

# SCCARA-GRAM

Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 10, Number 2

February 1994

## President's Prose

For all of you who couldn't make it to the January SCCARA meeting I must say you missed a good one. Jim Maxwell, W6CF was our guest speaker and gave a very interesting talk on CW. Jim is our newly elected ARRL Pacific Division Vice-Director. Thanks Jim, for a very professional presentation.

February promises to be an interesting month. SCCARA will be starting a new Tech Plus class this month. Classes will start on February 17<sup>th</sup> and will continue every Thursday evening until the end of May. The class will be held at the Santa Clara Adult Education Center on 1840 Benton St. Starting time is 6:45 PM for the CW class and 7:30 PM for the theory class. Anyone interested in the class should contact Mike, KB6LCJ, or myself for more info.

The guest speaker at the February meeting will be Doc, W6ZRJ, who will talk about the National Traffic System.

I have some good news on the Field Day scene: Harold, KK6ZE, has agreed to be this year's Field Day chairman. On the same note, Barbara KD6QEI, and Wally KA6YMD will be handling the cooking chores again. I think we can look forward to a great Field Day this June. Thanks to Harold, Barbara and Wally for volunteering. Incidentally, Barbara has been in Los Angeles as a volunteer helping earthquake victims for the Red Cross.

We will be having an AMTOR/Pactor demo on Wednesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at the Red Cross. If you're interested in the digital modes stop by and take a look. Starts at 7:30 PM at the club station.

As of the January SCCARA board meeting, we have about 120 members signed up for club

## Calendar

- 2/14 SCCARA General Meeting
- 2/28 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:00p, all are welcome)
- 3/12 Foothill Electronic flea market
- 3/14 SCCARA General Meeting
- 3/28 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:00p, all are welcome)

### Next General Meeting

**Day:** Monday, February 14, 1994  
**Time:** 7:30 PM  
**Place:** United Way Building  
**Agenda:** Doc W6ZRJ will talk about the National Traffic System (NTS).

The United Way Building, 1922 The Alameda, San Jose, (about one mile South West from the San Jose Air Port). From I-880: take the Alameda turn-off going South for ½ block then turn left on McKendrie. From the South: go North on the Alameda, ½ block past Hedding turn right on McKendrie.

As soon as you turn onto McKendrie (heading East), turn right into the parking lot just behind the small church on the corner. It's best to park at the far end of the parking lot.

The entrance is up the steps at the South East corner of the building. There is wheelchair access at another door at the North East corner, but for security reasons, only one door is open at a time--someone will have to notify the guard if you need wheelchair access. Also, try not to be too late--the doors may be closed with nobody around to let you in.

The San Jose Red Cross, 333 McKendrie, San Jose, (at the East end of McKendrie, directly across the I-880 freeway (South) from the San Jose Air Port). From I-880, take the Colman turn-off, head South, turn left (East) at the first road--that's McKendrie. From the South, go North on Colman, just past Hedding turn right (East) on McKendrie. Everyone is welcome at the board meetings.

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Articles for the SCCARA-GRAM must be submitted to the editor by the last Monday of the month.

#### OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

President	Doug Eaton, WN6U	377-3736
Vice President	Don Hayden, KC6WMM	867-4643
Secretary	Lloyd DeVaughns, KD6FJI	225-6769
Treasurer	Mike Hastings, KB6LCJ	243-6745
Station Trustee	Stan Getsla, WA6VJY	275-0735
Director	Dan Dietz, WM6M	458-3460
Director	Don Village, K6PBQ	263-2789
Director	Lou Steirer, WA6QYS	241-7999
Director	Stan Getsla, WA6VJY	275-0735
Director	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	265-2336

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#### COMMITTEES

Repeater	Stan Getsla, WA6VJY	275-0735
Flea Market	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	265-2336

#### SCCARA REPEATERS

SCCARA currently owns and operates two repeaters under the call W6UU:

2 meter:	146.385 +
70 cm:	442.425 + PL 107.2

Phone patch capability is available with a small subscription fee. The two meter repeater is located in the Mt. Hamilton foothills, Alum Rock area. The 70 cm repeater is located at the Alexian Brothers Hospital, North of 280 and 101.

#### SCCARA NETS

On our 2 meter repeater: Mondays at 7:30 PM, (not the second monday--it's our meeting night). Net control: Joe WA6DXP.

