



Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association

JANUARY 2011

2011 OFFICERS: President: Rick Lopez KF6TEZ
Vice President: Linda Ridenour, W6MUT
Secretary: Davona Miiller KF6TSY
Treasurer: Bob Kimball KC6TVE

Greetings to all and *Happy New Year!*

It has been a quiet past year for *Green Eggs and Ham*. However, I have a couple thoughts that need to be said for the benefit of all our loyal SARA members and Readout perusal.

First and foremost the two pictured SARA Members joined the Moose Lodge this past year, and they joined on a bet. At least two other non-pictured SARA members joined this past year as well, however they refused to pose showing the "Official Moose" hand signals. Maybe this year we can include them if they will show proper respect. I will not divulge their Christian names, but their calls are KI6KQM and W6MUT. All kidding aside, Modesto's Moose Lodge is a fun place, especially if you like taco's, prime rib, steaks, KI6KQM's popcorn and adult beverages! For those non-imbibers, soft drinks of every kind are available as well. The Moose Lodge contributes all profits to charity, Moose Heart and Moose Haven. Ask one us, we'll give you the low down.



ARRL *Section Emergency Coordinator* Ed Hanna, KF6FIR got me back just before the end of the year....it seems that Lou KF6NPG and I may have conspired to get Ed and his communication talents up to the Strawberry Music Festival a couple years back. We promised him low pay, good food, excellent accommodations and lots of work all disguised as a *paid vacation* in *Yosemite National Park*. Well we hooked him, but he always promised me he would get me back!



Ed patiently waited for me to retire and then he launched his plan. He began a campaign to enlist my services with the League. He twisted my arm until I relented, so I accepted an ARES position as a District Emergency Coordinator. I always knew Ed would get the last word after we tricked him into being the Communications Leader at the Strawberry Music Festival. I can only imagine what he has in store for Lou, KF6NPG, when he retires for a second time.

73's de W6UHF, Paul O

FCC Cites Retailer for Marketing Amateur Radios as CB Radios

01/06/2011

In October 2010, an agent from the FCC's Enforcement Office visited Monroe, Michigan-based [Doctor Radio's CB Shop](#) to find that the store was selling, among other items, a radio that was described as "an Amateur Radio that could operate on CB frequencies" that was modified to operate above the approved power limits. As such, the FCC issued a [Citation](#) to the store on January 4 for marketing unauthorized radio frequency devices in the United States in violation of Section 302(b) of the Communications Act and Section 2.803(a)(1) of the Commission's rules.

The equipment in question includes a [Cobra 150 GTL DX](#). A store employee explained to an FCC agent that the transceiver had been modified to generate 170 W of power. The store employee further explained that the Cobra 150 GTL DX was an Amateur Radio transceiver that could operate on CB frequencies. If legally operated, the 150 GTL DX operates from 28-29.7 MHz; the CB frequencies are 26.965-27.405 MHz. [Section 95.655\(a\)](#) of the FCC rules prohibit radios that can transmit on both the amateur and CB bands. According to the Citation, the Cobra 150 GTL DX "offered for sale at Doctor Radio had both CB and Amateur Radio capability and therefore cannot be sold in the United States."

The FCC advised Doctor Radio's CB Shop that if after receipt of the Citation, it violates the Communications Act or the Rules by continuing these sorts of sales, the FCC may impose monetary forfeitures of up to \$16,000 for each such violation or each day of a continuing violation, and up to \$112,500 for any single act or failure to act. In addition, violations of the Communications Act or the Rules can result in seizure of equipment through [in rem](#) forfeiture actions as well as criminal sanctions, including imprisonment.

Doctor Radio's CB Shop has until February 4 to respond to the Citation, either through a personal interview at the FCC's Farmington Hills, Michigan office, or via a written statement.

