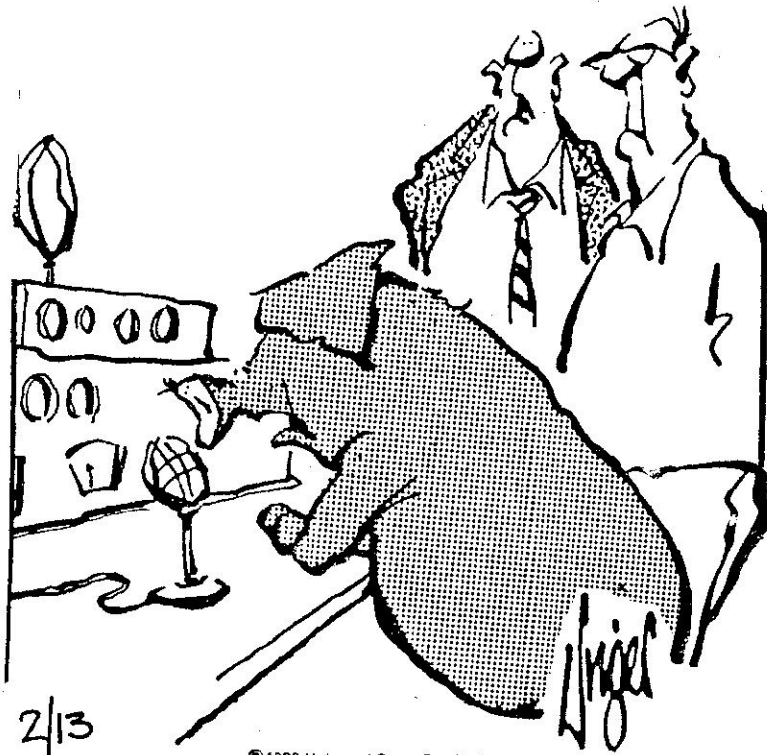


The READOUT

YEAR 12 NUMBER 3 MARCH 1989

Herman

Thanks Modesto Bee!



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"You never seen a
ham operator before?"

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

The READOUT FACTS

READOUT is the official publication of the Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association Inc. "SARA" P.O. Box 4601, Modesto, CA. 95352. Entered as third class mail at the U.S. Post Office Modesto, CA. 95352. Contributions to The READOUT are always welcome and may be submitted to the editor, Bob Pinheiro, WA6ZLO at 1221 Mist Flower Ct. Modesto, CA. 95355. Permission is granted to reprint articles appearing in The READOUT with appropriate credit. 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 on 223.68 MHz (-) and is also located on Mt. Oso at an elevation of 3,500 feet. Both repeaters are equipped with an autopatch for the use of SARA members. SARA owns and operates a Packet Digipeater, WD6EJF-1 also located on Mt. Oso at 3,500 feet. Frequency is 145.07 MHz. SARA conducts in informational net on both repeaters each Thursday evening at 800 pm with the exception of holidays. SARA meets the third Tuesday of each month at the Stanislaus County Administration building at the corner of 12th and H streets in downtown Modesto. Meetings begin at 730 pm. SARA is incorporated in the State of California, is an affiliated club of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) and Stanislaus County RACES. Dues are \$20.00 per annum and \$10 for students up to sophomores in college. Dues are prorated for newly joining members from the date they join. ARRL memberships and QST renewals may be made through the club with a \$2.00 commission retained by SARA.

PRESIDENT

Phil Hartz.....WD0FFX.....523-9018

VICE PRESIDENT

Joanne ShafferN6SAH.....537-5205

SECRETARY

Linda Franklin.....N6REB.....537-1123

TREASURER

Laverne Landeros....KB6ECF.....578-5554

HAPPENINGS

Next SARA Meeting

March 21, 1989
Program

Calif. Hwy. Patrol

Raffle: Win Money\Prizes

730 pm

BUDGET COPY CENTER

1325 J STREET
MODESTO, CA 95354
TELEPHONE 529-5395

SARA MEMBERS SERVE THE EYE NET

The call goes out over the ham radio band: "The victim of an accident in San Francisco has lost



