



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:

English Hill: 147.315+ 88.5 / 224.480- 88.5



REPEATER STATION  
W6SON

Volume 44, Number 6

June 2019

## Field Day

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“If you build it they will come.”



So, come!



**VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE JUNE, 2019**

It's June! Long days, warm weather, several public service events, and the grand-daddy of them all, ARRL Field Day.

Come join the fun of setting up and operating for 24 hours as 40K other hams do so across the US and Canada. More details within. And if you are stuck at home, follow our QSO progress at this web page: <https://www.fredee.com/scra/fdstatus.html>. Visit our website for volunteer opportunities. Fun, fun, fun...

- Fred AE6SF

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## NEW COMMITTEE FORMED

At the May Board Meeting, the board approved a motion to establish a new committee (of one person!) to send cards to members who are sick, had surgery, had a family pass, etc. This committee is called SOCIAL COMMITTEE.

I will start this committee off for the rest of the year. I will need everyone's help to get information about our members as I cannot do it myself. I know a lot of members, but not all. So please feed information to me and we all will be grateful.

Iola k6hre

[iolabeckley104@gmail.com](mailto:iolabeckley104@gmail.com)

707-755-1630

## ARRL Kid's Day

by Dave KI6UGB

As mentioned in [Contest Corner](#), the weekend before Field Day we have ARRL Kid's Day, June 15th.

It is on the SCRA calendar, but we will not have a booth for it for the June event.

You can participate by getting on the air as a contact or if you can, invite a young person to get on the air with you.

In this respect, it is similar to Jamboree on the Air. Suggested frequencies are most of the HF bands and repeaters with permission of the repeater owners.

Suggested Exchange- Name, age, location and favorite color. Be sure to work the same station again if an operator has changed. To draw attention, call "CQ Kids Day."

Full details at <http://www.arrl.org/kids-day>.

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## JUNE PROGRAM

### FIELD DAY

by Brian N6IYY

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### 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>

## 2019 Club Officers

President	<a href="#">John Felton</a>	KE5RI
Vice President	<a href="#">Fred Seitel</a>	AE6SF
Secretary	<a href="#">Bill Dornbush</a>	KM6BYD
Treasurer	<a href="#">Iola Beckley</a>	KK6HRE
Director	<a href="#">Randy Hall</a>	AA6RH
	<a href="#">Doug Payne</a>	KF6LMB
Past President	<a href="#">Iola Beckley</a>	KK6HRE

## Committee Lineup/Contacts

Activities Programs	Jeff Tonelli, KI6PBF Randy Hall AA6RH	jeff.tonelli@gmx.com aa6rh@socorad.io
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## Short Skip & Web Staff

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

## Short Skip Advertising Rates

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

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## SCRA Club Meetings

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

## LOANER RADIOS AVAILABLE

The Club has a variety of radios available to members to try out and improve their skills. We have a Kenwood T590 SG HF radio; Yeasu FT 2900 2 meter mobile; Yeasu FT1D, an analog/digital 2 meter and 440mhz HT; Yeasu FT 60, a 2 meter and 440 mhz HT; and a TYT TH-F5 VHF 2 meter HT. Trying these out is an excellent way to learn some radio and test before you buy. Contact Joe, K6AWA, at [k6awa@yahoo.com](mailto:k6awa@yahoo.com) with your request. Joe will forward an information form to you by return email.

## UPGRADE TO GENERAL OR AMATEUR EXTRA CLASS

Get more privileges and enjoyment from your Ham Radio Hobby. [Mentoring assistance](#) is available. Contact Cornell Chesnik, W6HMN, SCRA Education Chair, at [w6hmn@sonic.net](mailto:w6hmn@sonic.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/>



## The Weekly 160 Meter Net

Announcing the new 160 meter net which runs from 8:45pm to 9:30pm Tuesday nights, immediately following the 10 meter net hosted by Joe K6AWA. Tune your radio frequency to 1.900 Mhz. LSB. 160 meters requires a General or above license to transmit.

## Your Tuesday Night Net Line-up

7:00pm Membership Net on the SCRA repeater, 147.315, positive offset, PL 88.5

**10 Meter Net** - starts at 8:00pm (new time) following the regular SCRA net Tuesday nights and ends at 8:45pm. Set your dial to 28,403.00 SSB, USB. Please note that all license classes (including technician) are welcome.

**160 Meter Net** - runs from 8:45pm to 9:30pm. Tune your radio frequency to 1.900 Mhz. LSB. 160 meters requires a General or above license to transmit.

