



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 6

June 2012



## June SCRA Update

by Darryl Paule, KI6MSP  
SCRA President

This president's message will be in a new format. It will be briefer than in the past. I'll write a couple of articles about the booth at the Human Race

and the Amgen Tour.

SCRA is going to continue showcasing itself to the public. Next up for that is Field Day, on June 23rd & 24th.

This is a great opportunity to bring family and friends to show them what amateur radio is all about. To show how we prepare for and work disasters. Also to show the many different modes of amateur radio.

73

Darryl  
KI6MSP

## SCRA Repeater Committee

Check out the new SCRA digipeater/igate located at English Hill! Point your web browser to [aprs.fi](http://aprs.fi) and look for W6SON-2 on English Hill. Thanks to Charlie, KZ6T, the club now offers APRS capability. This digipeater will give us expanded coverage on the coast to help track our volunteers doing public service. We'll be checking out the extent of its capabilities over the next month or so.

Jack, K6ROW, Repeater Committee Co-chair

## Membership meeting programs for 2012

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

## Public Service Update

Public service is busy catching up from a busy month. Thanks to all that turned out for WCC, Human Race and the Amgen Tour of California. More in July.

Craig  
K6XLT



## 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

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	we4moo@donaldlaird.com	
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SCRA E-Mail	scra@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com
SCRA Web site	<a href="http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com">http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com</a>

## 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

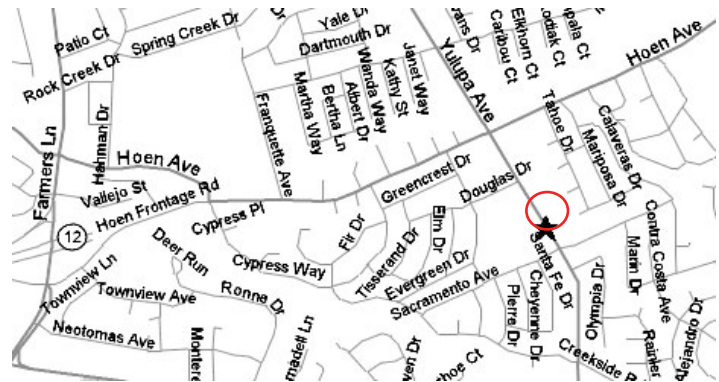
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## SCRA Club Meetings

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>



## Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. Membership Meeting - April 4, 2012 Minutes

The monthly meeting of the SCRA membership was called to order at 7:02 PM.

Members and guests were introduced.

A presentation on KPH operations primarily in Bolinas (transmit) and Point Reyes (receive) was given by Bill W6VSY is from KPH and Greg Ferrell K6SRO. They discussed the point-to-point service and the maritime service. Visitors and volunteers are welcome at the sites: check the website or call in advance.

Mike Von der Porten AD6YB, secretary, had nothing to report.

The treasurer was not present. Financial information is available from Darryl Paule KI6MSP or Steve Bramble.

The repeater committee reported that the power amplifier was being modified and has been received. It is expected to be installed tomorrow. IRLP, a voting receiver and maintenance are all in the works.

Craig Gaevert K6XLT reports that he has a full complement of volunteers for the Lake Sonoma event. Darryl Paule KI6MSP needs one volunteer for the MS Walk. For the May 5 Wine County Century, volunteers can still get in. For the May 5 Human Race, see Darryl. For May 12 Amgen Tour of California, we need as many volunteers as we can get. In June, there will be the Terrible Two.

We have a request to help the Tour de Organics on August 12 for the Sebastopol Community Center. By consensus of the membership, this will be added to the Club's public service calendar.

Jim Draeger KI6REK reports that refreshments are all good.

Mike Von der Porten AD6YB, membership, requests that membership renewals be submitted.

It was announced the EmComm West was coming

up. There is a new ARRL webinar available. See the ARES reflector or contact Rich Freitas KF6SZA.

The membership meeting minutes for March were published in Short Skip. It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the minutes as printed.

Sutter Laird KI6ZON reported that the website was working fine. Sutter will put tonight's presentation on YouTube and link it to our website.

