

NOVEMBER 2005 CALENDAR OF EVENTS						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 7:00 PM SCRA Meeting Luther Burbank Art & Garden Center 2050 Yulugo Ave., Santa Rosa	3	4 7:30 PM Marin ARC Meeting, Alto Clubhouse, 27 Shell Road, Mill Valley	5 10:00 AM ROVARC Meeting Red Oak Victory Ship, Point Richmond Directions: www.sred oakvictory.org
6	7	8 7:30 PM Hamilton Wireless Association Building 549, Hamilton Field, Nevada	9 7:00 PM REDXA Meeting Mister McGee's Restaurant, Petaluma (note date change)	10	11 6:00 PM SFARC Meeting Veteran's Administration Medical Center, Auditorium of Bldg. 7, 42nd & Clement St., San Francisco	12
13	14	15	16 7:30 PM YMARAC Meeting McDougal Hall, Sonoma Dev. Center, Glen Ellen 6:30 PM SCRA Board of Directors Meeting (note date change)	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.
P.O. Box 116
Santa Rosa, California
95402-0116

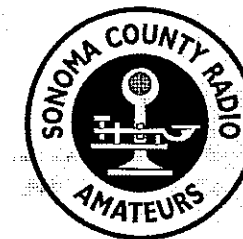
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VOLUME 30 NUMBER 11

Short Skip

The Newsletter of
Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.

P.O. Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402-0116 707-579-9608

<http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com>

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REPEATER STATION
W6SON

NOVEMBER 2005

Toy Drive ~ Yes, we can do it again!

Allen Pitts, W1AGP
Media and Public Relations Manager
ARRL-the national association for Amateur Radio-(860) 594-0328

In the wake of the unprecedented devastation by Hurricane Katrina, hams around the country are being asked, "Can we do it again?" Like thousands of hams across the country, I was eaves-dropping on the national nets following the Katrina disaster. Because I had gone to Montgomery, Alabama to coordinate some things, I was listening intently for people I had met who were going into the areas so horribly devastated by the storm.

That's when Bear interrupted me.

The last time "Bear" talked was a year ago when his simple head full of fluff thought up the first Toy Drive. Hams around the country joined together for children left homeless by a series of four hurricanes in Florida. That effort, in late 2004, succeeded better than anyone's wildest dreams. But now Bear wanted to do it again.

A second Toy Drive! Could we?

A phone call with the Public Relations Committee said yes. An email from Dave Sumner who was attending a conference in Europe said yes. Another phone call with singer Patty Loveless' manager not only said yes, but also offered help. Not only can it be done, it really must be done. It is simply the right thing to do.

Patty Loveless is honorary chairperson.

We are asking hams from all over the country to begin gathering new toys for shipment to Memphis, Tennessee. ARRL Vice-Director Henry Leggette, WD4Q, secured a receiving warehouse and volunteers there. The toys should be sent to this address where they will be sorted and stocked by volunteers. Early in December we will divide the toys between the various agencies and states that need help the most at that point in time. We are making these arrangements so that we can maximize the areas receiving aid while maintaining the unique identity that this is the Amateur Radio Community's response.

Just as we did last year, we are asking the donors to please put a QSL card into the box with the toy.

Many clubs are already gathering toys together. Please check with your local club and see if they are planning a mass shipment. If not, perhaps you can help organize one for your area.

"Last year, hams from all over the country brought smiles to

children during the holidays. We made a lot of friends, and we did a lot of good. No one expected that we would need to do it again, but Katrina's destruction has changed the plans of a lot of people. I hope you will help in this effort to bring a smile to children hurt by this disaster." - Pres. Jim Haynie.

Unwrapped new toys for boys and girls of ages 1 to 14 should be gathered and shipped by amateur radio operators to the Memphis, TN facility between now and Thanksgiving for distribution over the holidays. Non-hams are also encouraged to join in this effort to provide for the thousands of children suddenly homeless due to Hurricane Katrina.

