

SCCARA-GRAM

Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 11, Number 3

March 1995

President's Prose

MARCH 13TH GENERAL MEETING: SIZZLER at the **ALMADEN PLAZA, 5353 ALMADEN EXPRESSWAY** at **BLOSSOM HILL**. Speaker: **Our own past Pacific Director W6ZM BILL STEVENS**.

Many thanks to W6VZT Al Gaetano and W6ZRJ Doc Gmelin, two of our old time loyal members who gave us a very informative presentation last month. Thanks Guys.

We had a special surprise at our February meeting, several licensed young people attended. This resulted in the forming of the SCCARA Youth Group committee, on a trial bases. The only way this will be successful is with the cooperation and support of our membership and the ATTENDANCE of our young hams. We all know the importance of this activity, so please let us all get behind this. *SUPPORT THIS PROGRAM*. Get to know these ambitious young people.

The following were in attendance: KE6MEA Tim Brady, KE6MPP Sarah Hudson, KE6OJS Al Wang, KE6NBP Eric Wang. (Not present: KE6NNZ Anna Hudson.) Thanks to AB6OZ George Brady. George has worked with this group for the past two years. As result, AB6OZ George is the Chairman of our Youth Group. We are all behind this program. Anyone having suggestion to help, please contact George Brady so that we get moving with ideas.

The licensed youth are also asked for suggestions. For a starters, please check in on the nets and attend meetings, this will show interest in YOUR club.

A special thanks to KD6FJJ Lloyd DeVaughns for being nice in helping with the minutes during the absence of WB6YRU Gary who had an eye injury while pruning. Also, thanks to our good member Bill Parent for door prizes.

73, Mike Marneris K8ERL



Calendar

- 3/11 Electronic flea market at Foothill
- 3/13 SCCARA General Meeting--Dinner
- 3/27 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:00p, all are welcome)
- 4/8 Electronic flea market at Foothill
- 4/10 SCCARA General Meeting

Next General Meeting

Day: Monday, March 13, 1995
Time: 6:30 PM
Place: Sizzler restaurant
Agenda: DINNER MEETING! Bill Stevens W6ZM says he will give a "surprise" presentation.

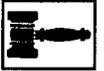
Sizzler, 5353 Almaden Expressway. The restaurant is next to the Emporium in the Almaden Plaza, North West corner of Almaden Expressway and Blossom Hill Road, just South of the new freeway 85. The entrance faces Almaden, (East).

Everyone pays their own bill and tip. We'll be in the large room in the back; go there after placing your order. There should be a few of us monitoring the repeater (146.385+).

The San Jose Red Cross: South-West corner of North 1st and Plumeria Dr. Plumeria is two lights 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, (if you miss Trimble, just follow Montague then turn left (South) 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.

Meeting Minutes



General Membership Meeting February 13, 1995

The *SCCARA-GRAM* is published monthly by the SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION. Permission to reprint articles is hereby granted, provided the source is properly credited. SCCARA is an affiliate of the American Radio Relay League.

The club station, W6UW, is currently homeless (out of service).

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

OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

President	Mike Marneris, K8ERL	243-9042
Vice President	Hugh Collis, KD6EFL	258-2826
Secretary	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	265-2336
Treasurer	Rex Skiver, N6BUO	263-5277
Station Trustee	Stan Getsla, WA6VJY	275-0735
Director	Dan Dietz, WM6M	458-3460
Director	Don Village, K6PBQ	263-2789
Director	Lou Steirer, WA6QYS	241-7999
Director	Imre Takacs, KD6MZM	251-9686
Director	Don Apte, KK6MX	629-0725

STAFF

Editor	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	265-2336
Facilities	Don Village, K6PBQ	263-2789
Historian	Jean "Doc" Gmelin, W6ZRJ	973-8583
Mail List	Joe Quirantes, WA6DXP	371-0959
Mailman	Tony Sanchez, K6MOB	296-6676
Photographer	Bob Keller, KB6OHO	725-1034
Good & Welfare	Ed Rawlinson, WD6CHD	264-2988

COMMITTEES

Repeater	Keith Butts, KN6K	248-3849
Youth Group	George Brady, AB6OZ	729-9012

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 two meter repeater: Mondays at 7:30 PM, (not the second monday--it's our meeting night). Net control: Joe WA6DXP.

