



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>



REPEATER STATION
W6SON

VOLUME 34 NUMBER 5

MAY 2009



COPE & CERTS

by Dave Santori, KF6CLG
SCRA President

COPE AND CERTS are different organizations but are basically the same type of programs.

Both have Ham radio operators and Emergency Services programs tied together assisting the community they live in and or communities that adjoin. Both of these Organizations come into play when some type of emergency occurs. As you can see the below information comes directly from their information program. Come join us to learn more information about these organizations at our May meeting.

The City of Santa Rosa is implementing COPE – Citizens Organized to Prepare for Emergencies, an emergency preparedness program for the Santa Rosa community. The community has been divided into 10 pre-designated geographic districts. Each district would have to collect and organize disaster-related information and transfer it to the City's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) during a disaster or large emergency. The City of Santa Rosa needs a workable plan to provide those communication links between the 10 geographic community groups and the City's main EOC.

Sonoma County's Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) is the primary volunteer service that augments public safety communications for all local government jurisdictions and has been formally accepted as the principal method of auxiliary emergency communications provided to the local municipal govern-

ments, including the City of Santa Rosa. The City of Santa Rosa asked the Sonoma County Auxiliary Communication Service (ACS) to work with other volunteer radio groups in the Santa Rosa community, to plan and provide for a communications link between the 10 geographic community groups and the City's main EOC.

Enough of my rambling. Come to the meeting and find out from those "in the know" about Cert and Cope.

Thank You,
Dave, KF6CLG
SCRA President

CDS Enterprises CDS Wireless Inc.
Highspeed Internet --- Commercial Voice Mail --- DISH TV
Steven Carniglia
President
725 Farmers Lane #17
Santa Rosa, CA. 95405
707.573.3500 888.593.7348
Fax: 707.573.3516
steve@cds1.net
www.cds1.net

May 2009 Meeting Program

Please join us at the next SCRA meeting for a presentation on "Local Emergency Response Teams and Training - COPE & CERTS".

2009 Club Officers

President	Dave Santori	KF6CLG	585-1873
Vice President	John Chavez	KG6PEP	
Secretary	Becky Pippin	KE6PZV	
Treasurer	Pat Coyle	KG6JSL	
Director	Mike Von der Porten	AD6YB	
Director	Darryl Paule	KI6MSP	
Past President	Dave Harrison	W6IBC	

Committee Lineup / Contacts

Membership	John Guaraglia	KI6CAU	
Program	Becky Pippin	KE6PZV	
EmComm	Rich Freitas	KF6SZA	
Field Day	Brian Torr	N6IY	707-575-5871
Activity	Dave Santori	KF6CLG	707-585-1873
Public Service	Craig Gaevert	K6XLT	707-545-4133
Mentoring	John Breckenridge	WB6FRZ	707-217-1017
Repeater	John Felton	KE5RI	
Volunteer Exam			
Liaison	Brian Torr	N6IY	707-575-5871
Antenna Ordinance-Legal	Lee Dibble	KE6EAQ	707 544-1675
Public Relations	Bill McCall	W6WDM	707 538-2844
Public Relations	Jeff Basham	KK6JAB	707-291-7355
Refreshments	Jim Draeger	KI6REK	
ARRL DXCC/WAS Manager	Chuck Ternes	N6OJ	707 763-2528
Club Raffle	Bob McQuilkin	WB6TGI	
Member Badges	Ken Rawles	N6PWV	

Short Skip & Web Staff

Editor	Dale Green	AF6OE	707 566-1989
Webmaster	Bob Arthur	KG6ZDN	

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

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

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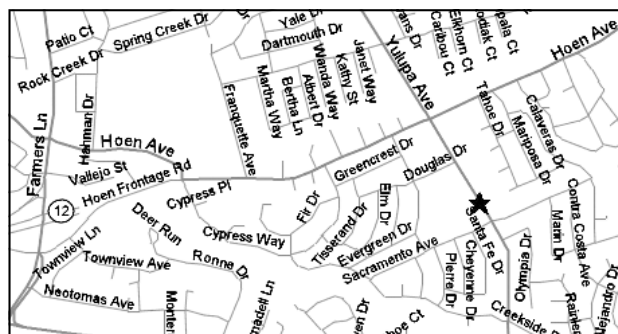
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**SCRA Club Meetings**

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

Next meeting is 7:00 PM Wednesday, May 5th 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.

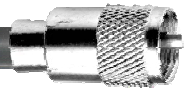
Hungry before the meeting?

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/>



Field Day 2009: June 26, 27, 28

By the time you read this, Field Day will be about seven weeks away! We will be at the Youth Community Park, 1725 Fulton Rd, in Santa Rosa (across the street from Piner High School). This and the Wings Over Wine Country Air Show are the two best opportunities SCRA has to demonstrate amateur radio to the public, so we want to make a good showing. We had a wonderful Field Day last year at the Youth Community Park and I am sure we will do so again this year.

Plans are shaping up, but we still need to tie up a few loose ends. We will be operating as a "2A" classification, meaning that we will have two HF transmitters. One of these will be on SSB and the other on CW. We need a station captain and radio for the CW station, so if you can help us with this, please let me know. Bob, WB6TGI, will be the SSB station captain, and the SSB station will be in John, KE5RI's motor home. The CW station will again be in the SCRA communication van (the "Toaster").

