

SCCARA-GRAM

Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 10, Number 8

August 1994

President's Prose

I've got lots to report regarding SCCARA this month. First, and most important, the club will hold a picnic this month on the 21st. It will be at the Mary Gomez Park in Santa Clara (at the corner of San Tomas and Forbes). Starting time is officially 10 AM, but some of us will be there earlier to get a good spot, so if you'd like to show up early that's OK. The club will be supplying the hot dogs and hamburgers, as well as plates, utensils, soft drinks, and condiments. We ask that each family bring a dish along, either a salad, side dish, or desert. Look forward to seeing everyone of you out there!

The July meeting was sparsely attended and that is a shame, as we had an excellent speaker: Bob Wilson N6TV. Bob talked to us about Ham radio contesting. Personally, I can't wait 'till the Fall contest season starts!

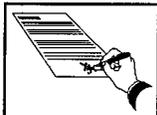
At the July board meeting the SCCARA board of directors re-affirmed its desire to move the club repeaters up to the site that the City of San Jose has offered to us. The repeater committee will be meeting soon to lay the groundwork to accomplish this.

Also at the board meeting we got two volunteers to start an election committee for the upcoming SCCARA elections. If you would like to volunteer for a position on the committee, or if you are interested in running for office, or nominating someone, give Don KC6WMM or Gary WB6YRU a call. Elections will be here before you know it, so don't delay!

The Red Cross has recently had a meeting to decide the future of the radio room. Several SCCARA members were invited to the meeting and had a lot of advice to give. The main problem is finding an HF antenna that all parties can live with.

Finally, the SCCARA class instructors recently had a meeting, and we decided to start another Technician class to begin on September 15. This class will run for 10 weeks and is aimed at bringing non-hams up to the Technician level. We may also offer a CW class if enough students show up. If you have any friends or family members who have always wanted their ticket, this is the time to give them a push. Anyone interested should contact Mike KB6LCJ or myself.

That's it for now. 73 and CUL. WN6U.



Calendar

- 8/8 SCCARA General Meeting
- 8/13 Electronic flea market at Foothill
- 8/21 SCCARA Picnic
- 8/22 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:00p, all are welcome)
- 9/12 SCCARA General Meeting

Next General Meeting

- Day:** Monday, August 8, 1994
- Time:** 7:30 PM
- Place:** United Way Building
- Agenda:** ARRL night with KB6AV, K6WR, and W6CF. Bring your comments and questions.

The United Way Building, 1922 The Alameda, San Jose, (about one mile South West from the San Jose Air Port). From I-880: take the Alameda turn-off going South for 1/2 block then turn left on McKendrie. From the South: go North on the Alameda, 1/2 block past Hedding turn right on McKendrie. Immediately turn right into the parking lot just behind the small church on the corner. The entrance is up the steps at the South East corner of the building. There is wheelchair access at another door at the North East corner, but for security reasons, only one door is open at a time--someone will have to notify the guard if you need wheelchair access. Also, try not to be too late--the doors may be closed with nobody around to let you in.

NEW LOCATION! The San Jose Red Cross: South West corner of North 1st St. and Plumeria Dr., San Jose. Plumeria is North of Trimble and South of Montague Expressway. From the South on I-880, take the 1st Street exit, go North. From the North on I-880, take the Montague (Trimble) exit, go West to Trimble then turn right (North) on 1st. From the South on US-101, take the Trimble (De La Cruz) exit going North, then turn left (North) on 1st. From the North on US-101, take the Montague exit going North/West, then turn right (South) on 1st.

The main entrance faces Plumeria, go straight in past the front desk. The radio room is in back of the conference room on the left just past the rest-rooms. **Board meetings are open to all.**

Good and Welfare

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Articles for the SCCARA-GRAM must be submitted to the editor by the last Monday of the month.

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COMMITTEES

Flea Market	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	265-2336
Repeater	Keith Butts, KN6K	248-3849

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 with a small subscription fee. 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 2 meter repeater: Mondays at 7:30 PM, (not the second monday--it's our meeting night). Net control: Joe WA6DXP.

On 10 meters, 28.385 MHz USB, Thursdays at 8:00 PM. Net control: Wally KA6YMD.

