



The READOUT

Vol. 8 No 12

Dec. 1985

Season's



Greetings

Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 4601 Modesto, Ca 95352

hamtalk by KF6QA

READOUT is the official publication of the STANISLAUS AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION INC. "SARA" P. O. Box 4601 Modesto, CA. 95352. Entered as first class mail at the U.S. Post office Modesto CA. Contributions to READOUT are always welcome and may be submitted to the editor, Bob Pinheiro, WA6ZLO at 1221 Mist Flower Ct. Modesto, CA. 95355. SARA owns and operates two F.M. repeaters. 145.39 MHz (-) located on Mt. Oso 22 miles SW of Modesto at an elevation of 3,370 feet. Our 220 MHz repeater operates of 223.68 MHz (-) and is also located on Mt. Oso at an elevation of 3,500 feet. The two meter repeater is equipped with an autopatch for the use of SARA members. SARA conducts an informational net on both repeaters each Thursday evening at 8 pm with the exception of holidays.

Readout Facts

SARA meets the third Tuesday of each month at the Stanislaus County Administration building at the 12th and H streets in downtown Modesto. Meetings begin at 7:30 pm. SARA is incorporated with the State of California and carries liability insurance covering all members. SARA is an affiliated club of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) and Stanislaus County RACES. Dues are \$15.00 per annum, \$7.50 for students up to sophomore in college. Dues are pro-rated for newly joining members from the date they join. ARRL membership and QST renewals may be made through SARA with a 2.00 commission retained by SARA.

- PRESIDENT
Leroy Campbell.....NV6S.....523-4727
- VICE PRESIDENT
Gene Rong.....N6JRC.....239-9236
- SECRETARY
Denny Dugal.....W66P.....526-8294
- TREASURER
Lynn Windus.....KB6DXX.....523-0141

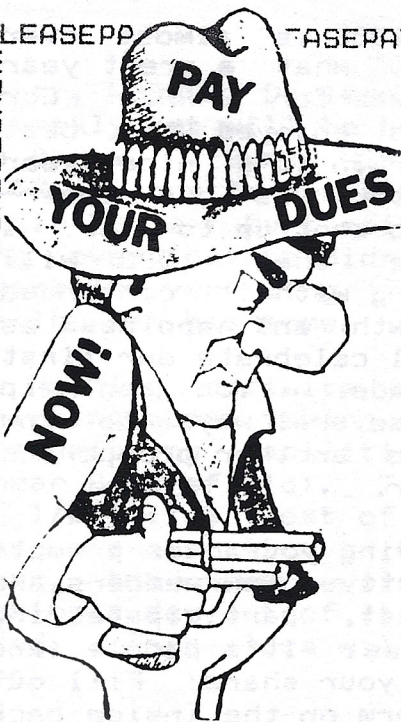


HMM... IT SEEMS THE SCULPTRESS WAS MARRIED TO AN AMATEUR RADIO BUFF... AT ONE TIME!

===== **QUIZ OF THE MONTH** =====

Which States in the Union have the least number of licensed Amateur Radio operators and the most?
(Answer)
Wyoming has the least with only 938. California the most with 56,960.
=====

PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES NOW PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES NOW PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES NOW



MEMBERSHIP DUES DUE!!

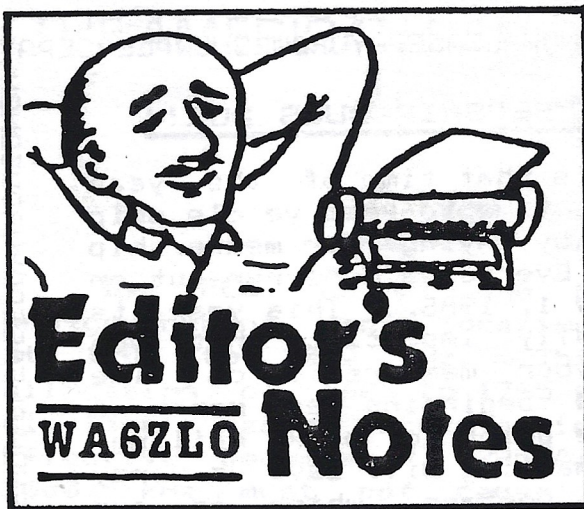
It's that time of the year again, time to keep ye ole ship afloat by paying your membership dues. Everyones dues run out on January 1, 1986. This year its especially important that you renew your membership on time because beginning next month we will be going to bulk mailing. Bulk mailing will save us money on our postage, which is our biggest yearly expense, but it requires that we mail a minimum of 200 pieces of mail at a time. So, it becomes most important that we keep our membership up and renew our membership on time.

