

JULY 2001

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of the SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SHORT SKIP



Field Day 2001 Our Best Effort Yet!

by Tom Ginsburg, K6TG

For the seventh year in a row, I had the pleasure of organizing this year's Field Day effort for our club. However, once again it wasn't the work of any one person that made this event a success, it was teamwork that made it a success! Not only were we blessed with one of the premier sites in the county, excellent weather, and a mowed field (once again, courtesy of Don, KF6KGO), but also we had numerous people show up during the weekend to help out in many ways. Once again, the SLVARC joined our effort, along with a couple of NCCC members, and it really made a difference. After a slow start, setting up, operating, BBQing, and breaking down all happened in a reasonably efficient manner. We couldn't have done as well without each and every person who lent a hand!

Setting Up/Breaking Down

We had a pretty fair turn out of hams to help set up on the day before the event, and on Saturday morning. Besides those of us who set up and operated our stations, we also had Frank, K6BDK, Sam, WB6RJH, Ralph, W6ENE, Gene, KD6DSB and several others who helped out just for the sake of helping out. A big thanks to Dave, KE6IEI and Don, KF6KGO who helped out on Friday and Sunday (actually, Don was everywhere, including

on Saturday!). Rich, KF6QKI lent his archery skills to getting our 80-meter antenna up really high! Roy, KF6KVD went into town and got us our pizza Friday evening, doing a great job of not eating any on the way back up to the site! Also, thanks to Rich, KI6EH and Jeff, WB6SSY who helped with some late night antenna raising.

On the Bands

This year, we were blessed with fairly decent conditions, and some dedicated operators. We improved our number of QSOs and points by 27% over last year's record score!

At the bottom of the field, Tom, KQ6DV worked daytime 40 CW, alternat-



ing between a rotating dipole and a sloper. Nearby, was the SLVARC "we don't sleep during Field Day" crew. Kamal, KA6MAL did well on 10 SSB during the day with KQ6DV's 3-element beam, and



cranked out the 40 SSB contacts all night long on a sloper for a record on that band! Keeping him company was Hap, KQ6YV, who pounded the key all night on 20 CW with AC6KW's homebrew 2-element beam, breaking last year's record with the help of Bob, K6XX, who cranked them out all day on Saturday (and copied the ARRL FD bulletin on CW). Meanwhile, Ron, W6WO,

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Field Day Raffle

•••LAST CHANCE!!

The July club meeting is the last opportunity to buy tickets for the Field Day raffle prizes, as the drawing will be held there. This year the raffle features valuable items whether your interest is HF, VHF or UHF.

FIRST PRIZE is the MFJ-864 cross needle SWR/Watt meter. A neat feature of this device is the separate directional couplers for HF and VHF/UHF that lets you connect two transceivers at the same time. Prize value: \$84.95.

SECOND PRIZE is the MFJ-7604 Ham Tool, a handy 14-in-1 item with a belt carrying case. Prize value: \$10.00. There has been at least one other prize donated, so come by and see what you can win. Tickets will be on sale for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Please support the effort so the club will break at least even. Thanks.

—73, K6TG

CLUB MEETING FRIDAY JULY 20, 7:30P.M.



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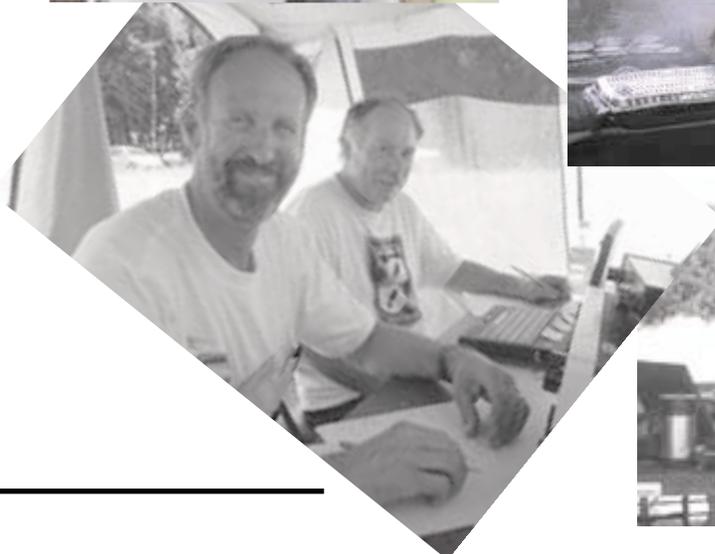
Distribution: Elaine Pennell, KE6FRA