We will also have a Get-On-The-Air, or GOTA, station. I encourage all of our recently-licensed hams and even those old-timers that have not had an opportunity to get on the HF bands in the last year to give the GOTA station a try. It will be operating on SSB and possibly PSK-31. We will need control operators (General or higher) to allow the unlicensed and under-licensed hams the ability to work HF. We get extra points if there is always a mentor at the GOTA station.

There is also room for a VHF/UHF station. If you have a VHF and/or UHF rig that can operate FM, CW, and SSB, please bring it along.

Pat Coyle, KG6JSL, will be coordinating the dinner Saturday night and Dave Harrison, W6IBC, will be making breakfast Sunday morning. A donation of \$10 gets you both dinner Saturday night and breakfast Sunday

morning.

We will also be having an Educational Activity. The exact time and content of this activity has not yet been determined, so watch for announcements on the SCRA website and your e-mail for further details.

We need your help !

First of all, I would like to hear from anyone who is hoping to participate in any way in Field Day this year. Even if you might only be there to observe for an hour or two to help logging, cooking, or whatever, please call me or send me an e-mail.

Specific areas where we need help are:

1. Radios CW and VHF/UHF stations
2. Station captains for the CW, GOTA, and UHF/VHF stations
3. Control operators for the GOTA station.
4. Laptop computers to use for logging.
5. Easy-to-use Windows-based logging programs. In the past we have used CT and CT-Win for logging, but I would like to move to an easier to learn logging program. If you have a suggestion, please let me know.
6. Coax cable and UHF(f) to UHF(f) adapters. It's a real bummer when the station and antenna are separated by 120' and you only have 100' of coax!
7. "Tour Guides" to help show visitors around our Field Day site and explain what we are up to

We will begin setup around 4pm on Friday, June 26. We will try to get most of the antennas set up before sundown. Setup will continue Saturday morning, June 27. The event starts at 11:00am and runs until 11:00am Sunday morning, June 28. We will immediately start tearing down at 11:00am Sunday and should be leaving the park by 3:00pm.

Hope to see you all there!

Brian Torr, N6IY
Tel: (707) 575-5871
n6iyy@arrl.net



ANAHEIM, CA

(Near Disneyland)
933 N. Euclid St., 92801
(714) 533-7373
(800) 854-6046
Janet, KL7MF, Mgr.
anaheim@hamradio.com

BURBANK, CA

1525 W. Magnolia Blvd., 91506
(818) 842-1786
(800) 854-6046
Eric, K6EJC, 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
oakland@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
Dan, K6DN, 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

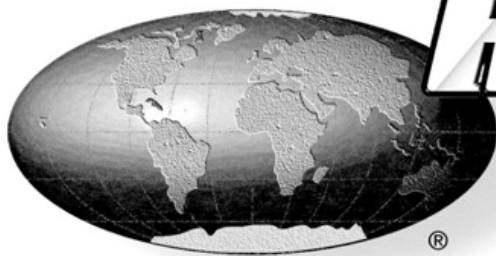
6071 Buford Hwy., 30340
(770) 263-0700
(800) 444-7927
Mark, KJ4VO, Mgr.
Doraville, 1 mi. no. of I-285
atlanta@hamradio.com

WOODBRIIDGE, 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
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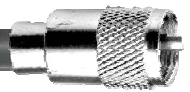
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Public Service Roundup

March's Lake Sonoma 50 happened just a little too late for last month's newsletter, but here we bring Dave's (W6IBC) report:

Lake Sonoma 50 Another Success for SCRA

For the second running, the weather cooperated for the Lake Sonoma 50 Mile Footrace, held at Lake Sonoma on March 28, 2009. Ham radio again played an essential role for this event ensuring that help would be coming if needed. Volunteer operators staffed net control as well as five aid stations located along the 26 mile footpath around the west reach of Lake Sonoma. Some 126 runners began the race at about 6:40 am, and the first runner crossed the finish line some seven plus hours later. We used the club's comm. van, "The Toaster" as the net control anchor point at the start-finish line.

Many thanks to the following SCRA members for participating: Pat KG6JSL, Dave KF6CLG, Craig K6XLT (Net control), Jim K6HKY (Island View) (Jim hiked in over two miles over very hilly terrain to reach his aid station)), Dave KF6CLG and Marcella KI6MJC (Rancheria), Kevin K6BSG and Jack K6ROW (Wulfow); Darryl KI6MSP and Brian N6IYY (Liberty Glen); and, Fred KQ6OB (Rockpile).

In addition, a new ham, Greg Carter KI6UKG, the event's logistics director, borrowed a hand-held and a mag-mount antenna for his logistics vehicle and we were able to communicate directly with logistics throughout the race. This was a very welcome addition, and aided our performance at the event. A great day was had by all.

73, Dave W6IBC
Event Coordinator

Great job guys! But wait there's more! This past weekend once again we supported the Annual MS Walk. NC duties were handled by Darryl KI6MSP while Denise KI6REP and Greg KI6TID staffed the rest stops. Fortunately the weather turned out better than it was forecast earlier in the week.



