

NOVEMBER 2002

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of the SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

# SHORT SKIP



## BRUNCH DEC. 7

Please join us at Noon on Saturday December 7, 2002, for the December meeting of the Santa Cruz County Amateur Radio Club, also known as our Holiday Lunch. The meeting will be at Marie Callender's Restaurant (at 3400 Clares Street, on the north side of the Capitola Mall parking lot). I'm keeping the list of attendees for the Club this year (and the money, \$13 each), so let me know you're coming as soon as possible, email ke6afe@k6bj.org or phone 429-1290.

The menu includes your choice of one of the following 3 entrees. You can choose which one of these three options to order \_after\_ you arrive on the morning of December 7.

-- Lemon Chicken Luncheon Boneless chicken breasts marinated in lemon and pepper and lightly grilled. Served with vegetables and fruit.

-- Baked Meatloaf Luncheon An original recipe with onions, green peppers and special seasonings. Sliced thick and topped with gravy. Served with mashed potatoes.

-- Lemon-Pepper Salmon Atlantic Salmon steak marinated in lemon and pepper and lightly grilled. Served with rice pilaf and fruit garnish.

Each meal comes with corn bread, soft drinks, coffee or iced tea, and a piece of pie for desert (Apple, Chocolate Cream or Lemon Meringue). A few vegetarians can be accommodated if required (let us know in advance).

The Club's board was considering ideas for our annual „holiday meal% a while back and remembering how many of us found our last couple years, events enjoyable at the Chaminade Restaurant. Traditionally, this mealtime eyeball session also serves as our December club meeting during which we „install% the club's newly elected officers and board members for the following year. We talked about possibly doing the same thing again at the

Continued page 3

## NOVEMBER ELECTION & MEETING

The November 15 will feature the election of club officers and board members. Please bring your ballot to the meeting.

### HF Remote Base Set Up and Operation

I will be talking about how to set up and operate a remote base HF station. I'll cover the currently available HF remotes that are currently available on the internet, and then go into details on how I have set up my home HF station for remote operation. (I currently can operate my HF rig totally from my laptop PC using my 802.11 wireless network for control and audio as I move around the house.) I'll have a live demo of the 802.11 link from one computer to another with a HF rig at the talk, and hopefully I'll have a radio/net link to my home rig from the talk too! I'll describe the software and hardware necessary to get this running.

If we're lucky, this might motivate the club to set up a remote link to the club HF station so members could operate it at home, using the internet for control and either K6BJ on 440.925 or a different 440 frequency for the audio.

As a side bar, I'll also describe the details of my echo link connection to BJ. Bring your crazy ideas and questions!

—73, Eric WA6HHQ

## WORK ON CLUB STATION



Bruce AC6DN repairing the K6BJ 440 repeater radio.

Here's a list of recently completed tasks at the SCCARC facilities in Santa Cruz.

Repeaters, Santa Cruz

Lower K6BJ tower and Perform routine maintenance checks on tower, feedlines and antennas, 10/20/2002, W6YDG AE6ID KF6KVD KE6AFE

Move 440 Repeater antenna around tower about 30 degs. more to South (now about 225 degs. from tower), 10/20/2002, W6YDG AE6ID KF6KVD KE6AFE

Perform routine maintenance, check output power and SWR, K6BJ 2Meter Repeater, 10/20/2002, WB6SSY AC6DN

Perform routine maintenance, check output power and SWR, K6BJ 440Mhz Repeater, 10/20/2002, WB6SSY AC6DN

Perform routine maintenance, check output power and SWR, K6BJ 420Mhz link radio, 10/20/2002, WB6SSY AC6DN

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**CLUB MEETING FRIDAY NOVEMBER 15, 7:30P.M.**



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## ARES NEWS

November 2002

By Art Lee WF6P

A thousand apologies! I sent an email to Kathryn Gillick, a reporter on the Register-Pajaronian, referring to Jim Piper, N6MED, as a former Navy Radioman. Jim quickly reminded me that he was an Electronics Technician (ET) and not a knob twister! (He fixed the gear.)

### THE RELAY EVENT

On Sunday, October 20, members of the San Lorenzo Valley ARES provided communication coverage between the Exchange Points along Highway 9 during the annual running of the Providian Organ Donor Relay.

During the day approximately 330 vehicles, each with six runners aboard,

came down the highway and stopped at each of five Exchange Points where the runners passed the baton to the next runner.

