

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 17, Number 9

September 2001



President's Prose

Some of you may have heard that I am going to have surgery. This is true. I will not have anything done until after January, as I have to go through several tests before the doctors can decide what type of surgery will be done and how long the recovery period will be afterwards. Thank you all for your concerns. More on this later.

I have talked with Tom Tritch at Kaiser Santa Teresa about holding licensing classes at Kaiser Santa Clara after January 1, 2002. He said that there should be no problem. He has several of his employees that wish the class and will be happy to provide the space for SCCARA instructors to hold the classes. He wants us to let him know as soon as possible when we plan to hold the classes as the calendar for next year is being prepared now. I told him I would know something within the next month.

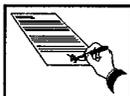
Wednesday I went over to Regional Medical Center to talk with Douglas Carnecke, Maintenance and Plant Operations Supervisor about having a meeting with them to discuss the placement of cables for the radio station. He asked for us to wait until after October 1, as the hospital is preparing for an inspection of the hospital by the JCHA (Joint Commission on Hospital Accreditation). I agreed to wait until October 1.

I am working on the names that we are going to use for the drawing of names for the purpose of asking members to write articles on technical items for the newsletter. This WILL BE done at the next meeting.

The next newsletter will include an interview of our three new members that were at the last meeting. I will be calling them next week to ask them how they became interested in ham radio, why they became an operator, are they working on any special projects or goals, and why they were interested in joining our club.

Hope to hear many of you on the Monday night net, Please check in for news updates on club activities. Thanks.

Barbara K. Britten, KD6QEI

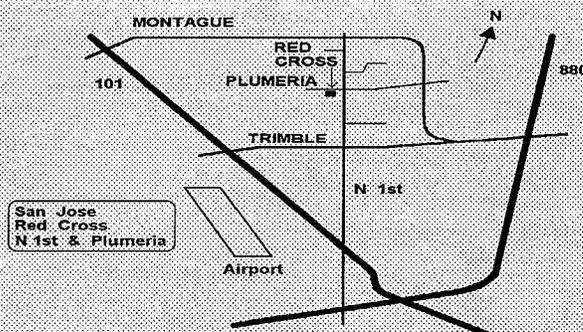
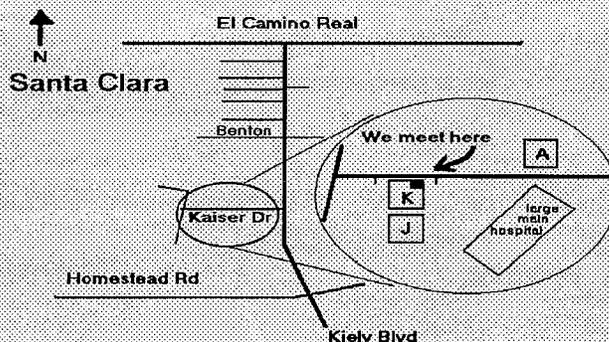


Calendar

- 9/8 Foothill Flea Market
- 9/10 SCCARA General Meeting
- 9/17 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)
- 9/29 SCCARA Picnic

General Meeting:

- Day: Monday, Sept. 10, 2001
- Time: 7:30 PM
- Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Bld K, Rm 1
- Featuring: Dick Kors, KM6EP: Amateur radio used as telemetry in model rocketry.



Picnic

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. **The deadline for articles is one week before the last Monday of the month.**

SCCARA was formed 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. Web page: <http://www.qsl.net/sccara>.

OFFICERS - DIRECTORS - STAFF

President	Barbara Britten, KD6QEI	293-3847
	e-mail: ka6ymd@juno.com	
Vice President	- - -	
Secretary	- - -	
Treasurer	Lloyd DeVaughns, KD6FJI	225-6769
	e-mail: ldevaughns@aol.com	
Station Trustee	Stan Getsla, WA6VJY	275-0735
	e-mail: wa6vjy@juno.com	
Director	Clark Murphy, KE6KXO	262-9334
	e-mail: clarkmurph@yahoo.com	
Director	Don Apte, KK6MX	629-0725
	e-mail: aptekk@aol.com	
Director	Don Village, K6PBQ	263-2789
Director	Lou Steirer, WA6QYS	241-7999
	e-mail: wa6qys@aol.com	
Director	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	293-3847
	e-mail: ka6ymd@juno.com	
Editor	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	265-2336
	e-mail: wb6yru@aen.net	

COMMITTEES

Repeater	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	293-3847
	e-mail: ka6ymd@juno.com	
NOARY BBS	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	265-2336
	e-mail: wb6yru@aen.net	

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 auto-dial and auto-patch is available. The two meter repeater is located at the Santa Teresa Hospital, south-west San Jose (near IBM). The 70 cm repeater and NOARY BBS is located at the Regional Medical Center (formerly Alexian), east of downtown San Jose (north of 280 and 101).

SCCARA NETS

On our two meter repeater: Mondays at 7:30 PM, (not the second monday--our meeting night). Coordinator: Don K6PBQ. On ten meters, 28.385 MHz USB, Thursdays at 8:00 PM. Net control: Wally KA6YMD. Visitors welcome.

NOARY PACKET BBS

SCCARA hosts the packet BBS NOARY (San Jose). User ports: 144.93 (1200 baud), 433.37 (9600 baud), telephone 408 259-8497, internet (by registration only, get info by sending e-mail to: info@noary.org). Sysop: Gary WB6YRU

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

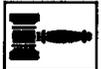
SCCARA contact Clark KE6KXO:	408 262-9334
ARRL/VEC Silicon Valley VE group:	408 243-8349
me-a6bz@worldnet.att.net	

The SCCARA picnic this year will be Sunday September 29, 10 AM until 4 PM or so, at Mary Gomez Park in Santa Clara. (Located at the north-west corner of San Tomas express way and Forbes. Enter from the west side--go west on Forbes, north on Bucher, then turn right into the small parking lot.)

