

JUNE 2009

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of the SANTA CRUZ COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SHORT SKIP



Club Meetings New (Old) Location!

I'm happy to announce that our club meetings will be back at the Dominican Education Center starting with this month's meeting on June 19th.

Many thanks to everyone who helped me keep things moving with the folks at the hospital, specifically Jack, W3IVQ, Jerry, AE6I and Cap, KE6AFE.

Also, many thanks to Don, K6GHA for arranging for us to use the facilities at Harbor High in the interim.

—73 de Greta, KI6NTL

It's Here... SCCARC Field Day



It's about time to defend our title as Pacific Division leaders for 5A in Field Day.

Hams and non-hams are invited as we set-up and operate a HUGE Field Day effort. We'll have six HF stations on the air, including four towers and at least four lessor masts. We'll be operating both voice and Morse code so there will be opportunities for EVERYBODY to get on the air.

Next Club Meeting...

"The Energy Crisis: Separating Fact from Fiction" : the Future and Fermi's Paradox

By ... D. M. Rank K06RS

"The sky is falling!"
cried Chicken Little.
"We must go tell the King."



Pollyanna



Chicken Little



Cassandra



Set-up starts about noon on Friday June 26th and operations run from 11:00AM PDT June 27th until 11:00AM PDT June 28th at the CAL FIRE Ben Lomond Training Center.

The Saturday evening BBW will start about 5:00PM. The club will provide meat, buns, condiments, beverages and utensils. Please bring a salad, side dish or desert for the pot-luck part.

About as many people plan on camping out Friday and/or Saturday evenings as plan on visiting for just a couple of hours.

There is an online signup sheet at <http://tinyurl.com/XCZFieldDay2009>

So, come up and join us for however long or short a time you can.

Please feel free to contact me with questions! ae6rf@k6bj.org or 831 338-1214

—73 de Donald

Santa Cruz County Amateur Radio Clubs
Field Day Event Coordinator!

CLUB MEETING FRIDAY JUNE 19, 7:30PM

Echoes of Apollo to go green on FD Weekend

Echoes of Apollo, a world wide space party which includes Moon Bounce operations is on course to happen beginning Friday, June 26, and continuing through Sunday of the weekend. The EOA team will be at the SRI Dish above Stanford University, operating a high power (400 watts) 1.296 EME System, and a scalar horn at the prime focus of the 45 meter dish. SRI was very kind to support our project, held in-between commercial bookings of the dish.

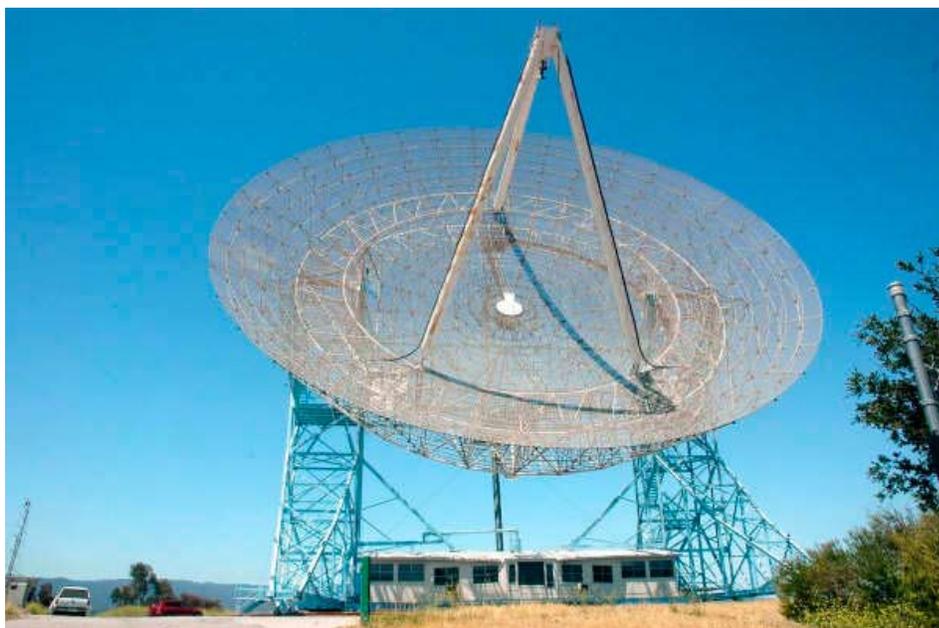
EOA began in December of 2008, after meeting up with Members of the Overseas Telecommunications Veterans Association of Australia who were gearing up for 40th anniversary celebrations of the Apollo 11 moon landing. I suggested that it would be neat to do some Moon Bounce as part of the celebrations, and the idea gained instant acceptance. So we have gathered a number of large EME dishes around the world, to coordinate a EME fest on FD weekend. There are commercial dishes, like SRI, and the 21 meter at Morehead State University, and the 25 meter dish at Dwingeloo, Holland. There are also a lot of very large amateur made dishes, in the 10 meter class, in the Midwest and Eastern US. We hope to focus on SSB qsos, which is rare for EME, since the 270 db path loss is very difficult to master on SSB bandwidths. Science outreach is a primary objective, with maximum use/promotion of the event to the media, and hopefully kids at the various EME stations, with hands-on-the mic, participation. We got good coverage, with the cover story on the current issue of CQ-VHF magazine, and a good article in WIRED magazine.

