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 / 441.375 +88.5

CLUB STATION
K6SON

REPEATER STATION
W6SON

Volume 45, Number 6 June 2020

HAM Radio and Olympics History

by Jack K6ROW

I'm going through genealogy stuff and found a newspaper clipping from the 8/15/1984 Los Angeles Times about a relative, Cleve Hermann, who was a newspaper critic writing about the 1932 and 1984 Olympics, both of which he attended. (He was 12 in 1932). I extracted the following:

In 1932, all the reporting was done by radio. In 1984 it was upstaged by another medium, the telephone. In 1932 it cost a lot more money to call home from Los Angeles, so Olympians depended on the amateur radio station set up in the Olympic Village that year to get about 400 messages to their native countries, according to Dick Mannheimer of the Los Angeles Council of Amateur Radio Clubs.

In 1984 the station his organization set up on Main Street was asked to send only about 100 messages to and from Romania, Australia, Chile, Costa Rica, Brazil, Colombia...41 nations in all with a team of 40 amateur radio operators working two shifts per day, three people per shift....Despite the athletes' apparent preference for Touch Tone, ...the station did much better in its secondary role as a "special-events station".

Other hams on a worldwide basis liked to make contact with the Olympics and there were over 7000 contacts from 80 countries throughout the world.

Field Day on 2 Meters

Opportunities for Technicians and Above

By Fred Seitel AE6SF

If you are a Technician class ham and have a 2-meter (or VHF/UHF dual-band) radio, you can have fun on ARRL Field Day during this pandemic by making and logging contacts (QSOs) on 2-meters and higher. You will earn points which will be added to the club's score when you submit your results to the ARRL. Together, but operating separately, we can enjoy the pleasure of performing as a coordinated group.

Here are pointers for success.

What if I don't have a radio, or external antenna, or cable?

Our club has radios, antennas, cables, and accoutrements to lend. Contact fdlender@fredee.com to borrow. If you have items to loan out, please also contact us, same address.

Continued on page 17...

Featured Articles:

HAM Radio and Olympics History by Jack K6ROW Page 1

Field Day On 2 Meters by Fred AE6SF Page 1

Field Day 2020 - Embrace the Change by Brian N6IIY Page 14

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE JUNE, 2020

Greetings! A pandemic can't hold a good club down.

This issue is brimming with information on participating in Distributed Field Day 2020. Field Day Chairperson Brian N6IIY has been conducting planning sessions with members who in turn have been contributing great ideas for pandemic workarounds. The membership meeting on Wednesday June 3rd will feature Distributed Field Day as the program topic. Be sure to attend online to hear and see the plans and read page 14

John WB6FRZ has started up his Morse code class using online communication. Six hams of whom I know are attending (and there may be more). Following future board approval, expect to hear Morse code practice sessions over the club's 2M repeater. All will be welcome to copy and respond.

After an excruciatingly-long wait (from the perspective of would-be hams), the Volunteer Examiner (VE) team lead by Brian N6IIY will conduct license examinations that include all three current elements (Technician, General, Amateur Extra). The team has found a way forward. Remember drive-in theaters? These tests will be drive-in tests where examinees remain in their vehicles while proctors and VEs wearing appropriate PPE (personal protective equipment) and maintaining social distancing will administer the exams. At least eleven people are interesting in attending the June 13th test session. There will be new hams and license upgrades once again.

Bill AA6BD, chairperson of the new Growing Radio Amateurs committee, has started teaching the online course Basic Electronics and Raspberry Pi. The first two sessions on the RPI have been well received by club participants.

The repeater committee led by Erin K6ERI has moved meetings online. The committee members continue to maintain and add features to the repeater systems.

73,
Fred AE6SF

SCRA Membership Meeting (Online only)

Wed, June 3, 2020 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM (PDT) (Social at6:45 PM)
Please join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/207365757

You may also dial in using your telephone.
(For supported devices, tap a one-touch number below to join instantly.) United States: +1 (646) 749-3122
Access Code: 207-365-757
One-touch: tel:+16467493122,,207365757#

New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts.
https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/207365757

JUNE PROGRAM

Distributed Field Day 2020

by Brian N6IIY

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

2020 Club Officers

President	Fred Seitel	AE6SF
Vice President	Johnathan Brown	AK6VB
Secretary	Bill Dornbush	AA6BD
Treasurer	Iola Beckley	KK6HRE
Director	Randy Hall	AA6RH
	Warren Pierce	K6WRP
Past President	John Felton	KE5RI

Committee Lineup/Contacts

Activities	Iola Beckley activities@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com	
Programs	Randy Hall AA6RH	aa6rh@socorad.io
Community Outreach	Darryl Paule, KI6MSP	ki6msp@arrl.net
DX/Contesting	Open	
Education	Open education@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com	
Emergency Services Liason	Pat Coyle, KG6JSL	coylaw@sonic.net
Field Day	Brian Torr, N6IIY	n6iiy@arrl.net
License Trustee	John Felton, KE5RI	jrfke5ri@aol.com
Loaner Program	Joe Fortuna, K6AWA	k6awa@yahoo.com
Website Manager	David Kraybill, KI6UGB	shortskipeditor@gmail.com
Membership	Dan Drummond, KK6VIQ membership@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com	
Merchandise	Dan Drummond, KK6VIQ merchandise@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com	
Public Service Coordinator	Randy Hall AA6RH	aa6rh@socorad.io
Refreshments	Open	
Repeater	Erin Casteel, K6ERI	erin@erincasteel.com
Roster Editor	Bill Dornbush, AA6BD	bill@dornbush.net
Volunteer Examiners	Brian Torr, N6IIY	n6iiy@arrl.net
Weekly Email Blog	Iola Beckley KK6HRE	iolabeckley104@gmail.com

Short Skip & Web Staff

Short Skip Editor	David Kraybill, KI6UGB	shortskipeditor@gmail.com
Website Manager	David Kraybill, KI6UGB	shortskipeditor@gmail.com
Web Staff	David Pearson, K6DBP	grecojava@gmail.com

SCRA E-Mail	K6SON@arrl.com
SCRA Web site	http://www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com

Short Skip Advertising Rates

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SCRA Club Meetings

Online this month, see page 2.

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 Round Table Pizza, 2424 Magowan Dr, Santa Rosa. People start showing up at 5:15 PM. No RSVP is required.~~

NEW LOCATION!

Online this month.
Board of Directors Meeting

The SCRA Board of Directors will meet monthly on the Second Wednesday online. ~~Round Table Pizza, 2424 Magowan Dr, Santa Rosa.~~ All members are welcome to attend, no reservations necessary. ~~Arrive around 5:00pm 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 the SCRA Education Chair, at education@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com.

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

2 Meter Net (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 MHz 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 1.910 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 happens on Thursdays at 6:30 PM 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. 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 Thursday evenings!

2020 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Check the Club website for details

May events have been canceled and those shown in strikethrough text.

