

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

http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com

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VOLUME 33 NUMBER 8

**AUGUST 2008** 



#### **VOLUNTEERS ALL**

by Dave Harrison, W6IBC SCRA President

In a prior column I noted that this club doesn't run on good intentions, it runs on the financial support of its members and donors. In this column I note the other essential ingredient: this club

doesn't run itself; rather, it runs because of the significant contributions of time and effort by its volunteers. We are a strictly volunteer organization with no paid staff. Our members contribute time and effort to SCRA as their interest and circumstances permit. We couldn't exist as an organization without the countless hours of effort contributed. So, this month, I'd like to expressly recognize some of SCRA's volunteer contributors who give so freely of their time to make good things happen.

This year SCRA enjoyed a wonderful Field Day experience at Santa Rosa's Youth Park, thanks to the many hours of planning and effort by our Field Day Chairman, Brian N6IIY. Other principal contributors to SCRA's success included Mentoring Chairman, John WB6FRZ who conducted an educational workshop constructing code practice oscillators. Vice President Becky KE6PZV and Treasurer Pat KG6JSL cooked up a feast for our Saturday night dinner. Refreshments Chairman Darryl KI6MSP provided refreshments throughout the event. Membership Chairman John KI6CAU staffed our information booth. Past President John KE5RI provided his motor home and Kenwood rig for the SSB station. Director Dave KF6CLG provided photography documenting the event. Other Field Day volunteers included Bob KG6ZDN and his dad, Jim who provided our VHF station. Jack K6ROW provided our Get On The Air station. Dave AA6YX and Dave AE6RQ manned our CW station in the club Toaster (brought to Field Day by Pat KG6JSL) and wracked up 320 contacts, our best CW operation in years. Pat also put on an APRS demonstration. Thanks to all of our members, fellow hams, and guests whose volunteer efforts made SCRA's Field Day '08 a tremendous success.

We're nearly through an extensive and successful public service season, thanks to our Public Service "Wrangler" Craig K6XLT. We've taken on several additional public service

events this season, including the Lake Sonoma 50 mile footrace in April, and the Spring Hill Road (bike) Race in July. Thanks to all our members and fellow hams who turn out to support Craig and our public service efforts.

Over the last several years, the two successive Boards of Directors of SCRA have resolved to pursue tax advantaged charity status with the IRS. Our Treasurer Pat KG6JSL has worked tirelessly and effectively in revising our club's operating documents and in applying to the IRS for the desirable tax advantaged charity status. Thank you Pat for jobs well done.

Over the last year, our Mentoring Chairman John WB6FRZ, and our ARES Liaison Rich KF6SZA have lead a team of volunteers teaching weekend ham classes. We've had a number of those classes, each culminating in a VE session led by our VE Liaison Brian N6IIY and his team of volunteer examiners. These efforts have produced many new hams.

Our Short Skip editor Dale KI6KNO has implemented changes enabling us to deliver Short Skip electronically, thereby significantly reducing our distribution costs. Recently, Bob KG6ZDN took over as webmaster for the SCRA web site on an interim basis subject to Board approval at its next meeting. Thank you Bob for stepping into this important position on short notice. Repeater Chairman John KE5RI has spent countless hours on our behalf at NARCC and in maintaining and improving our repeater system and protecting it against interference. Thank you, John.

At its July 2008 meeting, your Board of Directors resolved to invite nominations for the SCRA 2008 Ham of the Year award. If you would like to nominate an SCRA member as Ham of the Year, please send me a written nomination with supporting information. We'd like to have all nominations submitted by the September 2008 Board meeting (September 10, 2008).

August's meeting is one of my personal favorites: Homebrew and Boatanchors. Please be sure to bring in and demonstrate your favorite project or ham radio relic. We'll have lots of fun. See you there!

73, Dave W6IBC SCRA President

#### 2008 Club Officers

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

## **Committee Lineup / Contacts**

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I	Membership Program	John Guaraglia Becky Pippin	KI6CAU KE6PZV			
ı	EmComm	Rich Freitas	KF6SZA			
ı	Field Day	Brian Torr	N6IIY	707-575-5871		
ı	Activity	Dave Santori	KF6CLG	707-585-1873		
ı	Public Service	Craig Gaevert	K6XLT	707-545-4133		
ı	Mentoring	John Breckenridge		707-217-1017		
ı	Repeater	John Felton	KE5RI			
ı	Volunteer Exam	COMMIT CHOM	KLOKI			
I	Liaison	Brian Torr	N6IIY	707-575-5871		
ı						
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I	Public Relations	Bill McCall	W6WDM	707 538-2844		
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I						
	Club Raffle	Bob McQuilkin	WB6TGI			

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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 Newsline* broadcast.

