



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 35 NUMBER 1

JANUARY 2010



January SCRA Update

by Dave Santori, KF6CLG
SCRA President

Hello all Hams and families of hams we are about to start into the year 2010 and have no knowledge of what it will bring. Some

of us might upgrade our license to general or extra maybe get involved with one of the many public service events that this club is involved with. Maybe join Cert or Races or let's not forget what hams are all about....talking with the world.

I would like to take this time to introduce you to our officers for 2010:

President: Dave Santori KF6CLG
Vice President: Darryl Paule KI6MSP
Treasurer: Jack Christensen K6ROW
Secretary: Evelyn Chavez KI6PAY
Directors: John Chavez KG6PEP
Mike Von der Porten AD6YB

Past President: Dave Harrison W6IBC

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2010!!

Pictured top right is SCRA Member of the Year - Pat Coyle with his wife Barbara at the 2009 SCRA Christmas Party. Photo courtesy of Dave Harrison W6IBC.



PAT COYLE KG6JSL 2009 SCRA Member of the Year

Outgoing Treasurer Pat Coyle, KG6JSL, has been selected by the Board of Directors as the 2009 SCRA Member of the Year. Pat's many contributions to the club include taking over physical custody and operational maintenance of the SCRA communications van ("The Toaster"), Pat was also the leading force behind reincorporation of SCRA as a public benefit non profit corporation, the bylaws revision project, and the process leading to IRS recognition of SCRA as a tax advantaged charity. Pat has also been very active in club public service events and has been the ham radio communications coordinator for the last two Spring Hill Bike Road Races. Pat served for the past two years as the chairman and chief planner for SCRA's participation at the Pacific Coast Air Museum's annual Wings over Wine Country air show. Pat also provided the barbecues at this year's Field Day and Club Picnic. A plaque honoring Pat as this year's Member of the Year was presented at the Holiday Party held on December 4, 2009. Pat has served on the SCRA Board of Directors for the past three years, and has served as club treasurer for the past two years.

2010 Club Officers

President	Dave Santori	KF6CLG	585-1873
Vice President	Darryl Paule	KI6MSP	
Secretary	Evelyn Chavez	KI6PAY	
Treasurer	Jack Christensen	K6ROW	
Director	Mike Von der Porten	AD6YB	
Director	John Chavez	KG6PEP	
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

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

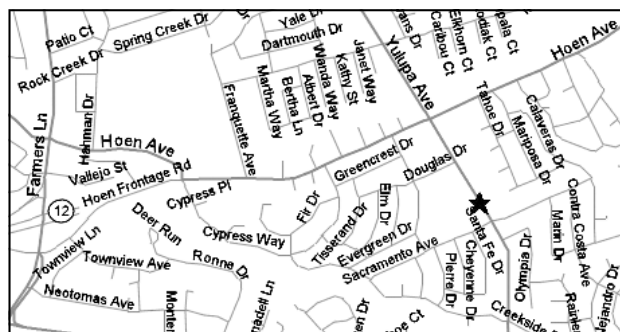
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**SCRA Club Meetings**

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

Next meeting is 7:00 PM Wednesday, January 6th at:

Luther Burbank Art & Garden Center
2050 Yulupa Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA



All are welcome!

Please join us at our next meeting. Anyone interested in Amateur Radio may be eligible for membership. A membership application is included in this newsletter.

For more information, contact any SCRA officer, director or member.

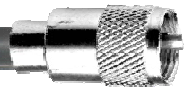
Hungry before the meeting?

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/>



Next VE Sessions (Tentative): Saturday, January 30, 2010 and Saturday, April 17, 2010

If you've been studying for a new license or upgrade, your next opportunity to take your test is coming up (tentatively) on Saturday, January 30. SCRA will be hosting VE exams on January 30, 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.

NOTE: As this is being written, the dates are tentative, so please visit the SCRA website and click on the VE Testing link for updates

The next SCRA-sponsored exam session is tentatively scheduled for April 17, 2010.

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, N6IY in advance.

Good Luck!

