

CLUB STATION
K6SON

Short Skip

The Newsletter of

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.

P.O. Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402-0116 707-538-2931

<http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com>

Repeaters:

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REPEATER STATION
W6SON

Volume 41, Number 7

July 2016

Antenna Madness - Getting The Wire Into the Trees

by Dave KI6UGB

This month we have several How-To activities on the creation and mounting of antennas, so take advantage.

I was privileged to have the assistance of Doug KF6LMB and Frank NQ6E in setting up my HF dipole between two tall redwood trees.

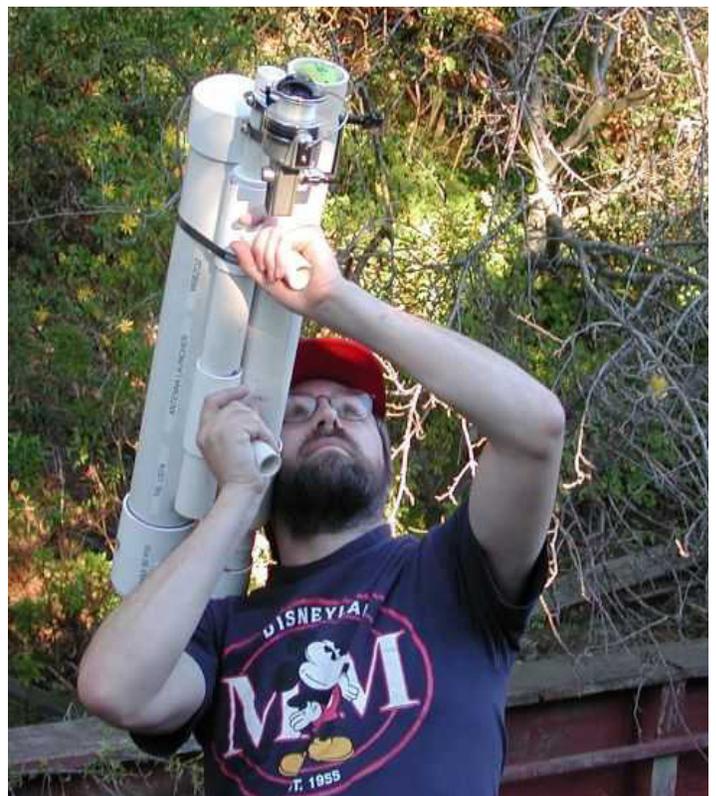
Ideally the antenna needs to be as high as you can get it without being a hazard to aircraft. So I have these tall second generation trees in my yard, but there was no one I knew that would climb them and I wasn't about to, so how do you get it strung up there?

Fortunately Frank had his newly constructed potato gun he was dying to test. For our purposes we did not use a potato, but rather a tennis ball with fishing line attached.

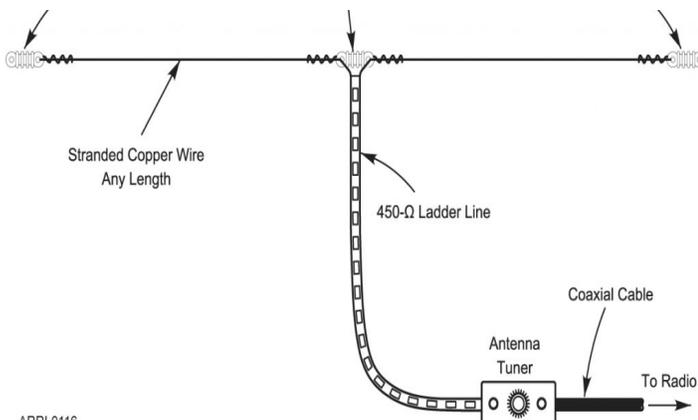
Armed with launching device we still had to lay out where to run it and construct the antenna. Not much later we had the wire dipole constructed and were off to the back yard to put a couple well-placed shots into the trees, pull the anchor lines down and attach ladder line to feed the antenna from the center.



Full plans and detailed instructions at <http://www.qsl.net/k5xp/projects/Launcher/Launcher.html>



See this one and more at <http://www.antennalaunchers.com/antlaunching.html>



ARRL0116





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE JULY 2016



July brings with it more activities and events and educational programs. Are you ready? We have another Tech class that is full; we will start our club visitations, and we have a very special speaker coming from UCLA Santa Cruz for a fun educational opportunity.

