



# The READOUT

Year 16 Number 1 January 1994

*The Official Newsletter of the Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association*

## 1994 SARA Officers Elected

1994 SARA club officers were elected at the December meeting of SARA. Elected President was Elizabeth Eyre, KD6GIW; Vice-President, Mark Lemmons, WB6BJN; Secretary, Debbie Hansen, KC6YTE and Bob Kimball, KC6TVE, was elected to his first full term as Treasurer.

Photos of the new officers will appear in next month's newsletter. Congratulations to the new officers and a pat on the back for the outgoing officers, all of whom served the club well during their tenures.

### Next SARA Meeting

January 18, 1994

### Program

T-Hunting with Brad KC6TDH

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## FCC opens 220 Band to Novice Class operators

The FCC has authorized frequency privileges for Novice operators in the entire 1.25 meter (225-225 MHz) band, but declined, however, to adopt proposed rules that would have allowed Novice Class operators to own and operate repeaters in the 1.25 and 23 cm bands. The action was taken at the November 14th Commission meeting but not released to the public until November 30th.

The Commission also created a new subband at 222.000-222.15 MHz especially for weak signal experimentation that would not be shared with repeaters. No repeaters would be allowed in this subband. The Federal Communications Commission said in the NPRM that it believed the change will improve the operational standards for the Amateur service, while the availability of a small protected subband at 222.0-222.15 would facilitate experimentation. The effective date of the new rules is February 1, 1994. There are

more than 100,000 amateurs holding Novice Class operator license as of December 1, 1993.

§97.301 (Authorized frequency bands) had been amended to read as follows.

### §97.301 (f)

For a station having a control operator holding a Novice Class operator license:

Wavelength Band	ITU Region	Frequency Allocation
1.25 meter	2	222-225 MHz

Note: Operation in the 1.25 meter band in region two is subjected to sharing requirements. Refer to §97.303 (a) for more information. Please remember that there is now a so-called "weak signal" sub-band at 222.00 MHz to 222.15 MHz at the bottom of the band where repeaters are not allowed.

## Tuolumne County family electrocuted TV antenna touches power lines

A family of three was electrocuted Sunday afternoon, December 12, 1993, while attempting to install a television antenna on their mobile home on Smith Station Road, near Groveland in Tuolumne County sheriffs deputies said. Elmer George Wight, 37, his wife Judith Lynn Wight, 34, and their son Randall Galen Wight, 11, were all killed when the metal pole of the antenna struck a power line as they tried to raise the antenna over their

trailer about 3:35 p.m.

A neighbor called 911, and rescue personnel tried to revive the three on the scene. Mr. and Mrs. Wight were pronounced dead while being transported by ambulance to Tuolumne General Hospital, according to the Sheriff's Department. Randall Wight was taken by helicopter to Memorial Medical Center in Modesto and pronounced dead shortly after arrival there.

Thanks Modesto Bee.

*Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association PO Box 4601 Modesto, CA. 95352*



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#### 1994 SARA Officers

##### President

Elizabeth Eyre, KD6GIW  
667-5299

##### Vice President

Mark Lemmons, WB6BJN  
523-5140

##### Secretary

Debbie Hansen, KC6YTE  
545-5491

##### Treasurer

Bob Kimball, KC6TVE  
892-8664

##### SARA VHF Net

Thursdays @ 8 P.M.

(Except Holidays)

2 meters 145.39 MHz WD6EJF

220 Band 224.14 MHz WD6EJF

10 Meters 28,440 kHz USB

Tuesdays at 730 P.M.

ARES Net Wednesday 800 P.M.

Contributions to *The READOUT* are always welcome and may be submitted to the editor by mail or via packet at KD6JZZ-2 BBS on 144.97 MHz, or directly at my PBBS, WA6ZLO-1 on 144.97 MHz. The deadline for articles is the 15th of the preceding month. Articles regarding religion or politics are not accepted.

##### Editor

Bob Pinheiro, WA6ZLO  
1221 Mist Flower Ct.  
Modesto, CA. 95355  
209-523-5880

*An ARRL affiliated club!*

ARRL membership may be paid through SARA with the club retaining a \$2.00 commission. Please send your ARRL membership form along with your check made payable to SARA. We will deduct the \$2.00 and send a check to the ARRL.