Charlie Sikes KZ6T reported that the proposed by-laws changes had been distributed and posted as required. Dave Harrison W6IBC moved and Craig Gaevert K6XLT seconded that the bylaws be adopted as printed with the omission of the Station Licensing Committee. (The Station Licensing Committee will be part of the Repeater Committee.) The motion carried unanimously.

Charlie Sikes KZ6T reports that planning for a DXpedition has begun.

Jack Christensen K6ROW notes that the English Hill 440 repeater should be replaced because it doesn't belong to SCRA and needs some repair work. There is a proposal to spend approx. \$1,100 on a Kenwood TKR850 UHF repeater plus \$400 of additional costs. An authorization to spend up to \$1,500 on equipment was requested. Dave Harrison W6IBC moved, Craig Gaevert K6XLT seconded and it passed unanimously that the repeater committee is authorized to spend up to \$1,500 on the project.

Brian Torr N6IIY reported that Field Day planning is in process. The event is the fourth full weekend in June. It will be reported upon at the next membership meeting. Additional volunteers are solicited.

Pat Coyle reported on plans for the Mendo Rally which will be expanded this year.

The BSA Redwood Regional Challenge can use a few more volunteers. See John Chavez KI6PEP.

Signups for net control were taken.

April 10	Jack Christensen K6ROW
April 17	Dave Harrison W6IBC
April 24	Sutter Laird KI6ZON
May 1	Darryl Paule KI6MSP





May 8

Brian Torr N6IIY

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Von der Porten  
Secretary

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**Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**April 11, 2012**  
**Minutes**

Attending (board members in bold) John Chavez KG6PEP, Jack Christensen K6ROW, **Steve Bramble KI6TUR**, Pat Coyle KG6JSL, **Charlie Sikes KZ6T**, **Brian Torr N6IIY**, **Darryl Paule KI6MSP**, **Dave Harrison W6IBC**, **Mike Von der Porten AD6YB**, Jeff Tonelli KI6PBF, John Felton KE5RI.

Meeting called to order at 6:07 PM by President Darryl Paule KI6MSP.

VP Charlie Sikes KZ6T reported that the programs scheduled are APRS in May, Field Day and a movie in June, and possibly a battery presentation in July.

Charlie notes that the bylaws were passed by the membership. A copy will need to be signed by Darryl Paule KI6MSP (president) and Mike Von der Porten AD6YB (secretary). A copy of the minutes will be posted to the website.

It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the March Board of Directors minutes as published in Short Skip.

Steve Bramble KI6TUR reports that membership renewals are coming in slowly. The first quarter expenses came in as expected.

The repeater chairs report that the repeater is working better than ever with the updated feed to the amplifier. We are getting reports of both higher power net output and improved input sensitivity.

It was moved by Brian Torr N6IIY, seconded by Steve Bramble KI6TUR and approved that Jack Christensen

K6ROW, John Felton KE5RI, Craig Gaever K6XLT, Charlie Sikes KZ6T, Dave Harrison W6IBC, Kurt Helstrom WA6TIP and John Tracy W6SB be appointed to the new Repeater Committee.

It was reported that the 440 EH repeater will be replaced with the Kenwood repeater approved by the membership. The supplier is backlogged, so it will be a few weeks before this happens. The TKR 820 repeater may not be modifiable for 440 MHz use at Castle Rock. We will know more later. Further updates are likely to include APRS and IRLP. We have received five new IP addresses at each site.

Brian Torr N6IIY reports that the licenses from the recent exam took a bit longer to come through, possibly because of the Good Friday holiday. The next VE is 5/19/2012.

Brian will develop a plan and seeks a committee to help with Field Day. Some new modes and antennas may be added. We have the reservation at Youth Community Park and it includes the gazebo.

Jeff Tonelli KI6PBF reports that some new classes may include a basic electronics theory class, an electronics design class and/or a construction class. One idea is to have teams build different parts of a station and then put the station together for use at Field Day or the like. The system could then be sold to recover costs.

Mike Von der Porten AD6YB reports that emails will go out as renewal reminders. When needed, "snail mail" reminders will follow a month later.