Membership dues are virtually our only source of income. Membership dues pays the bills! A club is just like a small business! We have bills to pay each month, and your dues pay these bills. Some of the bills include maintenance of the club's equipment particularly the two repeaters; the autopatch; the monthly charge for the telephone, equipment and liability insurance and the printing and mailing of the newsletter, just to mention a few.

Please don't procrastinate, do it right now while its on your mind. On the inside back page of this month's newsletter is a handy renewal form. Please fill out the renewal form, detach it and send it in with your check or money order. The dues schedule is listed at the bottom on the renewal form. Make your checks payable to SARA and mail them WITH THE RENEWAL FORM to the Club's post office box. Thank you!

PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES NOW PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES NOW PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES NOW

PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES NOW PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES NOW PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES NOW



1985 is almost over and what a great year it was for SARA. Our club enjoyed the best year in it's nine year history as our membership shot up to 176. I hope that 1986 will bring with it continued growth and happiness as will celebrate our first decade. You can help in several ways to insure another prosperous year.

First, renew your membership by paying your dues promptly. Secondly, be alert for prospective new members and last, but most certainly not least, participate in, and support your club's activities. It's people (and money) that make it all happen. Do your share! Fill out the handy membership renewal form on the inside back page of this issue of READOUT and attach your check or money order and mail it into the club's post office box. Please do it now while you are thinking about it.

Sorry to report that SARA member Joe, N6DXB, had a heart attack last month in Stockton. This on top of other serious medical problems has complicated his general health. Best wishes Joe!

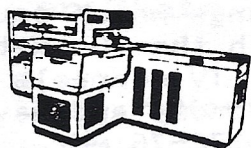
+++ Congratulations to Linnea Duncan, KB6KNX, on passing her Novice test. She becomes the fourth "ham" in the Duncan family of Manteca. +++Congratulations to our Vice President Gene, who upgraded to a General in November. He's working on his Advanced now. +++ Welcome to Cliff Edginton, KB6DX, of Mountain View, as the 176th member of SARA. Cliff is retired and spends a lot of time at Don Pedro reservoir. Cliff is on two meters and 220. Welcome aboard Cliff!

The 146.115 MHz Confidence repeater has been returned to voice operations after many years as a RTTY machine.

Owner, WB6LQQ, Darleen, announced the change in November. A weekly net will be held on the repeater on Friday nights at 8 p.m. Burt, W6FGC announced that he has moved the RTTY mailbox formerly on 115 to his 224.04 MHz repeater at Twain Harte. Burt said that the way packet radio is taking over that he didn't expect the RTTY system to stay in operation very long. Burt is planning a packet radio mailbox at his home.

Nothing definite at this time, but the Club has been thinking about taking a field trip next spring to tour the transmitting facilities of the Voice of America at Delano (near Bakersfield). The station sits on 800 acres of land 2 1/2 miles west of Delano and beams high powered short wave signals all over the world. If the Club opts for the tour, the tentative plans calls for renting a tour bus and making a day out of it. Costs would be around \$10 a head. This idea will be discussed at our December meeting.

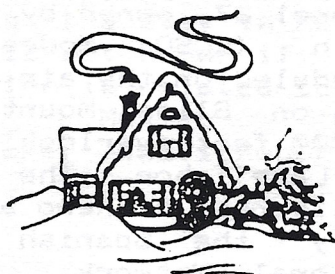
As this year ends I want to express my appreciation to several members who have help me produce the newsletter. Their contributions have made our newsletter what it is today. Thanks to Bob Babcock, KF6QA, of Rancho Cordova for all those wonderful cartoons that have appeared on page two each month. To Ernie, K6UVI, for his outstanding series on TVI/RF Interference. To Dakie, K6SJV; Steve, WA6MIZ; John, N6KKV; Steve, N6EKV; Peg Hotchkiss; Chuck McConnell, W6DPD and Leroy, NV6S all of whom contributed articles to READOUT. In closing, let us not forget our two silent keyes in 1985. Glen Andrews, WB6LSC and Ed Martin, N6HFU. 73, Bob, WA6ZLO



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Happy Holidays

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MONSTER TOWER

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Two so-called "monster" towers are now in service at Walnut Grove penetrating the atmosphere with high powered RF from an elevation of 2,000 feet. KTXL, TV 40 is now broadcasting from their new tower, which is the second 2,000 footer in service for Sacramento television stations. Channel 3, KCRA, has been operating from their new 2K tower for several months. Side mounted on the channel 3 tower at the 1800 foot level is the channel 31 UHF antenna. Both 31 and 40 are operating at the maximum power of 5 million watts ERP.

