



NIMS and NGOs

by Rich Freitas KF6SZA
Sonoma County ARES
District Emergency Coordinator

NOTE: The following is an excerpt from an article published in the ARES E-Letter, a monthly online newsletter.

If you can wade through the acronyms, you probably attended the ARES training session on NIMS. If you didn't attend, the FEMA training is available online at the websites mentioned below. We are entering the age where all NGOs and governmental agencies alike will require NIMS/ICS training for all volunteers. If you are interested in emergency communications, I urge you to explore the FEMA website and take advantage of the many online training courses available at no charge.

Local government often calls on nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) for assistance. NGOs are non-profit entities working cooperatively with government. Such organizations serve a public purpose, not a private benefit. Examples of NGOs include faith-based charity organizations such as the Salvation Army, The American Red Cross, and ARES (ARRL).

The National Incident Management System (NIMS) enables responders from different communities with a variety of job responsibilities to better work together. NIMS uses a systems approach to integrate the best of existing processes and methods into a unified national framework for incident management.

The NIMS Integration Center recommends fourteen activities for NGOs that support NIMS implementation. The IC recommends that NGOs formally adopt NIMS, and identify a Point of Contact for local emergency management authority. Other recommendations include use of the Incident Command System (ICS), an excellent organizational tool. The use of ICS aligns the NGO with all other responding entities so that deployment is accomplished in a consistent, efficient and effective manner. ICS implementation must include the consistent application of Incident Action Planning and Common Communications Plans.

The IC also recommends supporting "Integrated Multi-Agency Coordination Systems (MACs)" to ensure the NGO is able to communicate with local Incident Command Posts (ICPs), local 911 Centers, and EOCs.

Other recommendations include establishing a public information system, revising plans and SOPs with NIMS, promoting Mutual Aid, exercising NIMS by participating in NIMS-based exercises, inventorying

Response Assets using the Resource Typing standards found at: <http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/mutual_aid.shtm>, and sharing this inventory with local emergency management authority.

Training may include IS-700 NIMS: An Introduction, and IS-800 NRP: An Introduction; Incident Command System (ICS-100) and Incident Command System (ICS-200). For guidance, refer to: <http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/nims_training.shtm>.

A Fact Sheet, "NIMS Implementation Activities for Nongovernmental Organizations" is available at <<http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims>>.

The ARES net meets on Mondays at 7:30 pm on the SCRA repeater on 147.315MHz, - offset, 88.5PL. Members and guests are invited to check in anytime.

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connected to this reflector provide possible communications paths for a QSO. However, the IRLP protocol does not permit more than one node to transmit at once, and one must be careful not to start talking before listening to the node or reflector.

Jeff reported that a list of nodes and reflectors is available online at "<http://status.irlp.net/>". He also insists that anyone planning to use the local node first study the IRLP operating guidelines available at "<http://www.irlp.net/guidelines.html>". One clue to successful ham contacts via the internet is to pause, pause, pause, after speaking, as it takes time for the voice packets to travel over the internet, arrive at the distant node and get decoded and sent out over the ham airwaves. Fast break-in operation is discourteous and usually ineffective.

Be sure to identify your ham station in accordance with ham rules, but do not make your last identification before you disconnect from the distant node, done by entering 73 via the DTMF keypad. The distant node will answer back with an automated voice announcement indicating disconnect has occurred.

If any member has questions about the local IRLP node, please contact Bill, KH6GJV or Rich, KF6SZA for answers, as well as auxiliary command codes. Also, Jeff highly recommends the ARRL publication covering IRLP entitled: "VoIP: Internet Linking for Radio Amateurs" by Jonathan Taylor, K1TRFD.

