

Short Skip

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.

P.O. Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402-0116 707-579-9608 http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com



W6SON

CLUB STATION W6LFJ

VOLUME 34 NUMBER 9

September SCRA Update

by Pat Coyle, KG6JSL SCRA Treasurer



It has been an active summer for the club, and in August we once again had a display at the

Pacific Coast Air Museum Air Show. In addition to Club and ham literature, we had a 2 meter radio, a 20 meter radio and antenna as well as a communications receiver to listen to the air show frequencies. We had many visitors at the booth and a number of sign-up for the Tech classes. To top it off, the Air Show communications team could not program their radios and called on us for help. Darryl, KI6MSP, John, WB6FRZ and Brian, N6IIY came to their rescue in fine ham fashion.

Coming up this month is the Waves to Wine bicycle tour and Craig, K6XLT, can always use more volunteers. These events are an excellent way to gain radio experience as well as provide a valuable and appreciated public service. Contact Craig at k6xlt@sonic.net to volunteer or sign up at this month's meeting on September 2.

Also coming this month is the Club picnic on September 19. This is a free picnic barbeque for members and their families at Howarth Park, 630 Summerfield Road, Santa Rosa, This event is intended for members and their families to have an

enjoyable and relaxing day as well as sort of introduce our families to what we do. John, KE5RI will set up a "fox hunt" with a hidden transmitter and there are numerous activities at the park. Let Pat, KG6JSL, know at coylaw@sonic.net how many people you will have attending so he can plan for food, or sign

up at the September 2, 2009, meeting.

SEPTEMBER 2009

Coming up in October is the Gran Fondo bicycle tour sponsored by Tour de France contender Levi Lepheimer to raise money to bring the Tour de California to Santa Rosa next year. There a already over 3500 riders signed up for this and Craig, K6XLT, needs all the operators he can get. Also in October, John, KG6PEP will be honcho for the Boy Scout Jamboree on the Air on October 19 and 20. This is an international event and we provide radios and guidance to scouts to contact other scouts around the world. We will have more information on these events next month.

73. Pat KG6JSL

September Meeting Announcement:

Ham Radio Jeopardy - Join us for this always-popular contest to test your ham radio knowledge.





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 KI6MSP Director Darryl Paule **Past President** Dave Harrison W6IBC

Committee Lineup / Contacts

		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
Membership Program EmComm Field Day Activity Public Service Mentoring Repeater Volunteer Exam	John Guaraglia Becky Pippin Rich Freitas Brian Torr Dave Santori Craig Gaevert John Breckenridge John Felton	KI6CAU KE6PZV KF6SZA N6IIY KF6CLG K6XLT WB6FRZ KE5RI	707-575-5871 707-585-1873 707-545-4133 707-217-1017
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Club Raffle Member Badges	Bob McQuilkin Ken Rawles	WB6TGI N6PWV	

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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

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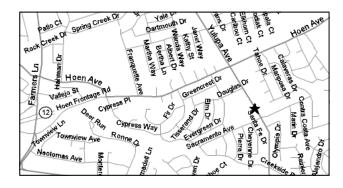


SCRA Club Meetings

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

Next meeting is 7:00 PM Wednesday, September 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 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/





Public Service Roundup

We have two remaining events this year – Waves to Wine and Levi's Gran Fondo. Waves to Wine occurs on September 12-13 this year. Saturday the event runs from SF, over the Golden Gate Bridge and along up highway 1 to finish in Rohnert Park. Sunday is a repeat of last year, running up to Lake Sonoma by way of Sebastopol and Westside Road. As usual I have openings for fixed positions at rest stops, and mobile positions as either SAGs or as personnel shadows. As last year, we will be using the Marin ARS repeater and inputs for this event.

