

CLUB STATION
K6SON

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:

English Hill: 147.315+ 88.5 / 224.180+ 88.5 /
441.375+ 88.5

Castle Rock: 147.315+ 156.7



REPEATER STATION
W6SON

Volume 40, Number 12

December 2015

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—DECEMBER 2015



The year is nearly over and it has been a good year for SCRA. Membership is up and financially we are in great condition. We had more Public Service and Outreach programs than ever before. The License Classes are producing more licensed hams than ever. Our Field Day score was very respectable. The Mini-DX continues a relatively new tradition. We have a new

digital repeater installed that enhances our capability. In essence, SCRA has had a very successful year in every respect.

All of this is due the hard work of the Officers, Directors, Committees, and all of the many members who helped plan, organize and participate in these activities and took the initiative to try new things in new ways and generally get the job done.

But life, and the Club moves one. The coming year will present its own new and unique challenges. Our Officers and Directors for the coming year will be President, Iola Beckley KK6HRE; Vice President, Brian Torr, N6IYY; Secretary, Dave Harrison, W6IBC; Treasurer, Wells Wagner, KK6EXC; Director, Joe Fortuna, K6AWA; and Shelley O'Connor, KK6JXM. Please note that 3 of them have "KK" call signs signifying they are relatively new hams and SCRA members. It is encouraging to see new members stepping up to positions of responsibility and I hope this continues.

Iola and the new Board intend to hit the ground running, so to speak. Already plans are in the making to get things set up and organized for the new year. We continue to need Committee Chairmen, who after all are the people who actually get the work of the Club done. Do expect to be asked to help out.

Participation in Club events and activities not only keep the club alive and active, it is just plain fun to go out and play with our toys, at any level, from the newest Tech to the highest Extra. Nothing happens without membership participation.

As for myself, I am out of office but will continue

on the Board. I do wish to convey to the entire membership that I have been extremely proud and happy over the past two years to have served as your President. It has been one of the high points of my life and I will look back at the experience over the years with a feeling of gratitude for the support I have received from all of you. I could not ask for more.

So Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year to one and all. May propagation always be good, your equipment always work, and next year surpass this one for the fun and enjoyment of ham radio.

73, Pat, KG6JSL

SCRA Holiday Dinner

Instead of our usual meeting in December, we will be having our annual SCRA Holiday Dinner on December 2, 2015. For \$7.00, the club will provide turkey with gravy, ham, and coffee and tea. You bring a salad, side dish, or dessert for pot luck. We will also be raffling off a grand prize (check the website for more details) and some other ham radio and non-ham radio goodies.

You can RSVP via the web or via mail but your payment must be received by Friday, November 27. If you have any questions, contact Brian Torr at (707) 575-5871 or n6iyy@arrl.net.

JOIN ARRL, THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE

The ARRL is the national organization of Amateur Radio. It represents Amateur Radio at International Conferences and before the FCC. Get the monthly QST magazine, insurance for your equipment and too many other benefits to mention here. Click <http://www.arrl.org/membership/>



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 this Web site:

<http://www.arrl.org/Groups/view/san-francisco>



2015 Club Officers

President	Patrick Coyle coylaw@sonic.net	KG6JSL
Vice President	Brian Torr	N6IYY
Treasurer	Mike Von der Porten	AD6YB
Secretary	Iola Beckley	KK6HRE
Director	Joe Fortuna	K6AWA
	Jeff Tonelli	KI6PBF
Past President	Charlie Sikes	KZ6T

