



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:

English Hill: 147.315+ 88.5 / 224.180+ 88.5 /

441.375+ 88.5

Castle Rock: 147.315+ 156.7



REPEATER STATION
W6SON

Volume 37, Number 3

March 2012



March

SCRA Update

by Darryl Paule, KI6MSP
SCRA President

A lot of new things are going to take place in the month of March:

First off is an antenna class for the monthly program. We will have the opportunity to build dipoles from 10m-2m. There will be all of the materials, tools, and equipment that you will need. Since this would probably be difficult to complete in the usual hour that we have for programs this meeting will start at **1830 or 6:30, instead of the usual 1900 or 7:00 time**. Check sonomacountyradioamateurs.com for details

On March 17 there will be a kit building class at Dave W6IBC's. Please visit [this page](#) for more information or to sign up. This will start at 1000 and go until 1600. There will be more information about the type of kits that are available on the club Google group and on the weekly net meetings. Or you can bring your own kit that is fairly easy to build, and can be completed in the allotted time.

Also for March there will be an opportunity to participate in a disaster drill. This is a great time to learn how to work on disaster drills, or to review your message handling. The drill is on Saturday March 10th with time TBA. Please contact Rich KF6SZA at kf6sza@arrl.net for further information and to participate.

There will be two new served agencies that will join in the group of agencies that support our community in the event of a disaster. They are the Redwood Empire Food Bank (refb.org). The other agency is the 211 in-

formation and referral organization. They are located at 211.org.

REFB will be written into the scenario for the March 10th drill. I'll be at REFB showing how amateur radio is used in the event of a disaster. There will be REFB staff and volunteers observing and deciding if they want to be part of the communications team for disaster work. The 211 organization will be included in possibly the March 28th drill.

There is information later in the Short Skip about a revision of the club by-laws. Please take a few minutes to read the article. This committee is headed up by Charlie KZ6T.

There was a recent Technician class that I co-taught with John WB6FRZ and Jeff KI6PBF. There were five students who all passed and will receive their licenses soon.

Other upcoming public service events are the Lake Sonoma Run on April 14th.

On April 21st is the Boy Scout Redwood Regional Challenge where we have to an opportunity to work with the Boy Scouts in learning about amateur radio. See the club calendar on the club web site or contact John KG6PEP write.john@comcast.net, for further information.

Continued on page 3...



2012 Club Officers

President	Darryl M. Paule ki6msp@arrl.net	KI6MSP 707-544-8874
Vice President	Charlie Sikes	KZ6T
Treasurer	Steve Bramble	KI6TUR
Secretary	Mike Von Der Porten	AD6YB
Director	Dave Harrison	W6IBC
	Brian Torr	N6IYY
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
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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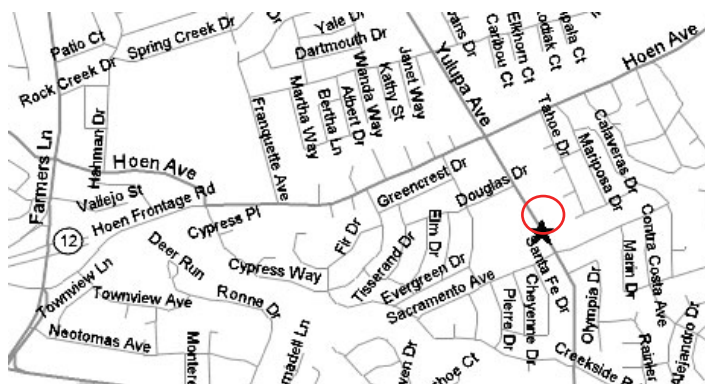


SCRA Club Meetings

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

The MS walk which is a benefit for the MS Society is on April 22nd. Contact me ki6msp@arrl.net for further information.

The Wine Country Century May 5th, also on the same day is the Human Race. The following weekend is the AMGEN Tour.

