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Greg Cowles KE6FXK 252 Hutchins Ave
Phone: 829-1583 Sebastopol CA 95472
Noncommercial ham ads printed free. Please
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HYGAIN 625 four-channel scanner \$20.
HEATH IT-32 power supply \$30 or best offer.
Jim KE6FSK 431-2439.

KENWOOD TS520E 80/10M \$300 or trade.
MFJ-901 antenna tuner \$50 or best offer.
POWER/SWR BRIDGE \$25. Jim KD6WIS
584-3423.

YAESU FT740 144/440 HT. **ICOM 735.**
CUSHCRAFT R5 HF vertical. All items like
new, make offer. Gary KC6WTE 575-9119.

HEATH SB101 w/manual, make offer. Bob
KQ4YS 765-9550.

RAMSEY 30m receiver kit, assembled. \$10.
Bob N6RMW 542-5209.

YAESU 757GX2 HF xcvr, modified, \$700.
YAESU FT101EX 40M only, needs crystals for
other bands \$200. Mark KO6AP 544-4267.

WANT: High-impedance microphone 1/4" plug.
PALOMAR tuner tuner \$70. Greg KE6FXK
829-1583.

HYGAIN triband beam 10/15/20M \$100.
HR2600 multi-mode 10m mobile xcvr \$125.
Gary WD6EVL 823-9324.

HEATH SB200 HF amplifier, new tubes \$300.
JERRY ZILIAK CODE TAPES \$16/set.
AMERITRON RCS-4 4-pos antenna switch \$90
HYGAIN triband beam 10/15/20M \$100.
HEATH MOBILE POWER SUPPLY for HW-101
xcvr \$35. Ken WB6NOV 792-2634.

KENWOOD 922-A 1 kW HF amplifier \$1100.
HEATH SB-220 1 kW HF amplifier \$350.
ATLAS 210X 80/10 meter mobile \$150.
ANTENNA mobile all-band HF \$100. Joe
K6UKB 526-7731.

WANT: ROTOR heavy-duty with brake. Also
WANT: 40A POWER SUPPLY. Connie N6FYV
823-6668.

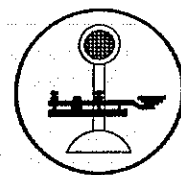
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PO Box 116
Santa Rosa, CA 95402



SHORT SKIP



Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.

Club Station

AUGUST 1994

W6LFJ

P.O. Box 116

Santa Rosa, CA 95402

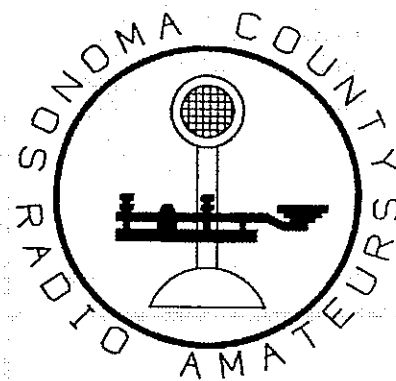
Repeater Station

WB6PVS

VOL 19 #8

(Field Day photos next month)





OFFICERS FOR 1994

PRESIDENT:	Merlyn Pfeiff	N6VUC	584-3898
VICE PRESIDENT:	Kelly Cureton	KD6CJQ	837-9434
SECRETARY:	Alan Bloom	N1AL	538-7115
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	Marie Mappus	KI6QY	664-1978
REPEATER CHAIRMAN:	Jim Rutherford	WB6PER	526-2972
ACTIVITIES CHAIR:	Mike Knope	KD6LYU	762-3236

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EDITOR:	Alan Bloom	N1AL (e)	538-7115
	1578 Los Alamos Rd, Santa Rosa, CA 95409	(d)	577-3981
CIRCULATION MGR:	June Linnehan	KD6LSU	
SWAP SHOP EDITOR:	Greg Cowles	KE6FXK	829-1583