Visitors are invited to join in on the SCCARA nets.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

SCCARA HOTLINE:	249-6909
ARRL CLASS HOTLINE:	971-1424
ARRL LICENSE (VEC) HOTLINE:	984-8353

Writing copy for this column can be a most pleasurable assignment. It requires talking to members that we don't often see to find out what has been happening in their lives. So it is on this hot day under a cool fan in my shade drawn computer room/shack.

KB6OHO Bob Keller continues improving and hopefully will be able to drive soon. We would have seen him last meeting had he had transportation. He has retired from his teaching position and can be expected to be more active as he feels better. Welcome back, Bob!

W6ACW Ed Hajny is OK. Seems he has been on a long trip, so expect to see him soon at a meeting.

KA6USS Fran Elliot is well and doing her thing, which does not include night driving. Still golfs and gets on day-time nets. Fran, in case you don't remember was secretary and most active in SCCARA a few years back.

AE6M Harry Wijtman, a past president of SCCARA about twelve years ago is enjoying retirement and will check us out soon.

W6CFK Dick Barrett is into writing his life history, over 100K words to date. I don't know if he has publication in mind, but he could tell us some real stories. He doesn't drive much at night, except for "Old-Timer's Night" meetings, so expect him at our next one.

KE6HM Cliff Furlow seemed in good spirits and still is active in a few nets. Cliff has problems sitting in one position very long, so he has been avoiding meetings. He sends his regards.

SILENT KEYS:

W6WGF Roger Williams. Roger was an IBM'er over at the Card Plant and an ardent amateur. He was (according to Dick Barrett) a past president of SCCARA.

W6HVL Sheldon Bennett, in Arizona. Sheldon had a one-man dance orchestra that brought much happiness to everyone that listened. He performed many, many times for SCCARA and the "Toast & Jelly Sticky Fingers Net" of times gone by. I am sure that Sheldon's music will linger on in everyone's memory forever. (info from KA6USS)

Goodbye.

You can contribute to this column by calling me, Ed Rawlinson, at (408)264-2988 (message machine on line).

de Chile Hot Dog, WD6CHD

August Meeting

Our next meeting will be ARRL Night! Our speakers will include: Rod Stafford KB6AV, 1st V.P.; Brad Wyatt K6WR, (Pac. Div. Dir.); Jim Maxwell W6CF, (Pac.

Div. V. Dir.); and possibly Scott Hensley KB6UOO, (acting Santa Clara Valley S.M.).

73, Don KC6WMM

SCCARA PICNIC

Please join us for the SCCARA picnic this August 21st starting at 10 AM. It will be at the same location as last time: the Mary Gomez park in Santa Clara, North-West corner of Forbes and San Tomas. There is parking at the West side of the park; enter via Bucher (the park is between San Tomas and Bucher). Give a call on our repeater (146.385+) if you need navigational guidance.

This picnic will be pot-luck, so bring your favorite dish. The club will provide hot-dogs, hamburgers, soft-drinks, plates, and utensils. There should also be a grill available to warm something up if you bring a dish that should be served hot. If you have any questions or would like to help out with the preparations, please contact Don K6PBQ.

See ya there! Gary, WB6YRU

Meeting Minutes

Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association General Membership Meeting, July 11, 1994

7:32 PM Club president Doug, WN6U, called the meeting to order. Self introductions followed as is our custom.

Tonight's speaker is Robert (Bob) A. Wilson, N6TV. His topic is contesting. According to Bob, a contest is making as many contacts as possible in a limited amount of time. Anyone can do it and you do not need a super station.

Why Contest? Bob gave several reasons including it is a fun way to fill up a log, a great way to improve code speed, it is possible to WAS and/or DXCC in a weekend, see your call or photo in QST or CQ, earn some nice certificates, help out a ham in need of QSOs, and a true test of your station, antennas, and operator skill. Also there is the camaraderie of the contesters. Contesting all about fun, excitement, and recognition.

Bob also gave hints on techniques to use. There is the hunt and pounce method. He said one should be methodical, and tune from one end of the band to the other, looking for CQ'ers. When using CW, call on frequency, turn RIT off and tune in the station so that it matches the pitch of your sidetone.

As far as contest protocol is concerned, you should figure out contest exchange. Listen for the first few minutes,

and you should know the rules. They can be found in QST or CQ.