## FAX machine sends Coast Guard Distress Signal via Satellite

By S.J. Komarnitsky  
Alaska Daily News reporter

**T**wice this month Coast Guard search-and-rescue teams have responded to distress calls coming from a Soldotna, Alaska radio station's FAX machine. It is not clear how the machine triggered the alarm, which is usually set off by emergency locating transmitters aboard boats and planes. But it is known that when KPEN station owner Dave Becker turned off the FAX machine, the signal stopped.

Coast Guard crews from Kodiak responding to distress calls were sent by helicopter to the Soldotna area on July 14 and 20. Each time, they were unable to trace the signal farther than the area around the station. Becker said Thursday he suspected the signal was somehow being transmitted from the station's 350-foot radio tower. But that didn't make sense, he said, because the station broadcasts on 101.7 MegaHertz and the emergency signals are transmitted at 121.5 MHz.

So, Becker, who doubles as the station's chief engineer, borrowed a hand-held tracking device to look for the signal's source. He searched the station's transmitter building but turned up nothing. Becker said he never thought to check the studio where the FAX machine and sales staff are. "It kept pointing to the studio and nothing is in there or so I thought," he said. "But I happened to go by the window and the little meter on the receiver completely pegged out. That's when I noticed the FAX machine."

As soon as Becker turned off the machine, the signal stopped. When he turned it back on, the meter went crazy. But while that solved the mystery of where the signal was coming from, it's still unclear how the FAX, a Sharp UX-80, called the Coast Guard. "I've never heard of a FAX machine setting off any-machine setting off anything, not even a fire detector," said Greg Tyler, a technician with Frontier Business Machines, a Sharp dealer in Anchorage. Petty Officer Bob Ander-

son, who's stationed in Juneau, said that as far as he knows it's the first time a FAX machine has triggered an alarm. "It's kind of weird," he said.

Ninety percent of distress calls the Coast Guard receives are false alarms, he said, but they usually occur when a locator transmitter malfunctions or it's accidentally set off. Anderson said the FAX machine must have sent out signals strong enough for a satellite to pick up satellites receive the distress calls and beam them to a Coast Guard office in Maryland, he said. An operator there then alerts the nearest Coast Guard station.

FAX machines use phone lines - not airborne signals - to do their job, but the circuitry in them does emit a signal. These signals, however, operate lower than 121.5 Megahertz, and usually a machine has some plastic or metal parts that absorb them.

Becker, the station owner, said it was an unfortunate coincidence that his FAX machine sent out a signal just as one of the Coast Guard's satellites passed overhead. "All I know is the Coast Guard said their satellite is especially sensitive and the FAX machine was near a window," he said.

Jack Gamble, a spokesman with Boeing in Seattle, said the FAX may have put out a signal that pushed the radio station's transmitter to 121.5 Megahertz. Gamble studies electronic interference closely because of questions about the use of laptop computers and other electronic devices on airline flights. Several airlines have banned the use of such devices during take-offs and landings because of concerns they interfere with flight instruments.

Gamble said electronic devices can often lose their shielding when they are dropped or repaired, and that may allow some signals to escape. That's "what could have happened with the FAX machine, he said.

*Thanks to Jerry, KL7GHT, Eugene, Or. who sent this article to us via the Salem, Or. ARC who got it from the Anchorage, Alaska Daily News newspaper.*

