



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 3

MARCH 2010



## March SCRA Update

by Dave Santori, KF6CLG  
SCRA President

Hello all the program for March will be presented by AL N1AL as stated on the web, how to use your antenna bouncing your signals off of hills and buildings. Signals and propagation might be very interesting I'm going to attend are you.

At the last BOD Meeting I was informed that there was information going to you to be put on the web without my approval. Right now this is what is stated by the By Laws:

### SCRA By- Laws Article 6: Section 6

The President shall initiate, review and approve all communications in the name of or on behalf of the SCRA between the SCRA and members and the SCRA and third parties.

Having been informed of the by law covering communications with the members, until it is changed all the communication has to be approved by me and I will send it to you. This also includes pictures sent to you by the members. Going forward this is what has to be done at least until the next board meeting.

If any questions or needed clarification call me 585-1872 H, 953-3099 C.

Dave Santori  
President SCRA  
KF6CLG  
[dlsw@cds1.net](mailto:dlsw@cds1.net)  
707-585-1873

## March 3. 2010 Meeting Announcement

The program this month will cover signals and propagation, bouncing radio waves off of hill sides and buildings



**CDS Enterprises CDS Wireless Inc.**  
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**Steven Carniglia**  
President

725 Farmers Lane #17  
Santa Rosa, CA. 95405

707.573.3500 888.593.7348  
Fax: 707.573.3516  
[steve@cds1.net](mailto:steve@cds1.net)  
[www.cds1.net](http://www.cds1.net)

## 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

**2010 Club Officers**

<b>President</b>	Dave Santori	KF6CLG	585-1873
<b>Vice President</b>	Darryl Paule	KI6MSP	
<b>Secretary</b>	Evelyn Chavez	KI6PAY	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jack Christensen	K6ROW	
<b>Director</b>	Mike Von der Porten	AD6YB	
<b>Director</b>	John Chavez	KG6PEP	
<b>Past President</b>	Dave Harrison	W6IBC	

**Committee Lineup / Contacts**

<b>Membership</b>	John Guaraglia	KI6CAU	
<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 Gaever	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	

**Short Skip & Web Staff**

<b>Editor</b>	Dale Green	AF6OE	707 566-1989
<b>Webmaster</b>	Bob Arthur	KG6ZDN	

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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

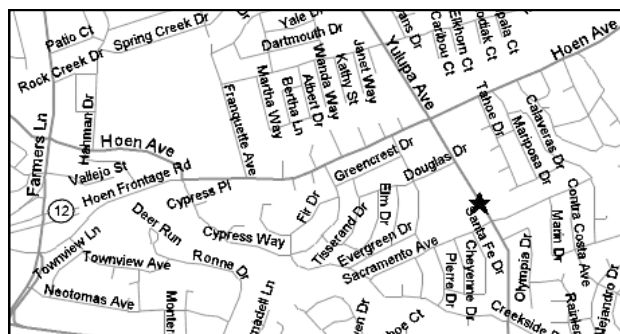
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**SCRA Club Meetings**

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

Next meeting is 7:00 PM Wednesday, March 3rd 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/>



**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, W17YN, 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**  
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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**

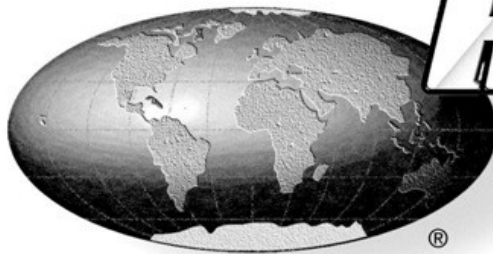
6071 Buford Hwy., 30340  
(770) 263-0700  
**(800) 444-7927**  
Mark, KJ4VO, Mgr.  
Doraville, 1 mi. no. of I-285  
atlanta@hamradio.com

**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  
**(800) 444-0047**  
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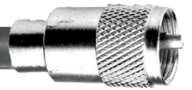
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**Call Now For Low Pricing!**



## Old Short Skip Issues

If you have old copies of Short Skip around, Mike Von der Porten, AD6YB, would like to get the Club's historical information organized. Those old Short Skips tell us much about who was doing what when.

