



SCCARA-GRAM



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SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
AN ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB-----ESTABLISHED 1921
REPEATER CALL: W6UU-----SECONDARY CALL: W6UW



OUR PREZ SAYS

Please note that the APRIL 25th BREAKFAST MEETING takes the place of the REGULAR APRIL 13th MEETING. SEE VEEP ALLAN'S COLUMN ON PAGE 2.

The April 16th board meeting at 1930 at the San Jose Hospital will be devoted to field day.



The April 25th breakfast replaces the potluck dinner that the club usually has at this time of year. Some confusion developed over the availability of our Berger Drive meeting room for April 13th, and a shortage of speakers has forced us to cancel the April 13th meeting and concentrate on the breakfast on April 25th. The breakfast is planned as a social gathering with all hams and non-hams invited. Pass the word to your friends, bring your YL or OM as the case may be, come prepared to listen to two interesting speakers, show up hungry; but, whatever else, be sure to let Micky know that you are coming for food planning.

We are in the countdown phase for printing of the roster. If you did not pay your '87 dues, you should have received a call from me as well as a letter by press time. March 31st was the deadline to get your name listed in the 1987 SCCARA Roster. Hope you made it! (Ed. See Treasurer Report on page)

The flea market at Foothill College on March 14th was rained out mid-morning! A price reducing drizzle turned into a downpour shutout! Too bad! But, it wasn't all bad. The license exams made it worthwhile for several, among them our Les Stephenson, KB6PIV who passed his extra class code element. Shows what

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what a lot of concentration and purpose can do. Congrats to all!

Speaking of flea markets, SCCARA will break tradition by not having a flea market in June. The Foothill flea markets, admittedly, are the big drawing card. Our efforts the past few years have not been worthwhile. Your board felt that we might do much better off season from the Foothill sales. Look for a discussion at a later business meeting.

Please note in the board minutes that the board approved changing the board meeting time to start ten minutes after the regular meeting each month in our regular meeting location. This would offer the membership the opportunity to sit in on the board meetings, as well as give the board members another evening home. You will be asked to vote on this at the May meeting.

Have you been giving any thought to participating in field day on June 27th at Mount Madonna Park. Dave Stoddart, KB6QQ, our field day chairman is working up resources and roughing out assignments. Pick your spot!

73 to all and 88 to each YL
W6 Chile Hot Dog your Prez.

SILENT KEY

CLYDE J. HAGGBLOOM, W6WJS

Joined SCCARA at our March meeting
Passed away suddenly

OUR CONDOLENCES AND SYMPATHY
to his wife and family

APRIL 1987 ISSUE

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By the time that you read this the novice enhancement will be in full swing. On the first weekend ten meters was so full of traffic that, at times, one actually had to wait in order to be acknowledged, and there were some good contacts from the East and South plus Latin American Countries. Dave, WB6KHP also spread the welcome mat to all novices by hosting a net on his repeater on 224.140 MHz. I also extend my personal welcome to all novices, but, I hope that, while enjoying their new privileges, they don't forget all the fun available to those who upgrade

On March tenth, Susan, WA6OGV, Micky, N6ODN and I attended the "County Women Network" conference at the county service center in San Jose. Guest speaker was Janet Gray Hayes, former San Jose Mayor. Sally Reed, the chairperson and current Santa Clara County executive, was gracious enough to allow us a few minutes for a ham radio demonstration. Susan delivered a concise speech on ham radio to a very attentive audience. Micky gave a phone-patch demonstration, and then called the roll of the WB6ADZ repeater. Needless to say the audience was quite impressed, and I am sure that they gained some knowledge of amateur radio.

Congratulations to Lee Henderson, KB6MXH for upgrading to general and to KB6PCY for upgrading to technician. From what I am told both YL's are working on upgrading to higher grades.