Jun 1 - Sep 25	Beginning Morse Code Class
~~Jun 13~~	~~Sonoma Cnty CF Cycle for Life 2020~~
~~Jun 14~~	~~Monte Rio Vineman Triathlon~~
~~Jun 20~~	~~Terrible Two – SRCC~~
Jun 26-28	Field Day
~~Jul 10-12~~	~~Technician Class~~
Jul 12	Night of Nights at KPH
~~Jul 18~~	~~VE Testing~~
~~Jul ?~~	~~Sonoma County Fair~~
Aug 15	International Lighthouse Weekend
~~Aug 15-16~~	~~Mini DX, with NA QSO Party~~
~~Aug 29~~	~~Tour de Fox~~
Sep 12-13	Waves to Wine
Sep 18-20	Technician Class
Sep 26	VE Testing
Oct 3	Levi's GranFondo
Oct 17	Jamboree on the Air
Oct 17	Pacificon STEM presentation
Oct 26	North Bay Science Discovery Day
Nov 6-8	Technician Class
Nov 14	VE Testing
Dec 2	Holiday Party

Reporter Wanted for Contest Corner

Frank NQ6E has retired from Contest Corner. Short Ship is looking for a reporter to replace him in this capacity.

Qualifications for this position are mainly an interest in contesting. If you have experience in contesting that is a plus, but not completely necessary. As a reporter you could expand your current knowledge by contacting other operators and documenting their experiences. There is a lot of information available online as well. Interested persons should contact Dave KI6UGB at shortskipeditor@gmail.com.

CONTEST CORNER

Welcome to Contest Corner for June 2020.

This month the big one is Field Day. See the articles in this month's issue for more information.

Other ARRL contests include the ARRL June VHF contest on June 13th and ARRL Kids day on June 20.

For QSO Parties, you've got the Kentucky QSO Party coming up this weekend on June 6.

Of interest is the 10-10 International Spirit of 76 QSO Party June 29 - July 5. Check out this club and event at https://www.ten-ten.org/

Ten-Ten International Net, or 10-10 for short, is an organization of amateur radio operators dedicated to maintaining high levels of amateur radio communications on the 10-meter amateur band (28.0-29.7 MHz). Established in 1962, 10-10 has grown continuously since that day, with some ups and downs according to the numbers of sunspots and the openness of the band. As you read this, the number of 10-10 numbers issued to members is over 77,000. 10-10 would welcome your membership in the organization if you have an amateur radio license with 10-meter privileges.

Contest University was a big hit. If you missed it online, you can still review it on youtube at https://www.contestuniversity.com/

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

Contact shortskipeditor@gmail.com for questions/comments/suggestions regarding Contest Corner or to become a reporter.

72/73,
Dave KI6UGB

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

Contest Corral June 2020

Check for updates and a downloadable PDF version online at **www.arrl.org/contest-calendar**.
Refer to the contest websites for full rules, scoring information, operating periods or time limits, and log submission information.

Start - Finish Date-Time				Bands	Contest Name	Mode	Exchange	Sponsor's Website
1	1900	1	2030	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, Data	Dig	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
2	0100	2	0300	3.5-28	ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, power	arsqrp.blogspot.com
4	1700	4	2100	28	NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 6-char grid square	nrau.net/activity-contests
4	1900	4	2100	1.8-50	SKCC Sprint Europe	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or power	www.skccgroup.com
5	1900	5	1959	3.5, 7	HA3NS Sprint Memorial Contest	CW	RST, mbr or "NM"	radioamator.honlapepites.hu
6	0000	7	0200	1.8-28	PVRC Reunion	CW Ph	1st year of membership (for members), name, SPC, call sign when joined PVRC (for members)	pvrc.org/reunion/reunion.htm
6	0000	7	2359	28	10-10 International Open Season PSK Contest	Dig	Name, SPC, mbr	www.ten-ten.org
6	0400	7	2000	3.5-28	DigiFest	Dig	RST, 4-char grid square	rigexpert.com/digifest/rules
6	0600	6	0800	7, 14	Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	CW	RST, serial, suffix of previous QSO	qrp.ru/contest/wakeup
6	0600	7	0600	3.5-28	VK Shires Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), VK Shire or CQ zone	wia.org.au/members/contests/wavks
6	1300	7	1300	50	UKSMG Summer Contest	CW Ph Dig	RST, serial, 6-char grid square	uksmg.org/summer-contest-rules.php
6	1400	7	0200	1.8-144	Kentucky QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), county or SPC	www.kyqsoparty.org
6	1500	7	1500	7-50	Dutch Kingdom Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), serial	dkars.nl/index.php?page=rules
6	1500	7	1500	1.8-28	RSGB National Field Day	CW	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
7	1700	7	2200	All (no WARC)	Cookie Crumble QRP Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), SPC, cookie #, name	w3atb.com/cookie-crumble
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, CW	CW	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
13	0000	14	1559	3.5-28	DRCG WW RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, CQ zone	www.drcg.de/drcgww
13	0000	14	2359	50	SMIRK Contest	CW Ph	4-char grid, mbr (optional)	smirk.org/contest.html
13	1100	13	1300	14, 21	Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt
13	1200	14	1200	3.5-28	Portugal Day Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), CT district or serial	portugaldaycontest.rep.pt
13	1200	14	2359	1.8-50	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	CW	RST, SPC, name, mbr or "none"	www.skccgroup.com
13	1400	13	1800	144, 432	AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	CW	RST, serial, power class, 6-char grid	agcw.org/index.php/en
13	1500	14	1500	3.5-28	GACW WWSA CW DX Contest	CW	RST, CQ zone	contest.com.ar/gacw-wwsa
13	1600	14	1600	50	REF DDFM 6 Meter Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), serial, 4-char grid	concours.r-e-f.org
13	1800	15	0259	50 and up	ARRL June VHF Contest	CW Ph Dig	4-character grid square	www.arrl.org/june-vhf
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
15	1900	15	2030	3.5	RSGB FT4 Contest Series	Dig	4-char grid square	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
16	1200	16	1400	7	SARL Youth Sprint	Ph	RS, age	www.sarl.org.za
17	0030	17	0230	3.5-14	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	naqcc.info
20	0000	20	2359	3.5-28	Battle of Carabobo International Contest	Ph	RS(T), YV state or serial	www.qrz.com/db/YV4VV
20	0000	21	2359	1.8-28	All Asian DX Contest, CW	CW	RST, 2-digit age	www.jarl.org/English
20	1200	21	1159	3.5-28	Ukrainian DX Classic RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, 2-letter oblast or serial	urdxc.org/rtty/eng.htm
20	1400	21	1400	50, 70	IARU Region 1 50/70 MHz Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), serial, 6-char grid	www.iaru-r1.org
20	1500	21	1500	1.8	Stew Perry Topband Challenge	CW	4-char grid square	www.kkn.net/stew
20	1600	21	0400	3.5-28	West Virginia QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), county or SPC	qsl.net/wvsarc/wvqp/wvqp.html
20	1800	20	1959	1.8-50	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	RST, mbr, QTH, grid, power	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub
20	1800	20	2359	3.5,7,14,18, 21,24,28, 144 repeaters	ARRL Kids Day	Ph	Name, age, QTH, favorite color	www.arrl.org/kids-day
21	0800	21	1400	50	WAB 50 MHz Phone	Ph	RS, serial, WAB square or country	wab.intermip.net
21	1900	21	2359	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
25	1900	25	2030	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
27	0600	27	1700	3.5-28	UFT QRP Contest	CW	RST, QRP/QRO, mbr or "NM"	uft.net/reglement/eng.pdf
27	1200	28	1200	3.5-28	Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest	Dig	RST, 2-letter oblast or serial	www.izmail-dx.com
27	1200	28	1200	1.8-28	His Majesty King of Spain Contest, SSB	Ph	RS, EA province or serial	concursos.ure.es/en
27	1800	28	2100	All (no WARC)	ARRL Field Day	CW Ph Dig	Number of transmitters, operating class, ARRL/RAC section or "DX"	www.arrl.org/field-day
29	0001	5	2359	28	10-10 International Spirit of 76 QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	Name, mbr or "0," SPC	www.ten-ten.org
29	1300	30	0400	1.8-28	QCX Challenge	CW	RST, name, SPC, rig	qrp-labs.com/party.html

