

SCRA Scedule

February 2000											
		1	2	3	4	5					
			SCRA general meeting 7:30 PM			HAM class 9:00 AM till Noon					
6	7	8		9	10	11				12	
			SCRA Board of Directors			HAM class 9:00 AM till Noon					
13	14	15		16	17	18				19	
						HAM class 9:00 AM till Noon					
20	21	22		23	24	25				26	
						HAM class 9:00 AM till Noon					
27	28	29									

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Volume 25 Number II

Short Skip

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Repeater Station
W6SON

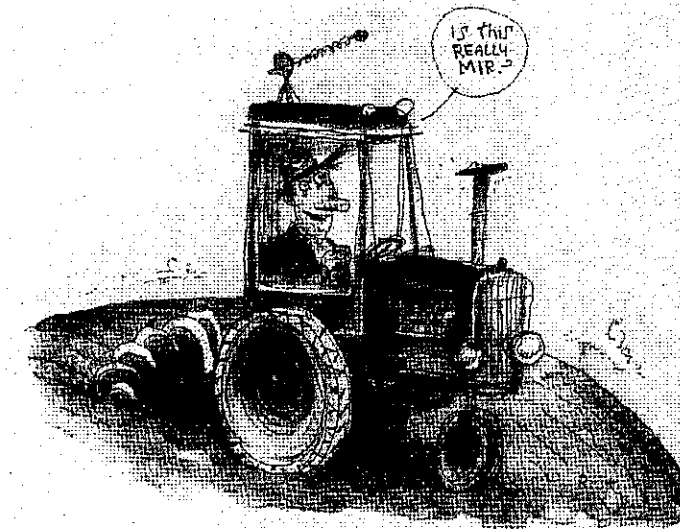
February 2000

Talk Radio

Reprinted with permission *Air and Space* March 1999

By Greg Freiherr

Dave Larsen had used his ham radio for talking to friends in far away places for years when one night he and a buddy decided to reach a little farther. They had heard that by tuning to a frequency of 145 Megahertz with a few hundred dollars' worth of equipment - transmitter, receiver, antenna - they could contact the space shuttle. But what they heard over the airwaves that evening in 1991 was a voice speaking in Russian.

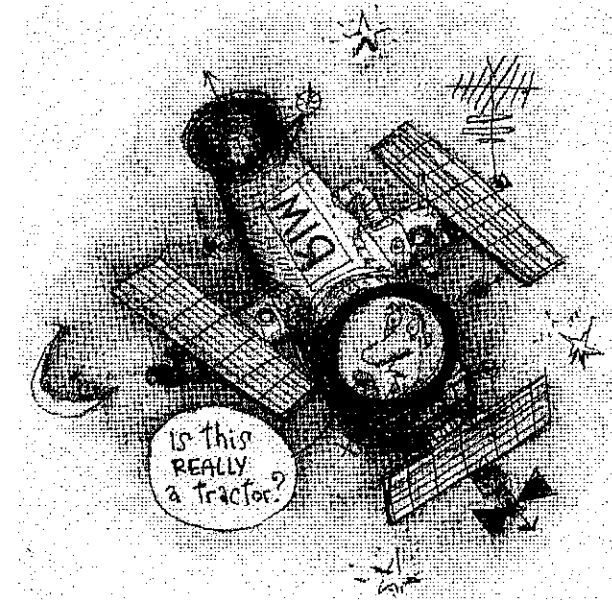


Larsen thought it was just somebody on the ground fooling around, but his friend told him it was a transmission from a Russian satellite. Still not believing the voice was coming from space, Larsen, who speaks serviceable Russian from training he received in the U S Navy, replied in Russian and was surprised at the response. " He [cosmonaut Musa Manarov] went about a thousand miles an hour," remembers Larsen. " I told him to slow down, and he goes, 'next orbit'. So I go, 'Okay'. And we talked the next orbit, and I went, 'Holy mackerel!' "

Ham (no one is quite sure how the nickname originated), or amateur, radio equipment has been present aboard the Russian space station near since 1988, and since 1993, amateur radio equipment has flown on more than 30 space shuttle missions. Over the years there have been thousands of contacts between ground and orbit, ranging from brief exchanges to real conversations. After making his first contact with Mir, Larsen was hooked, and it wasn't long before he developed a radio friendship with another

cosmonaut, Alexandr Kaleri. Both men had served in the Vietnam: Kalri was a Soviet adviser and Larsen was a helicopter gun ship pilot whose mission was to hunt down men like Kaleri. " We talked about it and he more or less said, That was then, this is now, and we are all one now," Larsen recalls. " When he made that statement, I felt we had better things to talk about. " The two have had dozens of radio conversations, as well as a prodigious written correspondence. Mir has an onboard message system that allows the exchange of small text files, and Larsen and Kaleri used to send E-mail several times a day, with Larsen often helping to satisfy Kaleri's hunger for information about the history of the U S space program.