Our first Club Visitation happens on July 20th as we travel to the Valley of the Moon Radio Club (VOMARC). Other tentative dates and places are: San Francisco Radio Club (SFRC), Friday, August 19th, 7pm; Oakland Radio Club (ORC), Saturday, September 10, 9am; North Bay Area Radio Association (NBARA), Monday, September 26th, 7pm; Vaca Valley Radio Club (VVRC). October 13th. More information will be made available when plans are finalized. Please save these dates and plan on traveling with other SCRA members. We will arrange car-pooling. Watch the Monday Morning BLOGs, and listen for announcements on the SCRA Tuesday Nets.

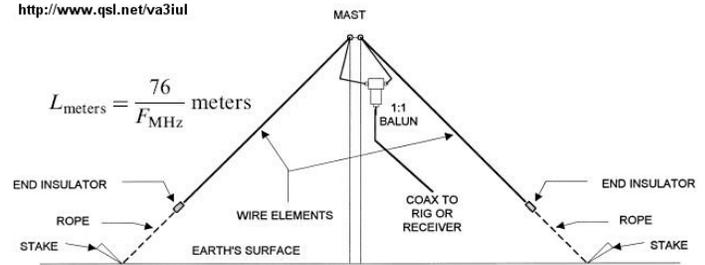
Dr. Ed Fong will be presenting a three hour course on antennas. A complete outline is presented elsewhere in this publication. There is no charge and is open to all hams interested in learning more about the most important part of our radios, the antenna.

Welcome to our new members, William KJ6BPP; Nicholas KF6IAN, Martin JH6BOW; and congratulations to all those who have upgraded their licenses.

Hope you had a good time at the 2016 Field Day. Share your pictures and thoughts with us so we can make next year even better.

Iola kk6hre

<http://www.qsl.net/va3iul>



Inverted Vee Antenna



Inverted Tree?

JULY MEETING PROGRAM

Intro to Antennas

Joe Fortuna

Dave Harrison

Brian Torr

John Breckenridge

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<http://www.arrl.org/Groups/view/san-francisco>



2016 Club Officers

President	Iola Beckley	KK6HRE
Vice President	Brian Torr	N6IY
Secretary	Dave Harrison	W6IBC
Treasurer	Wells Wagner	KK6EXC
Director	Joe Fortuna	K6AWA
	ShelleyRae O'Connor	KK6JXM
Past President	Patrick Coyle	KG6JSL

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Each Additional Quarter Column	\$4 per month
Full page (one side)	\$35 per month
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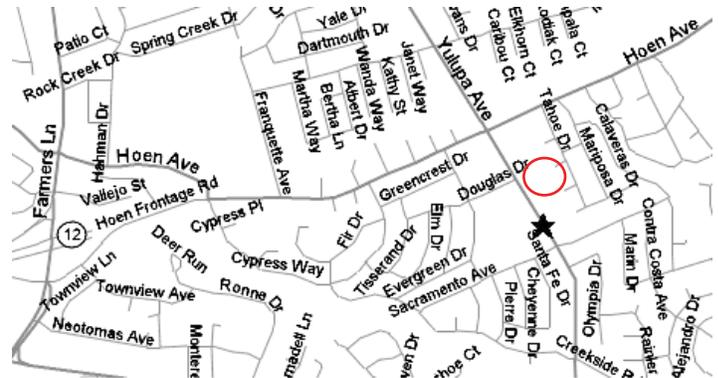
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SCRA Club Meetings

The club normally meets the first Wednesday of each month, socially at 6:30 pm, program starting at 7:15 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

The SCRA Board of Directors will meet monthly on the Second Wednesday at the IHOP Restaurant, Fourth Street, Santa Rosa (in the Safeway/CVS Pharmacy center). All members are welcome to attend, no reservations necessary. Arrive around 5:15- 5:30pm for dinner. Meeting starts at 6:00pm.

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

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.

Tuesday Night Net

The Sonoma County Radio Amateurs' net meets Tuesday at 7:00 PM on the SCRA repeater, 147.315, positive offset, PL 88.5.

All members and guests are invited to check in. The Net includes updates on SCRA activities, and News-line, the amateur radio community news service.

Anyone wishing to work as net control should contact lola kk6hre, at K6SON@ARRL.NET for assignment. Script and logs are available on the Website at <http://sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/wp/resources/net-script/>



10 Meter Net

There will be a net on 10 meters hosted by Joe K6AWA at 8:30pm (new time) following the regular SCRA net Tuesday nights. Set your dial to 28,402.00 SSB, USB. Please note that all license classes (including technician) are welcome.