Look for an article in the NY times to be coming out soon.

Google "One giant bounce" to find the WIRED article. There may be some notable personalities at the mic either at the SRI dish, or at other EME sites, hopefully in Australia, where there are about 5 large dish stations ready to play. Not confirmed yet, but in the works. It will be theoretically possible for large Satellite Stations to hear and work EME when the big dishes are on.

You need about 18dbi gain, 250 watts, and good low noise preamps.

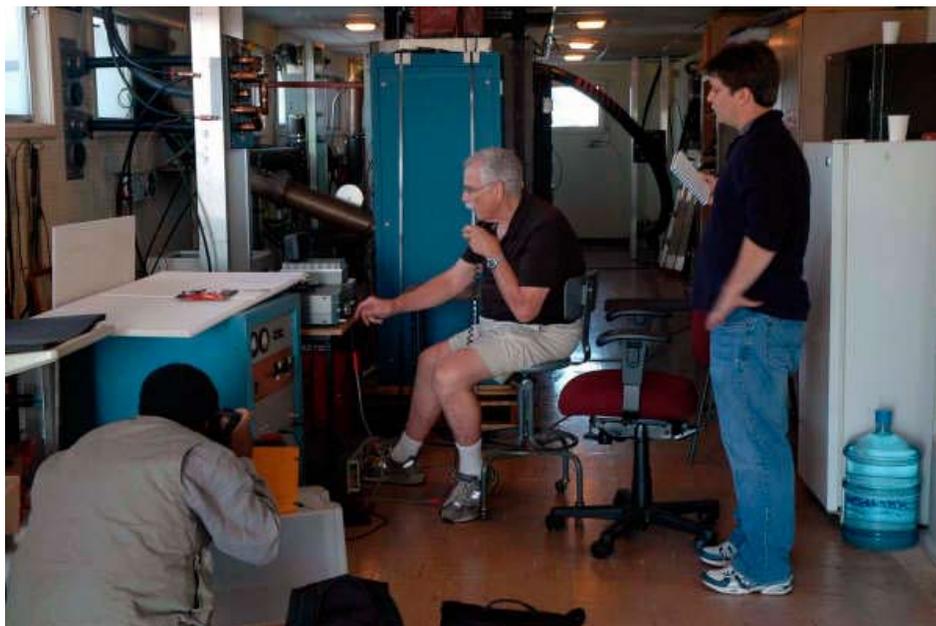
—Best, de Pat AA6EG



SRI Dish, Stanford University



Patch Panel



Dave Smith, W6TE at the SRI operating position with NY times reporter and photographer; note LARGE copper coax in background..

ARRL Field Day Tips and Techniques

- You will get many more stations in your log by calling CQ than by tuning the dial and answering CQs;
- Keep your CQs short and to the point: "CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day, Whiskey-One-Alfa-Whiskey, Field Day." Wait about 5 seconds between CQs -- this gives stations enough time to answer you.
- Use standard phonetics. "Cute" phonetics don't always get through and they can confuse newer operators.
- When working a station, you should give your exchange information only once and keep it simple. "Whiskey-One-Alfa-Whiskey, copy three Foxtrot Connecticut, QSL?" If they didn't get all of the exchange, they will ask for a repeat.
- If you are running a pileup: Once you have pulled a call out of the pileup, give your exchange information first. Here's an example: "Whiskey-One-Alfa-Whiskey, copy 3F Connecticut, QSL?"
- If you get a pileup of stations and can't make out an entire call, listen for one letter and ask for it specifically: "The station with Delta only, go ahead."
- When you get the other station's information, keep your acknowledgment simple. "QSL, thanks, QRZ Field Day from Whiskey-One-Alfa-Whiskey."