BBS EDITORS: Pete Sourek KC6UXM, and Allan Chapman W6MEO
 AUDIO TAPING: John Breckenridge WB6FRZ, Laurel Meyer KC6FKX, Bob Phillips N6RMW

Activities Committee:

Pub. Service: Maris Mappus KI6QY 664-1978
 Pub. Relatns: Steve Carniglia KK6VY 579-9608
 Field Day Chairman: Mike Knope KD6LYU

TVI/RFI: Al Bloom N1AL 538-7115
 Antennas: Joe Senft KM6TN 578-5824
 John KM6LI, Shep NH6ZY, N1AL
 Awards: Steve Lund WA8LLY 823-4544
 VEC Exams: Dave New AA6YX 829-6608
 N1AL WX3K WW6D WB6FRZ
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Education: Steve Carniglia KK6VY 579-9608
 N1AL WB6FRZ KC6RHA KK6VY
 WB6TMY K6XZ K6ZWB KC7VS

Refreshmnts at meetings: Bob Olsten WD6DPE
 Raffle at meetings: Jim Durkin KE6FSK

Membership lottery: Jim Andrews KC6PJW

RACES RO: Jim Pelmulder N6PTM 823-7947

ARRL Liaison: Alan Bloom N1AL 538-7115

Badge Chair: Fred Leoni N6YEU 431-8202

Packet BBS: John WX3K and Jim KC6PJW

Repeater Control Op's:

WB6PER Jim 526-2972 N6PTM Jim 823-7947
 WD6CKP Hoppy 542-6750 N6VUC Merl 584-3898
 KD6CJQ Kelly 837-9434

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:

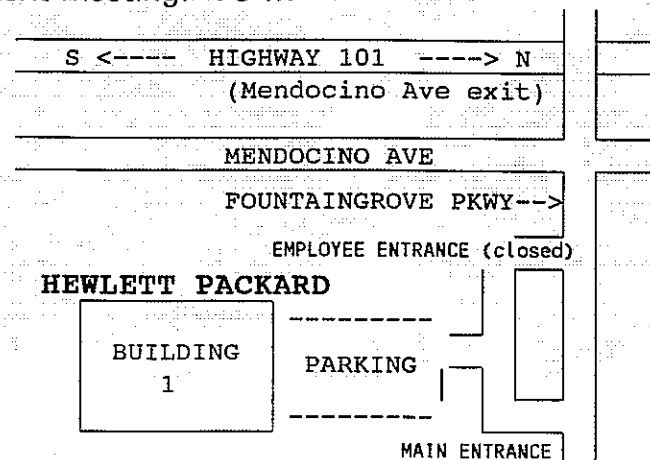
7:30 PM, 1st Wednesday each month at the
 Hewlett Packard plant in Santa Rosa. (See
 map below.) All are welcome.

Next Meeting: August 3, 1994
 Program:

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
 Newsline 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 ...



COMING EVENTS:

SCARS NET: 146.73 MHz
 Tuesdays at 7 PM.

NEWHAM HOTLINE:

1-800-326-3942

SCRA INFO HOTLINE:

(707) 579-9608

VE EXAMS HOTLINES:

(408) 984-8353/255-9000

AUGUST:

- 1 - RACES etc. Net 7:30 PM
- 3 - SCRA meeting 7/7:30 PM
- 6-7 - ARRL UHF Contest
- 7 - Livermore Flea Mart 510-447-3857
- 13 - Reno Hamfest 702-856-2826
- 13 - Foothill College Flea Market
- 14 - Day on the River event
- 15 - RACES etc. Net 7:30 PM
- 18 - CDF/VIP Meeting 7:30 PM
- 20 - Deadline for September *Short Skip*
- 20 - SCRAPS picnic
- 26-28 - ARRL SW Div. Conv. 619-278-4284
- 27 - Easter Seal Miracle Ride

SEPTEMBER:

- 7 - SCRA meeting 7/7:30 PM
- 17 - SCRA Flea Mart, Seb. Holy Ghost Hall
- 17 - Deadline for October *Short Skip*
- 17 - Clo's Classic
- 17 - Splendor in the Saddle, Healdsburg
- 18 - March of Dimes WalkAmerica
- 24-25 - CQ Worldwide RTTY Contest

