



CLUB STATION  
W6LFJ

# Short Skip

The Newsletter of  
Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.

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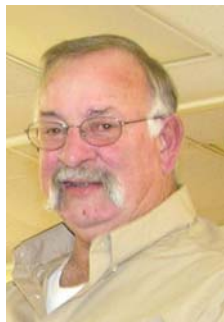
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REPEATER STATION  
W6SON

VOLUME 34 NUMBER 10

OCTOBER 2009



## October SCRA Update

by Dave Santori, KF6CLG  
SCRA President

Hello I'M back. Ha, Ha back in time to let you all know how busy the next month will be. We, as a club need to start thinking and acting on who will be the leaders for 2010 with elections coming up in the November Meeting. Just a reminder President,

Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, also two Directors....a lot to think about and act on.

We had the annual Club Picnic at Howarth Park as I have been told a great time was had by all. Lots of food with some left over and handed out for all to take.

There was a Fox Hunt. I understand the fox was tired by the end of day trying to hide from all who tried to track him down.

This the month we really have a chance to shine. JOTA Jamboree-On-The Air, A cooperation between Boy Scouts and Ham Radio Operators around the world. This month's program will show what is required and how the cooperation is done between the two. Just a reminder Girl Scouts are invited to participate. This dates for JOTA 2009 are October 17-18.

73,  
Dave  
KF6CLG

## October Meeting Announcement: Semiconductors - Oct 7, 2009.

What they are, how they work and how we use them in ham radio, Presented by SCRA Member Tom Boag AF6TB, an expert in the field.

## Jamboree on the Air 2009

**Jamboree on the Air**, known by its acronym **JOTA**, is an international scouting and guiding activity held annually on the third full weekend in October. The event was first held in conjunction with the fiftieth anniversary of Scouting in 1957. It is now considered the largest event scheduled by the World Organization of the Scout Movement annually.

JOTA is an event in which Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts and Guides from all over the world speak to each other by means of Amateur Radio. To find each other easily, listen on the agreed World Scout Frequencies listed below.

Just call "CQ JAMBOREE", or answer Scout stations who are calling to establish a contact. National radio regulations must be strictly observed.

Amateur radio operators from all over the world participate with over 500,000 Scouts and Guides to teach them about radio and to assist them to contact their fellow Scouts and Guides by means of amateur radio. This provides the Scouts and Guides with a means of learning about fellow Scouts and Guides from around the world.

*continued on page 3*



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<b>Secretary</b>	Becky Pippin	KE6PZV	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Pat Coyle	KG6JSL	
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<b>Program</b>	Becky Pippin	KE6PZV	
<b>EmComm</b>	Rich Freitas	KF6SZA	
<b>Field Day</b>	Brian Torr	N6IYY	707-575-5871
<b>Activity</b>	Dave Santori	KF6CLG	707-585-1873
<b>Public Service</b>	Craig Gaevert	K6XLT	707-545-4133
<b>Mentoring</b>	John Breckenridge	WB6FRZ	707-217-1017
<b>Repeater</b>	John Felton	KE5RI	
<b>Volunteer Exam</b>			
<b>Liaison</b>	Brian Torr	N6IYY	707-575-5871
<b>Antenna Ordinance-Legal</b>	Lee Dibble	KE6EAQ	707 544-1675
<b>Public Relations</b>	Bill McCall	W6WDM	707 538-2844
<b>Public Relations</b>	Jeff Basham	KK6JAB	707-291-7355
<b>Refreshments</b>	Jim Draeger	KI6REK	
<b>ARRL DXCC/WAS Manager</b>	Chuck Ternes	N6OJ	707 763-2528
<b>Club Raffle</b>	Bob McQuilkin	WB6TGI	
<b>Member Badges</b>	Ken Rawles	N6PWV	

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<b>SCRA Web Site</b>	<a href="http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com">http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com</a>

**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, October 7th 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/>



## 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, N6IYY in advance.

Good Luck!  
Brian Torr, N6IYY  
[n6iyy@arrl.net](mailto:n6iyy@arrl.net)  
(707) 575-5871

## Announcement: Calling all Kids!

Join us for a Kids' Net Saturdays at 7:00pm (1900 hours) on the WB6TMS repeater system, 146.910 pl 88.5  
Website: <http://sites.google.com/site/norcalhamkids>

Thanks!

