

CLUB STATION  
W6LFJ

# Short Skip

The Newsletter of  
Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.

P.O. Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402-0116 707-579-9608

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REPEATER STATION  
W6SON

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JULY 2008



## Audacity of the Future

by Dave Harrison, W6IBC  
SCRA President

We live in truly exciting times. This year we're confronted with a presidential election, not to mention the long-promised

abandonment of analog television broadcasting. (Have you received your digital converter box coupon from Uncle Sam yet? For many of us in beautiful Sonoma County, most television stations are so distant that we're relegated to cable or satellite reception of television signals. Consequently, the change over from analog to digital transmission won't be noticeable.)

So, what makes the future audacious for ham radio? Plenty, in my view. New technologies continue to emerge and become refined. For example, if you would like to experience the latest in software-defined receivers, consider RF Space's SDR-IQ digital direct conversion receiver ([www.rfspace.com/SDR-IQ.html](http://www.rfspace.com/SDR-IQ.html)). By digital direct conversion, I'm talking about a device that receives and converts the entire high frequency spectrum into a digital stream at a 66.6 megabit sampling rate. This incredibly fast data stream is then loaded via a USB 2 port into a late model computer. Powerful software selects a particular signal in a band segment and plays the signal audio back over the sound card port while the screen displays static and dynamic spectrum information. Wow! If you want to talk back, the FlexRadio Flex-5000 SDR is a fully self-contained software defined radio transceiver that works well (see [www.flex-radio.com](http://www.flex-radio.com)).

In January 2008 our club heard from Tim Barrett, K6BIV, the Bay Area's champion for Icom's D-Star digital radio system. Tim put on an interesting and technically compelling presentation that just might be a window into the future. While we aren't the first club to adopt or embrace the new D-Star digital scheme, my sense of things is that we should really keep our eye on this new technology, and not be complacent with the analog radios we rely upon today. SCRA might even consider putting a D-Star repeater on the air at some point.

The Internet-Radio Linking Project (IRLP) also provides an established system that we can use and expand. Many of you have already tried IRLP via the KK6JAB node hosted by the KF6SZA UHF repeater in downtown Santa Rosa. Unfortunately for some of us, intervening hills and terrain block a direct view to downtown Santa Rosa, and so our radio path to that repeater-IRLP node is not always reliable. Wouldn't it be great if we found an additional site and internet link to establish a second IRLP node for SCRA member use? I think it would be audacious for the club to establish and then use an additional IRLP resource.

What do you think about the future and ham radio? Let your voice be heard. Bring up new ideas at our meetings, or drop me an email ([w6ibc@arrl.net](mailto:w6ibc@arrl.net)). The SCRA board of directors is looking out for several years in order to recommend steps to take now to be sure the club will be poised and ready to adopt the newly emergent technologies, and perhaps help innovate and refine them along the way.

Terrible Two and Field Day are now behind us, with my thanks to all who participated and helped out. It's now time to celebrate our nation's independence. Don't ever forget, ham radio was invented here (Marconi's commercial radio system notwithstanding). Have a wonderful, safe summer, and we'll see you at the club meetings and events, and on the air.

73, Dave W6IBC

## July Meeting Announcement:

### ARRL & 2007 Scarborough Reef DXpedition

Our guest speaker for our July 2 meeting will be Bob Vallio, W6RGG. Bob is the ARRL Pacific Division Director. Bob will be speaking to us about the ARRL and how it supports amateur radio. Last year, Bob was one of the operators on the DXpedition to Scarborough Reef, and he will share his experience of that event along with some great photos taken during the operation.

