

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 22, Number 11

November 2006



SCCARA Elections

Yes, it's that time again. Just so we're all on the same page, here is some general information about the elected positions:

SCCARA (aka the Association) is governed by five officers and a seven-member Board of Directors.

The officers are, in order of rank, the PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, TREASURER, and STATION TRUSTEE.

The PRESIDENT is the Chair of the Board and the Chief Executive Officer of the Association.

The VICE PRESIDENT assists the President and is the acting President in the absence of the President.

The SECRETARY maintains the records of the Association. He/she keeps correct minutes of each meeting of the general membership and of the Board. He/she also keeps the membership records of the Association.

The TREASURER is the financial officer of the association.

The STATION TRUSTEE is in charge of the equipment and operation of the club station. He/she is the custodian of the call sign of the Club Station and is the liaison between the Association and the Federal Communications Commission. He/she investigates and reports to the Board all cases of violation of legal and proper amateur practice involving the club station.

The Officers are elected for a period of one year, except the STATION TRUSTEE, who serves for an indefinite period. Each officer must have a valid amateur radio license and be a member in good standing of the Association.

The Board of Directors consists of seven members including the President and Vice President. The term of a Board member, except the President and Vice President, is two years.

Officers and Directors are elected at the November general meeting and are installed at the December general meeting. One person may hold the position of an officer and director if duly elected to each.

The current office holders are:

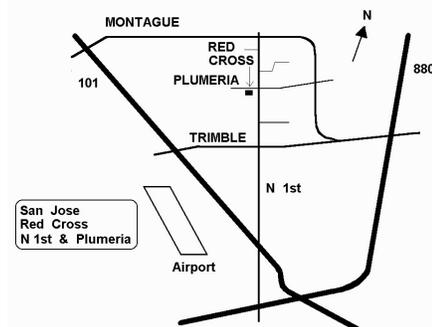
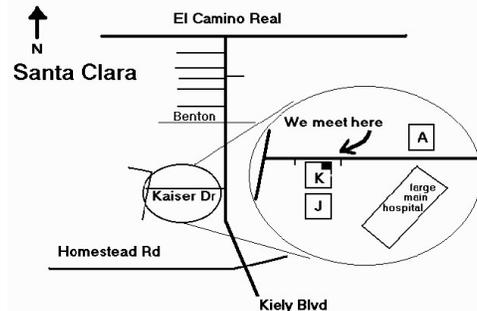
President	Clark Murphy, KE6KX0
Vice President	Fred Townsend, AE6QL
Secretary	Barbara Britten, KD6QEI
Treasurer	Don Steinbach, AE6PM
Station Trustee	Don Village, K6PBQ

Calendar

- 11/13 SCCARA General Meeting--elections
- 11/20 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)
- 12/16 SCCARA General Meeting--dinner meeting
- 12/18 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)

General Meeting:

Day: Monday, Nov. 13, 2006
Time: 7:30 PM
Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Bld K, Rm 1
Featuring: club elections



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 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	Clark Murphy, KE6KXO	262-9334
	e-mail: clarkmurph@yahoo.com	
Vice President	Fred Townsend, AE6QL	263-8768
	e-mail: fred@dcctolight.net	
Secretary	Barbara BrittenKD6QEI	293-3847
Treasurer	Don Steinbach, AE6PM	867-3912
	e-mail: dlsteinbach@comcast.net	
Station Trustee	Don Village, K6PBQ	263-2789
	e-mail: donvillage7@yahoo.com	
Director	Don Steinbach, AE6PM	867-3912
	e-mail: ae6pm@arrl.net	
Director	Don Apte, KK6MX	629-0725
	e-mail: aptek@aol.com	
Director	Don Village, K6PBQ	263-2789
	e-mail: donvillage7@yahoo.com	
Director	Lou Steirer, WA6QYS	241-7999
	e-mail: wa6qys@aol.com	
Director	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	293-3847
	e-mail: ka6ymd@arrl.net	
Editor	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	269-2924
	e-mail: wb6yru@ix.netcom.com	

COMMITTEES

Repeater	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	293-3847
	e-mail: ka6ymd@arrl.net	
N0ARY BBS	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	269-2924
	e-mail: wb6yru@ix.netcom.com	

SCCARA REPEATERS

SCCARA owns and operates two repeaters under the call W6UU:

2 meter: 146.985 - PL 114.8
70 cm: 442.425 + PL 107.2

Phone auto-dial and auto-patch is available. The two meter repeater is located at Eagle Rock near Alum Rock Park in the foothills of east San Jose. The 70 cm repeater and N0ARY 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 Village, K6PBQ. On ten meters, 28.385 MHz USB, Thursdays at 8:00 PM. Net control: Wally Britten, KA6YMD. Visitors welcome.

N0ARY PACKET BBS

SCCARA hosts the packet BBS N0ARY (San Jose). User ports: 144.93 (1200 baud), 433.37 (9600 baud), telephone 408 259-8497.. Sysop: Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

SCCARA contact Clark KE6KXO:	408 262-9334
ARRL/VEC Silicon Valley VE group, Morris Jones, AD6ZH:	408 507-4698

Director	Don Steinbach, AE6PM
Director	Don Apte, KK6MX
Director	Don Village, K6PBQ
Director	Lou Steirer, WA6QYS
Director	Wally Britten, KA6YMD

Don, AE6PM

New Members

SCCARA would like to welcome these new amateurs to the club:

Karen & Mark Hardy KI6FGS & KG6GRR

If you have any questions, ideas, or comments about SCCARA or any activities, please don't hesitate to ask.

ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, October 6, 2006

ARRL PLANS FEDERAL COURT APPEAL OF CERTAIN BPL RULES

The ARRL Executive Committee is expected this weekend to ratify plans to appeal in federal court certain aspects of the FCC's Part 15 rules governing broadband over power line (BPL) systems. Assuming the EC signs off on the strategy, the League will file a Notice of Appeal by October 22 with the US District Court of Appeals -- DC Circuit. ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, said the League went forward with its appeal plans only after considering the effect on licensed spectrum users of letting the BPL rules stand.

"This decision was made after careful review of the FCC's October 2004 BPL Report and Order (R&O) and of the August 2006 Memorandum Opinion and Order (MO&O) that dealt with petitions for reconsideration," said Sumner, who addressed ARRL's concerns with the FCC's BPL rules in his "It Seems to Us . . ." editorial in October QST <<http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2006/10/01/1/>>.

Several reconsideration petitions of the initial R&O -- including one from ARRL -- called on the FCC to strengthen rules aimed at protecting licensed radio systems from BPL interference. Instead, in a new rule only revealed after the FCC made the MO&O public, the FCC limited the extent to which an unlicensed, unintentional radiator has to protect a licensed mobile station.

The new rule, §15.611(c)(1)(iii), provides that BPL operators only have to reduce emission levels below established FCC permissible limits by 20 dB below 30 MHz and by 10 dB above 30 MHz -- even if that's not enough to resolve harmful interference complaints.

"The FCC has, in effect, tried to redefine harmful interference," Sumner said. "It can't do that. The Commission doesn't have the authority to do that, and we're going to demonstrate that to the Court of Appeals."

What the FCC has done with respect to licensed mobile services "should strike fear into the hearts of those who rely on public safety communications," Sumner said, especially since the rule requires BPL operators to do even less above 30 MHz than at HF.

The Commission also declined to adjust the 40 dB per decade "extrapolation factor" applied to measurements performed at distances from power lines other than those specified in Part 15. Sumner says this is an important technical point because the existing Part 15 rule causes test results to underestimate actual field strength. Petitions for reconsideration from the ARRL and others argued that a figure closer to 20 dB per decade was more appropriate. Sumner called the Commission's stand on the 40 dB per decade rule "clearly, demonstrably and inarguably wrong."

He said the principles that the FCC appears to be following for the first time -- if applied generally -- represent an abuse of licensees' rights. "It's unacceptable that the FCC would reduce the rights of its licensees in favor of unlicensed, unintentional emitters," he said. "Remember that 'unintentional emission' is just another term for 'spectrum pollution.'"

Sumner made it clear that the League is not suing BPL providers for causing interference, nor suing the FCC for failing to enforce its own rules against harmful interference. "We are not satisfied with the level of attention the Commission is paying to existing cases of BPL interference, but this is not the time to pursue that in federal court," he said.

While the separate standard for what constitutes harmful interference to a mobile and the 40 dB per decade extrapolation factor issues precipitated the decision to appeal, Sumner said, the arguments the League puts forward in its court filing may touch on other matters as well.

"The court is not going to rewrite the rules," Sumner explained. "The court can make the Commission go back to the drawing board and re-decide them, however."

ARRL PRESSES FCC TO RELEASE "OMNIBUS" AMATEUR RADIO REPORT AND ORDER

The ARRL has called upon FCC Chairman Kevin J. Martin and his four Commission colleagues to help end "a very frustrating and protracted delay" by releasing a Report and Order in the so-called "Omnibus" Amateur Radio proceeding, WT Docket 04-140. The 2004 Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) proceeding, one of two still awaiting FCC release, consolidated a dozen rule making petitions addressing various Part 97 rule changes -- including ARRL's Novice refarming proposal. In its Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order (NPRM&O), the Commission proposed to go along with the League's refarming concept and most other recommendations. ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, says the long-overdue Report and Order seems to be stalled for no reason.

"I believe it's grossly incompetent for a government agency to fail to act on something affecting the Amateur Radio Service," Harrison commented, "especially after the recognition Amateur Radio has received over the past year from members of Congress, public service agencies and even the President." The oldest of the rule making petitions dates back more than five years, while the NPRM&O came out two and one-half years ago. "There's nothing controversial in this proceeding," he said. "The FCC needs to act on this. That's the bottom line."

In an October 3 letter to the Commission

<<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt04-140/ARRL-Ltr2 FCCreWT-04-140.pdf>>, Harrison said the Amateur Radio Service asks very little of the FCC, "and our performance during recent disasters amply justifies facilitation of these relatively minor rule changes" that will enhance Amateur Radio's ability to react in emergencies and disasters. The FCC's apparent foot-dragging "is not responsive government," he wrote.

The ARRL's Novice refarming plan would reallocate current Novice/Tech Plus subbands to expand portions of the 80, 40 and 15 meter phone bands. Harrison maintained that the League's proposal and others in the proceeding would "greatly improve the efficiency of Amateur Radio's use of the high-frequency (HF) spectrum."

The FCC further agreed with the ARRL's proposal to extend privileges in the current General CW-only HF subbands to present Novice and Tech Plus licensees (or Technicians with Element 1 credit). It also proposed to largely do away with Part 97 rules prohibiting the manufacture and marketing to Amateur Radio operators of amplifiers capable of operation on 10 and 12 meters.

An ARRL delegation that met with Martin's Chief of Staff Fred Campbell last February was told that nothing substantive was holding up the proceeding. Since that time, Harrison told the Commission, inquiries addressed to Campbell and to WTB management and staff regarding the proceeding's status have gone unanswered.

"I urge you to release the Report and Order that we understand has been drafted and ready for Commission consideration for more than a year now," Harrison stressed in closing.

Perhaps more eagerly awaited is FCC action on the "Morse code" proceeding, WT Docket 05-235. WTB staff already has indicated that a Report and Order in the older "omnibus" proceeding will come first, however. The FCC's Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order (NPRM&O) in WT Docket 05-235 last July proposed to eliminate the Element 1 (5 WPM) Morse code requirement for all license classes.