You can either bring them to a meeting, or contact Mike at [mikevdpca@aim.com](mailto:mikevdpca@aim.com) or (707) 545-7520.

Put a note on the Short Skips indicating your name, contact info, and if you'd like them back.

Thanks,

Mike  
AD6YB



## Technician Weekend Class

The SCRA-sponsored Technician class on February 20th and 21st was a success. Thirteen students participated over the weekend – see photo. On behalf of SCRA I wish to acknowledge all those who attended the Technician course and the work that you have all done, and also welcome to Amateur Radio all those who earned their licenses through the class! Your journey has just begun; come join us and we'll help direct you down the path of your interest in Amateur Radio.

I wish to thank Darryl, KI6MSP for helping co-teach the class; a job well-done once again. I also wish to acknowledge Saraj, KU6F and Sutter, KI6ZON, who came to share their stories about how they became licensed and their interests. You were very encouraging to the group – thank you! I also wish to thank Brian, N6IYY and his team of volunteer examiners for administering the exam. I included a photo of the VE team hard at work grading papers. Brian has included a separate article about the VE session in this issue of Short Skip listing all VEs who helped out and statistics on results of the testing. Please see that article for his report!

The next SCRA Technician weekend class is scheduled for April 24th and 25th. Contact John Breckenridge for more information.

Very 73,

John, WB6FRZ  
SCRA Mentor Chair  
[wb6frz@arrl.net](mailto:wb6frz@arrl.net)  
707 217 1017



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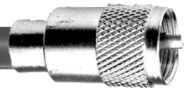
## Badges & T-Shirts

SCRA board approved the request to purchase more shirts. Dave Santori asked me if hats could be purchased also? Please let me know at the next club meeting if you would like a hat also? I will send around a list for you to check off the size & color of the shirt you would like. I still have some mediums and few small? I need your help in determining what to order? Pat Coyle asked if anyone beside himself was interested in a long sleeve shirt? I will be in contact with the shirt company and have the costs of the hats and long sleeve shirts. This is a good way to advertise our great club.

73s de Ken N6PWV







## NVIS

by  
Rich Freitas, KF6SZA  
San Francisco Section ASM/DEC

If you missed this last week's ARES training session, the subject was NVIS; if you attended the session, think of this as a "refresher". Most of this information was taken from an article on the internet that had no identified author.

NVIS, or Near Vertical Incidence Skywave, refers to a radio propagation mode which involves the use of antennas with a very high radiation angle, approaching or reaching 90 degrees (straight up), along with selection of an appropriate frequency below the critical frequency, to establish reliable communications over a radius of 0-200 miles or so, give or take 100 miles. As hams, we often faithfully follow the advice: get your antenna up as high as you can get it! We do this, and other things (like choosing antennas that have a low angle of radiation), in order to maximize the distance over which we can communicate. An antenna with a particularly high angle of radiation is often somewhat disparagingly referred to as a "cloudwarmer", the implication being that if the signal isn't radiated at a low enough angle, it's being wasted. For NVIS, we ignore all this traditional advice, and select instead techniques which will maximize not our DX, but our ability to reliably communicate with other stations within a radius of 0-300 miles.

Not just any old frequency will work for NVIS. Successful NVIS work depends on being able to select, or find (through trial and error), a frequency which will be reflected from the ionosphere even when the angle of radiation is nearly vertical. These frequencies usually are in the range of 2-10MHz, though sometimes the limit is higher. The trick is to select a frequency which is below the current critical frequency (the highest frequency which the F layer will reflect at a maximum – 90 degree – angle of incidence) but not so far below the critical frequency that the D and/or E layers mess things up too much.

There are two main types of propagation at HF, known as "groundwave" and "skywave". Groundwave propagation occurs when the receiving station is sufficiently close to the transmitting station, and is able to receive the portion of the transmitting station's signal which clings to the ground. Distances beyond the range of the groundwave signal are covered by skywaves. Skywaves are the waves which radiate upward at some angle from the antenna, and (we hope) are reflected from the ionosphere, to return to earth farther away.

