

MARCH 2003

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of the SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SHORT SKIP



CLUB SPONSORED PROJECTS

Thanks for your input here are the results of the project "election"

Ten projects have been sent in by members as candidates for future development by the club. These projects represent new initiatives and are over and above expenditures needed to maintain existing systems. Some other ideas in the nature of events were also submitted by members and these will be considered at another time.

Each member will be given \$500 to "spend" over a period of 5 years on the projects of their choice.

It will be assumed that any project can be completed within a single year and you are allowed to spend only \$100 per year.

Total scores for the full 5 year period, including absentee ballots, are as follows

Wireless internet access from BJ site	30
Weather station, connected to 2 Mtr Rptr(s).	22
K2 HF rig for club uses	22
K6BJ-KI6EH full duplex link	20
6 meter repeater linkable to the K6BJ system	19
Remotely controlled of a K6BJ HF station	13
Automatic 2 Mtr FM direction finding	12
K6BJ 440 MHz repeater extended to Watson	11
220 MHz Condor networking	10
EME capabilities	9

For projects in year 1 the scores are

Wireless internet access from BJ site	14
Weather station, connected to 2 Mtr Rptr(s).	9
K2 HF rig for club uses	9
6 meter repeater linkable to the K6BJ system	9
K6BJ-KI6EH full duplex link	7
Remotely controlled of a K6BJ HF station	5
Automatic 2 Mtr FM direction finding	4
K6BJ 440 MHz repeater extended to Watson	3
220 MHz Condor networking	3
EME capabilities	2

Comments. A project for providing wireless access to the club site is a clear winner as it comes out ahead with a wide margin whether we look at total scores or the scores for the first two years individually. The

ranking did not change substantially until year 3 which indicates a solid set of preferences. There is a tightly packed second tier of 4 projects

There are multiple possible uses for wireless access to the site and I would invite Jeff AE6KS to provide a brief outline to describe each of them. There are various means to implement such wireless connectivity and I look forward to future discussions on the subject. If you are interested in becoming a member of a working group to pursue further please let me know.

While this result indicates a preferred project direction it is not mutually exclusive of others. Advocates of other high ranking projects take heart. I am sure the Board would like to entertain some concrete proposals from you.

CLUB MEETING

March meeting: In the basement/conference room at Dominican...one more time!

Do you want to have a great time? Show up at the March meeting. Bring yourself, your friends, and interested associates! Doc.Barry (nr6s) will be our speaker. The theme:

Idiot Guide To HF. See you in the basement!

—james (kf6yrd) your vp

Jim Maxwell W6CF, SK

Pacific Division Director Jim Maxwell, W6CF, died February 6 at his home in Redwood Estates, California. He was 69 years old.

Pacific Division Vice Director Bob Vallio, W6RGG, takes over immediately as Director; ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, will appoint a new Vice Director. Maxwell, a Life Member of the League, also previously served as Pacific Division Vice Director and Santa Clara Valley Section Manager.

"Jim Maxwell was a gentle giant of a man," Haynie said. "He was one of the best assets Amateur Radio could have in a leadership position."

David Sumner, K1ZZ, ARRL Chief Executive Officer said, "Jim Maxwell was one of the most brilliant people I have ever had the privilege to know. He was also one of the most unselfish and one of the most modest."

Maxwell was an avid DXer and contester. He served as an ARRL Emergency Coordinator from 1991 to 1999 and he was a member of the ARRL DX Advisory Committee from 1988 through 1994. Maxwell previously held the call W6CUF.

His interest in radio and electronics history was well known, extensively collecting amateur radio documents and memorabilia. Professionally, Maxwell held doctoral degrees in aeronautical engineering and biomechanics.

He retired from the Lockheed Missiles and Space Corporation as a technical consultant in 1992 and from Scitor Corporation in 1998.

