

# SCCARA-GRAM



## Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 14, Number 6

June 1998



## From the ARRL

### Land Mobile Seeks Shared Access to 70 cm Band

The ARRL is organizing opposition to a new threat to the 70 cm Amateur Radio band. The Land Mobile Communications Council (LMCC) has asked the FCC to immediately reallocate 420 to 430 MHz and 440 to 450 MHz from the federal government to the Private Mobile Radio Service (PMRS) on a primary basis. Amateur Radio now enjoys the use of 420 to 450 MHz on a secondary basis, and the 430 to 440 MHz segment is an international allocation. The 70 cm band is the second most popular of the hobby's VHF/UHF allocations, with substantial FM repeater and other operation in the 440 to 450 MHz segment and a variety of uses in the 420 to 430 MHz segment.

The LMCC request, based on "additional spectrum needs of the PMRS community," acknowledges Amateur Radio's use of 420 to 430 and 440 to 450 MHz, and suggests that ham radio applications can remain secondary to PMRS in those segments, but offers no explanation of how sharing could be accomplished. The LMCC says it believes the 430 to 440 MHz sub-band "is more important to the amateurs for use in emerging technologies such as links with spacecraft and amateur television applications."

The petition also suggests that equipment availability and technology resulting from an expanded PMRS presence on 70 cm would benefit hams "pursuing such applications as compressed video television in the 430-440 MHz band." The LMCC concedes, however, that its "most urgent need" for PMRS is voice and low-speed data applications, not advanced technologies which might come later on.

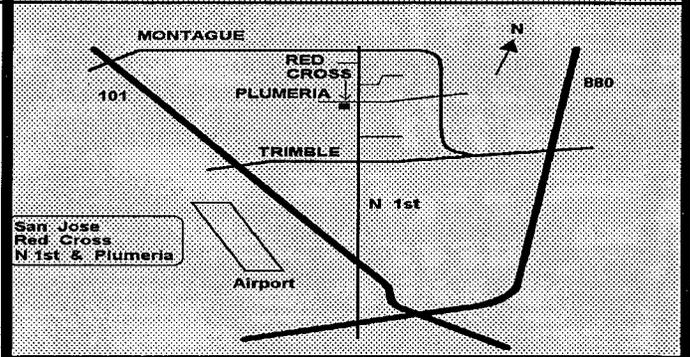
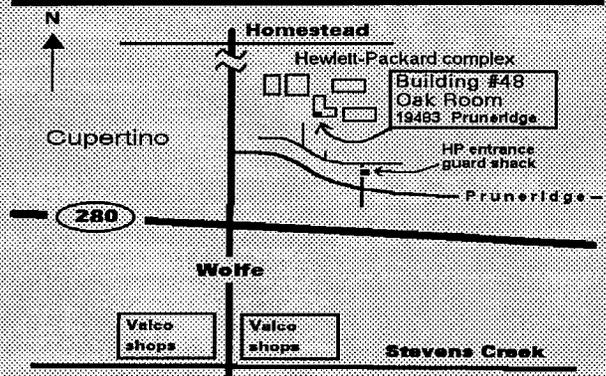
The petition also notes that PMRS already uses 420 to 430 MHz in three Canadian border cities (Buffalo, Cleveland and Detroit) and a "reduction in military use of this band is foreseen."

## Calendar

- 6/8 SCCARA General Meeting
- 6/13 Foothill Electronic Flea Market
- 6/15 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)
- 6/27-28 Field Day

### Next General Meeting:

- Day: Monday, June 8, 1998
- Time: 7:30 PM
- Place: Hewlett-Packard's Oak Rm, Bld #48
- Agenda: Field Day planning and info.



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SCCARA was formed as a general interest amateur radio club in 1921 and became a non-profit corporation in 1947. SCCARA is an affiliate of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). The club station is W6UW.

The deadline for SCCARA-GRAM articles is one week before the last Monday of the month.

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**STAFF**

Editor	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	265-2336
Facilities	Don Village, K6PBO	263-2789

**COMMITTEES**

Repeater	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	293-3847
Field Day	Dan Dietz, WM6M	458-3460

**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 (auto-dial and auto-patch). 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). Coordinator: Don K6PBO.

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

The LMCC also seeks allocations at 1390 to 1400 MHz, 1427-1432 MHz, and 1670 to 1675 MHz as well as 85 MHz at 960 to 1215 MHz by 2010.

Comments are due on the LMCC's Petition for Rulemaking, RM-9267, by June 1. Reply comments are due by June 15. The FCC has not indicated if it will accept electronically filed comments in this proceeding.

-- From *The ARRL Letter*, May 8, 1998

**League Calls Members to Action on 70 cm Petition**

The ARRL says the recent Land Mobile Communications Council petition seeking access to 70 cm is "incompatible with continued amateur use of the band" and urges members to comment in opposition--not only to the FCC but to the LMCC's members. The LMCC has petitioned the FCC for immediate reallocation of 420 to 430 MHz and 440 to 450 MHz from the federal government to the Private Mobile Radio Service. Amateur Radio enjoys the use of 70 cm on a secondary basis to government radiolocation (military radar). The LMCC has proposed to share the two sub-bands with Amateur Radio, but has not said how sharing would be possible. The LMCC also seeks additional UHF reallocations in the intermediate and long term.

