



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 / 441.375 +88.5



REPEATER STATION
W6SON

Volume 45, Number 11

November 2020

Sebastopol Neighborhood Communications Unit

By Bob Dozor K3FUL & Stan Green KI6REL

Our Mission: Emergency Communication capability to nurture resilience in our Neighborhoods

More than ever HAM RADIO Operators' intention to serve our communities must focus on emergency communications in the event of failure of Cell Phones (as we all experienced in October 2019).

The Sebastopol Neighborhood Communications Unit (SNCU) - spearheaded by the Sebastopol Fire Department and Citizens – ham and “civilian” - have addressed the “first mile” problem; that is – how can our neighbors access communication when the phones don't work?

The key is to get inexpensive radios into their hands, with which they can reach a HAM well equipped to accurately move messages to address Non-emergency and Emergency Services. FRS hand held radios can cost under \$20 (up to \$40). SNCU has field tested and proven the concept that the city of Sebastopol can be “covered” by 4 HUBS with FRS radios. People on the street with FRS radios can communicate with a HUB. At each HUB an FRS operator and a SCRIBE will team with a HAM with a portable radios e.g.- 2-meter handhelds. Most non-technical folks find FRS radios easy to use; they are the classic “walkie-talkie.”

Further, SNCU is actively testing GMRS radios to expand our range. The 22-channels assigned to the FRS and GMRS radio services are all shared, meaning that FRS operators can talk to GMRS operators, and vice versa, on all 22-channels. (Channels 15-22, however, offer GMRS users the highest power option, so these

are preferred for tactical communications). FRS radios are limited to 2 watts, and only have unremovable “rubber ducky” antennas. GMRS radios are limited to 50 watts, and typically have SMA fittings (handheld) or SO-239 fittings (mobile and base) for after-market antennas. As a practical matter handheld GMRS radios max at 5 watts; 25-50 watts is used for mobile rigs or base stations.

GMRS radios start under \$50. My BTECH (Baofeng) cost \$60. However, there is also a \$70 license fee that lasts 10 years and is good for the whole family. This may be an obstacle for some; for most folks an FRS radio will suffice.



GMRS handheld attached to Mag-Mount GMRS antenna. Orange sky.

Continued on page 17...

FEATURED ARTICLES:

- SEBASTOPOL NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNICATIONS UNIT BY BOB K3FUL & STAN KI6REL [PAGE 1](#)
- RADIO EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE BY BILL AA6BD [PAGE 13](#)
- SCRA ELECTION CANDIDATES [PAGE 14](#)
- ARRIS CELEBRATES 20 YEARS OF HAM RADIO [PAGE 16](#)
- IARU 2020 BAND PLAN [PAGE 19](#)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE NOVEMBER, 2020

Greetings. The pandemic endures and we abide.

Communication is great therapy for social-distancing blues. We have over 250 members. I encourage you to join our on-air nets, stick around for air-time rag

chew, and engage in our Zoom meetings. Give a call on our 2-meter repeater at 147.315 + 88.5, someone always answers. Not sure how to begin? [Contact me, the doctor is in.](#)

November 4th at 7PM is our Annual Membership Meeting where, per the [Bylaws](#), elections will be conducted to fill the positions of Officers and Directors for the year 2021. The meeting will be held online via Zoom (see link farther down).

Non-contentious offices will be filled via acclamation. To vote anonymously, for contentious offices, you will need a computer or smartphone with the Zoom client installed rather than using Zoom through your browser. Go to <https://zoom.us>, select RESOURCES, select Download Zoom Client, select Zoom Client for Meetings, and install it. Non-anonymous methods of voting also will be accommodated to enable all eligible members present to cast a vote.

The Nominating Committee led by Dan KK6VIQ and with members Johnathan AK6VB and Iola KK6HRE has contacted the membership and developed a partial slate of candidates. However, all positions are open (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, two Directors). Additional nominations will be allowed November 4th prior to voting. Please consider serving in these rewarding positions or on a Committee. And thank you Dan, Johnathan, and Iola for your hard work.

Following the election will be a 17-minute video titled "DMR DSTAR FUSION Head to Head - Which One Is Best?" by Bob K6UDA. Personal bias notwithstanding, Bob presents an informative comparison of modes, features and ease of use. DMR, D-STAR and System

Fusion (C4FM) are the three digital voice modes competing for your dollars, making the video a good introduction. Thank you Howard K6SID for finding this video.

The Holiday Dinner scheduled for December 2nd has been canceled by the Board, and in its place, we will conduct the annual planning meeting to get a jump on 2021. Bring your best ideas and clairvoyance to help map out a budget and schedule of activities for year 2021.

[Continued on page 7...](#)

SCRA Membership Meeting (Online only)

ANNUAL ELECTIONS TONIGHT!

Wed, Nov 4, 2020 7:00 PM

Via computer, tablet or smartphone.

Short link: <https://fredee.com/mm>

Full Link: <https://zoom.us/j/95450532024?pwd=V25FWFM0MHNNMVFMIjMGFqTUtdz09>

Meeting ID: 954 5053 2024

Passcode: 123698

Via one tap mobile

+16699006833,,95450532024#,,,,,0#,,123698# US (San Jose)

Via telephone (voice only). Long distance charges may apply: +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 954 5053 2024

Passcode: 123698

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/acm9Tw3VzM>

NOVEMBER PROGRAM

"DMR DSTAR FUSION Head to Head - Which One Is Best?"
by Bob K6UDA

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>

2020 Club Officers

President	Fred Seitel	AE6SF
Vice President	Johnathan Brown	AK6VB
Secretary	Bill Dornbush	AA6BD
Treasurer	Iola Beckley	KK6HRE
Director	Warren Pierce	K6WRP
	Howard Sidorsky	K6SID
Past President	John Felton	KE5RI

Committee Lineup/Contacts

Activities	Iola Beckley activities@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com
Programs	Howard Sidorsky, K6SID programs@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com
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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

