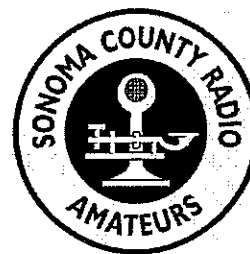


AUGUST 2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 <small>7:00 PM SCRA Meeting Luther Burbank Art & Garden Center 2050 Yukupa Ave., Santa Rosa</small>	2	3 <small>7:30 PM Marin-ARC Meeting, Alto Clubhouse, 27 Shell Road, Mill Valley</small>	4 <small>10:00 AM ROVARC Meeting Red Oak Victory Ship, Point Richmond Directions: www.sredookvictory.org</small>
5	6	7	8 <small>7:00 PM REDXA Meeting Mister McGoo's Restaurant, Petaluma 6:30 PM SCRA Board of Directors Meeting (note date change)</small>	9	10	11
12	13	14 <small>7:30 PM Hamilton Wireless Association Building 549, Hamilton Field, Novato</small>	15 <small>7:30 PM VMARC Meeting McDougal Hall, Sonoma Dev. Center, Glen Ellen</small>	16	17 <small>8:00 PM SFARC Meeting Veteran's Administration Medical Center, Auditorium of Bldg. 7, 42nd & Clement St., San Francisco</small>	18 <small>YWC2 Ride PCAM</small>
19 <small>PCAM</small>	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



CLUB STATION
W6LFJ

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>

Repeaters: 147.315+ 224.48- 441.375+



REPEATER STATION
W6SON

VOLUME 32 NUMBER 8

AUGUST 2007



Boat-Anchors Aweigh!

by Dave Harrison, W6IBC
SCRA President

When I was a kid, science fiction promised that Dick Tracy's wrist-watch was actually a personal telephone. Impossible, we thought.

Yet, today I have a cell phone not much larger than a Ronson cigarette lighter. Small enough to wear on my wrist, if that were fashionable. This example points out so clearly that times change, and the state of the art changes with the passage of time. Today, our ham radios are smaller, far more functionally adept, and use far less material and energy for a given power output.

Fifty years ago, in 1957, hams typically constructed their own equipment. I know, I did. Hams could buy commercial equipment, or more frequently, could buy a box full of parts from a company known as Heathkit. In those days, while the transistor had been invented, tubes remained king of the hill and road. The bigger the tube, the more powerful the transmitter. The grand daddy of what we now call "boat anchors" was the World War II unit known as the BC610. This was a crystal-controlled CW and AM transmitter that both the Army and Navy used during the war. In fact, when the club visited the USS Red Oak Victory several years ago, I happened to notice a BC610 transmitter in the radio room. I made my first phone contact on a BC610 operated by my scout master and first Elmer, Oscar Lund, K6ACD (SK). What makes the BC610 such a remarkable boat anchor is its massiveness. Heavy transformers and components add to its weight. It uses 813 tubes with graphite plates to help dissipate the significant plate currents and to provide plate modulation. It's as heavy as a refrigerator and requires a hand truck to be moved around.

It's good to look back and remember those good old days of radios that glow in the dark. It reminds us of the progress we've seen in the hobby and in radio technology in general. We'll continue our recollections of those good old days at our August meeting when we'll be bringing in and discussing our favorite "boat-anchors": old tube based ham radios that most likely sit proudly, silently,

inertly on a shelf in our ham shack or garage, and remind us, like an old trophy, of times past, good times for sure, but not times we necessarily want to go back to and relive. We have it so much better today.

We'll also talk about the art of homebrewing, that is constructing ham radio equipment from parts that remain available today. I'll be bringing in some of my recent projects, as well as my first SSB rig built in 1968. I hope you will bring in some ham radio item from your ham shack to the August meeting. It doesn't have to be old or hand made, but it should be something you value or have found particularly useful or fun to operate. We'll have a good time sharing our respective experiences and insights about our favorite boat anchors and our home brew projects. See you at the August meeting!



BC-610 "Boat Anchor"

via Dave Harrison, W6IBC

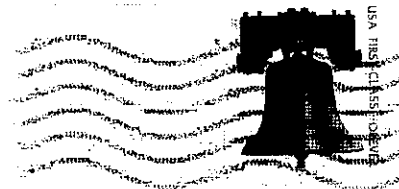
BC-610 transmitter in Army mobile shelter, used as part of manual RTTY station, vintage WWII.