Dave Harrison, W6IBC



Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting, January 10, 2007 Minutes

Board Members Present: David Harrison W6IBC, Fred Polkinghorn KQ6OB, Brian Torr N6IYY, Bob Arthur KG6 ZDN, Pat Coyle KG6JSL, John Felton KE5RI. Guest Present: None

1. Call to Order: Verification of Quorum – President Dave Harrison, W6IBC called the meeting to order at 6:50 PM. The meeting was held at Coco's Restaurant, Santa Rosa. A quorum was present.
2. Approval of Minutes – It was pointed out that Bill Hillendahl, as SM is responsible for appointing the ARES DEC. The minutes should read that Rich Freitas KE6SZA will continue as club liaison for ARES. It was moved by John KE6RI that the minutes of December 13, 2006 meeting be approved as modified. The motion passed.
3. Officer and Director Reports
 - a. President – Dave W6IBC- No report
 - b. Secretary – Fred KQ6OB – Fred met with Jeff Basham to take over the duties of Reflector Administrator.
 - c. Treasurer – Brian N6IYY – Reported bank balances. It was motioned by Brian, that we pay current bills. The motion passed. Brian to get paper work to add Fred to list of authorized signatures on checking account.
 - d. Directors
 - i) Bob KG6ZDN – Bob met with Jeff Basham KK6JAB to take over the duties of Web Master. He has started to update our website.
 - ii) Pat KG6JSL – No report
4. Board of Directors Retreat – It was agreed that the Board of Directors will have a planning meeting on Saturday, February 3, 2007 from 9-1 at John Felton's house.
5. Comm. Van – The need for a Comm. Van for ARES and Public Service events has diminished over the last two years. The Comm. Van needs to be repaired and is costing the club money for registration and insurance. In addition, we can no longer store the van at its present location. It was decided that John and Pat would find out what the van is worth and how much it would cost to fix it up. After this information is obtained, the Board will present this information to the club to determine whether we should fix it up or sell it as is.
6. Programs & Activities– The Board will be preparing a list of programs at their planning meeting on February 3. Some suggested program topics were: HF digital, PSK31, a UHF/VHF contest, a trip to K6KPH and a mentoring program for new hams. Rich Freitas KE6SZA will be asked to make a presentation on Emergency Communications at the February meeting.
7. Old Business
 - a. Inventory of Club Equipment – An inventory of club equipment has not occurred in several years. Dave Harrison presented a list of equipment that he inventoried at Castle Rock and English Hill. A team was organized to inventory the equipment which is stored at Lee Dibbles and Bill Hillendahl's homes.
 - b. Update Corporate Structure - Pat, KG6JSL gave a report on updating the corporate structure to make it a 501C3 Non Profit corporation. As a non-profit corporation, donations, dues and expenses would be tax deductible. Brian N6IYY and Fred KQ6OB will look in their files for the original articles of incorporation. If the original articles cannot be updated, Pat recommended that we re-incorporate as a 501C3.
 - c. Short Skip – Fred KQ6OB reported that he was unable to convert the newsletter files so that it can be sent out electronically. He

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Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. Membership Meeting, January 3, 2007 Minutes

1. Call to Order – President Dave Harrison W6IBC called the meeting to order at 7:10 at the Luther Burbank Arts and Garden Center.
2. Introductions – Dave W6IBC introduces the new board. He also announced that he is changing the meeting format. The new format will have the program first, followed by a break and the business meeting.
3. Program – Jeff Basham, KK6JAB gave an excellent presentation on IRLP. This is a special program which runs on Linux which connects amateur radio repeaters via the Internet. The program is presently running on the KE6SZA repeater on 444.900 MHz. The Internet connection is being donated by Vista Broadband Corp. Using DTMF codes, a repeater can be connected to another node. This can be another repeater, or a regional net which allows one to talk to multiple repeaters. There are approximately 1200 nodes in the U.S. and several hundred overseas. Jeff illustrated IRLP by making a connection with a repeater in Las Vegas, Nevada. He also connected our repeater to the Western Regional Net.
4. Business Meeting
 - a. Secretary's Report – There was no Secretary's report as the meeting in December was the Christmas party.
 - b. Treasurer's Report – No report – The club is solvent.
 - c. Repeater Committee – The lawsuit with NARC has been dismissed based on their acceptance of our recommended changes to their Policies and Procedures. John KE5RI has found the source of the double beep which has plagued our repeater. It is coming from a repeater in Stockton whose output is very near our input frequency. Since our repeater is coordinated, John has contacted their repeater coordinator and asked them to correct the problem.
 - d. Public Service – Craig Gaevert, K6XLT has agreed to coordinate the public service events again this year. The first major service event will be the Wine Country Century Bike Race on May 5. Craig asked that this year each volunteer keep track of the hours they have contributed.
 - e. ARES – Rich Freitas announced that there would be a training meeting on Monday, January 29. All club members are also welcome to check in on the ARES net each Monday at 7:30 PM. Rich's company has installed the antenna pole at the Sonoma County Red Cross building. It will be a few weeks before the equipment will be available to install the feed line.
 - f. Net Control – The following individuals have volunteered to be Net Control Operators: Craig, K6XLT 2/6, John, KE5RI 2/13, Dave, W6IBC 2/20, and Kevin K6BSG 2/27.
 - g. Comm.Van – Dave indicated that our need for a Comm.Van has changed. The van needs some expensive repairs. In addition, there are the ongoing expenses of the registration and insurance. Dave asked the membership to think about what the club should do with the van.
 - h. Program Suggestions – Dave asked the membership to think about suggested program for future meetings. One suggestion was a trip to the California Maritime Museum sometime in February or March.
 - i. Video – Dave ran a video showing solar flare activity on the sun. He also showed a video from a DX contesting group in Denmark.
 - j. Adjournment – it was moved by Jeff, KK6JAB to adjourn the meeting at 9:10. The motion passed.

