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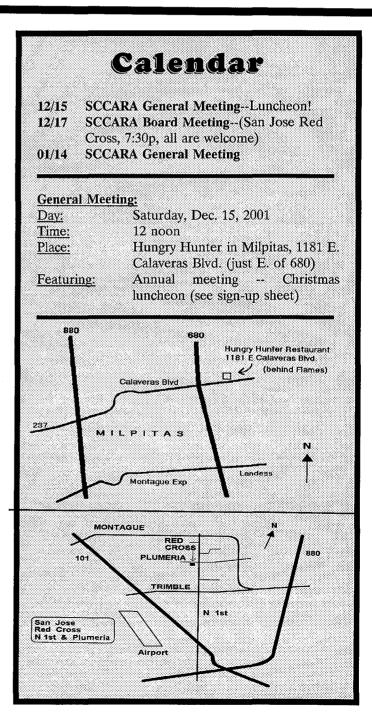
# SCCARA turns 80!

The Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association was founded 80 years ago, as the San Jose Radio Club, in Harry Engwicht's barn on North Third Street, near the railroad tracks. Harry's call was W6HC. He and Frank Quement, W6NX, were the early leaders of the group, and the push to organize came from the Radio Inspector in San Francisco, a man named Dillon. He wanted the hams to police themselves to enforce "quiet hours" during concert time (broadcast) in the evening, and during Sunday church services on the air. Receivers and transmitters were not highly selective in those days.

This was about the time when ham radio was to move from the spark gap to vacuum tube technology, as shown in the 1926 movie of the club, which has Quement emerging from the barn in a tangle of wires and blackened by fire, apparently after an explosion, patting a vacuum tube.

I joined the club in 1932 when it was the lonely leader of a "revolution" to fire K.B. Warner as general manager of the ARRL and replace A.E. Babcock as Pacific Division director. As I recall, Babock, who was an official of the Southern Pacific, was opposed to the move against Warner, whom Quement accused of being too friendly to the "commercials" (RCA, who allegedly coveted ham frequencies). The coup against Babcock succeeded and Col Clair Foster, W6HM, of Carmel was elected director, but the heads of the other divisions did not join him in removing Warner. Foster was also angry because, as a member of the Trans-Pacific Traffic Association, he knew the hams in the Philippines were disenfranchised by the ARRL, because it would not permit them to send in the results of their vote on division director by ham radio, and headquarters would not wait the weeks for the ballots to arrive by mail.

Foster, who had been in the army engineers and later made a fortune in construction, died in Denver not long after being elected. His widow told Ralph Heintz, W6RH, that



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SCCARA was formed 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://www.qsl.net/sccara.

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#### **COMMITTEES**

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#### 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 auto-dial and auto-patch is available. The two meter repeater is located at the Santa Teresa Hospital, south-west San Jose (near IBM): The 70 cm repeater and NOARY BBS is located at the Regional Medical Center (formerly Alexian), east of downtown San Jose (north of 280 and 101).

#### SCCARA NETS

On our two meter repeater: Mondays at 7:30 PM, (not the second monday-our meeting night). Coordinator: Don K6PBQ. On ten meters, 28:385 MHz USB, Thursdays at 8:00 PM. Net control: Wally KA6YMD. Visitors welcome.

#### NOARY PACKET BBS

SCCARA hosts the packet BBS NOARY (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). Sysop: Gary WB6YRU

#### **TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

SCCARA contact Clark KE6KXO: 408 262-9334 ARRL/VEC Silicon Valley VE group: 408 243-8349 me-ae6z@worldnet.att.net she wanted to give the colonel's transmitter, which Heintz had built, to SCCARA, along with a generator and other equipment. So, one day a group which included Lloyd Saxon, Willis Clayton, Roy Pinkham, a couple of others and myself, went down to Carmel and brought the apparatus back to San Jose.

The club at the time was in one of its periodic hunts for a place to meet (free, if possible) and I asked my friend, Jay McCabe, the manager of the San Jose Civic Auditorium if he could put us up and he assigned us to the fan room in the tower at the corner of San Carlos and Market. Getting that heavy generator and other stuff up the stairs was quite an operation. Eventually the club got evicted -- at the start of World War II, I think. The generator spent a lot of time thereafter in the custody of Lloyd Sazon at Jennings Radio, but finally joined the transmitter in the Perham Foundation collection of early radio gear.

The club received a lot of publicity in 1926 when Clair Foster, Harry Enwicht, Orrin Brown, Phil Schofield and Brandon Wentworth went to Lick Observatory with the permission of Dr. Robert G. Aitken and set up a DX operation. Frank Ouement remained in San Jose to act as public relations man. The local newspapers gave it good coverage. One night Dr. Wright came tapping on the door and said he urgently needed to get in contact with Lick's southern station in Chile and couldn't make contact by commercial communications. A nova had been discovered and it was important to get data. He wrote a message to Fritz Neubauer (whom I later knew at Lick). Shortly there after the hams heard Luis Desmaris, Chile's best known ham, and made contact. Next day a reply came with the information that Dr. Wright wanted. Clair Foster had the idea of having the League issue a Worked All Continents Certificate, and he wanted to win the first one. During operations they heard an African. Wentworth went home to Palo Alto and worked him from there and beat Colonel Foster to the prize.

Over the years SCCARA had some illustrious members -- Ralph Heintz, who founded Heintz and Kaufman to manufacture Gammatron tubes; built the radio equipment for all the major expeditions, including Admiral Richard Byrd's to the South Pole. (The gas-operated generator Heintz built almost knocked off Byrd with fumes while he was isolated from the base camp.) Others were Bill Eitel, who founded Eimac with Jack Mc Cullough; Jo Emmet Jennings, who founded Jennings Radio. These SCCARA members made great contributions to the U.S. winning World War II. Many others like Quement, were in the armed services. Quement was a Navy Postmaster in the South Pacific. When Marine Col. Robert Walton, a SCCARA member, had trouble getting his mail down in Australia he asked to see the officer in charge. It was Quement. They spent a pleasant afternoon together and Bob had no more mail problems.