Fred, KQ6OB and Greg KI6UKG at the Rockpile location during the Lake Sonoma 50 Mile Footrace on March 28.
Photo courtesy of Dave, W6IBC

This coming weekend will see the WCC and maybe some rain. We'll have about 20 hams on the event and we'll give you the report next month. Also following next weekend, May 9, is the Human Race. That makes for 3 events in a row. Proof that public service is getting a little too successful, I've been asked if we can provide hams for a mountain bike race on May 16. For now, we are not going to support this event but I'm putting the word out in case there are those that would like to. If you're interested let me know and I will put you in touch with the person in charge.

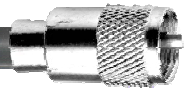
May 31 we will be out for the Spring Hill Road Race. Pat Coyle is heading this one up and this year we plan to make extensive use of APRS. Pat's putting a lot of effort into setting this event up and at this time still needs just a few folks to round out the event.

Finally, the Terrible Two happens on June 20. I've had a few hams reserve some spots but if you're interested we'll find a spot. I can use 2 hams for the lunch stop and there's a few other rest stops as well. SAGs are always welcome.

A long report, but it is great to see the scale of public service events this club supports. Thanks to all of you that turn out for the events and give so much of your time.

Craig Gaevert, K6XLT
Public Service Wrangler





Red Cross Shelter Frequency Test

Below is a letter from John Lemmer, W6FQX in response to the assistance from Sonoma County ARES in the Red Cross Shelter Frequency Test on April 18, 2009:

To the Sonoma County ARES,

I want to thank all of you for your assistance at the Red Cross exercise on April 18. I hope that you got out of it as much as I did. I find that I always learn something that helps out the next time. I heard a few comments on the air after the exercise that indicates that some of you feel the same way.

The only one that I recognized on the air was KI6HTB Randi Francis who was with Rich at the Occidental Community Center building. If any others of you had a RC member as an assistant or even just an observer, I would appreciate it if you would email back to me that information.

Thanks again for participating. Now I have to make sense out of all the reports and formulate a plan to enable communications from shelters when that becomes necessary. Of course, plans can change when faced with reality but this is a good start.

73,

John Lemmer, W6FQX
Communications Lead
American Red Cross Sonoma and Mendocino Counties Chapter

Thank you to all who participated in the exercise: N6LAV, KI6REJ, KI6TEZ, WB6FRZ, KI6UKG, WD6DPE, K6HKY, KE5RI, N6IY, KI6MSP, KI6HTB, AF6OE, KI6HTV, KQ6OB.

The weekly ARES net for the Greater Santa Rosa Area meets on Mondays at 7:30 PM on 147.315 MHz, + offset, 88.5 PL. All ARES members and guests are invited to check-in. Please join us.

ARRL Continuing Education Online Course Registration

Registration remains open through Sunday, May 3, 2009 for these online course sessions that begin on Friday, May 15, 2009: Antenna Modeling and Radio Frequency Propagation.

Each online course has been developed in segments -- learning units with objectives, informative text, student activities and quizzes. Courses are interactive, and some include direct communications with a Mentor/Instructor. Students register for a particular session that may be 8, 12 or 16 weeks (depending on the course) and they may access the course at any time of day during the course period, completing lessons and activities at times convenient for their personal schedule. Mentors assist students by answering questions, reviewing assignments and activities, as well as providing helpful feedback. Interaction with mentors is conducted through e-mail; there is no appointed time the student must be present -- allowing complete flexibility for the student to work when and where it is convenient.

For more information or to register for any of these courses, visit the Continuing Education Program page or contact the Continuing Education Program Coordinator.

QRZ Trivia

1. What famous amateur radio manufacturing company is credited with starting REACT organization?

- A. Collins
- B. Drake
- C. Motorola
- D. Hallicrafters

2. What vital maneuver would an early type of navy submarine have to do in order to establish radio communication?

- A. Blow the torpedo tubes.
- B. Rise to the surface of the water or sea.
- C. Up the periscope.
- D. Open the conning tower hatch.

Answers to QRZ Trivia at bottom of page 9





SCRA Meeting Minutes April 1, 2009

The Meeting was called to order by President, Dave Santori, KF6CLG at 7:05pm. A quorum was present. There was an introduction of Board members, Chairpersons and those present.

March meeting minutes approval: Dave, W6IBC moved that the minutes be accepted as published in Short Skip. All in favor, motion carried.

Program: Presentation and demonstration of the Internet Radio Linking Project (IRLP) by Jeff Basham KK6JAB.

Break 8:15

Business Meeting called to order by President, Dave Santori, KF6CLG at 8:30pm.

Treasurer's Report: Pat, KG6JSL presented the monthly report including account balances. No outstanding club debts at this time.

Repeater Report: John, KE5RI asked club membership for feedback regarding repeater automatic voice announcement for the weekly SCRA service net. Also discussed possible announcement for Monday evening ARES service net if first discussed at the SCRA Board meeting.

Mentoring Report: John, WB6FRZ reported that there are members scheduled to attend the General Class License Course and members scheduled to attend the Extra Class License Course. Members are invited to join in the weekly Morse code practice held after the SCRA service net on Tuesday evenings at 8:00 pm. There is an assembly class scheduled and has almost reached maximum number of participants. There will also be a Technician Class license course scheduled after ARRL Field Day on July 18-19 and is posted on the SCRA website.

