

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 40, Number 6

June 2015

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE—JUNE, 2015



Of course the big news for June is Field Day. This is Amateur Radio's big event. A national radio party with stations all across the country participating. It is the best way for new members to be introduced to all aspects of ham radio and actually operate top quality equipment. This year's event will begin Friday, beginning with set up on June 26. Operations begin at 11:00 AM on Saturday, June 27 and continuing for 24 hours until June 28. Meet other hams, and enjoy our famous BBQ dinner Saturday. More details on the Webpage and in

this issue.

The June membership meeting will feature Brian, N6IYY, the event Chair explaining the event and fine tuning plans for Field Day. His Committee has met a number of times over the past months and things are really coming together. We are going with a 3 Alpha set up, which means 3 HF stations ready for operators.

The event is at Youth Community Park, at 1700 Fulton Rd, across from Piner High School. I hope everyone will plan to spend at least some time at the event. It is a great time to bring your friends and family and show them what ham radio is all about. We will even put your non-ham friends on the air. Can't beat that.

Public Service season is in full swing and there are still plenty of slots available for about any type of event you want, from fast cars to bikes to runners. Elsewhere in this issue is a listing of events coming up with links to the Website for signups. Early signups are much appreciated by the Comm Boss and event organizers. It really helps in their planning.

The public service radio operators get the best places on the courses to observe and participate in events, and they are always first to know what is going on and provide assistance when things go wrong. And it is just plain fun to take the radio out in the field and enjoy beautiful Sonoma County. June features the Terrible Two, a grueling 200 mile ride with good radio action across Napa and Sonoma Counties. This is a good one and lots of fun for the operators.

Dave, W6IBC, and the Education Committee has set up a mentoring program for members to upgrade their licenses to General or Extra Class. This program is intended and designed to provide individual assistance and direction for self-study at your pace rather than having formal classes. Upgrading your license class increases your ham radio privileges as well as increasing your radio knowledge. Both will enhance your ham radio experience and increase your enjoyment of the hobby. And a little bit of prestige that comes with the higher classes is a bit of an ego boost too. Contact Dave to get involved in this program.

Finally for this month, the new Yeasu digital repeater has been installed and digital radio is available on the Clubs UHF frequency of

441.375+ 88.5 Installation and experimentation is still going on and the Repeater Committee will keep us advised as things progress.

I hope everyone has an enjoyable summer, and I look forward to seeing you all at the many events SCRA is featuring this year.

Pat, KG6JSL

This Month's Meeting Program: Field Day

Field Day is one of SCRA's biggest event and a great opportunity to educate the public on how amateur radio can assist in times of emergencies. On top of that, it's a wonderful social event, educational experience, and a contest. Where else can you get all that in one single weekend?

I will be reviewing the details of our Field Day plans this year. We've made several changes that I think will make the event better. It represents a bit more of a challenge, but ham radio is all about facing challenges and meeting them.

See the Field Day article elsewhere in this issue for more details.

See you at the June meeting!

73,
Brian Torr, N6IYY

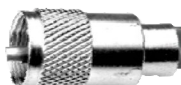
JOIN ARRL, THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE

The ARRL is the national organization of Amateur Radio. It represents Amateur Radio at International Conferences and before the FCC. Get the monthly QST magazine, insurance for your equipment and too many other benefits to mention here. Click <http://www.arrl.org/membership/>



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>



2015 Club Officers

President	Patrick Coyle coylaw@sonic.net	KG6JSL
Vice President	Brian Torr	N6IYY
Treasurer	Mike Von der Porten	AD6YB
Secretary	Iola Beckley	KK6HRE
Director	Joe Fortuna	K6AWA
	Jeff Tonelli	KI6PBF
Past President	Charlie Sikes	KZ6T

Committee Lineup/Contacts

Activities	Darryl Paule, KI6MSP	ki6msp@arrl.net
ARES Liaison	Brian Torr, N6IYY	n6iyy@arrl.net
DX/Contest	Kevin Alt, K6BSG	kalt@ieee.org
Education	Dave Harrison, W6IBC	w6ibc@arrl.net
Emergency Services	Brian Torr, N6IYY	n6iyy@arrl.net
Field Day	Brian Torr, N6IYY	n6iyy@arrl.net
License Trustee	John Felton, KE5RI	jrfke5ri@aol.com
Media	Sutter Laird, KI6ZON	ki6zon@me.com
Membership	Dan Ethan, WA6CRB	danethen@msn.com
Merchandise Programs	Wells Wagner, KK6EXC	sylvan1hills@gmail.com
Public Service	Brian Torr, N6IYY	n6iyy@arrl.net
Refreshments	Craig Gaever, K6XLT	k6xlt@sonic.net
Repeater	Robert Jones, WA6NIV	wa6niv@arrl.net
Volunteer Exam	Jack Christensen, K6ROW	K6ROW@sonic.net
	Brian Torr, N6IYY	n6iyy@arrl.net

Short Skip & Web Staff

Editor	David Kraybill	KI6UGB
	shortskippeditor@gmail.com	
Webmaster	Sutter Laird	KI6ZON
	ki6zon@me.com	

SCRA E-Mail K6SON@arrl.com
 SCRA Web site <http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com>

Tuesday Night Net

Remember to check in to the SCRA net each Tuesday evening on the 147.315+(PL 88.5) repeater at 7:00 PM. Announcements are made of upcoming SCRA and other amateur radio activities in the broadcast.