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

Return Service Requested

NORTH BAY CA 949

25 JUL 2007 PM 1 L



Expires: 03/01/2007

John Breckenridge II
PO Box 1878
Windsor CA 95492

WB6FRZ



2007 Club Officers

President	Dave Harrison	W6IBC	
Vice President			
Secretary	Fred Polkinghorn	KQ6OB	
Treasurer	Brian Torr	N6IY	707 575-5871
Director	Bob Arthur	KG6ZDN	
Director	Pat Coyle	KG6JSL	
Past President	John Felton	KE5RI	707 539-5831
Public Service Chairman	Craig Gaevert	K6XLT	707 545-4133
Repeater Chairman	John Felton	KE5RI	

Short Skip & Web Staff

Editor	Vicki Cero	KF6ZCT	415 279-3859
Hank's Swap Shop	Jeff Basham	KK6JAB	707 542-3860
Web Master	Bob Arthur	KG6ZDN	

Contacts

Antenna Ordinance/Legal	Lee Dibble	KE6EAQ	707 544-1675
Public Relations	Bill McCall	W6WDM	707 538-2844
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	N60J	707 763-2528

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

Tuesday Night Net

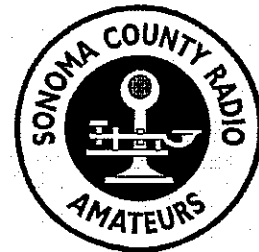
Remember to check in to the SCRA net each **Tuesday** evening on the **147.315+(PL 88.5)** repeater at **7:00 PM**. Announcements are made of upcoming SCRA and other amateur radio activities in the area and what is listed in Hank's Swap Shop. You will also hear the weekly *Amateur Radio Newsline* broadcast.

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

Short Skip is published monthly and copyright 2007 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 or its editors. Letters, photos and articles sent to Short Skip are subject to editing and may or may not be printed.

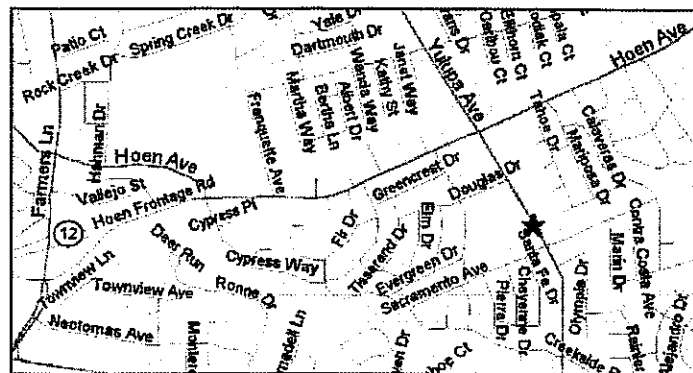


SCRA Club Meetings

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

Next meeting is Wednesday, August 1st 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. Another fairly light month contesting wise, but some interesting UHF/SHF activity. Also the Hawaii QSO party on the last weekend of the month should be interesting. Happy DX'ing!

- 4 Aug - European HF Championship - CW/SSB, 160-10 meters. See: lea.hamradio.si/~scc/ehf.html.
- 4 Aug - TARA "Grid Dip" Contest - PSK and RTTY, 160-6 meters. See: www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_grid_rules.html.
- 4-5 Aug - ARRL UHF Contest, all modes, 220 MHz and above. See: <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2007/uhf.html>.
- 4-5 Aug - North American QSO Party - CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.ncjweb.com.
- 4-5 Aug - Ten-Ten International Summer Phone QSO Party - SSB, 10 meters. See: www.ten-ten.org.
- 4-5 Aug - National Lighthouse-Lightship Weekend - all modes, 160-10 meters. See: arlls.com.
- 5 Aug - SARL HF DX Contest - SSB, 80-20 meters. See: www.sarl.org.za/public/contests.
- 11-12 Aug - Worked All Europe DX Contest - CW, 80-10 meters. See: www.waedc.de.
- 11-12 Aug - Maryland-DC QSO Party - CW/Phone/Digital, 80 meters - 70 cm. See: www.w3cwc.org/funcontest.htm.
- 18 Aug - Silent Key Memorial Sprint - CW, 160-10 meters. See: www.qrparci.org.