Radio waves which have been radiated at a very low angle of radiation travel a long way before finally making it up to the ionosphere, strike the ionosphere at a very shallow angle and return to earth far away from their point of origin. As the angle of radiation goes up, the radio waves strike the atmosphere at a more moderate angle and return to earth closer to their point of origin. The skip zone is the region consisting

of areas of the earth's surface which are outside the radius the transmitting station's groundwave will reach, and yet not far enough away to receive reflections of skywaves.

NVIS techniques concentrate on the areas which are often in the skip zone. The idea is to radiate a signal at a frequency which is below the critical frequency, at a nearly vertical angle, and have that signal reflected from the ionosphere at a very high angle of incidence, returning to the earth at a relatively nearby location. Of course, no antenna radiates all of the signal at exactly one angle, so the best we can get is a range of angles, ranging from perfectly vertical, to nearly vertical. The portion of the signal which is radiated at a vertical, or nearly vertical, angle reflects back to earth over some radius, which is determined by the lowest angle at which the antenna radiates much signal. The good news is that the best NVIS antennas tend to be simple ones that are erected very close to the ground making them easy to set up even by one person.

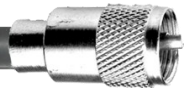
Although we've focused mainly on the transmission of signals, there is a corresponding advantage of using NVIS techniques in reception, and a trick or two that are useful mainly for reception. The advantage is that if your antenna favors high angles for transmission, it will also favor high angles for reception. When both stations are using antennas which are optimized for NVIS, the mode is favored both in transmission and reception, and those advantages add together, increasing the chances of reliable communication. Since an antenna optimized for NVIS is listening mostly to signals propagated from relatively nearby areas, and does not favor the reception of signals, static crashes, and other sources of noise and interference from more distant sources, it will not hear as much noise or interference as an antenna optimized for DX operation. The result is a better signal/noise ratio.

All of these attributes make NVIS particularly suited to radio communications in geographical regions that are poorly served by land lines or line-of-sight repeaters, and it can provide a very useful and cost effective alternative to satellite links. We all know that our repeaters, no matter how many we have, will be overloaded in a disaster event; we also know that those repeaters will eventually run out of power and become useless. NVIS also has advantages over VHF radio in many applications for built-up or forested regions as the buildings and trees introduce very significant levels of loss making these communication links virtually unworkable in many instances. In summary, the use of NVIS techniques on HF can allow reliable communications over a 0-300 mile radius making it an ideal application for emergency communications.

Many of those in attendance at the training session expressed an interest in developing NVIS capabilities. If you would like to be involved, and perhaps set up a NVIS net, please contact me at [kf6sza@gmail.com](mailto:kf6sza@gmail.com).

*The weekly ARES net for the greater Santa Rosa area meets on Mondays at 7:30 PM on 147.315 MHz,*





## Electronic Assembly Class

Want to learn how to solder? Want to put together an Amateur Radio electronics project? This is your chance!

At 6:00 PM on Friday March 19th we will meet at the Red Cross building, 5297 Aero Drive, soldering irons and PC boards in hand, to build electronic projects chosen from a list of one-evening kits.

We won't be building single-sideband transceivers in this class, but it will STILL be fun!

Here's how I would like to organize this class: I will bring a list of kits (along with prices) to the SCRA meeting on March 3rd, and will also have this list available via email for those not able to make the meeting.

Choose a kit from the list and get the cost of your kit to me. I will order them all and we have them before class on the 19th. I will supply all the soldering irons, solder, and tools needed to put the kits together. We will practice soldering skills in class before you assemble the kits. You will have help during class if you need it. We will troubleshoot any non-working kits that evening in the unlikely event that something goes wrong.

Contact me if you already have another kit in the process of being built! We can work on getting it finished if that's what you'd like to do.

Also, please contact me if you are skilled at kit-building and would like to help others learn how to put kits together! I need your assistance!

Very 73,

John, WB6FRZ  
SCRA Mentor Chair  
wb6frz@arrl.net  
707 217 1017

## Membership meeting Feb.3 2010

7:00 pm Call to order

General introductions

The program feature was an older movie about values and properties of various antennas.

Questions were taken and encouraged during the break.

There was a request for someone to assist another ham to raise an antenna.

Fred KQ6OB has a transceiver for emergency communications. The transceiver will be given to Rich KF6SZA.

