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Hank Davis, W6DTV 7822 Washington Avenue
 Phone 823-7885 Sebastopol, CA 95472
 (Noncommercial ham ads are printed for free)

BUTTERNUT HF6V VERTICAL and
 2 METER VERTICAL. Jane N6NTB 584-0145.

AEA PK-232, XT IBM, all-mode, manual,
 software. \$200. Bob WU6W 578-8480.

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 Joe K6UKB 526-7731.

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 Jim K1GKE 538-2857.

KENWOOD TR-9000 2 mtr all-mode transceiver
 \$250. Garry N6ONZ 584-3425.

MIRAGE B-1016 2 meter SSB 10 Watt in - 160
 Watt out amplifier with receive preamp \$10
 MIRAGE B-108 2M 10-80 Watt amp/preamp \$90.
 AMECO PT-3 160-6 meter receive preamp \$50.
 Betty AG6C 542-6750.

HUSTLER 4BTV 10-40 meter vertical. \$50.
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 cowl or deck mount 25-59, 130-174 MHz. \$1
 RINGO RANGER ARX-2 \$20. Jim N6PTM 823-794

TEN-TEC MOBILE ANTs 20 mtr \$10. 30 mtr \$1
 HUSTLER 75 MTR RESONATOR with tip. \$20.
 LARSEN 2 MTR MAG-MOUNT, 1/2 wave. \$20.
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 KENWOOD MC55 mic, 6-pin. \$20.
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 KENWOOD MC43 mic, 8-pin. \$25.
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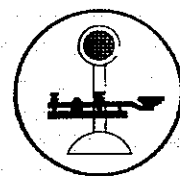
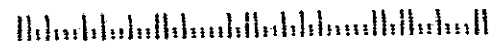
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SHORT SKIP



Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.

