

JUNE 2008

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of the SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SHORT SKIP



Field Day Update

Welcome to your monthly Field Day update. While the Field Day weekend may seem a long ways away, it is only two weeks from when you'll be reading this!!! If you haven't already filled out the Field Day Survey, please go to <http://www.esurveyspro.com/Survey.aspx?id=e559fb26-cead-4476-8ccd-0e957a925359> (yes I know that's a pain to type, hopefully the version on the K6BJ website will have a live link) and fill it out. It takes about a minute and provides vital information for us planners.

At this point it looks like we will have one "serious" CW station and one easygoing one. We will also have a "serious" SSB tent and probably one easygoing one, however I need a station captain to step forward for the for the easygoing station. This position is VITAL if we're going to be able to have a lot of people working HF SSB.

People who operated the Get On the Air station last year are not eligible to operate it again this year, so we need a second HF SSB station for them to operate. If you are a seasoned HF operator, please consider stepping forward!

We have a RV for the station, and antennas are being arranged, so the effort on your part will be minimal. Greg, N6CK, will be leading up our RTTY/PSK station. The current plan is to put the digital station and VHF/UHF station in COM2. That will allow us to make almost full-time usage of the comm van.

Yes, for those counting, we will be FIVE ALPHA this year. Way to go Santa Cruz County! Brad, N6BHT (ex KD6ZJN) will be the VHF/UHF captain. That station will also be operating from COM2.

We will be focusing on 6m, 2m and 440 MHz this year. But Donald promises to get us at least one 1.2 GHz contact.

Reed, N1WC, will be setting up and coaching the GOTA station, so all the technicians, the new generals/extras and anybody who hasn't

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Field Day as living history

by Wayne Thalls, KB6KN

Field Day is fun for a lot of hams. But how many realize that their Field Day activities also keep some of Amateur Radio's essential traditions alive?

Early in this century, hamming was primitive. Most hams relied on batteries and built their gear in true breadboard style- exposed components and wires mounted on a wooden base. And if a part was unavailable, they found or made a substitute. Hams modified their gear continually, so it always had an unfinished look. And that ability to improvise was the very skill which got so many hams into emergency communications.

Until the mid-1930's, telegraph and telephone provided the primary communications links between communities. Few localities had radio systems, even for their police, and even those had one-way systems. So storms and other natural disasters often isolated communities.

Hams to the rescue! In 1913, QST reported one of the first involvements of Amateur Radio in a disaster. When a windstorm wiped out wire communications over a large area of the Midwest, hams at Michigan and Ohio State universities, among others, provided the only communications. Throughout the 1920's, following tornadoes, snowstorms, train wrecks, plane crashes, and floods, hams helped whenever public communications failed. And the hams showed a wonderful ability to adapt rapidly.

One 1925 event captured great public attention. After spelunker Floyd Collins became trapped in a Kentucky cavern, hams set up a 10-watt CW transmitter powered by 500-volt dry batteries at the rescue site. Fourteen miles away, at the Cave City telegraph office, another ham copied news from the cave. That ham link gave the whole world the news.

Both the Army and Navy understood the benefits radio operators could provide during disasters, and they recruited hams for their practical experience as radio operators.

Proven performers. As military and commercial radio grew, so did demand for spectrum. In 1929, the FCC issued a form to be completed by every Amateur, requiring them to explain why their operation was in the public interest, convenience, or necessity. But the ARRL soon convinced the commission that hams had already shown their services to be indispensable to the public interest. The FCC abandoned the form.

A major 1931 earthquake in New Zealand sparked efforts to strengthen and formalize Amateur emergency preparedness. After the 1933 Long Beach, California earthquake focused even greater interest on U.S. hams, QST began pushing disaster preparedness. The first ARRL-sponsored Field Day, in 1933, became an international event, with some 50 stations participating. In following years, as new rules encouraged using low power and emergency power sources, participation grew rapidly. In 1935, QST announced the formation of the Emergency Corps, and urged "every red-blooded ham" to join.

Government agencies and relief organizations like the American Red Cross soon realized auxiliary communications were essential, so ARES and RACES evolved. Today, the emphasis in emergency communications is on hams operating in groups, rather than solo, and compact VHF and UHF gear has replaced HF. But the need for ham volunteers continues.

CLUB MEETING FRIDAY JUNE 20, 7:30PM

David H. Stoddart W8FLL (SK)



Dave Stoddart, W8FLL (known to many of us as just "FLL" has become a Silent Key. Dave was one of a kind and will be greatly missed.

A good friend and a tireless Elmer, Dave made sure I had the very best possible antennas, which he made for me (his special copper-pipe 2-meter "Super" and what I call the world's best 40-meter dipole). He also helped me with code practice materials and a very nice straight key to upgrade my station. To introduce me to the world of contesting, Dave brought a rig to my house, put up an antenna, and handed me the microphone!