Send new, unwrapped toys for children ages 1 to 14 to:

ARRL -- Toy Drive
1775 Moriah Woods Blvd. -- Suite 12
Memphis, TN 38117

Monetary donations would also be very helpful in covering the expenses of this operation and purchasing toys for age groups often overlooked. Those wishing to donate money instead of toys can send a check to:

ARRL - Toy Drive
225 Main Street
Newington, CT 06111

Thanks to Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV for this article

Holiday Pot Luck Dinner

from Brian Torr N6IYY

Instead of our usual meeting in December, we will be having our annual Holiday Pot Luck Dinner on December 9, 2005. For \$7.50, the club will provide turkey with gravy, ham, and coffee and tea. You bring a salad, side dish, or dessert for pot luck. Flyers will be sent to all club members. Please RSVP with your payment by Friday, December, 2. If you have any questions, contact Brian Torr at (707) 575-5871 or n6iyy@arrl.net.

November Program

Nominations for next year's officers and directors and the Holiday Pot Luck Dinner.



2005 Club Officers

President	John Felton	KE5RI	707 539-5831
Vice President	Kevin Alt	K6BSG	707 566-9061
Secretary	Rich Freitas	KE6SZA	707 578-9335
Treasurer	Jim Lee	KE6VGV	415 892-0317
Director	Bruce Donecker	N6CT	707 823-7969
Director	Bill Hillendahl	KH6GJV	707 544-4944
Past President	Brian Torr	N6IYY	707 575-5871
Public Service Chairman	Craig Gaevert	KG6THE	707 545-4133
Repeater Chairman	Greg Gordon	AC6VJ	707 523-7077

Short Skip & Web Staff

Editor	Vicki Cero	KF6ZCT	415 279-3859
Hank's Swap Shop	Jeff Basham	KK6JAB	707 542-3860
Web Master	Jeff Basham	KK6JAB	707 542-3860

Contacts

Antenna Ordinance/Legal	Lee Dibble	KE6EAQ	707 544-1675
Public Relations	Bill McCall	W6WDM	707 538-2844
Refreshments	Ted DeCroff	KB6PTA	707 542-4008
Volunteer Exam Liaison	Brian Torr	N6IYY	707 575-5871
ARRL DXCC/WAS Mgr	Chuck Ternes	N6OJ	707 763-2528

SCRA Hotline	707 579-9608
SCRA E-Mail	scra@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com
SCRA Web Site	http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com

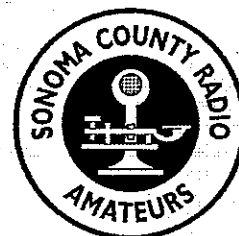
Tuesday Night Net

Remember to check in to the SCRA net each **Tuesday** evening on the **146.985-(PL 88.5)** repeater at **7:00 PM**. Announcements are made of upcoming SCRA and other amateur radio activities in the area and what is listed in Hank's Swap Shop. You will also hear the weekly *Amateur Radio Newsline* broadcast.

Short Skip Advertising Rates

Business Cards	\$12 per month
1st Quarter Column	\$13 per month
Each Additional Quarter Column	\$4 per month
Full page (one side)	\$35 per month
Pre-printed inserts (each)	\$35 per month

For more information, Contact the Editor

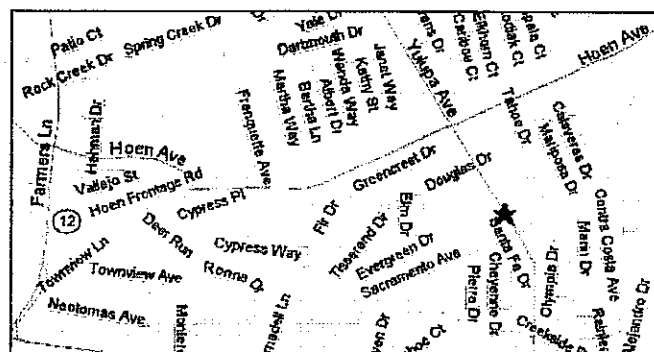


SCRA Club Meetings

The club normally meets the first Wednesday of each month. Exceptions are holidays or other big events.

Next meeting is November 2nd at 6:00 PM at:

Luther Burbank Art & Garden Center
2050 Yulupa Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA



All are welcome!

Please join us at our next meeting. Anyone interested in Amateur Radio may be eligible for membership. A membership application is included in this newsletter.

For more information, contact any SCRA officer, director or member.

Hungry before the meeting?

