

# SCCARA-GRAM



## Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 14, Number 11

November 1998



## Lets get Pacificon back in Silicon Valley

By Lloyd DeVaughns, KD6FJI

For the last several years Pacificon has been held in Concord. I have no objection against having it there, but it seems that it will be there forever unless another Ham club(s) want to take it over.

The 1997 Southwest Division Convention, which was held Riverside, CA was sponsored by the Inland Empire Council of Amateur Radio Organizations (IECARO). This council consists of 14 Amateur Radio Clubs. There are 6 Amateur Radio Councils in the Southwestern Division. These councils cover various areas of southern California and Arizona. Each year the Southwest Division convention rotates between these areas. In 1997 it was held in Arizona and the year before that it was held on the Queen Mary Liner which is docked in Long Beach Harbor. In 1998 it was held in San Diego.

It seems to me that Southern California believes that their convention should be a cooperative effort among the various clubs within any given area. I suggest that some kind of similar organizational structure be formed within the bay area and hopefully throughout the various regions of the Pacific Division.

The Southwest Convention Program states that the Inland Empire Council of Amateur Radio Organizations (IECARO) was born when the founders "saw a strong need to assemble a unified voice within the Inland Empire ham radio community to address issues common to the entire amateur radio fraternity."

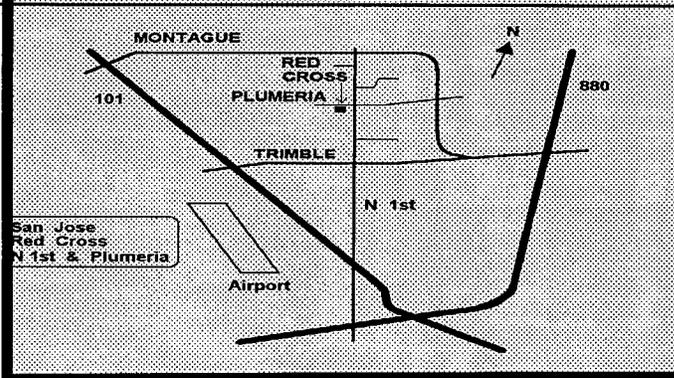
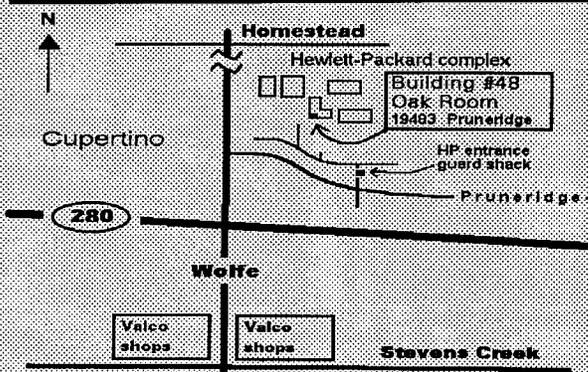
One reason that I am proposing some kind of

## Calendar

- 11/9 SCCARA General Meeting--elections
- 11/16 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)
- 12/12 SCCARA General Meeting--Luncheon!

### Next General Meeting:

Day: Monday, Nov. 9, 1998  
Time: 7:30 PM  
Place: Hewlett-Packard's Oak Rm. Bld #48  
Featuring: Dr. Burt Richter (head of SLAC) and Hugh Butler (helped build original accelerator) will speak.



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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.

#### OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

President	Jack Ruckman, AC6FU	379-4846
Vice President	Barbara Britten, KD6QEI	293-3847
Secretary		
Treasurer	Lloyd DeVaughns, KD6FJI	225-6769
Station Trustee	Stan Getsla, WA6VJY	275-0735
Director	Clark Murphy, KE6KXO	262-9334
Director	Don Apte, KK6MX	629-0725
Director	Don Village, K6PBQ	263-2789
Director	Lou Steirer, WA6QYS	241-7999
Director	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	293-3847

#### STAFF

Editor	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	265-2336
Facilities	Don Village, K6PBQ	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 K6PBQ.

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

"council" is to make Pacifcon more representative of the amateur radio community. There are a lot of hams who would like to get involved in the production of Pacifcon but are unable to do so for various reasons. One reason would be that the club they belong to is small, or there are not very many people in a single large club who would be willing to put forth the effort and therefore it would be impossible to do.