Committee Lineup/Contacts

Activities	Darryl Paule, KI6MSP	ki6msp@arrl.net
ARES Liaison	Brian Torr, N6IYY	n6iyy@arrl.net
DX/Contest	Kevin Alt, K6BSG	kalt@ieee.org
Education	Dave Harrison, W6IBC	w6ibc@arrl.net
Emergency Services	Brian Torr, N6IYY	n6iyy@arrl.net
Field Day	Brian Torr, N6IYY	n6iyy@arrl.net
License Trustee	John Felton, KE5RI	jrfke5ri@aol.com
Media	Sutter Laird, KI6ZON	ki6zon@me.com
Membership	Dan Ethan, WA6CRB	danethen@msn.com
Merchandise Programs	Wells Wagner, KK6EXC	sylvan1hills@gmail.com
Public Service	Brian Torr, N6IYY	n6iyy@arrl.net
Refreshments	Craig Gaever, K6XLT	k6xlt@sonic.net
Repeater	Robert Jones, WA6NIV	wa6niv@arrl.net
Volunteer Exam	Jack Christensen, K6ROW	K6ROW@sonic.net
	Brian Torr, N6IYY	n6iyy@arrl.net

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 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 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

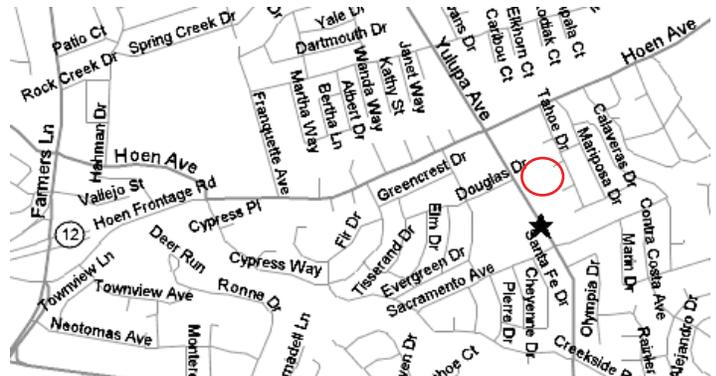
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SCRA Club Meetings

The club normally meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm. Exceptions are holidays or other big events.

Meeting location:
 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 IHOP restaurant, 4th and Farmers Lane, Santa Rosa. People start showing up at 5:15 PM. No RSVP is required.

Board of Directors Meeting

Second Wednesday of the month, 6:00 PM at
 IHOP Restaurant
 2745 4th Street
 Flamingo One Stop Shopping Center
 Santa Rosa, CA 95405
 No Host Dinner begins at 5:30 PM.

Committee Meetings

Meetings are TBA this month.
 Check SCRA blogs for announcements.

SCRA LOANER RADIOS

SCRA has a Yeasu 2900 VHF radio available for use by members as a loaner. Contact Charlie, KZ6T, at charliesikes@me.com

EMERGENCY VESTS

Anyone wanting an emergency vest with name and call sign contact Wells, KK6EXC, at sylvan1hills@gmail.com

UPGRADE TO GENERAL OR AMATEUR EXTRA CLASS

Get more privileges and enjoyment from your Ham Radio Hobby. Mentoring assistance is available. Contact Dave W6IBC, SCRA Education Chair, at 707-838-8155 or w6ibc@arrl.net.

2015 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Check the [Club website](#) for details

December 2: Club Holiday Party

December 5: VE Open Session

John, WB6FRZ, has his Morse Code training net immediately following the Service Net, on the Club Repeater



10 Meter Net

There will be a net on 10 meters hosted by Joe K6AWA at 8:00pm following the regular SCRA net Tuesday nights. Set your dial to 28,402.00 SSB, USB. (New Frequency) Please note that all license classes (including technician) are welcome.

Next Open VE Session: Saturday, December 5

Our next open VE exam session is scheduled for Saturday, Dec 5, from 9:00 am until noon. The location will be the Bennett Valley Grange Hall, 4145 Grange Road, Santa Rosa. Walk-ins will be accepted and all test elements will be administered.

(http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/ve_testing.html) .

Please arrive by 8:45am to be signed in. Testing will begin shortly thereafter.

Directions: From Hwy 101, take Highway 12 East to Farmers Lane. Turn right onto Farmers Lane and then left onto Bennett Valley Road. Stay on Bennett Valley Road approximately 4.1 miles and turn right onto Grange Road. Bennett Valley Grange Hall is 0.5 miles from Bennett Valley Road on the right.

