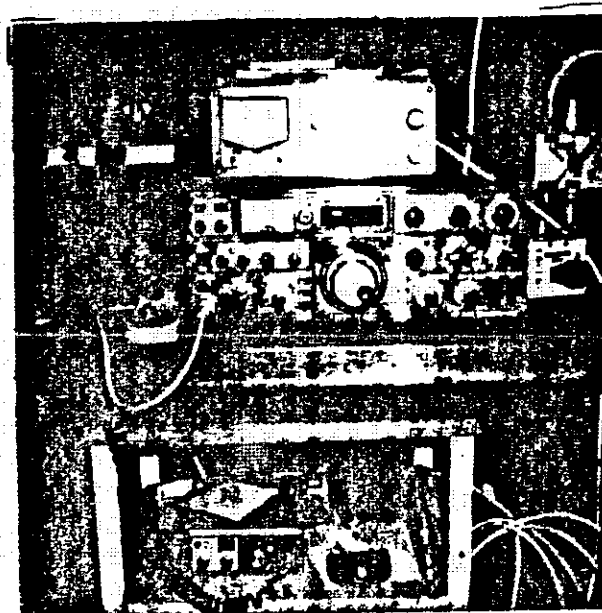


Sonoma Co. Radio Amateurs, Inc.

SHORTSKIP

Vol. 6 # 8



RIG OF DJ6TJ/A

Some of you may know we have a Sister Club in Germany. There has been a sked with their Club. AG6C-KB6LO- and W6RIA have contacted same. Hans Berg-President of Deutscher Amateur Radio Club-E.V. Lubeck, Germany, will visit our Club at the August meeting-Plan to be there and have a nice chat with Hans.

Sked and other information about our sister club in the main part of Short Skip.

CLUB OFFICERS

President Len Geraldi K6ANP
795-4335

V Pres. Lyman Wiltshire
833-2000 WB6SMY

Tres. Gary Davis WB6PMN
528-4304

Sect. -Doug. Stewart N6DHT
523-2118

Board: Alan Bloom N1AL
527-0840
Steve Schaffer KD6GC
546-8860
Chuck Sabin N6DDK
795-2371

Short Skip Hank Davis W6DTV
823-7885
Lyle Meek N6BLN
Chod Harris VP2ML
DX Watch
Don Bremmer KB6LO
Terry LaDuke & Dave
Kullinski--Printers
W6LFFJ

Club Call
Club meeting 1st Wednesday each
month-3400 Chanate Rd. Childrens Day
Care Center. August 5--Board Meeting
August 13.

Educational--Gary Davis at 528-4304
Explorer Post 599 Mike Ter Sarkisso
ff. N6DBZ 823-8977
Parts and Raffle Lyman Wiltshire
WB6SMY- 833-2000
Club Merger-Lyle Meek-Gary Davis

Radio Shack, Farmers Lane has been
very good with donations for the Club
Raffle, stop by and say hello or buy
an item or two.

RADIO SHACK
STORE NO. 3855
Zane Bates
510 Farmers Ln. 546-8423
Santa Rosa

NEWS NOTE

50 years ago two hams got their
first license withi n one month of
the other. W6CYM Jim Tomer and
Hank Davis W6DTV. W6DTV has the
same call he had in 1931.

RAMBLING NOTES

Well here is August and perhaps DX
is not at the Top of the list of Prior-
ities, in Sonoma Co., but one word
FIRE is.

In Sonoma Co. we have had more time
on Fires, Floods, Runs, Walks, etc.,
than most counties--but are we ready for
the future? The worst part of the year
for FIRES is ahead. On short notice can
you leave your home and help with Comm-
unications some where in Sonoma Co.?

Do you have all needed equipement
ready and or in your car? You may need
food, for a day or more, with you enclud
ing water. Paper, message blanks, pens,
pencils ect.? Spare items for your gear?
First aid kits? Because if you are full
y eapiped there is always some one who
is not, and it's a long way back to
town. Do you keep your car well filled
with gas at all times or do you let it
go down to the vapor level before
filling?

If you think FIRES are at a mini-
mum just ask anyone who listens to a
Scanner. Mid July in one day experi-
enced a farm in Rohnert Park area reduc-
ed, later on an Apple Plant north of
Sebastopol burned, and called out Red
Cross, Races, Amateurs, and Fire Fighters
for a period of 6 or 7 hrs. This was not
all on that day just the largest. Amateu
Radio was there.

We need to be alert--arson is busy-
and we need to be ready--Nuff Said.....

