SCCARA-GRAM

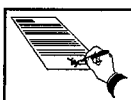## Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

President's Prose

Our annual SCCARA Christmas dinner was a big success. There was a good turn out and everyone had a great time. Doc Gmelin W6ZRJ did a great job of installing the new officers. A big thank you is in order for Don Village K6PBQ for making all the arrangements, and also to Mike Hastings KB6LCJ and Joan Hastings KB6LFZ for shopping for the non-ham raffle prizes. Don K6PBQ shopped for the ham related prizes at HRO. We also had some prizes donated by Doc Gmelin W6ZRJ and Jack Ruckman AC6FU.

1996 promises to be an exciting year for our club. This will hopefully be the year we finally open our club station at the Red Cross. It also will be the year that we move our 2 meter and 440 repeaters to the city radio vault. As you all know, our great club was started in 1921 which makes this year our 75th anniversary. One of the most exciting things coming up this year should be some sort of celebration to mark the occasion. A club banquet might be in order as well as a special event station to celebrate our 75th year. What ever we decide, I'm sure it will work out well.

One of the best resources that our club has is our members. Their hard work and support keep things going. I would like to thank all of the out-going officers and board members for all that they have done to make 1995 a great year. Also, I would like to say a special thank you to George Brady AB6OZ for his exceptional work with the youth group. Thanks to George there are many new young hams in our club, including my stepson Christopher Taylor, who passed his Technician exam on Saturday, December 16th and is our newest club ham.

I'm looking forward to working with all of the new officers and board members. Together we will be able to make our 75th year our best.
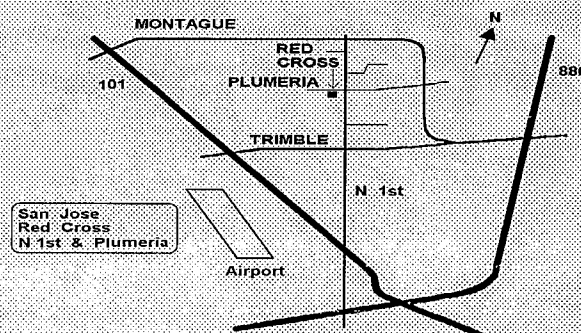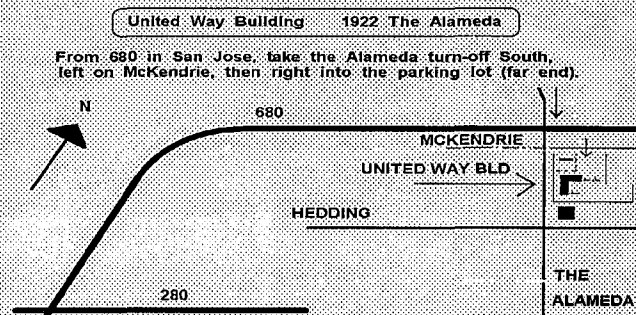
Hugh, KD6EFL

Calendar

1/8   SCCARA General Meeting
1/15   SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:00p, all are welcome)
2/12   SCCARA General Meeting
2/19   SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:00p, all are welcome)

Next General Meeting

Day: Monday, January 8, 1996
Time: 7:30 PM
Place: United Way Building
Agenda: Frank Glass K6RQ, will be our speaker.

United Way Building   1922 The Alameda

From 680 in San Jose, take the Alameda turn-off South, left on McKendrie, then right into the parking lot (far end).

San Jose Red Cross N 1st & Plumeria

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

OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

President	Hugh Collis, KD6EFL	246-9374
Vice President	Don Apte, KK6MX	629-0725
Secretary	Lloyd DeVaughns, KD6FJI	225-6769
Treasurer	Rex Skiver, N6BUO	263-5277
Station Trustee	Stan Getsla, WA6VJY	275-0735
Director	Clark Murphy, KE6KXO	262-9334
Director	Imre Takacs, KD6MZM	251-9686
Director	George Brady, AB6OZ	729-9012
Director	Don Village, K6PBQ	263-2789
Director	Lou Steirer, WA6QYS	241-7999

STAFF

Editor	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	265-2336
Facilities	Don Village, K6PBQ	263-2789
Historian	Jean "Doc" Gmelin, W6ZRJ	973-8583
Mailman	Tony Sanchez, K6MOB	296-6676
Photographer	Bob Keller, KB6OHO	725-1034

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 LICENSE (VEC) HOTLINE:	984-8353

Thanks a lot!

I would like to thank everyone who attended our Christmas dinner banquet and making it a huge success.

Our special thanks go to Jack Ruckman AC6FU for donating the Handbook and T-shirt and Doc Gmelin W6ZRJ for donating a couple of ARRL books and installing our officers for 1996.

