

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 15, Number 3

March 1999



President's Prose

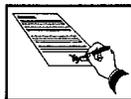
We have recently lost some valuable members of our team. They are: 1) "Doc", Jean A. Gmellin, W6ZRJ, on 2/11/99 at age 72. He died a week after having a stroke. He was one of the charter members of SCCARA, a past Pacific Director and honorary Vice President of the ARRL. He was also a teacher, member of the Mason's and Shrine. 2) Orin H. (Hank) Brown, W6HB, on Jan 21, 1999, at age 94. He was a charter member of SCCARA. These men, with their knowledge, humor, and love of life and ham radio, will be missed. God speed, and 73 gentlemen.

We are, once again, faced with the task of finding another secretary. John Leonard has resigned due to work related problems, not known at the time he agreed to be our secretary. I want to say thank you to him, at this time, for taking on the task in the first place and for all the work he has done on SCCARA's behalf. We need a secretary. If you know of anyone who will agree to take on this task, please let any of the remaining officers or directors know.

The treasurer's audit is on-going. The preliminary reports tell us that we have got to cut any unnecessary spending to the bone if we are to keep this ship stable. The Board of Directors will keep on top of things and a final report will be forthcoming.

Meanwhile, I hope everyone's Valentine's Day was a happy time for all. Please come out to the meetings each month and support the club. We try to start right at 7:30 PM, so we can be through by 9:30 P.M. or a little later. If you want to come to a meeting, but have transportation problems, please let me know so I can try to get another member to help. Everyone's input is valuable and helpful. See you at the next meeting, March 8, 1999.

73, Barbara, KD6QEI

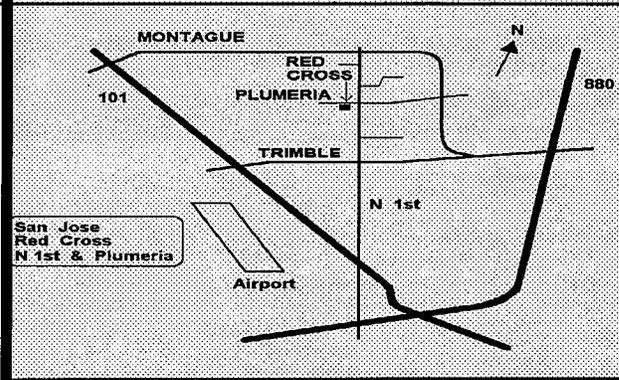
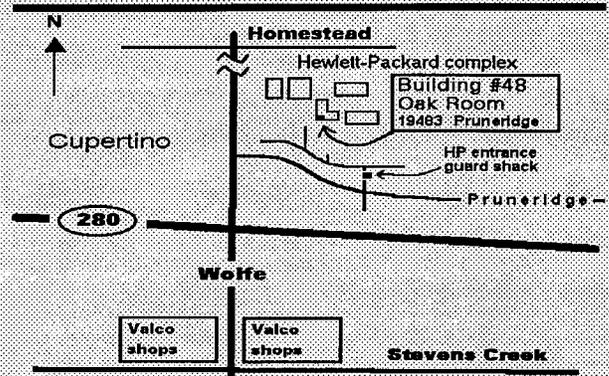


Calendar

- 3/8 SCCARA General Meeting
- 3/13 Foothill Electronic Flea Market
- 3/15 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)

Next General Meeting:

- Day: Monday, March 8, 1998
- Time: 7:30 PM
- Place: Hewlett-Packard's Oak Rm, Bld #48
- Featuring: Tom Evens, from the National Weather Service, will talk about amateur Weathernet, etc.



Meeting Minutes

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 W6UW.

Web page: <http://nsl.qsl.net/sccara>

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

OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

President	Barbara Britten, KD6QEI	293-3847
Vice President	Bob Forster, N6PCQ	296-5509
Secretary		
Treasurer	Lloyd DeVaughns, KD6FJI	225-6769
Station Trustee	Stan Getsla, WA6VJY	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	(831) 430-9650

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.

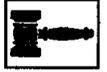
On ten meters, 28.385 MHz USB, Thursdays at 8:00 PM. Net control: Wally KA6YMD.

