

CLUB STATION
K6SON

Short Skip

The Newsletter of

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.

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

<http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com>

Repeaters:

English Hill: 147.315+ 88.5 / 224.480- 88.5 /
441.375+ 88.5



REPEATER STATION
W6SON

Volume 42, Number 5

May 2017

AMATEUR RADIO INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION CONTACT



Brook Haven Middle School of Sebastopol made radio contact with the Amateur Radio International Space Station. More information at this month's General meeting presentation.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE MAY 2017**Slight Change in Meeting Agenda:**

At the last SCRA Board of Director's meeting a discussion was held regarding the agenda for the Membership Meeting. Vice President Joe Fortuna K6AWA expressed his concern that the majority of members attending the meetings do not get the announcements that come during and following the business portion of the meeting because after the program we lose about ¼ or more of the attendees. The board members decided to switch the agenda items around a little bit to accommodate the members who cannot, or do not want to stay for the business meeting. There were mixed emotions but a consensus was agreed upon and the following temporary plan will be implemented at the May 3rd meeting: The 'social hour' will still start at 6:30 with refreshments; the meeting will start at 7PM with introductions, announcements, and the program. Following the program we will have a ten minute break then resume with the business portion of the program. This is only a trial plan. We will discuss the agenda at the end of the business meeting to get the comments, concerns of those members who are in attendance at that time. An effort will be made to get the comments and concerns from those who attended the first half of the meeting. Please let your opinions be known so we know what the *majority* of the members want. Email me at k6son@att.net and I will share your communications with the remaining members of the board.

Space Station Contact:

On Wednesday, April 19, 2017 at 11:42am, the Brook Haven Middle School of Sebastopol made radio contact with the Amateur Radio International Space Station. French Astronaut Thomas Pesquet KG5FYG answered about 19 questions asked of the middle school students. Tim Bosma W6MU will bring a video and do a program for us at the May 3rd meeting. If you will not be at the meeting you can watch the basic video on YouTube: [brook haven middle school iss contact](#).

Field Trip:

We have a field trip planned for the Maritime Radio Historical Society (MRHS) on Saturday, May 27th. Check out the sign up on our SCRA website. Darryl Ki6MSP found a newsletter published by MRHS that has been put up on our website for the edification of those who are interested,

especially in CW (Continuous Wave). We still have space for those who want to join the MRHS trip. Sign up on the SCRA website. See flyer elsewhere in this SS edition.

Public Service Events:

This summer's events are in full swing. Without a Public Service Coordinator all of the Comm Bosses are doing their own coordinating with the event organizers. The Comm Bosses need your help so by signing up early for the events that are posted on the website you are helping the Comm Boss of each event by them knowing they have your support. So if you have not done so already, get your calendar out and sign up for the event of your choice, in whatever position you feel comfortable in. Or better yet, get out of your comfort zone and try something new! The entire organization will thank you.

Have a great summer and 73.
Lola K6HRE
President

MAY PROGRAM

Amateur Radio International Space Station
radio contact with Brook Haven Middle School
of Sebastopol

by
Tim Bosma W6MU

**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>

2017 Club Officers

| | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------|--------|
| President | Iola Beckley | KK6HRE |
| Vice President | Joe Fortuna | K6AWA |
| Secretary | Kathy Wells | KK6KGW |
| Treasurer | Aaron Marroquin | KK6ZDB |
| Director | John Felton | KE5RI |
| | Laura Tighe | AG6PE |
| Past President | Patrick Coyle | KG6JSL |

Committee Lineup/Contacts

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Activities | Laura Tighe, AG6PE | laurati@hotmail.com |
| Programs | John Felton, KE5RI | jrfke5ri@aol.com |
| Community Outreach | Darryl Paule, KI6MSP | ki6msp@arrl.net |
| DX/Contesting | Doug Payne, KF6LMB | dougpayne1@earthlink.net |
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| Emergency Services Liason | Pat Coyle, KG6JSL | coylaw@sonic.net |
| Field Day | Brian Torr, N6IY | n6iyy@arrl.net |
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| Merchandise | Dan Drummond, KK6VIQ | danjdrummond@hotmail.com |
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| Refreshments | John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ | wb6frz@arrl.net |
| Repeater | Jack Christensen, K6ROW | K6ROW@sonic.net |
| Roster Editor | Bill Dornbush, KM6BYD | bill@dornbush.net |
| Volunteer Examiners | Brian Torr, N6IY | n6iyy@arrl.net |
| Weekly Email Blog | Pat Coyle KG6JSL | coylaw@sonic.net |

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| Website Manager | David Kraybill, KI6UGB | shortskipeditor@gmail.com |
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| | |
|---------------|---|
| SCRA E-Mail | K6SON@arrl.com |
| SCRA Web site | http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com |

