



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 38, Number 3

March 2013



## March SCRA Update

by Charlie Sikes, KZ6T  
SCRA President

### *March Madness SCRA Style*

March 6 marks the membership renewal cut-off date for making it into the printed Club roster. This booklet will be published and distributed to all new and rostered members in early April. If you haven't done so yet, please renew your membership either online using PayPal or bring your application to the March meeting.

### *ARES*

I recently attended a meeting at the Bennett Valley Grange where Club members Bill WB6JAO, Lee KE6EAQ, Darryl KI6MSP, and Bill KH6GJV (our ARRL Section Manager) are spearheading efforts to get a emergency communications infrastructure established in the outer Bennett Valley Area.

### *TOASTER*

At the last Club meeting we talked about the future of the Toaster. (The Club's Communication Van.) At this month's meeting, we will need to decide if the Club is to keep it or dispose of it. If we keep it, someone must step forward as its "champion" / caretaker and a new location must be found to store it.

### *Kudos*

I sat in on a little of the Technicians Licensing course last month. Jeff, John and Darryl put on a terrific program which is very informative and interactive. They utilize a table top full of show and tell props, a video program, a terrific text, and lots of direct one-on-one dialog. 100% pass rate for 2013. I commend them for their dedication to the cause. The next class is scheduled to begin Friday May 31. Lets help out by passing along the class information to prospective hams.

### *Mark your Calendars*

I'm sure that Craig K6XLT, and Bruce K6BDH will soon be spreading the word about upcoming Public Service events, but I want to make sure you mark your calendars for some other events. Field Day is June 22 and 23rd, although we start setting up on Friday June 21. We will be back at the Santa Rosa Skate park. Brian N6IIY will be coordinating this year's event. July 13th weekend is the 3rd annual Mini-DX event. This year we will be headed for the Mattole River in Humboldt County. I will be coordinating the event and will soon have more information on the Club's reflector. The weekend of July 20th is the Mendo Rally and Pat KG6JSL is coordinator. This year we are bringing back the SCRA Club Picnic. It is currently scheduled for September 14th. We need a volunteer (or two) to coordinate and make it a successful event. You can find all of this years planned events on the Clubs on-line calendar.

73

Charlie, KZ6T



## 2013 Club Officers

President	Charlie Siles kz6t@arrl.net	KZ6T
Vice President	John Felton	KE5RI
Treasurer	Steve Bramble	KI6TUR
Secretary	Mike Von Der Porten	AD6YB
Director	Doug Payne	KF6LMB
	Brian Torr	N6IYY
Past President	Darryl Paule	KI6MSP

## Committee Lineup/Contacts

Membership	Mike Von der Porten	AD6YB	
Program	John Felton	KE5RI	
EmComm	Fred Polkinghorn	KQ6OB	
Field Day	Brian Torr	N6IYY	707-575-5871
Activity			
Public Service	Craig Gaever	K6XLT	707-545-4133
Education	Jeff Tonelli	KI6PBF	
Repeater	Jack Christensen	K6ROW	
Volunteer Exam			
Liaison	Brian Torr	N6IYY	707-575-5871
Antenna			
Ordinance-Legal	Lee Dibble	KE6EAQ	707 544-1675
Refreshments	John Tracy	W6SB	
ARRL DXCC/WAS			
Manager	Chuck Ternes	N6OJ	707 763-2528
Club Raffle	John Chavez	KG6PEP	
Member Badges	Nancy Yarbrough	K6NCY	
Activities	Darryl Paule	KI6MSP	

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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

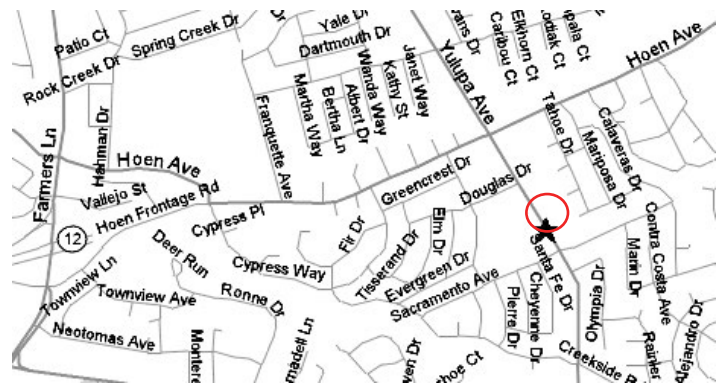
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## SCRA Club Meetings