Contact Craig K6XLT k6xlt@sonic.net for working any of these events.

These are just a few of the events for this year. Check the club website and calendar for updates as well as the weekly nets.

73
Darryl
KI6MSP

Raffle Update

Wow! Who would have thought that a bunch of hams would have gotten so excited over the chance to win another DVOM. Or was it the new 2m 440 HT that the club gave away in Feb? Maybe it was the foldable solar charger? I bet it was the screwdrivers. Whatever. If it works, than don't fix it. So guess what we're going to do again this month. You're right. You have the chance to win another DVOM. Oh yea, you can also win a new dual band HT or a foldable 5 watt solar charger. So show up at this month's membership meeting, enjoy the program, and spend a few dollars on the raffle. You just might win.

73 John KG6PEP, raffle fairy.



Cut out for your VIP Discount Card

Redwood Regional Challenge

OK. Lets talk "Redwood Regional Challenge." SCRA members have been asked to provide radio communications for this event held on Saturday April 21 from 8 am to 3 pm. The event is to benefit 8 local Sonoma county regional parks and is a partnership between the local Boy Scout council and the parks department. The request is for radio stations to be set up at project work sites in all 8 parks; Spring Lake, Sonoma Valley, Riverfront, Putnam, Ragle Ranch, Hood Mountain, Foothill, and Clear Creek. That's at least 8 operators in parks plus 1 mobile operator to ride with Chuck Banks, the event coordinator. Our help will allow them to more closely manage resources and materials. This should be a very low pressure, moderate radio traffic, public service event. Please volunteer to come out and help. This is a chance for you to operate portable, enjoy the weather, and provide another service for our community. It's what we hams do.

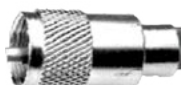
73
John KG6PEP
kg6pep@arrl.net or 707-326-3000

Bylaws Update

The SCRA Board of Directors will be offering to the Membership for its consideration, updates and revisions to the SCRA Bylaws. The changes will be presented at the April Membership meeting where approval of 2/3rds majority of members present is needed to incorporate them.

A draft of the proposed changes is available online in PDF form by clicking on the following link:
[2012 Proposed Bylaws.](#)

If you do not have access to the online version or would like a hard copy, please request a copy during the March 6th net and a hard copy will be provided to you at the March membership meeting.



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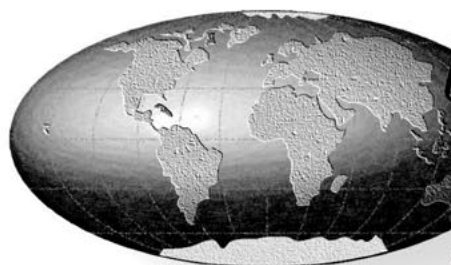
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224 N. Broadway, 03079
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- 200 Mems., CTCSS
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- 5W TX (300mw 220Mhz)
- Li-Ion Battery
- Fully Submersible to 3 ft.
- Built-in CTCSS/DCS
- Internet WIREless 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
- DSP filters / Voice memory recorder
- 3 Band Parametric Mic EQ
- 3 IF roofing filters

Call Now For Low Pricing!



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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
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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

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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!



Membership Meeting

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.
Santa Rosa, California

February 1, 2012
Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by President Darryl Paule KI6MSP.

Members and guests introduced themselves.

Ed Singland N2WD gave a presentation on Software Defined Radios (SDRs). Ed provided a history of SDRs and explained the theory of SDR receivers. He showed software options and hardware options. Ed then gave a demonstration of a SDR.

Chuck Banks from the local Boy Scouts organization presented information about the Redwood Regional Challenge. This is an event in which Scouts from around the Council will camp at eight Regional Parks and perform service projects. They would like to have amateur operators at each park and one mobile operator between 8 AM and 4 PM on April 21. Volunteers may be able to join in from Friday, April 20 to Sunday, April 22. Contact Chuck or John Chavez KG6PEP for more information or to volunteer.