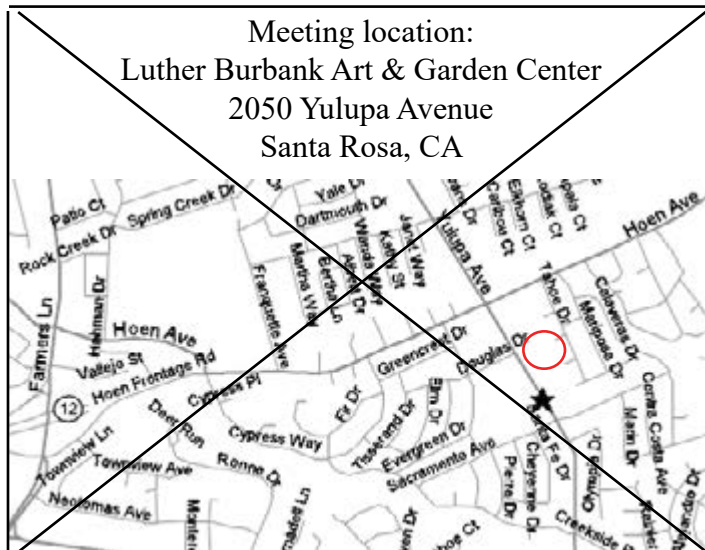
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SCRA Club Meetings

Online this month, [see page 2](#).

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 [Round Table Pizza, 2424 Magowan Dr, Santa Rosa](#). People start showing up at 5:15 PM. No RSVP is required.**

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 Newsline, the amateur radio community news service.

Anyone wishing to work as net control should contact Fred AE6SF at ae6sf@fredee.com for assignment. Script and logs are available on the Website at <http://sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/wp/resources/net-script/>

SCRA Board of Directors Meeting (Online Only)

The SCRA Board of Directors will meet monthly on the Second Wednesday online. ~~Round Table Pizza, 2424 Magowan Dr, Santa Rosa.~~ All members are welcome to attend, no reservations necessary. ~~Arrive around 5:00pm for dinner.~~ Meeting starts at 6:00pm.

We switched to Zoom. Arrive early.

Wed, Oct. 14, 2020 6:00 PM

Via computer, tablet or smartphone.

Short link: <https://fredee.com/bod>

Full link: <https://zoom.us/j/92394941525?pwd=WXYzaW4zZ1VyOGhPcHkyMmx2TGhiUT09>

Meeting ID: 923 9494 1525

Passcode: 123698

Via one tap mobile

[+16699006833,,92394941525#,,,,,0#,,123698#](tel:+16699006833,92394941525#,,,,,0#,,123698) US (San Jose)

Via telephone (voice only). Long distance charges may apply:

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 923 9494 1525

Passcode: 123698

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/a5vkj0H1Z>



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

2 Meter Net (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 MHz 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 1.910 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 happens on Thursdays at 6:30 PM 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. If you have a DMR radio, make sure to 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 Thursday evenings!



2020 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Check the [Club website](#) for details

Many events have been canceled as shown in strikethrough text.

Nov 14	VE Testing
Dec 2	Planning Meeting

Quote of the Month

“The secret of health for both mind and body is not to mourn for the past, not to worry about the future, or not to anticipate troubles, but to live in the present moment wisely and earnestly.” -- Buddha

--
submitted by
Iola kk6hre

UPGRADE TO GENERAL OR AMATEUR EXTRA CLASS

Get more privileges and enjoyment from your Ham Radio Hobby. Mentoring assistance is available. Contact the SCRA Education Chair, at education@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com.

Reporter Wanted for Contest Corner

Frank NQ6E has retired from Contest Corner. Short Ship is looking for a reporter to replace him in this capacity.

Qualifications for this position are mainly an interest in contesting. If you have experience in contesting that is a plus, but not completely necessary. As a reporter you could expand your current knowledge by contacting other operators and documenting their experiences. There is a lot of information available online as well. Interested persons should contact Dave KI6UGB at shortskipeitor@gmail.com.

CONTEST CORNER

Welcome to Contest Corner for November 2020.

Starting this Thursday, Nov 5, is the [QRP CW Fox Hunt](#). There will be an event each Tuesday and Thursday evening during the winter months from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. You'll need to sign up at the link above. It's a CW Fox Hunt. Anyone wishing to participate as a Fox, posts their location and band (40 meters or 80 meters) on the Hunt bulletin board (it's a Yahoo! Groups site). You can also participate as a Hound and make QSOs with Foxes.

Also on the 1st and 2nd Wednesdays we have the [VHF-UHF FT8 Activity contests](#). Try listening first, then jump in and try out your digital fists on FT8.

And here's one for beginning CW operators or those who want to break in at a slower pace (<25wpm). Check out the K1USN Radio Club's Slow Speed Contest (SST). From their website (<http://www.k1usn.com/sst.html>):

“K1USN's new Slow Speed Test is designed to encourage and assist those who signed up for CWA to learn CW or to improve their CW skills but are not yet copying 25 WPM, and all others who feel like “taking it slow and easy” once per week both for their own pleasure and to help others out. CWops currently offers a total of nine “slow speed” CWT's per year just after the three CWA graduations where all are encouraged to slow down to 20 WPM. Many CWA grads make contacts in those sessions, enjoying a well-earned rush of accomplishment. The SST will expand those opportunities for success to 52 weeks per year!”

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

Contact shortskipeitor@gmail.com for questions/comments/suggestions regarding Contest Corner or to become a reporter.

72/73,
Dave KI6UGB





Bruce Draper, AA5B, aa5b.corral@gmail.com

Contest Corral

November 2020

Check for updates and a downloadable PDF version online at www.arrl.org/contest-calendar.