Amateur Radio Operators participating were:

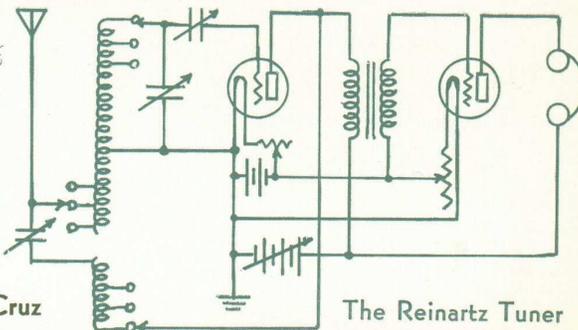
Frank Wyatt N6FW, Ray Rischpater KF6GPE, Rachel Rischpater KF6YCB, Bob Fike K06XX, Kathi Fike KE6VTY, Hap Bullard KQ6YV, Greg

# K6BJ

JOHN L. REINARTZ  
Memorial Station

Santa Cruz  
County  
Amateur  
Radio Club

P.O. Box 238 Santa Cruz  
California



Here's the old K6BJ club QSL card. Does anyone know who printed these cards, way back when? The back of the cards lists "Dave's Print Shop" at 3015 Justus Drive in Soquel, but I can't find any such business (or address street name) listed today. -- KE6AFE

Peters KG6DPC, Claudia Goodman KF6ZGR, Sherwin MacKenzie N6HAC, Frank Adamson KD6PAL, and Fran Adamson KN6IV.

The N6IYA 2meter, and the WR6AOK Repeaters were used for the event and an APRS tracker was placed in the vehicle of the Zone Captain for The Relay to help provide information as to his location. Fortunately, there were no serious injuries or other emergencies this year. The propagation gods smiled on the signal paths and the weather favored the runners. The traffic light at the construction site on Highway 9 proved to be only a minor inconvenience.

-Sherwin, N6HAC

Rich Hanset, KI6EH, received the following letter:

October 9th 2002

Dear ARES Members:

Thank you for your volunteer services at this year's County Fair. Your assistance in coordinating and disseminating information between security and law enforcement personnel provided an invaluable service and a safe environment for the public and working personnel.

Sincerely,

/s/ Mark Tracy, Sheriff-Coroner

If you want to see or build a nice, portable grab-and-go box for emergency radios, look at the following:

This Web page also includes links to other interesting emergency communications Web

sites, including another one of Steve's Web pages on "The Box: Portable Emergency Communications Station

Ideas" at <http://home.attbi.com/~buck0/combox.htm>.

Note: the annual statewide EMSA Hospital Drill is Thursday, November 14th, 2002, 7:30 AM - noon. At least six people are needed for this exercise: 3 operators at the EOC; 1 person at the ICS command center; 1 person at Watsonville Community Hospital; and 1 person at Dominican Hospital. Contact Rich, KI6EH, if you can participate.

### NO CODE TECH & EXAM

I want to schedule a no-code tech & exam to be given on Dec 7. Class convening time: 8AM with the test to follow at the end of the day.

I need some VE help and someone to help teach the class. This class is to get as many as 10 (perhaps more) "Seascape 1" CERT members licensed so we can implement Amateur Radio as the communications modality between Seascape/La Selva CERTs, the Aptos-La Selva Fire Department Emergency Communications Center, and the county EOC.

If you can help, please advise ASAP. Reach me at 831.662.2766 or [n6med@k6bj.org](mailto:n6med@k6bj.org) <<mailto:n6med@k6bj.org>>

Thanks ^

Jim Piper / N6MED

Santa Cruz Co. ARES & Seascape 1 CERT



By Art Lee WF6P

## CHATTER

A couple of original jokes: First, my XYL Donna and I were sitting at the intersection of Highway 1 and Highway 9. Long streams of cars were making left turns and doing the usual red-light-running thing. We couldn't believe it. We actually spotted one driver not on a cell phone! Or, how about this one? Daughter Joyce, KN6RRR, came to a four way stop at an intersection in Sacramento. "Our drivers here are very polite," she said, "although they all reached the intersection before me they waved me on - they were all on talking on cell phones." OK, OK, maybe I shouldn't try humor.

Talk about split mode. Was on my computer and received an IM from Zachary Fruhling, KD6DXA, asking me to get on the air on 2 meters. Zachary is a post grad student and UCSC teacher. He tried to hit the K6BJ repeater from his dorm but it was no joy. He could copy me on the repeater but that was

no help. Could I try simplex to see if that would work? Yep, that did it and he could still copy me fine from my QTH just down the hill from UCSC, but I could not hear him. While coordinating this on IM, he was answering my questions asked over 2 meters. The old "Can you hear me now?" game. We carried on with this "different" type of communications for our QSO for about 20 minutes. Worked fine. I had to give my call sign every ten minutes, he didn't. Hi! Hi!