Short Skip Advertising Rates

Business Cards	\$12 per month
1st Quarter Column	\$13 per month
Each Additional Quarter Column	\$4 per month
Full page (one side)	\$35 per month
Pre-printed inserts (each)	\$35 per month

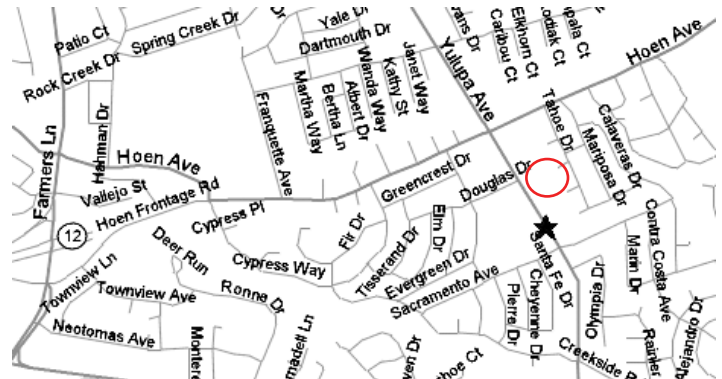
Short Skip is published monthly and copyright 2015 by the Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. Permission to reprint articles is granted provided the source is properly credited. Items printed do not necessarily represent the views of the SCRA or its editors. Letters, photos and articles sent to Short Skip are subject to editing and may or may not be printed.



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 IHOP restaurant, 4th and Farmers Lane, Santa Rosa. People start showing up at 5:15 PM. No RSVP is required.

Board of Directors Meeting

Second Wednesday of the month, 6:00 PM at
 IHOP Restaurant
 2745 4th Street
 Flamingo One Stop Shopping Center
 Santa Rosa, CA 95405
 No Host Dinner begins at 5:30 PM.
 Members get a 15% discount on meals.

Committee Meetings

Meetings are TBA this month.
 Check SCRA blogs for announcements.



SCRA LOANER RADIOS

SCRA has a Yeasu 2900 VHF radio available for use by members as a loaner. Contact Charlie, KZ6T, at charliesikes@me.com

EMERGENCY VESTS

Anyone wanting an emergency vest with name and call sign before Field Day contact Wells, KK6EXC, at sylvan1hills@gmail.com

UPGRADE TO GENERAL OR AMATEUR EXTRA CLASS

Get more privileges and enjoyment from your Ham Radio Hobby. Mentoring assistance is available. Contact Dave W6IBC, SCRA Education Chair, at 707-838-8155 or w6ibc@arrl.net.

Education Report

SCRA will hold its second Technician Licensing class on July 11th and 12th in Santa Rosa. Anyone interested in obtaining the entry level amateur radio license should contact me directly for more information. If you know of anyone who might be interested in obtaining a license, please provide me with their contact information or refer them to the SCRA website (select "Classes" under the "Events" tab).

We continue to offer mentoring on an individual basis for anyone interested in upgrading their license class. Let us know you are interested in upgrading.

Dave W6IBC
SCRA Education Chair
w6ibc@arrl.net
707-838-8155

Welcome KK6UIS

For the past four-five years I've been working one-on-one with Arlen, assisting him in learning the material to pass his Technician exam and getting his license.

As a lot of you know Arlen has some learning challenges that he was able to overcome. We would work on weekends, and at times late in the afternoon so Arlen would be able to pass his technician exam. On May 16th Arlen finally did pass his exam, and is now KK6UIS.

Please join me and Arlen's dad, Henry KI6VKL, at the June 3rd club meeting to celebrate this great victory with Arlen KK6UIS.

Arlen was on last Tuesdays net, and will start training with me this Sunday For the Vineman Triathlon.

I also want to thank all of you who have been a support for Arlen from just talking to him to your words of encouragement. What a great TEAM we are to have been able to encourage Arlen too push forward to achieve his goal of passing and getting his technician license.

Thanks,
73
Darryl
KI6MSP

STEM Update

I want to thank Keith AG6CI, Mike AD6YB, and Iola KK6HRE for their assistance helping me with students at the different STEM program classes. The students got to build different flashing LED kits, [squishy circuits](#), radio telescopes, how to wind coils for electric motors. students also learned Ohm's law to put a resistor in the circuit for the squishy circuits.

In the upcoming school year, Fall 2015. I'll be continuing to work with basic electronics, as well as exploring other programs. one of these programs will be [Astronaut Training](#).

if you are interested in working with me in these programs that enrich our children's education, please contact me: New email : ki6msp2gmail.com

Thanks,
73
Darryl M Paule
KI6MSP
KI6MSP@gmail.com





CONTEST CORNER

by Kevin Alt, K6BSG

Hello testers. Lots of contest activity in June across all operating modes. The month culminates with Field Day, so make plans to join the club effort in Youth Park. Happy DX'ing!

1 Jun – RSGB 80 Meter Club Championship – Digital, 80 meters. See: www.rsgbcc.org/hf/.

2 Jun – ARS Spartan Sprint – CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.arsqrp.blogspot.com.

3-4 Jun (weekly) – CWops Mini-CWT Test – CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.cwops.org/cwt.html.

4 Jun – NRAU 10 Meter Activity Contest – All modes, 10 meters. See: www.nrau.net/activity-contests/.

5 Jun (weekly) – NCCC RTTY Sprint – RTTY, 80-15 meters. See: www.ncccsprint.com/rtty.html.

5 Jun (weekly) – NCCC Sprint Ladder – CW, 160-6 meters. See: www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html.