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>



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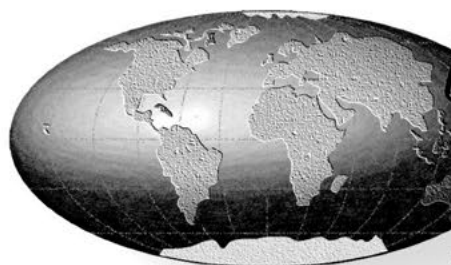
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- IF Stage DSP • Built-in TNC, DX packet cluster
- Backlit Front Key Panel

**Low Intro Price!**



### TH-D7A(G) 2M/440

- 2M/440 Dual Band
- Built-in 1200/9600 Baud TNC
- APRS Compatible
- DX Packet Cluster Monitor
- 200 Mems., CTCSS
- VC-H1 Messaging Control

**Low Pricing!**



### TM-D700A 2M/440 Dualband

- 50w VHF 35w UHF • Opt. Voice Synthesizer
- Receives 118-1300 mHz (cell blocked)
- Remote Head Inst. only (kit included)
- 200 Memories • Built In 1200/9600 baud TNC
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## YAESU



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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
- DSP filters / Voice memory recorder
- 3 Band Parametric Mic EQ
- 3 IF roofing filters

**Call Now For Low Pricing!**



### 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

**Low Pricing!**



### IC-756 PRO III All mode Transceiver

- 160-6M @ 100W • Enhanced Rx performance
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- 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!**



## NASA Ames Tour

Darryl KI6MSP

February 1st was an informational, educational, and fun tour of NASA Ames.

There were nine of us who went on this tour:

Greg KB6M

Scott KJ6QIQ

Rory KJ6QIR

Casey KJ6QIS

Laura AG6PE

Doug KF6LMB

Pat KB6KSA

Joe K6AWA

Darryl KI6MSP

We arrived at NASA Ames about 0915 and met our tour guide Cara Dodge.



After we signed in and got our visitor photo IDs, we went to see the Vertical Motion Simulator. This simulator is used to train pilots and astronauts in flying helicopters, various jet aircraft, and the shuttle craft.

The area that the simulator is in is about 80' high and about 60' wide. Aside from the horizontal and vertical, there is also the X,Y axis. There are two control operators that make up the scenarios and a communicator to the pilots in the simulator.

Vertical Motion Simulator

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oVWYgNIw-28>

Next we saw parts of the outside of the wind tunnel. This is where a lot of testing was done on various aircraft.

The wind tunnel is 120 feet tall and takes up several blocks for the various parts of the tunnel.



Wind Tunnel

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gkhqkSwRWmk>

Next was the Future Flight Simulator

This is a mockup of an actual airport control tower. Instead of having the windows that a tower would have, it has very large video screens. This is where simulations are done when an airport is going to be built or remodeled. Instead of building the airport runways or tower, simulations are done in various weather conditions to find the best location for expansion or building.

Future Flight Simulator

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fl3bw2ydJtU>

We also saw the old building that was used for a hangar. It is no longer used. It is now just a steel frame.

**Continued on next page.**



## Nasa Ames, continued



Here is a link to some facts about Ames Research.  
[http://www.nasa.gov/centers/ames/pdf/283944main\\_NASA-Ames-factsheet-2008.pdf](http://www.nasa.gov/centers/ames/pdf/283944main_NASA-Ames-factsheet-2008.pdf)

Here is a link to the history of NASA Ames  
<http://www.nasa.gov/centers/ames/about/history/index.html>

You could spend hours at this Web site!

There is also the visitors center that has a lot of information on the various programs of NASA Ames, including a mockup of the International Space Station.

There are several additional photos that will be available at the SCRA Web site

Darryl  
KI6MSP



Cut out for your VIP Discount Card

## Impressions of the NASA Ames Tour

Rory Wellington, KJ6QIR and  
Casey Wellington, KJ6QIS

At the January meeting of the SCRA, Darryl Paule, KI6MSP got up and announced that a group of only ten people would get to go on a field trip to NASA Ames in a few weeks. They then had a drawing to see who would get to go. Incredibly, my father, my brother, and I all got picked.

At the time, none of us really had much of an idea what we would see at NASA Ames, but some research showed that it is a facility for research and development for many NASA projects. And we were going to get an inside tour of this place!

However, before we were able to go on our tour, we had to get into the facility. Before we were allowed in, we had to get special I.D. Cards, and show these and a photo I.D. at every gate.