Bob also made some suggestions on how to improve your contest scores. They are call CQ a lot, be brief, put up the highest possible antenna, get a comfortable chair in the shack, use contesting software, make a friendly challenge to someone with a similar station, and consult with an expert.

Business Meeting:

Doug, WN6U, Club picnic 21 August, Sunday.

We need an election committee for the elections to be held at the end of the year.

Flea Market: The motion to discontinue flea market sales and stop renting the storage locker was untabled from last month. Motion amended to allow finishing out the year. Motion passed.

Mike, KB6LCJ, club treasure gave the treasures report.

Ed, WD6CHD, gave the Health and Welfare report.

Gary, WB6YRU, said the print is now slightly smaller than before. \$172.50 was made at the flea market.

Don, KC6WMM, estate sales are a good thing to do for our members but not for the general public.

Doug, WN6U, we will be having a class next fall.

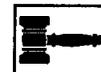
Lou, WA6QYS, thanked all those who helped out at SVECS Foothill Flea Market.

9:12 PM Meeting adjourned.

73, Lloyd KD6FJI, Secretary

Moved and Seconded

July Board Meeting



Keith, KN6K, (new chairman of the repeater committee), said there are technical and political problems with the move to the city radio vault (for example: we will have to come up with a document of understanding with RACES). We could make arrangements to keep the repeater at Trish's house, but that has its own problems. The board decided to go ahead with the move. There will be no easy access to the city radio vault. The sight is a little higher, but deeper in the hills; so, coverage to the South may not be quite as good. On the other hand, this will reduce the problems we've had in the past with interference from other repeaters. Some other areas may have better coverage.

In an effort to make the club more useful to new amateurs, Gary WB6YRU wants to resurrect and expand the ELMER program. There will be a survey asking members about being elmers in an upcoming issue of the SCCARA-GRAM.

Bob N6PCQ is upgrading the messages on the club hot-line answering machine

Stan WA6VJY, Station Trustee, said there are three options for the club station's main antenna at the Red Cross. 1) Roof mount tower w/beam, 2) roof mount multi-band vertical, or 3) a ground mount tower with probably a beam. The Red Cross powers-that-be feel the antenna should not be visible from the street. Some SCCARA members wanted to do a test to see what would and what would not be visible from the street. That idea was overruled by someone at the Red Cross. Stan also said that there is some concern about whether RF will interfere with Red Cross computers and other electronic equipment. Stan's impression was that the club station will not be active any time soon.

Flea Market

The July flea market brought in \$172.50, plus we sold the last of those estate items (Icom 225). Thanks go to El K6ZYY who helped transport and sell. I'm happy to say we sold a few items that had been hanging around for quite a while.

You may recall from last month's column that a motion was made at the June meeting to stop participating in the monthly flea markets and stop renting that locker (SCCARA may still sell at the flea market during special occasions). The motion was tabled until the July meeting. Well, that motion was un-tabled and it passed. Doug WN6U first asked if there were any people interested in helping this effort (a last ditch effort to keep it going), but nobody responded. The final version was amended to include finishing up the flea market season (two more).

The flea market locker is now roughly 1/3 full. We still need items to sell (and help transporting/selling), but in light of the vote, please restrict your donations to things that will sell easily.

There will be a summary of this year's flea market activity as well as a few parting words about this fund-raiser in the fall.

73, Gary WB6YRU

Field Day 1994

The 1994 Field Day is now history. This year SCCARA was in a real "field" atmosphere. All of the operations except the novice station were under the stars. The weather was perfect and everyone agreed that operating under the canopies instead of in RV's or other vehicles was preferable. We didn't feel cramped and visitors could see what was going on.

Friday was a tough day for some of the participants. Lou WA6QYS, Don KC6WMM, and Jack WB6IJY hauled our antenna trailer and a RV trailer from Don's house to Mt.

Madonna over the ridge route. This trip provided many war stories which I'm sure you will hear for some time to come. It was decided the return trip would be made using real roads. My thanks to them for sticking with it.

In spite of the problems, we managed to get started on time and on Saturday and Sunday things went well.

This year, we had more brass pounders than phone operators and more contacts were made on CW than on SSB. We also had VHF and packet stations making the necessary contacts for the bonus points.