**2008 Club Officers**

<b>President</b>	Dave Harrison	W6IBC	707-838-8155
<b>Vice President</b>	Becky Pippin	KE6PZV	
<b>Secretary</b>	Fred Polkinghorn	KQ6OB	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Pat Coyle	KG6JSL	
<b>Director</b>	John Chavez	KG6PEP	
<b>Director</b>	Dave Santori	KF6CLG	
<b>Past President</b>	John Felton	KE5RI	

**Committee Lineup / Contacts**

<b>Membership</b>	John Guaraglia	KI6CAU	
<b>Program</b>	Becky Pippin	KE6PZV	
<b>EmComm</b>	Rich Freitas	KF6SZA	
<b>Field Day</b>	Brian Torr	N6IYY	707-575-5871
<b>Activity</b>	Dave Santori	KF6CLG	707-585-1873
<b>Public Service</b>	Craig Gaevert	K6XLT	707-545-4133
<b>Mentoring</b>	John Breckenridge	WB6FRZ	707-217-1017
<b>Repeater</b>	John Felton	KE5RI	
<b>Volunteer Exam</b>			
<b>Liaison</b>	Brian Torr	N6IYY	707-575-5871
<b>Antenna Ordinance-Legal</b>	Lee Dibble	KE6EAQ	707 544-1675
<b>Public Relations</b>	Bill McCall	W6WDM	707 538-2844
<b>Public Relations</b>	Jeff Basham	KK6JAB	707-291-7355
<b>Refreshments</b>	Darryl Paule	KI6MSP	
<b>ARRL DXCC/WAS Manager</b>	Chuck Ternes	N6OJ	707 763-2528
<b>Club Raffle</b>	Bob McQuilkin	WB6TGI	

**Short Skip & Web Staff**

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**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. You will also hear the weekly *Amateur Radio Newline* broadcast.

**Short Skip Advertising Rates**

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1st Quarter Column	\$13 per month
Each Additional Quarter Column	\$4 per month
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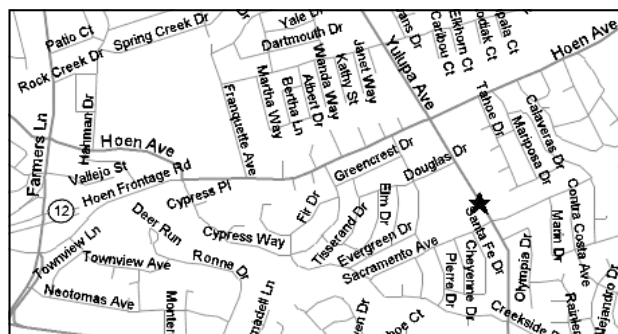
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**SCRA Club Meetings**

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

Next meeting is 7:00 PM Wednesday, July 2nd 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 web-sites:

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

## OAKMONT HAMS FORM EMERGENCY RADIO GROUP

By Fred Polkinghorn KQ6OB

When Oakmont was developed back in the 60s, it was recognized that in the event of a major emergency this community would probably be isolated from Santa Rosa services for at least 72 hours. The residents of Oakmont at that time developed an emergency response organization called the Oakmont Emergency Preparedness Committee (OEPC). This group serves as the umbrella organization for the 184 COPE (Citizens Organized to Prepare for Emergencies) groups which provides emergency support at the neighborhood level. Oakmont's COPE organization has received national recognition and is the model for groups currently being implemented in the city of Santa Rosa.

The OEPC staffs an Emergency Operation Center and provides emergency medical services in three locations throughout Oakmont. The staff includes an Incident Commander, a communications group, and doctors and nurses to attend to medical emergencies at the three facilities. Up until this year, the communications group used GMRS (family) radios, which could only operated within Oakmont and provided marginal communications at best. Several Hams in Oakmont made a recommendation to the OEPC to switch to a more reliable communication system using amateur radios. This was quite a sales job since there were only four active hams in Oakmont at that time.

With the help of the Sonoma County Radio Amateurs (SCRA), two ham classes were put together to train and license new hams for this task. Currently there are 15 active hams in Oakmont, many of which have their own radio equipment. The OEPC has also purchased additional radios and antennas for the Emergency Operations Center. The purpose of the new Oakmont Radio Group is to provide communications between the three medical emergency centers and to provide a link to ARES and the County Emergency Operation Cen-

ter in Santa Rosa. The Oakmont Radio Group has started a communications training program. The group has organized a net on Tuesday nights, which tests the communication capabilities of its member and to practice operating under net control procedures. The net meets at 7:30 on 146.550 MHz simplex.