I purchased the Ham items from HRO, so when you are in HRO, please thank them for their discounts.

Don Village K6PBQ

Here's the gang at the December dinner meeting...

The man on the far right is none other than Bob KB6OHO, our photographer. I believe this is the first time he's been caught on the other side of the camera! -- Editor.

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, Dec. 15, 1995

President Mike K8ERL presiding

Annual Christmas Dinner meeting, location: the Hungry Hunter in Milpitas.

Call to order: 8:10 PM. Attendance: 49.
Introductions.
Installation of officers.
Dinner.
K8ERL had to leave early, our new president, Hugh KD6EFL, took over.
Raffle.

Secretary, WB6YRU: The club currently has 155 members, 131 of which have not yet renewed. SCCARA incorporated in 1947; however, it formed Jan. 1921. This means the club will be 75 years old when we next meet!

KD6EFL: Remember, the board meeting is next Monday, Dec 18.
Adjourned 10:30 PM

Gary, WB6YRU, outgoing Secretary

Board Meeting, Dec. 18, 1995

Present:
Hugh, KD6EFL Pres.; Imre, KD6MZM, Dir.; Gary, WB6YRU, Editor; Don, K6PBQ, Dir.; Rex, N6BUO, Tres.; Lou, WA6QYS, Dir.; George, AB6OZ, Dir.; Mike, K8ERL Lloyd, KD6FJI, Sec.

8:11 p.m. Meeting called to order by Hugh, KD6EFL.

George, AB6OZ, motion to approve last month's minutes. Approved.

Repeater committee: Gary, WB6YRU, said that the Memorandum of Understanding (regarding the repeater move) is in keith's, KN6K, hands. It is unknown what is going on with it at this point, (Keith was absent).

George, AB6OZ, The Youth Group report: one student Chris Taylor passed tech test. Two students will test on 31 Dec.

Officers report:

President, Hugh, KD6EFL, the speaker originally planned for January 1996 will be the February speaker. The January meeting will be a video night unless a speaker can be found. The February 12th speaker will be Rusty Epps, W6OAT, and his topic will be World Sport Radio.

Treasurer: Rex, N6BUO, reported that SCCARA for 1995 had an income of $5,128.17, expense of $5,219.98 and total assets of $18,636.55.

Editor: Gary, WB6YRU, conducted a first class stamp experiment and found that there was little difference between the delivery of First Class and bulk mail in most cases. There was a discussion of moving publishing date and board meeting up one week. Imre, KD6MZM, made a motion to change board meeting date to 3rd monday. One against, three for, and one abstained. Motion Passed. The Editor wants a brief case. Motion by Don, K6PBQ, to buy two brief cases, one for president and one for editor not to exceed $50.00 each. Approved.

New Business:
Mike, K8ERL, received a certificate from AMSAT for $50 donation for Phase 3D in memory of Ed Rawlinson, WD6CHD.

Don, K6PBQ, noted that confirmation of meetings at United Way has been received. Stan, WA6VJY, will make reservation for Field Day within the next week. Next year will be SCCARA'S 75th birthday. There was a discussion about a special event station. There was a discussion about getting SCCARA's radio station up and running at the red cross. Hugh, KD6EFL, will call Scott to discuss the station.

Imre, KD6MZM, wanted to know who to see about donating prizes for the raffle. The person to see is Don, KK6MX.

Gary, WB6YRU, noted that we have four 220 rigs, a couple have been "worked over" and he wants to buy those two. Lou, WA6QYS, suggested that we ask Stan, WA6VJY, what he wants to do with them. Gary will contact Stan and see what he wants to do.

Lou, WA6QYS, wants to see a commendation for setting up the Christmas Dinner.

Gary, WB6YRU, wants SCCARA members to write articles for the SCCARA-GRAM. Gary would like articles related to ham radio. Gary is getting items off packet and feels that articles written by SCCARA members would give a better indication of what SCCARA is about.

9:15 Imre, KD6MZM, made a motion to adjourn. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned.

Lloyd, KD6FJI, Secretary

Introduction To Packet Radio

by
Larry Kenney, WB9LOZ
Part 8

This part of the series discusses the various parts of the packet message.