Membership Chairman Report: Mike, AD6YB and Darryl, KI6MSP encouraged membership to support club members participating in the Human Race. They are putting together a team and have set a goal of raising money for SCRA. Pledge sheets were made available to members.

ARES/Emcom report: Rich, KF6SZA announced the American Red Cross shelter test on April 18th and asked for operators to help staff event. Reminded the membership that Emcomm West/Pacificon is coming up May 1-3 and all are encouraged to attend. Reminded membership of weekly Monday evening ARES service net at 7:30pm.

Public Service: Craig, K6XLT has asked for the membership to support the upcoming public service events including the MS Walk, the Wine Country Century, the Human Race, Spring Hill Road Race, and the Terrible Two. Sign up sheets for each event were available.

Field Day Chairman: Brian, N6IIY encouraged membership to participate in Radio Field Day and asked for membership to support the event by serving as station captains. Help is also needed in staffing the four radio operating positions and with chefs' duties. Set up will be on Friday June 26 at 4:00 pm and tear down will be on Sunday June 28 at 11:00 am.

Announced club is planning for upcoming events: Red Oak Victory outing, Visit to the Pengrove Power and Implement Museum, Fox hunt and SCRA Club Picnic, and the Pacific Coast Air Museum Air Show.

Upcoming membership meeting topics: May 6, 2009 Local Emergency Response Teams and Training--- CERT, COPE. June 3, 2009 ARRL Field Day Preparations presented by Brian N6IIY SCRA 2009 Field Day Chairman. July 1, 2009 Amateur Radio Equipment Night---The latest offerings from the Ham Radio Commercial Suppliers. August 12, 2009 (Note Second Wed in August) Annual Homebrew and Boat anchor Night.

Dave, KF6CLG informed the membership: The SCRA club membership roster is not yet ready for print. Dave, KF6CLG is working to complete this as soon as possible. The memorandum of understanding (MOU) between SCRA and Calsites has been signed.

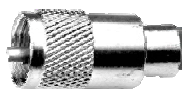
New business: Pat, KG6SLJ has offered to coordinate a bulk order purchase of Arrow Antenna's J-pole antenna for SCRA members at a discounted price. Interested members had the opportunity to arrange this purchase thru KG6SLJ.

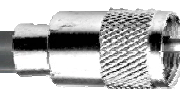
The membership was informed that the tires on the SCRA Club communications van (The Toaster) are date stamped 1983 and should be replaced. W6IBC moved that the membership approve replacement of the tires at a cost not to exceed \$700. Seconded by Jack, K6ROW. All in favor, motion carried.

Sign up for SCRA service net control operators taken and the raffle drawing was held.

Final announcement for club equipment offered for sale to membership at a discounted price before being offered for sale to the general public.

Moved that the meeting adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm.





SCRA General Class is Complete



Congratulations to all ten General Class students who successfully completed 30 hours of classroom instruction and considerable homework over an 11-week period between February 13th and April 24th. The picture above shows most of those in the Class; "Mountain Bob," WB6TGI has had his General license for some time now; he graciously attended for moral support.

Not all students have taken the exam yet but as of April 27th five have earned their General class licenses. But I hasten to add that everyone who completed the class is a winner and all deserve recognition for the work they have done. The General class material is very technical and covers a wide variety of topics. These students have taken the time to learn these concepts, not to just memorize answers to pass an exam. For that effort I salute them all and thank them for helping me to freshen my memory of the many questions covered on the General Class exam. I also wish to thank guest instructors Dave Harrison, W6IBC, Mike Dobbins, KI6RKP, and Tom Boag, AF6TB, for the time and effort they gave to help instruct the class. I also want to thank Rodger Doncaster of the American Red Cross for allowing us to meet in their wonderful facility to hold classes.

John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ
Mentor Chairman

MEMBER BADGES

The following badges will be available at the SCRA Meeting along with several OLD ordered badges that still need to be picked up.

NEW orders:

1.WA6TIP	CURT	SEBASTOPOL
2.KG6JSL	PAT	SANTA ROSA
3.KI6TII	SARAJ	SANTA ROSA
4.KF6CLG	DAVE	ROHNERT PARK
5.KE5RI	JOHN	SANTA ROSA
6. K6JRG	JIM	SEBASTOPOL

Please see Me during the break or before or after the meeting.

73s

Ken, N6PWV

Refreshments Chairman Position Filled

The refreshments being offered will be somewhat different than what they have been in the past. I would like to get away from all the store bought stuff. My wife Sue loves to bake pastries and deserts, or anything with chocolate. So for the next few meetings she will be making the treats that will be at the meetings. There have been other SCRA members who have also expressed interest in bringing baked goods to share as well. There will also be fruit and other healthy choices. I would like to pare down the amount of stuff that I need to schlep back and forth to the meetings, so I have decided to discontinue bringing the ice chest full of soda. I hope that is not going to be a problem for anyone.