The club will provide sodas, plates & utensils, condiments, and charcoal. Please bring your own meat and a dish to share.

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, Aug. 13, 2001



Meeting began at 7:40 PM

The speaker started first. He was Andreas Junger, N6NU, President of The Palo Alto Club. He spoke on Pic Programming. If you want more information on this subject, contact his web site, www.microchip.com.

Introductions: 19 present with three new members. They were: Willie Maqinalez, KG6HJE, first timer; Mark Hardy, KG6GRR, first timer; Howard Krawetz, N6HM, returning member.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer: Savings account has \$7,839.61; Checking account has \$1,141.43.

PRESIDENT: She is expecting surgery soon and will have the time to help Wally get the cables installed at Regional Medical Center. Wally has to take time off from work, as he has to take time off or lose the time. He will be able to take time off without losing vacation or sick leave.

REPEATER CHAIRMAN: Wally needs to contact Tom Trich at Kaiser Santa Teresa, regarding the hanging of the vault for the repeater. Don Apte, reports that he hears much noise on output of repeater from IBM. It's an environmental problem we can't control. We still have bad reception at Kaiser Santa Teresa.

SCCARA-GRAM: No one is reading the SCCARA-GRAM. Need more articles for the SCCARA-GRAM, from SCCARA member about SCCARA members and events. The information helps keep the members who can't attend the meetings or events, still feel connected to the club.

BBS: NOARY is the main BBS on the West Coast. The BBS parts inside failed a few weeks ago. The main disc drive has a spin up problem and makes it difficult to reboot. Gary got a Sun spark station at the flea market. He has installed it. The disc drive can be made to spin up, but it is not reliable. UPS is back on line, but not powering up anything.

Gary has ordered a new disc drive. Dial in line answers right away. If it doesn't pick up on the first ring, then it's not there, and won't work at all.

OLD BUSINESS

PICNIC: It is set for Saturday, September 29 (5th weekend), from 10:00 AM to some time in the afternoon, at Mary Gomez Park. The club provides: Soda, charcoal, plates, and plastic ware, and condiments. Everyone brings their own meat and a dish to share. Barbara will call Lou Steirer and ask him to bring ice to the picnic.

NEW BUSINESS:

Don Apte reported on his vacation. He spent part of his vacation time at the ARRL headquarters in Newington, Connecticut. Someone let him into the building after hours. He talked about his visit, i.e., tour with certificate for visitation, the radios and antennas, test lab with test equipment, and several museums. He talked to three people in the building. He was not able to transmit due to code practice being done in the building. Don took photos. If the pictures come out, he will send them to Gary for the SCCARA-GRAM.

NO COFFEE AT THE MEETINGS: There has been no coffee at this new site. A discussion ensued about having coffee at the meetings. It was decided that no coffee should be provided. If people want beverages they can choose from the selection in the vending machine outside the building.

SEPTEMBER SPEAKER: Dick Kors. He will talk on Telemetry, Amateur Rocketry, and Amateur Radio.

NEW BUSINESS

VISITORS: There were three visitors at the meeting. They were: N6HM, Howard Krawetz; KG6HJE, Willie Marguez; and KG6GRR, Mark. Howard had returned to SCCARA after a long absence. Willie is a volunteer with the American Red Cross of Santa Clara County, working mainly in the Gilroy/Morgan Hill Area. Mark has been a ham for only two and a half months. There will be interviews on one of these gentlemen in the SCCARA-GRAM.

HAM RADIO CLASSES: We are going to have amateur radio classes at Kaiser Santa Clara after Jan 1, 2002. It requires about six people. Don Hayden, KO6HH, has agreed to coordinate the classes. He needs coordinators to speak at the classes. The classes should be divided into technical and code aspects. He needs instructors. If you know of any, please have them call Don Hayden at 408 867-4643. Jim O'Keefe, has been ill, and may not be available. We need a vigorous advertising campaign before the class to acquire students. Barbara will check with Tom Trich on the availability of the Santa Clara site for classes. Mike Hastings has agreed to be an instructor for the classes.

440 RADIO REPAIRS. Mike Hastings reports that the radio was sent to the factory for repairs. He has not received

an estimate of repairs yet.

MOFFETT FLY-IN: Several of our club members were at the Moffett Fly-in. However, they did not do any radio work for the event. They were at a Blue Angles booth selling Tee shirts, planes and other related souvenirs. Those present were: Mike Hastings, KB6LCJ; Joan Hastings, KB6LFZ; El Wirt, K6ZYY; and John Kerner, KB6RSB.

SCCARA ARCHIVES: Don Hayden made the club aware of a request from Jim Maxwell, for some of SCCARA's old equipment. Particularly the transmitter built for Clare, a then member of the ARRL Board. Don Hayden will take Jim Maxwell to the locker if the Board agrees to Jim Maxwell's request.

Motion to adjourn by Wally Britten, seconded by Clark Murphy. Adjourned @ 9:45 PM.

Barbara KD6QEI

Board Meeting, Aug. 20, 2001



Start Time: 8:00 PM Members present; Gary Mitchell WB6YRU; Wally Britten KA6YMD; Don Apte, KK6MX; Don Village, K6PBQ; Lou Steirer, WA6QYS; Clark Murphy, WE6KXO; and Barbara Britten KD6QEI. Absent: Lloyd DeVaughns, KD6FJI.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

President: Barbara has not talked to Tom Trich, Engineer at Kaiser Santa Teresa yet. She has an appointment at that hospital on Thursday and will talk to him then about being able to hold the radio classes at Kaiser Santa Clara in January, 2002. She will interface with Doug Garnecke, Plant Engineer at Regional Medical Center, on 8/22/01, regarding cable installation for our radio station at that hospital.