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

Visitors welcome to join in on the SCCARA nets.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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

7:37 p.m. Mike, K8ERL, called the meeting to order. Attendance: 37.

Don KO6HH: End of Jan. 1995 board meeting minutes has Lou's call wrong, should be WA6QYS.

REPORTS

Repeater, Keith KN6K: Mt. View is now a local call for our repeater and we may want to change our repeater to reflect this change.

President, Mike K8ERL: Will look into this business of the high room fee for meeting at the United Way.

Treasurer, Rex N6BUO: Jan. 1, 1995 to Feb. 28 1995 SCCARA had an income of \$685.00 and an expense of \$528.45 for a total net income of \$156.55. We have total assets of \$18,839.65.

Self introductions.

Bill W6ZM: Vanity call signs. The first people to get "vanity" calls will be those that had that call previously. The next group will go to those that want a vacant call.

Roy K6VIP: There will be a new question pool for the advanced test in June.

Mike K8ERL: About our tower at the old Red Cross building... Since we voted to abandon it, who ever bought that property has the tower--we aren't responsible for it any more.

Volunteer drivers are needed for those that cannot drive themselves to the meetings.

Lou WA6YQS: SCCARA will host the Foothill flea market in May and we are looking for volunteers to help.

SPEAKER

Doc W6ZRJ and Al W6VZT... *The Doc and Al show.*

Doc gave a history of the club and talked about some of the members of the club. The San Jose Radio Club, started in 1921, changed it's name to SCCARA Nov. 9 1925. The old club newsletter, *The Junkbox*, was started in 1955. Doc talked about some of the activities SCCARA participated in.

Al compared ham radio today with what it used to be. He stressed that Ham radio is a hobby so lets have fun

with it. He also stated that CW is the polite part of the band.

NEW BUSINESS

George AB6OZ: Brought some young hams, fifth graders, and told how he got them involved in ham radio. He started with his son and some of his friends.

Mike K8ERL: Started a Youth Group committee, George AB6OZ chairman, approved unanimously.

Don KK6MX: Gave passes for free admission (\$25 value) to the Wireless Symposium at the Santa Clara Convention Center.

Recess.

Raffle. WA6DXP donated a coax switch.

Adjourned 9:15 P.M.

Board Meeting February 27, 1995



Attendance:

Mike K8ERL, Hugh KD6EFL, Gary WB6YRU, Rex N6BUO, Don K6PBQ, Keith KN6K, Lou WA6QYS, Don KO6HH, Bill W6ZM, George AB6OZ, Mike W6TQH, and Jack AC6FU.

Meeting called to order at 7:33 PM, Mike K8ERL presiding.

Barbara KD6QEI (who stepped in for a moment) volunteered to be the meal manager for the 1995 Field Day.

Motion by K6PBQ to approve the minutes as published in the SCCARA-GRAM. Seconded and passed.

COMMUNICATIONS

KO6HH: Dan Dietz WM6M will be out of town for a couple of months and asked me to sit in for him as director. Motion by K6PBQ to approve KO6HH as substitute director for WM6M, seconded and passed. Club should ratify at the next general meeting.

REPORTS

Repeater, KN6K: Repeater is fine. Passed on the repeater codes to the secretary; expect them to be sent out in the next couple of weeks or so.

President, K8ERL: Youth Group committee is forming. Motion by KD6EFL to approve formation of the Youth Group committee, George AB6OZ chair. Seconded and passed unanimously. Mike K8ERL will give a short talk for Youth Group at the April general meeting, Don K6PBQ will

do likewise at the May general meeting. Discussion about the Youth Group committee, followed.

Vice President, KD6EFL: Next general meeting will be at the Sizzler next to the Emporium corner of Almaden Express Way and Blossom Hill. Start at 6:30 PM, each attendee pays their own way. We will be in the large back room. Bill W6ZM will speak ("surprise" presentation).

Hugh will look into getting a speaker from Force 12 Antennas and Alonzo Dallas about solar power.