On 10 meters, 28.385 MHz USB, Thursdays at 8:00 PM. Net control: Wally KA6YMD. Wally usually conducts the ten meter net from the SCCARA club station: W6UW, located at the San Jose Red Cross (just South from the San Jose Air Port).

Visitors welcome to join in on the SCCARA nets.

#### IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

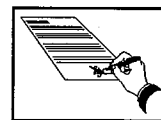
SCCARA HOTLINE:	249-6909
ARRL CLASS HOTLINE:	971-1424
ARRL LICENSE (VEC) HOTLINE:	984-8353

membership. That leaves about 50 of you who haven't gotten around to it yet. Please take a moment to renew your membership. There is a form on the back of the SCCARA-GRAM.

SCCARA has been invited by the Perham Foundation to host one of the monthly Foothill flea markets again this year. We won't know which month we will be getting until March, but please keep it in mind and be ready to help when the time comes. The flea market schedule will be the same as in the past, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday every month from March through September.

That's it for now. Hope to see all of you at the meeting on Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>.

73 de Doug WN6U



## **Treasurer's Treatise**

A preliminary workup of the 1993 annual report was submitted at the January board meeting. A finalized version will be forthcoming in March or April.

Our dues continue to come in. At this point, we are up to 75% of our 1993 level. Why not sit down, fill out the renewal form and sign up for 1994?

73, Mike KB6LCJ, Treasurer

## **Repeater Report**

By now, all of you who have signed up for either AutoDial or AutoPatch should have received your new codes for this year. If you have not received information for a service you signed up for or wish to sign up for another, contact the treasurer (Mike KB6LCJ).

NARCC has indicated to all 2 meter repeater owners that if a change is made to a repeater of any significance, the repeater must be placed in full PL access. This is to reduce shared channel interference (our 2 meter pair is shared

with about 4 other repeaters in the northern California area) as more and more repeaters are put up. Please be aware of this fact and the necessity for you to have PL transmission capabilities in your 2 meter rig. Note: the requirement for full PL access only applies if we move our repeater from its present site.

73, Stan WA6VJY

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## **Feb. Meeting Topic**

The ARRL National Traffic System:  
A Talk By Doc Gmelin, W6ZRJ

What the heck is the ARRL National Traffic System? If you operate on packet, you may have seen references to "NTS Traffic" or you may have heard messages being sent on amateur radio nets on both phone and CW and on certain local repeaters. Well, this is third party traffic where amateurs send messages for their friends and others who are not hams. Much of this traffic goes via the ARRL National Traffic System, (NTS).

Come to the SCCARA Meeting in February and learn all about the NTS and traffic operation. Anyone can take part, even on an occasional basis. Doc, W6ZRJ, NTS operator and former Regional Net Manager will have all the info. plus a lot of funny stories about traffic handling from SCCARA's past years. The program will be entertaining as well as informative.

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## **Meeting Minutes**

Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association  
General Membership Meeting, Jan. 10, 1994

7:38 PM, Doug, WN6U, called the meeting to order. Self introductions followed as is our custom.

The guest speaker for tonight's meeting is Jim Maxwell, W6CF, his topic is "Morse Code, The

Essential Language." Jim says that morse code is the essential language for Amateur Radio Operators. In his talk he explained the roots of Morse Code. The origins of Morse code lay in early Telegraphs or telegraphic forms of communication. These early forms included primitive smoke signals, drums, beacon fires, semaphore, pigeons and rocket signals.

Samuel Finley Breese Morse was one of many people who worked on the invention of the telegraph. Morse was an artist by profession. Alfred Vail, one of Morse's associates, is credited with the invention of the Morse Code and the hand key.

Why Morse Code? More people know morse code than any other language. Morse code is the most widely recognized means of signaling in the world. Morse can get through and be understood when all others fail. Morse code can be heard under the following conditions: 1) poor conditions, 2) heavy interference or jamming, 3) weak signals, 4) EME communications. Morse succeeds on many other kinds of communications. MORSE CODE IS FUN!!

### **BUSINESS MEETING:**

Brad Wyatt, K6WR, the new ARRL Pacific Division Director said a few words about the following: 1) National legislation, 2) Antenna ordinance passed in Monta Serreno, 3) Vanity call signs.

