



SHORT SKIP



Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.

Club Station
W6LFJ

P.O. Box 116
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Repeater Station
WB6PVS


VOL 19 #4

APRIL 1994


DX visitor Jean DeClercq ON5SK told us all about DXing in Belgium at the February meeting.




Photo fax: Lorraine KD6KRW



FPA





**FLANDERS' PROVINCES
AWARD**

This certifies that radiostation :

 has worked the 5 flemish provinces.

Award number : SWL 0003 Date : 7 APR '89

AWARD MANAGER

© by ARAC 88



OFFICERS FOR 1994

PRESIDENT:	Merlyn Pfeiff	N6VUC	584-3898
VICE PRESIDENT:	R. L. Caron	KK6GP	875-2601
SECRETARY:	Alan Bloom	N1AL	538-7115
TREASURER:	Mike Michlig	KN6JQ	526-9655
MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:	Kelly Cureton	KD6CJQ	837-9434
	Marie Mappus	KI6QY	664-1978
REPEATER CHAIRMAN:	Jim Rutherford	WB6PER	526-2972
ACTIVITIES CHAIR:	Mike Knope	KD6LYU	762-3236

SHORT SKIP STAFF:

EDITOR:	Alan Bloom	N1AL (e)	538-7115
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HAM NEWS:	R.L. Caron	KK6GP	875-2601

BBS EDITORS: Pete Sourek KC6UXM, and Allan Chapman W6MEO
AUDIO TAPING: John Breckenridge WB6FRZ, Laurel Meyer KC6FKX, Bob Phillips N6RMW

Activities Committee:

Pub. Service: Maris Mappus KI6QY 664-1978
Pub. Relatns: Steve Carniglia KK6VY 579-9608
QSL Mgr: Bill Splaine N6GHG 431-8636
TVI/RFI: Al Bloom N1AL 538-7115
Antennas: Joe Senft KM6TN 578-5824
 John KM6LI, Shep NH6ZY, N1AL
Awards: Steve Lund WA8LLY 823-4544
VEC Exams: Dave New AA6YX 829-6608
 N1AL WX3K WW6D WB6FRZ
 AB6OL K6UXO AA6UY KC7VS
 KK6VY KK6XT WA8LLY

Education: Steve Carniglia KK6VY 579-9608
 N1AL WB6FRZ KC6RHA KK6VY
 WB6TMY K6XZ K6ZWB KC7VS

Refreshmnts at meetings: Bob Olsten WD6DPE

Raffle at meetings: Lynn Dickerson KD6TYL

Membership lottery: Pat Reynolds KD6TYJ

RACES RO: Jim Pelmulder N6PTM 823-7947

ARRL Liaison: Alan Bloom N1AL 538-7115

Badge Chair: Fred Leoni N6YEU 431-8202

Packet BBS: John WX3K and Jim KC6PJW

Repeater Control Op's:

WB6PER Jim 526-2972 N6PTM Jim 823-7947
 WD6CKP Hoppy 542-6750 N6VUC Merl 584-3898
 KD6CJQ Kelly 837-9434

Club Meetings:

7:30 PM, 1st Wednesday each month at the Hewlett Packard plant in Santa Rosa. (See map below.) All are welcome.

Next Meeting: April 6, 1994
Program: Homebrew Contest

ARE YOU NOT AN SCRA MEMBER?

If so, then this is a complimentary copy. Our club is involved with almost every area of Amateur Radio: Repeaters (13/73), Field Day, license classes (Novice through Extra), volunteer exams, RACES, DX programs, packet radio, hidden xmtr hunts -- you name it.

We invite you to attend our next monthly meeting (see below) or check into the Tuesday night SCARS net on the 146.13/73 repeater at 7PM. You will hear the latest Amateur Radio Newline broadcasts, announcements of SCRA activities and a Swap Shop. Membership in SCRA is open to anyone interested in Amateur Radio. If you would like to join, there is a membership application on page 11. Hope we can have an "eyeball" QSO with you at the next meeting! 73 ...

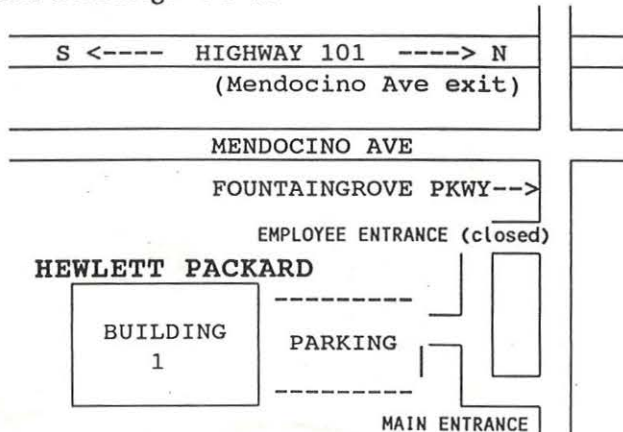
SHORT SKIP ADVERTISING RATES:

Business cards: \$10

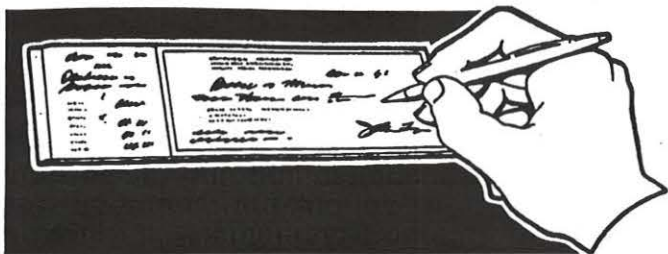
\$11 First 1/4 Column
 \$3 Additional 1/4 Columns
 (\$32 Full Page, 1 side)

Pre-printed inserts: \$32/sheet

Guaranteed circulation: 200/month
 AD DEADLINE: 10th of previous month



No More *Short Skip* !



This is your last issue of *Short Skip* if you haven't renewed! Check your mailing label: If it says "dues are due," then our records show you haven't paid yet. Please send your check to SCRA, POB 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402. Dues are \$12, or \$18 for family memberships. If you prefer to pay at a meeting, please wait until after the meeting is over so the Treasurer can enjoy the break along with everyone else.

Also, if your address, callsign or license class has changed, let us know so N1AL can update the roster. The application on page 11 is ideal for the purpose. ■

1994 West Coast VHF/UHF Convergence



April 29, 30 and May 1

Sheraton Cerritos Hotel, Town Center, 12725 Center Court Dr, Cerritos CA. Conference rate \$59 double occupancy, call (310) 809-1500.

Technical talks, vendor exhibits, noise figure measurements, antenna measurements, banquet, breakfast, awards, free parking.

No-Code Technician Class: by Loraine McCarthy N6C10, \$125, (714) 979-2633.

Registration \$15, \$25 banquet, \$12 breakfast, \$10 proceedings. Checks payable to Southern Calif Six Meter Club, POB 10441, Fullerton, CA 92635. Info: (714) 990-9203. ■

RENEW YOUR ARRL MEMBERSHIP THROUGH THE CLUB AND THE CLUB GETS TO KEEP \$2 (no expense to you). Make out your check to SCRA, and send it with your ARRL renewal form to SCRA, PO Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402 or give it to the Treasurer. ■

HOMEBREW CONTEST

APRIL MEETING!



All club members are invited to bring in their "pride and joy" projects for the annual SCRA Homebrew Contest, which will take place at our April meeting.

Here's your chance to see what your fellow hams have built up in their shacks and workshops, and to show others what kind of activities interest you.

This is a good time to find other club members with interests similar to yours. For this to work, though, you need to bring in *your* project.

You don't have to be building the next Space Shuttle to participate! Antennas, computer software, mechanical items, modified or improved gear, kits; in fact everything related to amateur radio is encouraged.

Photographs, printer listings, and QSL cards are all good to bring in, especially if your tower project is too big to move!

Remember, a clever weekender project often has more interest to other club members than a very specialized long-term effort, and it has just as good a chance in the contest.

So look around your station -- I bet there's something right now up on the shelf that would appeal to others. Bring it to the meeting! ■

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George Shedore
Manager
KS6W

6819 REDWOOD DRIVE
COTATI, CA 94931

PHONE: (707) 792-2277
FAX: (707) 792-0146

SCRA MINUTES

MARCH 2, 1994



The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM with Jim Pelmulder N6PTM presiding. Other officers present were Secretary Al Bloom N1AL and Member-at-Large Kelly Cureton KD6CJQ. All the others had good excuses for being absent.

UPGRADES: Congrats to KE6FSK for his new license, and to KB6SOU and KD6LTA for passing the Advanced.

The **MINUTES** were approved as published in *Short Skip* m/s K6ZWB/WD6DPE.

The **TREASURER'S REPORT** was given *in absentia* as Treasurer Mike KN6JQ had to leave for a family emergency. The January/February report, listing expenses of \$891 and income of \$856 was approved. m/s KD6WYF/KK6YZ

PUBLIC SERVICE: Kathy KC6UXJ reports that Marie KI6QY has many upcoming events and needs more volunteers. A sign-up sheet was passed around.

EDUCATION Chairman Steve KK6VY counted about 400 calls to the SCRA Information Hotline last month. The Hotline lists classes, exams and RACES/ARES info and allows messages to and from the SCRA Public Information Officer (Steve). If you know of any Amateur Radio news that should be reported to the media, give Steve a call. The hotline number is 579-9608.

Rick K6ZWB's antenna class wrapped up last night. There were 9 students total. We are running out of classroom space at the Spinal Cord Injury Network building -- 9 people were kind of cramped. If you have any ideas for classrooms, give Rick K6ZWB a call.