Secretary, WB6YRU: So far, 107 members sent in their dues for 1995. We have a few people on the roster as life members and there's no indication why. They joined relatively recently. KO6HH pointed out this has nothing to do with the life membership of long ago. We had an independent source of funds in the late 1940's and 1950's, so the life membership was started. When the funds dried up, the club changed back to the dues structure--it was agreed that all life members would pay dues. W6ZM verified this. W6ZM suggests the current "life" members who don't pay dues should be "honorary" members (on the mailing list for the SCCARA-GRAM only), those who do pay dues are regular members.

Treasurer, N6BUO: Current total of all accounts: \$18,832.15. For last month, we had an income of \$887.50 and expenses of 547.10, for a net cash flow of plus \$340.40.

K8ERL: It's costing a lot to meet at the United Way...are we losing money? The treasurer will look into our annual cash flow with this in mind and report back. K8ERL will look into a some kind of grant from the United Way to meet there free or maybe at the Red Cross. The possibility of raising the dues was mentioned. Bill W6ZM will look into the possibility of meeting at a school in the Unified or other school district.

Editor, WB6YRU: There were more people signed up as Elmers than I knew about before. Many of the forms didn't make it over to me until the Jan. BOD meeting. A list of members who haven't paid their dues will be published in the March issue.

NEW BUSINESS

K6PBQ: Sept. general meeting will be a dinner meeting at the United Way.

AB6OZ: We need to work on some kind of outreach effort. Discussion followed about membership level of SCCARA and other clubs.

K6PBQ: Brought up the question of the possibility of selling stuff at the Foothill flea market one time during the year. Consensus was that without a place to store stuff and several people to help, it would be too difficult. We currently have no ability to handle estate sales, individual members are welcome to deal with that on their own.

K6PBQ: Suggested we do another SCCARA contest. Consensus was that the first one was a good idea and we should do it again. Don KO6HH, Don K6PBQ, and Rex N6BUO will head up the effort for another contest, KO6HH will chair. Discussion followed about coming up with information to put on a certificate and that we need a way to draw the SCCARA logo in a computer. KD6EFL will talk to Doug WN6U (who chaired the last contest) about certificates.

Adjourned 9:16 PM

Gary, WB6YRU, Secretary

March Meeting

BILL STEVENS TO TALK AT MARCH MEETING

The March meeting of SCCARA will be a dinner meeting to be held at Sizzler Restaurant located on Almaden Expressway at Blossom Hill.

Bill Stevens W6ZM will be the speaker. Bill, a native of San Jose, received his license in 1935. After WWII, Bill and Irv Rasmussen W6YPM reorganized SCCARA, with Irv being the first president. Bill was president the following term, and was also president two other times. Bill was director of ARRL for about ten years beginning in 1977.

Bill's many years of ham radio experience should guarantee a very interesting and thought provoking meeting.

de Hugh KD6EFL

Thank You

GOOD JOB DOC & AL

Doc W6ZRJ & Al W6VZT gave a very interesting talk at the February general meeting. The subject was the early days of SCCARA. They talked about the home made rigs that they used to construct, and how much fun it was to get on the air and see how well their handiwork performed. Doc said that sometimes things really got hot, like the time his transmitter was on fire. But not to worry, he just blew out the flame and kept on operating.

Al talked about the early meeting places, and some of the activities the club put on. They even had some photos and newspaper clippings from the early days of SCCARA.

Our thanks to Doc & Al for a great program.

de Hugh KD6EFL



New Members

SCCARA would like to welcome these new members to the club:

WA6BYB, FRANK M MONEZ
W7KPA, JOHN STORIE
KE6KXO, CLARK MURPHY
KE6MEA, TIMOTHY BRADY
KB6NP, JON DUTRA
KE6OUN, PATRICK MONAHAN
KE6OUP, JACK MONAHAN
N6ZEX, ALI MOULINE

Do you guys have any questions, ideas, or comments about SCCARA or any activities? Please don't hesitate to ask. There is a list of club "higher-ups" in each SCCARA-GRAM.

We would also like to get your photo in the SCCARA-GRAM. Please see the club photographer, Bob Keller KB6OHO, at any meeting.

Youth Group

These young amateurs at the February general meeting prompted the formation of the SCCARA Youth Group Committee, George AB6OZ chairman. Some of them hold a Tech. Plus license ... Doc W6ZRJ was impressed! This really boosted his outlook on the future of amateur radio.



