

# March 2000

			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
			General membership meeting 7:30 PM at Agilent Technologies			
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
		Board of directors Meeting 6:30 PM at Masters Touch Mortgage 8979 Condo Ln Windsor				
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	

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

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WB6FRZ



Club Station  
**W6LFJ**

## Short Skip

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc

PO Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402-0116

146.730 MHz • 224.48 MHz • 441.375 MHz



Repeater Station  
**W6SON**

Volume 25 Number II

March 2000

### POWER COMPANY ACTS ON AMATEUR COMPLAINTS

After prodding by the FCC, Pacific Gas & Electric Company says it's making headway in mitigating long-standing power-line noise complaints from several Northern California amateurs. Not all complaints have been resolved, however, and several new ones have sprung up in the interim.

The hams involved in the initial complaints had been unsuccessful getting the West Coast power company to investigate their reports of severe noise, so they turned to the ARRL and the FCC for help. In late November, the FCC wrote PG&E to remind the utility of its obligation to rectify equipment problems that cause harmful radio interference. The FCC requested that the company correct the problems "within a reasonable time" and report back.

The complainants were four hams in the Los Gatos/San Jose area and another in Berkeley. ARRL Lab Supervisor Ed Hare, W1RFI--the League's point man for RF interference issues--says the League has since received reports from additional hams in PG&E's service area. Those complaints were forwarded to PG&E for resolution.

In a letter to the FCC, PG&E Manager for Operations and Construction Robert Lipscomb summarized progress in clearing up the initial complaints. The work included replacing poles, guy wires, insulators, and transformers as well as installing radio/television interference "clips" at one site and re-routing a service drop at another. Lipscomb conceded, however, that the utility still has additional work to do. PG&E personnel continue to work with Hare in resolving the complaints. Hare says not all of the five hams who complained have been contacted by PG&E. One still has severe interference, he says, and another has intermittent interference.

Some interference has been cleared up, however. Lipscomb told that in at least one of the five original cases, "the customer has been contacted and he is satisfied."

The FCC's Part 15 rules obligate utilities and others that fall under their provisions to not cause harmful interference to licensed services and to cease operating a device that's causing harmful interference upon FCC notification. The ARRL Technical Information Service offers more information on how to deal with power line interference at <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/rfi-elec.html>. Amateurs suffering from interference believed to be emanating from power generation or transmission facilities may contact Ed Hare, W1RFI, 860-594-0318; [Rfi@arrl.org](mailto:Rfi@arrl.org).

From The ARRL Letter and The American Radio Relay League.

### STENSAT RELEASED BUT POSSIBLY MALFUNCTIONING

StenSat has been released by the OPAL "mother ship," but little or nothing has been heard from the Amateur Radio picosat, raising fears that it has malfunctioned. StenSat was one of two picosats released February 10 by OPAL--Stanford University's Orbiting Picosat Automatic Launcher. The other was the JAK payload.

Since the deployment, stations monitoring StenSat's 436.625 MHz downlink have heard only very weak signals, or nothing at all. According to StenSat coordinator Hank Heidt, N4AFL, StenSat may be operating in an "abnormal mode." The picosat was supposed to transmit a CW identifier and packet telemetry after deployment, but neither have been heard. Heidt speculated that it might be operating in FM transponder mode.

Clifford Buttschardt, K7RR, reported hearing his transmissions repeated through StenSat on February 12 and 13, but signals were weak and the audio distorted. Johann Lochner, ZR1CBC, at the SunSat ground station in South Africa reported weak StenSat signals using the ground station's 4.5 meter, 450-MHz dish antenna.

The StenSat group asks amateurs to continue monitoring the downlink and sending reports to [hheidt@erols.com](mailto:hheidt@erols.com). StenSat has a crossband repeater aboard that is designed to operate much like the popular AO-27 satellite. More information may be available on the StenSat Web site at <http://users.erols.com/hheidt/>.

