



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:

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REPEATER STATION  
W6SON

Volume 38, Number 7

July 2013



## July SCRA Update

by Charlie Sikes, KZ6T  
SCRA President

Field Day:

Wow, that was great! At least I think it was. (This column was submitted a few days before.) As usual, Brian did a fantastic job organizing the weekend. Thanks to all the station captains and volunteers that make this the showcase event of the year.

SCRA Programs:

July's membership meeting program will be on IRLP. That should not take very long so we are going to fill the balance of time with with a tech net. Bring your ham radio technical questions and our panel of experts will attempt to answer them.

Club Calendar:

June sure was busy. SonoMas, TT, ARES SET, Build class, and Field Day. The ARES SET included an exercise out in Bennett Valley that tested UHF and VHF reception. This is an ARES program that was spear-headed by Darryl KI6MSP and Lee KE6EAQ. It's nice to see projects advancing.

July will see the Mini-DX 2013 edition and the Mendo Rally. We have 16 signed up for Mini-DX and will be operating Phone, CW, & PSK. I will send out a notice on the reflector just before we leave with more details. If you're not coming, please try to work us.

Participation:

At last month's meeting, WB6FRZ floated the idea of sharing the load for the meeting refreshments. I am

happy to report that Bob WA6NIV will be handling the liquid portion, with John WB6FRZ (for the near future) bringing the baked goods.

Hope to see you all at the Club Meeting.

73

Charlie, KZ6T

## Build Day Photos



## 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	N6IY
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	N6IY	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	N6IY	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	

## Short Skip & Web Staff

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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
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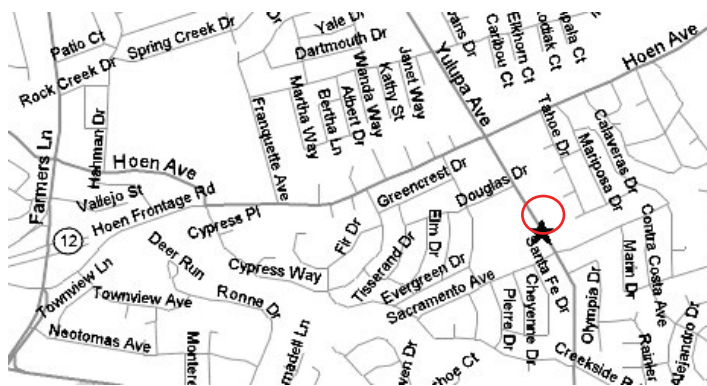


## SCRA Club Meetings

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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- Backlit Front Key Panel

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- 2M/440 Dual Band
- Built-in 1200/9600 Baud TNC
- APRS Compatible
- DX Packet Cluster Monitor
- 200 Memos., CTCSS
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**Low Pricing!**



### 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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**Great Price!**



### FT-857D

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

**Call for Low Price!**



### FT-2000 HF + 6M tcvr

- 100 W w/ auto tuner
- built-in Power supply
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- 3 IF roofing filters

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- 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
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- 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!**



## CONTEST CORNER by Kevin Alt, K6BSG

Hello testers. A couple of relatively new contests this month. Check out the Alaska VHF contest or the Ten-Ten Spirit of 76 QSO Party. We're near the sunspot peak, so enjoy the good band conditions while they last. Happy DX'ing!

1 Jul – **Canada Day Contest** – Phone/CW, 160-2 meters. See: [www.rac.ca/service/contesting](http://www.rac.ca/service/contesting).

1-7 Jul – **Ten-Ten Spirit of 76 QSO Party** – all modes, 10 meters. See: [www.ten-ten.org](http://www.ten-ten.org).

4-5 Jul – **MI QRP July 4th Sprint** – CW, 160-6 meters. See: [www.miqrp.org](http://www.miqrp.org).

6-7 Jul – **070 Club Firecracker PSK31 Sprint** – Digital, 40 meters. See: [www.podxs070.com](http://www.podxs070.com).

6-7 Jul – **Venezuelan Indep Day Contest** – All modes, 160-10 meters. See: [www.radioclubvenezolano.org/concurso.htm](http://www.radioclubvenezolano.org/concurso.htm).

6-7 Jul – **DL DX RTTY Contest** – Digital, 80-10 meters. See: [www.drcg.de](http://www.drcg.de).

7 Jul – **DARC 10-Meter Digital Corona** – Digital, 10 meters. See: [www.darc.de/referate/ukw-funkdsport](http://www.darc.de/referate/ukw-funkdsport).

7 Jul – **QRP ARCI Summer Homebrew** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: [www.qrparci.org/contests](http://www.qrparci.org/contests).