N6FMW



W6AFS



KB6DXX

an eye and requires a transplant." Within a few minutes the airwaves will crackle again: "Providence, R.I. has two corneas available." The Eye Emergency Amateur Radio Network, a volunteer group of more than 100 ham radio operators covering the United States and other countries, is on the air determining the need for and the availability of human eyes for cornea transplants. Organized on December 20, 1962 by Dr. Alson Braley of the University of Iowa in Iowa City, the net has been the ears for making over 12,000 connections between donors and corneal transplant patients. Its success is attributed to the ham radio operators who judiciously meet at 430 pm PST/PDT each day on 7294 KHz to exchange information on where eyes are needed for corneal transplants and where eyes, if any, are available. "We

connect this eye bank with that eye bank," Braley said. "We make the contact and the various eye banks work out the details. The eye bank contacts its local volunteer if it needs or has an available eye or eyes. Several SARA members provide the vital link for Northern California and Southern Oregon. In Modesto, Larry Niema, N6FMW; Lynn Windus, KB6DXX and Bill Peitz, W6AFS are members of the net. In Roseburg, Oregon, Dick, N6MOK, provides the vital link to that part of the state. It was the frustration of Braley, an ophthalmologist and dedicated ham radio operator, at not being able to locate corneas for patients who needed transplants, that led to the creation of the net. Braley was named to head the University's eye department in 1950, a position he held for 17 years. "When I first started, we didn't have an eye bank. We got one started with the help of the Lions Club, but one of the problems was that when you had an emergency, you didn't always have an eye available. "I thought of setting up a teletype operation between eye banks, but that looked like it was going to be an expensive thing," said Braley. So Braley, now 84, a ham operator since the age of 15, decided to put together a network of fellow hams in cities where eye banks were located. Just before Christmas 25 years ago, 15 operators from seven cities checked in on

EYENET
(Continued from P-3)

the net for the first time. The first contact was made a short time later when a Chicago eye bank shipped an eye to Oklahoma City. "A child had received a very severe burn to the cornea," Braley recalled. "And a blind Amateur operator in Oklahoma City decided to check in because he had heard us on the net." Neima, a 21 year veteran of the airways, said the network handles only emergency cases, some of which are the result of burns or accidents. "The most common cause is when an ulcer of the cornea breaks," said Braley. The virus that causes cold sores can cause infections and ruptures of the cornea. "Then, it's a matter of minutes or hours: before a patient's sight is lost, he said. Larry works closely with the Modesto Lions Club here in Modesto and coordinates the local relationship between the hams and their eye program.

(Thanks to the Modesto Bee and Harold Geren for permission to reprint portions of this story.)

**POSTAL COPS NAB
SCAM ARTIST**

Michael D. Harrison, 36, WB2PTI, (alias, John McNamara and Mike Hanson) was arrested on January 26, 1989 by the U.S. Postal Inspectors at his home in Oceanside, NY. He was charged with mail and wire fraud. PTI is charged with placing full page ads in 73, CQ and Yellow Sheets, offering Atlas and Dentron equipment at nearly wholesale prices and never delivering. He was arraigned in U.S. District Court in Brooklyn, NY and released on \$25,000 personal recognizance bond. 20 victims were listed in a twelve page complaint filed against PTI alleging none of the victims received their equipment or a refund for orders placed between September and December of 1988. Individual losses ranged from \$225 to as much as \$3,000. When Postal Inspectors (post office cops) went to PTI's home on January 26th with an arrest warrant, PTI refused to let them into his home. He relented when advised that they would obtain a search warrant and break the door down if necessary. Once inside, they found a messy, completely disorganized operation. Many letters of complaint were confiscated.

CALLS IN SIXTH DISTRICT
As of February 1, 1989

EXTRA-AA6MB; ADVANCED-KJ6PM; GENERAL-TECH-N6TYB; NOVICE-KC6BKJ

EDITOR'S NOTES

By Bob Pinheiro, WA6ZLO

Welcome back to new SARA members Mark and Sherry Taylor, WC6D and KR6F. Both are Extra's and have been active hams for many years. CONGRATULATIONS to Chuck McConnell, W6DPD, Fresno, who has been appointed to ARRL Division Vice Director. Chuck was the San Joaquin Division SCM for many years. BEST WISHES to Tom, WJ6O and Larry, N6FMW, both of whom are recovering from surgery this past month. RICK COLLINS has a new call N6UCL, as a result of upgrading to a General. THE LATEST CLUB ROSTER appears in this issue of The READ-OUT. If you find any errors, please let me know with a card or call. My number is 523-5880. If I'm not home, leave the info on my answering machine which will answer your call after the 4th ring. There is no time limit on the machine. The roster appears twice yearly in March and September. AN RFI GUIDEBOOK is available from the FCC dealing with interference problems. It is a multicolored booklet which is available from the Government printing office for a small fee. Along this line, the FCC has a problem now with people with pacemakers who live near Amateur radio operators. The FCC hopes that the problem is resolved by those involved, but sometimes the confrontation gets ugly and the FCC has been known to impose "quiet hours" on the Amateur to

settle the problem. POWER TO MT. OSO was interrupted for awhile last month by a power outage. This forced our repeaters over to their battery backup systems. Which brings to mind some information about the backup systems you may not know. When on battery backup:

