



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 4

April 2012



April SCRA Update

by Darryl Paule, KI6MSP
SCRA President

The Month of March has been a lot of fun for me & I take it for a lot of you.

At the club meeting we had an antenna building session where we built 10M dipoles. There were about a dozen of us who participated. This seemed like an easy project. Yet there were some challenges in the tuning of this antenna. Yet this was also a great learning experience.

On March we had a kit assembly class hosted by Dave W6IBC. This was again great opportunity to learn how to put together kits, review soldering techniques. I know I had a couple of cold solder joints. There were about 10 of us (Dave W6IBC, Jeff KI6BPF, Doug KF6LMB, Arlen, Henry KI6VKL Charlie KZ6T, Ed N2WD, Bob KG6ZDN, John KG6PEP, Frank N6QE, and myself KI6MSP) who built a variety of kits from power amplifiers to complex kits that required making inductors on very small coil windings. I want to thank Jeff KI6BPF for organizing these events.

There is a new served agency that is going to work with ARES. This is the Redwood Empire Food Bank, REFB. I did a presentation on Amateur Radio and ARES for six staff members on March 9th, then for the Disaster drill a couple of staff observed the drill, which went very well.

Here is an interesting statistic on our donations to REFB: With our donation of 21 pounds of food & \$

40.00, REFB was able to provide food for about 157 meals.

There are a few 7th graders whom for a school project want to get their amateur radio licenses. With that in mind I worked with John WB6FRZ and Jeff KI6BPF in organizing a class that will be on March 30th, 31st, & April 1st. Check the club [Web site](#) for further information.

At our next club meeting we will have a very special guest: Bill W6VSY who is an engineer at KPH, The Maritime Radio Historical Society. (<http://www.radiomarine.org>). The club had a field trip a couple of years ago to KPH. At KPH you get to see the actual radios of the day. These transmitters and receivers take up very large rooms. The antenna farm covers acres. You'll get more details at the presentation at the club meeting. The MRHS is part of Point Reyes National park. There is the transmit site at Point Reyes. The Receive station is in Marshall. The Receive station is also the last Marconi station in existence. Bill will also be assisted by Craig K6SRO.

Also April starts our public service and other events. Starting with the Lake Sonoma 50 run, to the Wine Country Century bike ride. See the club calendar for more information. Also contact Craig K6XLT at k6xlt@sonic.net

Field day is not too far off, June 23rd-24th. This is the big event of the year to showcase amateur radio to the public and demonstrate how amateur radio is used for emergency communications. Contact Brian N6IYY, n6iyy@arrl.net for more details on how you can participate.

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			
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Repeater	John Felton	KE5RI	
Volunteer Exam			
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Antenna			
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Refreshments	Jim Draeger	KI6REK	
ARRL DXCC/WAS			
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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

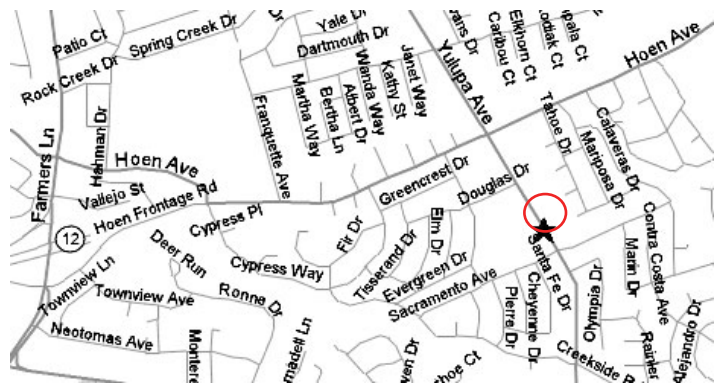
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SCRA Club Meetings

The club normally meets the first Wednesday of each month 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

Since our raffles have had new prizes such as the 2m/440m HT radio and the solar panels. We will continue with these for our main prizes. Buy your raffle tickets early.

Finally, there is a special event on May 27th celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Golden Gate Bridge. (<http://www.sfarc.org/timeline05262712.htm>)

Here is a great opportunity to be a radio operator for this historic event.

73

Darryl

KI6MSP

March Meeting Photos

from Jim KI6REK



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(Near Disneyland)
933 N. Euclid St., 92801
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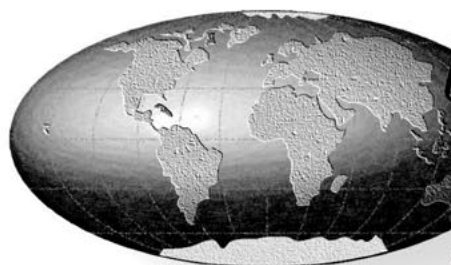
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- DX Packet Cluster Monitor
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- VC-H1 Messaging Control

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- Fully Submersible to 3 ft.
- Built-in CTCSS/DCS
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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!



