



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>

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REPEATER STATION
W6SON

Volume 36, Number 12

December 2011



December SCRA Update

by Darryl Paule, KI6MSP
SCRA President

This past year has seen many new opportunities for SCRA. These new opportunities are the:

- Ham Radio demonstration at HSC
- Mendocino Rally
- Mini Dxpedition
- North Bay Science Festival

It is very exciting to have these new opportunities and show the community what Ham Radio is all about.

We also participated in the other public service events:

- MS Walk
- Human Race
- Rose Parade
- T2
- PCAM
- W2W
- Gran Fondo.

In addition to the Technician, General, and Extra classes it has been a very busy and enjoyable year. Next year there is the possibility of more events and classes.

I want to thank Craig K6XLT, Pat KG6JSL, and Charlie KZ6T in particular for their leadership in supporting these major events.

I also want to thank:

- Charlie KZ6T, Vice President
- Jack K6ROW, Treasurer

- Evelyn KI6PAY, Secretary
- John KG6PEP, Director and Raffles
- John KE5RI Director and Repeater Trustee for serving on the Board of Directors this past year.

I also want to thank Donald WE4MOO for his work on being the Short Skip Editor, and Sutter KI6ZON for his innovative and continuing support of the SCRA Web site.

I also want to thank the different presenters for their monthly presentations:

- Pat KG6JSL Soldering
- Bill WB6JAO Marine communications
- Charlie KZ6T for putting together the first Skype presentation by Bradford K6LCS on working satellites.
- Brian N6IIY for test equipment and ham radio Wheel of Fortune

I also want to welcome the new members to the BOD for the 2012 year:

- Steve KI6TUR Treasurer
- Mike AD6YB Secretary
- Brian N6IIY Director
- Dave W6IBC Director

I also want to welcome Jeff KI6PBF who is the new Education Committee chair person.

The BOD meetings are the second Wednesday of the month at Star Restaurant at 6PM. All club members are invited to attend at any time.

December 7th is the SCRA annual Christmas/Holiday and Recognition dinner. The recognition is honoring those who made contributions to amateur radio and to

Continued on page 3



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 | Mike Von der Porten | AD6YB | |
| Program | Charlie Sikes | KZ6T | |
| EmComm | Rich Freitas | KF6SZA | |
| Field Day | Brian Torr | N6IYY | 707-575-5871 |
| Activity | | | |
| 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 |
| 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 | John Chavez | KG6PEP | |
| Member Badges | Ken Rawles | N6PWV | |

Short Skip & Web Staff

| | | |
|-----------|------------------------|--------|
| Editor | Donald Laird | WE4MOO |
| | we4moo@donaldlaird.com | |
| Webmaster | Sutter Laird | KI6ZON |

| | |
|---------------|---|
| 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 |

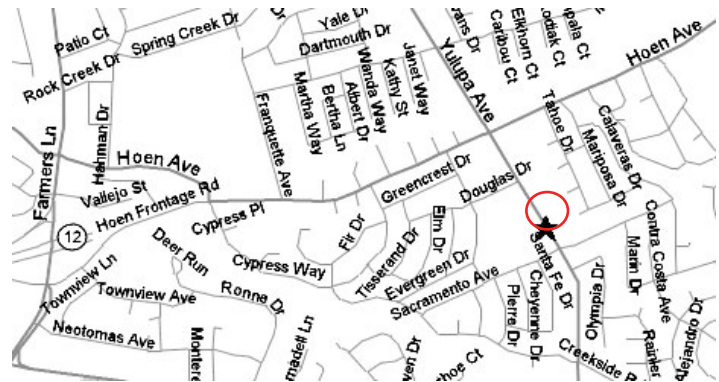
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SCRA Club Meetings

The club normally meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm. 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>



President's Message, continued

SCRA. The Ham of the Year will also be presented. There will be various "gifts" drawn by raffle, with the grand "gift" a Yaesu FT 1900 2m radio.

This is also an opportunity to bring a contribution of food to support the Redwood Empire Food Bank. This is a community event that I started two years ago. Part of amateur radio is supporting our community that we live, work, and play in. Unfortunately there are a lot of people in our community, especially children that don't have enough food or very little. Last year we contributed about 800 pounds of food through the year. To date we are close to about 400 pounds. Please contribute what you can!

I have enjoyed serving as club president this past year, and look forward to another year of serving SCRA in having a great fun, exciting, and learning more about this great hobby and providing the communications needed in necessity in the event of a disastrous event.