6 Jun – Wake-Up! QRP Sprint – CW, 40-20 meters. See: qrp.ru/contest/wakeup/333-wakeup-eng.

6-7 Jun – 10-10 Int. Open Season PSK Contest – Digital, 10 meters. See: www.ten-ten.org.

6-7 Jun – DigiFest – Digital, 80-10 meters. See: www.mixw.net/misc/DigiFest/.

6-7 Jun – VK Shires Contest – SSB/CW, 80-10 meters. See: vkshires.vk2bo.com.

6-7 Jun – SEANET Contest – CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.seanet2015.com.

6-7 Jun – UKSMG Summer Contest – Phone/CW, 6 meters. See: uksmg.org/summer-contest-rules.php.

6-7 Jun – RSGB National Field Day – CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.rsgbcc.org/hf/.

6-7 Jun – IARU Region I Field Day – CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.iaru-r1.org/.

6-7 Jun – Alabama QSO Party – SSB/CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.alabamagsoparty.org.

10 Jun – NAQCC CW Sprint – CW, 80-20 meters. See: naqcc.info/sprint201506.html.

10 Jun – RSGB 80 Meter Club Championship – CW, 80 meters. See: www.rsgbcc.org/hf/.

12 Jun – HA3NS Sprint Memorial Contest – CW, 80-40 meters. See: radioamator.honlapepites.hu/?p=1280.

13 Jun – Asia-Pacific Sprint – SSB, 20-15 meters. See: jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt.

13-14 Jun – DRCG WW RTTY Contest – RTTY, 80-10 meters. See: www.drcg.de/index.hph/en/.

13-14 Jun – Portugal Day – SSB/CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.rep.pt/portugal_day_contest/.

13-14 Jun – SKCC Weekend Sprintathon – CW, 160-6 meters. See: www.skccgroup.com.

13-14 Jun – GACW WWSA CW DX Contest – CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.wwsatest.org/basesingles.htm.

13-14 Jun – QRP ARCI QRP – all modes, 160-10 meters. See: <http://www.qrparci.org/contests/>.

13-14 Jun – REF DDFM 6 Meter Contest – Phone/CW, 6 meters. See: concours.ref-union.org/reglements.

13-15 Jun – ARRL June VHF Contest – Phone/CW, 6 meters and up. See: www.arrl.org/june-vhf.

18 Jun – RSGB 80 Meter Club Championship – SSB, 80 meters. See: www.rsgbcc.org/hf/.

20 Jun – AGCW VHF/UHF Contest – CW, 2-0.7 meters. See: www.agcw.org/index.php/en/.

20 Jun – Feld-Hell Sprint – digital, 160-6 meters. See: sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/.

Continued on page 5...



...Contest Corner continued from page 4

20-21 Jun – All-Asian DX Contest – CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.jarl.org/English/4_Library/.

20-21 Jun – Ukrainian DX Classic RTTY Contest – RTTY, 80-10 meters. See: urdx.org/rtty/rules.php?english.

20-21 Jun – Stew Perry Topband Challenge – CW, 160 meters. See: www.kkn.net/stew.

20-21 Jun – West Virginia QSO Party – All modes, 80-10 meters. See: www.qsl.net/wvsarc/wvqp/.

21 Jun – WAB 50 MHz Phone – Phone, 6 meters. See: wab.intermip.net/.

21 Jun – Kids Day Contest – SSB, 80-10 meters. See: www.arrl.org/kids-day.

22 Jun – Run for the Bacon QRP Contest – CW, 160-10 meters. See: fpqrp.org/pigrun.

24 Jun – SKCC Sprint – CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.skccgroup.com.

27-28 Jun – His Majesty King of Spain Contest – SSB, 160-10 meters. See: concursos.ure.es/en/.

27-28 Jun – Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest – Digital, 80-10 meters. See: www.izmail-dx.com.

27-28 Jun – ARRL Field Day – all modes, 160 meters and up. See: www.arrl.org/field-day.

29 Jun – 5 July – 10-10 Int. Spirit of 76 QSO Party – All modes, 10 meters. See: www.ten-ten.org/Forms/Spirit.pdf.

ARRL CONTESTS IN JUNE

This June we have 3 ARRL contests. The big one is, of course, ARRL Field Day on the 27-28, but more on that later. Get some contesting practice in on these two earlier this month.

June 13-15 is the ARRL June VHF Contest. It's the start of the summer sporadic E season, when 6 meters and 2 meters open up. Josh W6XU sends an invitation to work the 6 meters on this contest. With only roughly 100 operators in range regularly, every contact counts. More info at <http://www.arrl.org/news/got-grids-arrl-june-vhf-contest-is-june-13-15>.

The ARRL Kids Day Contest is June 21. Get on the air with your kids or let the kids work you on SSB, 80-10 meters. (<http://www.arrl.org/kids-day>)

Dave
KI6UGB

BAOFENG USERS

The Inland Empire Radio Amateurs of Spokane, WA, has excellent instructions on how to manually program your Baofeng UV5RA dual band radio. Their site is <http://www.vhfclub.org/> Click banner to download the instructions in .pdf format.