The new event this year is Levi's Gran Fondo (LGF). Gran Fondo loosely translates as Big Ride (not what I get from the Italian to English converter but what the heck). This is a fund raising event to keep the Tour of California coming back to Santa Rosa. Lest you think this means standing out in the rain again next year, think again. The ToC event will move to May, a much better month for bike racing and field operations. LGF will occur on October 3rd (Saturday) starting at Finley Center. The course will take riders out to the West County area, including King Ridge. The scale of this event, while similar to the Wine Country Century, is slightly larger with an anticipated rider count of 3500. Needs are the same as WCC with rest stops, SAG wagons, and net controls. I'm already sitting in meetings with the organizer and local emergency officials working on operation plans. Promises to be an interesting event.

In July, you may remember, Michelle and I rode the coast. We did succeed in actually completing the trip as planned. Judging from the reception party at our house on July 30, the APRS tracker worked quite well. While out on the Washington Coast, I checked into the Beach Net, a system of linked repeaters serving that area. After the net, I had a little exchange with NM7R, one of the owners of the system. He warmly welcomed me to the net. I discussed what our little adventure was about and he told me that if we needed any assistance to be sure to get on the net and let it be known. He checked in with me again a few days later when

we were a little further south, near Bay Center. It turned out we missed each other by a few hours as they had had a fox hunt earlier in the very park we were staying at. The greeting I received though certainly made me think about visiting hams in this area and I've resolved to listen and remember to greet hams traveling through.

Craig K6XLT k6xlt@sonic.net

September Program:The Return of Ham Radio Jeopardy!

Once again, SCRA is presenting Ham Radio Jeopardy! The game "show" will be the program for our September 2nd meeting. The format is similar to the popular TV game show but there are some differences, of course. For example, there will only be

five categories per round rather than six and we will be playing as teams, rather than individuals.

Prizes will be awarded (but no cash prizes). The categories will all be ham-radio related. No Beethoven or Greek Mythology categories (although there may be some questions relating to certain letters of the Greek alphabet). Your co-hosts will be Brian Torr, N6IIY and John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ (Alex Trebek was not available, and besides, he's not a ham).

Come, Play, and Learn! 73, Brian







PCAM

The SCRA once again had a booth at the Pacific Coast Air Museum Air Show on August 15 and 16 at the Sonoma County airport. For the first time in some years we had a High Frequency radio set up thanks to Brian, N6IIY, bringing his 20 meter loop antenna, along with a 2 meter rig and a communications receiver listening to the air show frequencies. We disseminated information regarding SCRA and ham radio to the public and received many signups for John Breckinridge's November ham class. Of note was that early Saturday we were asked by the PCAM command post if we could restore their communications net to operations. It seems they couldn't program their radios so they called on the "experts." Darryl, KI6MSP loaned them his scanner, and Brian, N6IIY, and John, WB6FRZ, went above and beyond the call of duty by downloading the radio manuals and setting up their system. Thanks to Dave Santori, KF6CLG, Dave Harrison, W6IBC, John Breckinridge, WB6FRZ, John Hart, KG6BHI, Darryl, KI6MSP, Brian, N6IIY, Saraj, KI6TII, Jim, KI6REK, Mike, AD6YB and Pat, KG6JSL for volunteering their time and equipment which made this event a success.

FREE SCRA FAMILY PICNIC--JUST FOR FUN

The SCRA FREE Family Picnic is set for September 19, 2009, for all SCRA members and their families at Howarth Park, 630 Summerfield Road, Santa Rosa. Bring your spouse, bring a friend, bring your kids, bring your dog., bring your bike or whatever, and enjoy a day at the park.

We have reserved a beautiful location on the

shore of Lake Raphine at one of the most family friendly parks in Sonoma County with boating, trains and pony rides among the attractions. And yes, the world famous Toaster, the Club comm van, will be there.

This is a great opportunity to introduce your family to the SCRA family in the comfortable and relaxed atmosphere of one of the most beautiful parks in the area.

There will be a premier BBQ and soft drinks at no charge. Members and their families are invited to come and just relax and enjoy themselves in the late summer ambiance of world famous Sonoma County. John Felton, KE5RI will organize a radio fox hunt and we will have 2m and HF rigs set up just for fun, but basically we want our families and friends to meet and get to know that we are not "geeks" all the time.