Dave Harrison W6IBC reports that the assembly class was much fun.

There was a discussion regarding making sure that donations are fully acknowledged and records are retained by the Club.

There was a discussion that the number of paid members includes family members, so the total revenue is not a multiplier of the membership count.

Jack Christensen K6ROW reports that the TE amplifier upgrade previously authorized at \$200 will cost \$243.44. Moved, seconded and approved to authorize







\$243.44 for this project.

Jack Christensen K6ROW reports that the plan for the voting receiver at English Hill will best be accomplished using a RVS-8 LGD Repeater Voting System. Moved, seconded and approved to authorize up to \$400 to be spent on this equipment.

Jack Christensen K6ROW reports that Curt Helstrom WA6TIP will likely donate two GE radios that can be used for the link between Castle Rock and English Hill. If the donation is completed, the Club will gratefully acknowledge the donation.

The repeater committee will evaluate options regarding APRS and a digipeater. Depending on what is found, around \$600 may be needed for the project. Cumulatively, the repeater enhancements are still under the \$3,000 authorized in the budget.

Mike Von der Porten AD6YB will get envelopes for the new member kits.

John Chavez KG6PEP reports that the raffles have been generating approx. \$130 in revenue and costs have been around \$100. The Board consensus is that the raffle is for the enjoyment of the Club members and does not need to make a profit. John is authorized to increase spending on raffle prizes in this regard.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 7:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Von der Porten  
Secretary

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## **Sonoma County Radio Amateurs Membership Meeting Minutes May 2, 2012**

Meeting called to order at 7PM by president Darryl Paule KI6MSP.

Members were introduced.

Chuck Banks from the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 32, thanked members for volunteering at the Redwood

Regional Challenge and presented volunteers with patches.

Sutter Laird KI6ZON reported that the website has been having server issues. If users see a 314159 Cat Error, please contact Sutter. One solution is to clear browser history and cache – again, Sutter can help.

Donald Laird WE4MOO had nothing to report regarding Short Skip.

Charlie Sikes KZ6T, Dave Harrison W6IBC, Brian Torr K6IIY and Pat Coyle KG6JSL gave a presentation on Automated Packet Repeating Systems (APRS).

Charlie Sikes KZ6T had nothing report as vice president.

Mike Von der Porten AD6YB reported that minutes were a month behind in Short Skip, but will be caught up.

Steve Bramble KJ6TUR, treasurer, reported that both expenses and income were behind plan, but that was to be expected during the quiet part of the year, and we are approx. \$1,000 favorable so far.

Repeater co-chairs John Felton JE5RI and Jack Christensen K6ROW reported that the HF repeaters are working well. The 440 repeater has been purchased and is expected to be installed on English Hill in the next month. IBC was acknowledged for his suggestion regarding reducing the power into an amplifier which was found to be an excellent idea that has been implemented. The installation of APRS is estimated to cost \$600 for an Alinco radio, TNC, antennas, etc. It was moved by Dave Harrison W6IBC to authorize up to \$700 to be spent on the APRS installation. The motion was seconded by Steve Bramble KJ6TUR. The motion carried unanimously. It was noted that IRLP will be an upcoming project.

Craig Gaevert K6XLT provided updates on public service. The MS Walk and Lake Sonoma 50 were very successful. Thanks go to the volunteers. On Saturday, May 5, there will be both the Human Race and the Wine Country Century. A few volunteers are still welcome. On May 13, the Tour of California will be a big event. Some more volunteers for downtown places are solicited. On June 16, there will be the Terrible Two.





KI6REK was not present

Mike Von der Porten AD6YB, membership chair, noted that membership renewals are still needed.

Dave Harrison W6IBC had nothing to report as a director.

Brian Torr N6IIY had nothing to report as a director.

Jeff Tonelli KI6PBF updated the members on education proposals including a possible construction class. Jeff welcomes volunteers for a committee to develop plans for the class.

Rich Freitas KF6SZA was not present for an ARES report.

Brian Torr N6IIY reports that the next VE session will be May 19 at First American Title Company. The following session will be in July or August. Note that the Extra Class questions change between the two sessions.