- 18-19 Aug - ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest - all allowable modes. See: <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2007/10-GHz.html>.
- 18-19 Aug - North American QSO Party - SSB, 160-10 meters. See: www.ncjweb.com.
- 18-19 Aug - SARTG WW RTTY Contest, 80-10 meters. See: www.sartg.com.
- 18-19 Aug - New Jersey QSO Party - CW/Phone, 160-2 meters. See: www.qsl.net/w2rj.
- 18-19 Aug - Keymen's Club of Japan Contest - CW, 160-6 meters. See: www.jarl.com/kcj.
- 18-19 Aug - Russian District Award Contest - CW/SSB, 160-10 meters. See: rdaward.org/rdac1.htm.
- 25-26 Aug - Hawaii QSO Party - CW/Phone/RTTY/PSK31, 160-10 meters. See: www.karc.us/hi_qso_party.html.
- 25-26 Aug - Ohio QSO Party - CW/SSB, 80-10 meters. See: www.oqp.us.
- 25-26 Aug - ALARA Contest - CW/SSB, 80-10 meters. See: alara.org.au.
- 25-26 Aug - SCC RTTY Championship, 80-10 meters. See: lea.hamradio.si/~scc/rty/htmlrules.htm.
- 26 Aug - SARL HF DX Contest - CW, 80-20 meters. See: www.sarl.org.za/public/contests.
- 26-27 Aug - YO-DX Contest - CW/SSB, 80-10 meters. See: www.radioamator.ro/contest/us/yodxhf2007rules.html.

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	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

Badge Information

Call Sign _____
First Name _____
City _____

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

Public Service Roundup

Craig Gaevett KG6THE, SCRA Public Service Wrangler

The deadline for last month's newsletter bit the rustler in the rear so this month we will have a brief recap of the TT ahead of the corral gate closing. As the event chairman for the TT, I have to say it was one of the best in years. For the first time we had communication from the far reaches of Camp Gualala, thanks to Pat, KG6JSL and Dave, W6IBC. The three of us went up into the far northwest bounds of Sonoma County two weeks prior to the TT to do some field testing. After quite a few miles and a lot of airtime we figured out a simplex scheme mixed with a relay station at Wolf Creek Ranch. We unfortunately could not get any sort of cross-band scheme to work, as it seemed that English Hill just didn't want to listen on UHF. With the acid test of the TT the simplex scheme worked. Dave was joined by his charming wife Joy, K16ASJ for an afternoon of multi-radio relaying. My rest stop manager at Camp Gualala was stumped as he tried to figure out how to handle passing rider times as he hadn't had comms for so many years. It was all rather new for him. He finally figured it out and everything went smoothly after that. Well, other than the fact that they didn't have any water - but that's another story.

As the public service wrangler, I think the support for the TT from SCRA and some guests was the best we've had on the TT in many years. And it is not that other years were that bad, it's just that this year was really top notch. I received a great compliment from one of my good friends in the bike club on how well the TT net ran. Those of us that run bike events know good help when we, ah, hear it.

Thanks to: N3SU, KC6WXX, KG6GFV, KE6HID, KI6AJB, KF6SZA, KI6CAU, KG6JSL, W6IBC, KI6ASJ, KQ6OB, KI6DUB, KG6ZDN, KE6EAQ, N6IY, KH6GJV.

Upcoming events: YWC2 Ride, August 18, same weekend as PCAM, August 18-19, Waves to Wine, September 29-30. Waves to Wine this year will again be a new course and hopefully this will be the last time they change it. This year will see a start at PacBell Park (AT&T park just doesn't sound right) and head up through the west coast of Marin, up Highway 1. As a result this year we will be working Marin ARS for Saturday's leg. I've made arrangements with Marin to use their connected repeater system and so far it appears that this will work for the majority of the day. Sunday will continue from the old HP facility in Rohnert Park and then head up to Warm Springs Dam, so we will spend that day in the familiar confines of the SCRA repeater. This event will be here sooner than you think, so now is the time to let me know if you can work this event. I have a lot of coordination work to do the MS Society, so the sooner you sign on, the less scrambling I have to do at the last minute.

Finally, Marin ARS could use a few more folks for the Marin Century. As I have said before they make great use of APRS (I've got mine up and running - can't wait to use it!), so just by being there you can pick up a few more tricks. Give me a holler if you're interested in this event and I will forward the contact info.