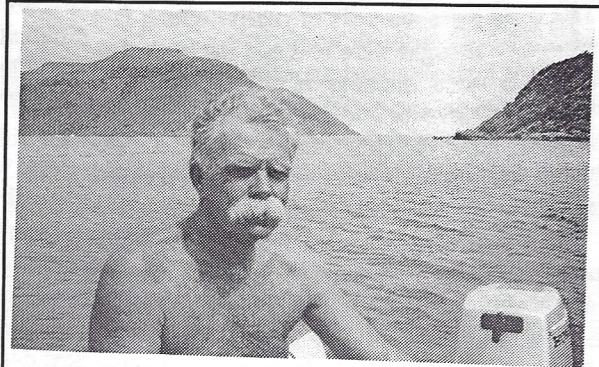


# N6LSF enjoys retirement on the Sea of Cortez



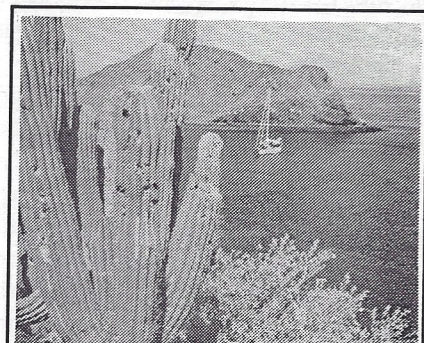
Earlier this year we published a few pictures of Tom Johnson's, (N6LSF) boat and a couple of comments about the fact that Tom was approaching retirement and planned to sail the waters off Mexico. We asked Tom to send us some pictures and hopefully a story on what he's been up to. We got the pictures, and a brief description of what's going on, plus a promise to send a story later. Tom reports it's great to be retired and he and his wife Barbara are enjoying it immensely. Tom retired as a United Airlines pilot in May of 1993 after his last trip to Australia. His boat, Aggravation, is 52 feet long overall, 43 feet of deck space with a 13 foot beam and 6 feet of draft. He and his wife, Barbara, have been living on the

boat while leisurely sailing the Sea of Cortez, mostly out of the port of La Paz, Baja California, Mexico where the temperatures ranged from the high 50's overnight to a high of around 100 degrees during the hottest part of the day. All the photos are provided by Tom and were taken while he and Barbara were visiting the many unin-



Tom Johnson, N6LSF, on the Sea of Cortez

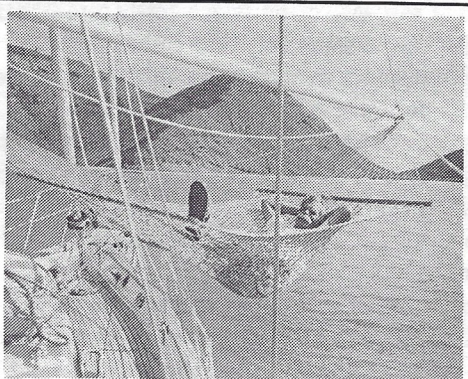
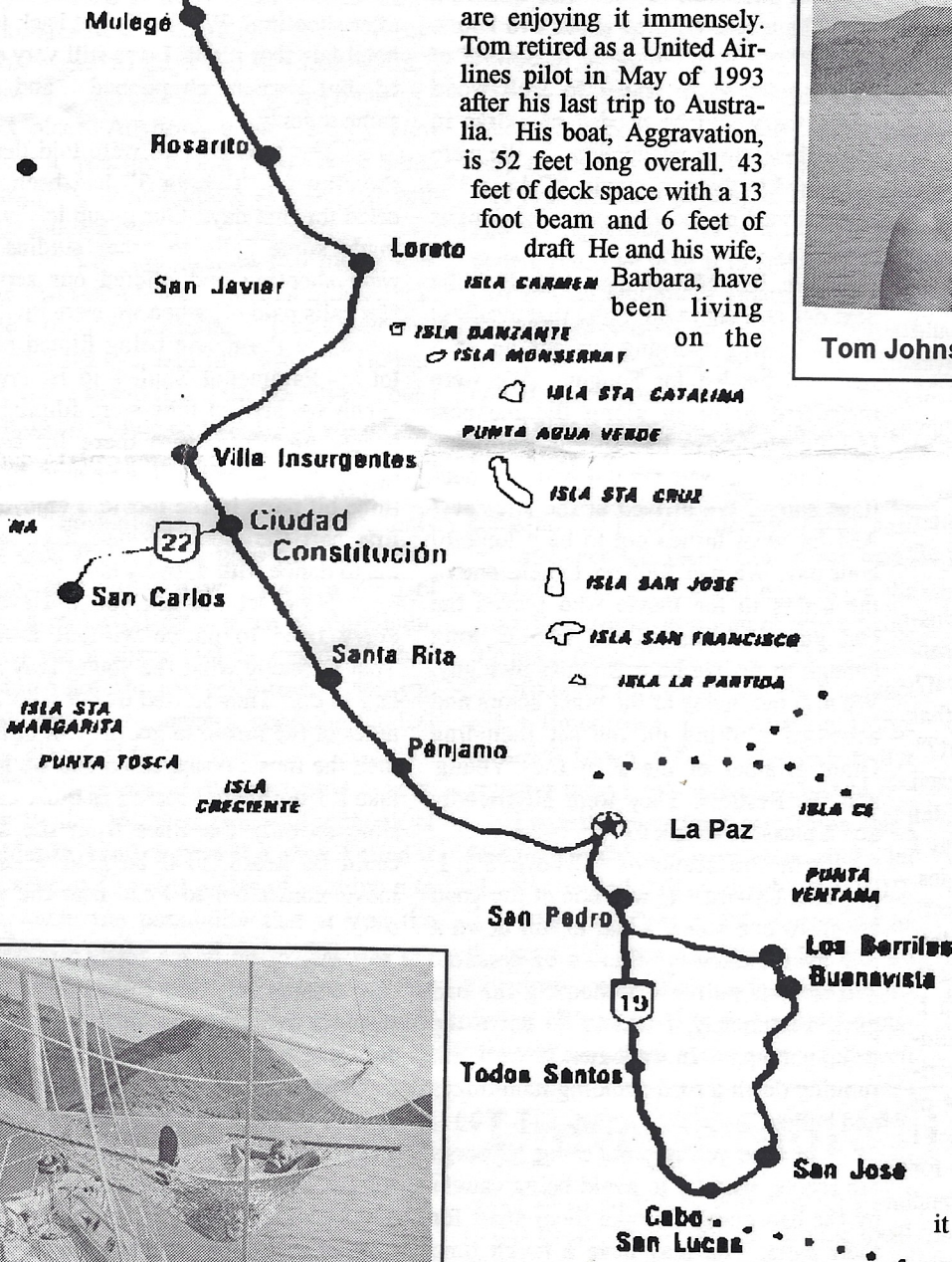
habited off shore islands that hug the eastern side of the Sea of Cortez. The boat has performed flawlessly and provided many hours of pleasure as one can see from the pictures provided. Tom reports most of



