

CLUB STATION
K6SON

Short Skip

The Newsletter of

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.

P.O. Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402-0116 707-579-9608

<http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com>

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REPEATER STATION
W6SON

Volume 39, Number 11

November 2014



November SCRA Update

by Pat Coyle, KG6JSL
SCRA President

The November meeting is the Club's official Annual Meeting. This month we will have election of officers and directors,

as well as setting annual dues, for the next year. This important meeting will set the tone of the Club for the coming year and all members should attend this meeting.

The Nominating Committee has recruited an outstanding slate of candidates as set forth in this edition of Short Skip. In addition, nominations will be sought from the membership at the meeting. I am extremely gratified that so many members were willing to volunteer to serve the Club as an Officer or Director and they all deserve your consideration for office. Following the election Brian, N6IYY, will have his annual game show contest which is always fun, challenging, informative and entertaining.

Also up for consideration are annual dues. The Board of Directors has recommended a reduction in annual dues on which the membership must vote.

But Wait!! There's more happening at SCRA.

Darryl, KI6MSP, and his crew will be manning a radio booth at the North Bay Science Fair on November 1. The Club will demonstrate radio and radio astronomy at this gathering of techno-geeks.

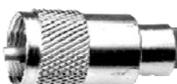
Jeff, KI6PBF, will be presenting the last study class for the Technician Class license on the weekend of November 7-9. This series of classes over the year has been a real success in bringing more hams into the hobby.

Brian, N6IYY, will have an "all classes" Volunteer Exam session on Saturday, November 22. Anyone thinking about upgrading their license should start studying now to prepare for that examination.

Upcoming in December is our annual Holiday Party on December 3. Besides food and drink we will have a photo review of the year, awards, raffles and prizes. Make plans now to attend on the evening of December 3.

And here's wishing all a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving.

Pat, KG6JSL



2014 Club Officers

President	Patrick Coyle coylaw@sonic.net	KG6JSL
Vice President	John Felton	KE5RI
Treasurer	Mike Von der Porten	AD6YB
Secretary	Dave Harrison	W6IBC
Director	Doug Payne Jeff Tonelli	KF6LMB KI6PBF
Past President	Charlie Sikes	KZ6T

Committee Lineup/Contacts

Activities	Darryl Paule, KI6MSP	ki6msp@arrl.net
ARES Liaison	Charlie Sikes, KZ6T	kz6t@arrl.net
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SCRA Web site	http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com

Tuesday Night Net

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

Short Skip Advertising Rates

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

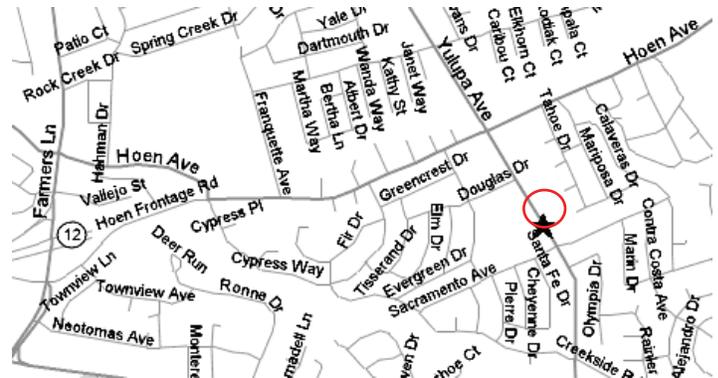
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SCRA Club Meetings

The club normally meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm. Exceptions are holidays or other big events.

Meeting location:
Luther Burbank Art & Garden Center
2050 Yulupa Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA



All are welcome!

Please join us at our next meeting. Anyone interested in Amateur Radio may be eligible for membership. A membership application is included in this newsletter. For more information, contact any SCRA officer, director or member.

Hungry before the meeting?

Join us for dinner! We Meet at IHOP restaurant, 4th and Famers Lane, Santa Rosa.
People start showing up at 5:15 PM.
No RSVP is required.

See you there every month except December.