The following is an example of what you see when listing messages on a BBS. On some systems the information is displayed in a different order, but the same information is given.

```
MSG# STAT SIZE TO      FROM    @ BBS    DATE/TIME SUBJECT
14723 PN   1084 WD5TLQ  WA6XYZ  N5SLE    0604/1240 Software working great!
14721 B$    771 PACKET  WB9LOZ  ALLUSW   0604/1154 Intro to Packet- 7 of 20
14717 BF   2387 EXAMS   W6NLG   ALLCAN   0603/1020 FCC Exams: March - June
14715 TN    275 94114   W1AAR            0604/0959 San Francisco 415-821
14714 BF   1663 DEBATE  N2DEQ   WW       0602/2314 CW REALLY NEEDED?
14712 BF    918 INFO    N6ZYX   ALLCAN   0603/1845 9600 BAUD DEMONSTRATION
```

The MESSAGE NUMBER is assigned by the BBS program when the message is received and it cannot be changed. The numbers are assigned sequentially.

The STATUS of the message includes several different bits of information. The first letter of the STATUS indicates the TYPE of message: B for Bulletin, P for Personal, or T for Traffic for the National Traffic System. Bulletins are messages of general interest to all users, and they can be read by everyone using the system. Personal messages are listed only for the sender, the addressee, and the sysop, and they're the only ones who can read them. The list above would have to have been requested by WD5TLQ, WA6XYZ or a sysop. Can you see why? It lists an outgoing personal message. (NOTE: Although personal messages can't be read by everyone using the BBS, anyone in monitor mode can see a personal message as it's being sent over the air, of course.) Traffic messages, type T, are listed for everyone and can be read by anyone. In fact, all users are encouraged to participate in the delivery of NTS messages addressed to your area. (Refer to part 12 of this series for information on NTS messages.)

STATUS also shows whether or not the message has been read, has already been forwarded to all designated stations, or has not been forwarded. You might see one of these letters: N - no, it hasn't been read, Y - yes, it has been read, F - it has been forwarded, $ - it has not been forwarded, I - it's in the process of being forwarded right now.

The SIZE indicates the combined total of characters, including punctuation, in the message text. The forwarding headers (explained below) are considered to be part of the text and are included in the size. What starts out as a short message can grow in size as it's forwarded

from BBS to BBS.

TO is the call sign of the addressee for personal messages, the category or interest group for bulletins and the zip code of the addressee for NTS messages. While you might find bulletins addressed TO AMSAT, TO PACKET or TO SALE, they're actually messages about AMSAT, about PACKET or about equipment for SALE. You're apt to see anything in the TO column: ALL, USERS, EXAMS, CODE, SALE, WANTED, DEBATE, SAT, PACKET, etc.

FROM shows the call sign of the station originating the message.

@ BBS is used for forwarding a personal message to someone at another BBS, for forwarding NTS messages and for general distribution of a bulletin using a forwarding designator. In the list shown above, the personal message would automatically be forwarded to WD5TLQ at the N5SLE BBS. By entering a special designator, such as ALLCAN, in the "@ BBS" column a bulletin may be forwarded to specific areas. (See Parts 6 and 7 of this series for details on the addressing of personal messages and bulletins and on using the forwarding designators. Addressing of NTS messages is discussed in Part 12.)

Next is the DATE and TIME showing when the message was received at the BBS you're using, or when the message was written. (This varies depending on the type of software being used at the BBS.) If the message originated at another BBS, the date and time when the message was originally entered will be shown in the forwarding headers, as explained below, and at the top of the message when you read it. The date and time indicated can be either local time or UTC (Zulu time) depending on the time used by the BBS.

The SUBJECT (or TITLE) is a short description of the message content. For bulletins, this is the information that determines whether or not someone is going to read your message when he sees it in the message list. It should be brief, but it also should be informative. You need to tell the other users what the message is about as clearly and concisely as you can with just 30 characters.

The parts of the message mentioned so far are all seen when you ask for a message list using the L (LIST) command. On some systems, entering a semicolon after the list command (Example: LL 35 ;) will give you more information about the message, such as the message ID, the full hierarchical address, the number of times the message has been read, etc.

If a message has been forwarded from another BBS, forwarding headers are added at the top of the actual message TEXT. This information is added by each BBS that is used to get the message from its origination point

to the destination. Each BBS adds one line showing the time the message was received by that particular BBS, its call sign, address, possibly the QTH, zip code, message number, and other information. If you use the RH or V command (depending on your software), rather than just R, when reading a message, you'll receive complete headers. With just the R, headers are reduced to a list of the BBS call signs. The complete headers are useful if you want details on the path a message took to reach you or how long it took to be forwarded from system to system from the source to destination.

The TEXT of the message contains the information you want to convey to the reader. It can be of any length. However, if the message will be going to a distant BBS and will most likely be forwarded on the HF network, there is a 2.5K size limit. This limit has been set by the HF gateway sysop's to keep traffic moving smoothly despite poor conditions and QRM. Extremely long messages can tie up the forwarding system unnecessarily, so users are advised to break up long messages into parts.