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.*

SCRA Merchandise QST

The limited edition SCRA 80th Anniversary Lapel Pins are available at $5 each. These stylish 1.25" lapel pins feature our full color 80th Anniversary logo with an epoxy dome finish and a military/ butterfly clutch back to secure the pin in place.

They not only look good on a lapel, but they'll give your hats, sweaters, jackets and tote bags that SCRA touch.

The SCRA/Halls webstore is on-the-air! Just tune your internet device to the website hosted by Halls Executive Gifts and Awards (AKA Frederick Engraving) at http://scra.hallsapparel.com .

This time, when you order a shirt, in the style, color and size of your choice, it will be available for pickup within a couple of weeks. And now you also have the option to either pick it up from Halls yourself or pick it up at a future membership meeting.

Most members have found that the shirt sizes fit as expected, but if you tend to run in between sizes, we recommend the larger size.

Please email any questions and comments to merchandise@sonomacountyradioamateurs.com.

SCRA Membership QST

The SCRA membership stands at **237**.

Welcome new and returning members:
- Carl Huber KM6RQB (T) Windsor
- Tim Bosma W6MU (E) Santa Rosa

New call signs:
- none reported

License Class Upgrades:
- none reported

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!

Membership Count by License Class	
License Class	Count
Advanced	2
Amateur Extra	68
General	61
Technician	97

We have **9** Associate members.
163 SCRA members are ARRL members.

KUDOS

Hammy: Our statue for ham of the month.
Darryl KI6MSP gave Kudos to Bill AA6BD for support helping him set up his Raspberry Pi;
Dan KK6VIQ awarded the Ham Of The Month to Charlie KZ6T for getting us going with GoToMeeting for our meetings online.

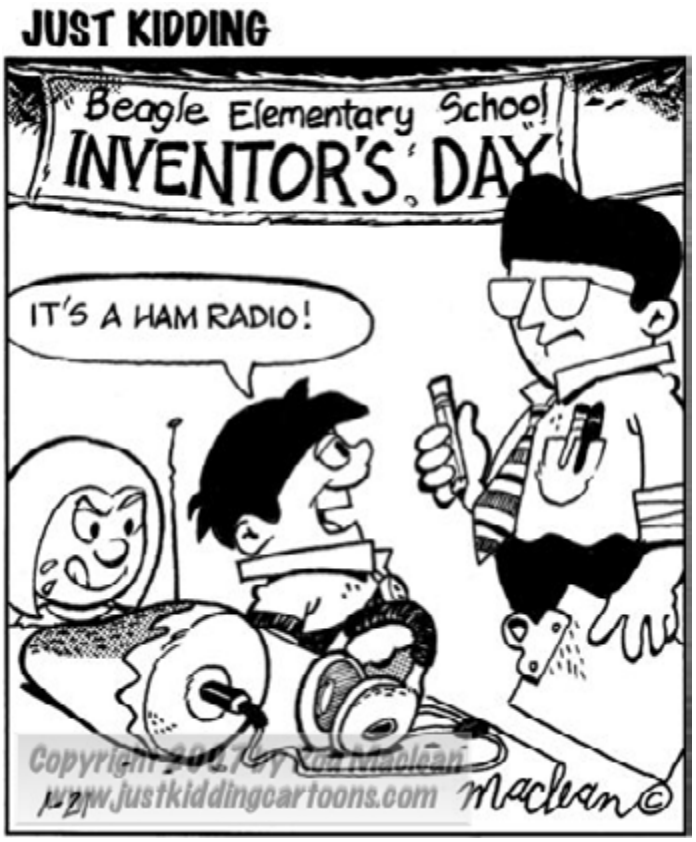
SCRA HAM Of THE MONTH RECIPIENTS			
Year	Month	Name	Call Sign
2020	May	Charlie	KZ6T
2020	April	David	N5PSM
2020	March	Bill	AA6BD
2020	Feb	–	–
2020	Jan	Cornell	W6HMN
2019	Dec	–	–
2019	November	Doug	KF6LMB
2019	Aug/Sep/Oct	Scott	KJ6QIQ
2019	June/July	Carol	KK6OLL
2019	May	Randy	AA6RH
2019	Apr	John	WB6FRZ
2019	Mar	Erin	K6ERI
2019	Feb	Fred	AE6SF
2019	Jan	Dave	KI6UGB
2018	Dec	–	–
2018	Nov	Iola	KK6HRE
2018	Oct	Dan	KK6VIQ

On the Air Magazine

(http://www.arrl.org/read-on-the-air)

On the Air magazine is the newest ARRL member benefit to help new licensees and beginner-to-intermediate radio communicators navigate the world of amateur radio. Delivered six times a year, the magazine will present articles, how-to's, and tips for selecting equipment, building projects, getting involved in emergency communication as well as spotlighting the experiences of people using radio to serve their communities, and those using it for enjoyment.

Whether you just passed your Technician exam or have been licensed for years but never got around to making contacts or starting a project, On the Air can help you take your interest in radio to the next level with clear, useful information.



SCRA 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)

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

For those of you who want to make use of the privileges the FCC has already granted you, come learn code on Monday evenings beginning June 3rd! This class is focused on beginners but if you know some code already then come join in on the fun anyway!

The class meets from 6:30 until 8PM on Mondays from June 1st through September 28th at a location to be determined.

You will learn to send and receive code and how to make radio contacts using code. There will be homework but you knew that was the case anyway, didn't you? It doesn't matter, we have a lot of fun in class and we might even have a code practice net over the repeater during the week!

Contact John Breckenridge, WB6FRZ, for more information:

wb6frz@arrl.net
707-217-1017

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs Membership Meeting Minutes for May 6, 2020

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. The president, Fred Seitel AE6SF, determined that a quorum is present.