2016 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Check the [Club website](#) for details

July 22 - August 7 - County Fair (SCRA booth on July 23 & 30)

Saturday, August 13 - Annadel XC

Sun August 14 - Tour d'Organics

Sunday, August 21 - Santa Rosa Marathon

Sat, August 27 - VE Testing

Sat/Sun Sept 24-25 - Waves to Wine

Sat Oct 1 - Levi's Gran Fondo

Sat Oct 15 - Jamboree on the Air (JOTA)

Sat Oct 29 - North Bay Science Discovery Day

Sat, November 12 - VE Testing

PCAM dependent upon independent insurance coverage

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, July 30th

Professor Ed Fong will be presenting a program on Antennas. 9 am to noon at the UFO Building on Stony Point Road. Additional information on page 11.

Mendo Rally

Due to insufficient vehicle registrations the Mendocino Rally has been cancelled this year. They will open it up again for 2017.

AUGUST PROGRAM

August meeting program will feature Homebrew/Boat anchor/Antenna night. This is a sort of open house affair for any member to bring is favorite project, construction, historical or any other interesting thing to show off and explain to the members. This is informal and always a fun evening in the late August evening so outdoor stuff is also welcome. So pack it up and bring it in.



CONTEST CORNER by Kevin Alt, K6BSG

Hello testers. Another year and another Field Day has come and gone. I hope that everyone got a chance to enjoy it. The CQ Worldwide VHF contest is a highlight for July. Also check out the week long 10-10 International Spirit of 76 contest or the Russian Radio Team Championship contest mid-month. Happy DX'ing!

1 Jul – **RAC Canada Day Contest** – CW, 160-2 meters. See: wp.rac.ca/category/prog/.

2 Jul and weekly – **FISTS Summer Slow Speed Sprint** – CW, 80-10 meters. See: fistsna.org/operating.html#sprints.

2-3 Jul – **Venezuelan Independence Day Contest** – All modes, 160-10 meters See: yv5rcv.org/reglasindep.aspx.

2-3 Jul – **DL-DX RTTY Contest** – RTTY, 80-10 meters. See: www.drcg.de/dldxrtty.

2-3 Jul – **Marconi Memorial HF Contest** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: arifano.it/contest_marconi.html.

2-3 Jul – **Original QRP Contest** – CW, 80-20 meters. See: www.qrpcc.de/contestrules.

2-3 Jul – **PODXS 070 Club 40 Meter Firecracker Sprint** – Digital, 40 meters. See: www.podxs070.com.

3 Jul – **DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest** – Digital, 10 meters. See: www.darc.de/referate.

4 Jul – **RSGB 80 Meter Club Championship** – CW, 80 meters. See: www.rsgbcc.org/hf.

4-10 Jul – **10-10 International Spirit of 76 QSO Party** – All modes, 10 meters. See: www.ten-ten.org.

5 Jul – **ARS Spartan Sprint** – CW, 80-10 meters. See: arsqrp.blogspot.com.

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

9-10 Jul – **IARU HF World Championship** – CW/SSB, 160-10 meters. See: www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-championship.

9-10 Jul – **SKCC Weekend Sprintathon** – CW, 160-6 meters. See: www.skccgroup.com.

10 Jul – **CQC Great Colorado Gold Rush** – CW, 20 meters. See: www.cqc.org/contests.

13 Jul – **RSGB 80 Meter Club Championship** – SSB, 80 meters. See: www.rsgbcc.org/hf.

16 Jul – **Russian Radio Team Championship** – CW/SSB, 40-10 meters. See: news.srr.ru.

16 Jul – **Trans-Tasman Low-Bands Challenge** – All modes, 160-40 meters. See: vkcc.com/australian-vk-contests.

16 Jul – **Feld-Hell Sprint** – Digital, 160-6 meters. See: sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub.

16-17 Jul – **DMC RTTY Contest** – RTTY, 80-10 meters. See: digital-modes-club.org.

16-17 Jul – **North American QSO Party RTTY** – RTTY, 80-10 meters. See: www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf.

16-17 Jul – **CQ Worldwide VHF Contest** – all modes, 6-2 meters. See: www.cqww-vhf.com.

17 Jul – **RSGB Low Power Contest** – CW, 80-20 meters. See: www.rsgbcc.org/hf.

18 Jul – **Run For the Bacon QRP Contest** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: qrpcontest.com/pigrun.

21 Jul – **NAQCC CW Sprint** – CW, 80-20 meters. See: naqcc.info/sprint201607.html.

21 Jul – **RSGB 80 Meter Club Championship** – Digital, 80 meters. See: www.rsgbcc.org/hf.

27 Jul – **SKCC Sprint** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.skccgroup.com.

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Contest Corner continued from page 5...