## Digital Mobile Radio Sonoma County Talk Group 31707!

The club's DMR footprint continues to expand! We established a beachhead on DMR and the BrandMeister network of repeaters and hotspots by adding a talk group for Sonoma County! We are using talk group number 31707 to keep in touch on DMR and be able to discuss local news and topics of interest. The use of a talk group like 31707 allows a wider variety of Sonoma County DMR hams to be able to consistently reach each other on the air. Best of all, the 31707 talk group can be reached on hotspots as well as repeaters, meaning you can tie into your local community wherever you are!

### Sonoma County DMR Net, Mondays at 6PM PT!

We also started a DMR net for Sonoma County (using talk group 31707) that lets us practice a little bit of traffic handling, while also allowing us to get together and talk about ways we can integrate DMR into our normal operating habits! Currently Randy AA6RH runs net control, and it's scheduled ahead of the "Sonoma County EmComm Net Crawl" on Monday evenings. If you have a DMR radio, make sure to program it (or ask Randy to help you program it) to include talk group 31707 on any of the area DMR repeaters (there are at least four in Sonoma County!) and join us on Monday evenings!

## 2019 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Check the [Club website](#) for details

### Community outreach:

6/9 Monte Rio Vineman Triathlon  
6/15 ARRL Kids Day  
6/21-23 Field Day  
8/4 Space Festival  
8/3, 8/10 County Fair  
9/28-29 PCAM  
10/26 Science Festival

### Public Service:

6/9 Monte Rio Vineman Triathlon  
6/15 Terrible Two  
6/30 Wine Country Tour de Cure  
8/24 Tour de Fox  
9/21-22 Waves to Wine  
10/5 Gran Fondo  
11/2? SoNoMas  
11/9-10 Santa Rosa bike trione

### 80th Anniversary

? Skunk train  
6/21-23 Field Day  
8/25 or 8/11 Picnic  
10/? Hamfest or swapmeet  
12/4 Holiday dinner

### OTHER:

8/15-18 Mini DX  
10/19 JOTA  
10/18-20 Pacificon

### VE Sessions

7/20  
9/14  
11/16

## CONTEST CORNER

Welcome to June and this month's edition of Contest Corner.

A quick look into the beginning of July will give those recent Field Day ops a leg up on the various contests offered. From voice to digital you can give those newly discovered or finely honed skills a workout during the first weekend of July 2019.

The month of June is really all about Field Day for ham radio. The ARRL Field Day only happens once a year and the last full weekend in June is the time. This exercise emphasizes emergency preparedness and the ability to set up and operate portable away from the typical shack in our homes. Various Emergency Operations Centers throughout the U.S. are on the air communicating and practicing their skills. A focus on public awareness and participation are key factors during Field Day.

Contesting also plays a pivotal role during Field Day as most radio clubs attempt to get as many points as they can according to the rules and within the 24 hour operating period. Whether it is ssb, cw, or digital the operators are trying to log as many unique stations as they can. The satellite crew is looking for just one contact to earn their points contribution for the club.

As with all contesting the action can be fairly intense for some with the increased noise and activity on the bands at any given moment. However, for the most part the operating is fairly relaxed and the competition with other clubs or members within a club is amicable and fun.

Other than Field Day a few contests in June are worth mentioning. The ARRL June VHF Contest is on the 8th for the 6m band and up. Get outside and try your luck operating. On the 15th the ARRL Kids Day is happening. This is a good one to promote amateur radio for the young and maybe garner some interest to future amateur radio operators. This contest also occurs twice a year.

Above all have fun with amateur radio this month of June.

Do not forget to check out <http://www.contestcalendar.com>

Contact [nq6e@arrl.net](mailto:nq6e@arrl.net) for questions/comments/suggestions regarding Contest Corner.

72/73, NQ6E



# Contest Corral

# June 2019

Check for updates and a downloadable PDF version online at [www.arrrl.org/contests](http://www.arrrl.org/contests).

Refer to the contest websites for full rules, scoring information, operating periods or time limits, and log submission information.