(left to right) George AB6OZ, Timothy KE6MEA, Albert KE6OJS, Eric KE6NBP, Laura KE6FBY, Sarah KE6MPD

QST Young Hams!

VOYAGER MISSION STATUS
January 1, 1995

The SCCARA Youth Group is starting. We're planning on having special youth group activities for HAMS that are 17 years old or younger. If you're interested in joining this group, contact George AB6OZ or Timothy Brady KE6MEA at 408-729-9012. Tell us that you want to be a part of the SCCARA Youth Group. In addition, tell us about your ideas for group activities. We want to make sure that the activities are of interest to you. So, we want your ideas.

Would you like to build radio kits? Would you be interested in attending special presentations on operating HAM radios? Would you like to have some hands-on activity and experiment with radio equipment? Would you be interested in learning how other electronic projects or computers can be used with HAM radios? How would you like to participate in HAM radio history contests? The individuals that can provide all the answers, win prizes. The subject would be announced at the club meeting for the next meeting's contest.

Did you know that SCCARA has a list of Elmers? Elmers are experienced amateur radio operators who help new amateurs learn about radios. There is a list of Elmers elsewhere in the SCCARA-GRAM. Our club Elmers can provide information on electronics, computers, and other interesting subjects. Lots of help is available in SCCARA to assist you with your projects.

We believe we're going to have some fun. If you're interested, contact one of us and come to the next SCCARA club meeting. The SCCARA Youth Group Chairman is George, AB6OZ and the committee members are Mike Gaynon, W6TQH and Jack Ruckman, AF6FU.

73, George, AB6OZ

Both spacecraft are healthy and are continuing to make observations of their interplanetary environment.

They are using their ultraviolet spectrometers to map the heliosphere and study the incoming interstellar wind. The cosmic ray detectors are seeing the energy spectra of interstellar cosmic rays in the outer heliosphere. The magnetometer sensors are still measuring the strength and direction of the solar magnetic field. The plasma detectors looking back at the Sun record the solar wind parameters. The low energy charged particle experiment studies the energy spectra of particles coming from the Sun. The plasma wave instrument is studying the incoming signals from the direction of the heliosphere.

Voyager 1 is currently 8.8 billion kilometers (5.5 billion miles) from Earth and is traveling at a speed of 61,200 kilometers per hour (39,000 miles per hour). Voyager 2 is 6.8 billion kilometers (4.3 billion miles) from Earth and is traveling at a speed of 57,600 kilometers per hour (36,000 miles per hour).

-END-

[Editor's note: This next one is a reply to another bulletin regarding the idea that amateur radio is "dumbing down." The first bulletin mentioned that we now have a no-code licenses and complained that most modern amateurs don't build their equipment, they just buy it and operate...]

=====
Date: 16 Jan 95 01:42

From: WB2EZG@N3DPU

To: CODE@ALLUS

Subject: re: Dumbing, WHAT TO DO AND HOW

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the packet network:

=====
Date: 15 Jan 95 13:36

From: N5IST@N5IST

To: NASA@NASA

Subject: Voyager status 1-JAN-95

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
JET PROPULSION LABORATORY
CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION
PASADENA, CALIF. 91109. TELEPHONE (818) 354-5011

Restoring standards to this hobby depends on YOU, the radio amateur. While the major course of action at this time has been well known for several years (ridding ourselves of pre-published manuals containing EXACT Q&A), there has not been change. Part of the problem lies with the fact the ARRL has no direct connection to the VECs and the exams they oversee. It is a convenient 'out' for the League, and this is where hams need to be creative to the needs of the Service in generating a response when they write, and to whom they write.

More than 98 percent of all mail to me over the past 8 years on this issue sends a clear message: hams believe it absolutely necessary to eliminate EXACT Q&A study guides. But change hasn't come because (1) The ARRL says they have nothing to do with the problem. (2) The VEC's are virtually autonomous. (3) The FCC says hams like things the way they are (see Report and Order, petitions RM-8259 and RM-8260).