-Sutter  
KI6ZON

## JOTA 2009 - continued from page 1

As in previous years, Radio Amateurs around the world will be invited to help out with a JOTA activity, and many will accept the challenge. Providing an interesting JOTA has been quite difficult in the past several years due to poor propagation, so by providing an interesting program around the radio activities, an enjoyable weekend is assured.

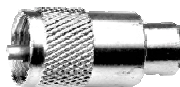
We must remember that for Scouts, the primary purpose of Jamboree On The Air is to make contact with other Scouts and to exchange information about what they do in Scouting. As Amateurs, we assist for the same reasons, as well as for the promotion of Amateur radio as an interest or hobby.

Unlike a contest, JOTA is not competitive, but it has the same excitement as a contest, because we know the bands will be well used, and whatever propagation exists will be used for maximum effect.

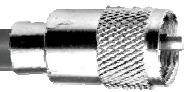
There is growing interest by Scouts in JOTA and Amateur Radio, so there's no time like the present to give the hobby a boost by introducing it to young people. Our local boy scout council has asked us for help again this year with their JOTA event held on October 17-18. They will need amateurs to operate and demonstrate different radio operating modes. Please consider saying yes. For more information on our JOTA, please contact John KG6PEP at 707-326-3000 or [kg6pep@arrl.net](mailto:kg6pep@arrl.net)

**Several amateur radio bands have designated frequencies where Scout stations can meet. Of course, the whole authorized band can be used for Scout contacts, however, to easily find Scout stations, listen in on the following Scout frequencies:**

band	SSB (phone)	CW (morse)
80 m	3.690 & 3.940 MHz	3.570 MHz
40 m	7.090 & 7.190 MHz	7.030 MHz
20 m	14.290 MHz	14.060 MHz
17 m	18.140 MHz	18.080 MHz
15 m	21.360 MHz	21.140 MHz
12 m	24.960 MHz	24.910 MHz
10 m	28.390 MHz	28.180 MHz
6 m	50.160 MHz	50.160 MHz







## Upcoming Public Service Events:

October 3, 2009 Levi Leipheimer Grand Fondo Bicycle Tour of Sonoma County



Pat KG6JSL, John KG6BHI and Craig K6XLT enjoy the SCRA Club Picnic last month at Howarth Park. Many club members and families came out to enjoy the event.

*Photo courtesy of Joy Cunningham KI6ASJ.*

## SCRA BoD Meeting Minutes for Aug '09

Meeting began at 6PM at Narsi's Hofbrau in Coddingtown Mall, Santa Rosa. Board Members present: Dave KF6CLG (Presiding), Pat KG6JSL, Mike AD6YB, Darryl KI6MSP, Dave W6IBC. Absent John KG6PEP, Becky KE6PZV. SCRA Members present: Bob WB6TGI, John WB6FRZ, Brian N6IYY, John KE5RI.

**Minutes:** July 2009 BoD minutes approved subject to corrections.

**Treasurer** Pat KG6JSL reported bank balances, and noted that receipts and disbursements are very close to the approved annual budget, with some slight shortfall in membership dues. Mike AD6YB noted a positive response to his email to members who have not yet renewed their memberships.

**Repeater Chair** John KE5RI reported that the Castle Rock 70cm link is being coordinated through NARCC. He also reported that at its July 2009 special meeting, the NARCC membership voted not to change the two meter band plan for three years. John also noted that his wife is not well and that he may be traveling with her in connection with her illness and treatment. The BoD extended its very best wishes to John and his wife.