Start - Finish		Bands	Contest Name	Mode	Exchange	Sponsor's Website		
Date-Time	Date-Time							
1	0000	2	0200	1.8-28	PVRC Reunion	CW Ph	PVRC Member: 1st year of membership, name, SPC, call sign when joined PVRC; non-member: name, SPC	<a href="http://pvrc.org/reunion">pvrc.org/reunion</a>
1	0000	2	2359	28	10-10 International Open Season PSK Contest	Dig	Name, SPC, mbr	<a href="http://www.ten-ten.org">www.ten-ten.org</a>
1	0400	2	2000	3.5-28	DigiFest	Dig	RST, 4-char grid square	<a href="http://www.mixw.net">www.mixw.net</a>
1	0600	1	0800	7-14	Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	CW	RST, serial, suffix of previous QSO	<a href="http://qrp.ru/contest/wakeup">qrp.ru/contest/wakeup</a>
1	1200	2	1200	3.5-28	SEANET Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), serial	<a href="http://www.seanet2019.com">www.seanet2019.com</a>
1	1300	2	1300	50	UKSMG Summer Contest	CW Ph Dig	RST, serial, 6-char grid square	<a href="http://uksmg.org">uksmg.org</a>
1	1400	2	0200	1.8-144	Kentucky QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), county or SPC	<a href="http://www.kyqsoparty.org">www.kyqsoparty.org</a>
1	1500	2	1459	1.8-28	IARU Region 1 Field Day, CW	CW	RST, serial	<a href="http://darc.de/der-club/referate/conteste">darc.de/der-club/referate/conteste</a>
1	1500	2	1500	7-50	Dutch Kingdom Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), serial	<a href="http://dkars.nl">dkars.nl</a>
1	1500	2	1500	1.8-28	RSGB National Field Day	CW	RST, serial	<a href="http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf">www.rsgbcc.org/hf</a>
4	0100	4	0300	3.5-28	ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, power	<a href="http://arsqrp.blogspot.com">arsqrp.blogspot.com</a>
6	1700	6	2100	28	NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 6-char grid square	<a href="http://nrau.net/activity-contests">nrau.net/activity-contests</a>
6	1900	6	2100	1.8-28	SKCC Sprint Europe	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	<a href="http://www.skccgroup.com">www.skccgroup.com</a>
7	1900	7	1959	3.5-7	HA3NS Sprint Memorial Contest	CW	RST, mbr or "NM"	<a href="http://radioamator.honlapites.hu">radioamator.honlapites.hu</a>
8	0000	9	1559	3.5-28	DRCG WW RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, CQ zone	<a href="http://www.drcg.de/drcgww">www.drcg.de/drcgww</a>
8	0600	9	0600	3.5-28	VK Shires Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), VK shire or CQ zone	<a href="http://wia.org.au/members/contests">wia.org.au/members/contests</a>
8	1100	8	1300	14-21	Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	<a href="http://jsfc.org/apsprint/aprile.txt">jsfc.org/apsprint/aprile.txt</a>
8	1200	9	1200	3.5-28	Portugal Day Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), CT district or serial	<a href="http://rep.pt/portugal_day_contest">rep.pt/portugal_day_contest</a>
8	1200	9	2359	1.8-50	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	<a href="http://www.skccgroup.com">www.skccgroup.com</a>
8	1500	9	1500	3.5-28	GACW WWSA CW DX Contest	CW	RST, CQ zone	<a href="http://www.wwsatest.org">www.wwsatest.org</a>
8	1600	9	1600	50	REF DDFM 6-Meter Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), serial, 4-char grid square	<a href="http://concours.r-e-f.org">concours.r-e-f.org</a>
8	1800	10	0259	50 and up	ARRL June VHF Contest	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid square	<a href="http://www.arrrl.org/june-vhf">www.arrrl.org/june-vhf</a>
9	1700	9	2200	All	Cookie Crumble QRP Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), SPC, cookie #, name	<a href="http://w3atb.com/cookie-crumble">w3atb.com/cookie-crumble</a>
10	0000	10	0200	1.8-28	4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, mbr or power	<a href="http://www.4sqrp.com">www.4sqrp.com</a>
10	1900	10	2030	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, Data	Dig	RST, serial	<a href="http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf">www.rsgbcc.org/hf</a>
12	0030	12	0230	3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	<a href="http://naqcc.info">naqcc.info</a>
15	0000	16	2359	50	SMIRK Contest	CW Ph	Mbr, 4-char grid square	<a href="http://www.smirk.org/contest.html">www.smirk.org/contest.html</a>
15	0000	16	2359	1.8-28	All Asian DX Contest, CW	CW	RST, 2-digit age	<a href="http://www.jarl.org/English">www.jarl.org/English</a>
15	1200	16	1159	3.5-28	Ukrainian DX Classic RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, 2-letter oblast or serial	<a href="http://urxdc.org/rty/eng.htm">urxdc.org/rty/eng.htm</a>
15	1200	16	1200	1.8-28	ARR BPSK63 Contest	Dig	RST, serial	<a href="http://ct1arr.org">ct1arr.org</a>
15	1400	15	1800	144-432	AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	CW	RST, serial, power class, 6-char grid	<a href="http://agcw.org/index.php/en">agcw.org/index.php/en</a>
15	1400	16	1400	50	IARU Region 1 50 MHz Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), serial, 4-char grid	<a href="http://concours.r-e-f.org">concours.r-e-f.org</a>
15	1500	16	1500	1.8	Stew Perry Topband Challenge	CW	4-char grid square	<a href="http://www.kkn.net/stew">www.kkn.net/stew</a>
15	1600	16	0400	3.5-28	West Virginia QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), county or SPC	<a href="http://qsl.net/wvsarc/wvqp/wvqp.html">qsl.net/wvsarc/wvqp/wvqp.html</a>
15	1800	15	1959	1.8-50	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	RST, mbr, SPC, grid	<a href="http://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub">sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub</a>
15	1800	15	2359	3.5, 7, 14, 18, 21, 24, 28, 14	ARRL Kids Day	Ph	Name, age, QTH, favorite color	<a href="http://www.arrrl.org/kids-day">www.arrrl.org/kids-day</a>
16	0800	16	1400	50	WAB 50 MHz Phone	Ph	RS, serial, WAB square or country	<a href="http://wab.internip.net">wab.internip.net</a>
17	0100	17	0300	1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	<a href="http://qrpcontest.com/pigrun">qrpcontest.com/pigrun</a>
19	1900	19	2030	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, CW	CW	RST, serial	<a href="http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf">www.rsgbcc.org/hf</a>
20	0030	20	0230	3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	<a href="http://naqcc.info">naqcc.info</a>
22	1200	23	1200	3.5-28	Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest	Dig	RST, 2-letter oblast or serial	<a href="http://www.izmail-dx.com">www.izmail-dx.com</a>
22	1200	23	1200	1.8-28	His Majesty King of Spain Contest, SSB	Ph	RS, EA province or serial	<a href="http://concursos.ure.es/en">concursos.ure.es/en</a>
22	1800	23	2100	All	ARRL Field Day	CW Ph Dig	Number of xmtrs, operating class, ARRL/RAC section or "DX"	<a href="http://www.arrrl.org/field-day">www.arrrl.org/field-day</a>
24	1300	25	0400	1.8-28	QCX Challenge	CW	RST, name, SPC, rig	<a href="http://www.qrp-labs.com/party.html">www.qrp-labs.com/party.html</a>
26	0000	26	0200	1.8-28	SKCC Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	<a href="http://www.skccgroup.com">www.skccgroup.com</a>
27	1900	27	2030	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	<a href="http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf">www.rsgbcc.org/hf</a>
29	0000	29	2359	1.8-50	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	RST, mbr, SPC, grid	<a href="http://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub">sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub</a>
29	0000	29	2359	7-28	Battle of Carabobo International Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), YV state or serial	<a href="http://www.radioclubvalenciaac.org.ve">www.radioclubvalenciaac.org.ve</a>
29	0600	29	1700	3.5-28	UFT QRP Contest	CW	RST, QRP/QRO, mbr or "NM"	<a href="http://uft.net/reglement/eng.pdf">uft.net/reglement/eng.pdf</a>