Marc KF6LN is giving a no-code Tech class starting next Monday. WD6DPE will be starting a 13 wpm code class on Wednesday nights (except club meeting nights). Bob would like some help -- John WB6FRZ volunteered.

NET CONTROL STATION for March will be Lou N6YMQ, with Kathy KC6UXJ alternate for the last week.

The **CLUB CAMPOUT** is May 21/22 at Sugarloaf park, off Hwy 12 near Kenwood. We'll have a potluck dinner Saturday night and a Sunday brunch for those who camp out overnight. Please RSVP Kathy KC6UXJ or Jim WB6PER for the dinner.

HANK'S SWAP SHOP has a new coordinator. Thanks to Dave KD6KWM for his outstanding job and thanks to Jim KD6WIS for offering to take over this big job.

A **NOVICE/TECH CLASS** by Jim Walden W6ESJ meets Fridays at the North Bay S&L in Healdsburg, according to Fred N6YEU. If interested call Jim at 431-1953. REDX is looking for Novices and Technicians for their Field Day operation.

PROGRAM: Darlene KD6GCK, a professional in the field of earthquake preparedness, was kind enough to give a very informative talk on the subject.

The **LOTTERY:**, administered by Jim KC6PJW, would have been won by Bob WA6HYE, had he been present.

The meeting adjourned at 9:54 PM. m/s W6TLK/KD6CJQ

Respectfully submitted by Al Bloom N1AL, Secretary. ■

Board Meeting Minutes

March 9, 1994

The meeting was called to order by Secretary Al Bloom N1AL at 5:53pm in the meeting room at the Northbay Savings Bank. Other officers present were Treasurer Mike Michlig KN6JQ, Activities Chairman Mike Knope KD6LYU, Repeater Chairman Jim Rutherford WB6PER and Member-at-Large Kelley Cureton KD6CJQ. Also present were SCRA members Jim Pelmulder N6PTM, Joe Senft KM6TN, Jim Hudson KD6WIS, Fred Leoni N6YEU and Rick Reiner K6ZWB.

FIELD DAY is June 25/26. Mike KD6LYU has talked with John WX3K about using the Coast Guard site again. Building 500 is still available, as is the new ham shack (near the entrance gate) and the lake area. The lake seems to be the best choice: it has picnic tables/chairs and hot showers. The normal \$125 fee can probably be waived. Mike will ask permission from the CG.

REPEATER: The batteries have been installed and successfully (although unintentionally!) run for 6 days of normal use. The unit will be re-wired to run off AC and to give a voice warning message when PG&E goes off the air.

TREASURER Mike KN6JQ thanked N6PTM for filling in at the last meeting. A copy of the Quicken spreadsheet program has been purchased so Mike can computerize the records.

BADGES have been mailed out by Fred N6YEU to eliminate a backlog that stretches back for several years. Cost of mailing materials and postage was about 50 cents each.

The new **SWAP SHOP** editor, Jim KD6WIS discussed the listing policy as printed in last month's minutes.

ANTENNA COMMITTEE Chairman Joe KM6TN has met with ARRL Volunteer Counsel Ken McTaggart N6KM to work on an antenna ordinance to submit to the Santa Rosa City Council. They will try to include two principles in the new law: that Amateur antennas be automatically allowed when mounted on existing structures and that antenna installations be reviewed by the Building Dept., rather than the Design Review Board.

CORRESPONDENCE reported by Al N1AL included letters to the ARRL Incoming QSL Bureau to change the address to the club PO box, ARRL annual club report form, and responses to letters requesting info on the club. Al reports that the HP meeting room is not available for the June meeting.

Al also gave WB6PER a photocopy of the WB6PVS license to post at the repeater site.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:38pm. m/s K6ZWB/N1AL ■



345 West College Ave, Santa Rosa, CA 95401 (707) 527-6000

STEVE BASHAM
Manager

Save the following two sheets to update your membership packet. ----->

Repeater Operating

If you are new to the 146.73 repeater, welcome! '73 has excellent coverage throughout the North Bay and is not overcrowded, especially outside rush hours.



Nobody is born knowing how to operate — it's an acquired skill. If your operating experience is mainly on HF or in another radio service, you will also have some operating procedures to *unlearn*! As a licensed Amateur, you have studied the FCC regulations in order to pass your test. However a good operator does more than the minimum necessary to be legal.

For example, the FCC only requires station *identification* once every 10 minutes and at the end of the communication. But it is good practice to ID at the *beginning* of a contact as well. Saying "Hey Bill, are you by?" and then talking without ID for 10 minutes may be legal, but it is considered poor practice.

It's also legal for *unlicensed third parties* (your kids, say) to talk over the radio, so long as you are there acting as control operator. But it's not a good idea for them to do the station ID, since listeners who know your voice and call might think something is amiss. Grab the mic every 10 minutes and do it yourself.