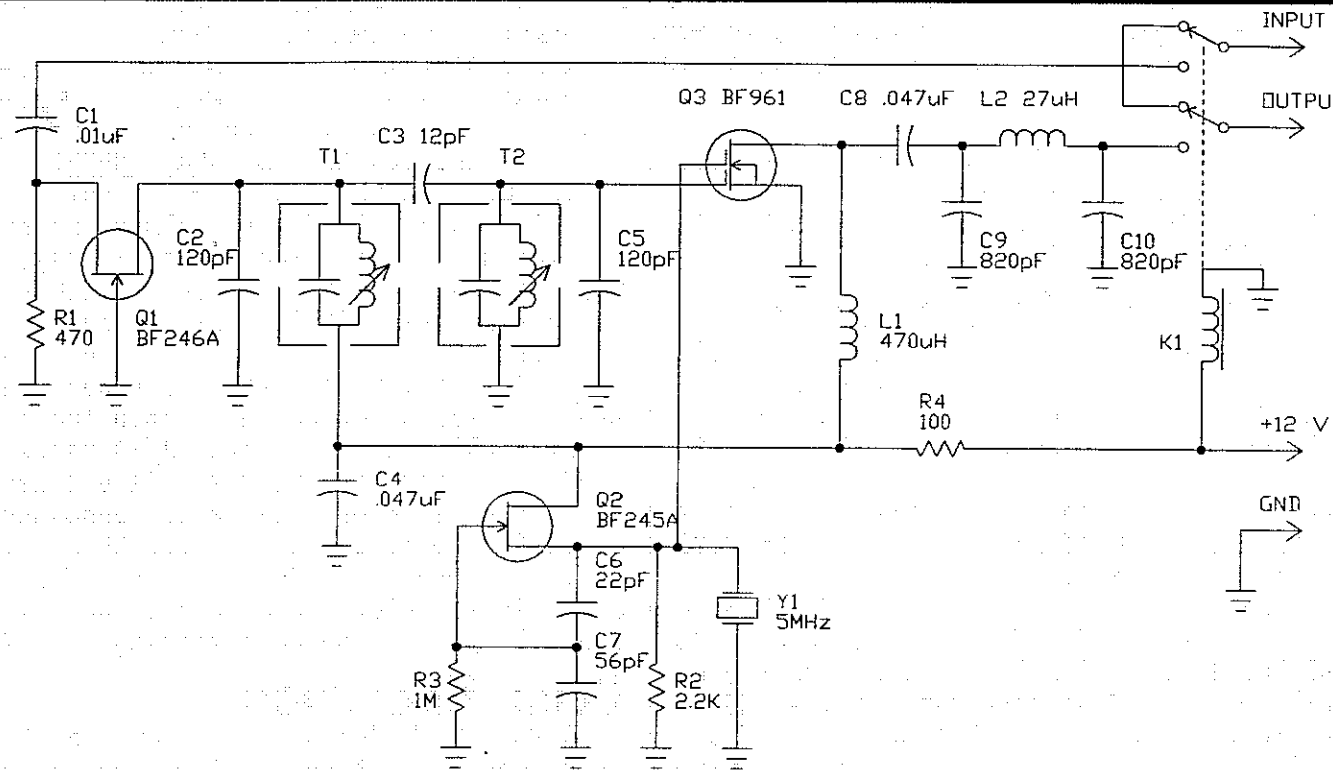
JULY 1990

Club Station
 W6LFJ

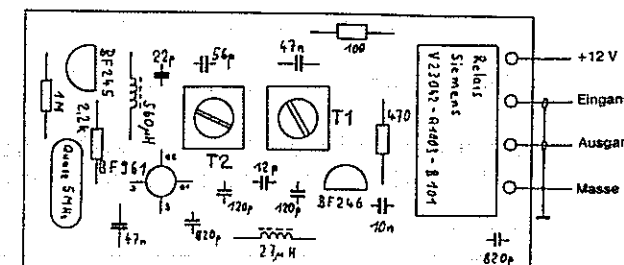
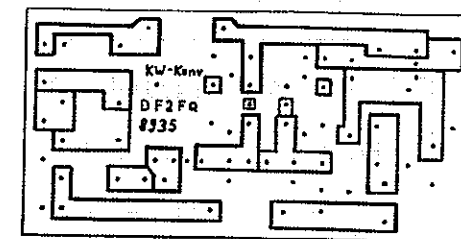
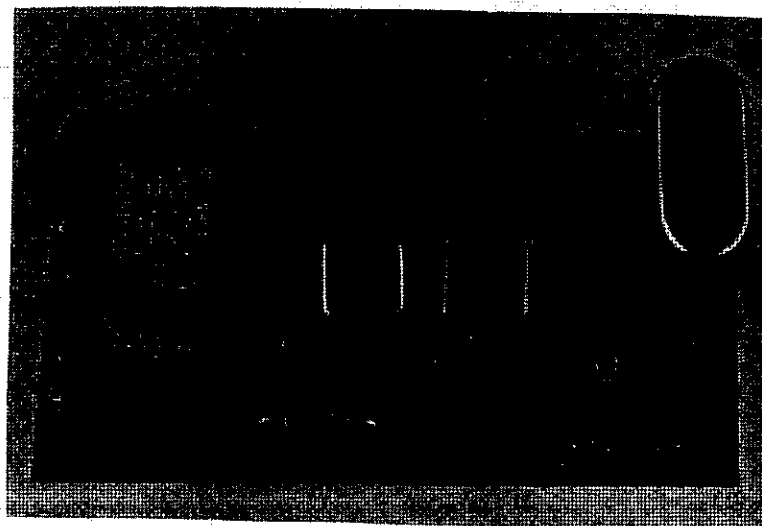
P.O. Box 116
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Repeater Station
 WB6PVS