All dates refer to UTC and may be different from calendar dates in North America. Contests are not conducted on the 60-, 30-, 17-, or 12-meter bands. Mbr = Membership number. Serial = Sequential number of the contact. SPC = State, Province, DXCC Entity. XE = Mexican state. Listings in blue indicate contests sponsored by ARRL or NCJ. The latest time to make a valid contest QSO is the minute listed in the "Finish Time" column. *Data for Contest Corral is maintained on the WA7BNM Contest Calendar at [www.contestcalendar.com](http://www.contestcalendar.com) and is extracted for publication in QST 2 months prior to the month of the contest. ARRL gratefully acknowledges the support of Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, in providing this service.*



## SCRA Merchandise QST

The new limited edition SCRA 80th Anniversary Lapel Pin is now available at the price of \$5 each.

These classy 1.25" lapel pins feature our full color 80th Anniversary logo with an epoxy dome finish and a military/butterfly clutch back to secure the pin in place.

They not only look good on a lapel, but they also give hats, sweaters, jackets and tote bags a good look.

Please stop by the merchandise table and check them out.



A big thank you those members who participated in the SCRA 80th Anniversary Apparel Event.

If you missed out on the event, no worries. We ordered 24 T-Shirts as new stock for the merchandise table. There are women and men styles in seven colors, sizes M-2XL. It's first come first serve, so don't delay in stopping by the merchandize table for the best selection.

If you have questions or comments, please email [merchandise@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com](mailto:merchandise@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com).

## SCRA Membership QST

The SCRA membership stands at 201.



Welcome new and returning members:

- Lois Lebovich KN6AWC (T) Guerneville
- Pam Guiney KM6YDM (T) Guerneville
- Will Hughes Associate Santa Rosa



New call signs:  
- none reported



License Class Upgrades:

- Howard Sidorsky K6SID – Amateur Extra

If you have recently achieved a new license class, obtained a new call sign, or changed your address, email or phone, please email [membership@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com](mailto:membership@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com) with your update. And don't forget to report your address change to the FCC!



### Ooh, ooh, I have a Question!

From the General Class Question Pool:

What type of circuit is used in many FM receivers to convert signals coming from the IF amplifier to audio?

- A. Product detector
- B. Phase inverter
- C. Mixer
- D. Discriminator

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### And What About This?