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### Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc Membership Meeting, June 4, 2008 Minutes

Call to Order - President Dave W6IBC called the meeting to order at 7:03 at the Luther Burbank Arts and Garden Center. Since we had a number of new Hams, Dave asked that each person introduce themselves. Dave also showed a short video on Field Day.

Program: Brian N6IHY and Rich KF6SZA gave a program on the upcoming Field Day. Brian indicated that last year's Field Day included 2100 stations and 34,800 Hams. Field Day is a combination of a contest event, an emergency operation event, a social event, an educational event and an experimental equipment event. This year, Field Day will be held at Youth Park on June 28-29. Setup will be on June 27 starting at 4PM. SCRA will setup 4 stations including a CW, SSB, GOTA and VHF/UHF stations. The GOTA station will use the W6LFJ call sign. The rest of the stations will use W6SON. Brian showed a picture of the physical layout for the site. On Saturday night there will be a BBQ coordinated by Pat KG6JSL. Our educational event will be a class by John WB6FRZ on how to make a code oscillator. Rich KF6SZA gave a talk showing the similarities between Field Day and an EMCOMM event. The two events are very similar except Field Day is for Practice and EMCOMM is for REAL.

Break

#### Business Meeting:

1. Approval of Minutes – The May minutes was approved as written in the June issue of Short Skip.
  2. Treasurers Report – Pat KG6 JSL reported that the club was solvent. He also reviewed the final 2008 budget which was approved by the membership last month.
  3. Future Programs – Becky KE6PZV reviewed the program schedule for the rest of the year.
  4. Public Service – Craig K6XLT thanked those who participated in the Human Race. He also reviewed the upcoming service events including the Terrible Two on June 21, Marin Bike Ride on June 28, Spring Hill Classic on July 13, The YWCA ride on August 23 and the Waves to Wine on September 13-14.
  5. Mentoring/Ham Class – John WB6FRZ reported that they had another successful Ham class. Sixteen out of 17 people who took the class got their Technician License.
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**SCRA Meeting Minutes - June 4, 2008**

(Continued from page 3)

6. VE Committee – Brian N6IY announced that there would be another VE session at the Blood Bank of the Redwoods on June 7.

7. Short Skip – Dave W6IBC reported that 30 members are still receiving Short Skip by mail. The rest are getting the newsletter via e-mail. Snail mail is much slower especially since we print so few copies.

8. PCAM – Dave W6IBC announced that SCRA will have a booth at PCAM on August 16-17.

9. Visit to KPH – Becky KE6PZV announced that a field trip to KPH radio station is scheduled for October 4. It was pointed out that a major contest is that weekend. The field trip will be rescheduled.

10. Digipeater – Dave W6IBC reported that the club has a digipeater which will be setup at the home of Bob KG6TGI. The digipeater will be used for APRS.

11. Net Control Operators:

6/10 Darryl KI6MSP  
6/17 Craig K6XLT  
6/24 Jack K6ROW  
7/1 Dave W6IBC  
7/8 Brian N6IY  
7/15 Bob KE6TGI  
7/22 Becky KE6PZV

12. Human Race – Darryl KG6MSP ran in the Human Race. He received pledges totaling \$400 not all of which have been paid.

13. Membership – John KI6CAU reported that he is planning to have a SCRA booth at the downtown Farmer's market on Wednesday nights and at the Farmer's market on Saturday. The purpose of the booths is to generate interest in Ham radio and to recruit new members.