A Report and Order in either Amateur Radio proceeding would formally adopt and spell out the changes and specify their effective dates.

NEW LAW FORMALLY MAKES AMATEUR RADIO PART OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COMMUNITY

A section of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) 2007 Appropriations Act, HR 5441 <<http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d109:h.r.05441>>, formally includes Amateur Radio operators as a part of the emergency communications community. Congress approved the measure before adjourning for its pre-election break. President George W. Bush signed the bill into law October 4.

Amateur Radio is included within the legislation's Subtitle D, Section 671, known as the "21st Century Emergency Communications Act." Radio amateurs are among the entities with which a Regional Emergency Communications Coordination Working Group (RECC Working Group) must coordinate its activities. Included within the DHS's Office of Emergency Communications -- which the measure also creates -- RECC Working Groups attached to each regional DHS office will advise federal and state homeland security officials. The final version of the legislation incorporated language from both House and Senate bills and was hammered out in a conference

committee. An earlier version of the 21st Century Emergency Communications Act, HR 5852, included Amateur Radio operators as members of the RECC Working Groups.

In addition to Amateur Radio operators, RECC Working Groups also will coordinate with communications equipment manufacturers and vendors -- including broadband data service providers, local exchange carriers, local broadcast media, wireless carriers, satellite communications services, cable operators, hospitals, public utility services, emergency evacuation transit services, ambulance services, and representatives from other private sector entities and nongovernmental organizations.

The RECC Working Groups will assess the survivability, sustainability and interoperability of local emergency communication systems to meet the goals of the National Emergency Communications Report. That report would recommend how the US could "accelerate the deployment of interoperable emergency communications nationwide." They also will coordinate the establishment of "effective multi-jurisdictional, multi-agency emergency communications networks" that could be brought into play in an emergency or disaster.

In light of the new legislation, the ARRL plans to follow up to determine how it can interact with the DHS and its Office of Emergency Communications.

From *The ARRL Letter*, October 13, 2006

FCC RELEASES LONG-AWAITED "OMNIBUS" AMATEUR RADIO REPORT AND ORDER

Ending a protracted waiting period, the FCC's Report and Order (R&O) in the so-called "omnibus" Amateur Radio proceeding, WT Docket 04-140, was adopted October 4 and released October 10. In it, the FCC adopted nearly all of the changes it had put forth in its 2004 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in the proceeding. The R&O the FCC released this week does NOT include action on the Commission's proposal to eliminate the Morse code requirement. A Report and Order in that proceeding, WT Docket 05-235, is pending. ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, expressed the League's gratitude to the FCC for acting this week in the wide-ranging proceeding.

"On behalf of the ARRL and the Commission's licensees in the Amateur Radio Service I want to express appreciation for your release yesterday of the Report and Order in WT Docket 04-140 (FCC 06-149) amending Part 97 of the Commission's Rules," Harrison wrote October 11. "The Commission's action in clearing this pending proceeding will assist the Amateur Radio Service in meeting its objectives, particularly with regard to providing emergency and public service communications."

The new rules are expected to become effective later this year. Among the highlights in the October 10 Report and Order, the FCC:

- "refarmed" the current Novice/Tech Plus bands to expand certain phone subbands;
- agreed to allow Novice and Tech Plus licensees to operate CW in the General class CW subbands on 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters.
- implemented rules to discourage multiple vanity call sign filings on the same day from the same applicant;
- permitted auxiliary stations to transmit on portions of the 2 meter band;

- permitted amateur licensees to designate a specific Amateur Radio club to receive their call sign in memoriam;

- eliminated certain restrictions governing the manufacture, marketing and sale of external RF power amplifiers intended for Amateur Radio use;

- clarified that "amateur stations may, at all times and on all frequencies authorized to the control operator, make transmissions necessary to meet essential communication needs and to facilitate relief actions";

- deleted the requirement to publicly announce Amateur Radio examination locations and times, and

- deleted the frequency bands and segments specified for Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) stations.

In response to an ARRL Petition for Rule Making, the Commission agreed to "reform" the HF segments currently authorized to Novice and Technician Plus licensees. The reallocation will expand the phone subbands for General, Advanced and Amateur Extra licensees, although not all commenters agreed with the idea.

"We are persuaded, however, by ARRL's contention that increasing the amount of spectrum for voice communications will reduce interference among stations using voice communications," the FCC said in its R&O, "thereby benefiting all licensees." The FCC said authorizing more phone spectrum would "more closely reflect licensees' operating preferences" and mean more efficient spectrum use.

On 75 meters, the FCC went well beyond the modest expansion the ARRL had proposed and the FCC had tentatively adopted in its 2004 NPRM. Generals will be able to operate on phone from 3800 to 4000 kHz, Advanced class licensees from 3700 to 4000, and Amateur Extras from 3600 to 4000 kHz -- greatly reducing the amount of 80-meter spectrum available for RTTY and data (the only segment where automatically controlled digital stations may operate on 80 meters is 3620 to 3635 kHz).

The FCC said the amateur community wanted as much phone spectrum as possible. "Indeed, a number of commenters argue that the NPRM proposal to increase the amount of spectrum permitted for voice communications would still not meet the demand for voice communication spectrum in the HF bands, particularly in the 80 meter band," the FCC said.

On 40 meters, Advanced and Extra Class licensees will be able to operate phone from 7125 to 7300 kHz, and Generals from 7175 to 7300 kHz. On 15 meters, General class operators may operate phone from 21,275 to 21,450 kHz.