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

Start - Finish Date-Time	Finish Date-Time	Bands	Contest Name	Mode	Exchange	Sponsor's Website
1 0000	1 0400	3.5-14	North American SSB Sprint Contest	Ph	Other's call, your call, serial, name, SPC	ssbsprint.com/rules
1 0600	1 0859	3.5, 7	Silent Key Memorial Contest	CW	RST, ITU zone or SK call you wish to recognize	www.skmc.hu/en
1 1400	4 0800	1.8-144	Classic Exchange, CW	CW	Name, RST, SPC, rig	www.classicexchange.org
1 1500	1 1800	3.5-28	High Speed Club CW Contest	CW	RST, mbr or "NM"	www.highspeedclub.org
2 0000	2 0100	3.5-14	K1USN Slow Speed Test	CW	Max 20 WPM; name, SPC	www.k1usn.com
2 2000	2 2130	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Autumn Series, Data	Dig	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
3 0100	3 0159	1.8-50	Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	Ph	RS, age group (OM, YL, or youth)	wvsac.com/rules.html
3 0200	3 0400	3.5-28	ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, power	arsgrp.blogspot.com
4 1700	4 2000	144	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	Dig	4-char grid square	ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
4 2000	4 2100	3.5	UKEICC 80-Meter Contest	Ph	6-char grid square	ukeicc.com/80m-rules.php
5 1800	5 2200	28	NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 6-char grid	www.nrau.net
5 2000	5 2200	1.8-50	SKCC Sprint Europe	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.skccgroup.com
7 0500	7 1200	3.5-28	IPARC Contest, CW	CW	RST, serial, "IPA" if member	www.iparc.de
7 1200	8 1200	1.8-28	Ukrainian DX Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), 2-letter oblast if Ukraine	urdxc.org/rules.php?english
7 1200	8 2359	1.8-50	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
7 2100	9 0300	1.8-28	ARRL November Sweepstakes, CW	CW	Serial, precedence (Q/A/B/U/M/S), your call, check (year licensed), ARRL/RAC section	www.arrl.org/sweepstakes
7 2300	15 2300	1.8-14	AWA Bruce Kelley 1929 QSO Party	CW	RST, name, QTH, equipment year, rig type, power	antiquewireless.org
8 0500	8 1200	3.5-28	IPARC Contest, SSB	Ph	RST, serial, "IPA" if member	www.iparc.de
8 0800	8 1200	All	EANET Sprint	CW Ph Dig	RS(T)	fediea.org/news/?news=20201108
9 0000	9 0100	3.5-14	K1USN Slow Speed Test	CW	Max 20 WPM; name, SPC	www.k1usn.com
9 0100	9 0300	1.8-28	4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, mbr or power	www.4sqr.com
10 0100	10 0159	1.8-50	Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	Ph	RS, age group (OM, YL, or youth)	wvsac.com/rules.html
11 1700	11 2000	432	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	Dig	4-char grid square	ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
11 2000	11 2130	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Autumn Series, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
14 0000	15 2359	3.5-28	WAE DX Contest, RTTY	Dig	RS, serial	www.darc.de/der-club/referate/referat-conteste/worked-all-europe-dx-contest/en
14 0000	16 2359	1.8-7	PODXS 070 Club Triple Play Low Band Sprint	Dig	RST, SPC	www.podxs070.com
14 0001	15 2359	28	10-10 International Fall Contest, Digital	Dig	Name, mbr or "0," SPC	www.ten-ten.org
14 0700	15 1300	3.5-28	JIDX Phone Contest	Ph	RST, JA prefecture or CQ zone	www.jidx.org/jidxrule-e.html
14 1200	15 1000	50-1296	SARL VHF/UHF Analogue Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), 6-char grid	www.sarl.org.za
14 1200	15 1200	1.8-28	OK/OM DX Contest, CW	CW	RST, 3-letter OK/OM district code or serial	okomdx.crk.cz
14 1900	16 0500	1.8-432	CQ-WE Contest	CW Ph Dig	Name, location code, years of service	cqwe.cboh.org/rules.html
15 1300	15 1700	3.5, 7	Homebrew and Oldtime Equipment Party	CW	RST, serial, class	www.qrpcc.de/contestrules
15 2300	16 0100	1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	qrpcontest.com/pigrun
16 0000	16 0100	3.5-14	K1USN Slow Speed Test	CW	Max 20 WPM; name, SPC	www.k1usn.com
16 2000	16 2130	3.5	RSGB FT4 Contest Series	Dig	4-char grid	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
17 0100	17 0159	1.8-50	Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	Ph	RS, age group (OM, YL, or youth)	wvsac.com/rules.html
19 0130	19 0330	3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	naqcc.info
20 1600	20 2200	3.5	YO International PSK31 Contest	Dig	RST, serial, YO county or country	www.yo5crq.ro/Rules.htm
21 1200	22 1200	3.5-28	LZ DX Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), 2-letter LZ district or ITU zone	lzdx.bfra.org/rulesen.html
21 1600	21 2359	1.8	All Austrian 160-Meter Contest	CW	RST, serial, OE district or serial	www.oevsv.at
21 1700	22 0100	1.8	REF 160-Meter Contest	CW	RST, serial, department code	concourse.r-e-f.org/contest
21 1900	21 2059	1.8-50	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	RST, mbr, SPC, grid	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub
21 1900	21 2300	1.8	RSGB 1.8-MHz Contest	CW	RST, serial, district code (if UK)	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
21 2100	23 0300	1.8-28	ARRL November Sweepstakes, Phone	Ph	Serial, precedence (Q/A/B/U/M/S), your call, check (year licensed), ARRL/RAC section	www.arrl.org/sweepstakes
23 0000	23 0100	3.5-14	K1USN Slow Speed Test	CW	Max 20 WPM; name, SPC	www.k1usn.com
24 0100	24 0159	1.8-50	Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	Ph	RS, age group (OM, YL, or youth)	wvsac.com/rules.html
25 0000	25 0200	1.8-28	SKCC Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.skccgroup.com
25 2000	25 2100	3.5	UKEICC 80-Meter Contest	CW	6-char grid square	ukeicc.com/80m-rules.php
26 2000	26 2130	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Autumn Series, CW	CW	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
28 0000	29 2359	50-1296	ARRL EME Contest	CW Ph Dig	Signal report	www.arrl.org/eme-contest
28 0000	29 2359	1.8-28	CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW	CW	RST, CQ zone	www.cqww.com
30 0000	30 0100	3.5-14	K1USN Slow Speed Test	CW	Max 20 WPM; name, SPC	www.k1usn.com

There are a number of weekly contests not included in the table above. For more info, visit: www.qrpfoxhunt.org, www.nccsprint.com, and www.cwops.org. 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 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.*



President's message continued from page 2...