The success of this depends on a large turnout of members, family and friends and all are invited, whether you are an active member or not. Reservations are not necessary, but we would like to get an idea of how many will be attending so let us know at the meeting on September 2, or email Pat, KG6JSL at coylaw@sonic.net.







SCRA BoD Meeting Minutes for July 2009

Board Members present: Pat, KG6JSL Dave, KF6CLG Darryl, KI6MSP Dave, W6IBC and Becky, KE6PZV

Guests Present: John, WB6FRZ John, KE5RI Bob, WB6TGI and Brian, N6IIY

6:00pm – Meeting called to order by President, Dave, KF6CLG.

May BoD Meeting Minutes: The Board agreed that it couldn't move on until the issue with May's BoD meeting minutes is resolved. Dave, W6IBC moved that the Board reconsider the May BoD meeting minutes. None present were in favor. Motion denied.

June BoD Meeting Minutes: Dave, KF6CLG presented a hard copy of the June BoD meeting minutes to the Board for review. Dave, W6IBC moved that the June BoD meeting minutes be accepted at submitted. All in favor, motion carried. The June BoD meeting minutes will be published in the August Short Skip.

New Committee Chair: Ken Rawles, N6PWV, Member Services Chair, is managing the club badges, T-Shirt and patch sales.

Penngrove Power and Implementation Museum: John, WB6FRZ will be there on Saturday at 7:30am for set up.

August Membership Meeting Program: Boat Anchor / Homebrew Night

Picnic / Fox Hunt: The Board went through the calendar and Saturday, September 19 looks like a good date for the club picnic. Dave, W6IBC moved that the club picnic be scheduled for Saturday, September 19. All in favor, motion carried. Pat volunteered to chair the event and John, KE5RI will conduct the fox hunt with assistance from Becky, KE6PZV. It had been brought up earlier in the year that the club expense the picnic. Dave, W6IBC moved that the club pay for the picnic. All in favor, motion carried.

Dave, W6IBC presented a shirt sale that he made to a participant at Field Day. Bill Cummings, WA6IOQ, was given a club T-shirt and Dave, W6IBC, received an I.O.U. Dave requested permission from the Board to contact Bill for payment. Pat, KG6JSL moved that Dave contact Bill for payment of the T-shirt. All in favor, motion carried.

Mentoring: Weekend Tech Class: John, WB6FRZ reported that he has 19 people signed up for the class.

Extra Class: John, WB6FRZ reported that the extra class will be wrapping up here in the next two weeks. Assembly Class: This Friday will be the start of the assembly class at the Red Cross building.

Pat asked the question: Can the club implement a kind of "tech talk" at the membership meetings? It was proposed that the membership-meeting program would run 45 minutes long and then there would be a 15-minute session of Q&A for any technical questions. Anyone present would be encouraged to help in answering any questions presented. Darryl, KI6MSP moved that the membership meetings include an up to 15-minute "tech talk" following the meeting program. All in favor, motion carried.

Field Day: Brian, N6IIY announced that Allan, K6GSO lost a pair of glasses at Field Day.

Membership Roster: Dave, KF6CLG reported that the list was ready, but that he needed some assistance from the membership chairperson, Mike, AD6YB. Pat added that the club is behind about \$600 in membership dues and membership renewal reminders need to go out to those who have not renewed yet. An up to date version of the roster indicating whose membership is current and whose is not is needed. Dave, W6IBC mentioned putting an announcement for renewals in the Short Skip. Pat, KG6JSL moved that a current roster be made available to the membership. Motion passed. Pat suggested that about 50 hard copies be printed and made available to hand out at the club meetings. Dave, KF6CLG asked what information the membership list should have. It was agreed that the list should show the member's name, call sign, email address and phone number. The membership list also needs to state "for club use only".

Back-up membership list: Dave, KF6CLG mentioned that the club should have a back-up list. It was agreed that a copy should be with the club's vice-president and secretary.

Repeater Report: John, KE5RI reported that the Castle Rock two meter repeater is not coordinated with NARCC. John has submitted the application to NARCC. There is, so far, no opposition to the application for Castle Rock to have a different PL. John will go to the English Hill site to turn off the transmitting PL to test for the "weird noise" that has been experienced. Repeater users will have to turn off their tone coded squelch function.

