

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 14, Number 8

August 1998



Picnic Time

SCCARA will host our annual picnic this year on Sunday, August 30, at Mary Gomez Park in Santa Clara (same as before). The Park is located at north-west corner of Forbes and San Tomas. (Enter from the west via Bucher Ave.)

SCCARA will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, sodas, condiments, and utensils. Please bring a side dish to share.

The time will be about 11 AM until mid afternoon. This is a family outing, so bring the family for a great afternoon of eye ball QSO's and fun.

73

Don Village, K6PBQ

Hello Secretary?

We are still hoping one of you will volunteer to finish out the term of secretary. Currently, the treasurer (for the most part) is doing double duty to pick up the slack. Won't someone please have pity and help out?

This Just In...

ARRL Proposes Simplified Amateur License Structure

The ARRL Board has agreed to propose a simplified Amateur Radio licensing structure with four classes. Lengthy discussion and debate during the Board's meeting July 16-18 led to majority support for a plan for four written examination elements to establish amateurs' operational and technical qualifications instead of the present five, and two Morse code examination elements instead of the present

Calendar

- 8/8 Foothill Electronic Flea Market--WE HOST!
- 8/10 SCCARA General Meeting
- 8/17 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)
- 8/30 SCCARA Picnic

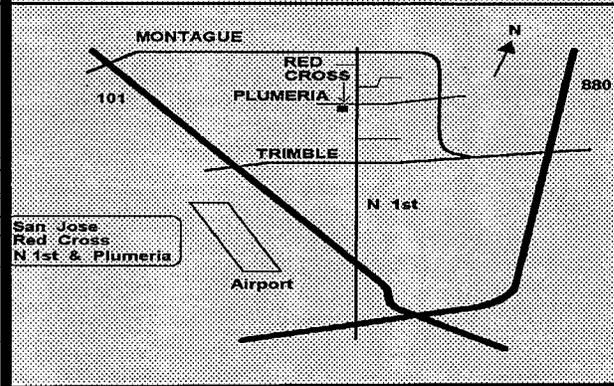
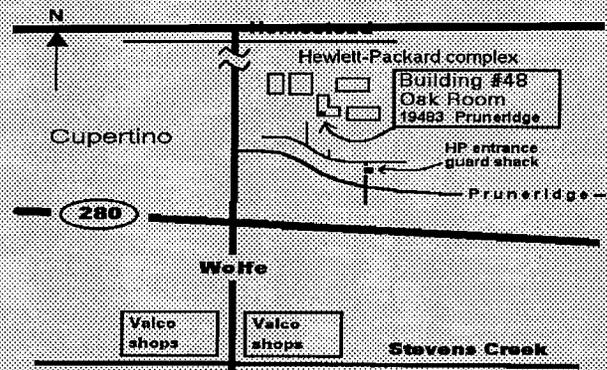
Next General Meeting:

Day: Monday, August 10, 1998

Time: 7:30 PM

Place: Hewlett-Packard's Oak Rm, Bld #48

Agenda: Folks from S.J. Police will talk about they coordinate with HAMS in emergencies.



The **SCCARA-GRAM** is published monthly by the **SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION**, PO Box 6, San Jose CA 95103-0006. Permission to reprint articles is hereby granted, provided the source is properly credited.

SCCARA was formed as a general interest amateur radio club in 1921 and became a non-profit corporation in 1947. SCCARA is an affiliate of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). The club station is W6UJW.

The deadline for SCCARA-GRAM articles is one week before the last Monday of the month.

OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

President	Jack Ruckman, AC6FU	379-4846
Vice President	Barbara Britten, KD6QEI	293-3847
Secretary		
Treasurer	Lloyd DeVaughns, KD6FJI	225-6769
Station Trustee	Stan Getsla, WA6VTY	275-0735
Director	Clark Murphy, KE6KXO	262-9334
Director	Don Apte, KK6MX	629-0725
Director	Don Village, K6PBQ	263-2789
Director	Lou Steirer, WA6QYS	241-7999
Director	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	293-3847

STAFF

Editor	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	265-2336
Facilities	Don Village, K6PBQ	263-2789

COMMITTEES

Repeater	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	293-3847
Field Day	Dan Dietz, WM6M	458-3460

SCCARA REPEATERS

SCCARA owns and operates two repeaters under the call W6UU:

2 meter:	146.385 +	PL 114.8 (none for basic use)
70 cm:	442.425 +	PL 107.2

Phone patch capability is available (auto-dial and auto-patch). 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 two meter repeater: Mondays at 7:30 PM, (not the second monday--it's our meeting night). Coordinator: Don K6PBQ.

On ten meters, 28.385 MHz USB, Thursdays at 8:00 PM. Net control: Wally KA6YMD.

Visitors welcome to join in on the SCCARA nets.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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

three.

Under the plan adopted by the Board, the entry level to Amateur Radio would be known as Class D and would convey the privileges of the present Technician license. The written examination would be at the same level of difficulty as that of the present Technician examination, but consistent with the privileges of the license. All amateurs now licensed as Technicians would become Class D.

The next step would be known as Class C and would convey the privileges of the present General license, but with phone sub-bands expanded by 50 kHz on 75 and 15 meters and by 25 kHz on 40 meters. Class C would be the entry level to high frequency (HF) operating privileges. To upgrade from Class D to Class C, an amateur would pass a written examination on the operational and technical qualifications required for HF operation and a 5 word per minute Morse code examination. All amateurs now licensed as General, Technician Plus, and Novice would become Class C. The expansion of the telephony sub-bands would result from "refarming" of the Novice CW bands that are no longer required for their original purpose.

The third step would be known as Class B and would convey the privileges of the present Advanced license, but with phone sub-bands expanded by 50 kHz on 75 and 15 meters and by 25 kHz on 40 meters. To upgrade from Class C to Class B, an amateur would pass a more advanced written examination similar in difficulty to the present Element 4A and a 12 word per minute Morse code examination. All amateurs now licensed as Advanced would become Class B.

The final step would be known as Class A and would convey the full privileges of the present Amateur Extra Class, with telephony sub-bands expanded by 50 kHz on 75 and 15 meters and by 25 kHz on 40 meters. To upgrade from Class B to Class A, an amateur would be required to pass the most difficult written examination in the sequence. Consistent with the practice in many other countries, no additional Morse code examination would be required beyond 12 words per minute. All amateurs presently licensed as Amateur Extra Class would become Class A.

In their discussions, Board members emphasized that the objective is to rationalize and simplify the amateur licensing structure without reducing the requirements for any class of license. Where reductions in Morse code requirements are proposed, there would be a corresponding increase in written examination standards. On the other hand, Board members were adamant that simplifying the structure should not come at the expense of privileges already earned by amateurs. Therefore, present Novice and Technician Plus licensees, having earned entry-level HF operating privileges, would be granted the new entry-level HF license.

Adoption of the simplification plan marks the culmination of 30 months of work by the Board, during which time the input

of literally thousands of ARRL members and other amateurs and prospective amateurs was considered. The Board debated a wide variety of options including both smaller and larger numbers of license classes, higher and lower qualification levels, and different privileges. Nine of the 15 Directors voted in favor of the plan, with six opposed. Following the meeting ARRL President Rod Stafford, W6ROD, observed, "The debate was at times contentious and the result was not unanimous. Some Board members preferred greater simplification; others were uncomfortable with some of the changes being proposed. However, every Board member, without exception, left the meeting knowing that each of his or her colleagues did what they believe is best for the future of Amateur Radio."

Members are urged to contact their ARRL directors to comment on this proposal. E-mail addresses are on page 10 of any issue of QST. Members also may comment on the proposal via the ARRL Web site, <http://www.arrl.org> or via e-mail at restrux@arrl.org.