OCTOBER:

- 5 - SCRA meeting 7/7:30 PM
- 7-9 - Bakersfield hamfest, POB 473, 93302
- 15 - Deadline for November *Short Skip*
- 21-23 - Pacificon '94 Concord 510-932-6125
- 29-30 - CQ Worldwide DX Contest, Phone

NOVEMBER:

- 2 - SCRA meeting 7/7:30 PM
- 5-7 - ARRL Sweepstakes, CW
- 19 - Deadline for December *Short Skip*
- 19-21 - ARRL Sweepstakes, Phone
- 26-27 - CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW

DECEMBER:

- ?? - SCRA Christmas party
- 10-11 - ARRL 10 Meter Contest
- 17 - Deadline for January *Short Skip*
- 31 - ARRL Straight Key Night

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
- () 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

() Other _____

Badge (New Members only)

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

Callsign _____

First Name _____

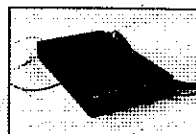
City _____

HSC ELECTRONIC SUPPLY

GOODIES FOR THE RADIO AMATEUR:

RAMSEY KITS:

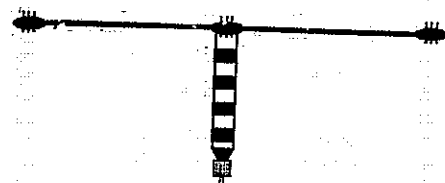
- 50/144/220/440 MHz Synthesized Transceivers
- VHF power amplifiers
- All-mode HF receivers
- QRP CW Transmitters
- Etc...



- MFJ accessories
- Code keys
- Wire Antennas
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- Tools, parts, Etc...

ARRL BOOKS:

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- License Manuals
- Antenna Books
- Etc...



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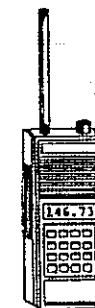


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SCRAPS: SCRA Public Service

By Marie Mappus KI6QY

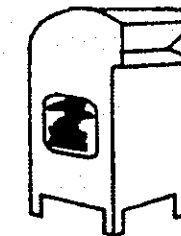
June Events

As the song goes, June is busting out all over and so are the public service events. We got off to a good start with the Mini Vineman on June 12th. It started at 0800 and finished at about 1300 hrs. Merl N6VUC was Net Control and was ably assisted by Doug KC6RHA, Carl AB6RL, Dave KD6KWM Bill WA6OLW, Kelly KD6CJQ, James KD6GSF and George KD6WIR. There were no unexpected problems thanks to all the help given by the radio operators.

The next event was the Terrible Two, well-named for the route chosen. Starting in Santa Rosa, it progresses through Calistoga to the Geysers and from there to the lunch stop at Warm Springs Dam. The afternoon is spent heading for Annapolis and Sea Ranch, then down Highway 1 to Fort Ross. At Fort Ross the route swings inland to Cazadero and on to Monte Rio, Occidental and finally back to Santa Rosa, a trip of 211 miles. 98 riders started the event and 66 finished by the 10 PM deadline. An additional 12 finished between 10 PM and midnight. The event began at 0530 and the first rider returned at 1659, setting a new record of 11 hrs and 29 minutes. The previous best time had been 12 hours. The second and third place riders also set new records. Again there was a dedicated group of Radio Operators manning the rest stops and the vehicles. Many thanks to Rick Reiner K6ZWB, Kathy KC6UXJ, Peter N6JBV, Gary KD6BOF, Phil N6OOA, Rudy N6KLU, George KD6WIR, Steve KC6NEO, Greg KE6FXK, Rick KC6UXI Dave KD6KWM Doug KC6RHA, Frank N6LAJ and Marc KI6QY. Your help is greatly appreciated and without it the public service events could not be the success that they are.