On March twenty-first BAYLARC met at the County service building on Berger Drive in San Jose. Thanks to Micky, N6ODN for securing our meeting place. An interesting meeting was held. It was voted to give one-year free memberships to all newly licensed YL novices, and to participate in the PACIFICON '87 next October by holding a YL forum. KB6ICQ, N6ODN, KB6MXH, and I were the only locals in attendance. Lack of local attendance was very disappointing, despite the

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Our April meeting has been replaced by a social breakfast on April 25th at our regur meeting location. (Ed. see "Micky" on page 4). Van Brollini, NS6N will speak on propagation (of radio waves for those of you with "fertile" minds). I understand that he knows the subject quite well. Our resident expert, Frank Glass, K6RQ will speak on angle of radiation. We all know of his great knowledge. I am looking forward to both these talks, because that's where it's at with HF. If you don't have proper conditions, you will have a hard time because your signal isn't landing where you want it.

Other dates to keep in mind are: July 11 and Oct 10 picnic meetings.

At our May regular meeting we will hear about CW; June's program is about RTTY; so, keep those cards and letters coming.

Please give Micky your support. She has been quite generous in helping us with organizational matters. She really puts her soul into it, which I know can be draining. Please call her to register for the breakfast, or, better yet, to assist the breakfast committee.

73 de Allen, N6NOY

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many announcements about it in publications and on nets.

For those who still have not heard of it: BAYLARC (abbreviation for "Bay Area Young Ladies Radio Club") was organized to further the interests of local women in amateur radio. Quarterly meetings are held somewhere in the area. The meetings are always interesting and sociable. For those interested please contact Micky or me.

C U all next month
33 and 73 de Carla

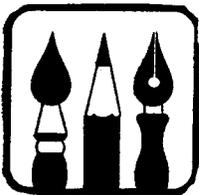
? LARRY: Will the Pioneer Chicken Heiress find love and romance on the golf course?

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 19, 1987

The meeting was called to order by the club president, Ed Rawlinson, WD6CHD at 1940.

It was voted to refund the dues of member Clyde J. Haggbloom, W6WZF to his estate. He became a silent key shortly after joining the club at the March meeting. Ed Rawlinson, WD6DHD will write a letter and return the uncashed check.



Field Day was discussed with no action taken.

Discussion concerning the repeater raised a few questions: Should the club acquire a phone line for use in emergency calls through the repeater (the County restricts use of the present phone line)? Would we want access to general phone numbers with security tone access, or restrict use to emergency numbers.? Would PL mode help reduce possible interference with a Sacramento 2 meter repeater when our 2 meter repeater is keyed up by use of the 440 MHz repeater (both are linked together)? (Ed. ????) Is any interference likely enough to require concern? With the change in coordinators, do we still have a sanction in effect for our repeater? (Ed. Ex Post Facto?) How can we answer an inquiry from the Manteca ARC now operating a repeater on our frequencies, but reverse to ours (the referred to post card is not with the letter and we don't have an answer)? (Ed. ????) The repeater committee will research these questions and would welcome input.

It was decided to look into fixing up the older rig belonging to the club, with the possibility that it might be traded for goods or services of use to the club (this is an older large and heavy tube type rig). It was also decided to look into the possibility of selling the IBM executive typewriter.

We are pondering the idea of changing the meeting time of the board meeting to immediately following the regular ACCARA meeting. Would this increase attendance by others in the club (all are welcome)?

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FROM YOUR TREASURER

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: Mike Wooding, KB6PVQ; Jim Dyson, WB9YTZ; and Frank McCormick, KA6HWK. Great to have you aboard.



UPGRADES, ETC.: Sure a lot of exams lately, but I only know of a few SCCARA members who have upgraded.

Cynthia Dressler (XYL of Rick, KB6MXI) finally got her act together and passed her novice. We also have eleven new novices as a result of an "early" test session. We tested early in order to beat the March twenty-first novice enhancement date and its enlarged number of questions. If I missed your upgrade, please let me know so I can blab it to the world! Congratulations to all!

FIELD DAY: Dave Stoddart, KB6QQ (Quack Quack) volunteered to head up the field day organization. Dave and I reviewed the notes and sketch that I made last year, contest rules, and results from 1986. We desire to see some degree of competition return to SCCARA's efforts. This means better organizing and steady (if not spectacular) operating. The "fone-guys" always seem to get the beam antenna and the most contacts - so! how about it CW buffs? How about a challenge within SCCARA to the "fone-guys" by the CW gang? Highest number of contacts or points? I know that Florenzio, KB6MHA, Jim, K6YKG, and others are eager. More on this later.

