Short Skip

The Newsletter of

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.

P.O. Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402-0116 707-538-2931

http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com

Repeaters:

English Hill: 147.315+ 88.5 / 224.480- 88.5

CLUB STATION
K6SON

REPEATER STATION
W6SON

Volume 44, Number 4 April 2019

SCRA Shines in Fish Rock Adventure Race

In driving rain, the pavement ended and the road quickly turned to mud and gravel as these riders headed for Boonville on Fish Rock Road. David Torres photo.

At the Iversen Road Aid Station, food, water and bike repairs were offered and the Sonoma County Ham Radio Operators, far right, handled communications all along the route. David Torres photo.

The Independent Coast Observer ran an article on the Fish Rock event. In one of the photos, Aid Station 2 is visible at the right. Tom N6MVT (a principal of the CARLA repeater system), sent a photo of the photo

This year's Fish Rock Adventure was a very wet one. SAGs were much appreciated in this race as the rain made for a cold ride and SAG vehicles became a welcome respite from the chilly weather.

From Comm Boss, Fred AE6SF:
Hi Fish Rock Hams,

Thank you for working the event yesterday. I hope you found it as fulfilling as I did. I think we did an outstanding job of providing effective communications over difficult terrain, and clearly contributed to the well-being of the riders during this event. The event had a delayed start due to snow and slush at the summit, and the cold weather pounded the riders with rain at times, causing some riders to bail early, and some to potentially suffer from hypothermia. Thank you station ops for sheltering cold riders, and thank you SAGs for moving riders along the course, and at the end of the event, into Finish. Having riders on 128 after dark would have been a potentially dangerous situation. One late rider told me he (as were others) was required to be sagged into Finish and became thankful once he saw the climb back into town that he would have had to make. Thanks to all who stayed late as needed, and thanks to the MOTOs who contributed situational awareness as well as aided cyclists.

Here's a shout out to our shadows. You participated and got your feet wet. I heard you all on the air. Well done. Please come back for more.

And From John Prowty, Bike Marshal:

I will add my thanks for a job well done in very difficult conditions. I've already received feedback from riders and

Continued on page 8...

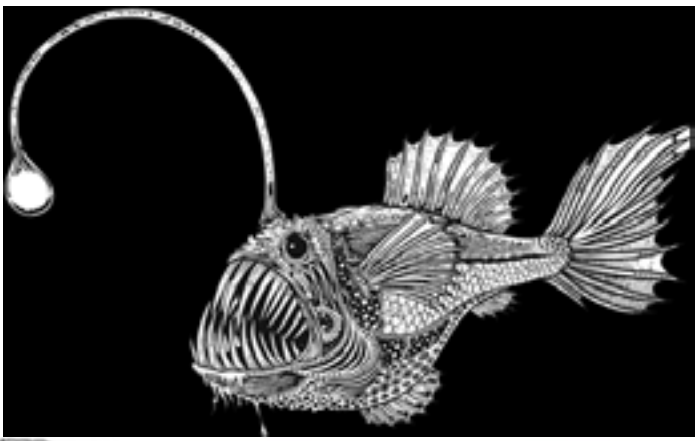
VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE APRIL 2019

Greetings. The March Technician License Class was a success with all students earning licenses. Kudos to the five instructors and multiple VEs (volunteer examiners) who freely gave their time to enable new people to enter our hobby.

Our first public service event of the year, the Fish Rock bicycle event out of Boonville, also was successful. Many thanks go to the seventeen intrepid hams who braved the rain and snow to staff this event. April has three events, with showers predicted this Saturday for the SoNoMas mountain bicycle race at Lake Sonoma, providing another opportunity to test your field capabilities. Visit the SCRA website to review and sign up for the many events that we serve. We welcome both vintage and nouveau hams.

We SCRA members are amid our 80th anniversary celebration as an amateur radio club. One facet is the offering of aesthetically-pleasing commemorative polo and tee shirts in a color of your choosing. The initial order window will be closing in mid-April, so promptly look within for details.

- Fred AE6SF



APRIL PROGRAM

DMR Update and Digital Hotspots

by Randy AA6RH

It's April, no foolin', and Randy AA6RH is back to give us all an update on the DMR scene in Sonoma County, as well as talk about digital voice hotspots, the repeater-like devices that, when connected to the Internet, become your personal gateway to DMR, C4FM and D-Star (and more), wherever you are! Some demonstrations of some of the popular hotspots will be shown, as well as "cross-mode" capability, which let's your Yaesu C4FM rig talk to DMR (and vice versa)! If you missed out on January's DMR introduction by Randy, this is your chance to get some hands-on time with DMR and hotspots!