Thanks again to all you volunteers,

Craig, Public Service Wrangler
K6XLT
k6xlt@sonic.net

Notice to Members

A motion has been introduced to repeal the existing Constitution of the Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, to take effect on adoption of revised by-laws. The vote to repeal the Constitution will take place at the meeting of September 5, 2007. This is a part of the process of revising and updating the Articles of Incorporation and By-laws. Please attend to vote on this important matter.

ANAHEIM, CA
(Near Disneyland)
933 N. Euclid St., 92801
(714) 533-7373
(800) 854-6046
Janet, KL7MF, Mgr.
anaheim@hamradio.com

BURBANK, CA
1525 W. Magnolia Blvd., 91506
(818) 842-1786
(800) 854-6046
Eric, KA6IHT, Mgr.
Magnolia between
S. Victory & Buena Vista
burbank@hamradio.com

OAKLAND, CA
2210 Livingston St., 94606
(510) 534-5757
(800) 854-6046
Mark, W17YN, Mgr.
I-880 at 23rd Ave. ramp
oakland@hamradio.com

SAN DIEGO, CA
5375 Kearny Villa Rd., 92123
(619) 560-4900
(800) 854-6046
Tom, KM6K, Mgr.
Hwy. 163 & Claremont Mesa
sandiego@hamradio.com

SUNNYVALE, CA
510 Lawrence Exp. #102, 94085
(408) 736-9496
(800) 854-6046
Howard, W6HOC, Mgr.
So. from Hwy. 101
sunnyvale@hamradio.com

NEW CASTLE, DE
(Near Philadelphia)
1509 N. Dupont Hwy., 19720
(302) 322-7092
(800) 644-4476
Rick, K3TL, Mgr.
RT-13 1/4 mi., So. I-295
newcastle@hamradio.com

PORTLAND, OR
11705 S.W. Pacific Hwy.
97223
(503) 598-0555
(800) 854-6046
Leon, W7AD, Mgr.
Tigard-99W exit
from Hwy. 5 & 217
portland@hamradio.com

DENVER, CO
8400 E. Iliff Ave. #9, 80231
(303) 745-7373
(800) 444-9476
John, N5EHP, Mgr.
denver@hamradio.com

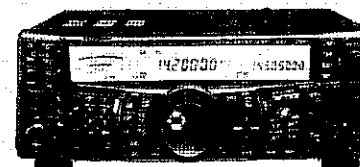
PHOENIX, AZ
1939 W. Dunlap Ave., 85021
(602) 242-3515
(800) 444-9476
Gary, N7GJ, Mgr.
1 mi. east of I-17
phoenix@hamradio.com

ATLANTA, GA
6071 Buford Hwy., 30340
(770) 263-0700
(800) 444-7927
Mark, KJ4VO, Mgr.
Doraville, 1 mi. no. of I-285
atlanta@hamradio.com

WOODBRIDGE, VA
(Near Washington D.C.)
14803 Build America Dr. 22191
(703) 643-1063
(800) 444-4799
Steve, W4SHG, Mgr.
Exit 161, I-95, So. to US 1
woodbridge@hamradio.com

SALEM, NH
(Near Boston)
224 N. Broadway, 03079
(603) 898-3750
(800) 444-0047
Chuck, N1UC, Mgr.
sales@hamradio.com
Exit 1, I-93,
28 mi. No. of Boston
salem@hamradio.com

12 STORE BUYING POWER



TS-2000 HF/VHF/UHF TCVR

- 100W HF 6M, 2M • 50W 70CM
- 10W 1.2 GHz w/optional UT-20 module
- IF Stage DSP • Built-in TNC, DX packet cluster
- Backlit Front Key Panel

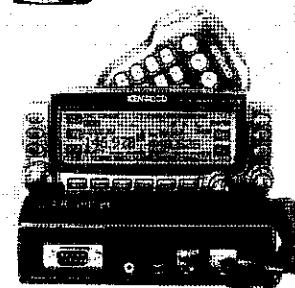
Low Intro Price!



TH-D7A(G) 2M/440

- 2M/440 Dual Band
- Built-in 1200/9600 Baud TNC
- APRS Compatible
- DX Packet Cluster Monitor
- 200 Memos., CTCSS
- VC-H1 Messaging Control!

Low Pricing!