14. Silent Auction & Raffle – Bob KE6TGI reviewed the items for the silent auction. He also awarded 6 raffle prizes. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Fred KQ6OB, Secretary

**Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc  
Board of Directors Meeting, June 11, 2008**

Board Members Present: David W6IBC, Fred KQ6OB, Becky KE6PZV, Dave KF6CLG, John KG6PEP, John KE5RI

Guest Present: Bob KE6TGI, Brian N6IY, John WB6FRZ, Darryl KI6MSP and Rich KF6SZA,

1. Call to Order: President Dave W6IBC called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM. The meeting was held at Narsi's Restaurant, Santa Rosa. A quorum was present.

**Business**

1. Approval of Minutes – The minutes from the May BOD meeting was approved as written in the June issue of Short Skip.

2. Treasurer's Report – There was no treasurer's report since Treasurer Pat KG6JSL was absent.

3. Club Roster– There was considerable discussion on who would take over the management of the roster database. Dave KF6CLG volunteered to take it over. He will get the software and files from Rich KF6SZA. The file will be updated to include a list of members who have requested Short Skip via e-mail.

4. SCRA Website– The board decided to move the club website back to the CDS-1 server because this server is available to the club at no charge. Jeff KK6JAB will be asked to stay on as Webmaster or help train a replacement.

5. APRS Repeater – Dave W6IBC reported that a digipeater will be setup at Bob KE6TGI's residence in Occidental for use with APRS. Several vehicles will be equipped with APRS for the Terrible Two service event on June 21. Pat KG6JSL will man the APRS computer at net control.

6. Field Day – Brian N6IY reported that all the radios and equipment have been secured for Field Day. Pat KG6JSL has volunteered to organize the BBQ on Saturday night. Additional items needed are a computer with CT (KQ6OB) and brochures for the PIO table. Brian has sent out press releases to local newspapers. Press releases will be sent out to local radio stations next week. Brian is still looking for a coordinator for the GOTA station and a few tour guides for visiting guests. Dave W6IBC will coordinate the breakfast on Sunday morning. Brian requested a check for \$196 for the site rental. The Board approved the request.

7. Repeater– John KE5RI reported that the new repeater would not be installed until after Field Day. John will setup the new repeater using the controller from Castle Rock and a dummy load to make sure it is running properly. John will request that Greg AC6VJ leave his repeater at English Hill for 30-60 days as a backup in the event that the new repeater is not working properly. John also reported that a repeater in Hollister has been coordinated on our repeater frequencies. This will prevent the interfering repeater in Palo Alto from receiving coordination by NARC. John is recommending that all members (Continued on page 5).



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## Terrible Two Bicycle Event

The Terrible Two 200 mile bicycle event lived up to its reputation as being very difficult. Only 60 percent of the riders finished. The amateur radio crew did an outstanding job throughout the event.



Bill KH6GJV acting as afternoon net control at Analy High School Start and Finish Line. Bill is being assisted by Bob McQuilkin WB6TGI.

## Pictures from the Fort Ross Rest Stop, KI6MSP & WB6FRZ:



## SCRA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

(Continued from page 4)

use tone coded squelch to avoid interference from other repeaters.

8. Membership – Dave W6IBC reported that John KI6CAU has requested that the Board approve an expenditure of \$15 for a SCRA table at the Farmer's Market on Wednesday nights. The Board approved this expenditure.

9. Microfiche Reader – The microfiche reader donated by John WB6FRZ did not sell at last month's Silent Auction. Included with the reader is a film copy of QST from 1918 to 2000. The Board passed a motion to offer the QST films and reader on permanent loan to the museum at KPH. If the museum is interested in the reader, a MOU would be drawn up indicating that the reader and films would be returned to SCRA in the event that they were no longer needed at KPH.

9. Silent Auction– Bob KE6TGI reported that the silent auction at the June membership meeting netted \$75.

10. Digital Repeater– Dave W6IBC reported that Icom America has donated a D-Star digital repeater to a club in the South Bay to get D-Star on the air. There are no D-Star digital repeaters in the North Bay. Dave requested that the Board think about the possibility of requesting a D-Star system for our club.