IC-706MkIIIG HF/VHF Transceiver

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- 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!



Membership Meeting

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.
Santa Rosa, California

March 7, 2012
Minutes

Start at 1832

This month we started our meeting a half hour earlier due to the antenna project.

The business meeting was conducted first.

Vice president: no report
Secretary: no report

Treasurer: the club is doing well financially. See Steve KI6TUR for details.

Repeaters: John KE5RI reported that the repeater committee is working on several projects: IRLP, repairing the amplifier, a voter to make it easier for outlying areas to access the repeater.

ARES: Drill to take place on March 10th

Public Service: April starts our public service, with six different events. Beginning with the Lake Sonoma 50, to the Wine Country Century. Contact Craig K6XLT for further information.

The VOMARC Ham Fest is on April 28th at the Veterans Building in Sonoma.

May 27th is a special event marking the 75th anniversary of the Golden gate bridge. Here is the link for further information:
<http://www.sfar.org/timeline05262712.htm>

End of business meeting 1915 approximately.
Started the antenna build project.
Completed at 2100 approximately.

Submitted by
Darryl
KI6MSP

Raffle Update

I can't believe it. You guys are really enjoying our monthly SCRA raffle. We've had a few great prizes and some very lucky winners. So we're going to stick with what's working.

For April's raffle prizes, we'll have another dual band 2 meter / 440 HT direct from Hong Kong, a foldable 5 watt solar charger, a 12 volt jump starter power supply, and maybe one more very special prize. Ok. Twist my arm. It's a DVOM.

So come on out and join us on the 1st Wednesday of the month. Buy a ticket and you just may win. Almost forgot. One of our SCRA members wanted to know where we've been getting our HT's. The store's web address is www.409shop.com.

73,

John KG6PEP raffle fairy

2012 Mini-DX update.

Mini-Dx will occur July 13, 14, & 15

The location for this years event was chosen through voting online. The location is set for Bucks Lake. This is a small lake in the Northern Sierra's, roughly 35 mile northeast of Lake Oroville. This will be a drive-in event opposed to last year's hike-in. We will be taking over a USFS group campsite along the north shore of the lake. So far 16 hams have signed up with a few more mentioning their interest. The campsite is limited to 25, so if you are interested, sign up now. We will be starting the planning process this month. The official website and online signup is located here: http://mini-dx.com/2012_Mini-DX/2012_Home.html

If you have any questions, please feel free to pull me aside at the membership meeting, or send an email to KZ6T@arrl.net.





Repeater Committee

The new repeater committee with co-chairs John KE5RI and Jack K6ROW met on 2/22 to plan for 2012. Other members include John AG6JH, Curt WA6TIP, Craig K6XLT, Dave W6IBC and our meeting host, Charlie KZ6T. Our objectives, among other things, include adding APRS at English Hill to improve coverage on the coast for our public service events, implementing IRLP on the 2 meter repeater at English Hill, implementing a voting repeater at English Hill to address the interference between our 2 meter repeaters at English Hill and Castle Rock and getting a 440 repeater at English Hill operating again.

Since we met, we've been able to get the control computers operating at both locations and send the 160 watt 2 meter amplifier for English Hill in for modification. English Hill has been operating at lower power (50 watts) seemingly without any major problems.

Our next meeting is March 28th at Glass Associates, Architects, 200 E St., Santa Rosa. Interested Hams are welcome.

Here are a few pictures taken at the two sites. The first two show our equipment at English Hill and the antenna tower. The third shows our equipment at Castle Rock.



**CONTEST CORNER by Kevin Alt, K6BSG**

Hello testers. Lots of smaller contests in April, including several VHF and above events. For CW enthusiasts, check out the Japan DX contest 7-8 April. Happy DX'ing!

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

31 Mar-1 Apr – **MO QSO Party** – SSB/CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.w0ma.org.

31 Mar - 8 Apr – **Lighthouse Spring Lites QSO Party** – all modes, 160-10 meters. See: arlhs.com.

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

3 Apr – **OK1WC Memorial Contest** – Phone/CW, 2 meters. See: www.hamradio.cz/ok1wc.

6 Apr – **SNS and NS Weekly Sprints** – CW, 160-20 meters. See: www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html.