Candidates should bring the following:

- One (1) photo ID or two (2) non-photo ID
- FCC Registration Number (FRN, if you have one) or Social Security Number (if you do not have an FRN) if you have had any FCC license assigned to you, amateur or otherwise, or had any prior business with the FCC, you probably have an FRN.
- Original and photocopy of your current amateur radio license (if licensed)
- Original and photocopy of any valid CSEs (if applicable)
- #2 Pencil and eraser
- \$15.00 exam fee. Checks may be made payable to "ARRL-VEC"

Calculators may be used, but it must be demonstrated that all memories and programs have been erased. The calculator function in a cell phone or PDA may not be used! If you have any special needs, please contact Brian Torr, N6IIY in advance.

Good Luck!

Brian Torr, N6IIY
n6iiy@arrl.net
(707) 575-5871



Contest Corner is not available this month. In its place we have the Contest Corral reprinted from QST. Contest Corner will return next month.

Contest Corral – December 2015

Check for updates and a downloadable PDF version online at www.arrl.org/contests.

Refer to the contest websites for full rules, scoring information, operating periods or time limits, and log submission information.

Start Date-Time	Finish Date-Time	Bands	Contest name	Mode	Exchange	Sponsor's Website
3 0000	3 0600	1.8	QRP ARCI Topband Sprint	CW Ph	RST, SPC, mbr, or power	www.qrparci.org
3 1800	3 2200	28	NRAU 10m Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 6-ch grid square	www.nrau.net/activity-contests
4 2200	6 1600	1.8	ARRL 160 Meter Contest	CW	RST, ARRL/RAC Section	www.arrl.org/160-meter
5 0000	5 2359	1.8-28	TARA RTTY Melee	Dig	W/VE: RST, SP: DX: RST, serial	www.n2ty.org/seasons
5 0600	5 0800	7, 14	Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	CW	RST, serial, suffix of previous QSO	qrp.ru/contest/wakeup
5 1600	6 1559	3.5-28	TOPS Activity Contest	CW	RST, serial, TOPS club (if any)	www.yo2rr.ro/TAC%20Rules.html
5 2300	13 2300	1.8-7	AWA Bruce Kelley 1929 QSO Party	CW	RST, name, QTH, eqpt year, xmtr type	www.antiquewireless.org
6 0000	6 2359	28	Ten-Meter RTTY Contest	Dig	W/VE: RST, state/province. DX: RST, serial	www.rttycontesting.com
6 1300	6 1600	3.5-14	SARL Digital Contest	Dig	RST, serial	www.sarl.org.za
6 2100	6 2259	14	CQC Great CO Snowshoe Run	CW	RST, SPC, antenna, mbr, or power	www.cqc.org/contests
8 0100	8 0300	3.5-28	ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, power	www.arsqrp.blogspot.com
9 0130	9 0330	3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr, or power	naqcc.info/sprint201512.html
12 0000	13 2359	28	ARRL 10 Meter Contest	CW Ph	W/VE/XE: RST, state or province. DX: RST, serial	www.arrl.org/10-meter
12 1200	13 2359	1.8-50	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr, or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
12 1600	13 1559	3.5-28	International Naval Contest	CW Ph	Naval Club member: RS(T), club, mbr. Others: RS(T), serial	www.marinefunker.de
13 2000	13 2359	1.8-28	QRP ARCI Holiday Spirits Homebrew Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr, or power	www.qrparci.org
17 0130	17 0330	3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr, or power	naqcc.info/sprint201512.html
18 2000	18 2359	1.8	Russian 160 Meter Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), Oblast, or serial	qrz.ru/contest/detail/90.html
18 2100	18 2359	3.5	AGB-Party Contest	CW Ph Dig	RST, serial, mbr (if any)	www.ev5agb.com/contest
19 0000	19 2359	1.8-7,21-50	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	RST, mbr, SPC, grid	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub
19 0000	19 2359	3.5-28	OK DX RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, CQ Zone	okrtty.crk.cz
19 0000	19 2359	1.8-144	RAC Winter Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), province/territory, or serial	wp.rac.ca/?s=winter+contest
19 1400	20 1400	1.8-28	Croatian CW Contest	CW	RST, serial	9acw.org/index.php/rules/english
20 1800	20 2359	3.5-50	ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW	CW	Name, 2-digit year first licensed, SPC	www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup
21 0200	21 0400	1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, mbr, or power	fpqrp.org/pigrun
23 0000	23 0200	1.8-28	SKCC Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr, or power	www.skccgroup.com
26 0830	26 1059	3.5, 7	DARC Christmas Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), DOK, or serial	darc.de/referate/dx/contest/xmas/en
26 1200	27 1159	3.5-28	World Wide Iron Ham Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), CQ Zone	ironham.com.br/?page_id=22
26 1500	27 1500	1.8	Stew Perry Topband Challenge	CW	4-ch grid square	www.kkn.net/stew
27 0000	27 1159	3.5-28	RAEM Contest	CW	Serial, latitude, longitude (e.g. 57N 85E)	raem.srr.ru/contest/raem_2014

