

# SCCARA-GRAM



## Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 15, Number 7

July 1999



### President's Prose

Since January of this year, we have been without a secretary. John Leonard had to resign for personal and business reasons. A plea for a replacement has gone out to all the members. At a meeting a few months ago, the members talked about electing Eleanor Kingston (Barbara Britten's mother) as secretary. Thus far, she has not been able to do the duties as secretary, due to the inability to see well. All that has been solved in the last two weeks. Eleanor has had two cataract eye surgeries, with intraocular lens implants. The doctor has assured Eleanor that she will only need to use reading glasses in the future. She has more doctor's appointments yet, before we know exactly when her "fully functional" mode will occur. She hopes to be "fully operational" by the July 12th meeting. There are many of you who have not met Eleanor. Please do so by coming to a meeting. She is not a licensed amateur yet, but we are working on that now so she will be eligible. She has had two strokes and a heart attack in the last two years. This has affected her memory, and made learning new material more difficult. Whether she is licensed or not, she is the only person who has stepped forward to fill the vacancy left by John Leonard. In the interim, I want to say **THANK YOU** to Lloyd DeVaughns, KD6FJI, for taking the minutes at both the regular and Board meetings. I hope the rest of the club appreciates his efforts as much as I do. Next time you see him, please say thank you to him.

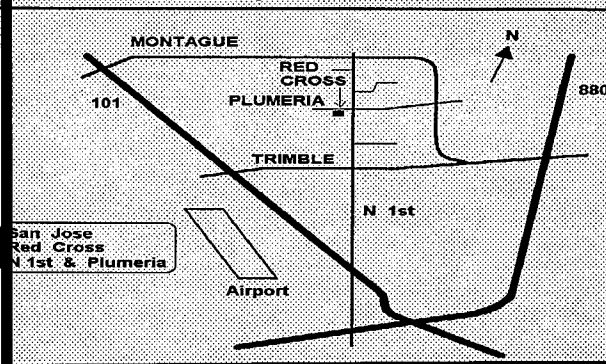
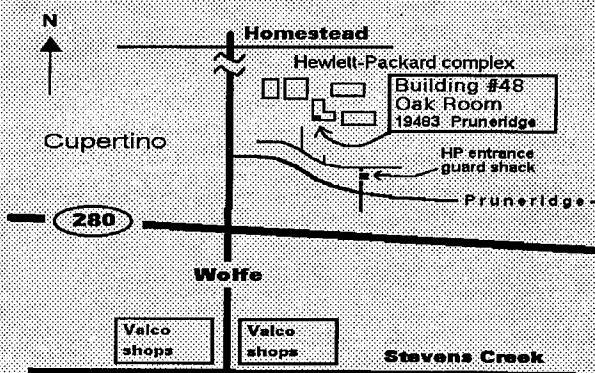
I have talked with John Farley, the weatherman at KNTV-11, regarding this year's Field Day event. Last year, he was not able to attend our event, as he was moving into a new house. This year, John and his wife plan to make an appearance at the Mt. Madonna site, providing his wife has no conflicts for that day, and will join us for Saturday dinner at 1:00 P.M. John will be mentioning our event on Friday evening's broadcast. That will fulfill one of our publicity goals. I am hoping that John can encourage the station to do a remote site segment from Mt. Madonna. He is pushing for it, but was not able to make a commitment from the station as of Monday, June 21. We will just have to be

### Calendar

- 7/10 Foothill Electronic Flea Market
- 7/12 SCCARA General Meeting
- 7/19 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)

#### Next General Meeting:

Day: Monday, July 12, 1999  
Time: 7:30 PM  
Place: Hewlett-Packard's Oak Rm, Bld #48  
Featuring: (to be announced)



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, our repeater is W6UU.

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

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

#### **OFFICERS - DIRECTORS - STAFF**

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
Facilities	Don Village, K6PBQ	263-2789

#### **COMMITTEES**

Repeater	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	293-3847
N0ARY BBS	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	265-2336
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.

#### **N0ARY PACKET BBS**

SCCARA hosts the packet BBS N0ARY (just east of down town San Jose). User ports: 144.93 (1200 baud), 433.37 (9600 baud), telephone 408 259-8497, internet (by registration only, get info by sending e-mail to: [info@n0ary.org](mailto:info@n0ary.org)). Sysop: Gary Mitchell WB6YRU, packet: [wb6yru@n0ary.nca.ca.usa.noam](mailto:wb6yru@n0ary.nca.ca.usa.noam), e-mail: [wb6yru@aenet.net](mailto:wb6yru@aenet.net).

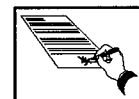
#### **TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

SCCARA contact Clark KE6KXO: 408 262-9334  
ARRL/VEC Silicon Valley VE group: 408 243-8349  
[me-ae6z@worldnet.att.net](mailto:me-ae6z@worldnet.att.net)

patient and wait until Saturday.