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>



Annual Meeting

The November meeting will be the Club's official Annual Meeting as required by the By-Laws. The two mandatory items for consideration by the Membership will be the election of Officers and Directors, and setting of membership dues for the next year.

All Officer and Director positions are up for election and we have a good slate of candidates as set forth in the Sample Ballot. All are worthy of your consideration. However, the membership is not limited to the candidates listed on the ballot. There will be an opportunity for anyone to make additional nominations at the meeting. Each candidate will be given an opportunity to present their views to the membership.

The election will be held after the usual introductions as will consideration of dues. The Board of Directors has recommended a reduction in annual dues to \$30.00 for family membership; \$20 for member/associate membership; and, \$15 for student under 18 membership. Brian, N6IYY, will have his usual fun and entertaining "game show."

This is an important meeting that will set the direction of the Club for the coming year and all are urged to attend.

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs Sample Ballot - 2014

All terms are for one year.

For the office of President:

Vote for One

Pat Coyle, KG6JSL, Incumbent.....

Write in: _____

For the office of Vice President:

Vote for One

Brian Torr, N6IYY

Dan Ethen, WA6CRB.....

Write in: _____

For the office of Treasurer:

Vote for One

Mike Van der Porten, AD6YB, Incumbent

Write in: _____

For the office of Secretary:

Vote for One

Iola Beckley, KK6HRE.....

Write in: _____

For the office of Director:

Vote for two

Jeff Tonelli, KI6PBF, Incumbent

Jim Draeger, KI6REK.....

Joe Fortuna, K6AWA.....

Dave Krabill, KI6UGB

Sutter Laird, KI6ZON

Write in: _____





Contest Corner

By Kevin Alt, K6BSG

Hello testers. November is Sweepstakes month. By the time you read this, the CW portion has probably already been held, but there is still the Phone portion 15-17 November. Couple of other interesting DX contests like the Japan International DX contest, so plenty to keep you busy through Thanksgiving. Happy DX'ing!

1-2 Nov – **IPA Contest** – CW/SSB, 80-10 meters. See: www.iparc.de.

1-2 Nov – **Ukrainian DX Contest** – CW/SSB, 160-10 meters. See: urdx.org.

1-2 Nov – **Himalayan Contest** – CW/SSB, 80-10 meters. See: www.arsi.info/contests/himalayan.

1-2 Nov – **Radio Club of America QSO Party** – SSB, 80-15 meters. See: www.radioclubofamerica.org.

1-3 Nov – **ARRL November Sweepstakes** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.arrl.org/contests.

1-3 Nov – **Collegiate ARC Championship** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.collegiatechampionship.org.

2 Nov – **DARC 10-Meter Digital "Corona"** – Digital, 10 meters. See: www.darc.de/referate/ukw-funksport.

3 Nov – **OK1WC Memorial Contest** – SSB/CW, 80-40 meters. See: www.memorial-ok1wc.cz.

4 Nov – **ARS Spartan Sprint** – CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.arsqrp.blogspot.com.

6 Nov – **CWops Weekly Mini-CWT Tests** – 160-10 meters. See: www.cwops.org/cwt.html.

7 Nov – **NS Weekly RTTY Sprint** – 80-20 meters. See: www.ncccsprint.com.

7 Nov – **NS Weekly CW Sprint** – 160-20 meters. See: www.ncccsprint.com.

8-9 Nov – **Worked All Europe DX Contest** – Digital, 80-10 meters. See: www.waedc.de.

8-9 Nov – **ARRL EME Contest** – All modes, 6 meters – 23 cm. See: www.arrl.org/contests.

8-9 Nov – **10-10 Fall Digital QSO Party** – 10 meters. See: www.ten-ten.org.

8-9 Nov – **Japan International DX Contest** – SSB, 80-10 meters. See: jidx.org.

8-9 Nov – **OK-OM DX Contest** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: okomdx.crk.cz.

8-9 Nov – **Straight Key Weekend Sprintathon** – CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.skccgroup.com.

8-9 Nov – **Kentucky QSO Party** – All modes, 160-6 meters. See: www.wkdx.com.

8-10 Nov – **CQ WE (Western Electric)** – All modes, 160 meters – 70 cm. See: cqwe.cboh.org.

