

MARCH 2005

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of the SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SHORT SKIP



ARES/RACES Com 2 VAN



The Sheriff's old 1969 Chevy Step-Van is now updated and has returned to service as Santa Cruz County OES (ARES/ACS/RACES) Emergency Communications Unit 2 (COM2).

More volunteer work is certainly needed. If you look closely, you'll see the _HF_ radios aren't even connected to antennas yet. But the painting and engine repair work is done, she's roadworthy, and she's

running (and starting) fine now. With two government radios for the emergency public service agencies installed and working, and several VHF-UHF amateur radios, we're finally available for service activation.

For coordination, routine uses of COM2 will require specific use requests well in advance. Emergency activation (dispatch) will be coordinated through County OES. Thirteen of our local ARES members are already pre-designated as potential

COM2 drivers, if called.

Today's photos: <http://tinyurl.com/3jp7l>

Let me know if you're particularly interested in investing time and energy into more COM2 setup and maintenance, and we'll find enough work for you. Thanks.

73, Cap KE6AFE, DEC (and van team lead)

As the disk turns...

found the secret formula to find out how the disk turns. The disk I am speaking of is that one that inexorably is spinning just outside your shack at your home ..the PG&E kilowatt hour meter. If you want details, just do a Google search, using the terms: Kh +meter, and you will find detailed explanations and how-to examples to compute your power consumption. So I will just briefly summarize, and show what I learned, for example, at N6J station. It turns out that all KWH meters have a Kh Factor printed on them somewhere. Most home meters that I have seen have a Kh of 7.2, which means that meter,s spinning wheel registers (and bills) 7.2 watt-hours for each revolution. This simple factor allows many sophisticated measurements to be made easily. If you do the simple math, this means that the Kh=7.2 meter,s wheel spins at a rate of 26 seconds per revolution when a Kilowatt of power is being used. From this, just proportion up or down to find

other power consumptions 260 seconds per rev equates to 100 watts, 52 seconds equates to 500 watts, etc I found that @idle, power consumption at N6J (every thing normally turned off as when the station is dark and unoccupied) is about 235 watts, or about \$25.00 per month. The overhead lights in the lounge, consume a whopping 898 watts.. The station in room two in listen mode, with FT-990, Astron P5 with UHF, VHF radios, and computer and monitor running, consume just 163 watts In transmit mode without the amp, though, it goes up to 415 watts, cw key down at 100 RF watts out I think electricity costs at the moment, about 15 cents per Kilowatt-hour so it all adds up .But significant savings can be had by close attention to keeping lights off when not used, all around your home, and in your shack. So go get your stopwatch and watch how YOUR disk turns.

—73, de Pat AA6EG

SCCARC Homebrew at Winterfest

This year we arranged an exhibit of home brew equipment for the first time-it was an outstanding success judging by the interest that was shown in the items on display. We had Jim (N1PP's) single tube regen. RX circa 1964 as a benchmark and at the other end of the RX scale there were two prize-worthy computer controlled receivers by home brew master Rod Brink (KQ6F). The fine Manhattan style workmanship of Jeff (AC6KW) was admired by many and justifiably so. Ron (K6EXT) and Dave (W8FLL) showed some of their work as did Ron (W6WO). Bob (K6XX) showed a well-engineered CW paddle and clip board combination. The most unusual item was a Class E, AM transmitter on display- the superior work of Jon (K6JEK) attracted much attention.



Kudos to all who participated. I think we have laid down a marker for future Radiofest events.

CLUB MEETING FRIDAY MARCH 18, 7:30 P.M.