Old timers remember the barbecues which were held at the Falstaff Brewery on Lenzen Avenue and "Pop" Nelson's uncanny ability to predict the attendance, a great help in ordering the steaks from Matt Kovich's Meat Company.

When I get thinking about it I get lonesome for the old timers who are gone, those I have mentioned, as well as Terry Hansen, EW6KG, who built my first two transmitters; Roy Pinkham W6BPT, a movie projectionist; Frank Breene, a dentist who served in the Burma theater; Charlie Holdiman, Armand Humburg, an engineer at KFRC; Mae and Elbert Amarantes; Elmer Armond, who set up a small vacuum tube component factory in his lighting fixture shop on the Old Bayshore Highway -- and so many others.

And, oh yes, when Quement established Quement Electronics, a highly successful business, he became an RCA dealer. So, in the end, the "commercials" won in that respect.

I am 91 and not active on the air, but ham radio has given me many of my richest memories.

Dick Barrett, W6CFK

### **President's Prose**

This is a busy month for our club members. November is the last business meeting of the year. This month we hold election of officers, and greet our last speaker. Next month, December, is our Christmas party where the new officers will be sworn into heir respective offices for the ensuing year. Our club members usually have a good time. There will be special cookies for desert.

Did anyone go to Pacificon last month? If you did, I hope you had a good time. Wally and I went up on Friday night for the Saturday and Sunday classes. We spent time and money in the "store" buying more toys. We had a good time and I got some extra sleep.

The speaker for the banquet was Jim Heynie, W5JBP, the ARRL President. He talked about his ideas to change the current average age of clubs across the USA from 55 to 45 in the next two years, then to 40 within three years after that. He detailed his plans for us. One of the ways to increase club membership is to hold classes. SCCARA is doing this by holding its first class in many years in January and February 2002. The other thing he wants to see happen is to have a club "married" with a school. He said that being a ham radio operator helps students in all areas of basic education. It teaches math, science, English, geography, and social studies. I think that SCCARA could find a school we could marry with, and in return, we could get more members through the students and their parents. It is a long-range plan that seems feasible to me. It will work if the clubs cooperate. It means that clubs are going to put forth a

concerted effort to make it work. Is there anything you can think of that SCCARA can do to get the ball rolling with a school? How do we look for a school that we can "marry?" Bring your thoughts and ideas to our January meeting.

I was able to talk to a U. S. Coast Guard representative about coming to a meeting to talk about what they are doing now, and how they could use hams in a civilian capacity to help them. He said that he would be happy to come and talk to us. Date to be forthcoming.

I hope there are more club members at our Christmas party this year. We always have a good time. The dessert is going to be the decorated pig cookies. So, those of you who plan to attend, get your orders in ASAP so I know what names and calls to put on the cookies. I do not want to leave anyone out.

Dick Barrett, W6CFK got a message to me that this year happens to be SCCARA's 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Will try to arrange acknowledgment at the Christmas party.

This month we vote on the officers for the ensuing year.

I am finishing this month's President's Prose from my hospital bed at Kaiser Santa Teresa. I have been hospitalized for cellulitis in my right leg. It is Monday. I have been here since Saturday, 11/10. The doctor predicts that I will be here until this Friday. Updates on Monday night nets.

73, Barbara, KD6QEI



### **Meeting Minutes**

#### General Meeting, Nov. 12, 2001



The meeting was called to order at 7:50 PM by Wally Britten, Barbara Britten being currently in the hospital - being treated for an infection on the leg.

The meeting was recessed at 8:00 for our speaker, Bob Getsla WA6WHT who is making a presentation on High Definition digital TV broadcast.

With the presentation over at 9:15 PM the meeting re-convened.

Treasurer's report : Savings \$6863.61; checking \$1581.20.

Repeater report: Still waiting to find out if the engineers at Kaiser Santa Teresa have mounted the rack for the repeater duplexers.

SCCARA-GRAM: Gary was thrilled with the input for this issue.

BBS: the creator, Bob NOARY hasn't yet had time to complete the re-programming for the replacement Sparc station.

Christmas party: Will be Saturday 12/15/01 at The Hungry

Hunter - Milpitas off Calaverais Blvd. Just east of 680 time is 12:00 Noon Bring an item for the gift exchange / "swap" Ham class will start Thursday Feb. 15th at Kaiser Santa Clara. Don Haydon will be the lead instructor.

Club renewals: Get them in soon please. Remember to turn in the FULL page of the form.

New Business: The club elections were held. Elected on a white ballot were:

President Barbara Britten, KD6QEI; Secretary Willy Marquinalez, KG6HJE; Treasurer, Lloyd DeVaughns, KD6FJI; and Directors: Clark Murphy, KE6KXO and Lou Steirer, WA6QYS. The incumbent Trustee, Stan Getsla, WA6VJY won over challenger El Wirt, K6ZYY.

Don Apte KK6MX showed a very compact FM ATV transmitter & receiver. It operates on 2.4 GHz with almost a 1 mile range with the built in whips.

The closing motion was made by Howard N6HM

Wally KA6YMD

### Board Meeting, Nov. 19, 2001



Special meeting location due to Barbara, KD6QEI being currently hospitalized. The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM

Board members present:

Barbara, Wally, KA6YMD; Clark, KE6KXO; Lou, WA6QYS; Lloyd, KD6FJI; Don, K6PBQ; and visitors: Gwen, KF6OTD; and Don, KO6HH.

The treasurer, Lloyd reports \$1581.20 and \$6863.61 in club Checking & Saving accounts.

Brief discussion was held regarding Barbara's leg problem.