Lance Ginner, K6GFJ, at the Feed.

Lance played an important Technical role in most of the early OSCARS. Bulding Oscar 1 in his garage.



By Art Lee WF6P

CHATTER

The May 9th CAKE meeting was fun as always. About fifteen of the regulars were there, enjoying tech talks about experimental test equipment, Dxing and antenna repairs. When I asked Bob Wolbert, K6XX, about his antennas, he whipped out his pencil and notebook to sketch the damaged recently suffered by his beam. One morning while attempting a QSO, there was nada. Not able to get a visual on his tower from his house, he walked to it and discovered his beam's main boom hanging on by only a few aluminum molecules still holding hands. I remarked to Ron, W6WO, as Bob sketched, "An engineer can't talk without a pencil and piece of graph paper or the back of an old envelope." It does help make things crystal clear. Bob's general feeling is that it will take more than duct tape to do the proper repairs.

Had a nice chat with Jeff Watson, W6NA. He's going on a long hike in King's Canyon National Park. With two companions, he

will be high up in the Sierra Nevada mountains, up above 12,000 feet. (No, he's not taking oxygen.) He will be taking QRP gear with him and operating CW on 20 and 40 meters. His antenna will be a small vertical, held upright by being attached to his climbing pole and propped up by a bunch of rocks. They will be well above the tree line, hence no handy place to hang antennas. He promised me some pics for a future Shortskip edition.

Don Moore, W6IBN, reports some success with 20 meters, despite the low sun spot cycle. The first week in May he worked stations in Hawaii. I guess it's time for me to break out my old 20 meter dipole and see what it will do. Then again, I have been considering getting my Cushcraft beam reassembled (if I can find all the parts!) and stick it up on my push-up mast. If we hang in long enough, the bands will be back.

We've all got to eat. While having breakfast at the Santa Cruz Diner, my piano teacher, Velzoe Brown (99!) and I joined Julie, KC6DLE, and Frank Wyatt, N6FW. The Wyatts are active in the SLVARC as Secretary/Treasurer - they both work together. Frank is still working with ARES. A couple of years ago they crewed on Misty, a Cal 34, with me. Julie plays tennis, women's doubles. Last week my son and I were having dinner and in came Jeff Liebermann, AE6KS, and Bruce Hawkins, AC6DN. We chatted a while. Bruce Hawkins has a vertical antenna at his QTH and is working HF these days.

Looking forward to Field Day. Always a good get together for hams who like the outdoor air and engaging in multiple QSOs while being close to nature

License Exam

The exam is scheduled at UCSC's Baskin Engineering School, Room BE152 from 10am to 2pm on Saturday, 6/20. I will post a map and directions later. License fee is \$15.

—Steve, AC6P

Flea Market

- Livermore SWAP: Robertson Park, Livermore: 1st Sunday of the month, March through November
- ASVARO Electronics Flea Market: De Anza College, Cupertino 2nd Saturday of the month, March through October

SCCARC Board - 2009

President	Rich Olsen	W1WUH	464-7474
Vice President	Greta Steinbruner	KI6NTL	
Secretary	Kathleen McQuilling	KI6AIE	476-6303
Treasurer	David Copp	WS2I	
Board	Christopher Angelos	KG6DOZ	688-3562
	Reed Cotton	NIWC	460-1801
	Mike Doern	KM6IKE	477-1161
	Bruce Hawkins	AC6DN	
	Jeff Watson	KG6YPS	
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	Jun 19
Cake Meetings	Sat	Jun 13
Board Meeting	Wed	Jun 24
Field Day	Sat-Sun	Jun 27-28
Short Skip articles due	Mon	Jul 6
SCCARC Meeting	Friday	Jul 17

MONTHLY MEETINGS.

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

NET CONTROL SCHEDULE

(Subject to Change)

6/15	Phil KE6UWH
6/22	Allen WB6RWU
6/29	om K6TG
7/6	Chris KG6DOZ
7/13	Diane KI6IFS
7/20	Greta KI6NTL

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Free to members.

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