30-31 Jul – RSGB IOTA Contest – CW/SSB, 80-10 meters. See: www.rsgbcc.org/hf.
For additional contest calendars and resources check:

[WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)

[ARRL Contests Page](#)



Hmmm... maybe we leave the antenna shooting to the professionals, huh?

Minutes, SCRA June 1, 2016, Membership Meeting

The June 2016 regular Membership meeting of SCRA was called to order by President Iola KK6HRE at 7:12 PM, following a 40 minute social hour. A quorum of members was present. After introduction of officers and directors, new members and guests were introduced, including Gary Bachelor KM6CPU, Mike Jump KM6CPS (Red Cross), and Allan Young KM6CVV.

Net Control Assignments:

June 7: Brian N6IYY
June 14: Mike AD6YB
June 21: Dave W6IBC
June 28: Dennis K16REO
July 5: Iola KK6HRE

At the request of the Board of Directors, Mike K6HCU presented a proposed Club Banner, printed on one side of a waterproof fabric material with corner grommets. He reported that 30 banners would cost approximately \$540 including tax, and proposed that SCRA sell banners to members at \$20.00 apiece, with a small profit on each sale to the club. On motion by Pat KG6JSL, second by Doug KF6LMB, the membership approved spending up to \$600.00 dollars to purchase 30 banners. KZ6T was the lone dissenter, raising concerns as to how, and by whom, the banners would be managed.

This month's program was entitled: "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Field Day . . ." and featured SCRA Vice President and Field Day Chair Brian N6IYY. Brian's presentation had four major parts: what is Field Day?; what's new for 2016?; the plan; and the call to action. Field Day started in 1933 with the purpose of demonstrating ham radio in the field under emergency-like conditions. By 1941 the event had grown to 2180 hams operating 282 stations. By 2009 over 35,000 hams operated 2600 stations and exchanged 1,230,000 contacts over the Field Day operating period. Contemporary Field Day activities feature a picnic, a demonstration of emergency communications capability free of the electric power grid, an informal contest and a lot of fun. Field Day offers participation in a contest, satellite communications, a variety of antennas, high frequency propagation, and alternative power sources, such as solar and battery backup. Brian then reviewed the SCRA plan for Field Day 2016 and described the club's proposed operation as including five stations: two sideband (one possibly being a digital mode station) a CW station, a Get on the Air station (GOTA) and a VHF/UHF/Satellite station. In this configuration SCRA would be in the 3A category. Brian reviewed

Continued on page 7...



Minutes continued from page 6...

the site layout proposed for Youth Community Park, 1725 Fulton Road. He described the antennas and introduced the station captains, safety officer, public information officer, dinner cooks, and education activity chair and others. Each spoke in turn about the need for volunteers. A request was made for signups for member participation. Short Skip Editor David KI6UGP requested members to submit Field Day photos as soon as possible after the conclusion of the Field Day event.

The business meeting commenced with Treasurer Wells KK6EXC reporting a summary of the treasury accounts and balances. The minutes were approved by voice vote on motion by Wells KK6EXC, second by Doug KF6LMB (including a correction to the date of the mini-DX trip on August 4-6). Education Chair Dave W6IBC reported on the July 8-10 Technician License class at the Graton Fire District and announced that the November class would be held at the Bennett Valley Grange. Craig K6XLT presented the club with a check for \$2500 from the Santa Rosa Cycling Club. Public Service Chair Charlie KZ6T reported on forthcoming public service events. Membership Chair Shelley KK6JXM reported that the revised roster would be published in July. Merchandise Chair Kathy KK6KGW had four name badges for delivery to members (who were not present). HF Team Chair Doug KF6LMB described the Mini-DX trip to the North Coast, and noted that the Boy Scout Jamboree on the Air will be held on October 15th. Dave KI6UGB reported that the Jamboree would be held in Windsor at the Vineyard of Faith Church on Arata Lane. Outreach Chair Darryl KI6MSP sought volunteers for Kids Day at the Children's Museum. He reported initial approval of the ARISS application submitted by Brook Haven School, and that his group there would be designing a "cube sat". Emergency Services Chair Pat KG6JSL reported that Mike Jump KM6CPS of the Red Cross wants help with installing some high frequency antennas. Pat also reported on the formation of a radio frequency interference (RFI) committee. An initial meeting will be held on Saturday, June 4, 2016 at Round Table Pizza, 1003 Guerneville Road, at 12:30 PM.