From the Extra Class Question Pool:

From which of the following bands is amateur radio contesting generally excluded?

- A. 30 meters
- B. 6 meters
- C. 2 meters
- D. 33 centimeters

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### Next Exam Session:

**Saturday, June 22, Noon to 2pm**

Our next exam session is scheduled for Saturday, June 22, from noon until 2:00pm. The location will be the Youth Community Park, 7125 Fulton Rd, in Santa Rosa (across the street from Piner High School) . Walk-ins will be accepted and all test elements will be administered.

By the way, the location is the site of our Field Day operation. So, if you pass your exam, you'll have an opportunity to put your newly-earned privileges to

work almost immediately!

(<http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/ve-testing.html>) .

Please arrive by 11:45am to be signed in. We will be in the Gazebo area, at the west end of the park. Testing will begin shortly thereafter.

Directions: From Hwy 101, take Steele Lane/ Guerneville Rd exit west. Continue to Fulton Rd (about 2.5 miles from Hwy 101). Turn right (north) onto Fulton Rd. Youth Community Park is on the left, approximately 0.6 miles north of Fulton Rd, across the street from Piner High School. The exams will be in the Gazebo area near the back (west) of the park.

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  
n6iiy@arrl.net  
(707) 575-5871



## Sonoma County Radio Amateurs Membership Meeting Minutes

Date: May 1, 2019

Call to order: 7:02 pm

**Board members present:** John KE5RI, Fred AE6SF, Iola KK6HRE, Randy AA6RH, Doug KF6LMB, Bill KM6BYD

The president determined that a quorum of members is present.

Carol Lucic KK6OLL announced that we will have the best barbeque at Field Day. She reviewed the menu and asked people to sign up on the website.

**New members:** Kathy KI6ZMJ, Lois KN6AWC, Pete KN6AWA

**Guests:** Ron, Ron KF6ZPD, Brian KK6HRC

**Radio loaner program:** Joe K6AWA announced we have a DMR radio available tonight. Kenwood TS590 is also available.

**Program Announcement:** Joe K6AWA announced we will have a talk about HF operating, and before the meeting, we made 18 contacts in 11 western states on 40M. He invited all to check out the slinky inverted V antenna tuned to 7175 KHz. Jim WA6QBU is an experienced operator and electronics expert and will present the program.

**NET CONTROL:** The following members are the net control stations for  
May 7 – Iola KK6HRE  
May 14 – Mike AD6YB  
May 21 – Jack K6ROW  
May 28 – Charlie KZ6T  
June 4 – Darryl KI6MSP

### Announcements, New Calls, Upgrades, Lies and Brags:

Iola KK6HRE announced about Bob Olsten and Kathy Wells.

Darryl KI6MSP was honored by ACS as volunteer of the year.

Randy AA6RH noted we have a DMR net every Monday at 6 PM on 31707 talk group. It helps us to learn how DMR works.

Charles has a new call KC6CTT, it was KG6CTT

### Program:

Jim WA6QBU presented HF operation. He presented the HF bands and modes, propagation and the ionosphere and the sunspot cycle. Check spaceweather.com. Antennas are very important. He is publishing in QST on a 160M loop he presented here recently. There are modest antennas that work, like center fed dipole, G5RV, off center fed dipole, end fed dipole, loaded, coupled, slinky dipoles. Horizontal loop, vertical loop. 43 foot verticals. Stealth antennas are good if you have restrictions: Christmas tree lights, very thin black coated wire that is hard to see.

**Ham of the Month Award:** John presented it to Randy AA6RH.

---BREAK---

Approval of minutes as published in Short Skip. Fred AE6SF moved approval, Jerry KK6ZDF seconded, and all approved.

### REPORTS

**Treasurer report:** Iola KK6HRE presented the financial status. She will present to budget next month.

**Activities:** Jeff KI6PBF: On May 11, there will be a tour of the Press Democrat press at 8 am. Community outreach: Darryl KI6MSP said we have a new club brochure. This Saturday is the Human Race with all positions filled. He noted the Monte Rio Triathlon is soon and needs signups.

*Continued on page 10...*



...Minutes continued from page 9

Respectfully Submitted,  
Bill Dornbush KM6BYD

**Public Service:** Iola KK6HRE: Fred AE6SF said the Wine Country Century is this weekend. We need signups for Terrible Two and Tour de Cure.

**Merchandise:** Dan KK6VIQ thanked all for participating in the 80th anniversary shirt event and lapel pins.

**Repeater:** Jack K6ROW said there has been difficulty on the nets due to a Windsor ham on another net who has worked with us to reduce interference.

**Membership:** Dan KK6VIQ noted we have 199 members as of tonight.

**DX Team:** Doug KF6LMB said the mini DX is August 15-18 in A W Way County Park in Humboldt County with camping, potluck, and operating the North American QSO Party, and SOTA. Camping is \$25 per night. No reservation needed for camping. We will sign up later for the event.