**Mentoring Chair** John WB6FRZ reported that 16 people attended the most recent Technician license class and that 15 people obtained their licenses. One family had three new licensees including a wife, a daughter 11 and a son 9. The radio assembly class, presently meeting weekly, has four attending. There will be a one-night program covering "Getting a Station Together" this Friday at the American Red Cross, with 6 people enrolled.

**Membership Chair** Mike AD6YB reported that the membership list is now ready and that he'll have 50 copies ready to distribute to members at the August meeting. The BoD approved printing of 30 additional color copies of the August Short Skip for distribution as promotional literature at PCAM and at other club events.

*continued on page 8*



Sutter KI6ZON discovers the "fox" disguised as a bird house at the SCRA Picnic / Fox Hunt last month.

*Photo courtesy of Joy Cunningham KI6ASJ.*





## Public Service Observations

by  
Rich Freitas, KF6SZA  
Sonoma County ARES DEC

*The following is taken from the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course, Level I*

The public service calendar for this year is in its final throes with only Levi's Grand Fondo left to complete. All-in-all it's been a good year – you've handled an ambitious series of events and quite a number of new hams have gained invaluable experience in working under net control station operations. All of this knowledge is what I count on for emergency preparedness in the possibility that I may have to call on you for disaster operations with ARES should that unfortunate event ever happen. With that thought in mind, and the assumption that we can always do better no matter how well we do, I hope you don't object to a few observations and criticisms that I've collected these past few months; my intention is only to highlight some areas that we can work on to present a more professional impression to our customers ... the people who organize the public service events. Based on what I've seen and heard, I've placed the most common "offenses" at the top.

#1 Whether or not you are using a repeater, when you push the PTT switch, you should wait a second before you begin speaking. Both CTCSS decode time and transmitter rise time can cause delays in the system, and linked repeaters need some extra time for all links to begin transmitting. Also, some handhelds need time to come out of the "power-save" mode. These actions will make sure that your entire message is heard instead of "clipping off" the first half of the call sign of the station you are trying to contact and wasting time due to repeats. In addition, make sure that you allow a little pause between transmissions to allow stations with higher-priority traffic to break-in if necessary.

#2 Speak correctly into the microphone to maximize intelligibility. Hold the mic close to your cheek, just to the side of your mouth, and talk across, rather than into, the microphone. This will reduce breathing noises and "popping" sounds that make speech hard to understand. Make sure you speak in a normal, clear, calm voice; raising your voice or shouting into the mic causes distortion and it will have absolutely no effect on the volume at the receiving end. Try to speak at a normal, or slower, pace as rushing your words will cause slurred speech. Pronounce words carefully (especially uncommon ones) and make sure to enunciate each syllable and sound.

#3 Think before you speak. If you don't know exactly what you plan to say, wait until you do before speaking; each time you key the mic you should only state the information necessary to get the message across clearly and accurately. Extraneous information is distracting and can lead to confusion

and a misinterpreted message so don't editorialize or engage in chitchat. Make sure you say exactly what you mean and use specific words to ensure that your precise meaning gets across to the recipient. Also, to reduce misunderstandings and the number of requests to repeat words, use only standard ITU phonetics when a word is unusual or has a difficult pronunciation. Try to make your transmissions sound crisp and professional like the police and fire dispatchers and never use "cute" phonetics – they only confuse the message.

#4 Just like any technical discipline, we hams use a lot of specialized terminology in our conversations; sometimes we tend to forget that not everyone understands these words and phrases. For this reason, all messages must be in plain language with the exception of using standard "pro-words" such as "clear" or "say again all after" and so on. Unless you're operating CW, "Q" signals should not be used; I can't tell you the number of times I've heard a station say, "This is W6XXX QSYing to 315" when simply saying "This is W6XXX changing frequency" is much easier to understand. Realize that not all hams have memorized the entire Q-Signal table like you may have.