There was a short break.

Vice President Charlie Sikes KZ6T has nothing to report.

Secretary Mike Von der Porten AD6YB had nothing to report.

Treasurer Steve Bramble KI6TUR presented the financial statements for January. As expected, January ran a small loss because there was little dues or other income, but also only small expenses. Steve presented the budget for the 2012 calendar year. Dave Harrison W6IBC moved and Dave Santori KF6CLG seconded that the budget be accepted as presented. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Dave Harrison W6IBC moved and Dave Santori KF6CLG seconded that the reserve account for SCRA be increased to the \$6,000 amount recommended by the Board. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Jeff Tonelli KI6PBF reported that the code class has 13 students. On February 10, 11, 12 there will be a technician class at First American Title at 3333 Mendocino Avenue: see the Web site for further information. Jeff reports that the education committee is still seeking volunteer instructors – see Jeff!

Repeater Co-Chair Jack Christensen K6ROW reported that this year there will be two repeater chairmen. They will be pursuing IRLP, a digipeter, APRS and maybe a voting receiver for repeater upgrades. A repeater committee has been established which includes Dave Harrison W6IBC, Craig Gaevert K6XLT, Charlie Sikes KZ6T and Curt Helstrom WA6TIP. Other volunteers are welcome: see Jack.

Public Service Chair Craig Gaevert K6XLT was not present

Refreshments Chair Jim Draeger KI6REK had nothing to report.

Membership Chair Mike Von der Porten AD6YB had nothing to report.

Fred Polkinghorn KQ6OB reports that the ARES group had a tour of the new Santa Rosa EOC on Stony Point Road. It looks to be a good set-up. There may be a drill on February 9. On Saturday, March 10 from approx. 8 AM to noon, there will be an ARES / Oakmont drill that includes the Red Cross, the Blood Bank and some fire stations: volunteers welcome.

Pat Coyle KG6JSL moved and Brian Torr N6IIY moved to accept the minutes of the January Membership Meeting as published in Short Skip. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A discussion was held regarding the privacy of Club member information and the numbers of communications coming from the club. There was no concern expressed about sharing personal information with Club members. The unopposed feeling of Club members is that an increase in email communications such

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3/6 Darryl Paule KI6MSP

as notifications of nets and Club meetings is desirable.

Brian Torr N6IIY, VE Liaison, reports that there will be a VE session associated with the class on February 12 and an open VE session on Saturday, February 25 at 9 AM at 3333 Mendocino Avenue. It may be possible for a few non-class members to attend the February 12 session.

Pat Coyle KG6JSL reports that insurance certificates are needed by a number of our partners. We will check if one is needed for the meeting site.

Charlie Sikes KZ6T reports that the By-Laws Committee has been working on changes to the by-laws. They report to the Board next week. The changes in wording are extensive, but the overall changes to the Club are minor. This will likely come to a member vote in April. A 2/3 vote will be required.

The timing and amounts of dues were discussed in relation to a possible change in the dues year. Since the change in the year would come from by-laws changes and those changes have not yet been made, it was felt that any change would be premature. Dave Harrison W6IBC moved and Steve Bramble KI6TUR seconded that the basic dues remain at \$24 for the 2012-2013 year. The motion carried by a unanimous hand vote.

Webmaster Sutter Laird KI6ZON demonstrated many new pages and features of an updated SCRA website. The changes include a cleaned-up homepage, a store that separates membership from badges, new maps and resources including Club presentations. It was noted that dues can be paid by a PayPal account, by using a credit card with PayPal (no account needed) or by printing the membership form and providing a check. The Club acknowledged the improvements in the website and thanked Sutter for his work.

Short Skip Editor Donald Laird WE4MOO reminded contributors of the Short Skip deadlines.