Doug, WN6U, the WA6YEM estate sale of ham gear, there are various ham radio related items for sale. A list of what is available has been posted on N0ARY BBS.

Don, KC6WMM, has been named the awards person for SCCARA. This means that he will check QSL cards for some of the awards the ARRL gives.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Barbara wants field day questionnaire back. We need a field day chairman, call Doug, WN6U, if interested.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Motion to have SCCARA QSL cards printed. Motion second and passed.

Mike, KB6LCJ, has been collecting dues and has had many people sign up. There will be a new Novice/Tech class starting soon.

Ed, WD6CHD, Good and Welfare coordinator for SCCARA would like to have any item relating to Good and Welfare given to him so it can be shared with the membership.

9:45 PM Meeting Adjourned.

73, Lloyd KD6FJI, Secretary

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## Station Status

This evening (1/26/94) I attended a meeting of the Red Cross Communications Committee with Lou WA6QYS. The final floor plan of the radio room has about one half the area of the current radio room and is roughly triangular in shape.

Current plans for the room include the following services: GMRS (REACT), the Civil Air Patrol, and Amateur Radio, along with a Red Cross radio operator's position. The Amateur radio portion will include a total of 6 operator positions consisting of 4 VHF/UHF and 2 HF operating positions.

Each position will be wired for 110VAC, 12VDC, a telephone, and connections for networking a computer. Radios will be suspended under cabinets mounted on the wall above desk-height counter surfaces. Antennas have yet to be selected, both as to type and number. Currently, the hoped for VHF/UHF rig will be the Kenwood TM-741 (a tri-bander mobile rig).

The HF antenna is expected to be installed on a rather short (30'-40') tower. The tower cannot be telescoping, for liability reasons. The actual antenna tower, rotor, antenna, and feedline issues have yet to be resolved.

Station access will continue to be more restrictive than we would wish. Security at the new building will be tighter than the present location. I know this will be a continuing issue of contention between SCCARA and the Red Cross, but I am

sure we will be able to work out some kind of arrangement.

Funding for communications equipment at the Red Cross has always been difficult to obtain. We (SCCARA) might find it necessary to purchase additional feedline, antenna hardware, and/or other equipment as required to maintain our current communication capability. I firmly believe that both the Red Cross AND SCCARA benefit from our continued presence as a communication support organization at the Red Cross facility.

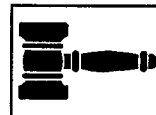
Our 10 meter net continues to meet on Thursday evenings at 8 PM (local time) on 28.385 USB, the net control is Wally KA6YMD. Our 2 meter net is every Monday at 7:30 PM on our repeater (except club meeting night). Please feel free to check in with net control Joe WA6DXP.

73 Stan WA6VJY, station trustee

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## Moved and Seconded

January Board Meeting



The United Way building is reserved through November of 1994 for our meetings.

There will be an agreement made with the city of San Jose and SCCARA concerning emergency use of the repeater.

The Board voted to pay Trish WA6UBE \$540 for electricity, telephone, and housing of our VHF repeater through June of 1994. It is expected that the repeater will be moved to its new location about then. This amount includes all telephone bills since the repeater was moved to her place (on a "temporary" basis) and most of the electricity.

There are 118 members who have paid their 1994 dues so far.

The Board voted to pay the \$400.00 fee for hosting one of the Foothill Flea Markets. The actual date for our turn has not yet been set, but we expect May or June.

We are considering the possibility of SCCARA setting up a packet gateway. If anyone has any ideas or comments please contact Gary

WB6YRU or any other board member.

It was mentioned that some members have trouble getting to and from the meeting since this involves driving at night. If anyone has poor night vision or whatever and would like to car-pool, please coordinate through our Good & Welfare chairman Ed WD6CHD.

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## Newsletter Notes

It seems there is an ugly rumor going around (or at least an opinion held by some) that errors should not be brought to my attention because I might become upset or take offense and quit being the editor.... NOTHING COULD BE FURTHER FROM THE TRUTH! In fact, when nobody participates, even in a small way such as pointing out errors, I get the impression that no one cares. I would much rather get lambasted for the occasional error than never hear anything at all.

So, to those very few who had the guts to make "*constructive criticisms*" and paid enough attention to find them in the first place--THANK YOU. You've helped to make a better newsletter.

