

NOVEMBER 2003

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of the SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SHORT SKIP



AMATEUR RADIO SUPPORT CONTINUES IN CALIFORNIA FIRE DISASTER

Ham radio volunteers continue to play a role in the ongoing fire emergency in Southern California. A dozen fires, some of them massive, now have burned some 750,000 acres and claimed 20 lives, most of them in the hard-hit San Diego area. Thousands of residents have been evacuated. ARRL San Diego Section Manager Kent Tiburski, K6FQ, says a shift in winds has moved the fire danger away from San Diego proper, but hams continue to supplement communication at two of nine shelters in the area--one at Mountain Empire and a second in Borrego Springs, where hams from Imperial County have been assisting.

"We've been busy," Tiburski said October 29. "This is by far the worst disaster we've ever experienced." He estimated that approximately 200 Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) volunteers have participated so far in the fire emergency with about 100 in the field at any given time.

Tiburski says hams have been assisting American Red Cross relief efforts, primarily in terms of logistics and working with damage assessment teams. Others have provided liaison between the California Department of Forestry and the Red Cross, which is providing meals and shelter for firefighters. Nearly 13,000 firefighters and support personnel have been deployed in California to battle the fires.

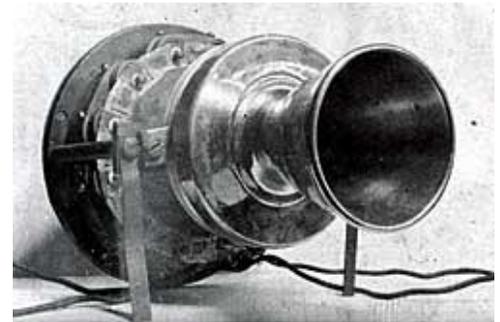
Continued page 2

THE PERHAM COLLECTION

The Perham Collection used to be at Foot-hill. For the past ten years it has been boxed up and out of sight. Now it is going to be available for public viewing again.

Some examples of what they have are at <http://www.perham.org/overview.html>

including some really interesting ham and broadcast transmitters and receivers from the earliest days of radio. I like the water cooled microphone, which would be handy for phone contests.



<http://www.californiahistoricalradio.com/photos33.html>

For more information please contact:

Monica Tucker, Perham Project Coordinator, History San José

mtucker@historysanjose.org 408-885-9512 x 238 <http://www.perham.org/>

Club Meeting

The month of november meeting will be held in the basement of Dominican

Hospital again. We have a great speaker lined up Pat AA6EG,

Have any of you used TOPO the mapping program for the PC? Great program with ham applications.

How about...any of you know where the North Magnetic Pole really is? And the difference between magnetic and true north for Santa Cruz?

If a boater or hiker gave you over the air 2 azimuths to landmarks he identifies, could you plot his position on a map and call the Coast Guard for a potential rescue?

Or, said another way: If you were RDF -fox hunting, and two hunters gave you azimuths to the fox, and their own LAT, LONG, could you locate the fox on a map?

Come to the meeting for some fun and learning and play with these kinds of questions...

See you all there...Friday, Nov.21 at 7:30.

—Happy Trails, de nf6z your vp

CLUB MEETING FRIDAY NOVEMBER 21, 7:30P.M.

SHORT SKIP

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Free to members.

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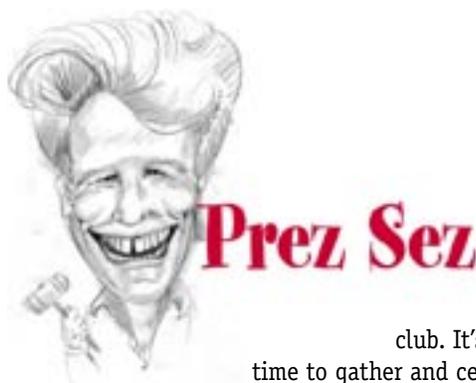
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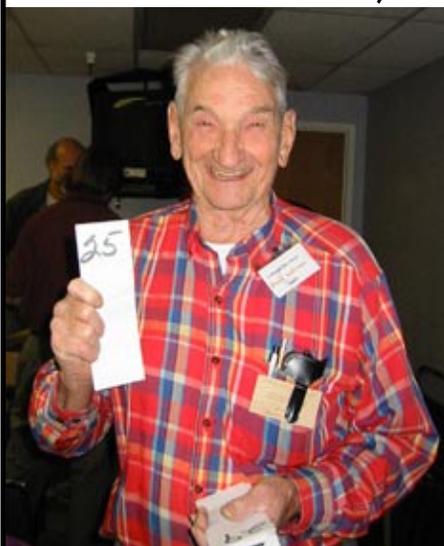
Distribution: Elaine Pennell, KE6FRA