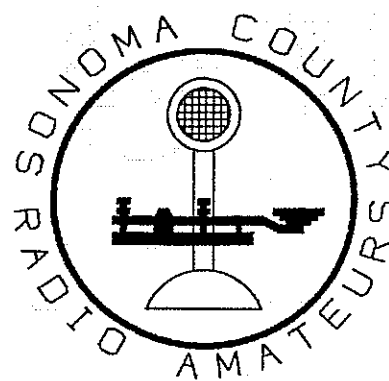
VOL 15 # 7



SHORTWAVE CONVERTER
 by DF2FQ
 from CQ DL, May 1990



SEE A.4



OFFICERS FOR 1990

PRESIDENT: John Wallack W6TLK 833-1873
VICE PRESIDENT: Jim Pelmulder N6PTM 823-7947
SECRETARY: Alan Bloom N1AL 538-7115
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ACTIVITIES CHAIR: Chuck Sabin N6DDK 795-2371
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 1578 Los Alamos Rd, Santa Rosa, CA 95409 (d) 577-3981
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 (days) 577-2913
FIELD DAY: John W6TLK and Jim N6PTM (above)
EDUCATION: John Breckenridge WB6FRZ 527-8124
 +WD6CKP WB7CNJ WB6TMY WA8LLY
TVI/RFI: John Lynch W6CCY 823-1357
FLEA MARKET: Chod Harris WB2CHO 526-2198
AWARDS: Steve Lund WA8LLY 823-4544
VEC EXAMS: Steve Lund WA8LLY 823-4544
 +N1AL WN6D WW6D WW6F WB6FRZ K6UXO
REFRESHMENTS @ MEETINGS: Bob Olsten WD6DPE
GREETER AT MEETINGS: Jane Vanderslice N6NTB
MEMBERSHIP LOTTERY: Bob Scolnick K6GEV
QSL MANAGER: Doug Bender WW6D

REPEATER CONTROL Op's:

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 WB6PER Jim 526-2972 W6TLK John 833-1873
 WB6UAZ Kathi 544-7943 WN6D Jim 544-7943
 N6PTM Jim 823-7947
PACKET COMM: Al N1AL, Jim WN6D, Rich KA6SSL

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

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 (145.03), hidden xmtr hunts -- you name it.

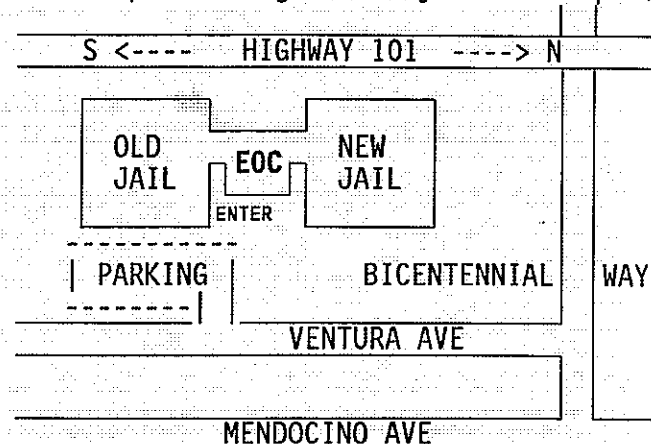
We invite you to attend our next monthly meeting (see below) or check into the Tuesday night SCARS net on the 146.13/73 repeater at 7:00 PM. You will hear the latest Westlink Amateur Radio News broadcast, announcements of SCRA activities, and a Swap Shop. If you would like to join SCRA, please refer to the dues listed below. Hope to have an "eyeball" QSO with you at the next meeting! 73 ...

CLUB MEETINGS:

7:30 PM, 1st Wednesday each month at the EOC (Emergency Operations Center, see map below) Anyone interested in ham radio is welcome.