Visitors welcome to join in on the SCCARA nets.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

SCCARA HOTLINE:	408 249-6909
ARRL/VEC Silicon Valley VE group:	408 243-8349
	me-ae6z@worldnet.att.net

General Meeting, Feb. 8, 1999



7:32 p.m. Meeting called to order by club President Barbara, KD6QEI. Self introductions followed as is our custom.

Tonight's speaker is Mitch Lee, KB6FPW and his topic is low frequency operations.

Business Meeting:

Wally announced 3 silent keys.

1. King Hussein of Jordan, JY1
2. 'Hank' Orrin Brown, W6HB
3. 'Doc' Gmelin, W6ZRJ

Barbara, KD6QEI, said that she is working on a club station with the San Jose Unified School District.

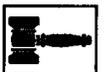
Don Apte, KK6MX, said he could get fire proof locker at a very good price. Motion by Gary, WB6YRU, to purchase the fire proof locker. Seconded and passed.

Lou, WA6QYS, announced that we have the September Foothill Flea Market. Lloyd, KD6FJI, gave the conformation letter to Barbara, KD6QEI, and announced that the total amount is \$1000.00 and it is due 30 days after the event.

9:30: meeting adjourned.

Lloyd, KD6FJI

Board Meeting, Feb. 15, 1999



Present: Barbara, KD6QEI; Wally, KA6YMD; Clark, KE6KXO; Gary, WB6YRU; Lou, WA6QYS; Don, KO6HH; Lloyd, KD6FJI; Robert, N6PCQ; Don, K6PBQ; Don, KK6MX

7:41 p.m. Meeting called to order by club President Barbara, KD6QEI.

President Barbara, KD6QEI, announced that John Leonard resigned as Secretary and that she will ask him to remain SCCARA web master. There was a discussion about getting a new secretary. SCCARA will have to become more cost conscious because of the financial situation.

Bob Avina, WB6VXA, made a \$150.00 donation to

SCCARA as a thank you for help erecting an antenna.

Robert, N6PCQ, made some suggestions to concerning SCCARA's financial situation. They include eliminating the hot line, and changing the way we bank. One suggestion is to eliminate banking charges. Clark, KE6KXO, has taken on the job of removing all financial charges. Barbara needs a budget for 1999. We need a zero sum budget and everyone who has a project has to submit a budget. Robert asked Wally to submit a zero budget for the repeater. Robert pointed out that our income from dues in 1998 was \$1644 and we need a \$2400.00 budget. We spent \$2700 on the news letter last year, which included the purchase of a \$1000.00 laser printer for publishing the SCCARA-GRAM. Robert led a discussion of the bylaws of SCCARA and the need to revise them.

Motion by Clark, KE6KXO, that we rescind a previous vote of the board which declared that we would not look into the whole issue of the bylaws. Second and passed, 4 in favor and 2 abstentions.

The president has requested an executive committee to study the issue of the bylaws.

Don, KK6MX, said the price of the fire proof file cabinets has gone up to \$100.00. Don wants to know if we to authorize the purchase of these at the \$100.00 price.

Motion by Don, KK6MX, that we raise the spending limit on the fire proof cabinets to \$100.00 and that we negotiate the best deal we can. Second and passed.

Don, KO6HH: Don Barrett, W6CFK, let his membership lapse and wants SCCARA to reinstate him retroactively. Motion by Don, K6PBQ, that Dick Barrett, W6CFK, be allowed to pay his back dues and be brought up to date bridging the years he was not a member. Second and passed.

The board recognized the passing of long time members 'Hank' Orrin Brown, W6HB, and 'Doc' Gmelin, W6ZRJ.

9:45 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Lloyd, KD6FJI

Repeater Report

Some Comments About Tone Squelch

Having heard some rather confused statements regarding CTCSS, (Continuous Tone Coded Squelch System) or in Motorola's parlance, P.L. (Private Line) or (G.E's term Channel Guard), it would be helpful to briefly discuss how it works.

The tone code system functions like a "key" for the receiver. If the signal being transmitted does not have the proper tone encoded ("key"), your speaker remains silent.

At the repeater site, the function is basically the same, with the repeater receiver ignoring the extraneous signals and intermod which lacks the proper tone.

Unfortunately, once the proper tone is present, any signal on the frequency can be heard. So if another signal comes up with you, the beat note tone is heard, unless the interfering signal is so strong it captures the receiver. The CTCSS cannot allow two conversations on the same frequency when both stations are reasonably strong. CTCSS also doesn't encrypt or encode your audio, so any receiver tuned to your transmit frequency (or that of the repeater) will hear your signal regardless.

Some repeaters also transmit the P.L. tone to help silence your receiver in the presence of intermod that is local to your location, if your receiver is capable of decode of P.L. tones.

Wally, KD6YMD, Repeater Committee Chair

A Simple 10 meter Beam Antenna

Don W. Hayden, KO6HH ex-KC6WMM

When I was a novice the ten meter band was frequently open, especially to the Pacific. My antenna was a simple ground plane vertical, which was great for local contacts.

I decided to build a two element Yagi beam to give better performance for the DX contacts. A full size two element Yagi has only three lengths to be concerned with, the length of the driven element, the length of the reflector (or director) and the spacing between the elements. The ARRL Handbook and the ARRL Antenna Book indicated that the element spacing should be slightly less than eight feet, the driven element about sixteen feet, and the reflector about sixteen and one half feet long. Some pieces of 7/16 inch aluminum tubing 98 1/2 inches long were obtained surplus for fifty cents per pound. The alloy was unknown (I was looking for 6061-T6). There was no aluminum tubing of larger size to use for a boom, so I used an eight foot chain link fence top rail of 0.055 inch thick galvanized steel tubing. I also bought a 4 inch by 4 inch piece of 6061-T6 1/4 inch aluminum plate and about two feet of 3/4 inch aluminum angle for attaching the boom to the mast and the elements to the boom. In addition I bought about two feet of 3/8 aluminum tubing and some stainless steel hose clamps in order to lengthen and tune the reflector. I used a commercial W2DU 1:1 balun to connect the antenna to the coax.

The antenna installation uses a Radio Shack Eve

Mount on the West end of a small building, with a 3 foot lower mast to a Radio Shack rotator followed by 2 foot upper mast to the antenna boom. Both masts are 1 1/2 inch galvanized pipe. The two element Yagi antenna is about 18 feet above ground level. Mast to boom plate is 1/4 inch aluminum plate held by four U-bolts. Each aluminum angle that supports an element is about one foot long and is held to the boom by a U-bolt.

The driven element is attached to the aluminum angle with stainless steel hose clamps using plastic tubing as an insulator. The inner ends are separated by about two inches and a piece of 3/8 plastic rod about one foot long connects the two halves. The rod and feed wires are held in place with a stainless steel hose clamp on each side.

The reflector was spaced about seven and one half feet from the driven element and has the inner ends of each half touching and reinforced by a 1 foot piece of 3/8 aluminum tubing inside them. The reflector is also held to the boom using aluminum angle but is not insulated from the angle stock. Each half has the outer end slotted and a coaxial piece of 3/8 aluminum tubing is held in place with a stainless steel hose clamp. The inner tubing was adjusted to extend about four inches from the each end of the outer tubing.

The tuning of the antenna began with measuring the SWR from 28.1 to 28.5 MHz. It was found that the SWR was lowest (about 1.6) at 28.1 MHz and was about 1.9 at 28.3 MHz and 2.3 at 28.5 MHz. The length of the reflector was adjusted to give the best SWR at 28.3 MHz. The antenna was still too long so one inch was cut off each end of the director and the length of the reflector again adjusted. After the SWR measurements were made the spacing between elements was reduced to give the widest bandwidth. The antenna had an SWR of about 1.5 at 28.1 MHz, 1.6 at 28.3 and 1.7 at 28.5 MHz. A removal of about one additional inch from each end of the driven element gave a minimum SWR of 1.3 at 28.2 MHz. A third repetition of cutting (about 3/4 inch), changing the length of the reflector and changing the element spacing gave the following results. The following is a summary of the SWR measurements made using a Communications Power WM1000 wattmeter on April 29, 1992.

Frequency, MHz	SWR
28.101	1.20
28.201	1.12
28.301	1.08
28.398	1.12
28.497	1.18

At this point the tuning was stopped, with the driven element shortened 2 3/4 inches on each side, the reflector elements lengthened three inches on each side and the element spacing seven feet zero inches.

This antenna seemed to give about 1 S-unit or about 5 to 6 db improvement over the vertical antenna for DX contacts, but was not quite as good for local contacts. This antenna served me well with no required maintenance, until

it was replaced with a tri-band beam about the time I upgraded two years later. Looking back, the only change I would make would be to make the length of the driven element adjustable similar to the reflector. This would make for more rapid tuning.

ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, February 12, 1999

PSK31 GETS RAVES

Getting tired of the "same ol' same ol'" on HF? From the father of AMTOR, Peter Martinez, G3PLX, comes PSK31, a "live QSO" keyboard-to-keyboard mode that occupies a sliver of bandwidth and offers terrific performance even under weak-signal conditions.

PSK31 isn't new; it's been around for a few years, but no one really took much notice until Martinez developed free software that works with a PC sound card. Suddenly, PSK31 has become the latest HF fad. Unlike 'TOR modes, PSK31 does not use a synchronized linking--or handshaking--protocol to exchange error-checked data packets. Operationally, it's much like traditional 45-baud RTTY. PSK31 has shown itself to be a real trouper in weak-signal situations. Some hams experimenting with PSK31 claim that it outperforms all other amateur modes for weak-signal work--including CW. Indeed, PSK31 signals are easy to overlook on the bands. Most PSK31 activity is concentrated on 14.070.15 and at 3.580.15 MHz. You'll also find it on 40 meters at 7.035.15 MHz. On 15 meters, look for activity around 21.070 MHz.

To run PSK31, you need a PC that runs Windows that's equipped with a sound card. PSK31 software is available via the Web). Your HF SSB transceiver should be very stable and tune in 1-Hz increments. The connections between the radio and the sound card are very straightforward.

Several versions of PSK31 software are available as zipped files. The latest PSK31 software includes a couple of tuning aids that make finding and tuning signals much simpler. The "official" PSK31 Web site is <http://aintel.bi.edu.es/psk31.html>, operated by Eduardo Jacob, EA2BAJ. The site also contains lots of information and links to other PSK31 and DSP-related sites, plus .wav files of PSK31 signals, so you'll know what to listen for.

W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, has experimented with the new operating mode, PSK31, at the Maxim Memorial Station. While it took a bit of effort to get the equipment to function properly, he says initial results were quite good. Plans are in the works to add this mode to the

complement of modes available for W1AW visiting operators.

Some have questioned whether the FCC permits hams to use PSK31. The answer is a definite "yes," although some confusion is understandable given the wording of Section 97.309(a) of the rules. Responding to an ARRL inquiry, the FCC amended the section in 1995 (Order DA 95-2106) "to clarify that amateur stations may use any digital code that has its technical characteristics publicly documented." PSK31 is publicly documented and widely available, but the ARRL in late January took the additional step of specifically documenting the technical characteristics of both PACTOR II and PSK31 in a letter to the FCC.

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the packet network:

=====
Date: 8 Feb 99 01:40
From: N9ONV@N9ONV
To: PACKET@USA
Subject: Origin of Packet

The Origin of Packet Radio

The Canadian Department of Communications Authorized amateur packet-radio in 1978, the VADCG protocol and a companion TNC were developed by the Vancouver Amateur Digital Communications Group (VADCG). Two years later the FCC authorized amateur packet-radio in the US and after extensive experimentation, American packet-radio developers agreed on a protocol: AX.25 protocol.

The original TNC that was designed and kitted by VADCG only supported VADCG protocol (the only protocol that existed at the time). These TNCs were commonly known as "VADCG" TNCs.

When AX.25 protocol was implemented for the first time by the Tuscon Amateur Packet Radio Corporation (TAPR) in their "TNC-1", the VADCG protocol was also supported to be compatible with the VADCG TNCs that at that time, outnumbered the new TAPR TNCs. The TNC-1 clones, most notably: AEA's PKT-1 and HEATHKIT's HD-4040.

In 1982 there was a little warehouse in Texas, full of Xerox 820-1 Computers. These computers could be purchased for as little as \$50.

Hank Oredson, WORLI put the bargain computers to good use by writing software that permitted it to function as a BBS-not a telephone BBS, but a packet radio BBS, Shortly WORLI BBSs began appearing throughout packet radio land, and packet radio started to evolve to the

systems that are so popular today.

In 1985, TAPR introduced an AX.25-only TNC, which used an expanded TNC-1 command set. The TNC-2 command set is most popular in packet radio today.

Thanks to VADCG, TAPR and Hank Oredson WORLI we have a great packet-radio system.

Richard Kearney N9ONV
Packet: N9ONV@N9ONV.#SIL.IL.USA.NOAM
Amprnet: n9onv@n9onv.ampr.org [44.73.236.209]
Internet: n9onv@usa.net

=====
From: AC4CU@KF4OJ
To: HUMOR@USA
Subject: A frightened homeowner

A frightened homeowner excitedly reported to police headquarters that he had been struck down in the dark outside his back door by an unknown assailant.

A young policeman was sent to the scene of the crime to investigate, and soon returned to headquarters with a lump on his forehead and a glum look on his face. I solved the case...he muttered. Amazingly fast work, his superior said. How did you accomplish it? I stepped on the rake, too, sir, the young policeman replied.

-
A mosquito is like a small boy...the minute he stops making noise, you know he's into something.

-
Optimist...A person who saves the seed catalog pictures to compare with the flowers and vegetables he actually grows.

-
From the Happy Club, 73 de Alfonso,
AC4CU @ KF4OJ.#ARCFL.FL.USA.NOAM

=====
From: AD4QA@KF4OJ
To: HUMOR@USA
Subject: Medical Terms

artery	the study of paintings
bacteria	back door of a cafeteria
barium	what doctors do when patients die
bowel	a letter like a.E.I.O.U.
Caesarean section	a neighbourhood in rome
cat scan	searching for kitty
cauterise	made eye contact with her
coma	a punctuation mark
D & C	where Washington is
dilate	to live longer
enema	not a friend

fester	quicker
fibula	a small lie
G.I. series	a soldier ballgame
hangnail	coat hook
impotent	distinguished, well known
labour pain	getting hurt at work
medical staff	doctor's cane
morbid	higher offer
nitrates	cheaper than day rates
node	was aware of
outpatient	a person who has fainted
pap smear	fatherhood test
pelvis	a cousin of elvis
recovery room	place to do up holstery
rectum	dang near killed them!
Secretion	hiding something
seizure	Roman emperor
tablet	a small table
terminal illness	getting sick at the airport
tumor	more than one
urine	opposite to "your're out"
varicose	nearby
vein	conceited

Hope this may get a chuckle and brighten your day when you next go to hospital

This joke was sent by VK4OL @ VK4KUG.QLD.AUS.OC

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@aenet.net

Newsletter Notes

As you've read elsewhere in this issue, Doc W6ZRJ died recently. Speaking as editor, this was especially untimely. Many times I've mentioned how we need articles from SCCARA members. Just a week or so before his death, Doc called me on the phone saying he had an article for the *SCCARA-GRAM*, but was having a problem e-mailing it to me. I asked him to try again and also suggested an alternate e-mail address, but alas, I received nothing.

The chances are remote, but if Doc shared the article with anyone (for proof reading or whatever), please let me know. If it could be recovered, I think it would be nice for the *SCCARA-GRAM* to publish a "last message" from Doc.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

ARRL Pacific Division Update

March 1999

King Hussein, JY1, Silent Key

Radio amateurs around the world joined in mourning the death over last weekend of Jordan's King Hussein, JY1. Hussein, 63, died Sunday morning, Feb. 7. The Middle East's longest-reigning ruler, he'd been Jordan's king for 47 years, taking the throne when he was just a teenager. His son, Abdullah, 37, succeeds him.

Hussein had earned a reputation as a catalyst for peace and as a conciliator in the Middle East.

Hussein was a Life Member of the ARRL. ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, called him "an enthusiastic radio amateur whose support was invaluable to us in obtaining new amateur bands at the 1979 World Administrative Radio Conference." Sumner recalled that in May 1979, International Amateur Radio Union President Noel Eaton, VE3CJ, was invited to Amman to meet with King Hussein.

"Jordan's support of the Amateur Service was much in evidence at the conference that fall, and was a crucial element in our success," Sumner said. The WARC-79 resulted in Amateur Radio's gaining the 30, 17, and 12-meter bands. That same year, JY1 was featured in the film, "The World of Amateur Radio." Hussein regarded his 1983 contact with Owen Garriott, W5LFL, on board the Space Shuttle Columbia, as a high point in his Amateur Radio activity.

King Hussein also participated in the historic 1995 joint Israel-Jordan JY74X operation on Mt. Nebo, where hams from both countries participated in a Field Day-like operation. The King put in appearances both on the air and in person, much to the delight of the participants and those waiting to work him and JY74X.

All members of the Jordanian royal family automatically have Amateur Radio privileges in Jordan. Although the new king does not appear to have a call sign, King Hussein's widow--the American-born Queen Noor--is JY1NH. King Hussein's brother, the former Crown Prince Hassan, is JY2HT, while his cousin, Prince Raad, JY2RZ, is chairman of the Royal Jordan Radio Amateur Society.

(Thanks, ARRL Bulletin and Letter.)

J. A. "Doc" Gmelin, W6ZRJ, Silent Key

Former ARRL Pacific Division Director Jean A. "Doc" Gmelin, W6ZRJ, of Los Osos, California, died February 11, 1999. He was 71. An ARRL Honorary Vice President, Gmelin was Pacific Division Director from 1968

until 1978. He also had served as an Assistant Pacific Division Director, as Santa Clara Valley Section Communications Manager, and as an Assistant Section Manager for public service and external relations in Santa Barbara.

First licensed in 1947, Doc was a past officer of the Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association, the Merced Amateur Radio Association, and the Northern California Traffic Association. He was active in the Southern California CW Net. He was a member of the A1 Operators Club and had been active in RACES.

He was a Life Member of the ARRL and a member of QCWA, as well as a QST author and a Worldradio magazine columnist.

A graduate of San Jose State University, he served in the Naval Reserve and later worked for several San Jose-area newspapers as a photographer. Later, he taught electronics and math and was audio-visual coordinator at a high school in Sunnyvale, California. He also was an avid duck hunter.

Gmelin's wife, Caroline, K6BGM, is among his survivors.

(Thanks, ARRL Bulletin and Letter.)

Comment Period Closed for Docket

The Reply Comment deadline on FCC WT Docket 98-143 closed Jan. 15, 1999. The implementation of this Docket will set the framework for the Amateur Radio Service in the US for the next several years. The Docket and the ARRL "constructive suggestions" to the FCC on this Docket have been widely discussed in the Sept., Oct., Nov., and Dec. QSTs as well as in recent issues of the Pacific Division Update (see the Pacific Division web site at www.pdarrl.org). There are over 2,200 Comments of all sorts on file at the FCC on this matter. These comments are available on the FCC web site at <http://gullfoss.fcc.gov:8080/cgi-bin/ws.exe/prod/ecfs/comsrch.hts>. You must have Adobe Acrobat Reader installed to read the actual comments. The ARRL Comments are also posted on the ARRL web site, www.arrl.org. Thanks to those of you who sent in your Comments and Reply Comments expressing your views about the future of Amateur Radio licensing and related topics!

What happens next? I do not expect to see a Report and Order on this matter from the FCC until late spring 1999. It is also possible that regardless of whatever the FCC decides, Petitions for Reconsideration will be filed which would further delay the effective date of the Report and Order.

FCC's Hollingsworth is Net Guest

The FCC's point man for Amateur Radio enforcement, Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, put in a guest appearance January 29 during a session of the South Carolina Single Sideband Net on 75 meters. "They contacted me and asked me if I'd take a few minutes to talk with

them," said Hollingsworth, who's a South Carolina native.

Hollingsworth said he told those gathered for the net "where we've been, where we're going, and what we're trying to accomplish" in terms of ham radio enforcement. He said he expects to return to the airwaves from time to time and welcomes invitations from other organized nets. (His e-mail address is rholling@fcc.gov, phone 717-338-2502. Hollingsworth's unannounced and unexpected appearance on 3894.5 MHz January 13 to discuss compliance and enforcement created a stir within the Amateur Radio community.

(Thanks, ARRL Letter, Feb. 5, 1999.)

ARRL E-mail Addresses for Members

ARRL members can now announce their ARRL membership through their e-mail addresses! Starting February 1, 1999, a new membership service was available for those wishing to have an ARRL e-mail address, and you won't have to switch e-mail services to do it. Not only that, but it will be free-of-charge to League members!

The new, personalized League e-mail addresses will consist of the member's call sign @arrl.net. Electronic mail sent to the address automatically will be forwarded to any e-mail account you choose.

As long as you remain an ARRL member, you'll never have to notify people of an address change - even if you change Internet Service Providers.

Members are able to sign up quickly and easily through the ARRL Members Only Web Site. If you are not already registered for the Members Only Web Site, you can do so at <http://www.arrl.org/members/>.

Members who are not registered for the Members Only Web Site may also obtain their League addresses, but the procedure is a bit more time consuming. For instructions, send a blank message to subscribe@arrl.net.

(Thanks, ARRL Letter)

Wireless Privacy Bill Re-introduced

The Wireless Privacy Enhancement Act of 1999, HR514, has been introduced by Rep. Heather Wilson of New Mexico. The measure is aimed at amending the Communications Act of 1934 "to strengthen and clarify prohibitions on electronic eavesdropping, and for other purposes."

"HR514 is identical to the amended version of HR2369 that passed the House on a 414-to-1 vote during the last session," said ARRL Legislative and Public Affairs Manager Steve Mansfield, N1MZA. The Senate did not act on that measure.

The original bill, HR2369, would have banned most types of scanners and scanner listening; however, the bill's sponsor, Rep Billy Tauzin, worked with the ARRL and representatives of manufacturers, public service organizations, and scanner enthusiasts to redraft the bill top to bottom.

HR514 forbids manufacturing or modifying scanners

to receive cellular, PCS, or "protected" paging service frequencies. The bill also forbids receiving, divulging, publicizing, or utilizing such communication. The measure is part of a package of legislation introduced early in the session in the expectation that it will pass quickly and help restore Congressional momentum.

Mansfield says, however, that the Senate prospects for HR514 remain murky.

While Amateur Radio appears to be unaffected by the new bill, the League is on record as opposing the expansion of prohibitions on radio monitoring beyond those that now exist to protect the privacy of services that interface with wireline networks.

The bipartisan list of co-sponsors of HR514 includes Reps. Tauzin of Louisiana; Markey of Massachusetts; Oxley of Ohio; Eshoo (CA 14th-Pacific Division) and Rogan of California; Deal of Georgia; Wynn of Maryland; Cubin of Wyoming; Luther of Minnesota; Sawyer and Gillmor of Ohio; and Pickering of Mississippi.

A copy of the bill is available on the Web at <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c106:h.r.514:>.

(Thanks, ARRL Letter Feb. 12, 1999)

More on Strange Signals Near 3525 kHz

Several East Bay, San Francisco and Santa Clara Valley Section hams have reported strange and strong signals 24 hours per day around 3525 kHz. Several specific reports have come from members of the Northern California Contest Club. This interference has been traced to wireless modems installed with some digital TV/CATV installations. The resolution of the problem is underway. The details on progress can be found on the ARRL web site (www.arrl.org) in the Members Only and the Technical Information Sections.

(Thanks, NCCC, Ed Hare (ARRL Lab), and many others who have helped.)

Amateur Radio Scholarships Available

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc., a non-profit organization with headquarters in Washington, D.C., plans to administer sixty-six (66) scholarships for the academic year 1999 to 2000 to assist licensed Radio Amateurs. The Foundation, composed of over seventy-five local area Amateur Radio Clubs, fully funds ten of these scholarships with the income from grants and its annual Hamfests. The remaining fifty-six (56) are administered by the Foundation without cost to the various donors. Licensed Radio Amateurs may compete for these awards if they plan to pursue a full-time course of studies beyond high school and are enrolled in or have been accepted for enrollment at an accredited university, college or technical school. The awards range from \$500 to \$2500 with preference given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or the pursuit of certain study programs. Clubs are encouraged to announce these opportunities at their meetings, in their club

newsletters, during training classes, on their nets and on their World Wide Web home pages.

Additional information and an application form may be requested by sending a letter or QSL card to: FAR Scholarships, PO Box 831, Riverdale MD 20738. Applications must be postmarked prior to April 30, 1999.

(Thanks, FAR.)

Dayton A.R.A. Scholarships

The Dayton Amateur Radio Association is accepting applications for its annual scholarship awards. The DARA Scholarship Program is open initially to any Amateur Radio operator graduating from high school in 1999. There are no restrictions on course of study, nor does the student need to be pursuing a four-year baccalaureate degree, but schools selected must be accredited. Awards are made on a nondiscriminatory basis. Selection criteria include financial need, scholastic achievement, contributions to Amateur Radio, and community involvement. Decisions of the DARA Scholarship Committee are final. Maximum individual awards are \$2000. For an application and full details, send an SASE to DARA Scholarships, 45 Cinnamon Ct., Springboro, OH 45066. Application deadline is June 15, 1999.

(Thanks Stan Kuck, NY8F.)

ARRL Foundation Scholarships

There are many scholarships available from the ARRL Foundation. Information and applications can be obtained from the ARRL web site at www.arrl.org, by e-mail to foundation@arrl.org, or by letter to the ARRL Foundation at ARRL HQ, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111-1494.

Maxim Memorial Award

Nominations are open for the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award. The award goes each year to a radio amateur under the age of 21 whose accomplishments and contributions are of the most exemplary nature within the framework of Amateur Radio activities. These include, but are not limited to: participation or leadership in organizational affairs at the local or national level, technical achievement, operating record, recruitment and training of new amateurs, and public relations activities.

In keeping with the tradition of the award when it was first established in 1936, formal nominations are made by Section Managers. Supporting information, including the endorsement of ARRL-affiliated clubs and elected or appointed League Leadership officials, should be submitted with the nomination. The prize consists of a cash award of \$1000, a suitably engraved plaque, and travel and accommodation expenses to enable the winner to attend an ARRL convention for a formal presentation. Nominations should document as thoroughly as possible the Amateur

Radio achievements and contributions of the nominee during the previous calendar year. Additional information concerning the character of the nominee should be as complete as possible. The award is intended to provide a tangible reward to those deserving young amateurs who contribute their time, skills and energies daily through their commitment to Amateur Radio. We must continue to recognize and encourage their hard work and contributions at every opportunity.

Nominations must be received at Headquarters from Section Managers by March 31, 1999. There is no limit to the number of nominations one may make. For more information and an application form, contact ARRL Field Services Manager Rick Palm, K1CE, e-mail rpalm@arrl.org or write him at ARRL Headquarters, 225 Main St, Newington CT 06111.

(Thanks, ARRL Letter.)

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 Cliff Kibbe, KF6EII, (209) 835-6715, e-mail larkswap@hotmail.com.
- Kamuela Hamfest, Big Island of Hawaii - Feb. 27, 1999, at Waimea School. Starts at 9 AM. Potluck at noon. Sponsored by BIARC and HWARS. Contact clubs for details.
- Foothill Flea Market - 2nd Saturday of each month from March to October at Foothill College, Los Altos Hills, CA.
- Yuba Sutter ARC Swapmeet - March 13, 1999, at Linda American Legion Post #807, 5477 Feather River Blvd., Linda, CA. Talk-in 146.085, +600, WD6AXM/R. Details available from W6HBU, Herb, (530) 674-3648 or KC6JPP, Clara, (530) 742-2674.
- International DX Convention - April 9-11, 1999, at the Fresno Radisson Hotel and Conference Center. For information access <http://www.amateur-radio.org/ncdxc.htm> for rooms and pre-registration; e-mail to Gordon Girton, W6NW, at W6NW@amateur-radio.org; phone (408) 255-9000; or PO Box 60307, Sunnyvale CA 94088-0307.

Brad Wyatt, K6WR
Director, ARRL Pacific Division

18400 Overlook Rd. #5
Los Gatos CA 95030-5850
(408) 395-2501 (voice & fax)

Packet: K6WR @ N0ARY.#NCA.CA.USA.NOAM
Internet: k6wr@arrl.org
Pacific Division Web site <http://www.pdarrrl.org/>



S.C.C.A.R.A. Membership Form for 1999

(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 ==

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY
AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION**

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