Field Day Photos



ARRL FIELD DAY 2001--K6BJ SCORE

BAND	CW QSO	CW OSO PTS	SSB QSO	SSB OSO PTS
160	0	0	0	0
80	0	0	119	238
80N	0	0	0	0
40	132	528	482	964
40N	0	0	0	0
20	411	1644	515	1030
15	128	512	634	1268
15N	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	133	266
10N	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	69	138
2	0	0	22	44
222	0	0	2	4
432	0	0	10	20
1.2	0	0	1	2
2.3	0	0	0	0
3.4	0	0	0	0
5.7	0	0	0	0
10G	0	0	0	0
24G	0	0	0	0
LHT	0	0	0	0



Total QSO 671 + 1987
(2684 CW QSO PTS + 3974 SSB QSO PTS)
+1500BONUS = 8,210 TOTAL

Field Day Continued

pounded the brass on 15 CW during the day with KG6AO's 4-element beam, and 40 CW at night on a dipole. This Tom operated out of the ARES van until 6:15 AM, using dipoles for 40 SSB during the day, and 80 SSB at night, and made the first 51 contacts with solar power provided by KF6KVD. Jeff, KF6BKG also did well on VHF/UHF, with 6-meter openings in particular making it more exciting than usual. Meanwhile, Eric, K6EP was unstoppable on 15 SSB and got the most contacts on any band this year with his tri-bander, and also worked some HF digital contacts, and copied the ARRL Field Day bulletin. Tom, KG6AO once again cranked them out on 20 SSB with his 3-element tri-bander. Last but not least, Cap, KE6AFE (AKA Mr. Bonus Points) set up his APRS station, set up a portable packet station, manned the public information booth, passed a message to the Section Manager, and invited a public official to the site for a cool 500 extra bonus points!

Also, a number of other folks operated these stations at some point during the event. These folks included Bruce, AC6DN, Steve, N6WLG, Ben, KG6FNK, Jamie, WI6F, Ken, AK6L, Roy, KF6KVD, Frank, KG6EBY, Rich, KI6EH and several others I didn't see because I was operating myself. Frankly, though, we could have used a lot more relief operators, considering the number of visitors to the site.

Field Day BBQ

As has become tradition, we had a bountiful feast at our famous Field Day BBQ! This year, my wife Angie, Elaine, KE6FRA, Bobbie, KF6AYH, Carol, KD6ZXL, Margie Baldwin and Georgann Guyer headed up the feast. Don, KF6KGO did the barbecue work along with his many other tasks. Several people also prepared dishes and desserts, and they were wonderful! Not only that, we had an after-breakdown BBQ as well! Needless to say, we were well-fed hams.

A Huge Thanks Our hats go off to Cap, KE6AFE, who once again helped us to get the site, hauled up the barbecue, made the bonus points, helped break down and supervised our clean up operation afterwards. I want to give a big thanks to those of you who came up to check out the site or who worked us at home, car or by plane.

Thanks again to everyone for a real team effort! It wouldn't have been a success without you. Meanwhile, as we look into the future, we may have to look for another site (sob!). It seems as though our site is being turned into a CDF fire-fighter training grounds. It isn't too early to start thinking about alternate sites for next year. Whatever the case, wherever we end up, we shall hope to see you there next year!