Aggravation at anchor off Isla Partida about 20 miles N. of La Paz

his hamming is on the low bands. He said there is a two meter repeater in La Paz, but most hams are encourage not to use it for idle ragchews. It runs on battery power and it takes a man on a donkey several hours to get to the mountain top to replace the batteries when they run down.

Best of luck Tom, and keep in touch.



Tom prepares for a "siesta" in a makeshift hammock on board.





# MOVIES

## How did they do that?

By Bill Young, KC6VWO

**W**hen I was a young lad, movies were marvels of reality which I thought were real and the truth. I have a vivid memory of all the James Bond 007 movies and the various monster shows, all of which fascinated me.

When I got older, I looked at movies a little differently, but they still fascinated me more than ever. The old radio show, and later a movie, the "Green Hornet" was one of those action shows that kept me glued to the seat. It was inconceivable to me to think that any one could do the things that I saw on the silver screen. There were movies like "Old Yeller" that tugged at my heart strings every time I saw it, and "Star Wars" with the inconceivable ease with which the airships plied the regions of outer space with awesome fire power to fight off the enemy.

Down through the years, my curiosity continued as movies became an obsession with me. "How did they do that? How could they do that? How could that man fall that far and not get hurt?" Those questions, and many more, begged for answers as I continued to wonder about all this. I fantasized that someday I would be there with them making movies. What wonderful dreams I had on the subject.

My dreams finally came true in late 80's when I landed a small part bit part in the movie "The Right Stuff" in which I played the part of a TV cameraman filming the blast of. It was my first experience, and it certainly answered a lot of questions on how it movies are made. I decided then and there, movies were for me. However, the pressures of a job and raising a family manage to get in the way.

The chance to be part of the business came again last October when I saw an ad in the paper wanting extra's for a soon to be made movie in Hollywood. I signed up in a flash. They invited us,

about 20 people in all, to an audition class on November 3rd here in Modesto. We talked about the parts and then acted out different situations to see what we could do. The meeting lasted about two hours, and I loved every minute of it. Several of us we selected to travel to Hollywood where we would be needed as extras in films presently in production. We were to be used in the new movie, "Cyborg 3", being filmed on location near the Saugus Speedway.

We left Modesto at 1:30 PM the next day and got to our hotel that evening. The following morning we got up at 5 AM and headed for Saugus. We were instructed to bring along the meanest looking cloths we had in our wardrobe, which for me, was my old Army camouflage suit. We arrived at the site at 7 AM for what turned out to be a long 10 hour day. We met Richard Lynch, one of the actors in the movie who played the bad guy. We chatted for awhile, long enough to realize he was really nice guy. We also met many of the other actors and actresses working on the set including Grant Kramer of the soap the "Young and the Restless. They were all friendly and a pleasure to talk to.