Merchandise Chair Kathy KK6KGW has upgraded to General Class.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Harrison, W6IBC
Secretary

Minutes

SCRA Board of Directors Meeting

June 8, 2015

The June 2016 Board of Directors meeting was called to order by President Iola KK6HRE at 6:00 PM at IHOP restaurant, 2745 4th Street, Santa Rosa. All SCRA Board members were present, including President Iola KK6HRE, Vice President Brian N6IY, Treasurer Wells KK6EXC, Secretary Dave W6IBC, Director Joe K6AWA, Director Shelley KK6JXM and Past President Pat KG6JSL. Other SCRA members in attendance included Doug KF6LMB, Darryl KI6MSP, Jeff KI6PBF, Mike AD6YB, Cornell W6HMN, Dan WA6CRB, Fred AE6SF, Charlie KZ6T, and Jim K6JMS.

Minutes of the April 2016 Board Meeting were approved on motion by Wells KK6EXC, second by Pat KG6JSL.

Retired banking/insurance executive and SCRA member Jim Sexton K6JMS summarized his review of SCRA's insurance policy. He characterized it as a good policy from a responsible insurer, but noted a lack of coverage for hired and non-owned motor vehicles, and directors/officers insurance. He also noted the lack of coverage for the club trailer and its contents. After discussion, Dave W6IBC moved and Shelley KK6JSM seconded that if SCRA does not have Hired and Non-Owned Vehicle coverage, that SCRA shall immediately obtain such coverage for the previously quoted additional premium of \$300.00. The motion was approved unanimously. The Board also will look into the cost and availability of Directors and Officers insurance. Pat will check his email record on this issue. President Iola reported that SCRA can obtain catastrophic coverage for the PCAM airshow weekend for a premium of \$105-\$110. On motion by Joe K6AWA, second by Dave W6IBC, the Board approved obtaining this coverage for this year's PCAM event.

Treasurer Wells KK6EXC sought clarification regarding new member discounts when joining SCRA in mid-year. Shelley KK6JXM reported difficulty with the PayPal buttons for handling the discount. The Board asked Shelley to add text to the website directing new members who want the discount to contact the Treasurer directly.

There are currently 151 paid members of SCRA for 2016. The revised roster will be available with publication of the July issue of Short Skip.

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BoD Minutes continued from page 7...

Outreach Chair Darryl KI6MSP reported that the application of Brook Haven School in Sebastopol for a ham radio contact with the International Space Station (ARISS) has been approved, to occur sometime between January and June of 2017. Darryl is working with Tim Bosma W6MU to set up the contact via the earth station at Santa Rosa Junior College. Darryl plans to include students from the Geyserville School in this contact. Darryl's request to the Board to sponsor his Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) program at the schools he is working with was declined on the basis that the STEM program is much broader in scope than amateur radio per se.

The HF Mini-DX Chair Doug KF6LMB reported Charlie KZ6T is assisting with this activity and will make a presentation to the membership at the July meeting.

Outreach Chair Darryl mentioned that the club would have a booth at the Sonoma County Fair on two Saturdays during the Fair interval. He will check with the Fair to confirm the dates.

Field Day Chair Brian N6IYY expressed concern that not enough members have volunteered for needed positions. He noted that a practice session for assembling the TH6 antenna would be held this coming Saturday June 11 at Doug Payne's home near Oakmont. Brian has ordered connectors and adapters for the Field Day project and needs coaxial cable. He suggests charging \$5.00 to each participant to cover the cost of materials.

In Unfinished Business, the Board discussed the membership's approval for purchase of 30 club banners. On motion by Pat KG6JSL, second Joe K6AWA, the Board decided to retain five banners for public service and offer 25 banners for sale to SCRA members at \$20.00 apiece. The motion passed, with Dave W6IBC abstaining.

The Board discussed the issue of sign-ups for net control operator at club sponsored public service events. Public Service Chair Charlie KZ6T will look into the matter and report back to the Board.

Regarding the business card purchase, Shelley KK6JXM has provided President Iola KK6HRE with information. Iola will report back to the Board after considering this information.

Pat KG6JSL reported on an initial meeting of members and hams interested in establishing an Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) Committee. Pat moved, and Brian N6IYY

seconded a motion that the Board authorize formation of an RFI Committee for locating, detecting and identifying RFI issues on behalf of SCRA members and other hams who request the service, and authorize spending up to \$500.00 for an MFJ RFI detector and an MFJ ultrasonic sound detector. This motion was approved. Dave W6IBC moved and Joe K6AWA seconded a motion that the Board name Pat KG6JSL chairman of the RFI committee. This motion was also approved.

President Iola presented an article drafted by John WB6FRZ regarding the 180 Studios Makerspace project in Santa Rosa. After discussion, Iola will send the article on to the Short Skip editor for the July Short Skip. Iola also read a letter she wrote thanking the Santa Rosa Cycling Club for their donation to SCRA.

