

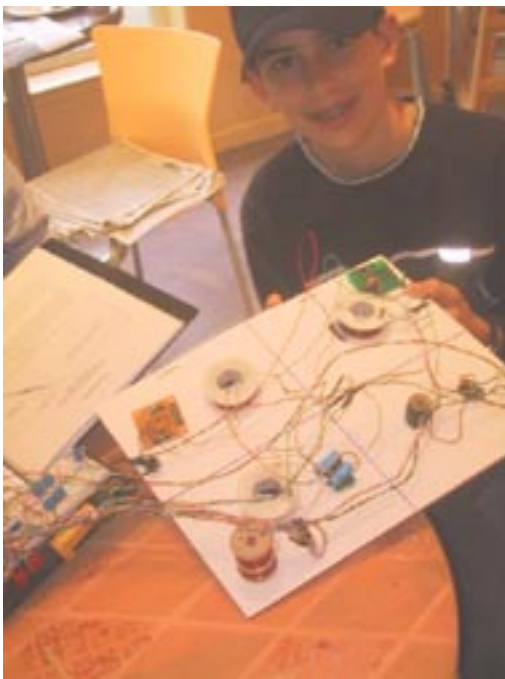
APRIL 2003

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of the SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SHORT SKIP



KG6ELV and KG6ECE WIN AT SCIENCE FAIR



Lindsey Meyer KG6ELV (5th Grade - Elementary Division)

“Extending WiFi Range with Gain Antennas”

Awards at SC County Science Fair; Overall Runner-up Elementary Division; IEEE Winner. Sole winner of Herbert Hoover Engineering Award; PATCA Award. 1st place Engineering Category (Too young to be eligible for state competition)



Frederick Meyer, KG6ECE (6th Grade - Junior Division)

“How Inductors and Capacitors Filter Waveforms”

Awards at SC County Science Fair; 2nd Place Physics Category; PATCA Award. California State Science Fair Finalist



Photos: (c.w.) Freddie KG6ECE, with his bread board high and low pass filter setup.

Lindsey KG6ELV and a pair of WiFi antennas. Moxon 2.4 gig beam

2.4 gig, 7 element cubical quad.

STRAWBERRY FIELDS RIDE

Greetings, and happy spring to all! The sun is shining and things are blooming, among them the strawberry plants in South County, which means the annual Strawberry Fields bicycle ride is coming up. The ride this year will be Sunday, May 18th. Don't have times yet, but will put them out as soon as I get them. We need at least 8 to 10 operators to cover the rest stops, sag wagons, and net control positions. This is always a fun event, with different food themes at the different rest stops, and all the volunteers get a T-shirt, as well. Almost forgot to mention the chocolate-covered strawberries at the end of the event. If you are interested in assisting in providing communications for this event, please contact me by email: ke6uw@k6bj.org or by phone at 423-8756. If you have participated in the past, and desire to work the same position again, every effort will be made to accommodate you. Thanks a lot, & 73.

—Phil KE6UWH, EC, SCARES

CLUB MEETING DATE CHANGE

We will meet in the basement conference rooms 2 and 3, on April 25th not April 18th this one time only. Again not the 3rd friday of the month/ the 4th friday of April.

Let me take this time to thank Barry NR6S for the great job he did for the March meeting. I have heard nothing but great reviews on his presentation, tnx. Barry fine buisness. Our speaker for April's meeting/ 4-25-03 will be Jeff AE6KS, subject to be announced later, however I assure you he will capture your attention and stimulate your mind.

— 73s to all club members

de james (kf6yrd) your pb

CLUB MEETING FRIDAY APRIL 25, 7:30P.M.



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Cake Crumbs continued

uct called Arcless that uses silver-loaded grease. Barry NR6S described the way his G5RV and 3 element tri-bander compare with respect to an, as yet undefined, local noise source.

Dave KE6HQZ described the way HP instruments communicate over the HPIB/IEEE 488 bus and how HP specialized computer business had suffered in the early days of Apple Macs and PCs. Dave likes the idea of a matrix to show member interests and skills so perhaps he will kick this idea along.

There was so much going on at this session I have only covered what I could distill from the S7 noise level but as you can see it was truly a fun morning. We missed Eric who is no doubt submerged in some tropical water somewhere. Watch for news on our next session.

—73, Ron W6WO

FOR SALE

Alda Harbaugh, widow of Dave W6TUW, still has a few things left for sale.

2 each, ICOM battery pack chargers, consisting of a wall plug and a part that slips on to a battery pack.

1 each, MFJ Super Keyboard.

Make an offer.