If such an organization is ever formed, it would seem to me that Pacifcon will not be its only objective. There are many issues concerning amateur radio that there should be a united front to address same. The amateur radio community is becoming smaller and I, for one, think that a united effort is the way to go.

I am proposing the formation of one such organization for the Santa Clara Valley area. It should be noted that if each region within the Pacific Division had such an organization, it could mean that Pacifcon could be held in different areas. This means anywhere in Northern California and Nevada. I am sure that there are Hams that would like to attend a convention in Reno or Las Vegas.

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## December Meeting

Our annual Christmas meeting this year will be a luncheon instead of a dinner. It will be held on Saturday December 12 at the Hungry Hunter in Milpitas, Calaveras Blvd, near Hwy 680, (old yellow house location). Lunch is at 12 noon. Please note that on Saturday their isn't a regular bar, but you will be able to order a bottle of wine for the table.

Reservations need to be in by Friday Dec. 4 (see inside of back cover for sign up sheet). Talk-in will be on our repeater, W6UU, 146.385(+). Why not renew your membership at the same time (back cover)?

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you there!

73, Don K6PBQ

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## Thank You

Thanks to:

1) Gwen & Lou Steirer for purchasing the lasagna and delivering it to those individuals to cook for the October lasagna dinners, and all of their help at the dinner.

2) Don Village for his help in organizing the lasagna dinner and helping before, during, and after the dinner. Also for helping to get our square dancers there for the

entertainment.

3) Mike & Joan Hastings for cooking the lasagna before the dinner.

4) Margaret Ruckman (Jack's wife) for help before and during the dinner.

Our dinner was a success because of all of your efforts. Thanks so much.

Barbara Britten, V.P.



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## Meeting Minutes

### General Meeting, Oct. 12, 1998



{No minutes were not received by the deadline. -Ed.}

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### Board Meeting, Oct. 19, 1998



{No minutes were not received by the deadline. -Ed.}

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### General Meeting, Sept. 14, 1998



7:43 p.m. meeting called to order by President Jack, AC6FU. Self introductions followed as is our custom.

Our speaker is Tom Tritch, KC6BJO, with Kaiser Medical Center Santa Teresa. His talk is about amateur radio communications at the hospital and emergency nets that exit within the Kaiser Hospital system.

Wally, KA6YMD: there is no news concerning the repeater move from the city.

Barbara, KD6QEI said the next meeting will be a dinner meeting at the United Way Building on The Alameda in San Jose. There will be entertainment. The November meeting is our election meeting. Trish Gibbon, WA6UBE, will be our January speaker.

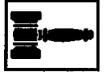
There was a discussion about getting the badge making

system back in operation.

9:06 p.m. meeting adjourned.

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### Board Meeting, Sept. 21, 1998



7:43 p.m. Meeting called to order by Vice President Barbara, KE6QEI.

Present: Don, KO6HH; Bob, N6PCQ; Barbara, KE6QEI; Lou, WA6QYS; Wally, KA6YMD; Gary, WB6YRU; Lloyd, KD6FJI; Don, K6PBQ; Clark, KE6KXO; Don, KK6MX.

Gary, WB6YRU, gave a report on BBS work done at Alexian Brothers Hospital.

Barbara, KE6QEI, reported that the October Dinner meeting will be held at the United Way Building on The Alameda and will consist of lasagna, salad, and cake.

Trailer update: The trailer was moved to away from Clark's house to make it easy to work on. Barbara made inquiries about sites to park the trailer. There was a discussion about selling the trailer.

Motion by Wally, KA6YMD, that we authorize Clark to solicit offers to buy the trailer because the trailer may not be suitable for our needs. Seconded and passed.

The December meeting will be a luncheon meeting. Dec 12 at the Hungry Hunter in Milpitas.

There was a discussion about the upcoming election of officers.

January Meeting speaker will be Trish, WA6UBE, and she will speak about NVIS.

Badge machine: It does not appear that we will get the badge maker.

Repeater report: According to Wally, KA6YMD, the antenna crew will be putting up the antenna sometime soon.

Don, K6PBQ, led a discussion about the dues structure. The issue is should we raise the dues.