In related television news, channel 64 is scheduled on the air in the near future in Stockton with their transmitter located on Mt. Diablo. They will be running a 60 KW transmitter built by Sainte in Modesto for an ERP of 5 megawatts. Channel 27, owned by Chester Smith (KCSO Modesto) is scheduled on the air shortly on Slide Mountain at 10,000 feet overlooking Reno and Lake Tahoe. The station is licensed to Reno and will carry the Spanish International Network. Channel 28 is in the building stage

for Chico/Redding and channel 49 owned by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Fresno will be coming on the air from Blue Ridge Mountain behind Visalia. The city of license is Visalia. Sainte transmitters will be used by these stations.

According to Sainte engineer George, K1TKJ, RCA Corporation has stopped building television transmitters and cameras. This moves Sainte up to number four in the television transmitter building business. Their plant is located on Carpenter road in Modesto.

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PERIMETER SYSTEMS

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A Canadian company has developed a very effective detection system consisting of a pair of cables placed beneath the surface which can pick up body objects passing over them. These systems work best at the 50-88 MHz range which could interfere with the 6 meter Amateur band, TV channels 2-6, radio astronomy and navigation at the 72-76 MHz. As a result, the FCC has introduced a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, General Docket 85-231. (ARRL)

=====
NEW PACKET REPEATER
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Before the end of the year, a new Packet Digipeter will be on the air in the Southern San Joaquin Valley. W6ZFN- 1 will be located on Joaquin Ridge near Coalinga with 5 watts of power with a Baud rate 1200. The machine is sponsored by the Telephone Pioneers. Frequency will be 145.01 MHz.

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* S. A. R. A *
* MEETING *
* SPECIAL PROGRAM *
* January 21, 1986 *
* 730 P.M. *
* Multi-Projector *
* Slide / Sound Show *
* on State of Alaska *
* * Hostess * *
* Mrs. Bunnie Rader *
*

=====
MEXICAN AMATEUR PERMITS
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Documentary evidence exists which indicates that Mexico is approving temporary Amateur radio licenses to American Amateurs. The engineer-in-charge of Permits and Concessions of the Secretariat of Communications and Transport in Chihuahua confirmed that he has been authorized to give a temporary Mexican call sign from among those destined for Chihuahua State to U.S. visitors to Mexico.

Previously, an American Amateur had to prove his permanent immigration status to Mexico. This has now been extended to include visitors and tourists. The U.S. Amateur must present his FCC license to Mexican officials to obtain the call sign.

Reciprocity does not exist with Mexico and this is an independent action on the part of Mexico. The permit is of the same duration as the stay in Mexico and it is not known if this new action is related to the recent Mexico City earthquake. (WSYI Report)

STATION LOG

ARRL
affiliated club

The November meeting of SARA was called to order at 1933 by Club President Leroy, NV6S. Introductions of members and guests followed. Gene, N6JRC, introduced KB6KNX, Linnea Duncan as a new member of SARA and a new Novice. Treasurer Lynn, KB6DXX, gave the treasurers report. The minutes of the September and October meetings were read and approved as read by Secretary Denny, WG6P. Nomination committee chairman Bill, W6AFS reported that a slate of candidates has been found for 1986 officers. There include for President, NV6S & N6JRC. VP, WG6P & KB6OU. For treasurer, KB6DXX and for Secretary, KB6ECF. Bob, WA6ZLO reported that the READOUT will be bulk mailed starting January 1, 1986. The costs average out to approximately .17 cents per copy for postage compared to the present .22 cents for first class mail. However, ZLO warned that we must keep our membership up to meet the post office minimum of 200 copies mailed each month. All members were encouraged to get their dues in on time next month (December).