73 de Dan, WM6M

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Can we keep the meeting relatively short (30 to 45 minutes)? If this is reasonable, it will require an amendment to our bylaws, as the bylaws state when the board will meet.

The meeting adjourned at 1950.

Respectfully submitted,
Teryl Pratt, N6NRQ, Secretary

M I C K Y

SOCIAL BREAKFAST FOR ALL

0900 SATURDAY APRIL 25

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VAN BROLLINI, NS6N: PROPAGATION

FRANK GLASS, K6RQ: ANGLE OF RADIATION

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MICKY, N6ODN, (408) 379 5317

or

CARLA, W06X, (408) 773 1885

M I C K Y

ROSTER PUBLISHING TIME

Any additions, corrections or deletions that you want made to your roster listing (delete telephone #; change address; etc.) call:

Dan, WM6M, (408) 224 9023

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50 YEARS LITTLE CHANGE

Editor note: Recently while seeking some information in the March, 1937 issue of "Radio" (no longer published) I found the following letter to the editor. I am reprinting it here to show how little progress has been made in obtaining a resolution of the problem. We have the ARRL to thank that this problem has somewhat improved rather than becoming worse. I think that W6MJK is a silent key.

NO MORE TOWERS?

Los Angeles, Calif.

Sirs:

I am an amateur radio operator, W6MJK. About six months ago, I erected a lattice-work tower about 67 feet in height on a piece of residential property within the city limits of Los Angeles for the support of one end of an antenna.

I am recently in receipt of a letter from the City Planning Commission of the City of Los Angeles, which I believe you will be interested in as it raises a question of interest to all radio amateurs, as well as others interested in radio.

The letter reads in part as follows:

"This property is in zone 'R-1' and is limited to a single family residence with the usual accessories incident thereto, and as provided in Sec. 12.04 of the Los Angeles municipal code."

"Question is raised as to whether this radio tower comes under the category of the usual accessories under the above section. In order to clarify this point, we referred the matter to the City Attorney's office for an opinion."

"This opinion is now on file and states in effect that your radio tower is not an accessory structure in the sense which the zoning ordinance intends, and it's erection and maintenance is unlawful."

(Editor: rest of letter deleted)



DID YOU KNOW THAT?

Carla will be one year older on the twenty-first of April.

APRIL 1987 ISSUE

REPEATER DISCUSSIONS:

The 440 repeater pair coordinator of NARC is pressuring for PL on our 440 repeater in an effort to put all 440 repeaters on PL status.

To survey the PL capabilities of users and potential users of W6UU, the repeater committee desires answers to the following questions:

1. Do you have PL installed on your 440 FM transceiver?

2. Can you achieve 107.2 Hz (CTSS PL tone "1B")? This exists as a built-in on the W6UU equipment?

3. If your PL is fixed which PL frequency or frequencies do you have?

Please advise the repeater committee by writing to or calling:

Wally Britten, KA6YMD
585 So. 14th Street
San Jose, CA 95112
(408) 293 3847

WHAT IS PL?

PL (private line) is the Motorola trademark for Continuous Tone Coded Squelch System (CTCSS). It was adapted to amateur service after development for the commercial service. Many of the surplus commercial FM units, adapted by amateurs for repeater systems, were equipped with PL. It was only natural for amateurs to make use of such PL. Early equipment made for amateur FM service was not equipped with PL, but most present day FM equipment available for amateur FM systems either comes equipped with the standard PL frequencies available or have easily installed PL add-ons.

First use of PL by amateurs was for the purpose of preventing use of closed repeaters by non-members of the owning group. This always was a source of amusement to me, as it is a simple task to find a PL frequency. Today amateurs are more likely to use PL for the prevention of co-channel

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interference with repeater-access becoming of lesser importance. This is what is motivating the NARC 440 frequency-pair manager to be striving towards universal use of PL on 440. I, for one, can find no fault with this goal.