As mentioned in part 6, when entering a message into a BBS, use carriage returns at the ends of your lines, as if you were using a typewriter. The normal screen width is 80 characters, so you should enter a carriage return prior to the 80th character on each line. A message entered without the carriage returns can be very difficult to read as words are cut at improper points, lines vary drastically in length, and blank lines are often inserted. On some terminal programs and printers, any line exceeding 80 characters without a carriage return inserted will not be seen or printed past the 80th character.

You should include your name, call, and packet address at the end of the text so that the person reading your message will be able to send a return message to you if he or she wishes to do so. You end your message with a control-Z or a /ex at the beginning of a new line. This will tell the BBS to save the message. Don't disconnect until you receive the prompt back from the BBS. Otherwise you won't know whether or not your message was saved.

Need Help?

Amateurs have a long history of helping each other. An experienced amateur who helps another is traditionally called an "Elmer." If you have a question or problem, you are encouraged to ask one of SCCARA's Elmers. Below is a list of topics including who to contact for each.

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

Antennas, feed-lines, tuners:
    WB6EMR, AC6FU, K6PBQ, W6PHF, K6RQ, WB6YRU
Lightning protection, grounding: W6PHF, WB6YRU
Station set-up, equipment: AC6FU, K6PBQ, W6PHF, K6RQ
TVI/RFI: W6PHF, WB6YRU
Homebrew projects, construction: AC6FU, KD6FJI, W6PHF, WB6YRU
Computers: KB6NP; IBM PC: WN6U, WB6YRU
Packet Network (BBS, forwarding): WB6YRU
Other digital modes (AMTOR, RTTY): WN6U
Code operating and installations:
    WB6EMR, AC6FU, K6PBQ, W6PHF, K6RQ
Contesting & techniques: W6PHF, K6RQ
DX (long distance/propagation): W6PHF, WB6MER, K6RQ
Emergency operating/preparedness: W6PHF, WA6QYS
FM (VHF/UHF, repeaters): W6PHF, WA6VJY
HF operating techniques (SSB, CW):
    WB6EMR, AC6FU, K6PBQ, W6PHF, K6RQ
Mobile operating: W6PHF, K6RQ, WN6U
NTS & traffic handling: W6PHF
QRP (HF low power, all modes): W6PHF, WN6U
TEN-TEN (10 M only): AC6FU
Classes/license upgrading: W6ACW, AC6FU, W6PHF
Legal/FCC rules: WB6YRU
SCCARA (club inner workings):
    KO6HH, 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

KO6HH, Don Hayden, (408) 867-4643
packet: home BBS NOARY

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

K6PBQ, Don Village, (408) 263-2789

W6PHF, David Palmer, (415) 948-9527

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) 269-2924
packet: home BBS NOARY

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the packet network:

```
==================================
     Date:  5 Dec 95 23:29
     From: KG5U@F6CNB
       To: QST@ARRL
  Subject: ARLB108 FCC BOOK ON INTERNET
```

QST DE W1AW From ARRL Headquarters, Newington CT
To all radio amateurs

FCC book on internet

The FCC Interference Handbook now is available on the internet. The 22 page booklet, available from the compliance and information bureau via the fcc world wide web home page, includes the same information and illustrations contained in the recently published interference to home electronic entertainment equipment handbook. It includes information about equipment installation, identifying interference sources, curing interference problems, and filters. It also contains a list of home electronic equipment manufacturers and telephone numbers. Pictures illustrate different TV interference problems, including ham or cb transmitter interference. The interference handbook is available on the world wide web at
http://www.fcc.gov/bureaus/compliance/www/tvibook.html.

```
==================================
     Date:  9 Dec 95 16:27
     From: AA2AD@KB2OBB
       To: TEKTIP@ALLUS
  Subject: TEKTIP#2 CORRECTION
```