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FCC Fines Restaurant

The FCC has affirmed a \$10,000 fine against a now-closed New Jersey restaurant and its owner for alleged unlicensed operation of a radio transmitter on 2 meters. The Commission's action strongly defended amateur spectrum against unlicensed intruders. In a Memorandum Opinion and Order (MO&O) released February 9, the Commission denied a Petition for Reconsideration from Pang Cheng, doing business as Best Wok restaurant in Westville. In 2004, the FCC issued a Notice of Apparent Liability (NAL) in the case, which involved operation of a so-called long-range cordless telephone on 145.8376 MHz. Best Wok, the FCC says, failed to respond to the NAL. But it did reply to the subsequent Forfeiture Order (NoF), arguing that its unlicensed operation was unintentional and minor and caused minimal interference. The FCC disagreed, noting that the unlicensed operation generated a number of complaints from amateur licensees.

"Any use of Amateur Service frequencies for business communications creates a great potential for harmful interference to authorized Amateur Service communications," the FCC said in the MO&O, signed by FCC Enforcement Bureau Chief David H. Solomon. "We must take strong action against such use because failure to do so would only encourage others to engage in the same conduct."

The FCC also denied Best Wok's claim that its unlicensed operation was unintentional. The FCC had warned the restaurant in 2001 and again in 2003 that operation of transmitting equipment without a license

Finally was able to stop Rich in his tracks long enough to meet with him and prepare his profile for Short Skip. Members of long-standing very well know Rich but to others he deserves more recognition for his crucial role in the development of the repeater network we enjoy today. Rich is the main man behind the Watsonville repeater, the link to K6BJ, the building which houses BJ and for the emergency comm van that was only recently retired. In telling the stories of nearly 20 years ago Rich comes very much alive especially when praising the roles of his close friend Hank (mover and shaker) Bond KG6EE. Rich's XYL Leona KC6BML also has to be credited for her remarkable fundraising efforts that made our existing system possible. Rich generously gives much of the credit to many other hams of that time who now have passed away. We also should be celebrating the 20th anniversary of him passing Art Lee's class. Passing the code was tough for Rich and he recalls just how excited he was when he made it. Rich believes strongly that "the more the effort

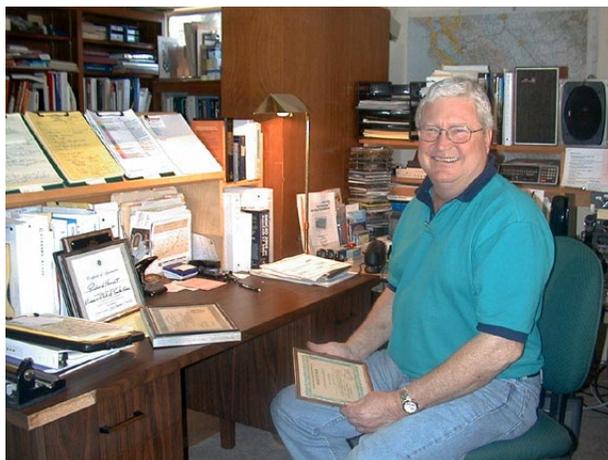


K16EH's "Seaweed"

the more the satisfaction." His focus on emergency communications came about as a result of a large fire the Lexington reservoir area. Here Rich met Kit Blanke WA6PWW who threw Rich in the deep end of Packet Radio and ARES —fortunately for us he could swim

violated the Communications Act and could lead to penalties. In 2003, FCC agents from Philadelphia tracked the 2-meter signal to the restaurant and inspected the radiotelephone equipment, used to communicate between the restaurant and a vehicle. The eatery's manager said Best Wok had stopped

and soon after became an Emergency Coordinator. His many contributions to emergency communications are plain to see in all the certificates of appreciation he has received. Rich began his ham life in a familiar manner at High School with his involvement at KSCO. I was amazed to learn that 40 years ago