11/10/2010

In November 2009, [the FCC issued a Notice of Proposed Rule Making](#) (NPRM) -- [WT Docket No. 09-209](#) - seeking to amend the Commission's Amateur Radio Service rules to clarify and codify existing procedures governing the vanity call sign system. The NPRM also sought to revise certain rules applicable to club stations. The [ARRL submitted its comments to the FCC](#) on March 26. On Monday, November 8, 2010, the FCC issued a Report and Order ([R&O](#)) with its decisions. These new rules will take effect 60 days after publication in the Federal Register.

In the Report and Order, the FCC amended and clarified its rules with respect to Amateur Service vanity call signs "in order to promote processes that are more equitable and administratively efficient." The FCC has amended its vanity call sign rules to clarify the date on which the call sign associated with a license that is canceled due to the licensee's death becomes available for reassignment and clarifies the exceptions to the general rule that a call sign is unavailable to the vanity call sign system for two years after the license terminates. As for club stations, the FCC has placed limits on who can file applications on behalf of a club, how many vanity call signs a club can hold and how many clubs can have the same license trustee.

According to the FCC, almost 80,000 licensees have replaced their sequentially issued Amateur Radio call signs with a vanity call sign since the program began in 1996. When the program began, the Commission established what they called "the broad outlines" of the vanity call sign system, concluding that call signs generally should not be available for reassignment for two years following the death of a licensee, or expiration or termination of the license for that call sign. In doing so, the Commission made exceptions for former holders of the call sign, close relatives of a deceased former holder and club stations of which a deceased former holder was a member.

Here are the highlights of the Report and Order (read the complete [R&O](#) here):

Availability of Call Signs Assigned to Stations of Deceased Licensees

- The FCC has codified that a signed request for license cancellation accompanied by a copy of a death certificate, an obituary or data from the Social Security Death Index [SSDI] that shows the date of death is necessary to cancel the license of a deceased amateur.
- The FCC clarified the rules to provide that the two year waiting period starts on the licensee's date of death.
- A call sign that is canceled due to the death of a licensee more than two years earlier, or within 30 days before the second anniversary of the licensee's death, will remain unavailable to the vanity call sign system for 30 days following the date the staff takes action to cancel the license.

Exceptions to the Two Year Waiting Period

- Former Holders of the Call Sign: A former holder of the call sign is exempt from the general rule that a call sign shown on an expired, surrendered, revoked, set aside, canceled or voided license is unavailable to the vanity call sign system for two years.
- "Close Relatives" of the Licensee: The term "in-law" includes "only a parent, step-parent, sibling, or step-sibling of a licensee's spouse; and the spouse of a licensee's sibling, step-sibling, child, or stepchild; or the spouse of a licensee's spouse's sibling or step-sibling." The other "close relatives" are the deceased former holder's spouse, children, grandchildren, stepchildren, parents, grandparents, stepparents, brothers, sisters, stepbrothers, stepsisters, aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

- *“In Memoriam” Call Signs: One exception to the two year waiting period applies to licenses for club stations who request the call sign of a deceased licensee when the club station trustee has the written consent of a close relative of the deceased. The FCC codified that the decedent’s club membership need not be current at the time of his or her death, as long as the decedent was a bona fide member of the club at some time during his or her life.*

Ineligible Applicants

- *When a vanity call sign for which the most recent recipient was ineligible is surrendered, cancelled, revoked or voided, the two year requirement does not apply; however, the call sign will not be made available to the vanity call sign system for 30 days after information regarding the acknowledgement or determination of ineligibility is posted to the license in the Commission’s licensing system.*