9 Jul – **ARS Spartan Sprint** – CW, 80-10 meters. See: [www.arsqrp.blogspot.com](http://www.arsqrp.blogspot.com).

9 Jul – **OK1WC Memorial Contest** – Phone/CW, 80-2 meters. See: [www.hamradio.cz/ok1wc](http://www.hamradio.cz/ok1wc).

10 Jul – **CWops Monthly Mini-CWT Test** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: [www.cwops.org/onair.html](http://www.cwops.org/onair.html).

12 Jul – **NS Weekly Sprint** – CW, 160-20 meters. See: [www.ncccsprint.com](http://www.ncccsprint.com).

12 Jul – **FISTS Summer Sprint** – CW, 80-10 meters. See: [www.fists.org/operating.html#sprints](http://www.fists.org/operating.html#sprints).

13-14 Jul – **IARU HF World Championship** – SSB/CW, 160-10 meters. See: [www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests).

13-14 Jul – **Straight Key Weekend Sprintathon** – CW, 160-6 meters. See: [www.skccgroup.com](http://www.skccgroup.com).

13-14 Jul – **VHF Alaska QSO Party** – All modes, 6 meters and up. See: [www.kl7yk.us/akqso.htm](http://www.kl7yk.us/akqso.htm).

14 Jul – **CQC Great Colorado Gold Rush** – CW, 20 meters. See: [www.cqc.org/contests](http://www.cqc.org/contests).

18 Jul – **NAQCC Monthly QRP Sprint** – CW, 80-20 meters. See: <http://naqcc.info>.

20 Jul – **Feld-Hell Ten Meter Sprint** – Digital, 10 meters. See: [sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub](http://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub).

20-21 Jul – **DMC RTTY Contest** – Digital, 80-10 meters. See: [www.digital-modes-club.org](http://www.digital-modes-club.org).

20-21 Jul – **CQ WW VHF Contest** – all modes, 6-2 meters. See: [www.cqww-vhf.com](http://www.cqww-vhf.com).

20-21 Jul – **North American QSO Party RTTY**, Digital, 80-10 meters. See: [ncjweb.com/naqprules.php](http://ncjweb.com/naqprules.php).

21 Jul – **RSGB Low Power Field Day** – CW, 80-40 meters. See: [www.rsgbcc.org](http://www.rsgbcc.org).

22 Jul – **Run For the Bacon** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: [www.fpqrp.org/](http://www.fpqrp.org/).

27 Jul – **MARAC US Counties QSO Party** – SSB/CW, 80-10 meters. See: [www.marac.org](http://www.marac.org).

27-28 Jul – **144 MHz Digital EME Championship** – Digital, 2 meters. See: [www.DUBUS.org](http://www.DUBUS.org).

27-28 Jul – **RSGB IOTA Centenary Contest** – SSB/CW, 80-10 meters. See: [www.rsgbcc.org](http://www.rsgbcc.org).

27-28 Jul – **New Jersey QSO Party** – Phone/CW, 80-2 meters. See: [www.njqp.hamshack.info](http://www.njqp.hamshack.info).

28 Jul – **Flight of the Bumblebees** – CW, 40-10 meters. See: [adventure-radio.org](http://adventure-radio.org).







## Sonoma County Radio Amateurs

Membership Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 5, 2013,

Luther Burbank Art & Garden Center, Santa Rosa, CA

Called to order at 7:00 PM PST by President Charlie Sikes KZ6T. Nearly 45 people were in attendance.

Board members introduced themselves.

New members, guests were introduced.

There were no new upgrades announced.

Dave Harrison W6IBC discussed the build project for Saturday, June 8. A dual side band 40-meter receiver is the general project, but other projects are welcome.

Brian Torr N6IYY presented plans and details for Field Day 2013. Setup begins Friday June 21 at 4:30 PM with operations beginning Saturday, June 22 at 11 AM local time. The event runs 24 hours. The location is Youth Community Park opposite Piner High School. 2A = 2 for two stations, A in a non-standard location. The other stations “don’t count” in the classification system. Eight antennas will be put up including Crossed-Moxon beams for satellite communications. Two generators, solar power and deep-cycle batteries will be used. Pat Coyle KG6JSL is chef for the event -- \$7 in advance, \$10 on site. Station captains have volunteered. K6SON will be used on most stations. The Get On The Air (GOTA) station will use W6SON. Operators need to be thorough in logging their operating times and including three initials. Darryl Paule KI6MSP is the Public Information Officer (PIO). KSRO will likely do an interview. A KZST interview is possible. Other publicity is being worked on. The educational activity will be “making resistance and impedance measurements.” Doug KF6LMB is the Safety Officer. Do not touch antennas. Be alert for guy wires and ropes. Be alert during setup and tear-down. Wear hard hats as directed. A number of volunteer assignments are needed – see Brian Torr.

Bill Hillendahl KH6GJB, Section Manager – Bill notes that extended communications are allowed when there is immediate threat to life or property and “normal communications systems are not available.” A recent incident involved use of amateur radio when normal communications systems were available. An immediate

threat is not a “it could happen” possibility. Enforcement actions will be taken against violators. “If it’s an emergency we can do whatever we want” is NOT a true statement. Emergency services may not use amateur radio as their primary backup.

The break was held.

VP John Felton KE5RI – nothing to report.

Treasurer Steve Bramble KI6TUR reported that the bank balances have not changed much in the past month. We have paid the fee and deposit to the City for Field Day. We are, as expected, ahead of budget (positive) since we have received most dues, some donations, but have not reached the portion of the year when most expenditures occur.

Director Brian Torr N6IYY – notes that a Field Day planning meeting is 10 AM this Sunday.

Director Doug Payne KF6LMB notes that four hard hats have been purchased for Field Day.

Secretary Mike Von der Porten AD6YB – Nothing to report.

Past President Darryl Paule KI6MSP – Nothing to Report.

Activities – Darryl Paule KI6MSP – Two days are open – Saturdays July 27 and Aug. 3 - 10 AM to 4 PM are open for SCRA to demonstrate at the Sonoma County Fair. See Darryl to sign up.

The North Bay Science Festival is at the Hall of Flowers 10 AM to 6 PM on October 26.

Charlie Sikes KZ6T announced the Mini-DXpedition July 12 to 14 in Mendocino County. This is open to everybody. A.W. Way Park is the location.

July 21 and 22 is the Mendo Rally. See Pat Coyle KG6JSL to volunteer. It’s 66 miles or 1-1/2 hours from Santa Rosa, so this is not as far away as it might seem. Advance signups are required by the race organizers. Practice will be July 7 at Youth Community Park in Santa Rosa.

**Continued on next page.**





## June Membership Meeting Minutes, continued

Repeater John Felton KE5RI – reported that the new antenna is up. The old antenna was worse than thought, so the replacement was a good idea. The old one will be cleaned up to be used as a spare. IRLP is up and running. Dave W6IBC suggests further use. There is not a plan to put a time or temperature feature on the system. Next month's program is about IRLP. The voter receiver still needs work.

Bruce Hopfengardner K6BFD - Public service - reported that three events have had serious incidents where amateur radio made a difference. WCC had a heart attack. The Lake Sonoma 50 had a dehydrated runner who needed a helicopter evacuation. The SoNoMas had a youth who needed to be evacuated by boat.

June 15 is the Terrible Two – need a couple of volunteers. July 21-22 is the Mendo Rally, Sept 22-23 is Waves to Wine and Aug 11 Tour de Organics. October 5 is Levi's Gran Fondo.

Emergency Services – Fred Polkinghorn KQ6OB – This Saturday June 8 is a Simulated Emergency Test (SET) working with Bennett Valley and Oakmont 8 AM to 12 Noon, meeting at the Bennett Valley Grange.

VE - Brian Torr N6IIY reported that we had a VE session – two people attended and earned their Technician licenses. Next session is July 27 at the Grange site.

Newsletter – Donald Laird WE4MOO – Short Skips have been distributed.

Website - Sutter Laird KI6ZON – The Short Skip archive has been updated.

The Tech course was canceled because not enough students signed up. The kit building class is this weekend.

Membership Mike Von der Porten AD6YB – Nothing to report.

Trustee / NARRC John Felton KE5RI. About a month ago, a Lincoln, CA area request coordination request was submitted for 147.315. It has been withdrawn. Another sea-level Bay Area repeater has been requested. Please watch for interference and advise of any problems to John.

Refreshments – a new chairman is needed.

Nancy Yarbrough N6NCY reports that tee shirts, patches, etc. are available. If people are interested in ARRL items on a joint basis, see Nancy.

Moved by Pat Coyle KG6JSL, seconded by Darryl Paule KI6MSP to approve the May Membership Minutes as posted. Approved unanimously.

Fred Seitel - AE6SF developed a badge idea for GOTA participants at Field Day. Two designs were presented. Patches were suggested. Refrigerator magnets were suggested. Dave Harrison W6IBC moved that the BoD decide how to do these promotional items. The motion was seconded by Steve Bramble KI6TUR. Motion amended to authorize Fred to obtain the buttons at a cost of approx. \$25. George Gallegos KK6DPX volunteered to print magnets. Motion carried.