The first thing we got to tour was the Vertical Motion Simulator, or VMS. This is one of the most realistic flight simulators in the world. It has a motion range extending 60 feet vertically and 40 feet horizontally, and the hydraulic supports extend 90 feet into the ground! Large amounts of movement possible allows a wide range of very realistic simulations. Add to that advanced computer systems and customizable cab configurations, and you have a very amazing package. We even got to see it in action; at the time we visited, they were testing a concept for a lunar landing craft!

After that we went to see some of the NASA Ames wind tunnels. They have quite a collection of wind tunnels of various sizes, including some able to generate winds traveling at supersonic speeds. The most impressive wind tunnel, however, was the 80 ft. by 120 ft. tunnel, which is the world's largest! The testing chamber is large enough to test an entire, full-scale Boeing 747! The intake is the size of a soccer field placed on its side, and the wind speed in the testing area can reach 150 mph.

Continued on next page





## Ames Impressions, continued

Among the other impressive sights we saw was the old Navy airship hanger, which is one of the largest free-standing structures in the world. We also got to step inside the FFC (Future Flight Central), which is a full-scale simulation of an airport control tower. Using this, they can simulate and test the effects of changes to real airports before they are made.

This is only some of what NASA Ames has to offer, but it is pretty much all that we were able to see on our trip. Though the facility is closed to the public except by special invitation, I hope that there will be another opportunity for others to be able to see this amazing place firsthand.

Rory Wellington, KJ6QIR

On Friday, February 1, I went on a tour of the NASA Ames Research center along with nine other members of SCRA (Sonoma County Radio Amateurs), my local Ham club. My brother and I were the only non-adults who had the privilege of taking this tour. We saw many intriguing things during our visit, including: 1- a flight simulator with the world's widest range of motion, 2- a variety of quite special wind tunnels, and 3- NASA's Hangar 1, one of the world's largest free-standing structures.

The Vertical Motion Simulator (VMS) is a flight simulator designed to collect data involving concept designs and how well they work for the "pilot". I was able to look through a window into the room and see the motions of a simulation of a conceptual lunar lander. As I mentioned above, it has the widest range of motion of any flight simulator, which means it can travel up/down, left/right, and slightly forward/backward; it can lean in any direction, it can twist slightly, and it can even simulate realistic vibrations of the cockpit! Although it may sound dizzying, I was fascinated and wanted to "take a ride" in it!

Another spectacular thing I saw (up close!) was the world's largest wind tunnel, with an air intake the size of a soccer field tilted up on its side! The actual testing chamber was large enough to accommodate an entire 747 aircraft, wings and all! (Yeah, I thought that was pretty big, too!) I also had the privilege of seeing

a wind tunnel that can literally create supersonic wind speeds! It wasn't nearly as big as the other one, but it sure did top its maximum velocity!

Finally, I was introduced to a nationally recognized presence: NASA Hangar 1. Though devoid of its outer shell, the framework was phenomenal. Its sheer size was overwhelming, considering that its floor alone covers 8 acres! It originally housed several large dirigibles, and when it was closed, it had its own climate inside, such as clouds on a cloudless day, fog when the sun was shining, and even rain. Yup - inside. Unfortunately, I was unable to approach it, as it is off limits to the public. Even at a distance of about 100 yards, it was still an incredibly impressive sight. I felt like an ant.

There were several other interesting mechanical wonders that I saw, but I seem to be running out of room here. Unfortunately, like Disneyland, you could never see everything at NASA Ames in one day. This tour was, for me, a wonderful learning experience, and I truly enjoyed the trip.

Casey Wellington, KJ6QIS

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## Radio Demonstration Volunteers Needed

Darryl KI6MSP

Info:

Date - March 30th from 1000-1630

Location - Hobby Town USA

171 N. McDowell Blvd.

Petaluma, CA 94954

(707) 762-2176

[http://www.htupetaluma.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=blogcategory&id=20&Itemid=28](http://www.htupetaluma.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=20&Itemid=28)

We will be demonstrating digital modes and HF voice. If you'd like to work this event please contact Darryl KI6MSP at [ki6msp@arrl.net](mailto:ki6msp@arrl.net)

I'd like to have at least six people working. You can work the whole day or let me know what works for you.

Thanks,  
Darryl



## Kids Day Operating Event 2013

Scott Wellington KJ6QIQ

I know many of you reading this have participated in many great contests over the years. You may still enjoy annual events such as Straight Key Night, RTTY Round Up, VHF/UHF Weekends, CW or Phone Sweepstakes, or even EME contest. Do you remember your first contest? Searching the bands, hunting for the right person or just hoping for a response to your CQ, CQ, CQ. Then the excitement of hearing someone calling your sign from a distant land. The adrenaline kicks in and now you have long list of contacts made during the years of contesting.