Contact Allen WB6RWU



Prez Sez

I can't believe it but another month has gone bye and it's time for a club meeting. Life has been good for us Santa Cruzites. The weather has been beautiful and spring has definitely sprung! Cap was saying (good job Cap) on the net the other night that we have 130 some members. Thanks for the support. It's nice to know that our club is going strong. I'm sure everyone already knows that we meet on the last Friday of the month this month for our meeting so I guess I won't have to tell you (gasp). Jim KF6YRD has been hard at work arranging our space and working on our next speaker. Thanks Jim for the good work my friend we all appreciate it! Sue Ann and I have really enjoyed our friendships we have made with the many club members. It has really enriched our lives. We often talk about the great club experiences that all of us share every year, like field day and our special dinners. The meetings are so fun it's hard to leave our meeting room on time. We often don't and lots of times end up talking in the parking lot with the gang until past my bed time (but no worries mate I'll sleep in on Saturday!). I hope I see all of you this month, please come up to me and say something. Keep up the good work and have your radios warmed up,
—73 Richard

THE DIGITAL DUDE

RTTY - new interest in an old digital mode.

Getting Started in RTTY

The recent explosion in sound card driven digital modes in ham radio seems to have also sparked new interest in the original digital mode, RTTY (radio teletype).

- The best place to start is the AA5AU RTTY Page at www.aa5au.com/rtty.html in the "Getting Started on RTTY" section. This page describes how to set up for RTTY using an excellent (and free) Windows program called MMTTY. You can download MMTTY at www.qsl.net/mmhamsoft/ (the MM part in the name refers to the initials of the author, Makoto Mori, JE3HHT).

- If you are set up with your computer and transceiver to do PSK-31 then you are also ready to try RTTY.

If your computer is not interfaced with your transceiver the RTTY Page has a description on how to build a simple interface for RTTY. Or any of the commercial interfaces that do PSK-31 will also work for RTTY.

Why Use RTTY

I like to use RTTY for a number of reasons including propagation, contesting and DXing.

- The narrow band RTTY signal (350 Hz) "carries" much farther from my QTH than SSB. Much like my PSK-31 signal does.

- RTTY is by far the "king" of digital contesting modes. I have used both PSK-31 and RTTY in the ARRL RTTY Roundup contest and RTTY activity swamps PSK-31 activity by a factor of a hundred to one. ARRL Field Day is the one contest that does enjoy great PSK-31 activity.

For those people interested in RTTY contesting AA5AU also has the RTTY Contesting Page (www.rttycontesting.com). This site is dedicated to RTTY mode contesting using the commercial program WriteLog for Windows.

- RTTY seems to be the digital mode of choice for DXpeditions. Some DXpeditions also do PSK-31 but they all seem use RTTY if they are going to do digital operations.

More RTTY Information

The best places for continuing RTTY information are the email reflectors for RTTY and for WriteLog.

- RTTY – <http://lists.contesting.com/mailman/listinfo/rtty>
- WriteLog – <http://lists.contesting.com/mailman/listinfo/write-log>

The following interfaces will connect your computer to your transceiver for both RTTY and PSK-31:

- Rascal – www.buxcommco.com
- Rigblaster – www.westmountainradio.com
- SignalLink – www.tigertronics.com
- MFJ Soundcard Radio Interface – www.mfjenterprises.com

— Marc, W6ZZZ@arrl.net



I had wondered if our CAKE meeting on the 12th would be poorly attended due to rain but on the contrary it turned out even more exhilarating than usual. We concentrated on the science projects being developed by Lindsey KG6ELV and Freddie KG6ECE.

Lindsey's subject was antennas to increase performance of WiFi communications which you all know is around 2.4 GHz. How about a 7 element cubical quad with full performance documentation? My favorite however was her micro Moxon beam and to quote Lindsey "I like the Moxon best, it isn't hard to aim and it looks real cool". OM Les Moxon will surely get to hear about his legacy and he will be thrilled to know that her pet HAMpster is now called Moxon.

Freddie brought his breadboard project that demonstrates the way inductors and capacitors perform in filters. Low pass band pass and high pass filters were built from scratch, modelled with sophisticated computer tools and evaluated with a software spectrum analyzer. We discussed with Freddie Monte Carlo analysis and talked about how filters behave with complex waveforms like music and square waves. Your scribe along with all present are truly in awe of their work and I believe the ARRL should become aware of their work.

It is always great to have Pat AA6EG come all the way from Monterey to be with us, as usual he had lots to contribute. Please note that Ham Radio will be featured during the Festival of Wind down in Marina, May 10 and 11th. Sounds like a fun event all round and Pat is looking for more support from our club and invites you to contact him.