Happy Holidays

73

Darryl

KI6MSP

SCRA Forum

Charlie KZ6T

Are you aware that there is an online forum specifically for SCRA members? There are 47 of you out there that have not signed up to take advantage of the service. Take a look in your email inbox, or maybe in your spam folder, because on November 3rd there was a mass mailing made to members that have not previously signed up to join. Look for a notice from Google Groups, then come and join us. If you can't find the invitation, send me an email at KZ6T@arrl.net and I will resend the invitation. If you recently received a notice about the group buy of emergency vests than you are on the forum.

ARRL sanctioned Palm Springs Hamfest!

January 28, 2012 open 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM --Entry fee only \$2

Over 25 Commercial Vendors such as HRO, CQ Magazine and manufacturers like Alinco and Elecraft.

- Swap Meet
- Consignment sales bring your surplus gear and we'll sell it off for you
- Raffles all day long
- Food Concession
- Various how to Demos.

No charge for Vendor or Swap Meet space. We have a few commercial spaces and lots of swap meet space still available book early!

Setup time for Swap Meet sellers 7-9 AM

Special Events Station 7.251 & 14.251 or digital. Check <http://www.dxsummit.fi/> to spot us.

Presented by the Desert RATS Club of Palm Springs
**see our Forum at <http://desertrats.am/> for up to date information.

Ratpeater Talkin 146.940- PL 107.2 in Palm Springs or 146.520 (convoy frequency)

Convoy of RV's from Quartzfest on January 27th headed by Gordon West!

Last year over 700 happy Hams rendezvoused at Palm Springs Hamfest - hope to see you on January 28, 2012



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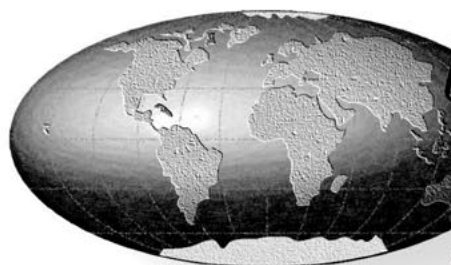
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- 200 Mems., CTCSS
- VC-H1 Messaging Control

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- 50w VHF 35w UHF • Opt. Voice Synthesizer
- Receives 118-1300 mHz (cell blocked)
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- 200 Memories • Built In 1200/9600 baud TNC
- Advanced APRS Features
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VX-7R

- 50/2M/220/440 HT
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- 900 Memories
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- Li-Ion Battery
- Fully Submersible to 3 ft.
- Built-in CTCSS/DCS
- Internet WIREs compatible

Great Price!



FT-857D

- Ultra compact HF, VHF, UHF
- 100w HF/6M, 50w 2M, 20w UHF
- DSP included • 32 color display
- 200 mems • Detachable front panel (YSK-857 required)

Call for Low Price!



FT-2000 HF + 6M tcvr

- 100 W w/ auto tuner
- built-in Power supply
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- 3 Band Parametric Mic EQ
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- All mode HF/6M/2M/70CM
- 100W HF/6M, 50W/2M, 20W/440 Mhz
- AF-DSP • Plug and Play Filters - No Soldering
- Easy-to-Navigate menus

Low Pricing!



IC-756 PRO III All mode Transceiver

- 160-6M @ 100W • Enhanced Rx performance
- 32 bit IF DSP • SSB/CW Synchronous tuning
- Enhanced 5 inch color TFT w/spectrum scope
- Selectable IF filter shapes for SSB & CW
- Multiple DSP controlled AGC loops
- Advanced CW functions
- 101 alphanumeric memories

The Ultimate Radio!



DJ-196T 2M/HT

- 5 Watt out
- 40 memories
- Alphanumeric display
- CTCSS & DCS built in
- "S" meter
- Auto Dialer

Low Pricing!



DR-135TP 2M mobile

- 50 Watt out • Alpha numeric display
- 100 mems • Built-in TNC 1200 & 9600 Baud
- Front Panel GPS in • Rear DB-9 port
- CTCSS/DCS Encode/Decode built in

Low Pricing!