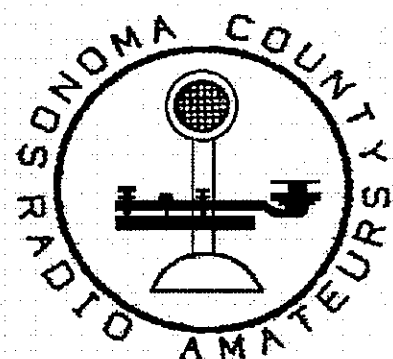
From The ARRL Letter and The American Radio Relay League

**2000 Club Officers**

PRESIDENT	Rick Reiner	K6ZWB	575-4455
VICE-PRESIDENT	Greg Gorden	AC6V	523-7077
SECRETARY	Bill Hillendahl	KH6GJV	538-0331
TREASURER	Jim Cardillo-Lee	KE6VGV	778-7474
MEMBERS-AT-LARGE	Bill McCall	W6WFM	538-2844
	Rich Freitas	KF6SZA	578-9335
REPEATER CHAIRMAN	Greg Gordon	AC6VJ	523-7077
ACTIVITIES	Jeff Basham	W2JAB	575-9354
PUBLIC SERVICE	John Mullen	KD2LQ	575-9176
PAST PRESIDENT	Larry Gustafson	KD6VUM	523-0266

----- SHORT SKIP STAFF

EDITOR	Henry Tate	KE6ORF	415-663-8227
AUDIO TAPING	Jeff Basham	W2JAB	575-9354
SWAP SHOP WEB ED.	Jeff Basham	W2JAB	575-9354
SCRA Webmaster	Jeff Basham	W2JAB	575-9354
Assistant Webmaster	Claude Jones	AB6OL	



**CLUB MEETINGS**

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

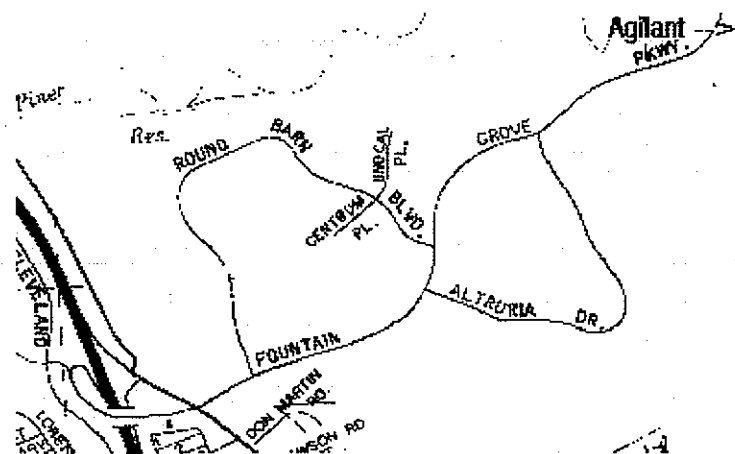
**ALL ARE WELCOME!!**

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 1, 2000**

7:30pm

Home brew contest



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*

<b>Business Cards:</b>	<b>\$10</b>
One quarter page	\$15
One half page	\$20
Full Page, one side	\$32
Pre-printed inserts	\$32/sheet

**Guaranteed Circulation of 200 per month**

Short Skip is published monthly by the Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. 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. Letters, photos, and articles sent to the editor are subject to editing, publication, or rejection at the discretion of the editor.

**CONTACTS**

Public Relations	Bill McCall	W6WDM	538-2844
TVI/RFI	Alan Bloom	N1AL	538-7115
Refreshments	Ted DeCroff	KB6PTA	542-4008
	Dawn Silveira	KA6OPN	763-1457
Raffles	Jeff Basham	W2JAB	575-9354
Antenna Ordinance/Legal	Lee Dibble	KE6EAQ	544-1675

**Repeater Control Op's**

Kelly	KD6CJQ	837-9434
Ken	N6MHG	539-2701
Steve	KV6A	579-9608
Merl	N6VUC	584-3898
Joel	KJ6LF	545-1782
Larry	KD6VUM	523-0266

**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 \$7/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: \$34/year, (\$28/year over 65 with proof of age.) Under 21 rates require application form. When renewing your ARRL membership, do it through the club and SCRA gets to keep some of the money.

(Please make checks payable to SCRA.)

**I WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Service Events                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Helping with SCRA Flea Market               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Services                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Acting as Net Control Station               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Taking a Novice or Technician class   | <input type="checkbox"/> Helping with VEC license exams              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching a Novice or Technician class | <input type="checkbox"/> Field Day and other operating events        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Taking an upgrade class               | <input type="checkbox"/> Helping with <i>Short Skip</i> (newsletter) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching an upgrade class             | <input type="checkbox"/> 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: \_\_\_\_\_

## New Ham Fiction

Just-published: a book of fiction written by a ham, containing SciFi, space and adventure stories, some with an amateur radio flavor.

The 200-page book is "LOW, LOW TIDE & Collected Stories" by Steve E. McCallum-W2ZBY (ex-K4URX), Lexington, KY--a former newspaperman in Hackensack and Teaneck, NJ; and as K4URX in Key West, FL, and in Louisville and Owensboro, KY.