TM-D700A 2M/440 Dualband

- 50w VHF 35w UHF • Opt. Voice Synthesizer
- Receives 118-1300 MHz (cell blocked)
- Enhanced 5 inch color TFT w/spectrum scope
- Remote Head Inst. only (kit included)
- 200 Memories • Built in 1200/9600 baud TNC
- Advanced APRS Features
- Dx Packet Cluster
- Tone Scan • GPS/VC-H1/PC Ports

COAST TO COAST FREE SHIPPING

UPS - Most Items Over \$100



Rapid Deliveries From
The Store Nearest To You!



VX-7R

- 50/2M/220/440 HT
- Wideband RX
 - 900 Memories
 - 5W TX (300mw 220MHz)
 - Li-Ion Battery
 - Fully Submersible to 3 ft.
 - Built-in CTCSS/DCS
 - Internet WIRELESS compatible

Great Price!



FT-857D

- Ultra compact HF, VHF, UHF
- 100w HF/6M, 50w 2M, 20w UHF
 - DSP included • 32 color display
 - 200 mems • Detachable front panel (YSK-857 required)

Call for Low Price!



DJ-196T 2M/HT

- 5 Watt out
- 40 memories
- Alphanumeric display
- CTCSS + DCS built in
- "S" meter
- Auto Dialer

Low Pricing!



IC-706MKIIG HF/VHF Transceiver

- All mode HF/6M/2M/70CM
- 100W HF/6M, 50W/2M, 20W/440 MHz
- AF-DSP • Plug and Play Filters - No Soldering
- Easy-to-Navigate menus

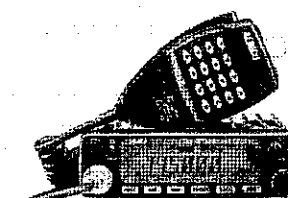
Low Pricing!



IC-756 PRO III All mode Transceiver

- 160-6M @ 100W • Enhanced Rx performance
- 32 bit IF DSP • SSB/CW Synchronous tuning
- Enhanced 5 inch color TFT w/spectrum scope
- Selectable IF filter shapes for SSB & CW
- Multiple DSP controlled AGC loops
- Advanced CW functions
- 101 alphanumeric memories

The Ultimate Radio!



DR-135TP 2M mobile

- 50 Watt out • Alpha numeric display
- 100 mems • Built-in TNC 1200 & 9600 Baud
- Front Panel GPS in • Rear DB-9 port
- CTCSS/DCS Encode/Decode built in

Low Pricing!



FT-2000 HF + 6M tcvr

- 100 W w/ auto tuner
- built-in Power supply
- DSP filters / Voice memory recorder
- 3 Band Parametric Mic EQ
- 3 IF roofing filters

Call Now For Low Pricing!

CDS Enterprises CDS Wireless Inc.
Highspeed Internet — Commercial Voice Mail — DISH TV

Steven Carniglia
President

725 Farmers Lane #17
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

707.573.3500 888.593.7348
Fax: 707.573.3516
steve@cds1.net
www.cds1.net



Toll Free (Orders Only) 1-800-4-HALTED (1-800-442-5833)

World Wide Web: <http://www.halted.com>

3500 Ryder St.
Santa Clara, CA 95051 408-732-1573

4837 Amber Ln.
Sacramento, CA 95841 916-338-2545

5681 Redwood Dr.
Rohnert Park, CA 94928 707-585-7344





Attitude in Emcomm

by Rich Freitas KF6SZA, Sonoma County ARES District Emergency Coordinator

The following is taken from the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course, Level 1

What does "attitude" have to do with anything? In a word, everything! It is even more important than your radio skills. Historically speaking, the attitude of some Amateur Radio volunteers has been our weakest point. Emcomm volunteers come from a wide variety of backgrounds and with a range of skills and experience. The common attributes that all effective volunteers share are a desire to help others without personal gain of any kind, the ability to work as a member of a team, and to take direction from others. Emcomm volunteers need to be able to think and act quickly, under the stress and pressure of an emergency.

Amateurs have the equipment, the skills, and the frequencies necessary to create expedient emergency communication networks under poor conditions. They are licensed and pre-authorized for national and international communication. Hams have the ability to rapidly enlarge their communication capacity to meet growing need in an emergency, something commercial and public safety systems cannot do.

However, just having radios, frequencies, and basic radio skills is not enough. Certain emergency communication skills are very different from those you use in your daily ham radio life. As you might expect, technical and operating skills are critical. Just as important, though, is your ability to function as a team player within your own organization, and the organization you are serving.