Repeater: There are no changes. 440 repeater is down at Regional Medical Center. It may be unplugged by Gary when working on the packet BBS. Wally or Gary will go to the hospital to check it, ASAP.

SCCARA-GRAM: Gary posed a question to the Board: If you couldn't attend the regular meetings, what would you like to see printed in the newsletter?

Answer: More pictures of the club in action, picture of the speaker and what is being demonstrated, minutes of the meeting and Board meetings, articles from members on technical information related to amateur radio, interviews of some of the members, especially new members, so that we could get to know them better. Barbara is going pull three names each month at the meeting, then call them and ask them to write an article for the newsletter.

E-Mail from Sam Teresi, W6EOA, sent an e-mail regarding

last month's article, "The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly". He found it offensive. Gary reported that he put the article because of its size, for fill space, without considering its content. Gary did not feel it was offensive.

Barbara is going to call the three visitors, who filled out membership applications and handed them in, for a phone interview. She is going to contact other members and ask them to write a small article or note on things they have done in amateur radio.

NEW E-MAIL ADDRESSES:

Don Apte aptekk@aol.com
Clark Murphy clarkmurph@yahoo.com

OLD BUSINESS:

Don Village got prices for extension cords needed for Field Day. McMaster 100ft 10x3 @ \$97.04, Grainger 100ft 10x3 @ \$157.77. Battery Chargers: Kragen Deep Cycle \$49.99 with jump start mode. No listing for chargers at McMaster or Grainger. It is felt we need three new extension cords.

2002 FIELD DAY: Don Village has been doing some checking regarding possible sites for Field Day 2002, other than Mt. Madonna. Kelley Park is not available as they don't allow overnight camping. Alum Rock Park does have overnight camping, but would be a bad choice due to poor reception at the site. He did find a possible site at Lake Cunningham Park. This is a City park. They allow only diesel fueled generators. They will not allow us to use gasoline fueled generators. There is no electricity. Cooking and camp stoves are allowed. There is no potable water. All water for the weekend, would have to be carried in to the site. There are no tables at the site they want us to use.

The area we are offered is an open, undeveloped area about 100 X 300ft, with 15 to 20 ft high trees along the west edge. Along the east edge of the area are more trees, placed farther apart and smaller, that parallel the paved road. There is a dirt road at the north end of the area which separates it from a group picnic area. The group picnic area has a bathroom with flush toilets. For lighting, we may need flashlights and lanterns. There is a \$20.00 application fee, and we would pay \$50.00 per night. Total price would be \$120.00. No other sites were discussed. At the present time, there is no deadline date to reserve the site. Barbara and Don Village will do a visual inspection of the site before the next meeting. A motion was made by Don Apte, KK6MX, to continue to investigate Lake Cunningham Park, using a map of the whole park, for other possible sites for our use for Field Day. It was seconded by Don Village, K6PBQ, and carried unanimously.

PICNIC: Lou Steirer, WA6QYS, will contact Hugh Collis, KD6EFL, to request that he go to the Mary Gomez Park and "stake a claim" on our area of the park, for the picnic on Saturday, September 29.

SEPTEMBER MEETING / SPEAKER: Clark Murphy has acquired Ken Sats from Stanford University to speak on

"amateur radio telemetry, and model rocketry". Mr. Sats has a web site at Stanford Engineering.

Request from Jim Maxwell, Director Pacific Division, ARRL. Jim is asking permission to go through our paper files in our storage locker. He is looking for anything that can be placed in an amateur radio museum. In particular, a radio transmitter built for Clare (???) one of SCCARA's charter members, and then was a member of the ARRL Board. A discussion followed. A motion was made by Clark Murphy, KE6KXO, to allow Jim, escorted by Don Hayden, KO6HH, to look through the storage locker and its files, but nothing is to be removed without SCCARA's permission.

Don Village will be advertising for the Christmas party, beginning with the October SCCARA-GRAM.

Adjourned 9:45 PM.

Barbara K, Britten, KD6QEI

ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, August 10, 2001

FCC ACTION PUTS AMATEUR ALLOCATION IN PERIL

The FCC has included a primary Amateur Service allocation among bands it plans to examine to support the introduction of advanced wireless services, including third-generation (3G) mobile systems. Meeting August 9, the FCC said it will seek comments on reallocating some spectrum in the 2390 to 2400 MHz amateur segment as well as in the non-amateur 1.9 and 2.1 GHz bands for unspecified mobile and fixed services.

The FCC adopted a Memorandum Opinion and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that explores additional bands to support advanced wireless and 3G services. The FCC said the further proceeding supplements the record of its January 2000 advanced wireless spectrum proposals by providing "new allocation options," adding that it would "seek comment on the benefits and costs of each."

The Commission said it "intends to explore spectrum options that would complement, rather than substitute for" alternatives identified in the January 2000 NPRM. Besides 2390 to 2400 MHz, the additional bands are 1910-1930 MHz, 1990-2025 MHz, 2150-2160 MHz, and 2165-2200 MHz. The 2390-2400 MHz band is also available for certain unlicensed uses under FCC Part 15 rules.

ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, and other observers believe the FCC is eyeing 2390 to 2400 MHz as one place to move other services displaced to make way for 3G. "We could have anything in there," he said. "It's totally up in the air." Unclear until the FCC finally acts in the matter is whether amateurs might continue to have access to the band on a shared basis.

Imlay cautioned the Amateur Radio community to hold off any comments to the FCC until the Commission actually issues its Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and requests comments.