The sponsors of the Terrible Two and the participants also expressed their appreciation for the help given by the Radio Amateurs. ■

From the Mailbox



Dear Friends,

I have just looked at Lyman's copy of *Short Skip* for July, just arrived. Since April 25, 1944, Lyman Wiltshire WB6SMY has been in Spring Lake Village Skilled Nursing Center in Santa Rosa. For the last couple of years he has had several epileptic seizures, and that, combined with old age (dementia) has unfortunately kept him from enjoying his hobby of ham radio.

Our nephew, Ritch Foster KD6YOJ, of the Valley of the Moon club, brought up from the basement Lyman's radio gear and set it up by Lyman's bed, along with an antenna. Lyman tried using it a few times, but the forgetfulness and difficulty hearing indicated it wasn't much use. So sad, for Lyman really enjoyed this hobby.

I note you were at Sugar Loaf Ridge State Park for Field Day. A number of years ago I rode up with Lyman for Field Day when it was at Red Top Pk., the telephone company relay station, and I hiked from there to Bald Mt., the topmost part of the Park, and from there all the way down to our home on Adobe Canyon Rd. So your outing there brought this to my mind.

I don't expect Lyman to get much better, as he's sort of given up. He can have visitors — *wake him up* if you go see him as he sleeps a lot.

Just thought you'd like to know why you have not seen him lately.

Sincerely,

Mrs. L. L. Wiltshire (too stupid to be a ham!) ■

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. ■

Field Day Statistics

BAND	CW	Phone
80	131	0
40	163	104
20	229	254
15	58	87
10	0	5
Packet	63	
Satellite		3
144 MHz		25
220 MHz		1
Novice	9	102

653	581
x 2	x 1
1306 +	581 = 3774
Bonus points	+ 1100

	4874

(Assuming ARRL certifies all our claimed bonus points)

Previous Years:

Year	Class	Score
1989	5A	4294
1990	4A	3514
1991	5A	4846
1992	5A	5824
1993	5A	5528
1994	4A	4874 (claimed)

Year	80CW	80SSB	40CW	40SSB	20CW	20SSB	15CW	15SSB	10CW	10SSB	VHF	Misc
1989	112	35	162	0	214	43	180	0	0	0	28	
1990	0	49	50	110	325	176	0	158	0	0	71	
1991	178	142	34	237	270	176	84	80	0	0	0	74
1992	60	137	128	178	305	416	160	47	0	0	0	25
1993	48	81	241	305	271	204	81	3	0	0	19	14
1994	131	0	163	104	229	254	58	87	0	5	26	66

Novice:

1989	8	17					95		0	64
1990	7	78					0		0	73
1991	6	24					0		0	28
1992	11	46					7		0	0
1993	8	64					28		0	0
1994	9	0					0			102

Jim Peimulder
N6PTM (707) 823-7947

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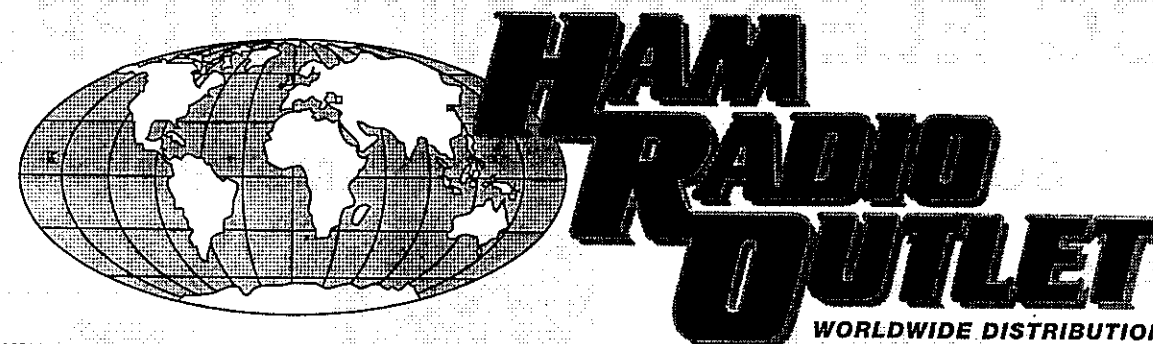
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I-880 at 23rd Ave. ramp

