



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>

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REPEATER STATION  
W6SON

Volume 36, Number 1

January 2011



## January SCRA Update

by Darryl Paule, KI6MSP  
SCRA President

I have been a ham radio operator since November 2007.

I got my General Upgrade in July 2009. Currently working on my Extra upgrade.

I have a Kenwood TS 430s that I use for my HF contacts. I use an inverted "V" dipole for my 40m contacts. I recently built a home brew Buddistick that I use for my 20m and other bands. I really enjoyed building the home brew buddistick. I learned a lot. Isn't this is what part of ham radio is about?

I've had alot of contacts in various parts of North America. Especially several contacts in Hawaii Where I've used my buddistick on 20M. My first out of country contact was in Vancouver, Canada.

As this New Year begins with a new board of directors I look forward to an exciting year of classes from technician to c w, as well as the important public service events that the club participates in. I also look forward to new opportunities to participate in other community events that will support the club in growing. If anyone has ideas for the club, please send them to me and I will present them to the BOD or you're welcome to come to the BOD meetings the second Wednesday of each month.

My email is [ki6msp@arrl.net](mailto:ki6msp@arrl.net)

Since part of amateur radio is participating in our community, I want to thank all of those who have participated in the food drive campaign this year. The

Redwood Empire Food bank was the recipient of our collective efforts. We donated about 800 pounds of food. I look forward to continuing this campaign to support those in need of food.

The club will have new programs each month at the club meetings to continue to educate and inform all of us in amateur radio. If anyone has any ideas of programs or field trips for the club, please email me at the address above.

One of the new things that are now available for club members is a Google group where members can ask those technical questions that can't wait until the club meeting. This also can be used as a forum to ask questions about anything related to amateur radio.

There will be a presentation about this new way to communicate about your questions. This presentation will be presented by Charlie KZ6T. Charlie is also the creator and moderator of this new forum. Thanks Charlie.

73  
Darryl  
KI6MSP



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## 2011 Club Officers

President	Darryl M. Paule ki6msp@arrl.net	KI6MSP 707-544-8874
Vice President	Charlie Sikes	KZ6T
Vice President Treasurer	Jack Christensen	K6ROW
Secretary	Evelyn Chavez	KI6PAY
Director	John Felton	KE5RI
	John Chavez	KG6PEP
Past President	Dave Santori	KF6CLG

## Committee Lineup/Contacts

Membership Program	Mike Von der Porten	AD6YB	
	Charlie Sikes	KZ6T	
EmComm	Rich Freitas	KF6SZA	
Field Day	Brian Torr	N6IYY	707-575-5871
Activity			
Public Service	Craig Gaever	K6XLT	707-545-4133
Mentoring	John Breckenridge	WB6FRZ	707-217-1017
Repeater	John Felton	KE5RI	
Volunteer Exam			
Liaison	Brian Torr	N6IYY	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			
Member Badges	Ken Rawles	N6PWV	

## Short Skip & Web Staff

Editor	Donald Laird	WE4MOO
	we4moo@donaldlaird.com	
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 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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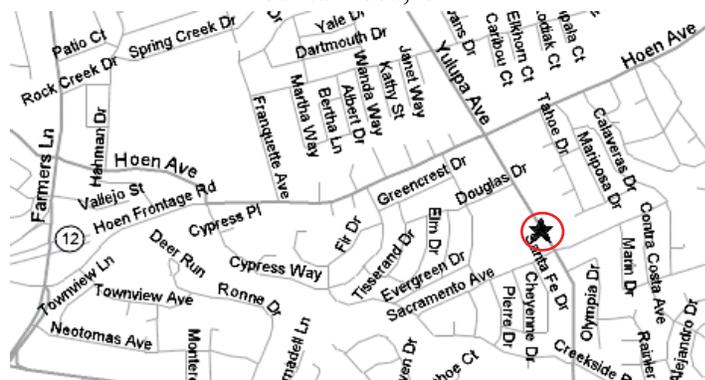


## SCRA Club Meetings

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

Meeting location:

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.pdarrl.org/sfsec/>



## Message from the new editor:

Hello everyone. I'm Donald Laird (WE4MOO), the new Short Skip editor. I received my Operator and General licenses in 2009 - I had to keep up with my son Sutter (KI6ZON)!

Please drop me an email at [we4moo@donaldlaird.com](mailto:we4moo@donaldlaird.com) if you have any feedback, ideas, or suggestions about ways to improve Short Skip.

Thanks!  
Donald

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## SCRA online user group

Have a question about Ham radio, or an announcement for the SCRA membership, but just can't wait for the weekly net? Announcing the formation of an online user group for the SCRA membership at large.