## **Short Skip Advertising Rates**

Business Cards	\$12 per month
1st Quarter Column	\$13 per month
Each Additional Quarter Column	\$4 per month
Full page (one side)	\$35 per month
Pre-printed inserts (each)	\$35 per month

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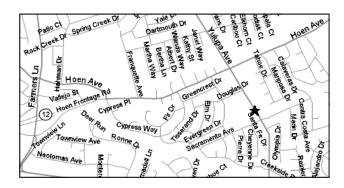


## **SCRA Club Meetings**

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

Next meeting is 7:00 PM Wednesday, August 6th 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 fro 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/

### Field Day 2008 Results

By the time you read this, Field Day 2008 will have happened over a month ago. But it seems like only yesterday we were taking down all the antennas and packing up all the station gear. 2008 marked our return to Youth Community Park in Santa Rosa, and I think it was a good move. We saw an increase in the number of passers-by that dropped in. The new ARRL Field Day Locator helped a few traveling hams find us.

This was the first year of the Educational Activity Bonus, and John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ, did an excellent job leading the activity. The group built code practice oscillators, complete with a simple code key and speaker. Chalk up an extra 100 bonus points!

As for the operating, only the GOTA station didn't make as many contacts as last year. Fortunately, the CW station, operated by the two Daves (Dave New, AA6YX and Dave Beal, AE6RQ) more than made up the difference. With 319 contacts, the CW station was by far our most effective station. And with CW contacts worth twice as many points as voice contacts, the CW station alone contributed 638 of our 863 QSO points!!

Our overall claimed score this year was 2536, compared to 1514 last year, which is a 67% improvement!

As is the case at most all Field Days, not everything went according to plan. We had the TH-6 tribander about one-third of the way up in the air before we realized we could not attach the middle set of guy cables. Oh well, we got more practice raising and lowering the antenna. And the radio intended to be used for the GOTA station refused to make contacts. Fortunately, a backup was available. Field Day is meant to be a learning experience, and we learned plenty!

In closing I just want to thank all those folks who helped at Field Day, from bringing RVs for operat-

ing positions, to cooking, to setting up tents and stations, to setting up and taking down antennas, to acting as tour guides and manning the information table, to helping haul all the gear there and back. And thanks also to all those who came to operate and visit. Field Day is always a team effort, and we've got one heckuva great team!

73, Brian Torr, N6IIY 2008 Field Day Chairman

## **August Meeting Announcement:**

#### **Homebrew and Boat Anchors**

Come join us for a great presentation on Homebrew and Boat Anchors. Please be sure to bring in and demonstrate your favorite project or ham radio relic. We'll have lots of fun. See you there!













## Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. Membership Meeting Minutes July 2, 2008

Call to order – Vice president Becky Ke6pzv called the meeting to order at 1905 hrs at the Luther Burbank Arts and Garden Center.

Program: We had a presentation by ARRL Pacific Division Director Bob Valio W6RGG covering Amateur Radio Relay League and The Scarborough Reef DXpedition. The pictures told more than Bob could have said about the adventure. It really makes one wonder about the many aspects of Ham Radio.

#### **Business Meeting:**

- 1. Approval of minutes: the July minutes were approved after corrections.
- 2. Treasurers Report: read and accepted. IRS sent an ok for tax deduction qualified charity status, need to send more information
- 3. Future programs:

Aug. Homebrew and Boat Anchor Night Sept. Repeater Night

#### 4. Public Service:

July 13 Spring Hill Bike Race is being revised, Craig still needs volunteers for this event.

#### 5. ARES:

Rich has a training class set for Monday Aug 18th, 7:00 PM at TLCD Architecture in Santa Rosa.

- 6. Mentoring: Tech class set for July 20 & 21Penngrove Power and implement Museum open house 200 Phillips, July 12, 1000 to 1600 hrs
- 7. VE Session:

Aug. 2, 9:15AM Blood Bank of the Redwoods.