February Meeting Announcement

Earthquakes? Floods? Wildfires? You've heard the predictions. Come to the February 7th club meeting to hear Rich Freitas, KF6SZA, explain local plans and preparation for amateur radio response to disasters. If you're not already participating in ARES, ask yourself "What's in my Go-Box?". Be prepared!

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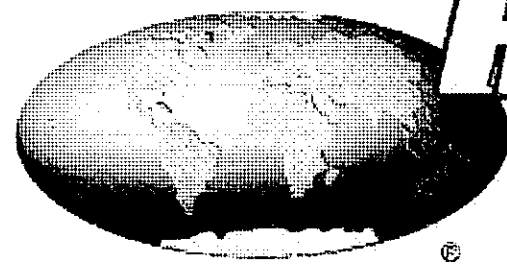
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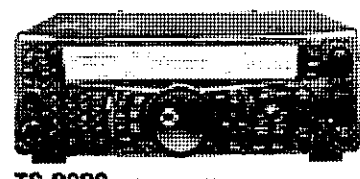
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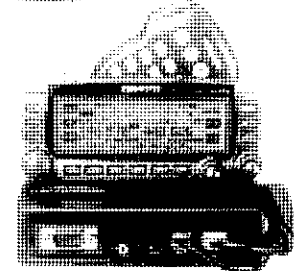
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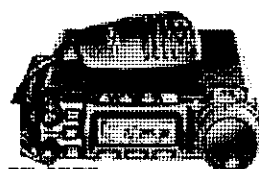
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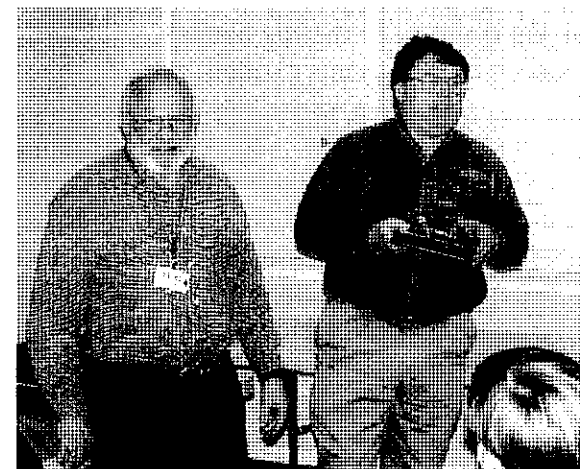


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N6IYY Ham of the Year



John left, Brian right

SCRA has honored Brian Torr, N6IYY, in recognition of his service and devotion to the club and to amateur radio. Brian, a member of SCRA for 23 years, has served in every office of the club, and serves as our "in residence antenna expert" for Field Day and other field events. Brian also currently serves as SCRA Treasurer. The award, commemorated by an inscribed plaque including a microphone decoration, was presented to Brian by 2006 SCRA President, John Felton, KE5RI, at our January 2007 membership meeting.

