



CLUB STATION
K6SON

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>

Repeaters:

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REPEATER STATION
W6SON

Volume 36, Number 5

May 2011



May SCRA Update

by Darryl Paule, KI6MSP
SCRA President

The Human Race is next weekend and there is still time to make a contribution to the Volunteer Center and to your club. Just go to sonomacountyradioamateurs.com, and scroll down to the link to the Volunteer Center to make your contribution. This supports the [Volunteer Center](#) in providing the many services for our community, as well as benefiting SCRA.

Last month we had a presentation by Austin Sharp and Jerry Hinshaw from PG&E on the Smart Meter program that is being implemented by PG&E. There was a lot of good information on how the system works and information on the RF that you read about in the news.

Field Day is just about two months away. This is a great opportunity to show the public what amateur radio is about. It is also an opportunity for you to have a lot of fun in learning and operating different modes of the amateur radio bands. Field Day is June 25th and 26th. It will be held at the Youth Park across from Piner High School, on Piner Road. See the [Field Day](#) tab on the club Web site.

Donated items: There were a lot of donated items to SCRA from a SK. I don't recall his call sign. The items were donated by his son. Details are at this month's club meeting.

Redwood Empire food Bank: The club donated about 800 pounds of food to the food bank last year. To date we have donated about 20 pounds. There are still a lot of people in our community that we live in that are in need of food. Please bring a few items to the next club meeting to be donated.

Continue to check the [club Web site](#) for current information on events, classes.

On behalf of Sonoma County Radio Amateurs we send our condolences to Jim's W2EWE family.

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
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 Activity	Brian Torr	N6IYY	707-575-5871
Public Service	Craig Gaever	K6XLT	707-545-4133
Education	John Breckenridge	WB6FRZ	707-217-1017
Repeater	John Felton	KE5RI	
Volunteer Exam Liaison	Brian Torr	N6IYY	707-575-5871
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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	John Chavez	KG6PEP	
Member Badges	Ken Rawles	N6PWV	

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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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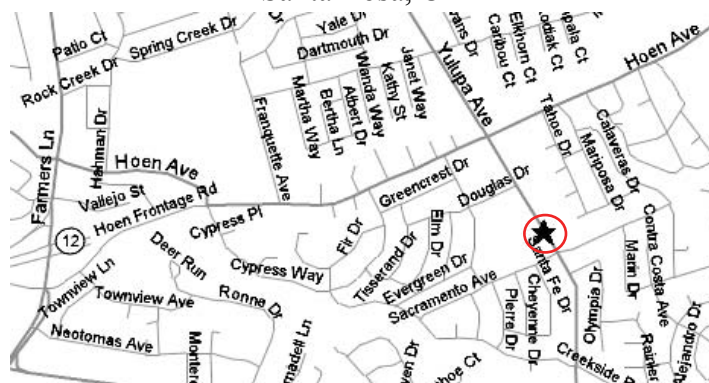


SCRA Club Meetings

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 Star Restaurant,

1350 Farmers Lane, 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 this Web site:

<http://www.arrl.org/Groups/view/san-francisco>



Jim Mc Laughlin, WA2EWE, SK

James (Jim) McLaughlin Jr., WA2EWE, was killed in Afghanistan on Wednesday, April 27 near the Kabul International Airport. Jim was the civilian contractor killed along with eight military personnel by an Afghan pilot.

SCRA members remember Jim as a very active ham who loved DX.

He was an active member of ACS, the Auxiliary Communications Service led by Sonoma County.

In 1992, Jim served as Treasurer for SCRA. In October 2008, Jim

gave a presentation to SCRA on "E-Mail over Ham Radio" in which Jim demonstrated sending and receiving emails over VHF and HF radio using Airmail software. Jim was noted as a public service volunteer.



In August 1995, the Club noted that "WA2EWE's no-code Technician class at Elsie Allen HS has 11 students."

Operating as T6AF, Jim was one of the first hams to get an amateur license to operate in Afghanistan. Other amateurs noted Jim's willingness to teach amateur radio and to help others get their Afghani licenses. Jim's web postings just a week before his death show 4,359 contacts using RTTY, PSK, CW and SSB. Jim was active with MARS,

the Army Military Auxiliary Radio System.

Jim is survived by his wife Sandy and his sons Adam KD6POC, James and Eve McLaughlin-Suttif.

The [Press Democrat](#) ran an [obituary](#) on May 2nd.

Funeral Service is this Saturday (5/7) @ 11:00 AM - Eggen & Lance Chapel in Santa Rosa.

Jim's friendly presence and willingly-shared expertise will be missed.

Want to get your call sign on your automobile license plates?

It's pretty simple. Pull up the form at <http://dmv.ca.gov/forms/reg/reg17a.pdf>

Fill it out and mail it in with a copy of your amateur license and a one-time fee of \$21.



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933 N. Euclid St., 92801
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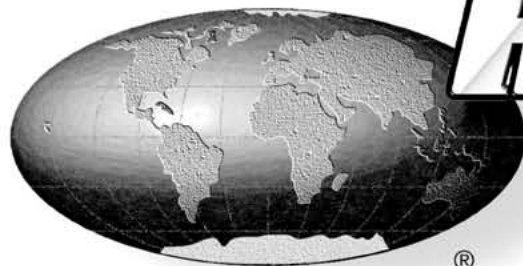
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Great Price!



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- Multiple DSP controlled AGC loops
- Advanced CW functions
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The Ultimate Radio!



DJ-196T 2M/HT

- 5 Watt out
- 40 memories
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DR-135TP 2M mobile

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- Front Panel GPS in • Rear DB-9 port
- CTCSS/DCS Encode/Decode built in

Low Pricing!



Public Service Roundup for May

May 7 will shortly be history when we will have supported two events at once. The Wine Country Century will be this weekend along with the Human Race. There are still a few slots left for the WCC so if you're interested, we'll put you to work. Next up though is the Terrible Two on 18 June. There's a great variety of superb rest stop sites, so get your pitch in now for the spot of your choice. We can always use SAGs too. We'll have a wrap up for the WCC next month.

Event	Comm Boss
5/7: Wine Country Century	K6XLT, Craig
5/7: Human Race	KI6MSP, Darryl
5/21: Rose Parade	TBD
6/18: Terrible Two	K6XLT, Craig
8/6: Mendocino Rally	KG6JSL, Pat
9/17-18: MS Waves to Wine	tbd
10/1: Levi's Gran Fondo	K6XLT, Craig

Craig
K6XLT
Public Service Wrangler k6xlt@sonic.net



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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

Payment Calculations: Make checks payable to SCRA

Dues - Full Year	\$ _____
Dues - Prorated ____ Qts. x \$ ____/qtr	\$ _____
Badge	\$ _____
Other - _____	\$ _____
Donation	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

Badge Information

Call Sign _____

First Name _____

City _____

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





VE Sessions

We had a very successful VE Session on April 16. We had a total seven candidates and everyone walked away with either a new license or an upgrade. Congratulations to all! I would also like to thank the VEs that assisted in this session: John, WB6FRZ, Rick, N6GY, Darryl, KI6MSP, and Dan, WA6CRB.

Our next VE exam session is scheduled for Saturday, May 21, from 9am until noon, at the Blood Bank of the Redwoods, 2324 Bethards Dr. in Santa Rosa. This session was scheduled for the students of a class that John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ, is teaching. However, since that class is relatively small (~7 students), we are opening up the session to others who contact me via e-mail, until our limit of 12 candidates is reached.

We will NOT be accepting walk-ins at the May 21 session!!

After that, we will have an open session on Saturday, June 25 at our Field Day site at Youth Community Park, across from Piner High School on Fulton Rd in Santa Rosa. We will be accepting walk-ins at this session. All test elements will be administered.

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, N6IIY in advance.

Good Luck!

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

SCRA Sponsoring Mini-DXpedition to CM79

Over the weekend of August 12-14th SCRA will mount a mini-DXpedition to Northern California's Lost Coast to activate Grid Square CM79, a narrow slice of uninhabited land on the rugged north coast. The rest of CM79 lies in the Pacific Ocean.

Grid Squares (not really square or rectangular, but close) are of particular interest to hams who search for DX on the VHF and UHF bands. Our club plans to be active on 6 meters, 2 meters, 430, satellite, APRS, and high frequency, using a special event callsign N6T. We have to pack in our equipment to the operating location, about two miles from camp, so power output and antennas will be limited in scope.

We plan to base our operations at a group camp site within the U.S. Bureau of Land Management's Wailaki Campground, located about 20 miles west of Garberville. The campground is a drive-in facility.

This event is being chaired by Charlie KZ6T. If you would like to participate, please contact Charlie at KZ6T@arrl.net. More information will be provided as planning continues.

73, Dave W6IBC
Event Information Chair.



Austin Sharp giving part of the PG&E presentation at the 4/6/2011 meeting.





Minutes of SCRA General Meeting 4/6/2011

Called to order by Darryl KI6MSP.

Introductions

The program was a presentation by two PG&E men; Austin Sharp on the new Smart Meter and the installation process and Jerry Hinshaw N6JH on the radio communications of the meter. This was informative and they answered many questions. Thank you to both.

Charlie KZ6T asked for more volunteers to review the bylaws.

He also asked for signups for the Mini DXpedition to the lost coast; [information is on the Web site](#).

Jack K6ROW reported a balance in the treasury of \$16635.00 with expenses of \$1209.00 for the van, field day, and room rent to date. The income has been \$3761.91 from donations and dues.

Darryl said that John KE5RI, who was not present, has ordered parts for IRLP for the repeater.

John WB6FRZ reported that the code class is ending soon. He has a General class with Jeff assisting and an Extra class with Al starting 4/22 at the Red Cross from 6P.M. to 9P.M. and lasting 10 sessions. He said there are only 2 people for the extra class and it may be can-

celed. He also thanked Bob Arthur for his assistance in the code class.

Brian N6IYY announced the next 2 test days as 4/16 and 6/25.

Mike AD6YB requested that members who have not paid dues please do so.

Craig K6XLT announced upcoming service and requested assistance. 4/17 MS Walk 5/7 Wine Country Century and also the Human Race Possibly in May is the Rose Parade

Pat KG6JSL said that he had 20 hams from SCRA, 2 from the rally people and 0 from Mendocino signed up to help thus far, and is still looking for more. He also said that the radio in the van has been replaced.

Net Control:

4/12	Craig	K6XLT
4/19	John	WB6FRZ
4/26	Steve	KI6TUR
5/3	Charlie	KZ6T

Adjourned at 8:37 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Evelyn KI6PAY

2011 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Date	Program	Presenter
May 4, 2011	Mini Swap Meet / Auction	
Jun 1, 2011	Field Day	Field Day Chairman
Jul 6, 2011	Mobile Installation Showcase	
Aug 3, 2011	Boat Anchor / Homebrew	
Sep 7, 2011	Fox hunting / IRLP / Echolink	KE5RI / KG6PEP
Oct 5, 2011	Test Equipment	N6IYY / WB6FRZ
Nov 2, 2011	Elections / Game Night	
Dec 7, 2011	Holiday Party, No Program	



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