The Craig Stewart, a radio operator in Petoskey, Michigan (call sign kb8kpv), has had dozens of contacts with astronaut and cosmonauts, enough so that he has been able to pick up on the personalities of those in orbit. Of NASA astronaut Jerry Linenger, who spent four months aboard Mir, he says: " Jerry was kind of nice. He'd like to talk to you. He'd actually have a conversation with you. Now, Norm Thaggard [the first NASA after stationed aboard Mir] was just the opposite. He really liked just making quick contact with people. He'd say 'Hi. How ya doin'? I gotcha. I hear ya loud and clear.' And then he'd move on to the next guy. "



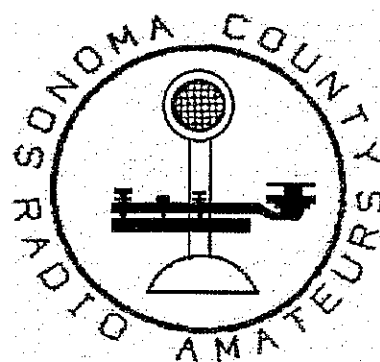
That's the rub, though part of the challenge, with amateur radio: There's always a next guy. In fact, there are dozens of next guys. Mir, for example, orbits Earth every 92 minutes, and at any given point during an orbit, the radio equipment aboard the station has a foot print, or area, roughly 75 percent of the continental United

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CLUB MEETINGS

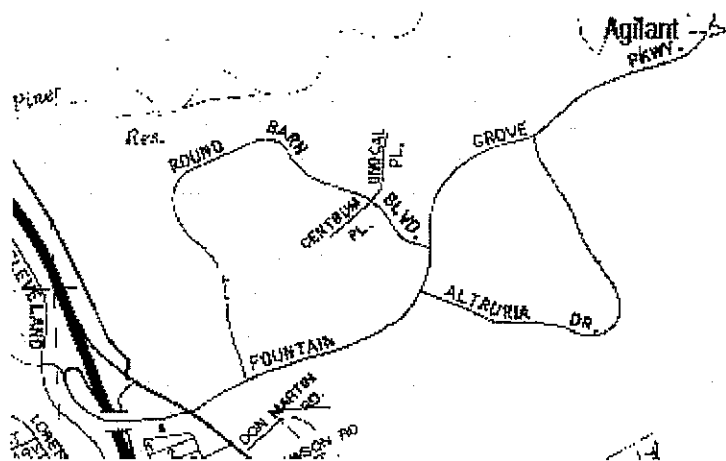
7:30pm on the first Wednesday of each month at the Agilent plant (formaly HP) in SANTA ROSA. See map below.

ALL ARE WELCOME!!

We invite you to attend our next monthly meeting. 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.

Next Meeting:

February 2, 2000 7:30pm
a presentation on Telegraph keys and such.



CONTACTS

ARRL Public Relations	Steve Carniglia	KV6A	579-9608
QSL Manager	Fred Leoni	N6YEU	431-8202
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SCRA HOTLINE: 707-579-9608
Web Address: <http://cds1.net/scra>
Short Skip On-line: <http://cds1.net/shortskip>

Tuesday Night Net

Check into the Tuesday Night SCRA net on the 146.73 repeater at 7:00pm. Announcements of upcoming SCRA activities, a Swap Shop, and the latest Amateur Radio News line broadcasts can be heard.

Short Skip Advertising Rates

Business Cards:	\$10
First Quarter Column:	\$11
Each Additional Quarter Column	\$ 3
Full Page, one side	\$32
Pre-printed inserts	\$32/sheet
Guaranteed Circulation of 200 per month	

Application for Membership in SCRA

Name _____ Call sign _____ License Class _____

Address _____ Phone _____ Date _____

City _____ Zip _____ E-mail _____

New Renewal

SCRA Dues: The renewal date is March 1st. Dues are \$18/year for individuals and \$27/year for families. New member initiation (badge) fee is \$6/person. New member dues are prorated at \$1.50/month for individuals and \$2/25 per month for families starting at renewal time.

ARRL Dues: \$34/year or \$28/year for seniors with proof of age. (Under 21 rates require application form.)

Make checks payable to SCRA

I WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT:

- Public Service Events
- 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 Net Control Station
- Helping with VEC license exams
- Field Day and other operating events
- Helping with *Short Skip* (newsletter)
- Other _____

BADGE (New Members Only)

Fill in this section exactly as you want it to appear on your badge.