I hope there will many of our members at Field Day this year. This is an annual event that is fun. (At least we try to make it fun!) The more of our members that are there, the more fun it will be. They keep telling us, "the big one" is still out there. Come out to Field Day and hone your skills, so that you can be part of the solution, rather than the problem when the situation arises. SCCARA has been around for over 75 years. Doesn't that count for something? There is a lot of experience and expertise in our members. The more we use that resource, the better we do when all is said and done. There is no guarantee that all the current technology is going to work when there is an earthquake. There is one thing we all know that does work when all other forms of communications break down, and that's ham radio, (Yeah!!!). To me, that is a very comforting thought. How about you? Field Day is the one day in the year we get to operate as a group, for points and prestige. Those of us who participate have a good time, at least it looked like that in the past. I challenge each one of our members to come out and see who can get the most points/contacts in a two hour period for the class in which you choose to participate. I hope to have rewards within our club for the participants who do the best. Come and prove you are "outstanding in your Field Day."

Barbara, KD6QEI



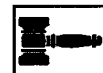
## **Meeting Minutes**

### **General Meeting, June 14, 1999**



*{no minutes were received by the deadline. --Ed.}*

### **Board Meeting, June 21, 1999**



*{no minutes were received by the deadline. --Ed.}*

## **Dietz Speaks**

### **SCCARA....the PRODUCT!**

As I was preparing my talk about Field Day 1999, I was thinking about how to persuade more members to participate

in club activities which lead me to thinking about what the club actually is, what we do, why we belong, and why we even have activities. It makes sense to me to examine this entity called SCCARA as a product. We are struggling now with declining membership and other signs that the club is in need of help.

It is in the spirit of making SCCARA...OUR PRODUCT better and more durable and saleable that I write this article. I hope you each will seriously think about each question asked. I don't have the answers. Neither does the ARRL, your Board of Directors, or officers...only you the members! The beginning of restoring SCCARA once again to be a great club must start by each of us looking at the value the club represents to us. We must then make a decision to either abandon the concept of a club or to get behind the officers and members and make our product the best it can be. Remember this...You can't have an active club with inactive members!

#### **WHAT IS SCCARA? DOES SCCARA OR BELONGING TO SCCARA HAVE VALUE?**

These questions set the tone for everything to follow. SCCARA as a product is an intangible...not a thing in a box that you can use or connect or wear, it's a bit more complicated than that! Let's remember that word...VALUE! SCCARA has a rich and long history and tradition behind it and in it. It was formed long ago by people of like interests and an enthusiasm for sharing their technical and experimental interests in a social way. SCCARA was both a forum and a springboard where members bonded and shared and learned and grew both in the hobby and, in many cases, professionally. And all that had a value!

#### **WHAT IS IN THE PRODUCT AND HOW DO WE SELL IT?**

My opinion is that SCCARA is a mass of energy as generated by the membership through it's history, technical expertise and experience, realistic objectives and goals, and potential for growth and activities. The reason to have the club is to have activities in which we all can share and participate. SCCARA is rich in tradition and history. Founded in 1921, you might say it is an "old time product." SCCARA was re-invented out of necessity after WW II so it was, out of necessity, an updated product. It was updated through the new technologies and expertise of returning members who had learned new skills while serving in the armed forces during the war. It was a time of new techniques and much available surplus equipment which, when combined, provided a strong opportunity to learn and practice the newly learned skills. A rich history of many activities means SCCARA was a varied product...it changed with the times to remain current and topical as it must once again change or be re-invented.

SCCARA always has had a substantial membership which gave it a strong product and a strong presence in our area. SCCARA has always been a prestige product in that it had members go on to become ARRL Division Directors and

even the current President was a SCCARA member.

#### **WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE PRODUCT? WHAT DOES THE CLUB DO?**

SCCARA is a general interest club drawing strength from those varied interests to promote the amateur radio hobby within the club and the community. It does this through education and advancement of the members and prospective members. The exchange of ideas and experiences continues to be shared through club meetings or speakers, through the newsletter and other channels. Membership gives one the sense of belonging to a worthwhile group and endeavor.

#### **HOW DO WE IMPROVE THE PRODUCT?**

Companies constantly monitor the marketplace for information from customers, potential customers, and competitors. If the product is selling well, it is likely to be a unique product or a product with such a high perceived value that it is the leader in it's field. The brand has probably positioned itself based on uniqueness or a perceived greater value than the competitor's product. Competitor's also constantly look for that feedback so they can change or improve sales efforts or, in some cases, change the product to meet the changing needs of the marketplace. This is important!

A college Marketing class taught me that companies hoping to achieve or hold the leadership work hard at providing the correct product to match the marketplace. Our class was divided into role playing small soda pop "companies." We all started with an equal market share and equal imaginary funds to spend as we saw fit on advertising, adjustments to the product, etc. Our group somehow got the biggest market share after the first week of role playing. We thought we were pretty good until the second week, third week, etc. We, in response to lost market share, changed the lemon lime product to be sweeter, added a diet cola, spend money for ads, all for naught. All through the course we changed and changed again never to find the right combination to take the market lead again. What did we learn? Even a good market leading product must constantly monitor the marketplace and make the correct changes to it's product and approach to keep it in front of the competition.

My point here is SCCARA needs some changes in order to return to the vital and active club it once was, and those changes need to take place soon! We need to make that market survey and learn what members want from the club and then work to provide those activities. Members need to respond to the Board of Directors' efforts by participating in those activities. We need to make SCCARA once again a contemporary product!