John Chavez KI6PEP had nothing to report regarding the trailer.

Darryl Paule KI6MSP reported that the club has opportunities to set up two tables: the Human Race and the Tour of California. These are for community outreach including obtaining class and club members. The Human Race table costs \$100 (all not-for-profits have to pay) and, by special arrangement, The Tour of California table is free to the club because of its support of the event. Dave Harrison W6IBC moved and John Breckinridge WB6FRZ seconded that the club spend \$100 on the table at the Human Race with the condition that the president find appropriate staffing. Motion carried. Darryl noted that Human Race contributions to the club are welcome.

Brian Torr N6IIY reported on the plans for Field Day with an additional station.

Pat Coyle reported on the Mendo Rally on August 4. Signups are on [www.rallydata.com](http://www.rallydata.com). 25 to 30 people will be needed.

Darryl reported that some donated tubes had been sold

at VOMARC and that some tubes at the meeting were available for \$1 each.

Net control for the club net was set with the following volunteers:

5/8	Brian Torr N6IIY
5/15	Mike Von der Porten AD6YB
5/22	Sutter Laird KI6ZON
5/29	Darryl Paule KI6MSP

The membership raffle was held.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Von der Porten  
Secretary

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### **Sonoma County Radio Amateurs Board of Directors Meeting Minutes May 9, 2012**

President Darryl Paule KI6MSP called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

Attending were Brian Torr N6IIY, Steve Bramble KI6TUR, Darryl Paule KI6MSP, Jeff Tonelli KI6PBF, Charlie Sikes KZ6T, Dave Harrison W6IBC, Dave Santori KF6CLG, Pat Coyle KG6JSL and Mike Von der Porten AD6YB.

Darryl Paule KI6MSP reported on the two handouts developed and used at the Human Race. The documents were handed around for review.

Charlie Sikes KZ6T had nothing to report as vice president.

Mike Von der Porten AD6YB, secretary, reported that draft minutes were being handed around for review.

Steve Bramble KI6TUR, treasurer, nothing to report.

Brian Torr N6IIY, VE chair, reports that there will be a VE session on May 19. As Field Day chair, Brian reported that he still needs CW operators, but overall things are coming together. There's a Field Day committee of Charlie Sikes, Ed Slingland and Brian Torr working on the event. At the club meeting, the presen-





tation will include a video on how to use the logging software. Signups are looking good. An operating schedule may be put on the website to have people assigned to operating stations at various times.

Darryl Paule KI6MSP reported on three publicity efforts.

Mike Von der Porten AD6YB reported that membership efforts will now turn to email and snail mail renewal reminders.

Dave Harrison W6IBC moved and Dave Harrison W6IBC seconded that the April Board of Directors Meeting Minutes be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

For the membership meeting programs, June will focus on Field Day and July will be a movie.

The Board discussed general methods for short-term approvals of expenses. While the budget provides general spending approvals, specific approvals should be obtained from the Board and the Membership as appropriate. Interim email approvals may "pave the way" for final approvals.

The two flyers for events were reviewed and a few minor changes were suggested.

Dave Harrison W6IBC moved and Charlie Sikes KZ6T seconded that \$57.50 be allocated for promotional materials for the Tour of California booth.

The position of Public Information Officer being held by the president was discussed.

For Field Day, the Club's relationships with "served agencies" was discussed. The Board will make outreach to our ARES leaders to have them contact ARES served agencies, inviting them to Field Day.

Darryl Paule KI6MSP is looking for five or six volunteers to help with the Tour of California booth including 5:30 AM setup. Parking for the Tour is available at Humbolt and College (prior Peterson Insurance) and 3rd and E (Glass Architects) courtesy of Board members.

Dave Harrison W6IBC moved and Steve Bramble

KI6TUR move that \$75 be allocated for Field Day promotions.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 7:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Von der Porten  
Secretary

## Mendocino Rally Signups

The Mendocino Rally will be held on Saturday, August 4, 2012. This is an Off Highway Vehicle rally in the hills East of Ukiah, and will run from about 11:00 AM until about 8:00 PM.