Other Club Station Licensing Issues

- *Club Trustee Issues: Applications requesting a change in trustee are required to include documentation signed by an officer of the club when the application is submitted to the Club Station Call Sign Administrator (CSCSA), in order to “prevent a departing trustee from making off with the club license and call sign or refusing to agree to a change in trustee” and “address instances in which a trustee becomes incapacitated.”*
- *Class of Trustee: Novice class licensees may now serve as club station trustees, “for frequency and operating privileges are determined solely by the class of operator license held by the control operator, rather than the license held by the club station trustee.” (However, cumbersome identification procedures are required when a control operator is using privileges that exceed those of the station licensee.)*
- *Limits on Club Station Licenses: Club stations may hold only one vanity call sign, but may hold an unlimited number of sequential call signs. Club stations currently holding more than one vanity call sign may renew or modify their existing station license grants, but not obtain any additional vanity call signs. The prohibition on obtaining additional vanity call signs includes in memoriam call signs formerly assigned to deceased members of the club.*
- *Who May Serve as Trustee: An individual may be the trustee for only one club station license grant. Individuals who currently serve as trustee for more than one club may continue to serve as trustee of those clubs, but may not be designated the trustee of any additional clubs.*

Conforming Rule Changes

- *The FCC amended Part 97 to remove obsolete references to Technician Plus class operator licenses, as all Technician Plus class operator licenses have now either expired or been renewed as Technician class operator licenses.*
- *In 2000, the FCC decided not to renew Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) station licenses. Now that the last RACES license has expired, the FCC amended Part 97 to remove references to RACES station licenses.*
- *The FCC revised Section 97.21 to reference Section 1.949 of the rules that requires that renewal applications be filed no sooner than 90 days prior to expiration of the license.*

Upcoming Events!

- ▶ **Next Meeting:** *February 15, 2011*
- ▶ **Early Bird Road Race:** *January 22, 2011*
- ▶ **Ham Cram** *license class and testing: February 12, 2011*
- ▶ **Covered Bridge Classic Bike Ride:** *March 12, 2011 Snelling*

From Modesto take 99 South to the Keyes Road exit. Travel East on Keyes Road approximately 30 miles. Keyes Road turns into Montgomery – turn left onto Highway 59/Snelling Highway. Henderson Park is located on the right side of the highway at 2641 East Merced Falls Rd in Snelling.

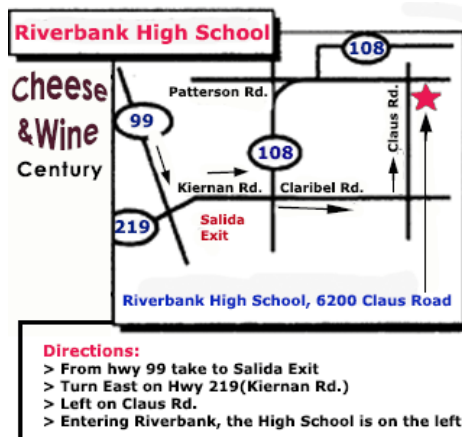
- ▶ **Ham Cram** *license class and testing: May 14, 2011*
- ▶ **Canyon Classic Bike Ride:** *June 11, 2011 Patterson*

*Creekside Middle School
535 Peregrine Drive
Patterson, CA 95363*

- ▶ **Ham Cram** *license class and testing: August 13, 2011*
- ▶ **Cancer Awareness Ride:** *September 2011*

[Modesto Junior College West Campus](#)
*2201 Blue Gum Avenue
Modesto, CA 95358*

- ▶ **Cheese and Wine Century:** *October 8, 2011 Riverbank*



► **Ham Cram** *license class and testing: November 12, 2011*

► **EMCOMMWEST:** *May 6 to 8, 2011 – The Grand Sierra Resort, Reno NV. Check www.emcommwest.org for information.*

EMCOMMWEST

EMCOMM (EMergency COMMunications) has been a vital part of all the emergency and disaster operations since the invention of the radio. It plays a very important part in getting messages to the appropriate people and places when all other modes of communication have failed. Symposiums like EMMCOMMWEST provide a forum where EMCOMM served agency people have an opportunity to become familiar with the capabilities of Amateur radio and where radio Amateurs have an opportunity to receive training from representatives of various served agencies as well as sessions on technical EMMCOMM-related issues. One of the first symposiums of this kind occurred in the late 1980's. The Emergency Response Institute (ERI) was first sponsored by the Santa Clara Valley Section of the ARRL and held in San Jose CA. Served agencies that participated in the first ERI include the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, California Department of Forestry and Santa Clara County. ERI became a yearly event that continued until the mid 1990's.