- 8. PCAM Wings over Wine Country Air Show: PCAM has approved SCRA's request to attend
- 9. Repeater: John KE5RI made a brief Demo of SCRA's new 2 Meter repeater.

Meeting ended 2123hrs

Respectfully submitted Dave Santori, KF6CLG Acting Secretary



## SCRA Field Day Results 2008

## 2536 points

(2007 - 1514 points) 67% improvement from last year!!

\*thanks to everyone who participated\*

Pictured are Jack Christensen, K6ROW (left) and Kyle Cummings, KG6QJL (right) at the GOTA station.



#### **NCS - The First 15 Minutes**

by Rich Freitas, KF6SZA Sonoma County ARES DEC

This article is a reprint that first appeared in this column in 2003.

I ran across this article awhile back and thought you might find it insightful. It was written by R.Bruce Winchell, N8UT, and it is intended to be a reminder that when a net first is called to duty, confusion will reign supreme. I have added a few 'minor' changes to make the scenario applicable to our area. Enjoy Bruce's story here and see if we can learn from this example.

Your EC just woke you up during your favorite TV sporting event. He wants you to start an emergency net from the net office; he is at the EOC. There is a ruptured gas main in a heavily populated part of town. Other than the location, he did not give you any more information. You turn on your 2-meter rig, grab a clipboard, and head for the net office. Your training kicks in. You begin asking yourself questions and writing down the answers.

OK, broken gas main ... police, fire, gas company, & EMA involved ... possible evacuation. Possible need for shelters ... transportation possibly needed ... likelihood of handicapped people in the area. Danger of asphyxiation ... explosion ... might go all night.

What kind of net to run? Open or directed?? How many people will I need??? How long do I estimate the event will last???? Do I need to hold some people in reserve for a shift change????? What agencies will be involved?????? Do we need a special liaison for these agencies??????? Do I have operators living in the effected area???? Which way is the wind blowing??? What is the safest route into the area???

I don't have enough information; the EC said he would call



me with more information. Better find out what I have available right now. Pick up the mic and announce that there is an emergency situation developing and go with an open format standby net for now. Take check-ins. Ask two operators to go to other local repeaters and recruit people for participation assignments. Recruit someone to come to the net office to do logging and to make phone calls.

The EC finally calls back; he says to prepare for an allnighter. You are going to need relief shifts. Evacuations will take place. Need to activate a Salvation Army shelter at a local high school. Salvation Army has been notified; they want voice and packet stations for the shelter. Requests five operators to report to staging area to do head counts on city buses being used for the evacuation. Need two operators for the EOC ASAP!

Back on the air; formalize the net. Request two members for the EOC to work a four-hour shift; one needs to be packet capable. Recruit two more to pick up portable packet station stored at the net office and then have them respond to the high school shelter. Find five members to do the headcounts and assign them a team leader to compile the reports. Send them into the area from the north.

Ask for a base station close to the staging area to liaison traffic from the staging area volunteers to the Salvation Army shelter on a simplex frequency so that HTs can be run on low power to conserve batteries. Ask the liaison to only relay compiled totals to the NCS.

Request a qualified NCS volunteer to run a resource net with two reliefs on a secondary repeater. Instruct all remaining volunteers not yet assigned to a task to check-in on the resource net. Hmmmm ... 8 minutes ... not bad ... smooth as silk! Call the EC and give him a progress report.

Darn ... can't reach the EC.

8 min., 15 sec. – Logging volunteer shows ... slightly drunk!!

8 min., 30 sec. – Your wife calls ... the commode is plugged up and she can't find the plunger. You smile ... it's taped to the tower holding your new wire antenna.

9 min. – Your 6-year old calls and tells you there is a big fire in a warehouse across town ... they think it's where you work ... it's on TV and it's a half-mile from the gas leak!!! 9 min., 30 sec. – Over in the corner a loud noise begins ... it's the CDF scanner ... it's fire season!!

9 min., 50 sec. – The phone rings again. Your assistant picks it up and then drops it, hiccups loudly, and hands the phone to you. It's the EC. The receiver is broken but you manage to understand what he wants now. He wants a CDF sub-net on a secondary repeater ... he also wants the ATV team to respond to the warehouse fire. You tell the EC "no problem."

(continued on page 6)

(NCS - First 15 Minutes continued from page 5)

11 min. – Resource net calls back. One of the ATV guys is already responding to the shelter as a packet operator and the other is your hiccupping assistant!! The other ATV team is out of town on business. You tell the resource net to work it out with your sympathy.