Board members present: Fred Seitel AE6SF, Johnathan Brown AK6VB, Bill Dornbush AA6BD, Randy Hall AA6RH, Warren Pierce K6WRP, Iola Beckley KK6HRE, John Felton KE5RI

Absent: none

New members: Dawn KA6OPN is attending her first club meeting.

Guests: none

Total attendance was 47

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

May 12 – Fred AE6SF

May 19 – Darryl KI6MSP

May 26 – Mark W6GOL

June 2 – Dan KK6VIQ

Announcements Upgrades Lies and Brags: none

Hammy (Ham of the Month): Darryl KI6MSP gave Kudos to Bill AA6BD for support helping him set up his Raspberry Pi; Dan KK6VIQ awarded the Ham Of The Month to Charlie KZ6T for getting us going with GoToMeeting for our meetings online.

Approval of minutes: Rick WW6RC moved to approve as published in Short Skip, Kenn N4NTJ seconded, and the motion was approved by voice vote.

REPORTS

Treasurer report: Iola reported on club finances.

Social Committee: no report

Activities: no report

Community outreach: Darryl KI6MSP said that the scheduled tour of the Hornet is cancelled and will be rescheduled; The Food Drive for Redwood Empire Food Bank has to date yielded about 125 pounds of food, and $480 donations, and he will publish the list of contributors in the next Short Skip.

Growing Radio Amateurs: Bill AA6BD announced the class on basic electronics, Raspberry Pi, and Arduino with 27 signed up so far. See the announcement in Short Skip that was just published.

Education: Tech class is on hold per Fred AE6SF. John WB6FRZ reported that the Morse code class is moving forward, with 6 people signed up, and he is ready to go forward with the class June 1. John will contact the BOD about using our repeater for code practice.

Field Day: Brian N6IIY said we will do a distributed field day and he encourages hams to operate on any bands, keep a log, and send it to Brian who will compile a virtual club log with friendly competition with other clubs in the area. The next planning meeting is May 16. If you operate under emergency power, you are class E and you can contact all others. If you operate with commercial power, you are Class D and can only count contact with other non-D classes. 2 Meter FM is allowed as long as not through a repeater and he expects there will be lots of use, so he encouraged Techs to participate.

Emergency Communications: no report

Merchandise: Dan KK6VIQ sent an email to Halls to order more badges. T shirts are on hold until we meet physically again.

Membership: Dan KK6VIQ reported the club has 235 members. There was one call sign change: Les KN6HZS. Our newest member is John KJ6VII.

Repeater: no report

DX Team: no report

VE testing: Brian N6IIY is getting questions if we can provide testing in this shelter at home environment. There are tools he is investigating for virtual testing. He is looking at drive up testing to leverage VEs, and is keeping website up to date with status.

Continued on page 11...

Minutes continued from page 10...

Darryl KI6MSP asked can we do something before the end of June, and Brian thinks it may be possible.

Public Service: Randy AA6RH: most events have been cancelled. No June or July events. Maybe terrible two. He is still planning training before the first event.

Refreshment committee: no report

Program: SCRA Repeater Sites, or that thing hams use a lot but don't know how or why it works by Randy AA6RH Randy presented an overview of our repeater sites and equipment, and projects planned for 2020.

OLD BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS - none

Darryl KI6MSP moved that the meeting be adjourned, the motion was seconded by Johnathan AK6VB, and the motion was approved by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bill Dornbush AA6BD

Food Bank

For the past ten years SCRA has partnered with the Redwood Empire Food Bank to support our community in having food. This has primarily been during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.
Now with the pandemic of the vivid-19 virus, and people being out of work SCRA is now asking for club member support to assist with food or cash donations.
Last week and this past week I've been at three different locations.
so far there has been 60 pounds of food donations and $ 480.00 in cash donations.
I will continue to be at the following locations:
Mondays.....Target parking lot south end on Santa Rosa Av. from 10:00-11:00
Tuesdays.....Walmart parking lot, near Kentucky Chicken, from 11:00-12:00
Wednesdays....Walmart parking lot in Rohnert Park, near the Dollar store. from 12:00-13:00
I want to thank the following club members for their support.
Bob KM6GYV
Peter KN6AWA
Philip KF6GNH
Mark W6GOL
Jean KN6HVR
Tom K6TJP
If you do a cash donation to the REFB let me know so I can count it in the statistics.
Be Safe!
Darryl
KI6MSP

Update:
I'm no longer doing specific days and times.
Instead If club members have donations/contributions they can contact me at ki6msp@gmail.com
Here are the statistics:
I want to thank:
Bob Matreci KM6GYV
Tom K6TJP
Peter Murphy KN6AWA
Philip KF6GNH
Mark W6GOL
Iola KK6HRE
Jean KN6HVR
And my mom, Raynore Paule, for their contributions
We donated 128 pounds of food and $ 590.00

This is Lena Hernandez, customer support REFB.
The receipt is for a donation of 30 pounds of food.
Total food donation 80 pounds. total cash donations $ 480.00

SCRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
Date: May 13, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Fred Seitel AE6SF at 6 pm. A quorum was present.

Board members present: Fred Seitel AE6SF, Johnathan Brown AK6VB, Bill Dornbush AA6BD, Warren Pierce K6WRP, John Felton KE5RI, Iola Beckley KK6HRE

Absent: Randy Hall AA6RH

Others: Darryl Paule KI6MSP, Brian Torr N6IIY, Charlie Sikes KZ6T, Erin Casteel K6ERI, Dan Drummond KK6VIQ, Howard Sidorsky K6SID, John Breckenridge WB6FRZ

Approval of previous meeting minutes: Johnathan AK6VB moved they be approved as published in Short Skip, Warren K6WRP seconded the motion, and it was approved by voice vote.

OFFICER AND DIRECTOR REPORTS

Treasurer report: Iola KK6HRE – no report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Activities – Iola KK6HRE no report

Community Outreach – Darryl KI6MSP – not present as he had to leave the meeting early

Growing Radio Amateurs – Bill AA6BD – The first online meeting of the class for basic electronics, Raspberry Pi, and Arduino is scheduled in one week on May 20. 27 people are on the email list, and 6 have confirmed they will participate.

Education & Mentoring – Fred AE6SF – no report

Emergency Service – Pat KG6JSL not present

Field Day – Brian N6IIY – We will move ahead with distributed Field Day, that is, we will operate separately from people's homes and other remote locations rather than from a club location in order to maintain physical distancing, and we will provide more details at the June meeting. The next planning meeting is Saturday, and Brian is planning a 6/20 training session via GoToMeeting. He would like logging via the club license, and wants some notice to media, and suggested we interview via Zoom or similar.
Johnathan AK6VB moved we allow Brian to share the club N3FJP license, and John KE5RI seconded the motion. Fred AE6SF suggested if they share the license, they submit logs back to the club, and we encourage them to get own license. They must delete their club copy after the event. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Volunteer Examiners – Brian N6IIY – Darryl Ki6MSP has a location for drive-in testing at the Office of Emergency Management on County Center Drive, and it is tentatively scheduled for June 13 or 14, depending on VE availability. VE graders will be at desks, all will wear masks and gloves, and we will use a local FM transmitter for announcements. We need more card tables. We have about 6 people interested, and Brian will send email to his VE team tonight. We need 3 graders, proctors, with the basic procedures the same as in past. Brian asked if we can use the club facility to enable examinees to pay via PayPal. Dan KK6VIQ thought Dave KI6UBGB would have to add the option to the web store. Brian is also looking into remote exam sessions.
Fred AE6SF moved that the board authorize accepting VE payments via PayPal, and we send an aggregate check to ARRL VEC, with the club paying any PayPal transaction fees. Bill AA6BD seconded the motion and the motion carried by voice vote.