All dates refer to UTC and may be different from calendar dates in North America. Times given as AM or PM are local times and dates.

No contest activity occurs on the 60, 30, 17, and 12 meter bands. Mbr = Membership number. Serial = Sequential number of the contact. S/P/C = State, Province, DXCC Entity. XE = Mexican state. Data for Contest Corral is maintained on the WA7BNM Contest Calendar at www.hornucopia.com/contestcal and is extracted for publication in QST 2 months prior to the month of the contest. The ARRL gratefully acknowledges the support of Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, in providing this service. Listings in blue indicate contests sponsored by ARRL or NCJ. The latest time to make a valid contest QSO is the minute listed in the "Finish Time" column.





Contest Corral – January 2016

Check for updates and a downloadable PDF version online at www.arrl.org/contests.

Refer to the contest websites for full rules, scoring information, operating periods or time limits, and log submission information.

Start Date-Time	Finish Date-Time	Bands	Contest name	Mode	Exchange	Sponsor's Website
1 0000	1 2359	All	ARRL Straight Key Night	CW	No specific exchange	www.arrl.org/straight-key-night
1 0000	1 0100	3.5	AGB New Year Snowball Contest	CW Ph Dig	RST, serial, mbr (if any)	www.qsl.net/eu1eu/agnb_nysb.htm
1 0800	1 1100	3.5, 7	SARTG New Year RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, serial, name, "Happy New Year" in native language	www.sartg.com/contest/nyrules.htm
1 0900	1 1200	3.5-14	AGCW Happy New Year Contest	CW	RST, serial, mbr (if any)	www.agcw.org/index.php/en
1 1400	1 1800	144, 432	AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	CW	RST, serial, power, 6-char grid	www.agcw.org/index.php/en
1 1500	1 1800	1.8-28	QRP ARCI New Years Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	www.qrparci.org/contests
2 0000	2 2359	3.5-28	PODXS 070 Club PSK Fest	Dig	RST, SPC	www.podxs070.com
2 1200	3 1200	3.5-28	WW PMC Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), PMC abbreviation or CQ zone	www.s59dcd.si/en10
2 1500	3 1500	3.5-14	Original QRP Contest	CW	RST, serial, power	www.qrpcc.de/contestrules
2 1800	3 2359	3.5-28	ARRL RTTY Roundup	Dig	W/VE: RST, SP. Non-W/VE: RST, serial	www.arrl.org/rty-roundup
2 2000	3 0700	1.8	EUCW 160 Meter Contest	CW	RST, name, mbr or "NM"	www.eucw.org/eu160.html
3 1800	3 2359	3.5-28 + repeaters	Kids Day Contest	Ph	Name, age, QTH, favorite color	www.arrl.org/kids-day
5 0200	5 0400	3.5-28	ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, power	arsqrp.blogspot.com
6 2000	6 2100	3.5	UKEICC 80 Meter Contest	Ph	4-char grid square	www.ukeicc.com
9 0500	9 0900	3.5-28	Old New Year Contest	CW Ph	RST, age plus years on the air	www.radio.ru/cq
9 1200	10 2359	1.8-50	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
9 1200	10 1200	3.5-28	UBA PSK63 Prefix Contest	Dig	RSQ, serial (starting with 1001)	www.uba.be/en/hf/contest-rules
9 1800	10 0559	1.8-28	North American QSO Party, CW	CW	NA: Name, SPC. Non-NA: Name	www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf
10 0630	10 0830	3.5, 7	NRAU-Baltic Contest, SSB	Ph	RS, serial, 2-letter region	www.nrau.net/nrau-baltic-contest