PL is implemented in a system as follows: Each fixed or mobile station has installed in it a circuit capable of modulating transmissions at a very low amplitude and low frequency. There are 32 standard PL frequencies ranging from 67 Hz to 203.5 Hz, and in its simplest form one of these frequencies is selected as the PL tone. Multi-frequency systems are possible and a two-tone system has been adopted for ten meter use. See pages 16 and 17 of the "86/87 ARRL Repeater Directory". The repeater involved in the system has circuitry to detect the PL frequency of the remote station, and, therewith open the squelch of the repeater receiver for receiving communications. Signals not modulated with the proper PL tone are ignored by the repeater, as are weak signals with the proper PL. If each repeater on a pair responds to a different PL, closer spacing of repeaters is possible since each repeater responds to only those signals intended for it. Contrary to popular ham belief, ham repeaters are not intended for DX work. A properly adjusted PL system will free a system from a lot of close-to-channel interference, and make monitoring the repeater less irritating under interference conditions. The secret is to reach a balance between the PL levels of the remote stations and the PL sensitivity of the repeater. AE6Z

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APRIL 1987 ISSUE



PACIFIC DIVISION
DIRECTOR'S REPORT
by
ROD STAFFORD, KB6ZV

Since the 1987 Annual Board of Directors meeting in January, there have been several developments in ham radio.

The FCC released its Report & Order in the Novice Enhancement proceeding. I'm sure that most of you have received details on the new regulations in QST or one of the other ham publications. It goes into effect on March 21, 1987 at 0001 UTC. If you hear a novice on the air who is not quite used to his new privileges, help him along with a friendly suggestion. Think back to the time when you first started in amateur radio and how much you appreciated any help you received.

There is one thing that current Technician class licensees should keep in mind. If you attained your Technician class license prior to 3-21-87, be sure to keep your old license even if you send in a 610 for renewal. Why? Because under the new testing arrangements, Element 3 (the written portion taken by Techs and Generals) has been split into Elements 3(A) and 3(B). If you were a Tech before 3-21-87, you don't have to take Element 3(B) along with the 13-wpm code test in order to upgrade to General class. All you will be required to take is the code test. A novice seeking a Tech license after 3-21-87 will have only to take Element 3(A). Then when the decision to upgrade is made, Element 3(B) AND 13-wpm must be taken for the General class. If you have just upgraded to Tech, be sure to keep the Certificate of Successful Completion to prove you became a Tech prior to 3-21-87.

The Federal District Court Judge in the Thernes case gave his decision on February 24, 1987. The result was a real victory for amateur radio. The decision is that John, WM4T, can put up a 65' tower with a 10-15-20 meter beam and an additional 8' for his 40 meter beam, for a total of 73 feet! The case is important because it is the first Court decision involving the FCC's PRB-1 which stated a limited preemption of local antenna ordinances by federal law. The Thernes decision

will be a valuable tool in fighting off restrictive local antenna ordinances.

For the last 15 years at least, the FCC has entertained petitions to take the 220 MHz band, or a portion of it, away from the amateurs. They (Land Mobile Services) are at it again. FCC Docket Number 87-14 proposes to take the bottom two MHz (220-222) from the amateur service and turn it over the commercial services for their use. It is quite important that the FCC receive many, many comments opposing this action. If you are unsure of the procedure for filing comments, check in the ARRL FCC Rule Book for a good explanation of how to file. As with any comments filed with the FCC, make sure your arguments are based in fact with any statistics and data to back up your arguments. It is usually a good idea for someone in the local clubs to coordinate the gathering of the information and to put together a draft of the comment and to circulate that draft among the club members who use it as their own. Be advised that simply filing petitions has little effect. The FCC staff will take note of individual comments only, not a petition signed by a group of people. The comment filing deadline is April 6, 1987, so there's not a great deal of time left.

The recent Division Newsletter contained a survey for members to fill out and send back to me. There is still time to get your input in on the topics surveyed in the newsletter. So far I have received about 400 responses. The results will be set out in the Spring, 1987 Division Newsletter in June.

IARU Vice President Carl Smith, WØBWJ, heads the IARU observer team that was recently in Geneva attending the Second Session of the World Administrative Radio Conference for the planning of the HF Bands Allocated to the Broadcasting Service. It appears the conference will end with a call for the convening of a future WARC having limited authority to reallocate spectrum to HF broadcasting. Such a WARC could pose a threat to a couple of the HF amateur bands, particularly 75 and 40 meters. See the January QST editorial of Dave Sumner.