KB6DYA, Bruce, reported that he's still experiencing severe problems with the Bay Area 39 machine at his home QTH. He said he could not squelch out the repeater. After discussion Denny, WG6P, was asked to convey the information to the San Jose group and ask for further cooperation. The CW contest was a marginal success, with only a small percentage of SARA members participating. Results were published in the READOUT.

Under old business, two tabled motions from the October, 1985 meeting regarding the new Thursday night net time were withdrawn. It was agreed that we would continue to run the net at 730 p.m. for the next 6 months to see how it works out. A poll will be taken later to see how members feel about the time. Break for refreshments. Raffle prize of \$18.00 cash was won by NV6S. WA6OYF, Stanislaus County Emergency Coordinator reported that there are two upcoming disaster drills. The first on Saturday November 30th and the second on December 13. Volunteers can contact Allen to volunteer.

READOUT editor, WA6ZLO, reported that he and Gary KJ6Q are exploring the possibility of running pictures in the newsletter. A report will be given later after some tests are made.

Discussion followed regarding the linking of the 220 and 2 meter machines. It was decided the two machines should only be linked during the Thursday night net and when using the autopatch or calling another station on two meters. AFS reported that the 220 machine had been giving the technical crew considerable trouble. It has been up and down several times in the last six weeks because of it jumping off frequency. No one specific problem has been found, but several small ones have been corrected. The meeting was adjourned at 933 p.m. Respectfully submitted by Denny, WG6P, SARA Secretary.

=====
VE TEST FEE INCREASED
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Effective January 1, 1986, the fee to take a Volunter Examination from ARRL accredited examiners will increase from \$4.00 to \$4.25. The FCC allows \$4.29 (as of the January 1, 1986) , but the League has set their fee at \$4.25 per candidate. The ARRL/VEC coordinates test sessions in all fifty states plus many locations overseas. Send an s.a.s.e. to Hq for an updated printout of upcoming tests in your area.

In a related matter, the FCC lifted the thirty day waiting period for candidates who fail a test. The commission now requires that a candidate being retested not take exactly the same test that was failed previously. FCC also directs that the VE teams have the right not to retest anyone at the same session. Under the ARRL/VEC procedure, a candidate who fails may not be retested at the same test session. Once the candidate fails a written element, his or her participation at that session has ended. Subsequent retesting will occur only when the candidate submits a new Form 610 application and pays another \$4.25 test fee. SARA operates under the auspices of the ARRL program.



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A DEER HUNTING TRIP

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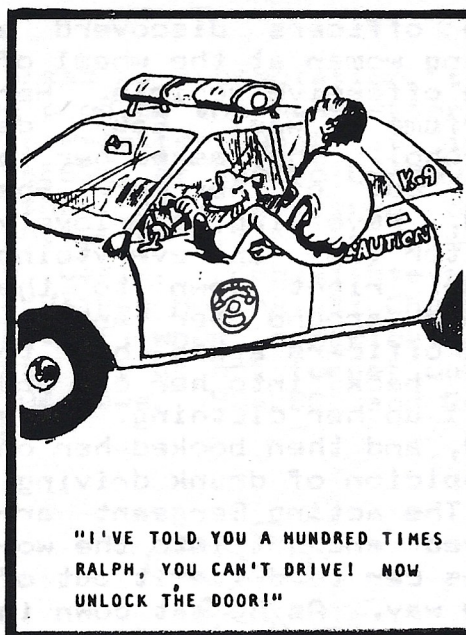
Saturday morning:

1:00	a.m.	Alarm clock rings.			
2:00	a.m.	Hunting partners arrive, drag me out of bed.			
3:00	a.m.	Depart for the hills.			
3:15	a.m.	Drive back to the house, forgot my gun!			
			3:30	a.m.	Rush to get to the hills before daylight.
			4:00	a.m.	Set up camp. Forgot the damned tent.
			4:30	a.m.	Head for the ridge.
			6:05	a.m.	See eight deer.
			6:06	a.m.	Take aim and squeeze trigger.
			6:06	a.m.	CLICK!
			6:07	a.m.	Load gun while deer go over the hill.
			8:00	a.m.	Head back to camp.
			9:00	a.m.	Still looking for camp.
			10:00	a.m.	Lost!
			Noon		Fire gun for help. Eat wild berries.
			12:15	p.m.	Run out of bullets. 8 deer return.
			12:20	p.m.	Strange feeling in stomach.
			12:30	p.m.	Realize ate poison berries.
			12:45	p.m.	Rescued!
			12:55	p.m.	Messed my pants. No extra shorts.
			12:56	p.m.	Rushed to hospital to have stomach pumped.
			1:00	p.m.	Threw up in the car. Dashboard a mess.
			3:00	p.m.	Arrived back at camp.
			3:30	p.m.	Leave camp to kill a deer.
			4:00	p.m.	Return to camp for bullets.
			5:00	p.m.	Empty gun on squirrel that is bugging me.
			6:00	p.m.	Return to camp. See deer grazing in camp.