#5 Use tactical call signs to call other stations and give your FCC call sign only at the end of the complete message exchange, or every ten minutes during longer exchanges (although I've yet to hear a public service traffic communication that ran longer than ten minutes). Some stations feel the need to state their call sign a minimum of three times with each message exchange! Besides, we all know your call sign by now.

#6 Stay by your radio or let NCS know if you have to leave your station for any reason. You don't have to elaborate on your reason for leaving (this may be "too much information") but it is important to confirm that NCS knows you will be unavailable for a period of time. You also need to let them know as soon as you return to your station as they may have some traffic waiting for you.

Lastly, let me say that I've been pretty "nit-picky" about all of this stuff and the number of "commendations" far outweigh the number of "offenses" that I've heard. For the most part I've been very impressed at the quality of public service work from all of the hams who take part. I've heard some exemplary operators that I would have no problem assigning to a critical communications post. No, I won't mention any names because I don't want to inflate your egos but Craig, K6XLT, knows who you are!

*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.*





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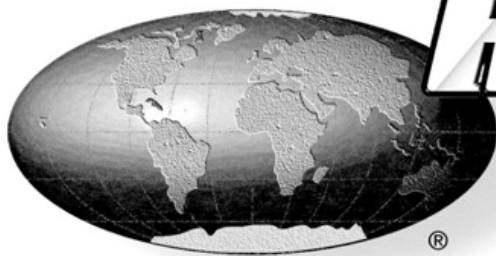
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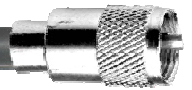
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## AM/FM Broadcast Radio Assembly Class Review

The 10-week SCRA radio assembly class concluded on September 18<sup>th</sup>, but not before radio station squeals were heard from speakers of students' radios. In all, five students and three instructors attended the course. It began with learning how to solder and progressed through identifying and testing components to measuring signals through each stage with test equipment. Oscillator and IF stages were tuned and calculations made for such characteristics as gain, distortion, detector and AGC operating parameters, and 3dB IF bandwidth values. Students were introduced to making measurements of voltage, current and resistance with a multimeter as well as using test equipment such as audio and RF signal generators, oscilloscopes and power supplies. These instruments were all used to align radio stages and to find faults in circuits that did not work as expected, thus introducing some troubleshooting principles to the building process.

I want to congratulate all the students who attended. I extend special thanks to instructors Jeff Tonelli, KI6PBF and Roy Fields, AF6RH, without whose help, expertise, and use of their equipment would have made teaching the class much more difficult. With their help students received individualized instruction at the same time, multiplying the information given and allowing tests to be performed simultaneously with equipment at different "test benches."

How did the projects turn out? In the end few radios were built and tested to completion due to several reasons. Mostly this was because the project was complex, incorporating complete AM and FM radio receivers. It was designed to introduce practical radio theory and testing stage-by-stage to second-year college-level electronics students. For our purposes students will continue working on their radios at home and contact an instructor when ready to test and align them. Eventually they will all be completed.

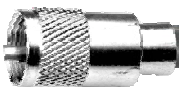
At the same time I consider the class to be a huge success in spite of the lack of project completeness on the last day, because of the journey. Many lessons were learned along the way that may not have surfaced had we assembled a simpler project that worked flawlessly with minimal instructions. Like life, the lessons learned working through this project along the way were valuable and will hopefully ignite a further interest in building in all the students.



I have become saddened by the slow but steady decline of electronics project-building by hams through the years. It's our own (old-timer's) fault; we haven't tried hard enough to share and pass on the expertise and fun of building projects to the incoming generations of new hams. We can point to the advances in technology and complex-featured modern equipment that require master's degrees in electronic engineering to repair or modify, but that's just an excuse. There are SIMPLE and very cool low-cost electronic kits available today that apply directly to ham radio. They're fun, interesting, and help fulfill one of the basic purposes of why the amateur radio service exists in this country: "Expansion of the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts," straight from the FCC Rules and Regulations.