— QST de W1AW ARRL

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



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ARES NEWS



To All who volunteer for ARES/RACES

activities during disasters: Governor Davis is considering defunding the Disaster Service Workers State Workers Compensation Insurance. This affects anyone who volunteers during declared disasters, RACES training sessions, or any other volunteer activities involving government agencies. This could effectively end any volunteer programs that government agencies have, e.g., ACS, RACES, Volunteer Medical Corp, volunteering to empty wastebaskets at the EOC during a disaster, etc. If you have any concerns about workman's comp insurance when volunteering either during a disaster or for disaster training, write your state assemblyman and state Senators to make them critically aware of the serious loss of volunteers the county and state will suffer if Davis cuts DSW workman's comp from his budget. Example of how the current Workman's Comp paid off: A CERT volunteer (not local) suffered the loss of her fingers during CERT training. She was a court reporter and the DSW Workman's Comp is paying for her retraining. BTW: This issue does NOT affect volunteering for the Red Cross, which has its own insurance for volunteers. Jim Piper / N6MED Santa Cruz Co. ARES/RACES Volunteer CERT Volunteer, Aptos-La Selva Fire District



Prez Sez

Hello Again Santa Cruz radio amateurs: A new month is here and it's time for another one of our fun club meetings. We have been on a great run of interesting meetings indeed. I am looking forward to seeing our club members and their friends. For that matter, anyone interested in radio is welcome. I don't think a meeting has passed where I didn't have to be kicked out by the janitor for staying too late.

There are so many fun people to talk to it seems the meetings just aren't long enough. So we have to move out into the parking lot to finish up the details. I know lots of people end up at the local pizza parlor after the meeting for more fun and conversation with Bruce AC6DN who usually makes the pizza QST during the station introductions. See you Friday night the 21st,

—Richard KG6AXD



By Art Lee WF6P

CHATTER

SAD NOTES:

(2/7/03) Yesterday I sent Jim Maxwell, W6CF, an email confirming our luncheon meeting with Leon Fletcher, AC6ZG, and Suellene Petersen, KG6MBT, in Felton. Jim would often join us to chat about writing books and magazine articles. He had requested directions to the Empire Grill, which Leon gave him. This morning, just before departing the house to meet the group, I checked my email to find that Jim was a SK. While it is always a shock to lose a friend, it is doubly shocking when we had arranged a get together. We never know how long we will be on earth and the suddenness with which we lose a loved one is difficult to deal with.

(2/15) Today, a military funeral was held at gravesite for Larry Cullom, W6CRP, who became a SK in 1999. He was first licensed in 1924. We don't all get to have two funeral services but this one was in recognition of Larry's 19 years in the Navy and the battles he fought in WWII, including naval actions at Guadalcanal in 1943. There were about a dozen friends of Larry's including Don Moore, W6IBN, Tom Ginsburg, K6TG, and me. Larry's widow, Maie, KD6FUI, was presented with the flag of our country and a bugler played Taps. It was a simple ceremony for a worthy veteran.

Tom recalled how he and a few other club members helped Larry set up his antenna and home station. Tom recalls Larry saying, "Ham radio was great before they invented the vacuum tube!"

Our club meetings are always fun. There's a lot of camaraderie among us and we have an opportunity to get in our eyeball QSOs. Our president, Richard, KG6AXD, comes up with some good "Ice Breakers" by way of introductions. He must lie awake nights thinking them up, cuz they are great. Many answers to the questions he puts to us, take some serious thought. Among those are the many humorous responses to amuse and delight us. Last club meeting we had several members giving us a "show and tell" presentation. There were some very helpful, "How I Did It" descriptions, especially the one by Ron, W6WO, describing his tribulations when setting up his horseback mobile. His "whip" antenna and saddle blanket ground plane were especially creative. (Nice job, Ron!). Oh, and it was great to see the smiling face of Dan Anderson, AA6GD, back in full operation.

I just spent a few minutes on the internet with the "QRZ" home page. Typed in "Santa Cruz, CA.," and out popped a list of 487 records matching S.C. Paging down thru the names and call signs brought back old memories. Many of the names are SK, and they are missed. The FCC doesn't drop a call sign out of the database when a SK occurs, I'm told. One must wait for the license to expire? Anyway, there are dozens and dozens of former club members still listed as living in Santa Cruz. Many of the other names I did not recall as having been club members. Dozens more might be inactive and fall into the "What are they doing these days?" category. Incidentally, I see that Maie Cullom, KD6FUI, renewed her ticket which expires in 2012! (Good going Maie!)