By the way, aside from the normal officer and committee columns, I've received an unusually large number of articles this month from club members. This is good. Keep 'em coming guys.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

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## Flea Market

The Electronic Flea markets at Foothill College will start up in March. As usual, they will be on the second Saturday of each month. The word on the street is that the parking fee has gone up to \$2.00 (there are vending machines on the lamp posts--bring quarters). It will again be held in parking lot A (on the left as you enter the college). Sellers enter at the far end, buyers must park elsewhere. There is also a rumor that the seller's spots (a pair of parking spaces) will go from \$10 to

\$15. I hope it's not true.

Officially, the gates open at 6:00 AM, but I have yet to see that happen. If last year is any indication, the lot will be nearly full by then.

Currently, our locker is full. If you have something to donate, you can either hang on to it until after the first flea market or meet us when we load up the Friday before (the time is not yet set, but it will be late afternoon). So far, one person has volunteered to help transport the goodies...we could really use one more.

A couple of people have contacted me after seeing this newsletter with the idea that SCCARA is in charge of the flea market. For the record, the Perham Foundation ((408) 734-4453) is in charge, we just participate. The official "talk-in" is 145.270(-) or 224.360 (PL-100); although, we tend to use our own repeater 146.385(+).

73, Gary WB6YRU

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## ARRL Pacific Div.

As our long-time members well know, SCCARA has had a history of being the home amateur radio club of many ARRL "higher-ups." This tradition is continuing! So, it is with some pride we congratulate Brad Wyatt K6WR, the new ARRL Pacific Division Director and Jim Maxwell W6CF, the new ARRL Pacific Division Vice Director.



Brad K6WR

Jim W6CF



## SCCARA's CLASS

An instructor meeting was held on Thursday 01/27. We laid out the dates that we would each instruct and made final plans. All systems are a GO! I have already received three sign-ups for the class plus several phone calls.

If you would like to help out (in any way), give me a call, drop a note on packet, send a smoke signal or whatever. We could use your help.

73.. Mike KB6LCJ

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## New Members

SCCARA would like to welcome the following people to the club:



John KE6CTH



Jon Newman  
(studying for license)

If you guys have any questions, ideas, or comments about SCCARA or any activities, please don't hesitate to ask. There is a list of club "higher-ups" in each SCCARA-GRAM.

If you joined SCCARA recently and would like to get your picture here, please see the club photographer, Bob Keller, KB6OHO, at any meeting.

## New DXAC member

I'm happy to announce today (Jan. 17, 1994) that Jack Troster, W6ISQ, was appointed representative to the ARRL DX Advisory Committee from the Pacific Division. Jack, a long time DXer and contester, succeeds Jim Maxwell, W6CF, on the DXAC. Jim was recently elected as Vice Director of the Pacific Division. As Jack said, "I'm sure it will be interesting!" Jim served in exemplary fashion both as the Pacific Division representative for many years and as the corresponding secretary of the DXAC. Good luck, Jack!

Brad Wyatt, K6WR,  
ARRL Pacific Division Director

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## SCCARA Field "Daze"

Other than the Expedition to Mt. Hamilton chronicled by Hank Brown, W6HB in a recent issue of QST, we have no record of any participation by SCCARA in ARRL Field Days until 1948. Hank, who was a President of SCCARA in the 1920s, now lives in Los Osos. When I talked to him recently he said that his recollections are getting a little dim and he doesn't remember any SCCARA Field Day activity prior to WWII.

SCCARA did not take part in the 1947 Field Day, which was the first one held after WWII. Some of the members of the club decided that we should try for the 1948 event, so we started organizing in January of that year.

After much discussion, we decided to go up to Mt. Loma Prieta. Today that now famous mountain bristles with antennas, and there is a gate that stops anyone from going up the road to the top from the plateau at the base. But in the late 1940s, the only thing at the top of the mountain was the State Forestry fire lookout tower. There was no radio at all, the only communication being a telephone line. Joe Oliver, W6YQN, Clay Morin, W6GFJ and I had gone up to the top of the

mountain the previous summer with a GP-9 rig that we had borrowed from Paul Tibbs, W6WGO.

The GP-9 was a surplus Army Air Corps aircraft transmitter from WWII, which was popular at the time with mobilers. Paul later used that rig mobile on 75 meters on a two week trip to Northern California. Mobile radio was not that prevalent at the time. In general, amateurs of the day did use commercial receivers, the Hallicrafters being the most popular. Some amateurs at that time did use surplus receivers. In general, ham stations featured separate transmitters and receivers, since there were only a few transceivers, all military as I recall, and not considered to be very good.

We decided to go into a high category, and as I recall, we were in the 10 or 11 transmitter category. In fact in a later Field Day, SCCARA entered the 14 transmitter class and won. I think we were the only entry. As noted above, the rigs used in that first time SCCARA Field Day were not the commercial rigs of today. In fact, I think that the 1948 Field Day was held before the introduction of the first popular transmitter kit, the Johnson Viking, later called the Viking I.

The club operated on both phone (AM) and CW and in general, there was one station for each category. In those days, band switching rigs were little known and if you did switch bands on your transmitter, it was done with plug in coils. Most receivers were band switching, but had a lot of ills because of this. Most covered all frequencies from 550 KHz to 30 MHz. (At that time it was 550 kilocycles per second, as Hienrich Hertz had been immortalized by the term Hertz, meaning one cycle per second. We all called it KC for kilocycles per second. In fact, today you will still hear some of us old timers use KC instead of KHz.) The receiver had a special dial calibrated for each amateur band and you had to set each band on the main dial first. Calibration wasn't too good, so us old timers had to use crystal calibrators or some such device to make sure we were inside the band.

Well finally the day of Field Day arrived and off we went to the top of the mountain to set up. For power, we used a generator provided by Bob Mason, head of County Communications. Bob was not a ham, but had a lot of hams working for

him as technicians. Jack Atkinson, W6CER, was his chief technician and came up to the mountain with us. I wish I could remember every who took part. Frank Qument, W6NX; Harry Engwicht, W6HC; Paul Tibbs, W6WGO; Joe Oliver, W6YQN; Harry Smith, W6RNG; Frank Glass, W6MVL (Now K6RQ); Roy Cousins, W6LZL; Buck Buchannon, W6VIQ; "Pop" Nelson, W6FON; Walt Nelson, W6AVJ, and Clay Morin, W6GFJ are some that I can remember.

We also started the tradition of the Field Day BBQ at that time as I recall. I think Matt Kovich, W6RUO, had started to supply the steaks at a fabulous price. Matt ran Sodelity Meet Company and was a member of the club. The tradition of the steak BBQ has continued all these years and is an outstanding part of Field Day for SCCARA.

While SCCARA did not win the 1948 Field Day, it was a lot of fun and led to many other outdoor activities for the club, including many more Field Days. How about the Field Days on Mt. Hamilton and how many can remember the Qument Electronic Breakfasts held at the Athenour Ranch?

73, Doc W6ZRJ

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## **All the way from UK**

Peter chadwick, G3RZP the outgoing president of the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) visited our club at the January meeting. This position is the equivalent of president of the ARRL. Peter, a long time active HAM on HF in the U.K., lives near Swindon, West of London. He is employed by GEC Plessey Semiconductors as a senior principal engineer. He was in San Jose at the time of our meeting attending an IEEE standards meeting concerning wireless LAN's. Through a series of coincidental meetings at this IEEE session, he and some other HAM attendees were persuaded to attend our meeting.

During our meeting, one of the stories Peter told was about early day landline telegraph, called "Cooke-Wheatstone," involving a murder in Slough,

several miles outside London, and the subsequent fleeing of the perpetrator by train to London. The perpetrator was wearing the garb of a Quaker in hopes of being lost in the crowds of London and completing his escape. That telegraph used a 5 bit code which required the omission of some letters of the alphabet in order to include the numbers. The message to London from Slough stated that the wanted man was traveling in the garb of a "Kwaker" as the Q had been omitted from the code. Imagine the surprise of the wanted man arriving in London and finding the London police waiting for him at the train.

Peter's father, G8ON, was a long time HAM in the U.K. Peter also talked a bit about the U.K. arrangements for passing on relatives' call signs. It was appropriate information as it relates to the current FCC Docket 93-305 dealing with vanity call signs.

Peter described some of this radio equipment, including some using all varieties of tubes (6L6G, 5Y4, 6SJ7, et al.) as parts of his linear amplifier system. For some of you newer members, these were glass or metal tubes that lit up and were hot to the touch. You could see and feel if they were working.

Among Peter's many papers, some 18 articles were published in amateur radio magazines including one in QST. In 1986, his lecture at RF Expo. in California on *Phased Noise, Intermodulation and Dynamic Range in Receivers* was voted to be among the top ten papers presented and the IEEE invited him to travel at their expense to deliver the lecture to the Iowa chapter in Cedar Rapids. As RSGB president, he visited the ARRL HQ in Newington in 1993 where he was personally presented with his DXCC certificate by Dave Sumner, K1ZZ. He has also been the top scoring single operator outside the U.S.A. in an ARRL 160 M contest. Among his many antennas and equipment, his rig is a much modified FT102 which belonged to his father. He is married to Lynne, G4FNC, who had her call when they met at a radio club in 1976. Among their wedding presents were a pair of vacuum variable capacitors!

Many thanks to our guest speaker, Jim

Maxwell, W6CF, for bringing Peter and other guests (Rod Stafford, KB6ZV, ARRL First V.P., Dave and Barbara Leeson, W6QHS and KK6QM, Doug Grant, K1DG) along to the meeting. Jim's talk on Morse Code was very entertaining and enlightening.

73, Brad K6WR

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## Packet Pieces

### Downloaded from the packet network:

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Date: 19 Jan 94 01:10

From: N3NGB@WB3FFV

To: HUMOR@ALLUS

Subject: Solomon Short 01/15/94

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"You can't fight the law of conservation of energy. You can bargain with it, but you can't fight it."

"Bread always falls butter-side down. If it doesn't, you buttered it on the wrong side."

"History is full of revisionists. Where it used to say, 'THOU SHALT NOT KILL' it now says, 'except as specified in section III-b, paragraph 12, sub-section D, schedule 3.' If that still doesn't suit you, wait until next years commandments come out and trade it in for something that does."

"Common sense isn't"

"A problem can be found for almost any solution."

"History is written by the survivors."

"Art is almost always a political statement. Politics is almost always and art."

-Solomon Short

73 de David, N3NGB@WB3FFV.MD.USA.NA

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Keep smiling! ☺ 73, Gary WB6YRU

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## ARRL PACIFIC DIVISION UPDATE FEBRUARY 1994

by Brad Wyatt, K6WR, Director, Pacific Division, ARRL  
18400 Overlook Rd. #5, Los Gatos CA 95030-5850  
(408) 395-2501

Packet: K6WR@N0ARY.#NOCAL.CA



### Vanity Call Signs; Electronic Filing of 610s; Related Matters:-

The FCC, in a meeting on Dec. 29, 1993, issued PR Docket 93-305 concerning the issuance of vanity callsigns. The deadline for comment is March 7, 1994. Details of this docket will be on page 84 in February *QST*. Please also read the Editorial in the February 1994 *QST*. If you would like further information before you receive your copy, it is currently available on packet, DX packet cluster, available from me for an SASE, or on Internet from the ARRL information server. Send a message to [info@arrl.org](mailto:info@arrl.org) with a single line message ONLY as its text: SEND FCC-93-305

The docket is pretty plain vanilla. It provides no phase-in or priority system, although there has been much talk that one would be strongly considered if it is asked for. The short version of what's out now is that any ham may pay "the appropriate fee" and ask for up to ten callsigns. The applicant will get the first one on the list that's available. If none asked for are available, the applicant keeps the old call. Clubs and MilRec stations would get a call in sequence if they don't specify (and pay for) one they want. A new form 610-V is being proposed to ask for the calls. A callsign formerly held by a decedent may not be issued for two years after the death, and one that expired (or vacated under these procedures) may not be issued for two years after the expiration or date it was vacated. FCC asks for input on how to get availability information on-line. 610-Vs may not be filed through a VE administering a test. New vanity callsigns will bear the original license expiration date.

Some key questions one might ask include: Do we want a priority system of issuing the callsigns? That is, do we want it phased in? Should first crack be based on longevity? Class of license? Previously held calls?

The plan has at least one obvious questionable feature. If one gets a vanity call, the old callsign is

vacated. If he or she then decides not to keep the vanity call at renewal time (under current statute, a new fee would have to be paid), he or she seems to get the NEXT IN LINE.

Please let me have your comments verbally, written or whatever ASAP so I can help the Board consolidate a position. I am also a member of the Ad-Hoc Committee of the Board to develop the ARRL position. Comments are already arriving, but I would like a lot more!