► **HAMCON 2011 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention:**

September 9-11, 2011

*Marriott Torrance South Bay: 3635 Fashion Way, Torrance, CA
90503*

1-800-228-9290

— Hotel Reservation Code: HAMCON —

► **Pacificon Expo 2011:**

October 14-16, 2011

*Santa Clara Marriott Hotel
Santa Clara*

Something new.....

A new Thursday night Tech Net will take place on Thursday nights at 7:00-8:00PM. It will start off with checking in technician class operators, followed by general's and then extra's. Basic topics such as types of net's and why they are conducted will be covered. The next format will open the net for questions and refer to generals and extras for responses. The topic at the beginning will differ every week and will cover terms and how to perform simple ham radio projects. There will be an upgrade portion of the net, then in the closing portion we can open it up for any other topics. This net, although called the "Tech Net," will not be just the technician class but open to all classes – creating a learning environment about technology as well as ham radio.

Tom, K6THM, will be net control and has been experimenting with a website called Justin. *"TV it is a format to publish live streaming video and audio to the web, with a text chatting component, on the web site, this will allow those who may be listing on scanners or some who do not have scanners,"* according to Tom. *"They can participate in the net and maybe help bring some of them into world of ham so to all people who get this newsletter can pass it around so others may get involved. Since this is so new adjustments will be made till all the wrinkles are ironed out!!"*

The link for Justin is: <http://www.justin.tv/>. When you get there, type K6THM and you can find the channel for the live feed. If anyone has ideas for the net or requests let Tom know by emailing: K6THM@K6THM.com.

HA HA HA!

One winter morning a couple was listening to the radio over breakfast. They hear the announcer say, "We are going to have 8-10 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the even-numbered side of the street so the snowplows can get through." Norman's wife goes out and moves her car.

A week later while they are eating breakfast again, the radio announcer says, "We are expecting 10-12 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the odd-numbered side of the street, so the snowplows can get through." Norman's wife goes out and moves her car again.

The next week they are again having breakfast, when the radio announcer says, "We are expecting 12-14 inches of snow today you must park." Then the power goes out.

Norman's wife is very upset, and with a worried look on her face she says, "Honey, I don't know what to do. Which side of the street do I need to park on so the snowplows can get through?"

With the love and understanding in his voice, Norman says, "Why don't you just leave it in the garage this time?"



Amateur Radio Quiz: The Year in Review

01/22/2011

By H. Ward Silver, N0AX
n0ax@arrl.net

What happened last year in Amateur Radio? Sometimes it's easier to remember things from long ago than from the past 12 months. Here are some events gleaned from [The ARRL Letter](#) back issues that you may have read about. Do you remember?

1) **January:** *Amateur Radio stepped up to help with international emergency communications from what natural disaster?*

- a. Chilean earthquake
- b. Caribbean hurricane
- c. Haitian earthquake
- d. Russian wildfire

2) **February:** *W6ZH passed away. Pete was the grandson of what US president?*

- a. Coolidge
- b. Roosevelt
- c. Wilson
- d. Hoover

3) **March:** *After lengthy negotiations, a Memorandum of Understanding between the ARRL and what other organization was finally signed?*

- a. The American Red Cross
- b. ITU
- c. MARS
- d. FAA

4) **April:** *What city terminated its once-touted BPL service as having turned out to be economically infeasible?*

- a. Cincinnati, Ohio
- b. Manassas, Virginia
- c. Liverpool, England
- d. Winnipeg, Canada

5) **May:** *The FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) to change the amateur privileges in what band?*

- a. 70 cm
- b. 6 meters
- c. 20 meters
- d. 60 meters

6) **June:** The opening of what weather season for which hams prepare all year long began on June 1?

- a. Tornado
- b. High temperature
- c. Pogonip
- d. Hurricane

7) **July:** What ARRL governance event takes place during this month?

