

DECEMBER 2007

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of the SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SHORT SKIP



Officers and Board Installed at Club Luncheon



Elected by acclamation at our November club meeting (and auction), to serve a term of one year beginning at our December 15 luncheon meeting, were:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| President | Rich Olsen W1WUH |
| Vice President | Don Taylor K6GHA |
| Secretary | Kathleen McQuilling KI6AIE |
| Treasurer | Cody Adams KG6YPK |
| Board Members | Bruce Hawkins AC6DN |
| | Mike Doern KM6IKE |
| | Reed Cotton N1WC |
| | Ron Skelton W6W0 |
| | Chris Angelos KG6DOZ, past president |

Congratulations to the new board-elect! Thanks for serving!

The 2007 board held their final regular monthly meeting after the November club meeting.

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

Digital Cornacopia

Here are some popular choices

- AGW Packet Engine -<http://www.elcom.gr/sv2agw/agwpe.htm>

The AGW Packet Engine is the most popular program for sound card Packet and APRS® operation. It supports 300 baud (HF), 1200 baud (VHF/UHF), and 9600 baud (VHF/UHF) Packet, and works with just about every Windows based APRS® program. The AGW Packet Engine also supports TCP/IP, which allows "regular" internet programs such as your web browser to work over radio!

The AGW Packet Engine is available in two versions; the [Freeware version](#), and the [Professional Edition](#). The freeware version uses the original user interface, and provides basic functionality for Packet and APRS® operation. The Professional Edition has a much improved interface, and includes many new features. It is fully functional for 30 days, and then will need to be registered.

For Packet operation, you will also need the [AGW Terminal](#) program (this is the program that displays the information on your screen). For TCP/IP you will need the [TCP/IP driver](#). Note that the TCP/IP driver is Shareware and will require registration if you continue to use it past the trial period. You might also need the [AGW Drivers File](#) if you want to use the AGWPE with other interfaces like our BayPac BP-2 Packet modem. The [AGW web site](#) has many other great programs available for APRS® (tracking and digipeating), Packet (BBS, digipeating, DX Cluster, etc.) and Amateur Radio use in general.

- DigiPan -<http://www.digipan.net/>

DigiPan continues to be one of the most widely used PSK31 programs around. Two versions of DigiPan are available; [Version 1.7](#) is for slower computers (266Mhz or slower), and [Version 2.0](#) is for computers running at 266Mhz or faster. Both versions are Freeware and compatible with Windows 95 through XP. Both support PSK31 and PSK63. The latest version of DigiPan (v2.0) now simultaneously decodes all stations on the waterfall, and the Callsign and text of each station is continuously shown on a separate "multi-channel" display. "CQ" calls are also instantly highlighted in color, and color alerts for up to two other text strings can be set (use this to search for a specific DX call or prefix!). These new features allow you to simply click on the text or Callsign of the desired station to select it and make contact!

CAKE Crumbs Dec 1

Quite a lively session as usual. Pleased to see Shirley (KI6LTN) there and I understand that she made 100% on her test- Congratulations and welcome Shirley. At one point I thought Santa Claus had arrived with a bag of presents but it turned out to be Dave W8FLL with his collection of Elecraft modules. Don K6GHA was busy on his laptop but put forward the idea of some field trips as part of the CAKE menu. The NOAA center in Monterey and parts of the Lockheed facility in San Jose were mentioned. What a great suggestion and we should all be very pleased that Don will become our new VP. Let's all render him every assistance. Vic AE6ID mentioned the task of winding many torroids at Elecraft. Apparently some customers special requests that they be personally wound by one of Eric's secretaries. On the subject of torroids, Ron W6WO mentioned he has found the best place to buy them is on-line from W8DIZ.

Dave showed his Nor Cal QRP Club marker generator and I was curious about the choice of Xtal frequency. Here is the answer provided on the VE3DNL web site.

The circuit consists of a single CMOS 16 pin integrated circuit manufactured by Motorola, the MC14060. This IC is an oscillator with a binary divider to divide the oscillator frequency down by a power of 2.



For example, if we use a crystal with a series resonant frequency of 5.120 MHz and divide it by 512 we get a frequency of 10 kHz, division by 1024 yields 5 kHz, etc. There are a number of outputs for these frequencies.

They are 5, 10, 20 and

40 kHz. Since these outputs are nearly square waves there are a large number of harmonics present up to approximately 30 MHz and these are used as "markers" that we can hear in a receiver.