Many thanks, and best wishes, Dave Harrison, W6IBC

SCRA Welcomes IRLP

The Internet-Radio Linking Project has arrived in Santa Rosa via SCRA members Jeff, KK6JAB, and Rich, KF6SZA. The KK6JAB IRLP Node (number 3331) has been established in conjunction with the KF6SZA repeater on 444.900 (plus offset and 88.5Hz PL). High speed broadband access to the internet has generously been provided by VISTA BROADBAND NETWORKS, a local internet service provider.

At our January 2007 meeting Jeff presented a clear explanation of IRLP basics, and demonstrated IRLP by responding to a call from a Las Vegas node, and by connecting to the Western Reflector and soliciting calls from Anchorage, Alaska (minus eight degrees at the time) and other locations in the west. (See photo on pg. 4)

Ham Radio via IRLP is now available in our area for any licensed ham having a 440 MHz hand-held with DTMF keypad and located within the reception range of the KF6SZA repeater. You can place two types of calls. Point to point calls involve entering a distant node's four digit code via the DTMF keypad during key down. Once the distant node connects, assuming it is idle and not already connected to another node, it will announce back its location and the fact that it is now connected to the KF6SZA repeater node via the internet. Then you can make a call to a particular station, or call CQ, followed by your call sign in phonetics and your location ("Santa Rosa, CA").

The other type of call is to a "reflector" where many nodes may be interconnected at the same time. Reflectors typically have a three digit identifier beginning with a "9", and a fourth digit designating a reflector channel (0-9 possible, typically channel 0 is selected). Once the local node is connected to a reflector, all other nodes

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will turn the disk over to Craig Gaevert, K6XLT who will see if it can be saved under a different format which is compatible with electronic mail. Dave, W6IBC would like other members of the club to contribute articles for Short Skip. Brian, N6IYY indicated that he is planning on writing an article on the history of the club's participation in Field Day. d. Repeater. John KE5RI reported that a temporary fix has been made to the amplifier for the VHF repeater. The amplifier is very old and spare parts are almost impossible to find. John will research the cost of replacing this unit.

8. New Business

a. News Line - Brian, N7MOE has been presenting News Line as a part of the club net for many years. He has requested that the board find a replacement for this activity. The Board will look for a person who would be willing to take on this duty.

John KE5RI moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35. The motion passed.

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Hank's Swap Shop	Jeff Basham	KK6JAB	707 542-3860
Web Master	Bob Arthur	KG6ZDN	

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Public Relations	Jeff Basham	KK6JAB	707 542-3860
Refreshments	Fred Polkinghorn	KQ6OB	
Volunteer Exam Liaison	Brian Torr	N6IY	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

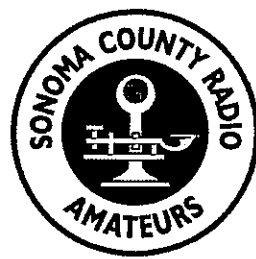
Remember to check in to the SCRA net each **Tuesday** evening on the **147.315+(PL 88.5)** repeater at **7:00 PM**. Announcements are made of upcoming SCRA and other amateur radio activities in the area and what is listed in Hank's Swap Shop. You will also hear the weekly *Amateur Radio Newslines* broadcast.

Short Skip Advertising Rates

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For more information, Contact the Editor

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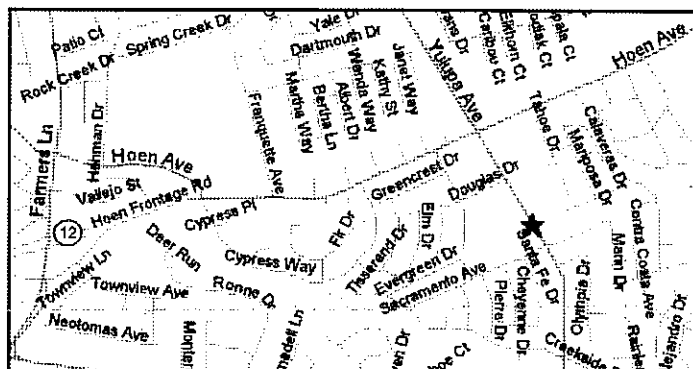


SCRA Club Meetings

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

Next meeting is Wednesday, February 7th at 7:00 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. For a short month, there are a large number of contests. Highlights include the ARRL CW International DX contest and the CQ WW 160 meter SSB contest. If these don't do it for you, there is always the Freeze Your Butt Off Field Day next weekend. Happy DX'ing!