On April 20 of this year, Dave hosted a party to celebrate his 58 years as an amateur radio operator. His invitation specified "no" gifts, but many of those who attended left with gifts from "Dave" radio equipment, test instruments, etc.â€from his personal collection.

Dave's contributions to our Club included meeting presentations, Field Day coordination, and auctioneering as only he could do it. He provided innumerable raffle prizes as well. Dave showed up at CAKE with an impressive variety of items of interest, and the McDonald's gatherings just won't be the same without him.

FLL had a seemingly limitless supply of entertaining anecdotes from his years of teaching, print shop work, and traveling, and had a singular sense of humor. There was a twinkle in his eye when he presented me with the reference document that no amateur radio operator should be without "the cycles-to-Hertz conversion chart!

—Kathleen KI6AIE

For more pictures of W8FLL go to <http://www.k6bj.org/profiles/w8fll>

Memories of W8FLL

Dave was always a helpful and attentive radio enthusiast who was even in his dreams had thoughts about twisting knobs to radios or erecting an antenna..

As we lose our friends and family we are reminded of our own mortality and to live each day to its fullest of our ability in each chapter of our life. We cherish family and friends even if we get grumpier with age. We do our best to share with our community and friends what we know and help in ways that we are able. We let people know what we think about them, noticing them even if we never said words. We appreciate the little things like fast food and the bigger things like people who care about us.

Dave was a true radio guy. He knew and shared what he knew and encouraged others to learn and become active. He was full of stories and didn't mind sharing them with others.

Contributing to amateur radio enthusiasm was a very big part of his life.

I could talk about what it was like growing up with my Grandfather (Elmer C. Holmes), who was active in MARS network, and having the "radio room" in the house and how awesome it was to Dave. It was like he knew my Grandfather, what he did, all the equipment, as if he was there. He appreciated and understood at almost a spiritual level the magic--yes, magic--of radio communication. FLL encouraged me a lot to learn and re-experience as an adult some of that which



brought me such joy when I was younger.

But beyond FLL's stories, I think the best thing was that he liked to laugh.. Once you've traveled enough, told all the stories, taught and fixed and swapped all the radio equipment you ever wanted to, and shared and loved all you could spread around, when you've told all the jokes and heard them and laughed to your heart's content, well then,

maybe that's a good time to set up your rig somewhere else.

Thanks Dave. I will always remember you.

My condolences to the family. We will all miss FLL.Thanks Dave. I will always remember you.

My condolences to the family. We will all miss FLL.

—Alysia GoRay and family

Hello to the SCCARC members;

My name is Mike Ritz. I was a member of the SCCARC back in the 1970s and early 1980s, and was president of the club in 1981. I was sitting here in front of my computer at home and was running through some "what ever happened to" scenarios on QRZ.com and just for grins loaded in W6TUV, the callsign for Dave Harbaugh the mellow voice from KSCO in the old days and a mainstay of the club for many, many years. He was old when I was young and now that I am old it looks like he has joined the world of the silent keys. I noticed that Al Fugelseth, WB6RWU has the callsign preserved as a club call, which is great to hear! That got me looking at K6BJ, the SCAARC club call and all the great memories of my time with the SCCARC came flooding back.

I just wanted to congratulate everybody in Santa Cruz for keeping the club alive and prosperous over the ensuing years. My wife Shelley, N7DUI (ex-N6DUI) and I live up in Scappoose, Oregon now and I am finally building my dream ham station I didn't have room for after I moved from Santa Cruz to the Silicon Valley in the early 1980s. As I ease closer to retirement and get things rolling up here ham radio wise looking at your website I am again reminded of what a great ham community Santa Cruz is blessed with. I live in an area now that as rural as Santa Cruz County was in the 1970s and is full of friendly hams that remind me a lot of my days in Santa Cruz and the SCCARC.

I will all of you the best and hope that the club can stay the course for generations to come.

All the best to everyone;
Mike Ritz, WA7MR (Ex- KW6C, WA6HKP)



By Art Lee WF6P

CHATTER

I was a bit disappointed with an around-the-world trip to be made on a used Islander 36 sailboat. The boat's captain is Zac Sunderland, age 16. My disappointment is due to the fact that no ham gear will be used. Twenty years ago, most cruising sailors relied on ham operators and Maritime Mobile nets for message traffic and position reports; many of us provided phone patches to loved ones at home. An article in Sunday's Mercury News stated that the high school sophomore will be spending a year at sea and hopes to become the world's youngest sailor to circumnavigate the globe before reaching his eighteenth birthday. For communications he will have a satellite phone and be able to send email. His blog will be on www.Zacsunderland.com. My how things change - and for the better, I guess. I still check in regularly with the Baja Maritime Mobile Net. Boaters on the West Coast of Oregon and California and south to Baja, receive weather information and QSOs with fellow boaters.

I accidentally deleted a recent email from Mike Ritz. I wanted to reply to it personally. If anyone received it and saved it, I would appreciate a forward (codelee@aol.com). Mike was our club president and Novice class instructor in 1980. He taught several classes in the DMV building conference room.