2 METER MACHINE:

1. *Tone signal on the hang-time indicates on battery.*
2. *Power output same.*
3. *Autopatch out of service.*
4. *220 link out of service.*

220 MACHINE:

1. *No tone signal to indicate on the battery.*
2. *2 meter link out of service.*
3. *Autopatch out of service.*

DIGIPEATER:

1. *Completely out of service. No battery backup at this time.*

The batteries are capable of operating the repeaters for several

EDITOR'S NOTES

(Continued from Page 5)

days depending on the amount of usage. So, if it looks like we are in for a long outage, regular ragchews should be discouraged in case the machines are needed for emergency service. PRESSURE IS MOUNTING FOR A NO-CODE LICENSE again in the USA. In formal action, the TAPR Board has voted to support an Amateur initiated proposal to the FCC which would provide for a no-code license class. TAPR is the non-profit Tucson Amateur Packet organization. They feel that a no-code class of license is critical to the future of Amateur radio. AMSAT, Amateur Satellite Corporation is also supporting a no-code license to increase the Amateur ranks and help prevent commercial users from grabbing our precious frequencies. AMSAT is going ahead with plans to put up a Phase IV geosynchronous satellite which will be called *Micorsat* and be primarily a Packet radio satellite to operate in the VHF-UHF bands. The generally envisioned requirement for such a

no-code license would be a Technician level 3A class...with 25 additional questions covering satellite, digital and microwave communications. Successful completion of this test would grant the licensee full Amateur privileges on frequencies above 220 MHz, including the satellite subbands for access to Modes B, L and S. YOSEMITE PARK TWO METER REPEATER is now in operation with a link to the W6BXN Turlock repeater. It's a low level machine operating on 147.00 (-) with the link to 147.03 (+) located on Mt. Bullion. So, the next time you are in the Park, tune up on 147.00 (-) and you will be able to communicate in the park and at the same time be able to get out of the park via the link to BXN. The system is maintained by K6IXA. PACIFIC RADIO'S owner, John Seeman, 71, passed away in February. John was dubiously known as "Honest John", and owned and operated Pacific Radio for over 30 years in Modesto. SONY has introduced the ultimate headphones at \$4,000 a set. The new MDR-R10 stereo headphones feature housings made of 200 year old Zelkova wood, matched sheepskin customized earpads, double woven silk covered cords and a pure gold plated plug. NBC TV is the leader in stereo with all of its prime time schedule except for 'Night Court' being produced in true stereo. NBC says 146 of their affiliates are now transmitting in full stereo.

FOR SALE:

Kenwood TM201B 2 meter mobile unit. 5/45 watts. 5 memories. With manual \$175.
Ringo Ranger 2 meter antenna, \$30. Call Vorus, WA6LJB, 527-3683 in Modesto.

ON THE AGENDA

The February 21, 1989 meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by the President Phil, WDOFFX. The reading of the minutes by Secretary N6REB were approved as read. The Treasurer's report given by KB6ECF was as follows: Three deposits were made in January. Total \$852.-65. Total bills paid out \$325.99. Transferred to Club Station fund, \$331.50 from monies collected in raffle for December. Current balance, \$1,606.15. Vice President N6SAH, Jo, announced she will contact the heads of the committees to meet March 4 at the Teal Middle School at 9 a.m. Leroy, NV6S, reported a broken coaxial fitting on the autopatch was repaired. The autopatch receiver on the hill is not doing all it should but Leroy said he didn't want to take it down off the hill while it is still working. Everything else is working fine except the speedcall controller on the backup repeater which died earlier in the month. It was removed from the circuit and control moved to main machine controller. It was repaired in preparation of returning it to Bill, W6AFS, who loaned it to the club. Leroy reported that W6AFS had two coils of guy wire cable which the club could use to re-cable our tower on Mt. Oso. Bill offered it to the club for \$20. Leroy was authorized to make the purchase. Leroy reported he discovered the

Cushman service monitor already had crystals placed in it, but there was no documentation on it. As a result, he only needed one crystal at a cost of \$12.50 plus the cost of resistors and a pad. The remaining \$187.00 of the \$200 authorized for the crystals was returned to the treasury. FFX said since this money was authorized for the repeater anyway, he proposed that we put it in the building fund for the two meter site. This was accepted and approved. Bob, WA6ZLO, reported on the building program. He asked N6GGB Don Fink, who is a fine carpenter, to look at the cargo box and estimate the cost to insulate it and make all the proper installations plus costs of transporting it up the hill. It was figured at \$400 to \$500. Don suggested it would cost about the same money to prefab a building and it would last longer. ZLO reported that Ray Thompson, the person we bought the cargo box from, would buy it back for the same price, \$250. NV6S, moved that \$600 plus or minus 25%, or a maximum of \$750, be authorized to build the building. He then made a motion to authorize the sale of the box back to Ray Thompson for \$250. Seconded and approved. ZLO also reported the club only has a gentleman's agreement with the property manager for the use of two meter repeater site on Mt. Oso and