Thanks for a Great FD

Here is a list of those that I have down as showing up at the SCCARC/SIVARC Field Day last weekend (that's 55 I counted so far). Undoubtedly, I missed a few. If you or anybody you know is missing from this list, please email so I can add them to it.

If you didn't make Field Day this year, you can see who you missed! Hopefully we got a chance to work you on the bands if you didn't make it. In any case, we hope to see you next year! Thanks.

Al Marconett KM6VV and Carol Marconett KD6ZXL
 Ben Woodard KG6FNK
 Bill Brooks WB6YVK
 Bob Wolbert K6XX
 Bruce Hawkins AC6DN
 Cap Pennell KE6AFE and Elaine Pennell KE6FRA
 CDF Battalion Chief Pete Yaninek
 Chris Angelos KG6DOZ
 Dave Peters KE6IEI
 Dave Stoddart W8FLL
 Dennis Mason N6PDB
 Don Henneuse KF6KGO
 Doug Niven
 Eric Pearson K6EP
 Frank Carroll K6BDK
 Frank Golding KG6EBY
 Frank Wyatt N6FW and Julie Wyatt KC6DLE
 Fred Meyer KF6N
 Gene Bokemeier KD6DSB
 Greg Yehling KD6UCE
 Hap Bullard KQ6YV
 Jamie Finch WI6F
 Jeff Clark KF6BKG
 Jeff Liebermann WB6SSY
 Kamal Mostafa KA6MAL and Suzanne Mostafa KG6CLP and Emeline Mostafa Kean Johnston
 Ken Lewis AK6L
 Mike Doern KF6UXB

Mike Irwin WA6RLA
 Phill Eschle KG6XY and Gretchen Eschle N6NMS
 Ralph Evans W6ENE
 Rich Hanset KI6EH
 Rich Wadsworth KF6QKI
 Richard Trebbien KG6AXD and Sue Ann Van Epps KG6BXD
 Ron Baldwin K6EXT and Margie Moran
 Ron Graves K6TCN
 Ron Skelton W6WO and Jean Skelton
 Roy Brayshaw KF6KVD
 Sam Sjogren WB6RJH
 Steve Schwartz N6WLG
 Tom Ginsburg K6TG and Angie Ginsburg
 Tom Guyer KG6AO and Georgann Guyer
 Tom Johnson KQ6DV and Bobbie Johnson KF6AYH

HANDS FREE CELL PHONES

New York cell phone law does not apply to Amateur Radio: The widely reported New York bill banning the use of hand-held cell phone while driving should have no affect on Amateur Radio mobile operation, according to ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD. "There is no ambiguity in the bill," he said. The bill, A.9280, was signed into law recently by Gov George Pataki, a former amateur. It requires cell phone users to use hands-free devices when calling. The measure specifies "mobile telephone" use, and defines a "mobile telephone" as a device used by subscribers to a wireless telephone service. That, in turn, is defined to specify a commercial two-way wireless telecommunications service that accesses the public switched telephone network. The bill also specifies "using" as holding the mobile telephone "to, or in the immediate proximity of, the user's ear." The new law will be phased in starting November 1. It calls for fines of up to \$100. The measure also calls upon the New York Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to study the effects of the use of mobile telephones "and similar equipment" in conjunction with the operation of a motor vehicle and report back to the legislature in four years. The full text of the measure is available on the New York legislature's Web site <<http://assembly.state.ny.us/leg/?bn=A09280&sh=t>>. A similar measure requiring hands-free cellular telephones recently passed the Rhode Island legislature.