10 0900	10 1059	28	DARC 10-Meter Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), serial, DOK (if any)	www.darc.de/referate/dx/contest
10 0900	10 1100	3.5, 7	NRAU-Baltic Contest, CW	CW	RST, serial, 2-letter region	www.nrau.net/nrau-baltic-contest
13 0130	13 0330	1.8	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	naqcc.info/sprint201601_160.html
13 2300	17 2300	1.8-7	AWA Linc Cundall Memorial CW	CW	RST, eqpt year, input power	www.antiquewireless.org
15 1800	15 2200	3.5, 7	LZ Open Contest	CW	Serial, serial received from last QSO	www.lzopen.com/lz-open-contest
16 1200	17 1159	1.8-28	Hungarian DX Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), HA county or serial (non HA)	www.ha-dx.com/HADX
16 1800	17 0559	1.8-28	North American QSO Party, SSB	Ph	NA: Name, SPC. Non-NA: Name	www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf
16 2000	17 0559	1.8-7	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	RST, mbr, SPC, grid	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub
18 0200	18 0400	1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	fpqrp.org/pigrun
23 0000	24 2359	All	YL-ISSB QSO Party, CW/SSB	CW Ph	RS(T), name, SPC, mbr	www.ylssystem.org/qsoparty
23 1200	24 1200	3.5-28	BARTG RTTY Sprint	Dig	Serial	www.bartg.org.uk/
23 1900	23 2300	1.8	WAB 1.8 MHz Phone	Ph	RS, serial, WAB square or country	wab.intermip.net
23 0000	24 2359	1.8-432	Montana QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), county or SPC	www.fvarc.org/
24 2000	24 2359	3.5-28	QRP ARCI Fireside SSB Sprint	Ph	RS, SPC, mbr or power	www.qrparci.org/contests
27 0000	27 0200	1.8-28	SKCC Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.skccgroup.com
27 2000	27 2100	3.5	UKEICC 80 Meter Contest	CW	4-char grid	www.ukeicc.com
29 2200	31 2200	1.8	CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW	CW	W/VE: RST, SP. DX: RST, CQ Zone	www.cq160.com/rules.htm
30 0000	30 2359	1.8-28	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	RST, mbr, SPC, grid	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub
30 0600	31 1800	3.5-28	REF Contest, CW	CW	RST, department prefix or serial	concours.r-e-f.org/contest/
30 1300	31 1300	3.5-28	UBA DX Contest, SSB	Ph	RST, serial (and province for ON)	www.uba.be/en/hf/contest-rules
30 1700	31 1700	All	Winter Field Day	CW Ph Dig	Category, ARRL section or "DX"	www.winterfieldday.com
30 1900	1 0359	50 and up	ARRL January VHF Contest	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid square	www.arrl.org/january-vhf
31 1400	3 0800	1.8-144	Classic Exchange, CW	CW	Name, RST, SPC, rig manuf/model	www.classicexchange.org

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SCRA REGULAR MEETING MINUTES –NOVEMBER 4, 2015

CALL TO ORDER 7:05 Quorum present.
OFFICERS AND BOARD INTRO – all present
NEW MEMBER AND VISITOR INTRO

- i. Mark Schlere, No call sign
- ii. Pavel Karabalou, No call sign
- iii. Rob KK6UGW
- iv. Dan KK6VIQ

ANNUAL ELECTIONS

1. Nominating Committee Chair Dave W6IBC reported the slate of officers as approved by the Nominating Committee. Nominees were:

President, Iola Beckley, KK6HRE

Vice President, Brian Torr, N6IYY

Secretary, Dave Harrison, W6IBC

Treasurer, Wells Wagner, KKY6EXC

Directors: Joe Fontana, Incumbent, K6AWA; Darryl Paule KI6MSP; ShelleyRae O'Connor, KK6JXM; Fred Oddy, NQ6E, and Jim Draeger KI6REK.

