


BULK RATE
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 PERMIT NO. 658

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.
 PO Box 116
 Santa Rosa, CA 95402-0116


ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

BRECKENRIDGE, JOHN WB6FRZ
 574 WILD OAK DR
 WINDSOR, CA 95492

Next Meeting:
 December 4
 @ Cattlemens



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



George Shedore
 Manager
 KS6W
 8819 REDWOOD DRIVE
 COTATI, CA 94931
 PHONE: (707) 792-2277
 FAX: (707) 792-0146

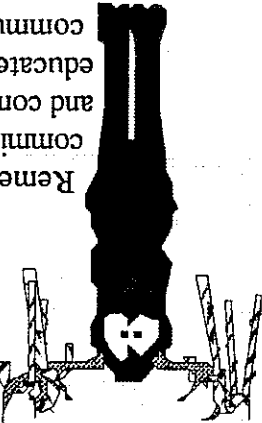
EXPENSES

ARRL Membership	(\$133.00)
OVERHEAD	
Refreshments	(\$6.00)
REPEATER	
Maintenance	(\$175.00)
Phone	(\$20.03)
SHORTSKIP	(\$139.88)
TOTAL EXPENSES	(\$473.91)
Interest Income	(\$5.14)
ENDING BALANCE	\$1,866.72
CHECKING	\$937.22
SAVINGS	\$78.31
CASH ON HAND	\$2,882.25
TOTAL CASH	\$2,882.25

SCRA INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT as of 11/18/96

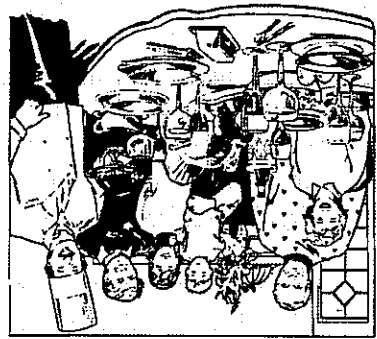
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$1,757.11
CHECKING	\$932.08
CASH ON HAND	\$75.79
INCOME	
ARRL Income	\$118.00
Dues	\$145.00
Initiation	\$30.00
Quarterly Raffle	\$50.00
Monthly Raffle	\$45.25
Refreshment	\$3.27
Short Skip	\$192.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$583.52

The Santa Rosa antenna ordinance public hearing was held at City Hall November 14. There were several speakers from commercial interests, and the amateur community was well represented by Lee Dibble KE6BAQ and Steve Lund W6MU (new call). There were many harms in the audience (though the room was far from packed). It was stated more than once that this was an information gathering session, and written input is encouraged until December 15. If you would like to contribute send your suggestions & comments to:
 Blake Hillegas, Department of Community Development, City of Santa Rosa
 PO Box 1678
 Santa Rosa, CA 95402



The menu will be your choice of a 9 1/2 oz. sirloin, salmon fillet (fresh) or chicken breast. Meals include salad, bread & beans. Price: \$16.95 including tax & tip. Contact Steven KD6CJR for reservations.

A club meeting will be a dinner meeting / awards ceremony held at Cattlemens Restaurant in Montgomery Village (2400 Midway Dr., Santa Rosa). No host cocktails start at 6 PM, with dinner served between 7 and 7:30. The program will start around 8:30, and we should be out by 9:30.