Motion by Wally that Don, K6PBQ, reserve the Mount Madonna Field day site. Second and passed.

9:40 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Lloyd KD6FJI, recording

# Pacificon '98 Report

Reservations were made early this year to attend Pacificon '98 at its new, bigger location, The Airport Sheraton Hotel, in Concord, CA. Wally and I had checked things out at the close of last years convention before returning to San Jose.

We had made our reservations for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights. Going up on Thursday meant Wally and I would have more time with each other, and more time to enjoy the convention. I was anticipating this time, as I have been working seven days a week since early September. I needed this time off.

The packing for this trip did not get done until Thursday morning, then a nap, then finish packing, eat dinner, and take off after the maddening crowd had gone their merry ways. We got to the hotel and checked in about 11 P.M. The hotel gave us an uncharged upgrade to the Presidential floor, because there was a mix-up in our reservations. Once in the room, I unpacked the basics, took a shower, and hit the sheets. By the time we got to bed, it was 2 A.M. No alarm clock, as we had no early morning appointments! (Yes!) The hotel had given us coupons for breakfast in the Atrium restaurant.

We woke up about 9:30 A.M., dressed and headed for breakfast. The coffee pot in the room made getting up a little easier. I had brought a coffee pot, instant coffee, creamer, and cups. Next year I won't bring ours, since this is one of the amenities they provide. The coupons were nice, as it reduced the overall out-of-pocket expenses for the weekend.

After breakfast, and checking in at the convention registration desk, we did some walking. We did the walking so not to lose the prime parking spot we had. My mistake was, that I had chosen the wrong shoes to bring for the convention. By the time we got back from Circuit City, I had two blisters on my left foot. This memory will also change my packing plans for next year. Fashion will go by the wayside in favor of total comfort. I am still nursing these blisters. When we got back, I took a nap and put my sore feet up, while Wally went to the bank via the hotel courtesy car. For dinner that night, we went across the street the Peppermill Restaurant. After dinner, we took a shower and turned in early, as things started early on Saturday.

Saturday was busy. The first thing was the flea market. I had brought the raffle money with me, and spent almost all of it getting raffle prizes for the November meeting. After the flea market, we went to the forums. Wally and I did not attend the same ones, as our interests are different. I used a mini tape recorder to get the lectures, so I could listen to them later and get the holes in my notes filled in. The forum rooms were nice, but to me they were COLD! Next year, I'm wearing big, comfy, warm, sweaters. The Saturday banquet was nice, even though it was held in a hangar instead of the ballroom. The hotel had double booked the hotel. At the same time as our banquet, there were two weddings planned. One was held in the Atrium area, the other in "our"

ballroom. The meal was buffet style. The food was good. By the end of the evening, I was freezing, again. Gordon West was this years speaker for the banquet. His demonstration, included a "smoking pickle." Brad Wyatt pulled the tickets for the raffle prizes. My ticket was among the winners. I won Gordon West's book, "Extra Class Licensing." Is this an omen, or a goal? We'll see! First I have to pass the code part. I want to do that by next Pacificon. All I need to do is work with the materials I have. The next thing I need is time. (Yeah, right!) I think extra time has been deleted from my computer.

After the banquet, Wally and I went to the pool and hot tub, to warm up. Ah, nice! Another quick shower, and bed.

Sunday, we were up early again, as we wanted to dress, eat, pack, and be ready to check out before the forums began. Of all the forums for the weekend, the best ones, for me were: (1) Restructuring of the ARRL, with Rod Stafford, Brad Wyatt, and Jim Maxwell; (2) How To Understand The Current Solar Cycle; and (3) "Eventing" by Rick Lagerstrom.

I talked with two speakers (David Morrell of NOAA and Rick Lagerstrom) who have agreed to give their talks to the club. David Morrell and Robert Benjamin, of NOAA want to come to our group to try to get more weather spotters. I told Mr. Morrell of my difficulties with one of his colleagues, Mr. Kearns, and broken appointments. Mr. Morrell said he would be willing to come to our meeting, and talk to us. I will pass this info on to the next Vice President.