Charlie KZ6T moved to accept the nominees as presented, Joe K6AWA seconded, motion carried.

Nominations were solicited from the floor for the Officer positions. There were none. John KE5RI moved that unopposed candidates be elected by proclamation. Seconded by Charlie KZ6T. Motion carried unanimously.

There were no additional nominations for the position of Director. Only two Directors will be elected. Any ballot having more than two votes will be voided. John KE5RI moved, Jim KI6REK seconded to close nomina-

tions. Motion carried.

3. Each candidate was given 1-2 minute to introduce themselves and give a brief history.

4. Ballots were distributed and voting began. Completed ballots were collected and an impartial committee, led by Charlie KZ6T, retired to the back of the room to count the ballots.

What is it? Game was explained by Brian, N6IYY for attendees to enjoy while the ballots were being counted.

Election results were as follows: President, Iola Beckley, KK6HRE; Vice President, Brian Torr, N6IYY; Secretary, Dave Harrison, W6IBC; Treasurer, Wells Wagner, KKY6EXC. Directors: Joe Fontana, Incumbent, K6AWA; ShelleyRae O'Connor, KK6JXM.

BUSINESS MEETING

~It was moved and seconded to accept the previous meeting's Minutes as published in the Short Skip.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, NEW CALLS AND UPGRADES, LIES AND BRAGS

~ John WB6FRZ has 'free stuff' out on the table. Please help yourself.

~ Darryl KI6MP. In November and during Christmas Holiday we are collecting food for the Redwood Empire Food Bank. Will send info for Pat's Blog, and also Short Skip.

OFFICER/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Merchandise ~ Wells, has badges for new members, only one was in attendance.

Holiday Party ~ 1st Wednesday of December (2nd). Sign up on the website. Cost \$7. Prize = Yaesu comet antenna for HT. Gift certificates. Charlie needs pictures of past year events.

Repeaters ~ Andrew KE6HID made suggestions about improving the IRLP. Charlie K6ZT: Repeater meeting on Nov 18th. We have some of the items suggested, but want to keep the system simple.

Events ~ Mike AD6YB reports that we received a \$400 donation for the MS Walk.

Treasurer ~ Oliver Solomon is our 141st member!

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Continued on page 7...



Minutes continued from page 6...

1. Joe K6AWA reports that every Tuesday night there is a 10m, HF band Net at 8am on 28.402m (upper side band). All levels of licensees are invited to participate.
NEW BUSINESS:

1. Dues for coming year. It was moved by Dave W6IBC that we adopt, annual dues for Fiscal Year 2016 as they have been for 2015. Motion seconded and carried.
TECHNICAL Q & A = Black and Decker Charger.

Joe = LED replacement lights. Broad band noise generator, from China.

AARL article from FCC looking into ballasts interference.

NET CONTROL (2 months)

Nov 10: Joe AWA

17: Jack ROW

24: Cornell HMN

Dec 1: Kathy KK6KGW

8: John FRZ

15: Iola HRE

22: Charlie KZ6T

29: Mike AD6YB

Jan 5: Doug LMB

MEETING ADJORNED AT 9:22pm

Respectfully submitted.

Iola Beckley, Secretary

SCRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES—NOV 11, 2015

President Pat KG6JSL called the meeting to order at 6:11pm -

Previous meeting minutes were approved as published in the Short Skip.