These points clearly illustrate that neither ARRL nor FCC wants to take responsibility for the problem, and that it's all left to the VEC's. Amateurs interested in doing something to solve this problem with EXACT published Q&A's can thus do the following:

1. Write your VEC (or all of them), with a carbon copy to the ARRL representatives of your choice, informing all that publishing exact Q&A's is not acceptable, and you want it changed. Also explain that numbers alone will not save our hobby; there are six times the number of hams in the U.S. per capita than there were in 1940, yet we have lost frequencies as we have deregulated. Those that understand the history of Incentive Licensing can also work that facet of it into their letter (there's been packet bulletins on this phase of our history as well for you to draw on). Get them to tell you where they stand on this issue. You may find some VEC's believe "the exams need to be made easier so that women and children can pass them."

2. Write the Chief, PRB at FCC directly, 1919 M. St. NW. Washington, DC (despite recent reorganization, the Chief will get the mail). Mention their Report and Order of petitions RM-8259 (restoring standards) and RM-8260 (no-code, no-theory license) did not address the petitions, and thus places the Service at a disadvantage with respect to knowing what it needs to do to maintain its present frequency allocations. Make sure you mention that as the Service has been deregulated in de-facto style, we have lost frequencies. I advise you obtain a copy of RM-8260, the petition that initially brought this issue to the forefront, so that you will know exactly what it says. Enclose a business size manila envelope with sufficient postage (\$1.47 should do it, I think) to me, and I will mail back my copy of the document (28 pages) and the Report and Order as well.

3. Write your Congressman, and particularly, write Vice President Gore (sponsor of the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act), informing them of the fact that FCC did not address the above petitions (VP Gore and various Congressman already know this, but tell them again).

4. When it comes to ARRL representatives, if you are a member of ARRL, inform all future candidates that they must make SPECIFIC provision for a return to exam standards in their agenda, or they will not receive your support. We've all heard ARRL reps at hamfests and so on speak about their 'commitment' to ham radio; make sure they are committed to Part 97.1 in the spirit it was written, not committed to the hobby on their own terms (which is OK if their first priority is maintaining the technical integrity of the hobby).

There are other things you can do; the above is just for starters. But don't make the fatal mistake of leaving it to others; only YOU can change it. If you feel uncomfortable

in doing this alone, contact other hams and write a joint letter. But do it, and do it soon. We're not going to improve otherwise. Most hams complain, but do nothing because they think they can do nothing, thus completing their self-fulfilling prophecy. If you fear retribution from attempting to execute (1) (2) (3) above, then at least have some respect for the Service by executing (4). The ARRL says YOU are the ARRL. Make sure they understand the meaning of those words. The silent majority achieves nothing. Recent changes to de-regulate the Service have been brought about by very few people, perhaps 10-15.

Is ham radio, as ham radio, on the way out? Only if YOU, the ham, say it is.

Regards, Vince, WB2EZG
(Life Member, ARRL)

=====
Date: 18 Jan 95 23:27
From: KT7H@N7FSP
To: QST@ARRL
Subject: ARLB004 Spectrum changes

QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 4 ARLB004
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT January 18, 1995
To all radio amateurs

Spectrum changes

The FCC has voted to allocate spectrum from 2310 to 2360 MHz for satellite digital audio radio services (DARS).

This band is part of spectrum from 2300 to 2450 MHz, all of which is currently allocated to the Amateur and Amateur Satellite Services in International Telecommunication Union Region 2, on a secondary basis, with the exception of 2310 to 2390 MHz, which is not allocated to amateurs.

The FCC said the new DARS would allow direct satellite-to-ground radio to areas of the country and to minority and ethnic groups that are inadequately served by traditional, "terrestrial" radio.

The Commission said that service and licensing rules for the new allocation would be addressed in a later rule making. This was action in FCC General Docket 90-357.

Newsletter Notes

For the most part, the *Packet Pieces* column has contained humorous writings posted to the packet BBS

network. I have been using those as fillers and to just lighten up the newsletter. Humor certainly isn't the only topic on the network. Some of you may recall a multiple part bulletin published here recently on the topic of antenna SWR.

This time we have one from N5IST who often cross-posts information notices from NASA (from the internet to the packet network), one from WB2EZG responding on the topic of modern amateurs not being required to know as much, and a W1AW notice about frequency allocations.

The *Packet Pieces* column can continue with humor bulletins, show a selection of what's available, concentrate on another topic, or some combination of these. If anyone has any preferences, please let me know.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

Dues are Overdue!