Rich built a slow scan TV project that won him first prize at a Science fair. He was one of the pair of students from California that were selected to attend the Future Engineers Show at an IEEE -Wescon event. Rich races through describing his busy and productive professional life; having formed and sold several companies along the way. He describes himself as "retired" but that really means a shift from technology to Property Development. Rich has a modern and impressive HF capability and loves to combine ham radio with his love of power boating in his yacht Seaweed. I will not say more about his recent ocean journey as we can look forward to this being a presentation at our club soon. It is most gratifying that Rich's energy and enthusiasm are as strong as ever and we are fortunate that

he has once again become a member of the SCCARC Board. Rich wants to hear more from members about what they want from the club and what they are prepared to contribute to its success. Thanks from all of us Rich.

using the long-range cordless telephone after the FCC's 2001 Warning Notice. But, the FCC says, the manager admitted that the restaurant resumed using the long-range cordless telephone after another communication system proved inadequate.

—from ARRL Newsletter

Tired of TiVo? Beyond Blogs? Podcasts Are Here

By KATE ZERNIKE, The New York Times AP GRAND FORKS, N.D. (Feb. 19) - From a chenille-slipcovered sofa in the basement of their friend Dave's mom's house at the edge of a snow-covered field, Brad and Other Brad, sock-footed pioneers in the latest technology revolution, are recording "Why Fish," their weekly show. Clutching a microphone and leaning over a laptop on the coffee table, they praise the beauty of the Red River, now frozen on the edge of town, and plug an upcoming interview with a top-ranked professional walleye fisherman. Then they sign off. "I'm Brad" says Brad, in real life, Brad Durick, a 29-year-old television advertising salesman. "And I'm Brad," says Other Brad, a 44-year-old newspaper writer, Brad Dokken. "Until next week, keep your hook in the water, keep your line tight and keep it fun." Their show, mostly ad-libbed, is a podcast, a kind of recording that, thanks to a technology barely six months old, anyone can make on a computer and then post to a Web site, where it can be downloaded to an iPod or any MP3 player to be played at the listener's leisure. On an average day, about 100 people download "Why Fish" from its Web site. That is not a huge audience, but two fishermen can dream. Some popular podcasters say they get thousands of downloads a day. Since August, when Adam Curry, a former MTV video jockey, and David Winer, an early Web log writer, developed the podcasting technology, 3,075 podcasts have sprung up around the world, according to a Web site, Ipodder.org, that offers downloads of podcasting software.

From "Say Yum," a California couple's musings about food and music, to "Lifespring," a Christian show whose creator said he had a vision to podcast, to "Dutch Cheese and American Pie," by a Dutch citizen planning to move to the United States, these shows cover a broad variety of topics. Podcasts are a little like reality television, a little like "Wayne's World," and are often likened to TiVo, which allows television watchers to download only the programs they want to watch and to skip advertising, for radio or blogs but spoken. And as bloggers have influenced journalism, podcasters have the potential to transform radio. Already many radio stations, including National Public Radio and Air America, the liberal-oriented radio network, have put shows into a podcast format. Still, most podcasts are made by people like the two Brads, who record from basements, bedrooms or bathrooms, and devote their shows to personal passions. In Southern California, three men have hit the Top 50 on Podcalley.com, a podcast tracker, with "Grape Radio," a "Sideways"-like program about wine. Their expertise? They drink wine and like to talk about it. There are music podcasts - cover songs, punk and "The Worst Music You've Ever Heard." The potential audience for podcasting is huge; Apple alone has sold 10 million iPods in the last three years, about half of those in the

By Art Lee WF6P

CHATTER

Pirates have been around for centuries terrorizing ships and boats on the high seas. There are certain hot spots where these marauders congregate and pose real threats. In the mid 1990s, my brother was in the Merchant Marine, sailing on tankers around the world. Several large cargo ships were boarded and robbed and the crews beaten. As a former bosn's mate in destroyers the US Navy, he was familiar with firearms, but specialized training was given in - now get this - repelling of boarders. No pikes or cutlasses were issued; their modern counterparts being M-14 rifles and 9mm Beretta pistols. All of this took place long before 9-11.