11. PCAM– Dave W6IBC reported that we will have a SCRA booth at PCAM on August 17. Pat KG6JSL is still waiting for the final information package.

12. Club Elections – Dave W6IBC reminded the Board that the election of club officers is just around the corner. Dave W6IBC and Fred KQ6OB are termed out. Dave asked the Board to start thinking about possible candidates for next year's Board. He also asked the Board to think about whether we will make a "Ham of the Year" award this year. Both of these items will be added to next month's BOD agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17

Respectfully submitted,  
Fred KQ6OB, Secretary.



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## You Can't Get There From Here!

by  
Rich Freitas, KF6SZA  
Sonoma County ARES DEC

OK. So you've received your ham license, become an ARES volunteer, taken some training and even done a few drills. That's great! Your equipment is ready and you're ready. But "Murphy" has some other ideas. As a member of ARES, you need to do some additional homework that you may not have thought of. What good is all of your equipment, training and confidence if you can't get to the deployment site? Unfortunately, this is one subject that is not frequently covered but it can be one of the most important steps in emergency communications: getting volunteers to their final destinations as quickly and as safely as possible.

Although this is especially true during natural disasters such as winter storms, hurricanes or intense periods of rain which produce almost catastrophic flooding, it can also encompass volunteers who attempt to deploy during other events such as wildfire emergencies. Can you imagine deploying to a wildfire disaster and getting trapped by the flames because no one told you the extent or range of the fire? It does no good to mobilize with everything you need ... except up-to-date information. Without maps or directions you may find yourself "driving by the seat of your pants" into a catastrophic situation that can only compound the disaster.

In your zeal to respond, you may never think to ask for additional information concerning the safest route or the extent of the disaster. It is the responsibility of every radio officer or EC to supply enough information and possible "pitfalls" whenever you are asked to go near "harm's way." Just as it is important to have backup repeaters and simplex frequencies, it is also imperative to have "fall-back" points or locations. Disasters are dynamic events that evolve over time; situations may quickly change requiring you to evacuate your current location in favor of an alternate site. Without the proper information you may set yourself up to be one of the victims instead of one of the volunteers. Being ready, equipped, trained, experienced and eager is not enough; you also need to be armed with as much information as possible. This information can either be given to you or you need to do your home-

work and arm yourself. If you aren't given what you feel is adequate information – ASK!

Besides the possibility of a wildfire event, areas of this county are also prone to severe flooding. A stalled front that drops heavy rain over a prolonged period of time can cause our streams and rivers to overflow. You might be lucky enough to have a home which is situated high above any possible flood plain. But what if you want to provide communications or some other form of help to either your local community or region? You still have to get there.

According to "Murphy's Law", the shortest route will almost always be the most hazardous. To circumvent this, you'll need to do some investigation of the terrain between your departure point (usually your home) and any and all possible deployment locations. Look for flood gauges on low areas of highways that are subject to flooding situations. Get a detailed map of Sonoma County and the surrounding counties and mark important locations ... those where you might be deployed to such as shelters, fire stations, and our served agencies; also, mark all those possible road flooding points. This will become your own personal "Master Deployment Map." By doing this you will already be better prepared to deploy than 99% of the EmComm personnel.

Use the internet as a tool for more information; do a Google search for flooding, wildfire, and other disasters in your area. Areas that have been subject to disasters in the past have a good chance of being locations for future events. Mark your map with additional points such as flood plains, dams, mudslide areas, etc. as needed. If you see locations that have multiple disaster potential, you know these are very fragile points and it would be best to avoid them. It's also a very good idea to map any main evacuation routes both out of the area and, in the event of a disaster in a neighboring area, into the area.

So, now what are you left with? A map that's worth its weight in gold ... a map that could make your deployment much easier. You'll be armed with information so you can decide which might be the best route (and alternates) to any deployment location and what areas to avoid due to flooding or congested evacuation routes. This map becomes doubly valuable in case you need to redeploy or evacuate from your current shelter or deployment (*Continued on Page 7*).

