

SCCARA-GRAM

Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 12, Number 8

August 1996

President's Prose

The World Radiosport Team Championship was held on Saturday, July 13. As you may know, SCCARA provided a contest site. We set up our club tower at Clark's KE6KXO house in Alviso. Thanks to Clark and Don KO6HH we were able to offer a site for one of the competing teams.

There was an antenna party at Clark's house on Tuesday, July 9; we had a lot of great help. Those who were there to lend a hand were: Clark, KE6KXO; Lou WA6QYS; Lloyd KD6FJI; Henry, WD6CGI; Bill, KE6OUG; Ernie, N6HN; Wally, KA6YMD; Emre, KD6MZM; and myself. We were able to get the job done by dark with all the help.

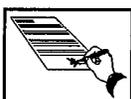
As it turned out, our club station hosted the Italian team. Giorgio, I2VXJ and Fabio, I4UFH were the Italian team members. They were great guys and appreciated being able to use the station that we had provided. This was a wonderful opportunity for our club to help promote ham radio and international good will.

The SCCARA special event station is scheduled to take place on August 17. As I write this, we are still not sure where it will take place. The location will be set at the board meeting tonight--the results should be listed elsewhere in this SCCARA-GRAM.

These exciting events really help make it fun to be part of SCCARA. As with everything we do, it could not happen without the help of our great members. Keep up the good work.

Be sure to watch the SCCARA-GRAM for news of up coming events, and we will continue to have a great summer.

Hugh, KD6EFL

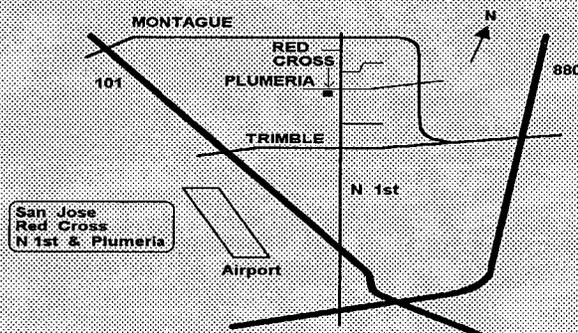
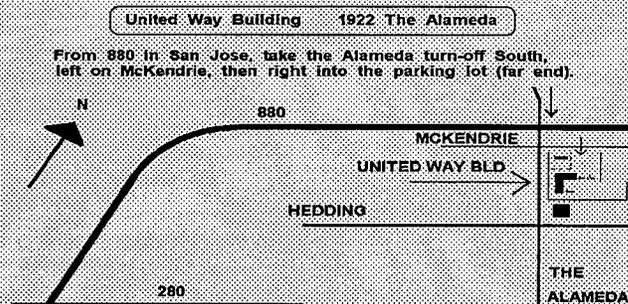


Calendar

- 8/10 Foothill Flea Market
- 8/12 SCCARA General Meeting
- 8/17 SCCARA Special Event Station
- 8/19 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:00p, all are welcome)

Next General Meeting

- Day: Monday, Aug. 12, 1996
Time: 7:30 PM
Place: United Way Building
Agenda: David Waitt, KF6COV, will talk about Metricom wireless digital communication.



Special Event

The *SCCARA-GRAM* is published monthly by the SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, PO Box 6, San Jose CA 95103-0006. Permission to reprint articles is hereby granted, provided the source is properly credited.

SCCARA was formed as a general interest amateur radio club in 1921 and became a non-profit corporation in 1947. SCCARA is an affiliate and *Special Services Club* of the American Radio Relay League.

The club station, W6UW, is currently out of service.

Articles for the SCCARA-GRAM must be submitted to the editor a week before the last 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

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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

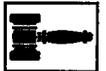
A while back, the board decided to have a special event station as part of SCCARA's 75th anniversary. The original idea was to combine the special event station with a picnic at a local park, but unfortunately those plans never materialized. At the July board meeting it was finally decided to have it at Clark's KE6KXO place on State Street in Alviso. Just look for our antenna trailer in front of the round house--you can't miss it. The day is Saturday, August 17; the scheduled time is 1600-2200 UTC (9 AM - 3 PM).

There will be sodas and snacks for the operators--all club members are invited and encouraged to help operate the station. Contact Clark (262-9334) if you have any questions.

All stations who contact the club station during this time will get a special QSL certificate. So, even if you can't make it to the site, at least try to contact SCCARA, W6UW.

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, July 8, 1996



7:44 p.m. Meeting called to order by Hugh, KD6EFL, club president. Self introduction followed as is our custom.

Don Ferguson, KD6IRE, is the speaker tonight. His topic is satellite communications.

Business Meeting:

Rex, N6BUO, treasurer, reports that there is \$1728.00 in treasury.

Gary, WB6YRU, SCCARA-GRAM editor reports that Staples is the new location for coping the SCCARA-GRAM.

Clark, KE6KXO, mentioned that World Sport Radio competition will be held this Saturday.

Hugh, KD6EFL, August 17, is the date for the special event station and 75th anniversary celebration. Hugh said that he will try to get oldest living charter member of SCCARA to come.

Don, KK6MX, reports that ham bands from 2 meters and up are under attack from the private sector.

Raffle.

9:49 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Board Meeting, July 15, 1996



9:26 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Lloyd, KD6FJI, Secretary

Present:

Hugh, KD6ELF; Clark, KE6KXO; Rex, N6BUO; Gary, WB6YRU; Lloyd, KD6FJI; Lou, WA6QYS; Imre, KD6MZM; George, AB6OZ; Don, KK6MX

7:50 p.m. Meeting called to order.

Repeater Committee: The agreement to move the SCCARA repeater to the city communications vault (MoU) has been signed by the City. RACES has to sign the agreement also, but as of today, we have not heard that they have signed it.

Editor's Report: Gary, WB6YRU, reports that the Staples on Hamilton Ave., across from Fry's is the new location for printing the SCCARA-GRAM. Gary wants to know what the membership thinks of having the SCCARA logo on the first page of the SCCARA-GRAM. Gary will put an article in the SCCARA-GRAM concerning the clubs preferences concerning the logo.

Treasurer's report; Rex, N6BUO: \$17,476.73 in the treasury.

VP Don, KK6MX: Don wants to be reimbursed \$15 for a copy of Coral Draw he donated to SCCARA for SCCARA-GRAM art work. Metrocom will give a presentation at the next SCCARA meeting. Clark, KD6KXO, made a motion to reimburse Don Apte \$15 for the Coral Draw. Second and passed.

George, AB6OZ, talked to Earl Stevens, KD6ZDJ, during the board meeting and he said that the MoU agreement was approved by the City maintenance department, RACES, and is now waiting to get on the agenda of the City Council for approval.

Clark, KE6KXO, made a motion that the special events station be held at his house and the club will buy sodas and snacks. Second and passed. Five for the motion and one against it.

Picnic: motion to have SCCARA picnic at Mary Gomez Park in Santa Clara on Sept 7, Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and the club to provide drinks, burgers, hot dogs, condiments and utensils.

The BBS: If SCCARA takes over the N0ARY BBS, can we get phone lines into the radio room at the Red Cross? That is one of the questions that remains to be answered.

Imre, KD6MZM, made a motion that if we can get phone lines and permission to put up antennas, then we proceed to try to get the BBS. Second and passed.

SCCARA's Logo

Anyone who has been around SCCARA for any length of time has seen the SCCARA logo on badges, our banner, etc. Until recently, I didn't have a good way to put a "clean" image of it here in the club newsletter where you would expect it to be. Thanks to Don KK6MX for supplying some drawing software, I was able to reproduce it:



The colors are the same as on our badges; however, it can only be in black & white here--unless the club wishes to pay more for a color page in the newsletter. I can also make the logo appear sort of like a water mark as is done with the ARRL logo on the ARRL Update pages here in this newsletter.

As I was preparing the image, it occurred to me that perhaps the club might like a change. So, what do you all think: stay with this or have something new?

Also, how would you like it to appear in the SCCARA-GRAM? The banner could be smaller with our logo on one side and the ARRL logo on the other. It could also appear as a water mark on the whole first page (like I've done with the ARRL logo). These aren't the only choices--it's *YOUR* newsletter, please tell me what you'd like.