The Christmas party for 12/15/01 Saturday at 12:00 noon was discussed, it also was proposed that we seek either Frank Glass K6RQ, Roy Metzger, K6VIP, or Bob Wharton W6OOY to officiate at the installation of officers. Bring presents for the "competition" gift exchange. The relish tray provided at last years party went over well, and will be repeated.

Don KO6HH requested a check made out to HRO for \$81.00 to purchase the initial texts for the Ham class instructors. The "Now you're talking" books will be discounted, and the students will get a break too. (\$18.50 per instead of \$20 something). Passed by the board, with no dissention. The class will start 2/7/01 and be every Thursday through 3/7/01. There may be an added class day some where in between at the agreement of attendees. Theory only will be taught at the class. As of now the instruction will be shared by Don KO6HH, Clark KE6KXO, Wally KA6YMD, Bob N6PCQ, and possibly Rich AD6EC.

Regarding the Repeater and the Radio room, no new information since the 11/01 general meeting. Both hospitals are now through with their accreditation processes so things should soon start rolling again.

SCCARA's Field day score was mis-listed as class 3A when we actually were 2A. This would not change the points scored. Don KO6HH also reported that the tower trailer has been tarped for the winter.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Barbara Britten, KD6QEI

### **ARRL** News

From The ARRL Letter, November 2, 2001

# SHARING SPECTRUM WITH OTHER SERVICES A HAM RADIO REALITY

Amateur Radio operators can get mighty territorial when they perceive that some other radio service is intruding upon "their" turf. What many hams often don't understand, however, is that Amateur Radio is a secondary service in the US on several popular bands or sub-bands. As such, it's subject to interference from primary radio service occupants and, by law, must avoid interfering with them. And, of course, ham bands are not all the same everywhere in the world.

Hams share most of their spectrum--especially the UHF and microwave allocations--with other users, typically the US Government and Fixed and Mobile services. The popular 70 cm band, 420-450 MHz, is a good case in point, says ARRL Field and Regulatory Correspondent Brennan Price, N4QX.

"Amateur use of the 70 cm band is secondary to government radiolocation services in the US, so hams must tolerate interference from the primary service and may not QRM it," Price explained. No operation in the 420-430 MHz band is permitted in some parts of the US (in the vicinity of the Great Lakes), while 50-W output power limits apply to operations centered near certain US military installations.

Price notes, however, that military use of the band is not confined to these areas and the band is utilized aboard aircraft. "We occasionally receive inquiries from amateurs who complain of 70 cm disruptions when military planes fly overhead," said Price, who also serves as the ARRL Monitoring System coordinator. "We have every reason to believe that the current spate of widely heard disruptions is due to high-altitude airborne operations by the band's legal, primary occupant--the US Government." The 420-430 MHz segment is allocated on a primary basis worldwide to the Fixed and Mobile (except Aeronautical Mobile) services.

Two meters--144 to 148 MHz--is an exclusive allocation in

ITU Region 2, which includes North and South America. US hams who have taken along a H-T while vacationing in Europe or elsewhere in Region 1, however, know that the 2 meter band in that part of the world is 144-146 MHz. In Region 3, hams have exclusive access to 144-146 MHz and share 146-148 MHz on a co-primary basis with Fixed and Mobile Service stations.

Six meters--50 to 54 MHz--is an exclusive ham allocation in Regions 2 and 3, but the band is allocated exclusively for broadcasting in Region 1--although certain countries do allow limited 6 meter operation.

The sharing news is much better on the higher HF bands. The 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10 meter bands are allocated to the Amateur Service on an exclusive basis worldwide--with a few minor exceptions for the high end of 20. On other HF bands some sharing occurs.

On 30 meters--10.1 to 10.15 MHz--hams are secondary to non-US Fixed Service stations throughout. Amateurs must avoid harmful interference to these stations.

The 40 meter band is currently the focus of an effort supported by the International Amateur Radio Union and ARRL to obtain a 300 kHz worldwide exclusive allocation. Most of the world does not have access to the 300 kHz-wide swath from 7.0 to 7.3 MHz that US hams enjoy. In the rest of the world, the upper two-thirds of 40 is dominated by broadcasters. This issue is on the agenda for the 2003 World Radiocommunication Conference <http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/WRC-03/>. One suggested remedy would shift the allocation downward to create a 300 kHz worldwide band at 6.9 to 7.2 MHz.

The 80/75 meter band--3.5 to 4.0 MHz--is exclusive to the Amateur Service in the US. Elsewhere in Region 2 hams have exclusive status from 3.500 to 3.750 MHz and share the rest of the band with foreign Fixed and Mobile services on a co-primary basis. Amateurs in Regions 1 and 3 share parts of the band with Fixed and Mobile. There is no amateur operation allowed above 3.8 MHz in Region 1, which includes Europe.

The 1.8 to 1.9 MHz segment of 160 meters is exclusive to US amateurs. Hams in the US are secondary on 1.9 to 2.0 MHz to the primary Radiolocation Service (government and non-government).

A table of US Amateur Radio allocations is available on the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/ regulations/USbands.pdf>. The "Considerate Operator's Frequency Guide" details band plans for Amateur Radio <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/conop.html>.

# **"BAND THREAT" PROCEEDING NOW AVAILABLE FOR E-COMMENTS**

The FCC conceded this week that it had failed to properly post the Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order in ET Docket 01-278 on its Web site. As a result, those hoping to voice their opinions in the proceeding--which poses a potential threat to Amateur Radio--were unable to find the document to add their electronic comments. An FCC spokesperson blamed human error.

The ARRL contacted the FCC earlier this week in an effort to rectify the problem. The NPRM&O now is available on the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System Web site <http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>. When searching, enter "01-278" in the "Proceeding" box in the "Search for Filed Comments" window.