Tiny Wires = Huge Problem

Inside micro-circuit chips like the Intel Pentium 4 processor of today there are 55 million transistors connected together by about 4.5 km of wires 130 nano-meter wide. A nano meter is one thousandth of one millionth of a meter. These wires act as very tiny transmission lines and their propagation delay has become a serious challenge to building generations of faster chips that will require even smaller wires. This limitation has huge financial implications for the future of semiconductors and the race is on to overcome the problem. In this microscopic world the same basic rules of Resistance (R), Inductance (L) and Capacitance (C) apply just as they do in our world of ham radio. In our transmission lines we know that the speed of propagation (v for Velocity) is function of the size and materials involved. For high velocity you can't beat open wire line because all else being equal it is the dielectric properties of the insulation separating the conductors that determines the value of v and air being the highest allows us to approach the speed of light. All other dielectrics add delay to the propagation. So it is with semiconductors, the dielectric properties of the insulation and how it is applied to microscopic wires is a major challenge and perhaps the reason why alternatives in molecular and biological science are of growing interest.

—Ron W6WO

This could be it!

This could be your last issue of Shortskip. Please make sure you've renewed your membership dues for 2003.

You can check the expiration date above your name on the mailing label of this issue of Shortskip to see if the treasurer has received your dues for 2003. Your mailing label should show a date of 12/31/03 if you've paid for this year.

If your 2003 dues have not been received by the end of this month, March, your membership shall be considered inactive and you will not be included in the annual club membership Roster. A copy of the 2003 Roster will be printed and mailed with the April issue of Shortskip to current members only. Please ensure your dues are paid so you'll be in this year's Roster and receive a copy of it with your April issue of Shortskip.

Continued back page

Board Minutes

JANUARY 2003

A regular meeting of the board was called to order at 1840 hours on Friday, January 17, 2003 at Dominican Hospital Education Center in Santa Cruz. The president, Richard KG6AXD, was in the chair. Also present were the vice president James KF6YRD; the secretary Cap KE6AFE; the members of the board Bruce AC6DN, Vic AE6ID, Allen WB6RWU, Ron W6WO, Mike KF6UXB; and three guests, Sue Ann KG6BXD, Eric WA6HHQ, and Claudia Fugelseth.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved without changes.

The treasurer's report was a financial statement that showed financial activity for the period from January 1, 2002 to January 17, 2003. The report, showing a balance on hand as of January 17 of \$3,655.67, was accepted unanimously upon motion by Allen.

During committee reports, it was noticed committees generally need volunteers for 2003.

There was no unfinished business.

During new business, Ron mentioned the club projects questionnaire. Ron will collect the list from all the club members for the board. The list will be sorted further then, starting in February.

Cap mentioned committee appointments are needed for this year. Dan AA6GD will chair the Greeters committee and help VP James with the Program and Entertainment committee. Bruce will chair the TVI committee. Cap will chair the Repeater and club Station committees. Ron W6WO will assist Ron K6EXT with the Newsletter committee. These were unanimously approved by the board. Still sought especially are volunteers for the Training and the Publicity and the Refreshments committees.

Vic AE6ID answered Richard's request for a volunteer to perform the annual audit of the club's prior year's financial records.

Eric mentioned a preamp available for the K6BJ UHF repeater, in answer to a need expressed by Bruce. The need and use was discussed. The board unanimously authorized an expenditure of not more than \$150 to purchase a suitable filter.

Ron read a letter he proposed to read at an upcoming meeting of the Marina City Council regarding the N6IJ station resource. The board supports the station, a valuable resource for the entire Monterey Bay family of amateur radio operators and the public they serve, being available to and managed for all interested parties. The board in a motion unanimously supported the content of Ron's letter with the changes suggested.

The meeting was adjourned at 1920 hours.

FEBRUARY 2003

A regular meeting of the board was called to order at 1841 hours on Friday, February 21, 2003 at Dominican Hospital Education Center in Santa Cruz. The president, Richard KG6AXD, was in

the chair. Also present were the secretary Cap KE6AFE; the members of the board Bruce AC6DN, Vic AE6ID, Allen WB6RWU, Ron W6WO, Mike KF6UXB; and six guests, Sue Ann KG6BXD, Hank KG6EE, David KG6IRW, Alan KM6VV, Carol KD6ZXL, and Claudia Fugelseth.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved unanimously.

The treasurer's report was a financial statement that showed financial activity for the period from January 1, 2002 to February 21, 2003. The report, showing a balance on hand as of February 21 of \$5024.62, was accepted unanimously upon motion by Allen. This is the time of year when our bank balance is highest, mostly due to annual membership dues income.