Short Skip Advertising Rates

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

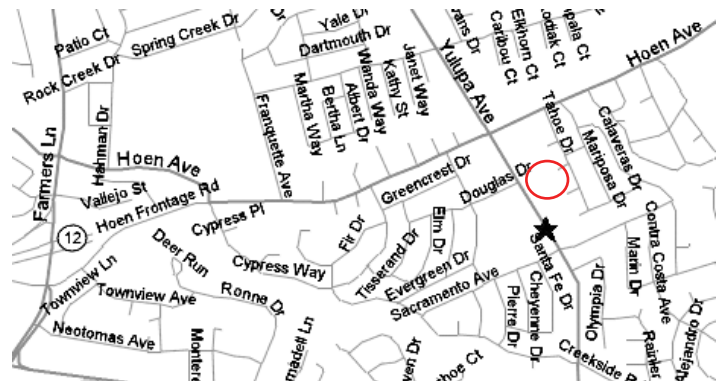
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SCRA Club Meetings

The club normally meets the first Wednesday of each month, socially at 6:30 pm, program starting at 7:15 pm. Exceptions are holidays or other big events.

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



All are welcome!

Please join us at our next meeting. Anyone interested in Amateur Radio may be eligible for membership. A membership application is included in this newsletter.

For more information, contact any SCRA officer, director or member. Hungry before the meeting?

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

Board of Directors Meeting

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

LOANER RADIOS AVAILABLE

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

UPGRADE TO GENERAL OR AMATEUR EXTRA CLASS

Get more privileges and enjoyment from your Ham Radio Hobby. [Mentoring assistance](#) is available. Contact Dave W6IBC, SCRA Education Chair, at 707-838-8155 or w6ibc@arrl.net.

Tuesday Night Net

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

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

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



10 Meter Net

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

Technician License Class

The next SCRA-sponsored Technician licensing class will be held on Friday, July 14th, through Sunday, July 16th at the Graton Fire Protection District firehouse, just north of Sebastopol on Highway 116. Anyone interested in obtaining their Technician class amateur radio license is invited to participate. More details are under the Classes tab on the SCRA website, or interested persons should contact me directly at w6ibc@arrl.net.

73, Dave W6IBC
SCRA Education/Mentoring Chair



Weekly SBARA Youth Net New Day and Time!

- For young people 18 and under
- Licensed youth or youth with a licensed control operator are welcome to check-in
- Check-in via EchoLink, if you are outside of the area
- Adults can check-in towards the end of the Net to answer questions and mentor the youth.

Please join our new, 13-year-old net control operator, Truman Lindsey, KM6AQS, and help us grow this important Net for young hams!

- SBARA Youth Net
- Every Tuesday evening, 6:30pm (1830), PACIFIC
- N6NFI repeater, Palo Alto, CA (145.230 MHz, -600 kHz, PL 100 Hz.)
- EchoLink Station: KR6DD-R

Steve Wilson KG6HJU
South Bay Amateur Radio Association
Fremont, CA
kg6hju@arrl.net

Kids Net

Kids Net meets Thursdays at 7:30 pm on the Sonoma Mountain Repeater Society repeater at 146.910 MHz - PL 88.5 Petaluma.

Hosted by Ellen KJ6BHG and Joseph KJ6BHH for kids of all ages. It is focused on kids still in school, but all are welcome. They said to bring jokes to share.



There's a New Radio Net in Town!

Greetings fellow SCRA club member, effective April 15, 2017, there is a new club sponsored net on the repeater network. It is the SCRA CW Code Practice Net, which meets on Fridays starting at 6:00 PM on the 147.315 + PL 88.5 repeater. A big thanks to our club officers and board members for approving this.

The purpose of the net is to encourage the use and practice of International Morse Code. This net evolved as a spinoff from John Breckenridge's CW Code Class. The desire to keep practicing and encourage one another comes to fruition with this radio net. Interested club members or other amateurs can check into the net on Fridays and participate or even help mentor the newest budding class of CW Code graduates and friends.

A very simple method to send code on the net is to key the VHF radio microphone and send audio CW tones using a key, keyer and practice oscillator. This emulates the so called "rubber band" technology, where a rubber band can be used to hold the microphone switch while sending practice code. Alternately, most HF radios allow for code tones to be sent over their audio speaker, and with your radio power at zero, you can produce acceptable audio tones into the VHF microphone!


The net will operate with a Net Control and a simple operating structure. Briefly, after opening the net and taking check-ins, Net Control will announce and send a short message to another participant via CW audio tones. After sending, a voice break will take place to assess the message content and then the receiving party will send a CW tone reply. Voice discussions will be alternated after sending to allow for discussion and feedback.

Those interested can also stick around after the formal net and rag chew to their hearts content. Oh what radio fun.

Anyone interested in the net or wanting more information can contact Duane Reese, N6DMR at email address N6DMR@dmreese.com or call at 717-271-2055, check that area code it is a Pennsylvania 717 number and not the local area code.

There is a written Net Control Script available and a brief description of the operating process that can be forwarded for review.