Brian Torr, N6IY
n6iyl@arri.net
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707-585-7344



Contest Corner continued from page 8:

20-24 Jan – **Linc Fndall Memorial CW Contest** – CW, 160-40 meters. See: www.antiquewireless.org/homeevents2010.htm.

21 Jan – **Locust QSO Party** – CW, 80-40 meters. See: www.k6vva.com/lqp52.

21 Jan – **NAQCC Monthly Straight Key Sprint** – CW, 80-20 meters. See: www.usafek.net/~voel.

23-24 Jan – **YLISSB QSO Party** – SSB, 160-10 meters. See: www.ylssystem.org.

23-24 Jan – **BARTG RTTY Sprint** – 80-10 meters. See: www.bartg.org.uk.

29-31 Jan – **ARRL January VHF Sweepstake** – Phone/CW, 6 meters and up. See: www.arrl.org/contests.

29-31 Jan – **CQ WW 160 Meter Contest** – CW, 160 meters. See: www.cq160.com.

30 Jan – **WAB Top Band Phone Contest** – SSB, 160 meters. See: www.worked-all-britain.co.uk/contest.

30-31 Jan – **REF French Contest** – CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.ref-union.org/concours.

30-31 Jan – **UBA Contest** – SSB, 80-10 meters. See: www.uba.be/en/hf.

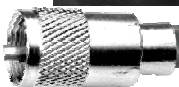
30-31 Jan – **Winter Field Day** – all modes, all bands. See: www.spar-hams.org.

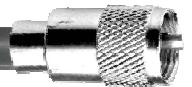
31 Jan – 1 Feb – **Classic Exchange** – CW, 160-2 meters. See: gsl.asti.com/CX.

SCRA Food drive:

Since community service is a part of amateur radio, I put together a food drive at our Christmas dinner. The goal was to collect 100 pounds of food to be donated to the Redwood Empire Food Bank. We actually collected 92 pounds of food. Due to the current economic conditions I'm asking that club members bring non-perishable food items to each of our meetings this coming year. What a great way to make a difference to help support our community.

Thanks,
73
Darryl
KI6MSP





Live EC-001

by
Rich Freitas, KF6SZA
Sonoma County ARES DEC

On Saturday morning, December 19th, three Field Instructors and 23 students met at the Red Cross

to the base of PowerPoint slides developed by Hugh Connolly, AG4HC, of Florida, a presentation tailored to our San Francisco Section was put together following the ARRL format.

At the end of the day, the team of Field Examiners, led by Brian, N6IY, and consisting of Jeff, KK6JAB; John, WB6FRZ; Dave, W6IBC; and Mike, AD6YB, administered the standardized test. Without their help this course could not have been accomplished. In the final tally, the results were remarkable; all 23 students passed the test with nearly half of them getting a perfect score. Congratulations to all of you.

I hope to offer this course again in the future (once I recuperate from this last effort). If you would like to be notified for the next session, please send me an email at: kf6sza@gmail.com and I will put you on the list. Also, please mark your calendars for the next scheduled ARES training session on Monday, February 22, 2010, at 7:00 pm.

The Sonoma County ARES Net meets weekly on Mondays at 7:30 PM on the SCRA 147.315 MHz (+ offset, 88.5 PL) repeater. All members and guests are invited to check-in. Please join us.



Fred Polkinghorn KQ6OB delivers course instruction during the recent ARRL EC-001 Course. Photo courtesy of Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV.

Chapter Headquarters to begin a day-long course on Emergency Communications Level I; this was a live-course adaptation of the 8-week online course developed by the ARRL. At 8:00 am, after consuming our quota of “fat pills” (e.g. donuts) and Starbucks® coffee, the instruction marathon began.

The Field Instructors, consisting of Bill, KH6GJV; Fred, KQ6OB; and myself, traded off on delivering the concentrated learning units while hammering the students with course information throughout the day. To keep the course rolling at the required pace, the three of us used a “tag-team” approach by switching every three or four learning units; while one instructor was presenting material, the other two were changing slides and keeping the delivery on schedule. As you can imagine, delivering an 8-week course in one day was a challenge. Thanks



23 students were in attendance in the ARRL EC-001 Course. Photo courtesy of Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV.