- a. Field Organization Annual Convention
- b. NTS Governors Association
- c. Board of Directors meeting
- d. Section Manager training

8) **August:** What astronomical entity was named for the ARRL as announced in an August ARRL Letter?

- a. Martian crater
- b. Asteroid
- c. Comet
- d. Saturnian ring

9) **September:** In this month, a judge in New York declared that an Amateur Radio was not a _____?

- a. Illegal type of body piercing
- b. Cell phone
- c. Public nuisance
- d. Gambling device

10) **October:** The DXCC program announced it recognized four new entities. From what entity or entities were they created?

- a. Netherlands
- b. Netherland Antilles
- c. Dutch Surinam
- d. Saint Bartholomew

11) **November:** The results of what major operating activity were published online ahead of their traditional print publication in the December issue of QST?

- a. Field Day
- b. ARRL International DX Contest
- c. October SET
- d. School Club Roundup

12) **December:** The FCC announced new rules for what license program?

- a. Novice grandfathering
- b. Experimental 500 kHz operation
- c. Vanity and club call signs
- d. 70 cm repeater operation

Answers (with a link to the applicable issue and its date)

January: c [January 14](#)

February: d [February 11](#)

March: a [April 1](#)

April: b [April 8](#)

May: d [May 13](#)

June: d [June 3](#)

July: c [July 22](#)

August: b [August 5](#)

September: b [September 16](#)

October: b [October 14](#)

November: a [November 4](#)

December: c [December 16](#)



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Stanislaus County OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

NIMS/SEMS/ICS COURSES

January ~ February ~ March 2011

COURSE	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
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ICS 200	09-March 2011	0800-1700	3705 Oakdale Road
ICS 300 SFM	15-16-17 March 2011	0800-1700 (03-15) 0800-1700 (03-16) 0800-1200 (03-17)	3705 Oakdale Road
ICS 400 SFM	29-30-31 March 2011	0800-1700 (03-29) 0800-1700 (03-30) 0800-1200 (03-31)	3705 Oakdale Road

ICS 200 COURSE (Basic NIMS Compliance)

An 8-hour course that meets the requirements of the Basic Incident Command System. This course is designed to go beyond the basics of NIMS/SEMS/ICS introduction courses and cover such topics as Leadership and Management, Delegation of Authority, Management by Objectives, Functional Areas and Positions, Briefings, Organizational Flexibility, and Transfer of Command.

Target Audience: First line supervisors, single resource leaders, or other emergency response/management personnel who require a higher level of NIMS/SEMS/ICS training.

Pre-requisite Completion of IS700/Introduction to NIMS and ICS 100 Introduction to ICS.

ICS 300 STATE FIRE MARSHAL CERTIFIED INTERMEDIATE INCIDENT COMMAND

In collaboration with the Salida Fire Department, the Stanislaus County OES/FW will be conducting a 20-hour Intermediate Incident Command System (ICS) course created for supervisory or management staff that would be assigned in a supervisory or leadership role in the Command or General Staff of an emergency response incident or major pre-planned event.

This class will be State Fire Marshal/CICCS Certified.

This course meets NIMS/SEMS/ICS compliance and is a requirement to work in the Stanislaus Operational Area EOC.

Target Audience:

Stanislaus County mid-level management including strike team leaders, task force leaders, unit leaders, division/group supervisors, branch directors and emergency operations center staff. Stanislaus County command and general staff, select department heads with multi-agency coordination system responsibilities, area commanders, emergency managers and emergency operations center managers.

Pre-requisite: Completion of: *IS-700 Introduction to NIMS
ICS 100 Introduction to ICS or equivalent
ICS 200 Basic ICS or equivalent.*

Space is limited, so early registration is recommended.