My hope is that we can continue offering building project classes in the future, though perhaps simple to progressively more complex and involved projects would better serve new kit-builders! I believe these kits should be amateur-radio related and teach students focused concepts that help build upon one another and be different enough to keep things interesting. I welcome feedback from club members as to what types of kits you would like to see offered. Roy, AF6RH has indicated that he would like to spearhead kit-building project classes for the club! In the next few months we will be planning these classes for next year. Please contact Roy or myself with any ideas or suggestions you may have about ham radio projects to build; we want to hear from you!

Very 73,  
John, WB6FRZ  
SCRA Mentor Chairman







## SCRA BOD Meeting Minutes Aug '09 *continued from page 4*

**Raffle Chair** Bob WB6TGI reported that the fifty-fifty raffle is working well and he plans to continue it at forthcoming meetings.

**Club programs and activities** for the balance of 2009 were reviewed and discussed including the Club-sponsored Picnic on September 19 at Howarth Park. Picnic Chair Pat KG6JSL urged everyone to get the word out and encourage attendance and participation at the picnic.

**PCAM Chair** Pat KG6JSL reported that he is in contact with the air show officials and will follow up with them. We will not be in covered hanger space, and will need an easy-up shelter, table, and chairs. We will provide PA rebroadcast of the Air Boss communications and will have a two-meter station, both powered by a generator to be loaned by Brian N6IYY.

**VE Chair** Brian N6IYY reported that the next SCRA-sponsored VE session will be October 24, 2009.

**New Business:** Dave W6IBC discussed the November election and the need for a nominating committee to be named by the BoD at its September meeting. Pat KG6JSL discussed plans by the Sonoma Mountain Repeater Society to add an APRS digipeater to cover the Russian River canyons in the Guerneville area and asked SCRA to consider participating in that process. The BoD noted that it is appropriate for SCRA to support SMRS because our members make considerable use of the SMRS digipeaters with APRS activities. John WB6FRZ asked that a thank-you letter be sent to Betty Bravin AG6C who donated 200 feet of RG-8 coaxial cable to the club. Darryl KI6MSP discussed net control procedures and the BoD decided that each net control operator had wide latitude in conducting the net within the guidelines of the net script. Bob WB6TGI discussed the inactivity of the "newcomers net" on Wednesday nights and John KE5RI agreed to remove the automatic announcement from the two meter repeater. The

meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dave Harrison, W6IBC  
Acting Secretary

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## Contest Corner continued from page 10

17 Oct – **Fall VHF Sprints** – all modes, 902 MHz and up. See: [www.svhfs.org](http://www.svhfs.org).

17 Oct – **Iowa QSO Party** – all modes, all allowed bands. See: [www.wa0dx.org/iagsoparty.html](http://www.wa0dx.org/iagsoparty.html).

17-18 Oct – **Great Pumpkin Sprint** – digital, 160 meters. See: [www.podxs070.com](http://www.podxs070.com).

17-18 Oct – **JARTS WW RTTY Contest** – digital, 80-10 meters. See: [www.edsoftz.com/JARTS/](http://www.edsoftz.com/JARTS/).

17-18 Oct – **QRP ARCI Fall QSO Party** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: [www.grparci.org](http://www.grparci.org).

17-18 Oct – **Stew Perry Warmup Contest** – CW, 160 meters. See: [www.jzap.com/k7rat/stew.rules.txt](http://www.jzap.com/k7rat/stew.rules.txt).

17-18 Oct – **Worked All Germany** – SSB/CW, 80-10 meters. See: [www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedcg.htm](http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedcg.htm).

17-18 Oct – **W/VE Islands QSO Party** – all modes, 160-6 meters. See: [www.usislands.org](http://www.usislands.org).

17-18 Oct – **New York QSO Party** – all modes, all allowed bands. See: [www.nyqp.org](http://www.nyqp.org).

18 Oct – **Asia-Pacific Sprint** – CW, 20-15 meters. See: [jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt](http://jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt).