Duane
N6DMR

I 
MORSE
CODE

APP That Helps Blind HAMs with PSK31

Recently, an app has been created that for the first time ever allows blind hams to participate in PSK31. The app is being given away to the world for free. Essentially, this app allows blind hams to use their computer's "screen reader" to work with DigiPan. Several members of the "Westside [of Los Angeles] Amateur Radio Club" participated in creating this app. We would be most grateful to you if you could forward this email on to your club members. Please help us spread this great news!

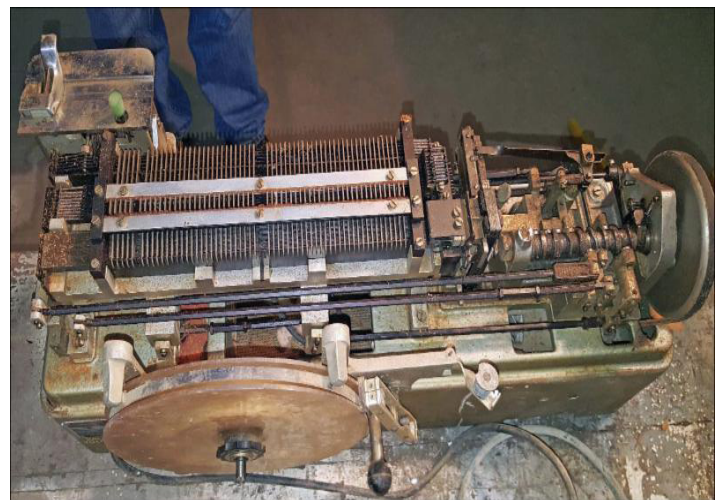
To support the continued creation of adaptive technologies for blind hams, a GoFundMe webpage has been created. The link to it is below. You can learn a little more about this app there too.

<https://www.gofundme.com/accessible-digipan-for-blind-hams>

Please donate in whatever amount you can. Most especially, forward this email on to all of your friends and family, "Like" the GoFundMe webpage on Facebook, "Share" it with all your friends, tweet it out and ask everyone to do the same!

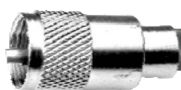
73,

Richard KK6MRH



Yes, it's an antique. Read about it in the Maritime Radio Historical Society's newsletter here...

<http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?m=1109843077277&ca=263b3315-c0d6-4aed-aceb-c0b-50c0354b3>



Just Arrived

SCRA Shirts

-  Eight new colors
-  T-Shirts with SCRA logo (\$13)
-  Polo shirts with SCRA club name (\$15)
-  Reduced price on older T-Shirt stock (\$10)
-  Available at the May 3rd SCRA meeting



Polo (Sapphire)



Polo (Maroon)



T-Shirt (Sport Gray)



T-Shirt (Forest Green)



T-Shirt (Yellow Haze)



T-Shirt (Sky Blue)



T-Shirt (Military Green)



T-Shirt (Irish Green)

SONOMA COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS MERCHANDISE COMMITTEE
DAN DRUMMOND KK6VIQ

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.
Presents a Field Trip to the
Maritime Radio Historical Society

Saturday, May 27, 2017
Please RSVP by May 20, 2017

Transmitter station
451 Mesa Road, Bolinas, CA
Arrival time 1030 hrs

If we are fortunate there will be a famous Shock & Awe
vintage transmitter demonstration in our honor.

Receiving station
17400 Sir Francis Drake Boulevard, Inverness, CA
Arrival time approximately 1230 hrs

Carpool information will be decided by those signing up.

Contact Iola kk6hre at kk6son@arrl.net
Go to sonomacountyradioamateurs.com to sign up.

View the Maratime Radio Historical Society's newsletter about the *Night of Nights* here...
<http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?m=1109843077277&ca=263b3315-c0d6-4aed-aceb-c0b50c0354b3>



The SCRA Book Lending Library ~ Don't Buy it, Borrow it!

The list is growing. Thank to members who have donated their excess reading material. The list as of this month:

Antenna Physics: An Introduction, Robert J. Zavrel, Jr. W7SXj

Adventures in DXing, Nifty E-Z Guide to, Jeffrey A. Cantor, K1ZN

Eliminating Electronic Noise,

EXTRA MANUAL

EXTRA Q&A, Upgrade to Extra Class

The ARRL GENERAL MANUAL

GENERAL Q&A, Upgrade to a General Class

The ARRL Handbook for Radio Communication

The ARRL 2010 edition Handbook for Radio Communication

The ARRL 2016 edition Operating Manual for radio amateurs

The ARRL x2 Propagation and Radio Science, Eric R. Nichols, KL7AJ

The ARRL RFI Book, 3rd Edition

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs ARRL Technician Video Course Companion Notes and Study Course

Work the World With JT65 and JT9, Digital Communication via Amateur Radio, Steve Ford, WB8IMY

Small Antennas for Small Spaces; Project and Advice for Limited-Space Stations

Basic Antennas; Understanding Practical Antennas and Designs, Joel RI Hallas, W1ZR

The Library is available at all SCRA General Meetings, the first Wednesday of each month. Contact Iola KK6HRE,

Next Exam Session: Saturday, June 10, 9:00 am

Our next exam session is scheduled for Saturday, June 10, from 9:00 am until noon. The location will be the Bennett Valley Hall, 4145 Grange Road, Santa Rosa. Walk-ins will be accepted and all test elements will be administered.