NEXT MEETING: July 3, 1990
PROGRAM: Film: Hazardous Materials spills

DUES: \$12 per year, plus a one-time \$4.00 initiation fee. Dues are pro-rated \$1/month for new members. With membership, comes an SCRA call/name badge. Family membership: \$18



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 Larry, Mgr. WD4AGW
 Decaturville, 1 mi. north of I-285

OAKLAND, CA 94606
 2210 Livingston St.
 (415) 534-5757
 Rich, Mgr. WA9WYB
 19-880 at 23rd Ave. Ramp

SALEM, NH 03079
 224 N. Broadway
 (603) 898-3750 1-800-444-0047
 Curtis, Mgr. WB4KZL
 28 miles north of Boston exit 1 I-93

WOODBRIDGE, VA 22191
 14803 Build America Drive
 (703) 643-1053 1-800-444-4799
 John, Mgr. WB4GJZ
 Exit 54, I-95 South to US RT 1

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 6265 Sepulveda Blvd.
 (818) 988-2212
 Al, Mgr. K6YRA
 San Diego Fwy. at Victory Blvd.

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COMING EVENTS:

SCARS NET: 146.73 MHz
Tuesdays at 7 PM.

VE EXAMS HOTLINE NR:
408-984-8353

JULY:

- 2 - RACES etc. Net 7:30 PM
- 3 - SCRA meeting 7/7:30 PM
- 14 - Foothill College Flea Market
- 13 - Deadline for August *Short Skip*
- 14-15 - CQ Worldwide VHF Prefix Contest
- IARU HF World Championship
- 16 - RACES etc. Net 7:30 PM
- 19 - CDF/VIP Meeting 7:30 PM
- 21-22 - Roseland Volunteer FD
- 21-22 - Rump Stomper bike race

AUGUST:

- 17 - Deadline for September *Short Skip*
- 26 - Bodega Bay to Breakers 5 mile race

SEPTEMBER 15 - SCRA Flea Mart

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SEVENTY THREE

The traditional expression "73" goes right back to the beginning of the land-line telegraph days. It is found in some of the earliest editions of the numerical codes, each with a different definition, but each with the same idea in mind—it indicated that the end, or signature, was coming up. But there are no data to prove that any of these were used.

The first authentic use of 73 is in the publication *The National Telegraph Review and Operators' Guide*, first published in April 1857. At that time, 73 meant "My love to you!" Succeeding issues of this publication continued to use this definition of the term. Curiously enough, some of the other numerals then used have the same definition now that they had then, but within a short time, the use of 73 began to change.

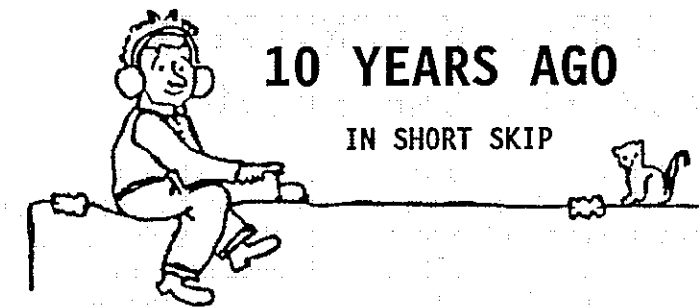
In the National Telegraph Convention, the numeral was changed from the Valentine-type sentiment to a vague sign of fraternalism. Here, 73 was a greeting, a friendly "word" between operators and it was so used on all wires.

In 1859, the Western Union Company set up the standard "92 Code." A list of numerals from one to 92 was compiled to indicate a series of prepared phrases for use by the operators on the wires. Here, in the 92 Code, 73 changes from a fraternal sign to a very flowery "accept my compliments," which was in keeping with the florid language of that era.

Over the years from 1859 to 1900, the many manuals of telegraphy show variations of this meaning. Dodge's *The Telegraph Instructor* shows it merely as "compliments." The Twentieth Century Manual of Railway and Commercial Telegraphy defines it two ways, one listing as "my compliments to you," but in the glossary of abbreviations it is merely "compliments." Theodore A. Edison's *Telegraphy Self-Taught* shows a return to "accept my compliments." By 1908, however, a later edition of the Dodge Manual gives us today's definition of "best regards" with a backward look at the older meaning in another part of the work where it also lists it as "compliments."

"Best regards" has remained ever since as the "put-it-down-in-black-and-white" meaning of 73 but it has acquired overtones of much warmer meaning. Today, amateurs use it more in the manner that James Reid had intended that it be used—a "friendly word between operators."

—Louise Ramsey Moreau
WB6BBO/W3WRE



The big upcoming event in July 1980 was the Sonoma County Fair July 7-20. I think this was the last year we had a booth before the fees got too high.

The club roster was published in this issue. 75 members. The schedule for FCC exams was also published. Remember when you had to travel to 555 Battery St., San Francisco to get your General?

VE EXAM RESULTS

By Steve Lund WA8LLY

The May 17 VE exam session was our most successful to date. All 5 candidates upgraded. We had 3 upgrades to Technician and 2 to General. Reed White came in to take his Novice and walked out with his General!

A special thanks to VE's: Jim WN6D, Steve WA8LLY, and Robin N6PHP, who came from Novato to help with the session.

The next session is targeted for September. It will NOT be the same day as the SCRA Flea Market.

VE'S NEEDED

If you have an Extra Class license, the local VE team would like you to join our efforts in making exams available locally. At the present time, all exams are done through ARRL-VEC. There are only 4 active VE's in the area now. Each session takes about 3 hours. If we had more VE's, more sessions could be made available. If you are interested, please give Steve WA8LLY a call at 823-4544 (after 7 PM).



ANTENNA RESTRICTIONS

By Hank Davis W6DTV

Yes, we have them. Some Amateurs have to put up with restrictions and some of us find ways to beat the rap.

I visited an old-time Amateur in Santa Rosa who lives in a mobile home park. No antennas are permitted. He did some deep thinking and came up with this solution:

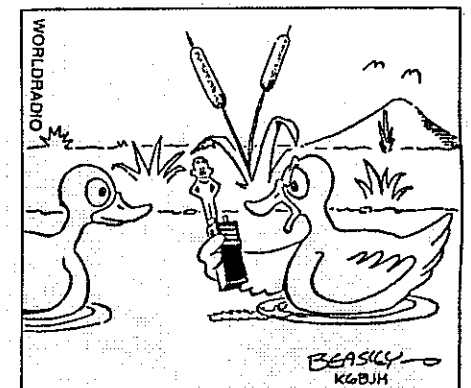
He put a mobile antenna on the trunk of his car (Ten Tec type, very inconspicuous). He then connected a short coax lead to a chassis fitting mounted on the side of his car. Now when he wants to use his rig, he connects a coax lead from his house to the coax fitting on the car, and he is in business. He has worked 130-plus countries this way. No restrictions on car antennas.

Good luck.

NEW MEETING DATE!

The first Wednesday of July this year falls on the 4th. So the club meeting will be on **TUESDAY JULY 3**. Same time and place.

The program will be a short film on handling hazardous materials (HAZMAT) spills and a talk on safety by John W6TLK.



I'M GOING TO GET MYSELF A QUARTER-WAVE WHIP... THESE RUBBER PEOPLE ANTENNAS LEAVE ME COLD!

NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERS

SINCE LAST MONTH

Reed White PO Box 1001 Sebastopol, CA 95472 829-1001
 Laurel Meyer KC6FKX 5929 Van Keppel Rd. Forestville, CA 95436 887-2555

Albert Styles K6ALI 2407 Francisco Ave. Santa Rosa, CA 95403 545-9407
 Tom Sehabiague W6KTT 2781 Warm Springs Rd. Glen Ellen, CA 95442 525-1751

Charles Coffel WA6BPA 1933 E. Haven Santa Rosa, CA 95404 546-9189
 Judson Goodrich KA6MUB 6396 Stone Bridge Rd. Santa Rosa, CA 95409 538-4391

Evelyn Styles WA6DQZ 2407 Francisco Ave. Santa Rosa, CA 95403 545-9407
 Jud Spruce N6QAV 867 First St. Sebastopol, CA 95472 829-3621

Ian Greenshields G4FSU 5146 Santa Rosa Crk Dr Santa Rosa, CA 95409 538-9249
 Roger Sherron WB6WLJ 3336 Scrub Oak Dr. Santa Rosa, CA 95404 539-4083

If I counted correctly, we now have a total of 147 paid-up members. ■



SHORTWAVE CONVERTER FOR THE CAR RADIO

For those of you who like to listen to shortwave broadcast stations in the car, the front cover of *Short Skip* shows a design by Holger Eckardt DF2FQ that appeared last month in *CQ-DL*, the German *QST*. You hook the antenna to the "input" and the car radio antenna wire to the "output". It switches to shortwave mode automatically when you apply 12 volt power.

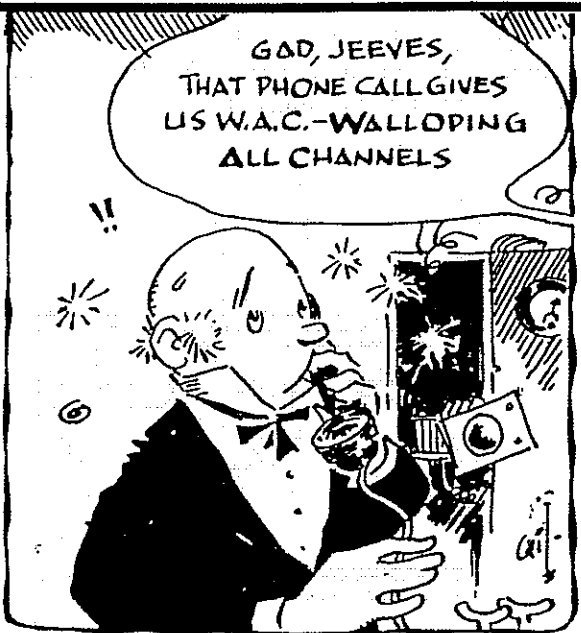
As shown, it covers the 49 meter band (5.5 to 6.5 MHz). To cover other bands, change the crystal frequency and modify the input filters. For example, to receive 10 MHz WWV, use a crystal around 9 MHz or so. Reduce the values of C2 and C5 to a value that gives the best sensitivity, and reduce C3 until sensitivity just starts to drop.

T1 and T2 are 10.7 MHz IF transformers with core color orange. The European field-effect transistors specified don't seem too critical. An RCA SK-3112 is listed as a substitute for both the BF245 and BF246. You might also try a 2N4416, but watch the pinout -- there is no standard lead arrangement for FET's as there is for bipolars. A 3N140 should work for the BF961. It does have the same pinout. Any DPDT 12V relay that fits should work for K1.

The unit was built on a 30x60 mm (1-3/16 x 2-3/8") PC board. A 1:1 layout is reproduced on the front cover.

If it fits, the most elegant place for the converter is inside the radio. Hook its 12V input through an un-needed switch, such as the stereo/mono switch (normally used only on FM). If it won't fit in the radio, use your imagination in locating the converter on/off switch. ■

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. ■



SCRA MINUTES

June 6, 1990



The meeting was called to order by President John Wallack W6TLK at 7:31PM. Other officers present: Vice President Jim Peimulder N6PTM, and Secretary Al Bloom N1AL.

VISITORS presented by Greeter Jane N6NTB: Shawn Wyman, Jim Wolder, and Grant Canfield.

Harvey K6KZ thanked TRACY WB6TMY for folding, spindling, and mutilating *Short Skip* again this month when Harvey and Ruth were out of town.

The **MINUTES** of the last meeting were approved as printed in last month's *Short Skip*. m/s NH6GF/N6PTM

The **TREASURER'S REPORT** by KC6BSI was presented by N6PTM. We have \$1722.92 in the General Fund and \$755.43 in the Repeater Fund. Approved. m/s K6GEV/N1AL

The **REPEATER** antenna is still on order, according to W6TLK. N6PTM commented that if it gets any worse, we may have to turn off Sonoma Mountain and switch to the Repco.

Recent **PUBLIC SERVICE** events were the Special Olympics and the March of Dimes WalkAmerica. Bill N6GHG thanked those who helped out. This weekend we need 3 people for an event in Guerneville. Field Day weekend, we need about 10 people for the "Terrible 2" bike race. We already have a few volunteers, but this may be a problem.

EDUCATION: John WB6FRZ has 2 classes going. He is half-way through the Thursday class (5-7 students) and also teaches 2 people at his home Friday nights.

FIELD DAY: N6PTM has checked out the site at the Healdsburg Lytton Springs Salvation Army center. Antenna setup is Friday starting around 2 PM. WB6FRZ is coordinating the Novice effort. Jim WB6PER and Susan N6IRJ are handling the food. Susan reports that we will have choice of steak or chicken or hot dogs for the kids. Also provided

will be fresh vegetables and as many other goodies as the cook's enthusiasm warrants.

The **MEETING DATE** in July will be Tuesday the 3rd instead of the first Wednesday, July 4.

Recent **CORRESPONDENCE** included ads for a club discount on ARCO solar panels and ham radio kits from A & A Engineering.

The **MEMBERSHIP LOTTERY** was won by none other than Susan N6IRJ.

Meeting adjourned 8:35 PM. m/s KB6PTA/N1AL
 Respectfully submitted, Sec. Al Bloom N1AL. ■

TREASURER'S REPORT



FOR MONTH ENDING May 31, 1990

ACCOUNT	REVENUE	EXPENSE
Refreshments at meetings ..	7.70	7.20
Dues and Initiations	177.00	
Fund-Raisers (ARRL).....	55.00	48.00
Badges		25.50
Misc(Engrave plaque)		2.13
Amateur Radio Newsline		5.40
	-----	-----
	239.70	88.23

ASSETS:

General Fund Account	1676.77
Cash/checks on hand	46.15
Total General Fund	1722.92
Total Repeater Fund	755.43

- de KC6BSI ■

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Manager



DX NEWS



E. MALAYSIA. 9M8MG has been reported on 14225 between 100 and 1400z. 9M8FH also has been around that frequency at about 1100z.

KERGUELEN. FT5XA is fairly active on 20 meter SSB between 1200 and 1300z.

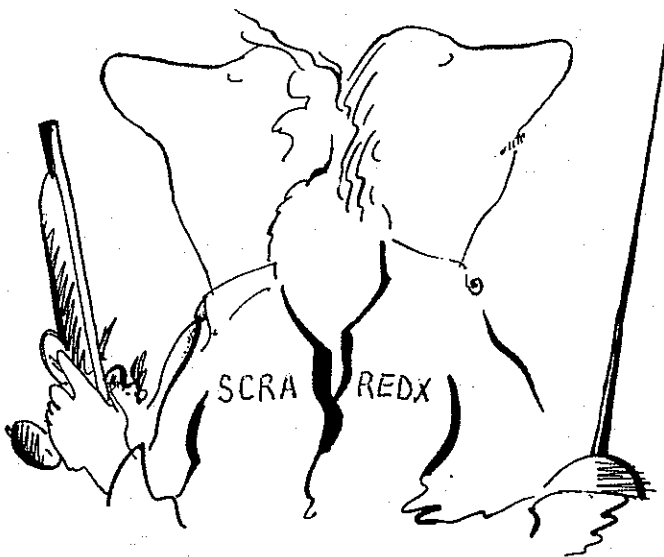
MINAMI TORISHIMA. JA9IAX/JD1 plans to be active through August.

NAURU. An operation using the club call C21NI is expected to begin June 27. C21DX continues to be active on 20 meter SSB around 1130z.

SOLOMON ISLANDS. Ron, ZL1AM0, is active as H44RW. Watch 14025 and 21025. QSL direct to his home call only.