And into the Autumn we go, it's been a wonderful year with lots to be thankful for my friends. I hope that all of you are ready for the rainy season ahead. Is everything winterized? If you could pass me over that jar of NoLox, I need to weather-proof my coax connectors(gasp). Autumn is the time of year where it is good for us to get together and take stock of our radio club. It's time to elect new officers for next year. It's time to gather and celebrate the wonderful experiences we have shared. Please come to the November meeting where we will do both. Consider running for a club office or nominating someone to keep the ball rolling for our radio club. Think of all of the fun we have had this last year, it doesn't end here we have the next year ahead! This will be the last regular meeting this year. In December, we will have our holiday party. Don't just sit back and laugh!

Be RADIOACTIVE! 73 Richard

Dan Anderson AA6GD, SK



Greetings my radio friends, I believe everyone knows the very sad news of our Friend Dan Anderson passing away. I am so sad too hear this news. Dan was one of the great characters in amateur radio in the Monterey bay area. His value to our club was unmeasurable. He will be greatly missed. At our next meeting, I hope that we as a group can share a few fond memories of Dan.

Kindest regards, your friend Richard, K6GAXD

Our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Dan (aa6gd) in his passing to a better place. We, the club, will miss his personal southern hospitality and auctioneering skills and humor. A silent key...never to be forgotten.

Respectfully, (nf6z) James your vp

Fire continued

The fires have claimed nearly 1200 homes in San Diego County alone, Tiburski reported, and burned some 450,000 acres. "Everybody I've talked with--to a person--knows someone personally or knows of someone who has lost a house," he said. Mount Palomar--home of the famous observatory--was evacuated, Tiburski said, and firefighters were making a special effort to protect telecommunications sites there as well.

Although the hot, dry Santa Ana winds have abated, Tiburski notes that a stiff onshore breeze is now driving the fires to the east.

San Diego Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) Coordinator Paul Cook, N6RPF, reports he and other SATERN members have been providing communication assistance for The Salvation Army's relief efforts. They've had help from other amateurs as well, he said.

At least a half-dozen Salvation Army emergency disaster services canteens are providing meals to evacuees and firefighters. SATERN National Director Pat McPherson, WW9E, said SATERN is keeping relief teams in contact with each other as well as supporting communication for firefighters, police and emergency responders.

Elsewhere in California, ARRL Orange Section Manager Carl Gardenias, WU6D, says that Amateur Radio operators continue

working with relief agencies in that part of the state. "We actually have more Amateur Radio operators available than the Red Cross shelters can use," he said. With ARES teams and other ham radio volunteers from Riverside, San Bernardino and Orange counties available, the hams have been able to rotate shifts.

"The intensity of these fires has never been at this level before," Gardenias said, comparing the current situation with fire emergencies in the recent past.

At the Red Cross shelters--where more and more displaced people are showing up--hams have been "shadowing" shelter managers, communicating shelter supply requests, and helping with health-and-welfare inquiries for shelter clients, Gardenias said. Amateur Radio also is serving to keep shelters in touch with the Red Cross regional headquarters.

At least 1000 evacuees are taking refuge in a former TWA hangar at the San Bernardino airport.

Amateur Radio SSTV equipment was being used to assist firefighters in San Bernardino. The radio equipment and operators go out on the fire trucks and report what they see back to the command center, Gardenias explained.

In the Los Angeles Section SM Phineas Icenbice, W6BF, reports the Stevenson Ranch fires and Arrowhead are the "very hot spots," and firefighting helicopters and crews are using water from nearby Magic Mountain Amusement Park and from golf

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I'm happy to report for the repeater committee that the main winterizing maintenance jobs have been completed on the 3 small sheds SCCARC controls at the Stroke Center in Santa Cruz.

The 3 buildings are the club station shed, the K6BJ repeater shed, and the "old police repeater shed". Roy KF6KVD power-washed all 3 buildings a while back to help prep them for new paint.

- Club station building:

New coat of exterior paint Erosion control and drainage work completed Fire extinguisher added

- K6BJ Repeater vault (shed):

New layer of rolled asphalt roofing installed on roof (on top of the old layer) New coat of exterior paint Drainage ditch dug through blacktop all along front (door side) of building Both fire extinguishers serviced in October 2003 (Thanks, Scott WA6LIE!)