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Lawrence Expwy.
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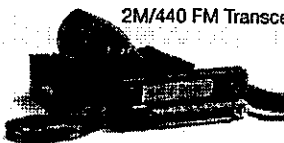
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IC-T21A, 2M

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SCRA MINUTES

July 6, 1994

Submitted by
Mike Knope KD6LYU



The meeting was called to order by Vice President Kelly Cureton KD6CJQ at 7:35 PM. Other officers present were (later) Secretary Al Bloom N1AL, Treasurer Mike Michlig KN6JQ, Activities Chairman Mike Knope KD6LYU and Member-at-Large Marie Mappus KI6QY.

VISITORS: We had 4 visitors to the meeting.

Ken McTaggart N6KM, President of the Valley of the Moon ARC, former Mayor of Sonoma, and ARRL Volunteer Counsel was introduced. Ken has been very instrumental in helping with Santa Rosa's antenna zoning ordinances.

Another distinguished visitor was Brad Wyatt K6WR, Director of the Pacific Division of ARRL.

The **MINUTES** were approved as printed in last month's *Short Skip*. m/s KE6FSK/WB6TMY

The **TREASURER'S REPORT** was approved as published in *Short Skip*, with corrections (expenses shown with brackets.) m/s KD6LYU/WB6TMY

REPEATER: N6PTM reported that the new autopatch codes go into effect at midnight. The battery backup system is installed and working. WB6NOV asked about the ID overriding QSOs. That will be fixed with the new controller.

PUBLIC SERVICE: Marie KI6QY reported on upcoming public service events. The SCRAPs picnic is Aug 20 in Finley Park.

VE EXAMS: Dave AA6YX reported on the exam session at HP. Dave has a new phone number: 829-6608.

RAFFLE CHAIRMAN Jim KE6FSK needs to find a replacement due to a new job commitment. Please contact Jim or any club officer.

PROGRAM: Director Wyatt K6WR spoke of the organization of the Pacific Division, one of 15 in the ARRL. The structure is based on local clubs. It is very important for clubs to promote Amateur Radio through publicity in the media. He also spoke of the upcoming ARRL Board meeting, Amateur Radio legislation in the Congress, the vanity call sign proposal, PRB-1, and saving the 13 centimeter band.

Respectfully submitted by Mike Knope KD6LYU.

Board Meeting Minutes

June 8, 1994

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Kelley Cureton KD6CJQ at 5:37 pm in the meeting room at the Northbay Savings Bank. Other officers present were Secretary Al Bloom N1AL, Treasurer Mike Michlig KN6JQ, Repeater Chairman Jim Rutherford WB6PER, Activities Chairman Mike Knope KD6LYU, Members-at-Large Marie Mappus KI6QY and President Emeritus Rick Reiner K6ZWB. Also present were SCRA members Hoppy Bravin WD6CKP, Jim Pelmulder N6PTM, and Joe Senft KM6TN.

The **PATCHES** have arrived from Kelly KD6CJQ. Cost to the club is \$384/200 = \$1.92 each. Cost to members will be \$3.

STORAGE ROOM: Rick K6ZWB brought up the idea of renting a storage room for club property. The "Lock-It-Up" location on Airway drive charges \$550/year for a 10x10 foot room and \$660/year for a 10x15 foot room. N6PTM worried about access at odd hours during emergencies. N1AL suggested we might be able to buy a small shed and store it on the CDF property on College Ave. At the next club meeting, we will ask if any member has access to a good secure location.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY: Rick is soliciting questions to include in the upcoming questionnaire. The idea is to create a membership directory.

FLEA MARKET: N1AL has sent in the notices to the ham magazines. Rick wants a PO box key so he can gather the registrations as they come in.

PUBLIC SERVICE: Marie KI6QY reported on upcoming events.