In New Business, Fred AE6SF presented a draft policies and procedures manual for erecting and collapsing the military tower used at Field Day. Brian N6IYY will review the manual and report back to the Board at the July meeting.

The Board briefly discussed the rental situation at the Luther Burbank Art and Garden Center. President Iola will look into the matter and report back to the Board.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 PM

Respectfully submitted,
David Harrison W6IBC
Secretary

STEM update:

Many of you know that I teach the STEM program in several schools. One of those schools is Brook Haven in Sebastopol.

With my assistance Brook Haven submitted an application and a proposal for an [ARISS](#) contact. Their proposal has been accepted as one of twelve schools. This will be through the Santa Rosa JC [Telebridge](#) station.

The contact is more than: "Hi my name is.....". The students will search for an experiment to learn about, possibly do the experiment in the class room, then, using science, speculate how the experiment will work in micro gravity.

An example would be:

Plants grow well here on earth. How would they grow in micro gravity?

This contact will take place between January and June 2017.

Darryl
KI6MSP





Mini DX 2016

Things you need to know about the DX.

1. Dates: August 4, 5, 6th, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Go home Sunday. It is at the A.W. Way county Park in Humboldt County.

2. Directions:

From Santa Rosa area, drive north on US101 to Garberville. Gas up, as it may be the last available gas. Drive north for approx 32 more miles to exit #663, Mattole Road. The last signage before this exit is exit #661 Weott. Continue west on Mattole Road to Honeydew. At the intersection of Mattole Road and Wilder Ridge, turn right continuing on Mattole Road west for approximately 5 miles to A.W. WAY Park. The park is on the left. Fencing covered with brush hides the entrance. Look for white sign with ham radio and graphics of an antenna. There is an elevation change from Weott at 338 feet to top of grade at 2744 feet, then down to Honeydew at 350 feet.

3. What to bring:

Camping shelter, chair, folding table for your radio, battery for the radio, and your choice of antenna. Most sites have a table, but be prepared yours may not have a table. Bring a roll of quarters for the shower which is across the field about 200 yards to the north. This is in the newer restroom, with an older restroom to the east about 100 yards away.

4. Set up area will be at the south end of the open field. There are trees for shade, and launching of antennas if necessary. Two vehicles can be in a site and the cost for the two will be \$20 payable to the ranger. So buddy up and share the cost.

5. Communication:

There is a pay phone at the park. Cell phone service if poor, but attainable in certain areas. Our call in frequency on 2 meters will be 147.55 simplex. The first person at the park should monitor the frequency. When traveling on the highway in convoys use the 147.55 simplex. Our English hill is sketchy up to Hopland.

6. Dinner to be determined. This should be on Saturday evening meal. A general store is about 4 miles away at Honeydew.

I hope this will be of some help to everyone. Any questions call Doug.
707-538-1373

SCRA Website Forum

So how many of you know that the SCRA website has a forum page? Its there for all members to use.

There is a Section for Activities, Announcements and News, Public Service, and Technical Issues.

To visit the site,

Navigate to the SCRA website,

Log in as a member

Click on Member Area, then Forums

While you are on the individual Forum pages, make sure to click on SUBSCRIBE. This will send you an

email when a new question gets posted.

Don't worry about your inbox getting flooded with junk emails. Only valid members can post to the site.



Announcements and News

Home > Forums > Announcements and News [Subscribe](#) Use the Subscribe Button

This forum contains 22 topics and 10 replies, and was last updated by wb6jao 4 months ago.

Viewing 15 topics - 1 through 15 (of 22 total)

Topic	Voices
Free to a good home - Old (1970-80s) Radio Gear	1





Next Exam Session:

Our next exam session is scheduled for Saturday, August 27, from 9:00 am until noon. The location will be the Bennett Valley Grange Hall, located at 4145 Grange Rd, in 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 to Bennett Valley Grange Hall:

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 CSCEs (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, N6IYY in advance.

Good Luck!

Brian Torr, N6IYY
n6iyy@arrl.net
(707) 575-5871

A New Maker Space Is Being Created in Santa Rosa. What is it and Why Might You Care?

By John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ

Many amateur radio operators like to build things, modify equipment and “tinker” around with stuff. But often we don’t have the right equipment or tools we need to build something. That’s where a “Maker Space” can help. It is a shop, or a group of different shops, containing equipment for engineering, designing, and building things. This equipment is usually unique, expensive, sophisticated, or of a type that would otherwise not be available to hobbyist builders.