In the scene of "Cyborg 3", I played a Cyborg... (I was one of the good guys). In one scene, I had to run down a hill over broken-up chunks of concrete and scale a wall while shooting the bad guys. Fortunately, I had to go down the wall, not up. In another scene I am running down a road avoiding motorbikes and bullets.

In case you're wondering, Cyborgs are robots, who try to avoid being caught by the bad guys who take them apart for their parts. You may have a tough time seeing me the film because of the way I was made up. My outfit consisted of camouflage clothing and head-band. My face was covered with something they call "movie dirt." It's a clay type substance

with some other stuff mixed in which makes dirt stick to it. My face was covered with dirt as a result, and let me tell you, it was very hard to get the stuff off after shooting. We finally got back to our hotel late that night. I was still very excited, but very much pooped, and sleep came quickly.

The next day we were told that the shooting for "Cyborg 3" had been canceled for that day. Our group leader then made some calls to other studios who were shooting and offered our services. Her calls paid off when we were invited to the set of the movie being filmed on the lot at Paramount Studios in Hollywood. When we arrived they were filming in a bar scene. We were there for several hours during which I was able to land three bit parts in the movie. I enjoyed the first part the most, because it called for me to dance with a lovely lady.

Now, let me ask you.... Have you every tried to dance without music?" That's exactly what the young lady and I had to do. They started us out with a few notes of the music to get the feel of it, but then the music disappeared and we had to fake it from there keeping as quiet as possible so only the lines from the actors could be heard. I'll be glad when the movie comes out so I can hear the whole song.

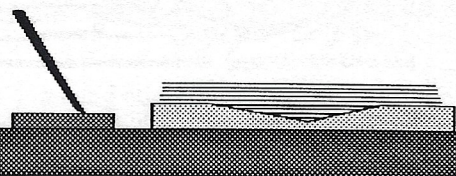
All of us had a lot of fun and received some very nice comments from the regulars including the directors and producers of both films.

My dreams have taken on a dimension of reality. And has changed my life goals and fillings like I have never had before. The movies are definitely in my blood and who knows, someday Kevin Costner and I may share equal billing on the marquee of theaters everywhere. Don't laugh! Somebody has to do it. Why not me! (Positive attitude). As they say in the movies.... that's a wrap!



# FROM THE DESK OF

**Tim Low, N6ZUC**



**I**t's hard to believe another year has passed. I remember as a kid how slowly time went by. Now, I wish there was some mechanism for slowing it down. Weeks now seem as days did in those years. I can only imagine that it gets worse as I get older. Anyhow, a very happy New Year to you my friends, and I hope Santa brought you something special. On with this month's topic.

Call me gullible, call me foolish, but call me curious. I found a little ditty in the November 93 issue of Worldradio that caught my eye, and my curiosity. Honestly, when I read it, I didn't believe it, but I had to try it just in case I was wrong. On page 23, there was a small article entitled, "WANT TO SOLDER ALUMINUM?"

The author who is unknown, only "TARC Bulletin" is used for identification, states that if you place a drop of clean motor oil on a piece of aluminum, then use a sharp tool to scratch it, then using a hot iron and resin core solder, you will be able to make a good mechanical and electrical joint.

With some of Pennsylvania's best, my Weller 150 watt gun, and a chunk of solder in hand, I gave it a shot. I tried it on several different pieces of aluminum to eliminate the possibility that it was the particular make up of the type I was using, and guess what, my initial impression was correct, you can't solder aluminum.

If anyone else has tried it, and made it work, I would like to hear from you. Personally, I think it was an early April fools joke.

Not to leave you out in the cold when it comes to repairing aluminum, there is something I ran across at a swap meet that works quite nicely, thank you very much. It's called MAB rod. It looks like your standard welding or brazing rod, and for light work, all it takes is a propane torch. I've used it to successfully repair broken aluminum antenna elements. It's quite expensive, and sells for approximately \$40 per pound, but I bought a half pound, and it goes a long way.

There are several different formulas, depending on the type of aluminum you want to repair, so it might be best to get some advice before ordering. Make sure you also get the instruction sheet when you order too, because you need to get the procedure correct to get an effective bond. It's not difficult.

To order this wonderful stuff, contact Nik's Enterprises, 6065 Mission Gorge RD, San Diego, CA, 92120-4007. Better yet, give them a call at (619)263-1544.