The Repeater Committee, led by Erin K6ERI, met and is formulating a path forward following the devastating loss of the Castle Rock repeater site during the Glass Fire. A peek at the plan does appear to portray a push to establish a Fusion foray. Details are forthcoming.

The VE team, led by Brian N6IYY is planning another drive-in exam session on November 14th. In addition, Brian and several VEs are training to serve as VEs for remote (aka online) exam testing which can serve examinees across the country.

The Education Committee led by John WB6FRZ is holding meetings and developing training materials for a future Technician license class to be conducted online. Thank you, instructors and John.

Bill AA6BD continues to offer his Growing Radio Amateurs online class monthly. Its direction is guided by student interest. Radios and Raspberry Pi computers, what could be more fun?

Bob K3FUL is forming a committee to explore promoting a program like the Sebastopol Neighborhood Communications Unit that coordinates residents with FRS and GMRS radios with hams and EOCs. Interested? Contact Bob (or me).

Live Long and Prosper,
-Fred AE6SF

DECEMBER PLANNING MEETING (IN LIEU OF HOLIDAY DINNER)

The Board of Directors has canceled the 2020 Holiday Dinner and instead will hold the annual Planning Meeting on the same evening. The concept is to develop a budget and schedule for 2021 activities and to present them to the following Board meeting with recommendation to submit to the membership for approval at the January 5, 2021 membership meeting. So start thinking about how activities might play out in 2021 and bring your plans and budget requests to the December membership meeting on December 2, 2020. Use your best clairvoyance for anticipating the pandemic transition to normalcy. – Fred AE6SF

SCRA Membership QST

The SCRA membership stands at 259.



Welcome new and returning members:

- Adam Smith AJ6QJ (E) Santa Rosa
- Jim MacDougald KB6ZOP (A) Rohnert Park
- Julie Echo KN6KYY (T) Rohnert Park
- Justin Smith KW6SEA (T) Santa Rosa
- Robert Pare KN6LCT (T) Santa Rosa
- Tony Navarra KN6LCY (T) Santa Rosa



New call signs:

- David Tran KO3E



License Class Upgrades:

- Wei Chiu KN6FCN - General

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 with your update. And don't forget to report your address change to the FCC!

Membership Count by License Class	
License Class	Count
Advanced	3
Amateur Extra	74
General	68
Technician	101

We have **13** Associate members.

167 SCRA members are ARRL members.



KUDOS

Hammy: Our statue for ham of the month.

Erin K6ERI gave the Hammy to Curt WA6TIP for sorting out repeater on Tuesday so the net could proceed.

Dan KK6VIQ gave kudos to Bob Magnini K6QXY, the Castle Rock owner.

Bill AA6BD gave Kudos to Adam KD6POC for providing housing to Bob K6QXY.

Dan KK6VIQ gave Kudos to Rick WW6RC and Clayton KN6EMO for doing the net this past month.

Adam AJ6QJ gave appreciation for Volunteer Examiners led by Brian N6IYY for providing last week's VE session.

SCRA HAM OF THE MONTH RECIPIENTS			
Year	Month	Name	Call Sign
2020	Oct	Curt	WA6TIP
2020	Sep	Joe	K6AWA
2020	Aug	Brian	N7MOE
2020	July	John	KE5RI
2020	June	Darryl	KI6MSP
2020	May	Charlie	KZ6T
2020	Apr	David	N5PSM
2020	Mar	Bill	AA6BD
2020	Feb	–	–
2020	Jan	Cornell	W6HMN
2019	Dec	–	–
2019	Nov	Doug	KF6LMB
2019	Aug/Sep/Oct	Scott	KJ6QIQ
2019	June/July	Carol	KK6OLL
2019	May	Randy	AA6RH
2019	Apr	John	WB6FRZ
2019	Mar	Erin	K6ERI
2019	Feb	Fred	AE6SF
2019	Jan	Dave	KI6UGB
2018	Dec	–	–
2018	Nov	Iola	KK6HRE

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs Membership Meeting Minutes for October 7, 2020

Call to order and review agenda: The meeting was called to order at 7 pm. Fred AE6SF reviewed the agenda.

The president, Fred Seitel AE6SF, determined that a quorum is present.

Board members present: Fred Seitel AE6SF, Johnathan Brown AK6VB, Iola Beckley KK6HRE, Bill Dornbush AA6BD

Absent: Howard Sidorsky K6SID, Warren Pierce K6WRP, John Felton KE5RI

New members: Tony KN6LCY, Robert KN6LCT
Guests: Adam AJ6QJ, Jim KB6ZOP, Julie KN6KYY
We had 37 participants via Zoom.

NET CONTROL: The following members are the net control stations for

Oct 13 – Kenn N4NTJ
Oct 20 – Bob K3FUL
Oct 27 – Rick WW6RC
Nov 3 – Dan KK6VIQ

Upgrades: none

Announcements: Bill AA6BD noted that the Fusion net will use K6CSR repeater on Parker Hill at 441.650 MHz.

Lies and Brags: Rick WW6RC made 2 FT8 contacts to Japan; John WB6FRZ made CW CQP (California QSO Party) contacts; Rick KD6DWR ordered a mobile copper J-Pole antenna; Adam AJ6QJ said his HF base station arrived today, and his antennas are going up this weekend.

Hammy and Kudos:

Dan KK6VIQ gave kudos to Bob Magnini K6QXY, the Castle Rock owner.

Bill AA6BD gave Kudos to Adam KD6POC for

providing housing to Bob K6QXY.

Dan KK6VIQ gave Kudos to Rick WW6RC and Clayton KN6EMO for doing the net this past month.

Adam AJ6QJ gave appreciation for Volunteer Examiners led by Brian N6IYY for providing last week's VE session.

Erin K6ERI gave the Hammy to Curt WA6TIP for sorting out repeater on Tuesday so the net could proceed.

Approval of minutes: Darryl KI6MSP moved that the minutes as published in Short Skip be approved, Rick WW6RC seconded, and the motion carried by voice vote.

REPORTS

Treasurer report: Iola KK6HRE reported our financial status.

Social Committee: no report

Activities: Iola KK6HRE proposed a trip to Safari West but it is not yet happening.

