

*continued from page 1*

at the meeting is really important. I'll look forward to seeing you all there.

73, Dave, W6IBC, SCRA President

### Television via Amateur Radio

Dave, W6IBC

You know what Amateur Radio is, but how about Amateur Television? No, not America's Funniest Home Videos. Amateur television is alive and well, and it is particularly useful in many applications including emergency communications, public service events, and radio-controlled airplanes, to name a few. Come to the Next SCRA meeting on September 5th to hear (and see) a presentation on amateur TV, led by Brian N6IYY. See you at the September meeting!

### SCRA Member Bill Hillendahl Re-elected ARRL Section Manager

From the ARRL on August 21, 2007... via Dave, W6IBC

In the only contested Section Manager race this summer, Bill Hillendahl, KH6GJV, was re-elected as the ARRL San Francisco Section Manager. He received 237 votes and his opponent, Warren "TR" Reese, WB6TMY, received 134 votes. Election ballots were counted Tuesday, August 21, 2007 at ARRL Headquarters. Hillendahl, of Santa Rosa, California, begins his third two-year term of office on October 1, 2007.

### Andy Oppel, N6AJO, Running for Re-election

I am running for re-election as the ARRL Pacific Division Vice Director. My candidate statement and photo appears on my web site. Anyone who has questions may contact me using [andy.oppel@gmail.com](mailto:andy.oppel@gmail.com), call me at 510-864-2299, visit my web page at <http://www.andyoppel.com/N6AJO>.

Thanks in advance for your consideration.

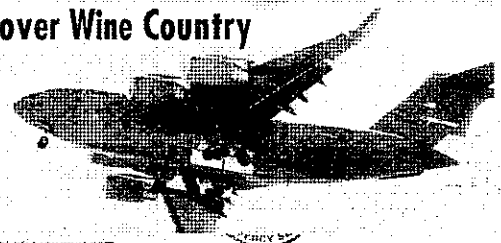
Andy Oppel, N6AJO, ARRL Pacific Division Vice Director

### West Coast Ham Radio Convention

PACIFICON 2007, the great west coast ham radio convention, takes place Friday, October 19th through Sunday, October 21st, 2007 at the San Ramon Marriott Hotel at 2600 Bishop Drive in San Ramon, California. Some events and schedules listed here are still being developed. Please check [www.pacificon.org](http://www.pacificon.org) for updates.

### PCAM Wings over Wine Country Airshow

USAF C17 Globemaster III  
Tactical Cargo Plane  
(KF6CLG photo)



PCAM Show 8-19-07

Jerry WB6LXU and  
Brian N6IYY  
(W6IBC Photo)



Crew on Sunday:  
Dave W6IBC, Pat KG6JSL,  
Rich KF6SZA, Dave KF6CLG,  
Brian N6IYY  
(KH6GJV photo on  
KF6CLG's camera)

Saturday Crew:  
John KG6BHI,  
Brian N6IYY,  
John WB6FRZ  
(W6IBC photo)



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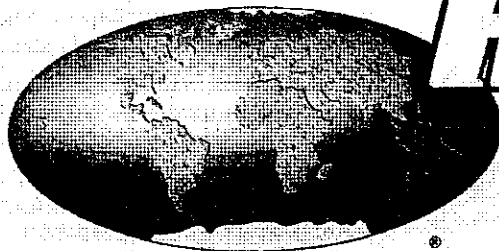
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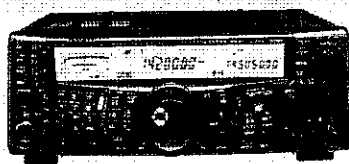
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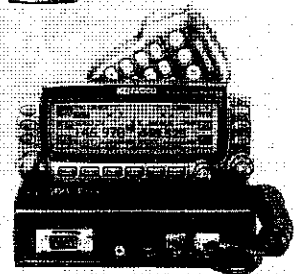
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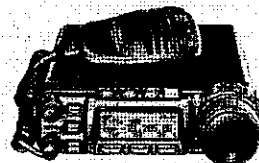
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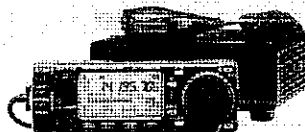


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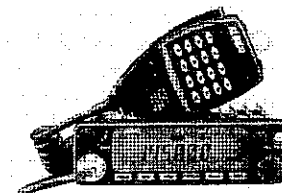
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**Short Skip & Web Staff**

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

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<b>SCRA E-Mail</b>	scra@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com
<b>SCRA Web Site</b>	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.