The ET 01-278 proceeding deals in part with a potential band threat to the popular 70 cm band from a Part 15 RF identification device proposed for deployment by SAVI Technology (see the Threats to our Amateur Bands page <http://www.arrl.org/news/bandthreat/> for details). The ARRL has argued that the FCC lacks authority under the Communications Act of 1934 to permit unlicensed devices with substantial interference potential and that such devices must be licensed.

The ARRL also is looking into the interference potential posed to 20 meters by a proposal to increase the maximum emission levels permitted in the 13.56 MHz Industrial, Scientific and Medical band as well as the maximum level of out-of-band emissions.

Commenters are advised to read paragraphs 20-27 of the NPRM&O (also available on the ARRL Web site <a href="http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2001/10/19/1/290a11.html">http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2001/10/19/1/290a11.html</a> before commenting.

The proceeding incorporates two earlier rule making petitions, RM-9375, and RM-10051, which had existing document lists for the addition of comments. The FCC told ARRL that those wishing to file comments need only reference ET Docket 01-278, however. Comments need not be copied to the existing RM-9375 and RM-10051 lists.

Members of the Amateur Radio community may file comments using the ECFS < http://www.fcc.gov/

e-file/ecfs.html>. Commenters should include their full name, US Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rule making number--in this case ET 01-278.

It's also possible to e-mail comments via the ECFS. To obtain e-mail filing instructions, commenters should send an e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov and include the words "get form <your e-mail address>" in the body of the message. A sample form and directions will be sent by reply e-mail.

## MORSE CODE TO BE FEATURED ON UPCOMING X-FILES EPISODE

Rob Ginkowski, WA6CW, of Hollywood, California, served as a technical adviser to The X-Files star Robert Patrick for an upcoming episode. Patrick's character, John Doggett, was in a hospital bed, paralyzed, and was required to send a Morse code message by tapping his index finger. WA6CW (who also works as an actor) taught Patrick how to tap out the message at about 5 WPM. "He was a fast learner," Ginkowski commented. No word on what the message was, but it might be "The truth is out there." The episode, entitled "4-D," is scheduled to air Sunday, December 9, on the Fox TV Network.

## **December Meeting**

Our annual Christmas meeting this year will be a luncheon again instead of a dinner. It will be held on Saturday December 15 at the Hungary Hunter in Milpitas, (1181 E. Calaveras Blvd., just east of Hwy 680, old yellow house location).

Lunch is at 12 noon. Please note that on Saturday, there isn't a regular bar, but you will be able to order a bottle of wine for the table.

This year we will not be having the raffle prize drawings. Instead we will have a gift exchange. The way it works is that everyone brings a wrapped gift suitable for a man or woman costing about \$8-\$10. This type of gift exchange is always a lot of fun to participate in.

Reservations need to be in by Friday Dec. 7 (see sign-up sheet). Talk-in will be on our repeater, W6UU, 146.385+ (simplex if you can't hit the repeater). Why not renew your membership at the same time?

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you there!

73, Don K6PBQ

## My visit to Newington

On October 4th I visited the ARRL Headquarters and the W1AW station in Newington Connecticut. The site is about two miles from the center of town in a residental area and has a large sign indicating that it is the league headquarters. I entered the parking lot, which held about 75 cars and separated the HQ and W1AW buildings. The lobby of the two story HQ building contained a collection of amateur receivers, a waiting area, and a receptionist who introduced me to the tour guides.

The main guide was Jerry Hill, KH6HU, whose picture and biography are on page 74 of the November QST. Jerry told me that all HQ staff take turns as guides and that

he had taken the tour as a visitor himself only six weeks before. When I told him that I was a SCCARA member he said that he had lived in Santa Clara and learned how to be a ham from the late Bill Stevens, W6ZM.

The tour itself started with the Field and Educational Services Department, where Jerry himself worked. The field part includes relations with the section managers and league appointed volunteers, while the educational part includes the "Now You're Talking" instruction book for training new hams, instructors manuals, and materials to get amateur radio into the public schools. Accross the hall is the technical department, which performs evaluations of commercial ham radio gear and builds new ham apparatus described in QST and QEX magazines. We then passed by the advertising department to the book department where the several dozen ARRL books are created and updated. The largest department produces the monthly magazine QST. It largely uses MacIntosh computers for layout and graphics.

At this point we climbed the stairs to the second floor and entered the QSL bureau, where the assistant tour guide worked. They forward about 2000 QSL cards on an average day! We passed the Legislation and Public Affairs Department as well as the executive offices to the DXCC department. The DX Century Club department checks the QSL cards and makes awards for foreign contacts for ARRL members. I believe it also responsible for Worked All States Awards. We then passed another large department, the ARRL VEC group, which supervises the ARRL Volunteer Examiners who test prospective hams for new Liscences and existing hams for upgrades. We then passed two departments that most hams would call first at HO, the Circulation department, whose responsibilities include lost and missing copies of QST, and the Membership Services department. We saw the Contests department and then walked across the parking lot to the W1AW building.

The W1AW building is an approximately 50 foot square building surrounded by several 100 foot towers containing several amateur antennas each. The entrance to the building includes several items from the early days of the ARRL, including Hiram Percy Maxim's spark transmitter and the first copy of QST magazine. The W1AW station is set up to run all amateur modes on all amateur frequencies through the 1.2 GHz band. The main room is connected to three studios that can be operated simultaneously. Each studio seemed to contain an HF tranciever and a VHF/UHF tranceiver as well as equipment for less common modes such as FAX, SSTV, digital or television. Along one wall of the main room are single band one kilowatt transmitters for 160 through 10 meters that are used simultaneously for code practice and bulletins. These transmitters have their own separate air conditioning. The W1AW station is very impressive.

At this point the lunch hour was approaching and I had to leave without operating the W1AW station, but I certainly was pleased to make the trip and see the W1AW station and the League headquarters.

73, Don KO6HH

### **JOTA 2001**

This year I had the privilege of having two scouting groups over for Jamboree On The Air, JOTA.