This year I am planning on providing an opportunity for my two sons to get excited about ham radio, both have a Technician Class ticket. January 6th, was the first Kid's Day Operating Event of 2013, sponsored by the ARRL and BARC. It was to be event I hoped would get them over some mic fright by talking with other kids. As a new ham myself, our home station is still growing and as of yet has not been able to use HF. Douglas Payne, KF6LMB, provided the use of his station. He added a second radio outside his shack using a Field Day type of set up with the radio connected to a battery and long wire antenna strung up his mast and off to a near by tree. Doug gave us all an introduction to each of the radios and the caution to check with the other operator before changing bands.

Now the boys were ready begin calling CQ. For the next 2 ½ hours they listened, they called, but no kids to be heard. Rory, KJ6QIR, finally made a non-kid contact in Missouri. Casey, KJ6QIS, spent some time listening to Bob Heil, K9EID, give microphone tips to other hams. Then Casey heard his chance. Coming in from New Mexico was a young lad, working quite a pile up. It seems like everyone finally found each other. We often could only hear his side of the QSO. Casey tried repeatedly to get his attention, but in the end the conditions did not allow him to get through.

All in all we had a good time hanging out together, drinking hot cocoa and trying to make some contacts. And I will continue to expose these young hams to different parts of the hobby to try and find something that will hook their interest. Next, we will try building antennas together.

The next ARRL/BARC Kid's Day Event is June 15,

2013. Consider assisting a young person, ham or not, you know get on the air that day. Who knows, you may create a future tester.

Scott Wellington, KJ6QIQ



Douglas KF6LMB and Rory KJ6QIR



Casey KJ6QIS



## Silent Keys

Ken Christensen W6LCZ

At our February meeting Don Christensen, W6DZM, told us his brother Ken died in November at the age of 94 and that he was an active ham well into his 80's. An early member of SCRA he became a ham as a teenager as evidenced by his logbook entries in 1934. His daughter, Joy, recalls searching for a home in Santa Rosa using a radio receiver to insure the strongest signal. He graduated from UC Berkeley with a BSEE. A Lieutenant Commander during WWII, he served as communications officer on the USS Maryland. After the war he was a partner in Basham-Christensen Wholesale Electronics in Santa Rosa and later worked at Fluidyne. Ken's garage forms a history of ham radio in all the equipment he saved. There are still items available including a FT-101, a supported, extendable tower and beam which will probably require a rigger to remove, several older hand-helds, two Icom IC 3200s and more. Call Joy if you're interested at 528-4872.

Jack K6ROW

Gene Johnson W2EBG

Got a call from a Jerry Journeay in Livermore. He was going through some old records of Gene Johnson W2EBG who passed away about a year ago. He was calling primarily to let us know of Gene's passing in case we had not heard it before.

Jerry said that they are using Gene's radio equipment to set up a memorial radio station at the Shriner's building in Livermore. They hope to get Gene's callsign for the station.

Fred KQ6OB

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 \_\_\_\_\_

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ARRL Member? Yes [ ] No [ ]    Receive Short Skip newsletter via email? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

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**Dues & Fees:** January 1 to December 31

Individual / Associate Member	\$24 (\$6.00/qtr)
Family Membership	\$36 (\$9.00/qtr)
Under 18 Membership	\$18 (\$4.50/qtr)
Badge	\$10

**Badge Information**

Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

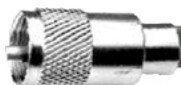
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**Payment Calculations:** Make checks payable to SCRA

Dues - Full Year	\$ _____
Dues - new members only	
Prorated _____ Qtrs. x \$ _____/qtr	\$ _____
Badge	\$ _____
Other - _____	\$ _____
Donation	\$ _____
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

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





Sonoma County Radio Amateurs  
Membership Meeting Minutes  
January 2, 2013

Called to order at 7:01 PM PST by president Charlie Sikes KZ6T.

Charlie introduced the new board. Members and guests introduced themselves. Approx. 40 people were present.

There were no new calls or upgrades.

Charlie asked about technical / mentor questions. Andrew KJ6YFD asked about feeding a Slinky dipole with coax. The antenna tuner seems to be working fine, but there has had no success with transmissions or reception. Would an artificial ground work? 20 meters band in use. Brian Torr N6IYY reports that various Slinky antennas are fed different ways. John Felton KE5RI suggested that the two sites might be too close together. Joe K6AWA suggested that a continuity test may be needed.