Net Control volunteers are

2/7 Charlie Sikes KZ6T

2/14 Brian Torr N6IIY

2/21 Jim Draeger K6HKY

2/28 Mike Von der Porten AD6YB

An expanded raffle was held that included an HT and a solar power unit.

The meeting was adjourned by consent at 9:07 PM.

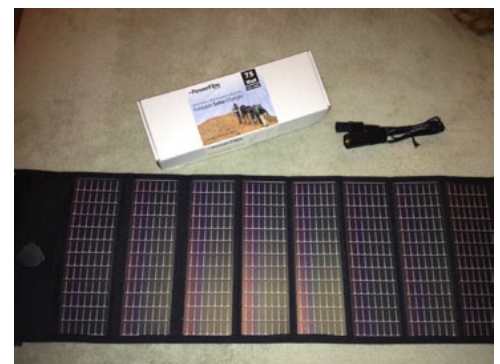
Respectfully submitted,

Michael Von der Porten AD6YB
Secretary

Classifieds Corner

I've purchased a few of the 7.5 watt Powerfilm foldable solar chargers at a good price that I'd be glad to pass on to SCRA members. The Boy Scout store had them on clearance. The price is \$45 for the charger and \$6 each for the 15' extension cord w/alligator clips and daisy chain accessory cord if you'd like them too. I'll have them available at the membership meeting if you'd like to buy one.

John KG6PEP





Board of Directors Meeting

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting

February 8, 2012

Minutes

Attending (board members in bold) John Chavez KG6PEP, Jack Christensen K6ROW, **Steve Bramble KI6TUR**, Pat Coyle KG6JSL, **Charlie Sikes KZ6T**, **Brian Torr N6IYY**, **Darryl Paule KI6MSP**, **Dave Harrison W6IBC**, **Mike Von der Porten AD6YB**, Jeff Tonelli KI6PBF, Bill Hammerman KI6GOO.

Meeting called to order at 6:05 PM by President Darryl Paule KI6MSP.

Darryl shared three letters with the Board: (1) A thank you from Bill Kinder KO6ZG for assistance provided by Bill Hillendahl, John Breckenridge and Bob Arthur for helping with amateur gear installation, (2) A letter from Expanding Your Horizons thanking SCRA for prior assistance and encouraging participation this year, and (3) Human Race information.

Dave Harrison W6IBC moved and Brian Torr N6IYY seconded to approve the minutes of January 11, 2012 as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

Charlie Sikes KZ6T – vice president - nothing to report

Mike Von der Porten AD6YB – secretary - nothing to report

Steve Bramble – treasurer - KI6TUR reports having a check for \$452 for vests and decals to approve. Dave Harrison W6IBC moved and Charlie Sikes KZ6T seconded approval for the check. Motion carried unanimously.

Jack Christensen K6ROW carried repeater business to later in the meeting.

Brian Torr N6IYY – Volunteer Examiner Program – has planned dates

Sunday, February 12, 3pm to 5pm (place TBD; in conjunction with Technician class)

Saturday, February 25, 9am to noon, 3333 Mendocino Ave, Suite 100 (First American Title Co.)

Saturday, May 19, 9am to noon, 3333 Mendocino Ave, Suite 100 (First American Title Co.)

Sunday, August 26, 3pm to 5pm (place TBD; in conjunction with Technician class)

Jeff Tonelli KI6PBF reports that there are seven students signed up for this weekend's tech class. Jeff has found a source of kits for a construction class. The March member meeting will be a project building session for dipole antennas. The build class will move to March 17 to avoid other conflicts and allow members to sign up for the class.

Mike Von der Porten AD6YB – membership – reports that we have in excess of 115 members. Working with Darryl Paule KI6MSP, Mike reports that the new member pack will have a welcome letter from the president, a membership booklet, and a decal. The goal is that the new member packets go out within a month of a member joining. Pat Coyle KG6JSL offered to send out the weekly net notifications.

Darryl Paule KI6MSP reports that the club's inventory is coming along and he will be pulling it together.