Before leaving Concord, we stopped at Fudrucker's for our obligatory hamburger. Wonderful, wonderful! It was a nice weekend. And nicer upon reaching home, as I did not have to work Sunday night. We visited the vendors on Sunday before we left. Wally surprised my when we got home with a new Yaesu VX-1 dual band radio. I can't believe how much technology they have put into such a small package. This little radio will fit very nicely into my purse. Now all I have to do is learn to program it. I hope I don't wipe this one out as easily and often as I have the Alinco radio.

It was nice to see so many of our club members at Pacificon. Hope to see you all again, next year.

73, Barbara K. Britten, KD6QEI

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## Heard on TAPR's NETSIG Remailer

From: Dewayne Hendricks <dewayne@warpspeed.com>  
To: netsig@tapr.org

COMPLIANCE AND INFORMATION ACTION  
September 25, 1998  
Report No. CI 98-17

## FCC ANNOUNCES SHIFT IN AMATEUR RADIO ENFORCEMENT FUNCTIONS

The Federal Communications Commission announced today a change in the handling of enforcement actions concerning the Amateur Radio Service. By internal arrangement between the FCC's Compliance and Information Bureau (CIB) and the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB), as of September 1, 1998, all investigation, evaluation and processing of radio amateur related enforcement matters have been transferred to the CIB.

The main objective of this change is to facilitate the Commission's pursuit of compliance in the amateur services especially with regard to resolution of interference complaints.

The CIB staff now handles amateur radio enforcement matters from initiation to resolution, including, as appropriate, complaints, amateur testing issues, warnings, monetary penalties, revocation hearings or, in extreme cases, equipment seizure and prosecution through the Department of Justice. WTB continues to handle all processing and licensing matters including new applications and licensing renewal matters. WTB continues to handle all policy and rule making matters related to amateur radio.

All amateur enforcement questions and complaints should be sent to:

Compliance and Information Bureau  
Compliance Division  
Attention: Amateur Complaints  
1919 M Street, Mail Stop 1500E1  
Washington DC 20554

Calls should be directed to (202) 418-1184.

News Media contacts: Meribeth McCarrick or David Fiske at (202) 418-0500

Compliance and Information Bureau contact: Riley Hollingsworth at (717) 338-2502

- FCC -

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## From the ARRL

*The ARRL Letter*  
October 2, 1998

### FCC RENEWS AMATEUR ENFORCEMENT EMPHASIS

Things may be changing for the better on the Amateur Radio enforcement front. The FCC announced this week that all Amateur Radio-related enforcement investigation, evaluation,

and processing has been transferred to the Compliance and Information Bureau. The change, effective September 1 but not announced until more than three weeks later, was made "by internal arrangement" between the CIB and the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. The Wireless Bureau handles amateur licensing and, for the past several years, has coordinated enforcement with the CIB.

The FCC said the main objective of the change was to "facilitate the Commission's pursuit of compliance," especially in the area of resolving interference complaints, a hot-button issue within the amateur community.

"Amateur enforcement should have gotten more direct attention over the last few years," conceded Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, the CIB's legal advisor for enforcement. "A lot of people think the FCC doesn't care."

Hollingsworth will be the FCC's point man in handling the complaints. He says FCC Chairman William Kennard "wants greater respect with respect to enforcement" at the FCC. Putting enforcement in the CIB's hands should mean "a much faster, more effective response," he said.

ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, says he's "cautiously optimistic" that the change will improve the dismal amateur enforcement situation. "Now, CIB doesn't have to just gather evidence and forward it to another bureau," Imlay said. "It can act on it when it is ready. That's a good situation compared to where we were."

The FCC's public notice said the CIB staff now handles Amateur Radio enforcement matters "from initiation to resolution." That includes complaints, amateur testing issues, warnings, monetary penalties, revocation hearings, and "in extreme cases" equipment seizure and prosecution through the Department of Justice.

The Wireless Bureau continues to handle Amateur Radio licensing, including new applications and renewals, as well as all Amateur Radio policy and rulemaking matters. The change is expected to have no impact on the Amateur Auxiliary. Hollingsworth said the change could, in fact, mean that the FCC will work more closely and more effectively with amateur volunteers in dealing with enforcement issues.