New VHF-UHF Handheld

Dave W6IBC

For the price of a nice meal out, you can obtain a nicely-featured 2 watt FM handheld VHF-UHF transceiver, the BaoFeng UV-3R. This radio, offered mail order from a number of suppliers in the USA and overseas, is said to have a “digital processing system” design. Only one very large scale integrated circuit (VLSI) chip is employed and it is configured by software, making this little radio another member of the software defined radio offerings now flooding the amateur radio marketplace. It uses a 3.8 volt cellphone battery, and each charge with intermittent transmit should last around 4-6 hours, making it an ideal candidate for repeater operations via a cross-band mobile rig at public service events.



The instruction manual is somewhat unclear, but complete, in describing the operating modes and features. It took me about 15 minutes to figure out how to load and store local repeater channels in the 99 channel memory. It's not as full-featured, as rugged, or as powerful as similarly featured offerings by Icom, Kenwood or Yaesu. Yet, it's a handy little radio, and at a price just below \$50.00 delivered to your door, it's a hard one to pass up. It even includes a bright LED flashlight and covers the FM broadcast band as well as the two ham bands.

I recommend the UV-3R for new hams as well as those on a tight budget that want to get on the air and enjoy our wonderful hobby.

2011 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

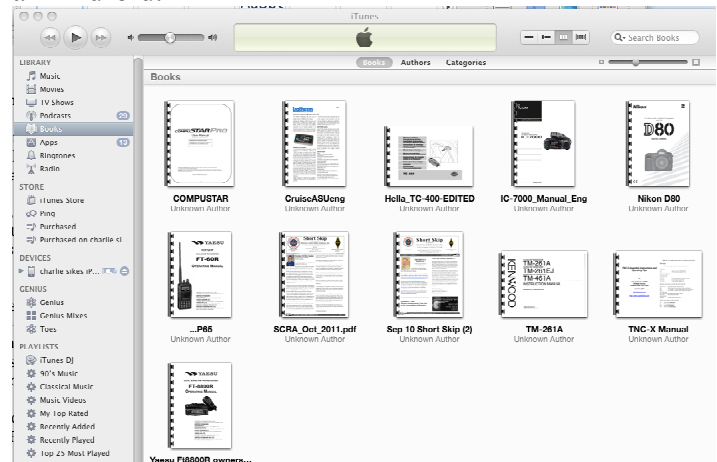
| Date | Program |
|-------------|---------------------------|
| Dec 7, 2011 | Holiday Party, No Program |

Taking your Radio Manual with You.

Charlie KZ6T

Ever been mobile and forgot how to program in that new repeater. Oops, forgot the manual at home didn't you? Well, if you have a smartphone, you can upload the manual to it and have available any time.

With an iPhone or iPad, there is a free app from Apple called iBooks. Of course you can download books (that's what they want you to do), but you can also download and save PDF files. You can also do this on a Kindle and I assume there is something similar for an Android.



It's pretty easy to make work with an iPhone. Just download the iBooks app from the apps store. Then send yourself an email with a manual attached as a PDF file. When you open the PDF file, choose to open it using iBooks. You can then organize iBooks into different library stacks. So maybe your radio manuals go on one set of stacks, your auto repair manuals go into another stack. Heck, even have a stack for Short Skip.

The next time you sync your phone to your computer, you will have a new “Library Item” called “books”. From now on, you can just drag and drop PDF files into the library, hit the sync button and have all of your manuals with you wherever you go.

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P.O. Box 116
Santa Rosa, California
95402-0116

Public Service Roundup for 2011

Craig K6XLT

Nothing like the economy to finally give me some time to catch up on the Public Service events this year. With some cool weather and time off, it's a great time to reflect on another superb year of public service activities. In 2011 we supported 10 different events of varying complexity from a simple 3 person crew for Cycle with Champions to 38 hams for Levi's Gran Fondo. Our list of the 78 hams (that I know of) who chipped in their time to make these events happen:

| | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| AB6VU | AD6YB | K6BDH | K6BSG |
| K6DMK | K6HKY | K6KBS | K6KDH |
| K6ROW | K6UUW | K6WAV | K6XLT |
| KC7IID | KC6YKD | KD6FIL | KE5URF |
| KE6EAQ | KE6HID | KE6UMS | KE6VGW |
| KF6CA | KF6CLG | KF6LMB | KF6SZA |
| KG6BHI | KG6GFV | KG6JSL | KG6ZDN |
| KI6ASJ | KI6FFO | KI6LER | KI6MJC |
| KI6MSP | KI6QWB | KI6REK | KI6TIJ |
| KI6TUR | KI6UKG | KI6UJJ | KI6VKL |
| KJ6FAU | KJ6IQM | KJ6JTP | KJ6PAB |
| KQ6OB | KT6CRT | KU6F | KZ6T |
| N0PS | N1AL | N3SU | N6AFL |
| N6GY | N6IY | NQ6E | W6IBC |
| W8CAT | WA6CRB | WA8YWQ | WB6FRZ |
| WB6RFV | WB6YKU | WR6H | |