2015 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Check the [Club website](#) for details

June 13: TH-6 Antenna Maintenance and Assembly
Practice Session
June 20: Terrible Two
June 21: ARRL Kids Day
June 27: Field Day
July 18-19: Mendocino Rally
July 25: County Fair Radio Demonstration
August 1: County Fair Radio Demonstration
August 8: Annadel Cross Country
August 9: Tour d' Organics
August 13-16: Mini-DX
August 14-16: Technician License Class
August 22: Hot August Build Class
August 23: Santa Rosa Marathon
September 12: VE Open Session
September 19: SCRA Pi
September 26-27: Wave to Wine
Wings over Wine Country Air Show
October 3: Levi's Gran Fondo
October 17: Jamboree on the Air
October 24: North Bay Science Fair
November 20-22: Technician License Class
December 2: Club Holiday Party
December 5: VE Open Session

Repeaters

As authorized by the members, the Repeater Committee is upgrading English Hill to include a Yaesu DR-1X Fusion Digital repeater which operates in either FM or C4FM digital format. When the project is completed, the repeater will operate on UHF and offer WIRES-X as an option. IRLP will continue to be offered, but we are not certain whether it will be permanently on UHF, VHF, or perhaps a remote base.

On Sunday, 4/25, the DR-1X repeater was installed and is operating on UHF. The SCRA UHF frequencies and PL are unchanged. For digital communication, the DCS code is 023. The DR-1X will automatically respond in either FM or digital depending on the format used by the connecting radio, so radios that access the current UHF repeater can access the DR-1X with no change. If the repeater is operating in the digital mode, the digital sound on an FM radio sounds like noise. If you are using a FM only radio to access the UHF digital repeater, you may wish to enable both tone encode and tone decode with a PL of 88.5 to eliminate this.

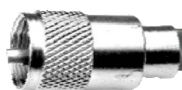
We have also received the two FT1DR digital/analog HTs for Committee and member use. If a member wants to try digital to see if they want to invest in a digital radio, an HT can be loaned to a member to try out. Contact Charlie, KZ6T, kz6t@arrl.net. In addition to our digital system, the AECS DR-1X Fusion repeater on 146.79, negative offset, PL 88.5, is running dual mode, C4FM digital and analog and is open for use. The Repeater Committee would like to hear about your experiences on digital and with the new repeater to help find the best set up for our system. Send your comments to K6ROW@arrl.net.

At the current time IRLP and WIRES-X are not operating. Repeater status will be updated on President Pat's weekly blog.

Jack, K6ROW



Yaesu System Fusion Introduction On YouTube:
<https://youtu.be/tNjgHUhhMmA>





REPEATER PROCEDURES

Many operators are not waiting for the Repeater to “drop” before beginning their transmission.

When an operator’s transmission ends, the repeater will be quiet for a second and then “beep.” It is transmitting a carrier signal during this time. The “beep” (courtesy tone) is the signal that the Repeater has finished transmitting and the next transmission should not begin until the “beep” is heard. You can also watch the S meter and/or the Rx light on your radio to see if the Repeater has stopped transmitting. If a transmission begins before the “beep” the Repeater’s automatic Time Out Timer (TOT) is activated and may shut down the repeater if too many transmissions are made without a break. Doing so also increases the Repeater’s duty cycle and heating.

Please remember to pause a second after keying your transmitter before you begin speaking to allow the Repeater to begin transmitting. If you begin speaking immediately on your key up, the repeater will miss the first few syllables spoken and they will not be heard by the receiving station.

Also do not “kerchunk” the repeater, that is, keying and unkeying your rig without speaking. If you just want to check that you are reaching the repeater by listening for the courtesy tone, just say your call sign and “Radio Check.” If you want to check the quality of your signal, say your call sign and “Signal Check Please.” Repeat the request a couple of times if at first no one replies. Failure to identify may indicate interference, willful or otherwise, from some source, and is poor amateur practice.



Next Open VE Session: Saturday, September 12, 9:00 am

Our next open VE exam session is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 12, from 9:00 am until noon. The location will be the Bennett Valley Grange Hall, 4145 Grange Road, Santa Rosa. Walk-ins will be accepted and all test elements will be administered.

(http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/ve_testing.html) .

Please arrive by 8:45am to be signed in. Testing will begin shortly thereafter.

Directions: From Hwy 101, take Highway 12 East to Farmers Lane. Turn right onto Farmers Lane and then left onto Bennett Valley Road. Stay on Bennett Valley Road approximately 4.1 miles and turn right onto Grange Road. Bennett Valley Grange Hall is 0.5 miles from Bennett Valley Road on the right.

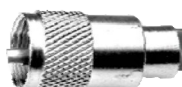
Candidates should bring the following:

- One (1) photo ID or two (2) non-photo ID
- FCC Registration Number (FRN, if you have one) or Social Security Number (if you do not have an FRN) If you have had any FCC license assigned to you, amateur or otherwise, or had any prior business with the FCC, you probably have an FRN.
- Original and photocopy of your current amateur radio license (if licensed)
- Original and photocopy of any valid CSEs (if applicable)
- #2 Pencil and eraser
- \$15.00 exam fee. Checks may be made payable to “ARRL-VEC”

Calculators may be used, but it must be demonstrated that all memories and programs have been erased. The calculator function in a cell phone or PDA may not be used! If you have any special needs, please contact Brian Torr, N6IIY in advance.

Good Luck!

Brian Torr, N6IIY
n6iiy@arrl.net
(707) 575-5871





S.C.R.A GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING May 6, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

7:00pm

OFFICERS AND BOARD INTRO Pat, KG6JSL; Bryan N6IIY, Iola, KK6HRE; Joe K6JWA, Jeff, KI6PBF; Doug KF6LMB, Charlie, KZ6T.