#### **HOW IS SCCARA "SOLD?"**

We're back to that intangible perceived value. If our customers (potential members) see that membership provides a value to them, they will likely join and participate. If they

see no progress or foreseeable positive direction, no potential or witness only bickering and infighting, they will go elsewhere. We both lose. Therefore, the selling of SCCARA relates to how well we present the club to the world. Either we are an active and energetic group who actually undertake and do activities, or we are a bunch who only get together monthly for an evening snooze and bickering session at a club meeting. A prospective member witnessing the latter, will cut and run rather than join and participate. Wouldn't you? To "sell SCCARA" is to put energy into meetings and build a stronger membership with a membership drive. Word-of-mouth will begin once we demonstrate we are alive and able. We also need to support our newsletter with articles and information. We need to develop and maintain a strong Internet presence. We need to have demonstrations and promotions which will interest potential members in joining. We need to make the effort to individually contact those we think might have an interest in joining SCCARA and inviting them to attend a meeting. We need to raise our hands when volunteers are needed! We can't rely on the same few to make it happen year-after-year for the rest of us! We need to sell that SCCARA does have a great value to others and to ourselves.

### IT'S DECISION TIME!

We need to act now or forget about having the club in existence much longer. Clubs can and do die by the inactivity and apathy of the membership. I don't want to see this happening to my club and neither should you. As I said, the answers won't come from Newington or from outside the club. It is the decision of each of us to dedicate some energy and resources to the club to take it into the next century strong and alive! We are on life support right now and the patient is in danger of dying if we do not act soon! If we don't act, we might as well pick a site and dig a hole and throw in the box containing all the SCCARA memorabilia and history and go home to drink a toast to what once was a fine club! Will you be the last ham out of the room and turn out the lights on your way out or will you step up and contribute your time and energy?

73, Dan Dietz, WM6M

---

## Picnic

Sunday, August 29, 1999, roughly 10 AM to 3 PM.  
Picnic time at Mary Gomez park in Santa Clara. Bring your own meat to cook and a dish to share. We will have a radio and games. Bring a prize for the games.

73, Don K6PBQ

---

## News from ARRL

From *The ARRL Letter*, June 4, 1999

### Morse Debate Makes Page 1 of Wall Street Journal

Hams checking the prestigious Wall Street Journal for the latest business news and stock quotes June 2 also found some Amateur Radio news--smack in the middle of page 1 and above the fold. A story by Staff Reporter Lee Gomes headlined "TO HAM OPERATORS, MORSE CODE TEST IS LIKE LATIN EXAM; Does It Keep the Barbarians At Bay, or Is It Fueling The Decline of a Culture?" discusses the current code versus no-code debate in Amateur Radio.

"Morse Code is a dying language in the Digital Age, but it's still required reading for amateur radio buffs," Gomes' story begins. His report outlines the broad strokes of the controversy and the impending FCC streamlining that is expected to address future Morse code requirements for amateurs. It also quotes the FCC's Bill Cross, W3TN, as "the FCC's lead staff person on the question," and reports that the FCC "is contemplating relaxing the Morse Code requirement."

Gomes cites Bruce Perens, K6BP, of No Code International, who--in Gomes words--considers Morse code "an antiquated technology" and "a turnoff for young people." "Perens is in the minority," Gomes asserts. "Most licensees don't want any change in the requirement--especially since they have already passed the test themselves."

Taking the opposite viewpoint in Gomes' article is Nancy Kott, WZ8C, of FISTS, which Gomes describes as a "militant pro-Morse group." Gomes says Kott "all but accuses the no-coders of taking bribes from ham radio makers" and claims they want the code requirements dropped to attract more hams and sell more equipment.

Gomes reports that FISTS members fear a lot of bad, on-air behavior "without the screening provided by the Morse Code requirement." Perens, Gomes says, is not concerned about a "post-Morse ham world inhabited by barbarians." Perens points out for the article that applicants still will have to pass "rigorous tests" to get a ticket. Besides, Gomes quotes Perens as saying, "The riffraff have no reason to leave the Internet."

The article is silent on the issue of ITU regulations requiring a demonstration of Morse proficiency for HF operation and on the fact that a codeless class of Amateur Radio license already exists. And, at one point it refers to Morse code as "dits and duhs."

In the course of researching his article, Gomes contacted the ARRL for background information. The complete article is available via the Web for a fee to registered users of the Wall

From *The ARRL Letter*, June 25, 1999

## FCC SETS NEW VANITY FEE

The fee to apply for an Amateur Radio vanity call sign will increase from \$13 to \$14 starting September 10, 1999.

The FCC has released its FY 1999 fee schedule which rounded down the proposed \$1.42 per year fee.

The FCC continues to receive in excess of 1000 vanity applications per month. During May, the FCC got 1165 vanity applications, all but 141 of them filed electronically.

## W5LFL: PHASE 3D, ARISS WILL CHANGE FACE OF HAM RADIO

Past astronaut Owen Garriott, W5LFL--the first ham to use Amateur Radio from outer space--predicts that Phase 3D and the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station projects will change the face of ham radio. "Educational value, technical value, it's all there right in front of us," he says of P3D and ARISS.

Garriott believes that Phase 3D--which could launch as early as this fall--can serve as a conduit for US students, with coordination from local amateurs, to hook up with youths in other countries to practice foreign language, and for on-air cultural exchange. Garriott also pointed out that Phase 3D's eccentric orbit will make it visible from large portions of Earth for long periods of time. "P3D is going to open up a whole new opportunity that we did not have in low-Earth orbit like the space station or other low-altitude OSCARs," he said.

Garriott also says that astronauts on the ISS could include a brief daily ARISS transmission from the perspective of space aimed at school-age kids "to stir up even more interest in our young people" about Amateur Radio. He discussed his ideas during forums at the Dayton Hamvention as well as in an interview with the ARRL.

In 1983, Garriott pioneered the SAREX program by working dozens of earthbound hams on 2 meters using a HT and an antenna mounted on the inside of the shuttle's window. "It's grown much further than any of us would have forecast back in 1983" when there were two astronaut-hams, Tony England, W0ORE, and himself.

Today, Garriott points out, there are more than 80 astro-hams, and Garriott is looking forward to Amateur Radio playing a major role aboard the ISS. "The impact on the space program has been substantial," he said. Not only

has Amateur Radio in space been good public relations for the hobby, but "it's very good for crew morale," Garriott said. This will be important for ISS crews in particular, since they'll spend longer periods in space.

Licensed for more than 50 years, Garriott says ham radio has been a very strong influence in his life and professional career from the very beginning. He also says he's encouraged by the number of young people joining the hobby, especially since the advent of the Technician license. "People may feel that it's not adequate progress or bemoan the fact that we are not further ahead than we are," he said. "But I think we really need to be quite pleased with how far we've come and the substantial interest we have, and make use of the potential that we have in front of us coming along with Phase 3D and the International Space Station to stir up even more interest in our young people."

## AMATEUR GROUPS TO ATTEMPT TRANSATLANTIC 2-METER CONTACT

Starting June 26, groups on opposite sides of the Atlantic--one in Newfoundland, the other in Scotland--will attempt to make the first transatlantic QSO on 2 meters. Efforts to confirm a transatlantic contact on 144 MHz--and secure the Irish Radio Transmitters Society's Brendan Trophies--will be made between June 26 and July 4.

The Scottish group, led by Bill Ward, GM0ICF, will operate from Ardnamurchan Lighthouse on Ardnamurchan Point--the most westerly point in the mainland British Isles. The group will use the call sign 2S0ICF/P. Operating from the North American side in St John's, Newfoundland, will be a group led by Paul Piercey VO1HE. The group will use the call sign VO1AA from Cabot Tower--the site where Marconi received the first transatlantic signal in 1901.

The groups will operate on CW at the low end of the band (144.075 MHz, plus or minus interference) at 15-18 WPM.

"We will be breaking it up in quarter-hour segments, where one station will call the other for a 15 minute period then, if no contact is made, the other station will call for 15 minutes," Piercey explained. "All on-air operations will be recorded electronically."

Operating times will be 1200-2000 UTC each day for the entire period, although Piercey said he doesn't expect the efforts to continue for the entire eight hours each day. The groups will check the VHF Net on 14.345 MHz to see if they're being heard. "Everything is set, and we're ready to go," Ward says. "I hope the conditions--and the weather--are kind."

The IRTS's Brendan Trophies will be awarded to the first two stations to make a verified contact across the Atlantic Ocean using 144-146 MHz without aid of a manmade

reflectors, repeaters or moon bounce.

"Because of this, and the fact that the frequencies are open to all amateurs, we encourage stations on both sides of the Atlantic to join us in this attempt, either to make contact with us or give us propagation reports," Piercey said. Reports go to Piercey at volhe@rac.ca, and they will be relayed to Ward in Scotland via HF.

For more information on the Brendan Trophies, visit <http://www.irts.ie/brendan.htm>. --Paul J. Piercey VO1HE

## MFJ PURCHASES HY-GAIN

MFJ Enterprises has acquired Hy-Gain, a well-known manufacturer of antennas, towers, and rotators. Hy-Gain was owned by Telex Communications of Lincoln, Nebraska. The deal closed May 10, according to MFJ President Martin Jue, K5FLU, who declined to reveal the purchase price. MFJ planned to move the antenna manufacturing facility to Mississippi and staff it with local employees. Jue said he anticipated production at the new site could begin within a few weeks.

"We bought everything--the whole deal," Jue said. "We're going to have to shift some things around to make room."

As it has done with other enterprises it's acquired, MFJ plans to keep the Hy-Gain name and operate the antenna manufacturer as a separate entity. Hy-Gain products will compete with MFJ's own line of antenna products, but Jue said the short-lived Ameritron antenna line would be discontinued in favor of the Hy-Gain line.

Former Cushcraft Production Manager Art Hambleton, K1ART, joined MFJ Enterprises last fall. Jue said Hambleton will be involved in the new Hy-Gain venture, but he was not sure in what capacity. Hambleton manned the Hy-Gain booth at the Dayton Hamvention last month.

Jue said Hy-Gain would immediately start selling the entire product line through the Amateur Radio dealer network. For the past year, Hy-Gain had sold its products factory-direct. MFJ said it expects there to be a "small transition period" as stock, parts, equipment, and production are moved to Starkville. As part of MFJ, Hy-Gain will continue its current product line and introduce several new ones--including two new verticals announced at Dayton.

Jue said customers can contact Hy-Gain at 800-647-1800; fax 601-323-6511; <http://www.mfjenterprises.com>.

## FCC RAISES CONDUCTION LIMITS FOR RF LIGHTING DEVICES

The FCC has released a First Report and Order in ET

Docket 98-42 in which it raises the conduction limits for consumer equipment RF lighting devices operating in the 2.51-3.0 MHz band from 250 uV to 3,000 uV. At the same time the FCC adopted a requirement that manufacturers must provide an advisory statement with the product that includes wording to the effect: "This product may cause interference to radio equipment and should not be installed near maritime safety communications equipment or other critical navigation or communication equipment operating between 0.45-30 MHz."

"While 3,000 uV sounds like a lot, because it is conducted rather than radiated, tests in the ARRL Lab of the devices revealed that it shouldn't pose a problem for amateurs," says ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ. "Accordingly, our comments with regard to this part of the proceeding concentrated on urging a labeling requirement."

Another part of the proceeding, on which the FCC has not yet acted, involves devices operating in the 2450 MHz band. These appear to have a greater interference potential.

## LIMITS ON FIELD DAY FREQUENCIES

146.52 MHz FM simplex off limits for FD: ARRL Contest Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, reminds Field Day participants that ARRL contest rules prohibit the use of the national simplex channel, 146.52 MHz, to solicit or make Field Day contacts. Henderson further points out that the "General Rules for ARRL Contests on Bands above 50 MHz" (which includes Field Day), Rule 1.8 states "Use of the national simplex frequency, 146.52 or immediate adjacent guard frequencies is prohibited." Rule 1.8.2 further states "The intent of this rule is to protect the national simplex frequency from contest monopolization."

*[Personal comment: Perhaps there's something about this that I don't understand, but it seems to me Field Day activity pretty much monopolizes most of the bands--especially HF. So, why single out 146.52? --Ed.]*

## ANTENNA BILL IN OREGON

Oregon antenna bill goes to governor for signature: Oregon's Amateur Radio antenna legislation dealing with FCC opinion and order PRB-1 has cleared the state legislature and now goes to Gov John Kitzhaber for his signature. Support for the bill--known as Senate Bill 879--was strong. The measure passed the state Senate 26-0 and the House of Representatives on a 53-3 vote. Unlike similar state statutes, the Oregon bill does not specifically reference PRB-1, the limited federal preemption. Instead, the informs state and local planners and government officials that Amateur Radio antennas and/or support structures are essentially outside their oversight if the structure is 70 feet or less. The Valley Radio Club of Eugene/Springfield, Bob Shelby, W7FPY, and

several ARRL Northwestern Division and Oregon Section team leaders have been involved in moving the legislation through the legislature. --Marshall Johnson, KK7CW

---

## 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 DeV Vaughns,  
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@aenat.net

---

## Newsletter Notes

As many of you know (or suspect) the membership has been going down in recent years. At this point, there doesn't seem to be a high likelihood of it increasing dramatically any time soon.

Aside from anything else, this is causing us to spend money unnecessarily. The problem is that with bulk mail we must send a minimum of 200 pieces. This not only requires extra printing costs, but we are already past the postage break-even point. Bob (our V.P.) pointed out that SCCARA has been spending much more money in recent years than we're taking in and we must cut back. Since the newsletter is one of our biggest expenses, anything we can do here will make a significant difference. Money could be saved by sending the newsletter by first class postage instead of bulk mail. The difference in postage would be very small, but it would cut printing costs nearly in half.

Some on the board feel it's better to keep using bulk mail and make up the required 200 pieces by sending copies to new amateurs and places like Radio Shack. The idea of sending complimentary copies to newly licensed amateurs is a very good one, but we need someone to gather their addresses every month. Any volunteers?

There's also the question of how many issues do we send each new amateur: only one or a few months' worth. Furthermore, this will increase the work load for the secretary who would have to maintain a constantly changing list of addresses. Normally, I wouldn't make much of a point about that, but since we currently don't have a secretary and haven't been able to convince any of you to fill the post, I question the wisdom of adding to the duties of the secretary at this time.

Please bring any comments or ideas to me or any board member.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor



# ARRL Pacific Division Update

July 1999

## Everyone's Getting Involved in Kid's Day--June 19

Does your daughter, son, grandchild, nephew, niece, or the kid next door think ham radio is okay for you but not necessarily for them? Did you help get your kids licensed, but they haven't been on the air in ages? Have you ever said that if we don't get more kids into the hobby, it might dwindle to the level of interest in croquet or horseshoes? If so, here's an opportunity for you do something up close and personal for the future of the hobby: ask some young people to spent at least 15 minutes in your ham shack on Kid's Day, June 19, talking to other kids who've been invited to do the same thing. It's easy! It doesn't require much time, and you don't have to learn anything new.

Kid's Day was started by the Boring Amateur Radio Club in Oregon. Club members have asked the ARRL to assist with sponsorship.

During a January running of Kid's Day, more than 400 youngsters took part (see June QST, page 32). It's a fun on-the-air event that's grown tremendously popular in the past few years. The friendly ragchew-type exchange includes name, age, location and favorite color. But, kids can ask whatever questions they think of. If they're shy and make lots of mistakes, just be patient and don't correct them. Act as the control op, and make sure you or they ID at the proper time (and be sure to observe third-party traffic restrictions when making DX QSOs). Another possibility is to invite a young person who is already licensed, but doesn't have as fine a station as yours, to assist.

Some of those planning to be Kid's Day participants this year have shared their ideas.

Members of the Green River Valley Amateur Radio Society, in Bettendorf, Iowa, plan to set up a station at the Bettendorf Family Museum of Arts & Sciences for Kid's Day. They'll hand out certificates to every local youth who gets on the air. The museum staff is enthusiastic. The museum is involved with a group called Kaleidoscope that produces TV programs for kids, and they think Kid's Day would be wonderful to tape.

Ham volunteers at Kopernik Observatory, in Vestal, New York, are inviting area youths to visit on Kid's Day, and will operate through the satellites, listening for other youngsters on-the-air.

Worldradio Editor Rick McCusker, WF6O, of Sacramento, California, has printed flyers about Kid's Day and distributed them in his neighborhood. If enough kids respond, he plans to throw a barbecue to feed them when

they stop by to make QSOs.

Ric Painter, WO4O, in Tennessee, had a similar notion. He says his two youngsters, Christopher, 14, and Melanie, 12, and one of his neighbor's kids have participated in past Kid's Day events from his station. "I'm planning something that may be bigger and better for the next one," he said in a posting to the DX reflector. Painter teaches a class of fourth grade boys at his church. He plans to invite them all for pizza, soda, and ice cream--plus a chance "to step up to the golden microphone for Kid's Day Radio Party!" "It'll be interesting to see what happens, He said." He's considering the idea of a Kid's Camp Out Radio Party during Field Day.

Jay Chamberlain AE4MK, at the FBI ARA in Quantico, Virginia, will be inviting his kids (ages 11, 14, and 16) to operate K3FBI. He's attempting to gauge interest in inviting other youngsters from the Washington, DC, area. "I know that I have received some great comments, QSL cards and letters from school kids for my two lunch hours operating K3FBI this past February during the School Club Roundup," he says. "I feel like a K3FBI QSO would be hit with the kids operating that day."

The Bottom Line: Set aside anywhere from 15 minutes to six hours on June 19, between 1800 and 2400 UTC, for kids. Suggested event frequencies are 14,270 to 14,300 kHz and 28,350 to 28,400 kHz. For more details about Kid's Day, visit <http://www.jzap.com/k7rat/>.

Thanks, ARRL Web site at <http://www.arrl.org>

## Easy Operation Overseas Now a Reality for US Hams

Operating overseas and in certain South American countries just got much easier for US hams. The FCC has implemented the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) Recommendation T/R 61-01 that eliminates the need to obtain a special license or permit for US hams wishing to operate for brief visits to most European countries. In addition, the ARRL has begun issuing International Amateur Radio Permits to simplify operation by US hams in certain South American countries.

Earlier this year, the US rendered paperless operation by hams from countries that have a reciprocal operating agreement with this country. Alien operators no longer need to file an FCC Form 610A to operate here. Alien visitors to the US holding an amateur license issued by their home country may operate in the US without submitting any FCC paperwork--provided that a reciprocal operating agreement is in effect between the two countries. The only documentation required is proof of citizenship and an Amateur Radio license issued by the country of citizenship. These arrangements are similar to longstanding arrangements between the US and Canada.

The US State Department applied for US participation in CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01 in 1997, and the request was approved in principle in early 1998. On



June 7, 1999, the FCC put the final pieces of the CEPT arrangement into place by issuing a Public Notice in English, German, and French that spells out the basic information about Amateur Radio operation in CEPT countries. To operate in a CEPT country, US hams only need a copy of the Notice, their original Amateur Radio document, and proof of US citizenship (a US-issued passport or a birth certificate should suffice). The documents must be shown to authorities that ask to see them.

US hams holding any license class but Novice are eligible to operate in CEPT countries. A US citizen with a Technician ticket may be authorized privileges equivalent to a CEPT Class 2 (i.e., VHF-only) license, while a US citizen holding a higher class license may be authorized CEPT Class 1 (i.e., all amateur and amateur satellite) privileges.

The authorization is for use of a portable or mobile station only, including stations set up at hotels or a camping site. Authorization is also granted for US hams to operate the stations of permanent licensees in host countries. The use of Amateur Radio aboard an aircraft is not allowed, however.

To identify while overseas, US stations will use their assigned call signs preceded by the CEPT call sign prefix for the country or territory visited. Stations that are mobile or portable must so indicate following the call sign by declaring "portable" or "mobile" on phone or by signing "P" or "M" on CW. For example, if W1AW were operating portable in France, it would identify as "F stroke W1AW portable" on phone or as "F/W1AW/P" on CW.

US licensees operating under this agreement overseas cannot request protection against harmful interference. Operators must abide by the provisions of the ITU Radio Regulations as well as CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01 and the regulations in force in the host country. This means that US operators planning to operate in other countries must become familiar with that country's regulations and frequency allocations, paying special attention to regional differences. For example, the 40-meter band in Europe and the UK only runs from 7.0 to 7.1 MHz.

Participating CEPT countries as of June 7, 1999, include Austria, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France (including Corsica, Guadeloupe, Guiana, Martinique, St Bartholomew, St Pierre et Miquelon, St Martin, and Reunion/Dependencies), Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, and the United Kingdom (including Great Britain, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands, and the Isle of Man). For updates, visit the ERO Web site, <http://www.ero.dk> and click on "Implementation," then "Decision/Recommendation," then "T/R-61-01".

The ARRL has begun issuing the International Amateur Radio Permit (IARP) that allows US amateurs to operate from Argentina, Brazil, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela without having to obtain a special license (the US

and Canada also are CITEL signatories). The IARP is valid in any country that is a signatory to the CITEL Amateur Convention.

Similar to the CEPT license, there are two classes of IARP. The Class 1 IARP--available to Tech Plus and higher class licensees--requires knowledge of Morse code and carries all operating privileges. The Class 2 IARP--equivalent to the US Technician ticket--does not require knowledge of Morse code and carries all privileges above 30 MHz. An IARP is not a license, but it certifies the existence of a license. There's a \$10 application fee to obtain an IARP from the ARRL.

Complete information on CEPT and IARP operation, including an IARP application form and a copy of the FCC Public Notice on CEPT, is available from the International Operating page on ARRL Web site, <http://www.arrl.org/field/regulations/io/>.

The new procedures affect operation only in participating CEPT (European) and CITEL (Central and South American) countries. They do not change the procedures for US hams wishing to operate overseas in countries that are not CEPT participants or CITEL Amateur Convention signatories. Information on operation from these countries also is available on the pages of ARRL Web site at <http://www.arrl.org/field/regulations/io/recipe-country.html>.

Thanks, ARRL Web site at <http://www.arrl.org>.

## **FCC Amateur Radio Enforcement Log**

The following is a representative listing of recent reports on Amateur Radio enforcement from the files of the FCC Compliance and Information Bureau actions concerning operators in the Pacific Division area:

NOTE: Issuance by the FCC of a Warning Notice indicates that the FCC has what it believes to be reliable evidence of possible rules infractions and not necessarily that the recipient has violated FCC rules. The FCC has the authority, pursuant to §97.519(d)(2) of the rules to readminister any examination element previously administered by a volunteer examiner. This Enforcement Log is representative of recent Warning Notices, Notices of Violation, calls for retesting, and other FCC communications to licensees involving possible serious rules violations. It is not a comprehensive listing.

[UPDATE] OAKLAND, CA: The FCC has dismissed the pending Amateur Radio application of James C. Walker, formerly KF6VAA. In February, the FCC had set aside Walker's Technician class grant in conjunction with the K7IJ repeater shutdown, alleging that Walker had transmitted on the K7IJ repeater before getting his amateur license. In a letter to Walker May 26, FCC Legal Adviser Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, dismissed Walker's still-pending Technician application. Hollingsworth said the Commission had evidence that, despite the set-aside, Walker had continued to transmit on amateur frequencies using

KF6VAA and had been operating on the WA6SEK 145.21 MHz repeater in the Stockton, California, area. Walker was warned May 20 about that operation. Hollingsworth issued a second warning notice for unlicensed radio operation in his May 26 letter. He said that if Walker later reapplies for an amateur license, he would have to attest that he had ceased unlicensed operation. Hollingsworth also said that the FCC wants to resolve issues related to Walker's operation on the K7IJ and WA6SEK repeaters before it entertains another amateur application from Walker. Hollingsworth said that Walker could face criminal prosecution if he operates radio transmitting equipment again without a license. The call sign KF6VAA no longer appears in the FCC database.

[UPDATE] SACRAMENTO, CA: The FCC has suspended the VHF/UHF privileges of Timmy O. Sheen, N6MZA, a Tech Plus licensee, by modifying his license to prohibit operation above 30 MHz. Sheen already has been called in by the FCC for retesting; he has until June 30 to appear or his license will be canceled. In a May 26 letter, Hollingsworth said the FCC had information that Sheen also had been on the WA6SEK 145.21 MHz repeater "broadcasting, playing music and deliberately interfering with repeater operations for several hours." Sheen had been warned in February about similar operation on the K7IJ repeaters, and Hollingsworth said Sheen had been in touch with him to say other stations had interfered with him and to apologize for events leading up to the more recent allegations. "Retaliation cannot be accepted as an excuse for deliberate or malicious interference or broadcasting," Hollingsworth said, adding "this fact has been explained to you in the past." Sheen has 30 days to protest the action.

[UPDATE] STOCKTON, CA: The FCC has modified the license of Technician licensee William B. Gifford, KF6URY, to prohibit VHF/UHF operation for 90 days. The FCC alleges that Gifford was "broadcasting and deliberately interfering" with operations on the WA6SEK 145.21 MHz repeater for several hours. Gifford has 30 days to protest the modification. The FCC earlier requested that Gifford retake his amateur examination under the supervision of the FCC office in San Francisco. He must appear for retesting by June 30 or his license will be canceled.

Thanks, ARRL Members Only web site.

clean sweep! Great work in so short a time!

The bill is aimed at ensuring the availability of spectrum to Amateur Radio operators. It would protect existing Amateur Radio spectrum against reallocations to or sharing with other services unless the FCC provides "equivalent replacement spectrum" elsewhere. Bilirakis, a Florida Republican, also sponsored last year's measure, which attracted upwards of 83 cosponsors on both sides of the aisle. Rep Frank Pallone Jr., a New Jersey Democrat, is the initial cosponsor of the 1999 bill.

ARRL Legislative and Public Affairs Manager Steve Mansfield, N1MZA, says the 1999 bill "is largely the same as last year's HR 3572." The major difference is that the 1999 version adds "Amateur Satellite Service" frequencies to "Amateur Radio Service" in detailing the frequencies that would be afforded protection under the act.