## Public Service Roundup

This newsletter deadline finds us fresh (or in recovery) from the Terrible Two on 21 June. This year's TT was one of the epic years with energy-depleting heat on all of the big climbs. Radio operators and riders were all looking for shade and a cool spot. As I drove to the Start at Analy High School at 0400, the northern and western skies were filled with brilliant displays of dry lightning. While fun to watch, you can imagine that it was not going to be fun for many of the fire crews to the north. It portended the start of a very hot day for all.

While the start went off smoothly, almost immediately the first of several crashes happened. A bystander's dog leapt out of a car window and into the middle of the pack while the riders were still on Yulupa. One rider t-boned the dog and broke his bike in half, while 3 others crashed with minor injuries. Later, a couple of riders crashed on the back side of Trinity in Napa county and were brought back by SAGs. We had hoped that we were done with crashes for the day but about 1530 we learned that a rider had crashed and had been knocked unconscious. The short story is, the unlucky rider had a front tire blowout and went down hard. A motorcyclist coming the other way came up to the Wolf Creek Ranch Relay to notify W6IBC and K16ASJ of what had happened. Through the net Dave had Net Control call up emergency services. K16ASJ, a registered nurse, was dispatched to the site with one of the nearby HAM SAGs (K16DDB visiting from Orange County) to assist. Shortly a helicopter arrived, however this area of the course is not blessed with any flat LZs, so the EMTs rappelled down to the crash site. Ultimately the rider was transported to the hospital by vehicle and is OK. This area of the course is remote and we were fortunate that with the Relay in place, we had a prompt response. Without the relay it could have been sometime before anyone could have placed the emergency call. On scene K16DDB was able to relay info to W6IBC and on to the Net. Fortunately the outcome was good and HAMs helped make it so.

On this event as well, thanks to the efforts of Pat, KG6JSL, we tested APRS on the course. Both myself, Pat, and Dave, W6IBC had our Tiny Trackers on. NC was then able to follow us through many areas of the course. There were some areas that didn't work and this was one of things we wanted to look at, to see where there was no coverage.

We had 25 HAM volunteers for the TT, some newly licensed, and some from out of town. As the event director, I have lots of praise for everyone involved. Every TT brings its challenges and this is why, of all SCRA

events, this event is one of the best to practice and learn how to deal with traffic and emergencies. As the TT event director I want to say a big Thank You to all SCRA members and our visiting hams that participated: K6BSG W6IBC KG6BHI WB6FRZ KG6KTP K6ROW K16ASJ KH6GJV K16MJC KC6YKD K16KNQ KG6JSL KQ6OB K16MSP KE6PZV KE6VGV N6IY K16DDB K16REK WB6TGI K16ISH K16PVW KF6CLG KE6HID

In the near future, these events are scheduled:

13 July, the Spring Hill Road Race: we'll need about 6-8 hams to assist in the return of what is a classic race course for Northern California. We'll have a couple of HAMs riding in follow-cars, as well as manning corners. Another possible APRS test course as well.

23 August: The YWCA ride. Similar to other years with NC, SAG, and several rest stops to staff.

13-14 September: Waves to Wine.

Again Thanks to all who participate in Public Service events. If you want to join in on the fun, be sure to contact me at 545.4133 or k6xlt@sonic.net

Craig Gaevert  
K6XLT  
Public Service Wrangler

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## ARES - You Can't Get There From Here

*(continued from page 6)*

area to another location. When you do deploy, do so with extreme caution. Don't attempt to cross streets which appear flooded if you can't see the pavement lines or if water is flowing. Also, don't forget to make a copy of your map(s). It's always good to have a backup and maps are a cheap, yet vital, investment.