Jim Draeger, KI6REK
(707) 576-1058
jim@draegerdesigns.com



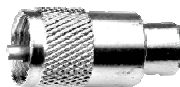
Toll Free (Orders Only) 1-800-4-HALTED (1-800-442-5833)

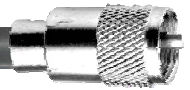
World Wide Web: <http://www.halted.com>

3500 Ryder St.
Santa Clara, CA 95051 408-732-1573

4837 Amber Ln.
Sacramento, CA 95841 916-338-2545

5681 Redwood Dr.
Rohnert Park, CA 94928 707-585-7344





SCRA BoD Meeting Minutes for April 2009

Board members present: Dave, KF6CLG – Pat, KG6JSL – Becky, KE6PZV – Dave, W6IBC – Mike, AD6YB – John, KG6PEP

Guests present: Bob, WB6TGI – John, WB6FRZ – John, KE5RI – Brian, N6IYY

6:35pm – Meeting called to order by President, Dave Santori, KF6CLG.

Dave, W6IBC moved that the meeting minutes from March be accepted as published in the Short Skip. All were in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

\$5,063 in checking and \$5,620 in savings. Pat reported that the club is behind by about \$800 in the budget. A lot of that has to do with membership dues that have not yet come in and from members who chose to pay for a whole year after March of 2008. We need to determine who those members are and when their dues are due.

LBA&GC Lease: Pat will get the new lease and will find out if the LBA&GC needs to be an additional insured on our insurance policy. Pat will forward the copy of the lease to the club secretary.

Pat will also determine if CalSites and the people in charge of PCAM need to be additional insureds on our insurance policy as well.

Pat reported that the quote for tires for the Toaster will be a savings of \$80 and he will make an appointment to have the tires changed.

Pat asked the board if they would like to purchase a J pole antenna for the Toaster. Dave, W6IBC mentioned that the club should have its own antenna system. Pat said that the antennas would cost \$40 for a single and \$50 for a double. Dave, W6IBC suggested that Brian, N6IYY borrow one of the antennas and try it out on behalf of the club. Dave, KF6CLG asked the board if the club should have its own antenna system. John, KE5RI offered to make a J pole and give it to the club. John, RI will make an antenna and Dave, CLG has the fittings for it.

Repeater Report:

John, KE5RI needs to email Adam and speak with him regarding the modem for the repeater.

NARCC: John reported that the last NARCC meeting was a "blood bath". A technical committee was put in place. The committee came up with three plans: 1) Do nothing to change the way things are right now. 2) Take the lower portion at 20 and loop to 15 (only making 16 extra channels). 3) Take sub band, lower and make a space by going to 15 KHz. NARCC will meet again in three months.

The head of the NCPA, Gary, has been fighting NARCC for the ability to consider packet a digital mode. Gary went to the FCC to make changes and was

told that D-Star is a repeater. Now, packet that repeats the same way as D-Star has to move frequencies.

Announcements on the repeater: Bob, WB6TGI mentioned that the newer, less experienced hams have a great opportunity to practice with the Wednesday night newcomer net and that it should probably be announced by voice recording on the repeater. John, KE5RI can program the repeater to announce the Wednesday night net as well as the Club meeting on the first Wednesday of every month. Rich, KF6SZA also requested that the repeater announce the Monday night ARES net. Dave, W6IBC moved that the repeater be programmed to announce the ARES net on Mondays, the New comer net on Wednesday nights and the club meeting on the first Wednesday of each month. All in favor, motion carried.

Membership Report:

Mike, AD6YB passed out the Membership chair job description. Dave, W6IBC moved that the board adopt the Membership chair job description, all were in favor, motion carried.

Dave, W6IBC requested that an email invitation be sent out to all members inviting them to renew their memberships.

Dave, KF6CLG presented the board with an updated membership roster. This roster includes those members who paid for a full year of membership after March of 2008. Pat will work with Dave to figure out when those memberships are due.

Mike, AD6YB noticed that the date on the membership application printed in the Short Skip has a printing date that is not current. Pat recognized this and stated that there needs to be one version of the membership application as, at this time, there are several.

There are also two different types of badges. One with the member's name, call sign, city and a clip. And a new version with the club and ARRL logos with the member's name, call sign city and instead of a clip, there is a magnet to affix to a shirt. The clip badge remains \$10 where the new magnetic badge is priced at \$11. Therefore, a way to determine which badge a member wants is needed on the membership application. Mike, AD6YB requested that the price for the badges be updated.

continued on page 10

Answers to QRZ Trivia

1. Correct answer is D.

Hallcrafters established the REACT organization in 1963.

2. Correct answer is B.

In early submarine useage it was necessary to surface in order to bring the radio antennas out of the water.





SCRA BOD Minutes continued from page 9

Activities:

Human Race: Mike, AD6YB will pass around a sponsor signup sheet at the next membership meeting.

ARES Drill on 4/18: Anyone interested in participating is urged to contact Rich Freitas, KF6SZA.

EMCOMM West/PACIFICON: May 1st thru 3rd.

Red Oak Victory: John, KG6PEP spoke to the radio organizer and he suggested that if we are going to send radio operators down for an event, that they go down prior to the event in order to get some training. Also, if no operators can make the event in May, that a group can go down anytime as long as notice is given. Dave, W6IBC suggested that a group of volunteers be assembled. John will write a column in the Short Skip with details and looking for volunteers to attend training session either 5/16 or 5/30.

Pengrove Power Museum: They are still looking for operators for 5/16 or 7/11.