NEW MEMBER AND VISITOR INTRO

Brian Vantini, Garrett from Windsor. Gary N2BBB and Rich Freitas KD6FZA.

PROGRAM – Brian, N6IIY discussed the EM-COMM OPPORTUNITIES that are available in Sonoma County, the training needed for the different organizations (ACS, ARES, AECS) so individuals could choose the right EMCOMM organization that is best for each individual. ACS; Requirements; weekly nets = Zachary Hamill, KG6ABA, Sonoma County Emergency Coordinator.

Both ACS and ARES require an amateur radio license, several training classes (EC001, EC002) and possessing emergency-powered equipment is desirable but not a requirement. AECS: CSR Auxiliary Emergency Communications Service. Requires a valid license, be a member of the Fire Corps, but being a residence of the City of Santa Rosa is NOT requirement. Courses ICS 100-200 & 700 are required.

No matter if you belong to any of the above organizations or not, you do not self-deploy. GO-KITS: 1 - 3 days and up to 2 and 3 weeks. Go-Kit maintenance: Review and replace equipment on a regular basis.

Joe K6AWA – Power=5 watt solar panel, 5amh 80 watt inverter.

Shelly KK6JXM – Airport carry on plus personal items for 7+ days. Iola KK6HRE - has

a tool kit, carries radio equipment in a camera case and has a rolling back pack for personal food, clothing, water, and other essentials.

References/Resources: <http://www.areslax.org/index.php?page=go-kit>; QST_Sep_2010_p6; QST_Mar_2011_p8. Secretary has pdf files if you prefer a copy.

BREAK 8:10 – 8:30

BUSINESS MEETING:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Shelly KK6JXM moved to approve, Dave KI6UGB seconded. Motion passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, NEW CALLS AND UPGRADES, LIES AND BRAGS

Cornell upgraded to EXTRA – Iola finally purchased a field radio, Yaesu 8800. Kathy KK6KGW has found 'high ground' where she is able to get reception of the Tuesday Night SCRA NET and could check in. Jim K6HKY – has a 5kw generator to pass on to an interested party.

Ed Jacobson W1EJ: Gary Maresh, WD6EVL of Sebastopol, became a silent key on January 27th while caring for his sister in Colorado. Gary was a member of SCRA in the early nineties, he was 61 years old. He was in telecommunications and was active in Gold Ridge Fire. He changed careers about 14 years ago to work at San Quentin prison where he became Chief of the Fire Department. Ed was assisting his wife Sheredith in organizing and selling his collection of ham radio gear and discovered two early nineties issues of Short Skip (that he passed around for the members to peruse).

OFFICERS REPORTS - None

Continued on page 9...





Meeting Minutes continued from page 8...

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Education** – Lots of signups for July class. 10, 11, 12 July.
 - **Events:** Field Day. Brian ~ Volunteer Coordinator for Friday for set up – Iola. Need a VC for Sunday for tear down. One more planning session – two weekends before Field Day at Doug KF6LMB home with John KE5RI officiating. 3A classification 3 hf transmitters, one sideband, A means that we are a club operating on auxiliary power. We will be building a ground plane antenna. Approximately 25 people indicated a desire to build this antenna.
 - Pat – KG6JSL. Next meeting will be dedicated to Field Day. 18-19 July – Mendocino Rally. Mendocino Rally is a two day off-highway performance rally in Lake County featuring really fast cars on dirt road.
 - Craig G. Review of events. Last event, Wine Country Century went without incident.
 - Pat KG6JSL: Santa Rosa Marathon. Course about the same as in the past. Dual radio setup with hams and a commercial set up for non-hams out on the course. Organization meeting TBA with signups. Looking at a radio sweep. Sunday, August 23rd, about 3500 runners. A qualifying race to get into the Boston Marathon.
- Volunteer Examiners:** Brian N6IYY, May 16th for tests.
- Activities:** Saturday Human Race; May 31; Vineman TriAthalon in Monte Rio = 4-5 more volunteers needed.
- Richard Dilman, Historical Society said yes, we can do the tour. Touring Hornet has not contacted. O'Brien \$12 per person, Pampanito costs \$15 per person. O'Brien gives sea tours for about eight hours. \$125 for all day tour.

Space museum in Novato. Six astronauts 10-4.

Merchandise: In Wells' absence, Iola has badges and safety vests for those who ordered at the side table. Samples of t-shirts that are available are displayed.

Repeater: Jack K6ROW. Fusion repeater – Works well.

Old business ~ None

New business ~ None

Technical Q & A = Joe K6AWA is building a sterba curtain antenna a type of single pattern 32ft long 13 ft high.

NET CONTROL

May 12 ~ Joe K6AWA

May 19 ~ Fred AE6SF

May 26 ~ Pat KG6JSL

June 2 ~ Gary N2BBB

ADJORN: Kathy KK6KGW moves, Terry K6TER seconded, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Iola KK6HRE, Secretary

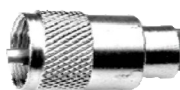
2015 MINI-DX

By Doug Payne, KF6LMB

Darryl Paule, KI6MSP, Activities Chairman, has asked me to assist him in setting up the Mini DX for this year. Preliminary groundwork has been put in place. The event will be August 13, 14, 15, and leave on the 16th, at the A.W. Way county park west of Garberville. That will be Thursday, Friday, Saturday and leave on Sunday, but come anytime that works for you.