The issue was presented to the FCC by the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau and the Office of Engineering and Technology. "The WTB presentation included reference to 2390-2400 MHz and said the Commission was particularly interested in the impact of the proposal on the Amateur Service," Imlay said. Gloria Tristani, the only commissioner to comment on the issue, expressed concern about how the FCC's action would affect the Amateur Service.

The FCC says it plans to seek comments on the potential for commercial use of the additional bands "for new advanced wireless services or for the relocation of other incumbent licensees or operators" displaced by any final allocation decision; the advantages and disadvantages of the options, including their potential use for advanced wireless services; the potential effect of the allocation proposals on existing and prospective users of the bands and the services they provide; and the effect that allocating the additional bands or portions of them might have on global compatibility for advanced wireless services to the extent not identified by World Radiocommunication Conference 2000.

In addition to 2390 to 2400 MHz, the Amateur Service has primary allocations in this part of the spectrum at 2402 to 2417 MHz. The ARRL has asked the FCC to grant the Amateur Service primary status at 2400 to 2402 MHz, and Imlay said he's optimistic the petition will be granted. The AO-40 satellite has been successfully using that band for downlink telemetry and transponder operation and AMSAT plans a similar downlink for its next satellite project.

Earlier this year, the ARRL re-petitioned the FCC for primary status at 2300 to 2305 MHz. The League's petition faces competition from AeroAstro, which wants co-primary status with the Amateur Service for its commercial satellite-based location service.

NEW AMATEUR SATELLITE TO LINK REMOTE APRS NODES

A new Amateur Radio tracking and communications satellite called PCSat is scheduled to launch September 1 (0100 UTC) from Alaska. PCSat will augment the existing Amateur Radio Automatic Position Reporting System (APRS) by providing links to the 90 percent of Earth's surface not covered by the terrestrial network.

Designed and assembled by midshipmen at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, PCSat's first mission was to provide practical hands-on experience in support of the students' aerospace curriculum. The midshipmen worked under the guidance of Academy Senior Project Engineer Bob Bruninga, WB4APR--the acknowledged "father of APRS."

"We hope that PCSat will be a new direction for amateur satellites by serving the communications needs of travelers with only mobile and hand-held radios anywhere on Earth," Bruninga said. PCSat will be the first satellite to report its exact position directly to users via its onboard GPS. This means that whenever the bird's in view, users won't need tracking software to determine its position.

According to Bruninga, the satellite will demonstrate vehicle tracking and communication for GPS-equipped remote travelers--including Naval Academy vessels at sea, cross-country travelers, expeditions or anyone far from the existing APRS terrestrial tracking infrastructure <<http://web.usna.navy.mil/~bruninga/digis.html>>

In addition to its APRS capabilities, the satellite will offer 1200 and 9600-baud packet operation on VHF (145.825 MHz) and UHF (435.250 MHz). For APRS digipeating, the satellite will use the recognized North American APRS frequency of 144.39 MHz.

Bruninga said that PCSat should make a great classroom tool, since its telemetry can be received by any hand-held packet radio for display to students on their PCs. "And with the Internet connectivity of ground stations worldwide," he said, "classes are not limited to observing passes only over their school, but anytime PCSat is in view of any other participating school."

PCSat was deemed spaceworthy last month. Bruninga left this week for Alaska and the launch preparations. PCSat will be one of four satellites in the Kodiak Star payload, and the only one with Amateur Radio capabilities. The others are Sapphire, Starshine III, and PicoSat.

For more information, visit the PCSat Web site, <<http://web.usna.navy.mil/~bruninga/pcsat.html>>

FCC COLLECTING DATE-OF-BIRTH INFO ON FORM 605

With no fanfare or public announcement the FCC began collecting date-of-birth information on its FCC Form 605 earlier this year. The information is a required entry (on line 11a) of the Form 605 as modified in March 2001 for both Amateur Radio and commercial operators, including Restricted Radiotelephone applicants. The FCC has said it's not making the information public but will use it for internal purposes. The FCC stopped collecting and publishing dates of birth several years ago. The National Council of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators' version of the form, NCVEC Form 605--the one most new and upgrading amateur applicants encounter--does not yet require a date of birth, nor is one required at this point of on-line applicants. It's expected to be required in the future, however.

RADIOTELEGRAPHY REFERENCE -- FREE ON THE WEB

The third edition of The Art & Skill of Radio-Telegraphy by Bill Pierpont, N0HFF, is available free for the downloading

from the Web <<http://www.qsl.net/n9bor/n0hff.htm>> in Word and in Adobe Portable Document Format. This edition of the definitive international Morse code reference is aimed at those interested in telegraphy, those wanting to learn it or to improve their skills or those who just plain love it. New material includes interviews with such well-known amateurs as former ARRL Communications Manager George Hart, W1NJM--the founder of the National Traffic System and still an active participant. There's also a special section by First-Class Operators Club member Jim Farrior, W4FOK, author of the well-known code practice program The Mill. --Fred Adsit, NY2V

From *The ARRL Letter*, August 17, 2001

FCC INVITES 60 METER PETITION COMMENTS

The FCC is accepting comments on the ARRL's petition seeking the allocation of 5.250 to 5.400 MHz to the Amateur Service on a domestic (US-only), secondary basis. The Commission put the proposal on public notice this week and assigned a rulemaking number, RM-10209, to the proceeding. Comments are due by September 12, 2001.

Interested parties may comment on the proposal using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) <<http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>>. Commenters should reference "RM-10209" in their postings. Even if the FCC eventually okays the petition, it's likely to be several years before the new band actually becomes available.

In its petition, the ARRL told the FCC that the new band would aid emergency communication activities by filling a "propagation gap" between 80 and 40 meters, particularly for emergency communications during hurricanes and severe weather emergencies. The ARRL also said a new 150-kHz allocation at 5 MHz also could relieve substantial overcrowding that periodically occurs on 80 and 40.