If your call appears below, then the roster doesn't indicate your dues payment for 1995. If you did pay and your call is here anyway, please contact the secretary (most evenings: 269-0104 or msg 265-2336 or packet: WB6YRU @ NOARY). Otherwise, please send in your dues NOW while you are thinking about it--use the form on the SCCARA-GRAM cover.

The dues were due Jan. 1st. You guys really meant to renew, but just didn't get around to it, right? Please say "yeah, that's it." We don't want to lose you. If you've decided not to renew, please tell us why.

KB6ABG	KE6ENR	KD6RJQ	AA6VB
WB7AOK	W6HNR	KD6RWE	N6VBI
KD6ATU	KB6ICQ	N6RWU	N6VYI
KD6AWD	KN6K	KD6RXI	KD6VYW
KD6BPX	W6LDO	KD6SON	KD6WWS
KC5BUF	AA6LL	KD6STI	KD6WXM
KD6BUR	KD6MNL	KD6SV	KK6ZE
K6CAY	WB6ORU	N6TED	N6ZFT
W6CF	WB6ORZ	KI6TI	KD6ZJM
W6CNN	KE6OUG	WA6TJP	W6ZRJ
KE6CTH	KD6PAB	KD6TNF	KB6ZV
KE6CTY	KD6PBE	KB6UFP	
KE6DCZ	N6PCQ	K6UWB	
KB6DLB	WA9PUR	WE6V	

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.

On the other hand, if you consider yourself to be

reasonably competent in at least one area of amateur radio and would be willing help others, please ask the club secretary for an Elmer survey form and fill it out.

Antennas, feed-lines, tuners:
 WB6EMR, AC6FU, K6PBQ, K6RQ, WB6YRU
 Lightning protection, grounding: WB6YRU
 Station set-up, equipment: AC6FU, K6PBQ, K6RQ
 TVI/RFI: WB6YRU
 Homebrew projects, construction: AC6FU, WB6YRU, KD6FJI
 Computers: KB6NP; IBM PC: WN6U, WB6YRU
 Packet Network (BBS, forwarding): WB6YRU
 Other digital modes (AMTOR, RTTY): WN6U
 Code operating and installations:
 WB6EMR, AC6FU, K6PBQ, K6RQ
 DX (long distance/propagation): WB6MER, K6RQ
 Emergency operating/preparedness: WA6QYS
 FM (VHF/UHF, repeaters): WA6VJY
 HF operating techniques (SSB, CW):
 WB6EMR, AC6FU, K6PBQ, K6RQ
 Mobile operating: WN6U, K6RQ
 QRP (HF low power, all modes): WN6U
 TEN-TEN (10 M only): AC6FU
 Classes/license upgrading: AC6FU, W6ACW
 Legal/FCC rules: WB6YRU
 SCCARA (club inner workings):
 K06HH, K6PBQ, WA6VJY, WB6YRU, WA6QYS
 Math applications: AC6FU
 Children's Discovery Museum, volunteer operator: K6PBQ

W6ACW, Ed Hajny, (408) 739-6105

WB6EMR, James D. Armstrong, Jr.,
 day: (408) 995-0621, evening & msg: (408) 945-1202

KD6FJI, Lloyd DeVaughns,
 day: (408) 299-8933, evening: (408) 225-6769
 packet: home BBS KB6MER

AC6FU, Jack L. Ruckman, (408) 379-4846

K06HH, Don Hayden, (408) 867-4643
 packet: home BBS NOARY

KB6NP, Jon Dutra, day & msg (408) 428-2058
 evening (408) 867-8654
 packet: home BBS NOARY
 internet: jad@aol.com

K6PBQ, Don Village, (408) 263-2789

WA6QYS, Lou Steirer, (408) 241-7999
 packet: home BBS NOARY

K6RQ, Frank Glass, (408) 356-1026

WN6U, Doug Eaton, (408) 377-3736
 packet: home BBS NOARY
 internet: deaton1@ix.netcom.com

WA6VJY, Stan Getsla, day: (408) 738-2888 x5929,
 evening & msg: (408) 275-0735

WB6YRU, Gary Mitchell, msg (408) 265-2336
 also (408) 269-0104
 packet: home BBS NOARY

ARRL Pacific Division Update

March 1995

13 cm Band -- WE WIN BIG TIME!:

On Feb. 7, 1995, at the FCC Open Meeting, it was announced by the Commissioners that the Amateur Service not only retained our 2390 - 2400 MHz and 2402 - 2417 MHz spectrum, but we were upgraded from secondary allocation to primary allocation!