Bill Hammerman KI6GOO reported on amateur radio and CERT activities in Petaluma. He is eager to have cooperation with SCRA and other agencies. Working with ARES seems to be the most valuable direction.

John Chavez KG6PEP reports that he has done some work on the trailer's fender. He will get a quote on tires.

John reports that the raffle last meeting was a big success. John requested a check for \$146 for prizes for two months. Dave Harrison W6IBC moved and Charlie Sikes KZ6T seconded to approve payment. Motion carried unanimously.

Jack Christensen K6ROW reports that one of the problems with our repeater is that the repeater output is 25W minimum, but the amplifier input is 5W maximum. A home-brew attenuator has been used, but this is inside the repeater cabinet, so may be causing noise. The amplifier manufacturer is willing to fix the amplifier to take 25W input at a cost of approx. \$150. Steve Bramble KI6TUR moved and Dave Harrison W6IBC seconded that the fix be made with the cost not to exceed \$200 including postage. Motion carried unanimously.

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Further plans for the improvements of the repeaters will be presented at later meetings.

The purchase of a used 1KW generator was discussed. Since there has not been a pressing need for a generator, this opportunity will be passed by.

The By-Laws committee presented a revised set of by-laws. The Board determined that (i) six months of good standing is adequate for committee chairs, but twelve months should be required for officers, (ii) term limits of 2 years should remain, (iii) a nominating committee should be included, (iv) a mentoring committee be included; and (v) the member of the year committee be approved by the BOD in executive session (to keep the honoree secret until the presentation). Steve Bramble KI6TUR moved and Dave Harrison W6IBC seconded that the revised by laws, as adjusted, be presented to the membership for a vote. Motion carried unanimously. The by-laws will be sent as a special email and be posted on the Web site by March 7 so they can be voted upon on April 4.

The Expanding Your Horizons day is at Sonoma State University on April 12, 2012. The Board discussed getting volunteers to help at this event. Since the event is for girls, it would be desirable to have female members of the Club attend. Darryl will solicit volunteers.

Darryl Paule KI6MSP reported on a meeting that included Rich Freitas KF6SZA regarding ARES. The Food Bank and the 211 Info Line will become served agencies and have a radio station. Darryl noted that it would be good to have some of the staff at these locations become licensed operators.

John Chavez KG6PEP reported having portable solar units available and encouraged people to sign up for the Redwood Regional Challenge involving Boy Scouts and Regional Parks on April 21.

Pat Coyle KG6JSL reports that adding additional insureds to our insurance policy is now easy. He has added the usual partners and will add the Luther Burbank Art & Gardens Center.

It was reported that nine people have expressed interest in a mini-DXpedition. The favored sites include

the Sonoma Coast, the Northern Sierra and the Marin Coast.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 8:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Von der Porten
Secretary

SCRA Net Check-ins for January 2012:

AD6YB
AG6CI
K6GSO
K6HKY
K6ROW
K6XLT
K6ZIZ
KA6OPN
KB6AQW
KB6DMZ
KD6HNI
KE6HID
KF6LMB
KG6BHI
KI6ASJ
KI6GOO
KI6MSP
KI6REK
KI6TIJ
KI6TUR
KI6VKL
KI6ZON
KJ6JTP
KJ6LJI
KJ6TEJ
KQ6OB
KU6F
KZ6T
N6IYY
N7MOE
NQ6E
W6CLC
W6IBC
W7KIN
WA6IOQ
WA6NIV
WB6FRZ
WD6DPE
WE4MOO



**CONTEST CORNER by Kevin Alt, K6BSG**

Hello testers. Couple of major phone DX contests this month with ARRL DX contest on the first weekend, and the CQ Worldwide DX contest on the last. Check out the new to this list CQ Ireland contest 17-18 March. Happy DX'ing!