This year there will be four full length stages instead of the divided stages as was done last year. There may be a short rally cross in the East end riverbed, depending on conditions.

In addition to the radio work, there will be a wine tasting and light buffet at Parducci Winery in Ukiah on Friday evening, and reduced prices on beer and food at the post race party at Red Tail Brewery and the adjacent Mexican restaurant. We are also working with the Rangers and will have better access to the campground on Friday evening for those who want to camp out again. By popular demand, dust masks will be provided, and sandwiches and drinks will be distributed in place rather than traveling to the campground. This is an exciting event and we are getting early sign-ups from other rally enthusiasts. So sign up soon. We want to have things in place by the end of June. Go to [Rallydata.com](http://Rallydata.com) to register and sign up. The registration is required to get course passes as entry is restricted.

Contact Pat Coyle, KG6JSL, at [coylaw@sonic.net](mailto:coylaw@sonic.net) for more information. The 2012 Website will soon be up at [Mendocinorally.com](http://Mendocinorally.com)



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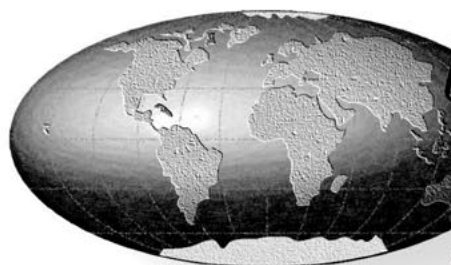
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- DX Packet Cluster Monitor
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### TM-D700A 2M/440 Dualband

- 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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- Li-Ion Battery
- 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

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- 3 Band Parametric Mic EQ
- 3 IF roofing filters

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### IC-706MkIIIG HF/VHF Transceiver

- 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

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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

**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!**





## No More Wires

By Charlie, KZ6T

May 8th. On my way back from the “Candy Store” Dina and I make a detour to SF to have a Barney’s Burger (The finest culinary hamburger in Northern California, loaded with lots of calories and cholesterol.) Anyway, when we got to Petaluma I turned on the 2m rig to do a late check-in to the net, where-upon I received the coldest meanest stare because I interrupted the Giants broadcast. “I promise, this will only take a minute dear.”

{N/C} Are there anymore announcements for the net?

{me} KZ6T Late check-in.

{N/C} I heard a late check-in but didn’t get the call, come again.

{me} KZ6T Charlie.

{N/C} I heard a Charlie, but which one, come again with your call.

{me} KZ6T, Kilo Zulu Six Tango, KZ6T Charlie.

{N/C} Oh that Charlie, got you checked in, ...

Well that was odd, but I was mobile in Petaluma with a cheap \$20 mag-mount ¼ wave shaking in the wind while driving along at 65 mph. Maybe that was it.

Nope. After I get home I receive an email from our local public service wrangler that I am transmitting out that stupid squeal at the front end of my Tx. “Must be using your Yaesu tonight”. So out I went to the car, sure enough that darn INT-ON icon is displayed.

For those of you not familiar with the Yaesu FT-8800, FT-60, and others, there is a “feature” called W.I.R.E.S. on these rigs. W.I.R.E.S. stands for Wide-coverage Internet Repeater Enhancement. Think of it as IRLP for Yaesu’s, except hardly anyone uses it. (Anyone outside of Japan that is.) It’s a selectable option that is way too easy to select. When invoked, your 1st second of transmission is overwritten by a DTMF tone. This forces you to wait after pushing the PTT before speaking, while the listeners get to hear that wonderful tone, or you get cut-off.

Well that did it; there must be a way to defeat the “feature”. There is, and it WORKS! An Internet Google search comes up with multiple hits on how. (Imagine that, other people with the same problem.) I had tried this mod a few times in the past but could never get

the fix to work, this time I was determined. Turns out there are typos in the both of the instructions. A little persistence and finally success.

### FT-60

– See manual page 49

1. Press the F/M key then immediately press the 0 key to enter the menu mode.

*(Don’t bother searching for the F/M key, they mean the F/W key)*

2. Rotate the Dial knob to menu 23 – INT MR.

3. Press the F/M key then rotate the Dial knob to select a memory ( d1 through d9) that is empty, i.e. it contains ..... (six dots) = no tone.