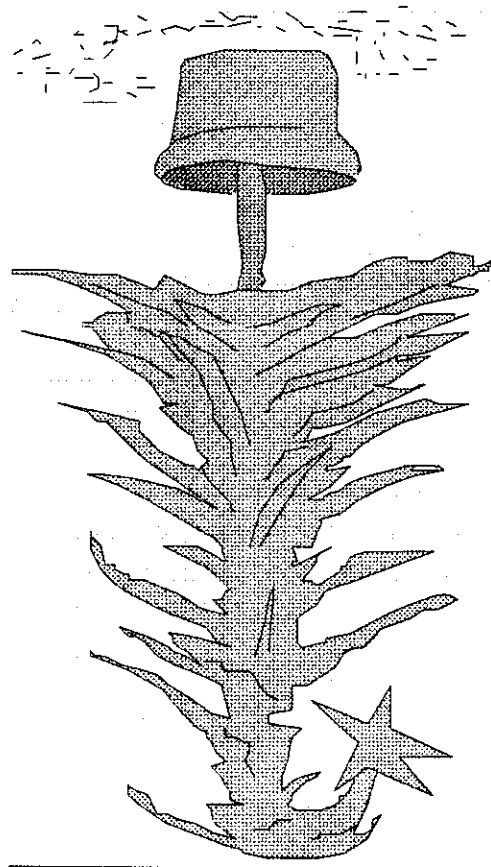


SCRA Christmas Dinner Meeting
 is the custom, the December club meeting will be a dinner meeting / awards ceremony held at Cattlemens Restaurant in Montgomery Village (2400 Midway Dr., Santa Rosa). No host cocktails start at 6 PM, with dinner served between 7 and 7:30. The program will start around 8:30, and we should be out by 9:30.

Volume 21 #12
 December 1996

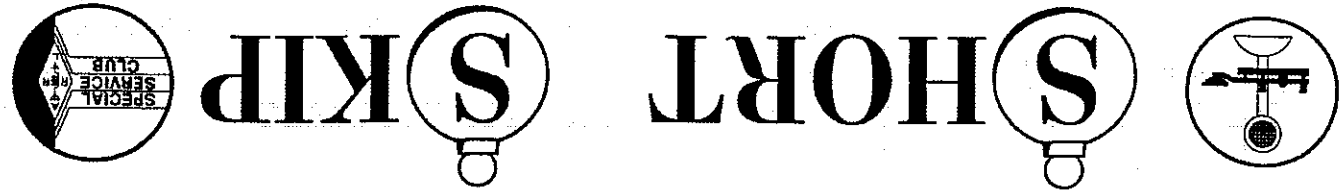
The fox hunt is normally held on the third Saturday of the month, but due to popular demand (and the desire to try out any new toys) the December hunt will be held December 28 at 9:00 am. It is planned to be an on-foot event, the location still to be determined (Spring Lake?). Check in to the Tuesday night net for final details.

FOX HUNT



Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.
 PO Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402
 146.730MHz • 224.48MHz • 441.375MHz

Club Station W6LFI
 Repeater Station WB6PVS



OFFICERS FOR 1996

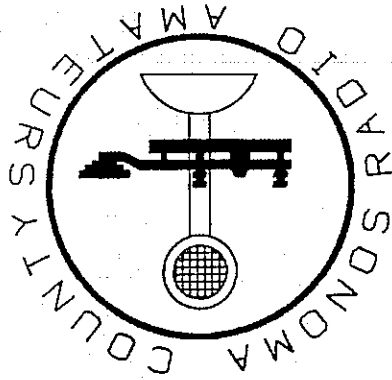
PRESIDENT: Steve Carniglia K6VA 546-7370
VICE PRESIDENT: Rick Reiner K6ZWB 575-4455
SECRETARY: Steven Fell KD6CJR 579-8346
TREASURER: Joel Nadler KJ6LF 545-1782
MEMBERS-AT-LARGE: Claude Jones AB6OL 527-8593
REPEATER CHAIR: Kelly Cureton KD6CJQ 837-9434
ACTIVITIES CHAIR: Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV 538-0331

ASSOCIATE EDITOR: Shirley Jones KD6PKA
CIRCULATION: Ken Harrison N6MHG
AUDIO TAPING: John Breckenridge WB6FRZ
Laurel Meyer KC6FKX
Bob Phillips N6RMW
SWAP SHOP EDITOR: Greg Cowles KE6FXK 829-1583

EDITOR: Claude Jones AB6OL 527-8593
 3612 Banyan Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95403-1557
 E-mail: ab6ol@cds1.net
 Fax: 528-2017