Gary, WB6YRU, Editor

CQ DE Halleck Island

Halleck Island for USI and IOTA Contacts

George AB6OZ, Kirsten KD6QEJ, Timothy KE6MEA, and Carolyn Brady (No Call Sign, yet) will be operating a portable HAM Station from Allan Point on Halleck Island in Alaska on Saturday, August 3.

Allan Point is located about 16 miles North of Sitka, Alaska. It is a remote location and it can only be accessed by boat or by sea plane. Our station will be using a battery (commercial power is unavailable) and a dipole antenna that will be erected by the sling-shot method.

This is a portable HAM station which will be providing a contact for HAMs that are accumulating points for the United States Islands (USI) and Islands On The Air (IOTA) awards. Listen for us on 14250 - 14260 KHz. The primary IOTA frequency is 14260 KHz +/- QRM.

George, AB6OZ

For Sale

I'm shutting down and will accept best offers:

Yaesu FT 101ZD
MFJ 949C Deluxe Vera tuner II
WM NYE SSK-1-K iambic key
MFJ CW/SSB filter
Autek Research QF-1A SSB/CW/AM filter
Palomar RX noise bridge
Arcomm AP4 active antenna selector
Alliance HD-73 heavy duty rotator
Johnson low-pass filter
Drake DL 300 dummy load
Morsematic model MM1
KLM Tribander beam (20-15-10)
U.S. Tower 40' MA series tip-over & crank-up mast
Yaesu FTV-650 six-meter transverter
Sola Constant Voltage transformer (95-130V in, 120V out)
Palamar DC 15 regulated supply (0-16V, 0-40A)
Johnson directional coupler SWR & Power
Midland model 18-807 (output 7A 13.8V)
Yaesu antenna tuner FC901
Books
Hetrodyne Freq. Meter type CRR 74028

Jim Wheldon, N6CJX
124 Hillbrook Drive
Los Gatos CA 95032-4709
(408) 356-1551

Introduction To Packet Radio

by
Larry Kenney, WB9LOZ
Part 15

Here are some tips to help make your packet operating more enjoyable. Whether it's while making local QSOs, checking into a BBS or mailbox, or working DX, there are a few things you should take into consideration that will help eliminate problems and waiting time, increase your "throughput," and make packet a lot more fun. ("Throughput" is a word that has come into common usage by packet operators and means the amount of usable packet information transmitted or received.)

When connecting to another station, don't use a digipeater or node unless you have to. Each digipeater you add to the path increases the time required to get your signal to its destination and to get an acknowledgement returned. It also increases the chance for interference and for collisions with other packets. You'll be amazed at the difference in throughput when comparing a direct connect to one with just one digipeater in the path.

The packet node network, as discussed in previous articles in this series, does a great deal to help you get your packets through, but you must remember that throughput there, too, is affected by the number of nodes used and by the conditions between you and the destination station. The big advantage of the nodes is that the acknowledgements do not have to return all the way from the destination station before your TNC is satisfied. Packets are acknowledged from node to node, so that eliminates a large part of the problems encountered. Getting the original packet through, however, remains to be as much of a problem for the nodes as it is for you when using digipeaters. It can take several minutes to get a packet through when you're working a station some distance away. Have patience!

Dr. Tom Clark, W3IWI, has determined that for EACH HOP in a packet path the loss of packets can vary anywhere from 5% to 50% depending on the amount of traffic. Remember, each digipeater and node adds a hop compounding the problem, and you have twice as many hops as you might think, because of the acknowledgements. You can see how quickly the path deteriorates as traffic increases and digipeaters and nodes are added to it.

If you have a choice, use a frequency that doesn't have a lot of other traffic on it. It makes sense that the more stations there are on a frequency, the more chances there

are for collisions and retries. A path that will work perfectly without a lot of traffic can become totally useless under heavy traffic conditions. Just one additional station on the frequency can decrease throughput by about half in many cases.

Another consideration, especially if working over a long distance, is atmospheric conditions. You might not have experienced this before on VHF, but with packet's high sensitivity to noise a slight change in signal strength can mean the difference between getting your packets through or not getting them through. Long paths between nodes are very susceptible to these changing conditions. There are times, especially on a hot summer day, when it's impossible to get a packet from one node to the other on what is normally a good path. At other times, "thermals" can increase your range dramatically and you're able to use node paths that normally don't exist. In the San Francisco Bay Area, the fog has a significant affect on VHF signals. When a fog bank is moving in off the Pacific, it can act as an excellent reflector. Signals that normally aren't heard or are very weak can reach signal strengths of 40 over S9.

Multipath is another problem that can greatly affect your packet signal. Multipath is the term used to describe the receipt of multiple signals from one source due to reflections off of buildings, hills, or mountains. The "ghost" in a television picture is a form of multipath. A station with a very strong signal into a digipeater or node often cannot use that path if multipath causes the signal to be distorted. Each packet is checked for 100% accuracy and is not acknowledged unless it is. Multipath reflection can cause occasional bits to be lost, so you can end up with multiple retries and a poor path even with strong signals.

To sum up, for best results on VHF use the least number of digipeaters and nodes as possible, use a frequency with low activity, and be aware of atmospheric conditions and multipath problems. Remember, by decreasing PACLEN and MAXFRAME in your TNC, you improve your chances of getting packets through under poor conditions.

If you use packet on HF, remember to change your transmit baud rate to 300 and to use a short PACLEN (a value of 40 seems to work quite well) and a MAXFRAME of 1. The chances of getting a short packet through the noise and QRM are much better than for a long one.

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the packet network:

=====
Date: 22 Dec 95 22:07
From: AA2AD@KB2OBB
To: TEK TIP@ALLUS
Subject: Fixing power supplies Part 3

TEKTIP.9 - Fixing power supplies, part 3

Let's assume that, after performing the test outlined in TEK TIP.8, no d.c. voltage was found at the filter capacitors. We have successfully applied Black Box Theorem #2 (Each step of the troubleshooting process should be an attempt to divide the problem in half.) and have narrowed down the problem to input and rectifier subunits.

Theorem #2 dictates that we next test the power transformer, which serves the two functions of isolating the rig from the power line and supplying correct voltage(s) to the circuits. Set your voltmeter to the 150 volt (or higher) a.c. scale. Place one probe on each of the primary winding leads. (Primary leads are generally black, and one of them is often connected directly to the on/off switch.) You should get a reading of around 110 volts a.c. Some rigs do have multiple taps on the primary which are used to set the rig for different line voltages.

If you do not get a reading at the transformer primary, move your probes to the ends of the a.c. line cord where it enters the rig. If you still read zero volts, you either have a bad line cord or plug, or the wall switch is off! Some manufacturers have used fused a.c. plugs, in which case the fuses can be pushed out of the plug with a sharp object and tested for continuity with an ohmmeter.

If there is voltage at the cord, unplug the rig, look to see that you really did unplug it, and then check again to make sure that no gremlins plugged it back in when you weren't looking. That done, make continuity checks of everything between the line cord plug and the transformer, such as the on/off switch, internal fuses and in-line r.f. chokes. Examine printed circuit foil traces for signs of damage. Keep looking until you find why there is no voltage on the transformer primary.

If you did get a normal voltage reading at the transformer primary, it is time to test for appropriate voltage at the secondary windings. While there is only one (possibly tapped) primary winding, the secondary may have several windings, possibly tapped. These are also color-coded. Red is often used for the highest voltage windings, while other colors are used to indicate filament or bias windings. Two leads of the same color are the ends of one winding, while a lead of that color plus a stripe is a center-tap to that winding. Measure the voltage across same-colored leads by placing one probe on each lead, with the meter set to an appropriate a.c. volts scale. It helps to have a schematic diagram to give correct voltages, but a little

common sense goes far. Very rarely, a winding may have some shorted turns and have low output voltage. If it is open, you will read zero volts.

A final test of the power transformer can be to test for winding continuity. Turn off, unplug, etc, and measure the resistance between same-colored leads. You should read continuity (generally under 100 ohms) on each winding. Note that you may have to unsolder leads to get an accurate reading. In some circuits, such as tube filament windings, the circuit itself presents a low impedance load. As a rule, a winding which shows continuity is good. Interestingly, a few manufacturers incorporate thermal protection devices in their transformers.

It is possible to locate replacement transformers, but your best bet might be to look for a same-model rig which has been junked for other reasons. You should keep in mind that power transformers in quality gear rarely fail unless there is something else wrong with the unit.

=====
From: KK9T@aol.com
Date: Sat, 20 Apr 1996 11:59:56 -0400
To: coordinator@cs.tamu.edu
Subject: :)

Gents...it's stuff like this that must be shared.

Found recently: The Psychiatric Frequency Coordinators Hotline...

"Hello...and welcome to the Psychiatric Frequency Coordinators Hotline... If you are an OBSESSIVE-COMPULSIVE radio amateur, please press '1' repeatedly...

If you are a CO-DEPENDENT radio amateur, please ask someone to press '2'...

If you have MULTIPLE-PERSONALITIES on-the-air, please press '3'...'4'...'5'...& '6'...

If you are PARANOID-DELUSIONAL concerning your frequency coordination, WE know who you are and what you want...just stay on the line until we can trace the call...

If you are a SCHIZOPHRENIC radio amateur, listen carefully...a little voice will tell you which number to press...

If you are a MANIC-DEPRESSIVE radio amateur, it doesn't matter which number you press...no one will answer you anyway!"

73! (really!), Jim, KK9T
TIRAC, Inc.

=====
Date: Thu, 22 Feb 1996 07:55:45 -0800 (PST)
From: KZ1Z
To: SYSOP@ALLUS
Subject: Sysop Humor

A boy was crossing a road one day when a frog called out to him and said, "If you kiss me, I'll turn into a beautiful princess." He bent over, picked up the frog and put it in his pocket.

The frog spoke up again and said, "If you kiss me and turn me back into a beautiful Princess, I will stay with you for one week." The boy took the frog out of his pocket, smiled at it and returned it to the pocket.

The frog then cried out, "If you kiss me and turn me back into a Princess, I'll stay with you and do *anything* you want." Again the boy took the frog out, smiled at it and put it back into his pocket.

Finally the frog asked, "What is it? I've told you I'm a beautiful Princess, that I'll stay with you for a week and do *anything* you want. Why won't you kiss me?"

The boy said, "Look, I'm a ham radio sysop. I don't have time for girl friends, but a talking frog is really cool."

Newsletter Notes

Good news! I've discovered that Staples (office supply store, across from Fry's Electronics in Campbell) has a small copy center and they only charge two cents per copy for jobs over 1000. Since we always have more than that for each edition, it looks like the copying cost for the *SCCARA-GRAM* will drop significantly.

On the down side, Staples doesn't have much of a place for us to put the newsletter together (folding, stapling, affixing labels, etc.), but the price is right.

As some of you may recall, we moved to Kinko's after the copy center of Wolf Camera & Video doubled the price on us. Unfortunately, Kinko's isn't any better. It's costing us on the order of \$250 for copying alone.

At Staples the cost will be *below* what we were getting originally at the first place! Since it's a new store, this may only be a gimmick to build up a customer base and the price will go up eventually; hopefully that won't be for a LONG time.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

ARRL Pacific Division Update

July 1996

More On the 2m/70cm Band Challenge

The challenge to the 2 meter and 70 cm bands by LEO interests has received a great deal of publicity in recent weeks. The bare-bones facts are contained in the QST editorial for July 1996, which has been widely distributed already, including in the last Pacific Division Update. Little has been available so far, however, on the WHO, WHAT, and WHEN of the matter. This Update will attempt to fill this gap. In this edition are details that were not available when the news first broke. All this information has been obtained from public sources.

1. WHO are the "Little LEO" folks?

In 1993, the FCC allocated several bands to the Non-Voice Non-Geostationary (NVNG), low-Earth orbit ("Little LEO") Mobile Satellite Service, which uses small satellites at 650-1300 miles altitude to provide data communication services.

The NVNG service is based on small satellite technology pioneered by the Amateur Satellite Service. Approximately 13 million commercial NVNG user terminals are expected to be in service by the year 2000.

Orbcomm (Orbital Communications Corp.) is a joint venture between Orbital Sciences Corporation of Dulles, VA and Teleglobe Canada. They have two satellites in orbit (launched April 3, 1995) with plans to launch the remaining constellation, for a total of 36 satellites, beginning around the end of this year. Satellites are being built by Orbital Sciences in Germantown, MD (former Fairchild facility) and launched on Pegasus XL launchers. Uplinks are 2400 bps FSK in the 148-149.9 MHz band, user downlinks are 4800 bps FSK in the 137-138 MHz band, with beacons in the 400-401 MHz band. Their two satellites are the only little LEOs actually in orbit.

Starsys (Starsys Global Positioning, Inc.) of Lanham, MD is now owned (80%) by GE American Communications. They were previously owned by NACLs (the US subsidiary of a French company that operates System Argos). They will most likely begin launching their constellation in early 1998. The satellites are being built by Alcatel (Toulouse, France). Launch services have not been announced, but likely candidates are Cosmos or Raket (Russia), Pegasus, LLV (Lockheed Martin), or Delta. They plan to use the same frequencies as Orbcomm, using spread-spectrum technology.

VITA is a non-profit development organization based in Arlington, VA. They were teamed with CTA

Incorporated, but suffered a launch failure in August 1995 (the first LLV-1 launch).

The VITA-CTA agreement ended and VITA is now partners with Final Analysis, Inc. of Greenbelt, MD for the ownership of a single transponder on the FAISAT-2v satellite. This satellite is a hybrid US-Russian effort and should be launched in the September time frame on a Cosmos from Plesetsk, Russia. VITA's uplinks are the same as Orbcomm and Starsys, with the downlinks in the 400-401 MHz band. VITA's uplinks are not from mobile terminals but rather are from a few fixed gateway stations.

Final Analysis has an experimental license for the remainder of the satellite that allows for a limited number of user terminals to uplink at data rates from 1200 - 19200 bps GMSK in the 455-456 and 459-460 MHz band. Downlinks are in the 400-401 MHz band, ranging from 1200 to 38400 bps GMSK.

Those are the only little LEO companies that presently hold licenses. The remaining companies that have applied for licenses are: GE Astro Space, Princeton, NJ; Final Analysis Inc. (FAI), Greenbelt, MD; E-Sat Corp., Denver, CO, a subsidiary of Echostar Corp.; LEO One USA, a subsidiary of LEO One Panamerica of Mexico City; and CTA Corp., Rockville, MD.

2. WHO are the consultants who introduced the "candidate bands" at the May 7, 1996 meeting of the Informal Working Group 2A (IWG-2A)?

Mary Kay Williams, Final Analysis, Inc., 7500 Greenway Center, Suite 1240, Greenbelt MD 20770.

Leslie Taylor, President, LTA, 6800 Carlynn Court, Bethesda MD 20817.

3. WHAT are the "candidate bands" introduced at the May 7 meeting?

The "candidate bands" proposed by these consultants to IWG-2A on May 7, 1996, are the following (listed in MHz):

138-144 MHz
144-148 MHz
216-218 MHz
380-400 MHz
401-406 MHz
406.1-410 MHz
410-420 MHz
420-450 MHz
450-460 MHz
460-470 MHz
790-862 MHz
890-902 MHz
1427-1432 MHz

Obviously, there are "incumbents" (such as ourselves) using these bands.

Bands that would be technically suitable but were not included are the VHF TV bands (notably 174-216 MHz) that

the broadcasters eventually will be relinquishing when digital TV has been fully implemented in the UHF band.

Research in the "Spectrum Guide: Radio Frequency Allocations in the United States 20 MHz-300 GHz" by Bennett Z. Kobb, ISBN 0-9641546 indicates that the "Little LEO" folks currently have the following allocations:

- 137-138 MHz
- 148-150.05 MHz
- 312-315 MHz
- 387-390 MHz
- 399.9-400.05 MHz
- 400.15-401 MHz

4. WHAT is the future planned meeting schedule for IWG-2A?

It appears that publicly scheduled meetings of IWG-2A will be held about every three weeks. The last such meeting was June 18, 1996.

5. HOW does this all get resolved?

This part of the problem is very unclear as Warren G. Richards (Chair, IWG-2A, Department of State, CIP 2529, Washington, DC 20520) has stated that he does not have the authority to change any of the candidate bands listed at the May 7, 1996, meeting.

6. WHEN does it get resolved?

This problem is likely to be with us until at least November 1996 before resolution. The various Informal Working Groups have a target date of November to complete their preliminary work and to have their data and positions ready for the Advisory Committee.

7. WHAT do we do now?

There are a series of important actions for all interested hams to do:

1. Monitor the progress of this unfolding drama!

For the latest news on this volatile issue, read QST, ARRL Letter, Pacific Division Updates, (ARRL Letter and Pacific Division Update are available via on e-mail). Visit the ARRL Home page at <http://www.arrl.org/> and click on "Band Threat News."

2. Join ARRL!

The ARRL is the only effective national organization fighting for YOUR 2 meter and 70 cm bands. It is easy to join and help us win this battle to preserve our privileges.

3. Write, right now--and continue through Summer and Fall!

As it appears there will be no early resolution to this

conflict, so it is important that every interested ham write. Comments by e-mail should be sent to: wrc97@fcc.gov. Hard copy written comments (with an original plus one copy) should be sent to:

Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Washington DC 20554

Each comment should include at the top, "Reference No. ISP-96-005" and "Advisory Committee Informal Working Group 2A."

We must keep up this activity consistently from now until November.

MARS Station is now Civilian

Former Ft. Ord MARS Station is now the Marina City Amateur Radio Club Station. Culminating a major effort by Pat Barthelow, AA6EG and colleagues, on June 21, 1996 the dedication ceremony of the first former MARS station in the Pacific Division and U.S. to civilian use was held. The fenced 7 acre site, antennas, towers, and building are now owned by the City of Marina and available to all hams in the area.

If you want to learn more about this effort and how to do it for your locally closed base, I am sure that Pat will be happy to tell you about the process if you send him e-mail at AA6EG@tmx.com or phone (408) 394-5531.

Great job, Pat!

Amateur Vanity Calls

Gate 1 opened May 31, 1996

Gate 1A opened July 22, 1996

Gate 1 is for those who want to retrieve a long lost call, obtain the call of a deceased close relative, or for retrieving long lost club calls. Gate 1A is for a club station trustee to request, in memoria, the call sign previously shown on the station license of a deceased person who was a member of the club. The club must have held a club station license grant on March 24, 1995.

Note: ARRL has established a one-stop vanity call sign page at: <http://www.arrl.org/fcc/vanity.html>.

Bill to Protect OO and VE Volunteers

On March 29, 1996, Congressman Bill Baker (R-CA 10th East Bay Section) introduced H.R. 3207, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to facilitate utilization of volunteer resources on behalf of the amateur radio service.

Contact your Congressional Representatives to urge them to become so-sponsors of the bill.

New Assistant Director

It is my pleasure to announce the appointment of Dewayne Hendricks, WA8DZP, of Fremont CA as an

Assistant Director. Dewayne, as a member of the ARRL Future Systems Committee, has been providing excellent insight and understanding on the technology of the future for the Amateur Radio Service to ARRL and to the Pacific Division. Welcome, Dewayne!

Coming Events

- Livermore Swap Meet - 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College in Livermore, CA, 7:00 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 Flea Market - 2nd Saturday of each month from March to September at Foothill College, Los Altos. Talk in on 145.23-PL 100 Hz.
- SNARS (Reno) Hamfest - Saturday, Aug. 10, 1996 at the Stead Airport Facilities 10 miles north of Reno off Highway 395. Gates open at 7:00 AM. Talk-in is 146.61- PL 123. Contact Bob Davis, KG7IY, at (702) 856-2826.
- Pacific Division Convention - Pacificon '96 Oct. 18-20, 1996, at the Concord Hilton Hotel in Concord CA. Details can be found on the Pacific Division Home Page at <http://www.pdarrl.org> or by calling (510) 932-6125; e-mail Pacificon@designlink.com or at <http://www.mdarc.org>. The Mt. Diablo ARC (MDARC) is the sponsor again this year.

Brad Wyatt, K6WR
Director, ARRL Pacific Division

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



Packet: K6WR @ N0ARY.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM
Internet: k6wr@arrl.org
Pacific Division WWW Home Page <http://www.pdarrl.org/>

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):
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

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
internet: wb6yru@arasmith.com

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

WE MUST BE ABLE TO VERIFY YOUR AMATEUR LICENSE
BEFORE ANY REPEATER CODES WILL BE SENT 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 ==

SANTA CLARA COUNTY
AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 6
San Jose CA 95103-0006

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Affiliate of the American Radio Relay League

FORWARD & ADDRESS CORRECTION

TIME DATED BULLETIN