Amateur radio plays a no-nonsense life-saving role in the title story, "LOW, LOW TIDE," a murder-adventure novella about a ham working as a tide observer in the lower Florida Keys.

In another story, "TO ERR IS HUMAN," a Science Fiction tale, the principal character is a fictitious ham's "artificial intelligence" whose AI organization is planning to take over the United States and eventually the world.

The "Collected Stories" are in three categories: tales of Today, Tomorrow and Days Gone By. The book is available by e-mail directly from the publisher, Xlibris.com: Amazon.com, the online book store; or may be ordered at any book store. Soft cover, \$14.95; hard cover with colorful dust jacket, \$24.95.

Hams who'd like a genuine "Author-signed" edition, may send their copies (about \$1.13 U.S. Postal "Book Rate") to W2ZBY (3209 Tudor Drive Lexington, KY, 40503) and a note telling how they want their name and/or call sign inscribed, and W2ZBY will gladly sign and return it. (No charge, of course.)

W2ZBY, a former shipboard Coast Guard radioman in the Pacific Theater in WWII and now a 50-plus-year ARRL member, got his amateur license in New York City in 1948. Previously he was a reporter for several daily newspapers and the AP. For several years, McCallum served as editor of the former G-E HAM NEWS in Schenectady, NY. He has taught amateur radio classes for 50 years in radio clubs in Florida and Kentucky and a college level Amateur Radio course in the Florida Keys Community College.

He retired in 1983 from the marine radio and small engine repair business he ran for 13 years in Key West, FL, and moved to Kentucky, where two of his sons live. He began writing fiction a few years ago. W2ZBY now holds the appointment of Public Information Coordinator (PIC), KY Section, as a member of the field staff of the radio amateurs' national organization, the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). <w2zby@juno.com>

By Mike Meltzer -K2SDD. This appeared in the September 1999 edition of the "RAGS Review", the newsletter of the Radio Amateurs of Greater Syracuse, Nita Soper-WB2HGO Editor.

## The Metric System

Americans frequently have problems with the metric system. In an attempt to clarify the conversion process here are some conversions which may be of help to you:

1 million microphones = 1 megaphone
2000 mockingbirds = two kilomockingbirds
10 cards = 1 decacards
1 millionth of a fish = 1 microfiche
453.6 graham crackers = 1 pound cake
1 trillion pins = 1 terrapin
10 rations = 1 decoration
100 rations = 1 C-ration
10 millipedes = 1 centipede
3-1/3 tridents = 1 decadent
2 monograms = 1 diagram
8 nickels = 2 paradigms
2 wharves = 1 paradox

2 wharves = 1 paradox
1 million bicycles = 2 megacycles
500 millenaries = 1 seminary
1/2 lavatory = 1 demijohn
10 monologues = 5 dialogues
2 snake eyes = 1 paradise
1012 bulls = 1 terabull
10-6 phones = 1 microphone
102 mental = 1 centamental
10-1 mate = 1 decimate
10-12 boos = 1 picoboo
10-15 bismol = 1 femtobismol

## Ricks Ramblings

While sitting at my computer staring at a blank screen Tring to come up with an idea for the ramblings of March and not coming up with anything I thought why not go to a search engine, type in "Ham Radio" and see what comes up. So off to "YAHOO" I went and was rewarded with over three hundred sites related to "Ham Radio", Great!, Said I, now what? I decided to surf through for a few minutes and the answer was right in front of me. Every site seemed to be something different and isn't that just like our hobby? Something different for every one.

So I thought with all the new Hams coming into the hobby and all the new up-grades that will be coming up this spring, why not point out some of the different modes available.

This may come as a surprise to a lot of you out there but there is more to the hobby than Repeater operations. Forgive me for the analogy but sticking to yakking on the repeater all the time is not much more than a somewhat high tech. CB operation. Don't take offence, none meant! but the point is there is so much more that you are missing. For instance did you know that Hams have their own satellites in orbit?, and some of them can be worked with your HT. My son, K6ZWC worked the Russian space station with his old Icom IC2-AT for his first packet contact using only 2 watts out and a "J" Pole ant. Packet is another interesting mode of operation.