Call sign _____

First Name _____

City: _____

Auto slot Request: Licensed SCRA members are entitled to a repeater auto slot. Fill in the information below to apply and send the form to: SCRA, PO Box 116, Santa Rosa CA 95402

Name: _____

Call sign: _____

Phone Number: _____

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Family members and callsigns _____

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Donation to SCRA (Thank you!)	_____
Other	_____
TOTAL ENCLOSED	_____

POOL COMMITTEE QUESTION EYES FEBRUARY 1 RELEASE DATE

A revised Amateur Radio question pool that reflects the April 15, 2000, restructuring rules could be out by February 1. Chairman Ray Adams, W4CPA, of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators' Question Pool Committee says the QPC is in "band aid" mode right now and will try to get "something usable into public domain for all three of the new written pools by February 1 or very shortly thereafter."

Adams says that a Technician class syllabus already has been drafted and approved. The various QPC members have been keeping in touch by telephone and e-mail since the FCC announced the restructuring rules December 30.

"We will go back over the newly configured pools, refining them and updating in a methodical manner with the order to be decided by the NCVEC when next in session," Adams said this week. He said the revised question pools will follow the established format.

After April 15, 2000, the FCC will only issue Technician, General, and Amateur Extra class licenses. Novice and Advanced licensees will retain current operating privileges and may renew indefinitely. Applicants desiring HF privileges will only have to pass a 5 WPM Morse code test. Current Amateur Radio study materials remain valid at least until the new rules become effective in April.

The new licensing regime has four examination elements: Element 1, the 5 WPM Morse code test; Element 2, a 35-question Technician test; Element 3, a 35-question General test, and Element 4, a 50-question Amateur Extra test.

Check this out

Here is some great info for the DX'ers in the club. This is one the slickest method of getting DX QSL addresses I've found.

Email to qsl-info@datasync.com. Leave subject line blank. In the message body list the calls you need info on. For example;

XX9AX
VK2AR
TG/KA9FOX

Hit send and in a few seconds it sends the info direct to you e-mail address.

Like any system this won't get get them all, but it works pretty good. Give it a try.

MIR 2

States, from which it can detect radio signals. When Mir passes over the United States, an operator like Craig Stewart has about a 10-minute window in which he can make contact.

Unfortunately for Stewart, amateur radio operators all over the country are also within Mir's footprint. So as the space station passes overhead, whoever is manning the onboard radio is greeted with hundreds of voices simultaneously yelling out their call signs. The cosmonaut or astronaut on board will then pick out the strongest signal and repeat the call sign back to the sender - an invitation to begin an exchange. The radio operators who didn't get picked can still listen in, but etiquette dictates that they wait until a conversation is finished before they again start trumpeting their call signs. Often, though, this is not the case. NASA astronaut Michael Foale, who spent four months aboard Mir, remembers the huge voice congestion over the United States and Europe. "No one is willing to listen to you finish your conversation and not transmit," he says. "They break in. It drowns out the signal. You can not maintain a conversation with anybody. You can barely exchange the call sign."

Foale tried to circumvent the congestion by turning to the 70-centimeter signal, the less popular of the two FM bands that amateur radio operators can use to communicate with Mir and the space shuttle. Most Ham's, however, prefer to broadcast over the to meter wavelength band because this longer wavelength is not as susceptible to Doppler shifting, which occurs as the space craft approaches and then recedes. Some radio operators like to work the dials, tuning the frequency by hand as Mir moves across the sky. Others use electronics to handle the shift. Of course, ham operators with the most powerful equipment (what Stewart calls the "big guns") have the best chance of getting through. The output of amateur stations ranges from 25 to 100 watts- about as much energy as the light bulb in a living room lamp. For the best and most consistent results, however, hobbyists should have at least a 45 watt radio and a simple single wire antenna, which sends out a doughnut shaped signal. Reception improves markedly with a computer-controlled tracking station that can automatically direct the antenna, pointing it right at the spacecraft as it moves quickly across the sky.

Ingenuity and persistence, though, can sometimes outfox the big guns. Take Troy Fehring, a farmer of alfalfa, wheat, and cattle in the tiny town of Sterling, Oklahoma. Fehring, who has been an amateur radio operator for 10 year's (call sign N5VIN), likes to listen for the space shuttle and Mir while he's plowing fields on his John Deere tractor. On October 20, 1993, he got lucky. It was around noon, and because Fehring knew that the shuttle would be passing overhead, he stopped the tractor ("Man, I hit the brakes and kicked it out of gear," he says). Mounted on the top of the tractor's cab was a two-meter simplex FM radio. "That little radio did 25 watts," says Fehring. "All I had was a five-eighths-wave, omni-directional, mobile antenna. And it's hard to go against those guys that are sitting there with computer-tracking antennas. But I heard [the shuttle] and I just took a chance. I said, 'This is n5vin John Deere mobile.' And [mission specialist William McArthur] came back, 'n5vin John Deere mobile' and I said, '73' [ham speak for 'best

regards"] and then they go to the next guy. You call them all the time, and when they finally come back to you, it's like wow!"