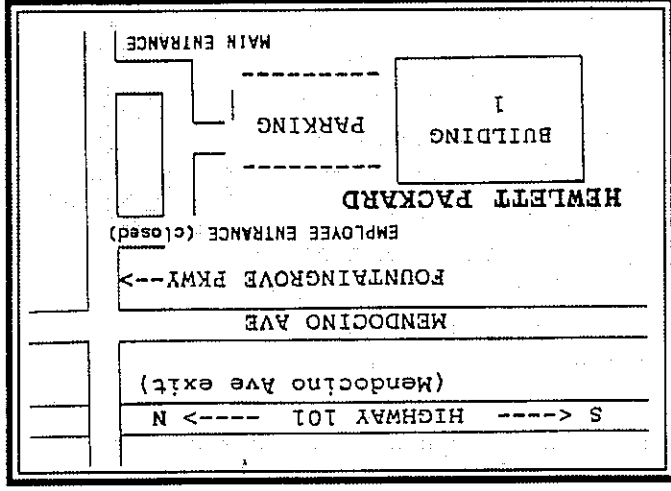
7:30 pm, 1st Wednesday each month at the Hewlett-Packard plant in Santa Rosa. (See map below) All are welcome.

ARE YOU AN SCRA MEMBER?
 If not, then this is a complimentary copy of *Short Skip*. Our club is involved with almost every area of Amateur Radio: Repeaters (146.73), Field Day, License classes (Novice through Extra), Volunteer exams, RACES, DX programs, Packet radio, hidden transmitter hunts -- you name it.



Club Meetings

Next Meeting: December 4, 1996
Program: Christmas Dinner at Cattlemans



SHORT SKIP STAFF

PRESIDENT: Steve Carniglia K6VA 546-7370
VICE PRESIDENT: Rick Reiner K6ZWB 575-4455
SECRETARY: Steven Fell KD6CJR 579-8346
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EDITOR: Claude Jones AB6OL 527-8593
 3612 Banyan Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95403-1557
 E-mail: ab6ol@cds1.net
 Fax: 528-2017

We invite you to attend our next monthly meeting (see below) or check into the Tuesday night SCRA net on the 146.73 repeater at 7PM. You will hear the latest Amateur Radio Newline broadcasts, announcements of SCRA activities and a Swap Shop. Membership in SCRA is open to anyone interested in Amateur Radio. If you would like to join, there is a membership application in this issue. Hope we can have an "eyeball" QSO with you at the next meeting! 73 ...

SCRA HOTLINE 707-579-9608
 WWW http://cds1.net/scra

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

The *Short Skip* is published monthly by the Sonoma County Radio Amateurs. Permission to reprint articles is granted, provided the source is properly credited. Items printed do not necessarily represent the views of the SCRA and/or its editors.

Application for membership in SCRA

Name _____ Call sign _____ License Class _____
 Address _____ Phone _____ Date _____
 City _____ ZIP _____ E-mail _____
 () New () Renewal

SCRA Dues: The renewal date for SCRA dues is March 1st. Dues are \$18/year for individual and \$27/year for families. The new member initiation (badge) fee is \$6/person. Dues for new members only are prorated at \$1.50/month for individuals and \$2.25/month for families, starting at renewal time.
ARRL dues: \$31/year, \$25 over 65 with proof of age. (Under 21 rates require application form).
 Make checks payable to SCRA

I WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT:

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

Name Badge Information (new members)
 Fill in exactly as you want it to appear on your badge.
 Call sign _____ First Name _____
 City _____

SCRA Dues: Individual \$18, Family \$27
 + Initiation fee \$6.00
 - Prorate discount X _____
 (# months) (rate)
ARRL Dues: \$31 or \$25 if over 65
 + Additional donation to SCRA: _____
 + Total dues: _____

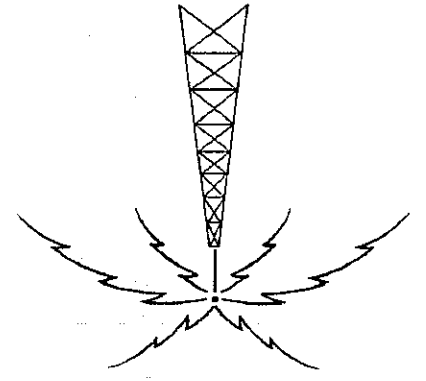
AUTOSLOT REQUEST: Licensed SCRA members are entitled to a repeater autoslot. Fill in the information below to apply. For further information contact Kelly KD6CJQ at 837-9434.
 Phone Number: _____
 Is this your home phone? () Yes () No