As a pleasure boater, I will never be threatened by pirates. As an amateur radio operator, opportunity does arise to be in contact with someone who is. Such was the case in the mid 1980s with club member Jim Smith, N6EVD, and his XYL Nelda (SK). Their Cal 2-46, Zingara, was boarded while both were asleep and at anchor off an island in the Palau group. Their lives were nearly taken by three robbers armed with knives. For protection, Jim had a pistol on board. During the desperate fight to stay alive,

last few months of last year. And already, several podcasts have found sponsors. Dave Whitesock, who under the show name Dave Miller records the "Miller Report," a daily podcast from Grand Forks, got a limousine company to help pay for his report in exchange for a daily mention: "For when you need a stretch limo in Grand Forks." While some podcasters take hours to edit their shows, many simply embrace dead air and the "ums" that come with what Mr. Whitesock called "Live to Hard Drive." Brian Race, a radio station manager in Georgia who runs Christianpodcasting.com on the side, picked up his cellphone in the middle of a recent podcast to discover his mother on the line. He kept on recording. The rawness is part of the appeal.

"Everyone says, 'They're amateurs, they're amateurs, they're amateurs,' but sometimes, frankly, it's more interesting to listen to someone who's not a professional but who has something genuine or interesting to say," said Michael W. Geoghegan, an insurance

Jim locked his arms around the necks of two of the robbers and dragged them down into the cabin with him. Nelda fought off the other attacker as Jim struggled for his weapon. He managed to grab a can of mace and gave the pirates a shot. Being temporarily blinded, they aborted the robbery attempt. All three left the Zingara and sped off into the night. Jim and Nelda were severely injured. Many of our club members were in radio contact with them on their voyage.

We hams did a fine service for the Tsunami victims by providing some of the first and only emergency communications. One of the worst areas for piracy is the Straits of Malacca. This passage, over 600 miles long and just over a mile wide at its narrowest point, is a piracy hot spot. Interestingly, since the tsunami, pirate activity has diminished greatly. This has been attributed to the fact that so many back-water villages in the area were wiped out, including the bases for these pirates. "Many of the pirates may have died," writes John S. Burnett in his book "Dangerous Waters: Modern Piracy and Terror On The High Seas." However, I suspect that soon enough many will be following the famous quote, "I'll be back."

For those of you who remember Jim, he now lives in Lake Havasu City, Arizona. Nelda passed away several years ago.

Silent Key: Santa Cruz Sentinel of 2/16/05. Roy Van Dyne. Roy was a past club member although I don't recall that he ever became a licensed operator. He was 85 and a veteran of WWII. He fought in Italy, France and Germany.

marketer in California and the host of "Reel Reviews," a movie review podcast intended for people heading to the video store. Mr. Geoghegan said he had "multiple thousands" of downloads a day. He does no editing. "People stumble when they speak," he said. "I think the listener appreciates when it's not superpolished as it is on a commercial station." "And technologically advanced young people say, 'I can stay in Grand Forks. There is a place for them here.'" In California, the Johnsons of "Say Yum" added clip-on microphones to their usual after-work routine to create their show. "I'm usually cooking, and Devan's usually playing music, so we just chat over the music," Ms. Johnson said. Brian Ibbott had always loved making mixed tapes and CD's. His podcast, "Coverville," has become one of Podcalley's most popular; and in many ways it is like a real radio show, without the advertising. Sunday is all-request day, and listeners can call in their requests. Mr. Ibbott, 35, plays

Most Wanted DX

According to 2004 survey results published in the January/February issue of The DX Magazine <<http://www.dxpath.com/>>, North Korea (P5) remains atop DXers' "most-wanted" lists for DXCC.

"It was a real surprise to see North Korea at the top of the most-wanted list," commented The Daily DX <<http://www.dailydx.com/>> Editor Bernie McClenny, W3UR. The most-recent P5 operation was by Ed Giorgadze, P5/4L4FN, in 2001 and 2002, during which he logged more than 16,000 QSOs.