15 Nov – **Feld-Hell Turkey Shoot Sprint** – Digital, 80-10 meters. See: www.feldhellclub.org.

15-16 Nov – **LZ DX Contest** – SSB/CW, 80-10 meters. See: lzdx.bfra.org.

15-16 Nov – **Russian WW Multi-Mode Contest** – All modes, 160-10 meters. See: www.rdclub.ru.

15-16 Nov – **All Austria 160 Meter Contest** – CW, 160 meters. See: www.oevsv.at.

15-16 Nov – **RSGB Second 1.8 MHz Contest** – CW, 160 meters. See: www.rsgbcc.org.

15-17 Nov – **ARRL November Sweepstakes** – SSB, 80-10 meters. See: www.arrl.org/contests.

15-17 Nov – **Collegiate ARC Championship** – SSB, 160-10 meters. See: www.collegiatechampionship.org.

16 Nov – **ARS HF Contest** – All modes, 160-10 meters. See: www.arsitalia.it.

16 Nov – **Homebrew and Oldtime Contest** – CW, 80-40 meters. See: www.qrpcc.de/contestrules/hotr.html.

Continued on next page.





On DX'ing

The bands seem to be full of operators, some new, some old, who don't understand or follow the "DX Code of Conduct". Some truly don't know. Some truly don't care. They belong to the "me first" mentality. There is and always has been, huge competition in pile ups. There are ways of getting through them. There are timing and frequency techniques THAT WORK. (You don't need 2000k).

Along with the unwillingness to "hang in there", and try and try, comes the frustration factor. Unfortunately many of my generation want the instant gratification. DQRM (Deliberate interference) is on the rise. Some are delighted by the attention they get by the "band cops" and others. I call THEM the pigs. You never engage with a pig. He enjoys the attention, and you both wallow in the mud.

The second group feel if they can't get through, they are somewhat inadequate. So if they can't get through, they won't let anyone else.

Others are enjoying a nice rag chew, when a DX station shows up on the frequency they are talking on. So they get mad, and rather than move, they get "even". (Remember when we were taught to announce "is the frequency in use" and then LISTEN CAREFULLY? Then repeat twice more?)

Other DX stations sometimes can't hear the domestic QSO in progress. Because of LOCATION and ANTENNAS, we all don't hear equally.

The "HAM CRAM" One Day Wonders don't help. Once you get your license you need to practice and continue to learn. The license just opens the door. It doesn't prepare you to operate. I had one "One Day Wonder" (Actually "3 days"-Technician-General-Extra) tell me he had the PERFECT ANTENNA. When I asked him how he knew it was perfect, he said the SWR was 1:1! I asked him if he had ever heard of a dummy load? He admitted he didn't. I told him it too had a SWR of 1:1, but didn't radiate past his front door. This also means WE need to Mentor. I have 2 hams I am mentoring now, and in turn, I am asking questions of some of the more experienced people. It is, and should be a continuing learning experience.

Sometimes the DX station causes the problem. Since they set the rules, they MUST follow them! Whether they are running split, working continents, working "by the numbers", they must follow the pattern they set, or else announce the change. You can't be working 5's in USA, and take a Europe call, just because they are loud. On splits: SSB 5-10 up (or down) is fine. I found one yahoo working SSB up 5-25, effectively tying up 20khz of spectrum + the 3kz he was calling on???

Please occasionally announce your call. AND PLEASE say QRZ after EACH successful QSO. Or else we don't know if we should call, and risk QRM'ing the reporting station.

Finally, I want to thank the hams that have helped me. I am sorry for all the hair you pulled out while helping me. Red KF6D(sk), Gary W6GWJ (sk), Hank W6DTV(sk), Bob W6BNB(sk), Chuck N6OJ, Ron N6IE, Al K6RIM, and Len K6ANP (who taught me to LISTEN, LISTEN, then LISTEN SOME MORE!)

73

Rick Sealock N6GY

Contest Corner, continued

17 Nov – **Run For the Bacon** – CW, 160-10 meters.
See: www.fpqrp.org.

20 Nov – **NAQCC Monthly QRP Sprint** – CW, 80-20 meters. See: naqcc.info.

26 Nov – **SKCC Straight Key Sprint** – CW, 160-6 meters. See: www.skccgroup.com.

27 Nov – **Top Band Sprint** – SSB/CW, 160 meters.
See: www.qrparci.org/contests.

29 Nov – **Full Day of Hell** – Digital, 160-10 meters.
See: www.feldhellclub.org.

29-30 Nov – **CQ World Wide CW Contest** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.cqww.com.



Jamboree on the Air

We did it again! I'm happy to say that another World Scout Jamboree On The Air or JOTA is behind us now. With the help of many Ham Radio operators and SCRA members, it was another successful event. The weather was perfect. Set up went well. The radio stations were up and operating as scheduled, good thing too because the Scouts started arriving at 08:45. Final count, just under 30 Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts showed up to get on the air. We made contacts in at least 6 different countries and 6 different US states, and 6 of the Scouts earned their Radio Merit Badges. All of them had a good time.

I wanted to say thank you to all who helped. I know that we all enjoy sharing our radio hobby with other people, especially this youngest generation of future Hams. Leslie Mitchell, G3BHK, the founder of JOTA as we in the Scouting community would say has Gone Home or is now a Silent Key. With his vision and your help, we've helped to inspired millions and millions of boys and girls for nearly 6 decades. That makes me want to celebrate and stand a little bit taller.

John KG6PEP

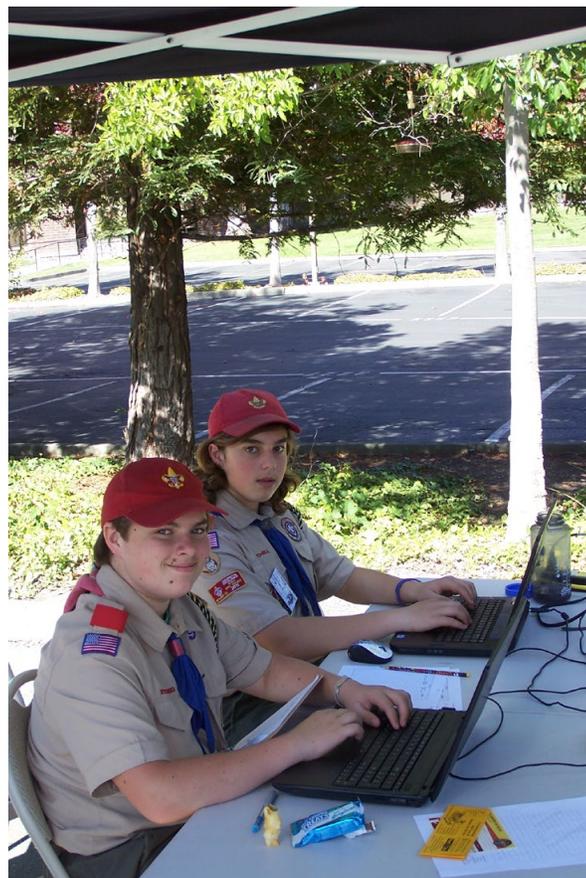
73





More JOTA Photos

From Sutter Laird KI6ZON





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ID-51A VHF/UHF Dual Band Transceiver

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IC-7600 All Mode Transceiver

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



IC-V8000 2M Mobile Transceiver

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

Analog + Digital Dual Bander D-STAR

ID-880H

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



YAESU
The radio



FTDX-3000 100W HF + 6M Transceiver

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



FT-7900R 2M/440 Mobile

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

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



FT-450D 100W HF + 6M Transceiver

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



FT-857D Ultra Compact HF/VHF/UHF

- 100w HF/6M, 50W 2M, 20W UHF • DSP included
- 32 color display • 200 mems • Detachable front panel (YSK-857 required)

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Dues & Fees: January 1 to December 31

Individual / Associate Member	\$24 (\$6.00/qtr)
Family Membership	\$36 (\$9.00/qtr)
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Badge	\$10

Payment Calculations: Make checks payable to SCRA

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