FD Update continued

been active in the last couple of years can get in the groove. We had loads of fun last year and hope for a new crop of GOTA operators this year.

We have worked with JV (K6HJU), Greg (K6GPH), Shawn (KA6RFZ) and Jamie (WI6F) at the Santa Cruz Red Cross to get their comm trailer into moving shape. This will allow us another "hard shelter" for radio operations.

Last year we mostly worked with dipoles and a single tri-band beam. This year we have two beams currently accounted for. We also have a couple volunteers to create some

K6BJ HRD Remote Station



John Mann (KI6EAB) has been very busy on the KB6J HRD remote HF communications net. He has logged many stateside QSOs, as well as, the following DXs:

Argentina (LS2D)
Barbados (8P6QA)
Brazil (PY7ZZ)
British Virgin Islands (VP2VQ)
Canada (VE4PPG)
Costa Rica (TI7/N5BKE)
Cuba (CO7OI)
Dominican Republic (HI8LAM)
French Guiana (FY1FL)
Guiana (8R1AK)
Hawaii (KH7XS)
Jamaica ((6Y5TR)
Venezuela (YV1RDX)
Virgin Islands (VP2VQ)

KI6EAB thanks those fellow Club members who were instrumental in setting the HRD

Moxon rectangles and a Beverage antenna. Either one would significantly enhance our late night "ears."

We had a site survey on 6/1 so that the station captains new to the effort could start planning their locations. We will have a captain's meeting at Gigi's Saturday 6/14 and a "last minute" networking set-up and site visit on 6/22. Contact me for additional information.

The actual event starts with 24 hours of set-up. 11:00 PDT on Friday (6/27) is the starting gun. Actual contest operations are from 11:00 PDT Saturday (6/28) to 11:00 PDT Sunday (6/29). We need help with set-up Friday afternoon (with a pizza dinner for those who help) and teardown early Sunday afternoon. "Many hands make light work." Dinner Saturday evening will be a BBQ with the clubs providing various meats and buns and a pot luck for everything else. My XYL Nicki will be coordinating the pot luck. She is reachable at nicki@baymoon.com For

KM6VV makes cover of "SERVO"

Congratulations are in order for Loki, who made the June cover of Servo magazine (I get the on-line version of Servo). This version of Loki is designed/manufactured by Alan Marconett (KM6VV).

<http://www.servomagazine.com/preview.php?issue=62>



a map to the site, use the ARRL Field Day locator and type in "K6WC" as the station call sign. (<http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/locator.php>) Or email me and I can point you to the "official" map to the Ben Lomond Training Center.

At this point in the planning cycle, I have started shifting from "big picture" to detail oriented planning. It is time to start making sure that we have good radios and multiple antennas for each of the stations. Time to start matching operators with positions. Time to start working on the menus and shopping lists!!! Time, time, time... And it is running pretty quickly! Please email me for any details or questions, dkerns@cruzio.com or a6rf@k6bj.org. I'm also on WR6AOK, W6JWS/440 or the W6RLW 1.2 GHz repeaters during commute.

Good dates to know:

6/14/08 - 10:00 AM at Gigi's in Santa Cruz - Station Captain meeting- distribute checklists and make sure details are getting worked.

6/22/09 - 12:00 noon at Brookdale Diner - Computer network/logging staging - get computers talking to each other and with the NIMM software. There will also probably be a site visit about 2:00PM.

6/23-26/08 - Staging stations into various RVs and trailers, if available.

6/27/08 11:00AM - Set-up can begin. I realistically expect to start serious work at 13:00, but if there are motivated people, we can certainly use the extra hours.

6/28/08 11:00AM - Operations start.

6/29/08 11:00AM - Operations finish

SCCARC Board - 2008

President	Rich Olsen	WIWUJ	510 415-8920
Vice President	Don Taylor	K6GHA	k6gha@k6bj.org
Secretary	Kathleen McQuilling	KI6AIE	476-6303
Treasurer	Cody Adams	KG6YPK	
Board	Christopher Angelos	KG6DOZ	688-3562
	Reed Cotton	NIWC	460-1801
	Mike Doern	KM6IKE	477-1161
	Bruce Hawkins	AC6DN	
	Ron Skelton	W6WO	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	June 20
Board Meeting	Wed	June 25
Field Day		June 28-29
Short Skip articles due	Monday	July 7
SCCARC Meeting	Friday	July 18

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)

6/16	Allen WB6RWU
6/23	Chris KG6DOZ
6/30	Tom K6TG
7/7	Diane KI6IFS
7/14	Cody KG6YPK
7/21	Phil KE6UWH

SHORT SKIP

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Don't Need Short Skip In Your Mailbox?

If you're getting Short Skip by postal mail but would rather just read it on the Club's web site, just let me know at ki6aie@k6bj.org and I'll take care of it. If you're on the K6BJ email reflector, you'll get notification when each month's Short Skip has been posted to the Club web site.

--Kathleen, KI6AIE