ANTENNA COMMITTEE: KM6TN is waiting to hear from the City Attorney's office to set up a meeting to discuss revising the zoning code.

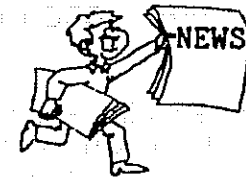
REPEATER: WB6PER sent a letter of thanks to Mike Aber for his help with our repeater. Jim got the Repco standby repeater from Jim Saturday and delivered it to Mike for the following upgrades: replace the control receiver with the IC-4AT, install the new controller (old '73 controller), and set up the battery backup controller.

Other repeater items: Jim has received a check from the club for \$1500 to pay for the 146.73 repeater upgrades. He has gone through the autoslot list eliminating non-members, which amounted to about half the slots.

AMENDMENT: Jim N6PTM presented his proposed changes to the constitution and bylaws to simplify the financial record-keeping. The Board voted to endorse the changes 100%. m/s WB6PER/K6ZWB

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 PM. m/s K6ZWB/WB6PER

Respectfully submitted by Al Bloom N1AL.



of Amateur Radio

by Brad Wyatt K6WR
ARRL Div. Director

Update on the Effort to Save the 13 cm. Band:

The deadlines for Comments to FCC Docket 94-32 have now passed as of June 30, 1994. The ARRL and many Amateur Radio groups responded with Comments and Reply Comments — many thanks to all who wrote! It is very unclear what weight the FCC will put on arguments filed by the commercial interests, especially those Comments which just said, "give us the frequencies - we don't know or care about the consequences to others." Now the long term "behind the scenes" activities continue in earnest.

Be assured that ARRL has several actions underway to try to turn this situation around, but ALL depend on your documentation of current 2.3 GHz. activity and plans. More details are on page 85, July QST.

FCC proposes HF digital changes:

On June 13, the FCC proposed to amend the amateur rules to allow automatic control of digital stations under certain conditions on the HF amateur bands. The Notice of Proposed Rule Making in PR Docket 94-59 was released June 23 with a comment deadline of Oct. 1, and a reply comment deadline of Nov. 1. See the *ARRL Letter* of June 24 for details. QST will carry more details of the proposal itself in the August issue. Please review this material and send me your thoughts as soon as possible so they can be factored into the ARRL comments due by Oct. 1.

Vanity "Preferred" Callsigns — Latest News:

At the ARRL National Convention and at a later meeting, an FCC official indicated that the vanity calls should be implemented by the end of the year or early 1995.

Congressional Legislative Report:

HJR 199 has 238 co-sponsors in the House for a majority of members. The identical resolution in the Senate (SJR 90) now has 45 co-sponsors. We need 6 more for a majority in the Senate. We still need to convince Senators Feinstein and Boxer.

HR 2623 (Amateur Radio Volunteer Service Act) has 75 co-sponsors in the House (none locally). Keep writing letters to your Representatives with copies to Steve Mansfield, Legislative Mgr. at ARRL HQ so he can use them when lobbying in Washington.

New FCC-ARRL Amateur Auxiliary Agreement:

A new agreement, signed in late February, centralizes submission of interference reports by Amateur Auxiliary members. The goal is to provide a tracking process for all difficult cases until conclusion.

Discussions within the Pacific Div. probably will generate a number of implementation questions to be submitted to ARRL HQ. Please forward any questions and comments to Rick Palm K1CE Manager of Field Services at ARRL HQ. An article on this program is expected in a near term issue of QST.