I recently came upon something else I find very useful, and have been using a lot of. It's called "Star Bright, LIQUID ELECTRICAL TAPE, ©". According to the read, it was developed for use on electrical connections in the marine industry. It's claimed to seal out the moisture and salts from ocean sprays, and even

provide a tight seal under water. It is further claimed to be a far superior seal to heat shrink tubing.

I have been using it to seal my outside coaxial connections, and to insulate the high voltage points in some of my projects. I must say it seems to be everything the manufacturer claims. I even used it to seal the coil on my half wave HT antenna with no ill effect.

The product comes in a small 4 oz. can, and is a thick black liquid. When it dries, it takes on the consistency of a very rubbery, pliable plastic. It forms itself to the item it is applied to, making a very tight seal. You can find it at Harbor Freight and Tool, and if memory serves, I paid about six bucks for it. If there isn't a store in your area, you can get a free catalog by writing to them at 3491 Mission Oaks Blvd., Camarillo, CA, 93011-6010.

You might be wondering, what happens when you want to pull the stuff off? It'll come off quite easily. I've used a sharp knife to cut it, then peel it off the connection.

If you've come up with a product or procedure that might make life easier for your fellow Hams, I'd sure like to hear about it. I'm always looking for ideas to try.

Questions, answers, problems, solutions? Drop me a note in care of the READOUT, or send a packet to me, N6ZUC @ KJ6VC.#SOCA.CA.USA.NA.

73 -Tim

## Tandy plans new "Universe Store" in Sacramento

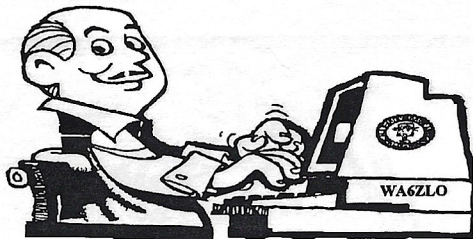
According to recent news reports, the Tandy Co., owners of Radio Shack, plan to build a third "Incredible Universe Store" in Sacramento next year. The new outlet, if built, will be located at the intersection of Hwy 80 and Northgate in the Northeast area of Sacramento, and will

bring an estimated 3,000 new jobs and pump 16-20 million dollars into the local economy.

The Universe megastore is the world's biggest electronic supermarket, with the first store built in Wilsonville, (just outside Portland) Oregon in Septem-

ber of 1992. The second store opened later just outside of Ft. Worth, Texas. The concept is to provide the consumer with affordable and fun shopping in a festive, trade show/convention-style atmosphere. There is nothing like it in the country.





# Editor's Notes

By Bob Pinheiro, WA6ZLO

**I**t's been a few months since the last "Editor's Notes" appeared in **The READOUT**. A couple of major factors led to the decision to take a break. First, KF6AX, Bart, agreed to help out with the "Party Line" column each month. It was hoped that it would take up the slack for my column. The second reason was that I got very busy preparing myself for retirement from my job as a detective with the Sheriff's office.

After 31 years of service I decided to hang up my gun and hang my badge on the wall instead of my chest. I knew that it was going to be a radical change in my life, and that I better find something to do if I wanted to stick around for awhile to enjoy it.

To that end, I decided to put to use the 35 plus years of broadcasting experience that I accumulated working both full and part time in area radio stations. So, I decided to begin a disc jockey service. Preparation for this business venture required much time in accumulating equipment and music plus all the other incidentals that go with starting a business.

I appreciated Bart's offer of help, just when I needed it. I'm happy to report my DJ service is off and running with several engagements already under my belt, and I don't officially retire until January 31, 1994. However, I'm sorry to report that Bart has decided he can no longer continue with his column due to personal and medical reasons. It's a disappointment to lose Bart after such a short time. I thank him for his contributions, and wish him well.

— I received Christmas cards from several members including Jerry (KL7GHT) and his wife Flo (KL7GHV). Jerry writes that he has accepted the position of Chief Engineer at the NBC TV station in Eugene, Oregon. Jerry has been doing consulting work in the TV business in and around Salem, Oregon for the last several years. Good Luck Jerry, and it was good to hear from you and Flo.

A nice note accompanied the beauti-

ful Christmas card from Jack (WA6CYR) and Wilma (WB6ISA) formerly of Escalon. They report that all is well with their family in their new home in Gridley, CA. where Jack is the Chief of Police. Jack was formerly the Chief of Police and City Manager in Escalon. Jack said the big event of the year for them was their trip to the Ukraine, a former republic in the USSR. They made the trip last November and visited a Ukrainian leather artist they had hosted in Escalon two years ago. "It was quite a trip!" said Jack, and "it was NOT FUN!"