Activities Committee:

Public Service:	Marte Mappus	KI6QY	664-1978
Public Relations:	Steve Carniglia	KV6A	579-9608
QSL Mgr:	Fred Leoni	N6YEU	431-8202
TV/RFI:	Al Bloom	N1AL	538-7115
Antennas:	Joe Senft	KM6TN	578-5824
Awards:	Steve Lund	K6UM	823-4544
RACES RO:	Merl Pfeiff	N6VUC	584-3898
Field Day:	Steve Carniglia	AT6A	579-9608
Swap Meet:	Rick Reiner	K6ZBW	575-4455
Education:	Bill Hillendahl	KH6GJV	538-0331
VEC Exams:	Bill Kinder	KO6ZG	894-9591
Badge Chair:	Fred Leoni	N6YEU	431-8202
Refreshments:	Steve Corey	N6WMW	
Raffle at meetings:	Greg Cowles	KE6FXK	
Membership lottery:	James Cureton	KD6GSF	
Packet BBS:	Jim Andrews	KC6PJW	795-2163
	Dave Willey	KD6KWM	577-0191

Repeater Control Op's

Kelly KD6CJQ	837-9434
Hoppy WD6CKP	542-6750
Steve KV6A	579-9608
Jim N6PTM	823-7947
Mert N6VUC	584-3898
Ken N6MHG	539-2701



KH6GJV to fill the vacant Member at larg position. No other nominations were presented. N6DDK moved nomination be closed. Seconed by KF6CLJ.

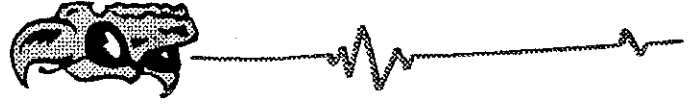
No write ins were counted so the board will be as follows: President Steve KK6VY, Vice President Rick K6ZWB, Secretary Steve KD6CJR, Treasurer Joel KJ6LF, Members at Large Claude AB6OL and Bill KH6GJV.

There was a short video presentation provided by Bill KH6GJV about a rescue operation that was initiated by amateur radio. QSL cards for the Alcatraz expedition will be out shortly. They were donated by Fred N6YEU.

We still need someone to handle transporting the coffee pot for regular club meetings. No pot, no coffee!!

The raffle was conducted by Merl N6VUC. Prizes were provided by ARDCO and HSC. Please patronize these fine establishments to show our thanks for this support. Other prizes donated were a 2 meter beam by Bob Bratburg KE6TIV and a frequency guide by KF6GMH.

James KD6GSF pulled Mike Hall KE6YQV for the membership lottery. The meeting was adjourned at about 9:50 PM. Respectfully submitted by Steven Feil KD6CJR



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

November 13, 1996

The November Minutes of the Sonoma County Radio Amateurs board meeting held at the Bank of the West on Marlow Rd. Members of the board present were: Vice President, Rick K6ZWB, Secretary, Steven KD6CJR, Treasurer, Joel KJ6LF, Repeater Chairman and Past President, Kelly KD6CJQ, Public Service Chairman, Marie K16QY and Member-at-large, Claude AB6OL. There were also 4 other SCRA members present. The meeting was called to order at 5:40 PM by Past President, Kelly KD6CJQ. Rick K6ZWB assumed the chair when he arrived.

Rick K6ZWB: Moved we make a long standing member of the club a life member. Seconed by KD6CJQ. Motion Carried. To be announced at the Christmas meeting on Dec. 4.

Continued on Page 5

SCRA MINUTES

November 6, 1996

The November 1996 meeting was called to order by President Steve Carriaglia KK6VY at 7:30 PM at Cattlemens Restaurant. Other officers present were: Vice President Rick Reiner K6ZWB, Secretary Steve Feil KD6CJR, Treasurer Joel Nadler KJ6LF, Repeater Chairman and Past President Kelly Cureton KD6CJQ, Activities Chairman, Bill KH6GJV, Public Service Chairman Marie Mappus K16QY and Member-at-Large Claude Jones AB6OL.