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, July 13, 1998



{No minutes were submitted by the deadline. -Ed.}

Board Meeting, July 20, 1998



{No minutes were submitted by the deadline. -Ed.}

WANTED

👉 Alive 👈

Reward - \$25

The club is looking for a microphone for its Icom IC28A two-meter mobile. Rumor has it that either a HM12 or HM36 will work. A new one would be a little expensive, we're hoping we can pick up a used one...SCCARA is willing to pay up to \$25 for it.

We also need a microphone for the club's IC735 HF rig (no reward for that one--it's considerably simpler).

If anyone has either one laying around that you don't

need let us know. Or if you find one at the flea market, please get it for us. Contact Don K6PBQ.

Vacation Time

In May, Joan and I and our daughter Sheryl spent a week of our vacation in Hawaii. It's our third trip to the islands. This time we only went to the island of Oahu. Last time we were on Kauai and Maui. We spent most of our time sight seeing this trip. We started in a nice two-bedroom condo hotel in Waikki. We visited the Polynesian Culture Center, Waimea Falls Park, a Luau, and the Don Ho Show. The Maritime Museum in Honolulu was also very interesting!

I did have a little time for HAM radio with my two-meter HT. There are several repeaters in the area and one is linked to the island of Maui, so from our condo I was able to communicate with a HAM in Maui! I met Charles Lum Kee, KH6AB at the banquet a couple of years ago at Pacificon. He said to give him a call if I was ever in Hawaii. I tried to phone his pager, but the satellites were down. So, I met another HAM on the repeater who knew him. He had Charles give me a call at the hotel. We were both too busy to get together, so we had a land line QSO. The weather was quite windy with a little rain.

Aloha!

Don & Joan Village, K6PBQ

Field Day Report

Another Field Day is in the books. We came, we saw, we cooked out! We also put in another very good effort with a score of which we can be proud. Those participating in Field Day always enjoy one of the premiere amateur radio events by helping set up stations, visiting, operating and everything in between. It's a multipurpose event both meant to sharpen and demonstrate our operational and organizational skills plus to bring everyone into a team spirit for a weekend.

Our team made 470 CW contacts and 455 phone contacts and a estimated score of 3390 points. I say "estimated" as ARRL will assign bonus points to our summary submittal for the final total score. The number of contacts is up from our 1997 contact total thanks for the many tireless operators we had. I am proud of effort although we could have used more operators and attendees.

My thanks to Barbara, KD6QEI and Wally, KA6YMD for providing the food service plus the many other things they did. Thanks for Don, K6PBQ and Gary, WB6YRU for their captain work at the CW and phone stations respectively. And thanks to Lou, WA6QYS for his logistics work plus Doug, WN6U; Mike, KB6LCJ, Don,

KO6HH; Stan, WA6VJY, Clark, KE6KXO and the many others that spent their weekend with us in making Field Day successful. And lastly, thanks to those of you who attended.

This is early notice to be thinking about 1999 Field Day! Mark your calendars now so you won't miss out on the fun.

Dan Dietz, WM6M

From KB6OHO Estate

The ICOM IC-735 owned by KB6OHO (SK) has been donated by his XYL to SCCARA. It has been checked with the aid of WN6U, AC6FU, K6PBQ and KO6HH. It was used at Field Day this year.

73, Don KO6HH

Help Wanted

The Children's Discovery Museum in San Jose needs several volunteer amateur radio operators to operate the radio station. Duties are to demonstrate the station to the children and adult visitors to the museum and encourage them to talk on the radio and answer their questions.

The station consists of a HF station consisting of a Kenwood TS140S and a Cushcraft R5 vertical. They also have a two-meter rig with a computer for packet, etc.

Help is needed during the week (closed on Monday) and on weekends. Please contact myself, Don Village, K6PBQ at 408 263-2789 or Ralf Ericksnon, WA6CQA at 408 245-6034.

73, Don K6PBQ

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the packet network:

=====
Date: 20 Jul 98 05:22
From: W1AW@XE1RAT
To: NEWS@ARRL
Subject: ARLB050 ARRL says scanner proposals could hurt hams

From ARRL Headquarters, Newington CT July 15, 1998

ARRL says scanner proposals could hurt hams

The ARRL has told the FCC that some of its recent proposals to tighten scanning receiver rules "constitute severe regulatory overkill" and could harm law-abiding amateurs. The League made the comments in response to last month's FCC Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 98-100 (ET Docket 98-76).

The ARRL said it's "sensitive" to the FCC's concern that devices not be able to readily intercept cellular calls. But, the League added, some of the FCC's proposals could result in "insufficiently defined regulations" that would prohibit or unreasonably restrict the making and selling of ham and test gear. Some product lines could become prohibitively expensive or prohibited altogether by the proposals, the League asserted.

Among other things, the League asked the FCC to avoid requiring scanning receivers in ham equipment to block access to frequency-control circuits, and to not entirely prohibit frequency converter or transverter kits for use in the Amateur Service. The League said the net effect of the kits ban would be to prohibit any frequency converters, even though they would not be used or useful for cellular reception, and asked the FCC to create an exception for Amateur Service frequency converters.

The League also asked that amateur receivers not be required to undergo potentially expensive direct-pickup immunity testing, and it urged the Commission to more clearly define its proposed rules to avoid unintended consequences that could adversely affect hams.

The League agreed that some extended coverage ham transceivers have image responses that make them able to receive cellular signals. But the League said this is not widespread and "largely not an issue in the Amateur Service," because the transceivers are not made, marketed, bought, or used for cellular image reception. Manufacturers could configure products to preclude cellular image frequency reception, the ARRL said.

The League said that current language banning the manufacture or sale of scanning receivers that are "capable of readily being altered" is sufficient. But the ARRL said requiring tuning and control circuits be made inaccessible would be "an overly broad requirement," and that potting or encapsulating frequency-control hardware "is simply unnecessary for most amateur equipment."

The League said such a requirement would limit the ability of hams to legitimately experiment with or to even repair their own equipment and could needlessly drive up the cost of ham gear and make repair expensive or impossible. "The potting requirement is severe regulatory overkill and should not be enacted," the League said. "There are sufficient, less burdensome regulations now in effect and

as proposed."

The League also called the FCC's proposed definition of test equipment "unreasonably limiting" and advised the Commission to correct the problem by eliminating the word "professional" from its definition.

A copy of the League's full comments is available at <http://www.arrl.org/announce/ET98-76-cmt.pdf>

=====
Date: 14 May 98 17:40
From: N0ZO@N0ZO
To: QST@ARRL
Subject: ARLB033 Local CB enforcement bill passes Senate

From ARRL Headquarters, Newington CT May 14, 1998

Local CB enforcement bill passes Senate

A bill giving state and local governments the power to enforce federal regulations covering illegal CB transmitters has passed the US Senate. Senate Bill 608, introduced by Wisconsin Sen Russell Feingold, was incorporated as an amendment into S 1618, the Consumer Anti-Slamming Act, approved May 12 on a 99-to-1 vote (Sen Biden not voting). The measure, as redrafted from the original bill with assistance from the ARRL, totally exempts Amateur Radio from its provisions.

The measure requires the FCC to provide technical guidance and includes an appeals process.

It's not yet known if or when the entire bill will come up for a vote in the House of Representatives.

In remarks read into the Congressional Record of May 12, Feingold spoke about his cooperation with the ARRL and with hams in Wisconsin and said the amendment incorporates a number of provisions suggested by the League.

"First, the amendment makes clear that the limited enforcement authority provided to localities in no way diminishes or affects FCC's exclusive jurisdiction over the regulation of radio," he said.

"Second, the amendment clarifies that the possession of an FCC license to operate a radio service for the operation at issue, such as an amateur station, is complete protection against any local law enforcement action authorized by this amendment."

Feingold pointed out Amateur Radio's tradition as a self-regulatory service. "The ARRL is very involved in resolving interference concerns both among their own

members and between ham operators and residents experiencing problems," he said.

Feingold introduced his original version of the bill nearly two years ago after receiving complaints from constituents about interference from illegal CB transmitters. In 1996, the City of Beloit, Wisconsin, passed an ordinance giving the city the power to enforce FCC regulations concerning CB interference.

{The following is an excerpt from the SpaceNews packet bulletin. Anyone up for some REAL DX? -Ed.}

=====
Date: 12 Jul 98 22:20
From: K5ARH@K5ARH
To: NEWS@AMSAT
Subject: * SpaceNews 13-Jul-98 *

SpaceNews
MONDAY JULY 13, 1998

* LUNAR PROSPECTOR RECEPTION *

=====
Joe Steinmetz, KC6SZY, has created a Web page that describes and shows images of a receiving set-up of his that has successfully received radio signals from the Lunar Prospector in orbit around the Moon. The URL is: <http://www.geocities.com/CapeCanaveral/Hangar/8389/lunar.html>

=====
Date: 26 Apr 98 22:17
From: AB7RG@KB7FRV
To: FARCE@USA
Subject: Technical Support...

TECHNICAL SUPPORT:
=====

Computer novices may feel like they're alone these days, but some of the following calls to IBM's help center show there are plenty of people out there who still are inching onto the information superhighway.

After a caller gave a technician her PC's serial number, he scanned a database of registered users and responded, "I see you have an Aptiva desktop unit." Before he could say another word, the caller shrieked and said she'd be right back. When the customer returned, the technician asked if she was all right. The caller responded: "Had I realized that you could see me, I never would have telephoned in my bathrobe."

A customer who had just received a laptop computer asked about the power-saving feature known as

"hibernate." Would this hibernate device work in the spring and summer, the caller asked.

Another caller explained she had received a gift of software on 5.25-inch diskettes, but she had only a 3.5-inch disk drive on her computer. The technician said she had two options: Get a second disk drive, or use the 3.5-inch diskettes. The customer called back later, now complaining that her disk drive was making a terrible noise. And this despite the fact that she was using a 3.5-inch diskette, she said. After a bunch of questions, the technician determined the caller had used a pair of scissors to trim the 5.25-inch diskettes to fit the 3.5-inch drive.

A caller, perplexed that his new desktop computer -- the one that was supposed to do everything short of bringing world peace -- was doing nothing, cried out for help. No problem, the IBM technician said. First, open a "window" to launch a specific program. The conversation continued, and the caller asked a few moments later if it might be all right to close the window. Why, the IBM technician asked. Because, the caller responded, it was getting very chilly.

73 & May the FARCE be with you! Clinton, AB7RG.
AB7RG @ KB7FRV.AZ.USA.NOAM

Need Help?

Amateurs have a long history of helping each other. An experienced amateur who helps another is traditionally called an "Elmer." If you have a question or problem, you are encouraged to ask one of SCCARA's Elmers. Below is a list of topics including who to contact for each.

If you consider yourself to be reasonably competent in at least one area of amateur radio and would be willing help others, please ask the club secretary for an Elmer survey form and fill it out.

Antennas, feed-lines, tuners: WB6EMR, AC6FU, K6PBQ, WB6YRU
Lightning protection, grounding: WB6YRU
Station set-up, equipment: AC6FU, K6PBQ
TVI/RFI: WB6YRU
Homebrew projects, construction: AC6FU, KD6FJI, WB6YRU
Computers: KB6NP; IBM PC: WN6U, WB6YRU
Packet Network (BBS, forwarding): WB6YRU
Other digital modes (AMTOR, RTTY): WN6U
Code operating and installations: WB6EMR, AC6FU, K6PBQ
DX (long distance/propagation): WB6EMR
Emergency operating/preparedness: WA6QYS
FM (VHF/UHF, repeaters): WA6VJY
HF operating techniques (SSB, CW): WB6EMR, AC6FU, K6PBQ
Mobile operating: WN6U
NTS & traffic handling:
QRP (HF low power, all modes): WN6U
TEN-TEN (10 M only): AC6FU

Classes/license upgrading: W6ACW, AC6FU
Legal/FCC rules: WB6YRU
SCCARA (club inner workings):

K06HH, K6PBQ, WA6VJY, WB6YRU, WA6QYS
Math applications: AC6FU
Children's Discovery Museum, volunteer operator: K6PBQ

W6ACW, Ed Hajny, (408) 739-6105

WB6EMR, James D. Armstrong, Jr.,
evening & msg: (408) 945-1202

KD6FJI, Lloyd DeVaughns,
day: (408) 299-8933, evening: (408) 225-6769
packet: home BBS KB6MER

AC6FU, Jack L. Ruckman, (408) 379-4846

K06HH, Don Hayden, (408) 867-4643
packet: home BBS NOARY

KB6NP, Jon Dutra, day & msg (408) 428-2058
evening (408) 867-8654
packet: home BBS NOARY
internet: jad@aol.com

K6PBQ, Don Village, (408) 263-2789

WA6QYS, Lou Steirer, (408) 241-7999
packet: home BBS NOARY

WN6U, Doug Eaton, (408) 377-3736
packet: home BBS NOARY
internet: wn6u@compuserve.com

WA6VJY, Stan Getsla, day: (408) 738-2888 x5929,
evening & msg: (408) 275-0735

WB6YRU, Gary Mitchell, msg (408) 265-2336
also (408) 269-2924
packet: home BBS NOARY
internet: wb6yru@arasmith.com

Newsletter Notes

I'm happy to report that obviously we have more photos! Isn't this better than all just text? We still have nobody to call "club photographer" and I haven't heard of anyone who might even be thinking about it. Remember, if money is an issue, the club would be willing to reimburse your costs.

By the way, if anyone has a drawing program and a sense of humor, it would be interesting to have some amateur related cartoons! I can take most standard formats.

Don't forget, there's always room for articles too. The best would be anything of an informative nature related to amateur radio. As you can tell from Don's vacation article in this issue, they don't have to be restricted to instructional material.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

Field Day 1998...



There's Doug WN6U at the code station... Is that Don K6PBQ tending to some equipment?

Here's some of the gang at the VHF UHF phone station. Lou WA6QYS and one of our visitors (sorry, I didn't get the name -Ed.) at the rig with Bill KE6OUG and Gary WB6YRU standing by. The HF station is inside.



Photos courtesy Don KO6HH

ARRL Pacific Division Update

June 1998

Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act

On March 27, Representatives Michael Bilirakis (R-FL-9th) and Ron Klink (D-PA-4th) introduced HR 3572, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 1998.

The operational portion of the bill is Section 3 (see below), which, if passed, would require the FCC to provide "equivalent replacement spectrum" if the Commission reallocates any primary or secondary Amateur Radio frequencies.

You can look up the full text of the bill on the House THOMAS web site at: <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c105:H.R.3572>:

Our strategy is very straightforward: obtain as many House cosponsors as we can before the end of the legislative session and elections later this year. To date we have the following cosponsors in the Pacific Division: Patsy Mink (D-HI-2), Tom Campbell (R-CA-15), and John Doolittle (R-CA-4). Let's get more of the Pacific Division House Members to be cosponsors! Cosponsors don't vote against their own bills!

Here is Section Three:

SEC. 3. FEDERAL POLICY REGARDING REALLOCATION OF AMATEUR RADIO SPECTRUM.

Section 303 of the Communications Act of 1934 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

(y) Notwithstanding subsection (c), after July 1, 1998:

(1) make no reallocation of primary allocations of bands of frequencies of the amateur radio service;

(2) not diminish the secondary allocations of bands of frequencies to the amateur radio service; and

(3) make no additional allocations within such bands of frequencies that would substantially reduce the utility thereof to the amateur radio service; unless the Commission, at the same time, provides equivalent replacement spectrum to the amateur radio service.

Summary of FCC News Items

● Lower fee levels for Vanity Calls: The vanity call sign application fee will drop to \$13 effective September 14, 1998, according to Terry Johnson in the FCC's Office of Managing Director. The new fee will be for the ten-year term, payable at the time of application for a new, renewed, or reinstated license. The current vanity call sign application fee is \$50. Earlier this year, the FCC had proposed dropping the fee to \$12.90. The actual fee was "rounded up," Johnson said.

The FCC says it has no plans to refund the difference between the current fee and the new fee for applicants who submit applications before the new fee schedule goes into effect in September.

● Proposed new licensing procedure: On Mar. 20, the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rule Making, Docket WT 98-20, "To Facilitate the Development and Use of the Universal Licensing System in the Wireless Telecommunications Services." Comments and Reply Comment dates are now well past. The NPRM apparently proposes no changes in privileges or qualifications for any class of license. Key goals appear to be:

1. Replacement of the venerable Form 610;
2. Elimination of the Form 610-A, thus providing paperless reciprocal licenses;
3. Proposed privatization of club licensing.
4. Require use of Taxpayer Identification Numbers (usually Social Security numbers).

The document is available at the FCC Web site at www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls/. The ARRL Comments are available on the ARRL web site at arrl.org.

● RM 9267, a Petition requesting access to the 70 CM Amateur Band and other non Amateur Radio spectrum was submitted by the Land Mobile Communications Council (LMCC), released for public comment by FCC on April 30, 1998.

The ARRL believes that the LMCC proposal is incompatible with continued amateur use of the band. RM-9267 is only a proposal. Many hams and others commented to FCC and to the groups making up the LMCC (including the American Automobile Association) opposing this petition. Several organizations in and outside the Federal Government have filed in opposition.

Detailed information on this Petition and Comments are available on the Pacific Division web site, pdarrl.org, and the ARRL web site, arrl.org. See also the Editorial on page 9 of July QST.

Many more details on RM 9267 were covered in Special Editions of the Pacific Division Update on May 8 and 12. The deadline for Comments on the Petition in hard copy format was June 1, 1998. Reply Comments deadline was extended to July 16, 1998, at the request of one of the LMCC members. No e-mail comments are permitted.

● The FCC has several items (undefined and unpublished so far) in process under the name of the "1998 Biennial Review." Congress mandated in the Communications Act a "review aimed at simplifying, eliminating or modifying regulations that are overly burdensome or no longer serve the public interest." This review is across all services including the Amateur Radio Service. At this writing it is not known what may be proposed or when.

● Electronic filing of documents in rule-making proceedings: In GC Docket 97-113 FCC amended its rules to

allow the public to file comments and other pleadings electronically via the Internet using the Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS). The ECFS is currently available in proceedings specifically designated by the Commission, but will be available generally when the rules adopted on April 2 go into effect in "early June 1998." The Commission will issue a Public Notice indicating when the ECFS will officially be available for general use and how to use the new system. Apparently no such notice has been issued to date.

- There are two current proposals before the FCC which could change the Amateur Radio usage of the 5GHz band. One is Docket 98-95 (RM 9096) by ITS America to create a co-primary allocation for the Intelligent Transportation System. Comment deadline is Sept. 14, 1998; Reply Comment date is Oct. 14, 1998. Details are available on the FCC web site.

In another ruling on June 24, FCC released a Memorandum Opinion and Order (Document No. 98-21) to increase power and antenna gain in this band for U-NII entities. These changes are over the objections of ARRL and not what the U-NII entities wanted, either. Details are available on the FCC web site.

- By letter, FCC, on May 22, 1998, refused to grant a waiver to EDAP Technomed, Inc., to allow them to sell unshielded Part 18 medical devices to operate in the Amateur Radio 1.2 GHz band. This decision is a distinct victory for Amateur Radio.

- At the FCC Forum in Dayton in May, note was made of FCC sites concerning Amateur Radio - <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/amateur> and hamcomm@fcc.gov. It was suggested that this latter address may be used to offer comments to FCC on topics other than specific numbered dockets, petitions and rule makings. Please label all comments as "Amateur Service Review".