(3-10-87)

The 23-Cm Band and Above

Before closing, I'll touch briefly on the SHF bands, namely 23 cm and above. The 1260-to-1300-MHz band is coming on fast, especially in Europe and Japan. Here's a band that is twice as big as 70-cm! Again the popular modes are SSB/CW, ATV, OSCAR, and FM. Propagation is essentially limited to tropo. I've never heard of any auroral contacts via 23-cm, although during the February conditions, there were those who certainly waited patiently to be first!

Moonbouncers also like 23-cm since Faraday rotation is even slower here and they can construct high-gain arrays or dishes in a relatively small square area. Of course, power is difficult to generate here, so most of the amplifiers you'll hear are home-brew, generally employing triodes such as the 7289/3CX100. Even 9913 type coax exhibits losses at this frequency, so hardline is the transmission medium of choice.

Equipment available includes the new ICOM IC-1271A 10-watt multimode base for SSB, CW, FM and ATV. ICOM also makes the IC-120 mobile FM radio with 1 watt of output. Kenwood makes the TR-50 FM portable, also running 1 watt from a self-contained battery-powered unit. High performance transverters are readily available from Microwave Modules and SSB Electronics, makers of the popular LT-23S 10-watt transverter. GaAsFET preamplifiers abound at this frequency, since they are a necessary evil for serious weak-signal work.

Antennas are made by Tonna of France and Jaybeam. DownEast Microwave manufactures a fine line of loop yagis for 23-cm and 13-cm. Larsen makes a 23-cm mobile antenna based on a cellular design for 800 MHz.

Most often the inhabitants of this band like to roll their own antennas, but it's a tricky task as mast supports often exceed the length of the driven and parasitic elements! Hence most users place the beams at the very top of their masts or make up side arms with vertical supports. Frequently, users of the band will experience reflection from such objects as airplanes and large build-

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ings! Often refraction can occur over mountainous areas, and it's not unusual to hear lots of multipath on the signals in such an area.

At 13-cm, much the same conditions prevail, except very little is available for the band commercially except from Europe and a few specialty houses in this country. Loop yagis are very popular at this frequency, as are dish antennas. Transverters are available from such manufacturers as SSB Electronics of Germany, which sells a unit for 13-cm with an I-F at 144 MHz, running 3-watt output. EME Electronics of Germany makes beautiful cavity amplifiers for both 23-cm and 13-cm using 7289 tubes to achieve 50-to-100-watt output.

Amateurs have additional allocations at 10-GHz, 24-GHz, 48-GHz, and above, although it's hard to say who's active here other than the die-hard experimenters and occasional contest stations. In addition, I've sidestepped the 902-MHz band, simply because it's such a new allocation that I'm not very familiar with it. I can tell you that there is activity on 902 as a repeater group was on the band the day it became available (from Texas - it figures!). SSB Electronics has indicated the availability soon of a 902-MHz transverter, as has Hans Peters of Transverters Unlimited. Many hams are modifying cellular equipment to cover this band with excellent results, seeing propagation similar to 23-cm.

The above covers our walk through the VHF/UHF spectrum, and as you can see there's plenty of room for expansion and experimentation. Indeed, these frequencies are the key to the future of the hobby, as we continue to try new modes that require greater bandwidths than our already-crowded HF bands can provide. If you haven't given one of these bands a try lately, why not pick up a transverter or HT and have a go! Many activities exist for the VHF/UHF operator, with no less than six national contests and many certificates to be had, such as the popular VUCC (VHF/UHF Century Club). It needn't take a lot of money, or a lot of space either. Set your sights high for a change.

APRIL 1987 ISSUE

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Club Repeater: 146.985 in/146.385 out--447.425 in/442.425 out - a
 simultaneously keyed open repeater. Net meets Monday night at 1930 PT
 except on regular meeting nights.

NO REGULAR MEETING THIS MONTH -- SEE "MICKY" ON PAGE 4

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