2 Mar – **NS Weekly Sprint** – CW, 160-20 meters. See: www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html.

3 Mar – **Open Ukraine RTTY Championship** – Digital, 160-10 meters. See: uarl.com.ua/openrtty.

3-4 Mar – **ARRL International Phone DX** – SSB, 160-10 meters. See: www.arrl.org/contests.

3-4 Mar – **Worldwide EME Contest** – Phone/CW, 432 MHz and 3.4 GHz. See: www.dubus.org.

5 Mar – **OK1WC Memorial Contest** – SSB/CW, 80-6 meters. See: www.hamradio.cz/ok1wc/

6 Mar – **ARS Spartan Sprint** – CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.arsqrp.blogspot.com

6 Mar – **YL-CW-Party** – CW, 80 meters. See: www.agcw.de.

7-8 Mar – **John Rollins Memorial DX Contest** – CW, 40-20 meters. See: www.antiquewireless.org.

10 Mar – **AGCW QRP Contest** – CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.agcw.de.

10 Mar – **QRP ARCI HF Grid Square Sprint** – CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.qrparci.org/contests.

10-11 Mar – **RSGB Commonwealth Contest** – CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.rsgbcc.org.

10-11 Mar – **EA PSK63 Contest** – Digital, 80-10 meters. See: www.ure.es.

10-11 Mar – **Idaho QSO Party** – All modes, 160 meters – 70 cm. See: www.nx7tt.com.

11 Mar – **North American RTTY Sprint** – Digital, 80-20 meters. See: www.ncjweb.com.

11-12 Mar – **Wisconsin QSO Party** – All modes, all bands. See: www.warac.org.

14-15 Mar – **CWops Monthly Mini-CW Test** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.cwops.org/onair.html.

17 Mar – **Feld-Hell St Patrick's Day Sprint** – Digital, 160-10 meters. See: www.feldhellclub.org.

17 Mar – **10-10 Mobile QSO Party** – All modes, 10 meters. See: www.ten-ten.org.

17-18 Mar – **CQIR – Ireland Calling** – SSB/CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.irts.ie.

17-18 Mar – **Russian DX Contest** – SSB/CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.rdx.org.

17-18 Mar – **Oklahoma QSO Party** – All modes, 80-6 meters. See: www.k5cm.com/okqp.htm.

17-18 Mar – **Virginia QSO Party** – All modes, 160 meters – 70 cm. See: www.qsl.net/sterling.

17-18 Mar – **North Dakota QSO Party** – Phone/CW, 160-2 meters. See: www.w0nd.com.

17-19 Mar – **BARTG HF RTTY Contest** – Digital, 80-10 meters. See: www.bartg.org.uk.

20-21 Mar – **CLARA and Family HF Contest** – SSB/CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.claranet.ca.

22 Mar – **NAQCC Monthly Sprint** – CW, 80-20 meters. See: naqcc.info

24-25 Mar – **CQ WPX SSB Contest** – SSB, 160-10 meters. See: www.cqwpw.com.

31 Mar- 1 Apr – **Worldwide EME Contest** – Phone/CW, 2 meters and 10 GHz and up. See: www.dubus.org.





March Program Description

This month's membership meeting program is: Build Your Own Antenna.

Since 10 meters has opened up we thought we would celebrate by building 10m dipoles. The Club will provide the wire, insulators and cutting instructions. You bring the labor. We will set up tables and have a fun night of building. What's not included is the balun, connectors, and feedline, these you will need to provide.

Youth DX Adventure Team

Youth DX is accepting applications from candidates to join the Youth DX Adventure team for 2012. The Adventure is open to all licensed young hams between the ages of 10 and 17 years of age. The trip will take 6 youth operators and a parent or guardian to the super contest station TI5N located in Costa Rica during July of 2012.