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For more information, Contact the Editor

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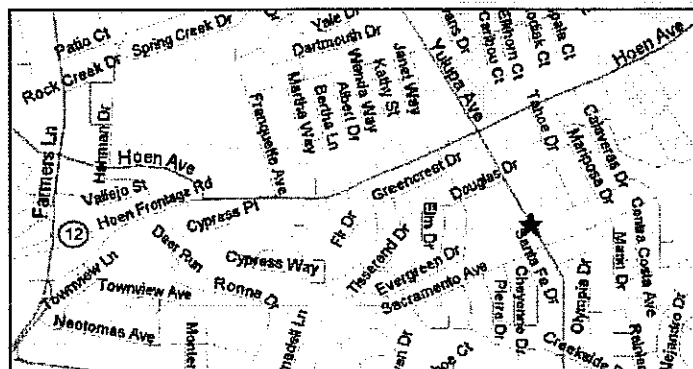


**SCRA Club Meetings**

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

Next meeting is Wednesday, September 5th 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.pdarrl.org/sfsec/>

**Contest Corner**

by Kevin Alt K6BSG

Hello contesters. Things are picking up as the fall contest season approaches. Check out the ARRL VHF QSO party or dust off that old radio and try the classic exchange the last weekend of the month. Happy DX'ing!

- 1 Sep - Russian RTTY WW Contest, 80-10 meters.  
See: [www.radio.ru/cq/contest/rule-results/index2.shtml](http://www.radio.ru/cq/contest/rule-results/index2.shtml).
- 1-2 Sep - All-Asian DX Contest - Phone, 80-10 meters.  
See: [www.jarl.or.jp/English](http://www.jarl.or.jp/English).
- 1-2 Sep - IARU Region 1 Field Day - SSB, 160-10 meters.
- 2 Sep - DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest "Corona" - Digital Modes.  
See: [www.darc.de/referate/dx/cqdxcont/fgdxc.htm](http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/cqdxcont/fgdxc.htm).
- 3-4 Sep - MI QRP Labor Day CW Sprint, 160-6 meters.  
See: [www.qsl.net/miqrpclub](http://www.qsl.net/miqrpclub).
- 8 Sep - Second-Class Operators Club (SOC) Marathon Sprint - CW, 160-10 meters.  
See: [www.qsl.net/soc](http://www.qsl.net/soc).
- 8-9 Sep - WAE DX Contest - SSB, 80-10 meters.  
See: [www.darc.de/referate/dx](http://www.darc.de/referate/dx).
- 8-9 Sep - Arkansas QSO Party - CW/SSB/PSK31, 80-2 meters.  
See: [www.arkan.us](http://www.arkan.us).
- 8-10 Sep - G3ZQS Memorial Straight Key Contest - CW, 80-10 meters.  
See: [www.fists.org](http://www.fists.org).

- 8-10 Sep - ARRL September VHF QSO Party, all modes, all bands above 50 MHz.  
See: <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2007/sepvhf.html>.
- 9 Sep - North American Sprint - CW, 80, 40 and 20 meters.  
See: [www.ncjweb.com](http://www.ncjweb.com).
- 9-10 Sep - Tennessee QSO Party - CW/Phone/Digital, 160 meters - 70 cm.  
See: [www.tnqp.org](http://www.tnqp.org).
- 11-13 Sep - YLRL Howdy Days - CW/SSB, all bands.  
See: [www.ylrl.org](http://www.ylrl.org).
- 15 Sep - QRP Afield - CW/Phone/Digital, 160-10 meters.  
See: [www.qsl.net/wq1rp/main.htm](http://www.qsl.net/wq1rp/main.htm).
- 15 Sep - Field-Hell Monthly Sprint - all modes, 160-10 meters.  
See: [www.wa6l.com/contests](http://www.wa6l.com/contests).
- 15-16 Sep - ARRL 10 GHz Cumulative Contest, all modes, 10 GHz and up.  
See: [www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests).
- 15-16 Sep - Scandinavian Activity Contest - CW, 80-10 meters.  
See: [www.sk3bg.se/contest/sacnsc.htm](http://www.sk3bg.se/contest/sacnsc.htm).
- 15-16 Sep - Washington State Salmon Run - CW/SSB/Digital, 160-6 meters.  
See: [www.wwdxc.org](http://www.wwdxc.org).
- 15-16 Sep - South Carolina QSO Party - Phone/CW/Digital, 160 meters - 70 cm.  
See: [carc.ham-radio-op.net](http://carc.ham-radio-op.net).
- 15-16 Sep - QCWA Fall QSO Party - Phone/CW/Digital, 160 meters - 70 cm.  
See: [qcwa.org/](http://qcwa.org/)