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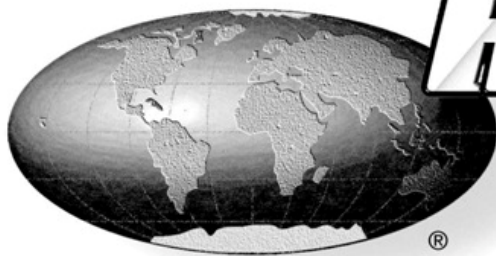
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SCRA BoD Meeting Minutes for November 11, 2009

The meeting took place at Narsi's Hof Brau & Grill, Coddington Mall, Santa Rosa.
Board members present: John KG6PEP, Pat KG6JSL, Dave W6IBC, Mike AD6YB, Dave KF6CLG, Darryl KI6MSP and Becky KE6PZV.
Club members present: Brian N6IYY and John WB6FRZ

The meeting was called to order by Dave, KF6CLG at 5:55pm.

Approval of October BoD meeting minutes: Pat, KG6JSL moved that the October BoD meeting minutes be approved. All in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

- Pat reported that the club is in good shape financially and that that is true in a lot of ways due to a lot of donations. Dave, W6IBC suggested that the memo on donations to the club be revisited. It must stress that SCRA does not accept payment for services.

- After the club deposits the latest check from John, WB6FRZ there will be a \$400 balance on what was paid out for classes & education. Darryl, KI6MSP asked if there should be a separate education fund. Dave, W6IBC will look at the club website to see how the club assesses itself.

- Dave, W6IBC would like the club to purchase a new radio for the holiday party as a door prize. Dave, W6IBC will make sure that the radio gets purchased. Darryl moved that the club allocate \$200 for the purchase of the radio for the door prize. All in favor, motion carried.

Rack at Castle Rock: Owned by Bill Hillendahl, KH6GJV. Bill is asking \$90 for it. Darryl moved to purchase the rack from Bill for \$90. All in favor, motion carried.

Repeater: Dave, W6IBC reported that the 440-link radio is still on the bench and everything else is working.

VE: Brian, N6IYY reported that the next session would be after the upcoming technician class this weekend. The next session after that will be sometime in January. The ARECC Level 1 course has enough Ves for it's exam in December, but all of

those Ves need to register as ARRL Field Examiners.

Mentoring:

- John, WB6FRZ reported that the upcoming technician course has 16 people signed up. John also reported that the technician exam question pool would be changing in June of 2010.

Darryl, KI6MSP presented to the board a draft of a certificate of completion for participants of the technician courses. Dave, W6IBC moved that a final draft of the certificate be issued to those who complete the technician course. All in favor, motion carried.

Membership Report: Mike, AD6YB reported that the club has had 5 new members join.

2009 Holiday Dinner:

- Brian, N6IYY mentioned that the cost of putting on the dinner may be a little higher this year, but keeping the price per person at \$7.50 would still have the club making a profit.

- Brian, N6IYY has revised the invitation to a pdf and will email to all members as well as post to the website. Darryl, KI6MSP asked when the invitations would be sent out. Brian will email them this weekend.

John, KG6PEP suggested spending money on the membership by decreasing the price of the holiday dinner tickets to \$5 for adults and kids free. Pat, KG6JSL mentioned that the club does not need the holiday dinner to be a fundraising event. Mike, AD6YB moved that the price of the holiday dinner tickets be \$5 per adult and kids 12 and under free. All in favor, motion carried.

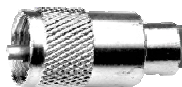
January Program topic: Possible swap meet.

Dave, W6IBC moved that January's meeting program be a swap meet. All in favor, motion carried.

Future program topics: Dave, W6IBC suggested that a future program could be IRLP hosted by Dale, WB6TMS. Dale could give a presentation on his Petaluma repeater.

Club assets: John, KG6PEP asked if there are any future plans for club monies. Dave, W6IBC suggested the purchase of another TKR-750 to serve as a back up to the repeater system.

Adjournment: At 6:55pm, Dave W6IBC moved that the meeting be adjourned. All in favor, motion carried.

