Communications (PLC) and Amateur Radio" page <<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/>>. To support the League's efforts in the BPL fight, visit the ARRL's secure BPL Website <<https://www.arrl.org/forms/development/donations/bpl/>>.

From ARRL Letter