

SHORT SKIP

SONOMA COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS, Inc.

NOVEMBER, 82 VOL. #11

73 Magazine DX Column November Chod Harris VP2ML p. 3

QSLs and QSLing

There is more to DXing than working the DX station; getting the confirmation of the contact can be every bit as challenging as breaking through the pileup. But a few hints and suggestions can substantially improve your QSL percentage, and get some of those coveted pasteboards "on the wall."

In this first part of this series on QSLing we will consider the card itself: the selection, design and printing of your own QSL card. In future columns we will advise how to fill out the card, how to get the card to the appropriate place, and QSL bureaus.

Your Personal QSL Card.

Given the transient nature of most DX QSOs, the DX station has little opportunity to get to know you. If the QSLing is handled by a QSL manager, the person filling out your return card will know even less about you. So your QSL card reflects your personality and amateur radio interests even more than your DX contact.

There are no rules requiring that acknowledgement of a DX contact must be in the form of a postcard-sized paper. QSL means acknowledgement of a contact, not a special card. But everyone who seeks those acknowledgements uses the universally accepted QSL card. In more than 100,000 requests for my QSLs, I have never received a request without such a card. Only a tiny handful have been other than postcard sized. So while there are no formal requirements for the dimensions of the QSL, I recommend sticking to the standard format.

Choosing your Card

When the time comes to choose your QSL card, you first have to decide on a custom card or an off-the-shelf commercial card. There are dozens of commercial QSL card printers. Most offer a set of samples and designs for a nominal fee. Once upon a time the QSL printers would obtain the FCC list of new licensees, and send you a set of samples and order forms before you even received your license! You were so pleased to learn your callsign that you immediately ordered 1000 of their fanciest cards. 950 of these are probably still gathering dust in your basement.

The advantages of commercial QSL printers are many: they produce a good looking card at relatively small expense.

CLUB OFFICERS 1982

President	Len Gerdaldi	K6ANP
	795-4335	
V. Pres.	Spencer Barnes	WA6IXC
	526-1514	
Sect.	Bart Holmes	KA6HGW
	528-3955	
Tres.	Frank Gleason	KB6OK
	584-0907	
Rptr. Chair	Al Bloom	NIAL
	838-4524	
Activities	Chuck Sabin	N6DDK
	795-2371	
Board Mem.	Steve Schaffer	KD6GC
At Large	546-8860	
SCRA, Inc.	W6LFJ	
RPTR.	WB6PVS	
Short Skip	Hank Davis	W6DTV
	823-7885	
	Sarah Davis	N6FAX
DX Watch	Chod Harris	VP2ML
Educ. Train.	Al Bloom	NIAL
Explorer Post	Mike Ter Sarkisoff	
599	823-8977	N6DBZ
Raffle Chair.	Lyman Wiltshire	WB6SMY
	833-2000	
Club Badges	Jim Tomer	W6CYM
Club QSL Mgr.	Jim Tomer	W6CYM
Public Services		
Coord.	Hank Davis	W6DTV
Rpstr. Tech.	Al Bloom	NIAL
Chair	838-4524	
Field Day	Don Osborn	WA6ACX
	829-0565	
	Gary Davis	WB6PMN
Public Rel.	Van Gross	W6GFY
	544-3485	
TRAILER CHAIR	Al Schmidt	KD6NT
	542-4793	

Club meeting November-7:30 PM OES Planning room 1st. Wed. Month
 Board Meetings announced at meeting.
 Pacific Dir. Bill Stevens 2074 Foxworthy Ave.
 San Jose, CA. 95124 W6ZM
 Vice. Dir. Jettie B. Hill, W6RFF
 22410 Janice Ave. Cupertino, CA. 95014
 RACES OFFICERS

Radio Officer	Herb Sullivan	K6QXB
	526-3307	
Assn. Radio Officer	Lyle Meek	N6BLN
	526-3233	
Comm. Dir.	Press Thomson	WB6PUE
	527-2677	

CURRENTS AROUND THE CIRCUIT...

It is the month of November--What does it bring?--For one thing besides turkey is the election of a new slate of officers... They have to be presented to the club and an election is necessary. So many members have been inactive this year that several public service requests have had to be canceled. If you were inactive because you did not like the program or for any other reason now is the time for you to step forward and offer your name or another one willing to go forward with your new ideas.