In situations where a professional and helpful attitude is maintained, served agencies point with pride to ham's efforts and accomplishments. The opposite situation is clearly illustrated in the words of one emergency management official who said, "Working with ham radio operators is like herding cats - get them the heck out of here!" This man was clearly frustrated with the attitude of his volunteers.

Although our name says that we are "Amateurs," its real reference is to the fact that we are not paid for our efforts. It need not imply that our efforts or demeanor will be anything less than professional. "Professionalism" means getting the job done efficiently - with a minimum of fuss.

No matter which agency you serve - emergency management, the Red Cross, or others, it is helpful to remember that emcomm volunteers are like unpaid employees. If you maintain the attitude that you are an employee of the agency you are serving, with all that employee status implies, there is little chance for you to go astray. You are there to help solve their communications problems. Do whatever you can, within reason, to accomplish that goal, and avoid becoming part of the problem.

The relationship between the volunteer communicator and served agency will vary somewhat from situation to situation, but the fact is that you work for them.

Your job is to meet the communications needs of the served agency. Period. It is not to show off your fancy equipment, nor to impress anyone with your knowledge of radio and electronics. A "know it all" or "I will show you how good I am, and how inadequate you are" attitude will end your - and our - relationship with the served agency in a hurry.

It is often said that volunteers don't have to take orders. This is

true - we do not. However, when you volunteer your services to an organization, you implicitly agree to accept and comply with reasonable orders and requests from your "employer." If you do not feel comfortable doing this, do not volunteer.

There may be times that you find yourself unwilling or unable to comply with a served agency's demands. The reasons may be personal, or related to safety or health, or it may be that you do not consider yourself qualified or capable of meeting a particular demand. On rare occasions, it may be that they ask you to do something not permitted by FCC rules. Regardless of the reason, respectfully explain the situation, and work with the served agency or your superiors in the communications group to come up with an alternative solution. If the discussion with the served agency becomes difficult or uncomfortable, you can always politely pass the discussion up to your immediate emcomm superiors so that they can handle it instead.

Volunteers are often viewed as "part timers" whose skill level and dedication to the job vary widely. Many agencies and organizations have learned that some volunteers cannot be depended on when they are needed most. Do not be offended if this attitude is obvious, and remember that you cannot change it overnight. It takes time for you to prove yourselves, and for a positive working relationship to develop and mature.

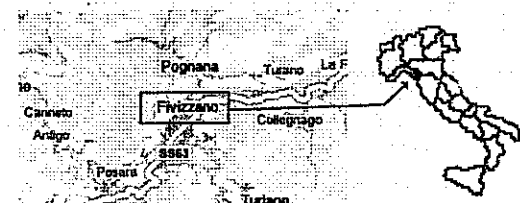
Remember at all times that you, like the other served agency volunteers, are there to help in time of need. Make the best of difficult situations of which, I'm sure, there will be many. Try your best to maintain an upbeat, positive attitude - you will be rewarded with the knowledge that you were part of a job well-done.

The ARES net meets on Mondays at 7:30 pm on 147.315 MHz, + offset, 88.5 PL. All members and guests are invited to check-in.



Proof that Rich was in Italy!

Here is a photo that I took in the town of Fivizzano in Tuscany when I was in Italy.



Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting, July 11, 2007 Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President David Harrison, W6IBC, at 6:55 PM. Present at the meeting were Brian, N6IYY, Pat, KG6JSL, Bob, KG6ZDN, John, KE5RI Pat was appointed acting secretary. Members present were Al Ferrara, K6MXI, Rich Freitas, KF6SZA and John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as published.

Brian, N6IYY presented the Treasurer's report, which was accepted. It was moved, seconded and passed that we pay insurance and license fees for the Toaster. It was further moved and passed that John KE5RI and Dave W6IBC be reimbursed for Field Day expenses. The World Radio subscription will be renewed.

Discussion was held regarding signature authority on the bank accounts. It was moved, seconded and passed that Dave, W6IBC, Brian, N6IYY, and John, KE5RI, be granted signature authority and the Jeff Basham, KK6JAB, be removed.

A discussion was held regarding the advisability of investing the savings account in a certificate of deposit. Brian will investigate rates and conditions and report.

A discussion was held regarding the institution of classes for new licensees. Rich, KF6SZA, and John, WB6FRZ, presented to the Board their thoughts and plans regarding a two day instructional session designed to prepare new students for their license exam. It was moved, seconded and passed that an educational group be formed to explore and present plans for group instruction. Brian, Rich and John will form a group and report further.

Al, K6MXI, addressed the Board regarding concerns that CalSites has regarding access to and use of the English Hill and Castle Rock repeater sites by the Corporation. Concerns were insurance, access by members and guests and non-members acting as agents of SCRA, systems use, operation, scheduling and modifications, and donation value of space and services. It was moved, seconded and passed that Cal Sites and Bruce Donecker, N6CT, be listed as "additional insureds" on the Corporation insurance policies. It was further agreed that a formal Memorandum of Understanding between the Corporation and CalSites be prepared to address these issues.

Dave, W6IBC reported on the repeater class.

Dave, W6IBC, reported on Corporation inventory and assets. There was items in the inventory that were surplus and could be sold. Items for sale will be presented to the membership and otherwise marketed.

Pat, KG6JSL, presented restated Articles to the Board, changing the Corporate status to a Public Benefit Corporation, and elect to be governed by the Non Profit Corporation law of 1980. It was moved, seconded and approved that we adopt the Restated Articles and include the election.

A discussion was held regarding revision of the ByLaws of the Corporation. Pat, KG6JSL will make revisions for presentation to the Board and membership that include separation of the license trustee from the repeater chairman and other revisions suggested by members.

The meeting was adjourned on 8:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Patrick Coyle, Acting Secretary



Ham Radio stamps from Nicaragua

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. Membership Meeting, July 5, 2007 Minutes

The regular meeting of the Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. was Harrison, W6IBC, President, and Brian Torr, N6IYY, Treasurer. Patrick Coyle, KG6JSL was appointed as acting Secretary.

Dave, W6IBC presented a program and slide show regarding the set up of a basic High Frequency station and a review of station and operating fundamentals. The presentation was interesting and informative and well received by the members.

The business meeting was convened at 8:15 PM. The minutes of the meeting of June 6, 2007, were approved as published.

Brian, N6IYY, presented the Treasurer's report which was accepted.

Pat, KG6JSL, director, reported on the status of the Toaster. It is running and available for use.

Bob, KG6ZDN, reported on the status of the website.

John, KE5RI, repeater chairman, reported on interference issues with a Los Altos Hills repeater and tests conducted and submitted to NARCC in support of the objections filed to the coordination of the Los Altos Hills' repeater.

Greg, AC6VJ, reported on the status of the Condor Net on 220 MHz. Greg also announced that there would be a repeated class on July 7, 2007, with a trip to the English Hill site.

Pat, KG6JSL, reported on the Bylaws revision and presented a draft proposal to the meeting. Bill, KH6GJV, raised issues to be discussed by the membership. The consensus was that the Bylaws be written so that dues are determined on an annual basis at the annual membership meeting, that the Bylaws not include a provision for any activity charges, that existing limitation on restriction of raffle prizes to members not be included in the Bylaws, and that activities be restricted to members only not be a provision of the Bylaws.

Pat, KG6JSL, also presented a written motion to repeal the existing Constitution effective on the adoption of revised Bylaws. The vote on the repeal will be held at the regular meeting of September 5, 2007, and notice published in the Short Skip.

Pat, KG6JSL, reported that the Restated Articles had been returned unfiled by the Secretary of State for deficiencies in language. I was moved, seconded and passed, that the Articles of the Corporation be restated to change the corporate status to a Public Benefit Corporation, and to include a provision electing to be governed by the Non Profit Corporation law of 1980.

Dave, W6IBC, gave a report and slide show of field day activities.

Dave, W6IBC, reported that the club inventory has been completed and the club should consider selling surplus assets. No action was taken at this time.

A discussion was held regarding classes for new licensees and upgrades. Bill KH6GJV, suggested purchase of materials for classes. Dave, W6IBC directed that this be coordinated through Brian, N6IYY, with the mentoring and VE activities.

Dave, W6IBC announced that the next Board of Directors meeting would be held at 6:30 PM on July 11, 2007, at Narsi's restaurant in Coddington.

Net Control volunteers were announced.

Bill, KH6GJV, ARRL San Francisco Section Manager, announced that PacifiCom would be held on October 19-21, in San Ramon.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Patrick Coyle, Acting Secretary