How accurate is your radio? This is great starter kit project for less than \$10

Ron W6WO showed the SignalLink USB interface recently purchased by the Club. It will soon be installed at K6BJ HF for the audio connections to the TS570D. Ron also mentioned the 8GB thumb flash drive just purchased on eBay for \$23.50. Too bad it tuned out a dud but expect a replacement very soon

Marc W6ZZZ brought a selection of tin/aluminum project boxes and issued a challenge to use those only 1/4" thick. Would have to use surface mount components and sad to say no-one was willing.

This was our final session for the year so thanks to all who contributed so much fun and exchange of know-how. We will resume in January. I wish you and yours a happy, safe and healthy Christmas.

- [HamScope](http://www.qls.net/ham-scope/) -<http://www.qls.net/ham-scope/>

HamScope is one of the most popular MultiMode programs available. It supports PSK-31(BPSK / QPSK), MFSK16, RTTY, CW, ASCII and Packet. It also provides a radio control interface for many ICOM, TenTec, Kenwood and Yaesu radios. RTTY operation requires the ever-popular [MMTTY Engine](#) by Makoto Mori, and Packet operation requires the AGW Packet Engine (see above). HamScope is Freeware and is designed to run under Windows 98 and NT with a 133 MHz Pentium or better PC. A 16 bit SVGA color (or greater) video card is required for the panoramic waterfall display to function correctly. HamScope generally works fine on Windows 95, ME, 2000 and XP. However, if you run Windows 95, you will likely have to install Microsoft patches (Year 2000 fix and the OLE patch, at a minimum) to get it to work.

- [MixW](http://www.mixw.net/index.php?j=downloads) -<http://www.mixw.net/index.php?j=downloads>

This is probably the most popular, and most comprehensive Multimode shareware program available today. MixW is a serious program for serious users! It supports just about every mode available including CW, BPSK / BPSK63, QPSK, FSK31, RTTY, Packet (VHF/UHF), Factor RX, AMTOR RX & FEC TX, MFSK/Graphics Color/BW, Throb, MT63, Hellschreiber, FAX, and SSTV. "Normal" and "Contest" Logging, and CDROM Callbook are also supported. MixW is compatible with Windows 9x, ME, NT4, 2000 and XP. This version of MixW is fully functional for 15-days. After that it will need to be registered at a price of \$50 (I have used it for several years)

- [MMSSTV](http://www.qls.net/kf6ypq/mmsstv.html) - <http://www.qls.net/kf6ypq/mmsstv.html>

This is an excellent SSTV program for both beginners and advanced operators. MMSSTV is compatible with Windows 95 through XP

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By Art Lee WF6P

CHATTER

Sixty-six years ago I stood on the front porch of our Navy quarters watching Japanese bombers roar over our house. One dive-bomber, code named Val, flew at about thirty feet off the water, evading gunfire from the USS Pyro, an ammunition ship. White water churned up beneath the plane's belly as the ship's gunners fired with everything they had. As a thirteen-year old boy, it is a sight I will always remember. Yesterday, December 7th, our local chapter of the Pearl Harbor Survivors met once again. When I first joined in 1976, we had about fifty members. This Friday, I counted only six. Still hanging in there is the former third class radioman who escaped from the overturning USS Utah. Radio station KSCO carried a later broadcast, telling of our stories of the attack. My father, then a warrant officer, was with officers assigned to the tops of buildings of the Pearl Harbor navy yard. Each was given a .45 caliber automatic pistol and fired down at the attacking aircraft. When I asked him if he hit any, he replied that he didn't know, but they fired a lot of ammunition that day. (By all sources, twenty-nine enemy aircraft were shot down. Commander Fuchida, the leader of the attack, wrote that ten more planes were so badly shot up that when they reached their carriers, they were pushed over the side.)

Only a short week or two ago we learned of the passing of Eddy Pollock, W6LC. I recall that the Santa Cruz County Amateur Radio club was inactive for a while. Eddy, then an electronics instructor at Cabrillo College, brought the club back to life, perhaps in the early 1960s when Cabrillo was in its formative years. (Wow! Look at it now.) The electronics classroom was in the Math/Science building near room 825. If it hasn't been removed since 1998, the concrete base for the radio tower can be seen from the walkway. When Eddy moved to the computer world, he put me in as an instructor teaching radio communications. Eddy was a pal to everyone and always had a big smile on his face. I recall visiting his home QTH on several occasions. Eddy had a great shack and tower near Park Avenue in Capitola.