**VE testing:** Brian N6IY said the next testing is on May 11 at Bennett Valley Guild Hall. The fee is \$15. See SCRA website for more details.

**Field Day:** Brian N6IY said Field Day is June 22-23. You can try the GOTA station as a tech. We start setting up Friday at 5 pm. The event is at Youth Community Park across from Piner High School. Operating begins at 11 am Saturday until 11 am Sunday. There are other activities: VE session around noon, educational activity at 2 PM to assemble a 2M ground plane antenna, about \$35. We will have a tech bench. Dinner is about 5:30PM. At 11 am Sunday, we tear down.

**80th Anniversary committee:** Next event is Field Day BBQ then the picnic in August.

**NEW BUSINESS** - none

The meeting adjourned at 20:35 or 8:35 PM



Ham of the Month  
Randy AA6RH

SCRA HAM OF THE MONTH RECIPIENTS			
Year	Month	Name	Call Sign
2019	May	Randy	AA6RH
2019	Apr	John	WB6FRZ
2019	Mar	Erin	K6ERI
2019	Feb	Fred	AE6SF
2019	Jan	Dave	K1GUGB
2018	Dec	-	-
2018	Nov	Iola	KK6HRE
2018	Oct	Dan	KK6VIQ

## SCRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Date: May 8, 2019

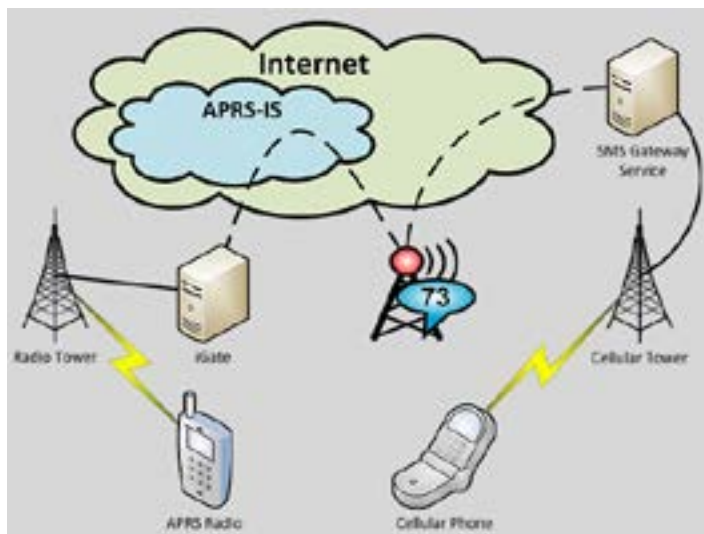
The BoD Minutes did not get submitted in time to go to press, so they will be delivered separately this month.

### Sending SMS Text messages from APRS

by Bill Dornbush KM6BYD

Did you know that you can send and receive text (SMS) messages from and to your APRS radio and your mobile phone?

Check out APRS/SMS Gateway at <https://smsgte.wixsite.com/smsgte>



This service supports you sending a text message from your APRS radio to your mobile phone, and vice versa (if your APRS I-Gate supports it).

It's as easy as:

Send a message from APRS to SMS:

To: SMSGTE - Message: @<number> <message>

Send a message from SMS to APRS:

To: <smsgte number> @<callsign> <message>

The SMSGTE phone number is not published for security reasons but if you send a message, you will discover it.

More detailed instructions are available in the User Guide at the link above.

I tested this using my Yaesu FT1-XDR radio and was able to send a text message to my mobile phone. Since my radio has a 10 key touchpad, I had to learn how to send the needed special character @ and to go through the keys to send an alphanumeric message like we used to do with our old mobile phones. The website has a page of detailed instruction for my radio, and pages for other models of radios.

There is also a page for sending a text message using DMR but I haven't yet gotten it to work. Maybe you can try it out and let us all know how it worked for you.



From HAM RADIO NEWSLINE as heard on  
the SCRA Tuesday Net  
captured by Dan KK6VIQ

The pictures behind the story...

KICKER: ANTENNAS GO RIGHT TO THIS  
YL'S HEAD

NEIL/ANCHOR: What happens when a really great antenna goes right to your head? Forget quarter-wave monopoles and half-wave dipoles. Now we have the head-turning, head-topping full wave-of-hair vertical. That's just what folks at Hamvention got to see this year in Xenia, Ohio. Beneath this towering installation of over-the-top scalp decor was Kristen Andrews KB3OQV of Atwater, Ohio. Kristen was sporting her annual radio-themed coiffure, a bright blonde sculpture of hair and ham hardware that was anchored less by guy wires and more by gobs of hair gel.