6:01 p.m. Load gun.
 6:01 p.m. Fire!
 6:05 p.m. Radiator on pickup leaking.
 6:06 p.m. Partner arrives in camp with deer.
 6:06 p.m. Repress desire to shoot partner.
 6:07 p.m. Fall into the campfire.
 6:10 p.m. Throw burned clothes into fire.
 6:15 p.m. Leave in pickup.
 6:25 p.m. Pickup boils over; hole shot in block.
 6:26 p.m. Start walking.
 6:30 p.m. Stumble and fall; drop gun in mud.
 6:35 p.m. Meet bear.
 6:35 p.m. Take aim.
 6:35 p.m. Fire! Barrel blows up. Plugged with mud.
 6:36 p.m. Climb tree.
 9:00 p.m. Bear leaves
 9:01 p.m. Wrap *&#*##\$%"## gun around tree.
 9:06 p.m. Mother nature calls.
 9:06 p.m. No paper.
 9:07 p.m. Skunk resents bathroom site.
 9:07 p.m. Skunk unloads. Bulls-eye!
 Midnite Home at last.
 12:01 a.m. My dog bites me.
 12:02 a.m. Wife insists I use the hose in the backyard.
 12:03 a.m. Frost on the lawn.
 12:04 a.m. In birthday suit.
 12:04 a.m. Step in big dog poop.
 12:04 a.m. Fall in pool.

12:30 a.m. Tear up hunting license and place in plain envelope and mail to Fish and Game Department with detailed instructions on where to put it.

(Author must remain anonymous)



ARRL
affiliated club

=====
" DOWN TO THE PANTS!"
=====

Two CHP officers were sitting in their patrol unit on the U.S. 99 near Gorman at 1:30 a.m. with a drunk driver they'd just arrested. Suddenly another vehicle, without lights on, crashed into the rear of the CHP cruiser. Not just a rearend smash--the driver swerved up onto the sidewalk to slam the patrol car in the right back fender. Investigation seemed appropriate.

The officers discovered a young woman at the wheel of the offensive vehicle. Her perfume was Eau de Alcohol. They asked her to get out of her car. She did, revealing a lovely halter top-- and everything else, right down to the pants around her ankles. The officers asked her to get back into her car and pull up her clothing. She did, and then booked her on suspicion of drunk driving.

The acting Sergeant arrived and got into the woman's car to drive it out of the way. As he sat down in the driver's seat, he suddenly experienced that warm, wet feeling usually associated with babies and

puppies that aren't yet housebroken. That's when the acting sergeant discovered the woman had had more than one accident. (Thanks the CHP Magazine)

=====
KB6JXV IN TOP TEN
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Our apologies to Michael Ohllson, KB6JXV, of Turlock who was inadvertently left off the list of CW Contest finalists last month. Michael, the youngest member of SARA, scored fifty points and tied for 10th place in the contest. Congratulations to Michael for a job well done.

=====
AMATEUR CALL SIGNS
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As of November 1, 1985, the FCC has issued the following call signs in the sixth call district. Calls are issued in strict sequential order. Extra
>>> WN6G. Advanced >>>
KG6ZE. General-Technician
>>>N6MTH. Novice >>KB6KJB.

Amateur applications processed during October by the FCC's Gettysburg, PA,

licensing facility rebounded sharply after last year's stunning decrease. 10,120 applications were processed in October, 1985 compared to 7,207 in the same month in 1984. According to Gettysburg, it is currently taking 16 working days to process and mail an Amateur license ...about 3 weeks. Add another week or two, depending on the VEC, for the application to filter through the new volunteer testing system.

October Volunteer Examiner program statistics: Number of VEC's 75. Number of testing sessions held 294. Number of elements administered, 4,246. Percentage of elements administered through the ARRL VEC program, 59.7 %. Number of applicants tested 2,918. Pass rate, 57.37 %. Average number of persons per session, 9.93. Number of elements per person, 1.46.