Membership –Dan KK6VIQ – At present, members stand at 235, with about 10 new members in April, and thanked Fred AE6SF for his help with revising the net check-in tool to improve it in several ways.

Merchandise – Dan KK6VIQ – is waiting for Halls to get back to him on their policy for picking up things. He said the club was billed for 25 badges, so we can continue to get new badges for members.

Newsletter – Dave KI6UGB – not present

Continued on page 13...

BoD Minutes continued from page 12...

Website – Dave KI6UGB – not present

Programs – Randy AA6RH – not present

Public Service – Randy AA6RH – not present

Radio Loanout program – Joe K6AWA – not present

Refreshments – Fred AE6SF – We are in a time where you bring your own refreshments.

Repeater – Erin K6ERI – reported that there was a change in repeater committee membership.

OLD BUSINESS
None

NEW BUSINESS
None

John KE5RI moved that we adjourn, Johnathan AK6VB seconded, and the motion was approved by voice vote.
The meeting ended at 6:34 PM
Respectfully Submitted,
Bill Dornbush AA6BD

Next Exam Session: Saturday, June 13, 9am

Our next exam session is scheduled for Saturday, June 13, from 9:00 am until we run out of people to test. The location will be the parking lot to the north of the Sonoma County Office of Emergency Management, 2300 County Center Drive in Santa Rosa. All test elements will be administered.

However, unlike past sessions, pre-registration is required!!

To Pre-Register, please send me an e-mail with the following information before Wednesday, June 10:
1. First and Last Name
2. Callsign (if licensed)
3. Exams you wish to take (i.e. Technician, General, Amateur Extra)

Why is this being held in a parking lot? Because this will be a Drive-Up Exam Session. Candidates will stay in their cars, observed by proctors. Also, all candidates and members of the VE team will wear face masks and gloves. We will use a low-power FM transmitter to broadcast instructions to candidates through their car radios.

Also, for those who do not already have an FCC Registration Number (FRN), they should apply for an FRN prior to Wednesday, June 10. For details on how to apply for an FRN, please visit the SCRA Amateur Radio Exam website:

(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 the Steele Lane exit east and take the first left (north) onto County Center Drive. Go approximately 700 feet past the In-N-Out Burger and turn right (east) onto Professional Drive (do not turn onto Professional Drive at the intersection immediately north of In-N-Out Burger). After turning onto Professional Drive, after approximately 170 feet, turn right into the parking lot. The exam session will be held in the north west corner of the parking lot.

Candidates should bring the following:
- One (1) photo ID or two (2) non-photo ID
- FCC Registration Number (FRN)
- Original and photocopy of your current amateur radio license (if licensed)
- Original and photocopy of any valid CSCEs (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

Field Day 2020 – Embrace the Change

Field Day is always the fourth full weekend in June. This year, that is the weekend of June 27 and 28. ARRL Contest Manager Paul Bourque, N1SFE stated, "Field Day isn't about doing things the same way year after year. Use this year to develop and employ a new approach that is in line with the current circumstances."

Those "current circumstances", of course, is the COVID-19 pandemic.

At our May 16th planning meeting, we discussed several aspects of how SCRA should approach Field Day 2020. Key points from that meeting are:

- Encourage as many SCRA members as possible to participate
- Get as many members as possible to submit logs, identifying that they are members of SCRA (more on this later)
- Encourage operating using emergency power (ideally, we should all have this capability)
- Issue press release emphasizing how local hams are adapting to the current situation
- Host a "Virtual Educational Activity". While this won't count for bonus points, it will help fulfill a key aspect of Field Day
- Provide opportunities to make a satellite contact
- Facilitate helping those that want to operate but might not have all the necessary gear

All of these items will be discussed in much greater detail at our June general membership meeting.

The ARRL has recognized that there will not be as many Class A stations and more Class D and Class E stations. Ordinarily, Class D stations (home station operating from commercial power) cannot count contacts made with other Class D stations. For 2020, however, the ARRL is waiving that rule. The N3FJP software that we have been using for several years is going to be modified to allow counting for QSO credit contacts between Class D stations.

Also, if individual stations submit a log to the ARRL and indicate the club to which they belong, the ARRL will calculate and publish a score for the club. This is awesome news. Prior to hearing this news on May 28, I had planned on receiving copies of the logs from each SCRA participant and calculating an "SCRA Team" score.

If you haven't done so already, visit the ARRL Field Day website. It contains a lot of good information. Be sure to download the Information Packet, which includes the Field Day Rules and a lot of tips on how to make the most of Field Day.

If you operate from your home using commercial power for your transmitter and receiver, you would be a Class D station.

If you operate from your home using emergency power for your transmitter and receiver, you would be a Class E station. If you have a computer used solely for logging, it does not have to run off of emergency power. But if you have a computer that generates or demodulates the transmitted signal (such as for PSK-31 or RTTY), it does need to run off of emergency power.

If you operate at a location that is not a regular station location (such as a summer cabin) and operate under emergency power for your transmitter and receiver, you would be a Class B station.

Also, Charlie, KZ6T, is planning on opening up his satellite stations so that others can experience making a satellite contact. Charlie will be discussing this in more detail at our June 3rd meeting.

Please give consideration to operating Field Day this year as a Class D, E, or B station, whichever you can manage.

And please do submit your log to the ARRL. The ARRL recognizes that there will be a lot more Class D and E stations compared to years past, and many of the individuals at these stations would normally participate as part of their club's Class A stations.

Continued on page 15...

Field Day continued from page 14...

To help maintain that club connection, the ARRL will include club names for all participating stations in the published results, so the efforts of a club's members can be acknowledged.

For those of you using the N3FJP ARRL Field Day Contest Log, please also send me a copy of your database file. This software is pretty easy to use and inexpensive ($8.99).

We are discussing having a "contest with the contest" and issuing awards for achievements such as the SCRA member that makes the most contacts on 2m FM. Getting your database files will help determine who earns such awards.

For those wanting to participate, we will have an on-line logistics and training meeting on Saturday, June 20, from 10am to 11:30am. If you would like an invitation to this meeting and are not already on the Field Day Committee distribution list, please send me an e-mail and I will add you to the list.

Let's make sure SCRA puts together a great Field Day 2020 effort!

Brian Torr, N6IIY
SCRA Field Day Chairman
Tel: (707) 575-5871 (home)
(707) 953-0377 (mobile)
n6iiy@arrl.net

New 2012 F150 Radio Install

I ran across a photo of an impressive array of radios mounted in a Ford F150 on the RadioReference.com forum. You can find more photos of this rig and the original post here. Just shows you there is no limit in this hobby.

-- Dave KI6UGB

"I bought a new 2012 Ford F150 2 months ago and last week completed the radio console install. I can run with either my iPad or with a monitor in conjunction with the docked CF29 Toughbook mounted below the rear seat. I included a roof shot for the antenna crowd. I could not have done this without the help of Southwest Deserts Telecomm. If you are in So Cal and need this kind of work, I highly recommend you check them out. www.swdtelecomm.com"

- epn564

Ooh, ooh, I have a Question!
From the NEW 2019 -2023 General Class Question Pool:

G7B03 (B)
Which of the following describes the function of a two-input AND gate?
A. Output is high when either or both inputs are low
B. Output is high only when both inputs are high
C. Output is low when either or both inputs are high
D. Output is low only when both inputs are high

And What About This?

From the Extra Class Question Pool:

E1D06 (A) [97.215(c)]
What is the maximum permitted transmitter output power when operating a model craft by telecommand?
A. 1 watt
B. 2 watts
C. 5 watts
D. 100 watts

New Amateur Extra Question Pool Released
01/27/2020 (http://arrl.org)

The new Amateur Extra-class license examination question pool, effective from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2024, has been released and is available at the National Conference of Volunteer Coordinators (NCVEC) website.

The 2020 – 2024 Extra-class pool incorporates significant changes compared to the current 2016 – 2020 question pool, which expires on June 30. The number of questions in the pool was reduced from 712 to 622. The result was 239 modified questions, 49 new questions, and 139 questions removed due to changes in what was felt to be an abundance of outdated questions, while areas of new technology and subjects were added.

In addition, an effort was made to balance the difficulty level, removing or replacing some questions deemed too easy or too difficult compared to the rest of the pool. The 2020 pool has 10 diagrams, which have been renumbered because the new question pool has two fewer than the 2016 question pool.

Mentors

Having a problem with your equipment? Can't get the SWR down or your radio won't tune up? Notice some smoke escaping from you transceiver? You may need some help but where to go for this help? You could come to the club meetings and talk to people to see if they can help. You're bound to find someone to help you.

Help can also be found at the SCRA web site (sonomacountyradioamateurs.com). Just log in and click on the Member Area and then click on Mentors. Here you will find a list of hams that are willing to help out so you can your problem solved and get back on the air.

SCRA Education Chair

Field Day on 2 Meters continued from page 1...

Field Day Rules

Get the official rules here. They will clarify any ambiguities:
http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Field-Day/2020/1_61-2020%20Rules.pdf

What mode should I use?

Unless you have a multimode radio (which does weak-signal AM, SSB, CW), your mode will be analog FM voice. The following comments apply to both sets of modes except the antenna polarization changes.

How do I make a contact?

Either you "Run" by finding an open frequency within your privilege range and using your radio call "CQ Field Day, this is [callsign]" repetitively and listen in-between for someone to respond, or you "Pounce" by scanning frequencies until you hear someone calling CQ and you respond with your callsign "[callsign]". Both stations then exchange pre-defined information (see EXCHANGE below] and then log results [see LOGGING below]. If you have Internet access, your results can be uploaded in real time for comparison with other club members. It's fun to make multiple contacts, to find out where they are located, and to use your own equipment and technical savvy to make it happen.

QSOs through repeaters do not count but repeaters may be used for spotting. The idea is to have two radios communicate directly via RF with no intermediaries.

Can I use an HT (hand-held transceiver)?

Yes. A 5W hand-held transceiver (HT) is a viable radio. Antenna type, height above terrain, elevation, and location can increase coverage more than raw power. There's a score multiplier if all your QSOs are limited to 5 watts maximum. You may also use a mobile rig and/or amplifier for higher power.

Antenna Type

The antenna type has a significant influence on range through foliage since a better antenna produces a stronger signal. Antenna types are listed here in order of increasing effectiveness. See Figures 1 through 12 for specific comments. There is a big jump between the following groups: Figures 1-4 (attached whips), Figures 5-9 (elevated omnidirectional antennas), Figures 10-12 (gain antennas). The greater the range, the more contacts that are likely:

Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3

Figure 1: Original rubber-duck antenna. These perform poorly.
Figure 2: 15" whip, greatly improves handheld transmissions.
Figure 3: 19" length of wire added to base of antenna forms a better dipole than does one's arm.

Figure 4

Figure 5

Figure 6

Figure 4: Radio on top of car (or refrigerator) for a ground plane. Optional speaker-mic eases operation.
Figure 5: Two mag-mount antennas on car roof (only one is needed). Aluminum roofs (e.g. F150) also make good ground planes but the magnetic bases will not be attracted.
Figure 6: AE6SF Rabbit Ears antenna. Home-brewed simple dipole, see April 2020 Short Skip.

Figure 7

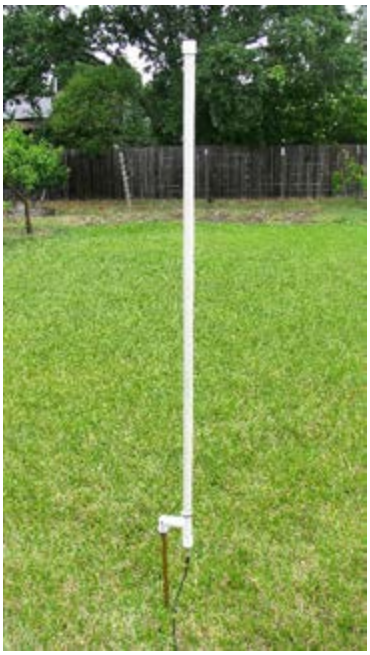


Figure 8

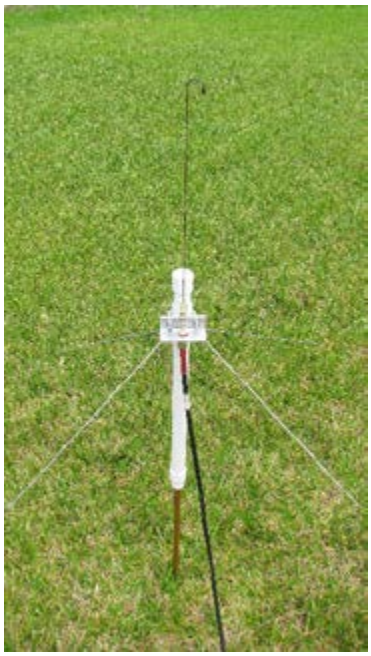


Figure 9

Figure 7: N9TAX Slim Jim 2M/440 J-Pole antenna. Shown on a horizontal rope. Hang high.
Figure 8: WB6IQN Ed Fong DB-1 dual-band antenna. DB-1 mast mount, DB-2 hang mount.
Figure 9: WB6FRZ ground-plane antenna. Fits on painter pole or PVC pipe or hangs from tree or rope. Portably compact. Available to club members for loan for Field Day 2020 or for purchase.

