



—The— READOUT

Vol. 9 No. 5 May 1986

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**CANADIAN HAM LOSES INTERFERENCE CASE! ORDERED
OFF THE AIR AND FINED**

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The Canadian judge hearing a civil suit brought against Jack Ravenscroft, VE3SR, seeking damages from interference to a neighbors electrical appliances from his Amateur radio operations, has decided the case in favor of the neighbor bringing the suit. The judge granted a PERMANENT INJUNCTION prohibiting VE3SR from transmitting

radio signals from his property and assessed damages and costs amounting to \$2,558 Canadian. The judge said that while VE3SR had a legislative right to use his equipment because he was licensed by the Canadian DOC, if he should interfere with the enjoyment of his neighbor's electronic equipment, then he is liable to a civil suit for creating a nuisance. The unexpected outcome is a severe blow to

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VE EXAM JULY 12TH

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The next SARA sponsored VE Exam will be conducted in Modesto on July 12th at County Center #3, Scenic and Oakdale Rd. Tests for all classes will be given starting at 10 am. Walk-ins will be accepted. The test contact person is Gene Rong, KI6DC 325 Dana Ct. Manteca, CA. 95336.

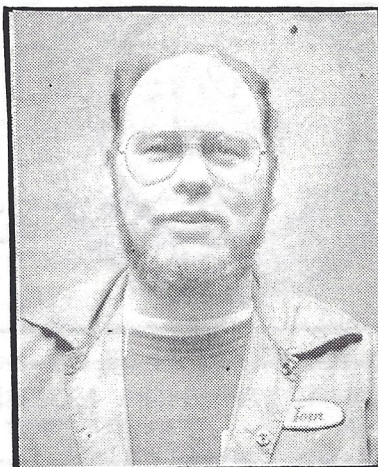
(Continued on Page 5)

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

READOUT is the official publication of the STANISLAUS AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION INC. "SARA" P. O. Box 4601 Modesto, CA. 95352. Entered as bulk mail at the post office Modesto CA. Contributions to READOUT are always welcome and may be submitted to the editor, Bob Pinheiro, WA6ZLD 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. Both repeaters are equipped with an autopatch for the use of SARA members. SARA conducts an informational net on both repeaters each Thursday evening at 730 pm with the exception of holidays. 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 730 pm. SARA is incorporated with the State of California and 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 and \$7.50 per year for Associate membership. 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
 Gene Rong.....KI6DC.....239-9236
VICE PRESIDENT
 John Cowman.....KG6OU.....527-7258
SECRETARY
 Laverne Landeros.....KB6ECF.....578-5554
TREASURER
 Lynn Windus.....KB6DXX.....523-0141

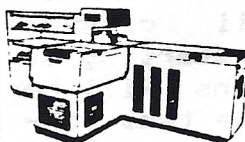
MEET N6LSA



TOM GRISWOLD

AMATEUR CALL SIGNS

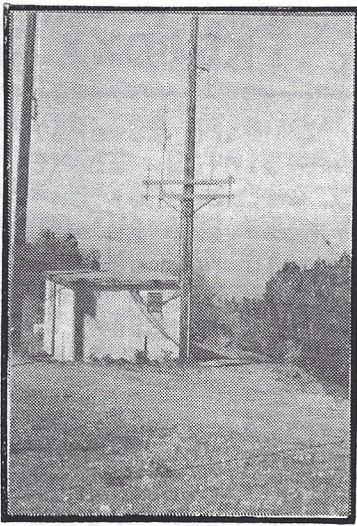
As of April 1986 the FCC had issued the following call signs in sequential order in the "6" call area. Novice, KB6MCX. Tech-General, N6NKB. Advance, KI6DQ and Extra, WR6P.



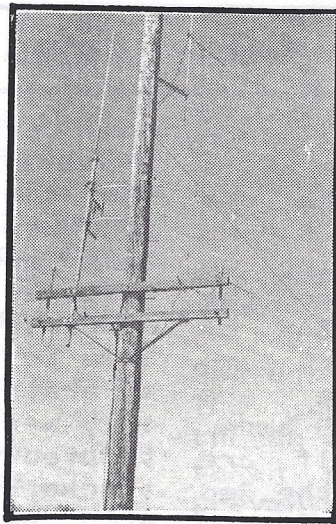
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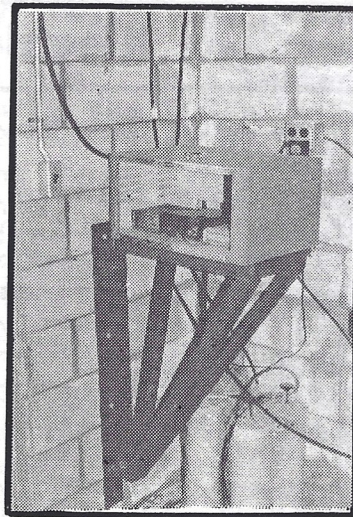
1325 J Street
 Modesto, CA 95354
 (209) 529-5395



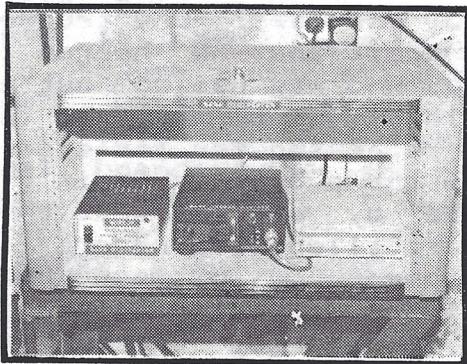
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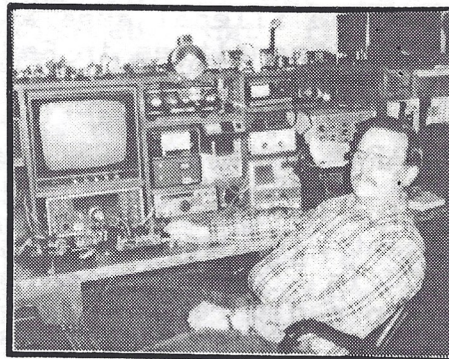
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SARA PHOTO GALLERY

- (1) Mt. Oso SARA 220 repeater and digipeater vault at 3500 feet.
- (2) Closeup antennas on pole next to vault.
- (3) SARA digipeater housing and mounting pedestal. (220 repeater cavities on the floor). 220 repeater out for repairs.
- (4) Closeup of digipeater. Left to right, power supply. Icom 230 transceiver, Kantronics terminal node controller.
- (5) SARA TVI chairman Dan, W6SBE, in his shack copying CW with his eyes shut. (Probably at 40 wpm.

There have been several articles lately on the FCC's drive to eliminate the use of amplifiers in the CB band (11 meters). According to the latest figures from the FCC, approximately 64% of the public interference complaints they receive are traced to illegal CB amps. Of this amount, half are truckers. Recently, the Red Monkey truck stop in Fresno was cited by the FCC for selling the illegal amps and faces stiff penalties in Federal Court. There have been a few quick inspections at various truck stops and several truckers have been cited for having illegal CB equipment in their trucks. The FCC is also concentrating on radio repair stores servicing CB radios. Additionally, they are continuing their monitoring efforts to locate the amps and "hopped up" CB radios and even Amateur equipment being purchased by CB'ers. There have been a few articles lately regarding dealers selling ham equipment to CB'ers. I don't think there is anything illegal about this since a man may want to become a ham and buys a rig to listen in before deciding to get his license. Recently, while at the Gustine

rest stop, I heard several drivers complaining about the the FCC methods of enforcement. However, it was talk and I could not verify this aspect. Because the complaints were so bitter, I have to assume there must be a grain of truth in what they were saying. I attempted to talk to other truckers at the Jimco Truck stop near Ripon over breakfast recently. I got the cold shoulder! One trucker did admit that he heard of buddy who was nailed but he wouldn't elaborate. The FCC is asking for assistance from the public in their efforts by asking that they report illegal operators or equipment. Citizens may call the nearest FCC office or monitoring station to file their information. Some personal notes....I found it most gratifying that Amateur radio was not the blame for the majority of interference problems today. That doesn't mean that we can ever relax. We have a definite and continuing responsibility to keep our own equipment in first class condition and guard against emissions of spurious signals. The general public is full of misinformation concerning ham

radio. To give you a classic example, I just had a neighbor move in just south of me about 700 feet. A super nice gentleman by the way. He has been having some TVI and wanted to know why my ham rig was causing it? I went down to investigate. His TV set was on the 6 o'clock news. All of sudden there were the lines of interference running across the screen. he said, "See, there it is!" I started to laugh and choked it back. Then he looked at me and said, "Boy, am I dumb! It can't be your radio 'cause your standing here!" We traced the problem to his son who uses a Dremel brand tool in his hobby. See what I mean! We need better PR! Amen!
de KB6DXX Lynn Windus

**(Canadian RF Decision)
from front page.**

the Canadian Amateurs and poses a threat to the operators of any licensed radio transmitter in the Country. Ravenscroft maintained that he was operating his station properly and within the terms of his license and that the electrical appliances of his neighbor malfunctioned in that they did not

adequately reject the radio transmissions of his and other stations. In a letter to the court, the DDC's (FCC in Canada) Minister of Communications agreed that the interference was not the fault of the Amateur radio equipment but rather the inability of these devices to adequately reject the Amateur's transmissions. The judge noted that even though the DDC could have taken steps to reduce or prevent the interference, they chose not to. The judge ruled that he was satisfied that it would be difficult and probably impossible to completely suppress the plaintiff's equipment from interference caused by Ravenscroft's transmissions. The court ruled that the neighbor's interests were therefore being invaded and found Ravenscroft liable for \$58.60 in out-of-pocket costs and issued the permanent injunction against Ravenscroft. He also awarded the neighbor \$2,500. for inconvenience and interference with the enjoyment of his electronic equipment plus being responsible for the legal costs of his neighbor to sue him. It has not been decided whether Ravenscroft will appeal, but a defense fund is still in need of funds.

"Hi Chuck. Be with you in a minute," said Dave. Chuck watched with envy as the older ham's fingers worked the paddles of his bug with practiced ease, sending code at a speed the novice couldn't begin to handle.

Then Dave signed and the other station came back. Chuck noticed how his friend leaned back comfortably, copying the incoming dits and dahs in his head. Finally, the QSO ended; Dave turned and said, "Thanks for waiting. Buddy of mine up in Toronto was telling me about his car troubles. Pour yourself a cup and let's hear how things are going with our latest Nov-ice."

"Not bad," said Chuck, "but I sure like the way you old-timers handle CW."

"Well, don't forget, I've been at it awhile. Besides, I was totally confused at the start too. It'll come, just give it time."

"I suppose so," answered the newcomer, "but, you know, what you said about your buddy's car troubles brings up something that's been bugging me. I've had, I don't know how many QSO's

now, and they all seem to be a rehash of the others. Everyone says the same thing....'thanks for your call, your RST is such and such, my QTH is, name, then back to you.' It's gotten to the point where I know what the other guy's gonna send before he sends it. How do I get someone to talk cars with me?"

Dave smiled. "Don't be too quick to condemn those canned QSOs. They're doing something very valuable for you."

"What's that?" asked Chuck, a slightly puzzled look crossing his face.

"They're teaching you to copy code in your head, and that, my friend," said Dave, stressing the point with a finger stabbing the air, "is the key to your becoming a crackerjack CW operator someday."

"Don't see how hearing the same things over and over is making me a better operator."

"Let me show you how. You write down everything the other guy sends you now, right?"

"Yes."

"What about your call and the 'de' signal, write them down?"

"No, I don't."

"Why not?"

"Cause I know what they are soon as I hear them."

"That's my point, Chuck. You know their sounds as groups of letters forming 'de' or your call. You've copied them by ear so many times that there's no need to write the individual letters down anymore."

"That makes sense."

"Sure, and the longer you keep at it the more groups of letters you'll recognize as words, and stop putting them down on paper."

Come to think of it, I'm not writing RST anymore, just putting the report right in my log."

"Exactly, and some day things like, 'my QTH is' will be so obvious, you won't bother copying them either. You'll just wait till the town name comes along and enter that in the book. When that happens, you're on your way to ultimate CW, copying in your head."

"How 'bout that," Chuck exclaimed, a grin replacing the puzzled frown.

"And here's what you can do to speed up the learning process," continued Dave. "As you're copying along, you'll know when the sending station is about to say certain things. Stop the pencil and just listen to these. Learn to recognize the words as sounds. Pretty soon you'll phase out the pencil altogether except for a few notes now and then."

"I get the idea. Like at the end of a QSO when the other guy sends 73 and 'thanks for the contact' - none of that needs to be written down, does it?"

"That's right. So, these canned QSOs by their predictability and repetition are really doing something pretty useful for you. Later on," continued Dave, "You'll find experienced operators don't bother with saying 'ur RST' and my QTH.' They'll condense the whole thing into, 'ur 589 hr in East Overshoe.'"

"That sure speeds things up."

"That's the name of the game in CW Chuck. To say what you want to say with least time and effort. Keeps the conversation from dragging. That's why abbreviations are used so much."

STATION LOG

ARRL
affiliated club

The April 15, 1986 meeting of SARA was called to order at 735 pm with 15 people present. Minutes read and approved as published in READOUT. Financial statement read for the treasurer who was teaching the Novice class. Bank balance as of 4-3-86, \$1,818.21. Expenses 4-3-86 \$212.09. Income \$393.25. Balance as of 4-15-86, \$1,999.37 of which \$309.65 is in the educational fund and \$1,689.72 is in the general fund. W6AFS reported on the preparations for the club's participation in the boy scouts jamboree on May 3rd at Beyer High School. AFS reported that we were unable to obtain the emergency communications motorhome from the County, however, plans are in place to operate low band and VHF (2 meters) stations. Tables will be provided by Russ, N6JTA and KB6DXX will bring his van with a canopy. Anyone that can help out would be appreciated. Set up will be at 8 am with the demonstration from 10 am to 4 pm. It was announced that SARA member Oakie Clark, K6-SJV, is selling his tower, rotor and low band antenna because he is moving to Beaverton, Oregon to live

with his son. Members will help lower his tower on 4-26-86. The monthly phone charges for the phone at OQF's house used with the autopatch was discussed. It was decided to turn in the AT&T phone and replace it with our own to save the monthly expense. WA6ZLO reported on the successful trip to the Voice of America at Delano and on the upcoming field trip to the trans-tower at Walnut Grove on May 24th. It was announced that the 9th annual SARA dinner-dance will be held on Saturday October 4th at the new Sylvan Club house. The chairman of the event is KB6VI. The CW net and Field Day were discussed. It appears that the CW net will be discontinued for lack of participation and the club elected not to participate in Field Day due to a lack of interest. June 21st was selected as the date for the club's picnic. Tom, N6LSA, to obtain the site. Hours will be 630 pm till dark. July 12th was selected as the date of our next club sponsored VE exam in Modesto. Session will be held at County Center 3 at

10 a.m. Test contact person KI6DC, Gene, 326 Dana Ct. Manteca, CA. 95336. Mike, W6VY reported on the SARA digipeater. It has been working fine but the club should consider replacing the aged Icom 230 presently being used with a more modern transceiver. Ray, WA6DQF reported on his phone calls to Pac-North Tel-Com who is believed to be the owners of the paging system on Mt. Oso that has been causing occasional QRM to our two meter machine. WA6ZLO reported that Jim, W6DYF of Sonora, will be showing a color video tape of the club's field trip to the Voice of America at Delano. The tape will be edited professionally by Jim at his studios in Sonora and shown at the club's August 19th meeting. Raffle prize of six dollars won by Frank, W6AJU. Meeting adjourned at 845 pm. Respectfully submitted by WA6ZLO for the secretary.

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SARA PICNIC JUNE 21ST
GRACEADA PARK

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This year SARA picnic will be held on June 21st at Graceada Park in Modesto. Tom, N6LSA, secured the blue

section of the pavilion area of Modesto's most popular park. VP John, KG6OU, is the chairman of this years event. Plans call for a pot luck with the club supplying the charcoals and soft drinks. Bring your own meat if you want to barbeque. There will be a transmitter hunt before dinner. Food assignments will be published in the June newsletter. The picnic will start at 630 pm. Circle that date, June 21, 1986 at 630 pm.

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TELECOMMUNICATIONS NEWS

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SPACE- the home satellite industry group- has fallen on hard times. Revenue from dues and trade shows is nose-diving as more and more backyard dish dealers go out of business. SPACE has slashed their budget and their glossy magazine is now a newsletter. ** Has cable TV growth reached its peak? Possibly! For the fourth straight year, the cable industry is laying less cable than the year before. (50,200 miles in 1986 vs. 59,100 miles in 1985.) Reason? 75% of the nation is now wired with 44% actually subscribing. Another 15-20% will never get cable.

(Short & Snappy)
from Page 8

"Yeah, I've learned a bunch of those like 'abt' for about, and the letter, C, for yes."

"Two good ones. There are loads of ham books around with lists of abbreviations. Get one and learn them. But be careful to stick with the commonly used ones. Don't go making up your own."

"What about punctuation?" was the next question of the novice.

"Don't use it," Dave answered flatly, "except for the question mark. The experienced CW op almost never sends a comma or period...no need for them. That's one thing I hear on the Novice bands all too often. Punctuation just slows down a QSO and I don't know of a thing that identifies a beginner quicker than using it."

"Speaking of speeding up your contacts, Chuck, are you into break-in operation yet?"

"No. How's that done?"

"Ever heard the other station ask you a question, then send the letters, BK and stop sending?"

"Yeah, just the other night on 15, a KA4 I was working sent BK, and then nothing. I kept waiting for him to go on but he didn't. Finally, he sends my call, then his, and the go-ahead K. Is that what you are talking about?"

"That's it. You see, Chuck, we're only required to send our calls every ten minutes for ID. So why take all the time necessary to send them more often? The idea behind break-in is send the letters, BK, for break, and the other stations starts right in, continuing the ragchew without sending calls. When he's done, he sends BK, stops transmitting and you pick it up. Again, no calls. Makes for much snapier contact."

"I can see how it would," answered Chuck. "Just have to be sure I stick in a call for ID regularly."

"Another thing I hear beginners do that slows down a QSO," said Dave, pouring more coffee, "is sending things three or four times. It's not necessary. If the other guy needs a repeat of your name after you've sent it once or twice, he'll ask for it."

That's just a bad habit someone's picked along the way?"

"True. Another bad one is sending the long winded CQ. This really labels the poor operator and warns of a potentially dull QSO. More than likely, the receiving operator will simply lose interest while waiting, and tune elsewhere."

"Can't say I'd blame him. The few I've heard have really turned me off. Timed one character the other day sending CQ for three minutes, would you believe?"

"I believe it," replied Dave. "It seems to me the ideal CQ is one where we send three, maybe four CQ's then our call just once, then repeat the whole thing a couple of times, perhaps signing our call twice on the tail end before sending K. If you fail to get an answer, do it all over."

"Okay. That sounds like a good approach. So now I've heard the guy sending a nice short CQ and decided I want to work him. What then? What's your advice on calling him?"

"Well, I've heard some hams send the other guy's call four and five times, then sign theirs once.

Trouble with this is that the fellow on the other end knows his call; he doesn't need that. He wants your call, so send it at least as often as you do his."

"What I've been doing is sending his call two, maybe three times, depending on band conditions, and following with my call about the same number."

"That's good. You're getting the idea. Keep it short and snappy. He can always send QRZ? if necessary. The old pros will go that one better.

Sometimes they'll answer a CQ sending the other call and his just once. That's it. When you get an op like this on the other end you know you've landed a real hot shot. This approach only works when signals are really booming in. Can't use it when they're weak or being clobbered with QRN or QRM. Just keep in mind one important idea: it's not just how fast he sends that makes him a good CW op, it's what he sends, too; how effective is he in communicating his thoughts in the least time and with the least confusion to the receiving operator. Keep practicing all the points we've talked about, and pretty soon you'll be talking car troubles and a lot more on CW. " (W1HL)

THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE, INC.

SECTION MANAGER

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

Charles P. McConnell W6DPD

FCC has reinstated its definition of Amateur Emergency Communication contained in Section 97R3W of the Rules. The language defines an Emergency Communication as any Amateur communication directly relating to the immediate safety of life of individuals or the immediate protection of property. This reinstatement takes effect on May 4, 1986.

The FCC has presented some legislative requests to Congress. One would add a new Section 333 of the Communications Act, which would make willful and malicious interference subject to the more severe criminal sanctions of Section 501. That section provides for a fine up to \$10,000 or up to 1 year in prison or both for first offense (a misdemeanor) and the same fine and up to 2 years in prison for repeated offenses (a felony). The amendment would allow FCC to initially seek immediate criminal prosecution by the U.S. Attorney, and seizure of the offending radio equipment. The FCC could then avoid first completing lengthy and complex administrative proceedings.

The Commission proposes to remove the conflict of interest statutes and regulations with respect to Volunteer Examiner Coordinators in the Communications Act of 1934 as Amended. The Commission also proposes to eliminate the existing certification and record keeping requirements for reimbursement of volunteer examination expenses imposed on individuals and organizations. The FCC says this put unnecessary paperwork on volunteers and an unnecessary administrative burden on the FCC.

If you plan to visit Canada, remember that Canada and the U.S. and Canada share an automatic reciprocal operating agreement. FCC licenses are automatically valid in Canada, and you do *not* have to file an application with the DOC for an operating permit. You need to carry your *original* FCC license. If you have trouble getting your radio equipment through customs, refer the customs officer to Memoranda D2-1-1 and D19-4-2. They will help you get your radio equipment into Canada as personal baggage.

Although the U.S. and Mexico do not have a reciprocal operating agreement, Mexico does issue operating permits to U.S. Amateurs with General Class or higher on a courtesy basis. An application must be made at least 6 weeks in advance of your visit, and you must include your Mexican visa number. If you plan to travel this summer, contact ARRL for reciprocal operating information.

The above information is from *The ARRL Letter* V5N7, March 28, 1986.

There is a new edition of *The FCC Rulebook* available. It has a green cover.

Roy Neal, K6DUE, is the 1986 Dayton Hamvention Ham of the Year. Doug DeMaw, W1FB, won the Technical Excellence Award.

The above is from *The ARRL Letter*, V5N8.

SINCE 1914 - OF, BY AND FOR THE RADIO AMATEUR

LAUGH LINES

K6SJV



"Yes, ma'am, I realize the gentleman stepped right out in front of your car; but, after all, it is his lawn..."

SUICIDAL

A new patient confided to the psychiatrist, "I'd better tell you before we begin, I suffer from marked suicidal tendencies." "Very interesting" nodded the psychiatrist. "Under the circumstances then, I'm sure you wouldn't mind paying the bill in advance."

Consumer Electronic News

** Should Congress adopt legislation providing for a surcharge on audio equipment and blank tapes as a means of reimbursing the recording industry for their copyrighted music? That's one option being considered in Senate Bill 1739. Another is a new low cost method developed by CBS of encoding music so that it can't be copied by today's recording equipment. The system won't prevent consumers from copying existing recordings, however, thus the recording industry still feels a supplemental surcharge is needed. Blank tape and recording equipment manufacturers maintain that the royalty charge is unfair and illegal. The new encoding technology consists of a recorded inaudible "notch" that, when detected, interrupts the recording for 25 seconds. A special decoder micro-chip is needed to "read" copy protected albums, tapes and compact disc recordings. Under the new industry proposal, two versions of recordings (and hardware) will be marketed to the public- a lower price version that doesn't allow copying and another at a higher price that does. The price differential is suppose to go to the music

copyright owner. ** Viewer's Choice, World Video Library, Request TV, Event-TeleVision and People's Choice are all new scrambled PPV (Pay Per View) services that are quietly signing up affiliation arrangements with cable systems. Cable systems with addressable subscribers now number in the millions and Ted Turner (who just bought MGM/UA) will make "Rocky IV" available to PPV this Memorial Day weekend. Neighborhood home video outlets (who won't get the film before PPV does) are already screaming. ** M/A-Com VideoCipher II is the encryption (scrambling) system that is being used by the satellite distribution services such as HBO to scramble their signals. It's suppose to be virtually impossible to break, although, there are some claims that a so-called black box is being black-marketed that has broken the code. Technically the VideoCipher scrambles signals by totally removing the audio subcarrier and eliminating vertical and horizontal synch- two elements you need to get a fix on to unscramble. The two audio channels are digitized and must be translated by a

hand-shaking routing built into a specifically authorized decoder on the receiving end. Even if you break the code, there's a different code every 30th of a second. Without the appropriate decoder, the incoming signal shows up as random data. ** A 23 year old electrical engineering student at the University of New Mexico has invented a voice-actuated wheel chair that responds to 19 commands. It uses a standard Apple II computer together with a voice processing module. Paul Hofstadler designed the wheel-chair for a quadriplegic friend. ** License fees for FCC commercial licensees apparently will soon be with us but the FCC won't see any of it. The expected \$100 million "cost of regulations fees" will be deposited in the U.S. Treasury to reduce the federal deficit. The personal radio services, INCLUDING AMATEUR RADIO WILL BE EXEMPT. It will cost \$30 for a business band (Land Mobile) permit, however. Communications organizations oppose the fees saying that they amount to tax and the FCC agrees with them. ** Cellular telephone service is now available on trains. You can

place calls when traveling between New York and Washington. \$4.75 for first 3 minutes- \$1.00 a minute thereafter to anywhere in the U.S. ** Japanese chip makers are getting ready to participate in the expected boom in "smart cards". E2-PROMs (electrically erasable programmable read-only memories) will be imbedded in credit or bank charge cards which will keep track of your balance and/or credit history. They will be read by point-of-sale equipment. Fujitsu, Mitsubishi, NEC, Hitachi and Oki Electric all have 64K or 256K versions in development. (W5YI Report)

PROGRAM THIS MONTH

PRESENTED BY

DELTA COLLEGE OF

STOCKTON

THE CARE AND

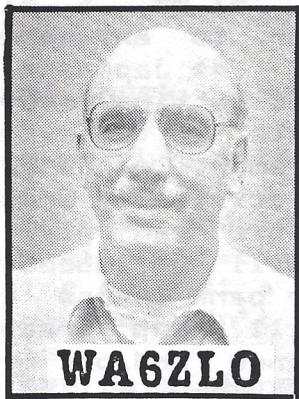
RAISING OF PHEASANTS

LIVE DEMONSTRATION

730 PM

SARA MEETING

Editor's



Notes

Make your plans now to attend the SARA summer picnic on Saturday June 21st. We are especially fortunate this year to have reserved a spot in Modesto's premium city park, Graceada. Thanks to Tom, N6LSA, we have the blue section of the Pavalion area reserved from 5 pm to 10 pm. This is a choice spot in the park which is usually booked a year in advance. VP John, KG6OU and Jim, N6KMR are co-chairmen for the event. Steve, WA6-MIZ, will be in charge of the transmitter hunt. We had lots of good food and fun last year not to mention the great transmitter hunt planned by MIZ. Remember... the talkie was strapped to

the upper leg of a beautiful young lady which was activated by remote control. Well, I wonder what Steve will have up his sleeve this year? It's a pot-luck affair and the food assignments will be published in the June newsletter. +++ Welcome to three new members of SARA this month. John Betts, W6DYK, of Modesto. John is an Advance and a longtime resident of Modesto. Marion Zimmerman of Turlock. Marion is presently enrolled in the SARA novice class and is an announcer-technician for Modesto radio stations KBEE-FM and KHYV. R. Leonard Cary, W6AYQ of Tracy is an Extra Class and retired. Len has been licensed since 1929 and we enjoyed his company on our trip to the Voice of America. Welcome aboard gentlemen! Our membership now stands at 174 and growing. +++ Congratulations to Lynn Knight, KB6LNR who upgraded to a Technician. She also has a new call, N6NNB. Speaking of new calls, Chuck Haight, ex-W2NSI, has his new General call, N6NNM. +++ Burt, W6FGC, had to make a rush trip to Oklahoma last month because of an illness in the family. Burt reports that he just missed getting in a tornado which passed him

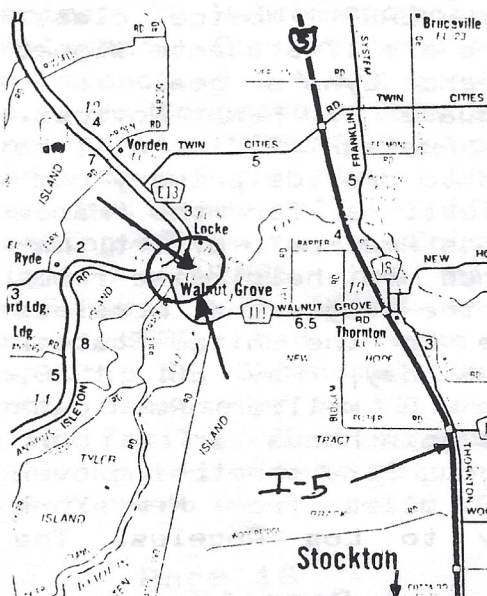
and Dorothy about 40 miles away. "But the danged wind blew bloody murder," said Burt. +++ Goodbye to Oakie Clark, K6SJV of Tracy. Oakie has sold his home and is moving to Beaverton, Oregon to live with his son. Oakie has been a loyal supporter of SARA and a regular contributor to READOUT. Best of luck Oakie and look for you on the low bands and be sure and send me your new address in Oregon. +++ Sorry to report that N6MOK, Dick Wharton, has sold his home and is also moving to Oregon to be near his family. Good luck Dick and thanks for your support. I need your new address also. +++ Congratulations to Lynn, KB6DXX and Phil, WD0-FFX who are doing a excellent job teaching the current SARA Novice class. There are 17 students signed up and Lynn's goal is to graduate 17 new Novices. +++ Amateur Radio will be used to provide primary communications for the "Hands Across America" effort designed to help raise funds for the hungry and homeless here in the United States. On Sunday, May 26, 1986, some 6 million Americans will join hands in a continuous line stretching over 4000 miles from New York City to Los Angeles. The

communications effort will be headed by WB6NQV who organized the Olympic Torch Run coverage across the nation in 1984. Volunteer ham operators will be needed every mile of the 4100 mile link, as well as 210 command posts. That comes to between 4300 to 4500 hams equipped with VHF and/or UHF portable gear. The line will pass through New York, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Washington DC, New Jersey, Illinois, Indiana, Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Missouri, New Mexico, Arizona and Southern California. +++ I've been told that a burglar broke into a home of an Amateur radio operator late one evening. Using his flashlight, he was rifling drawers in the bedroom when he heard a raspy voice behind him say, "Jesus is gonna get you!" He turned quickly and illuminated a parrot in his cage who repeated his warning. Relieved to see that it was only a parrot, he continued searching the bedroom. Momentarily, he heard the vicious growl of a dog behind him. He turned and quickly came face to face with a ferocious Doberman with his fangs glistening in the rays of his light. Precisely at that moment he heard the parrot say, "Get him Jesus!"

MONSTER TOWER FIELD TRIP MAY 24TH

SARA's next field trip is coming up on Saturday May 24th. A tour of the of the so-called "monster towers" at Walnut Grove begins at 10 am. Thanks to SARA member Chuck Haight, retired assistant chief engineer of channel 13, arrangements have been made to tour the transmitting facilities of channels 6-10-13 and 58. The transmitters and related equipment are housed at the base of the original 1,549 foot candelabra transtower built on the banks of the Mokelumne river at Walnut Grove. At the time the tower was built in 1961, it was the tallest man made structure west of the Mississippi River. It's 77 feet taller than the Empire State Building with a triangular platform at the top measuring 105 feet per side. The tower itself weighs 3 million 500 thousand pounds and is supported by 8 1/2 miles of 1 7/8 inch bridge strand cable with the longest guy 1/3 of a mile long. There are 150 pilings of pre-stressed concrete each 45 feet long. An elevator ferries men and equipment up the inside of the tower to the top. In the same area you will be able to see the two new 2,000 foot towers

recently erected by channels 3 and 40. Channels 10 and 13 will be building their own 2,000 footer in the same area soon. These structures are awesome to see up close and you will get the chance on May 24th. The tour will be limited to the trans-tower, but you will get a good look at the others. Bring your cameras and please be on time. Follow the map below and if you need help, we will be monitoring 39. It takes approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes to get there from Modesto. The tour starts promptly at 10 a.m. and will take about 45 minutes. See you there!



Your Invitation

Several complimentary issues of READOUT were mailed this month. If you are not a member of SARA and received a copy of READOUT, we hope you enjoy it and will accept this invitation to join SARA. You will enjoy meeting new friends and the many activities of the club each year. Your membership brings with it the club's monthly newsletter, READOUT and use of the autopatch facilities.

Please use the handy membership application below to apply for membership. If you would like more information on SARA please write to the Club at post office box 4601 Modesto, CA. 95352.

Join In: **DUES** Pay

January	\$15.00
February	\$13.75
March	\$12.50
April	\$11.25
May	\$10.00
June	\$ 8.75
July	\$ 7.50
August	\$ 6.25
September	\$ 5.00
October	\$ 3.75
November	\$ 2.50
December	\$ 1.25

Membership

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

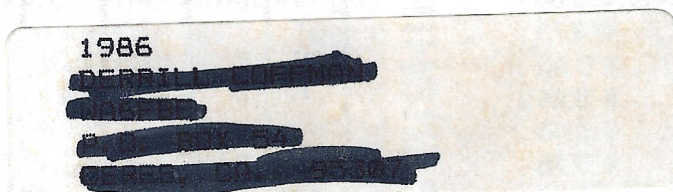
Date	_____	Call	_____	MEMBER OF ARAAL?	_____
Name	_____	Address	_____	Home Phone	_____
City	_____	Zip	_____	Bus. Phone	_____
Bus. Address	_____	Occupation	_____	Date of Birth	_____
Cities of License	_____	Year First Licensed	_____	Entered Roster ()	_____
FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY:			Membership year (19)	Entered Mail List ()	_____
Treasurer ()	_____	Welcome/Autopatch letter sent: ()	_____		_____

■ ■ CALENDAR ■ ■

May	20,	1986.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....730 p.m. Program: Slide/sound program on raising pheasants.
May	24,	1986	Tour of TV towers at Walnut Grove
June	17,	1986.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....730 p.m. Program: Bud , KB6JHU, on Industrial Photography.
June	21,	1986	SARA Picnic at Graceada Park 630 pm.
July	12,	1986	SARA sponsored VE Exam at County Center 3, Modesto. 10 a.m.
July	15,	1986.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....730 p.m. Multi-Projector Slide/Sound on Alaska with Mrs. Bunnie Rader (Rescheduled from January)
August	19,	1986.....	Color Video of April trip to VOA video taped by W6DYA 730 p.m.
Sept.	16,	1986.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....730 p.m.
Sept.	5-6-7,	1986.....	ARRL National Convention at the Convention Ctr. San Diego
Oct.	3-4-5,	1986.....	Pacific Div. ARRL Convention at the Le Baron Hotel San Jose
October	11,	1986.....	9th annual SARA dinner-dance.
October	21,	1986.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....730 p.m.
Nov.	7-8-9,	1986.....	Ham West Convention in Las Vegas
Nov.	18,	1986.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....730 p.m.
Dec.	16,	1986.....	SARA Monthly meeting.....730 p.m.



Address Correction Requested



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