The minutes for the previous monthly meeting were approved as published in Short Skip. A portion was missing and was read by Steve KD6CJR prior to approval N6VUC/KD6VUM

The Treasurers report by Joel Nadler KJ6LF is as outlined: Cash is 75.59, Checking is 1829.79, Savings is 932.08.

Activities Committee Report, by Bill KH6GJV. Seven started General class, six finished. The Christmas Party will be next month, 12/4. Dinner will begin at 6 pm. Menu will be Beef, Chicken or Salmon at \$16.95. This includes all expenses. An awards presentation will follow dinner. Call KD6CJR at 579-8346 to RSVP!! There has been a request for a mini-DXpedition to Death Valley.

Steve KD6CJR gave a brief overview of the Foxhunt held Oct. 26. The winners were John KM6XO, Dave KF6GLG and Larry KD6VUM. They will be in charge of the hiding place for the hunt to be held 11/16. Bill discussed the Handi-Finder RDF antenna and has some available for purchase.

Repeater Committee Report, by Kelly Cureton KD6CJQ. Recommended that everyone get a copy of Part 97 FCC rules. They are updated and easier to understand. The county has provided the coax that we needed to get our antennas remounted. We will be purchasing some to replace it. They donated some cross arms as the ones up there were well worn. The new controller will be up and running by 1 Jan. That is also the date that the repeater will be put into FULL TIME PL. Kelly will be the NET control for December.

Public Service Committee Report, by Chairperson Marie K16QY. Marie needs someone to take the reigns of Public Service for next year. She can train but is unable to be Chairman any longer. Many thanks to those who supported her this and in past years.

RACES report by Merl N6VUC: 10 completed the CPT/First Aid class. The next will include infant/child certs. A training plan for RACES ops is being put together for 1997. Many compliments were received on the job done during the recent drill. The certification is now at the State level for approval.

Lee KE6BAQ informed us about a Santa Rosa Planning commission meeting regarding the impending antenna ordinance to be held 11/14.

Steve KK6VY requested nominations from the floor. He began by stating that all board members except Joe KE6LNQ would be running again for the same positions. He also nominated Bill

\$325 OBO. TS-130s HF transceiver w/matching pwr supply \$375 OBO. Bob K9EYF 579-1137

WANTED

Kenwood mic for a Kenwood TS440sat HF rig. Desk/ Hand mic. Jim KB6ZOP 707-585-9946 or e-mail jmacd@wco.com

HANK'S SWAP SHOP can also be found on the SCRA Web Page at http://cdsl.net/scra

Upcoming VE Sessions

December 7 at 9:00 am

Novato (MARC) at Kaiser Hospital, Building 2, San Rafael WALK-IN 147.330 - RPT AAA MAP MARN COUNTY E10 From Hwy 101 take Freitas Parkway west bound, turn left onto Gallinas Ave. Turn right onto Nova Albion Way, Right onto Montecillo Road and park in lot A. Enter building 2 at south door.

December 14 at 5:00 pm

Petaluma (SMRS) at Petaluma Senior Citizen Center TALK-IN 146.350 - RPT AAA MAP PRTALUMA K7. Take East Washington Street off ramp from 101 freeway. Go east on Washington to first signal (McDowell Blvd). Left (north) on McDowell Blvd to first signalight, East Madison Ave. Turn right to Novak Drive. Turn left, building to left of circle. Park in back parking lot.

* ARRL/VEC test fee to rise: The ARRL/VEC has set its 1997 Amateur Radio test fee at \$6.25. This is in accordance with an October 31, 1996, FCC Public Notice setting the maximum volunteer examiner expense reimbursement at \$6.26 for 1997.