The “180 Studios” maker space is near to opening and they would love to know the level of interest in using the maker space from people like you and me. Located at 150 Todd Road, Suite 100, “180 Studios” is in the process of setting up shop areas for the following:

- a digital media lab
- electronics and robotics
- machine shop
- prototyping and design lab
- welding and fabrication
- woodworking

They are a non-profit organization that plans to offer workshops for people of all skill and experience levels. As you might expect, there are fees involved. To find out more and to contact them please visit their web site at: www.180studios.org.

NOTE: The maker space mentioned in the above article is not an endorsement by SCRA, Inc. This information is being shared with the membership of SCRA for information only.





Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc, Presents . . .



Ed Fong
WB6IQN

PROF. EDISON FONG, PH.D.

Saturday, July 30, 2016 9am - 12 noon

Utility Facility Operations Building

35 Stony Point Road, Santa Rosa, CA

ABOUT ED FONG: Ed Fong was first licensed in 1968 as WN6IQN. He later upgraded to Extra Class with his present call of WB6IQN. He obtained the BSEE and MSEE degrees from the Univ. of California at Berkeley and his Ph.D. from the Univ. of San Francisco. A Senior Member of the IEEE, he has 12 patents and over 40 published papers and books in the area of communications and integrated circuit design. Presently, he is employed by the University of California, Santa Cruz (previously with Berkeley from 1997-2010) as an instructor teaching graduate classes in RF design. In his 35 year career, he has done work for Stanford University, National Semiconductor, Advanced Micro Devices, numerous startup companies in the Silicon Valley.

Session 1 (1st hour) - DBJ-1 and DBJ-2 (VHF and UHF antenna). The DBJ-1 is a highly effective dual band VHF/UHF base station antenna and the DBJ-2 is the portable roll up version. The DBJ-2 won the QST Plaque of the Month Award. Both of these antennas are featured in the ARRL VHF antenna Handbook and also in the ARRL Antenna Classic Handbook. There are over 16,000 of these antennas in use today. About half are used by hams and the other half by government and commercial agencies. Ed will give a history on how these antennas were developed and the theory on how and why they work so well. There is no "black magic" to antennas. He will explain in a non-mathematical manner why these antennas work so well. He will bring 25 of each antenna available for purchase.

Session 2 (2nd hour) TBJ-1 - Tri band J-pole (2MT / 220 MHz/ 70cm). World's first tri band antenna without radials. This design was first presented last year at Pacificon. It is patent pending (US 1-4834435). It has been submitted to QST for future publication. Ed will explain the patent and also how this clever (non obvious) configuration was developed at UC Santa Cruz with his students. This configuration came about from a request from FEMA and the Red Cross and is the result of 2 years of work

Session 3 (3rd hour) DBJ-UHF - This antenna is US patent 8,947,313 and was published in CQ in 2012. It is a true way of getting 5dB of gain from a J-pole configuration. This antenna was developed from a grant from AC Daughty Inc for a MESH alarm system. It offers good gain with no radials, is only 4ft tall, and can be constructed for under \$5.

Antennas will be available for purchase:

DBJ-1 dual band base antenna - available in HAM (144-148 MHz and 440-450 MHz) or Commercial (152-157 MHz and 460-470 MHz). Maximum power input 75 watts. - \$25

DBJ-2 dual band roll up antenna - available in HAM (144-148 MHz and 440-450 MHz) or Commercial (152-157 MHz and 460-470 MHz). Maximum power input 75 watts. - \$25

TBJ-1 - triband base antenna 2mt/220 MHz/ 70cm \$55

The roll up includes the follow accessories for no charge.

BNC to SMA adapter, SMA to SMA barrel adapter, one 6ft RG174 extension cable.

Other accessories that we buy in large quantities and pass the savings to you.

BNC to PL259 adapter - allows the DBJ-2 to adapt to most base and mobile radios. \$2

6ft low loss RG174AU extension cable for the roll up antenna \$5

50 ft RG8x with molded PL259 connectors \$25

SCRA meets the first Wednesday of each month at the Luther Burbank Art & Garden Center 2050 Yulupa Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA. Doors open at 6:30pm, meeting starts at 7:15pm. Membership is open to all persons who have an interest in ham radio. No age or sex discrimination.

P.O. Box 116
Santa Rosa, CA 95402
E-mail: k6son@arrl.net
Web site:
sonomacountyradioamateurs.com





Field Day 2016



Aside from local press coverage there was a visit from Santa Rosa City Council Woman, Julie Combs. I gave her a tour of our Field Day setup. Julie said she knew a little about amateur radio. After the tour she decided that she wanted to get her amateur radio license.

Julie later came back with her husband. She told him about Field Day. He wanted to see everything. I invited them to have BBQ with us, the club. After talking with a few club members, Julie's husband also signed up for the technician class.