12 min., 10 sec. – You call the EC and tell him there is a slight delay but there is "no problem."

12 min., 40 sec. – You start pouring hot coffee into your assistant. Maybe he will function a little better as a wideawake drunk???

13 min., 5 sec. – Your pager goes off telling you that you do not have to report to work in the morning!

13 min., 20 sec. – The computer printer connected to the packet station starts spitting out paper. The packet station is still programmed for the testing of a new program. The search for paperwork begins until you realize it is in your briefcase at work ... where the fire is!

13 min., 35 sec. – The liaison station calls on the radio to report that one of your staging area volunteers has gone into labor ... her water has broken and she wants to know if she can leave for the hospital.

13 min., 55 sec. – The 16-year old who just took the test ten times to get his tech license calls in a priority message on his old, borrowed HT with a half-dead battery, on a rubber duck antenna, from 15 miles out of town to report that the wind just blew over the outhouse with granny inside! Granny got confused after she rolled out of the outhouse and then fell into the pit! After eight more broken transmissions you finally find out that she is OK but she smells sumthin' awful!

Welcome to the first 15 minutes of an emergency net from inside a net control station. Even thought this was written with some humor to it, situations like this can and do occur when starting up communications nets. This is why we always ask that you follow set procedures and that if asked to respond to an emergency location, you present yourselves in a professional manner. Imagine if this happened on one of our nets ... would we be asked back again?

It is an unfortunate fact that many served agencies and the general public judge our performance and value as a public service by what they hear via the scanners at special events and S.E.T. drills. If these events are poorly done the public reinforces its opinion that we are nothing more than glorified CBers. (Please note that there are many CBers, such as REACT, who do take their responsibilities seriously; I'm talking about the "Breaker, Breaker, Good Buddy!" ones here!) In some cases the public impression might be justified by what they hear or see us doing. If we do act like those CBers on nets or at events it is because we don't project the professional attitude we should.

Some served agencies view us as a nuisance instead of an assistant. The reason is that we sometimes do not pay atten-

tion to these agencies' specific needs or that we impose ourselves at an incident where they have not requested our services. We sometimes tend to operate within our own perceptions of what we think they need. These agencies know that they will and do need help with communications but we seem to assume that they will know all of our operating modes and methods; this is not true for most of them. In fact, when it comes to radio devices most only know about what they own themselves such as department radios and cell phones. The ideas that we can provide them with packet, ATV, APRS/GPS, long-range HF, CW, RTTY, VHF/UHF simplex and repeater communications is beyond their comprehension.

With this month's topic I would like to hear from each of you how we can improve our operations and also how we can educate the agencies and the general public about our operations and what we can and will do for them in times of need. It need not be much but this is how we all can learn new ideas to improve our image as emergency communicators.

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.



#### Field Day 2008

Seen here are Pat, KG6JSL & Becky, KE6PZV getting things all set up for Chow Time.

#### ANAHEIM, CA

(Near Disneyland) 933 N. Euclid St., 92801 (800) 854-6046 Janet, KL7MF, Mgr anaheim@hamradio.com

#### BURBANK, CA

1525 W. Magnolia Blvd, 91506 (818) 842-1786 (800) 854-6046 Eric, KA6IHT, Mgr. Magnolia between

S. Victory & Buena Vista burbank@hamradio.com

#### OAKLAND, CA

2210 Livingston St., 94606 (510) 534-5757 (800) 854-6046 Mark, WI7YN, Mgr. I-880 at 23rd Ave. ramp nakland@hamradio.com

#### SAN DIEGO, CA

5375 Kearny Villa Rd., 92123 (858) 560-4900 (800) 854-6046 Tom, KM6K, Mgr. Hwy. 163 & Claremont Mesa sandiego@hamradio.com

#### SUNNYVALE, CA

510 Lawrence Exp. #102, 94085 (408) 736-9496 (800) 854-6046 Howard, W6HOC, Mgr. So. from Hwy. 101 sunnyvale@hamradio.com

#### **NEW CASTLE. DE**

(Near Philadelphia) 1509 N. Dupont Hwy., 19720 (302) 322-7092 (800) 644-4476

Rick, K3TL, Mgr. RT.13 1/4 mi., So. I-295 newcastle@hamradio.com

#### PORTLAND, OR

11705 S.W. Pacific Hwy. 97223 503) 598-0555 (800) 854-6046 Leon, W7AD, Mgr. Tigard-99W exit from Hwy. 5 & 217 portland@hamradio.com