The  $\frac{5}{8}$  wavelength vertical, which sits on a magnetic base, actually works! With a mini antenna as her crowning glory, Kristen didn't complain once about signal loss, or for that matter even about hair loss. She told one local newspaper she has been Hamvention's very own Antenna Hair Girl since 2011 when the convention was still taking place in its previous location. Ah, but why split hairs over the change of venue? Perhaps while there, she'd simply taken the name of HAIR-A Arena to heart. Or head.



## Field Day Just a Few Weeks Away!

Field Day is only a few weeks away. Time to round up all the usual suspects (and hopefully a lot of new and unusual ones, as well) and execute our game plan. You can sign-up on-line under the Public Service Sign-Up web page. There are separate pages for each day of Field Day weekend. There are lots of open spaces to fill. <http://sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/wp/events/public-service/public-service-signup/>

And come to our meeting on Wednesday, June 5, to learn more about that game plan.

The big event begins at around 5pm on Friday, June 21 and ending around 3pm on Sunday, June 23. 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 had three planning sessions so far and I'd like to thank all of those that participated. Lots of good suggestions, many of which we should be able to implement this year. .

We have all of our Station Captains identified and most of our team leaders identified. The two team leaders we are still looking for are for the Volunteer Coordinator and Station Setup/Teardown Leader.

### Station Captains

Our Station Captains this year are as follows:

- SSB – Charlie Sikes, KZ6T
- CW – John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ
- Digital – Nick Brennan, KD7YDD
- Get-On-The-Air (GOTA) – Dave Kraybill, KI6UGB

Please contact the appropriate station captains if you would like to reserve an operating spot.

Visit the SCRA Field Day website for a complete list of all the various teams. All team leaders are looking for volunteers to help them out.

<http://sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/wp/events/field-day/>

### Wanted: Operators for All Stations

With a total of four stations, there should be plenty of opportunities to operate. You can sign-up on the Public Service Sign-Up web page, but also contact the Station Captain (listed above) to specify a preferred operating time slot (the sign-up web page only lists the time of operation of the station as a whole).

### Wanted: Volunteer Coordinator and Station Setup/Teardown Leader

As mentioned above, one of the two positions we have not yet staffed is the Volunteer Coordinator. This position is primarily busy on Friday evening, when we are setting up and need to place volunteers where they are needed most. If this sounds like something you'd could help with, please let me know.

The second position is Station Setup/Teardown Leader. Again, this position is busiest Friday evening and mid-day Sunday. It involves coordinating getting the tents, EZ-ups, tables, and chairs where they need to be. It can also extend to helping get cables run from the various antennas to the stations. Please let me know if this is something you could tackle.

### Educational Activity

The Educational Activity will take place at 2pm on Saturday, June 22. The activity will be building a 2m ground plane antenna, complete with storage tube. We will be asking for a donation of approximately \$35.00 per antenna to cover the cost of materials. More details at the next SCRA meeting.

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

- You would like to volunteer for Field Day. Even if it's only for an hour or two, every little bit helps.
- You are interested in the Volunteer Coordinator or Station Setup/Teardown Leader position
- You have suggestions, any suggestions, regarding Field Day.
- You are curious to know more about Field Day
- You have equipment or ideas that could be put to use on Field Day

*Continued on page 14...*

...Field Day continued from page 13

#### Amateur Radio Exam Session

At noon on Saturday, June 22, we will be holding an amateur radio exam session in the Gazebo area. This could be a great opportunity for anyone upgrading and especially earning a new license. Imagine, almost immediately after passing an exam, we can help get you on the air using your new privileges either at the GOTA station or one of the other stations.

#### Camping Spots Available

If you like to camp out, you can stay overnight Friday and/or Saturday nights. Tent camping is preferred over RVs.

#### TH-6 Antenna Assembly and Erection Practice Session

On Saturday, June 8 at 9am, we will meet at Doug Payne, KF6LMB's QTH to practice assembling the TH-6 tri-band beam, mounting it onto the crank-up mast, and raising it to full height. Anyone intending to volunteer to participate in setup on Friday June 21 s strongly encouraged to come to this session. Knowing how to execute this part of the setup so that it goes quickly and efficiently is key to ensuring that the rest of Field Day setup goes smoothly as well.

Let's make Field Day 2019 even better than last year!

Brian Torr, N6IYY

Tel: (707) 575-5871

n6iyy@arrl.net



### Santa Rosa Cycling Club Sponsors the 2019 Terrible Two Bicycle Event.

On June 15th, riders will pedal 200 miles over the span of 17 hours in Sonoma County while SCRA provides amateur radio communications.

We have many openings for SAGs, Net Control, shadows, and new this year for the day of the event, three comm boss positions. These positions are a go-between Net Control and the event sponsor and may help with SAG management, net control activities. Visit SCRA's sign-up page to find your preferred spot. Want to learn? Sign up as a shadow and have fun! The sign-up sheet has changed, so look closely.