New SM in Santa Clara Valley

On July 1, 1998, Geoffrey Ellis, KD6MFM took office as the new Santa Clara Valley Section Manager. Welcome, Geoffrey!

Coming Events

- Livermore Swap Meet - 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College in Livermore, 7:00 AM to noon, all year. Talk in 147.045 from the west, 145.35 from the east. Contact Noel Anklam, KC6QZK, (510) 447-3857 eves.

- Foothill Flea Market - 2nd Saturday of each month from March to October at Foothill College, Los Altos Hills.

- Placerville, every third Sunday, 3970 B Missouri Flat Rd #3 Placerville. Talk-in on 146.865(-) PL 142.2; 440.700(+) PL 88.5. Hwy 50 East take Missouri Flat off-ramp. Go over

Hwy to 2nd light, into shopping center in front of Radio Shack. See <http://www.inforum.net/h&h/radioswap.html>; e-mail jwilson@inforum.net, Jason Wilson KE6BUU.

- Ohlone Elementary School Ham Radio Swap Meet - Hercules, CA - 3rd Sunday through October. Address - 1616 Pheasant Dr, Hercules - from I- 80, exit Hercules. Contact: Frank Bianchi, KE6EUA, (510) 799-0889 or web site <http://www.jps.net/ai3x/harc>.

- The Calaveras ARS flea market is scheduled for Saturday, July 18 at Utica Park, Angels Camp. Talk in 145.170(-) PL 100. Call: Steve, KD6CNU, (209) 878-3829 or Susan, KE6HVR, (209) 795-0618.

- The Reno Hamfest is scheduled for Aug. 1, 1998. Contact John Petersen, KJ7EE, at (702) 853-8452 or kj7ee@aol.com.

- The Humboldt ARC (Eureka, CA) hamfest is scheduled for Aug. 1, 1998. Contact Wayne & Cynthia Carlson, KF6AAP and KF6CMC at (707) 668-4396 or email carlsons@saber.net.

- ARRL Southwestern Division Convention in San Diego, August 14-16. Contact Sybil Allbright, W6GIC (619) 278-4284 and <http://www.geocities.com/siliconvalley/lakes/8400/>.

- Fair Oaks swap meet (near Sacramento), Aug. 15, 6:00 AM to noon at the Bella Vista High School, 8301 Madison Ave, on Madison Ave east of Sunrise Blvd.

- Sonoma County Radio Amateurs Hamfest - Sept. 19 in Sebastopol. Holy Ghost Hall, 1/2 mile north of Sebastopol on Hwy 116, corner of 116 and Millstation Road. Contact James Dean, KF6DHB, 5324 Huckleberry, Santa Rosa CA 95403. Phone - (707) 578-4098.

Brad Wyatt, K6WR
Director, ARRL Pacific Division

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Pacific Division Web site <http://www.pdarrrl.org/>



S.C.C.A.R.A. Membership Form for 1998

(Fill in name and address if there is no mailing label below; make corrections if the label is incorrect)

Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: E A G T+ T N

Address: _____ Licensed since (yr): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

Telephone: () _____ New Member I'm also an
 Renewal ARRL member

E-mail: _____ Packet: _____

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 membership dues.

Annual Membership dues: Individual \$15 Family \$20 Student (under 18) \$5 _____

I want _____ SCCARA badges @ \$3 ea. Badge name & call: _____

Please send the repeater Auto-Dial/Auto-Patch codes (no charge, circle): Yes
WE MUST BE ABLE TO VERIFY YOUR AMATEUR LICENSE
BEFORE ANY REPEATER CODES WILL BE SENT TOTAL: _____

Give this completed form (or copy) with payment to the Secretary or Treasurer at any meeting or mail to the return address below:

== PLEASE DO NOT TEAR/CUT ===== PLEASE DO NOT TEAR/CUT ==

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY
AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION**

PO BOX 6
San Jose CA 95103-0006

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