7 Apr – **PODXS 31 Flavors Contest** – Digital, 20 meters. See: www.podxs070.com.

7 Apr – **LZ Open 40 Meter Contest** – CW, 40 meters. See: www.lzopen.com.

7-8 Apr – **Montana QSO Party** – all modes, 160 meters – 70 cm. See: www.fvarc.org.

7-8 Apr – **Japan International DX Contest** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: jidx.org.

7-8 Apr – **QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: <http://www.qrparci.org/contests>.

7-8 Apr – **SP DX Contest** – SSB/CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.spdxcontest.info.

7-8 Apr – **EA RTTY Contest** – RTTY, 80-10 meters. See: www.ure.es/contest.

9 Apr – **Low Power Spring Sprint** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: alexanderkorda@hotmail.com.

9 Apr – **VHF Spring Sprints** – all modes, 2 meters. See: sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints.

10 Apr – **OK1WC Memorial Contest** – Phone/CW, 6 meters. See: www.hamradio.cz/ok1wc.

11 Apr – **NAQCC Monthly QRP Sprint** – CW, 80-20 meters. See: naqcc.info.

11 Apr – **CWops Monthly Mini-CWT Test** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: cwops.org.

14 Apr – **EU Spring Sprints** – CW, 80-20 meters. See: www.eusprint.com.

14 Apr – **Georgia QSO Party** – Phone/CW, 160-6 meters. See: gqp.contesting.com.

14 Apr – **EU Spring Sprints** – SSB, 80-20 meters. See: www.eusprint.com.

14-15 Apr – **New Mexico Centennial QSO Party** – all modes, 160-6 meters. See: www.swcp.com/~n5zgt.

14-15 Apr – **QCWA Spring QSO Party** – all modes, all bands. See: www.qcwa.org/qso-party.html.

14-15 Apr – **Yuri Gagarin DX Contest** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: gc.qst.ru/en.

15 Apr – **Run For the Bacon** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.fpqrp.org.

15 Apr – **International Vintage Contest** – SSB/CW, 40-20 meters. See: www.contestvintage.beepworld.it.

15 Apr – **ARRL Rookie Roundup** – Phone, 80-10 meters. See: www.arrl.org/contests.

17 Apr – **VHF Spring Sprints** – all modes, 222 MHz. See: sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints.

20-21 Apr – **Holyland DX Contest** – all modes, 160-10 meters. See: www.iarc.org.

21 Apr – **TARA Skirmish Dig Pfx Contest** – Digital, 160-6 meters. See: www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_dpx_rules.html.

21 Apr – **ES Open HF Championship** – SSB/CW, 80-40 meters. See: www.erau.ee.

continued on next page





21 Apr – **Ontario QSO Party** – Phone/CW, 160-2 meters. See: www.va3cco.com.

21 Apr – **Feld-Hell New Member Sprint** – Digital, 160-10 meters. See: www.feldhellclub.org.

21 Apr – **YU DX Contest** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.yu1srs.org.rs/dl/yudx/yudxmain.html.

21-22 Apr – **CQMM Contest** – CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.cqmmdx.com.

21-22 Apr – **Michigan QSO Party** – SSB/CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.miqp.org.

21-22 Apr – **EA QRP Contest** – CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.eaqrp.com.

21-22 Apr – **South Dakota QSO Party** – all modes, 160-10 meters. See: www.w0blk.org.

25 Apr – **VHF Spring Sprints** – all modes, 432 MHz. See: sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints.

28 Apr – **Worldwide EME Contest** – Phone/CW, 2.3 GHz. See: www.dubus.org.

28 Apr – **Florida QSO Party** – SSB/CW, 40-10 meters. See: www.floridaqsoparty.org.

28-29 Apr – **Ten-Ten Spring Digital Contest** – Digital, 10 meters. See: www.ten-ten.org.

28-29 Apr – **Nebraska QSO Party** – all modes, 160-2 meters. See: www.hdx.net.

28-29 Apr – **SP DX RTTY Contest** – RTTY, 80-10 meters. See: www.pkrvg.org/zbior.html.

28-29 Apr – **Helvetia Contest** – all modes, 160-10 meters. See: www.uska.ch.

28-29 Apr – **QRP To The Field** – CW, 40-10 meters. See: www.zianet.com/QRP.

29 Apr – **BARTG 75 Sprint** – Digital, 80-10 meters. See: www.bartg.org.uk; www.dubus.org.

Membership meeting programs for 2012

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 N6IYY
- 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



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	\$ _____

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