7:08pm Darryl, KI6MSP moved that the meeting be adjourned.



SHORT SKIP





This is not a drill.....

by Rich Freitas, KF6SZA Sonoma County ARES DEC

Emergency preparedness, contingency planning, crisis management and disaster control are arts requiring clusters of

sciences. Well designed emergency training and well exercised contingency plans save lives and reduce property damage.

Trained disaster workers can reduce a major crisis to a relatively minor event, and can reduce the time needed to return an emergency situation to normal. Ideal emergency workers are not only well trained but experienced; having discussed, practiced and exercised many accident and incident scenarios.

They are fluent in the local language and empathic about the local culture. They understand local values and honor local traditions. They are respected by community leaders and trusted by emergency authorities. They are emotionally mature and can support unstable people. They are innovative leaders, loyal team-workers and obedient workers as circumstances require.

Professional emergency workers are trained emergency workers. To operate at a professional level, you must be extremely well trained and experienced in many crisis situations. You need to accept a military-like chain of command and be able to lead as well as follow.

Emergencies are hard places. Untrained disaster workers often have high ideals and minimal experience. In their haste to help, they create more problems than they solve. They may disobey orders and worsen problems. Their contribution may be worth less than their transport, accommodation, supervision and food. Their lack of training may require more resources than they provide!

Untrained people in disaster areas not only risk harm - they waste essential resources. Untrained workers get burned out or kicked out...

Emergency preparedness begins with training. If

you are serious about emergency preparedness, there are some basic questions you should ask yourself. What emergencies do you want to prepare for? What skills do you want to learn vs. what skills do you already possess? How much time do you want to invest in emergency training? Realistic answers to these questions will help you decide what you can gain from training.

Disasters take many shapes. Some are natural - and others manmade. Some are predictable and others are shockingly unexpected. Some may kill thousands of people. A crisis can take many shapes, and each type of crisis requires a set of reactions by emergency workers. Emergency planning cannot anticipate every scenario, but gets emergency workers and resources together quickly. Disasters can include vehicle and airplane accidents, industrial and nuclear accidents, terrorism, famines and droughts, plagues and epidemics, storms and floods, earthquakes and hurricanes, tidal waves and tsunamis.

OK ... so you've gotten some training. You're an emergency worker! You are eager to help others while developing your skills and abilities! You are trained in first aid and CPR. You are fit. What skills can you develop that will assist you greatly even if you never step into a real crisis situation - what skills are invaluable in any crisis? Some of the most important skills you can have are staying resourceful in chaos, dealing with your own emotional reactions, maintaining empathetic dissociation, recognizing your own burn-out and overwhelm, getting food and sleep, and the ability to work in teams – not groups or gangs.

Emergency work is teamwork. Independent heroes only look good in movies. Emergency workers violating chain of command are worse than useless. You need to be able to work together effectively, understand how to form and maintain a team, and how to disband with minimum stress.

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



SHORT SKIP



SCRA Membership Meeting Minutes – August 2009

7:15pm – Meeting called to order by club president, Dave Santori, KF6CLG.
Introduction of club officers and those present.
Upgrades: Darryl, KI6MSP to General class;
Ken, KI6PWV to Extra class

7:16pm – Program: Boat Anchor/Home Brew

7:45pm-Break

8:03pm – Business Meeting

Meeting Minutes for July – Correction: Lorenzo noted that his call sign was incorrectly recorded as KI6LAV instead of N6LAV. Jim, KI6REK moved that the July meeting minutes be accepted with correction. Lorenzo, N6LAV seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Pat, KG6JSL reported that the club is in good shape financially. Upcoming expenses include registration for the Communications van and the club Picnic.

Repeater Report: Repeater chairman not present – no report.

Membership List: Mike, AD6YB provided about 20 hard copies of the current list to those present. Mike requested of those present that he be emailed with any updates or changes. Mike reported that he has contacted members who need to renew their membership.