*(Even though my d1 and d2 memory slots were blank, I could not get the mod to take until I used memory slot d3.)*

4. Press the F/M key to store the setting.

5. Rotate the Dial knob to menu 21 – I NET .

6. Press the F/M key then rotate the Dial knob to select INT.MEM .

7. Press the F/M key to store the setting.

8. Press the PTT button to exit the menu mode.

To re-enable the WIRES™ mode, select INT.COD in menu 21

*(Don’t even think about it)*

### FT-8800 / FT-8900

– See manual page 50 or 48

1. Press the SET key momentarily to enter the set mode.

2. Rotate the Main band Dial knob to select menu 15 – DTMF W

3. Press the Main band Dial knob momentarily then rotate the Main band Dial knob to select a memory (d1 through d16) that is empty, i.e. it contains ..... (six dots) = no tone.

4. Press the Main band Dial knob momentarily to store the setting.

*(This didn’t work for me. I pushed the “SET” button instead.)*

5. Rotate the Main band Dial knob to select menu 17 – INET.

6. Press the Main band Dial knob momentarily then rotate the Main band Dial knob to select INT.MEM

7. Press the Main band Dial knob for ½ second to store the setting and exit the menu mode.

Continued on next page.





Continued from previous page.

8. Rotate the Main band Dial while pressing and holding the left VOL knob to select the same memory selected in step 3 above.

To re-enable the WIRES™ mode, select INT.COD in menu 17. (*WHY would you ever do this?*)

Although Yaesu doesn't really directly state it in the manuals, if you are fluent in Jinglish, the instructions to do this are there. As I understand it, this mod doesn't really shut off the WIRES "feature" but rather changes the DTMF tone to none. That's why after the mod is activated the INT-ON Icon is still on.

Hope this helps. Maybe our Public Service Wrangler will make it mandatory for all Yaesu users.

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## Come Join SCRA at Field Day 2012 June 22, 23, 24

ALERT!! Field Day is just over four weeks away! We will again be having Field Day at the Youth Community Park (aka "the skateboard park"), 1725 Fulton Rd, in Santa Rosa (across the street from Piner High School). As hams, the world is our playground, so what better place to have Field Day than in a public park. Field Day is one of our best opportunities to demonstrate amateur radio to the public.

Plans are coming together, but there are still lots to do in the next few weeks. We still need to tie up a few loose ends. We have decided to on a "3A" classification, meaning that we will have three HF transmitters. One of these will be on SSB, another on CW and a third on PSK-31. We are still looking for a CW station captain. We have a few CW operators lined up, but we need a captain, so if you can help us with this, please let me know.

We will also have a Get-On-The-Air, or GOTA, station. I encourage all of our recently-licensed hams and even those old-timers that have not had an opportunity to get on the HF bands in the last year to give the GOTA station a try. It will be operating on SSB. We will need control operators (General or higher) to allow the unlicensed and under-licensed hams the ability to work HF. A few of you have already signed up, but we need a few more. We get extra points if there is always a mentor at the GOTA station.

We will also have VHF/UHF/Satellite station. Last year, using relatively simple antennas, we were able to make a satellite contact. I'm sure we can do at least as well this year.

Pat Coyle, KG6JSL, will be coordinating the dinner Saturday night. A donation of \$10 gets you both dinner Saturday night and breakfast Sunday morning.

We will also be having an Educational Activity. We are considering either a simple antenna or perhaps a CW memory keyer as the project (it's really not as complicated as you might think!) The Educational Activity is tentatively scheduled for 2pm on Saturday, but watch for announcements on the SCRA website and your e-mail for further details.

We need your help!

First of all, I would like to hear from anyone who is hoping to participate in any way in Field Day this year. Even if you might only be there to observe for an hour or two to help logging, cooking, or whatever, please call me or send me an e-mail.