—ARRL Newsletter



By Art Lee WF6P

CHATTER

If you like heat, come to Sacramento. 106 degrees seems to be what I am hearing on the news. Was spending a week at daughter's and if you like high energy bills, crank up your air conditioner, otherwise it is no worse than a hot, equatorial island only without the balmy ocean breezes. Did manage to keep up with my daily Baja Maritime Net check-in, talking to Terry Parks, N6NUN. He is operating from his boat in Ventura. Earlier this month we had a nice QSO while he was underway in the Channel Islands. Terry is net control on Tuesdays. Terry, Herb Lundin, WA6LOB, and Rich Hanset, KI6EH, all have HF rigs in their cars. They jump in and chat with Terry and me on occasion. I enjoy operating mobile so gess I will have to reinstall my Kenwood TS-440S in my car.

Daughter Joyce, KN6RR, was singing with the Road Runners band at the Sacramento Yacht Club. Out on the patio, I chanced to run into John Westerholm and his XYL Nancy. John helped ARES with the old Pacific Offshore Power Boat Races up on San Francisco Bay with Rich Hanset, KI6EH. (Rich and I and many Santa Cruz ARC club members used to have fun on the bay helping out.) Rich, John and about 25 boats from the Discovery Bay YC came up river for this annual Float-In event. I surprised Rich and Lee when they arrived at the clubhouse. Donna, AB6XJ, and I were invited aboard their cabin cruiser *Seaweed*, to share a bottle of very nice port wine. While on the boat, Rich told us of the fire in the County Emergency Van on the way to the Watsonville Fly-In.

Small World Department:

While shopping in the Sacramento Sunrise Mall, I heard Dixieland music. Seeking the source, I found a group featuring my pal Ron Deeter, K6FSB. He was knocking the shoppers dead with songs on his clarinet. He's a regular in the Sacramento Jazz Festival. When they changed location in the Mall, I got to carry one of the player's tuba. When I offered to carry the instrument, Jean surprised me by allowing me to do

so. Ever carry a tuba? It's big and heavy. Walked into a gift shop carrying it to give Donna and Joyce a bit of a shock in seeing this oddity! Their response was appropriate. Ron is the Membership Chairman and Net control on the 80 meter Western Public Service Net. When Ron is not playing musical gigs around the San Francisco Bay area, he repairs ham radios, does carpentry work and studies mathematics for relaxation.

Was thinking of ways to entertain our 5-year-old grandson while baby-sitting. When I casually asked if he wanted to learn Morse code, he enthusiastically replied, "Sure!" Thinking that a few dits and dahs wouldn't hurt anyone, I gave him a couple of easy characters. Then he wanted to spell his name, "Beckett." Hmmmm His mom, KC6ZQS, provided a code practice oscillator and paddle. Let's see, could he handle that? Yep. Within an hour, he had mastered sending those letters and several others. As Mary Duffield, WA6KFA, knew long ago, catch the little ones while their minds are developing. Later, after giving Beckett an elementary piano lesson, I asked him to give me a "C." He looked at me questioningly, "On the piano or ham radio?" I guess I will have to be more explicit in my exam questions.

Went to a family reunion on July 4th in the small town of LeGrand, CA. We had plenty of fireworks and plenty of people - and food. It is about 50 miles NE of Fresno and just as hot, although the temp did drop to 99 degrees, thankfully. If you ain't been there, don't go! Actually, it is good ham antenna country. Nice soil for good grounds and plenty of room for BIG antennas. I don't think they know what antenna ordinances are! After the reunion we followed my brother-in-law Frank, KB6TZA, down to his QTH in Fresno. I had only one hand-held 2 meter rig with me so no inter-car communications on the hour long, midnight, drive down from LeGrand. Wudda been nice to chat, as we have often done in the past.