The American Amateur Radio Relay League confirms that Fehring's exchange was the first farm-tractor-to-space-shuttle communication. Fehring received plenty of local media coverage, and even five years after his triumph, people haven't forgotten. Says Fehring: "Every time I see someone around town, they say, 'Have you talked to the space shuttle today?'"

While Fehring was tickled with just his brief exchange of call signs, some radio operators want more. Friendly overtures, however, don't always translate though the communications ether. Stewart, who used to program an alarm to sound whenever Mir came over the horizon ("As soon as I heard that thing, I'd run down in the middle of the night and try to make contact"), closely monitored Shannon Lucid's six month stay aboard Mir. Stewart and Lucid had had several cordial but business like exchanges when Stewart decided to try a little humor. A friend of Stewart's who works for NASA told Stewart that NASA had secured comfortable footwear (bowling shoe - style flats) for Lucid to wear immediately after her return from weightlessness to Earth's gravity. The friend asked Stewart to mention the shoes the next time he talked with her. "It was kind of an inside joke," recalls Stewart, but the humor wasn't apparent to Lucid. Here is a transcript of the exchange: "[Friend at NASA] was up north, in northern Michigan, and he wanted me to mention to you that he had your bowling shoes and they look great," says an enthusiastic Stewart. "Well, Okay. Uh, that sounds good," says a bewildered Lucid. "Well, he said you would know," says a suddenly nervous sounding Stewart.

Lucid: "Okay. Why does he have them?"

Stewart: "Well, he doesn't have them directly, but he's seen them, and he says they looked great."

Lucid: "Oh, Okay, Okay. Yeah, I just couldn't figure out why he had them up in Michigan."

Stewart: "No. He was up here visiting, and he wanted me to get a message to you via Ham radio."

Lucid: "Oh. Okay. I understand. That sounds good."

At other times, ground based radio operators end up striking an unintentionally funny note. Such was the case with Dave Larsen. "My Russian isn't the best in the whole world," admits Larsen. "Heck, it was three o'clock in the morning one time a (Mir) pass came over, and out of the blue, I made one big booboo in Russian. (The Cosmonauts) died laughing probably for the next hour and a half - that's how long it takes to go around the Earth. And then they came back on and they go 'you know what you told us to do? You told us to go brush our teeth.'" (Larsen had been trying to inquire how often the cosmonauts bathed.)

Indiana - based amateur radio operator Mike Cox thinks he understands the appeal of ham radio for those in orbit. "These people are almost totally isolated from the rest of the world," he says. "It's like you and I can go out on the street any time we feel like it and walk up to a perfect stranger and say hello. The guy in the can up there, all he can do is talk to the ground station at NASA or at the Russian space agency, and they can link him up with somebody, but you always know that the boss is listening. So the

MIR 3

amateur radio opens up an avenue where they've got total control of it. And if they want to talk to somebody they can talk to them. If they want to talk to them about the baseball game, it's strictly their business."

Cox remembers talking to Norm Thagard at three o' clock in the morning. "He sounded absolutely bored to tears, and he sounded so glad to talk to somebody," says Cox. Though other radio callers could elicit only brief responses from Thagard, Cox had a different experience: "I talked to him for the whole pass. With Norm, you always gave him the latest Purdue scores."

Many astronauts and cosmonauts have welcomed the opportunity to chat. "If I had a free minute, I would turn on the radio and see who was there," says Ellen Baker, a veteran of three shuttle missions, two of which carried amateur radio equipment. "I was awake over Australia and New Zealand quite frequently, and I must have talked to hundreds of people in both those places. And there was one guy, either in Puerto Rico or Brazil, who was quite friendly. He was interested in getting to know me a little bit more than on the radio, but I think that was just the moment. I don't remember if he actually asked me out or not, but it was a little bit more than the usual chitchat."

Sometimes conversation isn't all that feasible, but Stewart discovered during Jerry Linenger's stay aboard Mir that the crew kept the radio on as an electronic companion of sorts. "I made a call up to him and he came back and I said, 'How are you doing?' He said, 'Boy, right now I'm in the middle of lunch.' And I said, 'Okay, I won't keep you.'" Stewart points out that Linenger could simply not have responded, but chose to do so when he heard someone radioing his call sign. Linenger says it was Commander Valeri Korzun who turned out to be the real Ham enthusiast. "He just absolutely loved ham radio," says Linenger. "While he was eating dinner, he'd be talking and trying his best to get some English out. So he'd be constantly asking me to translate what the person was saying to him. So I talked indirectly a lot on the ham as the translator - with food stuffed in my mouth and everything else, trying to help him out."