During committee reports, Cap reported on the repeater interest meeting of February 16. Club members interested in helping with the club repeaters should contact Cap. JV Rudnick K6HJU has donated a used rack-mount-style Motorola Micor UHF repeater to SCCARC, intended to upgrade the current K6BJ/R. George K6TAM has donated a Motorola FET preamp option module to SCCARC, meant for use with JV's donation. These are very generous donations, for which the club is grateful. Eric WA6HHQ will test the donated UHF preamp prior to its installation. The donated repeater will need to be converted from 463/468Mhz to our 440/445Mhz use. We'll need volunteer assistance to complete that conversion. Allan KC6VJL will continue informal correspondence with the W6TP group regarding the 2-Meter K6BJ/R frequency pair we share.

The board discussed club meeting refreshments arrangements and the current lack of a functioning refreshments committee. It was suggested that perhaps volunteer arrangers could be found for a month at a time. Receipts should be kept for reimbursement. The board hopes for any form of help with refreshments.

During unfinished business, Vic AE6ID reported that he had examined the treasurer's financial records of the club for 2002, and he found them to be complete, accurate and in good order.

Ron mentioned the club projects questionnaire. The list of suggested hardware projects has been created from the questionnaire replies. The board agreed the list would be sorted further starting with this February 21 club meeting. Club member attendees will be provided with "play-money" stickers representing their priority preferences, which they will attach to list items of their choice. The results will be totaled for each listed project after the meeting. Ron will announce the results sometime after the meeting.

During new business, the board directed the secretary to send a letter of thanks from the club to JV K6HJU for the donated repeater.

The meeting was adjourned at 1919 hours.

SCCARC Officers - 2003

President	Richard Trebbien	KG6AXD	426-0169
Vice President	Jim Welty	KF6YRD	685-9225
Secretary	Cap Pennell	KE6AFE	429-1290
Treasurer	Elaine Pennell	KE6FRA	429-1290
Board	Bruce Hawkins	AC6DN	
	Vic Linderholm	AE6ID	476-5567
	Allen Fugelseth	WB6RWU	475-8846
	Mike Doern	KF6UXB	477-1161
	Ron Skelton	W6WO	477-1021
K6BJ Trustee	Royce Krilanovich	AC6Z	475-4798

MONTEREY BAY ACTIVITY

SCCARC Repeaters: K6BJ 146.790- PL 94.8 Santa Cruz (linked w/Watsonville full time)
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	Mar 21
SCCARC Meeting	Friday	Mar 21
Short Skip Deadline	Monday	Apr 7
SCCARC Meeting	Friday	Apr 18

MONTHLY MEETINGS.

The SCCARC Meets at 7:30 PM, on the THIRD FRIDAY of the each month (except December). Meeting are at Dominican Hospital, 1515 Soquel Drive, Santa Cruz.

Visit the SCCARC Website at -

www.k6bj.org

CLUB E-MAIL: yourcall@k6bj.org

NET CONTROL SCHEDULE (Subject to Change)

3/17 Ron W6WO

3/24 Allen WB6RWU

3/31 Joseph KG6NRI

4/7 Phil KE6UWH

4/14 Tom K6TG



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

P.O. BOX 238

SANTA CRUZ, CA 95061-0238

MEMBERSHIP continued

Regular memberships are \$25, memberships for additional family members at the same address are \$6 each, and full time students under the age of 18 can become members for \$10. This has got to be one of the best deals going, dues prices haven't increased for over 10 years! Your dues are vital as the club's primary source of income.

You can renew by postal mail. Make a check out to SCCARC, write your callsign on the check too, and send it to SCCARC PO BOX 238 SANTA CRUZ CA 95061-0238

Or you can renew with the treasurer, Elaine KE6FRA, by cash or check at the upcoming club meeting on March 21.

IDEAS FOR REFRESHMENTS?

What do you all say that each one of us brings a little something for refreshments at the next meeting insted of just one person. Someone could bring some coffee. Last meeting I brought a box of ice-cream sandwiches that went over really well, I just did not bring enough for every one but am willing to for the next meeting.

Its a lot of fun to share and see other people enjoy themselves. Have a nice day.

—Roy KF6KVD.

First Class