Unfinished Business

1. Membership /committee
Holiday Party

a. Food, Brian N6IIY – Website is ready to go. Need aluminum serving trays. Indicate what you will bring on the website registration.

b. Set up and Decorations ~ 3:PM. 5:30 open doors 6:30 food shows up. Eat at 6:45. Iola KK6HRE will form a setup and decorate committee.

c. Raffle and Prizes ~ Doug researched and selected prizes at a cost of under \$500. Iola KK6HRE moved, Mike AD6TB seconded to give Doug KF6LMB a budget of \$500 for gifts and prizes. Motion passed. Brian will turn in a receipt for food of about \$150.00.

d. Hams will get a red raffle ticket for the top prize, a Yeasu radio. Everyone gets a white ticket for all other prizes.

e. Website for payment ~ Brian will touch down with Sutter to make sure payment is processed.

f. Slide Show ~ Charlie will prepare a slide show with pictures from past event.

2. December Board Meeting ~ There will be a December Board meeting for all outgoing and incoming elected officials and Committee Chairpersons at IHOP second Wednesday in December for the purpose of turning over properties and information of the office or committee. No host dinner at 5pm, meeting at 6pm.

3. 2016 Dues and Roster: Discussion on how these items will be incorporated into the Membership committee responsibilities.

Continued on page 8...





Board Minutes continued from page 7...

4. Joe K6AWA brought up the request for donation to Lake County hams after the fire. Finally contacted a person. More information at a later meeting.

New Business

1. Executive Session-requested by President. Joe K6AWA, Mike AD6YB, Charlie KZ6T, Jeff KI6PBF, Brian N6IYY, Pat KG6JSL, Iola KK6HRE. Pat requested decision on presenting the Member of the Year Award.

Meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted:
Iola KK6HRE
Secretary

Brain Teaser

Think of this as a follow-on to the “How Did They Do That???” program we had at the November meeting.

Here’s the background: I’m working on a project that requires me to send two control signals to the antenna from the operating position. These controls signals, one a series of TTL pulses and the other a TTL logic level, will cause a stepper motor at the base of the antenna to rotate clockwise or counterclockwise. There also needs to be an “off” state, where the stepper motor is not moving at all.

For my prototype, I pulled out a center-off DPDT switch that I had lying about. While it worked, it required too much effort to operate (not a good ergonomic solution) and it feels as though the lever is going to break at any moment.

I would have preferred a center-off rocker switch or two momentary action pushbuttons. I still have not been able to find a center-off rocker switch, but I do have two SPDT momentary-action pushbutton switches. I also have a pair of DPDT relays with 12VDC coils, or I might use some TTL logic chips (I have to check and see what’s available in my junk box).

Now, if I could figure out how to make the pushbutton

switches actuate one of two relays (or whatever), that would be great.

Here’s the catch: I need to ensure that both relays cannot be activated at the same time. If both relays were to activate at the same time, such as if someone pressed both pushbutton switches at the same time, the two signals would fight each other and could destroy some TTL logic circuits at the antenna. Not good.

For now, let’s replace the relays (or TTL logic chips) with a low-voltage (i.e. 12V) lamp.

So, here’s the desired behavior:

1. When ONLY Switch #1 is pressed, ONLY Lamp #1 should light up
2. When ONLY Switch #2 is pressed, ONLY Lamp #2 should light up
3. When BOTH Switch #1 and Switch #2 are pressed, there are two acceptable results:
 - a. Only one lamp should light up (most logically, the light corresponding to the first switch that was pressed, even if it was pressed only a tiny fraction of a second before the second switch)
 - b. Neither lamp should light up (this is the easiest behavior to implement)
4. When NO switch is pressed, neither lamp should light up (duh!)

How would you wire the switches and lamps to achieve this desired behavior? The simplest solution, which implements behavior 3b, requires only the addition of wire and a power source to the switches and lamps already present. Implementing behavior 3a would require more hardware

I’ll reveal my solution at the January meeting. If you want to e-mail me your solution before that time, feel free to do so.