-Darryl KI6MSP

Read the Press Democrat coverage at <http://www.pressdemocrat.com/news/5776719-181/sonoma-county-ham-radio-hobbyists?artslide=0>



But first there was a practice round on the tall TH-6 Antenna...



Tah-Dah!





Field Day Continued



Now for the real thing!

Other stations operating included VHF, 2 SSB stations and the Get On The Air station on 40 meters. Propagation was not good as Saturday morning kicked off and the contest was on. Conditions got better as the morning turned to afternoon.

Late afternoon, Joe K6AWA, captain of the Get On The Air station, noticed that one end of the 40 meter dipole antenna was ten feet lower than the other. Claiming offense to his sense of aesthetics and balance, he brought it up to match the higher end. This proved to be a turning point for the GOTA station as the number of contacts in the next 15 minutes matched the number from the previous hour and opened up to include Western Washington, previously silent. The operator, Maeve KK6HQY, had to get into high gear to keep up with the spinning frequency knob.



The CW crew. Paddle to the metal!

Read more about the CW crew in the Press Democrat coverage at <http://www.pressdemocrat.com/news/5776719-181/sonoma-county-ham-radio-hobbyists?artslide=0>



GOTA running on solar





Getting On The Air



Dave KI6UGB and Ian KK6HQX at the GOTA helm

The Life of a Control Operator

The GOTA station is unique in its function in that the operator in the log doesn't get to talk on the radio. As a Control Operator, you quickly orient your trainee to how the "contest conversation" works while putting them at ease so they can be effective

and have fun at the same time. When they make their first contact and it's all logged and you hear, "That was fun!", you know you've done your job and it's a great feeling. I had the privilege of hearing that many times on Saturday.

-- Dave KI6UGB



GOTA station under the guidance of captain, Joe K6AWA

Read more about the GOTA station in the Press Democrat coverage at <http://www.pressdemocrat.com/news/5776719-181/sonoma-county-ham-radio-hobbyists?artslide=0>





Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.
PO Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402
(Please print this, fill it out, and send it in with your check.)

Name _____ Callsign _____ License Class _____
Mailing Address _____ Phone _____ Cell _____
City _____ Zip _____ New Application _____ Renewal _____
E-mail (if any) _____ Add to Roster (Yes)___ (No) ___

Please Send Short Skip & Roster to my E-mail address ()YES! () No thanks

FAMILY MEMBERS, CALL SIGNS & EMAIL ADDRESSES:

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E-mail _____ Short Skip & Roster to my E-mail address ()YES! () NO
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E-mail _____ Short Skip & Roster to my E-mail address ()YES! () NO
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SCRA Dues: The renewal date for SCRA dues is January 1st. Dues are \$20/year for individual, \$30/year for families, and \$15/year for youth (under 18).

PRO-RATED DUES for new members only: Reduce standard dues rate by \$5.00 per quarter. (ie. Second Quarter, April – June \$15.00; Third Quarter – July – September \$10.00; Fourth Quarter, October – December \$5.00 to end of December of current year or \$25.00 through December of the following year)

I WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT:

() Public Service Events () Acting as club Net Control Station
() ARES Emergency Services () Helping with VEC license exams
() Taking a Novice or Technician class () Field day, other operating
() Teaching a Novice or Technician class () Helping with *Short Skip* Newsletter
() Taking an upgrade class () Other _____
() Teaching an upgrade class

SCRA DUES: Individual \$20, Family \$30, Youth, under 18, \$15 + _____
Name Badge (complete info below) \$10 each Circle: Magnet or Clip attachment + _____

Name Badge Information Fill in exactly as you want it to appear on your badge.
Callsign _____ First Name _____ City _____
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SCRA Patch \$5/ea + _____
SCRA T-Shirt \$11.50/ea Size: s m l xl xxl + _____

Total: \$ _____

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- 32 bit DSP

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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

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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

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FT-60R 2M/440 5W HT

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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)

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SHORT SKIP ARCHIVES AVAILABLE

Mike, AD6YB, has set up archives for past and present issues of Short Skip. They are available on the Website, 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.

[\(Click Me\)](#)

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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, shortskipeditor@gmail.com or for general questions and /or suggestions, k6son@arrl.net

SHORT SKIP NEEDS YOUR INPUT

SHORT SKIP ARTICLES WANTED

Dave, KI6UGB, our Short Skip editor is always looking for articles of interest. They can be technical, a good (or bad) experience that other members may learn from, hints or kinks that worked for you in solving a problem, or just about anything ham radio related. Send your contributions to Dave at shortskipeditor@gmail.com