Technical questions will be welcome each meeting.

John Felton KE5RI gave a presentation on ham shack accessories. John discussed safety, antennas, feedlines, DMMs, SWR meters, antenna tuners, antenna switches, external speakers, clocks, band pass filters, dummy loads, etc.

A refreshment break was held.

John Felton KE5RI – vice president – nothing to report.

Mike Von der Porten AD6YB – secretary. Moved by Dave Harrison W6IBC to approve the November membership minutes as published in December and October membership minutes as published in January. Seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Steve Bramble – KI6TUR – treasurer – not present. His report shows that we are ahead \$1,700 year to date (March to February fiscal year). The donations were not as strong this year as were expected. A question was asked about what the club is doing with its cash assets. John Felton KE5RI reported that some of the funds will be used for repeater replacements where non-club equipment is being replaced by club-owned equipment.

#### Directors

Brian Torr N6IYY director – nothing to report

Douglas KF6LMB director – nothing to report

Darryl Paule KI6MSP – past president – nothing to report.

Daryl Paule KI6MSP reported on the North Bay Science Fair which SCRA attended late last year.

Friday, January 18 will be a tour of NASA Ames starting around 1 PM. Darryl conducted a lottery for the 10 slots. KB6KSA Pat, Casey Wellington KJ6QIS, Joe K6AWA, Pat Christensen KG6JSL, Laura Tye, Scott Tye, KB6M, Rory Wellington KJ6QIR, Doug Payne KF6LMB. Alternative is John Felton KE5RI.

Pat Coyle KG6JSL reports that the Mendo Rally is being expanded. The Nevada rally has been canceled so this July 20 and 21 event will be much bigger. The Saturday event will be the same off-highway area on Cow Mountain east of Clear Lake. The Sunday event will be in a different area.

Repeater co-chairs Jack Christensen K6ROW and John Felton KE5RI – John reports that the controller is down for maintenance. The repeaters are operating independently. John encourages use of our 2 meter VHF and 440 UHF repeaters. Jack reports that Dave is working on IRLP. WA6TIP and Jack are working on the voting repeater.

Bruce Hopfengardner K6PDH reported on public service for Craig Gaevert K6XLT. The Lake Sonoma 50 is in April. In May will be the Wine County Century, the Tour of California. See the SCRA calendar for dates.

ARES - Fred Polkinghorn KQ6OB not present.

VE - Brian Torr N6IY will be scheduling 2013 sessions. The fee remains \$15.

Newsletter – not present

Education – Jeff Tonelli KI6PBF Six tech classes likely to be scheduled this year. If people are interested in a General class, please see Jeff. John Breckinridge will start a Morse code course starting Friday, January 11 at 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM. Practice will be 8 PM to 9 PM on the Club Repeater on Tuesday nights.

Mike Von der Porten AD6YB – membership – time to renew memberships – use of the website is suggested.

Repeater Trustee John Felton KE5RI paid our NARC coordination fee. John watches the monthly list of repeater applications.

John Tracy WB6AMC is the likely new refreshment chair.

Nancy Yarbrough K6NCY is the likely new badge chair.

Reporting back on the timing of annual dues, Charlie Sikes reports that dues now run January to December. Getting dues in on a time will assure members of being included in the membership listing

There will be a planning meeting on January 12. Please forward ideas to Charlie Sikes.

Net Control

1/8/13 Darryl KI6MSP

1/15/13 Duane N6DMR

1/22/13 Keith Payea AG6CI

1/29/13 Dave Harrison W6IBC



2/5/13 Frank Oddy NQ6E

The raffle was held.

Adjourned by consensus at 9:17 PM PST.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Von der Porten  
Secretary

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs  
Membership Meeting Minutes  
February 6, 2013

Called to order at 7:00 by president Charlie Sikes KZ6T

The Board members introduced themselves. There were two guests including W1TAS.

The program on the using PICs in ham radio projects was given by Dave Harrison W6IBC. PIC originally referred to "Peripheral Interface Controller." Dave demonstrated how to program the controller as a flashing light, a Morse code character generator, a Morse code keyer (with a stored phrase), a frequency counter and as a TNC.

[www.amqrp.org](http://www.amqrp.org) has a 20-lesson introduction to PIC use.