Astronaut Michael Foale, a ham radio operator before his visit to Mir, was one of the most outgoing NASA crew members assigned to the Russian space station. "Radio hams generally are more in love with the means of communication than communication," he says. "They would want to exchange a call sign with me and that's it, and then they would shut up. Whereas for me, on the Mir, I'm much more interested in what people are doing on the Earth than exchanging a call sign. Collecting call signs is work. Talking to somebody about their lives is making personal contact. There was a guy in Canada who spoke to me regularly. He had a Pitts Special-that's a biplane. He'd go fly his biplane and do aerobatics in it and tell me all about it. He would make me envious talking about it, but it was nice to hear it. And there was a guy who runs some kind of PR business from his house way up in the north woods of Minnesota. Those are the contacts I remember and value because they had meaning."

Probably one of the most meaningful Earth-to-space radio exchanges ever undertaken was initiated by Chris Edmonson (call sign vk3ce), a resident of Melbourne, Australia, who publishes Radio and Communications, and amateur radio magazine. Edmonson, who has been an amateur radio operator for 25 years, interviewed fellow Australian Andrew Thomas, that last NASA astronaut stationed aboard Mir. Over a week long period in late April and early May of last year, Edmonson talked to and tape-recorded Thomas whenever he got the chance and published the entire transcript in his magazine. "The very first time I called him, he heard me and called back," says Edmonson.

"I spoke to him orbit after orbit, for about 15 minutes per revolution." What Edmonson got was an insider's view of life aboard a space station. Edmonson: "What about shaving? In the pictures I've seen you're clean-shaven. It would be awful to live in a fog of floating human hair. How do you keep things like that under control? Over." Thomas: "Oh, it takes a bit of getting used to, I guess, but I shave by holding an electric razor in one hand and a vacuum cleaner in the other. It sounds silly but it works. Over." The highlight of the conversation came when Edmonson asked Thomas about the view. "You can actually see from our orbit signs of human habitation," reported Thomas. "You can see, for example, a straight line scratched across the Nullarbor Plain which is, of course, the railway line. If the sun is at the right angle, you get shiny glints from the rails, as well as from rivers and dams."

In an accompanying editorial, Edmonson urged other amateur radio hobbyists to try their hand at contacting those in orbit. "Any radio amateur with a two metre FM transceiver can work the cosmonauts aboard Mir or the astronauts on the U.S. space shuttles," wrote Edmonson. "Any of us. And anybody with no more than a hand held scanner radio would be able to hear them too, as clear as a bell. Dial up 145.985 MHz and wait. Be patient."

Not all ham radio exchanges are as impromptu as the first one between Edmonson and Thomas. When NASA astronaut Dave Wolf was living on Mir, one of his childhood friends, Doug Rose-with the help of amateur radio hobbyist Cox-orchestrated a Hanukkah/Christmas call to Wolf from Cox's house in Westfield Indiana, which is just north of Wolf's hometown of Indianapolis. Wolf's family and friends attended, but so did the local media. "The contact took place during the six o' clock news so it was kind of a zoo out in the street- these vans with these 50 foot masts up in the air," says Cox. "The neighbors thought I'd been caught or mass murder or something." Rose had also arranged for the residents of metropolitan Indianapolis to turn on the lights of their homes and businesses during Mir's pass overhead. "When I was in the grocery today, strangers all came up to me and said they were going to turn their lights on," radioed Dottie Wolf to her son in orbit. "I'm glad everybody's doing it," responded Dave Wolf. "I hope we don't blow anything out at the power station."

"The power and light company is thrilled with this," says Dottie. And so was Doug Rose. "When you hear that unmistakable 'R-Zero-M-i-r coming over the horizon, over,' it sends chills up your spine," he says. "I got to talk to my buddy flying on a Russian spaceship. If that didn't blow my mind, nothing would."

As for Dave Wolf, he radioed to those on the ground: "I see the lights. It's incredible." Not a bad way for an astronaut to start the holiday season.

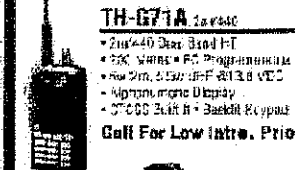
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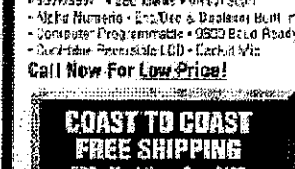
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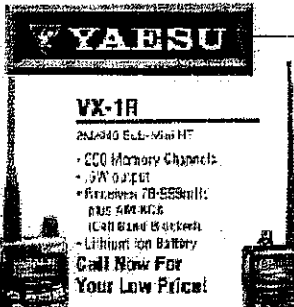
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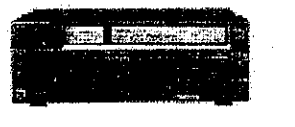
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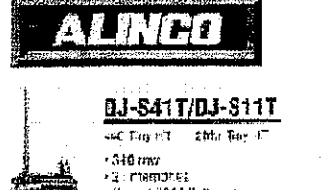
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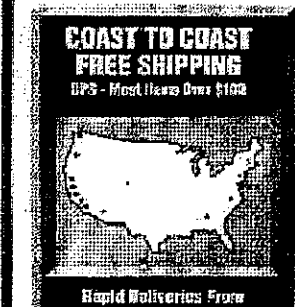
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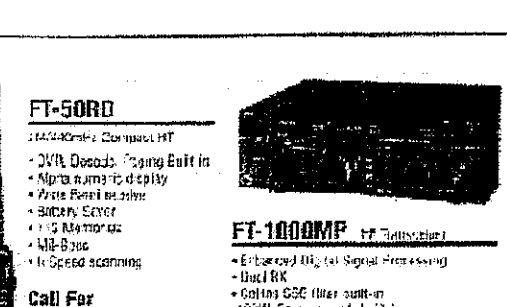
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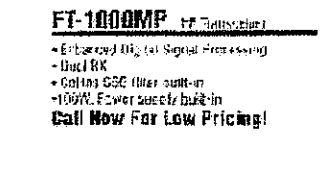
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Amateur "Ham" Radio Class