Specific areas where we need help are:

1. Radio for CW station
2. Station captain for the CW station
3. Control operators for the GOTA station.
4. Laptop computers to use for logging.
5. Coax cable and UHF(f) to UHF(f) adapters. It's a real bummer when the station and antenna are separated by 120' and you only have 100' of coax!
7. "Tour Guides" to help show visitors around our Field Day site and explain what we are up to

We will begin setup around 4pm on Friday, June 22. We will try to get most of the antennas set up before sundown. Setup will continue Saturday morning, June 23. The operating begins at 11:00am and runs until 11:00am Sunday morning, June 24. We will immediately start tearing down at 11:00am Sunday and should be leaving the park by 3:00pm.

Hope to see you all there!

Brian Torr, N6IY  
Tel: (707) 575-5871  
n6iyy@arrl.net





## June 2, 2012: On-Site Field Day Planning Meeting

On Saturday, June 2, we will have a planning meeting at the Field Day site, Youth Community Park, 1725 Fulton Rd (across the street from Piner High School) in Santa Rosa. The meeting will start at 10:00 am.

I would like to have all station captains present for this meeting. Everyone interested in Field Day is welcome to attend. We will review the details of the station setups, logistics, signage, publicity, and event schedule.

Field Day is a big event for SCRA, but with plenty of help, it's a ton of fun! I hope to see many of you there.

73,  
Brian, N6IYY - Field Day Chairman

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## June 6, 2012 Meeting Program: Field Day 2012 Planning & Practice

We will be discussing the plans for Field Day 2012 at our June meeting. For many hams, Field Day is the high point of the ham radio year. I know it is for me! Field Day is a unique combination of a contest, social event, public awareness opportunity, an emergency preparedness drill, and always an excellent learning experience (especially when Murphy shows up).

We will review the layout of the stations and antennas, the logging program, the educational activity, and how you can help to make this the best Field Day ever! See the full article on Field Day in this issue of Short Skip.

We will also spend some time practicing how to make Field Day contacts and details of how to use the logging program.

I hope to see you all at the June meeting and Field Day!

73,  
Brian, N6IYY - Field Day Chairman

## My first DX QSO

The Sonoma County Radio Amateurs had a Morse Code class that started on January 20, 2012, and continued every Friday night until April 20, 2012. John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ, and Bob Arthur, KG6ZDN, were the instructors. We started out with explanations on how to use a straight key, what the characters were, how to listen for the different characters. The first week we had four characters to learn, and as the weeks continued we had four more to learn each week. Finally we had 41 separate characters, and protocols to learn. Some of us brought our own homebrew equipment to supplement the straight keys.

The final week of April 20th was to be the get on the air night. John WB6FRZ, Bob KG6ZDN, Charlie KZ6T, and Brian Torr K6IYY arrived early to set up two stations. We set up dipole antennas in the parking lot at the Red Cross on Aero Drive, just south of Airport Blvd. Then came the real challenge. The seven of us from the class were anxiously waiting to hear someone out there sending a CQ. The code was coming to us fast and furious. Then Martin Kilgore KJ6BQM, was the first to send out his CQ. Then came a reply calling him. Martin completed his QSO. He did a good job. Next was myself, Doug KF6LMB. I sent out my CQ, and received a return message from KI0HQ in the middle of Missouri. I was so excited to hear my call sign, but from that point on I relied on Bob KG6ZDN to copy the incoming messages for me. I did complete the QSO. At the end I was so excited, that I couldn't even remember my own call sign. Charlie KZ6T had to mouth it to me as to sign off. Frank Oddy NQ6E was next to send out his CQ. He received a reply, and he too needed help on receiving the incoming code. John WB6FRZ assisted writing the messages. Frank completed his QSO and was happy to get the first QSO out of the way.

The finalists who completed the class were John Chavez KG6PEP, Martin Kilgore KJ6BQM, Elizabeth Mc Dougall KI6TIB, Frank Oddy NQ6E, Keith Payea AG6CI, Doug Payne KF6LMB, Charlie Sikes KG6T, and Nancy Yarbrough KD1NCY. We are all gratefully thankful for the time and the patience that Bob and John had for teaching us the initial skills to complete another aspect of Ham Radio.

KF6LMB Doug





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