The ARRL has proposed that General class and higher amateurs be permitted to operate CW, phone, data, image and RTTY on the new band running maximum authorized power. No mode-specific subbands were proposed. If allocated to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis, hams would have to avoid interfering with--and accept interference from--current occupants of the spectrum, as they already do on 30 meters.

The ARRL said that its successful WA2XSY experimental operation between 1999 and this year has demonstrated that amateur stations can coexist with current users and that the band is very suitable for US-to-Caribbean paths.

A copy of the ARRL petition is available on the ARRL Web site, <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/5MHz>>.

ARRL TO FCC: STOP THE ENCROACHMENT!

The ARRL has called on the FCC to put an end to commercial encroachment on amateur allocations at 2.3 and 2.4 GHz. The League included the request in its reply comments, filed August 16, on a petition by AeroAstro to share co-primary status with the Amateur Service at 2300 to 2305 MHz. The ARRL reiterated its stance that the company's petition represents "a Trojan Horse" and that there is no way that Amateur Radio and AeroAstro's position monitoring system could share the same spectrum.

"It is time for the Commission to stop those encroachments, because they have gone too far already," the ARRL said.

The League said AeroAstro's petition for a commercial Miscellaneous Wireless Communication Service allocation at 2300 to 2305 MHz not only would impose "preclusive operating conditions" on hams but represents "yet another in the continuing series of encroachments" into amateur allocations between 2300 and 2450 MHz. The ARRL asserted that AeroAstro has failed to back up its claim that hams and low-power commercial operations can share the band on a co-primary basis without interfering with each other. An interference study prepared by the ARRL Lab and attached to the League's comments predicts "intolerable" interference, especially to weak signals, if the AeroAstro petition were granted.

ARRL has petitioned to elevate the Amateur Service from secondary to primary status on the band and requested that no commercial operations be introduced. AeroAstro seeks co-primary status with the Amateur Service to accommodate its Satellite Enabled Notification System (SENS) position-monitoring system under MWCS rules. The FCC put both petitions on public notice last month, and both parties filed comments earlier this month. There is no primary occupant at 2300-2305 MHz.

"There is no dispute that the segment near 2304 MHz is uniquely suited to amateur weak-signal communications, and the remainder of that segment is used and useful for other types of amateur communication," the ARRL said in its reply comments.

AeroAstro says its 1 W spread-spectrum SENS uplinks and Amateur Radio can share the 5 MHz of spectrum and still protect the nearby NASA Deep Space Network. While contending that it "does not seek to cut back current Amateur operations in the band," AeroAstro also asked the FCC to severely limit amateur power levels in the band. The ARRL has called those recommendations "Draconian" and "unacceptable."

The ARRL has contended that AeroAstro should wait until the FCC finalizes another proceeding, ET Docket 00-221, that would make spectrum at 1670 to 1675 and 2385 to 2390 MHz available for the MWCS system it proposes.

The League asked the FCC to dismiss the AeroAstro petition as defective and to grant the League's petition for primary

amateur status at 2300 to 2305 MHz.

A copy of ARRL's reply comments in the proceedings, RM-10165 and RM-10166, are available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/rm-10166/rm-10166-reply.html>>

ARRL ANNOUNCES AMATEUR RADIO INTERFERENCE ASSESSMENT PROJECT

The ARRL has inaugurated the Amateur Radio Interference Assessment (ARIA) project. The effort will involve amateur volunteers across the country to assess the noise levels primarily from unlicensed devices in bands above 400 MHz.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, has advised the FCC that ARRL plans to conduct ARIA as a "real-world" noise study. The League will contribute its results to an overall radio noise study sponsored by the FCC Technological Advisory Council. The TAC study will look into whether noise generated by low-power unlicensed Part 15 devices is on the rise and whether it's adversely impacting other services.

ARRL's role will be to measure radio noise in the amateur bands above 400 MHz, with initial emphasis on the band 2400-2450 MHz, where Bluetooth and IEEE 802.11b-protocol wireless local area networks are gaining popularity. The ARIA's noise-measurement program will begin with some exploratory tests by the ARRL Laboratory.

Long-term tests starting next year will assess noise trends on the UHF/microwave bands over a period of several years to determine if the situation is staying the same, getting worse or getting better.

"If it's getting worse, as some suspect, we will then be armed with factual data to develop a strategy for continued Amateur Radio access to the UHF/microwave spectrum," said ARRL Technical Relations Manager Paul Rinaldo, W4RI.

ARIA is attempting to identify volunteers to participate in the program. Rinaldo asked that "qualified and motivated" individuals send resumes and information related to test and measurement capability and equipment availability to aria@arrl.org.

Initial volunteers should be willing to review the test plan, have receiving equipment and antennas capable of covering the 2400-2450 MHz band in a vehicle, and be able to report results in a timely manner.

Packet Pieces

Floating around the internet:

From: MaxineDavis
Date: Monday, July16, 2001 7:25AM
Subject: Fw: GETTING OLDER

The older I get, the more I enjoy Saturday mornings.

Perhaps it's the quiet solitude that comes with being the first to rise, or maybe it's the unbounded joy of not having to be at work. Either way, the first few hours of a Saturday morning are most enjoyable.

A few weeks ago, I was shuffling toward the basement shack with a steaming cup of coffee in one hand and the morning paper in the other. What began as a typical Saturday morning, turned into one of those lessons that life seems to hand you from time to time. Let me tell you about it.

I turned the dial up into the phone portion of the band on my ham radio in order to listen to a Saturday morning swap net. Along the way, I came across an older sounding chap, with a tremendous signal and a golden voice. You know the kind; he sounded like he should be in the broadcasting business.