For those planning to file comments, specific information and recommendations plus a copy of the LMCC petition and a list of LMCC members are available on the ARRL Web page at <http://www.arrl.org/>.

Commenters should explain how the loss of access to 420 to 430 and 440 to 450 MHz would affect them personally and how it would affect the ability of hams to provide needed public service. "Even if you do not use these segments yourself, it is likely that loss of access would result in more crowding and interference in the part of the band, or in another band, that you do use," said ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ. "Don't overlook the fact that if you use linked voice or packet systems, it is quite likely that some of the links you rely on are in either or both of these segments."

Additionally, amateurs involved in public service communication can ask the government and nongovernment agencies they assist for written statements of support. Hams also should urge Amateur Radio organizations, especially those with interests in the 420 to 450 MHz band, to comment as well.

The LMCC, a nonprofit association, includes several well-known organizations such as the American Automobile Association, the American Petroleum Institute, the International Association of Fire Chiefs, and the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials-International (APCO), a frequent Amateur Radio supporter. The League

suggests that ARRL members who also belong to one of the LMCC member organizations consider writing to inform the organization that the LMCC is acting contrary to your interests and requesting them to disavow the LMCC petition insofar as it affects Amateur Radio.

Sumner says ARRL members should not complain to members of Congress nor write angry letters to the FCC. "The LMCC petition is a private-sector initiative, not a government proposal," Sumner said. "By law, the FCC has to put the petition on public notice and invite comment. That's all the FCC has done with it." Sumner says that criticizing the FCC at this stage would be "inappropriate and counterproductive."

Sumner reminds members that nothing is going to happen overnight with the LMCC petition and there will be at least one more opportunity for public comment. "Before the FCC can take the next step to reallocate this spectrum, it must get the federal government to agree," he explained, because the government is the primary occupant. Then, the FCC would have to issue a Notice of Proposed Rule Making and solicit public comments on its proposal.

The FCC is accepting only written comments in response to RM-9267. Comments are due by June 1, and reply comments are due by June 15. Address comments to RM-9267, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 1919 M St NW, Washington DC 20554. Formal comments must be submitted with an original and four copies.

### RSGB Says "NO" to Mandatory Morse Code

The Radio Society of Great Britain is taking up the banner to seek reconsideration of the IARU policy supporting mandatory Morse code testing for access to Amateur Radio HF bands. As a first step, the RSGB Council has opened talks with the Radiocommunications Agency (the UK's equivalent to our FCC) to institute an additional license class giving full HF privileges to existing Class B (no-code VHF/UHF) licensees who pass a 5 WPM code test.

"We're not trying to get rid of Morse! No way!" insisted RSGB President Ian Kyle, G18AYZ/M10AYZ, during a visit to ARRL Headquarters. In a statement slated to appear in the June issue of RadCom (the RSGB journal), the Society says it will continue to support Morse code and CW sub-bands on HF "as core elements of Amateur Radio globally." But, Kyle said, "Mandatory testing of Morse is going to go whether we like it or not."

Kyle and RSGB General Manager Peter Kirby, G0TWW, say there no longer is any good reason to insist that applicants pass a Morse code test to operate on HF. "It's stopping growth in the hobby," Kirby said, adding that he disagrees with those who think it will be the death of the hobby or would lead to lower operating standards.

Kirby, a former professional CW operator, said that making someone pass a 12 WPM test "doesn't make one a good operator." He allowed that enhanced practical testing requirements were a possible replacement, and said the Society is looking at a possible revamping of the entire licensing and testing structure in the UK.

Both Kyle and Kirby have been making the rounds of Amateur Radio clubs in the UK and floating the idea of eventually getting rid of the Morse code requirement altogether. They say most of the hams they speak with support the elimination of compulsory Morse testing. As Kyle put it, most hams in the UK are "thinking with their brains, not with their hearts."

The present UK licensing structure has two basic classes, A and B (plus a Novice class A and B ticket). The full Class A license requires 12 WPM and offers all amateur privileges. The Class B license, with the same technical requirements but no code test, offers access to bands above 30 MHz.

Kirby says the RSGB Council has determined that it cannot support compulsory Morse testing in the long term but also recognizes that it can't change things overnight. "This will ease things a bit," he said of the RSGB's "intermediate" proposal to the RA.

Kirby said the RSGB proposal "gives other countries the opportunity to debate this subject" before it's dealt with in a World Radiocommunication Conference in 2001 or 2002. He says the RSGB's plan has received support "from around the world and even from within the US," and that other European countries are beginning to embrace the British position.