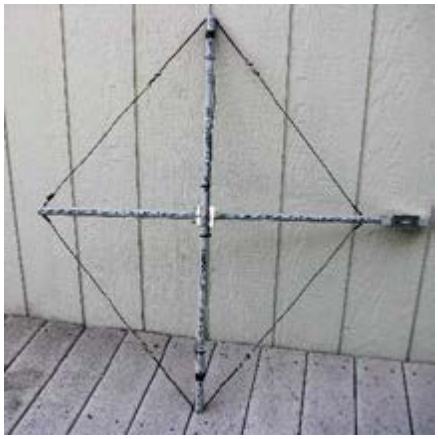


Figure 10

Figure 11

Figure 12

Figure 10: N6IIY 2M 3-element portable beam. Mast mount at end. Constructed at Field Day 2014.
Figure 11: Classic home-brew Tape Measure Antenna, constructed by KI6MSP at Field Day 2018.
Figure 12: ELK 2M/440L5 log-periodic antenna. 2M gain 6.6 dBd, 440 gain 7 dBd. Handheld or mast.

The external beam (directional) antennas shown in Figures 10-12 concentrate energy in a desired direction, such as directly toward the receiving station, or up over a mountain ridge using knife-edge refraction, or as a bank shot off of (or direct reflection from) the broad side of a mountain, thereby increasing range.

Cable Adapters

To connect to an external antenna, a cable adapter (see Figure 13) for the HT is required. There is no standardization on HT antenna connectors. Obtain an adapter specific to your radio. Club members might have one to loan.

Figure 13 (at right): Center adapter converts the HT connector to BNC which enables fast antenna swaps. Cable shown adapts from BNC to UHF (SO-239) although some cables end with a PL-259 instead.

Antenna Polarization

Vertical for analog FM Simplex. Horizontal for SSB, digital, and weak-signal modes.

Height and Elevation

Since 2M frequencies tend to be visible line-of-sight (LOS) plus 15%, height above terrain and elevation play a far greater role than does power level. Coverage will be greatest by raising the antenna up high and/or by operating from a mountain top or mountainside that has long-distance visibility.

Figure 14 (at right): WB6FRZ ground-plane antenna elevated 15 feet using a painter pole, umbrella stand, and table. Use guys if windy. Hanging it higher from the tree in the background would improve coverage.

Of course, a long LOS will not help if it is over an area sparse with hams, such as the ocean but over the Bay Area would be great. For reference, shown in the table below are LOS+15% distances for various antenna heights over level terrain. Double these distances if the opposite station has a similar height, otherwise add the two station results together:

Height	5.5’	10’	15’	20’	30’	100’	500’	1000’	2000’
LOS+15%	3.3 miles	4.5	5.4	6.3	7.7	14.1	31.5	44.5	63.0

Feedline (typically Coax)

Feedlines (e.g. coaxial cables) dissipate signal, so minimize the length or use a low-loss cable. Cable loss values are published as dB loss per 100 feet. Prorate by length. A 3dB loss dissipates half the power.

Frequencies

The following table lists suggested analog FM simplex frequencies and the suggested order in which to select them (when "running"). For example, on 2M, 146.535 MHz is the first suggested frequency.

Order	VHF – 2M	UHF - 70cm	COMMENT
10	146.445		
9	146.460		
8	146.475	445.925	
7	146.490	445.950	
6	146.505	445.975	
QST ONLY	146.520	446.000	NAT'L CALLING FREQ.
1	146.535	446.025	
2	146.550	446.050	
3	146.565	446.075	
4	146.580	446.100	
5	-	446.125	
QST ONLY	147.315 + 88.5		SCRA repeater, no QSOs.

The ARRL band plan allows simplex operation anywhere in the ranges of 146.40-146.58MHz, 147.42-147.57MHz, and 445.000-447.000MHz, with 2M steps of 0.005 MHz and 70cm steps of .0125 MHz, but the values in the table are more commonly used. If they are all in use, expand into the full ranges.

If you aren't having any CQ's answered, announce your operating frequency on the National Calling Frequency (start by saying "QST"), but don't park there. Shift to a suggested frequency. You may also announce your operating frequency (called spotting) on the club repeater but shift back to simplex to conduct the QSO. **Club members operating HF are encouraged to monitor 147.315 MHz for QSTs.**

Exchange

The information exchanged during the QSO is three items from each party, namely Call, Class and Section. In my case, these will be:

- Call: AE6SF
- Class: 1E
- Section: SF

Where Call is my callsign. The number 1 is the number of transmitters that I will key up simultaneously. The letter E is determined as follows:

- Class D: At home using commercial power for transmit and receive.
- Class E: At home using off-grid (emergency) power for transmit, receive, and on digital modes, the computer running the digital software. Lights, heat, A/C, logging computers may run on-grid.
- Class B: Same as class E except located away from home and not at a regular station location.

The designation SF is my ARRL / RAC section (San Francisco). Your section can be found here: http://www.arrl.org/section-abbreviations

If I were exchanging with N6IIY, I would say "N6IIY, please copy One Echo, Sierra Foxtrot".

Logging

To fully participate and earn points, you must submit a log of your QSOs to the ARRL. It is possible to do this by hand, but the club recommends using the computer program ARRL Field Day Contest Log 6.3, by N3FJP, in real time as it is easy to use and it timestamps entries as you go. Be sure to use the most current version (version 6.3 as of this writing). If you are a club member, you may use the club license during Field Day 2020 to generate and submit your log, but then delete the program from your computer. Alternatively, you may purchase your own license with lifetime updates for $8.99. It is available from the author here:
https://www.n3fjp.com/fieldday.html

If you have Internet access while logging, please set up your computer to upload your progress in real time so that we all may follow club members' progress. We will cover the how-to as we get closer to Field Day. If in doubt, contact me (Fred) at ae6sf@fredee.com .

Figure 15 shows a sample screenshot (using fake data) of the program once it is set up. It is easy to enter the other party's Call, Class and Section in the three boxes and hit the Enter key (or equivalent).