I received the following message today from Bill, W8JBA. He is absolutely, positively correct! Thank you, Bill.

```
>Peter --
>    Thanks much for sending me your first two articles.
> In going over them, I noticed a couple of items in your
> tektip #2 that don't look quite right.  Below is what was
> shown in the article but it seems to me that a couple of
> the emitter-base voltages shown indicate blown
> junctions.
>
>                    NPN
>     ---------------------------------------
>     e  + 2.0      e -12.0      e  - 0.5
>     b  + 2.7      b  - 4.5     b  + 0.2
>     c  +12.0      c  - 3.8     c  +48.0
>
```

```
>                    PNP
>     ---------------------------------------
>     e  +12.0      e  - 3.8     e  +48.0
>     b  + 2.7      b  - 4.5     b  + 0.2
>     c  + 2.0      c  -12.0     c  - 0.5
>
> The following are what I think the numbers should be.
> I've marked the changed values with *--*
>
>                    NPN
>     ---------------------------------------
>     e  + 2.0      e  -12.0     e  - 0.5
>     b  + 2.7      *b  -11.3 *   b  + 0.2
>     c  +12.0      c  - 3.8     c  +48.0
>                    PNP
>     ---------------------------------------
>     e  +12.0      e  - 3.8     e  +48.0
>     *b  +11.3 *   *b  - 4.5 *   *b  +47.3 *
>     c  + 2.0      c  -12.0     c  - 0.5
>
>73 -- Bill -- W8JBA @N8RCU,#SWMI.MI.USA.NOAM
```

73,   Peter, in Lakewood, NY
(75 mi SW of Buffalo)
AA2AD@KB2OBB.#WNY.NY.USA.NOAM
(also email - palbrigh@epix.net)

```
==================================
     Date: 20 Dec 95 10:11
     From: WB0CGH
       To: NAVNET@ALLUS
  Subject: SEAFARING SLANG
```

From: Brad Bradfield   QLF

Good afternoon shipmates on the NAVNET.

I have had the following stuck away in a file folder for several years and thought I'd share it with you. It was originally published in Navy Times.

SLINGING SLANG FROM THE SEA

More words have been added to our dictionaries through popularization of slang usages that any other way, except perhaps science technics. And a lot of our slang comes from seafaring men.

For example, in days of yore, lard was used to grease the runners under a new hull as it was launched. Hence, our term "grease the way", which denotes a path that has been eased or smoothed. A beached ship, on the other hand, or one in dry dock for repair, was considered "high and dry" in early vernacular. This led to the present-day adaptation meaning a person out of his or her element or a person left alone without help.

STARBOARD AND PORT

"Starboard" and "port" are the first two words any boater learns. "Starboard" goes back to the Vikings, coming from the word "steerboard," because steering oars were always on the right side of the vessel, used for docking so these steering oars would not be damaged. The actual words go back to the Anglo-Saxon "steora," meaning pilot, and "steorabord," meaning steering side, and the Middle English "landeborde," meaning the landing side of the vessel.

FO'C'SLE

"Fo'c'sle" (pronounced 'foksul') is another term known to most sailors and has a long evolution. It is properly spelled forecastle, but even that is a contraction of the two-word term "forward castle." The term originated in the 13th or 14th century when huge wooden "castles" were placed fore and aft on Hanseatic ships - to serve as on-deck forts. Being similar in shape to the towers used be feudal lords to defend their castles, they soon became known as forecastle and aftercastle.

The term aftercastle has disappeared from use, but the forecastle now refers to the same general part of the ship as the original and especially in merchant vessels, is the forward part of the ship where the seamen live.

SCUTTLEBUTT

One of the most enduring terms of the sea fraternity has been "scuttlebutt." Today, it refers to rumors passed on. But, a couple of centuries back, sailing vessels carried large casks filled with fresh water for drinking and cooking. Smaller casks were used to transport water and to serve the crew, and they were called "scuttles (from the Anglo-Saxon word for hole because they were fitted with spigots). The larger casks were "scuttlebutts." Later, the term meant water fountain, where the men would gather and talk and, of course, pass on the latest rumors.

SMOKING LAMP

The use of the term "smoking lamp" began in the days before cigarette lighters - before cigarettes, in fact. Sailors were not allowed to strike matches aboard because of possible fire damage to wooden ships. Thus, lamps from which a man could get a light for cheroot or pipe were hung in the fo'c'sle and other convenient places aboard. Smoking was restricted to certain times of the day when the "smoking lamp" was lit. Today there are no smoking lamps, of course, but the call, "the smoking lamp is out," is still heard during times for drills, refueling, or taking on ammunition.

POOP DECK

Then, there is the term "poop deck", which may have caused more merriment than any other boating term over the years. It's origin goes back to days when small cannons were mounted on the highest, aftermost deck on a ship. To "poop off" meant to fire these small cannons. The term designated their smaller sound compared to that of the larger cannons.

BOOBY HATCH

Midway down the deck of a ship was found the "booby hatch," another laugh-provoker. Originally, this was nothing more than an opening that could be used to reach the lower decks easily. In days of sail, large tropical birds, called boobies, tended to congregate on this hatch cover because it was raised from the deck. So, it came to be called the "booby hatch." Today, it is a slang term for a mental hospital. And, that connotation came about because the booby is very clumsy on land and is not considered very bright.

SON OF A GUN

"Son of a gun" is another term that comes from deck terminology. Originally it was a complimentary term denoting a man who was born at sea, thus "born to sail." In the enlightened 18th-century British Navy, sailors in certain preferred rates, such as gunner's mate and quartermaster, were allowed to take their wives aboard with them. Quite often these wives were placed on the deck alongside cannons while giving birth. The guns were fired by order of the captain to help the women in labor.

MIND YOUR P's AND Q's

The term "mind your p's and q's" also comes from the naval establishment, dating back to when seamen ashore kept tally of the "pints" and "quarts" consumed in dockside bars, so there would be no bill padding by bar owners when payday came around. Mariners, being the chief patrons of dockside pubs, were often extended credit. Some captains had their quartermasters keep the tallies so their crewmen would not be cheated.

If a mariner consumed more than he could handle, so that he jibed capriciously as he walked, he was said to be "three sheets to the wind," in reference to a ship using too much sail in a heavy wind.

As the toasting cup was passed, arguments sometimes arose when a toaster overdrank his share. So eventually, cups and tankards were made with a row of metal pegs inside to measure exact and equal portions. Eventually, these became marks of drinking prowess to see who could take his drinking cronies "down a peg" by drinking a measure more than they could.

LET THE CAT OUT OF THE BAG

The expression "let the cat out of the bag" today means

someone telling something they aren't supposed to. But aboard early sailing ships this phrase would send shivers down the spines of seamen hearing it. It meant someone was to be punished and the punishment was to be meted out via the cat-of-nine-tails. This was a whip with nine thongs, each about 18 inches long with three knots at their tips. The "cat" was kept in a canvas bag, thus the term "letting the cat out of the bag."

Congress prohibited the use of the cat in 1850, but before that it was the main form of correcting a sailor's bad habits and misdeed.

This is obviously just a small sampling of naval and seafaring slang. Anybody got more? Post them here to the net.

Haze grey and underway!

Chief Brad (Retired)
WB0CGH@WO5H.#DFW.TX.USA.NOAM
QLF@MSG.TI.COM   (E-mail)

=================================
     Date: 24 Dec 95 05:28
     From: VE7IBJ@K7SKW
       To: ODE@ALLUS
     Subject: OWED TO THE SPELLING CHECKER

My son's grade 2 teacher gave this to me. Though everyone would like this. It's called:

AN OWED TO THE SPELLING CHECKER

I have a spelling checker
It came with my pc
It plane lee marks for my revue
Miss steaks aye can know sea.

A checker is a bless sing
It freeze ewe lodes of thyme.
It helps me right awl stiles two reed,
And aides me when aye rime.

Be fore a veiling checkers
Hour spelling mite decline,
And if we were lacks or have a laps,
Wee wood bee maid two wine.

Now spelling does knot phase me,
It does knot bring a tier,
My pay purrs awl dew glad den
With wrapped words fare as hear.

Sow ewe can sea why aye dew prays

Such soft where four pea seas.
And why I brake in two averse
By righting want too please.

Eye ran this poem threw it,
Your sure reel glad two no.
Its vary polished in it's weigh
My checker told me sew.

Each frays come posed up pawn my screen
Eye trussed two bee a joule.
The checker poured o'er every word
To cheque sum spelling rule.

Butt now bee cause my spelling
Is checked with such grate flare,
Their are know faults with in my cite,
Of non eye am a where.

Two right with care is quite a feet
Of which won should bee proud.
And wee mussed dew the best wee can
Sew flaws are knot aloud.

73 and the best of the season to all.
de Roy in Mission, B.C.
VE7IBJ@K7SKW.#NWWA.WA.USA.NOAM

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Keep smiling! ☺   73, Gary WB6YRU

Newsletter Notes

The first-class postage experiment is done. Of course, delivery is faster with first-class postage; however, it seems most people receive the newsletter only a day or two later via bulk mail. The only exception are those who live outside the local area. For example, someone living in the southern part of the peninsula might get the bulk mailed newsletter up to a week later.

Since the vast majority of members don't need first-class postage (and it's extra bother for us), the board voted to do away with this option. In order to avoid the late delivery problem for those few exceptions, the board voted to move up the publishing date one week--this means the deadline is now the third Monday. So, the SCCARA-GRAM will be arriving one week sooner. In order to report the board meeting minutes in a timely manner, the board meeting also was moved up a week. So, board meetings are now on the third Monday of each month.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

ARRL Pacific Division Update

January 1996

Welcome to 1996!

January 1, 1996, starts the second term as Director for me and as Vice Director for Jim Maxwell, W6CF. Many thanks for your confidence in supporting our second term!

Also, the January 1996 issue of QST sports a new look! An overview of the changes is given in comments by editor Mark Wilson, AA2Z, on page 9. Please look over the new format including e-mail addresses for ARRL officials - see pages 10 and 12. Note also the new feature "DC Currents" - two pages of the latest news involving the FCC/NTIA, Congress and other inside the Beltway doings - see pages 15 and 16.

Please let me know what you think about the changes.

Vanity "Preferred" Call Signs

FCC 610-V - Amateur Station Vanity Call Sign Request - is now available, but the FCC is not yet accepting completed forms for filing. The FCC is expected to announce opening dates for the first vanity call sign filing gate in early 1996.

In response to previous requests the ARRL has mailed 9,000 copies of the form. If you requested one from the ARRL and have not yet received it, call 860-594-0300 or e-mail to vec@arrl.org.

You can obtain FCC Form 610-V (along with FCC Form 1070-V and an Amateur Station Vanity Call Sign System Fact Sheet PR-5000, Number 206- V) by writing ARRL-VEC, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. Please include an SASE.

Form 610-V also is available from the FCC via the Internet at http://www.fcc.gov/Forms/Form610V or by anonymous ftp at ftp.fcc.gov/pub/Forms/Form610V/, or by fax at 202-418-0177. Ask for Form 006108.

The FCC Forms Distribution Center will accept orders in about one month. Call 800-418-3676.

Call the FCC Consumer Assistance Branch at 800-322-1117 if you have any additional questions.

No Change to CW Requirement for HF

In late October, FCC announced the dismissal of three petitions for changes in the CW speed requirement for HF licenses in the U.S. See page 15 of December QST.

On the international front, at the World Radio Conference - 95 in Geneva, Switzerland, it was decided at the Working Group level, that New Zealand's proposal to delete the Morse requirement for amateur operation below 30 MHz on a world-wide basis will not be taken up at WRC-95. See page 16 of January QST for details.

Telecommunications Reform

Telecommunications reform is currently one of the key topics currently in Congress. Both the House and Senate have passed differing Telecommunication Reform Acts. Apparently these bills focus on broadcast TV, cable TV, telephone service, and related matters. It appears that these bills do not affect the Amateur Radio Service directly, but there may yet be surprises. A conference committee from both houses is trying to reconcile the differences between S. 652 and H. R. 1555. The conference committees have been named (in the Pacific Division, from the House, Anna Eshoo (D) CA 14th is a member). Little progress has apparently been made pending the resolution of the overall budget battle which continues as this is being written on Dec. 16.

There are also various other proposals floating around Washington DC including proposals to eliminate the Department of Commerce and the FCC, as examples. This latter idea comes from the "Progress and Freedom Foundation," a "Think Tank" group consisting of folks with various political views. The proposal, essentially, is to eliminate the FCC and allocate the entire RF spectrum on a "property rights" basis.

The mood in Congress seems to be to enact some sort of telecommunications reform, but just what is unclear so far.

The ARRL Washington Team continues to monitor these developments and be active on our behalf. See page 15 of January QST for additional information.

Save Those MARS Stations

With the closing of the military bases, the related MARS stations will likely be closed. There are several groups working to attempt to save the MARS stations involved. Several have written proposals to save the stations but with mixed results. One Federal program which might be a great aid in saving the MARS stations is the "Federal Lands to Parks Program" as described in a brochure "U.S. Government Printing Office 1993-0-359-650" and related information available from the National Park Service, Western Regional Office, Planning, Grants and Environmental Quality Division, 600 Harrison St, Ste 600, San Francisco CA 94107 (415) 744-3972.

FCC News

In another announcement, the FCC is considering privatizing the resolution of radio frequency interference to consumer electronics devices. Under the plan, private repair shops would be used to fix problems in the field. FCC spelled out the Commission's concept at a meeting in Tampa

FL, saying "Since it is not feasible for the Commission to attempt to resolve these complaints" (the most of which come from Citizens Band operation), "it is our policy not to investigate interference to home electronic equipment. Likewise, we do not offer any protection from interference."

So far, only one "repair shop" has been certified - that one in Tampa. ARRL continues to try to help the FCC with this matter, by offering classes and instruction, but very little on a nationwide basis seems to have been accomplished.

Over the past several years, the FCC has been unofficially out of the "retail" RFI business, and parties who contact the FCC about an interference problem are asked to work together toward a solution.

Depending on what the local repair shop found, either the shop would fix the equipment or, in the case of a violation of FCC rules, the service shop would refer the case back to the FCC for possible FCC action. The question of who would pay was not addressed. See October QST page 80 and January QST page 16 for additional details.

The FCC Compliance and Information Bureau has recently released a new 24 page color publication, Bulletin CIB-2, May 1995, titled "Interference to Home Electronic Entertainment Equipment Handbook." This document states "cost-cutting manufacturing techniques, such as insufficient shielding or inadequate filtering, may also cause your equipment to react to a nearby radio transmitter. This is not the fault of the transmitter and little can be done to the transmitter to correct the problem."

Bulletin CIB-2 may be obtained from the U.S. Government Printing Office, PO Box 371954, Pittsburgh PA 15250. The price is $2.50 postpaid. It is also available on the World-Wide Web at http://www.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Compliance/WWW/tvibook.html.

Pacific Div. and ARRL WWW Home Pages

Through the diligent efforts of Alameda County ADECs Randy Foutch, KE6HCI, and Paul Carlin, KE6NVU, together with a dedicated band of associates, the Pacific Division Home Page is now "on the air." It can be found at http://www.portal.com/~pdarrl. In addition to a great deal of information on the ARRL Pacific Division, it contains links to other worthwhile pages, including the ARRL Home Page. The ARRL Home Page can be accessed directly at http://www.arrl.org/, with links back to the Pacific Division Home Page and other sites. Give the Pacific Division Home Page a look! Many thanks to Randy, Paul, and their colleagues, for their hard work.

Antennas, Towers, and Ordinances

Please forward copies of all antenna, tower and related ordinances to Phil Kane, N6SP, who is collecting this data for the Pacific Division. Phil can be reached at PO Box 280192, San Francisco CA 94128-0192, (415) 369-7373 and commlaw@netcom.com.

Please read the article by Chris Imlay, N3AKD.

ARRL General Counsel, "But I Never Agreed to That" starting on page 47 of Dec. 95 QST.

Scholarships and Awards

There are many awards and scholarships covering a wide range of situations available to licensed Amateurs. For example, the ARRL Awards include the International Humanitarian (nomination due Dec. 31); the Herb S. Brier Instructor of the Year; Professional Educator of the Year; Professional Instructor of the Year; Excellence in Recruiting; Phil McGan Memorial Silver Antenna (nominations all due Feb. 15); Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial; Field Organization Volunteer of the Year (nominations all due March 31). See the September 1995 edition of the ARRL Section Leader or contact the Field Services Dept. at ARRL HQ for details.

To apply for ARRL Foundation scholarships, write to The ARRL Foundation Inc, 225 Main St, Newington CT 06111. Deadline for applications and transcripts is Feb. 1. See Sept. QST pages 118-119.

The Dayton Amateur Radio Association is now accepting applications for its 1996 college scholarships. Amateur Radio licensees graduating high school in 1996 are eligible for 2000 dollar scholarships.

Each year the DARA offers eight such scholarships. No specific field of college study is required. Winners will be announced around June 1, 1996.

Interested students should send a self-addressed, stamped envelope for an application to DARA Scholarships, 45 Cinnamon Court, Springboro OH 45066.

Other organizations will be announcing their dates for applications for their 1996 scholarships. Watch QST and other amateur radio publications for 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.

Brad Wyatt, K6WR
Director, ARRL Pacific Division

18400 Overlook Rd. #5
Los Gatos CA 95030-5850
(408) 395-2501

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

S.C.C.A.R.A. Membership Form for 1996

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

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

Address: _____ Licensed since (yr): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: __ __ __ __ __ – __ __ __ __

Telephone: (___) _____   ☐ New Member   ☐ I'm also an
                                         ☐ Renewal   ARRL member

For family memberships (at the same address), please list other name(s) and call(s):

_____

Annual membership dues are payable at the first of the year and expire the following December 31.
New members joining on or after July 1, pay half the membership dues (and half auto-patch fee).

Annual Membership dues: ☐ Individual $15   ☐ Family $20   ☐ Student (under 18) $5 _____

I want _____ *SCCARA* badges @ $3 ea. Badge name & call: _____ .... _____

Please send the repeater Auto-Dial codes (no charge, circle): .... Yes
Please send the repeater Auto-Patch codes (includes Auto-Dial), $10.00 ....
<u>WE MUST BE ABLE TO VERIFY YOUR AMATEUR LICENSE</u> _____
<u>BEFORE ANY REPEATER CODES WILL BE SENT</u>   TOTAL: _____

Give this completed form (or copy) with payment to the Secretary or Treasurer at any meeting or
mail to the return address below:

= PLEASE DO NOT TEAR/CUT ══════════════════════════════ PLEASE DO NOT TEAR/CUT =

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY
AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION**

PO BOX 6
San Jose CA 95103-0006

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