Interested in Ham radio? Thought that you had to know Morse Code to get an Amateur Radio license? There is a class of Amateur Radio license that does not require knowledge of Morse Code. It is called the Technician Class license and it allows operating privileges on most of today's most popular frequency bands. For those that are interested in learning the Morse Code and expanding their radio opportunities, there will be an optional Morse Code segment of the class. The class is open for adults and kids. (Children learn the material more successfully if they take the class and study with a parent or other adult.)

When: Starting February 5, 2000
Saturdays

How long: Once per week for 9 weeks

Time: 9:00 AM to Noon

Where: Santa Rosa Junior
College 1501 Mendocino
Avenue, Santa Rosa
Lark Hall Room 2046

Cost: \$20 per person (text and
study materials extra)
(\$10 for each additional
immediate family member
[spouse or child])

Text: "Now You're Talking!", 3rd
edition (1997). \$17.99

(Available at Radio Shack
Montgomery Village, HSC
Electronics in Rohnert Park
and other stores)

Kids' Text: "Riding the Airwaves with
Alpha & Zulu", by John
Abbott, (1998). \$14.95
(Available at HSC
Electronics in Rohnert
Park)

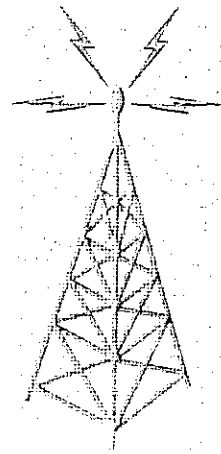
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RESERVATIONS REQUESTED

For class reservations and more information
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SRJC's Space Amateur Radio Experiment



Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. Membership Meeting 1-5-2000

MINUTES

1. Call to Order, Verification of Quorum - The meeting was called to order by President Rick Reiner K6ZWB at 7:31 PM at the Santa Rosa Agilent Technologies facility. There were 43 people present.
 - a. Introductions
 - i. Officers & Directors - The club officers and directors introduced themselves.
 - ii. Guest Speakers - Photo Presentation
 - iii. Visitors - There were four visitors.
 - iv. New Calls & Upgrades - None
2. Approval of Minutes - Bill McCall W6WDM moved that the minutes of the November 3, 1999, be approved as printed in Shortskip. The motion passed. There were no minutes of the December 1999 meeting as it was the club Christmas Party.
3. Officer & Director Reports
 - a. Treasurer - Jim Cardillo-Lee KE6VGV stated that there would be no report in that the club financial records had yet to be turned over and that the prior Treasurer did not prepare a report.
 - b. Officers - Club Secretary Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV read the thank you card from Betty Bravin AG6C. He also reminded members to check the side table for their name badges.
 - c. Directors - None.
4. Committee Reports (Outgoing Committee Chairmen)
 - a. Activities Committee - Greg Gordon AC6VJ announced the formation of a construction class. He is going to have the group build an FM transceiver kit offered by Ramsey. Greg asked the members to let him know if they knew of a room to hold the class.
 - b. Newsletter Editor - Henry Tate KE6ORF - Henry asked for articles for the newsletter. Andy Goldstein KR6BF volunteered to handle circulation.
 - c. Public Service - John Mullan KD2LQ reported that this was the "quiet time" for public service operations. There were no events for the next couple of months.
 - d. Repeater Committee - Kelly Cureton KD6CJQ said that the controller on the 6.73 repeater was not Y2K compliant and had lost track of time. He will transfer the repeater to the newer RLC controller which is currently operating the 222 and 440 repeaters. As they need to be hand programmed, there will be no autoslots for available for a while.
5. Unfinished Business - None
6. New Business
 - a. Call for Committee Chairmanship Volunteers (Appointed by the BoD)
 - i. Activities Committee Chairman - Jeff Basham W2JAB volunteered.
 - ii. Public Service Committee Chairman - John Mullan KD2LQ volunteered.
 - iii. Repeater Committee Chairman - Kelly Cureton KD6CJQ volunteered.
 - b. Meeting Raffle - Joel Nadler KJ6LF offered to conduct a 50/50 pot split raffle at the meeting.
 - c. Soft Drink Refreshments - Larry Gustafson KD6VUM advised that he had to relinquish the soda task. Dawn Silveira KA6OPN volunteered to take over the duties.
7. Show & Tell - Ted DeCroff showed a new battery tester that he had found.
8. Recess - The meeting went into recess at 8:04 PM and resumed at 8:23 PM.
9. Program - A slide show of the club's 1999 events and member radio shacks was presented.
10. Raffle
 - a. Regular - Joel Nadler KJ6LF conducted a 50/50 raffle. Brain Torr N6IYY split \$54 with the club.
 - b. Membership - The membership raffle was conducted and lost by Ed Small KF6AYG.
11. Announcements
 - a. Next Program - Larry Nutting will show rare CW keys and give a history of them.
 - b. Board Meeting next Wednesday at Master's Touch Mortgage, 8979 Conde Lane, Windsor, at 6:30PM.
 - c. Dayton Hamvention - May 19 - 21, 2000; see Bill KH6GJV for details.
 - d. VE Test Session - Saturday, January 15, 2000, at 9 AM at Agilent Santa Rosa.
12. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 PM.