- 3 Feb - Minnesota QSO Party - CW/Phone, 160-10 meters. See: www.w0aa.org.
- 3 Feb - FYBO (Freeze Your Butt Off) Winter QRP Field Day - CW/SSB, 160-10 meters. See: www.azscqrptions.org.
- 3-4 Feb - Ten-Ten International Winter Phone QSO Party - SSB, 10 meters. See: www.ten-ten.org.
- 3-4 Feb - XE International RTTY Contest, 80-10 meters. See: www.fmre.org.mx.
- 3-4 Feb - Delaware QSO Party - CW/Phone/Digital, 160-10 meters. See: www.fsarc.org.
- 3-5 Feb - Vermont QSO Party - CW/Phone/Digital, 160-10 meters and VHF/UHF. See: www.qsl.net/w1bd.
- 3-5 Feb - YL-OM Contest - CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.ylrl.org/ylcontests.html.
- 4 Feb - QRP ARCI Winter Fireside SSB Sprint, 80-10 meters. See: www.qrpaci.org.
- 4 Feb - North American Sprint - SSB, 80-20 meters. See: www.ncjweb.com.
- 6 Feb - Spartan Sprint - CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.arsqrp.com.
- 10 Feb - FISTS CW Winter Sprint - CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.FISTS.org.
- 10 Feb - Asia-Pacific Sprint - CW, 20 and 40 meters. See: jstc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt.
- 10-11 Feb - CQ World Wide RTTY WPX Contest - 80-10 meters. See: www.cq-amateur-radio.com.
- 10-11 Feb - Louisiana QSO Party - CW/Phone, 160-10 meters. See: www.w5yl.org.
- 10-11 Feb - Northern New York (NNY) QSO Party - all modes, 80 meters-70 cm. See: www.nnyara.org.
- 10-11 Feb - British Columbia QSO Challenge - CW/SSB/Digital, 160-6 meters. See: www.deltamateurradio.com.
- 10-11 Feb - RSGB 1.8 MHz Contest - CW. See: www.rsgbhfcc.org.

- 10-11 Feb - Dutch PACC Contest - CW/SSB, 160-10 meters. See: www.dutchpacc.com.
- 10-11 Feb - OMISS QSO Party - SSB, 80-10 meters. See: www.omiss.net.
- 10-11 Feb - YL-OM Contest - SSB, 160-10 meters. See: www.ylrl.org/ylcontests.html.
- 10-12 Feb - New Hampshire QSO Party - Phone/CW/Digital, 160-10 meters, VHF, UHF. See: www.w1fz.org.
- 11 Feb - North American Sprint - CW, 80-20 meters. See: www.ncjweb.com.
- 11-12 Feb - Classic Exchange - AM/SSB, 160-2 meters. See: www.qsl.asti.com/CX.
- 12-16 Feb - School Club Roundup - all modes, 160-10 meters. See: http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/scr.html.
- 14 Feb - NAQCC Monthly Straight Key Sprint - CW, 80-20 meters. See: www.arm-tek.net/~yoel.
- 17-18 Feb - ARRL International DX Contest, CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.arrl.org/contests.
- 17-18 Feb - AM QSO Party - 80-20 meters. See: www.antiquewireless.org/amqsoparty.htm.
- 24-25 Feb - CQC Winter QSO Party - CW/Phone, 160-10 meters. See: www.cqc.org.
- 24-25 Feb - CQ WW 160-meter SSB Contest. See: www.cq-amateur-radio.com/index.html.
- 24-25 Feb - EU EME Contest - Digital, 50, 144, 432, and 1296 MHz. See: www.dubus.org.
- 24-25 Feb - UBA Contest - CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.uba.be.
- 24-25 Feb - REF French Contest - Phone, 80-10 meters. See: www.ref-union.org/concours.
- 24-25 Feb - Mississippi QSO Party - CW/Digital/Phone, 80-10 meters. See: w5xx@vicksburg.com.
- 24-25 Feb - North American QSO Party - RTTY, 80-10 meters. See: www.ncjweb.com/naqrules.php.
- 25 Feb - High Speed CW Contest - 80-10 meters. Contact: hsccontest@gmail.com
- 25-26 Feb - North Carolina QSO Party - CW/Phone, 80-10 meters. See: www.w4nc.com.