Team member criteria:

- Hold a valid amateur license (any class)
- Hold a valid passport
- Between the ages of 10 and 17
- Must be accompanied by a parent or guardian
- Some HF experience required excluding Field Day.
- Must pay a \$150 Each. Deposit not refundable , but transferable
- Have knowledge of logging software
- Be able to use a computer
- A willingness to learn and be a team player
- Cooperate with others
- Know the phonetic alphabet
- Have some DX call sign recognition

This is the third year Don Dubon, N6JRL, has organized a Youth DX expedition to Costa Rica. Please go to their website at Youthdx.org to see the details and pictures from previous years.

Membership meeting programs for 2012

March

- Simple kit building exercise presented by Jeff Tonelli KI6PBF.

April

- KPH history including the rebuilding of its transmitter. Presented by Greg Farrell K6SON and Bill Ruck W6VSY

May

- APRS

June

- Field Day presented by Brian Torr N6IIY
- Movie Night

July

- Program to be determined

August

- Boat Anchor / Homebrew Night

September

- Radio Telescope presented by Keith Payea AG6CI

October

- Digital Modes

November

- Club Elections, Game Night

December

- No Program, Holiday Party





Public Service Roundup for March 2012

The balmy weather would almost mislead one into thinking we're having a casual Spring with little to do but honey-do's and chasing some DX with the active atmospherics. But no, it really still is Winter, and when Spring does arrive it will herald the start of the public service season all over again. This Spring will start quietly and really come on about May.

We'll start the season with the ever-popular Lake Sonoma 50 on April 14. My recollection is that we'll need about a dozen folks prepared to work simplex in remote spots for most of the day. This event is easily one of my favorites for location and required radio skills. Sunrise and sunset at the west arm of Lake Sonoma is pretty sweet this time of year. While the event is all-day (from civil twilight to about 2000 hrs, there are shifts for several locations, though some assignments are all day due to location and logistics of getting there.

The following week on April 22, we'll have the usual low-key MS Walk out of Howarth Park. If you're new to public service, this is the event for you. It has a very casual pace and is of short duration (~3 hours).

A two-week break occurs before we bump into another double-header: On May 5, we'll have the Wine Country Century and the Human Race. Usually these only bump into each other when they occur on May 7 (last year), but I think that with this year's Tour Of California occurring the following weekend, it made sense for them to move it up a week. The Human Race requires about 5-6 folks to staff the event. Again, fairly casual duty though you'll find yourself immersed in a huge throng.

The Wine Country Century is of a larger magnitude. We'll again be supporting the Santa Rosa Cycling Club (a generous benefactor) with their primary event of the year. I'll need around 20 folks to staff various rest stops, NC, and sags. This event is again an all-day affair.

The next week will see the arrival of the spectacle that is the Tour of California (ATOC). Santa Rosa will be a hubbub of activity as teams arrive and the various pre-race parties and events fill the town. Our duties will be on Sunday, May 13, for the day's first stage. This stage will start in the downtown with two laps of the

city center before the racers head out and up to the Windsor area. They will return to do one quick lap of the downtown before they head out to the coast. About 3 hours later they will return to a finish in the downtown. Our assignment, as in the past, is to man corners to support the volunteers in closing and managing the course. It is no easy feat as you are the communication link for folks that want to know what's going on in the race and for us to advise everyone how the race is going. In the past it has taken close to 50 hams to make this work and this year we may even need more. And maybe we'll finally be lucky enough to have some really pleasant weather. It can't rain here every time the race comes through, can it?

After May we'll get a long break to the Terrible Two on June 16 but at least you can put that on your calendar. We'll go into these events more detail in future months.

If you're interested, I'm always happy to have someone else step forward and manage some of these events. I'll be available to give you the support you need to make your management of these a success. Overall they are usually pretty straightforward and don't require a lot of logistics.

For more info please feel free to contact me at k6xlt@sonic.net

Craig
K6XLT
Public Service Wrangler



Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.
P.O. Box 116
Santa Rosa, California
95402-0116

To join the Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, visit [our Web site](#), or complete the following application:

**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	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

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