The current maximum is \$6.07. The new figure is based on a 3.13% increase in the Department of Labor Consumer Price Index (CPI) over the period September 1995 to September 1996. As an ARRL/VEC policy, examinations which include only Elements 1(A) (5-wpm code test) and/or Element 2 (Novice written examination) will not be charged the standard fee in 1997. Morse code exemption applicants will be charged the standard \$6.25 fee in 1997. For 1997, ARRL VES may retain up to \$4 for each applicant they serve in order to offset their necessary and prudently-incurred expenses. ARRL VES who retain such expense reimbursements are required by the ARRL/VEC to retain income and expense records for three years. For more information, contact the ARRL/VEC, tel 860-594-0300; e-mail vec@arrl.org;--Bart J. Jahnke, W9JJ

The ARRL Letter

HANK'S SWAP SHOP

Greg Cowles KE6FXK 252 Hutchins Ave. Sebastopol, CA 95472 Phone: 829-1583 E-mail: ke6fxk@aol.com Non-commercial ham ads printed free. Please call when item is sold. Ads run 2 months.

FOR SALE

1) Kenwood TM-221a, 2m FM transceiver, 45w, \$225.00; ICOM IC-2GAT 2m HT, 7w, \$215.00; AEA PRT-1 TNC with uninstalled TAPR TNC-2 kit \$50.00. Ken McTaggart N6KM @ 707-938-2626, or e-mail N6KM@AMSAT.ORG

3) Kenwood TS-850S, HF w/auto antenna tuner, \$1240.00 Bob AC6KY 537-0834 4) Kenwood TS-830S, HF transceiver, W/mic man. and spare tubes. \$550.00, Health kit IM-5284 multi-meter, \$25.00 Dudley W6NKKW 707-829-2487

5) Kenwood 130-SE, w/mic and manual; Kenwood VFO Model 120; PS 30, power supply; Kenwood AT-130 Antenna tuner; Diawa SWR meter, CN620; Straight Key, Turner Mic 245c; Realistic Speaker SP150; Kenwood phone patch; Tube tester; Archer Volt Ohm Meter. Field strength meter; Pair of 10" 2way speakers. 12v cigarette adapter. Call Hank for prices. MFJ dry dummy load, 1.5 kw, \$50.00; 16th edition ARRL Antenna handbook, \$5.00; ARRL Handbooks, \$5.00 each, 1976, 80, 82, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89. Hank Davis WD6DTV 823-7885

6) Health Kit Oculoscope \$50.00 Steve KD6CJR 707-579-8346 7) Alenco DJ-F1, 2m HT modified for Mars or Cival Air Patrol, w/drop-in charger. \$170.00 OBO; Code tape sets, By Jerry Zillah KB6MT, NEW \$15.00 Greg KE6FXK 707-829-1583, E-mail KE6FXK@aol.com 8) IBM PS2, 286 computer, 5 1/4", 3.5", 2 spd CD Rom, w/keyboard, NO monitor, \$175.00 Joel KJ6LF 707-545-1782, e-mail Dad17@aol.com 9) MFJ ant. tuner, 949E Deluxe, \$100.00 Walter KE6JIT 707-894-3727 10) Icom IC2000H 2m mobile, \$250.00 O.B.O. John KE6KCM 916-366-9575 11) Yaesu FT-411, 2m HT \$150.00 OBO; Icom IC-22 2m mobile, \$75.00 obo; AEA 20M 5watt, CW transceiver kit, NEW, \$50.00 obo; Tempo 2020, 5 band 80-10m Transceiver, \$50.00 obo; TS-120s HF transceiver w/matching pwr supply

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ARRL BOOKS

ARRL Handbook

License Manuals

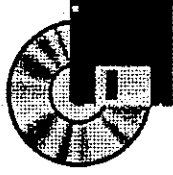
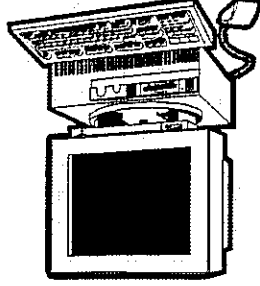
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KDM@HAMRADIO.COM

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from Hwy. 5 & 217

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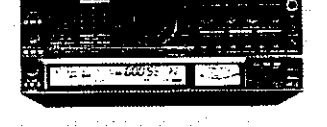
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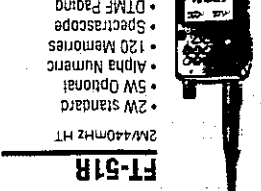
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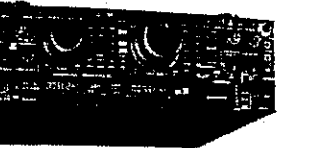
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**BONFIRE OF THE VANITIES:
GATE 2 CALL SIGNS FINALLY ISSUED!**