He was telling whomever he was talking with something about "a thousand marbles." I was intrigued and stopped to listen to what he had to say.

"Well, Tom, it sure sounds like you're busy with your job. I'm sure they pay you well but it's a shame you have to be away from home and your family so much. Hard to believe a young fellow should have to work sixty or seventy hours a week to make ends meet.

Too bad you missed your daughter's dance recital. He continued, "Let me tell you something Tom, something that has helped me keep a good perspective on my own priorities."

And that's when he began to explain his theory of a "thousand marbles." "You see, I sat down one day and did a little arithmetic. The average person lives about seventy-five years. I know, some live more and some live less, but on average, folks live about seventy-five years. Now then, I multiplied 75 times 52 and I came up with 3900, which is the number of Saturdays that the average person has in their entire lifetime.

"No, stick with me, Tom, I'm getting to the important part." "It took me until I was fifty-five years old to think about all this in any detail"; he went on, "and by that time I had lived through over twenty-eight hundred Saturdays. I got to thinking that if I lived to be seventy-five, I only had about a thousand of them left to enjoy.

"So I went to a toy store and bought every single marble they had. I ended up having to visit three toy stores to round up 1000 marbles. I took them home and put them

inside of a large, clear plastic container right here in the sack next to my gear.

Every Saturday since then, I have taken one marble out and thrown it away. I found that by watching the marbles diminish, I focus more on the really important things in life. There is nothing like watching your time here on this earth run out to help get your priorities straight. Now let me tell you one last thing before I sign-off with you and take my lovely wife out for breakfast. This morning, I took the very last marble out of the container. I figure that if I make it until next Saturday then I have been given a little extra time. And the one thing we can all use is a little more time.

"It was nice to meet you Tom, I hope you spend more time with your family, and I hope to meet you again here on the band. 75 year Old Man, this is K9NZQ, clear and going QRT, good morning!"

You could have heard a pin drop on the band when the fellow signed off. I guess he gave us all a lot to think about. I had planned to work on the antenna that morning, and then I was going to meet up with a few hams to work on the next club newsletter.

Instead, I went upstairs and woke my wife up with a kiss, "C'mon honey, I'm taking you and the kids to breakfast." "What brought this on?" she asked with a smile. Oh, nothing special, it's just been a long time since we spent a Saturday together with the kids. Hey, can we stop at a toy store while we're out? I need to buy some marbles....

From the packet network:

=====
Date: 27 Mar 99 20:52
From: AB7RG@K5LRS
To: FARCE@USA
Subject: A True Motorcycle Story!

A man was working on his motorcycle on his patio and his wife was in the kitchen. The man was racing the motorcycle's engine and somehow the motorcycle slipped into gear. The man, holding the handlebars, was dragged through a glass patio door and the motorcycle crashed onto the floor inside the house.

The wife, hearing the crash, found her husband lying on the floor, cut and bleeding, and ran to a phone and called for an ambulance. Because the couple lived on a secluded hill top, the wife went down the street to direct the paramedics to her husband.

The ambulance arrived and transported the husband to the hospital. Cleaning up the mess left by the

motorcycle crashing through the patio door, the wife up-righted the motorcycle and pushed it outside. Seeing that gas had spilled on the floor, the wife cleaned up the gas with paper towels and tossed the towels in the toilet.

Meanwhile, the husband was treated at the hospital and was returned home. Seeing the shattered patio door and the damage done to his motorcycle, the husband became depressed, went into the bathroom, sat down on the toilet and lighted a cigarette. After finishing the cigarette, he flipped it into the toilet bowl where the gas-soaked paper towels still lay. The wife, in the kitchen, heard a loud explosion -- and then her husband screaming.

Rushing into the bathroom, the wife found her husband lying on the floor. His jeans had been blown away, and he had burns on his buttocks, the back of his legs, and his groin. The wife again hurried to a phone to call an ambulance.

The same ambulance crew that had come the first time came this time too. While the paramedics loaded the husband onto a stretcher and began carrying him to the ambulance at the bottom of the hill, one of them asked the wife what had happened this time. When the wife told them, the paramedics started laughing so hard that one of them tipped the stretcher and the husband rolled off it. He tumbled down the hill -- and broke his ankle.

73 & May the FARCE be with you! Clinton, AB7RG.
[AB7RG @ K5LRS.#NWAR.AR.USA.NOAM]

=====
Date: 27 Mar 99 20:59
From: WA1GDJ@K1UGM
To: HUMOR@USA
Subject: WHAT MOVIES TEACH US

During all police investigations it will be necessary to visit a strip club at least once.

All beds have special L-shaped cover sheets which reach up to the armpit level on a woman but only to waist level on the man lying beside her.

It's easy for anyone to land a plane, providing someone is in the control tower to talk you down.

Once applied, lipstick will never rub off - even while scuba diving.

The ventilation system of any building is the perfect hiding place. No one will ever think of looking for you in there and you can travel to any other part of the building you want without difficulty.

If you need to reload your gun, you will always have more ammunition - even if you haven't been carrying any before now.

You're very likely to survive any battle in any war unless you make the mistake of showing someone a picture of your sweetheart back home.

Should you wish to pass yourself off as a German officer, it will not be necessary to speak the language. A German accent will do.

The Eiffel Tower can be seen from any window in Paris. If a large pane of glass is visible, someone will be thrown through it before long.

When paying for a taxi, don't look at your wallet as you take out a bill - just grab one at random and hand it over. It will always be the exact fare.

If staying in a haunted house, women should investigate any strange noises in their most revealing underwear.

Even when driving down a perfectly straight road it is necessary to turn the steering wheel vigorously from left to right every few moments.

All bombs are fitted with electronic timing devices with large red readouts so you know exactly when they're going to go off.

It is always possible to park directly outside the building you are visiting.