By Art Lee WF6P

CHATTER

I've heard a few hams complain that they hate skeds. They observe that one has to be in the shack at a certain time, certain frequency, etc. I think we all have skeds, in one way or another. While in Sacramento this last week, I was on the internet and received an IM from my cousin Gail in the Bahamas. Could we meet the next night and chat? OK, this is just like Packet Radio only she doesn't "need no stinkin' ham radio license." The following night I came up "on freq" and bingo, so did she. We hadn't seen each other since she left California a few years ago so had a lot of catching up to do. Next, up popped my other cousin, Joy, in Riverside. So, we had a three-way. Lotsa fun and we agreed to "get on (the air?)" for the next three nights. These QSOs

Ron K6EXT stopped by to get some material for the next issue of Short Skip and once again he is asking for new contributions to keep our fine newsletter interesting to members.



Bruce AC6DN shared some hard-won wisdom on weather protection of coax connections with emphasis on mobile installations. Jim N1IPP mentioned a prod-

Continued page 2 col.1

lasted for about an hour and a half each and as fast as we could type, we squeezed in a lot of words. Then, on the fourth night, I couldn't make it. There went our sked. However, I do have an excuse. Our daughter-in-law gave birth to a 6 pound bouncing baby boy. Donna and I spent the time visiting the mother and her new son. Missed my sked.

Tim Foy, AA6GP, an avid surfer, and I had a chat this morning after we QSY'd from the Baja Net. Not about crowded ham frequencies, but crowded waves at surfing beaches. It seems that there is no signal for "QRL?" when you are going to catch a wave. A kayak can leave a nasty bruise on an unsuspecting board rider. Maybe they should have a flag holder and post a "this wave is mine!" flag to ward off the maritime QRM.

I've been getting a lot of grief from my buddies on the Baja net of late. Seems my venerable Kenwood 440ST is "FMing." This is my rig at the QTH of daughter Joyce, KN6RR, in Sacramento. The lil autotuner no longer does its job and the 15 amp power supply driving the rig is under rated. The dipole antenna is OK whenever I trim the tree branches away from it. Still, it puts out enough RF to turn the lights on and off in Joyce's glass cased hutch in the downstairs dining room.

Another SK. I'm sad to announce that last month we lost Joe Townsend, KA6JTS. A WWII veteran and USAF pilot, he retired as a Colonel. Joe served on the Harbor Commission Board for 27 years. His very interesting obit appeared in the Saturday, March 15th issue of the Santa Cruz Sentinel.

Good news: If you want to feel "looked after," hang around Allen, WB6RWU, and his XYL Claudia. About 20 years ago Allen helped save a life at Harvey West Park when one of the softball officials collapsed with a heart attack. In the days before cell phones, Allen called for help on his 2 Meter rig. This was after they could not find a telephone anywhere that was not locked up for the weekend. The ambulance got the victim to the hospital for emergency treatment, in time to save the man's life. Claudia saved a person from drowning in a swimming pool and Allen was instrumental in saving an automobile crash victim last month. Good going, Mr. and Mrs. Fugelseth!

SCCARC Officers - 2003

President	Richard Trebbien	KG6AXD	426-0169
Vice President	Jim Welty	KF6YRD	685-9225
Secretary	Cap Pennell	KE6AFE	429-1290
Treasurer	Elaine Pennell	KE6FRA	429-1290
Board	Bruce Hawkins	AC6DN	
	Vic Linderholm	AE6ID	476-5567
	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

SCCARC Repeaters: K6BJ 146.790- PL 94.8 Santa Cruz (linked w/Watsonville full time)
 K16EH 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
 • SCARES Net Monday 8:30 PM 146.835-(PL 94.8)

SLVARC Repeater WR6AOK 147.120+ PL 94.8 Ben Lomond
 • SLVARC Net Thursday 7:30 PM

SLVARES 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
 • 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, NS6G 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	Apr 25
SCCARC Meeting	Friday	Apr 25
Short Skip Deadline	Monday	May 5
SCCARC Meeting	Friday	May 16

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

CLUB E-MAIL: yourcall@k6bj.org

NET CONTROL SCHEDULE (Subject to Change)

4/14	Tom K6TG
4/21	Ron W6WO
4/28	Allen WB6RWU
5/5	Joseph KG6NRI
5/12	Phil KE6UWH



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
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 SANTA CRUZ, CA 95061-0238

FIELD DAY THE WORLD OVER



With Field Day just around the corner. It is never too early to start planning our June event. This picture is from Gert OE3ZK of their event in Austria.

First Class