Picnic/Fox Hunt: Should be at the end of September or the beginning of October.

PCAM: Aug. 15 & 16. Pat reported that he has the application. Pat has also been informed that due to new layout of the airport, we will not be in the same location as last year and so he will look into that along with checking into our use of a canopy or the Toaster.

Field Day: Brian, N6IY is looking for volunteer captains for the various stations. Bob, WB6TGI volunteered for 20 meters. Brian is also looking for CW captain, meals and PIO table. Dave, W6IBC will do breakfast. Pat, KG6JSL and Becky, KE6PZV will do dinner and Mike, AD6YB will do PIO. An idea for the educational activity is to build a 6' beam antenna and try out right there at Field Day. Still looking for ideas. Dave, W6IBC suggested a 2 meter tape measure antenna. Bill, KH6GJV requested that John, WB6FRZ work on preparing a project suitable for 6th & 7th graders.

Public Service:

Craig, K6XLT asked that someone organize the Human Race for him.

Spring Hill Road Race 5/31 – Pat, KG6JSL will organize the event. Pat needs mobile rigs for APRS (8 or 9). There are extra APRS sets, if needed. Pat, Dave & Ed will drive the course prior to the race to check reception.

VE:

The next VE session is 5/16. The next possible dates after that are: 7/25 or 8/1. When the dates are finalized, Brian will post them in the Short Skip and on the website.

Next Membership Meeting Program:

CERT/COPE

Dave, KF6CLG will write an article for the Short Skip
John, WB6FRZ says that Tom Boag is on the board of directors for Sebastopol CERT and may be a source if there are any unanswered questions.

Web Page:

Dave, W6IBC will contact web master, Bob ZDN for completion of web page tasks to be completed and to arrange times that both can perform webpage duties without conflicts.

Dave will update the announcements and clean up the front page.

New Refreshments Chairperson:

Dave, W6IBC moved that Jim, KI6REK be appointed as the new refreshments chair. All present were in favor, motion carried.

New Business:

Tom Boag inquired about the availability of the club's projector as he would like to know if it is possible for it to be rented to him for use at another outside club activity. It was the board's consensus not to rent out club property for use outside of amateur radio.

Net Control Operators:

4/14 = Brian, N6IY 4/21 = Craig, K6XLT 4/28 = Darryl, KI6MSP 5/5 = Dave, W6IBC

Left over radio equipment:

Dave, W6IBC reported the items sold from the Parnay Estate gift:

Heathkit Generator sold to Jim, K6HKY for \$15.00

HF L-Tuner sold to Bob, WA6NIV for \$20.00

J38 key sold to Lorenzo, N6LAV for \$10.00

Vibroplex Bug sold to Jim, K6HKY for \$15.00

13VDC 6A Power Supply went to Darryl,

KI6MSP for \$15.00 (not paid yet)

TS-830S went to Saraj, KI6TII for \$190.00 (not paid yet)

Realistic DX150 went to Saraj, KI6TII for \$30.00 (not paid yet)

Remaining items to be sent to VOMARC flea market with John, WB6FRZ:

FLDX2000 for \$50 obo

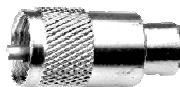
Heathkit Phone Patch \$20 obo

D104 Mic \$20 obo

John, WB6FRZ will be taking other items to the VOMARC flea market for sale and will have a table already. Dave, W6IBC moved that the board provide John with \$5.00 (half of the table fee) in order to sell the left over equipment for SCRA. All in favor, motion carried.

Adjournment:

Pat, KG6JSL moved that the meeting adjourn. All in favor, meeting adjourned at 8:00pm





Call for Radio Assembly Class Students

We will be assembling (soldering), testing and tuning a broadcast AM/FM receiver in this course. We meet from 6:00 PM until 8:30PM on the following Fridays:

July 10, 17, 24, 31

August 14, 21, 28

September 4, 11, 18

The location is: Santa Rosa Red Cross Building, 5297 Aero Drive (off of Airport Blvd. East of freeway)

8 are signed up for this class as of April 27th; there are 8 more spaces available. With 8 complete radio kits, there would be teams of 2 persons per radio. Cost of the class is \$12 per team (\$12 per radio kit).

To join the class contact John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ, via email at: wb6frz@arrl.net or by phone at 707-217-1017.

Instructors will be Jeff Tonelli, KI6PBF and myself, John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ. There is room for more instructors! Please contact me if you are interested in instructing also!

John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ
Mentor Chairman

Red Oak Victory Amateur Radio Club (ROVARC) Visit

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs members have been invited by the Red Oak Victory Amateur Radio Club (ROVARC) to visit and operate from the museum ship SS Red Oak Victory in Richmond California on the special event weekend remembering the Normandy Invasion (D-Day) sixty five years ago. The Museum Ships Weekend special event is going to be held on Saturday June 6th, 2009 on-board the Red Oak Victory.

ROVARC has asked all interested amateurs who would like to participate to first come and visit the Red Oak Victory to learn about its many years of service and to also learn about ROVARC's operating procedures. It is likely that amateurs operating from the SS Red Oak Victory will be asked questions about the ship and its history of service to our country.

If we have radio operators who would like to participate in this event, we would like to schedule a group visit on Saturday May 30th so that we learn the history and represent the museum well.