MINUTES

Board Members Present: Rick Reiner K6ZWB, Greg Gordon AC6VJ, Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV, Jim Cardillo-Lee KE6VGV, Bill McCall W6WDM and Rich Freitas KF6SZA.

Board Members Absent: Larry Gustafson KD6VUM.

Guests Present: John Breckenridge WB6FRZ, John Mullan KD2LQ, Kelly Cureton KD6CJQ, Jeff Basham W2JAB, Brian Torr N6IY, John Shappell KM6XO, Joel Nadler KJ6LF, Lee Dibble KE6EAQ and Sue Mullan.

1. Call to Order, Verification of Quorum, Introductions - The meeting was called to order by club President Rick Reiner K6ZWB at 6:39 PM. The meeting was held at the offices of Master's Touch Mortgage, 8979 Conde Lane, Windsor. A quorum was present in that six of the seven voting board members were present.
2. Approval of Minutes - Bill W6WDM moved that the minutes of the Board meeting of December 8, 1999, be approved as printed in Shortskip. The motion passed.
3. Officer & Director Reports
 - a. Treasurer
 - i. Current Financial - Jim KE6VGV asked that the report be deferred to the next meeting as he had just received the club financial records and that the previous Treasurer had not prepared a closing financial report.
 - ii. Review & Acceptance of Audit Report - Jim and Lee KE6EAQ had just reviewed the records turned over before the meeting. They will present a report at the next meeting.
 - iii. Dues Envelope - Bill KH6GJV asked if anyone knew where the dues envelope supply was being held. It had not been surrendered and needed to be mailed with the next newsletter. Rick K6ZWB said that he would follow up on it.
 - iv. Bulk Mailing Post Office Account - Bill KH6GJV reported that the club had received the latest statement from the Post Office. It did not appear that there were enough funds in the account for the next newsletter issue. Bill moved that \$150 be added to the Post Office account. The motion passed.
 - v. Joel Nadler KJ6LF gave Jim KE6VGV the order for the HamCall CD-ROMs that had been returned. The distributor returned the order requesting an additional amount for sales tax. They had used a higher rate than what is used for Sonoma County. The difference was about \$4. Rick K6ZWB moved that the additional \$4 be added to the order. The motion passed.
 - vi. BoD Policy 2000-1 authorizing the automatic payment of specified routine club bills was presented. Bill W6WDM moved that the policy be adopted. The motion passed.