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

2019 Club Officers

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Vice President	Fred Seitel	AE6SF
Secretary	Bill Dornbush	KM6BYD
Treasurer	Iola Beckley	KK6HRE
Director	Fred Seitel	AE6SF
	Doug Payne	KF6LMB
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Short Skip Advertising Rates

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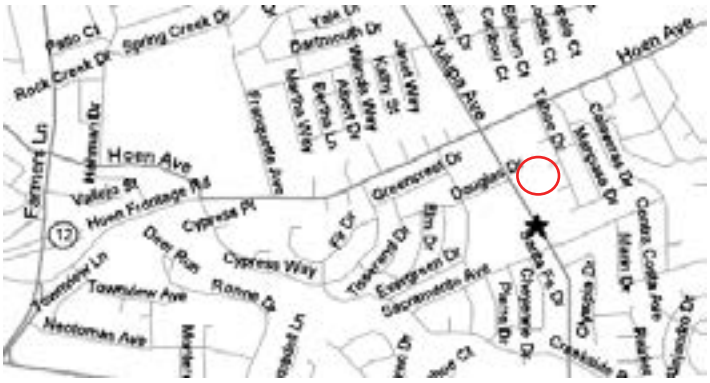
SCRA Club Meetings

The club normally meets the first Wednesday of each month, socially at 6:30 pm, program starting 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 is 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

The SCRA Board of Directors will meet monthly on the Second Wednesday at the IHOP Restaurant, Fourth Street, Santa Rosa (in the Safeway/CVS Pharmacy center). All members are welcome to attend, no reservations necessary. Arrive around 5:15- 5:30pm for dinner. Meeting starts at 6:00pm.

LOANER RADIOS AVAILABLE

The Club has a variety of radios available to members to try out and improve their skills. We have a Kenwood T590 SG HF radio; Yeasu FT 2900 2 meter mobile; Yeasu FT1D, an analog/digital 2 meter and 440mhz HT; Yeasu FT 60, a 2 meter and 440 mhz HT; and a TYT TH-F5 VHF 2 meter HT. Trying these out is an excellent way to learn some radio and test before you buy. Contact Joe, K6AWA, at k6awa@yahoo.com with your request. Joe will forward an information form to you by return email.

UPGRADE TO GENERAL OR AMATEUR EXTRA CLASS

Get more privileges and enjoyment from your Ham Radio Hobby. Mentoring assistance is available. Contact Cornell Chesnik, W6HMN, SCRA Education Chair, at w6hmn@sonic.net.

Tuesday Night Net

The Sonoma County Radio Amateurs' net meets Tuesday at 7:00 PM on the SCRA repeater, 147.315, positive offset, PL 88.5.

All members and guests are invited to check in. The Net includes updates on SCRA activities, and Newsline, the amateur radio community news service.

Anyone wishing to work as net control should contact Iola kk6hre, at K6SON@ARRL.NET for assignment. Script and logs are available on the Website at http://sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/wp/resources/net-script/

The Weekly 160 Meter Net

Announcing the new 160 meter net which runs from 8:45pm to 9:30pm Tuesday nights, immediately following the 10 meter net hosted by Joe K6AWA. Tune your radio frequency to 1.900 Mhz. LSB. 160 meters requires a General or above license to transmit.

Your Tuesday Night Net Line-up

7:00pm Membership Net on the SCRA repeater, 147.315, positive offset, PL 88.5

10 Meter Net - starts at 8:00pm (new time) following the regular SCRA net Tuesday nights and ends at 8:45pm. Set your dial to 28,403.00 SSB, USB. Please note that all license classes (including technician) are welcome.

160 Meter Net - runs from 8:45pm to 9:30pm. Tune your radio frequency to 1.900 Mhz. LSB. 160 meters requires a General or above license to transmit.

Digital Mobile Radio

Sonoma County Talk Group 31707!

The club's DMR footprint continues to expand! We established a beachhead on DMR and the BrandMeister network of repeaters and hotspots by adding a talk group for Sonoma County! We are using talk group number 31707 to keep in touch on DMR and be able to discuss local news and topics of interest. The use of a talk group like 31707 allows a wider variety of Sonoma County DMR hams to be able to consistently reach each other on the air. Best of all, the 31707 talk group can be reached on hotspots as well as repeaters, meaning you can tie into your local community wherever you are!

Sonoma County DMR Net, Mondays at 6PM PT!

We also started a DMR net for Sonoma County (using talk group 31707) that lets us practice a little bit of traffic handling, while also allowing us to get together and talk about ways we can integrate DMR into our normal operating habits! Currently Randy AA6RH runs net control, and it's scheduled ahead of the "Sonoma County EmComm Net Crawl" on Monday evenings. If you have a DMR radio, make sure to program it (or ask Randy to help you program it) to include talk group 31707 on any of the area DMR repeaters (there are at least four in Sonoma County!) and join us on Monday evenings!

2019 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Check the Club website for details

Community outreach:
4/12 Family camping expo
5/4 Human Race
6/9 Monte Rio Vineman Triathlon
6/15 Kids Day
6/21-23 Field Day
8/4 Space Festival
8/3, 8/10 County Fair
9/28-29 PCAM
10/26 Science Festival

Public Service:
4/6 SoNoMas postponed
4/13 Lake Sonoma 50
4/28 2019 Wine Country Tour de Cure
5/4 Wine Country Century
6/9 Monte Rio Vineman Triathlon
6/15 Terrible Two
8/24 Tour de Fox
9/21-22 Waves to Wine
10/5 Gran Fondo
11/2? SoNoMas
11/9-10 Santa Rosa bike trione

80th Anniversary
4/? Skunk train
6/28 Field Day
8/25 or 8/11 Picnic
10/? Hamfest or swapmeet
12/4 Holiday dinner

OTHER:
8/15-18 Mini DX
10/19 JOTA
10/18-20 Pacificon
4/27 VOARC hamfest

VE Sessions
5/11
7/20
9/14
11/16

CONTEST CORNER

Welcome to April and this month's edition of Contest Corner.