By the way ... you might also need to consult your map to get back home as the route you chose to get to an area may become impassable later due to continued rains, flooding, or other damage. And for all you techies ... GPS may tell you where you are, but not where all the flooded routes are. A map with a hole through it is still a map; a GPS with a hole through it is a piece of junk!

*The ARES net meets on Mondays at 7:30 pm on 147.315 MHz, + offset, 88.5 PL. All members and guests are invited to check-in.*



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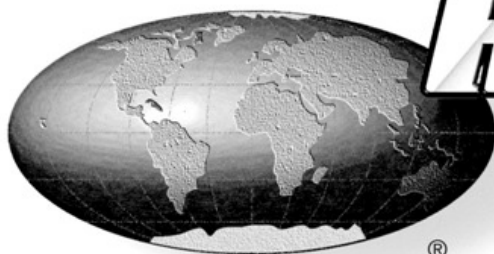
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Gary, N7GJ, Mgr.  
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- 10W 1.2 GHz w/optional UT-20 module
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- 200 Mems., CTCSS
- VC-H1 Messaging Control

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## ICOM



### IC-706MKIIG HF/VHF Transceiver

- All mode HF/6M/2M/70CM
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- 160-6M @ 100W • Enhanced Rx performance
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### DJ-196T 2M/HT

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### 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

**Low Pricing!**



## CONTEST CORNER

by Kevin Alt, K6BSG

Hello testers. Fairly low contest activity in July; good chance to recover from Field Day. For you VHF enthusiasts, the CQWW VHF contest is 19-20 July or check out the IARU HF World Championship on 12-13 July. Happy DX'ing!

1 Jul – **Canada Day Contest** – Phone/CW, 160-2 meters. See: [www.rac.ca/service/contesting](http://www.rac.ca/service/contesting).  
 4-5 Jul – **MI QRP July 4th Sprint** – CW, 160-6 meters. See: [www.miqr.org](http://www.miqr.org).  
 5 Jul – **Digital Pentathlon – Throb**, 80-10 meters. See: [dqso.net/start.html](http://dqso.net/start.html).  
 5-6 Jul – **Venezuelan Indep Day Contest** – Phone/CW, 160-10 meters. See: [www.radioclubvenezolano.org/concurso.htm](http://www.radioclubvenezolano.org/concurso.htm).  
 5-6 Jul – **DL DX RTTY Contest** – 80-10 meters. See: [www.drcg.de](http://www.drcg.de).  
 5-6 Jul – **070 Club Firecracker PSK31 Sprint** – 40 meters. See: [www.podxs070.com](http://www.podxs070.com).  
 6 Jul – **DARC 10-Meter Digital Corona** – 10 meters. See: [www.darc.de/ukw-funksport](http://www.darc.de/ukw-funksport).  
 11 Jul – **FISTS Summer Sprint** – CW, 80-10 meters. See: [www.fists.org](http://www.fists.org).  
 12-13 Jul – **IARU HF World Championship** – Phone/CW, 160-10 meters. See: [www.arrrl.org/](http://www.arrrl.org/)

## contest.

12-13 Jul – **West Coast Regional Challenge** – Phone/CW, 160-10 meters. See: [sccc.contesting.com](http://sccc.contesting.com).  
 13 Jul – **QRP ARCI Summer Hombrew** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: [www.qrparci.org](http://www.qrparci.org).  
 19 Jul – **Russian Radio Team Championship** – Phone/CW, 40-10 meters. See: [srr.ru/contest](http://srr.ru/contest).  
 19 Jul – **Feld-Hell Monthly Sprint** – Digital, 160-10 meters. See: [www.wa6l.com/contests/](http://www.wa6l.com/contests/).  
 19-20 Jul – **DMC RTTY Contest** – 80-10 meters. See: [www.digital-modes-club.org](http://www.digital-modes-club.org).  
 19-20 Jul – **NA RTTY QSO Party** – 80-10 meters. See: [www.ncjweb.com](http://www.ncjweb.com).  
 19-20 Jul – **CQ WW VHF Contest** – All modes, 6-2 meters. See: [www.cqww-vhf.com](http://www.cqww-vhf.com).  
 20 Jul – **CQC Great Colorado Gold Rush** – CW, 20 meters. See: [www.cqc.org/contests/gold2008.htm](http://www.cqc.org/contests/gold2008.htm).  
 26-27 Jul – **IOTA Contest** – Phone/CW, 80-10 meters. See: [www.rsgbhfcc.org](http://www.rsgbhfcc.org).  
 27 Jul – **Flight of the Bumblebees** – CW, 40-10 meters. See: [arsqrp.pbwiki.com/](http://arsqrp.pbwiki.com/).