Crewed on the Cal 34, Misty, a day or two before the November 7th storm. We were taking the boat for a haul-out at Moss Landing. Our jib halyard got away from us and jammed at the top of the mast. Not wanting a trip aloft in the bos'n's chair and with a following wind and sea, we kept going on main alone. Just before we turned into the channel at Moss Landing I looked astern and saw another sailboat trailing us by a few miles. The wind had kicked up and we had a wild ride into the channel as Elkhorn Slough was dumping out into the bay. When I arrived home that evening, I found that Leon, AA6ZG, had called to tell me that Ralph, W6ENE, was on that boat and they had been in contact on 2 meters. I always carry my handheld in my seabag for emergency purposes, but it wudda been fun to have had a MM QSO with Ralph on the high seas. It turns out that Ralph was with Del Smith, KD6KXD, on Blue Express, Del's Pearson 32 sailboat.

This morning on 40 meters I QSY'd down from the Baja Net and got a call from Dave Rowley, N6RZ. He was at his home in Bonny Doon, with hail bouncing off his skylight. I have been to his comfortable home and could picture a nice cozy fire in the fireplace. Years ago on CW, by chance, I talked to Dave when he was fishing off the Kona coast. I put out a CQ and he answered. Small world.

VE sessions have been scheduled on the first Saturday of the month at UCSC. The next scheduled test is December 7th. Contact Eric, AE6AZ, or monitor the K6BJ net on Monday nights for times and location. If you are not familiar with the campus, see <http://maps.ucsc.edu/>

Info received from Eric, AE6AZ:

If you get lost, we will be listening to 147.540 simplex before the exam starts. If you have never been up to UCSC or haven't been up there recently, please leave early in case you get lost. It is very easy to get disoriented.

All four elements will be available. No registration is required. Don't forget to bring \$10. Our VEC is Sunnyvale VEC ARC, Inc.

For more information on the VEC: <http://amateur-radio.org/>

For more information on Amateur Radio at UCSC:

<http://ieee.cse.ucsc.edu/ham/>

## BRUNCH Cont.

Chaminade this year unless there were some new ideas. Mike KF6UXB suggested we look into Marie Callender,s Restaurant. Mike said he thought they served a good meal at a reasonable price, and they had enough room for our large group. Ron W6WO said he would research the Chaminade again this year for the board and Mike agreed to research Marie Callender,s. Ron found the Chaminade was available again and about the same as last year, a little more than \$20 each person (including tax and tip) plus a \$150 „room charge% for our party. When we went to the Chaminade last year, our guests were only charged \$20 and the Club bore the extra cost above \$20 for each meal, plus the room charge! In contrast Mike found Marie Callender,s was eager to have us, would not charge us any room charge, and the cost was several dollars less for each meal. While Chaminade serves a brunch buffet, Marie Callender,s has a comparable Luncheon special meal including a choice amongst 3 entrees. This seemed interesting

and everybody likes a lower price (especially with the current economy) but I must admit some board members were skeptical about this option, mostly because the food and atmosphere had been so good at the Chaminade. Then Ron and his wife Jean asked me if Elaine and I would like to join them for lunch at Marie Callender,s one day a few weeks ago. None of us four had been there for at least several years but we agreed to meet there to check it out. We had a nice lunch (the food was presented attractively, very tasty and with large portions) and while we were there we examined the facilities, the service, and the food. Then we asked the manager a bunch of questions, which he happily and adequately answered. All four of us came away convinced that this option should work fine for us (after all) and seems well worth a try. The price is much lower and the meal and atmosphere seem very acceptable. This evidence was then passed along to the other board members along with the groups menu options. Before the October Club meeting, the board found a quorum hard to come

by at their meeting but they finally got together long enough to vote for the menu option that includes these choices (the Chicken or Meatloaf or Salmon).

The primary concern we have is that this restaurant can only accommodate up to 55 or 60 of us at most with their room available. We feel that,s probably enough room, but if more of us than that want to attend we will have a small dilemma to deal with. That,s a good reason to get your names on the list as quickly as possible. We already have 24 hams and family members signed up. We need to tell the restaurant how many of us are coming by soon after our November 15 election (and club meeting) but not later than Thanksgiving.

The total price is \$13 per person including tax and tip, payable to the Club by cash or check any time before the meal is eaten. Again, this should not cost the Club any money at all this year. The Club will actually "take in" \$0.11 on each meal.