There was no reallocation of 2300 - 2310 MHz as it was not involved specifically in this matter although some commenters wanted to pair up this segment with 2390 - 2400 MHz. The battle over 2300 - 2310 MHz will likely surface again in 1995 to meet NTIA's schedule of transfer in 1996. Be prepared again!

While celebrations are in order for now, please remember that we were in a very similar position a few years ago in the battle for 220 - 222 MHz. Six months after the battle was "won" we were startled to learn that some sort of behind the scenes deal was done to award the frequencies to UPS. Ultimately, UPS never was granted a license to use the frequencies, but we never got them back either.

Many thanks to all who have worked so hard on this effort, with special thanks to Jim Von Striver, W6ASL (the spokesman for the Pacific Division Spectrum Committee), NARCC, NCPA, and many others for all the effort put into the "Save 13 cm" campaign for all of us. Jim also orchestrated a campaign to write Reply Comments on this matter.

Vanity "Preferred" Call Signs:

The FCC has made several announcements regarding this program. In summary, the effective date of the order to implement is March 24, 1995. There are a few problems in the implementation scheme to be worked out as yet. The form to be used to apply (form 610-V) has not been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) as yet. The date for this approval and the availability of the form itself is unknown as this is written in mid February. However, the club call sign procedure will start with the issuance of sequential calls from some call sign block (as yet unknown also) on March 24, 1995. There is to be a new for 610-B for this purpose, but it is not yet approved by OMB. In the meantime, to apply for a club call sign you can use the current 610-B and write "NEW" in the top block. In order to apply for a "vanity call sign" for a club, you must already have a call sign from before or under this new program. It would appear that a club trustee would apply for a vanity call request within his license class. See page 98, March 1995

QST for more details.

Essentially, there are four "gates" or priorities of time for applying for the vanity call signs. The first will be to recover a previously lost call sign. This gate would also apply to close relatives applying for a deceased family member's call regardless of license class held by the applicant. As a result, the son of Silent Key W1AA could apply in the first gate regardless of the son's license class. The second will be for Extra Class licensees. The third will be for Advanced Class licensees. The fourth and last will be for all comers. There is no published information on the start dates, length of the gates, nor end dates for the gates. After the first gate is finished, then the second will start; however, those eligible for the first priority will still be able to apply. This principle will apply until all gates are opened. In other than the first gate all applications for vanity calls will be eligible for call signs which match the format for their license class or lower only.

The one surprise is that the FCC has ordered that ALL available call signs from ALL call sign areas including Pacific and Caribbean Islands and Alaska will be available for ANYONE applying. The rush for Kingman Reef or Navassa Island prefixes should be massive! The ARRL and all other commenters on this Docket asked that, other than for the recovery of a previous call sign, all vanity call signs would be issued from within the current call area of residence. If the FCC follows their current plan it is likely that the NON mainland calls will be scooped up very rapidly by mainland applicants. If you have feelings on this matter, please let me or ARRL HQ know immediately so we can get your input to FCC! There is a possibility (not clear how much of a possibility) of turning this around, but we must act rapidly! I have already started the process within the ARRL Board to ask for FCC Reconsideration, but I cannot guarantee success. If you want to try for Reconsideration, it's letter and phone call time NOW!

The cost will be \$70 for the ten year license based on the current statutes.

Some additional thoughts for those of you concerned with recovering Silent Key call signs of close relatives, please be ready. Be sure that you or some close relative is licensed at some level. An alternative approach might be to form a club under the new rules, secure permission in writing from a close relative of the SK, obtain a club call (from the sequential assignment) starting on Mar. 24, 1995, then be sure your trustee is an Extra Class and apply for the SK call in the Extra Class gate.

ARRL Board Adopts Strategic Long Range Plan:

At the January 1995 Board meeting, the Board adopted a new Strategic Long Range Plan to guide the ARRL for the next several years. A detailed article explaining the process and an overview of the plan is set for the April 1995 QST.