Under the new arrangement, all amateur enforcement questions and complaints should be directed to the Compliance and Information Bureau, Compliance Division, Attention: Amateur Complaints, 1919 M St, Mail Stop 1500E1, Washington, DC 20554.

The FCC also has instituted an "Amateur Enforcement Line" at 202-418-1184. The automated system prompts callers to leave a name, a number, and a brief message. The CIB will return the call within the next business day.

### SPECTRUM PROTECTION BILL TREADING WATER AS

## CONGRESS TRIES TO ADJOURN

It appears certain that action in Congress on HR 3572--better known as the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 1998--will be postponed at least until next year, when a new Congress will be in place. Even so, the ARRL and League members have continued to press for consideration of the measure during the current session. The bill--sponsored by Rep Michael Bilirakis of Florida--has garnered 74 cosponsors.

The projected early October adjournment date for the 105th Congress has become a moving target as the House attempted to juggle its efforts to complete the major appropriations bills, wade through the charges and countercharges in the ongoing investigation of the President, and find time for some politicking before the November elections.

New additions to the list of cosponsors for HR 3572 include Representatives Neil Abercrombie of Hawaii, Carolyn Kilpatrick of Michigan, Carolyn McCarthy of New York, Sam Farr of California, Owen Pickett of Virginia, Charles Stenhold and Gene Green of Texas, and Rod Blagojevich of Illinois.

For a full review of the bill along with a sample letter to Congress, see "DC Currents," QST, June 1998.--Steve Mansfield, N1MZA

## FCC'S NESS: ENSURE ADEQUATE SPECTRUM FOR AMATEURS

FCC Commissioner Susan Ness recently gave amateurs some cause for optimism. In remarks prepared for delivery September at the Personal Communications Industry Association of America's PCS '98 in Orlando, Florida, Ness promoted the notion that some spectrum should be kept off the auction block. The value to the public of certain spectrum uses "does not always translate into pure economic terms," Ness declared.

"For example, we need to ensure that adequate spectrum is available for public safety purposes, for unlicensed--that is, Part 15--uses, for the Amateur Service, and for experimental and scientific purposes," Ness said. "None of these needs would be met if auctions displaced judgment in the spectrum allocation process."

Addressing the topic "Blueprint for Spectrum Management," Ness said auctions work well but are not a substitute for the allocation process. The FCC, she said, must not back away from its fundamental duty to allocate "in accordance with the public interest."

The complete text of Commissioner Ness's remarks are available on the FCC Web site at <http://www.fcc.gov/Speeches/Ness/spsn815.html>.

## GAMMA RAY BURST BRIEFLY AFFECTS PROPAGATION

Insomniac hams in the Western US might have witnessed the effects of a startling cosmic event in the wee hours of August 27. And those hams' logbooks may hold information scientists want.

For five minutes, starting at 1022 UTC on August 27, HF propagation changed dramatically for the Western US and Pacific area. "It was as if night was briefly turned into day in the ionosphere," said Stanford professor Umran Inan, leader of a research group that observed the event. That means that your 40 or 80-meter DX QSO may have suddenly faded away, and, for a short time, you could have worked DX on 20 or 15 meters, or maybe even higher frequencies, in the middle of the night.

On HF, Inan said the MUF should have risen to daytime levels for about five minutes. Inan said he'd very much like to hear if any hams noticed the effect.

The cause was a tremendous burst of gamma-rays and X-rays coming from a newly-discovered star type some 15,000 light-years away. The burst of radiation from the distant star was powerful enough to boost the level of ionization in Earth's upper atmosphere from nighttime to daytime levels, according to the Stanford research group.

This was the first time that such a change in Earth's environment has been attributed to an event so far away. The star that emitted the burst is a magnetar, a super dense neutron star with the most powerful magnetic field ever found in the universe, a magnetic field strong enough to rip atoms apart.

The gamma and X-ray burst "lit up" Earth's ionosphere. Along with the burst a cloud of subatomic particles spewed from the star's surface at nearly the speed of light. Those particles spiraled around the magnetic field lines and emitted microwaves.

At the National Science Foundation's Very Large Array (VLA) radio telescope in New Mexico, astronomer Dale Frail, working with Caltech researchers Shri Kulkarni and Josh Bloom, detected the microwaves emitted by this cloud of particles at frequencies ranging from 1.4 to 8.4 GHz, and made a "movie" of the cloud as its radio emission brightened, then faded away.