If you'd like to learn more about the SS Red Oak Victory ship or the Red Oak Victory Amateur Radio Club visit, their web sites at <http://www.ssredoakvictory.com> and <http://www.qsl.net/redoakarc>.

Next VE Session: Saturday, May 16, 2009

If you've been studying for a new license or upgrade, your next opportunity to take your test is coming up on Saturday, May 16. SCRA will be hosting VE exams on May 16, from 9am until noon, at the Blood Bank of the Redwoods, 2324 Bethards Dr. in Santa Rosa. All test elements will be administered. Please arrive by 9:15am to be signed in. Testing will begin shortly thereafter.

The next SCRA-sponsored exam session is scheduled for either July 25 or August 1, 2009.

Directions: From Hwy 101, take Hwy 12 east toward Sonoma. Turn right onto Farmers Lane. Turn left onto Bennet Valley Road. Turn left on Bethards Drive. Please park on the street (parking lot is for blood donors).

Candidates should bring the following:

- One (1) photo ID or two (2) non-photo ID
- Social Security Number (if not currently licensed) or FCC Registration Number (FRN, if licensed)
- Original and photocopy of your current amateur radio license (if licensed)
- Original and photocopy of any valid CSCEs (if applicable)
- #2 Pencil and eraser
- \$15.00 exam fee. Checks may be made payable to "ARRL-VEC"

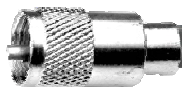
Calculators may be used, but it must be demonstrated that all memories and programs have been erased. The calculator function in a cell phone or PDA may not be used! If you have any special needs, please contact Brian Torr, N6IYY in advance.

Good Luck!

Brian Torr, N6IYY
n6iyy@arrl.net
(707) 575-5871



Pat KG6JSL at Net Control for the Lake Sonoma 50 Mile Footrace on March 28.
Photo courtesy of Dave, W6IBC





Darryl KI6MSP at the Liberty Glen location for the Lake Sonoma 50 Mile Footrace on March 28.

Photo courtesy of Dave, W6IBC

Join Us to Operate at the Power & Implement Museum

Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 11th to operate Amateur Radio from the Penngrove Power & Implement Museum during their "Power-Up" event. This is a working museum that features running Engines and contraptions of all types including one of the original engines from Howard Hughes' "Spruce Goose!" In donating the rather large generator to the museum the club has been urged by museum owners and operators to use our radios during one or more of their "Power-Up" events to make contacts using the donated generator. My hope is that we can operate older, tube-type equipment during the event to be more in vogue with the antique character of the contraptions on dynamic, operating display at the museum. The event officially runs from 10 AM until about 4 PM, but I will be setting up the station and antennas at 7 AM, and not all operators need to stay during the entire event. I don't know how successful phone modes will be with the loud background noise of engines running but we have chosen a location where we believe the noise will be at a minimum. So we're going to try voice, CW, and possibly digital modes. It won't hurt to have some modern equipment at the event along with some older radios.... In any event operators holding any class of license will be given chances to operate. We may, however, all be wearing headphones! We shall see.

I know July 11th seems far away and there are plenty of events before this one. But the day will be upon us before we know it and it's not too early to scratch the

date in your calendar!

So what I need at this time are the following:

Names of club members willing to operate, and times they can participate
Names of those willing to help set up
Names of those with a list of radio equipment they can bring—especially if there are tubes in them!

Contact me at wb6frz@arrl.net or by landline at 707 217 1017

John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ
Mentor Chairman

Contest Corner continued from page 13

23 May – Bill Windle QSO Party – CW, 160-2 meters.

Contact: kz5d@aol.com.

25-26 May – MI QRP Memorial Day CW Sprint – CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.miqrp.org.

30-31 May – CQ WW WPX Contest – CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.cqwpw.com.

30-31 May – EU EME Contest – Phone/CW, 1.2 GHz. See: www.dubus.org.

30-31 May – Kids Roundup – Phone, 80 meters – 70 cm. See: kidsroundupcontest.w3vpr.org.

30-31 May – QRP ARCI Hootowl Sprint – CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.qrparci.org.

HUMAN RACE

The Human Race is an opportunity to assist your radio club in an annual fund raising event.

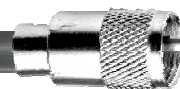
I'm asking for volunteers to walk with myself, John WB6FRZ, and Mike A6YOD.

We will be a team to get pledges from friends, family, and co-workers to raise money for SCRA. Last Year I raised about \$300.00 for the club by walking the 3K course.

Please join me in putting together a team and to set a goal of raising money for the club
You can contact me via email, or phone.

73

Darryl
KI6MSP
Dmp4102001@yahoo.com
707 544-8874



CONTEST CORNER by Kevin Alt, K6BSG

Hello testers. Almost time for Field Day, so start making preparations now. CQ world wide CW contest is scheduled for the last weekend of the month. Otherwise several state QSO parties, including Nevada, two EME contests, and the Armed Forces Communications Contest. Happy DX'ing!

2 May – **Microwave Spring Sprint** – all modes, 902 MHz and above. See: www.sysadnet.com/vhfsprintrules.htm.

2-3 May – **EU EME Contest** – Phone/CW, 2.3 and 3.4 GHz. See: www.dubus.org.