A detective can only solve a case once he has been suspended from duty.

Most laptop computers are powerful enough to override the communication systems of any invading alien civilization.

It does not matter if you are heavily outnumbered in a fight involving martial arts - your enemies will wait patiently to attack you one by one by dancing around in a threatening manner until you have knocked out their predecessors.

When they are alone, all foreigners prefer to speak English to each other.

73 - Gil, WA1GDJ @ K1UGM

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, K6PBQ, WB6YRU

Lightning protection, grounding: WB6YRU

Station set-up, equipment: K6PBQ

TVI/RFI: WB6YRU

Homebrew projects, construction: KD6FJI, WB6YRU

Computers: KB6NP; IBM PC: WB6YRU

Packet Network (BBS, forwarding): WB6YRU

Code operating and installations: WB6EMR, K6PBQ

DX (long distance/propagation): WB6EMR

Emergency operating/preparedness: WA6QYS

FM (VHF/UHF, repeaters): WA6VJY

HF operating techniques (SSB, CW): WB6EMR, K6PBQ

Classes/license upgrading: W6ACW

Legal/FCC rules: WB6YRU

SCCARA (club inner workings):

K06HH, K6PBQ, WA6VJY, WB6YRU, WA6QYS

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

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

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

Newsletter Notes

In last month's column, I commented that it seemed no one reads this. Shortly after the issue went in the mail, I was pleasantly surprised to get an e-mail from one of you proving otherwise. But more importantly, they mentioned that the *SCCARA-GRAM* was a kind of link to the club, since they rarely could attend meetings.

That's a very good point that I hadn't considered. Most of you know I've been beating the drum for more locally generated articles. This is all the more reason for there to be more local content in the newsletter. I mentioned this at the August general and board meetings, and will remind the club's movers and shakers from time to time. Hopefully this will provide the need incentive to get a few more club articles occasionally.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

ARRL Pacific Division Update

September 2001

NI6T Wins QST Cover Plaque Award

The winners of the QST Cover Plaque Award for August were Garry Shapiro, NI6T, and Tom Harrell. Garry and Tom collaborated on the "Kingman Reef 2000 DXpedition." Congratulations to both! Garry, a resident of Los Gatos, is a Pacific Division DXer, while Tom hails from Watkinsville, GA. The winner of the QST Cover Plaque award--given to the author of the best article in each issue--is determined by a vote of ARRL members.

Thanks, ARRL Web

First Pacific Section Convention

Here's a great excuse to take the family to Hawaii: the Pacific Section Convention in Honolulu, Oct. 13. The convention will be held in the Pearl Harbor Community Park, next to the Arizona Memorial visitor entrance. There will be a picnic area, vendors, flea market, displays, plus much more. Also scheduled are VE exams, technical talks both morning and afternoon, a spectacular hot line display by Hawaiian Electric, plus an ARRL forum by yours truly. For additional information see the Koolau ARC web site and <http://www.chem.hawaii.edu/karc/index.html>.

Pacific Division Amateur Agrees to Two-Year Suspension

An Amateur Extra class operator from the Pacific Division has agreed to a two-year suspension of his amateur privileges. The accord with Robert J. Kazmierski, WE6M, of San Mateo followed longstanding allegations of deliberate interference. The FCC's San Francisco office issued Kazmierski an Official Notice of Violation (NOV) in late June.

FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth said the FCC field office referred the case to him for a possible settlement before seeking a fine in the case. He confirmed the suspension agreement with Kazmierski by letter August 3.

"I called him, and he was willing to negotiate a suspension," Hollingsworth told the ARRL. Kazmierski could have faced a fine of up to \$7500. If there are no violations of the agreement, the suspension expires automatically at midnight August 3, 2003, and the FCC will not initiate monetary forfeiture proceedings. The suspension was to go into effect immediately.

The FCC's NOV, issued June 25, cited Kazmierski for causing malicious interference earlier this year in violation of paragraph 97.101(d) of the FCC's Amateur Service Rules. Acting in response to a complaint, agents from the FCC's San Francisco office observed an unmodulated carrier on 146.550 MHz--a recognized 2-meter simplex channel--while other amateur communications were in progress.

Using mobile direction-finding equipment, the FCC agents determined that the carrier was coming from Kazmierski's residence at 1409 Dakota Avenue in San Mateo. Kazmierski agreed to let the agents inspect his station, and when they did, they found an operational ICOM 2100 FM transceiver tuned to 146.550 MHz.

In a letter to the field office on July 2, Kazmierski called the inspection "a very sobering and humbling experience" that made "a lasting impression." Kazmierski apologized for the infraction, said he'd put all his gear in storage and pledged to stay off the air at least until the end of this year, after which he said he planned to operate HF.

"I do value my ham radio license, and I am truly sorry for the trouble caused by this incident," Kazmierski wrote. "I assure you that it will not happen again."

Kazmierski's plea notwithstanding, Hollingsworth said, Kazmierski is off the air until 2003, provided he abides by his agreement with the FCC.

Thanks, ARRL Letter.

Pacific Division Ham Wins Scholarship from the Foundation for Amateur Radio

It has just been announced that Trent E. Drenon, KF6BUY, of Burney, CA, is the winner of a \$1000 scholarship from the Radio Club of America's Grants in Aid Fund.

The Foundation for Amateur Radio Inc has announced the 2001 winners of the 65 scholarships it administers. These scholarships are open to licensed radio amateurs who meet the qualifications and residence requirements of the various sponsors.

The Foundation is a non-profit organization incorporated in the District of Columbia, representing more than 75 Amateur Radio clubs in Maryland, the District of Columbia and Northern Virginia. It is devoted exclusively to the scientific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purposes of the Amateur Service.

Congratulations, Trent!