Brad Wyatt K6WR, ARRL Pacific Div Director, 18400 Overlook Rd #5, Los Gatos, CA 95030-5850 (408) 395-2501 Packet: K6WR@NOARY.#NOCAL.CA Internet: bwyatt@arrl.org

Treasurer's Report

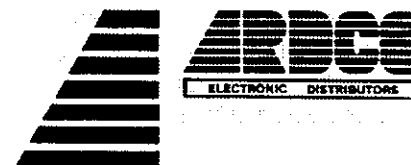
de Mike KN6JQ June, 1994

ACCOUNT

Activities (Field Day)	(224)
Activities (campout)	(244)
Dues and Initiations	60
Raffle at meetings	52
Repeater (maint/upgrade)...	(1664)
Short Skip Newsletter	(362)
Amateur Radio Newslite	(16)
Newline donation	(100)
Membership Supplies	(73)
Officers' Expenses	(384)
Total income	112
Total expenses	3067

ASSETS:

General Fund Account	2765
Cash/checks on hand	42
Total General Fund	2807
Total Repeater Fund	864

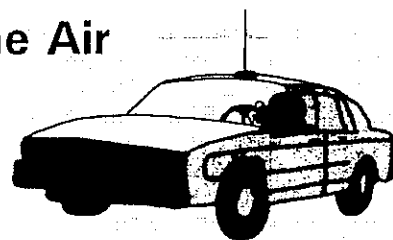


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STEVE BASHAM
Manager

Getting on the Air in Japan

by Paul Cooper
VE3JLP



I thought readers would be interested in the following story of the trials and tribulations, not the least of which is cost, that our brother and sister hams in Japan go through in order to obtain a license.

Some of us complain occasionally of Government bureaucracy: just read what Japanese hams have to put up with. The original article was translated and reprinted in the February 1994 TIARA NEWS — the Tokyo International Amateur Radio Association's newsletter. I have edited it down to make a complicated story more understandable.

"There are too many procedures and it is too expensive to get a ham license. Why can't the Japanese system be like that in the U.S. where you obtain your license once and then you can operate freely within certain limits?" That is the plea of Japanese hams.

To get on the air in Japan you have to go through three steps:

(1) First you take the national examination or a special training course to obtain your radio operator license.

(2) You then must file an application for "opening the station" [i.e. to establish the station] with the Japanese Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications (MPT).

(3) Then you must obtain confirmation that your transmitter and receiver satisfy certain technical standards. These procedures take about four months to complete. Moreover, whenever you buy a new rig you must make an application for such change, and your station must be re-inspected. Furthermore, your license must be renewed after five years.

In the case of the DENWA-KYU license (fourth class, phone only) which 90% of Japanese hams hold, the national exam costs 2,700 yen (approx. \$26) and the special training course costs 23,050 yen (\$220). The application for opening a station costs 7,300 yen (\$70). An application for change of radio equipment and

renewal of the license costs from 1,000 to 4,000 yen (\$9.50 to \$38).

There are 2,450,000 licensed hams in Japan. One ham who is an officer of an Amateur Radio organization stated, "I have been pleading with the government for 30 years to change to a system like one in the USA but I have not got anywhere, even though I have yet to find any fault with the US system."

The Land Mobile Communications Division of the MPT responds to criticism by saying: "All of the procedures are necessary to enable so many people to make good use of the available frequencies which are limited resources. We have partially simplified the procedures."

When you look into each of these procedures you will find that each one has a connection with an organization in which former MPT bureaucrats are working after their retirement from government service. First, the application forms are sold at the JARL (Japan Amateur Radio League) at prices ranging from 500 to 800 yen (approx. \$4.75 - 7.60). The special training course and the station modification inspection are done by the JARD (Japan Amateur Radio Development Association). In those organizations out of a total of 29 directors, 12 are retired MPT bureaucrats.

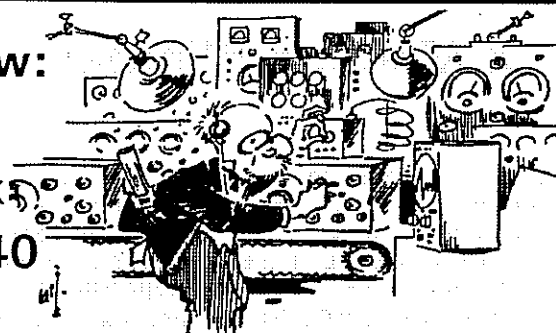
The total JARD income in 1992 was 560 million yen (approx. \$5.3M) and of that, 547 million yen (approx. \$5.2M) came from the kind of bureaucratic procedures described above. That seems to be the reason that they will not change to the US system.