During the contest, we had 325 CW, 8 Packet, 308 HF SSB, 14 VHF SSB, 3 Novice CW and 24 Novice SSB contacts. (Before the contest, Lou WA6QYS racked up some rare DX) If my arithmetic is right, we got 6090 points including the bonus points. If past history means anything, QST will publish the results in November.

Once again Barbara KD6QEI and Wally KA6YMD did an excellent job with the Saturday dinner and the Sunday breakfast. It took a lot of preparation, hauling, and on site work. The meals were great.

I'd like to thank 23 SCCARA members and visitors who made the SCCARA field day participation a success.

73, Harold KK6ZE

Foothill Flea Market

by El Wirt K6ZYY

After reading about how few members help out with this club activity, I was shamed into volunteering to help with the July effort. I met our SCCARA-GRAM Editor, Gary Mitchell WB6YRU at the storage locker the evening before at 5:30 p.m. and we loaded my small pickup and his station wagon with all the cartons of wares plus the tables and tent-shelter.

I usually get up at about 8 these mornings, but things are moving at the flea market by 5 a.m. so I set the alarm clock and got there shortly after 5. Gary was already there and talked me in on the club repeater. It was dark but guys were running around with flashlights looking over the goodies we had to offer, even before we could unload them.

The tent shelter is to protect the goods in the case of rain and the sellers in case of sun. It isn't the easiest thing to assemble but fortunately Neal KD6PBE came by and helped us put it up. Once it was up we mounted the SCCARA banner on it and unloaded the cartons, putting as much as we could on the tables in front. Some of the cartons were too heavy for my back but Gary's back is 40-some years younger than mine so he carried the heavy ones.

Gary did most of the selling since I had no idea how much to charge for things. Once I got an idea of what he was asking for the various items I was able to sell some but my main service was to go for hotdogs, and to make it look

like there were at least two members in the club. A few other club members came by at times but they didn't stay long. Some were helping SVECS, the sponsoring organization that Saturday.

Gary told me that when he first got involved with the flea market it was quite a club social affair with many members helping deliver the goods and many others congregating at the booth later on. Unfortunately, most of those members have either moved away or died, and now Gary often gets stuck with no help at all. It makes you wonder what people think of a club that doesn't support its own activity. If this sounds like criticism, I'm criticizing myself since this is the first time I've been involved in any way.

At the last meeting, the club voted to discontinue and one of its two storage lockers and to only sell at maybe one or two flea markets each year. There are two more flea markets this year on August 13 and September 10. I have out-of-town company coming those months and they haven't told me exactly when, but I'll help if I can. How about you?

Newsletter Notes

It seems that with a little luck, this newsletter will once again be spiced up with photos before long...

I'm very happy report that Bob KB6OHO (our club photographer) is getting out and about lately. I was pleasantly surprised to run into him on July 15th at a public star party put on by the San Jose Astronomical Association (of which we both are members).

As you may recall, he is still recovering from a serious heart attack. It seems we almost lost him (twice in a row). But, he's walking two miles a day now (regaining strength and weight) and doing much better. He told me he was planning to retire from 36 years of teaching after this semester, but he envisioned a slightly more festive and dignified exit. True, but it could also have been much worse... We're all tickled pink that he's still with us!

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the packet network:

=====
Date: 15 Jul 94 00:20
From: WA6LIE
To: ALL@ALLUS
Subject: CA/Hawaii Tropo Ducting

Hello from Watsonville, CA CM96. on Monday July 12, 1994. The western coast from Baja, Ca to Oregon experienced some of the most outrageous tropospheric ducting. This phenomenon lasted for three days! The last known heard up to 2300 PDT. on July 14, 1994.

These contacts were all made to the Hawaiian Islands on a regular basis. The band was "almost" open 24hrs a day to Maunaloa repeater on the BIG Island of Hawaii on 147.040 mhz. This repeater is also linked with the other Island repeaters, so there were a lot of HAMS over there working the west coast for 3 days!

I have heard of this happening before, but never being in the right place at the right time! This was my opportunity to be a part of history, so I loaded up the truck with my HT and a 60 watt amp. with a 4 element beam. I also had the diamond vertical on the truck for a back-up. The JOKE was on me! I went up to a local hilltop, Mt. Madonna, at 1300 ft. elevation, then the fun began! I was working the Hawaiians left and right, and logged over 40 contacts in a 2hr. period. Conditions were excellent! On the Beam the signals were S-9+ most of the time, and occasionally pinned the S-Meter!