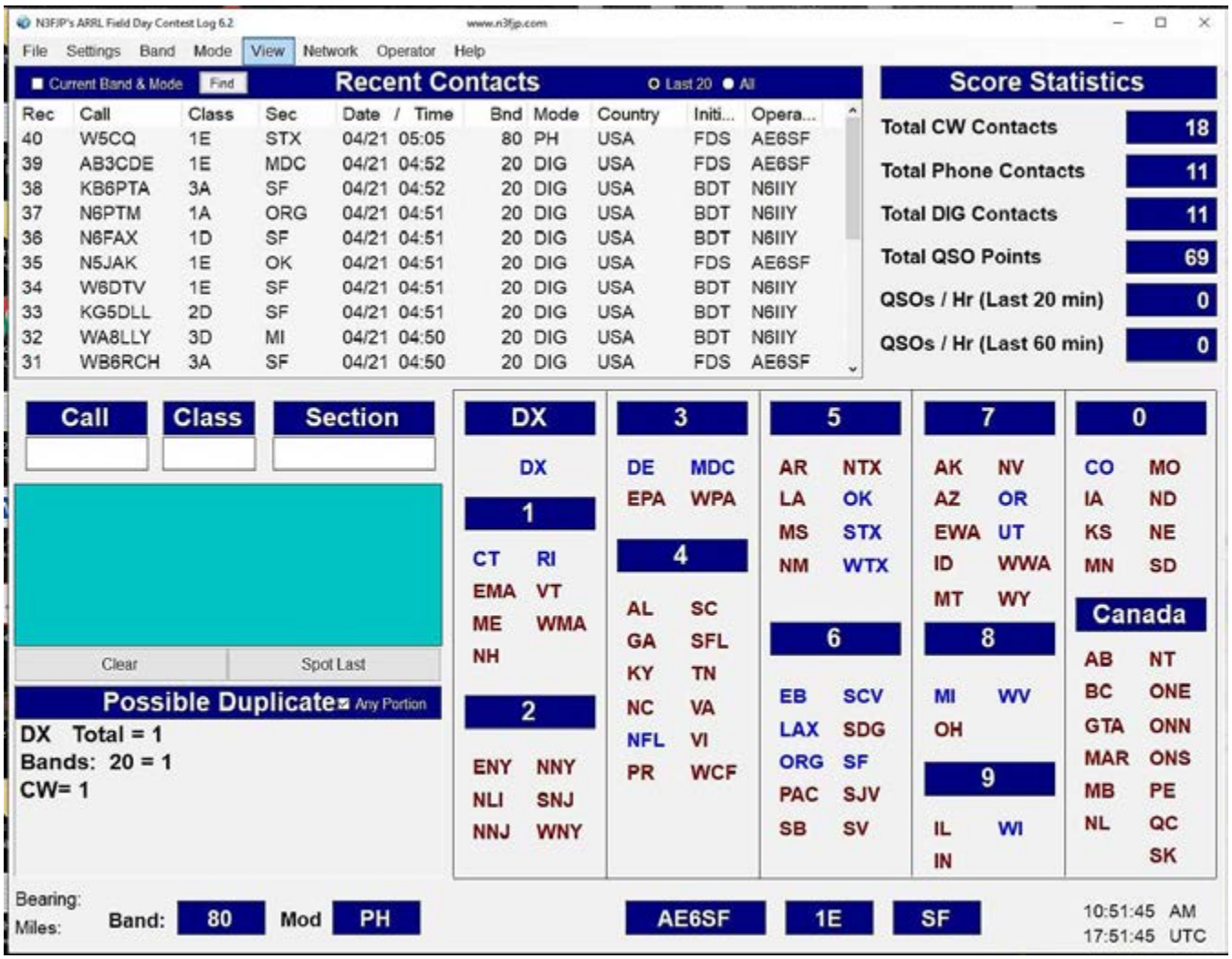


Figure 15: Example screen from ARRL Field Day Contest Log. (Version 6.3 looks the same.)

Scoring and Bonus Points

Each QSO counts for points as follows: Voice: 1 point; CW and digital: 2 points.

The total QSO points are then multiplied by a power multiplier.

- x5 for 5W or less if not on commercial power and not using a motor-driven generator
- x2 for 5W or less if using commercial power or generator
- x2 for 150W maximum
- x1 for greater than 150W

You may apply only one multiplier, and it is the same one for all QSOs. No prorating is allowed.

After multiplying QSO total by the power multiplier, then Bonus points are added. There are 16 ways to earn bonus points. They are cumulative. Here are three of the more common ways:

- 7.3.1 100% Emergency Power: 100 bonus points per transmitter if all contacts are made using emergency power.
- 7.3.8 Alternate Power: 100 bonus points for making 5 QSOs minimum using off-grid power and not from a petroleum driven generator. (Propane counts as petroleum.)
- 7.3.9 W1A1 Bulletin: 100 bonus points for copying the special Field Day bulletin transmitted by W1AW or K6KPH. Sent in CW (Morse code), digital, and phone (voice) modes. The schedule is here: http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Field-Day/2020/4_37-2020%20W1AW%20Sked.pdf

Scheduling of QSOs

Stay tuned to the club weekly blog, Tuesday-night SCRA service net, and SCRA website for updates. http://sonomacountyradioamateurs.com/wp/

Conclusion

Have fun and good luck! May the QSOs be with you!

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.
PO Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402
(Please print & fill out the form and mail it in with your check payable to SCRA.)
(Please check all ✓ that apply)

Date: _____ New Member: ◯ Renewal: ◯
1) Name: _____ Call Sign: _____ License Class: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____
Email: _____ Show contact info in Roster: ◯
ARRL Member: ◯

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).

*** Prorated Dues for <u>New Members Only</u>:** Reduced dues after the 1st quarter.
2nd Quarter April–June: $5.00 off — 3rd Quarter July–September: $10.00 off
4th Quarter October–December: Pay the yearly dues for next year and get the rest of this year free.

Family Membership Members:

2) Name: _____ Call Sign: _____ License Class: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____
Email: _____ Show contact info in Roster: ◯
ARRL Member: ◯

3) Name: _____ Call Sign: _____ License Class: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____
Email: _____ Show contact info in Roster: ◯
ARRL Member: ◯

4) Name: _____ Call Sign: _____ License Class: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____
Email: _____ Show contact info in Roster: ◯
ARRL Member: ◯

I would like more information about:

◯ a) Public Service Events
◯ b) Field Day (4th Saturday in June)
◯ c) Contesting & DXing
◯ d) Emergency Services
◯ e) SCRA Net Control
◯ f) SCRA Loaner Radio Program
◯ f) Training Classes
◯ g) VE License Exams
◯ h) Field Trips
◯ i) Short Skip Newsletter
◯ j) SCRA Committees
◯ k) Other _____

SCRA Dues: Individual $20, Family $30, Youth (under 18) $15 (*see Pro-Rated Dues above) $ _____
Name Badge: $10 each Please circle clasp type, either Clip or Magnet. $ _____

1) Call Sign: _____ First Name: _____ City: _____ Clip or Magnet
2) Call Sign: _____ First Name: _____ City: _____ Clip or Magnet
3) Call Sign: _____ First Name: _____ City: _____ Clip or Magnet
4) Call Sign: _____ First Name: _____ City: _____ Clip or Magnet

SCRA Logo Patch: $5 each $ _____
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Please make check payable to SCRA. Total Amount Due: $ _____

Version: 3/28/2019

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HF/50/144/430 MHz All Mode Transceiver

KENWOOD

TS-590SG
HF/50MHz Transceiver

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2M/440 Dualband

TM-V71A
2M/440 DualBand

TM-281A
2 Mtr Mobile

TH-D74A
2M/220/440 HT

YAESU
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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 under the tab, Our Club. 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)

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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