Community outreach: Darryl KI6MSP noted that the Bay Area Science Festival will be Oct 23 2021 with details to be determined.

DX Team: cancelled for 2020

Education: Fred AE6SF appointed John WB6FRZ as temporary head of the Education committee. John is coordinating with instructors to meet online and discuss strategy and plans moving forward, assuming the pandemic will continue for some time. Darryl KI6MSP has materials from prior classes. We have a list of 25 people who are interested. John will contact each person to see if they are still interested. John is looking for a co-leader to help facilitate and coordinate. Darryl indicated he is available to help.

John noted that his CW class finished with 4 graduates.

Continued on page 10...

Minutes continued from page 9...

Field Day: Brian N6IYY is transitioning to Winter Field Day and will canvass what is the interest level. He doesn't expect we can find a spot like last year so it may be distributed like Field Day was.

VE testing: Brian N6IYY said we had a session a week ago with 9 people testing, and of the nine, 6 received technician licenses, 2 received general licenses, and Adam AJ6QJ received amateur extra. The next session is scheduled for Nov 14 and he is looking for a site for inclement weather. He will start training soon on remote sessions using ExamTools.

Growing Radio Amateurs: Bill AA6BD said that the next session is Oct 21 and will discuss APRS using both Raspberry Pi and Windows. A future session will likely discuss WSPR.

Radio loaner program: Bill AA6BD said there is an article in Short Skip that lists the equipment available. Andrew KE6HID asked that DMR radios be updated. Merchandise: Dan KK6VIQ said no report other than noting ARRL has a store.

Membership: Dan KK6VIQ said we have 41 new members this year including Ron Fahey KN6HVQ who is already a Silent Key. We have 4 new members since our last meeting including an associate member, and welcoming back Steve KD6GC who was a club Director in 1981.

Repeater: Erin K6ERI said we lost all equipment at Castle Rock. Adam KD6POC shared photos of the site. Erin will contact Bob K6QXY to see if we can visit for things like salvaging antennas. We will be discussing how to proceed. Fred talked with Adam, and Adam is hosting Bob, who may host Castle Rock again. Adam can introduce us to other repeater sites if we want to pursue other options. Andrew KE6HID suggested we do something for Bob. Fred said that the club is self insured.

Public Service: no events scheduled this year.

Refreshment committee: Fred AE6SF said that refreshments are BYOR.

Short Skip: Dave KI6UGB is looking for articles on adventures on the radio, and from the hobby side. You can submit an article or an idea. Dave wants to expand on Contest Corner. On Oct 16, JOTA be open with scouts looking for contacts. Locally, everything in Boy Scouts is virtual.

Website: Dave KI6UGB focused on Short Skip last week and now will work on the website. David KD6DWR noted that the website said we are meeting at LBA&GC and asked that it be updated.

PRACTICE ELECTION - Fred AE6SF led us through a practice election in preparation for next month.

OLD BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS

Neighborhood Communication Committee – Bob Dozor K3FUL – He is proposing a neighborhood communication committee in Sebastopol. They did a field exercise that showed they could cover 90% of Sebastopol with FRS radios. They repeated with GMRS radios, which improved the results significantly. Bob's neighbors are getting GMRS radios and have a net. Bob has a 40W GMRS radio with a large antenna and has found great results. He wants to put together a committee to share how to do this in other neighborhoods. Iola KK6HRE commented that mobile home parks are doing this. Fred AE6SF suggested that Bob bring this up next week at the board meeting.

PROGRAM: Glass Fire Experiences – by club members

Iola KK6HRE moved that we adjourn, Bill AA6BD seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 9:28 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bill Dornbush AA6BD Secretary

SCRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Date: October 14, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Fred Seitel AE6SF at 6:00 pm. A quorum was present.

Board members present: Fred Seitel AE6SF, Johnathan Brown AK6VB, Iola Beckley KK6HRE, Bill Dornbush AA6BD, Howard Sidorsky K6SID

Absent: Warren Pierce K6WRP, John Felton KE5RI

Others: Darryl Paule KI6MSP, Brian Torr N6IY, John Breckenridge WB6FRZ, Bob Dozer K3FUL, Dan Drummond KK6VIQ, Erin Casteel K6ERI, Dave Kraybill KI6UGB, Michael Von der Porten AD6YB, Kenn Clark N4NTJ

Approval of previous meeting minutes: Fred AE6SF moved that the minutes of the prior board meeting as published in Short Skip be approved, Iola KK6HRE seconded the motion, and it was approved by voice vote.

OFFICER AND DIRECTOR REPORTS

Treasurer report: Iola KK6HRE reported our financial position.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Social Committee – Iola KK6HRE – no report

Activities – Iola KK6HRE – no report

Community Outreach – Darryl KI6MSP – no report

Growing Radio Amateurs – Bill AA6BD reported that the next session is Wednesday, October 21.

Education & Mentoring – Fred AE6SF moved that John WB6FRZ be appointed as chair of the education committee, Johnathan AK6VB seconded the motion, and the motion carried on voice vote. John reported that he has a list from earlier of people interested in classes and sent emails to 27 people interested and

received replies from 4 and he is selling study guides to those interested. John would like weekly Zoom meetings with students prior to classes.

Emergency Service – Pat KG6JSL – not present

Field Day – Brian N6IY sent an email to participants from last year's Winter Field Day. Most would prefer a group event but a distributed event is ok if required. Brian felt we will need to do a distributed event.

Volunteer Examiners – Brian N6IY – Brian felt that we should send a club letter about the proposed FCC application fee increase. Fred AE6SF and Mike AD6YB will draft a letter.

Brian ordered a Temperature scanner for VE sessions, and drafted a self-declaration form for VEs and candidates. Mike AD6YB commented the state now has a 12 person or 3 family limit on gatherings.

Membership – Dan KK6VIQ stated that we have 2 new members: Jim MacDougald KB6ZOP (A) and Julie Echo KN6KYY (T) for a total Membership of 257.

Merchandise – Dan KK6VIQ – no comment

Newsletter – Dave KI6UGB is still looking for a contest corner editor.

Website – Dave KI6UGB has to repair the two factor authentication so he can enter the site.

Programs – Howard K6SID has no topic for November yet but will look for a short topic in case it is needed.