Congressional Legislative Report:

The ARRL staff has developed our national legislative agenda for 1995 which was approved by the ARRL Board at the January meeting. As we are always looking for new ideas, please contact me or Vice Director Jim Maxwell, W6CF, if you cannot reach me, with your ideas. Ideas being proposed include reintroduction of the HR 4522 bill concerning vanity call sign application fees; protection for volunteers while performing their specific tasks, such as OOs, VEs; spectrum protection; enforcement issues; to name but a few.

As you have all read, the 104th Congress is just getting started, so it is too early to really determine what Congress is likely to do about amateur radio legislation. It is not clear how our legislative program fits within the "first 100 day" calendar and the "Contract with America" established by the 104th Congress.

As I reviewed again the support for amateur radio, I would expect from our Pacific Division congressional delegation, it looks much as it did in 1994. You all did a great job in obtaining the co-sponsorships of our bills in 1994 and I would expect similar response from the delegation to our legislation plans this year.

Please thank those who were our co-sponsors in 1994. Please contact the new members of Congress concerning Amateur Radio - in CA, Frank Riggs in the 1st, Zoe Lofgren in the 16th, and George Radanovich in the 19th; and in NV, John Ensign in the 1st. We will be needing all their help. Again, many thanks for all the grassroots work!

New Pacific Division appointment:

I am pleased to announce that Carl Guastaferrro, WH6OP, of San Jose, CA, has accepted appointment as a member of the Pacific Division Spectrum Committee team replacing Bob Watson, W6IEW. Bob has served on the committee and its predecessor committees for many years with great distinction. Bob has agreed to continue as an Assistant Director. Thanks, Bob, and welcome, Carl!

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.

My thanks for the great work by Ken McTaggart, N6KM, Volunteer Counsel, and John Wallack, W6TLK, Section Manager - San Francisco Section of developing the Amateur Radio presentation and organizing some 60 hams to attend a Sonoma County Council meeting at 6:00 PM (originally scheduled for several hours earlier). The emergency ordinance being considered was a 45 day moratorium on ALL towers in the county. The successful

presentation convinced the Council that Amateur Radio towers should be exempt from this moratorium. Great work, Ken, John, and all those who attended!

Other known antenna ordinance activities are currently underway in Fresno and Santa Clara counties and in Pleasant Hill, CA. All are being monitored closely. Please let Rusty or me know of activities in your area involving antenna ordinances.

Scholarships and Awards:

There are many scholarships and awards 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 1995 scholarships. Watch QST and other amateur radio publications for details. Nominations for 1995 awards can be submitted starting now.

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.
- San Francisco ARC Annual Auction, March 18, 1995, at St. Francis Episcopal Church, 399 San Fernando Way at Ocean, San Francisco, 10 AM until 3 PM. Contact John Gates, KB6KM, (415) 566-1424 eves.
- International DX Convention at Visalia, CA, Apr. 21-23, 1995. Contact George Allan, WA6O, 668 Chemeketa Dr, San Jose, CA 95123 (408) 225-1819
- Valley of the Moon ARC Hamfest at Sonoma Veteran's Memorial Bldg., Sonoma CA, April 29, 1995. Contact Darrel Jones, WD6BOR, (707) 938-8086.
- CA State Univ. - Sacramento ARC Hamfest, at Sacramento, CA, Apr. 30, 1995. Contact Gary Webbenhurst, KC6URB, 8430 La Riviera Dr, Sacramento, CA 95826-1721.
- ARRL National Examination Day, May 13, 1995. For information contact the ARRL VEC group at ARRL HQ.
- Pacificon '95 at Concord, CA, Oct. 20-22, 1995. Contact Richard Schultze, AA6DL, at (510) 932-6125 on the Pacificon '95 Hotline.

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S.C.C.A.R.A. Membership Form for 1995

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

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

Address: _____ Licensed since (yr): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

Telephone: () _____ New member: 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 \$7.50 extra

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

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

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 Secretary or Treasurer at any meeting or mail to: SCCARA membership POB 6 San Jose CA 95103-0006

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY
AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION**

P.O. BOX 6
San Jose, CA 95103-0006

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