In past years this seems to meet our requirements for group camping, and setting up remote radio stations. This will be in conjunction with the North American QSO party, and will enhance the contact probability. A positive response to this event has been received from many club members and their significant others. It just doesn't get better than friends, food, and HF Radio in the wild. All are invited, and your involvement is encouraged.

Contact Doug, KF6LMB, at dougpayne1@earthlink.net for information and signup.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS May 14, 2015 MEETING

Call to order. There was a Quorum present: Pat KG6JSL, Iola KK6HRE, Brian N6IYY, Jeff KI6PBF, Joe K6AWA, Doug KF6LMB. Absent: Mike AD6YB. Visitors Present: ShelleRae O'Connor KK6JXM, Doug KF6LMB, Darryl KI6MSP, John WB6FRZ

Previous meeting minutes approved as published.

Officer and Director Reports

Committee Reports:

- Appointment of David McQuate, WA8YWQ, to Repeater Committee was confirmed by the Board of Directors
- Membership Committee status is status quo. No takers for the Membership Committee Chair as there is no job description. Iola KK6HRE to meet with Mike AD7YB to write up a job description and to learn how the PayPal system works.
- Merchandise: New yellow safety vests are being ordered. Sizes XL and 2XL are immediately available. Size Lg will be backordered until July.

5. Old Business - None

6. New Business

1. Visits to Repeater Site has to be kept to a minimum with prior notification. Neighbor gets upset when too many cars and people show up at the same time.

2. Darryl KI6MSP proposed that the position of Public Information Officer be created and added to the By Laws. This position should be covered by the President. Darryl KI6MSP be appointed in this position. A lengthy discussion pursued with no action being taken.

7. Meeting adjourn at 7:20pm.

Iola Beckley, KK6HRE
Secretary
Human Race 2015

Public Service Roundup

Hope everyone enjoyed the Public Service presentation back in April. I had fun putting it together and hope it made sense to all. But mostly I hope that it encouraged you to consider participating in at least one event this year. I'd like to have more new folks participating - it helps spread the load.

So far we've completed Lake Sonoma 50, So-NoMaS bike race, Wine Country Century and the Human Race. The Terrible Two is coming up next on June 20 and it looks like all of the rest stops are taken. We still have a few SAG slots open - if you can go mobile and have a bike rack (or truck) feel free to hop in. It's a good 18 hour event for me and we try to keep the other shifts shorter. We are looking to experiment with digital / Winlink on this event as well for some selected rest stops

Later, we have Pat's Mendocino Rally, The Annadel Bike Race, Waves to Wine and Levi's Gran fondo. Note that we are looking for a comm boss for Waves to Wine - it's a good opportunity for someone to break into managing a Public Service event.

73s

Craig
K6XLT
Public Service Wrangler



HUMAN RACE 2015



Lake Sonoma 50: W6IBC, Dema Elgin, a new ham & KG6JSL
Are those Racer 5 boxes back there?

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS AND SIGN UPS

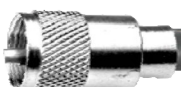
20 June – Terrible Two, contact Craig, K6XLT, at k6xlt@sonic.net. Or sign up direct at http://sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/wp/events/public-service/public-service-signup/?sheet_id=12&task_id=105&date=2015-06-20 A grueling bike event from Santa Rosa to the Geysers to the Coast and back.

18-19 July – Mendocino Rally, contact Pat, KG6JSL, coylaw@sonic.net or, sign up directly at <http://rally-data.com/> Fast cars on dirt roads in Lake County. The radio action gets fast as we track cars that go missing.

1 August – Marin Century / Mt. Tam Double Century. Not an official SCRA event, but the event comes into southern Sonoma County and we like to help our fellow hams from Marin County. Contact http://w6sg.net/site/?page_id=227

9 August – Tour d'Organics, contact Darryl, KI6MSP, or sign up directly at http://sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/wp/events/public-service/public-service-signup/?sheet_id=16

Continued on page 12...



Public Service Events...continued from page 11

23 August – Santa Rosa Marathon. 3500 runners from Julliard Park to River Road, qualifying for the Boston marathon, or just having fun. Contact Pat, KG6JSL, at coylaw@sonic.net or sign up directly at http://sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/wp/events/public-service/public-service-signup/?sheet_id=20 HT friendly with easy site access. A good event for beginners.

26-27 September – MS Society's Waves to Wine: A two day event from San Francisco into Sonoma County Wine Country. Contact Craig, k6xlt@sonic.net

3 October – Levi's Gran Fondo, contact Craig, K6XLT or sign up directly at http://sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/wp/events/public-service/public-service-signup/?sheet_id=13&task_id=121&date=2015-10-03 The ultimate bicycle event. 7500 international riders try Sonoma County's best (or worst) roads.

Check the Public Service page of the SCRA Website for more detail. <http://sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/wp/events/public-service/>



Darryl
KI6MSP

Ian
KK6HQX

Dave
KI6UGB

Not pictured, Iola KK6HRE,

SCRA returns to the SONOMA COUNTY FAIR-GROUNDS for the Sonoma County Fair on July 25 and August 1. Sign-ups are open for this event.



2014 SCIENCE FAIR AT SONOMA COUNTY FAIR GROUND

Field Day is Just Around the Corner!!

ALERT!! Field Day is just under two months away and there is still a lot to be done! The big event begins at around 5pm on Friday, June 26 and ending around 3pm on Sunday, June 28. The location will be the same as last year, Youth Community Park (aka Skateboard Park) at 1725 Fulton Rd, in Santa Rosa, across the road from Piner High School.