Join us for dinner! We meet at Coco's restaurant, 1501 Farmers Lane (corner of Farmers & Hwy 12), Santa Rosa. People start showing up at 5:30 PM.

No RSVP is required.

See you there every month except December.

If you are not getting the ARRL San Francisco Section news by e-mail and you are an ARRL member, be sure to subscribe under your Members Only information or go to these websites:

<http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=SF>

<http://www.pdarrrl.org/sfsec/>

Contest Corner

by Kevin Alt K6BSG

Hello testers. The biggest contest month of the year is nearly upon us. ARRL CW and Phone Sweepstakes as well as CQWW CW contests all occur this month. Make sure that you take time out from your turkey preparations to get some contesting in! Happy DX'ing.

- 5-6 Nov - North American Collegiate ARC Championship - CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.collegiatechampionship.org.
- 5-6 Nov - IPA Contest - Phone/CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.ipa-rc.de.
- 5-6 Nov - Ukrainian DX Contest - CW/SSB/RTTY, 160-10 meters. See: www.ucc.zp.ua.
- 5-6 Nov - Radio Club of America QSO Party, SSB/AM, 80-15 meters. See: www.radio-club-of-america.org or rlraide@adelphia.net.
- 5-7 Nov - ARRL November Sweepstakes - CW, 160-10 meters. See: <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2005/novss.html>.
- 6 Nov - High Speed Club CW Contest, 80-10 meters. See: www.dl3bzz.de.
- 6 Nov - DARC 10-Meter Digital "Corona" - RTTY/AMTOR/FACTOR/PSK31/Clover. See: www.darc.de/referate/dx/cqdlcont/fgdccc.htm.

- 12-13 Nov - ARRL EME Contest, 50-1296 MHz. See: <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2005/eme.html>.
- 12-13 Nov - Japan International DX Contest - Phone, 80-10 meters. See: <http://jidx.org/jidxrule-e.html>.
- 12-13 Nov - Worked All Europe DX Contest (WAEDC) - RTTY, 80-10 meters. See: www.waedc.de.
- 12-13 Nov - OK/OM DX Contest - CW, 160-10-meters. See: <http://okomdx.radioamater.cz>.
- 12-14 Nov - CQ WE (Western Electric) - CW/Phone/Digital, 160 meters -70 cm. See: <http://cqwe.choh.org>.
- 19-20 Nov - LZ DX Contest - CW/SSB, 80-10-meters. See: www.qsl.net/lz1fw/contest.
- 19-20 Nov - RSGB 1.8MHz Contest - CW. See: www.rsgbfcc.org.
- 19-21 Nov - ARRL November Sweepstakes - SSB, 160-10 meters. See: <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2005/novss.html>.
- 19-21 Nov - North American Collegiate ARC Championship - Phone, 160-10 meters. See: www.collegiatechampionship.org.
- 26-27 Nov - CQ World Wide DX Contest - CW, 160-10 meters. See: <http://cqww.com>.

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. Membership Application

Please Print Clearly

New Renewal

Name _____ Call Sign _____ License Class _____ Date _____

Address _____ H Phone _____ W Phone _____

City/State _____ Zip _____ E-Mail _____

ARRL Member? Yes No

Dues & Fees: (SCRA dues year is 3/1/05 to 2/28/06)

Individual / Associate Member	\$24 (\$6.00/qtr)
Family Membership	\$36 (\$9.00/qtr)
Under 18 Membership	\$18 (\$3.00/qtr)
Badge	\$10

Payment Calculations: Make checks payable to SCRA

Dues - Full Year	\$ _____
Dues - Prorated _____ Qtrs. x \$ _____/qtr	\$ _____
Badge	\$ _____
Other - _____	\$ _____
Donation	\$ _____

Badge Information

Call Sign _____
First Name _____
City _____

Total \$ _____

Mail to: SCRA, P.O. Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402

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Surfin': Back in the USSR

By Stan Horzepa, W1LOU, Contributing Editor to ARRL
October 14, 2005

This week, visit an online museum and see what the comrades were listening to in the Soviet Union.

While looking at various radio sites on the Internet, I came upon one that caught my eye: the Russian Old Radios Web site, also known as the Red Star Radiosite Soviet Antique Radio Gallery. What caught my eye was some of the bizarre looking radios on display in the gallery. Sure, there were radios that were similar to the radios I was used to on the left side of the Iron Curtain, but there were a few that looked so weird that I had to further explore this Web site.