So maybe you are a new ham and would like help in setting up your shack, or need to know just how long should that 1/2 wave balun be on your 2 meter yagi. Post it here, sit back, and watch all the different opinions come flooding in. Elmers are just waiting to show off their expertise.

Is there a Ham Radio event or contest you want to bring to the attention of the Club? As long as it relates to Ham Radio or our Club, is not derogatory in nature, and abides by Ham Radio rules and standards, all questions and announcements are welcomed.

This forum is only open to active members of SCRA.

How to participate?

On January 1st 2011, every member of SCRA with a listed email address should receive an email invitation from Google Groups to join the SCRA forum. Simply follow the link and you're in. Didn't receive an invitation? Send an email to [kz6t@arrl.net](mailto:kz6t@arrl.net) asking to be let in and we will fix you up right away.

More questions?

On Wednesday January 5th, at the Club meeting, there will be a short demonstration on how to access and use the forum.

## January Program: The Debut of Ham Radio Wheel of Fortune!

SCRA is expanding its game show lineup. We've done Ham Radio Squares (a take-off on Hollywood Squares) and Ham Radio Jeopardy. But this January will be the debut "episode" of Ham Radio Wheel of Fortune. All names, phrases, titles, and more will be ham-radio related.

The format is similar to the popular TV game show, but there will be some differences. Vowels can be purchased for 200 points. Consonants will be worth anywhere from 100 points to 2500 points, depending upon the spin of the wheel. There will be one or two "Lose a Turn" spaces on the wheel, but no "Bankrupt!" space. There will also be a "Free Spin" available for some rounds.

One very key difference is that Vanna White will not be there to turn the letters. This is just as well as there will not be a board with letters to be turned.

Prizes will be awarded (but no cash prizes). Your host will be Brian Torr, N6IYY (we couldn't get Pat Sajak, either).

Come, Play, and Have Fun!

73,  
Brian, N6IYY

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## Note from a member:

If your printer uses HP 56 / 57 or Lexmark 70 / 80 or Epson TO37 cartridges, please contact Mike AD6YB at [mikevdpca@aim.com](mailto:mikevdpca@aim.com).

He has switched personal printers and has a good supply of good cartridges.

A good (for buyer!) price will be worked out."

73s,  
Mike



**ANAHEIM, CA**  
(Near Disneyland)  
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anaheim@hamradio.com

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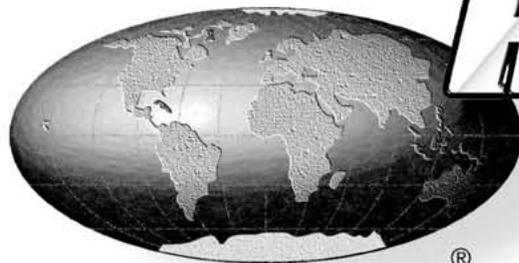
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- CTCSS/DCS Encode/Decode built in

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## VE Sessions

Our next VE exam is scheduled for Saturday, January 15, 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, N6IY in advance.

The next session after the January session will be on Saturday, April 16, 2011, also at the Blood Bank of the Redwoods.

Good Luck!

Brian Torr, N6IY  
n6iiy@arrl.net  
(707) 575-5871

### 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 via email? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

#### Dues & Fees: March 1 to 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	\$ _____
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

**Mail to:** SCRA, P.O. Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402





## CONTEST CORNER by Kevin Alt, K6BSG

Hello testers. Lots of activity in January to keep your ham shack warm during the cold winter nights. Of course, if you don't mind the cold, you can check out the Winter Field Day on the last weekend of the month. Happy DX'ing!

1 Jan – **ARRL Straight Key Night** – CW, 80-6 meters. See: [www.arrl.org/straight-key-night](http://www.arrl.org/straight-key-night).

1 Jan – **New Years Snowball Contest** – SSB/CW, 80 meters. See: [ev5agb.com/index.htm](http://ev5agb.com/index.htm).

1 Jan – **SARTG New Year RTTY Contest** – 80-40 meters. See: [www.sartg.com](http://www.sartg.com).

1 Jan – **AGCW Happy New Year Contest** – CW, 80-20 meters. See: [www.agcw.com](http://www.agcw.com).

1-2 Jan – **Original QRP Contest** – CW, 80-20 meters. See: [www.qrpsc.de](http://www.qrpsc.de).

2 Jan – **Kid's Day** – SSB, 80-10 meters. See: [www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/kd-rules.html](http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/kd-rules.html).

4 Jan – **ARS Spartan Sprint** – CW, 80-10 meters. See: [www.arsqrp.blogspot.com](http://www.arsqrp.blogspot.com).

7 Jan – **NS Weekly Sprint** – CW, 160-20 meters. See: [www.nccsprint.com/rules.html](http://www.nccsprint.com/rules.html).

8 Jan – **EUCW 160- Meter Contest** – CW, 160 meters. See: [www.uft.net](http://www.uft.net).

8 Jan – **070 PSKFest** – Digital, 80-10 meters. See: [www.podxs070.com](http://www.podxs070.com).

8-9 Jan – **Hunting Lions in the Air** – all modes, 160-10 meters. See: [lionshuntingintheair.lionwap.org](http://lionshuntingintheair.lionwap.org).

8-9 Jan – **WW Peace Messenger Cities** – SSB/CW, 160-10 meters. See: [www.s59dcd.si](http://www.s59dcd.si).

8-9 Jan – **MI QRP Club Jan QRP Contest** – CW, 160-6 meters. See: [www.miqrp.org](http://www.miqrp.org).

8-9 Jan – **ARRL RTTY Roundup** – RTTY, 80-10 meters. See: [www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests).

8-9 Jan – **North American QSO Party** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: [www.ncjweb.com/naqprules.php](http://www.ncjweb.com/naqprules.php).

9 Jan – **DARC 10 Meter Contest** – SSB/CW. See: [www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedcz.htm](http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedcz.htm).

9 Jan – **Midwinter QSO Party** – SSB/CW, 80-10 meters. See: [traffibureau.veron.nl](http://traffibureau.veron.nl).

12 Jan – **CWopsMini-CWT Test** – CW, 80-20 meters. See: [www.cwops.org/onair.html](http://www.cwops.org/onair.html).

12 Jan – **Linc Cundall Memorial CW Contest** – CW, 160-40 meters. See: [www.antiquewireless.org/hamevents2010.htm](http://www.antiquewireless.org/hamevents2010.htm).

15 Jan – **LZ Open Contest** – CW, 80-40 meters. See: [www.lzopen.com](http://www.lzopen.com).

15 Jan – **International United Teenager Contest** – Phone/CW, all bands. See: [www.qrz.ru/contest/detail/140.html](http://www.qrz.ru/contest/detail/140.html).

15 Jan – **Feld-Hell Gridloc Sprint** – digital, 160-10 meters. See: [www.feldhellclub.org](http://www.feldhellclub.org).

15-16 Jan – **UK DX RTTY Contest** – RTTY, 80-10 meters. See: [www.ukdx.srars.org](http://www.ukdx.srars.org).

15-16 Jan – **HA DX Contest** – SSB/CW, 160-10 meters. See: [www.ha-dx.com](http://www.ha-dx.com).

15-16 Jan – **North American QSO Party** – SSB, 160-10 meters. See: [www.ncjweb.com/naqprules.php](http://www.ncjweb.com/naqprules.php).

20 Jan – **NAQCC Monthly QRP Sprint** – CW, 80-20 meters. See: [home.windstream.net/yoel/](http://home.windstream.net/yoel/).

20 Jan – **Locust QSO Party** – CW, 80-40 meters. See: [www.k6vva.com/lqp](http://www.k6vva.com/lqp).

22-23 Jan – **YLISSB QSO Party** – SSB, 160-10 meters. See: [www.ylssystem.org](http://www.ylssystem.org).

22-23 Jan – **BARTG RTTY Sprint** – 80-10 meters. See: [www.bartg.org.uk](http://www.bartg.org.uk).

22-24 Jan – **ARRL January VHF Sweepstake** – Phone/CW, 6 meters and up. See: [www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests).

28-30 Jan – **CQ WW 160 Meter Contest** – CW, 160 meters. See: [www.cq160.com](http://www.cq160.com).

29-30 Jan – **REF French Contest** – CW, 80-10 meters. See: [www.ref-union.org/concours](http://www.ref-union.org/concours).

29-30 Jan – **UBA Contest** – SSB, 80-10 meters. See: [www.uba.be/en/hf](http://www.uba.be/en/hf).

29-30 Jan – **Winter Field Day** – all modes, all bands. See: [www.spar-hams.org](http://www.spar-hams.org).

29 Jan – **WAB Top Band Phone Contest** – SSB, 160 meters. See: [www.worked-all-britain.co.uk/contest](http://www.worked-all-britain.co.uk/contest).

31 Jan – 1 Feb – **Classic Exchange** – CW, 160-2 meters. See: [www.classicexchange.org](http://www.classicexchange.org).



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Return Service Requested