Jack K6ROW reported income from the asset sale was 729.50. The total of 11,020.44 in the club accounts.

John KE5RI is waiting to measure output of UHF until the rain stops.

Mike AD6YB is looking for Short-Skip from the past.

John WB6FRZ is in the middle of the Morse code class with 11 people. There will be a Technician class on 2/21 & 2/22.

Rich KF6SZA announced that the next ARES training is on 2/22 at the Red Cross center at 7:00 pm. The subject is NVIS.

Brian N6IY announced that VE session will be held on 2/22 & 4/17.

John WB6FRZ has a signal core receiver BC312 and other equipment for sale.

Darryl KI6MSP would like to remind all via the net and Short-Skip that each month we are supporting the food bank. Please donate.

Net control operators for Feb.

2/9 Sutter KI6ZON

2/16 Darryl KI6MSP

2/23 Jim K6HKY

3/2 Brian N6IY

Announced that the next BoD meeting will be held at Star Town in Windsor on 2/10.

Pat KG6JSL won the club drawing for Feb.

Moved to close at 8:50 pm.





## Minutes SCRA Board of Directors Meeting January 13, 2010

Meeting called to order at 6:05 PM by President Dave KF6CLG. Board members present: KF6CLG, VP Darryl KI6MSP, Treasurer Jack K6ROW, At Large Member Mike AD6YB, Past President Dave W6IBC. SCRA Members present John WB6FRZ, Brian N6IYY, John KE5RI, Pat KG6JSL. Board members absent: Secretary Evelyn KI6PAY and At Large Member John KG6PEP.

Minutes from December Board meeting not yet available, consideration tabled.

Motion to appoint following committee chairs approved, subject to acceptance of position by appointed member: Legal and Antenna, Lee KE6EAQ; Membership Mike AD6YB; ARES Liaison Rich KF6SZA; Mentoring John WB6FRZ; Public Service Craig K6XLT; Repeater/Station Trustee John KE5RI; VE Liaison Brian N6IYY; Webmaster Bob KG6ZDN; Field Day Brian N6IYY.

Motion to support following public service events approved: Lake Sonoma 50 footrace; MS Walk; Wine Country Century bike tour; Human Race; Tour of California (Santa Rosa segment) bike race; Terrible Two bike tour; Spring Hill Bike Road Race; MS Waves to Wine bike tour; Leipheimer Gran-Fondo bike tour.

Reports: Membership Chair AD6YB will contact members about membership renewal by email, followed up by mailed letter. Mentoring Chair John WB6FRZ outlined schedule of proposed classes, approved by motion. Raffle, 50-50 raffle will be continued in 2010. Treasurer Jack K6ROW reported bank balances and noted that the January 2010 membership meeting swap meet netted the club \$751.50 in proceeds from sale of donated assets. Treasurer will present proposed budget for board approval at February meeting, for presentation to membership at March meeting. Repeater Chair John KE5RI reported on status of repeater systems, and deferred presentation of report on Castle Rock 222 MHz restoration project. Section Manager Bill KH6GJV sent communication to Board from ARRL Official Ed Hare W1RFI offering to conduct computer model of SCRA's English Hill 440 MHz repeater. Motion to have KE5RI proceed with study and follow up with W1RFI approved and report results to board was approved.

February meeting to feature either Section Manager Bill KH6GJV or antenna movie provided by John WB6FRZ, depending on Bill's availability.

Pat KG6JSL: agreed to maintain primary custody of Club Toaster van in 2010.

Mike AD6YB moved to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Harrison W6IBC  
Past President, acting Secretary

## VE Sessions

On Sunday, February 21, SCRA sponsored a VE session in conjunction with the Technician Video Course taught by John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ. There were 13 candidates. Ten candidates earned their Technician class license and two earned a General class license. Very excellent results!

I would like to extend my thanks to all the VEs that helped make this session possible: Dave Harrison, W6IBC, Dave New, AA6YX, Rick Sealock, N6RXA, Jim Kershner, K6HKY, Greg Bartlett, KI6TID, and John Chavez, KG6PEP.

