

SCCARA-GRAM

Volume 6 Number 10

October 1989

SCCARA PRESENTS

PACIFICON 1986

PACIFICON 1987

PACIFICON 1988

The following two pages contain pictures from the 1988 convention. How about your picture in 1989.

PACIFICON 1989

THE PREZ SEZ

WHAT IS A SUCCESSFUL CONVENTION? A BIG ATTENDANCE? LOTS OF HIGH DOLLAR PRIZES? FANTASTIC SESSIONS? GREAT BUYS ON HAM GEAR? HUGE PROFITS FOR THE HOST ORGANIZATION? CONVENTION CHAIRMAN SHORTY, AE6Z HAS PUT HIS PHILOSOPHY ON THESE ISSUES INTO EVERY PACIFICON PROGRAM. FOR ONE THING, HE SAYS THAT THE CONVENTION SHOULD NOT HELD TO REAP AN OUTLANDISH PROFIT. THIS SEEMS RIGHT!

WHILE IT IS NICE FOR THE SPONSORING GROUP TO MAKE A PROFIT, IT IS NOT A NECESSITY. WE MUST REMEMBER THAT A "REASONABLE" PROFIT IS DESIRABLE IF MORE EVENTS ARE TO BE HELD. THE FUNDS HAVE TO COME FROM SOMEWHERE! THE FACTS ARE THAT CONVENTION FACILITIES COST MONEY...ADVERTISING COSTS MONEY...PRINTING COSTS MONEY...PRIZES COST MONEY, ETC. IF ALL PRIZES WERE DONATED AND THE FACILITIES WERE FREE, WE COULD PRODUCE A DANDY CONVENTION WITH MINIMUM OUTLAY; BUT, THOSE DAYS ARE GONE!

IS TWELVE DOLLARS TOO MUCH TO CHARGE? WELL, JUST WHAT COULD YOU BUY FOR THE COST OF A PACIFICON ADMISSION? IT COULD BUY YOU: 1 NICE MEAL (NO WINE INCLUDED), A BOOK OR TWO, 3 MAGAZINES, 2 ADMISSIONS TO A MOVIE, RENTAL OF ABOUT 4 OR 5 VIDEO MOVIES, 2 6-PACKS OF BEER, A "DISCOUNT" HAIRCUT, A PACKAGE OF FLOPPY DISKETTES, 2 BOOKLETS OF POSTAGE STAMPS, 1 COMPACT DISK, 1 DEPARTMENT STORE NECKTIE...YOU GET THE IDEA! I THINK THAT A PACIFICON ADMISSION IS QUITE A BARGAIN. AND MOST OF THE MONEY RETURNS TO THE HAMS WHO ATTEND!

THIS DOESN'T SOUND LIKE MUCH OF A WAY TO RUN A BUSINESS. CHARGE A LOW AMOUNT TO PARTICIPATE, OFFER MANY HOURS OF ACTIVITIES, PROVIDE MANY CHANCES TO WIN PRIZES WORTH **AT LEAST** THE COST OF ADMISSION, AND SAVE HOURS OF DRIVING TIME AND GALLONS OF GASOLINE BY PROVIDING A CENTRALIZED SHOPPING ATMOSPHERE WITH EXTREMELY COMPETITIVE PRICES. NO, IT **IS NOT** A GOOD WAY TO RUN A BUSINESS. JUST WHY DO WE PUT OURSELVES THROUGH THE ORDEAL OF PREPARATION AND STAFFING A CONVENTION?

WE DO IT TO PROMOTE A CORDIAL SOCIAL ATMOSPHERE FOR HAMS TO MEET. WE MAKE IT REASONABLE SO NO ONE IS PREVENTED FROM ATTENDING BY HIGH ADMISSION FEES. WE MAKE IT COMPREHENSIVE AND ECLECTIC BY PROVIDING SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE. IT'S NOT EASY, BUT IF THE SMILES ARE BROAD AND THE COMPLAINTS ARE LOW, WE HAVE SUCCEEDED.

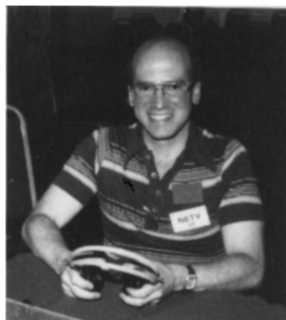
OUR FLEA MARKET EFFORTS THIS YEAR WERE FANTASTIC THANKS TO FRANK, AA6LL. HE REALLY MADE IT HAPPEN! NOT ONLY DID THE CLUB MAKE SOME MONEY TO FUND PROJECTS, IT BROUGHT MEMBERS TOGETHER IN ANOTHER COHESIVE EFFORT. FRANK SAYS HE HAS DISPOSED OF THE WORST OF OUR SALE ITEMS. SOME OF IT WAS PRETTY BAD STUFF! LET'S LOOK FORWARD TO NEXT YEAR WHEN WE CAN DO EVEN BETTER.

DO YOU NOTICE THAT THE FLEA MARKET HAS BECOME A SOCIAL EVENT IN ITSELF? THIS IS NOW A PLACE TO GO MONTHLY FOR A FEW HOURS AND MEET MANY FRIENDS. OH SURE, BARGAINS CAN BE FOUND...AND WHO AMONG US CAN RESIST A BARGAIN? BUT THE REAL INTERESTING THING IS THAT YOU ALWAYS SEE THE SAME FOLKS THERE. HOW ABOUT THAT CHAP WITH THE SIGN-ON-A-STICK? HAS HE EVER BOUGHT OR SOLD ANYTHING OR IS IT JUST A PROP? HAVE YOU SEEN THE "DX-HOUND" WITH A STUFFED DACHSHUND STICKING THROUGH HIS HEAD? THE FELLOW WITH THE TUXEDO IS ANOTHER NOTABLE CHARACTER. I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING THEM ALL WHENEVER I GO. IT IS PART OF THE ATTRACTION.

YOU ALSO SEE MANY SCCARA MEMBERS THERE...HELPING FRANK WITH THE BOOTH, SHOPPING OR JUST PLAIN SOCIALIZING. SCCARA TRIES TO USE THE FLEAMARKET AS A VEHICLE TO EXPOUND ON THE EXISTENCE OF THE CLUB AND ITS MANY VALUES. MANY NEW MEMBERS LEARNED OF SCCARA IN JUST THAT WAY!

I'LL SEE YOU AT THE NEXT MEETING. REMEMBER, IT IS A DINNER MEETING SO GET THERE A LITTLE EARLY. ROD, KB6ZV WILL BE OUR GUEST SPEAKER, AND HE ALWAYS DELIVERS AN INTERESTING TALK.

73 DE DAN, WM6M

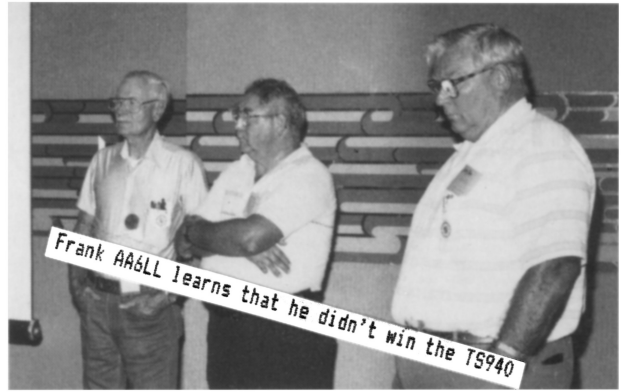




Pacificon 88 planning session



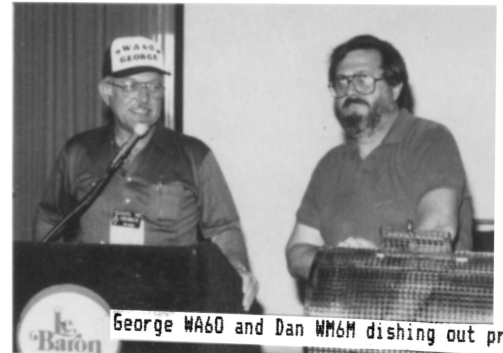
Glen WB6W and Susan WA6DCV fielding questions



Frank AA6LL learns that he didn't win the TS940



Kristen gettings sigs for the Eyeball QSO



George WA6D and Dan WM6M dishing out prizes



Stan WA6VJY notes a fly in his coffee



Boy Scouts trying out our HF station



Doc W6ZRJ doin a little PR



TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 8-31-89

CHECKING 8-1-89 \$1098.98

INCOME:

Dues	37.50
Meeting Raffle	27.00
ARRL Renewals	31.00

EXPENSES:

Printing	<112.67>
Meeting Raffle Prizes	<27.38>
ARRL Renewals	<29.00>
Move to Repeater Fund	<217.65>
Postage	<24.75>
Potluck expenses	<20.00>

CHECKING 8-31-89 \$ 763.03

REPEATER FUND 8-1-89 \$ 236.44

INCOME:

Flea Market	333.00
From General Fund	217.65

EXPENSES:

220 xtals	<25.28>
GE Rptr xtals	<133.80>
Bandpass Cavity	<131.61>
GasFET Pre Amp	<83.85>
Spare Parts	<5.00>

REPEATER FUND 8-31-89 \$ 407.55

PETTY CASH 8-1-89 \$ 50.00

DISBURSEMENTS:

Aug Flea Mkt	<14.00>
Potluck	<10.33>
Office Supplies	<17.47>

PETTY CASH 8-31-89 \$ 8.20

SAVINGS 8-1-89 \$2925.25

INCOME:

Stock Dividends	44.30
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SAVINGS 8-31-89 \$2969.55

TOTAL CASH \$4148.33

REMINDER: If you plan to join or renew with ARRL, please do so through SCCARA. This is the only way that SCCARA will receive commissions on your ARRL dues. Simply make your check payable to SCCARA and send your check and ARRL join/renew form to me. Also let me know of any changes in your ARRL membership status.

NEW MEMBERS & UPGRADES

Wow, did we have a slew of new members this month!! David Clapper, KC6FGW is another new technician from JD's class. The flyers at Gument's and the flea market have also been bringing us new members lately. This month, they are Michael O'Connell KC6BAI, Ron Olson AA6PV, Warren Gilleran KD6UD, Tom Hambleton KC6ECH, Travis Wise KB8FOU, Dennis Alexander KB6DPD, Paul Kane KJ6YB, Oscar Hernandez KG5GI, and Constance Hernandez KB5FMN. And last but not least, our very own repeater brought us our last new member for September, Keith Watson WB9KHL.

Congrats to all those who have join the ranks or upgraded in the last month. Those that I know about are John Cole from advanced to extra call AA6QE, John Skinner from student to tech with the call KC6FGX and Herschel Stansch (who is an extra but must wait for each call to be issued) is now temporarily known as KC6EQR.

GOOD & WELFARE

by Herb KB6ABG

Some good news from Karin and Cliff Furlow: Karin's treatment is coming along well.

Some bad news though: Karin and Cliff were notified by Greta (XYL of KI6HD Fred Wallin) that Fred is now a Silent Key as of late August. Our condolences to Greta.

SCCARA MEETING MINUTES FOR SEPT 11, 1989

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM by President Dan Dietz. Attn: 33 with one visitor.

Secretary minutes for August were read and approved.

Kathy KB6ICQ reported that we made \$343.00 from the Sept flea market booth. We will be able to liquidate all of our stock without a fee.

We may have an October flea market in Quements parking lot.

New Business:

Convention: Shorty reported that the reg is going very slow so far. The program is going to be the best ever. Pre reg prize will be a choice of 3 HT's. Hotel reg prize will be a SW Rcvr. All vendor booths are sold. Herb still needs help for the convention.

Dan received a letter from the East Bay ARC to Join their Wed. night net on 21.115 (slow CW) at 8:00 PM and on 28.395 Phone at 9:00 PM.

Program: Stan & Trish gave us a demo on our new GE repeater. They also bought 2 (paid for 1, the other was free) spare transceivers for spare parts. They are going to make repairs & modification to the repeater on Sept 23.

Our October 9 meeting will be a dinner meeting at Little Johns Rest. starting at 6:30 to 7:00. Our speaker will be Rod Stafford KB6ZV.

Bill Stevens W6ZM volunteered to head our nominating committee.

Our November meeting Trish will bring her equipment in order to check your rigs for freq. etc. We will also have elections of officers.

A motion was made and passed to buy the owners and service manuals for our Collins equipment from Frank Quement for about \$60.00.

It was also suggested that we publish the names of who has the combination to

the Comm room with their permission.

It was also suggested that we repair our Ant tower before the convention.

The next board meeting will be on Sept 21 at 7:30 PM at the Red Cross Comm Center.

Adjourn 9:10 PM

Don Village Secretary K6PBQ

Raffle winners: Shawn, AA6PA, W6ACW, KA6YMD, WA2JDO, KC6FGX, WM6M, WY6G

SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING

21 September 1989

Meeting was called to order at 1940 hours by President Dan WM6M. Other members attending: Shorty AE6Z, Ed WD6CHD, Bob N6PCQ, Kathy KB6ICQ, Stan WA6VJY, Lou WA6QYS, Herb KB6ABG, George WA6Q, Frank AA6LL, and Trish WA6UBE.

Old Business: Repeater Committee report by Trish and Stan. Crystal filter is complete and will be installed Sunday. GE repeater is functional, but requires an antenna, controller and feed line.

Convention report by Shorty. 260 signed up; major prizes have been purchased. At this time there is a \$2,000.00 deficit for the banquet. Most personnel have been secured for Convention duty.

Trailer: Kathy stated we are covered when loaning the trailer is the borrower has coverage and we get proof of insurance.

New Business: Trish has a new antenna tuner and want to present a talk on tuners at a future meeting. For the November meeting (tune-up night), Trish will bring a tester to realign members equipment, so bring yours!

Frank proposed we sell the older Linear amplifier and place the money in a

station fund. The donation of Frank Quement's transceiver and linear has made the older machine surplus to our needs.

Motion by Herb, seconded by George to notify our insurance agent to cover the Frank Quement donated equipment. Passed unanimously. Frank has the repair kit for the equipment; will pass it on to Stan.

Kathy lined up Little John's for our October meeting (a dinner meeting). Menu is limited to seven items, more information to come. Frank is talking to Quement about a flea market in their parking lot for October 1990.

Meeting adjourned at 2105.

Respectfully submitted,

Herb KB6ABG, Acting Secretary

REPEATER COMMITTEE REPORT

By the time you read this, (if you are a user of the repeater) you should



Stan WA6VJY and Trish WA6UBE getting ready for the trek back from the repeater site

have noticed an improvement in the intermod situation on our repeater. This weekend Trish WA6UBE, Wally KA6YMD, Mike KB6LCJ, and I went up to the repeater and installed our

filter and amplifier combination on the 2 meter receiver. The receiver now has sufficient bandpass filtering in front of it to virtually eliminate all

Newly added box. Another cavity was also added.



possible sources of intermod interference. Please note that the I.F. bandpass filtering in the receiver has not been corrected. What this means is

that if you are somewhat marginal into the repeater and have greater than about 4kHz deviation, you will have problems keeping the squelch open on the repeater. On your modulation peaks (when you deviate greater than 4kHz) your words will be clipped off by the squelch. If you have any questions regarding this, contact me or Trish.