October Amateur licensing statistics: New first time Amateurs 1,356 compared to 961 in October 1984. Novice upgrades, 822. Technician upgrades, 319. General upgrades, 355. Advanced upgrades, 213 compared to 58 a year

ago. Total number of licensed U.S. Amateurs as of October 1985, 413,127. Average age of all Amateurs 56.14 years. Youngest licensed Amateur is 7 and the oldest is 98.

=====
ULTRASONIC PEST CONTROL
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Ultrasonic pest control devices are advertised to repel pests (i.e., mice, rats, roaches, etc.) through the emission of acoustic noise that cannot be heard by people. These devices have been found to cause electromagnetic interference to televisions, as well as other types of equipment. Frequencies at which interference has been reported range from 20 to 470 MHz. Though pest control devices are not normally subject to FCC controls, however, ultrasonic devices of this type are subject to the technical and noninterference requirements of the FCC rules. FCC staff have determined that a minor technical change to these devices would substantially reduce their electromagnetic emissions, hence reducing their RF interference potential.

(ARRL Letter)

THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE, INC.

SECTION MANAGER

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY
Charles P. McConnell W6DPD

By FCC Report and Order in PR Docket 84 874 non-government radio location has been given primary status at 1900 to 2000 kHz. This relates to the projected allocation of 1605 to 1705 kHz to broadcasting which will displace radio determination stations in that range. Effective December 9, 1985 Amateur stations in the 1900 to 2000 kHz must not cause harmful interference to radiolocation service and are afforded no protection from interference arising from radiolocation operations. Since FCC will not accept applications from radiolocation stations desiring to move from 1605-1705 to 1900-2000 kHz until July 1, 1987, Amateurs will continue to have exclusive non-government use of this band until private radio location transmitters become operational. Further details can be found in Jan. 1986, QST.

Propagation forecast bulletins indicate the end of Cycle 21 will occur in June of 1987.

Starting January 1, 1986, the fee for ARRL/VEC Amateur examinations will be \$4.25. FCC will allow a fee of \$4.29 due to inflation. ARRL/VEC has rounded this number to the nearest quarter.

Since FCC eliminated the 30 day wait before retaking a failed exam element, some modifications have been released. A candidate being retested may not take exactly the same test that was failed previously. FCC also says that VE teams have the right NOT to retest anyone at the session. Under the ARRL/VEC Amateur exams, a candidate may not be retested at the same session. When a candidate fails a written exam element, his or her participation in the exam session is over. He can be retested at a subsequent session and must file a new Form 610 and submit an additional test fee. Remember this is for Amateur Exams under the ARRL/VEC. Other VECs may have other procedures for their VE teams to follow.

Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 4601 Modesto, Ca 95352

***** 1986 *****
* MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL APPLICATION *

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Home phone _____ B/P _____

Bus. Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Occupation _____

Class of License _____ Call _____

Year first licensed _____ Age _____

Are you member of the ARRL? _____

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY:

Treasurer () Membership Certificate ()

Welcome/Autopatch letter ()

Entered on membership roster () Mail List ()

DUES: Full membership\$15.00 per year.
Student to sophomore in college \$ 7.50 per year.
Family: Head of household.\$15.00 per year.
Each member of family.....\$ 7.50 per year.

Make your checks or money orders payable to SARA and mail to the club's post office box listed above. Thank you!

CALENDAR

December 17, 1985.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....	730 p.m.
	Election of 1986 officers	
January 21, 1986.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....	730 p.m.
	Program: Slide show on Alaska	
February 18, 1986.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....	730 p.m.
March 18, 1986.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....	730 p.m.
April 22, 1986.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....	730 p.m.
May 20, 1986.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....	730 p.m.
June 17, 1986.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....	730 p.m.
July 15, 1986.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....	730 p.m.
August 19, 1986.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....	730 p.m.
Sept. 16, 1986.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....	730 p.m.
October 21, 1986.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....	730 p.m.
November 18, 1986.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....	730 p.m.
December 16, 1986.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....	730 p.m.

 * " S P E C I A L " *

* SLIDE/SOUND SHOW ON ALASKA *
 * NEXT MONTH *



FIRST CLASS



Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 4601 Modesto, Ca 95352