2-3 May – **MARAC CW and SSB Contests** – Phone/CW, 80 meters – 70 cm. See: www.countyhunter.com.

2-3 May – **10-10 Spring CW & Digital Contests** – CW/Digital, 10 meters. See: www.ten-ten.org.

2-3 May – **7th Area QSO Party** – all modes, 160-2 meters. See: www.7qp.org.

2-3 May – **Portuguese Navy Day** – all modes, 80-10 meters. See: www.nra.pt.

2-3 May – **Indiana QSO Party** – Phone/CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.hdxcc.org/inqp.

2-3 May – **Radio Club of America QSO Party** – Phone, 80-15 meters. See: www.radio-club-of-america.

2-3 May – **ARI International DX Contest** – all modes, 160-10 meters. See: www.qsl.net/contest_ari.

2-3 May – **New England QSO Party** – all modes, 80-10 meters. See: www.negp.org.

2-3 May – **2GHz and Up World Wide Contest** – all

modes, 2.4 GHz and up. See: www.ham-radio.com/sbms.

9-10 May – **Armed Forces Comm'ns Test** – Phone/Digital, 160-10 meters. See: www.netcom.army.mil/mars.

9-10 May – **CQ-M International DX Contest** – Phone/CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.cq-m.andys.ru.

9-10 May – **Alessandro Volta RTTY DX Contest** – RTTY, 80-10 meters. See: www.contestvolta.com.

9-10 May – **FISTS Spring Sprint** – CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.fists.org/sprints.html.

9-10 May – **Nevada QSO Party** – all modes, 160-6 meters. See: nv.arrl.org/NQP.

9-10 May – **50 MHz Spring Sprint** – all modes, 6 meters. See: www.sysadnet.com/vhfsprintrules.htm.

16-17 May – **EU PSK DX Contest** – PSK, 80-10 meters. See: www.eu.srars.org.

16-17 May – **All America Contest** – CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.powerline.com.br/cwif/eng4.htm.

16-17 May – **His Majesty King of Spain Contest** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.ure.es.

16-17 May – **Baltic Contest** – Phone/CW, 80 meters. See: <http://www.lrsf.it/bcontest/english/rules.html.htm>.

17 May – **Worked All Britain** – LF Phone, Phone, 160-40 meters. See: www.worked-all-britain.co.uk.

continued on page 12

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 af6oe@arrl.net.

fo

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. Membership Application

Please Print Clearly

New ☐ Renewal ☐

Name _____ Call Sign _____ License Class _____ Date _____

Address _____ H Phone _____ W Phone _____

City/State _____ Zip _____ E-Mail _____

ARRL Member? Yes ☐ No ☐

Receive Short Skip Newsletter by E-mail: Yes ☐ No ☐

Dues & Fees: March 1 - February 28

Individual / Associate Member	\$24 (\$6.00/qtr)
Family Membership	\$36 (\$9.00/qtr)
Under 18 Membership	\$18 (\$3.00/qtr)
Badge	\$10

Badge Information

Call Sign _____

First Name _____

City _____

Payment Calculations: Make checks payable to SCRA

Dues - Full Year \$ _____

Dues - _____

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

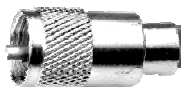
Badge \$ _____

Other - _____ \$ _____

Donation \$ _____

Total \$ _____

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



Tentative Programs for 2009:

January 7: Basic APRS by Pat Coyle KG6JSL

February 4: Amateur Radio Operating Procedures---Required, Preferred, Customary---With emphasis on public service communications. Presented by John WB6FRZ Mentoring Chairman and Craig K6XLT Public Service Chairman

March 4: Cross Band Repeating and Repeaters---Methods and Issues Presented by Darryl KI6MSP SCRA Board Member at Large

April 1: Internet Radio Linking Project (IRLP) What it is, How it works, and how you can use it. Presented by Jeff KK6JAB IRLP Node Manager for KF6SZA Repeater

May 6: Local Emergency Response Teams and Training---CERT, COPE

June 3: ARRL Field Day Preparations. Presented by Brian N6IYY SCRA 2009 Field Day Chairman

July 1: Amateur Radio Equipment Night---The latest offerings from the Ham Radio Commercial Suppliers

August 12: (Note Second Wed in August) Annual Homebrew and Boatanchor Night

December --Annual Club Holiday Party

Club Activities:

February 15: (Sunday) TOUR OF CALIFORNIA

March 28: LAKE SONOMA 50

April 26: MS Walk.

May 1-3: EMCOM West & PACIFICON

May 2: Wine Country Century bicycle tour.

May 9: The Human Race, Sonoma County Volunteer Center.

June 6: Visit to the Red Oak Victory Ship in Richmond, CA

June 20: Terrible Two 200 mile bicycle tour.

June 27-28: Field Day

July 11: Visit to and operate Amateur Radios from the Penngrove Power and Implement Museum in Penngrove, CA

August 15-16: Pacific Coast Air Museum's Wings over the Wine Country

September 12-13: (Saturday-Sunday) MS Society Waves to Wine.

October 16-18: Jamboree On The Air (JOTA)

To Be Announced:

Club Picnic and Fox Hunt (Date TBA)

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

Return Service Requested