Public Service Report: Jim, KI6REK reported that the next event is Waves to Wine on September 12 and 13 and those interested in volunteering should email Craig, K6XLT. Jim also reported that the Levi Leipheimer event will be a three stage fundraiser for the City of Santa Rosa to host the Amgen Tour of California next year. The Leipheimer event will be October 3.

PCAM: Pat, KG6JSL reported that SCRA will have a booth at the air show. Pat was given four tickets to the show to be handed out to volunteers. Tickets went to Darryl,

KI6MSP; John, WB6FRZ; John, KG6BHI and Saraj, KI6TII.

Club Picnic: Pat reported that the picnic will be September 19 at Howarth Park. A site has been reserved near the lake. John, KE5RI will conduct a fox hunt and the club will be providing all of the food and beverages. This will be a family oriented event with a large focus on public relations. Pat will start getting a head count next month.

ARES Report: Rich, KF6SZA reported that there will be an ARES training session on Monday, August 31. The topic of the session will be written message handling. The session will be held at the Red Cross building on Aero Dr. in Santa Rosa from 7:30pm to 9:00pm.

Mentoring Report: John, WB6FRZ reported that the CW practice net is ongoing Tuesday evenings at 8:00pm. The next technician two-day course will be November 14 & 15 at the Red Cross building in Santa Rosa.

VE Report: Brian, N6IIY reported that the next VE session will be on October 24 at the Blood Bank of the Redwoods at 9:00am.

Old Business: No old business to discuss **New Business:**

Darryl, KI6MSP reported that Saturday, August 15 is the 75th anniversary of Alcatraz Island. Those interested in making radio contacts are to go to QRZ.com for details.

NCOs: 8/18 = Darryl, KI6MSP 8/25 = Brian, N6IIY 9/1 = Saraj, KI6TII 9/8 = Sutter, KI6ZON

Raffle: Saraj, KI6TII was the winner of the 50/50 raffle.

Motion to adjourn: Rich, KF6SZA moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mike AD6YB seconded. All in favor, meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Check out World Radio Online -

http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/ WorldRadio.html



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Magnolia between S. Victory & Buena Vista burbank@hamradio.com

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Tom, KM6K, Mgr. Hwy. 163 & Claremont Mesa sandiego@hamradio.com

SUNNYVALE, CA

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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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VE Testing Next Session: October 24, 2009

Do you know someone trying to get their ham ticket? Are you looking to upgrade soon? If so, the next SCRA sponsored VE examination session will begin at 9am on Saturday, October 24 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.

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 you are not licensed) or FCC Registration Number (FRN, if you are upgrading)

- 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. PDAs and cell phones with calculators may not be used! If you have any special needs, please contact Brian Torr, N6IIY in advance.

Good Luck!

Brian Torr, N6IIY n6iiy@arrl.net (707) 575-5871

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.

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. Membership Application						
Please Print Clearly		1	New[] Renewal[]			
Name	Call Sign _	License Class	Date			
Address		H Phone W Ph	one			
City/State	Zip	E-Mail	45			
ARRL Member? Yes [] No [] Receive Short Skip Newsletter by E-mail: Yes_ No						
Dues & Fees: March 1 - February 28		Payment Calculations: Make checks payable to SCRA				
Individual / Associate Member Family Membership Under 18 Membership Badge	\$24 (\$6.00/qtr)	Dues - Full Year Dues - ProratedQts.x \$/q Badge Other -	\$ tr \$			
Badge Information		Donation	\$			
Call Sign First Name City		Total Mail to: SCRA, P.O. Box 116, Santa R	\$ osa, CA 95402			



Tentative Programs for 2009:

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 N6IIY 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

September 2: Ham Radio Jeopardy. Join us for this always-popular contest to test your ham radio knowledge

December 4 (Friday): –Annual Club Holiday Party

Club Activities:

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

<u>September 12-13: (Saturday-Sunday) MS</u> Society Waves to Wine.

September 19: Club Picnic and Fox Hunt

October 3: Levi Leipheimer Grand Fondo Bicycle Tour of Sonoma County

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

December 4 (Friday): –Annual Club Holiday Party

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

Return Service Requested