I exchanged packet messages with stations in Europe on two meters.. Granted the exchange wasn't immediate but it was fun to think I could communicate with a station in the United Kingdom on two meters. Other modes and operation include working DX (distant stations) on the HF bands. DX can be worked on the VHF and UHF frequencies as well by bouncing the signals off the moon or even off meteor tails. There is also television for hams. We have two types, fast scan and slow scan. Slow scan being the easiest to get on, all you need is a computer with a sound card and the correct software. Don't forget QRP, using the HF bands with 5 watts or less and unlike sideband operation which requires some what sophisticated equipment, most QRPers use CW and for this you can build your own equipment. I once worked Japan with 1/4 watt on 28 MHZ. According to polls QRP is the fastest growing aspect to Ham Radio at the present time.

I'm going to close at this point or there would be enough ramblings for two months worth of this column. Those of you who have been hams for a number of years know I have just scratched the surface of Ham radio, Those of you who are new to the game, Get in there and do some digging, I know you will be surprised at to opportunities that await you.

CANADA, AUSTRALIA EYE MORSE SPEED REDUCTION

Canada and Australia could follow the US in reducing the Morse code examination requirement to 5 WPM for full HF access. Radio Amateurs of Canada announced plans this month to ask Industry Canada to eliminate that country's 12 WPM Morse requirement. The RAC Board of Directors has voted unanimously in favor of the proposal, expected to be filed soon. If enacted, the change would leave 5 WPM as the sole Morse code examination requirement for full HF access in Canada.

Meanwhile, the Wireless Institute of Australia reports it's seriously considering whether to push regulatory authorities to reduce the maximum Morse code license test speed Down Under from 10 to 5 WPM. WIA says it expects to discuss the matter in detail next month with the Australian Communications Authority.

The WIA says a majority of its membership divisions appear to favor the reduction from 10 to 5 WPM in Australia. The general issue of Morse code licensing requirements is expected to be a topic for debate at the IARU Region 3 conference the WIA will host later this year. Discussion of the International Radio Regulations regarding the Morse code requirement is not expected to come up prior to the World Radiocommunication Conference set for 2003.

A single 5 WPM Morse code examination requirement for HF access goes into effect in the US on April 15 as part of sweeping licensing rules changes. The United Kingdom and Sweden also have adopted 5 WPM as the Morse code examination requirement for access to the full HF amateur spectrum. The South African Telecommunications Regulatory Authority is said to be poised to act on a South African Radio League request for a lower code speed limit there. Other nations have expressed interest in the issue.

The Israeli Ministry of Communications has introduced a new license with a 6 WPM Morse code requirement that gives CW-only access to HF bands. The new ticket does not include all HF bands, however.

From The ARRL Letter and The American Radio Relay League

Hanks Swap Shop

FOR SALE: 02-22-00 Listing.

Kenwood TS570D - with Ameritron RS20A Power Supply - In perfect condition - barely used. - \$750.00 -- NOTE: Will sell the radio without the Power Supply - but will not sell the power supply alone. Butternut 5 Band Vertical HF Antenna - 80m, 40m, 20m, 15m, 10m - \$125 or Best Offer

Contact Bob Bendt, K6EAN @ 707-792-1525 or by email: jobo1@pacbell.net

Tri-Band Antenna - HyGain TH3-MK3 three-element - \$90.00 or Best Offer Tower - Light Weight -- about 41 feet. - \$100.00 or Best Offer 2 - Maxwell CAPs - 10 uF 3.5 KVolt DateCode 9103-01 - \$20.00 each Midland Radio - Model 70-630B UHF Programed for Local Channels. - \$80.00 or Best Offer Kenwood Desk Mic - Model MC-80 - \$75.00 or Best Offer

Contact Ken DeBrecht, WB6NOV by email: wb6nov@juno.com

Technics 2215A Scope w/ 2 10x probes - Perfect Condition - \$300.00 or Best Offer Adrelo Radio Direction Finding System with: Control Panel, Antenna System w/ suction cups for mobile use. Cables, Connectors, Manual, etc. - \$500.00

Contact M.L. Shannon @ 415-923-5243 or email: mshannon@fusionsites.com

Rotators: 1 Alliance light duty could be used for elevation rotator or standard rotor \$25.00 1 CDE TR44 med duty good for vhf or light 3 element hf beam \$100.00 Kenwood Speaker mike # smc-25 --- \$15.00 Heathkit Phone patch \$15.00 Heathkit SWR Bridge \$15.00 Drake Low pass filter TV=3300-lp \$20.00

Contact Chuck, N6OJ @ 707-763-2528 or email: n6oj@jps.net

WANTED:

WANT: 440 Mobile Rig for voice, not data. - Looking for something in the LOWER price range.