We've only managed to squeeze in one planning session so far, but we did make some good decisions at that meeting. For example:

- Station locations will be slightly different from last year. The new locations will reduce "audio interference" from the other stations.
- We are planning for two SSB stations, not just one – But we need operators for these stations!
- We have added some new key positions that need to be filled. See below for more details
- Station captains have been assigned
- We will attempt to network the logging computers

Station Captains

Our Station Captains this year are as follows:

- SSB – Dennis Colthurst, KI6REO
 - CW – Frank Oddy, NQ6E and John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ
 - Get-On-The-Air (GOTA) – Joe Fortuna, K6AWA
 - VHF/UHF/Satellite – Bob Arthur, KG6ZDN
- Please contact the appropriate station captains if you would like to reserve an operating spot.

The Two New Positions Have Been Filled!:

To help expedite operations, we added two new positions:

- **Band Coordinator** – Bob Smith, KJ6LDL has accepted this key position
- **Volunteers Coordinators** – Iola Beckley, KK6HRE will handle this duty on Friday and Saturday, and Cornell Chesnik, WA6HMN will do the job on Sunday

Educational Activity

The Educational Activity will take place at 2pm on Saturday, June 27. The activity will be building a 2m ground plane antenna. It's designed for quick deployment, so it is a good choice for public service and emergency work. Compact enough for a go-kit. Proto-

types have been built and look good. Thanks to John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ, for his ingenuity and energy in putting this together!

Dinner Saturday Evening

There will be a dinner organized by our president and top chef, Pat Coyle, KG6JSL. Dinner will be served beginning around 5pm. The cost is a mere \$7 per person and no one will go away hungry!

Call to Action!

So, I want to hear from YOU if one or more of the following apply:

- You are curious to know more about Field Day
- You would like to volunteer to help at Field Day, particularly for set-up and tear-down.
- You want to operate at one of the stations
- You have equipment or ideas that could be put to use on Field Day

TH-6 Antenna Maintenance and Assembly Practice Session

On Saturday, June 13, at 9am, we will meet at Doug Payne, KF6LMB's QTH to perform some maintenance to our venerable TH-6 tri-band beam. We will also practice assembling and disassembling the antenna, so that we can learn how to do this quickly and efficiently on Field Day.

Let's make Field Day 2015 the best one yet!

Brian Torr, N6IY
Tel: (707) 575-5871
n6iiy@arrl.net



FIELD DAY 1963 - from Short Skip archives



2m Ground Plane Antenna Kit for the SCRA Field Day Educational Activity



The educational project for the SCRA 2015 Field Day event is a 2m $\frac{1}{4}$ -wave ground plane antenna kit as shown in the figure. The mast, coaxial cable (and moon just visible on the left of the vertical radiator) are not included in the kit.

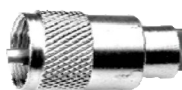
This 2m antenna is built for portable use. It was designed for quick and easy assembly and for convenient transport. It features threaded ground plane rods and a removable vertical radiator. The “hook” on the vertical radiator can be attached to a rope or be simply hooked over a tree limb. The supplied U-bolt attaches the base plate to any convenient vertical pole or mast that is 1-inch to 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches in outside diameter.

When properly tuned this antenna exhibits a typical SWR bandwidth of 1.5:1 over the entire 4 MHz of the 2m amateur radio band.

The special price of \$10 per kit will be charged per antenna kit for the SCRA Field Day educational activity only. You can sign up for your kit at the SCRA general membership meeting on Wednesday, June 3rd. You can also contact John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ to sign up or for more information; contact information is in the club roster.

Best Regards,

John
WB6FRZ



12 STORE BUYING POWER



HAM RADIO OUTLET
WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION

World's LARGEST HAM RADIO INVENTORY in stock for quick delivery

ANAHEIM, CA
(Near Disneyland)
933 N. Euclid St., 92801
(714) 533-7373
(800) 854-6046
Janet, KL7MF, Mgr.
anaheim@hamradio.com

BURBANK, CA
1525 W. Magnolia Bl., 91506
(818) 842-1786
(877) 892-1748
Eric, K6EJC, Mgr.
Magnolia between
S. Victory & Buena Vista
burbank@hamradio.com

OAKLAND, CA
2210 Livingston St., 94606
(510) 534-5757
(877) 892-1745
Nick, AK6DX, Mgr.
I-880 at 23rd Ave. ramp
oakland@hamradio.com

SAN DIEGO, CA
5375 Kearny Villa Rd., 92123
(858) 560-4900
(877) 520-9623
Jerry, N5MCJ, Mgr.
Hwy. 163 & Claremont Mesa
sandiego@hamradio.com

SUNNYVALE, CA
510 Lawrence Exp. #102
94085
(408) 736-9496
(877) 892-1749
Jon, K6WV, Mgr.
So. from Hwy. 101
sunnyvale@hamradio.com

NEW CASTLE, DE
(Near Philadelphia)
1509 N. Dupont Hwy., 19720
(302) 322-7092
(800) 644-4476
Ken, N2OHD, Mgr.
RT.13 1/4 mi., So. I-295
delaware@hamradio.com

PORTLAND, OR
11705 S.W. Pacific Hwy.
97223
(503) 598-0555
(800) 765-4267
Leon, W7AD, Mgr.
Tigard-99W exit
from Hwy. 5 & 217
portland@hamradio.com

DENVER, CO
8400 E. Iliff Ave. #9, 80231
(303) 745-7373
(800) 444-9476
John WØIG, Mgr.
denver@hamradio.com