If you've been studying for a new license or upgrade, your next opportunity to take your test is coming up on Saturday, April 17. SCRA will be hosting VE exams on April 17, 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.

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"

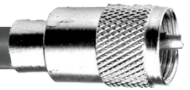
Calculators may be used, but it must be demonstrated that all memories and programs have been erased. The calculator function in a cell phone or PDA may not be used! If you have any special needs, please contact Brian Torr, N6IYY in advance.

Good Luck!

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







## Minutes of the Board of Director's Meeting 2/10/10

### Attendance

Dave KF6CLG, Brian N6IY, Jack K6ROW,  
Darryl KI6MSP, Dave W6IBC, John KG6PEP,  
John KE5RI, Evelyn KI6PAY, John WB6FRZ

The meeting was called to order at 6:11p.m. at Star Town Restaurant in Windsor.

The minutes of the last Board of Director's meeting were read and approved. Motion to approve by Jack K6ROW.

V.P. Report Darryl KI6MSP reported that he is working on the upcoming programs and has a message in to Bill Hillendahl for March.

Treasurer's Report No changes since the last membership meeting.

Secretary's Report None

Past President Dave W6IBC asked if any appointed committee chairs had refused their positions. No one has refused. Dave W6IBC will assist Bob KG6ZDN the Webmaster, but objected to being called the assistant. Dave also reminded the board that the by-laws require that published materials be cleared through the president.

Dir. at Large John KG6PEP informed the board that Pacificon will be held in San Ramon on the same weekend in October as Jamboree on the Air. He requested help for JOTA. It was suggested that he approach the membership at upcoming meetings for increased help.

### Old Business

The March program is VHF Signals and Propagation. It was suggested that Darryl KI6MSP contact Al Bloom.

The April program is Accessorize the Shack. Dave W6IBC offered do a hidden antenna presentation.

Two future program suggestions were KPH, the maritime radio station, and the Power and Implement Museum in Penngrove. John WB6FRZ will check on the Power and Implement Museum.

Dave W6IBC has been asked to head the Lake Sonoma 50.

John WB6FRZ reported 11 students in his code class and 11 students in the tech class. He stated that students are encouraged to join SCRA.

The BoD suggested that the membership chair follow

up with email and letters if needed to increase membership retention.

Bob WB6TGI the raffle chair has agreed to stay on in this capacity.

John KE5RI reported that he is looking into improving the repeater system improvements. There were several requests by members of the board to go on the next trips to the repeaters.

Dave KF6CLG said that he is trying to insure the accuracy of the mailing list. There was a question about the subject line and a test was devised.

Jack K6ROW had questions about equipment insurance. The cost is about \$150.00 per year. No action was taken.

Jack K6ROW requested that the BoD reorder club t-shirts. Dave W6IBC and Darryl KI6MSP moved to approve reordering needed sizes of shirts not to exceed \$500.00. The motion was approved.

Jack K6ROW reported proposed budget figures 2010. There were some questions concerning the comm. van and field day expenses. The BoD scheduled an audit as required in our bylaws. The annual budget will be finalized after the audit. Dave W6IBC and John KG6PEP were appointed by the president to be on the audit committee.

### New Business:

Brian N6IY requested a check for \$320 for park reservations for our field day activity.

John WB6FRZ requested a check for \$200 to advance the educational activities of the club. The request was approved.

John KG6PEP reported that 2010 is the 100 anniversary of The Boy Scouts of America. He requested help if the signaling merit badge is offered as planned and also requested help at Camporee with Morse code signaling activities. Brian N6IY suggested a voice powered CW activity. Dave KF6CLG offered to put request in our short-skip.

Darryl KI6MSP and Dave W6IBC moved to approve future BoD meetings to be held at Star Town restaurant. Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Evelyn KI6PAY







## CONTEST CORNER by Kevin Alt, K6BSG

Hello testers. The contest list was not updated on the ARRL web site as of Feb 23, so I've updated last year's March contests by checking their websites. Don't miss the CQWW Phone contest the last week-end of the month. Happy DX'ing!

2 Mar – YL-CW-Party – CW, 80 meters. See:

[www.agcw.org](http://www.agcw.org)

6 Mar – DARC 10-Meter Digital "Corona" – Digital, 10 meters. See: [www.darc.de/referate/ukw-funksport/](http://www.darc.de/referate/ukw-funksport/)

6-7 Mar – ARRL International DX – SSB, 160-10 meters.