## From the Editor:

Questions? Comments? If you have any news, photos or any other interesting information that relates to Amateur Radio, please feel free to send submissions to [ki6kno@gmail.com](mailto:ki6kno@gmail.com).

## Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. Membership Application

Please Print Clearly

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Family Membership	\$36 (\$9.00/qtr)
Under 18 Membership	\$18 (\$3.00/qtr)
Badge	\$10

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### Payment Calculations:

Make checks payable to SCRA

Dues - Full Year \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Dues -

Prorated \_\_\_\_\_ Qtrs. x \$ \_\_\_\_\_ /qtr \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Badge \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other - \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: SCRA, P.O. Box 1116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402

## **Tentative Programs for 2008:**

**January 2:** D-Star Tim Barrett K6BIV, (program completed)

**February 6:** Satellite Communications, ARISS and the SRJC Earth Station, Tim Bosma W6MU

**March 5:** Basic Ham Radio Construction Practices, Pat KG6JSL and John KE5RI

**April 2:** Backup power sources for Ham Radio, Dave W6IBC

**May 7:** Antenna Night, antennas and counterpoises, NVIS, Fred KQ6OB

**June 4:** Field Day Preparations, Brian N6IY and Emcomm aspects of Field Day Rich KF6SZA

### **July 2: DXpeditions and DXing, Brian N6IY**

**August 6:** Boatanchor/Homebrew night (Group presentation)

**September 3:** Repeater update, how a repeater works, SCRA's repeater system now and in the future, John KE5RI

**October 1:** Digital Night update: IRLP-how to make it work. APRS, essentials and requirements, hands on digital (TBD)

**November 5:** SCRA Jeopardy Brian N6IY (Club elections night)

**December 5:** (Friday) Holiday Party (date shift from Wed to Fri confirmed by phone 1-14-08 W6IBC)

## **Club Activities:**

**February 8-19:** Amgen Tour of California (Public Service)

**March 22:** Field Trip to SF Maritime Museum USS Pampanito, Dave KF6CLG

**April (day TBD):** ARES Safety Fair, Rich KF6SZA

**April 12:** Lake Sonoma Run

**May 3:** Wine Country Century (Public Service, Craig K6XLT)

**May 2-4:** ARES Emcomm West, Reno NV Rich KF6SZA

**May 4:** SRJC Day Under the Oaks (Dave W6IBC)

**May 4:** MS Walkathon (Public Service, Craig K6XLT)

**May 10:** Human Race (Public Service, Craig K6XLT)

**June 21:** Terrible Two Bicycle event (Public Service, Craig K6XLT)

### **June 27-29: Field Day (Brian N6IY)**

**August 16-17:** PCAM Wings over Wine Country (Pat KG6JSL)

**September 13-14:** MS Waves to Wine (Public Service, Craig K6XLT) \*\*\*Note Date Change\*\*\*

**October 4:** SCRA Picnic and Fox Hunt (Becky KE6PZV)

**October 17-19:** Boy Scout Jamboree on the Air (John KG6PEP)

**October 17-19:** ARRL Pacific Division PACIFICON convention

**December 5:** Holiday Party

**Optional activity (TBD July?):** Mini DXpedition, KPH visit

**Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.**

**P.O. Box 116**

**Santa Rosa, California**

**95402-0116**

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