- vii. Bank Account Signature Resolution - Jim KE6VGV presented a draft of a resolution that would authorize specific officer and director signatures on the club bank accounts. Jim moved that the resolution be adopted. The motion passed.
- b. Officers
 - i. Secretary Mail & Communications - Bill KH6GJV distributed the mail to the appropriate officers and presented the newsletters that the club had received. It was suggested that the newsletters from other clubs be put in a binder for each membership meeting so that club members could view them.
Annual Secretary of State report - The annual report form was given to Bill by Jim KE6VGV. Jim had found the form in the Treasurer's briefcase that had been turned over to him.
Alcatraz Application - Bill reported that the club had not been selected for an over-night at Alcatraz this year. Bill said that there were over 200 applications for the 18 dates available.
Club Documents - Bill was given the OO notice and generator trailer registration for the club files.
- c. Directors - None.
4. Committee Reports (1999 Chairmen)
 - a. Activities Committee - Greg Gordon AC6VJ - Greg said that he had 5 people interested in a construction class. Greg asked members to let him know if they learn of a location to hold the class. Bill KH6GJV would check with Allan Jackson at Elsie Allen High School.
 - b. Newsletter - Henry Tate KE6ORF was not present to make a report. It was not known how much of last year's advertising had been billed to the advertisers. Joel KJ6LF said that the billing was the Editor's responsibility. Joel said that he remembered that about 4 to 5 months of 1999 may have been paid. It was reported that Ed of HSC had noted that the HSC ad was missing. Rick will talk to Henry and Greg will talk to Toni what is happening.
 - c. Public Service Committee - John KD2LQ reported that there were three events in the schedule at this time. 4/9 - MS Walkathon; 5/6 Wine Country Century; 6/17 Terrible Two.
 - d. Repeater Committee - Kelly KD6CJQ said that the 6.73 repeater had been moved to the new controller which is also used for the 222 and 440 repeaters. The schedules are in the Process of being set up. The autopatch is working. A new firmware version is needed and will cost \$25 plus shipping. Greg AC6VJ moved that the purchase of the new firmware be authorized. The motion passed.
 - i. Net Control Operators for the Weekly Net - 1-18 RMW, 1-25 IY, 2-1 VJ, 2-8 WDM, 2-15 RMW, 2-22 ZWB, 2-29 JAB
5. Unfinished Business
 - a. Meeting Programs - Feb - Larry Nutting on Code Keys; Mar - Steve Carniglia KV6A on DSL; Apr - Homebrew Night; May - PG&E Safety ? ; Jun - Field Day

MINUTES

- future program ideas - Member Shacks, Cell Phone Technology, Surface Mount Devices, CATV Systems, PG&E Safety, ARRL Pacific Division Director and/or Section Manager, Force 12
- b. Club Calendar - Bill KH6GJV handed out the club calendar for the year 2000.
 - c. Storage of Club Property - Greg AC6VJ would meet with Larry KD6VUM and Lee Dibble KE6EAQ to review the storage needs. Lee is still willing to store the club property. Most of the club property is still in Larry's employer storage unit. It was also noted that the club display case at the county EOC needs to be removed.
 - d. Dipole Antenna Purchase - Joel KJ6LF said that the antenna was not purchased due to a lack of funds.
 - e. Roster Distribution to Members - The roster was again not added to the newsletter as requested. This matter was deferred to the next meeting.
 - f. Club Public Address System - Joel KJ6LF said that the PA system had been located. Larry KD6VUM has it.
6. New Business
 - a. Review and Acceptance of Inventory - There being no objection, this issue was deferred to the next meeting.
 - b. 2000 Budget and Dues - There being no objection, the 2000 review of a draft budget was deferred to the next meeting as one had not been prepared by the outgoing Treasurer. Bill KH6GJV moved that the FY 2000-2001 annual dues remain at \$18 for individual members and \$27 for family memberships. The motion passed.
 - c. Appointments by the President
 - i. License Trustees (W6SON and W6LFJ) There being no objection, this matter was deferred to the next meeting.
 - d. Appointments by the Board
 - i. Activities Chairman - Jeff Basham W2JAB volunteered. Rich KF6SZA moved that Jeff be appointed committee Chairman. The motion passed.
 - ii. Public Service Chairman - John Mullan KD2LQ volunteered. Bill W6WDM moved that John be appointed Chairman. The motion passed.
 - iii. Repeater Chairman - Kelly Cureton KD6CJQ and Greg Gordon AC6VJ volunteered. Discussion ensued. Kelly announced his resignation and left the meeting. Discussion continued. Bill KH6GJV moved that Greg be appointed Chairman. The motion passed.
 - e. Other Appointments
 - i. Field Day Chairman - Deferred
 - ii. Swap Meet Chairman - Deferred
 - iii. Education Chairman - Deferred
 - iv. VE Liaison - Deferred
 - v. Meeting Raffle - Joel Nadler KJ6LF
 - vi. Refreshments - Ted DeCroff KB6PTA & Dawn Silveira KA6OPN
 - vii. Newsletter Editor - Henry Tate KE6ORF
 - viii. Hank's Swap Shop - Ken Harrison N6MHG
 - ix. QSL Manager - Deferred

- x. Public Relations - Bill McCall W6WDM
 - xi. TVI-RFI - Al Bloom N1AL
 - xii. Antenna Ordinance/Legal - Lee Dibble KE6EAQ
 - xiii. Membership Lottery - Jeff Basham W2JAB
 - f. Meeting Raffle - Joel proposed that the raffle at the meetings be a 50/50 cash split raffle like that conducted at REDXA. John KD2LQ moved that the raffle be a 50/50 raffle. The motion passed.
7. Announcements - The February meeting will most likely be held in the Agilent cafeteria as there is a scheduling conflict with Building 1.
 8. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 PM

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