Contact Bob, N6RMW @ 707-542-5209 (between 1000 and 1800 local) or email: lonewolf@cds1.net

12 Store Buying Power!



ANAHEIM, CA (Near Disneyland) 800 N. Elrod St., #2500 (714) 533-7373 (800) 854-6046 (ext. 417) Mgr.

BURBANK, CA 2402 W. V. Clark Bl. #100 (818) 942-7755 (800) 854-6046 Eric KAGHT, Mgr. Victory Blvd. at Euena Vista (ext. 417) Mgr.

OAKLAND, CA 2210 Livingston St., #4606 (510) 534-5757 (800) 854-6046 Marc WIPYH, Mgr. 1-882 at 13th Ave. (ext. 417)

SAN DIEGO, CA 5375 Friary Villa Pl., #2120 (619) 580-4900 (800) 854-6046 Tom KMSK, Mgr. Hwy 163 at Claremont Mesa

SUNNYVALE, CA 510 Lawrence Exp., #102 94038 (408) 736-9496 (800) 854-6046 Ken K2EAM, Mgr. So. Main Hwy. 101

NEW CASTLE, DE (Near Philadelphia) 1509 N. Duane Hwy., #5720 (302) 323-7762 (800) 854-4376 Rick K2TL, Mgr. Rt 10 1/4 mi. So. I-295

PORTLAND, OR 11735 SW Pacific Hwy. #2225 (503) 238-8565 (800) 854-6046 Rick W7TV, Mgr. Tigard Hwy. 3 & 217

DENVER, CO 4471 S. Yale Ave., #9, #0731 (303) 745-7325 (800) 444-9476 Joe K0CGA, Mgr.

PHOENIX, AZ 1939 W. Camelback Ave., #5021 (602) 242-3615 (800) 444-9476 Sam N7SU, Mgr. 1 mi. east of I-17

ATLANTA, GA 8371 Buford Hwy., #C240 (770) 255-0700 (800) 444-7827 Phil N4DRD, Mgr. Xenox Rd. 1 mi. east of I-285

WOODBRIDGE, VA (Near Washington D.C.) 1835 S. Woodbridge Ct. #2121 (703) 643-1063 (800) 444-4759 Vic N7WZK, Mgr. Ext 151, 138. So. of I-495

SALEM, NH (Near Boston) 124 N. Broadway USA-10 (603) 899-3750 (800) 444-0647 Chuck K2SHW, Mgr. 53 Coe Hamradio.com Ext 1, 1-33 79 W. 1st St. Boston

KENWOOD TS-50S/TS-60S HF Transceiver. SUNNYVALE, CA 94086 510 Lawrence Expwy. #102 (408) 736-9496 (800) 854-6046. OAKLAND, CA 94606 2210 Livingston St. (510) 534-5757 (800) 854-6046

ICOM TH-G71A 12.5W VHF Transceiver. SUNNYVALE, CA 94086 510 Lawrence Expwy. #102 (408) 736-9496 (800) 854-6046. OAKLAND, CA 94606 2210 Livingston St. (510) 534-5757 (800) 854-6046

ALINCO DJ-S41T/DJ-S11T 40W VHF Transceiver. SUNNYVALE, CA 94086 510 Lawrence Expwy. #102 (408) 736-9496 (800) 854-6046. OAKLAND, CA 94606 2210 Livingston St. (510) 534-5757 (800) 854-6046

ICOM IC-706Mk II HF/VHF Transceiver. SUNNYVALE, CA 94086 510 Lawrence Expwy. #102 (408) 736-9496 (800) 854-6046. OAKLAND, CA 94606 2210 Livingston St. (510) 534-5757 (800) 854-6046

ICOM IC-775/DSP HF Transceiver. SUNNYVALE, CA 94086 510 Lawrence Expwy. #102 (408) 736-9496 (800) 854-6046. OAKLAND, CA 94606 2210 Livingston St. (510) 534-5757 (800) 854-6046

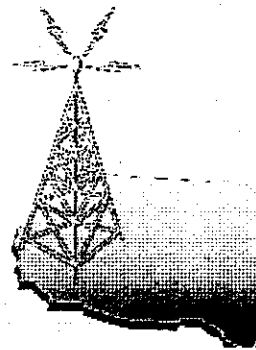
YAESU VX-1R 20W VHF Transceiver. SUNNYVALE, CA 94086 510 Lawrence Expwy. #102 (408) 736-9496 (800) 854-6046. OAKLAND, CA 94606 2210 Livingston St. (510) 534-5757 (800) 854-6046

YAESU FT-50RD 20W VHF Transceiver. SUNNYVALE, CA 94086 510 Lawrence Expwy. #102 (408) 736-9496 (800) 854-6046. OAKLAND, CA 94606 2210 Livingston St. (510) 534-5757 (800) 854-6046

KD2LQ moved that the printer perform the tasks in the future. The motion passed. Bill asked that the printer be instructed to print six copies more than required by labels for each edition. This would provide five copies for guests at the meetings and one for a club archive that had not been maintained for the last several years. There being no objection, the BoD authorized that the six additional copies be printed.