"ON THE AGENDA"

(Continued from page 7)

made a motion that the club enter into a contract comparable to the contract we have with the U.S. Government for the 220 site, to insure future access and use of the site and specify a reasonable fee. The property manager has not been charging us for use of the two meter site or the electricity. Both ZLO and NV6S said we should at least pay the electric bill especially in view of the fact that we will be adding air conditioning to the new building. A yearly fee \$50 was suggested as a beginning figure to be adjusted as need be in the future. Move, seconded and approved. WDOFFX asked N6TIV, Hart Bush, to draw up the contract. Tom, N6LSA will check on a meter to monitor the electricity. WDOFFX reported the educational committee of the club will invite the VE's as their guests to conduct the next

tests in March to give insurance coverage for the tests. Also, the Saturday classes are progressing very well with some pupils passing one or the other of the Novice elements. Under new business, it was agreed to have Dave, KJ6DL, go ahead and secure the Niles Garden school for Field Day again this year. A DXpedition for this year was also discussed and a site is being sought. The code practice on 10 meters (28.405) conducted by KJ6IC Walt, was mentioned. It is held at 7:00 pm on Wednesdays. N6-UCL, Rick, introduced Frank Froman, a paramedic with Memorial Hospital, who presented a very interesting sound-slide program that was very informative on the Medi-Flight program and functions. Meeting was adjourned at 9:50 pm. Respectfully submitted by Secretary N6REB.

VOLT AND OHM VALUES TO CHANGE

National representatives of the world's weights and measures community met recently in France to adopt new "conventional values" for the Josephson constant and the von Klitzing constant. These are the fundamental physical constants required to determine the operational values of the volt, using the AC Josephson effect, and the ohm, using the quantum Hall effect. The changes will take effect in 1990 when all industrial nations will

share, for the first time, a common practical basis for measuring voltage and resistance. Before this there was a difference of 1.2 parts per million between the US voltage standard and that of most of European countries purely because of differences in how the national standards were maintained.

(Thanks Steve, WA6MIZ and Quality Magazine)

Letters

State of California

George Deukmejian, Governor

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
TELECOMMUNICATIONS DIVISION
2800 MEADOWVIEW ROAD
SACRAMENTO, CA. 95832
(916) 427-4281

January 27, 1989

Bob Pinheiro, WA6ZLO
Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
"SARA" P.O. Box 4601
Modesto, CA 95352

Dear Bob:

I was sorry to read of the passing of Ray, WA6OQF. I consider your Mt. Oso 145.39 repeater one of the "primo" repeaters on my north-south mobile list. It is a super repeater for supporting emergency communications.

I wish that I could afford more, but please accept my small check as a contribution to support you repeater fund in memory of Ray.

Sincerely, 73

s/s Stanly E. Harter, KH6GBX
Ass't Chief, Telecommunications Division
State Amateur Radio Service Coordinator

(Ed.Note: We all share in the loss of Ray. Your kindness and donation in memory of Ray are sincerely appreciated.)

DID YOU KNOW: The first edition of the club's newsletter was printed on December 1, 1977 and consisted of 2 pages. It was simply called SARA-NEWS until 1980 when the name was changed to The READOUT. Bob, WA6ZLO, has been the editor from it's inception except for 1980 when the editor was W6LHQ.

DX NOTEBOOK

By Tom Farr, WJ60 & Denny Dugal, WG6P

Lots of exciting news to tell you about this month. 1989 promises to be a good year for all DXers! Biggest news of the month is the activation of Yemen by 4WOPA, Hans. He has been quite active on 20 meters, mainly on SSB, but has spent some time on CW. That's the good news. The bad news is that he uses a dipole with twisted pair for a coax, which gives him TVI. He only runs about 30 watts right now. He is QRT at the moment. Because of his schedule as a physician, he can only operate for brief periods. You can find him on CW at 14.020 listening up at 14.025 and up on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday will find him on SSB at 14.145 listening up at 14.160 and up. His signal is very weak at the moment, but he can hear very well. He also checks in with Jim Smith, VK9NS, daily at 0430Z on 14.222 MHz. Jim takes the list at 0400Z. This is our best shot at him, and when I worked him he was an honest 5X5 over the short path. This is a very rare bird, so do your best to snag him. Hans will be there for 2 years, so we should all have our shot. He will also soon have a Triband Dipole with real coax, so signals should improve. 3WOA has been quite active from Vietnam, in the usual DX windows. Between this and the last DXpedition to Vietnam, no one should lack this one any more for

awhile. We are expecting activation of XW, Laos any day now. They should be QRV by 2/20/89. Also expected to be QRV by Feb 20 will be a group of operators from India who will activate VU7, the Laccadive Islands. This is another fairly rare one, and should be a good catch. The operators at 3WOA have been trying to go to Spratly Islands, 1S, but are having difficulty finding transportation. You see, the Spratlys are disputed territory, and has lots of lead being shot around from time to time. The last operation from 1S by a group of operators from West Germany resulted in one operator being killed! You can easily understand from this how one might be reluctant to provide transportation to this area! KP2A is trying to mount a trip to KP5, Desecheo island, around March 1. This one was on the air last year, but not much activity. KP2A is a big gun, so he should put on a quality operation. The bands have been quite good lately, with early morning openings on 10 meters. Some days, the A index runs up and there are flares, but for the most part, DX can be had most any time of the day on the higher bands. Remember to include those IRC's or green stamps with foreign requests for QSL's and an SASE for stateside. QSL tip of the month: I was using business size envelopes for all of

my SASE's when mailing to foreign stations. I had to use \$.90 postage on these. I recently went to small envelopes, and would you believe, the postage now is \$.45. This is for Air Mail postage. So save yourself some money and use the smaller envelopes. Well, that about wraps up the activity for this month. I hope all of you work the 4W soon, and hope all of you make honor roll this year. I hit a milestone with the 4W. He was my #300, so was quite happy with that one. DX is good. I worked UOOAS while typing this on the word processor! Good luck, good Dx. Hope to see a lot of you in Visalia April 21-23. Tommy, WJ6O, and I, WG6P, wish you all lots of luck on the bands. 73, DE Denny

V.E. TEST SCHEDULE FOR MODESTO

The Tri-County V.E. team will be testing at their new test site at the Chrysler School at the corner of Conant Ave and Rumble (behind Heritage Ford on Sisk Ave.) in Modesto.

June 1st Thursday night.
June 3rd Saturday morning.
Sept. 7th Thursday night.
Sept. 9th Saturday morning.
Dec. 7th Thursday night.
Dec. 9th Saturday morning.

For more information contact Chet, W6XK, 883-2968 or Denny, WG6P, 571-9046.

FCC OPENS 17 METER AMATEUR BAND

As of January 31, 1989, the FCC has authorized use of the Amateur 17 meter (18.068-18.168 MHz) band on a secondary basis. Access is premised upon Amateur stations not interfering with Government fixed service operations still active in this band. The Department of Defense is still utilizing a major

portion of the band and will continued to do so until July 1, 1989 when the band will be exclusively for the Amateur Service. The band is restricted to Generals and higher. CW is authorized for the entire band. A 42 kHz subband at 18.068-18.110 MHz has been designated for

' amateurs must not interfere with Government fixed service stations until after July 1, 1989 ! '

digital emission type F1B for direct-printing, telemetry, telecommand and computer communications. A 58 kHz subband at 18.110-18.168 MHz has been provided for analog emission types, such as facsimile, television and telephony operation. The normal power limit of 1,500 watts PEP applies.

CALENDAR

Mar.	21,	1989.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....	730 pm
Apr.	18,	1989.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....	730 pm
Apr.	21-23,	1989.....	DX Convention in Visalia....	3 days
May	16,	1989.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....	730 pm
Jun.	1,	1989.....	VE Tests in Modesto.....	730 pm
Jun.	3,	1989.....	VE Tests in Modesto.....	900 am
Jun.	20,	1989.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....	730 pm
Jun.	24-25,	1989.....	Field Day.....	24 hrs
July	18,	1989.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....	730 pm
Aug.	15,	1989.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....	730 pm
Sept.	7,	1989.....	VE Tests in Modesto.....	630 pm
Sept.	9,	1989.....	VE Tests in Modesto.....	900 am
Sept.	19,	1989.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....	730 pm
Oct.	17,	1989.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....	730 pm

SARA meets the third Tuesday of each month (except holidays) at the Stanislaus County Administration Building at 12th and H streets in Modesto. The meetings are held in the lower-level conference room starting at 730 pm. Visitors and interested parties are welcome.

Stanislaus Amateur Radio Assoc.
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Modesto, CA. 95352

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