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. Membership Application

Please Print Clearly

New [] Renewal []

Name _____ Call Sign _____ License Class _____ Date _____

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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	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

Badge Information

Call Sign _____
First Name _____
City _____

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

FEBRUARY 2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

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

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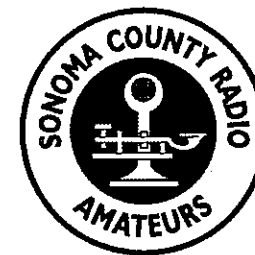
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Short Skip

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

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VOLUME 32 NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2007



GOTA DO IT!

by
Dave Harrison, W6IBC
SCRA President

We live in a fast-paced world. Never enough time to get all the things done that await our attention. Work, school, church, sports, family, home; whatever it is, there just isn't enough time to go around. But wait! We're also radio amateurs. As such, are we active; or, are we passive or inactive?

How long has it been since you pushed the mike switch on your ham rig? Does your rig still work? Do you remember how to use it? Where's the manual? Is the antenna working, or has a connector become loose or corroded? There's an easy way to find out: Get On The Air ("G.O.T.A.")! Get connected with and by ham radio. You studied hard for your license; now make use of it. Start making contacts with other hams. Once you do so, I bet you'll be surprised by the breadth of interests manifest every day on the ham bands.

My friend Dick, K6ANN, and I meet on 40 meter single sideband almost every day. Dick is an avid woodworker and turns out beautiful and functional objects from his well-equipped workshop in Redmond, Oregon. He's also actively restoring an old Collins tube receiver, a Model 75A3. Dick serves as one of the net control operators for the 20 meter Alaska Emergency Service Net. Several weeks ago, I contacted Dick via the KF6SZA IRLP node and a distant node at Sisters, Oregon, and we successfully made our first contact via this new and popular digital mode.

My friend Dale, NX6S, is an electronic instrument designer. (By the way, Dale is the designer of the Timewave TZ-900 "AntennaSmith" computerized antenna analyzer.) Dale is also a race car aficionado. We spend a lot of time talking about ham radio and race cars, in person, and by ham radio. I made my first 20 Meter PSK31 contact with Dale several years ago.

What are your interests? Ragchewing, emergency communications, Morse code, homebrewing, antennas (and restrictions), contesting, fox hunting, Field Day, satellite com-

munications, audio, measurements, microwave, mobiling, PSK31 and digital modes, software-defined radio, low power (QRP), internet radio (IRLP, Echolink), APRS, repeaters, amateur TV? Or, maybe you are a new ham and don't know much about any of these subjects.

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs (SCRA) is a general interest amateur radio club. There is room within SCRA for everyone interested in ham radio communications, with interest levels ranging from the very technical to the highly simplified and very practical. Oldtimers and newcomers equally welcome! Hopefully, our club will engage you in a wide variety of subjects and aspects of ham radio, and maybe other interest-areas as well, and we'd love for you to participate and contribute your ideas and effort.

For starters, why not check into the local Sonoma County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) net on Monday nights at 7:30 PM, and the SCRA service net on Tuesday nights at 7:00PM, both held via the SCRA Repeater System, (VHF: 147.315, plus offset (+), private line (PL) tone of 88.5Hz). (If you need help with these settings, please let one of us know.)

We'd love to hear from you. We're just a mike switch away. As they say at CBS, "we'll see you on the radio". If you're not already "radio-active", please get on the air!

73, Dave, W6IBC SCRA President

Morse Code Requirement Ends

The FCC has modified the Amateur Radio Service rules, eliminating Morse code exam requirements. The new rules become effective at 12:01 AM Eastern Time Friday February 23, 2007.

The rule changes will grant limited HF operating privileges to Technician licensees on 80, 40, 15, and 10 meters.

Once the new rules take effect, Technicians can upgrade to General by passing a single written exam (Element 3) and to Amateur Extra by also passing the Element 4 written exam. No Morse code test will be required.

For more information, please visit the ARRL web site at www.arrl.org/FCC/Morse.
Dave Harrison, W6IBC