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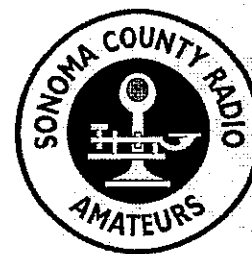
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**SEPTEMBER 2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

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



# Short Skip

The Newsletter of  
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VOLUME 32 NUMBER 9

SEPTEMBER 2007



## Ham Radio: Alive and Well at the Airshow and Beyond

by Dave Harrison, W6IBC  
SCRA President

As I write these words to you, we've just completed a busy and very successful weekend of SCRA activities. On Saturday August 18th, our Club provided public service communications for the YWCA Wine Country Bicycle Event based out of Windsor. Public Service Director Craig, K6XLT planned and executed this event, while Pat, KG6JSL acted as net control out of the SCRA Toaster, parked along the Downtown Green in Old Town Windsor. Thanks to all of our members who supported the bicycle event including Kevin K6BSG, Bob KG6ZDN, and Bob WA6NIV.

On the same day, and again on Sunday, August 19th, others of us participated at the Pacific Coast Air Museum's annual Wings Over Wine Country airshow. The bike event and the airshow activity shared the SCRA repeater system on Saturday, and all communications efforts and facilities worked very smoothly for both events.

On Saturday at the airshow, we presented video clips of SCRA's forthcoming weekend Amateur Radio technician class, presently planned for a yet-to-be-selected October weekend. Our technician class signup sheet at the airshow lists about 15 interested people, and we'll be contacting them with further details and course materials. We're in the final stages of selecting the dates and location for this training session. If you, or someone you know, would like to take the single-weekend class, be sure to contact John, WB6FRZ (johnfrz@comcast.net) or Rich, KF6SZA (kf6sza@arrl.net) and get on our prospect list. Many thanks to John and Rich for pulling the curriculum together and for all of the planning that is going into this most worthwhile Club activity.

On Sunday at the airshow, our booth shifted gears slightly, and we demonstrated APRS tracking on a VHF radio-TNC-laptop computer lash-up running WinAPRS. On both days we featured loudspeaker rebroadcast of the "air boss" control tower radio traffic during the show, we monitored the SCRA Repeater, and we also demonstrated a World

War II vintage BC612 receiver (a show hit among many of the visitors who stopped at our booth). A number of our members, and other local hams, also dropped by the booth and provided some lively conversations and recollections.

We have Brian, N6IYY, aided by PCAM and SCRA member Jerry, WB6LXU, to thank for arranging our appearance at the airshow, and I personally want to thank all of the Club members in addition to Brian who helped out with the SCRA airshow booth on Saturday and Sunday, including John KG6BHI, John WB6FRZ, Joy KI6ASJ, Rich KF6SZA, Pat KG6JSL and Dave KF6CLG. I can tell you from first-hand experience that, based on our interaction with the airshow visitors, considerable interest remains in amateur radio among the public at large. Next year I hope we can provide even more planning, and perhaps bring the Toaster to PCAM, and operate a special event station.

Speaking of our repeater system, it has been suggested that the Club upgrade its 2 meter repeater system at English Hill to handle not only voice traffic, but also data traffic associated with APRS. The addition of "automatic position reporting system" (APRS) data capability to our VHF repeater would be of tremendous use to the Club in carrying out its public service and emergency communications missions. Your Board of Directors will be discussing the SCRA repeater system at its next regular meeting, and I expect that the Board should be able to report to the membership concerning its plans and recommendations. We had no regular board meeting in August for lack of a quorum, because of vacation and work schedule conflicts.

A very special thanks to all of our Tuesday evening service net control volunteers for outstanding work in running the net, and to Brian N7MOE for continuing to make Amateur Radio Newline available to us.

Finally, I'm delighted to report that SCRA's mentoring program is alive and well! One of our members dropped an older model VHF-UHF handheld off at our booth on Saturday, and each one of us took turns in trying to figure out how to program it. At the end of the day, Brian, N6IYY, took the unit home, downloaded a user manual from the web, programmed the rig, and returned it (along with the manual) to its very pleased owner on Sunday. Well done, Brian! Also, don't miss Brian's presentation on Amateur TV at this month's meeting. We'll also be voting to adopt new articles and bylaws, so your presence

*continued on page 4*

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