The Russian Old Radios Web site features an interesting and sometimes bizarre collection of radio equipment. Exploring this site is like looking for Easter eggs because you never know where you are going to find another interesting link. For example, when you enter the gallery, there is a menu listing various rooms you can visit, but note that the five lines of text above this menu are full of links that you can explore, too. And be sure to check out the links in the 1930's, 1940's, 1950's and 1960's rooms where you can listen to the music of those times.

Vitaly Brounsnikin is the man behind the Web site. It is his collection that is on display and besides radios, includes old records, record players and tape recorders. There is also a collection of schematics, manuals, and articles for your perusal.

Until next week, keep on surfen'!

Editor' note: Stan Horzepa, W1LOU, bought a transistor radio when he visited Poland in 1974, and like Stan, the radio does not work as well as it used to. To contact Stan, send e-mail or visit his Web site where you can leave him a note.



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denver@hamradio.com

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phoenix@hamradio.com

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Mark, K4JVD, Mgr.
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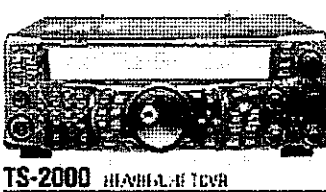
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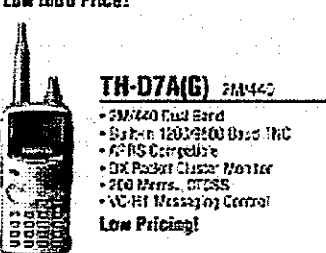
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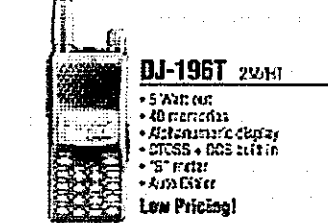


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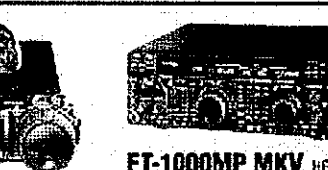
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Low Pricing!



Attitude

by Rich Freitas KF6SZA
Sonoma County ARES
District Emergency Coordinator

The following article was taken from the web pages of Pat Lambert WYIPL.

A person having just completed basic training as a fire fighter is not going to be expected by the public, his peers, or his superiors to be as well suited to all aspects of the job as one who has undergone additional training above the basic level. Field experiences added to on-going training are what make a good firefighter. Why then is it that many of the Amateur Radio fraternity feel that having an operator's license automatically makes them an asset to public safety communications? Unfortunately, this attitude is held by many amateurs and is an example of something in need of change. A driving license grants one the privilege of driving upon the public streets and highways. It does not entitle the person to drive a heavy truck for hire. It is the requirement of on-going training and experience that produces a qualified operator.

Nothing in the course of study from Technician to Extra Class Amateur, makes anyone an emergency communications expert, or even an asset to the public safety. Unless a person is willing to undertake on-going training and thus gain experience, and to subject themselves to accepted standards of conduct and discipline, the license serves only as minimum requirement for operation. In matters of emergency communications, this means you are expected to know far more than just how to hook up and use a radio transmitter and antenna. You must also know how to communicate using the minimum number of words, operate in a directed net - without slowing the net yet without being in a hurry, pass traffic clearly and accurately, something of how to conduct yourself concerning sensitive communications, dealing with the press, and your limitations as well as your assets. If you expect to be dumped into the middle of a forest fire to provide emergency communications to professional and volunteer fire crews, then you need to know at least the basics of fire fighting, how it relates to your own safety, that of the public at large, and the other members of the team. In short, you may think you are the best communicator in the world, but if you expect to be placed in the thick of it, you might want to know which way the wind is blowing!

Before you begin the technical material involved in learning about Emergency Communication (EmComm), it is imperative that you understand your knowledge in EmComm is not actually as important as your attitude during emergencies. Yes, technical ability will enable you to do a far better job of communicating. But your attitude will determine the success of the overall Amateur Radio effort. The person who brings a "know it all" or "Cowboy" attitude will only hamper relations with served agencies.