At present, the IARU supports keeping the Morse code requirement, but the RSGB hopes to change some minds. "Council now believes that this position cannot be sustained in the longer term and will be opening discussions with IARU societies and other interested bodies to reconsider the position to be adopted at the WRC in 2001," the RSGB statement declares.

There are approximately 58,000 hams in the UK, and slightly more than 28,000 of them are RSGB members.

-- From *The ARRL Letter*, May 15, 1998



# Meeting Minutes

## General Meeting, May 11, 1998



7:40 p.m. Meeting called to order by Club president, Jack, AC6FU. Self introductions followed as is our custom.

Tonight's speaker is Trish Gibbons, WB6UBE, her subject is land mobile radio measurements. She also gave an update on the repeater move and some of the problems that go along with the move.

Dan, WM6M Field Day Chairman announced that there will be a meeting of the Field Day Committee later this week.

Barbara, KE6QEI, Field Day food chairperson requested that we get our food request in.

Lou, WA6QYS asked for sign-ups for the August Foothill Flea Market, which SCCARA will be hosting.

There was a discussion about having a Ham class.

Gary, WB6YRU announced that with the new printer recently purchased by SCCARA, he is able to print photos in the SCCARA-GRAM and requested members to submit something.

9:31 p.m. meeting adjourned.

Lloyd, KD6FJI

## Board Meeting, May 18, 1998



Present: Barbara, KE6QEI; Wally, KA6YMD; Don, KK6MX; Lloyd, KD6FJI.

We do not have a quorum; no official meeting.

Lloyd, KD6FJI

## From the Internet...

### Age Is A Funny Thing

Do you realize that the only time in our lives when we like to get old is when we're kids? If you're less than 10 years old,

you're so excited about aging that you think in fractions. How old are you? "I'm four and a half." You're never 36 and a half, you're four and a half going on five!

That's the key. You get into your teens, now they can't hold you back. You jump to the next number. How old are you? "I'm gonna be 16." You could be 12, but you're gonna be 16.

And then the greatest day of your life happens, you become 21. Even the words sound like a ceremony, you BECOME 21... YES!

But then you TURN 30...ooh what happened there? Makes you sound like bad milk. He TURNED, we had to throw him out. There's no fun now.

What's wrong? What changed? You BECOME 21, you TURN 30, then you're PUSHING 40...stay over there, it's all slipping away.

You BECOME 21, you TURN 30, you're PUSHING 40, you REACH 50, and your dreams are gone.

Then you MAKE IT to 60...you didn't think you'd make it!

So you BECOME 21, you TURN 30, you're PUSHING 40, you REACH 50, you MAKE IT to 60, then you build up so much speed you HIT 70!

After that, it's a day by day thing. After that, you HIT Wednesday. You get into your 80's, you HIT lunch. You TURN 4:30 (my grandmother won't even buy green bananas...it's an investment you know, and maybe a bad one).

And it doesn't end there. Into the 90's you start going backwards, "I was JUST 92."

Then a strange thing happens. If you make it over 100, you become a little kid again, "I'm 100 and a half!"

=====

I am my own grandpa!

Many, many years ago when I was 23,  
I was married to a widow who was pretty as could be.  
This widow had a grown-up daughter who had hair of red.  
My father fell in love with her and soon they too were wed.  
My father's wife then had a son who kept them on the run.  
And he became my grandchild 'cause he is my daughter's son.  
But as my father's son he is my brother too, don't you see?  
His grandmother is my grandmother, it really has to be.  
My wife is now my mother's mother and it makes me blue.  
Because although she is my wife, she's my grandmother too.  
This has got to be the strangest thing I ever saw.  
As husband of my grandmother, I am my own grandpa!  
It's a funny, I know, but it really is so.

Hey! I am my own grandpa!

(unknown)

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## Packet Pieces

### Downloaded from the packet network:

=====  
Date: 25 Dec 97 20:27

From: AB7RG@KB7FRV

To: FARCE@USA

Subject: 10 Things Not To Say When...  
-----

Top 10 things NOT to say to a cop when you're pulled over:

10: Back off, Barney, I've got a piece.

9: Want to race to the station, Sparky?

8: I know I was weaving, but I can't find the Honeycomb hideout!

7: On the way to the station let's get a twelve-pack.

6: You'll never get those cuffs on me, you pansy!

5: Come on, write the "darn" ticket; the bars close in 20 minutes!

4: Hey, wasn't your daughter a porn queen?

3: How long is this going to take? Your wife is expecting me.

2: Want a beer officer?

1: I'm surprised you stopped me -- Dunk'in Doughnuts has a 3-for-1 special!

73, & May the FARCE be with you! Clinton, AB7RG.  
[ AB7RG @ KB7FRV.AZ.USA.NOAM ]

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## 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, WB6YRU

Lightning protection, grounding: WB6YRU

Station set-up, equipment: AC6FU, K6PBQ

TVI/RFI: WB6YRU

Homebrew projects, construction: AC6FU, KD6FJI, 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

DX (long distance/propagation): WB6EMR

Emergency operating/preparedness: WA6QYS

FM (VHF/UHF, repeaters): WA6VJY

HF operating techniques (SSB, CW):

WB6EMR, AC6FU, K6PBQ

Mobile operating: WN6U

NTS & traffic handling:

QRP (HF low power, all modes): WN6U

TEN-TEN (10 M only): AC6FU

Classes/license upgrading: W6ACW, AC6FU

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.,  
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

WN6U, Doug Eaton, (408) 377-3736  
packet: home BBS NOARY  
internet: wn6u@compuserve.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

# ARRL Pacific Division Update

**May 8 & 12, 1998  
Special Edition**

## **70 CM Band Threatened by Land Mobile Service Petition**

On April 30, 1998, the FCC put on notice for public comment a Petition (RM 9267) filed by the Land Mobile Communications Council (LMCC) seeking, among other things, "immediate...reallocation of 420-430 MHz, paired with 440-450 MHz, from Federal use to PMRS [Private Mobile Radio Service]." The LMCC is a loose affiliation of organizations with interests in (mostly private) land mobile communications.

The ARRL is actively organizing opposition to this petition. The purpose of this special Update is to spread the word within the ARRL Pacific Division and to encourage all to write to the FCC in opposition to this proposal.

As background, the 70 cm band is the second most popular of the Amateur Radio Service's VHF/UHF allocations, with substantial FM repeater and other operation in the 440 to 450 MHz segment and a variety of uses in the 420 to 430 MHz segment. Amateur Radio now enjoys the use of 420 to 450 MHz on a secondary basis to the Federal Government. The proposal would transfer the primary allocations between 420 and 430 MHz and 440 to 450 MHz from the government to the PMRS. Amateur radio would retain secondary status in the segments and the 430 to 440 MHz allocation would remain unchanged. However, a primary assignment to PMRS from 420 to 430 and 440 to 450 MHz has the potential for a significant impact on amateur operations in those segments.

The petition notes that land mobile already has access to 420-430 MHz in three cities along the Canadian border, the result of a move by Canada at the time of WARC-79 to reallocate that part of the band from amateur to land mobile. The petition makes brief reference to expected "reduction in military use of this band" and to Wind Profiler use of 449 MHz, which according to LMCC "should be discouraged or at least minimized, in favor of higher frequency operation (e.g. 915 MHz), if reallocation to PMRS is considered."

The petition notes that "The band is generally popular with radio amateurs, currently on a secondary basis, with repeater use in 440-450 MHz and satellite links and amateur television in 430-440 MHz" and says, "Amateur applications in the 420-430/440-450 MHz should remain secondary to PMRS."

Comments on this petition are due in hard copy format only by June 1, 1998. No e-mail comments will be accepted. Reply Comments are due in hard copy format only by June 15, 1998. Submit your hard copy comments to the following address:

RM 9267  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M St NW  
Washington DC 20554

The Petition is 75 pages long and reportedly will NOT be put up on the FCC Web site.

In the Petition there are four key pages affecting the Amateur Radio Service -- pages 28 - 31. Conversion of the hard copy text from FCC via ARRL Headquarters is by Glen Lokke, KE6NBO, of the Pacific Division team -- thanks, Glen!

## **Text of RM 9267 specifically involving the Amateur Radio Service**

The following information concerns RM 9267, a Petition for access to the 70 cm Amateur Band and other non Amateur Radio spectrum submitted by the Land Mobile Communications Council (LMCC), released for public comment by FCC on April 30, 1998.

The ARRL believes that the LMCC proposal is incompatible with continued amateur use of the band. RM-9267 is still only a proposal, and has not been acted upon by the government. We need your help in communicating our concerns to policy makers as they consider how to handle the LMCC's request.

This Petition seems to be part of a long standing struggle between the Commercial Mobile Radio Services (CMRS) industry (a common carrier industry) and the Private Mobile Radio Services (PMRS) industry (made up of a variety of private organizations using radio communications, who insist their service requirements are different and cannot be supplied by common carriers

To quote from the Petition:

2. *The LMCC is a non-profit association of organizations representing virtually all users of land mobile systems, providers of land mobile services, and manufacturers of land mobile radio equipment. The LMCC acts with the consensus and on the behalf of the vast majority of public safety, business, industrial, private, common carrier, and land transportation radio users, as well as a diversity of land mobile service providers and equipment manufacturers. The membership of the LMCC includes the following organizations:*

- Association of American Railroads (AAR)
- American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO)
- American Automobile Association (AAA)
- American Mobile Telecommunications Association (AMTA)
- American Petroleum Institute (API)
- American Trucking Associations, Inc. (ATA)
- Association of Public Safety Communications Officials-International, Inc. (APCO)
- Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association (CTIA)
- Central Station Alarm Association (CSAA)
- Forest Industries Telecommunications (FIT)
- Forestry-Conservation Communications Association (FCCA)
- Industrial Telecommunications Association, Inc. (ITA)
- Intelligent Transportation Society of America (ITSA)
- International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC)
- International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (IAFWA)
- International Municipal Signal Association (IMSA)
- International Taxicab and Livery Association (ITLA)
- Manufacturers Radio Frequency Advisory Committee (MTFAC)
- National Association of State Foresters (NASF)
- Personal Communications Industry Association (PCIA)
- Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
- UTC, The Telecommunications Association (UTC)

On pages 28 - 31 (of the 72 total pages) starting with Section 67 through Section 73 plus Section 78 on page 33, this Petition seeks access to the 70 cm Amateur Radio band for the Private Mobile Radio Service with the following text, (these appear to be the only Sections in which the Amateur Radio Service is specifically mentioned):

#### V. Future Quantitative Spectrum Requirements and Options

67. The spectrum requirements analysis conducted by the LMCC reveals that future additional spectrum needs of the PMRS community are as follows: 15 MHz by the year 2000, 44 MHz by 2004 and 125 MHz by 2010 (44 MHz is inclusive of the 15 MHz, and the 125 MHz is inclusive of the 44 MHz.) [36]. However, there is, not unexpectedly, a dearth of spectrum that might be used to satisfy the urgent immediate needs of the non-public safety PMRS, as well as the year 2010 needs. Therefore, the LMCC recommends the following:

- Immediate needs be satisfied by a reallocation of 420-430 MHz, paired with 440-450 MHz from Federal use to PMRS;
- Immediate/mid-term needs be satisfied by FCC allocation of 1390-1400, 1427-1432, and 1670-1675 MHz to PMRS, pursuant to its reallocation to the private sector from the government;
- Reallocate 85 MHz of the aeronautical band, 960-1215 MHz to the PMRS by the year 2010 to satisfy longer term needs, shared with developing DOD JTIDS/MIDS service [37].

#### A. Recommendation Comments

68. These recommendations are based on the LMCC'S best assessment of the threshold characteristics of spectrum appropriate for allocation to the PMRS industry. First, this analysis was limited to the bands below 2 GHz. Because of the substantial increase in propagation loss, reduced maximum safe transmitter power levels, and increased difficulty in creating small, low cost products, spectrum at higher frequencies is generally unusable for PMRS use. Second, bands of spectrum that are reasonably close to existing PMRS allocations are preferred. An allocation of spectrum located too far from bands where existing equipment operates would require a lengthy and more costly equipment development process to be completed before such spectrum could be put to use. Last, the LMCC selected bands of Federal Government spectrum that were likely to become available as a result of evolutionary changes in Federal usage, such as military down-sizing and technological shifts. Because partial continued use of such Federal Government spectrum may remain vital, the LMCC embraces the recommendations of the SPAC report and believes that shared spectrum use may be a viable alternative to outright reallocation in some cases. Accordingly, the bands discussed in detail below, are representative of this criteria. However, these are not the only bands that meet this criteria. Additional bands may be appropriate for allocation to the PMRS community.

#### i. 420-450 MHz

69. As previously noted, PMRS already uses 420-430 MHz in three Canadian border cities. History shows that a substantial number of PMRS systems have been implemented in these cities, with no interference problems, either with Canadian systems across the border or with Federal Government systems in the U.S.

70. A reduction in military use of the band is foreseen and it could be that most PMRS services could co-exist in most significant geographical areas of the U.S. with perhaps PAVE PAWS (Precision Acquisition Vehicle Entry Phased Array Warning System) geographical restrictions in parts of California, Georgia, Massachusetts and Texas.

71. NOAA is experimenting with Wind Profiler use at 449 MHz. Ideally, this should be discouraged or at least minimized in favor of higher frequency operation (e.g. 915 MHz.), if reallocation to PMRS is considered. The band is generally popular with radio amateurs, currently on a secondary basis, with repeater use in 440-450 MHz and satellite links and amateur television in 430-440 MHz.

72. Because of its closeness to the 450-512 MHz "work-horse" band, existing equipment may be employed for the use of this spectrum. A key reason for pairing the two sub-bands, with a 20 MHz spacing, is to provide for efficient duplex/repeater operations on the fixed ends of systems. If 430-440 MHz were reallocated instead, the spacing would be reduced to 5 MHz, which, though workable (450-470 operations use 5 MHz spacings), increases the difficulties, costs, and resultant potential interference problems.

73. It is recognized that these sub-bands are used on a secondary basis by the radio amateur community, as is 430-440 MHz. However, the LMCC believes that the 430-440 MHz sub-band is more important to the amateurs for use in emerging technologies such as links with spacecraft and amateur television applications. Amateur applications in the 420-430/440-450 MHz should remain secondary to PMRS. Furthermore, to the extent that new PMRS advance services are implemented here, equipment availability and technology would benefit amateurs pursuing such applications as compressed video television in the 430-440 MHz band. Though the most urgent need for PMRS is the more traditional voice and low speed data applications, ultimate band structuring might include a portion dedicated to these advanced services.

>.....

ii. 1390-1400/1427-1432/1670-1675 MHz

>.....

78. On a closing note for this band, two additional possibilities present themselves. First, the Federal Government, in negotiation with PMRS representatives, might find that some additional nearby spectrum, not currently identified, might be transferred in order to expand the potential utility of this band. Such transfer might, if necessary, envision shared PMRS and Federal use, with associated restrictions but also associated benefits to both parties. It is recommended that such discussions ensue. Also, recognizing that amateur radio service will see a net constriction by the recommended reallocation of 420-430/440-450 MHz, some of this spectrum might be reallocated to amateur service to offset the constriction. This would of course reduce the amount of spectrum reallocated to PMRS but might be of value to speed up net availability of the lower band. For example, 1390-1395/1427-1432 MHz might be allocated to amateur service with 1395-1400/1670-1675 MHz going to PMRS.

#### Notes

[36] The details of this analysis, and a description of the methodology employed are included in Appendices C, D and E. In order to provide a common frame of reference, the methodology employed in the LMCC's analysis is substantively similar to that employed in the PSWAC Report.

[37] In important association, it is also recommended that an additional 70 MHz of this band be reallocated to PMRS public safety services, in order to satisfy their projected year 2010 needs. The remaining 100 MHz would be generally devoted to on-going aeronautical needs, such as perhaps air-to-ground data links, remaining use of collision avoidance systems (at 1030 and 1090 MHz) and possible GPS enhancements.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the LMCC?

See data above.

### Why are they seeking more radio spectrum for land mobile radio?

In response to a provision of the 1993 Omnibus Budget Act calling for regulatory parity among wireless Common Carriers and certain private wireless licensees that were providing service that was substantially similar to Common Carrier Service, the FCC developed separate definitions for Commercial Mobile Radio Services (CMRS) and Private Mobile Radio Services (PMRS). LMCC members mainly are interested in PMRS. They claim that the FCC is favoring CMRS over PMRS because CMRS licenses can be auctioned, generating substantial revenues for the Federal Treasury.

### What is the actual proposal, and how would it affect Amateur Radio?

Based on its own spectrum requirements analysis, LMCC claims that the future additional spectrum needs of the PMRS community are as follows: 15 MHz by the year 2000, 44 MHz (i.e., another 29 MHz) by 2004, and 125 MHz (i.e., another 81 MHz) by 2010. It proposes:

- Immediate needs be satisfied by a reallocation of 420-430 MHz, paired with 440-450 MHz, from Federal use to PMRS;
- Immediate/mid-term needs be satisfied by FCC allocation of 1390-1400, 1427-1432, and 1670-1675 MHz to PMRS, pursuant to its reallocation to the private sector from the government;
- Reallocate 85 MHz of the aeronautical band, 960-1215 MHz, to the PMRS by the year 2010 to satisfy longer term needs, shared with the developing DOD JTIDS/MIDS service.

At present in the United States, the Amateur Radio Service is secondary to military radiolocation (radar) in the 420-450 MHz band. Originally a primary allocation, secondary status came about during the 1950s when Cold War concerns made national security a high priority. Limited non-government, non-amateur use of the band is permitted -- but amateurs have priority over such use. LMCC misinterprets the significance of amateur secondary status and states that "Amateur applications in the 420-430/440-450 MHz should remain secondary to PMRS." LMCC also suggests the possibility that, "recognizing that amateur radio service will see a net constriction by the recommended reallocation of 420-430/440-450 MHz," 1390-1395/1427-1432 MHz might be allocated to the amateur service to offset this constriction. "Constriction" is, of course, a bit of an understatement; LMCC has offered no ideas as to how amateurs could continue to share the bands.

### What should amateurs do?

First, what you shouldn't do: Don't complain to your Congressman about the FCC, or write a nasty letter to the FCC. The LMCC petition is a private-sector initiative, not a government proposal. By law, the FCC has to put the petition on public notice and invite comment. That's all the FCC has done with it. Criticizing the FCC at this stage would be inappropriate and counterproductive.

Here is what you should do.

1. Examine the list of LMCC members. You may be a member of one or more of these organizations. If you are, write to that organization as a member and inform them that the LMCC, which has listed them as a member and supporter, has taken an action that is contrary to your interests. Don't assume that they know anything about the petition or its implications for Amateur Radio, but do make it clear that as a member, you expect them to disavow the LMCC petition insofar as it affects Amateur Radio.

2. Prepare a comment on RM-9267 and submit it to the FCC. At the top, it is very important that you clearly indicate the file number: RM-9267. Send an original and four copies to: Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, Room 222, 1919 M Street NW, Washington, DC 20554.

In your comment, explain how the loss of access to the 420-430/440-450 MHz band segments would affect you personally, and how it would affect the ability of radio amateurs in your community to provide needed public service. Even if you do not use these segments yourself, it is likely that loss of access would result in more crowding and interference in the part of the band, or in another band, that you do use. Don't overlook the fact that if you use linked voice or packet systems, it is quite likely that some of the links you rely on are in either or both of these segments.

3. If you are involved in amateur radio public service communications, arrange for the government and non-government agencies that you serve and ask for a written statement of their support.

4. Arrange for any Amateur Radio organizations that you belong to, to submit comments. This is especially important in the case of organizations with interests in the 420-450 MHz band.

What if, in spite of our comments, the FCC decides it likes the idea?

The primary occupant of the 420-450 MHz band is the military. Before the FCC can take the next step toward reallocation, it must first obtain the agreement of the federal government. Then it would have to issue a Notice of Proposed Rule Making and must solicit public comments on its proposal. In other words, nothing is going to happen overnight and there will be at least one more opportunity for

public comment.

It seems we hear about threats to the amateur bands all the time. How serious is this one?

The threat must be regarded as very serious. The LMCC is a bona fide and respected organization. We must assume that their proposal will be taken seriously.

Where can I get a copy of the LMCC petition?

The petition, with attachments, is 72 pages. We will have it available on the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/news/bandthreat/> as quickly as possible.

Brad Wyatt, K6WR  
Director, ARRL Pacific Division

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

Packet: K6WR @ N0ARY.#NCA.CA.USA.NOAM  
Internet: k6wr@arrl.org  
Pacific Division Web site <http://www.pdarrrl.org/>



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## Newsletter Notes

This business of the potential 70 cm frequency grab is really getting everyone stirred up. Text from *The ARRL Letter* and other information is flying back and forth on packet and the internet.

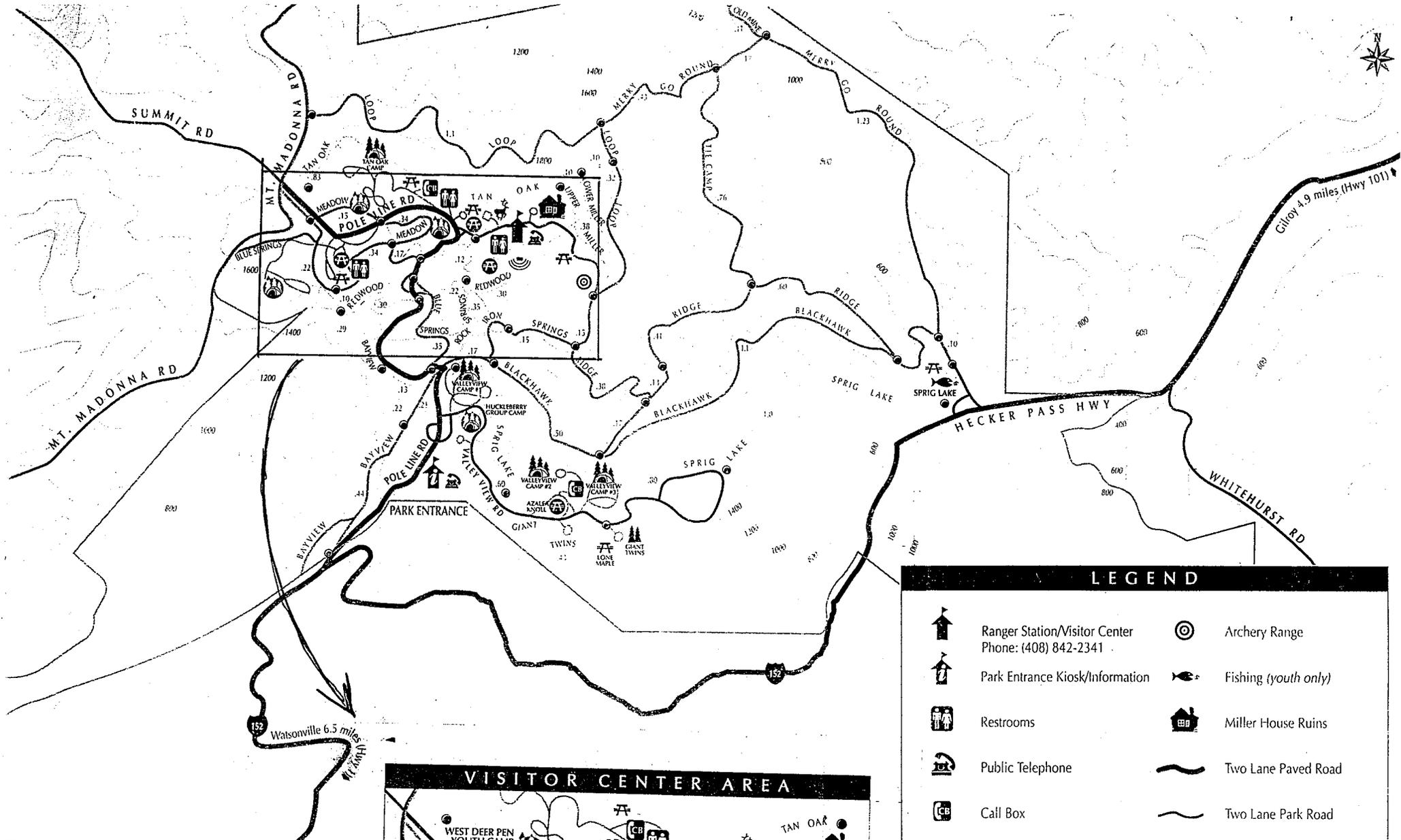
The Special Edition Pacific Division Update is replacing the usual Update for June. Presumably, the Update will be back to normal starting with the July issue.

I personally feel it is a little unfortunate for this to be happening at this time--we all should be thinking about and planning for Field Day.

On another topic... Since I'm pretty much set up now to print photos directly in the newsletter, I'm hoping someone will step forward to be the club photographer. Field Day is a good opportunity to get some shots of the gang in action.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

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Watsonville 6.5 miles  
Hwy 152

Enter the Manzanita camp area at the upper right.

WE WILL BE HERE



LEGEND			
	Ranger Station/Visitor Center Phone: (408) 842-2341		Archery Range
	Park Entrance Kiosk/Information		Fishing (youth only)
	Restrooms		Miller House Ruins
	Public Telephone		Two Lane Paved Road
	Call Box		Two Lane Park Road
	Reserved Campground		One Lane Paved Road
	Campground		Equestrian/Hiking Trail
	Reserved Group Picnic Area		Footpath (hiking only)
	Picnic Area		Elevation Contours (feet)
	Amphitheater		Trail Distance (miles)

# Field Day is coming up!

**1998 Field Day contest weekend is June 27-28. Mark your calendars!**

For those who are new to amateur radio: Field Day is one of the biggest radio contests of the year. The underlying idea is to give amateurs practice making contacts under disaster conditions. This means the participants are encouraged to set up and operate portable stations. You can operate at home, but it's better (worth more points) to "setup shop" elsewhere. For the past several years we have been going up to Mt. Madonna County Park (Southern end of the county). We usually have a variety of stations and antennas. The stations have included phone, CW, digital, novice, solar, VHF, etc. The antennas have been: beams on towers (one is a sizable crank-up on a specially made trailer), a long wire, and miscellaneous dipoles and verticals. The more exotic the power source, the better. We usually use batteries, generators, and solar cells. We operate under a classification where several transceivers are on the air at one time. We are allowed a certain amount of time to set up--that's why some of us go up Friday afternoon. Once set up, we have 24 hours (starting at a specific time) to make as many contacts as possible. It's a lot of fun and a great way to hone those operating skills! Everyone is encouraged to participate. You can make a weekend of it or just show up for part of it, whatever you like.

The SCCARA Field Day weekend will again be held at Mt. Madonna County Park on June 27 & 28. Anyone who joins the set-up group going up on Friday, June 26 and stays through Sunday helping with both setup and tear-down will be able to stay for free. All others need to pay the camping fee of \$8.00 per night per vehicle. Those who won't be staying overnight will be responsible for paying the "day use" fee themselves at the Park entrance.

Dan WM6M is the 1998 Field Day Committee Chairman. If you would like to get more involved, contact Dan. The set-up group plans to meet for lunch on Friday, June 26 around 1 PM at Carl's Jr. at Branham and Almaden; then we'll take off in a convoy to Mt. Madonna. We'll be monitoring our repeater 146.385(+), (we switch to simplex once we get into the mountains).

The club will be serving a BBQ dinner at 1:00 PM on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday morning. The Saturday dinner will be your choice of steak or chicken, plus all the "fix'ns." Please indicate your choice on this sign up sheet. The cost of the dinner is \$10 per person and the Sunday breakfast is \$5 per person. You must pay for these meals in advance so we'll know how much food to buy--Friday, June 19 is the cutoff date. All other meals are pot-luck (nobody goes hungry) or fend for yourself if you wish.

We're expecting a great Field Day this year, so please come join us!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Overnight camping fee @ \$8.00 / night / vehicle: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

OR

\_\_\_\_\_ I will join the set-up group going up Friday, then help tear-down Sunday.

\_\_\_\_\_ Saturday steak dinner(s) @ \$10.00 / person: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Saturday chicken dinner(s) @ \$10.00 / person: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Sunday breakfast(s) @ \$5.00 / person: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out this sign up sheet (or a copy) and get it to Barbara before Friday, June 19. Deliver it by hand at the next club meeting or mail it with your check (payable to SCCARA) to:

Barbara Britten, KD6QEI  
585 S 14<sup>th</sup> ST  
San Jose CA 95112

# S.C.C.A.R.A. Membership Form for 1998

(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

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Packet: \_\_\_\_\_

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.

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/Auto-Patch codes (no charge, circle): ..... Yes

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

Affiliate of the American Radio Relay League

NONPROFIT ORG. US POSTAGE PAID SAN JOSE CA PERMIT NO 3318
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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**TIME DATED BULLETIN**