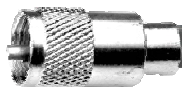




SCRA Holiday Party 2009 Photo Gallery:



Photos courtesy of Bob McQuilkin WB6TGI.





CONTEST CORNER by Kevin Alt, K6BSG

Hello testers. Lots of RTTY contests for you digital enthusiasts as well as the ever popular Winter Field Day this month. Finally, if you missed the ARRL 160 meter contest in December, there are a couple more in January. Happy DX'ing!

1 Jan – ARRL Straight Key Night – CW, 80-6 meters.

See: www.arrl.org/contests.

1 Jan – New Years Snowball Contest – SSB/CW, 80 meters. See: ev5agb.com/index.htm.

1 Jan – SARTG New Year RTTY Contest – 80-40 meters. See: www.sartg.com.

1 Jan – AGCW Happy New Year Contest – CW, 80-20 meters. See: www.agcw.com.

2-3 Jan – Original QRP Contest – CW, 80-20 meters. See: www.qrpcc.de.

2-3 Jan – ARRL RTTY Roundup – 80-10 meters. See: www.arrl.org/contests.

2-4 Jan – EUCW 160- Meter Contest – CW, 160 meters. See: www.uft.net.

3 Jan – Kid's Day – SSB, 80-10 meters. See: www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/kd-rules.html.

5 Jan – ARS Spartan Sprint – 80-10 meters. See: www.arsqrp.blogspot.com.

9 Jan – 070 PSKFest – Digital, 80-10 meters. See: www.podxs070.com.

9-10 Jan – Midwinter Contest – SSB/CW, 80-10 meters.

See: trafficbureau.veron.nl.

9-10 Jan – Hunting Lions in the Air – all modes, 160-10 meters. See: lionshuntingintheair.lionwap.org.

9-10 Jan – MI QRP Club Jan QRP Contest – CW, 160-6 meters. See: www.miqrp.org.

9-10 Jan – North American QSO Party – CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.ncjweb.com/naqprules.php.

10 Jan – DARC 10 Meter Contest – SSB/CW. See: www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedcz.htm.

16 Jan – LZ Open Contest – CW, 80-40 meters. See: www.lzopen.com.

16-17 Jan – UK DX RTTY Contest – 80-10 meters. See: www.ukdx.srars.org.

16-17 Jan – HA DX Contest – SSB/CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.ha-dx.com.

16-17 Jan – North American QSO Party – SSB, 160-10 meters. See: www.ncjweb.com/naqprules.php.

17 Jan – International United Teenager Contest – Phone/CW, all bands. See: www.qrz.ru/contest/detail/140.html.

17 Jan – Feld-Hell Simpson's Sprint – digital, 160-10 meters. See: www.feldhellclub.org.

continued on page 3

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@arrrl.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 \$ _____

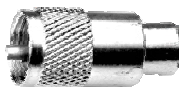
Badge \$ _____

Other - _____ \$ _____

Donation \$ _____

Total \$ _____

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



Tentative Programs for 2010:

January 6 - MINI-SWAP-MEET

SCRA will be cleaning out its warehouse--- bringing lots of ham radio goodies to the meeting--- for sale to our members. Each member can bring up to TEN ham radio items to the meeting for sale or swap. No general items or computer items, please!

Remaining 2010 Programs TBD....

Tentative 2010 Club Activities:

March 27: Lake Sonoma 50 Foot Race

April 25: MS Walk - Santa Rosa (?)

April 30-May 2: Emcomm West - Reno Nevada

May 1: Wine County Century Bicycle Tour

May 8: Human Race - Santa Rosa

May 19: Tour of California Bicycle Race - Santa Rosa Segment

June 19: Terrible Two Bicycle Tour

June 25-27: Field Day

June 27: Spring Hill Bicycle Road Race (?)

August 14-15: "Wings over Wine Country" Air Show

September 26-27: MS Waves to Wine

October 9: Levi Leipheimer's Gran Fondo

October 16-17: "Jamboree on the Air"

October 15-17: ARRL Division Convention - Pacificon

December 3: SCRA Holiday Party

**Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.
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Return Service Requested