Let's begin with a look ahead to the first weekend in May and mention a few contests that we don't want to miss. The 10-10 International Spring Contest, CW is there with marginal conditions yet giving us an opportunity to maybe work a few stations on 10m at this time with a declining solar cycle. FISTS has their Spring Slow Speed Sprint and all cw ops or those interested are encouraged to join in or at least listen in. It is another great learning opportunity. Delaware and Indiana have their state QSO parties and the 7th Call Area does as well. Wrapping up the first weekend in May is the venerable New England QSO Party, another popular Coast to Coast challenge.

The month of April has eight state QSO parties, nearly as many Qrp contests, and two State Parks on the Air, Florida and Texas. The 14th will bring the ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB. For some of you who have been hesitant to get on the air with HF give some consideration to this contest for new hams. Rookies can work everyone and non-rookies only work rookies.

As with all contests the better you prepare the better the outcome. Your station is the means by which you will be utilizing your skills while contesting so make an effort to improve it every chance you get. Being part of a team or merely competing with another partner can bring added excitement and fulfillment to the experience. Learn to recognize the good and not so good operators so you can improve your on the air exposure. Also make sure you read the contest rules prior to "show time" and get the exchange down pat. Above all, find out what you like about contesting and have fun.

Do not forget to check out http://www.contestcalendar.com

Contact nq6e@arrl.net for questions/comments/suggestions regarding Contest Corner.

72/73,
NQ6E

Bruce Draper, AA5B, aa5b.corral@gmail.com

Contest Corral April 2019

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 - Finish Date	Time	Date	Time	Bands	Contest Name	Mode	Exchange	Sponsor's Website
1	0800	7	2000	All	IQRP Quarterly Marathon	CW Ph Dig	RS(T)	www.arimontebelluna.it
1	1900	1	2030	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, CW	CW	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
2	0100	2	0300	3.5-28	ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, power	arsqrp.blogspot.com
3	2000	3	2100	3.5	UKEICC 80-Meter Contest	Ph	4-char grid square	www.ukeicc.com
4	1700	4	2000	3.5	SARL 80-Meter QSO Party	Ph	RS, serial, grid locator	www.sarl.org.za
4	1700	4	2100	28	NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 6-char grid square	www.nrau.net
4	1900	4	2100	1.8-28	SKCC Sprint Europe	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.skccgroup.com
6	0400	6	0800	7	LZ Open 40-Meter Sprint Contest	CW	Serial, serial received from previous QSO	www.lzopen.com
6	1000	7	0400	14	PODXS 070 Club PSK 31 Flavors Contest	Dig	SPC, mbr or name	www.podxs070.com
6	1000	7	1000	50-1296	SARL VHF/UHF Digital Contest	Dig	RST, 6-char grid locator	www.sarl.org.za
6	1400	7	0200	3.5-UHF	Mississippi QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), county or SPC	www.arrlmiss.org
6	1400	7	2000	1.8-UHF	Missouri QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), county or SPC	www.w0ma.org
6	1400	7	2200	3.5-28	Florida State Parks on the Air	CW Ph Dig	Park ID SPC	flspota.org/rules
6	1500	7	1500	1.8-28	SP DX Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), SP province or serial	pzk.org.pl
6	1600	7	1600	3.5-28	EA RTTY Contest	Dig	RSQ, province or serial	concursos.ure.es/en
7	1900	7	2030	3.5	RSGB RoLo SSB	Ph	RS, previous 6-char grid square received	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
8	1900	8	2300	144	144 MHz Spring Sprint	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid square	sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints
10	0030	10	0230	3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	naqcc.info
10	1900	10	2030	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
13	0000	13	2359	1.8-28	QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party	CW	RS, SPC, mbr or power	qrparci.org
13	0700	14	1300	1.8-28	JIDX CW Contest	CW	RST, Prefecture number or CQ Zone	www.jidx.org
13	1200	14	1200	1.8-28	OK/OM DX Contest, SSB	Ph	RS, 3-letter county code or serial	okomdx.crk.cz
13	1200	14	1200	3.5-28, 144	F9AA Cup, PSK	Dig	RST, serial	www.site.urc.asso.fr
13	1200	14	2359	1.8-50	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
13	1400	14	0200	1.8-50	New Mexico QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	Name, county or SPC	www.newmexicoqsoparty.org
13	1400	14	2000	All	Texas State Parks on the Air	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), park abbreviation or SPC	www.tspota.org
13	1800	14	1800	1.8-144	North Dakota QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), county or SPC	www.kg0yl.net/QSO.html
13	1800	14	2359	1.8-50	Georgia QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RST, county or SPC	www.georgiaqsoparty.org
13	2100	14	2100	1.8-28, Sats	Yuri Gagarin International DX Contest	CW	RST, ITU Zone	gc.qst.ru/en/section/32
14	1000	14	2200	3.5-14	WAB 3.5/7/14 MHz Data Modes	Dig	RS, serial, WAB square or country	wab.intermip.net/Contests.php
14	1200	14	1800	3.5-14	International Vintage Contest HF	CW Ph	RS(T), 4-char grid square	contestvintage.beepworld.it
14	1500	14	1700	3.5	Hungarian Straight Key Contest	CW	RST, serial, power code	hskc.ha8kux.com
14	1800	14	2359	3.5-50	ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB	Ph	Name, 2-digit year licensed, state/province/XE area/"DX"	www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup
15	0000	15	0200	1.8-28	4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, mbr or power	www.4sqrp.com
16	1900	16	2300	222	222 MHz Spring Sprint	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid square	sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints
19	2100	20	2100	1.8-28	Holyland DX Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 4X area or serial	www.iarc.org
20	0500	20	0859	3.5-7	ES Open HF Championship	CW Ph	RS(T), serial	www.erau.ee/en
20	0600	21	0559	3.5-28	Worked All Provinces of China DX Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), BY province or serial	www.mulandxc.org
20	0800	20	1800	3.5-28	QRP to the Field	CW Ph	RST, SPC, name	www.zianet.com/qrp/qrpttf
20	1200	21	1159	3.5-28	YU DX Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), YU/YT county or serial	yudx.yu1srs.org.rs
20	1200	21	2359	3.5-28	CQMM DX Contest	CW	RST, continent, category	www.cqmmdx.com
20	1300	21	2200	1.8-UHF	Nebraska QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), county or SPC [FT8: S/N, grid]	www.qcwa.org/chapter025.htm
20	1600	21	0400	3.5-28	Michigan QSO Party	CW Ph	Serial, county or SPC	www.miqp.org/Rules.htm
20	1700	21	1300	3.5-28	EA-QRP CW Contest	CW	RST, category, "M" if member	www.eaqrp.com
20	1800	20	2159	1.8-50	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	RST, mbr, SPC, grid	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub
20	1800	21	1800	1.8-144	Ontario QSO Party	CW Ph	RS(T), county or SPC	www.va3cco.com/oqp
22	0100	22	0300	1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	qrpcontest.com/pigrun
24	0000	24	0200	1.8-28	SKCC Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.skccgroup.com
24	1900	24	2300	432	432 MHz Spring Sprint	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid square	sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints
24	2000	24	2100	3.5	UKEICC 80-Meter Contest	CW	4-char grid square	www.ukeicc.com
25	1900	25	2030	3.5	RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	Dig	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
27	0001	28	2359	28	10-10 International Spring Contest, Digital	Dig	Name, mbr or "0," SPC	www.ten-ten.org
27	1200	28	1200	3.5-28	SP DX RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, province or serial	pkrvg.org/strona,spdxrttyen.html
27	1300	28	1259	1.8-28	Helvetia Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), Canton or serial	www.uska.ch
27	1600	28	2159	7-28	Florida QSO Party	CW Ph	RS(T), county or SPC	floridaqsoparty.org
28	1700	28	2059	3.5-28	BARTG Sprint 75	Dig	Serial	bartg.org.uk/wp/contests