This was Great! I felt gutsy, and started lowering my power, and going to the vertical on the truck. There was no real difference! My reports were 100% full quieting into the repeater. Then the final test.... What about my Rubber DUMMY Load? You got to be kidding I said to myself. Well on the Rubber duckie, the signals were S-5 to 7. Well, to make a long story short, I worked the Hawaiian Islands with 1 watt into a REGULAR Rubber Duck!!!!

I really was glad to have this opportunity to be part of such a spectacular phenomenon as this! The Local HAMS here are comparing notes and data etc. to log this as the most historical opening to the Hawaiian Islands.

There were a lot of variables involved to make "the path" and I think that you will read more in QST in the next few months, as well as other publications.

73, Scott in Watsonville, Ca. and QRZ Hawaii..De
WA6LIE@N0ARY.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following packet article is quite long, so it will be reproduced in parts spanning a few issues.

=====
Date: 13 Jul 94 20:54
From: AA2KH@WA2UMX
To: HINTS@ALLUS
Subject: SWR, BALUNS, ANTENNAS

The following information is reproduced with permission of:
W9INN Antennas, MT. Prospect, IL (708)394-3414
Originally written by: John M. Haerle, WB5IIR, Tech.
Coordinator, ARRL (silent key).

THE EASY WAY

It is a basic truism that you can't get something for nothing, but I am not using "easy way" in this context. Rather, I am using "easy way" as the opposite of "hard way." As I talk to hams on the air or in person, I get the feeling that many of us are indeed doing it the hard way. I am going set forth some principles that you must accept before we can develop what follows. Of course, I cannot expect you to accept this "gospel" from just one source, so I begin with qualifying words from several authorities who carry blue-ribbon credentials.

First, here is the essential part of an editorial by Jim Fisk, (who left us too soon in April, 1980) one of the great hams and editor of Ham Radio Magazine:

"I don't know where all the feed-line myths started, but I suspect it had something to do with the do-it-yourself SWR bridges which first became popular back in the early 1950's. Until then, most amateurs didn't even know about standing waves and if they did, they didn't seem to care. However, SWR bridges soon caught on and it wasn't too long before getting caught with your SWR up was synonymous with getting caught with your pants down! Some hams dug into the books, but when they discovered that SWR is caused by a mismatched antenna, it only served to reinforce the myth. If a mismatched antenna causes power to be reflected back down the line, they reasoned this power obviously wasn't radiated by the antenna. Some even suggested that the reflected power got back into the transmitter tank and was dissipated in heat. Others apparently thought that reflected power was lost forever to some great SWR heaven in the sky. A few well informed amateurs tried to nip these absurdities in the bud, but it was hopeless, the disease spread faster than the cure.

"Transmission lines are too complex to be covered here, but let's bury the myths: First, reflected power is not lost nor does it heat up the tank circuit of your transmitter. Second, if the feed-line has low loss, as is in the case on the HF bands, increased loss due to SWR is so small that you can forget about it. A 10:1 SWR on 100 feet of RG8U at 4 MHz increases loss by less than 1 dB' so don't worry if your SWR is 2:1 at the band edges--the station at the other end won't be able to tell the difference. If your transmitter doesn't like to load into a mismatch greater than 2:1, buy or build yourself an antenna tuner and save yourself a lot of grief."

Jim was a great admirer of M. Walter Maxwell, W2U, a ham since 1933, with credentials to the fields of antenna and feed-line design. His background includes building antenna fields for the FCC, on this continent and in Hawaii. In 1949 he joined RCA and in 1958 became a charter member of RCA's Astro-Electronics division. From 1960 until his retirement, he was in charge of the antenna laboratory and test range at the RCA space center in Princeton. More than 50 orbiting spacecraft antenna

systems were designed solely by Maxwell including Echo I and all Tiros-Essa satellites. Walter is also a very "down-to-earth" ham. He is best known to amateurs for the series of articles "Another Look At Reflections", which ran in QST from 1973 through 1976. The first of these was subtitled, "Too Low A SWR Can Kill You." In this one, he said:

"Judging by what we hear on the air, nearly everyone is looking for a VSWR of 1:1. Question why and the answer may be: 'I'm not getting out on this frequency because my SWR is 2.5:1, there's too much power coming back and not enough getting into the antenna.' or 'If I feed a line having that much SWR, the reflected power flowing back into the amplifier will burn it up.' or 'I don't want my feed-line to radiate.' Any of these answers shows misunderstanding of reflection mechanics and is symptomatic of the state of education on this subject.