#### DENVER, CO

8400 E. Iliff Ave. #9, 80231 (303) 745-7373 (800) 444-9476 John, N5EHP, Mgr. denver@hamradio.com

## PHOENIX, AZ

1939 W. Dunlap Ave., 85021 (602) 242-3515 (800) 444-9476 Gary, N7GJ, Mgr. 1 mi. east of I-17 phoenix@hamradio.com

#### ATLANTA, GA

6071 Buford Hwy., 30340 70) 263-0700 (800) 444-7927 Mark, KJ4VO, Mgr. Doraville, 1 mi. no. of I-285 atlanta@hamradio.com

#### WOODBRIDGE, VA

(Near Washington D.C.) 14803 Build America Dr. 22191 703) 643-1063 (800) 444-4799

Steve, W4SHG, Mgr. Exit 161, I-95, So. to US 1 woodbridge@hamradio.com

#### SALEM, NH

(Near Boston) 224 N. Broadway, 03079 (603) 898-3750 (800) 444-0047 Chuck, N1UC, Mgr.

sales@hamradio.com Exit 1, I-93; 28 mi. No. of Boston salem@hamradio.com

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#### IC-706MkIIG HF/VHF Transceiver

- All mode HF/6M/2M/70CM
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### **SCRA BoD July Meeting Minutes**

6:38pm – Meeting was called to order by President, Dave Harrison, W6IBC.

Rich Freitas, KF6SZA began the meeting by relaying some information from Webmaster, Jeff, KK6JAB.

The Board approved Dave Harrison, W6IBC and Dave Santori, KF6CLG to meet with Jeff to discuss further.

Director, John, KG6PEP, suggested a motion to compensate Jeff with the \$8 per month for the time that he has had the club webpage on his server. The board will hold the motion until after Dave, W6IBC and Dave, KF6CLG meet with Jeff.

Dave, W6IBC called for a motion to approve the June Board of Director's meeting minutes as published in the Short Skip. Becky, KE6PZV moved and Dave, KF6CLG seconded the motion. It was noted that Bob, WB6TGI still had his call sign published as KE6TGI.

Field Day report: Brian, N6IIY said that the event needed more sign advertising. Overall, he was very pleased. Dave, W6IBC asked if the club can put it's name down to use Youth Park again for the same date next year. Brian said that the City of Santa Rosa has not returned the deposit for this year yet and he will explore reserving the park for next year and asking if the deposit can be retained for next year's reservation. The Board approved. John, KG6PEP asked if the City of Santa Rosa would be more apt to support Field Day next year if we propose emergency training during the event. Darryl, KI6MSP added that we could also include the Blood Bank of the Redwoods.

Dave, W6IBC asked Brian, N6IIY if he would be willing to coordinate Field Day again next year. Brian said that it's a little too early to say.

Dave, W6IBC proposed appointing more control operators for the repeater system. Bob, WB6TGI, Brian, N6IIY and John, KG6PEP agreed to act as auxiliary control operators for the repeater. Dave, W6IBC asked that it be put to motion and Dave, KG6CLG moved.

Repeater interference report: John, KE5RI reported that the repeater to the South that has caused our repeater interference in the past is looking for other options.

Ham of the Year: Dave, W6IBC asked if the Board

would like to have the club nominate a Ham of the Year. The Process will involve appointing an anonymous committee. Dave, W6IBC moved to continue with the process and the motion carried.

Donation of generator to Penngrove Museum: Dave, W6IBC moved to have the generator offered to the membership and if after that, it is not purchased, it will be proposed to the membership to donate it. Motion carried.

Training Net: John, WB6FRZ explained the training net on the 147.315 repeater. It is a great opportunity for new hams to practice net communications. It was asked if the Board would allow the training net on Wednesday nights and it was agreed that it is a good idea. The Board was in agreement and no motion was needed.

Mentoring: John, WB6FRZ said that he has a lot of equipment that he can loan to new hams in need of equipment. John also asked if there was anyone present who could assist hams with new radios in need of programming.