The people you will be serving-remember that word-are professionals that have seen far too many people more interested in impressing someone than in getting the job done. You will actually impress them far more by being as quiet as you can and doing your job well. Results, without interference of served agency people, will cement relations with your served agency. Our served agencies also respond well when we take a positive attitude and relate what we can do rather than what we can't do.

Please keep in mind that Amateur Radio is a hobby. However, EmComm is a commitment! Simply stated, EmComm requires an explicit mental commitment to help others. Please read that again. A commitment to help others. To be effective in EmComm you will be required to expend significant effort and time in training and practice. Many say "I did that before, so I don't need to practice."

This is not true. It will take time, a lot of time, if you are to be successful. If you are willing to spend that time, WELCOME!

Hams are patriotic, independent people and they are volunteers. The attitude among a few hams is that "Volunteers don't have to take orders." That's absolutely correct. We don't have to take orders. But if you are not ready to follow instructions, you may want to do something outside of EmComm!

Do not adjust, play with or fiddle with any piece of equipment in use for an incident, during that incident, unless it is malfunctioning. Remember, an incident scene is not about radios and being a Ham, it IS about the incident and YOU will either be part of the solution or you become part of the problem.

The Sonoma County ARES net meets on Mondays at 7:30 PM on 146.985 MHz, - offset, 88.5 PL. All ARES members and guests are invited to check-in. Please join us!

In Search of Guglielmo

article and photos by
Bob Tripi N1KJV

(continued from the September Newsletter) Near the end of the parking lot is the entrance to the Atlantic White Cedar Swamp Trail, a mile and a half nature trail. As you enter, the trail to the right is the remains of "Wireless Road."

In 2003, on the 100th anniversary of the message to King Edward, Marconi's youngest daughter, Princess Elettra, sent greetings via Amateur Radio from the National Park Service site in Eastham (near Wellfleet) to the International Space Station. See Figure 6.



Fig. 6 As members of the news media crowd in, Princess Elettra sends "cordial greetings, good wishes" to Commander Bowersox, K05JBP, aboard the International Space Station on January 18, 2003.

Readers can find more information about Marconi and the station on the Web site of the Marconi Company. Also see the Web site of The US National Marconi Museum.

A ham for 12 years, Bob Tripi, N1KJV, holds a General class ticket and degrees in Electronics and Computer Science. He is presently doing consulting work. He is particularly interested in vintage radios and woodworking. You can reach the author at 23 Endicott Dr, Westborough, MA 01581; doverbros@charter.net.

Previous: President Taps Commissioner Kevin J. Martin to Head FCC.

March 17th article and photos from the ARRL Web site

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. Membership Meeting, October 5, 2005 Minutes