Net control

June 11 - Andrew Raike KE6HID

June 18 - Keith Payea AG6CI

June 25 - Brian Torr N6IIY

July 3 - Craig Gaevert K6XLT

The raffle was held.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Michael Von der Porten

Secretary

With the assistance of John Felton KE5RI



**Sonoma County Radio Amateurs**

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

12 June 2013

Called to order by president Charlie Sikes KZ6T at 6:12 PM PDT at the Star Restaurant. Attending: Dave Harrison W6IBC, Pat Coyle KG6JSL, director Doug Payne KF6LMB, director Brian Torr N6IIY, Darryl Paule KI6MSP, John Felton KE5RI, president Charlie Sikes KZ6T and treasurer Mike Von der Porten AD6YB.

Corrections to May 8 minutes: John Breckenridge is WB6FRZ not N6IIY. Also, Brian Torr N6IIY had nothing to report at the meeting. Motion by Darryl Paule KI6MSP, seconded by Brian Torr N6IIY to approve minutes as corrected. Motion carried.

John Felton - VP - KE5RI reported that a Heathkit education program with a workstation was purchased at a recent flea market.

Doug Payne KF6LMB – director – Nothing to report.

Treasurer - not present.

Brian Torr N6IIY - director – Nothing to report.

Brian Torr N6IIY reported that regarding Field Day, he is working on borrowing the crank-up antenna. Other details are being worked. This past Sunday, Darryl Paule KI6MSP, Dave Harrison W6IBC, Andru Luvesi KJ6YFD and Brian Torr N6IIY met to review Field Day plans. The Cycling Club will lend us some EZ-Ups. Banner support is being developed. The ARRL Section Manager message is being prepared.

Darryl Paule KI6MSP reports that he has an interview at 7:30 AM on 6/19 on KSVY in Sonoma. VOMARC will also be invited. KSRO will also likely do an interview. Work is being done to contact the Press Democrat. ACS people have been invited to Field Day, too. Darryl reports that he has sufficient volunteers for the information table. Dinner is \$7 at the event. Darryl will help with transportation of Pat's barbeque.

Brian Torr N6IIY reports that Fred Seitel AE6SF has worked out refrigerator magnets for GOTA participants.

Repeater – the new antenna has gone up. Doug Payne

KF6LMB moved and Darryl Paule KI6MSP seconded that the Club purchase gift certificates for Adam McLaughlin KD6POC and Bob Magnani K6QXY to acknowledge their extensive efforts on this behalf. Motion carried.

John Felton KE5RI reports that the antenna has good extension down toward Danville. The Lincoln repeater has dropped its coordination request. There is a Hayward request that is being processed: John will follow up.

Pat Coyle KG6JSL suggests we put out information on operating IRLP. This is the topic for the July Membership Meeting. Dave Harrison W6IBC will do the presentation. For any remaining time, there will be a "tech forum."

Darryl Paule KI6MSP drafted information on a museum proposal. Mike Von der Porten AD6YB is to review it.

For refreshments, we will seek a monthly volunteer. Dave Harrison W6IBC will handle July refreshments.

Meeting adjourned by consensus at 7:04 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Von der Porten  
Secretary



Cut out for your VIP Discount Card



**Public Service**

June was a busy month for the straight and salient women and men who participated in two important Public Service events. On June 1st we participated in the SoNoMas Mtn Bike Race. Although this event is several years old, its the first year SCRA has provided support. The race started and finished at Warm Springs Dam and moved around the perimeter of Lake Sonoma. SoNoMas is known as a tough course with high temperatures and very steep terrain. SoNoMas didn't disappoint this year as the weather was windy, hot and dusty. A new course record was set by Santa Rosa's favorite son, Levi Leipheimer. Levi broke the previous course record set by...Levi Leipheimer. SCRA members helped coordinate the evacuation of an injured juvenile but otherwise enjoyed a relatively quiet event.

June 15th marked another edition of Santa Rosa Cycling Club's Terrible Two. This event hosted over 300 cyclists who rode either the traditional 200-mile course or the new 200-kilometer course. Riders left Sebastopol at 0530 and rode east through Santa Rosa, north over Trinity Road and through portions of Napa

county before heading west through the Geysers, Lake Sonoma and out to the coast. After zipping down Hwy 1, the riders returned to Sebastopol about 12 hours later. Craig and many other volunteers worked nearly 24 hours to provide support for the event. In addition to Net Control responsibilities, we coordinated sags, EMS, rest stops and transportation of worn out riders.

We'll enjoy a few weeks off before we get back to work with the Mendo Rally on July 20th and 21st. Please be sure to contact Pat, KG6JSL, for information about how to support this event.

Our schedule heats up in August as we provide Public Service support to the following events:

- 11 Aug for the Tour d'Organics
- 17 Aug for the Annadel Mtn Bike Race
- 17-18 Aug for the Pac Coast Air Show

To sign up for any of these events please contact Craig, K6XLT or Bruce, K6BDH. As always, your participation is needed and very appreciated,  
Bruce Hopfengardner  
K6BDH

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:** 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

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

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

**Badge Information**

Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_

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