18-19 Oct – **Illinois QSO Party** – Phone/CW, 160-2 meters. See: [www.w9awe.org](http://www.w9awe.org).

19-23 Oct – **School Club Roundup** – all modes, all allowed bands. See: [www.arrl.org/SCR](http://www.arrl.org/SCR).

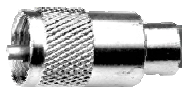
24 Oct – **10-10 Fall CW QSO Party** – CW, 10 meters. See: [www.ten-ten.org](http://www.ten-ten.org).

24 Oct – **10-10 Fall Digital QSO Party** – digital, 10 meters. See: [www.ten-ten.org](http://www.ten-ten.org).

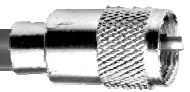
24-25 Oct – **CQ WW SSB Contest** – SSB, 160-10 meters. See: [www.cqww.com](http://www.cqww.com).

24-25 Oct – **Fall VHF Sprints** – all modes, 6 meters. See: [www.svhfs.org](http://www.svhfs.org).

28 Oct – **SKCC Monthly Straight Key Sprint** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: [www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks](http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks).







## SCRA Membership Meeting September 2, 2009

7:00pm – Meeting called to order by Vice-President, John, KG6PEP, presiding. A quorum was present.

Introduction of club officials.

Meeting Program: SCRA Jeopardy w/ Brian, N6IYY and John, WB6FRZ

8:30pm – Business Meeting

Approval of August membership meeting minutes as published in Short Skip. Dave, W6IBC moved that the August meeting minutes be approved. Motion seconded by Jim, KI6REK. All in favor, motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** The treasurer was not present, the YTD income and expenses was displayed for those present. Positive cash flow was indicated.

**Repeater Report:** John, KE5RI reported that he has not heard the “noise” but was aware that the “noise” was heard during last Tuesday's CW practice net. John proposed to turn off the repeater's tone squelch when the “noise” is heard and then anyone trying to use the repeater will have to turn off their tone coded squelch. John reported that the Castle Rock repeater is now coordinated with NARCC and that only the link frequency is left to be coordinated. Dave, W6IBC noted that the Castle Rock repeater worked very well for the Warm Springs Damn location during public service events.

**Public Service Report:** Craig, K6XLT reported that the Waves to Wine is September 12 & 13 and he can still use a couple more volunteers. Craig also reported that Levi's Gran Fando will be October 2 and will be a large event with about 3500 riders.

**JOTA:** John, KG6PEP reported that the Scouting Jamboree on the Air will be October 17 & 18 and he will need as many volunteers as he can get. The event will be at the Vineyard of Faith Ministries on Arata Ln. in Windsor.

**ARES:** No report – Jeff, mentioned that Rich, KF6SZA will be having a class for the COPE pro-

gram.

**Mentoring:** John, WB6FRZ reported that the assembly class has three more sessions to go. The next weekend technician course will be November 14 & 15 and John will put more information out closer to the date. At PCAM, John had 16 interested people sign up and 3 of those have already paid for study guides for the next tech class.

**Old Business:** None – John, KG6PEP asked if everyone received their copy of Short Skip, all said yes.

**New Business:** John, KE5RI suggested a special event station to operate during the weekend of the Jack London State Park 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We need to look at the club's calendar and come up with some possible dates. John asked for a show of hands and the majority of those present were in favor of supporting such an event.

Dave, W6IBC spoke to those present about considering service on next year's board of directors and that there will be a need to fill the position of Treasurer and Public Service.

**NCOs:** 9/15 = Jack, ROW 9/22 = Brian, IYY 9/29 = John, PEP 10/6 = Dave, IBC 10/13 = Darryl, MSP 10/22 = Saraj, TII 10/27 = Jim, HKY

**Raffle:** The 50/50 raffle collected \$42 in ticket sales for the evening. Ken Rawles, N6PWV won the draw.

Dave, W6IBC moved that the meeting adjourn, motion seconded by Darryl, KI6MSP.