- Call to Order; Verification of Quorum - The meeting was called to order by Vice President Kevin Alt, K6BSG, at 7:13 pm at the Luther Burbank Arts and Garden Center. John, KE5RI was absent; all other board members were in attendance.
 - Introductions
 - Officers & Directors - Vice President, Kevin, K6BSG, introduced those in attendance.
 - Program Introduction - Kevin, K6BSG, - recent DX-pedition videos.
 - New Calls and Upgrades - None.
 - Visitors: Matt.
- Approval of Minutes - It was moved by Michael, KC6UNA, and seconded by Bob, WD6DPE, to approve the minutes of the last membership meeting as published in Short Skip with spelling correction. The motion passed.
- Officer and Director Reports
 - President - John, KE5RI, - Absent, No report.
 - Vice President - Kevin, K6BSG, - No report.
 - Secretary - Rich, KF6SZA, - No report.
 - Treasurer - Jim, KE6VGV, - No report.
 - Directors -
 - Bruce, N6CT, - No report.
 - Bill, KH6GJV, - No report.
 - Past President - Brian, N6IHY, - No report.
- Committee Reports
 - ARES - Rich, KF6SZA, - The annual ARRL SET took place on October 1st this year with NCS at Blood Bank of the Redwoods. All members were invited to check into the Monday night ARES net.
 - Mobile Comm Van - Rich, KF6SZA, - A work party will be set up after the ARRL SET to install items taken off in preparation for painting.
 - Activities - BoD - This year's Christmas Party will be held on December 9th (the second Friday of December).
 - Newsletter - Vicki, KF6ZCT, - No report. Rich, KF6SZA, reported that we will soon do some test emails for Short Skip.
 - Public Service - General discussion that the Waves-to-Wine event was successful. Some medical assistance traffic was relayed.
 - VE Liaison - Brian, N6IHY, - The next VE session will be on October 22nd at Exit Realty in Windsor; there will also be a VE session at Pacificon on October 15th.
 - Repeaters
 - Greg, AC6VJ, reported that all repeaters and links are working and the digipeater is back up on 144.91 MHz.
- Unfinished Business - Items still in progress:
 - Distribution of Short Skip via email - see above.
 - Finish the Comm Van - see above.
 - Update Club Roster - Rich, KF6SZA, will send a .csv roster file to Brian, N6IHY.
- New Business
 - The BoD will nominate candidates for next year's officers at the next Board meeting.
 - Bruce, N6CT, reported that the Antenna Ordinance Committee me to propose a more "friendly" ordinance that would allow local government approval within a set of guidelines. Bill, KH6GJV, noted that the antenna CC&R bill was re-introduced to Congress to give amateur radio antennas the same leeway as satellite TV antennas.
- Program - The program was a series of recent DX-pedition videos courtesy of Bob, N6YEU, President of Red-X.
- Announcements - The next Membership Meeting is October 5th, at 7:00 pm. The next BoD meeting is at 6:30 pm on October 19th (to avoid conflict with the Red-X meeting). All members are welcome.
- Adjournment - It was moved and seconded by Bob, K6MXI, and Michael, KC6UNA, that the meeting be adjourned at 8:40 pm.

The motion passed.

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting, October 19, 2005 Minutes

Board Members Present: Kevin Alt, K6BSG; Jim, KE6VGV; Rich Freitas, KF6SZA; Bill Hillendahl, KH6GJV; and Brian Torr, N6IHY. John Felton, KE5RI, and Bruce Donecker, N6CT, were absent.

Guests Present: None.

- Call to Order; Verification of Quorum - The meeting was called to order by Vice President Kevin Alt, K6BSG, at 6:35 pm. The meeting was held at Starbuck's on Hopper Avenue. A quorum was present in that all but two voting board members were present.
- Approval of Minutes - It was moved by Jim, KE6VGV, that the minutes of the 09/14/2005 meeting as printed in Short Skip be approved. The motion passed.
- Officer and Director Reports
 - President - Absent, - No report.
 - Vice President - Kevin, K6BSG, - No report.
 - Secretary - Rich, KF6SZA, - No report.
 - Treasurer - Jim, KE6VGV, reported checking and savings bank balances.
 - Directors -
 - Bruce, N6CT, - Absent, No report.
 - Bill, KH6GJV, - No report.
 - Past President - Brian, N6IHY, - Nothing to report.
- Committee Reports
 - ARES - Rich, KF6SZA, - We are still awaiting information on the Statewide Drill scheduled for November 17th.
 - Mobile Comm Van - Rich, KF6SZA, reported that a work party needs to be set up in the near future to put the lights and trim back on so the vehicle is drivable. After the work party we will get a mechanic's opinion of the running gear condition. The work party is scheduled for Saturday, November 12th.
 - Activities - No report.
 - Newsletter - No report.
 - Public Service - No report.
 - VE Liaison - Brian, N6IHY, reported that the next VE session is on October 22nd.
 - Repeater -
 - Status - No report.
 - There was general discussion regarding the difficulties in getting members to be NCS.
 - Net Control Operators: 10/11 - Brian, N6IHY.
- Unfinished Business -
 - Programs - No report.
 - The Board discussed potential nomination for next year's officers and directors.
 - Inventory still needs to be done. Bill, KH6GJV, and Kevin, K6BSG, will get together soon to begin the process.
 - Christmas Party - Brian, N6IHY, will check with caterers to determine this year's food options.
 - Email Newsletter - Rich, KF6SZA, reported that work still needs to be done to correct formatting problems with the email version the newsletter.
 - Antenna Ordinance - Ongoing.
- New Business -
 - The need for a PIO as photographer to document club activities will be brought up at next year's Officer's Retreat.
- Adjournment - It was moved by Brian, N6IHY, to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm.

The motion passed.