My first scouting group was a group of 8 webelos scouts troop 264 "the Rauins" from south San Jose. They were on the radio with two JOTA scouts in Melvin FL and a troop on a camping trip in Oklahoma. They were on the radio for about an hour and a half. They had fun discussing their scouting activities and school work. This was their first JOTA and they had a great time.

My second group was 5 girl scouts from troop 1025 in Mt. View/Los Altos. This is their third year over for JOTA. They talked to a scouting group in Fort Worth TX for about an hour. Using amateur radio the scouts are able to find out what scouts are doing in other parts of the country. They both discussed their school work and other activities besides scouting.

For both groups I set up a table with code practice oscillators so they could learn how to send their names etc. in Morse code. Both groups found this activity very interesting along with the phonetic alphabet.

Ready for JOTA 2002.

73, Don Village K6PBQ









## **Packet Pieces**

### Downloaded from the packet network:

\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: 21 Jun 2000 06:32 From: AB7RG@AB7RG To: FARCE@USA Subject: Summertime In Texas:

### Summertime in Texas:

\_\_\_\_\_

#### May 30

Just moved to Texas. Now this is a state that really knows how to live!! Beautiful sunny days and warm balmy evenings. Mountains and deserts blended together. What a place! Watched the sunset from a park lying on a blanket. It was beautiful. I've finally found my home. I love it here.

#### June 14

Really heating up. Got up to 100 degrees today. Not a problem. Live in an air-conditioned home, drive an air-conditioned car. What a pleasure to see the sun every day like this. I'm turning into a real sun worshipper.

#### June 30

Had the backyard landscaped with western plants today. Lots of cacti and rocks. What a breeze to maintain. No more mowing the lawn for me. Another scorcher today, but I love it here.

#### July 10

The temperature hasn't been below 100 degrees all week. How do people get used to it? It is taking me longer than I expected.

#### July 15

Fell asleep by the pool and got 3rd degree burns over 60 percent of my body. Missed two days of work, what a dumb thing to do. I learned my lesson though: got to respect the ol' sun in a climate like this.

#### July 20

I missed Tabby (our cat) sneaking into the car when I left this morning. By the time I got out to the hot car for lunch, Tabby had swollen up to the size of a shopping bag and exploded all over \$2,000 worth of leather upholstery. I told the kids she ran away. The car now smells like Kibbles and s\*\*t. No more pets in this heat!

#### July 25

Dry heat, my ass. Hot is hot!! The home air-conditioner is on the fritz and the AC repairman charged \$200 just to drive by and tell me he needed to order parts.

#### July 30

Been sleeping outside by the pool for three nights now. \$1,500 a month in damn house payments and we can't even go inside. Why did I ever come here?

#### Aug 4

115 degrees. Finally got the air-conditioner fixed today. It cost \$500 and gets the temperature down to about 90. I hate this state!

#### Aug 8

If another wise ass cracks, "Hot enough for you today?" I'm going to tear his throat out. Damn heat. By the time I get to work, the radiator is boiling over, my clothes are soaking wet, and I smell like Roasted Tabby!!

#### Aug 10

The weather report might as well be a damn recording: Hot and sunny. It's been too hot for two damn months and the weatherman says it might really warm up next week. Doesn't it ever rain in this barren damn desert??

#### Aug 12

Water rationing has been in effect all summer, so 1,700 worth of cacti just dried up and blew into the #@\*&1% pool. Even a cactus can't live in this heat.

#### Aug 14

Welcome to Hell!!! Temperature got up to 123 degrees today. Forgot to crack the window and blew the windshield out of the Lincoln. The installer came to fix it and said, "Hot enough for you today?" My wife had to spend the \$1,500 monthly house payment to bail me out of jail.

#### Aug 30

Worst day of the damn summer. I'm not leaving the house. The monsoon rains finally came and all they did was make it muggier than hell. The Lincoln is now floating somewhere in Mexico with its new \$500 windshield. That does it, we're moving to Illinois for some peace and quiet.

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

### ARRL Pacific Division Update

#### November 2001

#### Pacificon 2001 a Great Success

Pacificon 2001 is now history, and those who missed this super event missed a really great conventions. It consisted of three fun and talk packed days over the Oct. 19-21 weekend, in Concord.

The Friday antenna seminar was sold out, as was the keynote breakfast Saturday morning and also the banquet Saturday evening. Those who attended the two events were treated to presentations by ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, who spoke on his vision for the future of Amateur Radio in the US.

As usual, the QRP group was very active, even with an in-room contest during the event.

All in all, an excellent convention. Next year Pacificon will be held Oct. 18-20, 2002. It's not too soon to start planning to attend!

#### Hawaii State Convention Also a Great Success

The Hawaii State Convention, held near Pearl Harbor on Oct. 13, was also a resounding success. Total attendance was near 250, with the technical sessions generally well attended. Speaker for the Saturday banquet was Ed Hare, W1RFI, who spoke on his famous tuna tin QRP rig

Thanks to all who made the convention a success, including AH6PT, KH6BZF, NH6DR, KH6UW, KH7U, and KH7EB, all of whom made major contributions to the organization and operation of the convention. Special thanks to the speakers - AH6RH, W1RFI, KH6B, KH7U, KH6UW and AH6HN. Many other locals pitched in the day of the event.

Thanks Walt, AH6OZ.

#### **K6WR** Article in QST

Past Director Brad Wyatt, K6WR, is the latest Pacific Division member to pen an article published in QST. His "Remote-Controlled HF Operation Over the Internet" is featured in Nov. QST, pages 47 and 48.

Congratulations, Brad.

# Battle Looms Over Part 15 Access to 425-435 MHz

The FCC has proposed changes to its Part 15 rules governing unlicensed devices that would allow operation of advanced RF identification devices between 425 and 435 MHz. By going along with a request made earlier this year by SAVI Technology Inc and fiercely opposed by ARRL, the FCC has set the stage for another battle between amateur and commercial interests.