Specifically, HR 783 would amend the Communications Act to require the FCC to provide "equivalent replacement spectrum" to Amateur Radio and the Amateur Satellite Service in the event of a reallocation of primary amateur allocations. It would also require equivalent replacement spectrum in case of any reduction in secondary amateur allocations, or "additional allocations within such bands that would substantially reduce the utility thereof" to amateurs.

Mansfield said it's too soon to predict how HR 783 will fare in the new Congress, but said the fact that it has been introduced so early in the session "bodes well for our prospects." He said that a number of the cosponsors from last year already have indicated an interest in signing on again, "so I think we'll have a lot of support."

A copy of the measure is available via the THOMAS Web site, <http://thomas.loc.gov/>

Thanks, ARRL Bulletin and THOMAS Web site.

## **Nevada Announces Amateur Radio Week**

Nevada has declared its Amateur Radio Week as the last week in June "in honor of the many volunteers who generously donate their time and equipment to provide invaluable assistance during an emergency situation." Field Day, June 26-27 was also specifically noted.

## **Update on the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act**

It's round two in Congress for the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act. At the request of the ARRL, Rep Michael Bilirakis introduced the 1999 version of the proposed legislation, HR 783, on February 23. As of June 8, the bill had received 66 co-sponsors including Pacific Division Congresswoman Mink (HI - 2), Congressmen Farr (CA - 17), Miller (CA - 7), Campbell (CA - 15), and Abercrombie (HI - 1). [in order of cosponsorship] The Pacific Section has a

## **ARRL E-mail Addresses Are Available to 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, see <http://www.pdarrrl.org>.

Thanks, ARRL Letter.

## **John Ronan, K3ZJJ, new East Bay Volunteer Counsel**

I am pleased to announce that John Ronan, K3ZJJ, has been appointed as a Pacific Division Volunteer Counsel in the East Bay Section. Welcome, John, to the Pacific Division team!

## **ARRL HQ Lobby is being Renovated**

For those of you who have visited ARRL HQ in past years, you may recall the lobby with its display cases of early Amateur Radio equipment. The lobby is currently under total renovation to modernize its appearance. Read about this change on the ARRL Members Only WWW site.

Some have asked about the historical radio displays which were in the lobby. All have been saved and catalogued. A few will still be displayed but in a better manner in the renovated lobby.

More on this story as it unfolds including future actions to preserve the historical culture as well as the artifacts of Amateur Radio.

## **Club Officers: Please Review Your Club Listing Information in the Pacific Division Web site**

I have been reviewing the club information in the Pacific Division web site recently (<http://www.pdarrrl.org>) and discovered that some of the listings do not appear to be current. Please help me and the Pacific Division webmasters by reviewing your club information and submitting updating information. Thanks.

## **Coming Events**

• Livermore Swap Meet - 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:larkswap@hotmail.com).

• Foothill Flea Market - 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month from March to October at Foothill College, Los Altos Hills, CA.

• ARRL Field Day, June 26-27. For complete details, see May QST pages 95 and 96. General contest rules are on the ARRL web site at <http://www.arrl.org/contests/>.

• Amateur Radio Techfest sponsored by the Humboldt ARC: Saturday, July 31 and Sunday, Aug. 1 at the Humboldt County Fair Grounds in Ferndale, CA. Contact Marci (KE6IAU) at (707) 442-3866, email [marcidon@quick.com](mailto:marcidon@quick.com) or Clem, WA6TVQ at (707) 445-2336, email [clem@humboldt1.com](mailto:clem@humboldt1.com). Talk-in 146.85 (-) no PL.

• Reno Hamfest, Saturday, July 31, at International Game Technology, 9295 Prototype Drive, Reno NV, from 8 AM until 4 PM. ARRL VE Test session. For information contact Bill, K7NHP, (775) 246-3756; Rich, N7TR, (775) 677-2943; or Neil, WA7KCD, (775) 972-8373, e-mail [macm.yncsmassie@juno.com](mailto:macm.yncsmassie@juno.com). Talk in 146.61 (-) PL 123.

• GEARS 60th Anniversary Hamfest, Saturday, Aug. 7 at Chico State Farm Pavilion, Chico CA. VE testing. Contact Ray, KO6TW, email [rwatkins@csuchico.edu](mailto:rwatkins@csuchico.edu) or Muriel, K6GSK, (530) 342-4765, email [k6gsk@w6rhc.org](mailto:k6gsk@w6rhc.org).

• ARRL Southwestern Division Convention, Long Beach CA, Oct. 1-3. Contact Nate Brightman, K6OSC, (562) 427-5123.

• Bakersfield ARA Hamfest (Lake Costerisan), Oct. 8-10. Contact Robert Gerner, KB6JBL, (661) 588-7065, email: [w6bar@hotmail.com](mailto:w6bar@hotmail.com). ARRL Pacific Division Convention (PACIFICON99), Concord, CA, Oct. 15-17. Contact Dick Brown, KT6X, (925) 676-9048, email [paccon99@pacbell.com](mailto:paccon99@pacbell.com).

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](mailto: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**

PO BOX 6  
San Jose CA 95103-0006

Affiliate of the American Radio Relay League

NONPROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
SAN JOSE CA  
PERMIT NO 3318

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME DATED BULLETIN