PHOENIX, AZ
10613 N. 43rd Ave., 85029
(602) 242-3515
(800) 559-7388
Gary, N7GJ, Mgr.
Corner of 43rd Ave. & Peoria
phoenix@hamradio.com

ATLANTA, GA
6071 Buford Hwy., 30340
(770) 263-0700
(800) 444-7927
Mark, KJ4VO, Mgr.
Doraville, 1 mi. no. of I-285
atlanta@hamradio.com

WOODBRIE, VA
(Near Washington D.C.)
14803 Build America Dr.
22191
(703) 643-1063
(800) 444-4799
Steve, W4SHG, Mgr.
Exit 11, I-95, So. to US 1
virginia@hamradio.com

SALEM, NH
(Near Boston)
224 N. Broadway, 03079
(603) 898-3750
(800) 444-0047
Dave, N1EDU, Mgr.
Exit 1, I-93,
28 mi. No. of Boston
salem@hamradio.com

KENWOOD



TS-2000 HF/VHF/UHF TCVR

- 100W HF, 6M, 2M • 50W 70CM • 10W 1.2GHz w/ opt UT-20 module • Built-in TNC, DX packet cluster
- IF Stage DSP • Backlit front key panel



TM-281A 2 Mtr Mobile

- 65 Watt • 200 Memories • CTCSS/DCS • Mil-Std specs • Hi-quality audio



TS-590S HF + 6M Transceiver

- 100W HF + 6M • 500 Hz & 2.7 KHz roofing filter
- Built-in auto tuner • Best dynamic range in class
- 32 bit DSP

TH-F6A 2M/220/440

- Dual channel receive • .1 - 1300 MHz (cell blocked) RX • FM, AM, SSB • 5W 2M/220/440 TX, FM • 435 Memories
- Li-Ion Battery



TM-V71A 2M/440 Dual Band

- High RF output (50W) • Multiple Scan • Dual receive on same band (VxV, UxU) • Echolink® memory (auto dialer) • Echolink® Sysop mode for node terminal ops

ICOM

IC-7000 All Mode Transceiver

- 160-10M/6M/2M/70CM
- 2x DSP • Digital IF filters
- Digital voice recorder
- 2.5" color TFT display



ID-51A VHF/UHF Dual Band Transceiver

- 5/2.5/1.0/0.5/0.1W Output • RX: 0.52-1.71, 88-174, 380-479 MHz** • AM/FM/FM-N/WFM/DV • 1304 Alphanumeric Memory Chls • Integrated GPS • D-STAR Repeater Directory • IPX7 Submersible



IC-7600 All Mode Transceiver

- 100W HF/6m Transceiver, gen cov. receiver • Dual DSP 32 bit • Three roofing filters- 3, 6, 15kHz • 5.8 in WQVGA TFT display • Hi-res real time spectrum scope



IC-V8000 2M Mobile Transceiver

- 75 watts • Dynamic Memory Scan (DMS)
- CTCSS/DCS encode/decode w/ tone scan • Weather alert • Weather channel scan • 200 alphanumeric memories

Analog + Digital Dual Bander D-STAR

ID-880H

- D-STAR DV mode operation • DR (D-STAR repeater) mode • Free software download • GPS A mode for easy D-PRS operation • One touch reply button (DV mode)
- Wideband receiver



YAesu
The radio



FTDX-3000 100W HF + 6M Transceiver

- 100 Watt HF/6 Meters • Large and wide color LCD display • High Speed Spectrum Scope built-in • 32 bit high speed DSP /Down Conversion 1st IF



FT-7900R 2M/440 Mobile

- 50W 2M, 45W on 440MHz • Weather Alert • 1000+ Memories • WIRES capability • Wideband receiver (cell blocked)

FT-60R 2M/440 5W HT

- Wide receiver coverage • AM air band receive • 1000 memory channels w/alpha labels • Huge LCD display • Rugged die-cast, water resistant case • NOAA severe weather alert with alert scan



FT-450D 100W HF + 6M Transceiver

- 100W HF/6M • Auto tuner built-in • DSP built-in
- 500 memories • DNR, IF Notch, IF Shift



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)

AZ, CA, CO, GA, VA residents add sales tax. Prices, specifications, descriptions, subject to change without notice.

Come visit us online via the Internet at <http://www.hamradio.com>

#1 in Customer Service

COAST TO COAST FREE SHIPPING UPS - Most Items Over \$100 Rapid Deliveries From The Store Nearest to You!



**SHORT SKIP ARCHIVES AVAILABLE**

Mike, AD6YB, has set up archives for past and present issues of Short Skip. They are available on the Web site, log into Members Area, Short Skip, click on the first sentence. Mike has scanned in the old paper issues and it is really interesting to browse through them to see what those guys were doing. There are historical photos as well. An important record of our history and ham radio in general. Good Stuff.

[\(Click Me\)](#)

DIDN'T FIND WHAT YOU NEEDED?

If you are looking for something more on a topic or your topic of interest hasn't been covered lately, let us know. Something you'd like to see in Short Skip?

Contact the editor, dave@kraybill.org, or for general questions and /or suggestions, k6son@arrl.net

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	\$20 (\$5.00/qtr)
Family Membership	\$30 (\$7.50/qtr)
Under 18 Membership	\$15 (\$3.25/qtr)
Badge	\$10

Badge Information

Call Sign _____
First Name _____
City _____

Payment Calculations: Make checks payable to SCRA

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

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