- 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. He will have more details as the events get closer.
- d. Repeater Committee - Greg Gordon AC6VJ
- Status of Repeaters - Greg advised that he did not receive some information from the past chairman. Specifically he needed all correspondence to and from NARCC, it was not known if the Uniden UHF repeater that the club purchased in 1998 had been repaired, and, that none of the programming of the controller macros and scheduler had been surrendered. Rick K6ZWB said that he will contact Kelly Cureton KD6CJQ for the information. Greg advised that he was to meet with county Radio Manager Joe Perez WB6RUT the next morning. Greg said that he and Jeff Basham W2JAB had been working on the English Hill repeater and found that the controller was not responding. Greg said that he thought that it was "dead," and that he had been unable to locate the manufacturer, S-Com in the phone book or on the web. Greg suggested that a new controller be purchased. Jeff W2JAB moved that a Link Communications RLC-1 be purchased for \$270 plus shipping and taxes. The motion passed.
  - Net Control Operators for the Weekly Net - 2-15 RMW, 2-22 ZWB, 2-29 JAB, 3-7 VJ, 3-14 ZWB, 3-21 RMW, 3-28 JAB
5. Unfinished Business
- Meeting Programs - Mar - Steve Carniglia KV6A on DSL; Apr - Homebrew Night; May - EME by Al and Bob; Jun - Field Day Future program ideas - Cell Phone Technology, Surface Mount Devices, CATV Systems, PG&E Safety, ARRL Pacific Division Director and/or Section Manager, Force 12
  - Club Calendar - No changes
  - Storage of Club Property - A work party is needed to build shelves at Lee Dibble KE6EAQ's for the club property. Greg AC6VJ will work with Lee on the issue.
  - Dipole Antenna Purchase - Brian Torr N6IY offered to make a G5RV antenna rather than purchase a new antenna. Jeff W2JAB moved to cancel the purchase of a W9INN dipole. The motion passed unanimously.
  - Roster Distribution to Members - Bill KH6GJV noted that the BoD had been requesting that a roster be added to the Shortskip mailing for the last several months, but it had not been accomplished, with a variety of excuses being made. Bill and Rich KF6SZA will work together to update the membership database and see that the roster is published within the next two newsletter editions.
  - Review and Acceptance of Inventory - Greg AC6VJ said that he had reviewed all of the listed club property with the exception of the equipment on Sonoma Mountain. Greg suggested that the membership be asked to sell the two Drake 4-lines as they were not being used and before they lost all of their value. He will take the generator to Livermore and list it on QTH.com.
  - 2000 Budget - There being no objection, the review of a draft budget was deferred to the next meeting.
  - Appointments by the President

- License Trustees (W6SON and W6LFJ) Rick K6ZWB appointed Al Bloom N1AL as trustee of the W6SON license and Steve Carniglia KV6A as trustee of the W6LFJ license.
- i. Other Appointments
- Field Day Chairman - Deferred
  - Swap Meet Chairman - BoD to handle
  - Education Chairman - Deferred
  - VE Liaison - Deferred
  - Meeting Raffles - Jeff Basham W2JAB
  - Hank's Swap Shop Web Site - Jeff Basham W2JAB (Net Control will do announcements)
  - QSL Manager - Deleted
6. New Business
- Shortskip Advertising Rates - Rick K6ZWB moved that the following rate schedule for advertising in each edition of Shortskip be adopted: Full Page \$32, Half Page \$20, Quarter Page \$15, Business Card \$10. The motion passed.
7. Announcements - Jeff W2JAB said that he had created scraweb@csl.net for people to send comments directly to him as the website manager.
8. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM



## Yo!! Don't forget the Homebrew contest at the next SCRA meeting!!

So bring all that stuff have built since the last contest. You could win some applause and accolades.

## The Great State of Texas

Greetings....This is Connie N6FYV...I received an e-mail from a couple of hams who were quite active with the club when they lived here....