All dates refer to UTC and may be different from calendar dates in North America. Contests are not conducted on the 60-, 30-, 17-, or 12-meter bands. Mbr = Membership number. Serial = Sequential number of the contact. SPC = State, Province, DXCC Entity. XE = Mexican state. 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. *Data for Contest Corral is maintained on the WA7BNM Contest Calendar at* ***www.contestcalendar.com*** *and is extracted for publication in* QST *2 months prior to the month of the contest. ARRL gratefully acknowledges the support of Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, in providing this service.*

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc. 6

SCRA Merchandise QST

The 2019 Sonoma County Radio Amateurs 80th Anniversary Apparel Event is On The Air!

But, you only have until April 10th to key in your orders before we QRT and head to production.
This event allows you to choose the shirt style in the color and size that fits you best. And with so many styles, colors and sizes to select from, now is the best time to order your club apparel for the year.
The T-Shirts feature our 80th Anniversary logo printed on a 100% cotton fabric. The Polo shirts feature an 80th Anniversary text along with our Mic-&-Key logo (pictured below) embroidered on a 60/40 cotton/poly pique fabric. More specific product descriptions can be found near the bottom of each product webpage.

SONOMA COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS 1939 2019 80TH ANNIVERSARY

The T-Shirts, short and long sleeve, are priced at $16 each and Polo shirts at $21 each. Depending on the style you choose, you'll find a large array of colors and sizes, from X-Small to 6X-Large. To key in an order, just tune your internet device to Halls Executive Gifts and Awards' webstore. The QTH is http://scra.hallsapparel.com .

All major credit cards and PayPal are accepted. If you have any questions or comments, please email merchandise@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com.

As soon as the shirts come out of production and are ready to be distributed, you will receive an email with the options of picking up your order by attending a membership meeting, attending Field Day, or making a trip to Rincon Valley in Santa Rosa to the home of the Merchandise Chairperson.

The Sonoma County Radio Amateurs would like to thank Halls Executive Gifts and Awards, a.k.a. Frederick Engraving in Rohnert Park, for making this member offering possible.

...Fish Rock, continued from page 1

other volunteers that the comms team played a critical role in keeping riders safe. I especially want to thank the SAGs and those of you who went out and transported riders between stations and back to the start AND those who provided warm places for riders to come back up to temperature.

We pulled the final rider at 6:30 at 128/Fish Rock. He is one of the most experienced long distance riders I know having completed rides exceeding 750 miles in around 85 hours. He has ridden in conditions similar to this. I say this so those of you who offered to SAG him and were rejected, it wasn't personal. He also happens to be one of my best friends, so I knew he would listen to me when I told him it was over. Thank you for watching over him!

You guys did an outstanding job. Thank you from all of us at Bike Monkey.

John

Ooh, ooh, I have a Question!

From the General Class Question Pool:

When choosing a transmitting frequency, what should you do to comply with good amateur practice?
A. Insure that the frequency and mode selected are within your license class privileges
B. Follow generally accepted band plans agreed to by the Amateur Radio community
C. Monitor the frequency before transmitting
D. All of these choices are correct

SCRA Membership QST

The SCRA membership stands at 192.

Welcome new and returning members:
- Peter Murphy KN6AWA (T) Windsor

New call signs:
- Erin Casteel - K6ERI
- Ibrahim Sial - K2IBE

License Class Upgrades:
- Ibrahim Sial K2IBE - General

If you have recently achieved a new license class, obtained a new call sign, or changed your address, email or phone, please email membership@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com with your update. And don't forget to report your address change to the FCC!

And What About This?

From the Extra Class Question Pool:

How does the maximum distance of ground-wave propagation change when the signal frequency is increased?
A. It stays the same
B. It increases
C. It decreases
D. It peaks at roughly 14 MHz

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs Membership Meeting Minutes Date: March 6, 2019 Call to order: 7:05 pm

Board members present: John KE5RI, Fred AE6SF, Iola KK6HRE, Randy AA6RH, Bill KM6BYD

Absent: Matias KM6GWK

The president determined that a quorum is present.

Radio loaner program: Joe K6AWA announced that equipment can be borrowed: DMR, Handheld, HF and more

New members: Ray KC6NEW

Guests: Brian KM6VRW, Ken WB6NOB who presented the Red Oak Victory radio club on ship

NET CONTROL: The following members are the net control stations for:

Mar 12 – Joe K6AWA
Mar 19 – Ibrahim KM6RQF
Mar 26 – Gary KM6CPU
Apr 2 – Charles KG6CTT

Announcements etc:
Warren K6WRP changed his call sign, was KM6WRX

Ibrahim upgraded to General

Program:
Randy AA6RH discussed upcoming programs:
April – DMR hotspots (4 DMR repeaters in Sonoma County)

May - HF

June - Field Day

Randy introduced Jim McLelland WA6QBU
He presented his design for a 160 meter magnetic loop antenna, and showed a 40 M version which would fit in the room. He handed out a schematic of the antenna including dimensions.

It is 50 feet around the loop made of window line which makes 2 turns and a tuning stub. You need an antenna analyzer to adjust, that will tell you impedance as you will tune to minimum impedance at the end of the coupler lines. As a diamond, it is 18' by 18' You can replace tuning stub with capacitor to enable tuning.

Ham of the month award: Fred presented it to Erin K6ERI for her work at Winter Field Day

Approval of minutes: deferred to next month as Short Skip has not yet been released.

REPORTS
Treasurer report: Iola KK6HRE: reviewed the checking balance, income, and expenses

Activities: Jeff KI6PBF and Iola KK6HRE:
Jeff is planning a trip to the Press Democrat printing room. Iola reported that the anniversary committee is re-planning the activities. We will have a picnic at Spring Lake. She would like ideas for a DIY workshop.

Community outreach: Darryl KI6MSP: no report

Education: Cornell W6HMN: The technician class is March 22-24 at National Instruments, there are 8-10 people possible.

Merchandise: Dan KK6VIQ: Shirt sale is almost ready and will be announced shortly.

Membership: Dan KK6VIQ: two members renewed today, 191 members total.

Repeater: Jack K6ROW: We are tweaking the DMR repeater. The 440 repeater is currently offline.
Continued on page 10...

...Minutes continued from page 9

DX Team: Doug KF6LMB: Mini-DX is Aug 15-18 west of Honeydew near Garberville, about $25/ night, 2 cars per site. There will be a potluck. It is during the North American QSO party.

VE testing: Brian N6IIY: There was a VE session last Saturday. 3 people were tested. Next is May 11, Bennett Valley Grange hall. We can consider testing at Field Day.

Field Day: Brian N6IIY: We have secured Youth Community Park for 2019. The first planning meeting is Sat March 16, and he is looking for team leaders to volunteer.

Public Service: Iola KK6HRE: First 3 events are pretty well staffed including shadows. Most important is to get comm bosses for the remaining events that need them. First event, Fish Rock, is this weekend. SoNoMas has openings. Please check the club website and sign up.

Refreshment committee: John is looking for someone to take this over. He suggests we split this into 3 time segments, and is looking for people to take 3 month segments. The following volunteered: April-June Jim KI6REK, K6WRP Warren July-Sept, Oct-Nov Cornell W6HMN.

80th Anniversary committee: Iola KK6HRE: covered in Activities

OLD BUSINESS
None.

NEW BUSINESS
Doug reminded us that Daylight Savings Time starts Sunday.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bill Dornbush KM6BYD

Ham of the Month
Erin K6ERI

SCRA HAM Of THE MONTH RECIPIENTS			
Year	Month	Name	Call Sign
2019	Mar	Erin	K6ERI
2019	Feb	Fred	AE6SF
2019	Jan	Dave	KI6UGB
2018	Dec	–	–
2018	Nov	Iola	KK6HRE
2018	Oct	Dan	KK6VIQ

Silent Key - Betty Bravin AG6C

Betty became a Silent Key on January 4, 2019.

From her Obituary -

"Amateur radio became a huge part of her life starting in the 1970's. She started teaching classes primarily for women as the field was mostly male dominated. Her HAM call sign was AG6C. She taught classes and volunteered during events and disasters."

She was SCRA's member of the year in 1985.

SCRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
Date: March 13, 2019

The meeting was called to order by John Felton KE5RI at 6:06 pm. A quorum was present.

Board members present: John Felton KE5RI, Fred Seitel AE6SF, Bill Dornbush KM6BYD, Iola Beckley KK6HRE, Randy Hall AA6RH

Absent: Matias Santani KM6GWK

Others: Doug Payne KF6LMB, Darryl Paule KI6MSP, Cornell Chesnik W6HMN, Dan Drummond KK6VIQ, Joe Fortuna K6AWA, Charlie Sikes KZ6T, Brian Torr N6IIY, Pat Coyle KG6JSL, Mike Von der Porten AD6YB, Philip Humes KF6GNH, Ibrahim Sial KM6RQF

Approval of previous meeting minutes: Minutes were approved

OFFICER AND DIRECTOR REPORTS
Treasurer report: No change from last week's report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Activities – no report

Community Outreach – no report

Membership – We have 191 members, 62 extra class, 60 general, 2 advanced, 61 technician; We need to update the membership map after each Roster is released

Public Service – Fish Rock went well although it was bad weather; We need a Terrible Two comm boss; May 4, Fred AE6SF will be Comm Boss for Wine Country Century. Dan suggested a shadow position for comm boss, and Fred said this needed to happen before the event.

Merchandise – Hall's has our shirt site ready, and we have sold 9 of each so far, he wants to order by April 8, prices are the same for each size but may not be in the future.

Education – no change since membership meeting

Em Comm – no report

Field Day – The first planning meeting is this Saturday, and the rental fee for the city park went down from last year.

Programs – April will include a DMR refresh, and hotspots; May: Joe K6AWA, Jeff KI6PBF, Jim KI6REK will discuss HF with a demo; June: Field Day

Website – not present

Refreshments – Jim KI6REK will do the next 3 months

Repeater – Repeater committee will meet on March 20th, They are still working on tuning the DMR repeater, still exploring at Castle Rock using 440. There was a question at Castle Rock about APRS digipeater. It is owned by Adam KD6POC, and supported by us but we are not providing equipment.

Radio Loanout program – All is fine; Joe wants to have loanout program on website, roster, Short Skip, and it will happen for their next cycles.

80th anniversary committee – Skunk Train on hold, we are waiting on them, it may happen with us just going there. Iola will contact the city soon about August picnic as soon as the date is available on the city calendar.

Unfinished Business –
Solar project – There was discussion about a project to change our power for field day, it will be discussed at the Field Day planning meeting and they will report back to the Board.

NEW BUSINESS
Matias Santini has resigned as Director as he has too many time commitments. We reviewed the Bylaws as pertains to a board resignation. The President can make an appointment and is appointing Doug KF6LMB until the next club meeting. John KE5RI will send an email announcing to the membership that there will be an election at the meeting.
The meeting ended at 6:36 pm.

Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club

presents

HAMFEST 2019

Saturday, April 27th,
8 am to 12 noon

Featuring

- Swap Meet (indoor and outdoor spaces)
- Breakfast
- VE Testing Session
- Station Demos

PLUS: special exhibit of vehicles that support emergency communications
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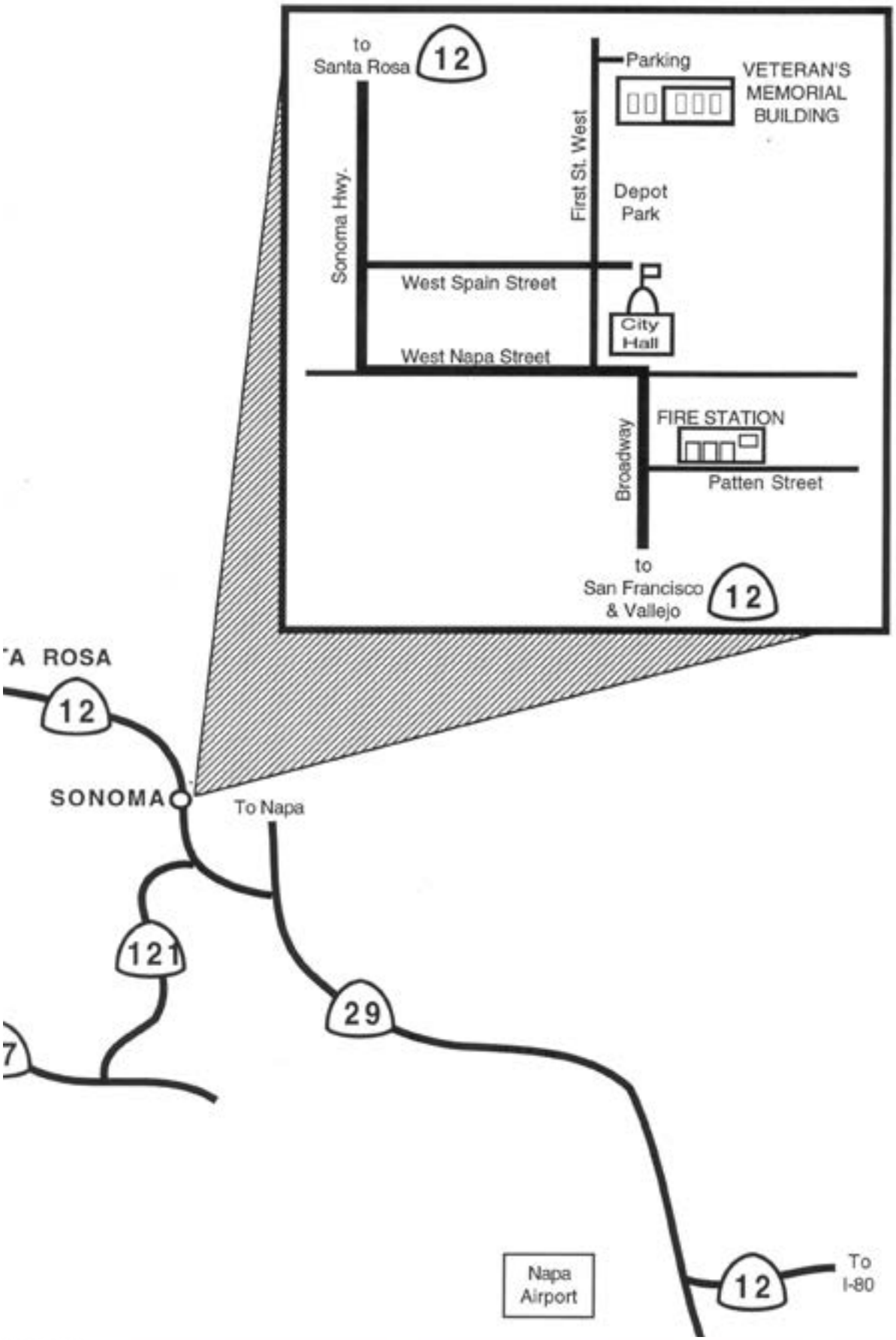
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Hall
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Field Day – Let's Show the Public What Amateur Radio is All About

When the ARRL proclaimed the first "International Field Day" in 1933, the purpose given was: "Besides offering an opportunity to get out in the open in this fine spring weather, the real object of this contest is to test "portables" wherever they may be available. If successful we want to make it an annual affair."

Nowadays, Field Day is on the fourth full weekend in June. So this year it will be June 22 and June 23.

But it is still a means of testing our ability to operate at sites away from our normal stations and working "off the grid".

Perhaps most importantly, however, it gives us a chance to demonstrate these capabilities to the general public.

On top of all that, it gives us a chance to socialize. We can even camp out on Saturday night.

Which brings us to Field Day 2019. Although June 22/23 may seem like a ways off, we've already had our first planning meeting and we have two more scheduled. Our next Field Day Planning Meeting will be Saturday, April 20, from 10:00am to 11:30am, at the Field Day site, Youth Community Park, 1725 Fulton Road, Santa Rosa (across the road from Piner High School). If you are interested in any aspect of Field Day, please join us. Bring your own chair.

We have already found leaders for many of the volunteers positions, but there are still several more to be filled. Check out the Field Day website for the complete list (http://sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/wp/events/field-day/). You don't have to be a seasoned ham to be eligible. This is an event for all hams, regardless of skill level, to learn how to setup and operate HF and VHF stations in the field.

There will also be an Educational Activity on Saturday, June 22, at 3pm. We will be building 2m groundplane antennas. The antenna design is the same basic one as we did a few years ago, but this version includes a storage tube..

We plan on having four HF stations: SSB, CW, Digital, and GOTA

What's "GOTA"? GOTA stands for "Get On The Air". It is an opportunity to introduce new hams, or even non-hams, to operating on the HF bands. Hams that have been licensed for several years, but have been generally inactive on HF are also eligible to participate.

The GOTA station will be operating from solar power exclusively.

We also plan on making a satellite contact.

There will also be a barbeque dinner Saturday evening, starting around 5:30pm.

We also plan on holding an Exam Session on Saturday, June 22, starting about noon or 12:30 pm and being done by 2:30pm.

This year we are also hoping to staff a "Tech Bench" where hams can come and get some help on things such as how to install Anderson Power Poles, simple radio checks, and mobile antenna installation checks. If you think you could help in this area, please let me know.

As you can see, Field Day is an event-packed weekend. If you are looking to learn something, anything, about amateur radio, this will be the weekend to do it.

If you can make it to our next planning meeting on Saturday, April 20 at 10am, wonderful. If you can't make it, please send me an e-mail with any suggestions you may have or how you think you can help.

Let's make Field Day 2019 even better than last year!

Brian Torr, N6IIY
Tel: (707) 575-5871 (home)
(707) 953-0377 (cell)
n6iiy@arrl.net

Greetings All,
CALLING ALL COOKS,SET-UPPER'S AND CLEAN UPPERS>>>>>>>>>>>>
This years Field Day Saturday Night BBQ is off to a GREAT start!! I plan to be at next months meeting with my clip board and sign-up sheet! Pencils at the ready! This will prove to be a fun time! We will be serving Iola's meatloaf burgers, skewered pineapple curry chicken, vegy burgers, salads, tea, lemon aid and a surprise desert! Get Ready To Chow Down!!

73's Carol Lucic
KK6OLL

ACS Activation During Floods

There was an ACS activation for the flooding that we had with the Russian River. I was Net Control for the Monday, February 25th Road Patrol.
I logged 12 hours at the Graton Incident Command Post, ICP, at Graton Fire.
Highway 116 was the only way to get to the ICP. All other roads were flooded. It took two hours to get through Cotati, Sebastapol, to the ICP.
When was the last time anyone experienced Hwy 116 as a parking lot.
Darryl
KI6MSP
Darryl M Paule
KI6MSP

From arrl.org:
Amateur Radio Volunteers Activate Following California Flooding
03/08/2019

Amateur Radio volunteers with the Sonoma County, California, Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) rallied to assist in February after heavy rain led to flooding in the region. San Francisco Section Manager Bill Hillendahl, KH6GJV, told ARRL that while no actual communication emergencies occurred during the weather event, Sonoma County ACS volunteers provided "needed eyes" and were available in case further assistance was needed. Sonoma County ACS Radio Officer Dan Ethen, WA6CRB, said heavy rainfall on fire-scarred areas resulted in flooding along the Russian River. (Full Story -> http://www.arrl.org/news/amateur-radio-volunteers-activate-following-california-flooding

HAM Radio Trivia

I passed this test because of my ham radio training:
Question: Which three initials comprised the distress call prior to SOS?

PGX
CQD
AMA
YEM

Answer: CQD is one of the first distress signals adopted for radio use prior to SOS. It was established on February 1, 1904 by the Marconi International Marine Communication Company. "CQD" was understood by wireless operators to mean, "All stations: distress." On April 15, 1912, RMS Titanic radio operator Jack Phillips initially sent "CQD", which was still commonly used by British ships. Harold Bride, the junior radio operator, suggested using "SOS", saying half-jokingly that it might be his last chance to use the new code. Phillips thereafter began to alternate between the two. Though Bride survived the sinking, Phillips did not.

Credit given to triviatoday.com

Kathy K6KDW

Vintage Zenith Radio

Hello,

I picked up your brochure at the fair last year. I have a 1947 Zenith Trans-Oceanic Portable radio for sale/donation.

It is Model No. 8G005. It is in fairly good condition.

Is there anyone in your club that might be interested in such a radio?

Thank you so much in advance for your reply.
Kind regards
Virginia Pressler
jvsm.pressler@gmail.com

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.
PO Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402
(Please print this, fill it out, and send it in with your check.)

Name_____ Callsign_____ License Class_____

Mailing Address_____ Phone_____ Cell _____

City_____ Zip_____ New Application_____ Renewal_____

E-mail (if any)_____ Add to Roster (Yes)___ (No) ___

Please Send Short Skip & Roster to my E-mail address ( )YES! ( ) No thanks

FAMILY MEMBERS, CALL SIGNS & EMAIL ADDRESSES:

1. Name_____ Callsign_____ License Class_____ Add to Roster (Yes)___ (No) ___
   E-mail _____Short Skip & Roster to my E-mail address ( )YES! ( ) NO
2. Name_____ Callsign_____ License Class_____ Add to Roster (Yes)___ (No) ___
   E-mail _____Short Skip & Roster to my E-mail address ( )YES! ( ) NO
3. Name_____ Callsign_____ License Class_____ Add to Roster (Yes)___ (No) ___
   E-mail _____Short Skip & Roster to my E-mail address ( )YES! ( ) NO
4. Name_____ Callsign_____ License Class_____ Add to Roster (Yes)___ (No) ___
   E-mail _____Short Skip & Roster to my E-mail address ( )YES! ( ) NO

SCRA Dues: The renewal date for SCRA dues is January 1st. Dues are $20/year for individual, $30/year for families, and $15/year for youth (under 18).

PRO-RATED DUES for new members only: Reduce standard dues rate by $5.00 per quarter. (ie. Second Quarter, April – June $15.00; Third Quarter – July – September $10.00; Fourth Quarter, October – December $5.00 to end of December of current year or $25.00 through December of the following year)

I WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT:

( ) Public Service Events
( ) ARES Emergency Services
( ) Taking a Novice or Technician class
( ) Teaching a Novice or Technician class
( ) Taking an upgrade class
( ) Teaching an upgrade class
( ) Acting as club Net Control Station
( ) Helping with VEC license exams
( ) Field day, other operating
( ) Helping with *Short Skip* Newsletter
( ) Other_____

SCRA DUES: Individual $20, Family $30, Youth, under 18, $15 +_____
Name Badge(complete info below)$10 each Circle: Magnet or Clip attachment +_____

Name Badge Information Fill in exactly as you want it to appear on your badge.
Callsign _____ First Name_____ City _____
Callsign _____ First Name_____ City _____
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SCRA Patch $5/ea +_____
SCRA T-Shirt $13./ea Size: s m l xl xxl +_____

Total: $_____

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TM-V71A
2M/440 DualBand

TM-281A
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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 Website, 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.

(Click Me)

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, shortskipeditor@gmail.com or for general questions and /or suggestions, k6son@arrl.net

SHORT SKIP NEEDS YOUR INPUT

SHORT SKIP ARTICLES WANTED

Dave, KI6UGB, our Short Skip editor is always looking for articles of interest. They can be technical, a good (or bad) experience that other members may learn from, hints or kinks that worked for you in solving a problem, or just about anything ham radio related. Send your contributions to Dave at shortskipeditor@gmail.com