"The FCC hasn't thought this through," said ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ. He contends that the Part 15 RFID proposal--included as part of a larger Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order--is "contrary to the whole philosophy of the Part 15 rules." Sumner said the RFID devices SAVI proposes more properly belong on frequencies that are also authorized for use by devices regulated by FCC's Part 18 Industrial, Scientific and Medical (ISM) rules.

The FCC said this week's NPRM&O would modify the rules for RFID systems "to harmonize our rules with those in other parts of the world and to allow for improved operation." Sumner said that 433.9 MHz is allocated for ISM devices in 10 European countries but not in the rest of the world, including ITU Region 2 (North and South America).

Last March, the ARRL urged the FCC to deny or dismiss SAVI Technology's petition. The League argued that the field strengths and duty cycles SAVI proposed for its RFID tags were unreasonable "and would undoubtedly seriously disrupt amateur communications in one of the most popular of the Amateur Service allocations." SAVI, which markets radiolocation and wireless inventory control products, told the FCC it needed the rules changes to satisfy customer demand for increased RFID system capabilities. The FCC this week said it agreed with SAVI that changes to its Part 15 rules to allow more advanced RFID systems in the 433 MHz band "would serve the public interest." It proposed to create a new section to Part 15 that would allow operation of RFIDs in the 425-435 MHz band and transmissions of up to two minutes at maximum field strengths now only permitted for extremely short-duration, intermittent control signals.

See QST and the ARRL Letter for additional details.

#### Help Needed with ARRL CC&R Effort

Have you ever been denied the ability to put up an antenna, or to operate a radio transmitter, or had any other restriction on your Amateur Radio activities because you live in a housing development or condominium complex governed by private land use regulations? (These are often referred to by lawyers and real estate professionals as CC&Rs.) As a result of requests from members, the ARRL Board of Directors, at its July meeting, adopted a goal of trying for legislative action that helps overcome the unreasonable restrictions of CC&Rs that prohibit or restrict Amateur Radio antennas.

Like any other telecommunications issue, this one, upon closer inspection turns out to quite entangled with many issues affecting a wide range of commercial telecommunications services. These include wire-line telephone, cellular and PCS phones, and over-the-air-receiving-devices, all seasoned by the politically hot-pepper issue of private property rights, and, of course, a great deal of confusion on Capitol Hill over the whole thing.

In order to build awareness in Congress that CC&Rs really have become a problem for many in the Amateur Radio community, and to backstop our efforts to meet with elected representatives and their staff on Capitol Hill, letters from ARRL members to their representatives have become increasingly important. In the meantime, we continue to prowl the halls of Congress in search of supporters!

If you are affected by a CC&R, or know someone in your Congressional district who is, and you want to help out, consider writing to your member of Congress. By the time you read this, there will be a sample letter on ARRLWeb to save you some time. If you decide to write to your member of Congress, it would help ARRL's Office of Legislative Affairs to receive a copy of the letter you send. To find your Senator's mailing address check the following URL: http://www.senate.gov/contacting/index.cfm. To find your R e p r e s e n t a t i v e 's, c h e c k t h i s U R L : http://www.house.gov/writerep/.

Thanks, ARRL Web

### **Colvin Book Being Written**

DXCC squared--the hard way! The late DXpedition team of Lloyd and Iris Colvin, W6KG and W6QL, worked, confirmed, and received DXCC from more than 100 DXCC entities. This fact was among those established as research continues on a biography of the Colvins by author, Jim Cain, K1TN, a former ARRL Headquarters staff member. "We've counted DXCCs from 109 DXCC countries so far," Cain said, "not including any of the dozens of DXCCs Lloyd and Iris achieved as individuals from California. Can anyone top this?" Iris Colvin died in 1998, and Lloyd Colvin died in 1993. The couple was most active between the 1960s and the early Commissioned by the Yasme Foundation, the 1990s. soon-to-be-published book will include a history of the Foundation and a biography of the couple. Cain invites additional information, photos, and anecdotes on the Colvins and on the early Yasme days in the 1950s. Send information to yasmebook@mybizz.net.

Thanks, ARRL Letter.

#### ARRL "Amateur Radio Demo and Education Day" Wows FCC

ARRL recently took Amateur Radio's message

directly to FCC Headquarters in Washington, DC. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, said the idea behind the ARRL's "Amateur Radio Demo and Education Day" September 18 was to foster a positive view of the Amateur Service--especially with three new commissioners on board who may not be familiar with ham radio and the issues it faces.

"The FCC is bombarded with paper every day in the form of filings, briefings, backgrounds, and other print materials," said Haynie, who masterminded the demonstration. "So our purpose was to let the commissioners and their staff get out of the 'paper chase' for awhile and see Amateur Radio up close."

The "demo" part of the event included a fully operational HF Amateur Radio station, which was used to make several contacts, a selection of low-profile antennas, a PSK31 setup, and a software-defined radio designed and built by Bob Larkin, W7PUA--and featured in OST <http://www.proaxis.com/~boblark/dsp10.htm>. The "education" facet comprised informational graphics throughout the room that depicted such topics as Amateur Radio disaster communication, the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program, and deed covenants, conditions and restrictions--or CC&Rs--as they affect hams subjected to private land-use regulations. One surprisingly popular poster featured a description of radio wave propagation. A videotape loop on Kid's Day ran all day long.

The event gave Haynie the chance to chat at length about Amateur Radio issues with FCC Chairman Michael Powell, commissioners Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, and Kevin Martin, and key FCC staffers.

Equally enthusiastic was ARRL First Vice President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, who also represented ARRL at the event. "We wanted to show the continuing--and maybe even growing--importance of Amateur Radio to the nation's telecommunications infrastructure, and to demonstrate our role in technological development and emergency communication," Harrison said.

And that latter aspect did raise a somber note, as the Amateur Radio demonstration took place only days after the World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks. Powell asked the FCC to "go on with the show," because of his commitment to keeping the FCC running on a business-as-usual basis during the national crisis. News of the tragic situation still pouring in underscored Amateur Radio's value in providing emergency assistance.

Haynie said the highlight of the event was the interest and involvement of Chairman Powell and his staff as well as the opportunity personally to meet the other three new commissioners. Haynie said that some commissioners seemed particularly interested in information on Amateur Radio antenna installations that had been erected under the "reasonable accommodation" provision of PRB-1.

Haynie said he was especially pleased that every commissioner and nearly all FCC department heads turned out with their staff members--nearly 100 visitors in all. Chairman Powell spent considerable time examining every display and asked for a personal demonstration of the PSK31 equipment. He was also interested in Amateur Radio involvement in rescue efforts at the World Trade Center and Pentagon disaster sites and how the Amateur Radio Emergency Service operates.

ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay said he was pleased to see that people did not just "cruise through" but stayed to discuss various issues and topics. Imlay said the event set the stage for future productive discussions with the FCC on a number of important Amateur Radio issues.

On behalf of the ARRL contingent, Haynie deemed the day a huge success. "This was the first time we have ever had such an opportunity, and in our collective opinions it was very successful!" he said. --Steve Mansfield, N1MZA

Thanks, ARRL Letter.

#### **Kodiak Star Launch a Success**

Following several delays, the Kodiak Star launch vehicle took off into space from Alaska early Sunday, September 30 UTC. The Athena I rocket boosted three Amateur Radio payloads into orbit. Initial indications are that all satellites deployed properly and have been monitored on the ground. The payloads included the APRS-equipped PCSat, built by midshipmen from the US Naval Academy under the guidance of Bob Bruninga, WB4APR, the acknowledged "father of APRS."

PCsat is a 1200-baud APRS digipeater designed for use by amateurs using hand-held transceivers or mobiles. Bruninga reports that PCSat successfully separated and has been transmitting 1200 baud AX.25 AFSK telemetry on 145.825 MHz. The satellite is being checked out, has not yet been commissioned for general amateur use and needs a clear uplink frequency.

Carried into space in addition to PCSsat were the Starshine 3 and Sapphire payloads. Starshine3 is a "disco" mirror ball with AX.25 9600 baud telemetry on 145.825. Sapphire has 1200-baud AX.25 telemetry and a voice replay on 437.1 MHz. Starshine 3's "disco" ball will be visible to the eye and give earthbound students the opportunity to participate in its primary mission of satellite tracking.

For more information, visit the PCSat Web site, http://web.usna.navy.mil/~bruninga/pcsat.html. For more information on Sapphire, visit the Stanford University Space Systems Development Laboratories Web site, http://ssdl.stanford.edu/aa/projects/squirt1/sapphire\_overvie w.html. The Starshine Web site is http://www.azinet.com/starshine/ Thanks, ARRL Bulletin

#### MicrowaveUPDATE 2001 a Success

MicrowaveUPDATE 2001 was held in Sunnyvale, CA September 27-30, 2001. Over 100 microwave Amateur Radio operators from USA, Germany, Great Britain, Slovenia, Canada, Japan, and Australia attended the conference.

The first day, Thursday was exceptional. Great weather and great surplus deals around Silicon Valley. Participants came back to the hotel with arm-loads of goodies. Then it was off to Stanford's 150 foot dish! You should have seen the eyes and faces of everyone as they got out of the carpools and looked up at the gigantic dish. Eight CW and SSB contacts were made on 1296 using the dish with about 20 watts.

Friday and Saturday were the presentations of papers ranging from microwave EME operating to equipment design. Friday night was the swap meet (where some of the surplus acquired Thursday, was traded amongst the participants) and Noise Figure testing. The ladies enjoyed trips to Filoli Gardens, Stanford Shopping Center and other SF Bay area sights. Saturday night was filled with dinner and presentation of the prestigious Central States VHF Society John T. Chambers Memorial award to Will Jensby, W0EOM.

The conference ended on Sunday morning as an open to all swap was held in the parking lot. It was also show and tell time as a few of the enthusiasts set up their 10 GHz portable stations and listened for the Mt. Leeson Beacon!

Watch for next year's conference to be held in the NorthEast. Keep an eye on www.microwaveupdate.org for more info.

Thanks, N9JIM & W0EOM.

# FCC Invites Comments on ARRL's 60-Meter Petition

The FCC has begun accepting comments on the ARRL's petition seeking the allocation of 5.250 to 5.400 MHz to the Amateur Service on a domestic (US-only), secondary basis. The Commission has put the proposal on public notice and assigned a rulemaking number, RM-10209, to the proceeding.

Interested parties may comment on the proposal via the Internet or e-mail using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (EFCS), information on which can be found at http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html. Those commenting should reference "RM-10209" in their postings. Even if the FCC eventually okays the petition, it's likely to be several years before the new band actually becomes available.

In its petition, the ARRL told the FCC that the new band would aid emergency communication activities by filling a "propagation gap" between 80 and 40 meters, particularly for emergency communications during hurricanes and severe weather emergencies. The ARRL also said a new 150-kHz allocation at 5 MHz also could relieve substantial overcrowding that periodically occurs on 80 and 40.

The ARRL has proposed that General class and higher amateurs be permitted to operate CW, phone, data, image and RTTY on the new band running maximum authorized power. No mode-specific sub-bands were proposed. If allocated to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis, hams would have to avoid interfering with--and accept interference from--current occupants of the spectrum, as they already do on 30 meters.