Becky, KE6PZV asked if the Board would like to purchase a couple of club logo polo shirts to have as raffle prizes. There was no interest shown.

Hank's Swap Shop: The Board may revisit the subject later and propose "Mountain Bob's Swap Shop".

SCRA table at Wednesday Night Market: Dave, W6IBC will discuss the increase in fee (\$30) with John, KI6CAU.

8:36pm John, KE5RI made a motion to adjourn the meeting.



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#### CONTEST CORNER

by Kevin Alt, K6BSG

Hello contesters. No major contests this month, but lots of interesting QSO parties and other HF contests to try out. Happy DX'ing!

- 2 Aug **European HF Championship** Phone/CW, 160-10 meters. See: <u>lea.hamradio.si/~scc/euhfc.html</u>.
- 2-3 Aug Nat'l Lighthouse-Lightship Wkend all modes, 160-10 meters. See: arlhs.com.
- 2-3 Aug **10-10 Summer Phone QSO Party** Phone, 10 meters. See: www.ten-ten.org.
- 2-3 Aug **ARRL UHF Contest**, all modes, 220 MHz and above. See: <u>arrl.org/contest</u>.
- 2-3 Aug North American QSO Party CW, 160-10 meters. See: nciweb.com.
- 2-4 Aug **TARA Grid Dip Contest**, digital modes, 160-6 meters. See: <a href="www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara\_grid\_rules.html">www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara\_grid\_rules.html</a>.
- 3 Aug **SARL HF DX Contest** Phone, 80-20 meters.

See: www.sarl.org.za.

- 9-10 Aug **Worked All Europe** CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.waedc.de.
- 9-10 Aug **Maryland-DC QSO Party**, all modes, 160 meters 70 cm. See: www.w3cwc.org/funcontest.htm.
- 16 Aug **Silent Key Memorial Sprint** CW, 160-10 meters. See: <u>grparci.org</u>.
- 16-17 Aug 10G+ ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest all modes. See: arrl.org/contest.
- 16-17 Aug SARTG WW RTTY Contest 80-10 meters.

See: www.sartg.com.

16-17 Aug - **Keymen's Club of Japan Contest** – CW, 160-6 meters. See: www.jarl.com/kcj.

16-17 Aug - Russian District Award Contest - Phone/CW,

160-10 meters. See: rdaward.org/rdac.

16-17 Aug - **North American QSO Party** – Phone, 160-10 meters. See: ncjweb.com.

16-18 Aug - **New Jersey QSO Party** – Phone/CW, 160-2 meters. See: <a href="http://www.qsl.net/w2rj">http://www.qsl.net/w2rj</a>.

23-24 Aug - **Hawaii QSO Party** – all modes, 160-10 meters.

See: www.karc.us/hi qso party.html.

23-24 Aug - **Ohio QSO Party** – Phone/CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.oqp.us.

30-31~Aug - YO DX Contest – Phone/CW, 80-10 meters.

See: www.radioamator.ro.

30-31 Aug - **ALARA Contest** – Phone/CW, 80-10 meters.

See: <u>alara.org.au</u>.

30-31 Aug - SCC RTTY Championship – 80-10 meters.

See: lea.hamradio.si/~scc/rtty.html.

#### 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.

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Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.  Membership Application						
Please Print Clearly		N	lew[] Renewal[]			
Name	Call Sign _	License Class	Date			
Address		H Phone W Pho	one			
City/State	Zip .	E-Mail				
ARRL Member? Yes [ ] No [ ] Receive Short Skip Newsletter by E-mail: Yes_ No						
Dues & Fees: (SCRA dues year	is 3/1/05 to 2/28/06)	Payment Calculations: N	Nake checks payable to SCRA			
Individual / Associate Member Family Membership Under 18 Membership Badge		Dues - Full Year Dues - ProratedQts.x \$/qt Badge Other -	\$ r \$ \$ \$			
Badge Information		Donation	\$			
Call Sign First Name City		Total  Mail to: SCRA, P.O. Box 116, Santa Ro	\$ osa, 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

night)

**June 4:** Field Day Preparations, Brian N6IIY and Emcomm aspects of Field Day Rich KF6SZA

#### July 2: DXpeditions and DXing, Brian N6IIY

**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 N6IIY (Club elections

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

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

**Return Service Requested** 

#### **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 N6IIY)

## <u>August 16-17: PCAM Wings over Wine Country</u> (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