73,
Brian Torr, N6IYY





CODE CLASS

by John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ



Radio's rugged ranks in the Thirties
 Enlisted chaps like old G5BD
 Who never sat around wringing his hands
 About contributions and countries lists
 Or griped about slow factory service
 On a chrome-trimmed Superduper-IV.
 OM G5BD, with only one good arm
 Couldn't wring his hands anyway
 And had bigger problems to lick
 Like no a.c. mains and a 10-watt limit.
 Other things he had a-plenty
 Were guts and that old ham spirit
 So G5BD worked DX—and had a ball.
 (Photo via W2GP)

From the How's DX column, page 100, June 1967 issue of QST magazine.

Do you hold a Technician class license and want to use skywave on 80, 40, and 15 meters? You ALREADY have privileges on those bands!

Do you hold a General or Extra class license and want to take advantage of the lower frequency portions of your HF bands? Want to try making some HF code contacts hiking in the mountains?

Come learn code on Friday evenings beginning in January and make great use of the privileges the FCC has already granted you!

Pending approval by the Red Cross to use their Santa Rosa facility we will meet on Friday evenings from January 8th through April 15th.

This course is focused on beginners and assumes you know nothing about code but if you know some code already then you will be that much farther ahead!

I propose the class to meet from 6:30 until 8PM at the Santa Rosa Red Cross building, 5297 Aero Drive, Santa Rosa.

You will learn to send and receive code and how to make radio contacts using code. There will be home-

work but you knew that was the case anyway, didn't you?

It doesn't matter, we have a lot of fun in class and may even have code practice on the club repeater during the week!

I am soliciting code course interest beginning NOW! Serious, committed signups only please!

Do not sign up if you aren't ready to commit to attending at least most of the 13 class sessions and doing the homework required – 45 minutes every day from January 8th through April 15th.

I do all I can to make learning a fun experience but in the end it is your desire and commitment to working at learning the code that will accomplish the task.

Contact John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ, for more information:

wb6frz@arrl.net

707 217 1017



The Great Antenna Line Shooting Day

Darv DeShazer, KK6OVH

On a sunny Saturday in November I was lucky enough to tag along with John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ, as he performed community service and helped several hams in the amateur radio community with their antennas. John used his pneumatic tennis ball cannon to string ropes high in the oaks and tall redwood trees in a backwater spot in Sebastopol. He assisted two hams by stringing up a total of eight ropes for anchoring future HF antennas. Then he dismantled a 40 meter dipole and restrung it directly above the landowner's house. Next, a bent-up two-meter ground plane caught his eye and before long, out came the drill and it was taken down, straightened, cobwebs dusted off and remounted back in the air.

After lunch we moved to the second property where we installed a second set of four ropes in the trees, lowered a 40-meter dipole fed with ladder-line and looked at a Hexbeam antenna that the land owner was in the process of building.

The fun lasted almost to sunset and it was a great day to be a ham.



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IC-7600 All Mode Transceiver

- 100W HF/6m Transceiver, gen cov. receiver • Dual DSP 32 bit • Three roofing filters- 3, 6, 15kHz • 5.8 in WQVGA TFT display • Hi-res real time spectrum scope



IC-V8000 2M Mobile Transceiver

- 75 watts • Dynamic Memory Scan (DMS)
- CTCSS/DCS encode/decode w/ tone scan • Weather alert • Weather channel scan • 200 alphanumeric memories

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Dual Bander
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ID-880H

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- Wideband receiver



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The radio



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SHORT SKIP ARCHIVES AVAILABLE

Mike, AD6YB, has set up archives for past and present issues of Short Skip. They are available on the Web site, log into Members Area, Short Skip, click on the first sentence. Mike has scanned in the old paper issues and it is really interesting to browse through them to see what those guys were doing. There are historical photos as well. An important record of our history and ham radio in general. Good Stuff.

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DIDN'T FIND WHAT YOU NEEDED?

If you are looking for something more on a topic or your topic of interest hasn't been covered lately, let us know. Something you'd like to see in Short Skip?

Contact the editor, dave@kraybill.org, or for general questions and /or suggestions, k6son@arrl.net

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