TRADE or SELL TABLE at JULY MEETING



Bring your surplus radio gear to sell or trade. The table will be set up before the club meeting. Put a price on your goodie and have fun trading or selling: mics, connectors, handhelds and related equipment, receivers, transmitters, etc. Let's have fun!
—Dan AA6GD

EIMAC co-founder Jack A. McCullough, ex-W6CHE, SK

The co-founder of tube manufacturer EIMAC, Jack A. McCullough, ex-W6CHE, of Cupertino, California, died April 28. He was 93. An ARRL Life Member, McCullough and Bill Eitel, W6UF (SK), paired up to start Eitel-McCullough--EIMAC--in the 1930s after building a tube for use as a grounded-grid amplifier. A DXer and contester in his younger years, McCullough also was a QST author in the 1930s and 1940s, writing mostly about what he knew best--high-power amplifier tubes.--thanks to Richard Tryce, W6WVP

JULY'S MEETING PRESENTATION



AC6DN will be giving us a presentation for July's meeting. The title is "What's new in Wireless and Hints and Kinks for mobile installations!" Sounds good doesn't it?

—See you there, KG6AXD

Member Profile—Nina KG6GHR and Ben KG6FNK

In complete contrast to our previous profiles of "traditional" Hams, this month we feature two of our very new and "avant garde" members Nina (KG6GHR) and Ben (KG6FNK) Woodard. Nina has lived in this area for a long time and is a student in Geology at UCSC who will complete her degree this fall then hopes to obtain a teaching position at UCSC. They live in their own Airstream trailer nestled under redwood trees on the campus. Ben is a software engineer with VA LINUX Systems but says he hasn't been to work for months. What he means is that he works with a laptop from the patio table, business casual means cut-offs and no shoes!

Nina and Ben at Home

It was Ben who first explored ham radio after a friend suggested that he take the test. It was a simple matter for Ben to get his General ticket but admits that at that point he had no clue what Ham Radio was all about. The VHF and UHF bands appeared devoid of signals but with some help he made his first VHF contacts. Nina was at first dubious but in spite of a very heavy study load she took the test and was soon licensed. They use their HT's primarily for



inter-personal contact. They like to jog and Nina hates to be left behind so now they stay in touch via UHF simplex. They are hoping that Ham Radio will help when Nina goes on an extended field trip as part of her degree.

There is no shack as such in the Woodard household, Ben laughs when he showed a shed housing their server, DSL connection and miscellaneous camping equipment.

Not your average shack

Until he started looking at the Extra Class test Ben was not challenged technically but being a software guy he is well aware of the convergence of computers and communications. Ben now feels very keen to expand his knowledge of electronics and communications and is full of ideas on how to put his software and math background to work in the Ham arena.

Nina and Ben are very bright, exuberant and delightful couple. They brought to mind a phrase from "The Mikado". "Everything is a source of fun, life is a joy that's just begun", our hobby needs more like them. When you hear them on the air, tell them what interests you in Ham Radio and wish them well.



EVENTS

- Foothill Flea Market - 2nd Saturday of each month from March through October at Foothill College, Los Altos.
- Livermore Swap Meet - 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College in Livermore, 7:00 AM to noon, all year.
- July 28 - SNARS Hamfest, Reno. The Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society is pleased to announce their annual Reno Hamfest. It will again be held in the parking lot at International Game Technology, 9295 Prototype Drive, Reno, NV, starting at 8:00 AM, running until 3:00 PM. Admission \$1.00; no additional charge for traders, vendors, & tailgaters. For additional info contact Bill, K7NHP, at 775-246-3756, or email at k7nhp@arrl.net. Talk in on 146.610-.

SUNSPOTS

Amateur Radio operators who use HF generally like increased sunspots because they correlate with better worldwide radio propagation. When there are more sunspots, the sun puts out radiation which charges particles in the earth's ionosphere. Radio waves bounce off of (refract from) these charged particles, and the denser these clouds of ions, the better the HF propagation.

When the ionosphere is denser, higher frequencies will refract off the ionosphere rather than passing through to outer space. This is why every 11 years or so when this activity is higher, 10 meters gets exciting. 10 meters is at a high enough frequency, right near the top of the HF spectrum, that radio waves propagate very efficiently when the sunspot count is high. Because of the shorter wavelength, smaller antennas are very efficient on this band, so mobile stations running low power on 10 meters can communicate world wide on

a daily basis when the sunspot cycle is at its peak. There are also seasonal variations, and 10 meters tends to be best near the spring or fall equinox.