Different areas of the U.S. have different *operating practices*. Even within the Bay Area, each repeater has its own personality. To find out what procedures are common and accepted on a particular machine, there is no substitute for listening. If you are a repeater neophyte, spend a few days listening before you get on the air. That way, you'll sound like an old hand instead of a newcomer.

On HF, you call **CQ** to initiate a conversation. On repeaters, this is gauche. Simply give your callsign and some indication you would like to talk. Like: "Anybody around this morning? This is N1AL," or: "This is N1AL monitoring."

It's bad form to break into a contact unless you have something to add. Interrupting is no more polite on the air than it is in person. Note that the term "*break*" is reserved in many areas for emergencies. To join an ongoing QSO, just quickly state your callsign when one of the other stations stops transmitting.

If you want to call someone on an occupied frequency, first drop in your call as described above. When acknowledged, ask if you can make a quick call. Call your party and ask him to move to another frequency for your QSO. Don't forget to thank the other users for allowing the interruption.

Keep transmissions short and thoughtful. Your monologue may prevent an emergency call from getting through. The repeater has a 2-minute timeout timer. If you talk for longer than that, the repeater will "time out" (go off the air) until you let go of the mic button. It can be quite embarrassing!

Pause briefly before each transmission to give others a chance to break in. Wait for the repeater's courtesy tone (beep) before you key up. This is necessary anyway to reset the timeout timer.

If you plan to have a long conversation with someone close by, consider using a *simplex* frequency. There is no need to tie up the repeater to talk across town.

The WB6PVS repeater was purchased by the county mainly for *emergency communications*. *Always* relinquish the frequency immediately if there is an emergency call, even if you're not sure it is valid. Also, repeaters are intended primarily to facilitate mobile operation. During the commuter rush hours, base stations should relinquish the repeater to mobile stations.

"*Kerchunking*" is keying the repeater without ID. Besides being illegal, it is bad practice. If you want to see if your radio is working, you can ID like this: "This is N1AL testing."

Our repeater has not had a big problem with *jammers*, but it does happen occasionally. If you hear intentional interference, unidentified transmissions or obscenity, simply *ignore it*. Do not threaten the jammer or try to engage him in conversation. Exhibitionists crave attention. If ignored, they usually go away.

The *autopatch* is available for calls within Sonoma County. Do not use it to avoid toll charges or where regular telephone service is available. It is best not to use the autopatch to call businesses. Even if the call is not business-related, it can give that appearance. Also, if you get put on "hold," background music may go out over the air.

(continued page 11)

Emergency Communications

Amateur Radio has two national emergency communications organizations, ARES and RACES. In Sonoma County, ARES and RACES work hand in hand.

ARES, the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, was founded by the ARRL in 1935. While ARES has no affiliation with government, it does work closely with both government and private agencies to provide communications in time of disaster. For example, the American Red Cross is a prime user of Amateur emergency communications.

The local ARES leaders are the Emergency Coordinators. There are 8 ECs in the County. A District Emergency Coordinator oversees RACES operations throughout Sonoma County. Above him is the Section Emergency Coordinator for the San Francisco section, who is appointed by the Section Manager, an elected ARRL official.

In Sonoma County, RACES is the primary Amateur emergency organization. RACES, the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service, was formed in the 1950's as part of Civil Defense, the program designed to protect the population from nuclear attack. Nowadays, civil defense is mostly concerned with natural disasters. It is overseen by FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Strictly speaking, RACES is not part of the regular Amateur Radio Service. RACES operators must not only have an Amateur license, but must be appointed by the local civil defense organization, in our case the Sonoma County Office of Emergency Services. RACES regulations are covered in Subpart E of part 97, the Amateur FCC regulations.

The head of RACES is the Chief Radio Officer, appointed by the Sonoma County Director of Emergency Services. The County is divided into eight areas, each headed by an Area Coordinator appointed by the Chief Radio Officer.

Currently RACES and ARES leadership is the same. The RACES Chief Radio Officer is also the ARES District Emergency Coordinator, and the RACES Area Coordinators are ECs. Following are the eight areas with their local tactical net frequencies:

Santa Rosa	147.42/s	Rohnert Park	147.12/r
NorthCounty	146.43/s	Sonoma City	146.205/r
Sebastopol	146.49/s	North Coast	147.825/r
Petaluma	146.91/r	Russian Rvr	147.54/s

The 146.73 MHz repeater on Sonoma Mt. was purchased by the County for emergency communications purposes. SCRA bought the microprocessor-based controller, autopatch and battery backup power system. The club also provides the FCC license and NARC sanction and has responsibility for proper on-the-air operation.