Public Service – no events in 2020

Radio Loaner program – Bill AA6BD stated that the club has received donations of older equipment that could be given to members who might agree to donate to the club. He also received several requests from members to advertise equipment they want to sell. We agreed that there should be a forum for sales and swaps with links in the weekly blog. Donated items not sold could be listed on EBay. Bill and Dave KI6UGB will set something up and we will tweak as needed.

Continued on page 12...

BoD Minutes continued from page 11...

Refreshments – Fred AE6SF says bring your own.

Repeater – Erin K6ERI: We lost our Castle Rock equipment. At the next repeater committee meeting on Oct 28, we will discuss including fund raising and what equipment and modes to provide. Johnathan AK6VB suggested a Winlink HF repeater. Darryl KI6MSP suggested a system with voting. Bill AA6BD noted the lack of a Fusion repeater with room capability anywhere in the county. Erin is going to develop a poll of the membership. We may consider raising money to replace equipment. Erin suggested that timing might be important and Fred suggested the repeater committee should develop a tentative plan to suggest to the club. Erin suggested we offer to pay the whole year of power fee to Bob Magnini K6QXY, and Fred AE6SF asked whether to prorate it. Bill suggested we pay as a good will gesture and that it is already budgeted. Iola KK6HRE suggested we volunteer to help with the cleanup and reconstruction at Castle Rock.

OLD BUSINESS

- Where are we on negotiating with LBA&GC? Iola KK6HRE replied that they have not responded to our requests.
- 2021 Lease Renewal – Fred AE6SF and Iola KK6HRE felt that we should delay any agreement with LBA&GC until we know when they will reopen.

NEW BUSINESS

- Fred AE6SF proposed that we place a Member of the Year list on the website, and that was agreed.
- Neighborhood Communication Committee - Bob K3FUL told us about the Sebastopol program at the membership meeting. He proposed that we form a committee to help implement GMRS in other neighborhoods beyond Sebastopol and can provide other contacts from there to provide more background. Bob will connect with Pat KG6JSL about how to coordinate with Emergency Communications and Bob will report back to the board.
- Recording & publishing Zoom membership meetings – Bill AA6BD proposed that we record our meetings and edit out the sensitive materials, or pause

during the sensitive parts, then make the recording available. Fred AE6SF suggested we start with the program only and add as requested. The board agreed with making the meeting recording available. Fred granted Bill as secretary the right to record the meeting in Zoom and Bill will make it available.

- Electronic balloting
 - o Dan KK6VIQ will validate.
 - o Can President run it but Zoom do the counting? See bylaws, page 20: “The presiding official conducting the election shall be a regular member who is not a nominee for an office.” Dan KK6VIQ or Bill AA6BD can conduct the election if Fred AE6SF runs for an office.
 - o Close nominations as a group instead of individually? We agreed to close them as a group so Fred AE6SF can then pass host to Dan KK6VIQ so he can manage the polls.
 - o How to handle ballot voting by other than Zoom client:
 - Text or voice call to Mike AD6YB who will pass to Dan KK6VIQ to record for audit.
 - By voice over internet for non-anonymous voters.
 - o Audit files from Zoom are not available until after the meeting ends.
 - o If we end with a tie, we can have a run-off at the December membership meeting.
 - Holiday dinner? Iola KK6HRE moved we cancel the dinner meeting and replace with a planning meeting, Howard K6SID seconded, and the motion carried on voice vote.
 - Dan KK6VIQ reported that nominations are still open and some offices need nominations. He will send emails to board members and committee chairs to see if they want to be nominated for an office.
 - Howard K6SID suggested in Short Skip that we consider additional advertisers. Howard will solicit additional advertisers.

Bill AA6BD moved we adjourn, Iola KK6HRE seconded, and the meeting ended at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bill Dornbush AA6BD

SCRA Equipment Loaner Program



SCRA has a variety of radios and other equipment available to members to try out and improve their skills.

- Trying these out is an excellent way to learn and test before you buy.
- Did you just learn Morse Code and want to check out a different keyer or key?
- Have you been thinking about digital voice?

- If you have a radio malfunction, borrow a radio to keep you on the air until you can get your radio repaired.

- Borrow something like an antenna tuner, that you wouldn't normally buy but could benefit from a short term loan.

- After reviewing equipment capabilities online, contact Bill AA6BD at aa6bd@arrl.net with your request. Bill will send an information form to you by return email.

Please consider borrowing something from the Loaner Program to explore something you haven't tried yet. We can usually provide a loaner for at least a month.

We have the following items available in our program. Check with Bill AA6BD at AA6BD@arrl.net to find out what is available now.

- Elecraft KX3
- Yaesu FT-991
- Kenwood TS-590SG
- Kenwood TS-440S
- Kenwood TS-430S
- MFJ 40M CW transceiver
- Yaesu FT-2900R
- Yaesu FT-60R

- Yaesu FT-1DR
- Yaesu FT-2DR
- Anytone AT D868UV
- Astron RS 35 M power supply
- Straight and paddle keys and keyers
- Tigertronics Signalink USB interface
- Yaesu SCU-17 USB interface
- MFJ 269C antenna analyzer
- MFJ antenna tuner 80-10 meter bands
- MFJ-1622 Window mount antenna
- Several wire antennas

--Bill AA6BD

RADIO EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE

Two hams have donated their equipment to the club in the hope that you might be able to make use of it. We thank Al Derrick KG6HS and Betty Bravin SK AG6C for their donations.

You can find a complete listing of available equipment on the SCRA Website at

<http://sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/wp/forums/topic/donated-equipment-from-al-derrick-kg6hs/>

and

<http://sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/wp/forums/topic/donated-equipment-from-betty-bravin-ag6c/>

We would usually have all this on display at the August club meeting – but not this year.

Try out any item and if you decide to keep it, make a donation to the club. You can use [eBay](https://www.ebay.com) to get an idea of what they sell for.

Contact me at AA6BD@ARRL.net for current availability and to arrange to see an item.

--Bill Dornbush AA6BD

NEW FORUM AVAILABLE ON SCRA WEBSITE

A new forum has been added to the SCRA Website:
SALES AND SWAPS

Do you have an extra piece of equipment hanging around your shack that you would like to sell?

Do you need some equipment and would like to buy it used from another club member?

Post your items on the forum:

1. Navigate to <http://sonomacountyradioamateurs.com>
2. Log in to your member account
 - a. If you don't recall your password, use the "Lost Password" link.
3. Select Member area > Forums > Sales and Swaps or navigate to: <http://sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/wp/forums/forum/sales-and-swaps/>
4. Click "Subscribe" so you will be notified of new postings.
5. Browse through what is posted or add your own posting.

Bill Dornbush AA6BD

2020 SCRA Election Candidates	
President	AE6SF Fred Seitel
Vice President	AD6YB Mike Von der Porten
Secretary	KN6AWA Peter Murphy
Treasurer	K6WRP Warren Pierce
Directors	K6FUL Bob Dozor N5PSM David Mitchell (Profile) KD6DWR David Reichard K6SID Howard Sidorsky KF6GNH Philip Humes

The Nominating Committee thanks these gracious members who have stepped forward as candidates to volunteer their time in serving the club on the 2021 SCRA Board of Directors. Additional nominations will be accepted from those in attendance at the November Membership meeting. Each candidate will be given an opportunity to address the voters before voting begins.

YAESU SYSTEM FUSION WEEKLY NET



A number of YOU have expressed interest in attending a Yaesu System Fusion Digital Voice Net. As a result, every THURSDAY night at 7:00pm Pacific Time, Bill AA6BD will coordinate a Fusion Digital Voice Net on the K6CSR repeater at 441.650 MHz on the KD6RC (#51370) node. If you have any device that can access Fusion / WIRES-X / C4FM, why not come join us on this interesting and really high quality voice mode! This will give you an opportunity to try out your rig, ask questions, and exchange ideas.

We'll see you there!

For more information on Fusion, have a look at the "Presentation on Fusion from 7-1-2020" at <http://sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/YSF-7-1-2020.pdf>

For those who do not have a Yaesu System Fusion / C4FM radio, the club equipment loaner program has several units. Contact Bill AA6BD about availability at AA6BD@ARRL.net

For questions on the Fusion Net, contact Bill AA6BD at AA6BD@ARRL.net.

SILENT KEY

Robert "Bob" Olsten WD6DPE, who recently celebrated his 98th birthday, has become a silent key. We celebrate Bob's life; faith; service to country, community and church; caring nature; and wonderful stories of a life well-lived. –Bill AA6BD

The 2020 SCRA Board of Directors Election

Wednesday, November 4th

Become a Candidate for Officer

President ☀ Vice President

Secretary ☀ Treasurer

or either of the two

☀ Directors ☀



Please consider
serving the club
in this
rewarding
capacity.



ARISS to Celebrate 20 Years of Ham Radio on the International Space Station (from arrl.org)

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station ([ARISS](http://ariss.org)) will soon celebrate 20 years of continuous ham radio operations on the International Space Station (ISS). NASA is commemorating the milestone with a newly produced [infographic](#) highlighting the educational contacts via amateur radio between astronaut crew members aboard the ISS and students. Over its 20 years, ARISS has supported nearly 1,400 scheduled ham radio contacts with schools, student groups, and other organizations.



Jordan was among the participating students at Celia Hays Elementary School in Rockwall, Texas, late last February, who were excited to have their ARISS contact with Astronaut Drew Morgan. More than 190 students sat on the gym floor while another 680 on campus listened via the school's inter-communication system.

Planning for ARISS began in 1996 as a cooperative venture among national amateur radio and amateur satellite societies, with support from their respective space agencies. The ARISS ham radio gear actually arrived on the station before the Expedition 1 crew, headed by Commander Bill Shepherd, ex-KD5GSL. The FCC issued ham radio call sign NA1SS for ISS operations. After Expedition 1 arrived on station, some initial tests with ARISS ham radio ground stations and individual hams confirmed the ham gear was working properly. The first ARISS school contact was made with students at Luther Burbank Elementary School in Illinois on December 21, 2000, with Shepherd at the helm of NA1SS on the ISS.

NASA produced a [video](#) of students talking with astronaut Chris Cassidy, KF5KDR, during an ARISS contact in May 2020.

Before and during scheduled ham radio contacts, students, educators, parents, and communities learn about space and related technologies, and radio communication using amateur radio.

ARISS relies on a large network of amateur radio operator volunteers, many associated with radio clubs in the communities where students and groups participating in the contact reside. ARISS volunteers support satellite ground stations, serve as technical mentors, and provide additional help in the areas of education, community outreach, and public relations.

While student-to-astronaut radio contacts are a primary objective for ARISS, the capability has also inspired further experimentation for amateur radio in space and the evaluation of new technologies. In September, ARISS [announced](#) that the initial element of its next-generation ham radio system had been installed in the ISS Columbus module. The new radio system replaces equipment originally certified for spaceflight in mid-2000. The onboard ham station also provides a contingency communications system for the ISS crew. Several astronauts have also enjoyed using NA1SS to make casual contacts with -- and delighting -- earthbound members of the ham radio community.

In the US, ARISS sponsors include [ARRL](http://arrl.org), [AMSAT](http://amsat.org), and NASA, the ISS National Lab-Space Station Explorers, and NASA's Space Communications and Navigation program.

The next proposal window for US schools and educational organizations to [host an amateur radio contact](#) with a crew member on board the ISS opened on October 1 for contacts that would take place from July through December 2021.

[Proposal information and more details](#), including expectations, proposal guidelines, and proposal forms, and dates and times of informational webinars, are on the ARISS website. Send questions to ariss.us.education@gmail.com.

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ARISS continued from page 16...

Like many educators who have coordinated ARISS radio contacts for their students, teacher Rita Wright, KC9CDL, an ARRL member, described the first ARISS school contact as inspirational and having a lasting impact on their community. Five months after their contact, nearly 500 students greeted Bill Shepherd when he visited Luther Burbank School. Wright said it was "like tossing a pebble into a stream."

"The ripple effects are still occurring, and I suspect will continue to occur for a long time," she said. Read [more](#).