BL 10-The annual elections shall be held at the regular November meeting. Nominations will also be solicited from the floor. The elections shall be held by secret ballot of the full members present for any office for which there is more than one candidate. New officers officially assume their duties on Jan. 1 83. In past new Presidents have been reconized at the Xmas Party.

BL 1#-Both the property and financial audits shall be presented to the incoming Board prior to it's installation at a joint meeting with old Board at the December Board Meeting.

Well the nominating committee is busy, but you still have time to place a name for any office with them. Call Steve Schaffer KD6GC at 546-8860. If not you can do it at the December meeting.

Remember the people you place on the ballot cannot run a high level program by them selves you are part of the Club and I am sure have some ideas that will work--let them know. The member at large is your path way to the board--use him.

AMATEUR OF THE YEAR.....

November meeting is the time for all interested members to submit their nominations for Amateur of the year award.

Submit your nominations in writing to Steve Lund, WA8LLY who is chairman of this committee.

Remember November is the Month as the Award is presented at the Xmas Party.

BEACONS.....

Those of you that are interested in how your signals reach different parts of the world there are several Beacons now on 14.100 and they start at ten minutes after the hour and a different stations signal is broadcast every minute. You can tell from the station you hear how you may get out???

KNOW YOUR CANDIDATES.....

PRESIDENT.. Al Bloom NIAL-First licensed as Novice, WN3JSU in Feb. 1968. Upgraded to Advanced in April 1971. Extra in 1972. Ex WAIRZC then to NLAL. Worked at ARRL HDQ. from 1972-1976 as WIAW operator. Awards include 3 BPL, (3 times), 40 wpm code proficiency, Bicent. WAS, QST Cover plaque award, #10 in country open CD party, (1973), Public Service Awards. Works as engineer at HP. Repeater chairman, Program Chair, Board member, etc...

V President.. Spencer Barnes..WA6IXC Advanced Call. First licensed in 1964 as WN7AZD in Puyallup, Washington. Graduated from Washington State University in 1966. My first rig was an HRO6-Tal Rcvr. and Viking Ranger Xmtr. I still have the rcvr. I joined the Club in Oct.-Nov. of 1980. V President of Club for the last year as replacement for KS6W Geo.

I am a registered Mechanical Engineer and work as an Engineering Manager for H-P.

Sect. Doug Bender WAØJRB Advanced License Novice in 1964, WNØJRB, General in 1965. Was in the Air Force and plans to join again. In the Army for 5 years. Interested in 2 meter SSB, HF SSB and CW. Is a weekly sked with his DAD on 15. Is an engineer for HP in application marketing.

Tres.. Bill Thomas WD6DXV first licensed in 1977 as General and Advanced in 1980. Has been in a Motor Cycle Club from 1946. Past Team Chief for Sebastopol Area, RACES. 2 meters main interest in radio. Works at Mare Island for the Navy.

BOARD MEMBER AT LARGE

Jim Boyett WB6UAB first licensed in 1973 while in Hawaii. Is an advanced license holder with interest in Computers, Radio, Photography, and motorcycles. Has a commercial license. Teaches at school to support the family.

Don Osborn First licensed in 1975, General in 1977, Extra Class now. Has been on the Field Day Chairman and on Committee several years. Helped with the Xmas Party last three or four years. Wagon Master for the Mobileers group. Likes to Rag Chew on CW. Works as a technician contracted to PG and E. WA6ACX.

Warren Klinger WB6RHP. Coast repeater owner and Sponsor. Team Chief RACES for the Coast area. Dedicated Red Cross Worker. Coastal Volunteer Chief. Good Chili cook.

YOUR PRESIDENT...

I'm sure you have heard the fantastic news about the S.C.R.A. receiving the Pacific Division Outstanding Club of the Year Award. I want to thank the officers, board members, committee leaders and members at large for their dedicated time and effort; those of you who actively supported the organization. We know the names and calls of the doers. They attend the meetings, volunteer for committee assignments, assist with walkathons. They accept challenging and demanding positions, they offer suggestions and constructive criticism. They work for change within the framework of the organization. Their profile is different from those who sit on the side line or outside the Club and continually complain or find nothing but fault with the organization. An organization that has the honor of winning the Outstanding Club of The Year Award twice. The only two years its been awarded.

I firmly believe this Club has the ability to set higher goals and the potential to successfully achieve them. The potential is with the vast majority of members, those of you who have yet to offer your skills, talents, and time in helping the 10 percent of the members who carry 90 percent of the Club duties and activities.

Again my sincere thanks and congratulations to the doers for a outstanding Club.

Now lets get on with the Club Member of The Year Award. All nominations must be submitted to the Award Chairman Steve Lund WA8LLY, 1055 Jennings Ave; Santa Rosa, CA. 95401. The nominations must be submitted in writing by November 13, 1982, stating the candidates name and reasons for the nomination. The nomination must be signed by a paid up Club member. Only individuals nominations will be accepted, petitions will not be considered.

This is your opportunity to voice your choice for the person you believe should receive the Club's Bench Mark Award.

Len K6ANP

XMAS PARTY
DEC. 11 1982

WINDSOR MOBILE COUNTRY CLUB..
*109 CONDE LANE FRONTAGE RD WEST SIDE 101

6:00 PM TO 11:00 ???

SWAP SALE WANT.....

WA6KAT--545-4973--CB Cobra 40 & Ant.\$40.00
Whites metal detector with Gold Probe..\$275.00
Tech. Dipper 440Kc. to 280MHz--\$35.00..Dentron
Super Tuner-160-10--Kw Size \$85.00...Phone Mate
400--Answering device--&75.00.....
WA6QQF-415-799-4175---Vocom Desk or mobile
Unit,25 Watts out-Speaker-Charger, for ICOM2A
90 Ft. of Rohm #18 Tower with two top units...
WA4UAB-545-5900--2-Vacation Ant.(can mou
nt on window sill) Like New \$20.00 Ea.Speech
processor(Comdel) for Mike, With Pwr. Manual
needs little work \$40.00...KWM2-Noise Blanker
\$25.00---KWM@ Novice Adapter(xtal),\$25.00.....
Stand Mike-\$10.00--2775 Bardy SR.....
Ham repair--WB6ZRP Jock--575-0768--84
Barham SR,CA. 95401.....

Radio Shack

STORE NO. 3855

ZANE BATES
MANAGER

510 FARMERS LANE
SANTA ROSA, CA. 95405

TELEPHONE
546-8423

WA6WYZ 795-2555--Heath Kit Amp. SR 221
80/15--\$450.00
N6OH 763-0476--Regency Scanner K100
Programable--Book--\$100.00.....

SHORT SKIP will print the letter that was used
for the Small Club Award and it will be handed
out at the November meeting.

NOVEMBER PROGRAM--Bill WA6KXR Scharffenberg
will use slides and talk of his trip to China
at our next meeting. Come and see and hear...

The Board gave approval for new stationary
both letter heads and envelopes.

A guide book is planned for the new mem-
bers of the board and officers to give a first
time officer a general idea of what his job is.

Nov. 10 th will be the next board meeting
to be held at Steve Schaffer's home on Mark
west rd.

Starting in January the Mast Head of Sho-
rt Skip will be the new letter head.

On Oct. 16/17 the ARRL inter Sect. Traff-
ic Test was held.

Don't forget that the November meeting is
very important. Election.....

CONVENTION

The ARRL Pacific Convention is over and
everyone that attended enjoyed the program.
Romance Novel Writ ers say your first sentence
should be controversial and this one is. To some
it was great--to others it was ho hum, etc...

The North Coast Groups did quite well--
Our Club came home Winner of the small Clubs
Award. Marin won two Awards for Amateur Radio
Service and Vaughn of Ukiah won the Grand Prize
a TS 830 S..BOY...

Individual Winners were as follows:

Warren WB6RHP, Judy KA6RQK, Sarah N6FAX, Don
KB6LO, Georgia N6GZU, Pam KA6RLU, Hank W6DTV,
Bob Smith SCM,NA6T, W6LRN Marin, Don WA6ACX..

Some humor and some problems were part
of the weekend. Terry the Priate WA6RNF took
over K6BJ the Convention station for the para-
chute drop. Ken N6GXI worked his first only
CW contact over the same station. Betty and
Hoppy had a bad deal with their room--call bety
and get the facts. Some one knocked on Van's
Mobile Unit at 3am in the morn but he just roll-
ed over and went back to sleep. Hank Davis tied
for fourth place in the junk antenna contest.

There were a few good sesslons, Skywatch,
HF Antennas, Emergenct fourom, Sky Dive, Legal
Aspects, AMSAT, Room 122....

From the North Coast 39 Amateurs and their
families attended.

We are looking forward to Reno 1983

K6MZ Lyle Anderson a member of our Club is
in the Vets Hospital 3801 Moranda Ave. Palo Alto,
CA. 94304. Ward 7C1

For the YL member of the Club it was req-
uested that at the Reno 1983 Convention that there
be a Forum by YL..S

QRP

In the QRP Meeting the following items were
considered important.

1. Full breakin.
2. RIT, + 5 kc in Receiver.
3. Good Audio Filter.
4. Ant. Noise Bridge. Placed between
ant match and recver.
5. Eook up QRP Article in CQ Mag.

ANTENNAS...

A great Question that seems to bother most
is? Does your antenna radiate where you want
it to? Do you know where your antenna radiates?
This would be a good subject for a Club meeting
some time.

82 FALL PICNIC

September 18th arrived and the weather tried to scare the Club away from Doyle Park but the hardy souls prevailed and fun was had by all. There were around 40 people that attended. The main part of the program, the chili cook out was won by the Prince of Jenner Warren Warren WB6RHP. His was a novel chilli. In fact it was a chilli pie. Too hot for my taste but liked by many. The cook out varied from mild to Super Hot. WA6RNF Terry had the Super Hot, in fact he had to bring it in a vaccumm bottle. Warrens 1 st. prize was a 5# Fire Extinguisher, Terry 2 nd., and Len third.

Steve Schaeffer conducted the games---- Number one was the Frisbie Distance--Women, 1 st. Laura, 2nd. Amie, 3rd. Crisie..

Mens Distance--Greg 1st. David 2nd..

Ladys 3 leg Race--Lanna and Beckie 1 st., Judy and Helen 2 nd., Jennifer and Danna 3 rd..

Mens 3 Leg Race-- Greg and Danny 1 st., Steve and Doug 2 nd., Don and Frank 3 rd., nearly..

All are looking forward to next year. N6FFL Irma, WA6ACX Don, KA6RQK Judy, WA6RNF Terry, W6FPL Seymour, N6UFO Barbara, KA6DPE Wife and Friend, KD6GC Steve KF6GA Pat, and Greg, N6DDX Chuck and Family, K6ANP and Family W6CYM JIM and Helen, WB6RHP Warren, N1AL AL, WA6JRB Doug, KA6HGW Bart, N6GYK Sharon and Family, N6FAX Sarah, W6DTV Hank...

A DAY ON THE MOUNT

You hear a great many gripes about the local repeater, yet again you hear very little thanks to the work crew when they went up the Mountain.

Al N1AL, Don WA6ACX, N6FFL Irma and Terry WA6RNF, did go up the mountain and spent about 5 or 6 hrs., out of their day off, working to up date the repeater. Al and Don spent their time hanging on the tower changing and manipulating antennas to find out which one was better. They selected the old 4 bay folded dipole. The relocation and raising of the power level regained a respectable signal in the area we needed.

Again Short Skip wishes to thank the Crew for their effort on behalf of all those that use the 73 repeater.

XMAS PARTY.....

TICKETS Members and family-\$5.00 \$6.00 if purchased at door. Cut off date Dec. 1, 1982. Children under 14 \$3.00. Non members 50% more.

PRIZES: Can be won by members of Club. There will be male, female, children prizes.

YL NEWS BY N6FYV

Well fillas it looks like the YL's are shinning again. Two more have upgraded. Jerri N6FCV is now the GENERAL of the Bremmer house hold and Irma is up to ADVANCED now with a new call on the way.

Terri KF6CA and Connie N6FYV helped with the MARCH of DIMES BIKE-a-THON. It was not one of the biggy races of 1982. There were a total of....10 entrants.

Anita N6GGU will be leaving October 20 with her family on a 2 year cruise aboard their yacht.

The YL's of the Area attending the Santa Cruz Convention were Sarah N6FAX, Betty AG6C, Irma N6FFL, Pam KA6RLU, Helen N6GTF, Georgia N6GZU, Judy KA6RQK, Pat KF6AC.

The winners were Sarah N6FAX, two code tapes, Second Op, QSL cards, Pam KA6RLU box of stationary, Judy KA6RQK Antenna matcher for 2 meters, potted plant, and a packet of goodies, Georgia N6GZU 10 meter 4 element beam antenna and a potted plant. In addition most of the ladies received a commemorative T-Shirt.

Betty AG6C got a refund of a whopping 26¢ on her motel room.

I guess there was a dessert served at the convention that no one could decide what it was. Each of the ladies tasted it and decided it was chocolate mousse. The last person to taste the cake was Betty, Her only comment was that "It was the pits".

Have a good month.

73 Connie.

XMAS PARTY CONT.....

Anyone attending should bring an exchange gift..(not over \$2.00) Male bring gift for male-Female bring gift for Female-Child bring prize for child etc...The Date for the XMAS Party is December 11, 1982....Doors open at 6.00pm and we have to be out around 11.00, more later on this. PREREGISTER Send Checks to Steve Schaffer. Make them out to S.C.R.A...2320 Mark West Springs Rd., Santa Rosa, CA. 95404.....

BYOB--Club will furnish mixer and soft drinks.. You should bring your own plates and silverware. Club will provide Turkeys(in many forms), Coffee, sugar, napkins, ..Party goers should plan to bring the following: By last name. A-E Salad--F-I Dessert--J-N Gravy and or Dressing (stove top ?), O-S Veggies, T-Z Chips and Dips or Cranberry Sauce.....

FUNDS

At present funds are as follows:

Repeater \$1431.00

General \$1599.66 (after Marquee)

FORUM

Using the Amateur Radio Satellites by Steve Lund, WA8LLY

At the Pacific Division Convention in Santa Cruz, one of the most popular sessions was the AMSAT forum. Very few in attendance had actually made a QSO through one of the satellites. There seemed to be little understanding of what equipment was required to work the OSCARS. When I returned from the convention, I searched through all my satellite literature and discovered that nothing has been written to help the beginner make that first QSO.

As shown in Table 1, there are 8 operating satellites. AO9, RS-3, and RS-4 are for educational purposes. AO8 and RS-5 through RS-8 all have what are known as Mode A transponders aboard. Mode A indicates an uplink frequency in the 2-meter band and a satellite downlink in the 10-meter band.

The operating schedule for AO8 is shown in Table 2. The days are the UTC days. All satellites are off for general use on Wednesdays. Please don't use the satellites then even if you hear signals in the downlink passband. Mode J operation will be discussed in a future newsletter. RS-6 and RS-8 are on everyday except Wednesdays. RS-5 and RS-7 are generally turned off and are essentially spares.

The first obstacle facing the beginner is determining when the satellite is within range. Orbital prediction programs for all personal computers and hand-held calculators are available from the AMSAT Software Exchange, P.O. Box 338, Ashmore, IL 61912. I have programs available for the HP 85, HP 41C, and the Timex 1000.

If you don't have a computer, you're not out of luck, as Project OSCAR,

Table 1

SATELLITE OPERATING INFORMATION

Satellite	UPLINK (MHz)	DOWN LINK (MHz)	BEACONS (MHz)	PERIOD (Minutes)	INCREMENT (Degrees W)	INCLINATION (Degrees)	ALTITUDE (Kilometers)
AO8 OSCAR	145.900-146.000 (Mode J) 145.850-145.950 (Mode A)	435.200-435.100 (Mode J) 29.400-29.500 (Mode A)	435.110 (Mode J) 29.401 (Mode A)	103.197	25.797	98.796	739
UOSAT AO9	NONE	NONE	145.825 435.025 2401.000	95.294	23.811	97.475	535
RS-3			29.321 29.401	118.51870	29.75640	82.9606	1632.7
RS-4			29.360 29.403	119.39478	29.97652	82.9566	1666.0
RS-5 Robot	145.910-145.950 145.826	29.410-29.450 29.331	29.452 29.331	119.55470	30.01578	82.9590	1671.5
RS-6	145.910-145.950	29.410-29.450	29.411 29.453	118.71724	29.80612	82.9592	1641.5
RS-7 Robot	145.960-146.000 145.835	29.460-29.500 29.341	29.501 29.341	119.19683	29.92611	82.9568	1661.5
RS-8	145.960-146.000	29.460-29.500	29.461 29.502	119.76515	30.08624	82.9568	1675.3

PO Box 1136, Los Altos, CA 94022, has a calendar available for \$8.75 that lists all the orbits for the satellites in Table 2 through December 31, 1982. For the beginner, it is easiest to listen for passes with equator-crossing longitudes in the 90-150° W range.

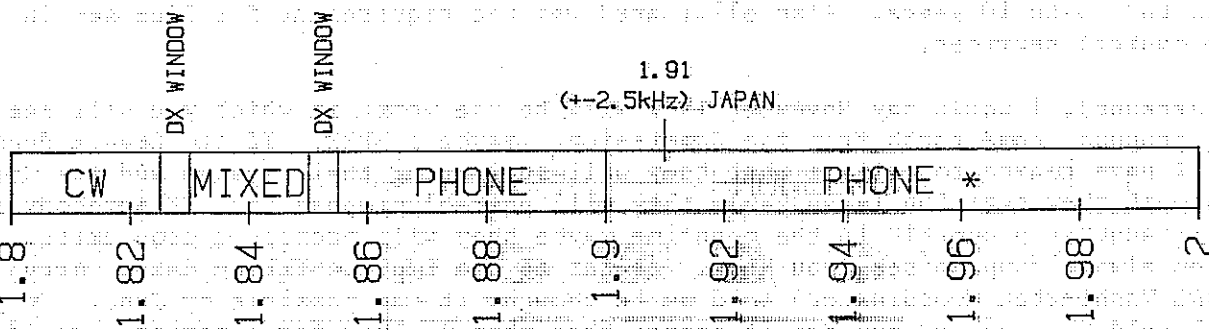
Next month: Receivers, transmitters, and antennas for OSCAR use.

Table 2

OSCAR (A08) Operating Format -

Monday Mode A
 Tuesday Mode A and Mode J
 Wednesday Mode (Experimental Day)
 Thursday Mode A
 Friday Mode A and Mode J
 Saturday Mode J
 Sunday Mode J

160 METERS



MIXED = Used only when other segments full
 = Not to be used for nets
 * = Geographic restrictions apply

NOTE: The "DX Windows" are only for
 DX stations working split frequency.
 No US/Canadian transmissions here.

American Radio Relay League



1983 Pacific Division Convention

W5YI REPORT

PRES. REAGAN SIGNS AMATEUR RADIO BILL INTO LAW

On September 13, President Reagan signed into law H.R. 3239, (now Public Law 97-259) amending the Communications Act to put into effect many of the FCC's legislative proposals. Subjects addressed include lotteries, private land mobile services, internal FCC rules, radio frequency interference to home entertainment equipment, non-broadcast license renewals and CB/Amateur radio licensing and violations monitoring.

The new law authorizes a lottery mechanism which the FCC could use for awarding licenses or authorizations in any of the services over which it has jurisdiction. The Commission is now authorized to require a minimum shielding and filtering capability on "home electronic equipment and systems" in order to protect such equipment from radio frequency interference.

The amateur radio rules have been amended to allow the FCC to use volunteers to assist in preparing and administering amateur radio license examinations and (with Citizens Banders) to help in monitoring for violations in their respective services. Both CBers and amateurs will be exempt from the interception prohibitions of Section 605 of the Communications Act. Other changes allow the FCC to be reimbursed from private parties for travel expenses incurred in attending privately sponsored functions such as ham conventions and to grant license renewals for up to 10 years. Also eliminated was the requirement for licenses in the CB and radio control services.

(FCC), (Jackson). I would say November 1982 will be the month in which you will see some sort of proposal come forth from the Commission...maybe a NPRM. If the League does petition-and I have reason to believe that they will-suggesting their system and the Commission believes what they petition is workable they will probably propose it. If somebody else comes in (with another proposal) in the meantime maybe they will propose a compromise.... the Commission always compromises, you know. As far as the implementation date, Perry Williams (ARRL Washington Coordinator) told me he thought it was possible by June. My jaw dropped and I said, "I hope you can get it sooner than that". Look for a period...rapid for amateurs is 90 days.

FCC TO AUTHORIZE NO CODE AMATEUR LICENSE SOON.....

(W5YI)--The Commission has said they are in favor of a "no code" amateur license on frequencies 30MHz and up-providing the WARC accord is ratified. The FCC has been unable to implement the codeless class due to the cost. Now that self-administration of amateur licenses is law, do you see early inactivation of the codeless ham ticket?

(FCC)- Absolutely. That is the number one or number two priority with the Commission. The only thing that could be higher than that is releasing the 10-MHz band to the Amateur Radio Service. The "no code" is a very high priority. I made a suggestion that they let the volunteer exam program get started without being intertwined and mixed up with the no-code. My feeling was that the volunteer examining system by itself "could fly". It will be a rocky road and maybe we'll get sued a few times but eventually it will work itself out. On the other hand, I feel the no-code license as a potential albatross that could sink the whole ship. If they tie those two together then, who knows in two years the Commission may be still giving the tests. They will still be haggling over that.

(W5YI)-Do you have any idea when we might expect to see some rulemaking on the no code ham ticket?

(FCC)-This fall. It is going to be a real interesting fall. I see the Commission eliminating the code from the Technician Class license. I hope so anyway. That's the way to do it. I think we have a no-code license now. I don't attach a lot of importance to the Novice code since that is already volunteer administered. There are no guidelines for it. How do we know if they know 5 words per minute code or not?

W5YI REPORT Cont'd.

FCC PROPOSES NEW HAM POWER LIMIT SPEC'S

The FCC has issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FCC #82-410) seeking to establish a new maximum transmitting power measurement guideline for the Amateur Radio Service. The Commission wants to replace the present input power system which the Commission said was "archaic and unsuitable." The proposed rule change principally involves a new definition of transmitting power in terms of peak envelope power (PEP) output to replace "definitions, limits and measuring procedures developed for the amateur radio technology of the 1920's. Output peak envelope power (PEP) is a measure of output power at a point in the radio frequency cycle that envelopes cycle that envelopes the entire signal being transmitted. The FCC said "PEP" measurements can be clearly applied to virtually all emission types and can be easily computed from carrier power for many popular emission modes.

But the FCC again made it clear that the present rules governing power limitations for the Amateur Services were antiquated and referred to "obsolete vacuum tube technology" which "have no clear meaning" for solid state transmitters and amplifiers now in common use." The FCC went as far as to say that for much of the equipment now in use, "the rules require a complex and often dangerous disassembly procedure to measure input power." Measurements of input power and transmitter power, as required by present rules, "is difficult and impractical in the single sideband mode and with other modern and innovative modulation techniques," the Commission said. In late September, the FCC Commissioners issued still another amateur power limit NPRM. This time it was not linked to any other subject.

THE AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE POWER LIMITS AS SUGGESTED BY THE FCC....

The new proposal limits amateurs operating on Novice frequencies to 200 PEP watts output. All other amateurs would be limited to 1500 watts PEP output, except for operation in areas or on frequencies protecting military zones where a 50 watt PEP limit would apply. (This applies generally to the 420/450 MHz ham band.) The 1500 watt PEP output limitation was proposed since this would not require a reduction in power most operators currently use. The Commission asked the amateur community to give their views on these power limits. The new proposed rules do not require the necessity of accurately measuring input power as currently required "since other means of determining compliance with power limits are available."

Among other advantages of the proposed change, definition of power in terms of PEP output would enable amateurs to transmit at the same minimum power across all bands. Power would not have to be limited by the decline in amplifier efficiency at the higher frequencies, and an operator would not have to operate at the upper margin of amplifier capability to maintain power at higher frequencies.

The proposed also would revise the present multi-meaning definition of effective radiated power (ERP), basing it on transmitter power delivered to the antenna, as measured in PEP terms. The FCC said the change should have no effect on most amateur repeater operations.

It also asked for comments of impedance matching during station inspections by FCC engineers and on Deadlines to file comments will be announced shortly.

WARC TREATY REPORTED OUT OF SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE.....

The much publicized World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC) which concluded in 1979 is now well on its way toward ratification by the United States Senate. The WARC accord (Treaty 97-21) has been considered and approved "as written" by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. The Committee could have recommended that the WARC document be accepted in part...or with additional conditions or "reservations," and this was indeed considered. The United States took a record six reservations during the international conference. A reservation offers escape from disagreeable decisions of the majority.

NOTE For those that went to the ARRL Conference at Santa Cruz if you have any and some had plenty please write a letter to N6KO %of SCCARC P.O. BOX 238 Santa Cruz, CA. 95061. Your letters will be covered by the SCCARC and then sent on to the RENO Convention Group so the same problem would not happen their.....

Y 2W

SONOMA COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS, Inc

P. O. BOX 116
SANTA ROSA, CA. 95402

CLUB CALL W6LFFJ
REPEATER WB6PVS

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