ICS 400 STATE FIRE MARSHAL CERTIFIED ADVANCED INCIDENT COMMAND

*In collaboration with the Salida Fire Department, the Stanislaus County OES/FW will be conducting a 20 hour Advanced Incident Command System (ICS) and Introduction to Emergency Operation Center (EOC) course created for supervisory or management staff that would be assigned in a supervisory or leadership role in the Command or General Staff of an emergency response incident or major pre-planned event. **This class will be State Fire Marshal/CICCS Certified.***

This course meets NIMS/SEMS/ICS compliance and is a requirement to work in the Stanislaus Operational Area EOC.

Target Audience:

Stanislaus County mid-level management including strike team leaders, task force leaders, unit leaders, division/group supervisors, branch directors and emergency operations center staff. Stanislaus County command and general staff, select department heads with multi-agency coordination system responsibilities, area commanders, emergency managers and emergency operations center managers.

Pre-requisite: Completion of: *IS-700 Introduction to NIMS
ICS 100 Introduction to ICS or equivalent
ICS 200 Basic ICS or equivalent.
ICS 300 Intermediate Incident Command Course*

Space is limited, so early registration is recommended.

Special Notice:

Anyone with emergency management responsibilities, including planning, response, mitigation and or recovery from emergencies is required to be NIMS compliant. All public agencies, including schools, medical and other government organizations that have any role in emergency management need to meet or exceed all NIMS requirements. By attending the courses offered here in Stanislaus County, you will avoid the high registration cost associated with other training (generally \$600+) for registration alone. This training will provide you with the necessary skills to respond and be successful in emergency management regardless of your role in our next emergency/disaster response.

REGISTRATION

Early registration is recommended. Classes fill quickly.

(Preference given to Stanislaus County Emergency Response and Management Personnel.)

To register for courses go to www.stanoces.com, click on NIMS-SEMS-ICS Training Registration and select the class you wish to attend.

Sponsored by:

*Stanislaus County Office of Emergency Services
3705 Oakdale Road
Modesto, CA 95357
209.552.3600*



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Stanislaus County OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

NIMS/SEMS/ICS COURSES

April, May, June 2011

Revised 01-19-2011

<i>COURSE</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>TIME</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>
<i>ICS 402 NIMS Exec</i>	<i>13 April</i>	<i>1800-2200</i>	<i>3705 Oakdale Rd (Logistics)</i>
<i>ICS 402 NIMS Exec</i>	<i>01 June</i>	<i>0800-1200</i>	<i>3705 Oakdale Rd (Logistics)</i>
<i>ICS 100a - IS 700b</i>	<i>15 June</i>	<i>0800-1500</i>	<i>3705 Oakdale Rd (Logistics)</i>

NIMS EXECUTIVE COURSE

A 4-hour course designed for local elected officials and chief executives. This course covers roles and responsibilities of the policy group, as well as the basics of the Incident Command System, an overview of the California Standardized

Emergency Management System (SEMS), and Introduction to the National Incident Management System (NIMS). The course also covers the Multi-Agency Coordination System (MACS) involving interactions with other jurisdictions/agencies to support the management or command of emergency incidents or major pre-planned events. This specially designed course for Stanislaus County public officials meets the requirements of IS700/Introduction to NIMS, ICS100/Introduction to ICS, and ICS402/Executive Course.

Target Audience: *City Councils, Boards of Supervisors, Boards of Directors, Chief Executive Officers, Chief Administrative Officers, etc.*

Pre-requisite: *None.*

ICS100a - IS700b

A 6-hour course that introduces both the National Incident Management System and the Incident Command System. This course meets NIMS requirements for compliance with ICS 100a and IS 700b. It also discusses California's Standardized Emergency Management System. This awareness level training will cover topics such as: NIMS Components, Concepts, and Principles; Purpose of ICS; Basic Features of ICS; Incident Commander and Command Staff Functions; General Staff Functions; Facilities; and Common ICS Responsibilities.

Target Audience: *Emergency response personnel, disaster service workers, Amateur Radio Emergency Service and other Ham club operators,*

Search and Rescue Team members, and generally anyone who may respond or be involved in coordinating and supporting incident management activities.

Pre-requisite: *None*