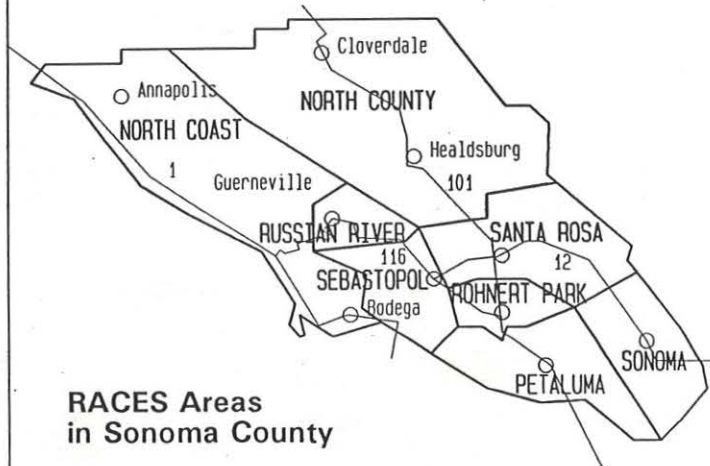


Training

Past emergencies have shown time and time again that there is just no substitute for proper training. Untrained individuals often do more harm than good in time of natural disaster. 70% of California's firefighters are volunteers. If your house is on fire, you expect these volunteers to know their job and do it right. In a communications emergency, people will expect no less of you.

The first rule in an emergency is: **DO NOT TRANSMIT** on an emergency channel unless you are called by the net control station or you are absolutely sure that your transmission is necessary. With proper prior training, you will know what to do and where to go without having to ask on the air.

RACES runs a training net every Monday at 7 PM on the 146.73 repeater and local tactical net frequencies. There are also usually at least two drills per year. If you would like to participate, check into a RACES net or contact your Area Coordinator.



RACES Areas in Sonoma County

Personnel

OFFICERS FOR 1994:

President:	Merlyn Pfeiff N6VUC	584-3898
Vice President:	R. L. Caron KK6GP	875-2601
Secretary:	Alan Bloom N1AL	538-7115
Treasurer:	Mike Michlig KN6JQ	526-9655
Members-at-large:	Kelly Cureton KD6CJQ	837-9434
	Marie Mappus KI6QY	664-1978
Repeater Chairman:	Jim Rutherford WB6PER	526-2972
Activities Chairman:	Mike Knope KD6LYU	762-3236

SHORT SKIP STAFF:

Editor:	Alan Bloom N1AL 1578 Los Alamos Rd, Santa Rosa, 95409	538-7115 (e) 577-3981 (d)
Circulation Manager:	June Linnehan KD6LSU	
Swap Shop Column:	Jim Hudson KD6WIS	584-3423
Ham News Column:	R. L. Caron KK6GP	875-2601
BBS Editors:	Pete Sourek KC6UXM and Allan Chapman W6MEO	
Audio Taping:	John Breckenridge WB6FRZ, Laurel Meyer KC6FKX, Bob Phillips N6RMW	

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Pub. Service:	Maris Mappus KI6QY	664-1978
Pub. Relatns:	Steve Carniglia KK6VY	579-9608
QSL Mgr:	Bill Splaine N6GHG	431-8636
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Antennas:	Joe Senft KM6TN + John KM6LI, Shep NH6ZY, Al N1AL	578-5824
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Refreshmnts at meetings:	Bob Olsten WD6DPE	
Raffle at meetings:	Lynn Dickerson KD6TYL	
Membership lottery:	Pat Reynolds KD6TYJ	
ARRL Liason	Al Bloom N1AL	538-7115
Packet BBS:	John Zantek WX3K and Jim Andrews KC6PJW	
Badge Chairman:	Fred Leoni N6YEU	431-8202

REPEATER CONTROL OP'S:

Jim Rutherford WB6PER	526-2972
Kelly Cureton KD6CJQ	837-9434
Hoppy Bravin WD6CKP	542-6750
Jim Pelmulder N6PTM	823-7947
Merlyn Pfeiff N6VUC	584-3898

SCRA Information Hotline	(Classes, exams, RACES, etc)	579-9608
SCRA Packet Bulletin Board	(145.09 Landline port)	765-7016
Sonoma Co. Director of Emergency Services Dan Nicholas		
Sonoma County RACES Radio Officer	Jim Pelmulder N6PTM	823-7947
North Coast Area Coordinator	Bob Sears AA6VS	785-3523
North County Area Coordinator	Jim Walden W6ESJ	431-1953
Petaluma Area Coordinator	Bob Scolnick K6GEV	762-8874
Rohnert Park/Cotati Area Coordinator	Mike Weihman N1DJE	795-1756
Russian River Area Coordinator	Alan Judd N6VUD	869-0600
Santa Rosa Area Coordinator	Bob Olsten WD6DPE	546-5593
W. County/Sebastopol Area Coordinator	John Gauger KK6XT	829-2599
Sonoma (City) Area Coordinator	Eran Glago KD6KVO	996-8933
OES-1 (Communications trailer)	Steve Carniglia KK6VY	573-3507
CDF-VIP Secretary	Marie Mappus KI6QY	664-1978
ARRL Section Manager	John Wallack W6TLK	833-1873
	POB 1115, Kenwood, CA 95452	
ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator	Dale Westerterp WB6TMS	762-9414
ARRL Section Technical Coordinator	Alan Bloom N1AL	538-7115
W6LFJ club station trustee	Steve Schaeffer KD6GC	
WB6PVS repeater station trustee	Alan Bloom N1AL	

Contacts For Other Local Clubs:

Anchor Bay Amateur Radio Club	Floyd WA6HGH, President POB 169, Gualala, CA 95445-0169
Marin Amateur Radio Club	Ron Stempek AB6QP 892-4586 POB 151231, San Rafael, CA 94915-1231
Redwood Empire DX Association	Steve Lund WA8LLY 823-4544 (after 7 PM) POB 476, Graton, CA 95444
Sonoma Mountain Repeater Society	Dale Westerterp WB6TMS 762-9414 POB 176, Petaluma, CA 94953-0176
Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club	Chuck Byerly KN6PD, President 939-9430 175 First St West, Sonoma, CA 95476
Willits Amateur Radio Club	Lee Gwinn WA6KLLK, President POB 73, Willits, CA 95490
RAIN newsletter (5 Humboldt Co. clubs)	Clem Cantu WA6TVQ, Editor 1980 Flora Place, Eureka, CA 95501-2709



Other Local Ham Clubs

In addition to SCRA, there are several other Amateur Radio clubs in the local area. The contact person for each organization is listed in the "Personnel" section of this booklet.

Anchor Bay Amateur Radio Club

Anchor Bay is on highway 1, just over the county line in Mendocino County. Meetings are the second Monday of the month, 11 AM at the Sea Ranch Ohlson Ranch Center. They also have a weekly 9:30 AM coffee klatch Mondays at Captain's Quarters restaurant. Their monthly 2-4 page newsletter is called *The Wavelength*. ABARC is heavily involved in RACES -- their remote area could easily become isolated in a natural disaster.

Marin Amateur Radio Club

The Marin club was founded August 11, 1933 (even older than SCRA!) Meetings are the first Friday of the month, 8 PM at Hamilton Field, Bldg. 549. They also have an informal meeting every Sunday at 8AM at the Red Cross Bldg, 5th St, San Rafael. An emergency net meets every Sunday morning on 3915 kHz and on the 146.70 MHz repeater. They publish a very nice 5-page newsletter called *QSA-5*. MARC is one of the few clubs around with their own clubhouse.

Redwood Empire DX Association

REDX is devoted to contesting and working rare foreign (DX) stations on the HF bands. We have an annual informal competition with them every Field Day, which REDX usually wins. Monthly meetings are at 7 PM, the third Wednesday of the month at various local restaurants, such as Carrows at McDowell and E. Washington in Petaluma.

Sonoma Mountain Repeater Society

This is an informal group of users of the 146.91 MHz repeater. While there is an occasional newsletter, there is no monthly meeting or annual dues.

Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club

This is a small, close-knit club in the Sonoma Valley area. Meetings are 7:30 PM, the third Wednesday of the month at the Sonoma Police Dept, 175 First St W. They also have frequent club breakfasts and a very active RACES program. The 4-5 page newsletter is chock full of club and RACES news.

Willits Amateur Radio Club

This is a fairly new club which started up with the assistance of SCRA member Don Osborn WA6ACX. While small, WARS is very active. The well-done newsletter is typically 8 pages long. Meetings are 7 PM, the fourth Monday of the month at Brooktrails Firehouse, and there's a weekly Coffee Klatch Tuesdays at 9:30 AM at Perko's restaurant.

Humboldt Amateur Radio Club Far West Repeater Association Southern Humboldt Amateur Radio Club Redwood Amateur Radio Club CAL-OR Packet Association

These Humboldt County clubs publish a joint 8-page newsletter, *Radio Amateur Information and News*, under the auspices of HARC. ■

Addresses:

American Radio Relay League
225 Main St.
Newington, CT 06111
(203) 666-1541



ARRL Incoming QSL Bureau:
ARRL Sixth District DX QSL Bureau
PO Box 1460
Sun Valley, CA 91352

Calif. Dept. of Forestry and Fire Protection
Sonoma Ranger Unit
2210 West College Ave.
Santa Rosa, CA
576-2285

Federal Communications Commission:

FCC Field Office:
3777 Depot Rd., Suite 420
Taylor, CA 94545-2756
(510) 732-9046

FCC Licensing Bureau:
POB 1020
Gettysburg, PA 17326

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.
POB 116
Santa Rosa, CA 95402 ■

Packet Bulletin Boards



Jim Andrews KC6PJW

There are two Packet Bulletin Board systems in the county: WX3K on 145.09 and KC6PJW on 145.73. Both systems use standard 1200 baud access. Simply connect to WX3K or KC6PJW — If you are a new user, the system will ask some basic questions (what's your name, etc.) and log you in.

If you cannot access either system directly, you can connect via a node on Sonoma Mt. called SONOMA: First connect to SONOMA, then type "C WX3K" or "C KC6PJW". Even though WX3K is on 145.09, the SONOMA node links to the BBS on another frequency. For other commands on the node, type a "?" for help. While going through the node can sometimes make it easier, please try to set up your packet system so that you can access one of the boards directly (less impact on the frequencies needed to operate).

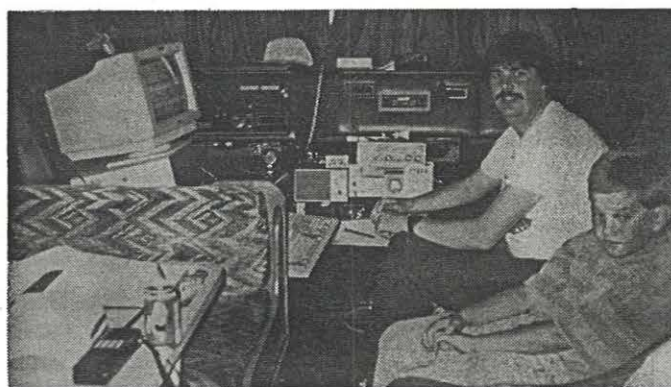
These systems are full-service packet bulletin boards, with automatic message and bulletin forwarding. Many hams outside of the US use packet also, and CQ's are sent from time to time, to make new friends. Bulletins include satellite tracking data, for-sale items, ARRL bulletins and much more. You can also communicate with your other ham friends who are on packet, all around the world!

Both bulletin boards include callsign databases (US and Canada) accessed by the CB or QTH commands. The QTH command will even let you look up a person by name, in case you forgot their call. The CB command will tell you if the system knows their home BBS. A *home BBS* is the one you call "home": where you want messages for you sent. You should pick one home BBS, as "hopping" around can confuse the message-forwarding system.

The bulletin boards have other features as well: Satellite tracking, files for downloading, all kinds of things to do! For basic help, type a "?" while on the system. For help on all of the commands, type "? h". There is even a user manual online that you can download (mail the sypop, and he'll tell you how).

If you can't get into KC6PJW, WX3K or SONOMA node, then try the KJ6FY-1 BBS on 144.93 in Benecia. If you live up north (towards Willits) try the K7WWA BBS on 145.79. If you can't connect to K7WWA direct, try the node MENDO (it works the same as SONOMA above). Users of the 145.13 voice repeater can give you help if you need it.

The county RACES mailboxes have ports on 144.91 and 223.66 MHz. Just connect to JAKBB (Mt. Jackson) or SONBB (Sonoma Mt.) on either frequency. While not full-service auto-forwarding BBS's, they are useful for disseminating local RACES information, both in normal times and during emergencies. ■



1991 Field Day packet station. KC6PJW and WA6SEU's son Justin. (Photo: KB6PTA)

2 Meter Packet Band Plan:

144.91	Keyboard to Keyboard
144.93	Local Area Networks (BBS)
144.95	DX Packet Cluster
144.97	Local Area Networks (BBS)
144.99	Local Area Networks (BBS)
145.01	Keyboard to Keyboard
145.03	Keyboard to Keyboard
145.05	Keyboard to Keyboard
145.07	Local Area Networks (BBS)
145.09	Local Area Networks (BBS)
145.71	9600 bps
145.73	Local Area Networks (BBS)
145.75	TCP/IP
145.77	DX Packet Cluster
145.79	Local Area Networks (BBS)
146.58	DX Packet Cluster.

US Frequency Allocations (Below 30 MHz)

by Bill McFadden [Downloaded from Usenet]

AMATEUR PHONE BANDS

1800 - 2000	160 Meters
3750 - 4000	75 Meters
7150 - 7300	40 Meters
14150 - 14350	20 Meters
18068 - 18110	17 Meters
21200 - 21450	15 Meters
24930 - 24990	12 Meters
28300 - 29700	10 Meters

AMATEUR CW BANDS

1800 - 2000	160 Meters
3500 - 3750	80 Meters
7000 - 7150	40 Meters
10100 - 10150	30 Meters
14000 - 14150	20 Meters
18110 - 18168	17 Meters
21000 - 21200	15 Meters
24890 - 24930	12 Meters
28000 - 28300	10 Meters

SHORTWAVE BROADCAST BANDS

2300 - 2495	120 Meters
3200 - 3400	90 Meters
3900 - 4000	75 Meters
4750 - 5060	60 Meters
5950 - 6200	49 Meters
7100 - 7300	41 Meters
9500 - 9900	31 Meters
11650 - 12050	25 Meters
13600 - 13800	22 Meters
15100 - 15600	19 Meters
17550 - 17900	16 Meters
21450 - 21850	13 Meters
25600 - 26100	11 Meters

FIXED SERVICE BANDS

1705 - 1800	12050 - 12330
2107 - 2170	13360 - 13600
2194 - 2300	13800 - 14000
2505 - 2850	14350 - 14995
3155 - 3200	15600 - 16460
4000 - 4063	17360 - 17550
4438 - 4650	18030 - 18780
5005 - 5450	18900 - 19680
5730 - 5950	19800 - 21000
6765 - 7000	22720 - 23200
7300 - 8195	23350 - 24990
9040 - 9500	26950 - 26960
9775 - 9995	29800 - 29890
10100 - 11175	29910 - 30000
11400 - 11650	

MARINE BANDS

2000 - 2107
4063 - 4438
6200 - 6525
8195 - 8815
12330 - 13200
16460 - 17360
18780 - 18900
19680 - 19800
22000 - 22720

AIRCRAFT BANDS

2850 - 3155
3400 - 3500
4650 - 4750
5450 - 5730
6525 - 6765
8815 - 9040
10005 - 10100
11175 - 11400
13200 - 13360
15010 - 15100
17900 - 18030

TIME BANDS

2495 - 2505
4000 - 4000
5000 - 5000
7335 - 7335
8000 - 8000
10000 - 10000
15000 - 15000
20000 - 20000
25000 - 25000

GOVERNMENT BANDS

25330 - 25600
26480 - 26950
27540 - 28000
29890 - 29910

OTHER BANDS

535 - 1705	AM Broadcast
2170 - 2194	Land Mobile
25010 - 25330	Petroleum Industry
21600 - 26480	Land Mobile
26960 - 27410	Citizens' Band
27410 - 27540	Land Mobile
29700 - 29800	Forestry Service

Repeater Operating (from page 2)

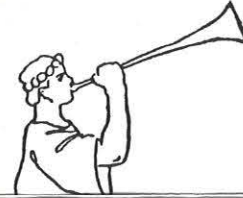
In its 1993 rewrite of section 97.113 of the Amateur rules, the FCC relaxed restrictions on *business communications*. While it is now legal to order a pizza on the autopatch, SCRA policy is that such communications are better conducted by telephone.

Cross-band radios are now available that can retransmit signals from one band to another. If the retransmission occurs automatically, then legally the radio is a repeater, which kicks in a separate set of FCC regulations. Check out section 97.205 to be sure you are legal.

There are many acceptable ways to operate VHF repeaters, so don't worry too much if you don't conform exactly to these guidelines. However, if you follow the suggestions in the areas covered above, and use common sense for the rest, you'll not only be a good neighbor to other repeater users, but you'll facilitate your own enjoyment of ham radio as well. ■



SCRAPS:
SCRA Public
Service



COMING
EVENTS:

SCARS NET: 146.73 MHz



HANK'S SWAP SHOP

Jim Hudson KD6WIS 1435 Keiser Ave
Phone: 584-3423 Santa Rosa CA 95404
Noncommercial ham ads printed free. Please
call when item is sold. Ads run 2 months.

WANT: A no-frills CW bug. KC6IRO George
874-2713.

COPPER J-POLE for 2m and 440 MHz \$25.
KENWOOD R1000 receiver USB/LSB/CW,
\$500 or trade. Lynn KD6TYL 526-3778.

HIGAIN HF ANT 80 thru 10m \$75. Sal
KC6WTO 539-4661.

WANT 6AH6 tube. Adam KD6POC 573-0277.

BATTERIES for Yaesu 470, 7.5V and 12V,
both for \$110. Ron KD6CJM 527-7353.

FT270 dual-band 2m/440 MHz HT \$250.
LEADER LBO-505 dual-trace oscilloscope,
good to 15 MHz \$150. **WANT:** Ceramic knife
switch and ham magazine back issues - willing
to trade duplicates. Dean KD6PJY 544-8124.

WANT: 2M AMP, 100W or better. Jim
KD6WIS 584-3423.

WANT: KENWOOD SP230 acc. speaker or
similar. Don KD6ZVG 823-0541.

COAX SWITCH, hi-power, 6-pos, 2 ganged
together \$50. Mike KD6ZZD 545-7520.

AEA ISOPOLE 144, used \$30. **AEA ISOLOOP,**
old model w/cable & controller \$175. Bill
N6GHG 431-8636.

WANT: ICOM IC-3AT handheld. **TRADE:**
MFJ1702B new model for older 1702B.
WANT: MARINE RADIO for conv to ham
bands. Garry N6ONZ 584-3425.

Continued page 15)

PLEASE DO NOT DELAY
DATED MATERIAL:

MICHAEL P VONDER PORTEN
KD6ZZD
1815 MANOR DR
SANTA ROSA, CA 95403

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED