| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------|--------------|--|--|--|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 7:00 PM SCRA Meeting Luther Burbank Art & Garden Center 2050 Yurupa Ave., Santa Rosa (date changed because of holdlay) | 7:30 PM Morin ARC Meeting, Alto Clubhouse, 27 Shell Road, Mill Valley | 7 10:00 AM ROVARC Meeting Red Ouk Yictory Ship, Point Richmond Directions: www.ssredoukvictory.org |
| 8 | . • 9 | 10 | 7:00 PM REDXA Meeting Mister McGoo's Restaurant, Petaluma 6:30 PM SCRA Board of Directors Meeting (note date change) | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 1 7 7:30 PM Hamilton Wireless Association Building 549, Hamilton Field, Noveto | 18 7:30 PM VMARC Meeting McDougoll Hell, Someona Gev. Center, Glen Effen | 19 | 20 8:00 PM SFARC Meeting Veteron's Administration Medical Center, Auditorium of Bldg. 7, 42nd & Clement St., Son Francisce | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

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VOLUME 32 NUMBER 7

W6LFJ

JULY 2007



When All Else Fails

by Dave Harrison, W6IBC SCRA President

It is Sunday Afternoon. Field Day 2007 is now recent history. I've survived two days and two nights camping out in "emergency" condi-

tions in a cloddy field in southeast Santa Rosa; on a cot in a tent, with no shower, and lots of dust and grime. This is about as far from the normal amenities and comforts of regular daily life as I want to venture. Yet, through it all, we who participated with SCRA's Field Day came away with a tremendous sense of accomplishment and satisfaction.

The ARRL-sponsored Field Day event demonstrates to every community across our vast country that in a real emergency, when all else fails, amateur radio operators are prepared to step in and provide vital communications. Field Day shows we know how to assemble effective radio communications stations in relatively inhospitable conditions, operate those stations over a continuous twenty-four hour period without relying on the local power grid, and effectively exchange communications messages with as many other field stations as possible across the land.

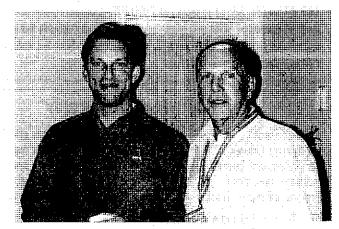
We are particularly proud of the fact that SCRA's "Get On The Air" station, operated by Technician class licensees, and lay people without licenses, (under the direct control of an appropriately licensed control operator) logged over 200 contacts on 40 meter sideband, including late night contacts with East Coast stations. The new hams and young people who operated our GOTA station obtained an invaluable insight into one of the key attractions of amateur radio.

We have so many people to thank for our field day success. I'd particularly like to thank Brian, N6IIY for designing and directing set up of our antenna systems. John, WB6FRZ provided overall operational guidance and direction for our stations (John had a well equipped portable electronics repair facility in his immaculate large tent). John, KE5RI arranged for our location and sanitary facilities. Fred, KQ6OB handled public information. Mike, KC6UNA provided our Burma Shave signs lining the shoulder approaches of Highway 12 which explained what we were

doing in the plowed field. And, Joy, KI6ASJ provided excellent food preparation and food logistics services. Thanks to all of our members who came out to our site and helped out with setup, operations, and teardown. And finally, a very special thanks to Lee, KE6EAQ for providing SCRA with a storage location for the SCRA field equipment (and records, etc.). We hope to present a slide show of our Field Day operations at the July 5th meeting.

June also marked the high point of our public service calendar. SCRA provided extensive and effective communications support for the Terrible Two bicycle event. More than one member told me that the "TT" was a great experience for handling and passing radio traffic. Thanks to Craig, K6XLT for heading up our public service activities. And many thanks to our members for participating in our public service events, at the TT, and at others throughout the year.

Our next meeting, Thursday, July 5th, will cover the basics of setting up a simple high frequency station. We'll have an important vote concerning our bylaws and a motion to repeal the existing SCRA constitution, effective when the new Articles and Bylaws are in place. Hope to see you at our July 5th meeting.



Mike Polkinghorn, June Speaker

Mike Polkinghorn K6PUD on left, dad Fred KQ6OB on right

Mike's June program covered the history and development of digital modes, including packet and PSK-31.

SONOMA COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS. INC

| 200 | 7 Club Off | icers | 4.0 | |
|----------------------------|------------------|--------|--------------|--|
| President | Dave Harrison | W6IBC | • | |
| Vice President | | | | |
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| Repeater Chairman | John Felton | KESRI | 1 | |
| Short | Skip & We | b Staf | | |
| Editor | Vicki Cero | KF6ZCT | 415 279-3859 | |
| Hank's Swap Shop | Jeff Basham | KK6JAB | | |
| Web Master | Bob Arthur | KG6ZDN | | |
| | Contacts | | | |
| Antenna Ordinance/Legal | Lee Dibble | KE6EAQ | 707 544-1675 | |
| Public Relations | Bill McCall | W6WDM | 707 538-2844 | |
| Public Relations | Jeff Basham | KK6JAB | 707 542-3860 | |
| Refreshments | Fred Polkinghorn | | | |
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| SCRA Hotline | 707 579-9608 |
|---------------|--|
| SCRA E-Mail | scra@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com |
| SCRA Web Site | http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com |

Volunteer Exam Ligison Brign Torr

ARRE DXCC/WAS Mgr Chuck Ternes

N6IIY

N6OJ

707 575-5871

707 763-2528

Tuesday Night Net

Remember to check in to the SCRA net each Tuesday evening on the 147.315+(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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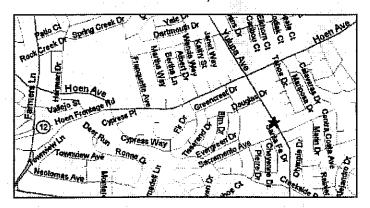


SCRA Club Meetings

The club normally meets the first Wednesday of each month. Exceptions are holidays or other big events.

Next meeting is Thursday, July 5th at 7:00 PM at:

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



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.

Hungry before the meeting?

Join us for dinner! We meet at Coco's restaurant, 1501 Farmers Lane (corner of Farmers & Hwy 12), Santa Rosa. People start showing up at 5:30 PM. No RSVP is required.

See you there every month except December.

If you are not getting the ARRL San Francisco Section news by e-mail and you are an ARRL member, be sure to subscribe under your Members Only information or go to these websites:

> http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=SF http://www.pdarrl.org/sfsec/

SHORT SKIP

SONOMA COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS, INC

Contest Corner

by Kevin Alt K6BSG

Hello contesters. Hope everyone had fun at Field Day. Pretty light month contest wise to let you recover. IARU DX and CQ VHF contests are highlights. Happy DX'ing!

- Canada Day Contest - CW/Phone, 160-2 meters. See: www.rac.ca/service/infocont.htm.

4-5 Jul - MI QRP July 4th CW Sprint - 160-6 meters. See: www.qsl.net/migrpclub.

7-8 Jul - DL DX/RTTY Contest - RTTY/PSK, 80-10 meters. See: www.drca.de.

7-8 Jul - Venezuelan Independence Day Contest - CW/SSB, 160-10 meters. See: radioclubvenezolano.org/concurso.htm.

7-8 Jul - Original QRP Contest - CW, 80-20 meters. See: www.grpcc.de.

8 Jul - DARC 10 Meter Digital "Corona" - RTTY/AMTOR/PACTOR/PSK31/Clover. See: www.darc.de/referate/dx.

QRP ARCI Summer Homebrew Sprint - CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.grparci.org.

FISTS Summer Sprint - CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.fists.org.

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14-15 Jul - IARU HF World Championship - CW/Phone, 160-10 meters. See: www.iaru.org/contest.html.

14-15 Jul - Classic DX Confest - CW/Phone, 160-10 meters. See: www.skyviewradio.net.

15-16 Jul - Colorado QSO Party - Phone/CW/Digital, 160 meters - 70 cm. See: www.ppraa.org/coqp.

21-22 Jul - North American RTTY QSO Party - 80-10 meters. See: www.ncjweb.com.

21-22 Jul - CQ WW VHF Contest - all modes, 6-2 meters. See: www.coww-vhf.com.

21-22 Jul - DMC RTTY Contest - 80-10 meters. See: www.digital-modes-club.org/dmccontest.htm.

22 Jul - CQC Great Colorado Gold Rush - CW, 20 meters only. See: www.cgc.org/contests/gold2007.htm.

28-29 Jul - RSGB Islands-On-The-Air Contest - CW/SSB, 80-10 meters. See: www.rsabhfcc.org.

29 Jul - Flight of the Bumblebees - CW, 40-10 meters. See: www.arsqrp.com/ars/pages/bumblebees/bb_rules.html.

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| Dues & Fees: (SCRA dues year | r is 3/1/05 to 2/28/06) | Payment Calculations: Make | e checks payable to SCRA |
| Individual / Associate Member | | Dues - Full Year | \$ |
| Family Membership Under 18 Membership | \$38 (\$9.00/qtr) \$18 (\$3.00/qtr) | Dues - ProratedQts.x \$/qtr | \$ |
| Badge | \$10 | Badge | \$ |
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| Call Sign | | Donation | Ψ |
| First Name | | Total | \$ |
| City | | Mail to: SCRA, P.O. Box 116, Santa Rosa, | CA 95402 |

Antennas are up!

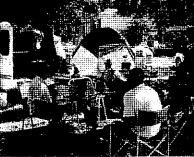


The Burma Shave signs

Setting up the big tower and beam



Our youngest GOTA operators



Dinner at the chuck wagon



KE5RI at the 20M SSB controls



Technical experts at the Info Booth



The GOTA station Crew



Friendly gathering at SSB station

N6IIY at 20M SSB station controls



WB6TGI at Field Day '07

Teardown Sunday mornin



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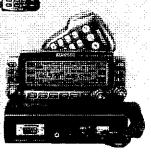
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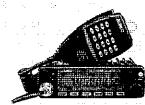
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VE Exam Session Report

June 9, 2007

We had a great VE exam session on Saturday, June 9, at the Blood Bank of the Redwoods. There were 12 people that came to take their tests and six VEs to administer the tests. Everyone went away with something. Eight folks came in with no license (or a pending license) and earned either a tech or general license. Four came in with a tech license and left with either a general or an extra license.

Congratulations to those that earned their new tech and general licenses:

Elizabeth Lavin, KI6KIQ (G)

Jacqueline Lavin, K16KIR (G)

Garrick Hartt, KI6KNL (T)

Don McPherson, KI6KNM (T)

Seth Bromberg, KI6KNN (T)

Dale Green, KI6KNO (T)

Robert Janes, KI6KNP (T)

Joseph Gross, KI6KNQ (G)

And thanks to the following VEs for helping to administer these tests: Jim Walden, W6ESJ, John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ, Bill Hillendahl, KH6GJV, Dave Harrison, W6IBC, and Bill Finkelstein, WB6JAO. Thanks also to the Blood Bank of the Redwoods for the use of their facilities.

Our next VE Session will be in September, either on Sept 8th or Sept 15th. Check the SCRA website for the latest information.

73, Brian Torr, N611Y VE Liasion

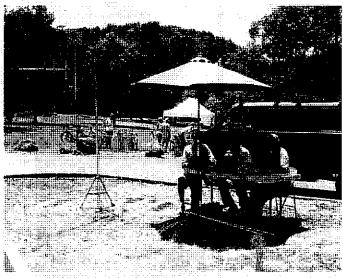
July's SCRA Meeting

"July's SCRA Meeting, to be held on THURSDAY July 5th will feature SCRA President Dave Harrison W61BC leading a discussion of how to assemble a simple high frequency ham station with an actual demonstration. See you there!"

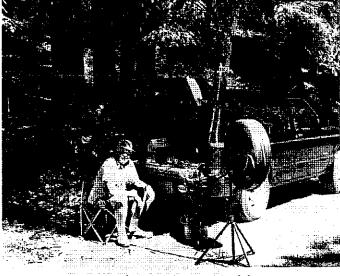


Pictures from the Terrible Two

Photos by Croig Gaevert K6XLT



KF6SZA, Rich Freitas, and KI6CAU John Guardiga at Warm Springs Dam



Pat Coyle W6JSL at Camp Gualala



Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting, June 13, 2007 Minutes

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc., held at Narsi's Hof Brau, Coddingtown Mall, Santa Rosa, was called to order at 6:45 PM on June 13, 2007. A quorum comprised Dave, W6IBC; Brian, K6IIY; John, KE5RI; and Pat, KG6JSL. Absent were Fred KQ6OB and Bob KG6ZDN. John WB6FRZ attended and participated in the Field Day discussion.

Old Business:

SHORT SKIP

Minutes of the last Board of Directors Meeting were approved. Repeater: John KE5RI discussed the repeater coordination issue. John and Dave agreed to make careful signal strength measurements of the competing repeater seeking coordination and report the results to NARCC.

Bylaws: Pat KG6JSL reported on the progress of the Bylaws in light of comments by one member, Bill KH6GJV. The board resolved to appoint all committee chairs. The dues will be set by the members at the annual meeting. The annual meeting will be the November election meeting. The club and board of directors meeting days and places to be set by resolution of the Board of Directors. Pat KG6JSL agreed to make these changes to the current draft. A formal motion will be prepared and presented at the July 2007 membership meeting to repeal the club's present constitution. A vote on the repeal will be held at the September 2007 meeting. Toaster: Pat KG6JSL reported that he could store the Toaster at his home for the foreseeable future. Pat continues to make repairs to this vehicle.

Field Day: Final preparations were made. The setup crew will meet at Lee Dibble's home at 2PM on Friday June 22nd to collect necessary equipment and conduct an equipment inventory at that location. We will need members to help with setup on Friday and tear down on Sunday. The setup crew hopes to erect the tower and triband beam on Friday, at a minimum. Equipment, power, sanitary facilities, and food menus were approved.

New Business:

July 2007 meeting will be led by Dave, W6IBC, and will cover the basics of setting up a simple high frequency ham radio station. Also, the bylaws will be presented at the July 2007 meeting for a vote on adoption by the members.

Pacific Coast Air Museum Show, August 18, 19. Brian, N6IIY, has submitted the application and we are awaiting word from PCAM regarding acceptance. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM. Respectfully submitted,

Dave, W6IBC, President and Acting Secretary

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. Membership Meeting, June 6, 2007 Minutes

1. Call to Order - President Dave W6IBC called the meeting to order at 7:05 at the Luther Burbank Arts and Garden Center.

2. Program – Michael Polkinghorn gave a stimulating talk on digital radio. The first digital radio started with CW. In the 1920's there was Hellscreiber followed by RTTY in the 1940's. RTTY is still a part of HAM contesting. AMTOR was introduced in the 1980's. This was the first mode with error correction. This was followed in the mid 1980's with PACKET. This was the first mode to send binary files. This mode is still used for APRES and HF spotting reporting. In the early 1990's the first DPS systems were introduced with PACTOR, Clovor and G-TOR. When sound cards were incorporated into computers in the late 1990's, PSK-31,

PACTOR II and III (WINDLINK) were introduced. This was followed by MT-63 and MFSK-16. Today there are several new levels of signal processing including TROB, GISX25, DOMINO and PSK-63. These new systems use special programs like WINLINK (similar to the internet) WSJT (used to communicated via meteor scatter), And APRS (Automated Position Reporting System). All that is needed to use these new digital modes is a computer, and interface (sound card, TNC), and a radio. In the future, all radio will be going digital. We now have digital commercial radio. We also have D-STAR FM radio. Other digital modes include DIGIPAN (SW) and Mix-W (also SW). Following the PowerPoint presentation, there was a video demonstration of D-STAR and PSK-31.

3. Business Meeting

a. Secretary's Report – The minutes from the May's meeting were approved.

b. Treasurer's Report – Brian N6IIY reported that membership renewals are still a little behind. Repeater – John KE5RI reported that a new repeater (KE6JTK) has applied for coordination on our Frequency. Their PL is 131.8. Any member experiencing interference from this repeater should document it and send it to John Felton. We have filed an objection to the coordination of this repeater.

c. Greg, AC6VJ, reported that the CONDOR net is now available in N. California via the repeater on Mt. Vaca on 223.84 with a PL of 141.3. Greg is also looking for people who would be interested in a class on repeaters.

d. Public Service – Craig K6XLT indicated that additional volunteers are needed for the Terrible Twos on June 16th. He will also need volunteers for the Wave to Wine on September 29-30.

e. ARES – Fred Polkinghorn indicated that ARES needs additional volunteers. It is very important for amateurs interested in emergency service to sign up now in order to get their ID badges and be trained. Minimum training is ISO 100, ISO 700 and ECOMM I.

f. VE Sessions - Brian N6IIY announced that a VE session was conducted on Saturday June 9. Registration will start at 9AM. Cost is \$14.

4. Old Business

a. By-Laws – Dave W6IBC reported that the board has received numerous comments regarding the suggested changes to the By-Laws. One revision was a suggestion that club officers be required to be club members in good standing for at least 12 month before taking office. The revised by laws suggested that this requirement be waved for the two board members at large. There was some discussion. Following the discussion. Bill KH6GJV made a motion that all board members be club members in good standing for a minimum of 12 months before taking off ice. The motion was approved by the members present.

b. Comm. Van – The Comm. Van has been moved to Pat KG6JSL home. Pat has made a number of needed improvements. The van has not been placed on the market and may be used for Field Day. c. Field Day – Dave W6IBC announced that Field Day will be held on June 23-24 at the same location as was used last year near Oakmont. Dave encouraged everyone to participate if they can. d. Next Meeting – Because of the 4th of July, the next club

meeting will be held on Thursday, July 5.
g. Board Meeting - The next board meeting will be held on June 13th at Narsi's Restaurant. All members are welcome to

h. Net Control Ops — The following member volunteered to be control ops for the club net: June 12 John, June 19 Bob, June 26 Kevin, July 3 Dave, July 10 Brian.

i. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

5