Number two on the list is Andaman and Nicobar Islands (VU4), although a post-survey DXpedition in December likely diminished worldwide demand, despite being cut short by the tsunami.

In third place--but topping the list in four US time zones--was Scarborough Reef (BS7). Fourth is Lakshadweep (VU7), and fifth is Yemen (70). A DXpedition set for this month from number six Peter Island (3Y/P) could blunt demand for that rare one. Rounding out the top 10 are Navassa Island (KP1) and Desecheo Island (KP5), both under jurisdiction of the US Fish and Wildlife Service which has denied visitation permission, Bouvet (3Y/B) and Kure Island (KH7K).

McClenny, who also edits "How's DX?" for QST, notes there's still a large demand for VU4, but he expressed guarded optimism that the VU4RBI/VU4NRO DXpedition's emergency communication operation following the December 29 earthquake and tsunami would make Indian authorities more willing to allow future DXpeditions. "Keep your fingers crossed," he said.

—ARRL Newsletter

Podcast continued

back their recorded requests before the songs. "I don't know that I'm doing it so much as a protest against radio as I am to develop the radio show I always wanted to hear," said Mr. Ibbott, who lives in Colorado. The last great radio station nearby, he said, was bought out by Clear Channel. "And they got the same playlist everyone else did." He pays a few hundred dollars to Ascap and BMI to allow him to play copyrighted music, he said, and is negotiating with the Recording Industry Association of America, which has filed lawsuits to prevent unauthorized music downloading. Mr. Ibbott, like the Johnsons and most podcasters, work in technology jobs. Technology watchers say that like blogs, some podcasts will be widely heard and influential, while others may end up with no more reach than local access cable programs. But many podcasters, like the two Brads, say they are simply happy to have an outlet for their passion. As Mr. Durick said, "You love to talk fish if you're a fisherman."

—(Submitted by) 73 Leon AA6ZG

Telegraph Operators

CQ: My name is Don Taylor (son of K6GHA) and I sending out this request to all real life (or want-to-be) telegraph operators in the Santa Cruz area. In a recent conversation at a local elementary school, the Santa Cruz Ham Club came up as a possible solution to a growing dilemma at Happy Valley School. I am hoping that there might be a few members that would like to talk about "late 1800's telegraph" and demonstrate or help fix up the existing 3rd grade class telegraph.

I am working with the third grade teacher (Dan McGuire) on a community event for Happy Valley School (up Branciforte Dr.) in Santa Cruz. This event is a 4th annual Rail Fair event, where old turn of the century Santa Cruz is explored by his 3rd grade class. This includes steam engines, rail displays, historical recitals by the kids, and 10 stations where the community learns about old Santa Cruz. There are 2 other schools and an number of parents from the community that participate in this event each year as spectators and demonstrators.

The opportunity is manage a telegraph station. We have rotating groups of about 15 kids every 10 minutes, who we hope to introduce to the idea of telegraph, understand what it was used for historically, and have a chance to play with the telegraph key and send and receive a message of some type (SOS?).

What I would like to know is if there would be a few Hams who would like to participate in this event on Thursday, May 26th from around 8am-2pm. This is a great community event and is growing each year. We have Steam enthusiasts arriving from around the country (out of state!) to participate, and we would appreciate having someone from the local chapter to host and talk about the telegraph this year.

Please let me know if you know of someone who would like to join our party! Thanks in advance for your help. I will be traveling on business this week, but you can contact me anytime by email.

—73, Don Taylor don.taylor@hp.com

Whither Broad-band over Power Lines ?

Before retiring in 1998 I worked at the Electric Power Research Institute with specific responsibilities for research in the communications and computing arena. At about yearly intervals one would read in the trade press grandiose claims about breakthroughs in broad band communications over power lines. These claims were made not only by start-ups but also by large and respectable firms. Their seductive message caused some general managers at utilities to become excited. Utility technical managers and EPRI staff however were very sceptical about AC infra structure becoming a broad band goldmine. It was remarkable how quickly these BPL firms came and went.

These days the siren songs of BPL still persist and with the advance of technology more is now technically possible but that is not to say there is a business case to be made. We know that telco, cable, satellite and wireless options abound so the economic justification of BPL is even tougher than it was. I came to believe and still do that one should not underestimate the value of power line communications at very low (minutes per bit) rates over long rural distances. Equally so one should not overestimate the speed-distance capabilities of AC wiring. So the bottom line for me is that BPL will prove to be "Fools Gold".

Now what does that mean for the current effort of the ARRL to combat BPL? I want to be on guard of our spectrum as anyone but I doubt very much that we will ever obtain a definition of, and enforcement of, "harmful interference" that will satisfy weak signal HF types like myself. This means to me there are diminishing returns from expending much more energy and funds in that direction. What I would prefer instead is for the ARRL to devise and launch a competition for the most effective signal recovery technology in the presence of noise and interference. This will position us to live in an environment increasingly to be populated by intentional broad band radiators and unintentional radiators like power lines themselves and consumer products.

—73 Ron, W6W0

N Santa Clara Valley Section NTS/V Net Date: Every Tuesday and Thursday Time: 9:00 pm - 9:30 pm Pacific Time. WR6ABD Repeaters: -146.640 w/162.2 PL and +442.900 no PL, or 162.2 The Loma Pioneer Repeater Club (www.lprc.net) graciously allows us to use their 2-meter & 440 repeaters. The coverage is excellent, people check-in from Monterey to SF. As the UHF repeater is closed to non-members, only use it for NTS and please join LPRC to show your support and access their other repeaters.

T

S Santa Clara Valley NTS Group: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/nts_scv/ Loma Pioneer Repeater Club: <http://www.lprc.net/> Contact: Pink Foster, KG6ILA@arrl.net, 650-793-1915

QST... SEA OTTER CLASSIC

QST...QST...QST...once again it is drawing near for the premier cycling 15th annual event of the Central Coast. I still have some positions open for this event and need your support.

BACKGROUND: We supply the emergency and health and welfare communications for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Public Lands / "back country." We have an NCS within the SCRAM COMMS Bldg. that are collocated with the event medical / fire dispatchers. Every position is accessible by vehicle. A 4X4 is not necessary. W6HMC will be convoying in the operators and providing a personal briefing for each communications position.

BENEFITS: You will receive an event tee shirt and a lunch on SAT. and SUN. 16/17 April 2005 that "Lead" will drive out to each position. They are made by Zeph's, a local Salinas deli. ALSO you will receive a Staff "wrist bracelet" that entitles you to park and enter the venue THURS. & FRI and whichever weekend day you are not working. OPS: "Staging" is located at the Hwy 218 / Del Rey Oaks area, "Moose Lodge" at 0615 both days. The time commitment is until on or about 1600 with SUN. being traditionally the longest day. The event "Moto Sweep" is the deciding factor. They "don't want to leave anyone behind" out on the hills of the former Fort Ord. This year the fund raising, through admission sales, focus will be for the "Cypress Youth Fund."

Mission: the Sea Otter Classic is to "to make people's lives better through participation in sport and recreation and through celebration of an active outdoor lifestyle. The Fund focuses on those organizations that benefit their communities in the following area:

Youth — Sport — Education — Environment

If you would like to know more about the "Fund" please e-mail Bob Spencer and he will be pleased to forward the "rest of the story" and the benefiting organizations.

ATHLETIC PERSON NEEDED: We offer the "FREE" SAT. "Family Fun Ride," You just peddle at your own pace as a "bicycle mobile," enjoy the scenery, the company of other riders and you can stop and chat with the other operator's at the Marshall / Emergency COMMS Points. If of course you see a need for medical assistance you can call it in directly to NCS or relay it through a Marshal / Emergency COMMS Point operator. This "Mountain Bike Tour" provides one with a 10 or 20 mile ride of fun and camaraderie on the emerald green hills of Laguna Seca's back country. W6HMC will sign this person up on line, so they are "officially" registered and accounted for.

CRITICAL REMOTE SITE COMMS: Sunday we

have a "bike in / bike out" or "hike in / hike out" position in a very remote and accident prone area of "Couch Canyon." At the end of the race this will be the second position to be secured. You will be between two "mountain top" Amateur Radio operators. Also the BLM "BETA" volunteer equestrian / first aid team will be patrolling in your area. However, do not have direct COMMS with the event medical/fire dispatchers and our NCS, collocated with them, so we relay emergency and priority messages for them.

EXCERPS FROM "SEA OTTER SAMPLER: "Only at the Sea Otter Classic will you find the sweet motion of 10,000 cyclists and 50,000 fans moving to the beat of 20 different cycling events....Sea Otter's slate of world class professional Road, Mountain Bike and Gravity racing continues to attract elite racers from around the world. World and Olympic Champions say good-bye to winter and hello to new sponsors colors and a new season of challenges....Mountain Bike Cross Country. Since 1991 the SOC 18 mile cross country course has been considered the world's best. It's a swirling blend of fire roads and single track; steep short climbs and the long climb home, rocks, sand, loamy soil, tight sections in the trees, open hills and fields of lush grass." Only once a year may we enter this pristine "back country" with our BLM vehicle passes to enjoy its beauty and tranquility, except when the cyclists pass by. hi hi As in years past we have procured a "Certificate of Insurance" for medical and liability by the "USA Cycling, INC. Sea Otter Classic LLC NORBA." Due to ECTAR's 501 (3)(c) status we were able to be granted this. Thanks! Additionally Monterey County Operational Area (OA) DSWVP personnel will be covered under the "training" clause by State Worker's Compensation and the Volunteer Protection Act of 1997 while actually at the event, because it is located within the county jurisdiction. This functional training will be annotated in the individual's DSWVP Training Record. For out of county ARES / RACES / DSWVP please contact W6HMC and he will provide your Training Officer with event participation documentation.

A "SOC COMMS Plan" will be forwarded to volunteers via a "Word" e-mail attachment or USPS before the event. The SOC "Sampler" can also be mailed out to out-of-the-area "Hams" as well. Pre-event briefings will be provided at the 3/17/05 "Pizza/Sandwich/Salad Bash," Roundtable Pizza on Del Monte Ave. in Marina with a cross street of Reservation Rd. and the 4/14/05 Naval Postgraduate School Amateur Radio Club (NPSARC) meeting. To enter NPS you need to be a member (membership application: npsarc.org), active or

retired military or let us know by 3/1/05 so you may be added to the "NPS Base NPSARC Access List." Between now and then W6HMC will be attending 3 SOC Planning meetings and will be sending out a group e-mailing to keep the signed-up volunteers up-to-date. Our unofficial moto: "we call for help to SOC NCS, the fire dept. and ambulance respond, do the first aid, package and deliver to the hospital if conditions warrant"

Thanks for your considering volunteering for the 2005 Sea Otter Classic ! Web site: <http://www.seaotterclassic.com>

—73 Bob Spencer / W6HMC 2005
Sea Otter Classic "back country" Amateur Radio Emergency Communications
chiefdoc7@earthlink.net

SATELLITE UPDATE

Greetings to you all with this update on the Satellite station for N6IJ.

Steve (AC6P) and myself Ron (W6WO) did some more testing of the FT847 transceiver sensitivity today and have essentially given it A+ marks at UHF, VHF and HF. With the newly constructed LPF in the output of the 2 meter TX we seem to have eliminated the 70 cm crosstalk that had been bothering us.

Steve has made some minor changes to the software and at this point we do not expect much further work on it.

The bottom line is that the radio and computer now have to be re-installed at N6IJ which will take place over the next few days in preparation for the Radiofest event Feb 26th.

We may still have some on-site issues with a local VHF/UHF transmitter but this has yet to be determined.

We could use an antenna for 10 meters for the A07 downlink. This could be an existing antenna patched into the room but I suggest that a dedicated antenna would be preferable and suggest a simple inverted VEE dipole for omni-directional coverage. N6IJ Board should decide on this.

We still lack headphones and a desk-mic, anyone with offers please come forward.

I hope this picture of Maestro AC6P at work in his well equipped lab will make it thru the email server.

— 73 Ron, W6WO

SCCARC Board - 2005

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	Ray Matteis	KE6NHG	688-6668
	Allen Fugelseth	WB6RWU	475-8846
	Bob Wolbert	K6XX	426-5699
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
- SLVARC Repeater WR6AOK 147.120+ PL 94.8 Ben Lomond
- SLVARC Net Thursday 7:30 PM
- LPRC Repeater WR6ABD 146.640-(PL 162.2)
- LPRC Net Tuesday 8:00 PM
- NPSARC Repeater K6LY 146.97- PL 94.8 Naval Post Graduate School, Monterey
- NPSARC Net Wednesday at 8 PM on K6LY/R
- 6 Meter Local Net 52.8 MHz (PL-114.8) Sunday 8:00 PM
- ARES Nets
- SC ARES Tuesday 7:15 PM K6BJ 146.790-(PL 94.8)
 - SLV ARES Tuesday 7:00 PM W6JWS 146.745-(PL 94.8) & WR6AOK 147.120+(PL 94.8) on alternate Tuesdays
 - South County ARES Tuesday 7:15 PM K6RMW 147.00+ (PL 94.8)
 - LP ARES Tuesday 7:15 PM AE6KE 146.385- (PL 98.4) & AB6VS 440550+ (PL 94.8) linked
 - SC County ARES Tuesday 7:30 PM 146.79-/ 147.945-/ 440.925+/ 147.180+ (all PL 94.8) (linked)
 - Monterey ARES Net Wednesday 7:30 PM K6LY 146.970- (PL 94.9)

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

SCCARC Calendar of Events

SCCARC Board Meeting 6:30	Friday	March 18
SCCARC Meeting	Friday	March 18
Short Skip Deadline	Sunday	April 4
SCCARC Meeting	Friday	April 15
County ARES Meeting	Thursday	April 21
Field Day		June 25-26

MONTHLY MEETINGS.

The SCCARC Meets at 7:30 PM, on the THIRD FRIDAY of the each month (except December). Meetings are at Dominican Hospital, 1555 Soquel Drive, Santa Cruz.

SCCARC Website at - www.k6bj.org

CLUB E-MAIL: yourcall@k6bj.org



Inside Com2



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

CLUB MEETING FRIDAY MARCH 18, 7:30 P.M.

**Have You Renewed Your Membership?
 If Not, This Will Be Your Last Issue of Short Skip!**

Have You Renewed Your Membership? If Not, This Will Be Your Last Issue of Short Skip!

Santa Cruz County Amateur Radio Club Membership Application

Please complete and submit with dues payment

Name: _____

Your Call sign: _____

Handle or nickname, if any: _____

Mailing address: _____

City: _____ State (if not CA): ___ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Are you getting email through k6bj.org yet?: _____

If not, what is your Email address?: _____

(messages sent to yourcallsign@k6bj.org will be forwarded to this address)

Spouse Name: _____

Spouse Call sign: _____

ARRL Member?: _____

If not, would you like to become a new ARRL member through our Club? _____

(SCCARC gets to keep \$15 of your first year's ARRL dues payment if you join through our Club. Info/application: <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/forms/clubapp.pdf>)

Year you first joined SCCARC, if not this year?: _____

Thanks for joining your not-for-profit Santa Cruz County Amateur Radio Club, Inc.,
k6bj@arrl.net!