The radiation burst affected the ionosphere over the Western US, but the Eastern part of the country was in shadow, so hams in the East would not have experienced the strange propagation effects. For more information, see the National Radio Astronomy Observatory's Web site at <http://www.nrao.edu/pr/magnetar.html>. --Dave Finley, N1IRZ

# Floating around the Internet...

## Insane looking problems

For the scientists & engineers among us who understand that the obvious is not always the solution, and that the facts, no matter how implausible, are still the facts ...

This complaint was received by a major car manufacturer:

"This is the second time I have written you, and I don't blame you for not answering me, because I kind of sounded crazy, but it is a fact that we have a tradition in our family of ice cream for dessert after dinner each night. But the kind of ice cream varies so, every night, after we've eaten, the whole family votes on which kind of ice cream we should have and I drive down to the store to get it. It's also a fact that I recently purchased a new car and since then my trips to the store have created a problem. You see, every time I buy vanilla ice cream, when I start back from the store my car won't start. If I get any other kind of ice cream, the car starts just fine. I want you to know I'm serious about this question, no matter how silly it sounds: 'What is there about your car that makes it not start when I get vanilla ice cream, and easy to start whenever I get any other kind?'"

The President of the car company was understandably skeptical about the letter, but sent an engineer to check it out anyway.

He had arranged to meet the man just after dinner time, so the two hopped into the car and drove to the ice cream store. It was vanilla ice cream that night and, sure enough, after they came back to the car, it wouldn't start.

The engineer returned for three more nights. The first night, the man got chocolate. The car started. The second night, he got strawberry. The car started. The third night he ordered vanilla. The car failed to start.

Now the engineer, being a logical man, refused to believe that this man's car was allergic to vanilla ice cream. He arranged, therefore, to continue his visits for as long as it took to solve the problem. And toward this end he began to take notes: he jotted down all sorts of data, time of day, type of gas used, time to drive back and forth, etc.

In a short time, he had a clue: the man took less time to buy vanilla than any other flavor. Why? The answer was in the layout of the store.

Vanilla, being the most popular flavor, was in a separate case at the front of the store for quick pickup. All the other flavors were kept in the back of the store at a different counter where it took considerably longer to find

the flavor and get checked out.

Now the question for the engineer was why the car wouldn't start when it took less time. Once time became the problem -- not the vanilla ice cream -- the engineer quickly came up with the answer: vapor lock. It was happening every night, but the extra time taken to get the other flavors allowed the engine to cool down sufficiently to start. When the man got vanilla, the engine was still too hot for the vapor lock to dissipate.

Moral of the story: even insane looking problems are sometimes real.

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## Hell Freezing Over?

A true story: a thermodynamics professor wrote a take-home exam for his graduate students. It had one question.

"Is hell exothermic or endothermic? Support your answer with a proof."

Most of the students wrote proofs of their beliefs using Boyle's Law or some variant. One student, however wrote the following:

First, we postulate that if souls exist, then they must have some mass. If they do, then a mole of souls can also have a mass. So, at what rate are souls moving into hell and at what rate are souls leaving? I think that we can safely assume that once a soul gets to hell, it will not leave. Therefore, no souls are leaving. As for souls entering hell, let us look at the different religions that exist in the world today.

Some of these religions state that if you are not a member of their religion, you will go to hell. Since there are more than one of these religions and people do not belong to more than one religion, we can project that all people and all souls go to hell. With birth and death rates as they are, we can expect the number of souls in hell to increase exponentially.

Now, we need to look at the rate of change in volume in hell. Boyle's Law states that in order for the temperature and pressure in hell to stay the same, the ratio of the mass of souls and volume needs to stay constant. So if hell is expanding at a slower rate than the rate at which souls enter hell, then the temperature and pressure in hell will increase until all hell breaks loose. Of course, on the other hand, if hell is expanding at a rate faster than the increase of souls in hell, the temperature and pressure will drop until hell freezes over.

It was not revealed what grade the student got.

# Packet Pieces

Date: 13 Sep 94 07:08  
From: KA1VMQ@WA1PHY  
To: HUMOR@USA

Subject: The queen and her horses

**Downloaded from the packet network:**

=====  
Date: 19 Mar 94 22:21  
From: KC4NLN@KF4OJ  
To: HUMOR@USA  
Subject: OBSERVATIONS  
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## OBSERVATIONS...

"OLD" and "WISE" are not the same,  
Though this is what we're often told  
It takes real living to grow wise...  
Just keep on breathing to grow old.

## ALAS

Tho I've taken my legal deductions  
(my tax-form acumen's transcendent)  
There doesn't exist  
Any place I can list  
The Gov't as a dependent

## SELF-DESTRUCT

There was an old man of Blackheath  
Who sat on his set of false teeth.  
He cried with a start  
Oh, Lord bless my heart!  
I've bitten myself underneath!

## CLASS

Said an envious, erudite ermine;  
There's one thing I cannot determine:  
When a dame wears my coat,  
She's a person of note;  
When I wear it, I'm called only vermin!"

## PLANE BARRIER

A scientist living in Maine  
Is searching, perhaps all in vain,  
For a new type of sound  
Which he hopes when it's found  
Will out-do the speed of a plane.

As it was written in Radio Scan Magazine  
From the Happy Club, 73 de Victor,  
KC4NLN @ KF4OJ.#ARCFL.FL.USA.NOAM

-----  
This humorous tidbit from the Boston Sunday Globe as follows:

And finally the story of the monarch and the horse.

This tale comes from the Guinness Book of Humorous Anecdotes published at the end of the week and recounts how the queen welcomed Gen. Yakubu Gowon, who seized control of Nigeria in 1966, on his arrival at Victoria Station on a state visit.

No sooner had the queen and her visitor seated themselves in a royal coach for the short drive to Buckingham Palace when one of the horses lifted its tail and broke wind.

"Oh, I do apologize," the queen said to the general.  
"Not a very good start to your visit.

"Oh, please don't apologize," the general replied.  
"Besides I thought it was one of the horses."

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## Newsletter Notes

Don't forget we have officer elections at the November meeting. So far it looks like most of the positions have at least one person running. We've been without a secretary for most of the year and that position still has no candidates. State law for non-profit's requires we have at least a president, treasurer, and secretary; furthermore, no two of these may be held by the same person. If we can't get at least these positions filled, then as president Jack AC6FU pointed out, we'll have to face the prospect of closing the club down. We don't want that, right?

Personally, I find it surprising that more members aren't interest enough in the club to participate. It's been a while since we've had a *real* election (i.e. more than one candidate for each position). A club can't survive with just a very few doing everything. Aside from any other consideration, those few hard-workers will eventually burn out. It's important to spread the work around.

The secretary position only requires moderate familiarity with computers and reasonable attention to details...common traits among amateurs!

Since the last secretary resigned early in the year, nobody has stepped forward to fill the position. We still don't have a 1999 candidate--this isn't good, folks.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

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# December Luncheon Meeting Sign-up

Our annual December christmas meeting will be a luncheon this time; on Saturday December 12, at the Hungry Hunter in Milpitas, Calaveras Blvd just east of Hwy 680 (old yellow house location), we've been there before. Luncheon is at 12 noon. Please note that on Saturday their isn't a regular bar. You will be able to order a bottle of wine for the table.

We will have a choice of three entrees. The regular lunch is \$13 each, children's choices are indicated below. Reservations need to be in by Friday, December 4. Talk-in on our repeater W6UU, 146.385(+). I'm looking forward to seeing all of you there. Why not renew your membership (back cover) at the same time? -- Don K6PBQ

For the annual meeting in December, sign me up for the following lunch(es):  
From the regular menu, \$13 each:

_____ Prime Ribs of Beef	_____ Chicken Westwood
_____ Grilled Sword Fish	

From the Children's menu:

_____ Deli Burger, \$7.50	_____ Chicken Strips, \$7.50
_____ Fried Shrimp, \$8.75	Total for lunches: \$ _____

Please renew your membership (over) at the same time--combine both payments here -- GRAND TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Give this form (or copy) with payment to the Treasurer or mail to: SCCARA PO Box 6 San Jose CA 95103-0006

## 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@aenet.net

# S.C.C.A.R.A. Membership Form for 1999

(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**