Thanks for your continued support of SCRA Public Service Events!

Fred AE6SF

Pre-Event Comm Boss for the Terrible Two 2019

## What is ARRL Field Day?

ARRL Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. On the fourth weekend of June of each year, more than 35,000 radio amateurs gather with their clubs, groups or simply with friends to operate from remote locations.

Field Day is a picnic, a campout, practice for emergencies, an informal contest and, most of all, FUN!

It is a time where many aspects of Amateur Radio come together to highlight our many roles. While some will treat it as a contest, other groups use the opportunity to practice their emergency response capabilities. It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio to the organizations that Amateur Radio might serve in an emergency, as well as the general public. For many clubs, ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights of their annual calendar.

The contest part is simply to contact as many other stations as possible and to learn to operate our radio gear in abnormal situations and less than optimal conditions.

We use these same skills when we help with events such as marathons and bike-a-thons; fund-raisers such as walk-a-thons; celebrations such as parades; and exhibits at fairs, malls and museums — these are all large, preplanned, non-emergency activities.

But despite the development of very complex, modern communications systems — or maybe because they ARE so complex — ham radio has been called into action again and again to provide communications in crises when it really matters. Amateur Radio people (also called “hams”) are well known for our communications support in real disaster and post-disaster situations.

### What is the ARRL?

The American Radio Relay League is the national association for Amateur Radio in the USA, representing over 170,000 FCC-licensed Amateurs. The ARRL is the primary source of information about what is going on in ham radio. It provides books, news, support and information for individuals and clubs, special events, continuing education classes and other benefits for its members.

### What is Amateur Radio

Often called “ham radio,” the Amateur Radio Service has been around for a century. In that time, it’s grown into a worldwide community of licensed operators using the airwaves with every conceivable means of communications technology. Its people range in age from youngsters to grandparents. Even rocket scientists and a rock star or two are in the ham ranks. Most, however, are just normal folks like you and me who enjoy learning and being able to transmit voice, data and pictures through the air to unusual places, both near and far, without depending on commercial systems.

The Amateur Radio frequencies are the last remaining place in the usable radio spectrum where you as an individual can develop and experiment with wireless communications. Hams not only can make and modify their equipment, but can create whole new ways to do things.

For More Information visit: [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)

Updated 2/2019





**Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.**  
**PO Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402**

(Please print & fill out the form and mail it in with your check payable to SCRA.)  
 (Please check all  that apply)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ New Member:  Renewal:   
 1) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_ License Class: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Show contact info in Roster:   
 ARRL Member:

**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).

**\* Prorated Dues for New Members Only:** Reduced dues after the 1st quarter.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter April–June: \$5.00 off — 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter July–September: \$10.00 off  
 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter October–December: Pay the yearly dues for next year and get the rest of this year free.

**Family Membership Members:**

2) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_ License Class: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Show contact info in Roster:   
 ARRL Member:

3) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_ License Class: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Show contact info in Roster:   
 ARRL Member:

4) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_ License Class: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Show contact info in Roster:   
 ARRL Member:

I would like more information about:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a) Public Service Events                        | <input type="checkbox"/> f) Training Classes      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> b) Field Day (4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday in June) | <input type="checkbox"/> g) VE License Exams      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> c) Contesting & DXing                           | <input type="checkbox"/> h) Field Trips           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> d) Emergency Services                           | <input type="checkbox"/> i) Short Skip Newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> e) SCRA Net Control                             | <input type="checkbox"/> j) SCRA Committees       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> f) SCRA Loaner Radio Program                    | <input type="checkbox"/> k) Other _____           |

<b>SCRA Dues:</b> Individual \$20, Family \$30, Youth (under 18) \$15 (*see Pro-Rated Dues above)	\$ _____
<b>Name Badge:</b> \$10 each Please circle clasp type, either Clip or Magnet.	\$ _____
1) Call Sign: _____ First Name: _____ City: _____	Clip or Magnet
2) Call Sign: _____ First Name: _____ City: _____	Clip or Magnet
3) Call Sign: _____ First Name: _____ City: _____	Clip or Magnet
4) Call Sign: _____ First Name: _____ City: _____	Clip or Magnet
	SCRA Logo Patch: \$5 each \$ _____
	SCRA Logo Decal: \$2 each \$ _____
Please make check payable to SCRA.	Total Amount Due: \$ _____



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**FT-60R**  
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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.

[\(Click Me\)](#)

## 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, [shortskipeditor@gmail.com](mailto:shortskipeditor@gmail.com) or for general questions and /or suggestions, [k6son@arrl.net](mailto:k6son@arrl.net)

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## 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](mailto:shortskipeditor@gmail.com)