THAILAND. HSOAC has been worked on 21025 at 0200z. QSL via WA4BCQ.

Thanks to thanks to Steve N9NUF, the Northern Illinois DX Association and WIAW for the above info. ■



EMERGENCY PACK

David KB6JAW

With all the earthquakes and such lately, it is a good idea to have the necessary equipment available to be able to respond to the emergency in a timely manner.

This is a "quick list" that I use to round up the things that I need in a hurry. It is certainly not all-inclusive, but it covers items that are required most of the time.

Make a copy of this list, and tack it up on the wall in the shack or garage.

1. MOBILE RADIO and ANTENNA
2. HANDHELD RADIO
3. EXTRA BATTERIES and CHARGER
4. REPEATER BOOK
5. NOTEBOOK and PEN
6. WATCH/CLOCK
7. MAPS
8. TOOLS (SOLDERING IRON, etc.)
9. PERSONAL CLOTHING
10. FOOD/DRINKS
11. CAMERA and FILM

Most of this stuff will fit in a daypack, and that keeps it all in one place.

Tnx LARK, Livermore Amateur Radio Klub. ■

Jim Pelmulder
N6PTM

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DO YOU HAVE YOUR ENVELOPES ON FILE?

By Steve N50WK

A recent conversation with a local QSL Bureau member brought up an interesting but sad fact. Most overseas QSL cards are simply thrown in the trash because the Ham addressee does not have any envelopes on file. The buro operators usually wait 90 days to trash them, but no one ever seems to remedy their problem. With the number of cards coming in, you should not depend on the Bureau sending you a reminder slip to send more envelopes. Also envelopes are never thrown away, so some have 17 cent stamps on them. Send them a few stamps for your old envelopes.

Overseas Hams QSL about 80% of the time. They don't ask you first if it's OK. If you're a new Ham like me, don't get on 10 meters and start MAKING overseas contacts without first sending envelopes to the QSL Bureau. The overseas Ham will send a card quicker than a blink, and for nothing. See the next column for Bureau addresses.

To foster better international brotherhood, and out of plain courtesy, get those cards printed and mail some envelopes to your QSL Bureau before hitting the airwaves. If you don't remember when you last sent envelopes then it might not hurt to send some new ones. I know it's been an education for me. 73 and make this QSL Month. *Tnx CompuServe* ■

QSL BUREAU ADDRESSES:

Area Address

- 1 Mt. Tom Repeater Assoc. Box 216, Forest Park Station, Springfield, MA 01108
- 2 North Jersey DX Association, Box 599, Morris Plains, NJ 07950
- 3 Cumberland County ARS, Box 448, New Kingstown, PA 17072
- 4 Single letter prefix: Mecklenburg ARS, Box DX, Charlotte, NC 28220
- 4 Two letter prefix: Sterling Park ARC, Call Box 599, Sterling Park, VA 22170
- 4 Puerto Rico: P.R. ARC, Box 1061, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 00902
- 4 Virgin Islands: Virgin Island ARC, G.P.O. Box 11360, Charlotte Amalie, VI 00801
- 5 W5 QSL Bureau, Box 44246, Oklahoma City, OK 73144
- 6 QSL Bureau, Box 1460, Sun Valley, CA 91352
- 6 Hawaiian Islands: QSL Bureau, Box 788, Wahiawa, HI 96786
- 7 Willamette Valley DX Club Inc., Box 555, Portland, OR 97207
- 7 Alaska: Alaska QSL Bureau, 4304 Garfield St, Anchorage, AK 99503
- 8 QSL Bureau, Box 182165, Columbus, OH 43218
- 9 Northern Illinois DX Association, Box 519, Elmhurst, IL 60126
- 0 W0 QSL Bureau, Ak-Sar-Ben ARC, Box 291, Omaha, NE 68101
- SWL Incoming Only: Mike Witkowski, WDX9JFT, 4206 Nebel St, Stevens Point, WI, 54481