After an approximately six-week wait, most of the hams who got their applications to the FCC on the opening day of vanity call sign Gate 2 were rewarded with one of their new call sign choices. The logjam broke on Election Day, just before the close of business at the FCC's Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, office, where the amateur computer system had been down for more than a week. A spokesman at the FCC said the computer system was finally fixed that morning, and most of the approximately 4500 first-day vanity applications were successfully run. According to the K14HN (now K4MA) call sign database, 3790 new call signs were issued.

For the most part, hams were ecstatic. "The wait is over. I, for one, am very pleased with the results!" said Joe DiPaolo, W2DI (ex-AA2LZ), in a message of thanks to the ARRL. "Christmas came early," messaged Lawrence Macionski, W8LM (ex-WA2AJQ). Several other enthusiastic hams--eager to tell the world about their new Amateur Radio identities--posted their new call signs to various Web groups and broke them in on the air. But one veteran Midwestwestern ham--apparently bitter that he did not get one of his three choices and that the FCC did not base its selection system on seniority in the hobby--wrote HQ to say he was getting out of the hobby altogether.

While some applicants got their initials for call sign suffixes, others obviously applied their imaginations. For example, W4FHZ was issued to the Yaarab Shrine Temple Communications Unit in Atlanta, Georgia (get it?). The call sign NS4DX went to the North Shenandoah DX Association in Boyce, Virginia. NUIAW is the new call sign of the International Amateur Radio Union club station (see NUIAW story below). As of Thursday, November 7, some 200 first-day vanity applications were being held up due to unspecified problems or errors on the application. The FCC indicated it would process these soon. A spokesman in Gettysburg estimated that "between 500 and 550" applications were dismissed because the FCC was unable to grant a new call sign. Applicants who did not get one of their choices will have to apply in writing for a refund of the \$30 filing fee. The FCC will mail to all unsuccessful applicants a copy of the application (including FCC processing numbers) and a copy of their check. To request a refund, applicants then must send a letter to the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Rd, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245, along with their taxpayer ID number (Social Security number).

Applicants can check for their new call signs via the ARRL Web page at <http://www.arrl.org/fcc/fccid.html>. The site has proved to be extremely popular with the Amateur Radio community, and it recorded more than 12,000 call sign lookups within seven hours after word hit the streets that the first batch of Gate 2 call signs had been processed. The earlier computer problems had not only affected the vanity program but caused the FCC to rescind all call sign grants after October 24 because of widespread errors. In some cases, the FCC's Gettysburg office had reissued call signs that had already been

issued. An FCC spokesman said that the unspecified computer problems were not related to the vanity call sign program.

The FCC says it wants to see how the day-one processing fared before it attempts to process vanity call sign applications for subsequent days. This should happen within "a few days," a spokesman at Gettysburg said this week. Day-one applicants also can check the popular database programs on the Internet to find out if they got one of their call sign choices. Check the WM7D call sign server, <http://www.rdatasys.com/~mdowning/fcc/callsign.html> or the CallBook Server (CBS) Summary at http://www.lantz.com/hb/in/cbs_today. The K14HN/K4MA call sign server is moving to a new system, and the new address is not yet available.

The FCC has not announced opening dates for vanity Gates 3 & 4.

The American Radio Relay League

At the Daily Grind, coffee was all I'd intended

on this cool weekend morning (soon to be upended)

When who to my wondering eyes should appear

but Ken, our Web Master, with a van full of ham gear

"I'm off to hunt foxes," he said with a <grin>

"Are you coming? It's just about time to begin"

I sputtered & stammered, "I'm just not prepared!"

I hadn't a radio, but I wasn't scared.

"Come ride with me, I've got a spare seat."

I didn't know then he intended to cheat!

So off with a flurry, our coffee in hand,

to join, in the cold, the rest of our band.

There's David & Steven, and Larry & Ken,

with Chuck, Claude & Phil, anxious to begin,

Mike, Chris & Dave, also Tim (& his mother),

Cliff & there might even have been one other.

Some took to the north, some took to the south,

I stified a yawn with my hand to my mouth.

Then we pulled to a stop, and Ken lept from his seat,

and he said "Just you wait, this is going to be neat."

As I watched in amazement he pulled from the back

what looked to be half of his radio shack

then I knew in an instant, his ace in the hole

was a doppler to help him achieve his sly goal.

"We're not supposed to use these,"

he wrote a note that would

disqualify him.

We set up and tuned it, then took to the hills,

Make a long story short, soon Phil found the fox,

with antenna & HT (and no fancy box).

This is an open letter to the general membership of SCRA in response to a rumor that every now and then circulates around the membership. Just what is this rumor, you must now be wondering? There is a rumor that there is a clique within the confines of our club that runs the club.



Well I want to tell you that in a way this is true. And just how did this clique get started and how does one get accepted within the walls of this organization, you might also be wondering? Well here's the secret, but please don't tell anyone, as the clique may get too big. The secret is, the next time we need a net control station, someone to help with a public service event, maybe run for club office or just any time the club needs a helping hand.. raise your hand. We would just love to have you in this very exclusive group.

As has been said many times before, this is your club and we need your help to run it. Remember also, the monthly board meetings are open to all and everyone is invited to participate. The only thing non-board members can't do is vote, but your input is needed and welcomed. Remember without membership input we can only do our best.

So I guess the rumor is right, there is indeed a group that runs SCRA and we would love to have you join us. This is probably the easiest group in the world to join. Just take advantage of the dreaded "V" word, you all know the one I mean, **VOLUNTEER!!**

Hope to see you in the clique soon. 73

Rick, K6ZWB

Repeater Improvements

by Kelly Cureton, KD6CJQ Repeater Chairman

On Sunday, November 10th, a work crew went up to Sonoma Mountain to enact Phase II of the repeater site improvements. Various modifications at the site were made. A second tri-band antenna was installed up on the tower so now both of our antennas are up there. We should be experiencing improved operation on the 220 and 440 bands. A new power amplifier board was installed on the 146.73 repeater that was donated by Alan Judd, N6VUD. Many thanks to Alan for his time and equipment and knowledge of GE repeaters!

SCRA is working closely with the county on these improvements. We will be able to move the antennas to the west northwest side of the tower early next year (weather

permitted). At the same time, we will be inspecting the antennas to see how they are holding up against the elements.

Thanks go to Mikey Gumbert, KA6AQS, of the MOFRC group of Sebastopol, for spending endless hours up on the tower in spite of being fried by TV 22's transmissions. (hi, hi) Also thanks go to Mikey's ace ground crewman, Hoppy Bravin, WD6CKP. (We won't tell Betty that you were up there on the tower with Mike, Hoppy... one handed, no less, due to the HT being in the other hand! <grin>) Ken Harrison, N6MHG, almost single-handedly tore down the old antennas that had withstood almost hurricane forces in the past.

I'm sure glad these guys don't charge union wages-- I keep getting accused of overspending my budget! And remember folks, you'll need to have sub-audible tone encoding on your signal (PL) in order to access all repeaters as of the first of the year.

AUTOPATCH REMINDER



Always I.D. before using the autopatch. This is especially important with emergency 911 calls, as it helps the control ops reduce the number of unauthorized calls. If the system is abused we could lose the privilege.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Joel KJ6LF: Total funds are \$2828.14. Budgets are due by Nov. 20.

Kelly KD6CJQ: PA board was replaced on the .73 machine. New coax from county was installed and antennas moved. New arms will be up soon. KD6CJQ moved that Alan N6VUD, who was a huge help during the installation with time, material and talent, receive a 3 year membership to thank him for his efforts. Seconded by AB6OL. Motion carried.

Jim KE6VGV requested that the board adopt a formal policy for control ops to handle on the air repeater violations and discipline. After much discussion it was decided to table the matter to the Dec. Board meeting to give Kelly a chance to get some information from Joe Perez.

Dave KD6KWM has decided that he will pull the plug on January 1 unless packet traffic increases on his machine.

Respectfully submitted by Steven Feil, KD6CJR, Secretary.