Happy Holidays! 73, Cap KE6AFE treasurer

## Club Shack cont.

Check repeater backup batteries and clean terminals, 10/20/2002, AC6DN Update generator operating instructions and post them at generator, 10/25/2002, AC6DN KE6AFE

Exercise generator and prepare for emergency readiness (log & date), 10/20/2002, AE6ID AC6DN

Replace old 5 gals. spare fuel for generator (and add gasoline stabilizer for storage), 10/20/2002, KF6KVD

Weed and brush and cleanup around outside of repeater building, 10/20/2002

, AE6ID KF6KGO KF6KVD

Improve documentation (at site) of repeater building and repeaters, 10/26/2002, K6BDK WB6SSY

Repair small trouble light in repeater shed, 11/1/2002, KF6UXB



Mike W6YDG up on the K6BJ repeater tower in Santa Cruz.



KF6N, KQ6DV, and W6YDG using the baseball pitching machine to get one leg of the club station's 80Meter dipole mounted up in the trees



SCCARC Club Station gear, ready to operate!

Repair dead 440 Repeater Micor mobile-style radio. (many labor hours), 11/3/2002, AC6DN K6TAM KB6PPQ WA6RLA KF6UXB KF6KVD

SCCARC Club Station

Donate and install 80M wire dipole at club station, 10/20/2002, W6YDG KF6N KQ6DV

Donate and install HF antenna tuner and Morse key, 10/20/2002, W6YDG

Repair Tri-bander beam's rotor wiring at rotor, 10/20/2002, W6YDG

Weed and brush around building, 10/20/2002, KF6KGO AE6ID KE6AFE

Donate and install Pentium 200Mhz computer w/monitor and WindowsME software, 10/24/2002, WB6SSY KQ6DV

Donate and install old 2 Meter FM mobile radio and HF headphones,

10/24/2002, KE6AFE

Donate and install road oil, sand, and Pick-Up-load of dirt to improve drainage around building, 10/25/2002, KF6KGO

Donate and install rain gutter and downspout on East side of building, 10/25/2002, KF6KGO KF6UXB

Donate concrete materials and Shore up SE corner of building's foundation, 10/26/2002, KF6YRD(+ Leroy) KF6KGO

We're in pretty good shape for the rains and winter to start now. That's due to all the very generous donations of labor and materials, especially from: Bruce AC6DN, Tom KQ6DV, Vic AE6ID, Don KF6KGO, Roy KF6KVD, Fred KF6N, Mike WA6RLA, Jeff WB6SSY, George K6TAM, Mike KF6UXB, Mike W6YDG, James KF6YRD (and Leroy)

Thanks!

—73, Cap KE6AFE

repeater committee chair



Doves enjoy the club station's tri-bander beam!



Mike KF6UXB and Don KF6KGO working on the new rain gutter at the clubstation building

## Simple tester checks LCDs

Edited by Bill Travis

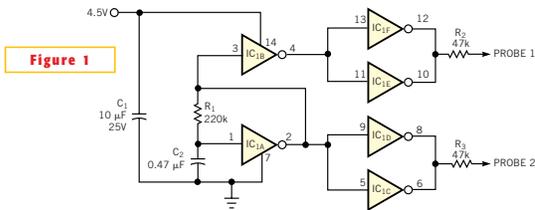
D Prabhakaran, NL Polytechnic College, Tamil Nadu, India -- EDN, 10/3/2002  
Manufacturers of electronic equipment use LCDs for calculators, watches, mini-videogames, and pagers, for example. In comparison with LED-based displays, which consume power on the order of tens of milliwatts, an LCD consumes only a few microwatts. The LCD thus saves power by a factor of approximately 1000. Checking an LED is as simple as checking a semiconductor diode but, in the case of LCDs, involves some added complexity. An LCD requires an ac electric field to excite the organic compound in the display. Applying a dc voltage could permanently damage the LCD. The circuit in <<http://a330.g.akamai.net/7/330/2540/a5591cd22b476c/www.e-insite.net/ednmag/contents/images/245650f1.pdf>>Figure 1 is a simple configuration to test the performance of an LCD. The circuit produces biphas square waves with negligible dc content. The circuit is based on a CD40106 hex Schmitt-trigger inverter. The circuit comprises an oscillator, IC1A; a phase splitter, IC1B; and a pair of buffer/drivers comprising IC1C/IC1D and IC1E/IC1F. The buffers and drivers connect to test probes through 47-k series resistors, which protect the IC in the event of short circuits. With the component values shown in <<http://a330.g.akamai.net/7/330/2540/a5591cd22b476c/www.e-insite.net/ednmag/contents/images/245650f1.pdf>>Figure 1, oscillator IC1A provides a square-wave frequency of approximately 45 Hz. The circuit can operate from 3 to 5V. To test any segment of an LCD, touch the backplane using either of the two test probes while touching the segment with the other probe. If the segment under test is operational, it will light up. If the LCD under test is a multiplexed type, then all segments, which are connected, will glow if they are operational. Usually, the rightmost or leftmost connection is the backplane of the LCD. If it is not, you have to find it by trial and error.