Don Bremer KB6LO  
Gerri Bremen N6FCV  
1320 W. Frontage Rd.  
Alamo, Tx 78516  
Phone 956-702-7997

## Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. Membership Meeting 2-2-2000

### MINUTES

- Call to Order. Verification of Quorum - The meeting was called to order by Vice President Greg Gordon AC6VJ at 7:35 PM at the Santa Rosa Agilent Technologies facility. There were 36 people present.
  - Introductions
  - Officers & Directors - The club officers and directors introduced themselves.
  - Guest Speakers - Larry Nutting K7KSW on Code Keys
  - Visitors - Jessica Harris KG6AAZ, Esther Harris, Zachary Hamill KG6ABA, Brian Lukrich and Edwin Schmid KE6NWB.
  - New Calls & Upgrades - None
- Approval of Minutes - Jeff Basham W2JAB moved that the minutes of the January 5, 2000, be approved as printed in Shortskip. The motion passed.
- Officer & Director Reports
  - Treasurer - Jim Cardillo-Lee KE6VGV reported on the current balances in the club accounts. There was no activity in the accounts pending the change of account signatures.
  - Officers - Secretary Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV invited the members to review newsletters received from other clubs. Bill puts the newsletters in a binder that will be available at each meeting.
  - Directors - None.
- Committee Reports
  - Activities Committee - Jeff Basham W2JAB reminded the members of the club's hotline at (707) 579-9608, sponsored by Steve Carniglia KV6A's CDS Enterprises. Jeff announced the following activities: 2/5 Technician Class sponsored by EARS at the JC starting at 9 AM in Lark Room 2046; 2/6 Livermore Swapmeet; 2/9 SCRA BoD meeting at 6:30 PM; 2/12 Foothill Swapmeet in Los Altos; 2/16 REDXA meeting at Carrows in Petaluma at 7 PM; 2/19 VE test session sponsored by VOMARC in Glen Ellen.
  - Newsletter Editor - Henry Tate KE6ORF - Henry advised members to pick up a copy of Rick's Ramblings on the side table. It had not made it in the recent Shortskip.
  - Public Service - John Mullan KD2LQ announced the start of the public service season. Coming events are the MS Walkathon, Wine Country Century and the Terrible Two. John asked the members to watch Shortskip for details.
  - Repeater Committee - Greg Gordon AC6VJ said that the firmware on the controller for the Sonoma Mountain repeaters was not Y2K compliant. A new Eprom had been ordered. There is a rush on the chips from the supplier so it may take a couple of weeks to get. Greg invited anyone

interested in learning to become a control operator to contact him.

- Unfinished Business - None
- New Business - Joel Nadler KJ6LF announced his resignation from the club due to alleged animosity from the club Secretary. He stated that the minutes of the January BoD meeting were incorrect with regard to his activities as past Treasurer. Joel demanded a refund of the dues paid for 2000. A refund was issued.
- Show & Tell - Dorothy Davison KD6OTC talked about learning to use the computer logging software LogEQF. She thanked the club for loaning her a computer to try the software. She also thanked Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV, Jeff Basham W2JAB and Jim Robinson KE6UAR for helping to get the software and computer running.
- Program - Larry Nutting K7KSW presented pictures and exhibits of code keys that he has collected. Many of the items were of historic value, including a predecessor of current fax machines.
- Recess - The meeting went into recess at 8:35 PM and resumed at 8:50 PM.
- Raffle
  - Regular - The 50/50 raffle was won by Toni Dill who split \$31 with the club. Toni donated her winnings back to the club.
- Announcements
  - Next Program - Steve Carniglia KV6A on DSL
  - Board Meeting next Wednesday at Master's Touch Mortgage, 8979 Conde Lane, Windsor, at 6:30PM.
  - Dayton Hamvention - May 19 - 21, 2000; see Bill KH6GJV for details.
- Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

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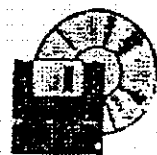
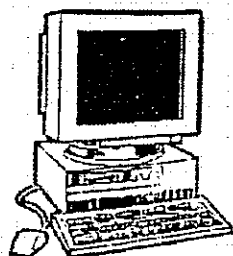
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## Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting 2-9-2000

### MINUTES

Board Members Present: Rick Reiner K6ZWB,  
Greg Gordon AC6VJ,  
Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV,  
Jim Cardillo-Lee KE6VGV,  
Rich Freitas KF6SZA,  
John Mullan KD2LQ,  
Jeff Basham W2JAB,  
and Larry Gustafson KD6VUM.

Board Members Excused: Bill McCall W6WDM

Guests Present: Brian Torr N6IY and Sue Mullan.