It is possible that the vanity callsign procedure, the electronic filing of 610s, and the club / military recreation callsign plans might come into being as early as "late summer 1994", but there are no promises as yet.

### Antenna Ordinances:-

Rusty Epps, Assistant Director and Volunteer Counsel, has agreed to lead a Pacific Division-wide effort to develop a database of antenna ordinances and related materials for the Pacific Division. This effort is part of a national overall program to index and catalog cases and related materials with the goal to help develop more workable antenna ordinances.

So far we have obtained information available from ARRL HQ on actual antenna ordinances and related items in the Pacific Division, so we have their very small nucleus with which to start.

Please be actively involved in this program by visiting and/or calling your town and/or county Planning Commission. Sometimes they will send the material you request, or you may have to pick it up in person. They may even send it directly to Rusty for you. We need the help of all hams in the Pacific Division on this project.

Also, please let Rusty know if there is a proposal for an antenna ordinance in your town and if so, the contents of the proposal. Rusty would also like to know if your town does NOT have an ordinance. Rusty needs everything related to this entire field!

All the information will, of course, be available to anyone in the ham community who needs it.

Send all the material to Charles K. (Rusty) Epps, W6OAT, 651 Handley Trail, Redwood City, CA 94062.

Also know that there is a committee of the Board working to develop some new wording for PRB-1, the FCC Preemption Order, asserting that municipalities must make "reasonable accommodation" to amateurs. What the committee will develop and what the FCC will ultimately do is still in progress, but be assured that many talented people are working on the problem.

#### **Other FCC actions:-**

The Report and Order in PR Docket 92-289, concerning, among other things, the creation of a subband at 222 - 222.15 MHz for non repeater operation and Novice usage from 222 - 225 MHz except as repeater control operators, will take effect on Feb. 1, 1994. Complete details are on page 83 in the January 1994 *QST*.

The "bioeffects" proceeding (ET Docket 93-62) filing deadline has been extended to January 25, 1994.

The "Instant Licensing" PR Docket 93-267 comment filing date was Jan. 10, 1994, with the reply comment date one month later. Thanks to those who wrote to the FCC about the plan and sent copies to me. It appears very unclear at the moment what will happen to this proposal in light of the new Docket 93-305 concerning Vanity Call Signs and electronic filing of 610s. See page 9, January 1994, *QST*, for an Editorial and page 92, December 1993, *QST*, for more information.

There are many other Amateur Radio Service proceedings pending at the FCC; however, there appears not to be any firm schedule available on specific dockets as the main FCC focus seems to be on cable TV and related matters. Watch for further information.

#### **Scholarships and Awards:-**

There are many scholarships covering a wide range of situations available to licensed Amateurs. The ARRL Foundation, The Dayton Amateur Radio Association, The Foundation for Amateur Radio, to name only a few, will be announcing their dates for applications for their 1994 scholarships. Watch *QST* and other amateur radio publications for details as they are announced.

Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award. Do you know a licensed Amateur under the age of 21, he or she might qualify for this award. Write to ARRL HQ for information. The nominations are to be sent to

your Section Manager. See page 8 of any *QST* for your SM's address. There are many young Amateurs who might qualify for nomination, but few are actually nominated.

The Pacific Division and ARRL gives many awards for outstanding service. Included are awards to clubs (by sizes), Ham of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, Ham Recruiter of the Year, and Certificates of Merit. These awards will be made at Pacificon94. Please give serious thought to nominations. Drop me a note for the details.

#### **Other News:-**

Do you want to take an amateur exam? Call the ARRL VEC hot line, (408) 984-8353 for exam information.

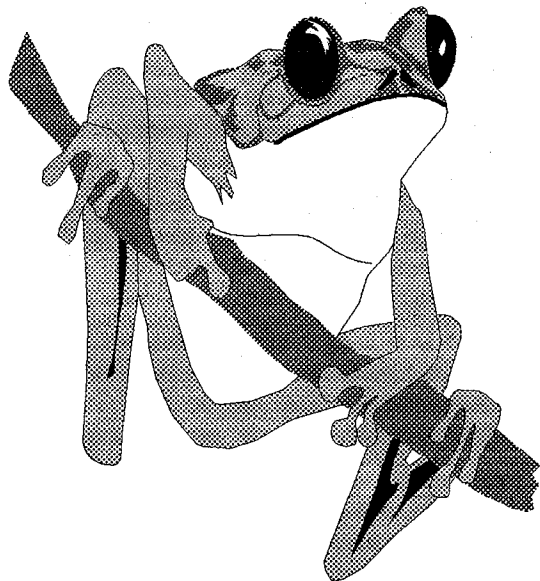
Do you know someone who wants to become a Ham? Call 1-800-32NEWHAM (1-800-326-3942). He / she will get "how to" information, a list of local clubs, a list of local instructors and a list of local volunteer examiners.

#### **Coming Events:-**

- Livermore Swap Meet - 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College in Livermore, CA, 7AM to Noon, all year. Talk in 147.045 from west, 145.35 from the east. Contact Noel Anklam, KC6QZK, (510) 447-3857 eves.
- ARRL International DX Contest - CW, Feb. 19-20, 1994.
- ARRL International DX Contest - Phone, March 5-6, 1994.
- Foothill Swap Meet - 2nd Saturday, March - September. Foothill College, Los Altos, CA.
- International DX Convention, April 15-17, 1994, Holiday Inn at Visalia, CA. Contact: Don Bostrom, N6IC, 4447 Atoll Ave., Sherman Oaks, CA 91423, (H) (818) 784-2590.
- West Coast VHF/UHF Conference, Cerritos, CA, April 29 - May 1, 1994. Contact Bob Hastings, K6PHE, 854 Bernard Dr., Fullerton CA 90701 (714) 990-9203.
- Dayton HamVention, Dayton, OH, April 29 - May 1, 1994. Contact P. O. Box 964, Dayton OH 45401-0964 (513) 276-6930.
- Fresno Hamfest. May 7-8, 1994, Riverland Park at Kingsburg, CA. Contact James Wakefield, AH6CO, 1333 N. Palm Ave., Fresno CA 93728.
- ARRL Field Day, June 25-26, 1994.
- Pacificon '94, Hilton Hotel at Concord CA, Oct. 21 - 23, 1994, Contact Richard Brown, KT6X, 4125 Sacramento St., Concord CA 94521 (510) 676-9048.

# Amateur Radio Class

**Are you tired of just hanging around?  
Why not jump on over to our early  
spring licensing class and study to get  
your ticket. Class is taught by hams  
for prospective hams.**



Start Date	Thursday 02/17/94
Duration	14 weeks
Time	Code 6:45 - 7:30 Theory 7:30 - 9:00 The code practice is optional.
Place	Santa Clara Adult Ed 1840 Benton St. Santa Clara, Ca. 95050
Cost	The class is free. The book "Now You're Talking" is required. This will be available at class start for about \$20.
Info	Call the Class hotline at 408 971-1424 or call Mike KB6LCJ at 408 243-6745

**I would like to become a Ham! Sign me up!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to SCCARA, P.O. Box 6, San Jose, Ca. 95103

# S.C.C.A.R.A. Membership Form for 1994

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: E A G T+ T N

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Licensed since (yr): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ New member: Yes No A.R.R.L. Member: Yes No

For family memberships (at the same address), please list other name(s) and call(s):

Annual membership dues are payable at the first of the year and expire the following December 31. New members joining on or after July 1, pay half the annual membership dues.

Annual Membership dues: Individual \$15 Family \$20 Student (under 18) \$5 .....  
Renewing? Please help update our database: What year did you first join? \_\_\_\_\_

Send the SCCARA-GRAM by first class mail for \$3.50 extra .....  
\_\_\_\_\_

I want \_\_\_\_\_ SCCARA badges @ \$3.00 each. Badge name & call: \_\_\_\_\_ ....  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please send the repeater Auto-Dial codes (no charge, circle one): Yes No

Please send the repeater Autopatch codes \$10.00 (\$15 if family membership).....  
\_\_\_\_\_

A COPY OF YOUR LICENSE IS REQUIRED FOR ALL REPEATER CODES

TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

Give this completed form (or copy) with payment to the treasurer at any meeting or mail to:

SCCARA membership P.O. Box 6 San Jose CA 95103-0006

SANTA CLARA COUNTY  
AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 6  
San Jose, CA 95103-0006

Affiliate of the American Radio Relay League

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