Students at Kittredge Magnet School near Atlanta, Georgia, took part in an ARISS contact with Astronaut Drew Morgan, KI5AAA. Morgan answered 15 student questions. The students have their own radio club, Kittredge Magnet School Amateur Radio Club, KQ4KMS.

SNCU continued from page 1...

Some situations will be best served by a permanent setup which can work the GMRS band as well as HAM bands. K3FUL has put a DISCONE antenna up at 30' and has found greatly enhanced FRS/GMRS performance. Discones have an exceptionally broad frequency range. This antenna also works well for 2-meters and 1.25 meters; SWR better than 1.2:1. One antenna could serve hybrid GMRS/HAM set-ups in permanent installations!



Discone antenna

SNCU plans to staff each HUB with an FRS operator, a Scribe, and a HAM. GMRS radios (with more power and better antennas) we may need fewer HUBS. GMRS notwithstanding, SNCU has proven the feasibility of bringing inexpensive radio communications to the residents of the city of Sebastopol. This proof of concept suggests that most of the neighborhoods of Sonoma county can be in the reach of FRS/GMRS. The availability of GMRS repeaters makes it highly likely that excellent coverage of all of Sonoma County is possible.

SNCU has its origins in the CERT program
The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)
Continued on page 18...



SNCU continued from page 17...

program educates volunteers about disaster preparedness for the hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. CERT offers a consistent, nationwide approach to volunteer training and organization that professional responders can rely on during disaster situations, allowing them to focus on more complex tasks. CERT-HAMS had been meeting monthly in Sebastopol since 2008. In July 2019, Fire Chief Bill Braga and Skip Jirrels (Sebastopol's Public Safety Outreach Coordinator) requested a meeting with several former CERT-HAMS. Chief Braga expressed his unconditional support for SNCU, and continues to reiterate that support.

Historically, the role of Ham operators within the FEMA response structure has been to provide back-up communications if the County's primary communications system become inoperable. As these County communications systems have been hardened and secured, the historic role for organizations such as RACES and ARES become more unlikely. Sebastopol's CERT trained HAMS saw themselves as having a primary and not secondary function in a disaster response. So, when presented with a mission placing us in a primary communications role complete with the unconditional support of the Chief, they were on board! Since the fall of 2019 the SNCU member list has grown from 5 to more than 80 – half of whom are FRS operators. There are 13 hams on-board currently.

When Covid restrictions are removed, we will continue to offer in-person FRS, Scribe and HAM training (thank you SCRA!). We continue to remain attentive to evolving Federal regulations and new radios with expanding capabilities. We continue to ask the public for ways we can better reduce their anxiety and improve their Disaster Resilience. And we continue to ask ourselves how we can train better, respond better and provide our neighbors and the Fire Chief with a robust, tested and operational communications system that supports their needs.

SNCU needs more HAMS to fulfill our mission and bring power-down communications available to all

of West County. It is likely that a Hybrid FRS/HAM model will be replicated in neighborhoods throughout the county. And for that, there will be a need for Ham operators to step up in their own neighborhoods. We have a lot of fun being out in the field. Tests in the neighborhoods - with getting folks excited about talking on their FRS radios - is a real blast! It is very rewarding to bring radio to the people!



IARU Region 2 Releases 2020 Revision of its Band Plan

IARU Region 2 ([IARU R2](#)) -- the Americas -- has released the September 2020 revision of its [Band Plan](#) and made procedural changes to shorten the time to reflect future adjustments. The Band Plan includes a change approved at the October 2019 General Assembly to add an Amateur Satellite uplink subband, 21.125 to 21.450 MHz, on a non-exclusive basis. This matches similar changes in the Region 1 and Region 3 band plans.

A number of administrative changes have been made to the text, although the Band Plan itself has not been modified. These changes include:

- Modifications to the wording of the Band Plan to ensure that national regulators understand it is a voluntary document, and that countries may depart from the plan based on national requirements.
- Definition additions: Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF), primary service, secondary service, and several acronyms.
- Inclusion of information detailing the primary and secondary users in each amateur radio allocation band.
- Correction of minor typographical errors.



At its May 2020 meeting, the IARU R2 Executive Committee added text to the Standard Operating Procedures that provides a process for the Band Plan to be updated in a more timely manner. Prior to this change, Band Plan modifications could only be approved at a General Assembly, held once every 3 years. Under the new provision, the Band Planning Committee may circulate proposed changes to member-societies with the approval of the Executive Committee. "Should no more than one objection be received within a 60-day period, the change shall be deemed accepted and reported as such at the next conference," the Band Planning Committee's terms of

references state.

The IARU R2 Band Planning Committee has a member from each of the seven areas in Region 2, and one of those members also serves as the committee's chair. The current Committee Chair is [Alphonse Penney](#), VO1NO/VA1AVR. -- Thanks to IARU Region 2 Secretary George Gorsline, VE3YV



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.
 2nd Quarter April–June: \$5.00 off — 3rd Quarter July–September: \$10.00 off
 4th 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 th 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 _____ |

SCRA Dues: Individual \$20, Family \$30, Youth (under 18) \$15 (*see Pro-Rated Dues above)	\$ _____
Name Badge: \$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: \$ _____

HAM RADIO OUTLET

MULTI-STORE BUYING POWER!

ICOM



IC-9700
All Mode Tri-Band Transceiver



IC-7300
HF Transceiver



IC-7100
All Mode Transceiver



ID-5100A Deluxe
VHF/UHF Dual Band Digital Transceiver



IC-705
HF/50/144/430 MHz All Mode Transceiver

KENWOOD



TS-590SG
HF/50MHz Transceiver



TM-D710G
2M/440 Dualband



TM-V71A
2M/440 DualBand



TM-281A
2 Mtr Mobile



TH-D74A
2M/220/440 HT

YAESU
The radio



FT-991A
HF/VHF/UHF Transceiver



FT-891
HF+50 MHz All Mode Transceiver



FTM-300DR
C4FM/FM 144/430 MHz Dual Band



FTM-400XD
2M/440 Mobile



FT-70DR
C4FM/FM 144/430 Xcvr

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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 under the tab, Our Club. 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.

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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, shortskippeditor@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 shortskippeditor@gmail.com