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## CONTEST CORNER by Kevin Alt, K6BSG

Hello testers. The big fall contest season is nearly upon us. Lots of warm-up events in October. State QSO parties, VHF contests, and several digital events. Happy DX'ing!

3 Oct – **PSK Rumble – The Fall Classic** – Digital, 160-6 meters. See: [www.n2ty.com](http://www.n2ty.com).

3 Oct – **EU Autumn Sprint** – SSB, 80-20 meters. See: [www.eusprint.com](http://www.eusprint.com).

3-4 Oct – **Oceania DX Phone Contest** – SSB, 160-10 meters. See: [www.oceaniadxcontest.com](http://www.oceaniadxcontest.com).

3-4 Oct – **California QSO Party** – Phone/CW, 160-2 meters. See: [www.cqp.org](http://www.cqp.org).

3-13 Oct – **Digital SSTV Contest** – Digital, 80-6 meters.

4 Oct – **RSGB 21/28 MHz Contest** – SSB/CW, 15-10 meters. See: [www.vhfcc.org/hfcc/rules/2009/r2128.shtml](http://www.vhfcc.org/hfcc/rules/2009/r2128.shtml).

7 Oct – **Fall VHF Sprints** – all modes, 70 cm. See: [www.svhfs.org](http://www.svhfs.org).

9-11 Oct – **YLRL Anniversary Party** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: [www.ylrl.org](http://www.ylrl.org).

10 Oct – **FISTS Fall Sprint** – CW, 80-10 meters. See: [www.fists.org](http://www.fists.org).

10 Oct – **10-10 Sprint** – all modes, 10 meters. See: [www.ten-ten.org](http://www.ten-ten.org).

10 Oct – **EU Autumn Sprint** – CW, 80-20 meters. See: [www.eusprint.com](http://www.eusprint.com).

10-11 Oct – **ARRL EME Contest** – all modes, 6 meters and up. See: [www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2009/eme.html](http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2009/eme.html).

10-11 Oct – **Makrothen Contest** – digital, 80-10 meters. See: [home.arcor.de/waldemar.kebsch](http://home.arcor.de/waldemar.kebsch).

10-11 Oct – **Oceania DX CW Contest** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: [www.oceaniadxcontest.com](http://www.oceaniadxcontest.com).

10-11 Oct – **Worked All Britain HF Contest** – SSB, 20-10 meters. See: [www.worked-all-britain.co.uk](http://www.worked-all-britain.co.uk).

10-11 Oct – **Arizona QSO Party** – all modes, 160-2 meters. See: [www.azqsoparty.org](http://www.azqsoparty.org).

10-12 Oct – **Pennsylvania QSO Party** – all modes, 160-2 meters. See: [www.nittany-arc.net/paqso.html](http://www.nittany-arc.net/paqso.html).

11 Oct – **North American RTTY Sprint** – digital, 80-20 meters. See: [www.ncjweb.com](http://www.ncjweb.com).

11 Oct – **SKCC Monthly Weekend Sprint** – CW, 80-10 meters. See: [www.skccgroup.com/sprint/wes](http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/wes).

17 Oct – **10-10-10 Feld-Hell Sprint** – digital, 10 meters. See: [www.feldhellclub.org](http://www.feldhellclub.org).

*continued on page 8*

### 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

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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

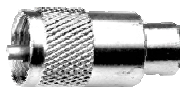
Badge \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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



## **Tentative Programs for 2009:**

**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 N6IY 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

**October 7: Semiconductors: What they are, how they work and how we use them in ham radio, Presented by SCRA Member**

**Tom Boag AF6TB, an expert in the field.**

**November 4:** BUDDYPOLE NIGHT. Budd Drummond will present his "Buddypole" Antenna product line; also our annual CLUB ELECTION 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 3: Levi Leipheimer Grand Fondo Bicycle Tour of Sonoma County**

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

**Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.  
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