(http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/ve_testing.html) .

Please arrive by 8:45am to be signed in. Testing will begin shortly thereafter.

Directions: From Hwy 101, take Highway 12 East to Farmers Lane. Turn right onto Farmers Lane and then left onto Bennett Valley Road. Stay on Bennett Valley Road approximately 4.1 miles and turn right onto Grange Road. Bennett Valley Hall is 0.5 miles from Bennett Valley Road on the right

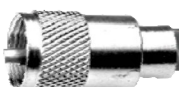
Candidates should bring the following:

- One (1) photo ID or two (2) non-photo ID
- FCC Registration Number (FRN, if you have one) or Social Security Number (if you do not have an FRN) If you have had any FCC license assigned to you, amateur or otherwise, or had any prior business with the FCC, you probably have an FRN.
- Original and photocopy of your current amateur radio license (if licensed)
- Original and photocopy of any valid CSCEs (if applicable)
- #2 Pencil and eraser
- \$15.00 exam fee. Checks may be made payable to "ARRL-VEC"

Calculators may be used, but it must be demonstrated that all memories and programs have been erased. The calculator function in a cell phone or PDA may not be used! If you have any special needs, please contact Brian Torr, N6IY in advance.

Good Luck!

Brian Torr, N6IY
n6iyy@arrl.net
(707) 575-5871





CONTEST CORNER by Kevin Alt, K6BSG

Hello testers. Some interesting and challenging contests this month, especially on the lower frequency bands. Check out the Indonesian 40 meter DX contest or the New Zealand "Sangster" 80 meter QRP contest. Big contest of the month, of course, is the CQ WW CW contest over Memorial Day weekend. Happy DX'ing!

1 May – AGCW QRP Party – CW, 80-40 meters. See: www.agcw.org/index.php/en.

1 May – RSGB 80 Meter Club Championship – SSB, 80 meters. See: www.rsgbcc.org/hf.

2 May – ARS Spartan Sprint – CW, 80-10 meters. See: arsqrp.blogspot.com.

3 May – 432 MHz Sprint – all modes, 0.7 meters. See: sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints.

3-4 May – MIE 33 Contest – SSB/CW, all bands. See: www.ztv.ne.jp/isoda/33.

4 May – NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest – all modes. See: www.nrau.net/activity-contests.

6 May – Microwave Spring Sprint – all modes, 902 MHz and above. See: sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints.

6 May – FISTS Spring Slow Speed Sprint – CW, 80-10 meters. See: fistsna.org.

6-7 May – 10-10 International Spring Contest – CW, 10 meters. See: www.ten-ten.org.

6-7 May – SBMS 2.3 GHz and Up Contest – All modes, 2.3 GHz+. See: www.n6nb.com/sbmsrules.htm.

6-7 May – ARI International DX Contest – all modes, 160-10 meters. See: www.ari.it.

6-7 May – F9AA Cup – PSK, 80-10, 2 meters. See: www.site.urc.asso.fr.

6-7 May – 7th Call Area QSO Party – all modes, 160-2 meters. See: ws7n.net/7QP.

6-7 May – Indiana QSO Party – Phone/CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.hdxcc.org/inqp/rules.html.

6-7 May – Delaware QSO Party – all modes, 160-2 meters.

See: www.fsarc.org/qsoparty.

6-7 May – New England QSO Party – all modes, 80-10 meters. See: www.neqp.org/rules.html.

10 May – RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship – Digital. See: www.rsgbcc.org/hf.

11 May – NAQCC CW Sprint – CW, 80-20 meters. See: naqcc.info.

13 May – Jakarta DX Contest – SSB, 40 meters. See: jakartadxcontest.com/rules/rules-english/.

13 May – FISTS Spring Unlimited Sprint – CW, 80-10 meters. See: fistsna.org.

13-14 May – CQ-M International DX Contest – SSB/CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.cq-m.ru/en.

13-14 May – HPC World Wide DX Contest – digital, 80-10 meters. See: pskclub.gr/contest.

13-14 May – Volta WW RTTY Contest – RTTY, 80-10 meters. See: www.contestvolta.com.

13-14 May – Arkansas QSO Party – All modes, 80-10, 2 meters. See: www.arkqp.com.

13-14 May – SKCC Weekend Sprintathon – CW, 160-6 meters. See: www.skccgroup.com.

13-14 May – MARAC County Hunters Contest – CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.marac.org.

13-14 May – Portuguese Navy Day Contest – SSB/CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.nra.pt.

13-14 May – 50 MHz Spring Sprint – all modes. See: sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints.

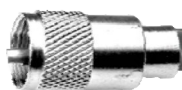
14 May – WAB 7 MHz Phone – SSB, 40 meters. See: wab.intermip.net.

14 May – UA2 QSO Party – SSB/CW, 80-20 meters. See: www.qrz.ru.

15 May – 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint – SSB/CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.4sqrp.com.

20 May – UN DX Contest – SSB/CW, 80-10 meters. See: undxc.kz/bez-rubriki.

Continued on page 10...



Contest Corner continued from page 9...

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

20-21 May – **Portuguese Navy Day Contest** – digital, 80-10 meters. See: www.nra.pt.

20-21 May – **NZART Sangster Shield Contest** – CW, 80 meters. See: www.nzart.org.nz/activities.

20-21 May – **His Majesty King of Spain Contest** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: concursos.ure.es/en/.

20-21 May – **EU PSK DX Contest** – PSK, 80-10 meters. See: www.eupsk.com.

20-21 May – **Aegean RTTY Contest** – 80-10 meters. See: www.aegeandxgroup.gr.

20-21 May – **Baltic Contest** – SSB/CW, 80 meters. See: <http://lrsf.lt/bcontest/english>.

22 May – **Run for the Bacon QRP Contest** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: qrptest.com/pigrun/.

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

25 May – **RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship** – CW, 80 meters. See: www.rsgbcc.org/hf.

27-28 May – **CQ WW WPX Contest** – CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.cqwp.com.

28 May – **SARL Digital Contest** – Digital, 80-20 meters. See: www.sarl.org.za.

For additional contest calendars and resources check:

[WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)

[ARRL Contests Page](#)

2017 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Check the [Club website](#) for details

Sat May 6 - [Wine Country Century](#)

Sat May 6 - [Human Race](#)

Sat May 13 - [IRONMAN 70.3 Half Triathlon](#)

Sun Jun 4 - [Monte Rio Vineman](#)

Sat Jun 10 - VE Testing

Sat/Sun Jun 10/11 - Hot Air Balloon Classic

Sat Jun 17 - [Terrible Two](#)

Sun Jun 18 - ARRL Kids Day

F/S/S Jun 23-25 [FIELD DAY](#)

F/S/S Jul 14-16 - [Technician Licensing Class](#)

Sat Jul 29 - [IRONMAN Full Triathlon](#)

Sat Aug 5 - [Sonoma County Fair Demonstrations](#)

Sat Aug 12 - [Sonoma County Fair Demonstrations](#)

Sun Aug 13 - [Tour D'Organics](#)

F/S/S Aug 18-20 DXing Campout/North Am QSO Party

Sat Aug 26 - VE Testing

F/S/S Sep 1-3 - SOCO Homage Day (?)

Sat/Sun Sept [23-24](#) - Waves to Wine

Sat Sep 30 - [Levi's Gran Fondo](#) & [Info Booth](#)

Sat Oct 14 - VE Testing

Oct 16-20? School Roundup

Sat Oct 21 - Jamboree on the Air (JOTA)

Sat Oct 28 - [North Bay Science Discovery Day](#)

F/S/S Nov 17-19 - Technician Licensing Class

Sat Dec 2 - VE Testing



It's Beginning To Feel More Like Field Day Weather!!

After a winter and early spring that has brought an end to several years of drought, things are starting to warm up. And that means that Field Day can't be far away..

In fact, it's just less than two months away.

The big event begins at around 5pm on Friday, June 23 and ending around 3pm on Sunday, June 25. The location will be the same as last year, Youth Community Park (aka Skateboard Park) at 1725 Fulton Rd, in Santa Rosa, across the road from Piner High School.

We've had two planning sessions so far and I'd like to thank all of those that participated. Lots of good ideas shared and some changes are being made from last year. For example:

- Station locations will be moved around to better facilitate the distribution of 12V power from the solar array. This should also help to consolidate some of the coax runs.
- We will have a dedicated Digital station. Martin, KJ6BQM will be the station captain
- We are planning improved signage for Fulton Rd and the entrance to the park.
- Station captains have been assigned
- As many logging computers as possible will be networked.

Station Captains

Our Station Captains this year are as follows:

- SSB – Dennis Colthurst, KI6REO
- CW – Frank Oddy, NQ6E
- Digital – Martin Kilgore, KJ6BQM
- Get-On-The-Air (GOTA) – Jeff Tonelli, KI6PBF
- VHF/UHF/Satellite – Charlie Sikes, KZ6T

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

Wanted: Dipole Antenna Erection Team Leader

The one position we have not yet staffed is the Dipole Antenna Erection Team leader. We would like to see a relatively new ham take this one on. It's a skill that every ham should learn to do. If this sounds like something you'd like to try, please let me know.

Educational Activity

The Educational Activity will take place at 2pm on Saturday, June 24 The activity will be learning the basics of using a multimeter. The multimeter is a tool all hams should own and know how to use

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

- You would like to volunteer for Field Day. Even if it's only for an hour or two, every little bit helps.
- You have suggestions, any suggestions, regarding Field Day.
- You are curious to know more about Field Day
- You have equipment or ideas that could be put to use on Field Day

Next Planning Meeting

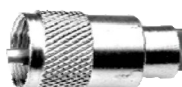
The next planning meeting will be Saturday, May 20, from 10:00am to 11:30 am at the Field Day Site, Youth Community Park, 1725 Fulton Rd (across from Piner High School) in Santa Rosa.

TH-6 Antenna Assembly and Erection Practice Session

On Saturday, June 10, at 9am, we will meet at Doug Payne, KF6LMB's QTH to practice assembling the TH-6 tri-band beam, mounting it onto the crank-up mast, and raising it to full height. Anyone intending to volunteer to participate in setup on Friday June 23 is strongly encouraged to come to this session. Knowing how to execute this part of the setup goes quickly and efficiently is key to ensuring that the rest of Field Day setup goes smoothly as well.

Let's make Field Day 2017 even better than last year!

Brian Torr, N6IY
Tel: (707) 575-5871
n6iyy@arrl.net





Sonoma County Radio Amateurs Membership Meeting Minutes

The April 5, 2017 Membership meeting of SCRA was called to order by President Iola Buckley KK6HRE at 7:15 pm.

A quorum was present. Iola introduced club officers: VP Joe K6AWA; Acting Secretary Bill KM6BYD, Treasurer Aaron KK6ZDB, Director John KE5RI, Director Laura AG6PE, Immediate Past President Pat KG6JSL/

Iola asked if there were guests. Guest Marcus (call sign?) introduced himself.

We all said Thank you, Karen Breckenridge, for goodies. New member introduced himself; Dan KK6WMW. One visitor, Kristopher KI6RKB, Vancouver, Washington.

Iola asked if we would accept **minutes** as published in Short Skip. Dave W6IBC moved and, Dan KK6VIQ seconded, and all members approved.

Net control

- 4-11 Craig K6XLT
- 4-18 Andrew KE6HID
- 4-25 Keith AG6CI
- 5-2 Charlie Sikes KZ6T

John KE5RI presented the Programs.

1) Selection and Application of ferrite beads to reduce RF Interference.

John provided a handout: Use your antenna analyzer to test ferrite-bead chokes, available on KB6NU's Ham Radio Blog. There were discussions about use and applications.

2) Installation and Applications of Anderson Powerpole connectors

Handout: Anderson Powerpole Assembly Instructions
John suggested that all should use them as they have become a de facto standard for emergency communications.
Powerwerx.com is a good source for Anderson Powerpole connectors.

Officer and Chairpersons Reports

Treasurer Report: Aaron KK6ZDB reported on income expenses and balances.

Activities: Laura AG6PE reported that on May 27 there will be a field trip to Point Reyes Marconi station. We will leave at 9:30, limit of 10-12, there will be a signup on the web site. We will have more than one group if we have more signups. There will be a flyer available.

Community Outreach: Iola reported for Darryl KI6MSP that we had a successful outreach at Coddington.

Education: Dave W6IBC reported a successful tech class March 17-19, and 4 passed the Technician test. On March 25, there was a follow on class for new hams, covering antennas, feedlines, power, and programming radios,

Repeater Committee: Jack K6ROW reported that repeaters are up, and they are working on IRLP.

Emergency Communications: Pat KG6JSL reported that there will be stage 2 of emergency message handling April 22, PUC

building, 9-noon. Signup on the web site for those who did not attend the first training.

Membership: Karen reported that we have 137 members compared to 178 last year, with more coming.

VE Testing: Brian N6IYY reported there will be testing this Saturday at Bennett Valley Hall, all test elements will be available, cost \$15.

Radio Loaner program: Joe K6AWA we have radios and antenna analyzer for loan, HF rigs 3, HTs, mobile VHF rig, antennas. To request, email K6AWA@yahoo.com

Public Service: Charlie reported: SoNoMas was successful, coming next is Lake Sonoma 50. Craig is the communication boss. Please sign up now for all events for this year to help communication bosses.

Field Day: Brian N6IYY stated that the next planning meeting is Saturday 1 pm, and due to weather, it will probably be at First American Title, 627 College Ave.

Willits Group, Lake County Group are meeting also on Saturday and Iola is attending.

Merchandise: Dan stated that at the next meeting, new t-shirts and polo shirts will be available. Sale on old t-shirts for \$10. The price on the web site for new products may not be right, so get them at the meeting.

CW Class: JohnWB6FRZ stated that since January, there has been a code class weekly on Tuesday, concluding this Friday. 5 People went through the entire class of 13 weeks: Phil, Duane, Iola, Darv, and Darryl.

Unfinished business

- 1) DMR repeaters? There is little interest shown by a show of hands. There are other DMR repeaters in the area, so do we need another? There is K6ACS, and another in Sonoma. Iola would like committee to investigate. Martin will present to the Board. Pat suggests a program on what is DMR. They will ask Tim Barrett from East Bay to talk about it.
- 2) Requests to change net control script: Joe K6AWA suggests the script change to present all traffic before check-in period, for dissemination of information. IC213 format recommends emergency traffic, priority traffic, then routine traffic. Joe suggested that check-ins is routine traffic. There was a suggestion to appoint a committee to revise the script. John KE5RI suggests emergency, list traffic, messages for everybody (QSTs), messages for specific people. John, Brian, Joe, and Darv will be the committee, Joe to chair.

Announcements

~Ed reminded all of the 4-29 hamfest at Vomarc in Sonoma.

~Duane N6DMR wants to continue CW practice using the club repeater on Friday night. Duane has signup list at the club meeting. Many saw real value in interactive feedback and mentoring.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bill Dornbush KM6BYD





Minutes SCRA Board of Directors Meeting

April 12, 2017

The April 2017 Board of Directors regular meeting was called to order by President Iola KK6HRE at 6:00 PM at IHOP restaurant, 2745 4th Street, Santa Rosa CA. SCRA Board members present included President Iola KK6HRE, Vice President Joe K6AWA, Treasurer Aaron KK6ZDB, Secretary Kathy K6KDW, Director John KE5RI, Director Laura AG6PE and Past President Pat KG6JSL. A quorum of Officers and Directors were present. Other SCRA members in attendance included Andrew KE6HID, Brian N6IYY, Charlie KZ6T, Darryl K6MSP, Doug KF6LMB, Jeff KI6PBF, John WB6FRZ, Mike AD6YB, and Steve KK6VMZ.

Minutes of the March 2017 Board Meeting were approved on motion by Pat KG6JSL, and seconded by Iola KK6HRE.

Officer and Director Reports, Aaron KK6ZDB reported we have had more expenses than income. All expenditures are within the approved budget.

Committee Reports and Business:

Activities Committee Chair Laura AG6PE reported the club field trip to Maritime Museum will be held on May 27, 2017. Participants will meet to carpool at 9:30am under the freeway at the County Fairgrounds.

Community Outreach Chair Darryl requested a budget increase of \$300 for the purchase of tear drop flags and pamphlets. Darryl will do further research and report back to the Board of Directors.

Membership Committee reported one new member from the latest Technician class.

Public Service Committee is still looking for a Program Chair.

Merchandise Committee Chair Dan KK6VIQ has ordered the new SCRA T-shirts. The older t-shirt stock will be sold for \$10 each.

Education Committee's next Technician Class will be held July 14-16, 2017.

Emergency Services Chair Pat KG6SL reported that 23 individuals have signed up for the follow-up Interactive Messaging Class from 9AM to 12 PM on April 22, 2017 at the Santa Rosa EOC.

Field Day Committee Chair Brian N6IYY reported that most Field Day positions have been filled. Brian requested an additional \$450 to purchase additional safety equipment for Field Day. The equipment to be purchased is 10 orange cones, 4 hard hats, 2 power distribution blocks, and two 70-amp semiconductor fuses. John KE5R1 made the motion and Kathy K6KDW seconded. Motion passed.

Refreshment Chair John WB6FRZ reported that he and his spouse will accept the Refreshment Chairperson positions on a permanent basis.

Radio Loanout Program Manager Joe K6AWA received two more HF rigs donated by John KE5R1 and Charlie KZ6T.

Unfinished Business:

Mike AD6YB has received several inventory reports and has prepared a consolidated inventory listing.

President Iola KK6HRE reported that the Book Lending Library that is based on the honor system is going well.

Treasurer Aaron KK6ZDB will have Exchange Bank not authorize ACH. He will have a note put into the system.

John KE5R1 made a motion and Joe K6AWA seconded to accept the 2017 Repeater Site Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and to pay \$755 for electrical usage. Motion carried.

President Iola KK6HRE sent a copy of the new LBA&GC Contract to all Board Members for review on 2/7/2017. The new contract is requiring a waiver of subrogation. Our insurance agent stated our current policy is not considered primary and does not allow for waiver of subrogation and that we would need to secure other coverage. She asked the Board for further guidance. Additionally, President Iola KK6HRE contacted LBA&GC for clarification on whether the Waiver of Subrogation is required. They responded that as long as the Liability Limits were met, they would be flexible. President Iola KK6HRE signed the contract. LBA&GC also signed the contract without the waiver of subrogation. When she received the signed copy of the contract the Waiver of Subrogation was not lined out. President Iola KK6HRE will contact LBA&GC about the non-modified contract.

President Iola KK6HRE made a visit to the Lake County Amateur Radio Society (LCARS) club along with two members of the Willits Amateur Radio Society (WARS) club.

John KE5R1 has reported the AARL 2016-2017 Repeater Directory has the incorrect PL frequency for the W6SON repeater in Santa Rosa. He sent an email to NARCC to update their directory.

New Business:

President Iola KK6HRE is working with the County of Sonoma to have the week of June 18-25, 2017 proclaimed as Ham Radio Week.

Mike AD6YB announced that Chef's Cycle is looking for volunteers. The event will be held May 16-18, 2017.

It was suggested that a club program explain what types of systems are available, e.g. IRLP, Winlink.

President Iola KK6HRE proposed a CW Practice Net be authorized on Friday nights from 6-8 pm. Additionally, Charlie KZ6T proposed a 440mhz Net. Both Nets were approved.

The Board has changed the format of the monthly club meeting to have Social Hour from 6:30-7pm, 7pm announcements and program, a 10-minute break, and then the Business Meeting.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Wells K6KDW

Secretary





PORTABLE FUSES

By Pat Coyle, KG6JSL

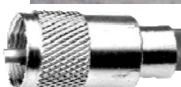
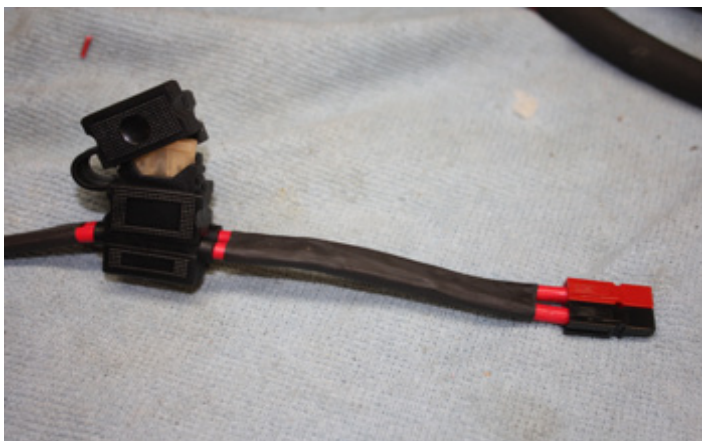
Moving your radio is easy enough. However, moving the fuses, or hooking up fuses at the new location is often not so easy. The fuses are in a power line, often a long one whose length you do not need, and often with only one fuse when “best practices” advise that both the positive and negative lines should be fused.

These inline fuse holders with short pigtailed are available cheap at every auto supply house. The leads are commonly 12 gauge, large enough for any portable application. 10 gauge leads are also available. There are a wide array of available fuses from a few amps to 40.

The fuse holders are available with or without the cover. They are also available for “mini” fuses, which are about half the size of those shown. The mini fuses are not recommended because the fuse legs have much less contact area.



This is really quite simple. Just solder some Anderson Power Poles to the leads and cover with either shrink wrap or tape. I have one in the car for the mobile, and one in my Go Bag for whatever use that may be required. Perfect for portable set ups at events or on the road.



SCRA Website Forum

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

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

To visit the site,

Navigate to the SCRA website,

Log in as a member

Click on Member Area, then [Forums](#)

While you are on the individual Forum pages, make sure to click on SUBSCRIBE. This will send you an email when a new question gets posted.

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

Home Our Club Repeaters/IRLP Resources Events Store Calendar Men

Announcements and News

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

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

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

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

How to Subscribe to the SCRA Calendar

Subscribe to the SCRA calendar and automatically import event dates into your electronic calendar(s). Go to the calendar page on the SCRA website and click the Subscribe button in the corner. Select the type of calendar you want to subscribe to. You will be taken to your sign-in page to finish adding the subscription.

26 27 28

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SCRA Dues: The renewal date for SCRA dues is January 1st. Dues are \$20/year for individual, \$30/year for families, and \$15/year for youth (under 18).

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

I WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT:

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

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

Name Badge Information Fill in exactly as you want it to appear on your badge.
Callsign _____ First Name _____ City _____
Callsign _____ First Name _____ City _____
Callsign _____ First Name _____ City _____

SCRA Patch \$5/ea + _____
SCRA T-Shirt \$11.50/ea Size: s m l xl xxl + _____

Total: \$ _____

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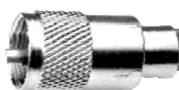
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SHORT SKIP ARCHIVES AVAILABLE

Mike, AD6YB, has set up archives for past and present issues of Short Skip. They are available on the Website, log into Members Area, Short Skip, click on the first sentence. Mike has scanned in the old paper issues and it is really interesting to browse through them to see what those guys were doing. There are historical photos as well. An important record of our history and ham radio in general. Good Stuff.

[\(Click Me\)](#)

DIDN'T FIND WHAT YOU NEEDED?

If you are looking for something more on a topic or your topic of interest hasn't been covered lately, let us know. Something you'd like to see in Short Skip?

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

SHORT SKIP NEEDS YOUR INPUT

SHORT SKIP ARTICLES WANTED

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