If for some reason you don't see your call on the list, my apologies – please accept a tip of the chapeau to all that gave their time and skills to make these events safe. While often all we receive is a vocal thanks, the club benefits so much from your valuable time. Many of our served groups donate to the club. Santa Rosa Cycling Club continues to donate a sizable sum too. These donations mean a lot to the club and sure help us to pay bills and buy new equipment.

I'd like to acknowledge KI6MSP who wrangled the Human Race and Waves to Wine. His efforts help the Wrangler stay in the XYL's good graces!

ARRL Vests for Members

The Club will make a bulk purchase of ARRL event vests for members who place an order with the Club. The vests are light-weight mesh. These readily identify you as the radio operator and can be used not only for emergency communications, but for public service and other events as well.



Cost is \$17.00, which is the ARRL price plus \$1.00 for shipping. You save a few bucks on the shipping and we do the hassle of ordering.

Place your orders with our Storekeeper, Ken Rawles at redmtnman@yahoo.com. Give Ken your name and size (M-3X). Orders will be placed with ARRL after the January 4, 2012, meeting. You can pay at the February meeting and pick up your vest at that time unless you make other arrangements for payment and pickup. Vests not claimed at the February meeting will be sold to anyone who wants it.

American Legion Ham Radio National Club

Ken N6PWV

Hi all. The link to the American Legion Ham Radio National Club is <http://legion.org/hamradio>. No cost to join the club, but you must be an American Legion member. This club is only a few months old! I joined up. Please enjoy the link.

“O” No!

Michael AD6YB

For those who have received their membership books, please correct AD6YB and KI6TIJ from “Van” to “Von” -- that's the only way to find us on QRZ or other sources! Thanks!



Minutes of SCRA General Meeting 11/2/2011

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Introductions were made and guests were recognized.

Nominations were held for 2012 officers. Three people were nominated for two director positions. The nominees were Jim KI6REK, Dave W6IBC, and Brian N6IYY. Dave and Brian were the elected directors.

The following people ran unopposed: Darryl KI6MSP for president, Charlie KZ6T for vice president, Steve KI6TUR for treasurer, and Mike AD6YB for secretary. Congratulations to the new officers and thanks to all who ran and those who tallied the ballots.

Web report: Sutter KI6ZON talked about some of the things that he is working on.

Treasurer's report: Jack K6ROW said that expenses have been less than budgeted and income has been more than expected.

John WB6FRZ said 4 people earned licenses in the last class. John is no longer the chairman of the education committee, but will continue to teach some classes.

Brian said all of the students who took the test passed. He is still trying to schedule one more test this year.

John KE5RI will ask the Board to replace a UHF repeater with a new one.

Craig K6XLT said that emergency services involved with the Gran Fondo this year were very pleased with the help that SCRA members provided. He gave Jack a donation check from the Santa Rosa Cycling Club. He said planned service was over for the year. He also said that next year we can expect the Tour of California to be a big service opportunity.

John KE5RI said that the ARES practice at Oakmont went well.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as published in Short Skip on a motion by John KE5RI and Pat KG6JSL.

Old Business:

Darryl said that the club has donated 450 pounds of food this year, and we still have time to do more.

Brian wants to have the holiday party reservations on line soon and all in by December 2. The party is on December 7. Reservations are \$7.50 per person.

The science fair at Infineon is to be manned from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Thanks to John WB6FRZ and Pat KG6JSL for making the membership rosters available.

There was no new business.

Net control:

| | | |
|-------|---------|--------|
| 11/8 | Craig | K6XLT |
| 11/15 | Sutter | KI6ZON |
| 11/22 | Darryl | KI6MSP |
| 11/29 | Steve | KI6TUR |
| 12/6 | Charlie | KZ6T |
| 12/13 | John | WB6FRZ |
| 12/20 | Mike | AD6YB |
| 12/27 | Charlie | KZ6T |

1/3/2012 Jack K6ROW

The program tonight was Wheel of Fortune done by Brian. Many thanks to Brian! We all had a lot of fun.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Evelyn



Cut out for your VIP Discount Card





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

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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 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402