Our problem with the repeater down south is still with us. If we try to improve receiver sensitivity, we will only hear them better, causing the two repeaters (theirs and ours) to lock each other up long enough to time out whoever has the shorter time-out timer.

A solution to this is PL. We can transmit a PL tone for them to detect and if they hear it, logic circuits can keep their repeater from keying up. This may not really work because they are 5kHz off frequency relative to us. (They are coordinated from southern California on 20kHz channels and we are on 15kHz channel spacing). It is worth a try because the other alternative is for you, the W6UU/R users, to have to use PL to key our repeater up.

The November meeting will be of some help for those of you who want to know how your VHF or UHF rig is working. A service clinic has been

planned and Trish has agreed to bring in a service monitor to check rigs at the meeting. If you need anything adjusted, bring your rig, any cables necessary to operate it on the bench, a power supply capable of operating the rig, and (MOST IMPORTANT!) your owner's manual or service manual showing adjustment points in the rig.

I will be going to the next NARCC meeting in Contra Costa on October 21. Hopefully at that time I will be able to clarify our status with them. (They are the coordinating committee for repeaters on all VHF/UHF bands in northern California.) Also, what they say may affect future improvements we plan for the repeater. They may not want us to relocate the repeater for fear of causing interference to other systems on our frequency pair (146.385/146.985). I will have more to say on this topic in the November issue of the SCCARA-Gram.

Now for the results of the survey I sent out two months ago. I don't have room to report all the results, but here are some of them. Of 160 cards mailed out, 84 cards were returned (that's a 53% return rate). 71% are users of W6UU/R, either on 2M or 440. 57% of the returns favor having a 220MHz repeater. 51% are willing to pay for the use of a phone patch. 63% have PL already available. Of those who don't have PL, 42% are willing to buy a PL unit for their radios. 50% of the membership also maintains membership in one or more other groups, some of which are strictly emergency oriented (RACES or ARES). Only 22% participated in the '88 Field Day and even less (17%) participated in '89 Field Day. (Seems we need to work on some of you who didn't come out. We had FUN!)

Last, but not least, overall only 43% of you felt that some kind of NO-CODE license should be created. Here are the results broken down by license class:

Extra	63% for, 30% against
Advanced	41% for, 53% against
General	23% for, 77% against
Technician	33% for, 55% against
Novice	33% for, 33% against.

(Note: there was a significant number in each license class who had no opinion)

All in all, the survey was quite revealing. The response to it was MUCH better than the last one we ran over a year and a half ago. Thanks to all of you who took the time to fill in the cards and mail them in.

73 for now...Stan WA6VJY

(9/26/89)

NEXT MEETING

OCTOBER DINNER MEETING, MONDAY OCT 9

Our October meeting will be held at Little John's Restaurant located at 1140 Hillsdale Avenue (South-West corner of Almaden Expwy & Hillsdale Ave). Talk-in will be on SCCARA's repeater. Dinner will start at 6:30 to 7:00 PM. Pacific Division Director Rod Stafford, KB6ZV will be speaking immediately after dinner. The following dinners will be offered as the menu for the evening:

Top Sirloin Steak	\$10.50
New York Steak	\$11.95
Broiled Chicken Breast	\$ 9.25
Chicken Alfredo	\$ 9.25
Red Snapper	\$ 8.95
Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce	\$ 6.95
Shrimp Louis Salad	\$ 7.25

All dinners (except the Shrimp Louis) will come with soup or salad, potato or rice, vegetable and roll w/ butter. (The restaurant is under new management so WM6M, WA6D, WA6VJY, & KB6ICQ ate dinner there before the board meeting and found the food to be quite excellent.) Hope to see all of you there and of course spouses are welcome too.

ATTENTION NON-SCCARA MEMBERS

This complimentary copy of the SCCARAGRAM is our invitation to join SCCARA. Please send your check for dues and your mailing label on the back page to SCCARA, PO Box 6, San Jose, CA, 95112. Be sure to make any corrections

needed and add your phone #, license class, and ARRL membership status. Also list the same info along with their name(s) and call(s) of any family members wishing to join with you. The yearly dues are \$5.00 for students under 18, \$15.00 for individuals and \$20.00 for families (hams living at the same address). The dues are 1/2 the yearly amount from July thru December. Let us also encourage you to come to a meeting or class (you need not be a member to attend). Our hotline at 408-249-6909 has more info on time and place.

73 de SCCARA

THANKS TO THE CREW FROM JD

I would like to thank my great crew that helps me with the Tuesday night class. Without all this help, the class would not exist and new HAMS might become extinct.



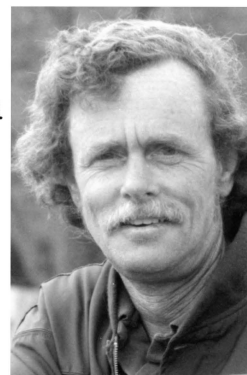
Many, many, many thanks are due my right hand man Frank McCormick AA6LL. Without him helping (and encouraging when he has to work swing shift) I'm not sure how I'd get it altogether.

The CW crew includes Al Nuno W6KIN who makes practice tapes, Tony Sanchez K6MOB who delivers the tapes, and Jack McCoy W6WYW who teaches conversational CW.

Thanks also go to Bill Rausch AA6PA and Jim O'Keefe WE6V who teach technical topics as needed.

Of course we couldn't get along without the ARRL VE testing crew who come and give tests on a regular basis.

Last, but not least (just ask my back), I must thank Roland Welspiel KA6UMI and David Clapper KC6FGW for all the help in setting up and taking down all the equipment it takes to run this class.



D
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W

Please join me in giving this wonderful group a standing ovation for all their help. If you know of anyone who wants to join our ranks or upgrade, please give them the information on our class. It is held on Tuesdays at 6:30 at the Adult Education Center in Room 36. The address is 1840 Benton Street in Santa Clara. It is a self paced course so anyone can start at any time.

DECEMBER HOLIDAYS DINNER

Now is the time to mark your calendar for the December Holidays Dinner. It will be held on our regular meeting night (Monday December 11) at the Le Baron Hotel. Your choices of entrees are: London Broil w/Mushroom Sauce & Potato OR Filet of Sole w/ Rice. Cost per person will be \$20.00 and will include salad, entree, vegetables, rolls & butter, coffee or tea and dessert. A sign up form is included below for your convenience. Sign up now and avoid the last minute rush. We will be having a gift exchange again this year with a suggested value of approx \$7.50. Men will bring one marked for a man, and women will bring one marked for a woman.

HOLIDAY DINNER RESERVATION FORM

Name_____

Phone_____

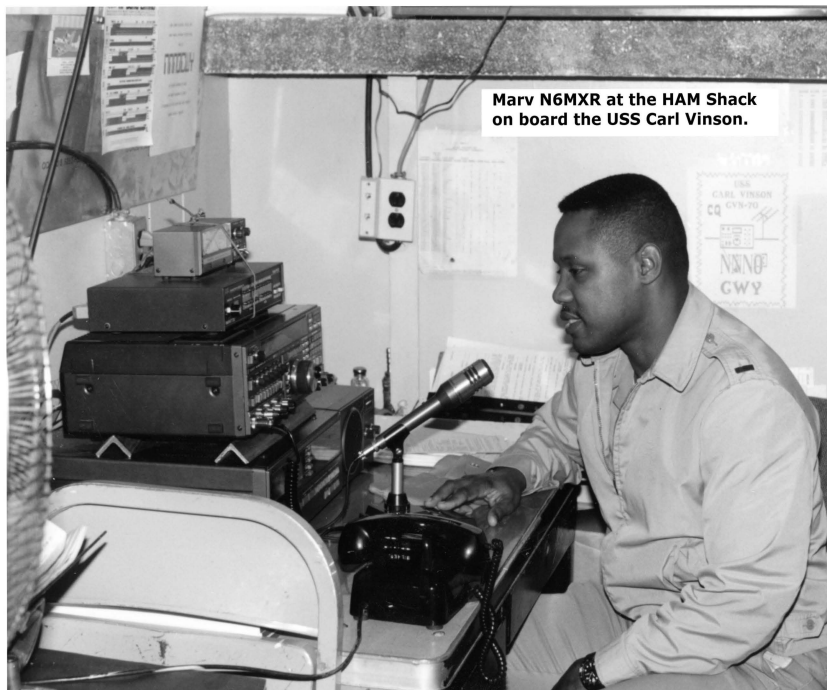
I have enclosed \$_____ for__of Dinners

___ ea London Broil Dinner(s)

___ ea Filet of Sole Dinner(s)

Mail to: SCCARA Holiday Dinner & Dues

PO Box 6, San Jose, CA 95103



Marv N6MXR at the HAM Shack
on board the USS Carl Vinson.

Marv said that most people on board are kept very busy and getting time to operate is difficult. I have also added a picture of the vertical antenna which they use for HF. It works but is mounted below deck level on the starboard side. Great stateside contacts when facing the US but crummy when facing the other way. Any Suggestions. PS there are possibilities for an organized tour when Marv returns. Any Takers??



I mentioned in last months SCCARAGRAM that I was able to tour the Aircraft Carrier USS Carl Vinson. It is a nuclear powered carrier, can travel for extended periods at 30 plus knots, is 1092 feet long, 252 feet across and cost \$3.8 billion.

Marv (pictured above) is a Warrant Officer on board and provided me (and my family) with a very interesting tour. Security is the word on board. I was interested to see that most areas on board were under some kind of security. Nary a door (hatch??) could be found that didn't have a lock on it. As a generality, one side of the ship is used to walk forward and you move to the other side when moving aft.

As you can see, the radio room is a nice one. Marv told be but my mealy brain forgot the brand etc. The station is regularly used while at sea for MARS applications. It is possible for a sailor on board to call home via satellite link but at a cost of \$4 per minute. As you might guess, the ham shack could be a most popular place.

Sailors sign up for stateside call and when the patch is up, the sailor is contacted via the on-board phone system and the conversation begins.

1990 DUES

Here is a handy signup form which can be used for joining SCCARA or paying your 1990 dues. Thanks in advance...

1990 MEMBERSHIP DUES SIGN UP FORM

Call _____ Nov Tech Gen Adv Ex

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

ARRL? Yes No Send ARRL Information

Family Names, Calls and Class of License

Individual \$15.00 Family \$20.00
Students under 18 \$5.00

Mail to: SCCARA Holiday Dinner & Dues
PO Box 6, San Jose, CA 95103

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- P A A R A -

PALO ALTO AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

AUCTION & FLEA MARKET

SATURDAY OCTOBER **14** 9:30 A.M.

AMPEX CAFETERIA, NEXT TO BLDG. 1,
BAY ROAD, REDWOOD CITY, CA

HI WAY 101 to WOODSIDE RD to BAY RD

HAM RADIO GEAR ELECTRONIC PARTS
TEST EQUIPMENT RAFFLE PRIZES
COFFEE & DOUGHNUTS SERVED

DOORS OPEN AT 8:30 A.M.

LOCAL **CALL-IN 147.45** SIMPLEX

FLEA MARKET TABLES \$7.00 Each. TABLES FURNISHED.

AUCTION CHARGES: 10% OF SALES PRICE. BUY BACK
SUBJECT TO \$5.00 MAX. CHARGE PER LOT.