The ARRL said that its successful WA2XSY experimental operation between 1999 and this year demonstrates that amateur stations can coexist with current users and that the band is very suitable for US-to-Caribbean paths. Thanks, ARRL Bulletin

# FCC Action Puts Amateur Allocation in Peril

The FCC has included a primary Amateur Service allocation among bands it plans to examine to support the introduction of advanced wireless systems, including third-generation (3G) mobile systems. Meeting August 9, the FCC said it will seek comments on reallocating some spectrum in the 2390 to 2400 MHz amateur segment as well as in the non-amateur 1.9 and 2.1 GHz bands for unspecified mobile and fixed services.

The FCC adopted a Memorandum Opinion and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that explores additional bands to support advanced wireless and 3G services. The FCC said the further proceeding supplements the record of its January 2000 advanced wireless spectrum proposals by providing "new allocation options," adding that it would "seek comment on the benefits and costs of each."

The Commission said it "intends to explore spectrum options that would complement, rather than substitute for" alternatives identified in the January 2000 NPRM. Besides 2390 to 2400 MHz, the additional bands are 1910-1930 MHz, 1990-2025 MHz, 2150-2160 MHz, and 2165-2200 MHz. The 2390-2400 MHz band is also available for certain unlicensed uses under FCC Part 15 rules.

ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, cautioned the Amateur Radio community to hold off any comments to the FCC until the Commission actually issues its Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and requests comments.

In addition to 2390 to 2400 MHz, the Amateur Service has primary allocations in this part of the spectrum at 2402 to 2417 MHz. The ARRL has asked the FCC to grant the Amateur Service primary status at 2400 to 2402 MHz. Earlier this year, the ARRL re-petitioned the FCC for primary status at 2300 to 2305 MHz.

Thanks, ARRL Bulletin.

### **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@usa.com. • RadioFest 2002. Saturday, Feb. 16, 2002, 7:00AM to 3:00PM at the General Stilwell Community Center, Ord Military Community, 4260 Gigling Road, Seaside, CA. Talk-in 146.97- PL 94.8. Sponsored by the Naval Postgraduate School Amateur Radio Club. See www.k6ly.org/radiofest for additional details.

Jim Maxwell, W6CF Director, ARRL Pacific Division



PO Box 473 Redwood Estates CA 95044 (408) 353-3911 (phone & fax)

Packet: W6CF @ N0ARY.#NCA.CA.USA.NOAM Internet: w6cf@arrl.org Pacific Division Web site http://www.pdarrl.org/

### **Newsletter** Notes

I recently got an e-mail from Dick Barrett, W6CFKD, one of SCCARA's old-timers, asking why there hasn't been anything in the *SCCARA-GRAM* about the fact that the club is now 80 years old. The answer is, quite simply, nobody sent me anything about it. After a little prodding, Dick rectified that situation.

This is just the latest example of a trend I've noticed. People misunderstand what the editor does. Except for this column, all the contents comes from other sources. Like the club itself, to a large extent the newsletter lives on the esprit de corps of its members. So, keep those submissions coming, folks!

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

### **Class**

A no-code Tech class is planned for Feb. 7 through March 7, 2002. The time will be 7 to 9:30 PM Thursday nights. Location will be at Kaiser Santa Clara. Room, books, etc. yet to be determined. For more information or if you would like to help out, let me know.

Don Hayden, KO6HH

### **December Luncheon Meeting Sign-up**

Our annual December christmas meeting will be a luncheon this time; on Saturday December 15, at the Hungry Hunter in Milpitas, 1181 E. Calaveras Blvd. just east of Hwy 680 (old yellow house location), we've been there before. Luncheon is at 12 noon. Please note that on Saturday there isn't a regular bar. You will be able to order a bottle of wine for the table.

We will have a choice of three entrees. The regular lunch is \$16.50 each, children's choices are indicated below. Reservations need to be in by Friday, December 7. Talk-in on our repeater W6UU, 146.385+ (simplex if you can't hit the repeater). I'm looking forward to seeing all of you there. Why not renew your membership (back cover) at the same time? See "December Meeting" article for information on gift exchange.

-- Don K6PBQ

For the annual meeting in December, sign me up for the following lunch(es): From the <u>regular menu, \$16.50 each</u>:

Prime Ribs of Beef Forest Mushroom Chicken

Salmon

From the <u>Children's menu</u>:
Deli Burger, \$7.50

Fried Shrimp, \$8.75

Please renew your membership (over) at the same time--combine both payments here -- GRAND TOTAL: \$

Give this form (or copy) with payment to the Treasurer or mail to: SCCARA PO Box 6 San Jose CA 95103-0006

### 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.

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Antennas, feed-lines, tuners: WB6EMR, K6PBQ, WB6YRU
Lightning protection, grounding: WB6YRU
Station set-up, equipment: K6PBQ
TVI/RFI: WB6YRU
Homebrew projects, construction: KD6FJI, WB6YRU
Computers: KB6NP; IBM PC: WB6YRU
Packet Network (BBS, forwarding): WB6YRU
Code operating and installations: WB6EMR, K6PBQ
DX (long distance/propagation): WB6EMR
Emergency operating/preparedness: WA6QYS
FM (VHF/UHF, repeaters): WA6VJY
HF operating techniques (SSB, CW): WB6EMR, K6PBQ
Classes/license upgrading: W6ACW
Legal/FCC rules: WB6YRU
SCCARA (club inner workings):
        KO6HH, K6PBQ, WA6VJY, WB6YRU, WA6QYS
Children's Discovery Museum, volunteer operator:
K6PB0
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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

KO6HH, 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

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

### S.C.C.A.R.A. Membership Form for 2002

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

Name:	Cal	.1:	Class	SE A G	5 T+ T 1	N
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Please send the repeater Auto-Dial/Auto-P WE MUST BE ABLE TO VERIFY YOUR AMA BEFORE ANY REPEATER CODES WILL BE	TEUR RADIC			 TOTAL		
Give this completed form (or copy) with parail to the return address below:	ayment to	the Secre	etary or Treasur	er at any	meeting c	- >r
PLEASE DO	O NOT TEAR	OR CUT I	Form ——			
SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION					]	

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