Winter is coming! Over the K6BJ Reflector

recently, someone mentioned purchasing an automobile battery quick start package. Costco had a nice unit for sale a couple of weeks ago for about \$75. I liked the gel-cell feature as an emergency power source for our 2 meter rigs. The unit I purchased has jumper cables, an air pump for tires, an inverter and a nice lamp. (Now I'll have to remember to keep the battery charged and my emergency water jugs filled.)

Friends are nice to have. Leon Fletcher, AA6ZG, recently gave me his light-weight work bench. On it is mounted a small vise; there are two storage shelves and the backboard has a convenient rack for hanging tools. The beauty of this gift is that it fits precisely in a space I have in my tool shed. I'll put up a fluorescent light and be in business for small item repairs.

Treasurer's Report

At the November 2007 Board of Directors meeting, then-Treasurer Kathleen McQuilling, KI6AIE, reported that the SCCARC treasury had \$4,805.71 in cash and bank accounts. At that time all financial obligations had been met, including the annual liability insurance premium.

Field Day Results

We placed 2nd in category 3A (right behind PAARA) and 7th overall in the SCV section. Also see KI6DAR... NOT last place. Not bad for 45 minutes after end of normal Field Day "contest" operations!

-73 Donald AE6RF

Call	Score	Category	QSOs	Pwr	Mlt	GOTA	Call	Section	Participants	Club
W6YX	17158	4F	5057	2		K6SU	SCV	40		Stanford ARC
K6MI	10940	1AB	992	5			SCV	6		Chews' Ridge Gang
W6ARA	10774	3A	3207	2		K6OTA	SCV	123		Palo Alto ARA
N6N	10745	8AB	1119	5		W6PIY	SCV	30		West Valley ARA
K6SA	6878	2A	2026	2			SCV	21		Saratoga ARA
N6TV	5516	1E	1570	2			SCV	1		
W6BX	5458	3A	1089	2		AE6RF	SCV	26		
W6UQ	4520	2A	1481	2		K16HJJ	SCV	12		San Mateo RC
K6LY	4116	3A	850	2		K6NPS	SCV	28		Naval Postgraduate School ARC
K6YA	3536	2A	779	2		AE6RM	SCV	25		Foothills ARS
W6UW	2536	2A	529	2		W6UU	SCV	47		Santa Clara Co ARA
W6YL	2468	2A	578	2			SCV	8		San Jose State Univ ARC
WA6TOW	2100	2A	521	2			SCV	16		Coastside ARC
W6HUL	1820	1F	216	2			SCV	19		Cal Fire - Santa Clara Unit VIPS
W6JC	1458	3A	304	2			SCV	21		San Jose RACES
WR6HMB	1444	2A	426	2			SCV	20		HMB ARES
K6KP	1396	2A	160	2			SCV	10		Cupertino ARES
N6HM	1390	2A	150	2			SCV	67		SARES
K6TD	1318	1E	399	2			SCV	3		
K6MTV	1168	2F	75	2			SCV	34		Mountain View ARES
W6PRI	1072	1E	269	2			SCV	1		
AC6P	974	1A	253	2			SCV	7		Jack Baskin School of Engineering
K6MM	894	1D	443	1			SCV	1		
W6MSB	584	1E	135	2			SCV	1		
K6OTT	388	1E	19	2			SCV	1		
K6MPN	310	1F	5	2			SCV	7		South Co ARES
W6RXQ	292	1E	71	2			SCV	1		
AE6ZY	265	1B1B	3	5			SCV	1		
KG6ZHC	221	1D	122	1			SCV	1		
KI6DAR	196	1A	23	2			SCV	5		
KG6YUN	102	1D	26	2			SCV	1		

Digital Cornacopia continued

(Pentium 133Mhz or faster recommended). It is Freeware and supports the following SSTV modes: Robot 36 & 72, AVT 90, Scottie 1, 2 & DX, Martin 1 & 2 and SC2-180

- [MMTTY](http://mmhamsoft.amateur-radio.ca/mmtty/) - http://mmhamsoft.amateur-radio.ca/mmtty/

This is one of the most popular programs for RTTY. It is compatible with Windows 95 through XP, and works with 133Mhz PCs or faster. MMTTY is Freeware and supports all standard RTTY shifts and baud rates. It also offers macros, radio control, recording and playback of live signals, and other advanced features. An excellent Help file and guide to RTTY in general can be found [here](#) (PDF format).