After passing the national examination or successfully completing the special training course, the prospective ham must file an application for a radio operator license together with an additional 1,050 yen (\$10) worth of revenue/tax stamps. Every application for a station license, modification or renewal requires the completion of complicated forms. These forms can generally only be obtained at ham specialty stores, certain large bookstores, or at JARL branch offices.

By paying 1,000 to 3,000 yen to the JARD for a station "guarantee", amateur stations up to 100 watts are exempted from undergoing the station inspection which requires a complicated application procedure, long waiting time, and expensive inspection fee.

(continued next page)

Review: Radio Shack DSP-40



by Randall Rhea KG0HW

Radio Shack now sells the DSP-40, a Digital Signal Processor with a 5-watt audio amplifier and built-in speaker. The price is \$79.95 in the US. The catalog number is 21-543; you will need that number when you call and ask if it's in stock, because most Radio Shack personnel probably won't know what it is. (none of the ones I called knew about it) The product is not in the 1994 catalog. Some newer Radio Shack CBs will have DSP built in.

The unit is small (about the size of a paperback novel) and runs off 12 VDC through a jack in the back (fused cord included). It has an audio input jack and audio output jack, both of the standard 1/8" mono phone type (cord included). The input jack is designed to take input from an earphone jack or external speaker output of a radio. The DSP-40 is simple to install: just connect to power, and run the included cord from your rig's external speaker output to the unit.

There are four controls on the front: volume/on-off, a button that turns DSP on or off, a bandwidth knob (three positions, WIDE, MEDIUM, NARROW), and a mode knob (three positions: CW, SSB, NR/Noise Reduction).

For the CW operator, the unit works pretty well as an audio filter. If you already have an audio narrow bandwidth filter on your rig, this unit may not provide any more functionality. You need to tune the rig very carefully if you use this unit, especially if the unit is in the NARROW bandwidth setting.

For the SSB operator, the unit is very effective in eliminating squeals (heterodynes) caused by interference from AM stations. This is much better than the Notch filters offered on some rigs and some active filters like the MFJ filter. This is very useful for the 40m SSB operator, especially if you work mobile. You push a button, and the heterodynes go away; no need to fiddle with knobs.

For the AM operator, the unit is of limited usefulness. When the CB band is open, heterodynes (or squeals that sound like heterodynes) are a problem, and this unit can help filter them. The DSP-40 does NOT reduce engine noise for mobile operators. The unit is somewhat effective in reducing hiss. Audio quality is reduced when DSP is engaged on AM signals.

The internal speaker is pretty good for mobile operation. Its quality is about the same as the one built in to my Icom 735.

For \$79.95, this is cheaper than other DSP units. Does it provide \$80 worth of functionality? Yes, if you are a 40m SSB enthusiast. No, if you are anyone else. It is a fun new toy to play with though, and I am glad that Radio Shack is selling it.

Tnx: Harris ARC newsletter

Japan (continued)

The license term for non-permanent residents of Japan is one year. Applications for station license renewal and modification must be filed separately.

Here is the amount of revenue/tax stamps required together with license application forms. 14,600 yen (\$140) for stations over 50 watts. An additional "guarantee" fee (nominally 3,000 yen or approx. \$28.50) is paid to the JARD. Or, in the case of a 500 watt station, the station inspection fee is 21,200 yen (approx. \$200) plus another 5,300 yen (approx. \$50) "guarantee" fee to the JARD. In addition, an annual "radio spectrum users fee" of 500 yen (approx. \$4.75) or 1,000 yen (\$9.50) if you have both the 100 watt fixed and 50 watt portable station licenses, is levied by the MPT.

If you are still with me after reading all this, contrast the simplicity of the Canadian or US licensing procedures with this bureaucratic nightmare!

Tnx The Canadian Amateur