"Rational and creative thinking toward antenna and feed-line design has been absent for a long time. This situation originated with the introduction of coaxial transmission lines for amateur use (just after World War II) and has gained momentum since SWR indicators appeared on the scene, and since the loading capacitor of the Pi-net tank replaced the swinging link as an output coupling control. We are in this state because so much misleading information has been and is still being published concerning behavior of antennas which are not self-resonant, feed-line performance in the presence of reflections when mismatched to the antenna, and especially the meaning and interpretation of SWR data. Explicitly erroneous information and distorted concepts include these gems: 1) Always requiring a perfect antenna/feed-line match; 2) Evaluating antenna performance or radiation efficiency only on the basis of feed-line SWR (lower the better); 3) Pruning a dipole to exact resonance at the single operating frequency and feed it with an exact multiple of a half wave coax, no other length will do; 4) Adjust the height or lower the ends into an inverted vee to make the resistive component equal to the line impedance; 5) Subtracting percent reflected power from 100 to determine usable percentage of transmitter output power.

"As a result of these misdirected concepts, we have been conditioned to avoid all mismatch and reflection like the plague. In many instances, from the viewpoint of good engineering, this hang-up on SWR is inducing us to concentrate our impedance matching efforts at the wrong end of the transmission line. It is ironic that we should be in this situation because the amateur is generally quite practical when it comes to following theoretical considerations." Says Walter Maxwell.

Another accepted Ham antenna expert, Walter H. Anderson, VE3AAZ, writing in HAM RADIO MAGAZINE, says: "A UA9 station I worked recently said he was using a Zepp antenna. It occurred to me that at least one generation has passed since the Zepp was by far the most popular antenna. We didn't realize it then, but the Zepp's

standing wave ratio probably ran as high as 30:1. However, history shows that the Zepp put out a good signal. Thus, it would seem that the Zepp didn't really have the side-effects attributed to high SWR, (high plate dissipation, radiation loss, and all the rest)."

"If you must live with high or low antenna impedances, then you might consider using an antenna tuner. If air-dielectric capacitors and silver-plated inductors are used, power loss from the tuner will be negligible. An antenna tuner will allow the impedance presented to the transmitter to be close to 50 ohms and the transmitter will be satisfied. Such a tuner also pays dividends on receive."

Note how the experts Jim Fisk, Walter Maxwell, and Walter Anderson agree. I hope the foregoing will encourage you to have faith in what follows. Here is what I will cover:

1. Antennas of non-resonant length.
2. Line attenuation.
3. The transmatch.
4. The Balun.

We'll combine these four ingredients to produce simple but effective antenna systems... the EASY WAY.

... Stay tuned for part two! 73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

ARRL Pacific Division Update

August 1994

Update on effort to Save the 13 cm band:

The deadlines for the Comments to the NTIA plan and the FCC Docket 94-32 have now passed as of June 30, 1994. The ARRL and many Amateur Radio groups responded with Comments and Reply Comments -- many thanks to all who wrote! Now the long term "behind the scenes" activities continue in earnest by the ARRL HQ and Washington teams to try to bring our view to a successful conclusion. I believe that the NTIA and the FCC now have a much better understanding of the issues and possible solutions than they had before.

After reading many of the Comments and Reply Comments, it is clear that some of the potential commercial services said, in effect, "just give us the frequencies in the 13 cm band regardless of the consequences to others already there - we need them." It is interesting to note that a number of the potential commercial services said "thanks, but

no thanks. The NTIA proposal is a good idea, but the proposed frequencies to be given up for sale for commercial services does not make sense to us." On the question in the FCC Docket 94-32 concerning "how will you new commercial services share and coexist with the current Amateur Radio allocations," most potential commercial services did NOT answer that question. One said, "there is insufficient data available to answer," a couple of others said, "our proposed services will be in urban areas and not in residential areas where most hams live and operate."

It is very unclear what weight the FCC will put on any of these arguments especially those Comments which just said, "give us the frequencies - we don't know or care about the consequences to others."

To recap, NTIA has made it very clear that their overwhelming concern was to free up 50 MHz of the Federal Government primary spectrum allocation immediately and to minimize the conversion costs involved for the Federal Government, regardless of costs or problems caused to non-Federal Government entities. All other problems are to be resolved by FCC. These problems include sharing agreements with all other services, interference caused by the proposed reallocation to all parties, costs already spent by non-Federal Government services, to name only a few of the problems.

Be assured that ARRL has several actions underway to try to turn this situation around, but ALL depend on your documentation of current 2.3 GHz activity and plans.

One more piece of information on auction matters: pre-auction activities for Interactive Video Data Services (IVDS) and narrow band Personal Communication Services (PCS) which has been in the media the last few weeks apparently refer to the previously authorized auction plans for the 218 - 219 MHz band and below 902 MHz and above 930 MHz. The PCS and IVDS auction activity is planned to start on July 25. This action does not directly involve the 13 cm band proposal by NTIA.

More details of the last few months' efforts are contained in the last few Updates and on page 85, July 1994, QST.

Vanity call signs - latest news:

At the ARRL National Convention and at a later meeting, a FCC official indicated that the vanity call implementation should occur by the end of the year or early 1995. The basic outline of the ARRL Comments filed on FCC Docket 93-305 by the April 21 deadline is contained in the June 1994 Update.

FCC proposes HF digital changes, some automatic control:

On June 13, 1994, the FCC proposed to amend the amateur rules to allow automatic control of digital stations under certain conditions on the HF amateur bands. The Notice of Proposed Rule Making in PR Docket 94-59 was

released June 23 with a comment deadline of Oct. 1, 1944, and a reply comment deadline of Nov. 1, 1994. See the ARRL Letter of June 24, 1994, for the announcement details. QST will carry more details of the proposal itself in the August issue. Please review this material and send me your thoughts as soon as possible so they can be factored into the ARRL comments due by Oct. 1.

Congressional Legislative Report:

HJR 199 has 238 co-sponsors in the House for a majority of members. There are no new co-sponsors from the Pacific Division. With a majority we can now plan to bring up the resolution for consideration. The identical resolution in the Senate (SJR 90) now has 45 co-sponsors. We need 6 more for a majority in the Senate. In the Pacific Division, we still need to convince 11 California Congressmen (Hamburg, Herger, Matsui, Pelosi, Dellums, Pombo, Lantos, Eshoo, Condit, Dooley, Thomas), California Senators Feinstein and Boxer, Nevada Congressman Bilbray, and Nevada Senators Reid and Bryan, to become co-sponsors. Hawaii is 100%!

HR 2623 (Amateur Radio Volunteer Service Act) has 75 co-sponsors in the House (the sole co-sponsor from the Pacific Division is Ron Dellums from the CA 9th District) - not yet introduced in the Senate. Keep writing letters to your congressional delegation with copies to Steve Mansfield, Legislative Mgr. in ARRL HQ so he can use them when visiting your congressional delegation in Washington. Steve continues to meet with key Congressional members to lay out the strategy for moving all these bills to the floor. One approach being discussed is to attach each to the FCC Authorization Act for fiscal year 1994-95. More details as they develop.

Antenna Ordinances:

Rusty Epps, W6OAT, continues to lead a Pacific Division-wide effort to develop a database of antenna ordinances and related materials. Rusty reports that data is coming in from all parts of the Division -- thanks! Send all the material to Charles K. (Rusty) Epps, W6OAT, 651 Handley Trail, Redwood City, CA 94062.

FCC-ARRL amateur auxiliary agreement:

The new agreement, signed in late February 1994, centralizes submission of interference reports for enforcement by Amateur Auxiliary members. Particularly difficult cases will be submitted through the Section Official Observer Coordinator to ARRL HQ and then through the ARRL General Counsel to the FCC Field Operations Bureau General Counsel in Washington DC. The goal of this mechanism is to provide a tracking process for all difficult cases until conclusion.