1. Call to Order, Verification of Quorum, Introductions - The meeting was called to order by club President Rick Reiner K6ZWB at 6:34 PM. The meeting was held at the offices of Master's Touch Mortgage, 8979 Conde Lane, Windsor. A quorum was present in that eight of the nine voting board members were present.
2. Approval of Minutes - Discussion ensued over the objection former member Joel Nadler KJ6LF raised at the February membership meeting. Members said that they did not find any text of the minutes to be accusatory toward Joel or inaccurate. BoD members specifically remembered that when Joel was asked for the draft budget, he replied, "I forgot." Jim advised the BoD that he did receive a CD marked "correspondence" from Joel at the January BoD meeting, but that he was not given any information on what the CD contained. Jim had tried to read the CD on several computers, but was unable to read the files. Jim said that at the February membership meeting, he consulted with Jim Robinson KE6UAR who took the disk, read it on a read-write CD drive and transferred the information to a read-only CD. Jim KE6VGV said that he was able to read the new disk and found a draft budget file on it. It was commented that Joel probably meant to say that he forgot to print the budget, but that Joel had not made that point clear. The BoD members said that the minutes published accurately detailed the events and actions of the meeting. Jim KE6VGV moved that the minutes of the Board meeting of January 12, 2000, be approved without change as printed in Shortskip. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Officer & Director Reports
  - a. Treasurer
    - i. Current Financial - Jim KE6VGV handed out copies of monthly and annual operating statements for the years 1998 and 1999. BoD members were able to review monthly activity for the different line items. Several items were brought into question and Jim said that he would investigate them further. Jim said that with the historic information, he would be able to put together a realistic budget proposal for the 2000-2001 fiscal year. He also said that he would be revamping the operating statements to more closely match a standard business report with matched income/expense items. Jim said that he will be providing monthly copies of the reports to the BoD members.
    - ii. Review & Acceptance of Audit Report - There being no objections, this item was deferred to the next meeting.
  - b. Officers

### i. Secretary

Mail & Communications - Bill KH6GJV distributed the mail to the appropriate officers and presented the newsletters that the club had received. Annual Secretary of State report - The annual report form was filed. Crown Awards - Badge Handling Fee - Bill showed the members a notice that he had received from Crown Awards advising of a new \$2 per order handling fee for badge orders that are mailed. Bill suggested that the badge/initiation fee be increased to cover the cost of badge orders. Jim KE6VGV moved that the fee be increased to \$7 per badge. The motion passed. SCRA@cds1.net - Bill advised that there already existed an e-mail address for the club. It had been forwarded to Ken Harrison N6MHG. It has since been changed to forward to Bill. Rick K6ZWB asked if the address could forward to multiple members and if so, to add him to the list. Bill said that he would inquire. Guest Name Tags - Bill said that he looked into the cost of a box of Avery Name Tag labels that he could put club information on and to use for meeting guests. The cost for a box was \$44.95, and Bill felt that it was a bit expensive. He asked the BoD for input. Members thought that the name tags would be a good idea, but that they were concerned about the cost at this time. Rick K6ZWB said that he had some labels that he was not using that he would give to Bill to try.

### c. Directors

Larry KD6VUM said that he had been advised that the county wants the club display case out of the EOC building by the end of the month. Greg AC6VJ said that he would use his truck to get it out and John KD2LQ will assist. Larry also commented that the club generator is developing a green moss coating on it. Greg will be hauling it to Livermore to try to sell in the near future. Bill will be trying to get a new "pink" slip. Rich KF6SZA passed out copies of the file dump he made of the membership database he had been given. Rich's mailing program had been used to produce the labels for the last Shortskip. The program performs the proper sort and separation for the post office bulk mailing requirements. It also produces the required report. He and Bill KH6GJV will be working on the database.

### 4. Committee Reports

- a. Activities Committee - Jeff Basham W2JAB
  - i. Field Day - There being no objection, Youth Park was selected as the Field Day site for this year.
  - ii. Swap Meet - There being no objection, this item was deferred to the next meeting.
- b. Newsletter - Henry Tate KE6ORF was not present to make a report.
  - i. Personnel Corrections in Shortskip - Bill KH6GJV already advised Henry that the information printed in Shortskip was not correct. He will work with Henry to get the corrections made.
  - ii. Folding & Labeling - Bill KH6GJV reported on the result of his investigation of the cost of having the printer fold, seal and label the newsletter. The cost breakdown had been sent to the BoD members previously by e-mail. John