Don, W6DZM discussed SCRA post WWII. Don reports that the club was organized in the 1930s. Don became the first president in 1948 when the club reorganized. Don has amateur radio gear for sale. 545-2241. The first Field Day was on English Hill. At one time they had 13 transmitters running. W6KBA had the towable generator. Don noted that when television came in, there were lots of problems.

Pat Coyle KG6JSL has some items for sale.

John Chavez KD6PEP has a raffle tonight.

VP John Felton KE5RI reports that programs have been scheduled for the year. They are listed on the website. The next presentation is on approaches to troubleshooting.

Secretary Mike Von der Porten AD6YB reports that minutes will be caught up in the next month.

Treasurer Steve Bramble KI6TUR is out ill. Charlie Sikes KZ6T presented the budget for 2013. A slight deficit is projected for the year. Jack Christensen K6ROW seconded by Evelyn Chavez KI6PAY to approve the budget as presented. The motion was tabled until the comm van is discussed.

The January financials were presented.

Brian Torr N6IY – Nothing to report.

Doug Payne KF6LMB – Nothing to report.

Past President – Darryl Paule KI6MSP reported on the field trip to NASA Ames. It was a good trip.

Repeater Jack Christensen K6ROW reported that the voting repeater needs the same PL tones on all receivers. The Castle Rock repeater will have its PL tone changed (in the coming months). Several pieces of equipment are ready to be installed. A general inspection and maintenance will also be performed. IRLP is ready to be installed after the transmitter is ready. John Felton KE5RI reports that the Kenwood VHF repeater for English Hill is ready for installation.

Craig Gaevert reports that the first event this year is the Lake Sonoma Fifty is in April



Fred Polkinghorn KQ6OB reports that ARES will have more training this year. Anyone interested should contact Fred.

Brian Torr N6IY reports that the VE sessions have been scheduled for the year. The first one this year is this Saturday at First American Title. The second one is April 6. The dates are on the SCRA calendar on the website.

No newsletter report.

Education Chair Jeff Tonelli KI6PBF reports that the first technician class is later this month - February 15, 16, 17. Only two are currently signed up, so pass the word.

Membership Mike Von der Porten AD6YB reports that membership renewals are due and that those signed up by 2/28/2013 will be included in the membership roster.

Refreshments John Tracy WB6AMC will discuss budget with Charlie Sikes.

Nancy K6NCY reports that she will be at each meeting with tee shirts, patches, etc.

Charlie Sikes reported on the planning meeting.

The comm van needs to be relocated by sometime in April. The Board recognizes that the comm van is underutilized. The van is a 1970 Winnebago. A member offered TJ's as a storage location. Fred AE6SF asked if we would use the van in a disaster. Pat Coyle responded that with today's technology it is less likely that it would be used. The van has been used in ARES drills. Most disaster work would be in a facility with other agencies. Fred Polkinghorn asked about using the van for public service. The van has only been used a few times for that purpose. Brian Torr reports that the van is not required for Field Day: the van is tight on space. Marion asked for the recommendations from those who have used it. John Breckinridge reports that he has used it at Field Day for night HF operations: space is tight. Dave Santori "likes it." Scott KJ6QIQ suggests that the trailer could be configured to meet SCRA purposes. Bob suggests that we keep the comm van for another year and try to use it. Dave recognizes that the comm van needs an advocate. Ed notes that the general feeling is that the comm van should be sold: he suggests a notification to the membership and a vote next month. John Felton feels that there should be two conditions: need a "toastermaster" and a free place to store it. Marion moves that this be deferred to next month with appropriate notification to the membership. Dave Harrison seconded. Motion carried.

On the matter of the budget, Pat Coyle raised the question of promotional costs for booths. The Human Race and PCAM are the primary costs. Ed believes outreach is important. Charlie KZ6T expresses a concern about being a volunteer event and having to pay. John KE5RI is concerned about the volunteer aspect of amateur radio - we don't want to get into a "do this for that" situation. John Breckinridge asked to confirm that Newline is a separate line item in the budget: it is. Dave notes that we have a bank balance that allows us to support the promotion of amateur radio: we need to be responsive to appropriate organizations. Adam McLaughlin supports spending the money to attract younger radio operators. The budget is approved as submitted.

We note that the Garden Club may have some material set up prior to the March SCRA meeting.

Net control 2/12 – Ed Slingland N2Wd

2/19 - Darryl MSP

2/26 – Brian ILY

3/5 Shiraz

The raffle was held.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 9:15 PM

Respectfully submitted

Michael Von der Porten

Secretary