AO-40 Transponders Back on the Air!

AO-40's transponders are back on the air, following an orbital shift that put the Amateur Radio satellite into an orbit that AMSAT says should be good for many years to come. Transponders have 435 MHz and 1.2 GHz uplinks and a downlink in the 2.4 GHz "S band."

The transponders have been off since late May, when preparations began to shift AO-40's orbit at perigee. That operation was completed earlier this month, and ground

controllers have been readjusting the spacecraft's attitude since then.

Ground controller Stacey Mills, W4SM, said the transponders would operate from orbital positions MA 10 through MA 99. Uplink frequencies (without taking Doppler into account) are 435.495-435.780 MHz and 1269.211-1269.496 MHz, and the downlink pass-band is 2401.210-2401.495 MHz. The transponders are inverting, so a downward change in uplink frequency results in an upward frequency shift in the downlink.

Mills emphasized that earthbound ops should not use any more uplink power than necessary. He also noted that the transponders could be switched off to accommodate additional testing.

AMSAT Awards Manager Bruce Paige, KK5DO, in Houston, was among the first stations to get on AO-40 after the transponders were reactivated. "It sounds awesome," Paige said. "I am transmitting with 25 watts up, and it sounds great!" In addition to some domestic contacts, he and his daughter, Mahana, W5BTS, worked EA8/DJ9PC in the Canary Islands.

Although AO-40's attitude still is not optimal at this point, ground controllers had to suspend operations to adjust it after an on-board sensor lost its view of the sun. Without data from the sun sensor, ground controllers cannot be certain of the satellite's attitude.

Mills said now that the ground team has "a very good fix" on the spacecraft, they'll do nothing to change its attitude for several weeks, while the solar angle decreases. Once the sensor regains its view of the sun, efforts to adjust the spacecraft's attitude will resume, so that AO-40's antennas are pointing toward Earth.

Mills said ground controllers will use the interim period to see if they can re-calculate the so-called "mystery effect" that had been impacting AO-40 at perigee under its former orbit.

Thanks, ARRL Bulletin.

Amateur Spectrum Protection Act of 2001 Introduced in US House and Senate.

On March 1 the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2001 was introduced into the US House of Representatives. Rep Michael Bilirakis of Florida introduced the bill, denoted H.R.817. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, and ARRL First Vice President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, visited the Congressman's office to thank him personally for his continuing interest in protecting amateur allocations. The House measure has been referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Sen. Michael Crapo of Idaho introduced the Senate version of the bill, denoted S.549, on March 15. Sen. Daniel Akaka of Hawaii was a cosponsor. The bill has been referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. In introducing the Senate measure again this year, Crapo and Akaka referred to the importance of

Amateur Radio in providing communication in times of disaster.

S.549 is identical in its wording to H.R.817. If approved by both chambers and signed by President George W. Bush, the Spectrum Protection Act would require the FCC to provide equivalent replacement spectrum should it ever reallocate primary Amateur Radio spectrum to another service. The same requirement would apply if the FCC acted to diminish any secondary amateur allocations or to make additional allocations in ham bands that diminish their utility.

More information on the Spectrum Protection Act, including the full text of the bills, is available on the ARRL Web site, <http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/arspa.html>.

In order to have a chance of passage, your Representatives and Senators must know that you support the bill. Please write!

HR 817 cosponsors as of Aug. 15, 2001: 34, three of whom, John T. Doolittle (CA-4th), Fortney Pete Stark (CA-13th), Sam Farr (CA-17th) are from the Pacific Division. S.549: 7 cosponsors as of Aug. 15, 2001, one of which, Daniel Akaka (HI-2nd), is from the Pacific Division.

Thanks, ARRL Letter and K6WR.

Coming Events

- Foothill Flea Market - 2nd Saturday of each month from March through October at Foothill College, Los Altos.
- Livermore Swap Meet - 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College in Livermore, 7:00 AM to noon, all year. Talk in 147.045 from the west, 145.35 from the east. Contact Cliff Chiba, KF6EII, at 209-835-6715, email larks-wap@usa.com.
- 27-30 Sept. Microwave Update 2001, sponsored by the 50 MHz and Up Group of Northern California. Located at the Four Points Hotel, Sunnyvale. For extensive information, contact Will Jensby, W0EOM, w0eom@aol.com, or <http://microwaveupdate.org>
- 13 Oct. Hawaii State Convention, Honolulu. For additional information see article in this issue of the Update.
- 19-21 Oct. ARRL Pacific Division Convention, Concord, at the Sheraton Concord (Airport) Hotel, Concord. See <http://www.pacificon.org/> for details.

Jim Maxwell, W6CF
Director, ARRL Pacific Division

PO Box 473
Redwood Estates CA 95044
(408) 353-3911 (phone & fax)

Packet: W6CF @ N0ARY.#NCA.CA.U.S.A.NOAM
Internet: w6cf@arrl.org
Pacific Division Web site <http://www.pdarrrl.org/>



S.C.C.A.R.A. Membership Form for 2001

(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: _____ - _____ Licence Expiration Date (mo/yr): _____

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

E-mail: _____ Packet: _____

For family memberships (at the same address), please fill out a separate form for each. Indicate the "primary member" (for mailing purposes) name and call:

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 RADIO LICENSE
BEFORE ANY REPEATER CODES WILL BE SENT TOTAL: _____

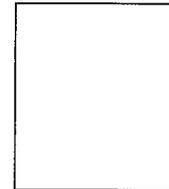
Give this completed form (or copy) with payment to the Secretary or Treasurer at any meeting or mail to the return address below:

===== PLEASE DO NOT TEAR OR CUT FORM =====

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY
AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION**

PO BOX 6
San Jose CA 95103-0006

Affiliate of the American Radio Relay League



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS