



HANK'S SWAP SHOP

Rick Reiner K6ZWB 150 Stony Point Rd
Phone: 542-6907 Santa Rosa, CA 95401
Noncommercial ham ads printed free. Please
call when item is sold. Ads run 2 months.

QUANTICS DIGITAL SIGNAL PROCESSOR kit
as in W9GR's article Sept QST. Bought one,
got one as a gift -- don't need two! \$90, save
tax/shipping. Al N1AL 538-7115.

KLM 80W AMP, 2 meters \$50. Richard
KC6RDH 528-0272.

MFJ 817 SWR/power meter 144/440 MHz
\$50. John WB6FRZ 838-6398.

HEATH HW101 80-10M transceiver, pwr sup,
mic \$150. Kelly KD6CJQ 527-1539.

HEATH IO 4205 scope, 5 MHz, dual-trace,
manuals \$50. Rick K6ZWB 542-6907.

ESU FT-102 80-10, 150W, with CW/SSB
ers \$550. Yaesu mic for above \$75.
Yaesu speaker w/ phone patch for above \$75.
Chuck K6ZUR 546-7326.

HEATH HW100, 80-10M, 100W. HW102
SWR bridge. Homebrew matchbox. All for
\$150. Mike KD6ORI 526-9655.

YAESU DX-401B, 80-10M, 180W, tube-type,
ext VFO \$300. Homebrew 1 KW linear w/two
572B tubes. \$200. Bill N6GHG 431-8636.

KENWOOD 940S, mic, ext spkr, keyer, no
manuals \$1100. Chris 415-485-2951.

BUTTERNUT BEAM 10/15/20 meters, best
offer. Bob K6EAN 792-1525.

YAESU 470 144/440 HT, .2/5W, 12V bat, Hi-
gain ant, best offer. Gary KC6WTE 575-9119.

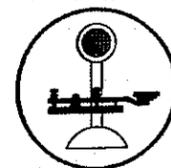
COMMODORE 64 computer 12V/110V trade.
80 METER LOADING COILS for trade.
144/440 MAG MOUNT, trade for 5/8 wave
mag mount. Bob N6RMW 542-5209.
[Continued page 11]

PLEASE DO NOT DELAY
DATED MATERIAL:

DUES ARE DUE!
JOHN BRECKENRIDGE
WB6FRZ
574 WILD OAK DR
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SHORT SKIP



Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.

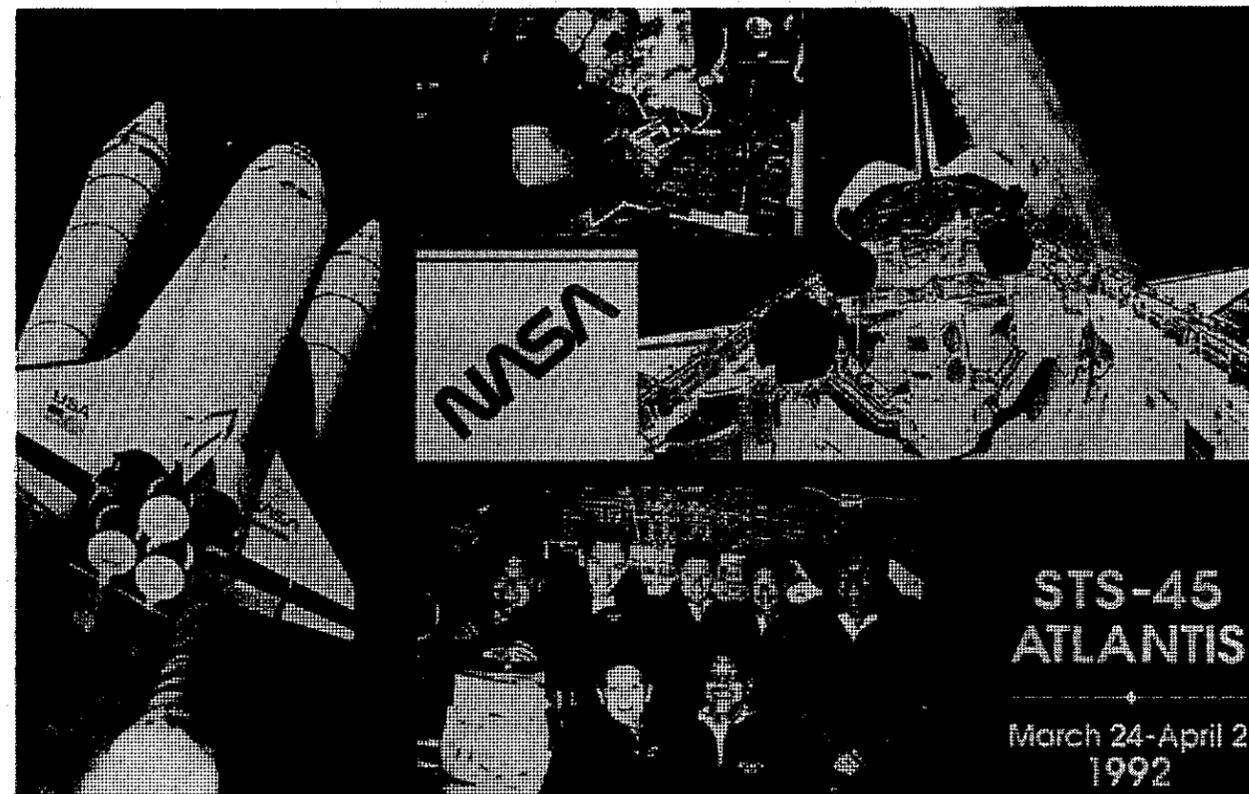
Club Station
W6LFJ

P.O. Box 116
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Repeater Station
WB6PVS

VOL 18 #3

MARCH 1993



Expanding Students' Horizons via Amateur Radio in Space.

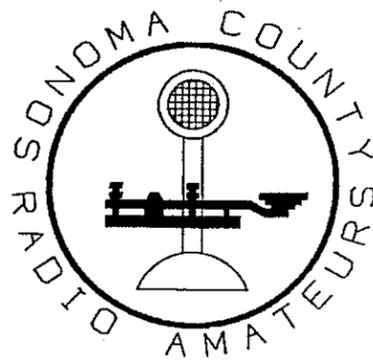
This is Bob NQ1R calling shuttle Columbia. It's "hammer time again." That is, time to get those Amateur Radio (ham) operators geared up for SAREX, the SHuttle Amateur Radio Experiment.

The SAREX project is an educational innovation developed jointly by NASA's Education Division, the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), and the Radio American Satellite Corp (AMSAT). SAREX is scheduled for flights in February, March and April 1993 onboard STS-55, STS-56 and STS-57, respectively, as a secondary payload.

During SAREX, the shuttle crew uses its spare time to talk via Amateur Radio with students and other ham operators on earth. If the astronauts are busy or asleep, there is a robot computer ham station aboard that receives transmissions from an Amateur's computer and automatically transmits an acknowledgement.

SAREX provides an opportunity for the public, especially students, to become directly involved in the US space program by witnessing demonstrations of amateur communications with the shuttle.

Source: NASA's Educational Horizons. Tnx Bob Phillips N6RMW



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 WD6CKP Hoppy 542-6750 N6VUC Merl 584-3898

SHORT SKIP ADVERTISING RATES:

Business cards: \$10

\$11 First 1/4 Column
\$3 Additional 1/4 Columns
(\$32 Full Page, 1 side)

Pre-printed inserts: \$32/sheet

Guaranteed circulation: 200/month
AD DEADLINE: 10th of previous month

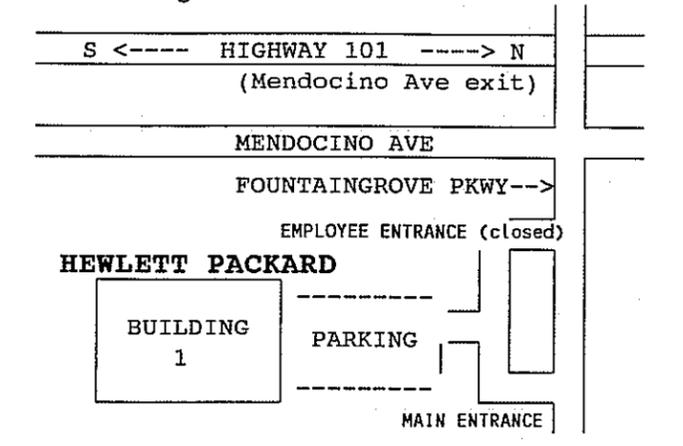
Club Meetings:

7:30 PM, 1st Wednesday each month at the Hewlett Packard plant in Santa Rosa. (See map below.) All are welcome.

Next Meeting: March 3, 1993
Program: Packet Radio demonstration by Jim KC6PJW & John WX3K

ARE YOU NOT AN SCRA MEMBER?

If so, then this is a complimentary copy. Our club is involved with almost every area of Amateur Radio: Repeaters (13/73), Field Day, license classes (Novice through Extra), volunteer exams, RACES, DX programs, packet radio, hidden xmtr hunts -- you name it. We invite you to attend our next monthly meeting (see below) or check into the Tuesday night SCARS net on the 146.13/73 repeater at 7PM. You will hear the latest Amateur Radio Newslines broadcasts, announcements of SCRA activities and a Swap Shop. Membership in SCRA is open to anyone interested in Amateur Radio. If you would like to join, there is a membership application on page 11. Hope we can have an "eyeball" QSO with you at the next meeting! 73 ...



HANK'S SWAP SHOP (From p12)

ICOM IC02AT 2 mtr HT, BC35 charger, BP3, BP8 wall chgr, ELH-2600 40W amp, LM-MM mag mount ant, leather case \$400. Bob WA6OOI 542-2663.

HEATHKIT TWINS SB300/400 receiver/transmitter, 3 mikes \$135. Dennis 544-0366.

HEATHKIT SB313 rcvr 9 bands + 80/40/15. YEASU YS60 HF SWR meter 20/200/2000W. HEATHKIT HW-16 80/40/15, CW only, external VFO. REALISTIC DX-302 SW rcvr. Call for prices: Kevin KC6NNK 765-4472.

HEATHKIT SB101 transceiver 80/10 meters, SB200 linear amplifier with 572B finals, freq display, scan-o-lyzer, SB610 monitor scope, station console, phone patch. \$500. Bob WA6HYE 823-3520.

TOWER, 55 FT, 3-section commercial. Solid material, not tubing, 18" sides \$150. Bob W6NPJ 539-4406.

YAESU 767GX 160-10, desk mic, ant sw, low pass filter \$1400. Jerry N6MMH 537-0954.

TOWER, ROHN 26, 6 sections, enc bottom sect, tapered top, wall bracket, rotor base \$325. Paul WB6CZJ 894-1893.

WANT: External VFO for Kenwood 180S. HAM4 ROTOR with brake \$100. 1992 ARRL HANDBOOK \$15. 1992 US CALLBOOK \$15. 1992 DX CBK \$15. Don KD6HQ 546-1217. ■



Dr. Gary R. Gouger
Optometrist

KC6WTE
(707) 578-9280

1515 Montgomery Drive
Santa Rosa, Calif. 95405

Family Eye Care

We need your help!

Please check the repeater map on page 14 and notify N1AL (538-7115) of any errors. Tnx! ■

Application for Membership in SCRA

Name _____ Callsign _____ Lic. Class _____
 Addr. _____ Phone Nr _____ () New Mbr
 _____ ZIP _____ Date _____ () Renewal

Dues: \$12/year, \$18/year family. New members also pay a \$6/person initiation fee. Dues for new members *only* are pro-rated \$1 (\$1.50 family) per month, starting at renewal time, March 1.

I WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN:

- () Public Service Events
- () RACES or ARES Emergency services
- () Field day, other operating events
- () Other _____
- () Helping with SCRA Flea Market
- () Acting as club Net Control Station
- () Helping with *Short Skip* newsletter
- () Taking a Novice class
- () Teaching a Novice class
- () Taking an upgrade class
- () Teaching an upgrade class

Badge (New Members only)

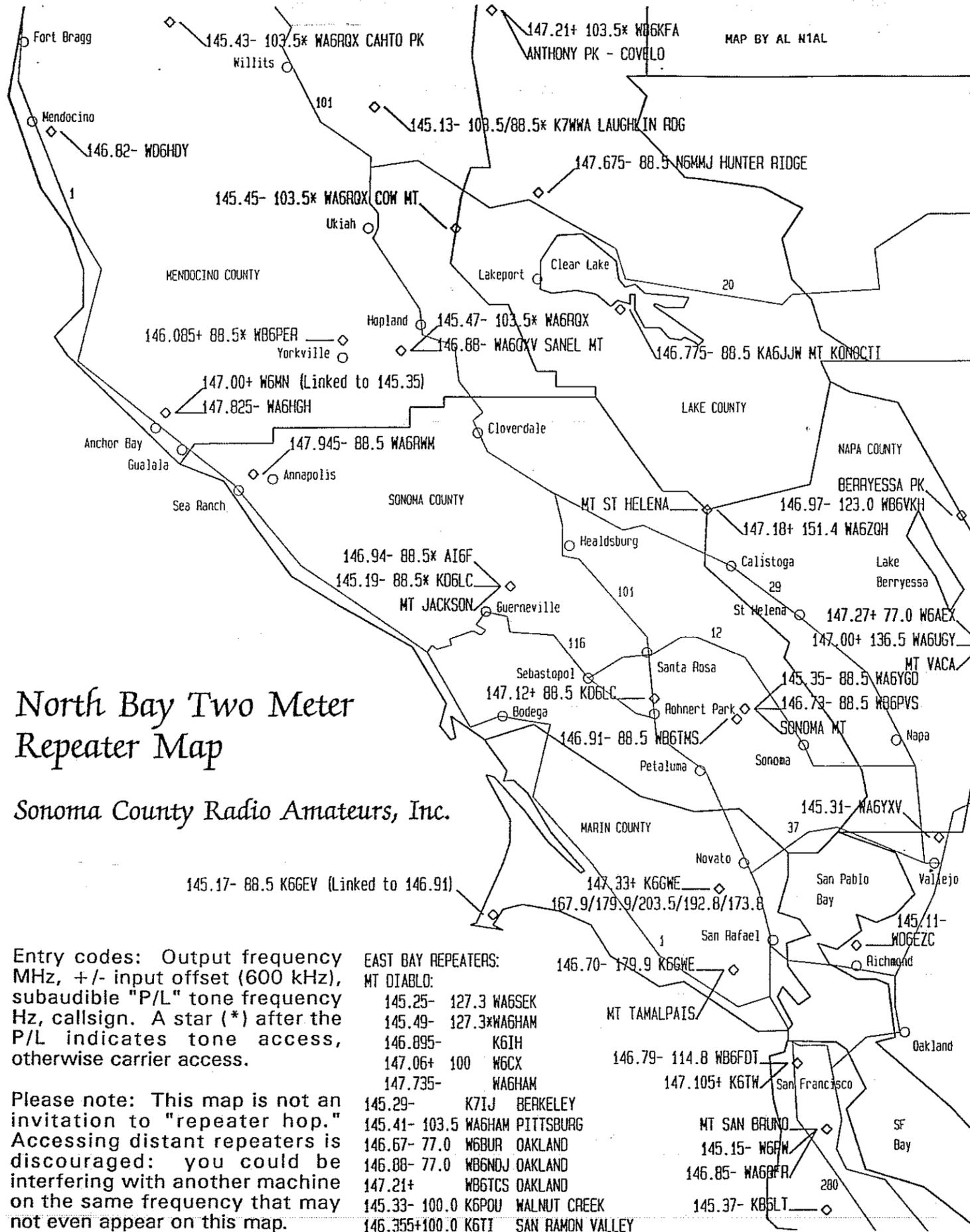
Fill in this section exactly as you want it to appear on your badge.

Callsign _____
 First Name _____
 City _____

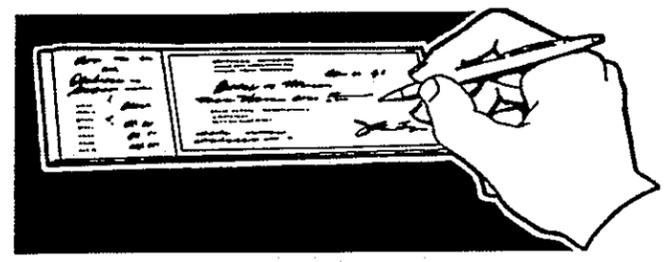
Membership Lottery

(\$.25 per meeting "fun lottery")

Callsign _____
 I wish to participate:
 YES () NO ()



DUES ARE DUE !



Dues are due March 1. Check your mailing label: If it says "dues are due," then our records show you haven't paid yet. Please send your check to SCRA, POB 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402. If you prefer to pay at a meeting, please write your callsign on the check and place it in an envelope with your callsign on the outside. This is to reduce the mob scene around the Treasurer at meetings.

Also, if your address, callsign or license class has changed, let us know so N1AL can update the roster. The application on page 11 is ideal for the purpose.

Slovak QSL bureau.

by Paul OM3IA, Slovakia QSL Bureau Manager

In reply to IK7TAJ's message, we would like to confirm the real Slovak QSL bureau. Here is the information:

January 1st, 1993 was the first official day of the independent Slovak Republic. It has already been accepted as a member of the UN. Slovakia with the new prefix OM will be added to the DXCC countries list.

Please send all QSLs for Slovak radio amateurs to the following address:

Slovak QSL Bureau
 P.O.Box 44
 81000 Bratislava 1
 Slovakia

Downloaded by Pete KC6UXM

Bring your QSL to the Meeting

Merl N6VUC is making a QSL display board. Please bring you card to the next meeting.



COLOR: BLACK/RED/BLUE ON LIGHT BLUE BACKGROUND.

Club QSL Cards

The club has several thousand club QSL cards printed up. For a small fee, you can have a batch printed with your call/name/address. We wait for 2-4 orders before taking them to the printer unless you order "Express" service.

Payment must accompany your order. If you want the cards mailed to you, so indicate by adding \$4.00 postage/handling. Bring your order to a club meeting or send to:

SCRA, PO Box 116, Santa Rosa CA 95402.

PERSONALIZED CARDS:

# CARDS	NORMAL SERVICE	EXPRESS SERVICE
250	24.00	44.00
500	35.00	56.00
1000	56.00	75.00
>2000	6.00/100 (120.00/2000)	(Express service only)

"BLANK" CARDS: (No Call/Name/Address)

\$5.00 per hundred cards.
 (Available at club meetings)

Enter the information EXACTLY as it should appear on the card: (Postage is optional)

***** SCRA MEMBERS ONLY *****

ADD ARRL DIAMOND? YES NO

CALLSIGN: _____

NAME: _____

ADDR: _____

EXPRESS SERVICE? YES NO

\$ _____ + \$ _____ = \$ _____

CARDS POSTAGE TOTAL



SCRAPS: SCRA Public Service

By Kathy Mahan KC6UXJ

This month I'd like to introduce the new SCRAPS Committee Members. These people will serve as the event coordinators for numerous public service events for 1993. They Are: R.L. Caron KK6GP, Doug Carter KC6RHA, Kelly Cureton KD6CJQ and his son James KD6GSF, Eran Glago KD6KVO, Marie Mappus KI6QY and her husband Rudy N6KLU, Merlyn Pfeiff N6VUC, Bill Splaine N6GHG and Dave Willey KD6KWM. Thanks to all of you and I know it's going to be a great year!

I would also like to thank all of the HAMS who have volunteered so far to do public service. The response has been incredible and it sure makes our job easier knowing that you're ready, willing and able to help. If you are new to Amateur Radio and would like to know more about public service, please call me or any of the committee members and we'd be happy to explain public service and our involvement.

The first event of the year has been scheduled. The Multiple Sclerosis Super Cities Walk is on March 28, 1993. If you are interested in working this event please call Kelly Cureton KD6CJQ (527-1531) and he will be glad to find a spot for you. This is also a good event to volunteer for if you are new to public service. So, don't be bashful, give Kelly a call.

It has come to my attention that many Public Service volunteers would like a magnetic vehicle sign for mobile communications. I have an order form, and the more we order the better the deal. A magnetic sign that says: "Amateur Radio Communications" costs anywhere from \$7.20 to \$9.00 depending upon the quantity ordered. If you are interested in purchasing a magnetic sign please call me at 823-4980 evenings or 433-2758 days. I will also take orders at the March SCRA meeting.

That's if for this month....and I really don't know how to end my column this month...SO:

There was a brave fellow named Gere,
Who hadn't an atom of fear,
He indulged a desire
To touch a live wire,
And any last line will do here.

FCC Levies Big Fine

The FCC'S Kingsville, Texas office, has issued a notice of apparent liability to an amateur for 10,500 dollars.

Richard L. Whiten, WB20TK, 46, of Taylors, SC, was cited for "willful and malicious interfering transmissions" monitored by FCC on September 26, 1992, on 14314.7 KHz.

Whiten, a General class licensee, was issued the NAL two days later. In his reply to the FCC he did not, according to the Commission, dispute making the transmissions, but he "denied that his signals constituted willful, malicious interference, because, he says in his letter, if he truly wanted to willfully and maliciously interfere he could have done so to such an extent that communications between other amateur radio operators would have been impossible, that his comments were not disruptive, that his statements were innocuous, that he was recognized and spoken to by the other amateur operators, and that he was the victim of entrapment by the other operators."

The FCC did not accept this argument, and noted that Whiten already had received two previous NALs, on January 28, 1991 and July 12, 1991, for the same rules violation.

The FCC'S "base amount" fine for willful interference is 7,000 dollars in this case the fine was raised 50 per cent "in view of Mr. Whiten's repeated violations."

ARRL W1AW bulletin.

Congratulations to Bob N6RMW who won a shiny new Icom handi-talkie through the recent promotion at HRO. Sure is nice to see the winning entry submitted on an SCRA club QSL card!

— 11 STORE BUYING POWER —

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I-880 at 23rd Ave. ramp

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(800) 854-6046
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Hwy. 163 &
Claremont Mesa

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510 Lawrence Expwy. #102
(408) 736-9496
(800) 854-6046
Tom, K8LUC, Mgr.
Lawrence Expwy.
So. from Hwy. 101

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(818) 988-2212
(800) 854-6046
Jon, K8ZBI, Mgr.
San Diego Fwy.
at Victory Blvd.

Bob Ferrero W6RJ
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Jim Rafferty N6RJ
Vice President

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11705 S.W. Pacific Hwy.
(503) 598-0555
(800) 854-6046
Earl, KE7OA, Mgr.
Toward-99W exit
from Hwy. 5 & 217

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(800) 444-4799
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EXTENDED RECEIVE

KENWOOD

TS-950SDX



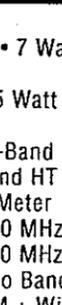
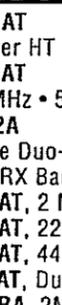
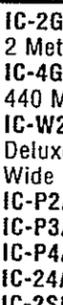
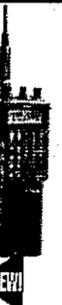
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IC-4GAT
440 MHz • 5 Watt
IC-W2A
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IC-P2AT, 2 Meter
IC-P3AT, 220 MHz
IC-P4AT, 440 MHz
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mem. unit
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TH-315A
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- 2 Meter 30 Watt Amplifier
- All-mode HF receivers
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- License Manuals
- Antenna Books
- Etc...



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Re-inking vs Reloading Printer Ribbons

by Allan Chapman W6MEO

No, you only *think* you want to re-ink your ribbons. I once thought so, too. But there's a better way way to re-use ribbon cartridges, one which is more satisfactory overall: Have the old cartridge reloaded with *new ribbon*.

Or simply sell your old cartridges to a reloading company that sells to businesses (who always watch the buck). You can buy reloads too if they will sell in small retail quantities.

Problems With Re-inking:

You are adding ink to an old, stretched, tired ribbon. If that ribbon separates, it can catch the tiny impact pins which bend easily. Soon you could be replacing the head. *Big bucks!*

Some of the inks sold for re-inking contain a solvent to prevent clogging with the old drops of previous inks. That solvent has been known to soften the plastic around print-head pins, allowing them to shift a few ten-thousandths of an inch which distorts the printed letter. More distortion results in print head destruction. *Big bucks!*

Re-inking is only that; the old goop tends to accumulate and interfere with the moving parts. Many ops are now just learning from a very slow process what WD-40 does to 24-pin print heads. But if you're just a tinkerer, go ahead. You'll learn.

How does one find ribbon reloaders? They are small companies, mostly serving businesses and government agencies. Try the yellow pages, or contact purchasing agents (that's how I learned). Your local library can help; they might even have their ribbons reloaded locally. Lots of school systems do.

Some ribbon reloaders won't fool with retail, but I lucked out with a nearby company who remembers when they were small and struggling. They will do one or ten thousand, or any quantity in between. Takes about ten days from the time the cartridge is mailed until I get it back, and the cost is 20-30% below retail purchase new; postage extra. I wind up with ribbons superior to the original product, for less money and with far greater reliability.

Older, experienced reloading companies realize they depend 100% on repeat business and customer referrals. They use top materials and guarantee the product. Most reload ribbon stock is at least identical and often superior to the original - and a whole lot fresher. An intangible saving is longer life per cartridge. Even more important is reliability and reduced printer maintenance \$\$.

Survival Kit Hints

By Rick De Castro Civil Air Patrol Instructor

Several important items for a survival kit:

- Lip balm with sunscreen (many do not have sunscreen) (lip balms with ablation are good because they encourage the chapped skin to stretch and stop bleeding)
- Band Aids
- Sunscreen for skin
- Whatever else you think you might need to use on you.

Food - It should be high in carbohydrates, and low in fat and protein. Carbohydrates don't require much water, as fats and proteins do.

Beware of Military Surplus items. The military is probably getting rid of them because they are not using them any more, and they have a better substitute.

Fire starter - Heat tablets work best, and can even start very wet wood on fire. Used by itself, a typical heat tablet can bring a cup of water to boiling temperature.

Water purification - Iodine tablets are much better than chlorine. Halizone is also not very good. But, the iodine tablets must be dull grey in color. If they are rusty colored, they are useless. Iodine tablets deteriorate when exposed to air and moisture, so be sure to keep the container tightly capped, and don't open it until you need to use them.

If you don't know how to use it, don't carry it! Carry what you need, not what you "might" need. *Downloaded by Pete KC6UXM*

RENEW YOUR ARRL MEMBERSHIP THROUGH THE CLUB AND THE CLUB GETS TO KEEP \$2 (no expense to you). Make out your check to SCRA, and send it with your ARRL renewal form to SCRA, PO Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402 or give it to the Treasurer.

Marin/Sonoma VE Council FCC Exams



Date	Time	Sponsor	Place
Mar 6	0900	MARC	Hamilton Field Novato
Mar 20	1800	SMRS	USCG, Two Rock
Apr 3	0900	SCRA	Co. OES Santa Rosa
May 1	0900	VOMARC	Sonoma Dev. Center
Jun 5	0900	MARC	Hamilton Field Novato
Jun 19	1800	SMRS	USCG, Two Rock
Jul 3	0900	SCRA	Co. OES Santa Rosa
Aug 7	0900	VOMARC	Sonoma Dev. Center
Aug 21	1800	SMRS	USCG, Two Rock
Sep 11	0900	MARC	Hamilton Field Novato
Sep 25	0900	SCRA	Sebastopol Flea Mart
Oct 23	1800	SMRS	USCG, Two Rock
Nov 6	0900	VOMARC	Sonoma Dev. Center
Dec 4	0900	MARC	Hamilton Field Novato

Candidate requirements:

1. Photo identification or two non-photo IDs.
2. Original and photocopy of license, if any.
3. Original CSCEs from earlier tests, if any.
4. Radiotelegraph license, if held.
5. Doctor's medical exemption, if applicable.
6. Fee is \$5.60, except Novice test is free.

Warning: Test dates subject to change or cancellation without notice.

Directions to the Test Sites:

Sonoma County Office of Emergency Services (SCRA). Talk-in 146.73-. AAA map Santa Rosa E7. From Hwy 101 take Steele Lane eastward. Take immediate left turn onto Center Dr (next to Shell station). Go north to stop sign, turn left onto Administration Dr, then left at next stop sign, Ventura Dr. Please park in public parking on Ventura. The OES is the building to the west, with no windows, between the Sheriff's Office and Jail.

Hamilton Field, Building 549, Novato. Talk-in 147.33-, AAA map Marin County D4. From Hwy 101 take Nave Lane or Hamilton Field exit. Get on eastern side Frontage Road. Go to main gate of Hamilton. Drive east, over railroad overcrossing. Turn right onto Crescent Dr. Keep to right (one way), follow MARS signs, going left to San Jose Drive. Turn left, then right up access road toward red/white checkered water tower to Bldg 549. Note: speed limits enforced!

Sonoma Development Center (VOMARC) Talk-in 145.35-. AAA map Sonoma County G11. From the south into Sonoma Valley, Hwy 116 from Petaluma or Hwy 121 from Hwy 37, go north to Arnold Drive. Go past El Verano, toward Glen Ellen. When you enter the State Hospital "Sonoma Developmental Center" in Eldridge, turn left at Wilson (one block before flashing light/stop sign). Go west on Wilson to the McDougall building.

From the north, go south on Hwy 12 to Arnold Dr. Turn right, go through Glen Ellen to the state hospital "Sonoma Developmental Center" in Eldridge. Turn right onto Wilson (one block past the flashing light/stop sign) and go to the McDougall building.

US Coast Guard base, Two Rock (SMRS). Talk-in 146.91- AAA map Sonoma County H8. From Hwy 101 in Petaluma, take East Washington St exit and go west through central Petaluma. Washington turns into Bodega Ave. About 10 miles west, turn onto Tomales Road (Coast Guard signs are posted). Go west on Tomales Rd to "USCG Training Center" main gate. Turn left, go up road to Colorado St, turn left and go down to the Bauer building. Note: Speed limits enforced!

Sebastopol Flea Market, (SCRA) Holy Ghost hall. Talk-in 146.73-. AAA map Sonoma Co. F7. Take Hwy 116 north through Sebastopol to Mill Station Road. Turn left; the Holy Ghost hall is on your immediate right (1/2 block).

Contact Persons:

SCRA: Sonoma County Radio Amateurs
Dave (707) 527-0981

MARC: Marin Amateur Radio Club
Recording (415) 883-9789

VOMARC: Valley of the Moon Am Radio Club
Jim (707) 996-6461

SMRS: Sonoma Mt. Repeater Society
Dale (707) 762-9414

Quote of the Month

"What about HTs? We don't know yet, but there are some good reasons to believe that the use of subaudible tones may damage brain cells."

- Wayne Green W2NSD, Feb 1993 73.

Board Meeting Minutes

February 10, 1993

The meeting was called to order at 5:38 PM in the Northbay Savings meeting room by President Rick Reiner K6ZWB. Other officers present were Vice President Pete Sourek KC6UXM, Secretary Al Bloom N1AL, Treasurer Jim McLaughlin WA2EWE, Repeater Chairman Jim Rutherford WB6PER, and Members-at-Large Kelly Cureton KD6CJQ and Merlyn Pfeiff N6VUC. Members Jim Pelmulder N6PTM, John Wallack W6TLK, Joe Senft KM6TN, Hoppy Bravin WD6CKP and Kathy Mahan KC6UXJ also attended.

PUBLIC SERVICE items discussed by KC6UXJ included the SCRAPs picnic date, July 17. Also, Kathy will push for better publicity for our efforts this year. Please call Kathy with your PR ideas. Orders will be taken at the March meeting for magnetic signs that advertise Amateur Radio public service.

FLEA MARKET: N6PTM will check with Hank W6DTV to make sure we have the hall reserved for Sept 18.

CONTROL OPERATORS' duties engendered a long discussion. ARRL Section Manager W6TLK discussed the Official Observer appointment. OOs send out friendly advisory notices to hams for violations to FCC rules. They do not become involved in deciding what constitutes poor operating procedures. WB6PER noted that every repeater has a "personality." One should adjust one's operating procedures to the machine in use. KC6UXJ has heard that many consider the 146.73 machine to be very straight-laced. KC6UXM said that some are afraid to operate on '73 for fear of making a mistake. Pete felt that any required procedures beyond the FCC rules should be published. N6PTM noted that it's hard to codify a repeater personality -- you can't cover everything. The board will consider publishing a set of guidelines.

The **BUDGET** published in *Short Skip* has a discrepancy, says WA2EWE. Jim wonders how long we should keep old records. He will check with the IRS.

WA2EWE also plans to computerize the books, using a spreadsheet. N1AL thinks we should only use a program that will be readily available to future Treasurers -- either a program owned by SCRA or shareware. N6PTM feels a printout should be made each month so there is a paper record.

RFI COMMITTEE Chairman N1AL wants to buy a collection of filters and toroids to make a "Swat Team" RFI kit. The board voted that Al should spend whatever he judges necessary to assemble such a kit. m/s N6VUC/KD6CJQ

CLUB QSLs: N1AL says we still have over 5000 blank cards at the printer's. This will be promoted in *Short Skip*.

The **MEMBERSHIP PACKET** first draft was passed out to the Board by N1AL. Al was planning to publish it in March *Short Skip*, but will wait until the Board decides what it wants to do about including repeater operating guidelines.

HF RADIO: When the Drake and Hallicrafters radios were sold at the Flea Market last year, there was talk of replacing them with something more modern. The replacement should be solid-state (many newcomers don't know how to tune up the old tube rigs). It should also have low phase noise and good receiver dynamic range to reduce interference on Field Day. The board voted to authorize N1AL to spend up to about \$650 on a Drake TR7 and power supply. m/s KC6UXM/N1AL

N6VUC and WX3K will give a Field Day report at the next Board meeting.

AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE, that provides our weekly ham news broadcast, is short of money. The board voted to donate \$100. m/s N1AL/WB6PER

The **ANTENNA COMMITTEE** had its first meeting in December, reports Chairman KM6TN. They are presently researching local zoning ordinances. Joe will approach the REDX club to see if they want to go together on this.

BATTERIES FOR THE 146.73 REPEATER were approved by the last board. The recent power outage showed how much they are needed. WB6PER reports that commercial technician WA6YXV has agreed to install them for us. The County requires that they be top-of-the-line gel cells. Cost will be about \$500. KC6UXM has a lead on some good surplus batteries suitable for the club's Repco standby repeater.

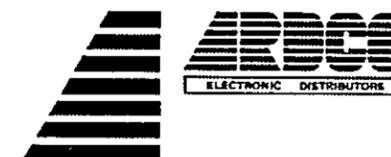
Respectfully submitted by Al Bloom N1AL, Secretary.

COMING EVENTS:

SCARS NET: 146.73 MHz Tuesdays at 7 PM.
KIDS' NET: 146.73 MHz Thursdays at 7 PM.
VE EXAMS: (408) 984-8353/255-9000

MARCH:

- 1 - RACES etc. Net 7:30 PM
- 3 - SCRA meeting 7/7:30 PM
- 1992 DUES PAYABLE!
- 6-7 - ARRL DX Contest, Phone
- 7 - LARK Flea Mart, Livermore WU7R
- 13 - Foothill College Flea Market
- 15 - RACES etc. Net 7:30 PM
- 18 - CDF/VIP Meeting 7:30 PM
- 20 - Deadline for April *Short Skip*
- 27-28 - CQ Worldwide Prefix Contest, Phone
- 28 - Super Cities Walk (KD6CJQ)



345 West College Ave, Santa Rosa, CA 95401 (707) 527-6000

STEVE BASHAM
Manager

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(707) 778-1114

Minutes (Continued from page 9)

Then John W6TLK gave a talk on RACES and ARES, the differences between the two and how they are organized.

RAFFLE prizes are thanks to Ardco and HSC.

The MEMBERSHIP LOTTERY winner would have been Bill KD6LTA, if he had put in his quarter.

The KIDS' NET is every Thursday at 7 PM on the 146.73 repeater.

Adjourned 9:47 PM. m/s N6PTM/N6VUC

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Al Bloom N1AL.

Treasurer's Report

de WA2EWE January, 1993



ACCOUNT	REVENUE	EXPENSE
Refreshments at meetings ..	15.04	16.56
Raffle at meetings	53.50	
Dues and Initiations	228.00	24.00
Badges	8.60	44.95
Misc	64.00	109.95
Short Skip Newsletter		192.75
Training and Education		25.00
	369.14	413.21

ASSETS:

General Fund Account	3934.95
Cash/checks on hand	143.00
Total General Fund	4077.95
Total Repeater Fund	864.05



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Ham Radio in CIS Becoming Expensive

by Ed NT2X and Andy RW3AH

There are serious troubles looming on the horizon for the amateurs of the former USSR. Obsessed with a "market economy", the government has imposed (or will soon impose) substantial fees for the privilege of operating on the air. A first class license (equivalent to the US Extra) will cost 120 rubles per year. Entering any contests would cost an additional 240 rubles per year. It won't matter if you run 100 watts or 10 KW. In US currency this doesn't look like much (\$1 = 500 rubles), but it sets a dangerous pattern - pay for what once was free, and expect an increase anytime. The opinions of ham ops were never requested, it seems.

In addition, getting contest certificates or QSL cards via the buro will be expensive. Sending a single card abroad via the bureau would cost 2 rubles 15 kopecks. An airmail letter from Russia now costs 75 rubles. Since most hams can't afford to send airmail in quantity, (average salary now stands at 3-4,000 rubles per month) and because the foreign mail isn't getting through to Russia, those U-cards will become very rare indeed very soon. Moscow hams report piles upon piles of incoming QSLs at Box 88 that don't and won't get processed. The bureau is broke and can't pay employees and its own mailing expenses. Again, hold onto your CIS cards, don't mail them over there until the situation is resolved.

On the related subject: January 1993 is the timeframe for the changeover of the current amateur call sign allocation system. 95% of all Ukrainian calls, many Russian calls, and 100% of other republics will change if the new system is implemented. The new allocations were assigned without any consultations with hams, thus the Amateur community of the former USSR republics is in a state of turmoil. Nobody knows what will take place, when and how. Protest letters were sent to the ITU and the government without any obvious results. There is talk about having hams retain the present call sign system, while commercial and utility calls would be converted. At this time, it is all pure speculation and no decisions on this explosive topic were rendered.

As always, will provide more details as they become available. Tnx Pete KC6UXM

Bill Protects Amateurs

A bill to free up government spectrum for commercial use, introduced into the new U.S. Congress, contains important protections for radio amateurs. The bill, S. 335, is a revised version of S. 218, which was not acted upon in the last Congress.

During the last, 102nd, Congress, the ARRL suggested six possible amendments to S. 218 to mitigate the effect of releasing for private use government frequencies, some of which radio amateurs share on a secondary, non-interference basis. Five of these six proposed amendments were incorporated into S. 335.

Senator Daniel Inouye (D-HI) introduced S. 335, "The Emerging Telecommunications Technologies Act of 1993," on Feb 4, saying:

"Senator Stevens" (co-sponsor from Alaska) "and I have incorporated some changes to accommodate concerns of the amateur radio industry. I am happy to include these changes in order to protect the rights of amateur radio users to their spectrum."

The changes made as a result of the ARRL initiative are as follows:

1. The bill makes a "finding" that "a reassignment of federal government frequencies can be accomplished without adverse impact on amateur radio licensees that currently share allocations with federal government stations."
2. In determining whether a frequency reallocation is feasible, the Secretary of Commerce shall "seek to avoid excessive disruption of existing use of federal government frequencies by amateur radio licensees."
3. One basis to be used in determining whether commercial use of a frequency is feasible is to be "the extent to which commercial users can share the frequency with amateur radio licensees."
4. The advisory committee convened to review and advise upon the Secretary's report shall include representatives of "other users of the electromagnetic spectrum, including radio and television broadcast licensees, state and local public safety agencies, amateur radio licensees, and the aviation industry."

5. The President may, on certain grounds, substitute alternative frequencies or bands for those chosen. Among the grounds on which he may act is "the reassignment will disrupt the existing use of a federal government band of frequencies by amateur radio licensees."

6. Competitive bidding authority given the FCC under this act "shall not extend to ... amateur operator services...."

"These changes go a long way toward addressing amateurs' concerns about this legislation, and clearly establish that our needs must be considered as the bill proceeds through the congress," ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ said.

ARRL W1AW bulletin.

1993 SCRA Budget (Corrected)

Activities:		
Picnics	(175.00)	
Camp Out	(150.00)	
Christmas Party	(250.00)	
TOTAL		(575.00)
Field Day	(450.00)	
Field Day radios	(500.00)	
TOTAL		(950.00)
Refreshments at meetings		0.00
Dues and Initiations		2600.00
Flea Market		450.00
Raffle at meetings		400.00
Badges		(200.00)
Miscellaneous:		
Insurance	(310.00)	
Trophies/awards	(200.00)	
Donations	(500.00)	
Other	(50.00)	
Packet software	(100.00)	
TOTAL		(1160.00)
Repeater Fund		0.00
Short Skip Newsletter:		
Income from ads	1000.00	
Expenses	(1500.00)	
TOTAL		(500.00)
Training and Education		(200.00)
Amateur Radio Newslite		(100.00)
Membership Supplies		(500.00)
Officers' Expenses		(150.00)
Volunteer Exams		(50.00)
NET		(935.00)

Petition for HF Digital

The ARRL, acting on recommendations of its volunteer Digital Committee, has petitioned the Federal Communications Commission for changes in the amateur rules regarding digital communications below 30 MHz.

On February 1 the League filed a petition for rule making with the FCC to permit, under certain conditions, automatic control of RTTY, and data communications, including third-party messages, in certain portions of the amateur bands below 30 MHz.

The League also asked for a final extension of its Special Temporary Authorization for such communications by designated stations (which was scheduled to expire February 3) for the duration of the rule making proceedings. The FCC has granted the extension. The STA has been in effect since 1987 to allow a limited number of amateurs to explore future systems and advance amateur digital techniques.

In its filing of more than 30 pages the League recounted the history of amateur digital communications, saying that despite problems with implementing automatic digital forwarding in the HF bands there are "good and sufficient reasons why automatically controlled data communications at HF should be authorized.

"Development of new software and hardware to refine the technology and further new types of data communications and data networks requires that at least some amateur stations in a network be permitted to operate under automatic control in the HF amateur bands," the League said.

The League's goal is "to encourage experimentation and development and refinement of ... data communications to adapt complex digital technologies to practical use and to permit the implementation in the amateur radio service of more efficient emergency and public service communications technologies."

The proposed subbands for automatic digital control are as follows: 28.120-28.189 MHz, 24.925-24.930 MHz, 21.090-21.100 MHz, 18.105-18.110 MHz, 14.095-14.0995 MHz, 14.1005-14.112 MHz, 10.140-10.150 MHz, 7.100-7.105 MHz, and 3.620-3.635 MHz.

ARRL W1AW bulletin. ■

Comments on the ARRL Plan

by Steve, K4CJX, as posted on Packet:

"The recent action that the ARRL Board took came close to being the worst possible of the options available to them, but if we are going to have any impact on changing it the first step is to apply the plan they propose and seriously follow it. If we don't make any effort to accommodate the plan, we will be met with the argument that we never tried it nor will we have any demonstrable evidence of the problems it represents... Because the suggested subbands are ridiculously narrow, space utilization will be at a premium."

The article lists detailed band plans versus mode for each subband. *Tnx Pete KC6UXM* ■

Beware of the Eavesdroppers

Last summer I discussed over a local repeater my plans for a trip to Florida with my family. When we returned, our home had been burglarized. VCR, tape deck, coins, silverware, etc., were gone, and of course my ham equipment was missing. I did have my SSN and callsign on most of the rigs.

Two weeks later the police recovered a stolen car in the next state. The trunk of the car was filled with stolen property. On the front seat was a scanner programmed full of local repeaters and a 1992 Callbook with over 100 calls checked in a three state area. Beware of the eavesdroppers. Do not give out personal information over the air waves.

Too embarassed to sign.

Tnx Rick Furuta N3JGF via the Internet. Reprinted with permission from *Auto-Call* of the Foundation for Amateur Radio. ■

Jim Peimulder
N6PTM (707) 823-7947

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SCRA MINUTES

February 3, 1993



The meeting was called to order by President Rick Reiner K6ZWB at 7:38 PM. Other officers present were Vice President Pete Sourek KC6UXM, Secretary Al Bloom N1AL, Treasurer Jim McLaughlin WA2EWE, and Members-at-Large Kelly Cureton KD6CJQ and Merlyn Pfeiff N6VUC.

VISITORS: Shelly KD6AFZ introduced 9 visitors to the meeting.

The **MINUTES** were approved as published in *Short Skip*. m/s KB6PTA/WD6DPE

Something new this month: WA2EWE's **TREASURER'S REPORT** was presented on an overhead projector. It showed \$4077.95 in the General Fund and \$864.05 in the Repeater Fund. Approved m/s KB6PTA/WA6OLW

REPEATER: N6PTM reports that the recent catastrophic power failure on Sonoma Mt. (during the middle of the flood emergency) took out most everybody's equipment on the hill. Fortunately, the 146.73 repeater survived, but the autopatch is dead because the phone line is no longer operational. The RACES 440 MHz, 220 MHz and packet repeaters were thoroughly trashed. We will be going full speed on the battery standby supply authorized last year. Had it been in place, the repeater would not have gone off the air.

PUBLIC SERVICE: Kathy KC6UXJ announced the new administrative procedures for the Public Service group this year. Each event will have its own coordinator. Doug KC6RHA is looking for a few bike riders to get up close and personal during the upcoming bike events.

EDUCATION: WB6FRZ John's Novice/Tech class has ended with 16 of the original 24 students, 5 of whom have already passed the test. KD6RCC took the test Dec 9 and got his ticket Jan 27: turnaround time = 7 weeks.

K6ZWB Rick's construction class is going well. Many have already finished the AM portion of the broadcast receiver project.

ACTIVITIES Chairman N6VUC is looking for volunteers. Walt KC6RHB is handing over the membership lottery to Jim KC6PJW. Bob WD6DPE has been doing the refreshments at meetings for many years, and would like some help. William KD6LTB volunteered. We still need a Raffle Chairman. N6IYY volunteered to be net control station for this month.

If anyone has for sale or swap items, feel free to bring them to a meeting. If they are big, you might bring a flyer describing the item.

INTERNATIONAL CELEBRITY KC6PJW was made to tell how he got his full-color photograph in this month's *QST*. (Note that *Short Skip* scooped *QST* on this one. We had the story in the May issue.)

The **HOME BREW CONTEST** is coming up at the April meeting. Get those construction projects started! Steve KK6VY says that he and Charlie KK6WN are considering having separate categories for large projects (over 15 hours construction time) and small projects. Adam KD6POC may also promote a Kids' (under 16) category.

CLUB QSL CARDS (you fill in your callsign and address) are available from the Treasurer. N6VUC would like each SCRA member to send him a QSL card so he can make a "QSL board" for display at meetings.

Short Skip is available on audio tape. See John WB6FRZ if you are interested.

The **SEBASTOPOL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** Chairperson Mary Anne Moore came to the meeting to thank us for helping out with the Apple Blossom Festival last year. She presented us with a certificate of appreciation and ... homemade chocolate chip cookies! She said the parade and run has never run smoother, even though the latter was almost rained out.

Another **INTERNATIONAL CELEBRITY** is Mike KD6ORI who stumbled onto the set of the popular TV series "Northern Exposure" and signed up as an extra for the day. Look for the episode called "Northern Lights."

The **PROGRAM** was a detailed history of the recent Russian River flood "emergency" by Jim N6PTM. The Red Cross was extremely pleased with our efforts.

(continued page xx)