- [MT63](http://xoomer.alice.it/aporcino/MT63/index.htm#Download) - http://xoomer.alice.it/aporcino/MT63/index.htm#Download

MT63 is a keyboard to keyboard communication mode that is fast gaining popularity because of its excellent performance under adverse conditions. Many now say that MT63 is destined to replace RTTY for MARS traffic handling. MT63 is a Freeware program. It is compatible with Windows 9x through XP.

—73 Ron W6WO - a bit is worth more than an electron

SCCARC Board - 2007

President	Rich Olsen	W1WUJH	
Vice President	Don Taylor	K6GHA	
Secretary	Kathleen McQuilling	KI6AIE	476-6303
Treasurer	Cody Adams	KG6YPK	
Board	Christopher Angelos	KG6DOZ	688-3562
	Reed Cotton	N1WC	
	Mike Doern	KM6IKE	477-1161
	Bruce Hawkins	AC6DN	
	Ron Skelton	W6WVO	477-1021
K6BJ Trustee	Allen Fugelseth	WB6RWU	475-8846

MONTEREY BAY REPEATER ACTIVITY

Santa Cruz County	K6BJ 146.790- PL 94.8 Santa Cruz KI6EH 147.945- PL 94.8 Watsonville K6BJ 440.925+ PL 123.0 Santa Cruz • SCCARC Net Monday 7:30 PM 146.79- /147.180+ /440.925+ linked • SCCARC 10 Meter Net Monday 7:00 PM 28.308 MHz USB
ARES Nets	SC County Wide ARES Tuesday 7:30 PM on 147.180+ PL 94.8 443.600+ PL 110.9 (Linked repeaters)
San Lorenzo Valley	WR6AOK 147.120+ PL 94.8 Ben Lomond • SLV Net Thursday 7:30 PM
Loma Prieta	AB6VS 440.550+ / AE6KE 146.835- PL 94.8 (Linked for net 94.8) • LP Net Tuesday 7:15 PM
Monterey	K6LY 146.97- PL 94.8 / 444.700+ PL 123 (Linked) Monterey • NPSARC Net Wednesday at 8 PM on K6LY/R • Monterey ARES Net Wednesday 7:30 PM K6LY 146.970- (PL 94.9) • Newsline (Ham News) Broadcast Wednesday at end of NPSARC Net
LPRC	WR6ABD 146.640- PL 162.2 / 442.900+ PL 162.2 (winsystem) • LPRC Net Tuesday 8:00 PM 146.640- (PL 162.2) • Newsline (Ham News) Broadcast Wednesday at end of NPSARC Net

• Santa Clara Valley Section Traffic NET Tuesday 9:00PM 146.640- (PL 162.2)

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

SCCARC Calendar of Events

SCCARC Meeting	Friday	Jan 18
Board Meeting	Friday	Jan 23
Short Skip articles due	Monday	Feb 4
SCCARC Meeting	Friday	Feb 15

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.

NET CONTROL SCHEDULE

(Subject to Change)

12/24	No net - Merry Christmas
12/31	Phil KE6UWH
1/7	Allen WB6RWU
1/14	Chris KG6DOZ

SHORT SKIP

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Free to members.

Santa Cruz County Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

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Eddy Pollock, W6LC (SK)

Former W1AW Station Manager - former trustee for the Santa Cruz County Amateur Radio Club, K6BJ Eddy Pollock, W6LC (SK) (Dec 3, 2007) -- EddyPollock, W6LC, W1AW station Manager from 1990-1991, passed away November 25 in Grants Pass, Oregon after a long battle with heart problems and diabetes. He was 72. Licensed since 1952, Pollock, an ARRL Life Member since 1972, came to the ARRL from California after retiring from a 30 year career of teaching electronics technology, computer science and industrial education at Cabrillo College in Aptos, California, a suburb of Santa Cruz; after leaving the League due to health concerns in 1991, Pollock and his wife Marilyn returned to Santa Cruz, eventually retiring to Oregon in 2000. Joe Garcia, NJ1Q, current W1AW Station Manager said, "Eddy came here just after W1AW underwent its major renovation in 1989. What an honor it is to work in a place that he helped shape.

Even though he was here a short time, I will always remember the legacy Eddy left to not only W1AW, but to the ARRL." While in California, Pollock served as trustee for the Santa Cruz County Amateur Radio Club, K6BJ, and as Emergency Coordinator for Santa Cruz County. He earned DXCC and WPX Honor Roll. Pollock retired in 1974 as a Lieutenant Commander after serving 20 years in the US Naval Reserve as a communications technician.