The new Training Guide is in the hands of the Amateur Auxiliary. Similar implementation information is

being sent from the FCC FOB Washington DC office to the various FOB Field Offices.

I will be meeting with the Amateur Auxiliary Oversight Committee of the Board on July 14 to express your concerns about the program implementation plans and to review the progress made from both the FCC and Amateur Auxiliary points of view.

Discussions within the Pacific Division probably will generate a number of implementation questions to be submitted to ARRL HQ. Please forward any questions and comments to Rick Palm, K1CE, Manager of Field Services at ARRL HQ. An article on this program is expected in a near term issue of QST.

Scholarships and Awards:

There are many scholarships covering a wide range of situations available to licensed Amateurs. The ARRL Foundation, The Dayton Amateur Radio Association, The Foundation for Amateur Radio, to name only a few, will be announcing their dates for applications for their 1994 scholarships. Watch QST and other amateur radio publications for details. The Pacific Division and ARRL each give many awards for outstanding service. Included are awards to clubs (by sizes), Ham of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, Ham Recruiter of the Year, and Certificates of Merit. These awards will be made at Pacificon'94. Please give serious thought to nominations. Drop me a note for the details.

Coming Events:

- Livermore Swap Meet - 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College in Livermore, CA, 7 AM to Noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 from west, 145.35 from the east. Contact Noel Anklam, KC6QZK, (510) 447-3857 eves.
- Foothill Swap Meet - 2nd Saturday, through September. Foothill College, Los Altos, CA.
- Pacificon'94, Hilton Hotel at Concord CA, Oct. 21 - 23, 1994. For more information contact Lauren Styles, WA6CIE, 1910 Sunshine Dr. Concord CA 94520, or call the MDARC/Pacificon Hotline at (510) 932-6125.

Brad Wyatt, K6WR
Director, ARRL Pacific Division

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Los Gatos CA 95030-5850
(408) 395-2501

Packet: K6WR @ N0ARY.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM
Internet: bwyatt@arrl.org



Amateur Radio Class

Start Date: Thursday 09/15/94
Duration: 10 weeks
Time: 7:00 - 9:00PM
Place: Santa Clara Adult Ed.
1840 Benton St.
Santa Clara. Ca. 95050
Cost: The class is free. The book
"Now You're Talking" is
required. It will be available
at class start for about \$20.
Info: Call the class hotline at
408 456-0702 or call Mike
KB6LCJ at 408 243-6745.
Sponsor: SCCARA (Santa Clara
County Amateur Radio
Association).
Note: A code session may be
offered if there is enough
interest.

Our class will prepare you for the Novice, Tech. and Tech+ license level. Though we will provide instruction, the emphasis will be on student participation. and "real-time" demonstrations.

There are no prerequisites for the class. We have students as young as 8 and as old as 80. The diverseness of the hobby make it available to people with all types of disabilities.

So you get your ticket. Then What??? Hams are involved in emergency preparedness at the city and state level plus institutions such as the Red Cross and perhaps even your place of work. We also have contests, meet people from all over the world on the air or just enjoy a conversation with a Ham in the states. Come and learn about our hobby.

I would like to become a Ham! Sign me up!

Name _____ Phone _____

Street _____ City _____ Zip _____

Mail to SCCARA, P.O. Box 6, San Jose, Ca. 95103

S.C.C.A.R.A. Membership Form for 1994

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

Address: _____ Licensed since (yr): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

Telephone: () _____ New member: Yes No A.R.R.L. Member: Yes No

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 annual membership dues.

Annual Membership dues: Individual \$15 Family \$20 Student (under 18) \$5
Renewing? Please help update our database: What year did you first join? _____

Send the SCCARA-GRAM by first class mail for \$3.50 extra

I want _____ SCCARA badges @ \$3.00 each. Badge name & call: _____

Please send the repeater Auto-Dial codes (no charge, circle one): Yes No

Please send the repeater Autopatch codes \$10.00 (\$15 if family membership).....

A COPY OF YOUR LICENSE IS REQUIRED FOR ALL REPEATER CODES

TOTAL: _____

Give this completed form (or copy) with payment to the treasurer at any meeting or mail to:

SCCARA membership P.O. Box 6 San Jose CA 95103-0006

SANTA CLARA COUNTY
AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 6
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