See: [www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests)

6-7 Mar – Open Ukraine RTTY Championship – Digital, 160-10 meters. See: [www.ucc.zp.ua](http://www.ucc.zp.ua)

7 Mar – UBA Spring Contest – CW, 80 meters. See:

[www.uba.be](http://www.uba.be)

13 Mar – QRP Contest – CW, 80-10 meters. See:

[www.agcw.org](http://www.agcw.org)

13-14 Mar – Heavy Metal Rally – Phone/CW, 80-10 meters. See: [www.xelrcq.org](http://www.xelrcq.org)

13-14 Mar – EA PSK31 Contest – Digital, 80-10 meters.

See: [www.ure.es](http://www.ure.es)

13-14 Mar – Idaho QSO Party – All modes, 160 meters – 70 cm. See: [www.nx7tt.com](http://www.nx7tt.com)

14 Mar – UBA Spring Contest 6M – SSB/CW, 6 meters.

See: [www.uba.be](http://www.uba.be)

14 Mar – North American RTTY Sprint – Digital, 80-20

meters. See: [www.ncjweb.com](http://www.ncjweb.com)

14-15 Mar – Wisconsin QSO Party – All modes, all bands.

See: [www.warac.org](http://www.warac.org)

18 Mar – 9KCC Contest – SSB/CW, 15 meters. See:

[www.9k2hn.com/9kcc](http://www.9k2hn.com/9kcc)

20 Mar – VHF-UHF Contest – CW, 2 meters and 70 cm.

See: [www.agcw.org](http://www.agcw.org)

20 Mar – 10-10 Mobile QSO Party – All modes, 10 meters.

See: [www.ten-ten.org](http://www.ten-ten.org)

20-21 Mar – Russian DX Contest – All modes, 160-10 meters.

See: [www.rdx.org](http://www.rdx.org)

20-21 Mar – Oklahoma QSO Party – All modes, 160-6 meters. See: [www.okdxa.org](http://www.okdxa.org)

20-21 Mar – North Dakota QSO Party – Phone/CW, 160-2 meters. See: [k0ln.com](http://k0ln.com)

20-22 Mar – Virginia QSO Party – All modes, 160 meters – 70 cm. See: [www.qsl.net/sterling/VA\\_QSO\\_Party](http://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party)

20-21 Mar – BARTG Spring RTTY Contest – Digital, 80-10 meters. See: [www.bartg.org.uk](http://www.bartg.org.uk)

21 Mar – QRP ARCI HF Grid Square Sprint – CW, 80-10 meters. See: [www.qrparci.org](http://www.qrparci.org)

27-28 Mar – EU EME Contest – Phone/CW, 2 meters and 10 GHz+. See: [www.dubus.org](http://www.dubus.org)

27-28 Mar – CQ WPX SSB Contest – SSB, 160-10 meters.

See: [www.cqwpw.com](http://www.cqwpw.com)

### 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](mailto: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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

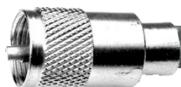
Badge \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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



## **Tentative Programs for 2010:**

### **March—Signals and Propagation**

The program this month will cover signals and propagation, bouncing radio waves off of hill sides and buildings

**Remaining 2010 Programs TBD....**

## **Tentative 2010 Club Activities:**

**March 27:** Lake Sonoma 50 Foot Race

**April 11:** Spring Hill Road Race (TBC)

**April 25:** MS Walk - Santa Rosa (TBC)

**April 30-May 2:** Emcomm West - Reno Nevada

**May 1:** Wine County Century Bicycle Tour

**May 8:** Human Race - Santa Rosa

**May 17:** Tour of California Bicycle Race - Santa Rosa Segment

**June 6:** Event TBD

**June 19:** Terrible Two Bicycle Tour

**June 26-27:** Field Day

**August 14-15:** PCAM “Wings over Wine Country” Air Show

**September 25-26:** 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.  
P.O. Box 116  
Santa Rosa, California  
95402-0116**

**Return Service Requested**