—Submitted by Dan White



### A Tribute to Marconi The Kite Flyer

So shrunken are world borders,  
so adjacent its frontiers,  
So real those distant lands  
beyond the sun,  
The clouds had barely drifted  
and the planet hardly turned  
But the wireless revolution had  
begun.



This simple circuit tests LCDs by producing a biphas square wave with no dc component.

## OFFICIAL BALLOT FOR 2003 CLUB ELECTION

Please bring this ballot to the November club meeting or mail the ballot to Santa Cruz County Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 238, Santa Cruz, CA 95061. Must be received by 5PM Friday Nov. 15, 2002

### OFFICERS one each

- President Richard Trebbien KG6AXD
- \_\_\_\_\_
- Vice President James Welty KF6YRD
- \_\_\_\_\_
- Secretary Cap Pennell KE6AFE
- \_\_\_\_\_
- Treasurer Elaine Pennell KE6FRA
- \_\_\_\_\_

### Board (vote for 4)

- Bruce Hawkins AC6DN
- Vic Linderholm AE6ID
- Allen Fugelseth WB6RWU
- Mike Doern KF6UXB
- Ron Skelton W6W0
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## SCCARC Officers - 2002

<b>President</b>	Richard Trebbien	KG6AXD	426-0169
<b>Vice President</b>	Jim Welty	KF6YRD	685-9225
<b>Secretary</b>	Elaine Pennell	KE6FRA	429-1290
<b>Treasurer</b>	Cap Pennell	KE6AFE	429-1290
<b>Board</b>	Bruce Hawkins	AC6DN	
	Tom Johnson	KQ6DV	464-3120
	Allen Fugelseth	WB6RWU	475-8846
	Mike Doern	KF6UXB	477-1161
	Ron Skelton	W6WO	477-1021
<b>K6BJ Trustee</b>	Royce Krilanovich	AC6Z	475-4798

## MONTEREY BAY ACTIVITY

SCCARC Repeaters: K6BJ 146.790- PL 94.8 Santa Cruz ( linked w/Watsonville full time)  
 KI6EH 147.945- PL 94.8 Watsonville (linked w/Santa Cruz full time)  
 K6BJ 440.925+ PL 123.0 Santa Cruz  
 • SCCARC Net Monday 7:30 PM 146.79- /147.945- /440.925+ linked  
 • SCCARC 10 Meter Net 28.308 MHz USB Monday 7:00 PM  
 • SC ARES Net Monday 8:30 PM 146.835-(PL 94.8)  
 • Watsonville ARES Net Thursday 8:30 PM 147.945-  
 SLVARC Repeater WR6AOK 147.120+ PL 94.8 Ben Lomond  
 • SLVARC Net Thursday 7:30 PM  
 SLV ARES N6IYA 146.745- PL 94.8 Felton  
 • SLVRC Net Thursday 7:30 PM  
 • ARES Net Monday 7:30 PM  
 NPSARC K6LY 146.97- PL 94.8 / 444.700+ PL 123 (linked) Monterey  
 • Monterey ARES Net Wednesday 7:30 PM  
 • NPSARC Net Wednesday 8:00 PM  
 • Monterey Bay Traffic Net Nightly 9:00 PM  
 • Newsline (Ham News) Broadcast Wednesday 8:30 PM  
 6 Meter Local Net 52.8 MHz (PL-114.8) Sunday 8:00 PM  
 Mont. Bay Chapter 191 QCWA :Tuesday, 7:30PM, AA6T repeater, 146.700- PL 151.4

**FOR MORE INFO SEE: <http://www.k6bj.org/freq.html>**

## SCCARC Calendar of Events

SCCARC Board Meeting 6:30	Friday	Nov 15
SCCARC Meeting	Friday	Nov 15
SCCARC BRUNCH	Saturday	Dec 7
Short Skip Deadline	Monday	Dec 11
SCCARC Meeting	Friday	Jan 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](http://www.k6bj.org)

**CLUB E-MAIL: [yourcall@k6bj.org](mailto:yourcall@k6bj.org)**

**NET CONTROL SCHEDULE** (Subject to Change)

11/11	Tom K6TG
11/18	Jeff KF6BKG
11/25	Ron W6WO
12/2	Allen WB6RWU
12/9	Phil KE6UWH
12/16	Tom K6TG



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
 P.O. BOX 238  
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**First Class**