The FCC affirmed its intention to permit Novice and Tech Plus (or Technician with Element 1 credit) licensees to operate CW in the current General exclusive-CW allocations on 80, 40 and 15 meters and CW/data on 10 meters, where the FCC provided an additional 100 kHz for Novice/Tech Plus licensees. Novice/Tech Plus licensees still may run no more than 200 W PEP, but the Commission has done away with Novice band power limitations for higher-class licensees.

The FCC revised its vanity call sign rules to discourage the filing of multiple applications for the same call sign on the same day, and many commenters supported this concept. As implemented in §97.19(d)(1), if the FCC receives more than one application requesting a vanity call sign from a single applicant on the same receipt day, it will process only the first application entered into the Universal Licensing System. "Subsequent vanity call sign applications from that applicant with the same receipt date will not be accepted," the rule concludes.

"We are persuaded that we should adopt rule amendments to discourage multiple vanity call sign applications," the FCC said in the R&O, "and we believe that a one-application-per-day-per-applicant rule, as requested by ARRL and others, will eliminate multiple applications requesting the same assignable call sign on the same day." The FCC concedes that its one-application-per-day rule "will not prevent an individual from requesting multiple vanity call signs per se," because an applicant may request up to 25 call signs at a time.

When the FCC receives multiple valid applications from several individuals requesting the same vanity call sign as a first choice on the same day, it uses a lottery system to decide which application to process first.

The R&O also affirms changes to Part 2 and Part 97 rules the FCC had proposed regarding the manufacture, marketing and sale of external RF power amplifiers. Current FCC rules prohibit commercial manufacturers from marketing RF power amplifiers capable of transmitting on the 12 and 10 meter bands. The rules were put in place as a way to prevent use of such amplifiers by CBers.

"We agree with ARRL that the requirements imposed on Amateur Radio operators by the current rule are unnecessary because, under the present rules, 'the equipment, once authorized, can be modified to transmit on all amateur service frequency allocations,' and that revising the rule 'will enhance use of the 12 and 10 meter amateur bands,'" the FCC said.

To prevent the use of Amateur Radio amplifiers by CBers, the FCC says manufacturers of Amateur Radio amplifiers must design their products to avoid operation between 26 MHz and 28 MHz. They also must certify that amplifiers are not easily modifiable to operate between 26 MHz and 28 MHz prior to a grant of equipment certification.

The various rule changes become effective 30 days after their publication in the Federal Register <<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html>>.

A copy of the R&O appears on the FCC Web site <http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-06-149A1.pdf>.

ARRL has posted a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) regarding the R&O <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt04-140/faq.html>>.

A downloadable chart shows the band changes <http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt04-140/Hambands3_color.pdf>.

ARRL REQUESTS INPUT ON RECENT FCC "OMNIBUS" REPORT AND ORDER

The ARRL is requesting member input concerning the FCC's Amateur Radio proceeding, WT Docket 04-140, released on October 10. The Report and Order will not take effect until 30 days after publication in the Federal Register. This publication date is not yet known.

The complete text is available for viewing as a PDF file on the FCC Web site <http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-06-149A1.pdf>. A summary is available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2006/10/11/100/>>.

The ARRL is specifically seeking member guidance on how the changes will affect current operating activities on 80, 40 and 15 meters. See the current ARRL band plans <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/bandplan.html>> and an ARRL FAQ <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt04-140/faq.html>> that includes a downloadable chart showing the band changes <http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt04-140/Hambands3_color.pdf>.

Comments may be submitted by e-mail to <bandplan@arrl.org>. All e-mails will be read and considered, but individual responses will not be possible due to the message volume expected. The deadline for comments is October 31.

BPL ORDERS EXCEED FCC'S JURISDICTION AND AUTHORITY, LEAGUE COURT FILING SAYS

The ARRL this week notified the US District Court of Appeals -- DC Circuit that it's appealing certain aspects of the FCC's Part 15 rules governing broadband over power line (BPL) systems. The ARRL Executive Committee ratified plans to go forward with the Petition for Review when it met October 7. The League is asking the court to review the FCC's October 2004 Report and Order (R&O) establishing Part 15 rules to govern BPL systems as well as its August 2006 Memorandum Opinion and Order (MO&O) that dealt with various petitions for reconsideration of the 2004 R&O, including one from the ARRL.

"ARRL seeks review of the orders on the ground that they exceed the Commission's jurisdiction and authority; are contrary to the Communications Act of 1934; and are arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion, and otherwise not in accordance with law," the League said in its petition. "ARRL requests that this court hold unlawful, vacate, enjoin and set aside the orders."

A court filing that details the League's specific objections regarding the two orders is pending. Although the petition will argue a number of points, two specific aspects of the FCC's BPL orders precipitated the League's appeal. One is a new rule, only revealed after the FCC made the MO&O public, that limits the extent to which an unlicensed, unintentional radiator must protect a licensed mobile station.

The new rule, §15.611(c)(1)(iii), provides that BPL operators only have to reduce emission levels below established FCC permissible limits by 20 dB below 30 MHz and by 10 dB above 30 MHz -- even if that's not enough to resolve harmful interference complaints. The FCC called these levels "modestly above the noise level."

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, contends the rule change in the MO&O regarding mobile stations contravenes the International Radio Regulations and the Communications Act of 1934. "The FCC has, in effect, tried to redefine harmful interference," he said. "It can't do that. The Commission doesn't have the authority to do that, and we're going to demonstrate that to the Court of Appeals."

ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, has said the levels applicable to mobiles would be some 25 dB higher than the median values for man-made noise in residential areas and up to 40 dB higher than the minimum values hams use for reliable communication.

The Commission also declined to adjust the 40 dB per decade "extrapolation factor" applied to measurements performed at distances from power lines other than those specified in Part 15. Sumner says this is an important technical point because the

existing Part 15 rule underestimates actual field strength.

In their petitions for reconsideration, the ARRL and others demonstrated that the 40 dB per decade extrapolation factor was wrong and that a figure closer to 20 dB per decade was appropriate. Sumner called the Commission's stand on the 40 dB per decade rule "clearly, demonstrably and inarguably wrong."

Sumner said the League decided to go forward with its appeal only after considering the effect on licensed spectrum users of letting the BPL rules stand. He addressed a number of ARRL's concerns with the FCC's BPL rules in his "It Seems to Us . . ." editorial in October QST.

The firm of Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP of Washington, DC, is handling the ARRL's Petition for Review in conjunction with ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD.

FCC SEEKS COMMENT ON WRC-07 RECOMMENDATIONS

The FCC is seeking comment on recommendations <http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-06-2013A1.pdf> approved by the Advisory Committee for World Radiocommunication Conference 2007 (WRC-07) in IB Docket 04-286. The WRC-07 Advisory Committee, which assists the Commission in developing WRC-07 proposals, submitted its recommendations October 4. Several WRC-07 agenda items have the potential to directly or indirectly impact Amateur Radio. WRC-07 takes place in Geneva October 22 to November 16, 2007.

"Based upon an initial review of the attached WRC-07 Advisory Committee recommendations, the International Bureau, in coordination with other FCC bureaus and offices, tentatively concludes that it can generally support these recommendations," the FCC said this week in a public notice. The Commission cautions because the Advisory Committee recommendations "may evolve in the course of interagency discussions as WRC-07 nears, they do not constitute final US Government position on any issue."

The FCC is inviting comment on recommendations that appear in all WRC-07 Advisory Committee documents as well as draft preliminary views and proposals developed by Executive Branch agencies and submitted to the FCC by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA).

Individuals may use the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) to file comments <<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>>. After clicking on "Submit a Filing," Users should type "04-286" (without the quotation marks but including the hyphen) in the "Proceeding" field. It is possible to attach documents when posting electronic comments. The filing deadline is October 27, 2006.

WRC-03 had hardly wrapped up when preparations began for WRC-07. "Delegates do not just show up at a WRC and make up their minds on the spot," International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ, pointed out in a recent edition of the IARU E-Letter. "Years of preparation are behind every WRC decision."

Most work is done within the framework of International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) working parties (WPs). WP-8A is responsible for studies related to the Land Mobile Service and to the Amateur and Amateur-Satellite services.

ARRL's involvement in the rollup to WRC-07 is in two arenas: The FCC WRC-07 Advisory Committee and its informal working groups (IWGs), and regular meetings of the various ITU WPs. ARRL Technical Relations Specialist Walt Ireland, WB7CSL, serves as vice chairman of IWG 4, which is dealing with broadcasting and Amateur Radio WRC-07 agenda items. (He's also the convener of US WP-6E, which deals with terrestrial delivery in the broadcasting service.)

WRC-07 agenda item 1.13 will review allocations to all services between 4 and 10 MHz, excluding allocations from 7000 to 7200 kHz -- settled to the advantage of Amateur Radio during WRC-03. Starting in March 2009, radio amateurs will enjoy a worldwide 200 kHz segment on 40 meters. WRC-07 delegates may revisit the 7200-7300 kHz segment with an eye toward attaining the IARU's goal of a 300-kHz worldwide ham radio allocation.

Following up on disaster relief-related changes to Article 25 of the international Radio Regulations at WRC-03, a Draft Proposal from IWG-4 that originated with the ARRL requests that WRC-07 delegates consider a 150 kHz-wide, secondary 60-meter Amateur Radio allocation. The panel says most administrations recognize that emergency communication via Amateur Radio can serve humanitarian and disaster-relief agencies.

In the US, radio amateurs have access to five discrete channels and may only run USB at a maximum of 50 W ERP. "Operating experience has shown that these frequencies have the desired radio propagation characteristics and that amateur operations can co-exist without interference to the fixed and mobile services," the IWG-4 proposal says. "A secondary allocation of 150 kHz would allow sufficient bandwidth to meet Amateur Service requirements while dynamically avoiding frequencies in use by other services."

WRC-07 agenda item 1.15 will consider establishing a secondary Amateur Radio Service allocation in the band 135.7 to 137.8 kHz. Several countries already have allocated that LF spectrum to Amateur Radio, although the FCC several years ago turned away an ARRL proposal to create a sliver band there for ham radio.

During the September meeting of WP-8A, its Working Group 1, chaired by ARRL Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, completed draft Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM) text for agenda item 1.15.

WP-8A also completed and approved a Draft New Report on the role of the Amateur and Amateur-Satellite services in disaster mitigation and relief. Study Group 8 adopted the report at its September 20-21 meeting.

The next step is for the Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM) February 19 to March 2, 2007, to complete its report covering regulatory, technical, operational and procedural matters for WRC-07 delegates to consider.

E-mail scam

Another E-mail Scam... this one has a special twist just for Hams

By Fred Townsend, AE6QL

Ever hear the saying, *No good deed goes unpunished*? That's

just what is happening now. ARRL members trying to do the right thing are being transformed into useful idiots. Read on and learn how to avoid the useful idiots list.

Most ARRL members know that they can get an e-mail alias that will forward e-mail with their callsign@arrl.net to their regular e-mail account. That's called an alias. It's convenient because anyone that knows your call can send you e-mail. Thank you ARRL for this very nice benefit.

Enter the bad guys: Internet spam is big business. I'm sure you have an inbox full of spam now. Ever wonder how they got your e-mail address? There are many ways. One of the more common ways is to have some phony or even real contest. You sign up, hoping to win something and instead you wind up on some sucker list of people that hope to get something for nothing. However this spammer, or phisher as they are sometimes known, has found something even better than a sucker list. He has found a way to promote his sucker list to a premium list and then expand it to an even bigger list. These premium lists can be sold for big bucks. Even worse, once on such a list it is almost impossible to get off. Never mind that they say you will be removed from their mail list. They have you on a premium sucker list and they are not about to let go of a good thing. To the spammers these premium lists are prized because they know you are someone that will help them expand their sucker list. They call these list members useful idiots.

The term *useful idiot* was coined by Stalin when he said the idiot capitalist will sell us the rope to hang them. A useful idiot spam victim is one that responds to a scam, thereby validating the member, encloses his friends addresses, and feels so good about responding that he tells all of his friends to respond as well. Of course neither you nor your friends know it's a scam, hence the term *useful idiot*.

Here is the entire text of a spammer trolling for useful idiots.

Hi - ae6ql@arrl.net

Please be assured that you will not receive this e-mail again, it is a one off mailing!

Recently I received a chain letter (A piece of mail that was forwarded to me) that contained your e-mail along with several other peoples.

I thought that as your e-mail address was contained in one of these chain letters (forwards) you might have others that you would be willing to send to me. I know that this might sound a bit bizarre but I can assure you that this is a serious request. I am involved in a research project that is based over the next year, we are analysing [sic] Internet mail and trying to come up with some fairly accurate results as far as trends and patterns are concerned, we also need some accurate data regarding the type of mail that circulates around the internet, we know that 69% of all mail is Spam but what we don't know is what % of that Spam accounts for chain mail (forwards of any type, something that has been forwarded to you, a piece of mail that has formed part of a chain).

I would be very grateful if you would be kind enough to forward absolutely anything

and everything that remotely resembles chain mail, forwards of any type (even the rude ones). This project is based over the next year and I need at least 500,000 forwards for this project to be a success, so please keep them coming the more the better and don't worry I have some pretty huge mail boxes to cope with this.

I would be most grateful if you would be kind enough to forward this e-mail to all your friends & family as I need as many as I can get my hands on for the project to be successful

Please send all chain mail (forwards) to the following address.
gemma37@research-project.org

Everyone that helps will receive a copy of our results and findings in January of next year so please help if you can.

Thanks

Gemma

Reference No - (9C365WDAJ8Q)

You will only receive this mail the once, it will not be sent to you again and your e-mail address will not be passed on, however to conform to the law we must give you the opportunity to have your e-mail removed from our list. Please reply with the word delete to have your address removed.

The story sounds pretty good, doesn't it? If you examine it closely you will see a few warts but no smoking gun. There are punctuation errors, the grammar is suspect in places and there is a spelling error (look before the '[SIC]' in the text above). However anyone can make a spelling error. It just suggests the text wasn't very carefully proofed. How can you tell? How can you tell for sure it's a phisher at work?

The biggest wart is in the illogic of several of the statements and a lot of little things that don't really check out. First and foremost, there is no shortage of spam for research so why do they need to make this solicitation? Why does it take 500,000 pieces of mail to make this study a success? (Statistical sampling methods could do it with a few hundred.) If you are only sending this mail once, why do you need to tell someone how to be removed from their list? Not really glaring errors you say? How do I know this solicitation was written by a spammer and not a scholar? Ok, let's dig a little deeper.

Look at the top of the spam text. See the 'Hi - ae6ql@arrl.net' part? Normally there are two parts to an e-mail address: Name & URL. This one has only the URL 'ae6ql@arrl.net' so the spammer is forced to use the URL as a name in his salutation. The spammer's mail list is generated by getting the free call list from the FCC, or some other source, and appending '@arrl.net' to the call. This can easily be done by what is called a mail merge program. It doesn't take a contest to generate 200,000 e-mail addresses if he uses the FCC database. In my case it is a dead give away because I rarely use this alias and I never forward chain letters.

Still not convinced? OK, take a look at his address, gemma37@research-project.org. A researcher would probably have a dot 'edu' rather than a dot 'org'. Again, not a smoking gun. What about the domain, the part of the address after the '@' sign. A lookup of the domain will show it is 'parked' in the UK. There is no web page for this domain, just a parking sticker. The domain is actually for sale.

The fact the domain is parked in the UK is also interesting. The UK is headquarters for the infamous Nigerian scammers. The UK tops the lists for illegal scams.

OK you are the world's worst skeptic and you are still not convinced this is a scam. You really hate spam. You really want to believe that you will be 'doing good' for the world if you send in these chain letters and you are one of these people that can't see a scam coming until it has drained your bank account. Here is something you can do yourself if you ever suspect a scam.

Try typing into Google: 'research-project.org scam'. Here is the top of the list of returns:

- Chain Letter Research Project - Request from Gemma Brown Hoax and Scam Examples Needed! Help in the fight against hoaxes and scams ... Moreover, the website "research-project.org" still contains no content other ...

www.hoax-slayer.com/chain-letter-research-project.html

- Current Issue - Hoax-Slayer Newsletter Moreover, the website "research-project.org" still contains no content other ... The scam message below tries to convince the recipient that some unnamed ...

www.hoax-slayer.com/current-issue.html

- GameDaily Community > Scam'd? <gemma17@research-project.org> to me More options 5:41 am (4 hours ago) ... The e-mail is at "research-project.org" instead of the university's website and ... forums.gamedaily.com/lofiversion/index.php?t82767.html
- Fighting email spam Most people have received "419" or Advance Fee Scams, aka "Nigeria Scam" or "phishing" spam ... Gemma Brown (research-project.org). Hoaxes and chain letters ... www.joewein.de/sw/spam.htm

Convinced? I hope so.

Don't become a useful idiot. Don't reply to anything you suspect and whatever you do, don't sic the spammers on your friends. They probably have all the spam they can use without your help. You have been warned.

de AE6QL

November Sweepstakes

Nov. 4th CW session
Nov. 18th Phone session

Sweepstakes 2006

SCCARA will operate both the CW and PHONE portions of the 2006 ARRL November Sweepstakes at our club station. This contest has a much longer report form to send and copy. It gives us good practice in copying traffic. The CW session is on Nov. 4th and the PHONE session is on Nov. 18 starting at 2100 UTC (1 PM PST). This is a great contest to operate as a club activity. So let's make this a fun activity for our club.

73, Don K6PBQ

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, Oct. 9, 2006



Meeting called to order at 1932

Total number of people present: 35. Number of members: 30; Number of visitors: 5.

Introductions of all present.

Guest Speaker: N6DQ, Rick Huismen. Topic: Software Defined Radio.

Announcements:

- Nominations of officers for 2007
- Last flea market for 2006 at DeAnza College: Saturday, October 14
- Pacificon '06 in San Ramon, October 13-15.
- SVECS Breakfast at VFW Hall in Santa Clara

Club station open for Sweepstakes contests: Nov. 4: CW; Nov. 18: phone

K6PBQ will have scouts at his house for Jamboree on the Air

Sign ups are now being taken for the Christmas luncheon, Dec 16.

Meeting adjourned at 2055.

Submitted by: Jeannie Felix, KG6YOR

Board Meeting, Oct. 10, 2006



Members Present:

KE6KXO Clark Murphy, President
WA6QYS Lou Stierer, Director
AE6QL Fred Townsend, Vice Pres.
K6UDW Jim Tyranski
KK6MX Don Apte, Dir.
K6PBQ Don Village, Dir, Station Trustee
KF6OTD Gwen Stierer

COMMITTEES:

Secretary: Minutes for September meeting were approved.

Treasurer: 2 new members, a couple, have joined the club

Repeater: (Fred) The 440 repeater had to have many soldering repairs to correct preexisting repairs and problems. The S-meter amplifier was finished.

BBS: Gary was not present to make report.

Discussion of nominating committee for Nov. elections.

Discussion: The possibility of sending maximum of two members to the ARRL Division Meeting on 12/2/06 in Livermore. How to entice new members.

Discussion: Need to nudge the M.O.U. (memorandum of understanding) with the City for 2M site and property.

Don Village will reserve the Mt. Madonna site for Field Day 2007. Mark your calendars For June 22, 23,24.

Discussion: Need to create an adequate alternative to storage locker to save more money.

California QSO Party: We made 56 contacts.

Meeting adjourned: 2135.

Submitted by: Jeannie Felix, KG6YOR

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 fill out an Elmer form from the club secretary.

TOPICS

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):
HF operating techniques (SSB, CW): WB6EMR, K6PBQ
Classes/license upgrading: W6ACW
Legal/FCC rules: WB6YRU
SCCARA (club inner workings): K6PBQ, WB6YRU, WA6QYS
Children's Discovery Museum, volunteer operator:
K6PBQ
EchoLink: KK6MX

CONTACTS

W6ACW, Ed Hajny, (408) 739-6105

WB6EMR, James D. Armstrong, Jr.,
evening & msg: (408) 945-1202

KD6FJI, Lloyd DeVaughns,
day: (408) 918-4635, evening: (408) 225-6769
e-mail: kd6fji@arrl.net

KK6MX, Don Apte, (408) 629-0725
e-mail: kk6mx@aol.com

KB6NP, Jon Dutra, day & msg (408) 428-2058
evening (408) 867-8654
packet: home BBS N0ARY
e-mail: jad@aol.com

K6PBQ, Don Village, (408) 263-2789

WA6QYS, Lou Steirer, (408) 241-7999
packet: home BBS N0ARY

WB6YRU, Gary Mitchell, msg (408) 265-2336
also (408) 269-2924
packet: home BBS N0ARY
e-mail: wb6yru@aenet.net

Newsletter Notes

Regarding the article on spam... There's a much simpler way to go—just delete any and all spam.

Whatever you do, NEVER respond to spam, not even to tell them to take you off their list. That just tells them you're a live person.

Trust me on that! The N0ARY BBS used to have an e-mail port. If someone from the internet tried to use it without being registered, the BBS would reply with information on how to register. That reply made their machines think the BBS was a live person and the address got passed around. After a month or so, the BBS was receiving so much spam it would overwhelm the Sun SPARC 2 workstation in just a matter of hours! That why the BBS's e-mail port had to be shut off.

73, Gary

December meeting

Our annual Christmas meeting will be a luncheon on Saturday December 16 at 12:00 noon. This year our luncheon will be at the Bold Knight restaurant, 1600 S. Monterey Hwy

San Jose, just south of Alma ave (Southern Lumber Co.).

This Year we will be having a gift exchange. The way it works is that everyone brings a wrapped gift suitable for a man or woman costing about \$10.00. This type of gift exchange is always a lot of fun to participate in.

Reservations need to be in by Friday Dec. 8 (see sign-up sheet). Talk-in will be on our repeater, W6UU, 146.985 - (simplex if you can't hit the repeater). Why not renew your membership at the same time?

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

73, Don K6PBQ

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the packet network:

=====
Date: 22 Nov 2005 12:21
From: W1GMF@W1GMF
To: HUMOR@USA
Subject: HUMOR FOR TODAY 1029

Today's Joke

A man drives to a gas station and has his tank filled up. The gas pumper spots two penguins sitting in the back seat of the car and asks the driver, "What's up with the penguins in the back seat?"

The man in the car says, "I found them. I asked myself what to do with them, but I haven't had a clue."

"You should take them to the zoo."

"Hey, that's a good idea," says the man in the car and drives away.

The next day the man with the car is back at the same gas station. The gas pumper shakes his head. "Hey, they're still here! I thought you were going to take them to the zoo."

"Oh, I did," says the driver. "We had a swell time. Today we're going to the beach."

Daily Thoughts

"If at first you don't succeed, you're running about average." - W.E. Hickson

"The only way to the top is by persistent, intelligent, hard work." - A.T.Mercier

"Luck is the by-product of busting your fanny."
- Don Sutton

Last Laugh

My friend's husband always teases her about her lack of interest in household chores. One day, he came home with a gag gift, a refrigerator magnet that read, "Martha Stewart doesn't live here."

The next day he came home to find the magnet holding up a slip of paper. The note read: "Neither does Bob Vila."

=====
Date: 6 Jan 2005 16:55
From: ZL3AI@ZL3VML
To: HUMOUR@WW
Subject: Psychiatrist/Exam/Forgot

Psychiatrist

Seymour Berger, a famous psychiatrist, told his wife, Gertie "I feel down today, I am going to see my colleague."

Gertie asks, "But you are the best psychiatrist, aren't you?"

Seymour says, "Yes, I know. But my colleague charges less than I do"

Exam

Jon and Amanpreet were in a mental institution. This place had an annual contest picking two of the best patients and gives them two questions. If they got them correct, they're deemed cured and free to go.

Jon was called into the doctor's office first and asked if he understood that he'd be free if he answered the questions correctly.

The doctor said, "Jon, what would happen if I poked out one of your eyes?"

Jon said, "I'd be half blind."

"That's correct. What if I poked out both eyes?"

"I'd be completely blind."

The doctor stood up, shook Jon's hand, and told him he was free.

On Jon's way out, as the doctor filled out the paperwork, Jon mentioned the exam to Amanpreet. He told him what questions were going to be asked and gave him the answers.

So Amanpreet came in. The doctor went through the formalities and asked,

"What would happen if I cut off one ear?"

Amanpreet, remembering what Jon had said was the correct answer said, "I'd be half blind."

The doctor looked a little puzzled, but went on. "What if I cut off the other ear?"

"I'd be completely blind," Amanpreet answered.

"Amanpreet, can you explain how you'd be *blind*?"

"My hat would fall down over my eyes."

Forgot

An absent-minded husband thought he had conquered his problem of trying to remember his wife's birthday and their anniversary. He opened an account with a florist, provided that florist with the dates and instructions to send flowers to his wife on these dates along with an appropriate note signed, "Your loving husband."

His wife was thrilled by this new display of attention and all went well until next year, on their anniversary, when he came home, kissed his wife and said off-handedly, "Nice flowers, honey. Where'd you get them?"

=====
Date: 12 Jan 2005 08:23
From: W1GMF@W1GMF
To: HUMOR@USA
Subject: HUMOR FOR TODAY 0112

Today's Joke

A man was driving home late one afternoon and he was driving above the speed limit. He notices a police car with its red lights on in his rear view mirror. He thinks, "I can outrun this guy," so he floors it and the race is on. The cars are racing down the highway -- 60, 70, 80, 90 miles an hour. Finally, as his speedometer passes 100, the guy figures what the heck and gives up. He pulls over to the side of the road.

The police officer gets out of his cruiser and approaches the car. He leans down and says, "Listen mister, I've had a really lousy day, and I just want to go home. Give me a good excuse and I'll let you go."

The man thought for a moment and said, "Three weeks ago, my wife ran off with a police officer. When I saw your cruiser in my rear view mirror, I thought you were that officer and you were trying to give her back!"

Daily Thoughts

"Just when I was getting used to yesterday, along came today."

"I wouldn't say I invented tacky, but I definitely brought it to its present high popularity."

"When a woman says she'll be ready to go out in five more minutes, she's using the same meaning of time as when a man says the football game just has five minutes left. Neither of them is counting time outs, commercials, or replays."

Reader's Story

When my little sister was six-years-old, we went to the toy store in the mall with our parents and our aunt for her birthday. We walked in and she saw this large fairy tale castle made out of building blocks. She stopped, grabbed her heart, and said, "Oh, this is just wonderful! I have been wanting one of these for years." She is only six!

~ Maria H.

=====
Date: 9 Jan 2005 01:55
From: ZL3AI@ZL3VML
To: HUMOUR@WW
Subject: Spelling

Sum times its a reel challange to spell words rite. Yore spell checker cant catch everything, ewe no.

Four eggs ample, in 1989 Vice President Dan "Potatoo Head" Quayle cent out 30,000 Christmas cards that said:

"May our nation continue to be the beakon of hope to the world."

Annual December Meeting

Our annual December meeting will be a luncheon on Saturday December 16, at the Bold Knight restaurant - 1600 S. Monterey Hwy. San Jose. We will have a choice of three entrees, \$20.00 each. Reservations need to be in by Friday, December 8. Talk-in on our W6UU, 146.985-(simplex if you can't hit the repeater). I'm looking forward to seeing all of you there. Why not renew your membership (back cover) at the same time? See December Meeting article for information on the gift exchange.

-Don K6PBQ

For the annual meeting in December, sign me up for the following lunch(es):

_____ Bold Knight Steak _____ Lemon Chicken Piccata _____ Filet of Salmon

Name: _____ Call: _____

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



SCCARA
 Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Assn.
 PO Box 6
 SAN JOSE CA 95103-0006

Affiliate of the ARRL,
 American Radio Relay League



FIRST CLASS

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SCCARA Membership Form for 2007

(Fill in name and address if there is no mailing label above; 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 ARRL member
 Renewal

E-mail: _____ Packet: _____

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

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: \$20 Individual \$25 Family \$10 Student (under 18)

Give this completed form (or copy) with payment to the Secretary or Treasurer at any meeting or mail to the club address above.