UP GRADES

Betty, AG6C and her girl's complete
their study with a trip to San Francisco
The following up graded:

- KA6MCU- Sarah
- KA6PXR- Martha
- KA6PXQ- Jerry

Congratulations to all and looking
forward towards new voices on the 2 mete:
band.

NEW AMATEURS

KA6OPY-Harold Baldwin, SR-N6DZU-Mike
Morrison, Seb.--KA6DUG-Guillermo Gonzale
SR--KA6OWM-James Layton, Kenwood--N6EDI-
Roland Neville, Seb.--KA6PFR, Linda
Burton-SR--KA6OP0, Sam Robinson, Seb.

PUBLIC SERVICE AND OTHER THINGS

Well it's all over for 81, 'Field Day that is,' all that is left is compiling the points, all in due time.

The site was tops, a lot like Robin Hood and his merry men. Terry changed from bow and arrow and used a hammer on the end of a rope, (to put up an antenna)-- he got the Sheriff, old Dave WD6AJR, three stitches.

All bands from 80 to 400 were tried, both phone and CW, some stayed up till 4am, some were in worse condition and did not know it. All in all a good time--many visitors--W6VV-SCM, Radio officer of the County, WB6PUE, Pres Thomson, and a Ranger from the Park Service that some one forgot to tell. All ended well until Rotton Ron decided to get even and used the fire protection tanker to spray all ..I hear they took care of Ron proper. Ask Don WA6ACX.....

The Ragle Ranch Park was a fine site, very little intermod--every station had their own private Oak tree for shade. The Cook shack was under control of Chuck Sabin, K6DDK. Beef stew and trimmings for the evening meal and Flaps, sausage and drink for breakfast. Can we top it next year? Wait and see.

The following were there--KA6HSW, N6DDK and dave, WD6AJR, WA6ACX, KA6POE, W6NL, W6BCC, N6DSW, WB6SMY, KD6HQ, K6ANP, W6DTV, KA6MCU, WB6NBR, N6DBZ, KA6KX, KA6DEI, W5CCY, N6IP, KB6LO, N6DHT, WD6CKP, AG6C, WA6RNF, KA6JAE, WA6HEW, N6BLN, W6VV, K6GIF, N6DCJ, KA6BXQ, KA6IVK, WB6PUE, WB6PMN, KD6GC and Son, KS6W, K6MUP.

We thank Sonoma Communications, (County), for help in obtaining the Ragle Park, and PG&E for Fire Protection.
SILVERADO, NAPA CO. FIRE.

The fire covered some 23,000 acres and from 50 to 65 homes were damaged. Early estimates were low and confused. It did not take long to get a working crew going.

7 members of the Sonoma Co. Red Cross Disaster Assessment Team through a request of the Napa Red Cross participated in evaluation of damage to property. In fact the Sonoma Co. Group set up a training Class during the fire to supplement the RC crew. All members were from the Napa Area.

Many amateurs from outside the fire area offered their services but were turned down as the local amateurs wanted to show their people they could help.

The following is a list of Amateurs helping from Sonoma Co.:
AI6F, Don--WB4BQX, Chuck--W6KXT, Chuck--KD6LC, Jim--W6MN, Frank--WB6RHP, Warren W6TMS, Dale-- Thanks to all.

VALLEY OF THE MOON RACE

Sonoma Co. Radio Amateurs and SCARS helped out at another annual Kenwood Valley of the Moon Race. Some 604 runners took part including about 135 lady runners. Communications at various check points was taken care of by the following: N6DDK-NC, N1AL, WB6NBR, KA6MCU/isf, W6DTV. This was a first for Sarah, KA6MCU/isf after receiving her Tech. License.

SEBASTOPOL-GRATON FIRE

The Sebastopol-Graton area had it's share of activity on July 15.81. A large Apple Plant caught fire requiring 100 to 120 fire men and many pieces of equipment from many fire districts. Mutual Aid is a wonderful thing, To bad it does not work with many other groups.

From the Red Cross, Races, and Amateur sector some 10 Amateurs helped in many ways including communications until the wee small hours of the following day. Then some had to go to work as usual. The list of helpers follows:

KD6LC, Jim--N6DBZ, Mike--N6BLN, Lyle--W6DTV, Hank--KI6B, Bob--WB6TMS, Dale--W6KXT, Chuck--WB6RHP, Warren--WA6LIA, Terry--WB4BQX, Chuck. WB6PUE, PRESS

W5YI REPORT.....

4.

During the past 60 days the Commission has denied nine proposals suggesting subband changes in the Amateur Radio Service. It is obvious that the FCC will NOT be changing the subband frequencies allocated within the ham bands. This news was particularly welcome in Canada since operators there utilize the so-called foreign phone band.....14.150 to 14.200 MHz without U.S. interference.

Suggestions to allow American amateurs to operate in this spectrum have been totally opposed by Canadian amateurs. The ARRL proposed 20-meter phone band expansion last March in a Petition for Rulemaking assigned RM-3860. The League suggested an additional 50 kHz for General and Extra Class amateurs, 25 kHz more for Advanced.

The CRRL (Canadian Division of the ARRL) filed an official objection with the FCC and asked the DOC (Canadian Department of Communications) to do the same. The FCC has yet to rule on the ARRL 20-meter phone band expansion.

WIDEBAND MODULATION TO BE INVESTIGATED IN AMATEUR SERVICE

The Commission has begun an inquiry and rulemaking into whether to allow certain amateur radio users to use spread spectrum modulation. The FCC said that this would provide "useful data about the performance of such techniques..." Being sought is information regarding the technical characteristics, efficient use of spectrum, possible standardization, potential applications of wideband technology and interference potential. Also questioned was the necessity and method of FCC monitoring.

Spread spectrum techniques were originally developed for military applications such as concealed communications and resistance to jamming. The RF signal occupies a very large bandwidth as compared to the information being carried and is very hard to detect or jam, the FCC noted in a July 1st release. Because of the increased bandwidth, such techniques are implicitly prohibited by current amateur rules.

DON WALLACE HOLDS VISITORS DAY AT W6AM RHOMBIC FARM

Without a doubt, the most impressive amateur antenna farm in the country....and probably the world is the system at the Wallace R.R.& R. (Radio Ranch and Rhombic) Farm. Don Wallace, over the past thirty years, has managed to erect nine rhombic antennas that fire in eighteen directions and fill a 24-acre plot on poles as high as 140 feet! W6AM's Rhombic Farm is located on a 1200 foot hill overlooking the Pacific Ocean about 10 miles from where he lives in Long Beach and 20 miles from down town Los Angeles. From the air, the hillside looks like a porcupine! Don has all the awards including DXCC#1 and 362 countries confirmed!

FCC PULLS TICKETS FROM EXTRA-CLASS AMATEURS

Both Gerard J. Morin (W1GM) of Sanford, Maine, and Leonard R. Boucher (K4MME), Cantonment, Florida, have been stripped of their Extra-Class Amateur radio licenses by the FCC. The action stems from a "split-frequency scheme" employed by both amateurs to "maliciously interfere with the Maritime Mobile Net", the Commission said in a June 17th statement. Intentional "splatter" was caused on frequencies on and adjacent to the 14.313 MHz public

THINGS OF NOTE

William A. Little a Stanford Physics Professor has invented and developed a microminiature refrigerator to keep the new generation of microelectronic devices cool. Further advances in this technology may permit commercial use of superconductors. A real break through.

HAMFEST

The 1981 Sierra Hamfest is listed for August 22 with a dead line of August 12. Adult tickets \$14.00-- Nevada Amateur radio Assn. P.O. Box 2534, Reno, Nevada 89505.....

VALLEY OF THE MOON CLUB

Sunday August the 9th is the day set for the Sonoma Club's annual swap meet. Sonoma Community Center. Call WD6BOR or W6WJU both are on 13/73 for reservations.

NEXT MONTHS PROGRAM

Al Bloom, N1AL our Program Director has for the month of August meeting a Talk by Wayne Light, W6RIA and, hopefully, Hans Berg, DJ6TJ, about our sister Club in Lubeck, Germany. We have enjoyed Hans visits before and look forward to this one.

PORTABLE TYPEWRITER

A one handed portable typewriter, the Microwriter, is being tested by statistical scientists at Stanford. It is a word processor that can insert and delete letters and move the type around. It has a five finger keyboard, a memory capable of retaining eight pages of text, and a display that will show up to 12 characters at a time. It can be plugged into a tape recorder to store memory or it can be hooked up to a video display. Text can be hooked up to a printer with standard interface attachment.

VACATIONS

Senior "Hoppy" is planning a vacation up to N7JN land on Orcas island.

Big Geo, or KS6W and family are on their vacation. First stop of course is South Tahoe. Hope they made it past there. Cleo had to stay home.

REDWOOD DX CLUB

The July meeting had two fine speakers. Mr. DX himself, Don Wallace, W6AM, and W6KXT, Chuck of Channel 50. Don gave a coverage of the big antenna farm and his station. Large. Chuck is a fine photographer. His pictures taken under water down in the Grand Cayman Island group are out of this world. He should put them on Channel 50 as a special.

CLUB MONEY FLOW

Income month of July \$25.50--Out go \$21.01, Stamps-- In the Bank \$1069.50 to date. Outstanking bill Reno Trip.

SECURITY

After some research I think it is time that the users of the local repeaters refrain from telling a detailed location of any repeater. Some have been removed through some one giving a detailed location. Just say the repeater is located in Sonoma County should be enough for those going through our area. What say?

SALE SWAP WANT

Sale WB6NBR--~~K2000, 80/10 Lin. Amp. 2Kw. \$300.00 545-3813~~

Sale KB6LO--546-7047 for directions, Estate.
Kenwood 520S-Mint \$500.00--Dig. Readout for 520 DG5-\$150.00--
Kenwood station monitor SM220, \$275.00---MC50 Mike, \$25.00----
Swan 500Tranceive 80/10 500 Watts, Complete, \$300.00--Dentron
~~Clipperton Lin. Amp. 2000 PEP SSB, \$525.00--Dentron Dummy Load~~
1000W, \$25.00---MFJ 422 Keyer with paddle, \$70.00---Hustler 4BTV
40/10, \$75.00---Drake low pass filter, TR 3300, \$20.00---Polly
Com 6 Mtr. Am, \$15.00---MFJ 202 Noise Bridge, \$35.00---Alience
~~Rotor U100, \$25.00---Inverted Vee Ant 40 Mtr., \$15.00---Grid Dip~~
Meter Edico, \$20.00---Radio shack SWR \$25.00---Calrod in line SWR
meter, \$5.00---Coax switch-5 posit. \$10.00---Radio Shack mobile
mike 211172 \$8.00---Radio Shack Coax Sw. 3 posit. \$5.00---Heath
Kit TV align. gen. \$35.00---Heath Kit AC Volt Meter AV2 \$40.00---
Mini probe AC VM SJ100-\$10.00---Solar Cap. Analyzer, \$35.00----
Tripplett VOM 625 \$20.00---Heath Kit VTVM IM13, \$25.00---Weston
DB meter Mod. 695 \$40.00---Antenna noise bridge-Home brew \$10.00
---EMC Tube Tester-Mod.200 \$25.00---EICO Audio Generator 377,
\$20.00---Home brew #2 inch scope \$5.00---Power Stat type var. trans.
\$10.00---Turner mike 33D, \$5.00---Archer battery charger for
dry cells, \$1.00---Dentron CM1 ??-----

AROUND THE CIRCUIT BY KB6LO, DON

Complements to the Marin Amateur Radio Club for their fine Display at the recent Marin Fair. Their location was excellent and as a result, the Radiogram effort was a smashing success, and they have an impressive list of potential Amateurs for their "soon to be " Novice class.

Sour Grapes. It sure seems our local Amateurs could have done a little better job of supporting the Marin Club in their effort. Our participation was very poor, to say the least. Thanks to the following good folks that did take the time to go down and lend a hand: Vern K6ROP, Al N1AL, Chuck N6DDK, and Don KB6LO. It may be a good thing that our Club did not enter the County Fair in Santa Rosa. We may not have had enough help to operate.

Welcome Chris New resident to Sonoma County is WD5JEA, Chris, who is living in Petaluma and hopes to find permanent location soon. He is an Electrician and commutes to San Francisco. He is active on HF and also on 2 meters. If you hear him on say hello. We look forward to meeting you soon, Chris.

OSCAR IS DEAD!!!! It is now believed that the Oscar 7 satellite has reached the end of it's life. The satellite has not been heard from since mid June. This satellite was the most successful Amateur satellite to date. It was launched on Nov. 15, 74 and was part of many experiments and made some 30,000 orbits of the earth in the last six years. It's signal was always excellent and it will be missed by all the satellite users.

Oscar 8 is still alive and well and the Phase 111 is still expected to be launched in 1982, possibly as early as June.

Plain Language Rules Get a copy NOW and read them, form an opinion and write to the FCC in Washington DC. The dead line is August 12. Remember, you will have to live with these rules for a long time, and there will be no room for complaints, once they are adopted.

HAM BREAKFAST AND SWAP MEET--August 9, 81 Sonoma, Ca. Sonoma Community Center, East Napa St. Sonoma. Oam to 5 pm--Breakfast \$3.50--Under 12, \$1.75. Swap tables \$4.00 each, You can bring your own. Open and Clug Auction at 2.00 pm. Raffle at 3.30 for ticket holders. Tickets \$1.00. Talk in on 146.43

MAN-MADE COMMUNICATIONS REFLECTOR INVENTED.....

A new "Telecommunications Mirror" has been developed during the course of a contract with the U.S. Department of Energy. The new government owned communications invention is available for licensing and further development. Up until this point, all predictable communications using man-made techniques have been accomplished using costly communications satellites. The radio signal reflector is extremely simple and is held in stationary orbit simply by "radiation pressure" pushing upward and gravity pulling down. The "mirror" consists of several sets of parallel wires forming a mesh grid and is lifted into the atmosphere by a balloon. Final positioning of the grid is accomplished by "varying the intensity of the electromagnetic pressure upon it from ground stations" according to the DOE. Applications of the new technology include wide area television transmission, over-the-horizon radar and radio wave transmissions - including microwave, short, medium and long wave transmission a recent government release said. Further information is available from the Department of Energy, Washington, DC. A government report (#PAT-APPL-6-028 780/J; Cost: \$5.00) entitled "A Communications System Using a Mirror Kept in Outer Space by Electromagnetic Radiation Pressure" is available from the U.S. Dept. of Commerce; National Technical Information Service; Springfield, VA 22161.

● NEAT IDEA from the Engineer's Newsletter (Electronics, 6/2) - Any transistor radio equipped with an earphone jack can easily be converted into an amplifier-speaker to generate sound effects for game and utility programs on personal computers. Disconnect two of the three leads attached to the earphone jack. Do not disturb the ground lead, but remove the lead going to the speaker and the lead going to the output stage. Solder these two leads together. Then disconnect the lead going to the "hot" side of the volume control and connect that lead to the earphone jack terminal formerly connected to the speaker. Finally, connect the remaining free jack terminal with a short wire to the high side of the volume control. The earphone jack is now the input to the amplifier-speaker. Gain is adjustable with the volume control. When the jack is not in use, the radio operates as before.

● CABLE TV PROBLEMS are being experienced by W6OAV (Bill Rinker of San Jose, CA). It seems that Cable Channel "E" legally uses frequencies that are spread across the amateur 2-meter band. (video at 145.25 MHz, audio on 149.75). This means that the down converter's front end is tuned across the entire 2-meter band. Tests indicate that 1 watt on 2-meters will wipe out "E" to 100 feet, 35 watts to 2 blocks and 130 watts to 5 blocks. These tests were made after the local cable company had replaced all of a neighbor's coax and checked all his grounds! Tests with underground cable coax systems produced the same results. A conference call between the FCC, W6OAV and the cable company resulted in the cable company being required to correct the problem. Bill says "There is no way that Channel 'E' and two meters can coexist!" He suggests that you refer the cable company to FCC Rule 76.55A1 which pertains to this problem. "They need to know just how bad the problem is. Cable is the coming thing and we need to establish the ground rules now before they create additional channels on other ham frequencies". Bill is right about cable being the coming thing. The A. C. Nielson Company put U.S. cable penetration in May at 26.5% or 21.2 million homes-that's up a percentage point (a million homes) in just three months! There are now 4,400 operating cable systems in the U.S.! (Pennsylvania has the most systems - 342; with California the most subscribers - 2.1 million)

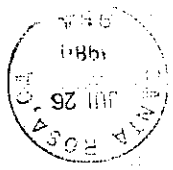
● OUTGOING FCC COMMISSIONER ROBERT E. LEE (he retires this month) called for the United States to establish a permanent ambassador to the International Telecommunication Union for Telecommunications Policy.

● VINCE LUCIANI, K2VJ, has a new book out called AMATEUR RADIO, SUPER HOBBY aimed at those interested in getting into ham radio. (\$8.95 Cologne Press; Box 682; Cologne, NJ 08213)

95401
Benita Rosa, Inc
2818 Cochran St.
East Richmond



ALWAYS USE ZIP CODE



SONOMA COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS, INC.
P. O. BOX 1166
SANTA ROSA, CA. 95402
CLUB CALL W1E1J

DX WATCH by VP2ML CHOD HARRIS

August brings a replay of July band conditions, with just a hint of the improvement the Fall DX season will bring. Noise levels stay high on the lower bands, although the lengthening hours of darkness provides some relief in the hours just before dawn. Get up a couple of hours early and listen for Pacific and Asian stations on 40 and 80. 10 meters stays dull, at least compared to the thrills of the past three years. But persistent listening and occasional CQ's into the "dead" band can provide excellent DX. If the 15 meter band starts to get noisy, and the skip distance appears to be shortening, go up to 10 and give a few calls in the direction of the shortening skip. You may be pleasantly suprised! 20 and 15 remain the workhorse for the summer DX. Try operating at different hours, or an another mode to maintain your DX enthusiasm.