Solar flux is another value reported in this bulletin, and it is measured at an observatory in Penticton, British Columbia using an antenna pointed toward the sun hooked to a receiver tuned to 2.8 GHz, which is at a wavelength of 10.7 cm. Energy detected seems to correlate somewhat with sunspots and with the density of the ionosphere.

Other solar activity of concern to HF operators are solar flares and coronal holes, which emit protons. Since the charged ions in the ionosphere are negative, a blast of protons from the sun can neutralize the charge and make the ionosphere less refractive. These waves of protons can be so intense that they may trigger an event called a geomagnetic storm. In addition, energy from a solar flare may energize the D-layer of the ionosphere, which absorbs radio waves.

—ARRL Newsletter

SCCARC Officers - 2001

President	Tom Johnson	KQ6DV	464-3120
Vice President	Richard Trebbien	KG6AXD	426-0169
Secretary	Cap Pennell	KE6AFE	429-1290
Treasurer	Elaine Pennell	KE6FRA	429-1290
Board	Bruce Hawkins	AC6DN	
	Bill Walters	W6PAD	688-0557
	Allen Fugelseth	WB6RWU	475-8846
	Mike Doern	KF6UXB	477-1161
	Ron Skelton	W6WO	477-1021
K6BJ Trustee	Royce Krilanovich	AC6Z	475-4798

MONTEREY BAY ACTIVITY

K6BJ / K16EH (Linked) • SCCARC Net Monday 7:30 PM 146.79- /147.945- 146.79- /147.945-

K6BJ / UHF

- SCCARC Net Monday 8:30 PM 440.925 (PL 123)
- SC ARES Net Monday 8:30 PM 146.835-(PL 94.8)
- Watsonville ARES Net Thursday 8:30 PM 147.945-

K6LY (Monterey)
146.97- (PL 94.8)
444.700+ (PL 123)
(Linked)

- Monterey ARES Net Wednesday 7:30 PM
- NPSARC Net Wednesday 8:00 PM
- Monterey Bay Traffic Net Nightly 9:00 PM
- Monterey Bay Swap Net Wednesday 8:15 PM
- Newslines (Ham News) Broadcast Wednesday 8:30 PM
- SLVRC Net Thursday 7:30 PM
- SLV ARES Net Monday 7:30 PM
- Newslines (Ham News) Broadcast Sunday 9:00 PM

6 Meter Local Net 52.8 MHz (PL-114.8) Sunday 8:00 PM
SCCARC 10 Meter Net 28.308 MHz USB Monday 7:00 PM
Mont. Bay Chapter 191 QCWA :Tuesday, 7:30PM, AA6T repeater, 146.700-(NO PL).

SCCARC Calendar of Events

SCCARC Board Meeting 6:30	Friday	Jul 20
SCCARC Meeting	Friday	Jul 20
SHORT SKIP deadline	Monday	Aug 6
Santa Cruz ARES	Tuesday	Aug 14
SCCARC Meeting	Friday	Aug 17

MONTHLY MEETINGS

The SCCARC Meets at 7:30 PM, on the THIRD FRIDAY of the each month (except December). Meeting are at Dominican Hospital, 1515 Soquel Drive, Santa Cruz.

Visit the SCCARC Website at -

www.k6bj.org

NEW! — CLUB E-MAIL: yourcall@k6bj.org

NET CONTROL SCHEDULE

(Subject to Change)

7/16	Tom K6TG
7/23	Jeff KF6BKG
7/30	Allen WB6RWU
8/6	Phil KE6UWH
8/13	Ron W6WO
8/20	Dave W6TUW



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
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Next Meeting July 20

“Bruce AC6DN”

First Class