- Old police repeater shed (through which we still get our power):

New coat of exterior paint Old asphalt roofing removed, new plywood roof laid atop old planked roof, tar paper and rolled asphalt roofing applied, trim added.

The roof and paint on the K6BJ repeater shed and club station shed have been done for a few weeks, but the roofing on the "old police repeater shed" was completed in the nick of time Thursday afternoon just before Thursday night's 0.29" rain. The final painting of that building and the roof's trim was finished yesterday, before last night's (Monday morning) 0.32" rain.

A check this morning found the buildings' drainage is now adequate and ... No leaks! The roofing and painting were sure needed, and now it looks like the club



By Art Lee WF6P

CHATTER

It is always a sad thing to lose a buddy. We hams lost two in the past few days. Jack Meehan, N6FJK, became a silent key on October 25th. Jack lived a few blocks from me and we got together often. He had a friend who lived in Bonny Doon, Dick Dobbs, WB6ILD (I love disaster!). Together, Jack and I often visited Dick who had a unique radio setup in his home. Dick had a rotating dipole antenna mounted in his living room, similar to a submarine's periscope, complete with directional markings of a compass rose. Jack solved some antenna problems (lightning arrestors blown) to keep Dick on the air with the Coast Guard. Dick saved several lives by homing in on distress signals from boats in Monterey Bay. Jack was a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary and helped on a couple of the Pacific Offshore Power Boat Races (POPBRA) in the mid 1980s when the races were conducted on Monterey Bay. I remember being on N6NUN, Terry Park's boat off Moss Landing one foggy morning and seeing Jack on the deck of one of the race picket boats. Jamie Finch, WI6F, was a ham observer and was either with Jack or on an adjacent boat. Those large, high-

buildings are ready to endure some more weather.

Thanks to "all" who helped prepare the club's Santa Cruz facilities for winter, including Chris KG6DOZ, Hank KG6EE, Ron K6EXT, George KF6FJT, Elaine KE6FRA, Scott WA6LIE, Mike W6WLS, Roy KF6KVD, Ron W6WO, and James NF6Z. Most recently, Roy and Elaine worked hard to help me complete the work before the rain arrived.

—73, Cap KE6AFE,
repeater committee chair

speed race boats certainly were impressive to watch as they screamed by us.

Our second great loss is that of brother Dan Anderson, AA6GD. We all loved him and he was a great friend and inspiration to us all. As our club auctioneer, he kept us laughing for all the years he performed this function. Dan was always upbeat, even to the last. Months earlier, he and I helped Allan Handforth, KC6VJL, disassemble AA6ZG Leon Fletcher's tower and ham station. Dan and I stayed on the ground, handing up tools when necessary. When the tower sections were down, we loaded them on Alan's truck. Those were heavy sections and while I was worried about a possible hernia, Dan just threw his section up. He confided in me, "Art, I'm getting too old to do this kinda stuff." Three years ago when I asked Dan to look for an S-20-R receiver for me, he produced one within a week - in mint condition of course. A month ago, I visited Dan after he called me about a 20 amp power supply he found for me. Dan looked pretty thin but I could see that he didn't want me to miss out on what I needed. "You'll have to pick it up off the garage floor," he told me, "because I can't lift it."

We can all goof! When the first thunder of our season rattled our windows, XYL Donna, AB6XJ, woke me at 0200 to ground our antennas. I jumped out of bed and quickly rotated the antenna switch 2 clicks. In the morning, I went to get on the air and noted that I had previously grounded my antennas and during the dark of night, had switched to "open" antenna positions. So much for saving our rig. Donna, not wanting to bother me one day, decided to replace the head on a small desk fan. She labored with a pair of long-nosed pliers and a screwdriver for over an hour to replace a screw and shaft - only to discover that she had put the head on backwards. When I asked our grandson if he ever goofed in the auto wrecking yard where he works, he replied, "Every day!" Once, in a hurry, he pulled a good radiator off a wreck and the bad one from a customer's truck. Went to lunch. When he got back, he reinstalled the bad radiator on the customer's truck before he discovered his error. Oh well.

MINUTES of the BOARD from the SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

JULY 2003 MINUTES

A regular meeting of the board was called to order at 1833 hours on Friday, July 18, 2003 at Dominican Hospital in Santa Cruz. The president, Richard KG6AXD, was in the chair. Also present were the secretary, Cap KE6AFE; the treasurer, Elaine KE6FRA; the members of the board Bruce AC6DN, Vic AE6ID, Mike KM6IKE, Allen WB6RWU, Ron W6WO and a guest, Claudia Fugelseth.

The minutes of the previous board meeting were unanimously approved.

The treasurer's report was a financial statement that showed financial activity for the period from June 20 to July 18, 2003. The report, showing a balance on hand as of July 18 of \$4926.85, was accepted unanimously upon motion by Bruce.

During committee reports, Richard noted we still need a volunteer to coordinate meeting refreshments. Bruce gave a report on the recent repair work done to get the K6BJ 440 repeater back in service, after it was off the air for a couple days. Cap mentioned new crystals were needed to convert the replacement radio that K6HJU gave us. Repeater etiquette was discussed. Club members should maintain their privileges and follow the club policy on repeater use. A copy of the club policy was included with the membership cards in postal mail again this year.

During new business, a motion by Bruce that a upcoming regular club-meeting topic be focused on "operating courtesy and good amateur practice" was unanimously approved. Bruce will contact the vice president to coordinate developing and scheduling the meeting.

There was discussion of a possible combination Fall Fund Raiser and Barbeque event. Also brief discussion of this year's holiday luncheon in December. Mike will investigate options for sites and times for the board.

A motion by Cap, that the club purchase 25 replacement club nametag blanks, and the silk-screening required for \$352 was unanimously approved. Rich KI6EH has agreed to continue to coordinate the nametag orders for the club. Rich's service regarding club nametags has been invaluable over the years. New first-time members get one free nametag; additional orders have to reimburse the club's costs.

The meeting was adjourned at 1926 hours.

AUGUST 2003 MINUTES

A regular meeting of the board was called to order at 1833 hours on Friday, August 15, 2003 at Dominican Hospital in Santa Cruz. The secretary, Cap KE6AFE, was in the chair. Also present were the treasurer, Elaine KE6FRA; the members of the board Bruce AC6DN, Vic AE6ID, Mike KM6IKE, Allen WB6RWU; and a guest, Claudia Fugelseth.

The minutes of the previous board meeting were unanimously approved.

The treasurer's report was a financial statement that showed financial activity for the period from July 19 20 to August 12, 2003. The report, showing a balance on hand as of August 12 of \$4839.82, was accepted unanimously upon motion by Allen.

During committee reports, Bruce gave a report for the TVI committee on recent efforts to try to identify the source of noise heard on HF in Watsonville, near Freedom Boulevard. Bruce has helped Howard KG6WP narrow down the source of the noise. PG+E agreed they'd power-wash their power pole insulators in the neighborhood, as the next step in seeking to eliminate this noise problem. But their schedule for performing this job is still unknown.

During unfinished business, Mike reported on information he'd gotten about proposals for the club's holiday lunch and the possibilities were discussed. On a motion by Vic, the board unanimously approved paying a \$50 deposit to Marie Callendar's Restaurant in Capitola for our holiday lunch (menu option 5) to be held at around noon on Saturday, December 13, 2003.

During new business, Cap reported on maintenance jobs for the club facilities. The board unanimously passed a motion by Elaine, to authorize expenditure of up to \$500 for 2003 club repeater facility maintenance, including the planned 440.925 repeater radio exchange.

The meeting was adjourned at 1919 hours

SEPTEMBER 2003 MINUTES

A regular meeting of the board was called to order at 1839 hours on Friday, September 19, 2003 at Dominican Hospital in Santa Cruz. The president Richard KG6AXD

was in the chair. Also present were the vice president James NF6Z, the secretary Cap KE6AFE, the treasurer Elaine KE6FRA, the members of the board Bruce AC6DN, Vic AE6ID, Mike KM6IKE, Allen WB6RWU, Ron W6WO, and a guest, Claudia Fugelseth.

The minutes of the previous board meeting were unanimously approved upon motion by Allen. During discussion of those August minutes, Bruce gave an update for the TVI committee on Howard KG6WP's interference problem. Ron offered to loan Bruce a Doppler DF'ing rig and additional documentation of the symptoms was suggested.

The treasurer's report was a financial statement that showed financial activity for the period from August 13 to September 19, 2003. The report, showing a balance on hand as of September 19 of \$4504.76, was accepted unanimously upon motion by James.

During committee reports, Cap gave a progress report for the club station committee. The club station building has been repainted with paint leftover from the previous time, several years ago. The club station needs more regular users. Cap also reported for the repeater committee that the K6BJ repeater building re-roofing was completed and re-painting the building's exterior was underway in preparation for winter. The Micor base radio K6HJU donated was mounted in the old 440-repeater rack in hopes of conversion to our 440-repeater frequency.

During new business, discussion of arrangements for the December lunch and club meeting were discussed. Starting time for the December 13 lunch at Marie Callendar's restaurant was set at 12:30 PM. A raffle for attendees is planned. A motion by James, authorizing not more than \$150 for club holiday lunch raffle prizes was unanimously approved.

The need to appoint a nominating committee for the November club election of officers and board members was discussed. Volunteers should contact president Richard or secretary Cap. Ideally, candidates for each position will be found by early November, in time for their names to be included on a ballot included in the November Shortskip newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned at 1920 hours.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
2004 OFFICERS and BOARD ELECTION BALLOT

President (Vote for 1):

- Bruce Hawkins AC6DN
 Vic Linderholm AE6ID

Vice President:

- Pat Barthelow AA6EG

Secretary:

- Cap Pennell KE6AFE

Treasurer:

- Elaine Pennell KE6FRA

Board (Vote for 4 Board Members):

- Chris Angelos KG6DOZ
 Mike Doern KM6IKE
 David Shoaf KG6IRW
 Rich Wadsworth KF6QKI

Please bring your ballot to the club meeting or mail to SCCARC, Post Office Box 238, Santa Cruz, CA 95061-0238.
 Mailed ballots MUST be received by Friday afternoon November 21, at the PO Box.

Fire continued

courses to help douse the flames. Smoke was heavy October 29 in the San Fernando Valley where Icenbice lives.

Amateur Radio operators also are assisting at Red Cross shelters in the Los Angeles area as well as helping the relief agency to locate and establish new shelters. Icenbice said the problem areas appear to be the outer areas of Los Angeles County and in the mountains. Hams have been helping to locate people left homeless because of the fires.

California Gov Gray Davis has declared states of emergency in five counties. As this letter is prepared on October 31, cool and foggy weather have helped to stall the wildfires' progress.--Steve Ewald, WV1X, contributed information for this report <eom>

Impressions of Pacificon '03

Here are some personal views of Pacificon '03. Please understand these remarks cover to only the fraction of the convention that I attended. The venue at the San Ramon Marriott was very pleasant and convenient. It was a busy weekend but not so overcrowded that you felt submerged.

The swap meet was programmed to open at 7:30 AM but I understand some were out there at 6:00 AM with flashlights. Frankly I always come away from flea markets wondering how such junk could possibly sell. There are bargains to be had but very few that appealed to me. One man's junk is another mans treasure to be sure and one such was a beautiful RF stepped attenuator up to 110 dB which

cost me \$2. I also saw Bob K6XX carrying off a nice Collins Radio dummy load. In general what was on display looked overpriced and useless- sour grapes did I hear you say ?

The vendor hall held a lot more for interest me. Elecraft was one of the busiest vendors (second only to the guys selling flashing LED gismos). Eric WA6HHQ and the gang -including our illustrious President Richard KG6AXD- were resplendent in their logoeo T shirts showing off several new products.

—W6W0

SCCARC Officers - 2003

President	Richard Trebbien	KG6AXD	426-0169
Vice President	Jim Welty	NF6Z	685-9225
Secretary	Cap Pennell	KE6AFE	429-1290
Treasurer	Elaine Pennell	KE6FRA	429-1290
Board	Bruce Hawkins	AC6DN	
	Vic Linderholm	AE6ID	476-5567
	Allen Fugelseh	WB6RWU	475-8846
	Mike Doern	KM6IKE	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)
 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
- 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	Nov 21
SCCARC Meeting	Friday	Nov. 21
SCCARC Holiday Luncheon	Saturday	Dec 13
Short Skip Deadline	Monday	Dec 15

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



from Perham Collection



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
 P.O. BOX 238
 SANTA CRUZ, CA 95061-0238

MEETING FRIDAY NOVEMBER 21, 7:30PM

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

Join the SCCARC in our annual Holiday Luncheon at Marie Callander's on Saturday December 13 at 12:30 p.m. Cost \$12.50 per person, includes tip and tax and choice of menus. Contact Cap, KE6AFE for reservations or additional information.

First Class