It was interesting and educational and they were treated to the best of what their host had to offer, which was a long way from what they were use to. They stayed in cities that had natural gas shortages to the point that they couldn't heat water. They only had water 3-4 times a day for a couple of hours and they also had paper product shortages to the point they couldn't get toilet tissue. They also were told not drink the water. They were served champagne instead of water for breakfast, lunch and dinner. (YUCK). "We were served cabbage and potatoes for each meal." Jack said. "It's a shame" said Jack, "the Ukraine use to be the bread basket of all of the USSR and now are probably the most depressed country economically and politically of the former republics."

— Welcome to some new members of **SARA**. Jeffrey Sousa, KE6CXZ and Paul Kendrick, KE6AIP both new Technicians and both of Modesto. Welcome back to an old member, Randy Hotchkiss, KA6WWT. He and his wife and family recently returned to the states and spending five years in Germany with the Air Force. He is now stationed at Mt. Home AFB, in Mt. Home, Idaho.

Congratulations to KD6KAK, Richard Kendrick, who upgraded to a General. We ended 1993 with 192 members. Thank you for your support. Speaking of the membership, don't forget to send in your dues for 1994. Please check the mailing label on the back page of this newsletter. If it says "1993" at the top, then please send in your

check or money order today. Please use the handy renewal form on the inside of the back page. We need the information on the renewal form, so, please be sure to send it along with your check or money order made payable to **SARA**.

Thanks to the TV show "Case Closed", Mrs. Lyn Young of French Camp was reunited with her son whom she hasn't seen for 25 years. **SARA** member Bill, KC6VWO, called the TV producer after seeing the show on the USA Network, and asked them to help find his half brother Curtis Dean Smith. They traced him through military records and found him and his family in Salina, Kansas. They flew Smith, 46, his wife and their 12 year old daughter to French Camp just before Christmas for the reunion. It was a Merry Christmas for the Young's thanks to Bill's phone call.

— It was a pleasure to hear from Tom Johnson, N6LSF, on a recent trip to Modesto. I caught up with him at his mother-in-laws home in Modesto where he filled me in on his days on leisure aboard his 52 foot boat, "Aggravation." He showed me several photos taken of him and his wife Barbara as they sailed the Sea of Cortez out of La Paz, Mexico. The photos and information gathered from Tom appear on Page 3 of this newsletter. It was good to see Tom, who looked tan, lean, and healthy. I asked him if he missed his old job as a pilot with United Airlines. He said "not one bit!" I encouraged Tom to write a story for the newsletter and send more pictures. He promised with Barbara's help, he would do so.

Speaking of pictures, I want to again thank Gary Davidson, KJ6Q, of Vacaville, who makes publishing of photos in **The READOUT** possible. Gary halftones the photos we send him and then sends them back ready to go to the printer. Without his professional talent and personal help, we would not be able to do it.. Thanks again Gary! That's it for this month. Happy New Year and 73.





# ARRL Pacific Division Director's Report

By, Brad Wyatt, K6WR

*By Brad Wyatt, K6WR, Director, Pacific Division, ARRL 18400 Overlook Rd. #5, Los Gatos CA 95030-5850 (408) 395-2501*

**N**ew Pacific Division Director and Vice Director:- On Jan. 1, 1994, Brad Wyatt, K6WR, took office as elected Director of the Pacific Division, and Jim Maxwell, W6CF, took office as elected Vice Director. We plan to continue our high visibility by attending club meetings, hamfests and swap meets. Please look for us and "say hello." We want and need your thoughts, ideas and suggestions on how to improve amateur radio. Please feel free to call or write us or your Section Manager - the addresses and phone numbers are on page 8 of any QST.

**National Legislation:-** As of Dec. 17, 1993, nationwide, there are 114 co-sponsors of The Amateur Radio Service House Joint Res. 199 and 22 co-sponsors of Amateur Radio Service Senate Joint Res. 90. There are 21 co-sponsors of the Amateur Volunteer Service Act, House Res. 2623. In the Pacific Division, on HJR 199 / SJR 90, Hawaii leads with all 4 of its congressional delegation as co-sponsors, California (the Pacific Division part) has 8 of 21 possible House members as co-sponsors, Nevada has none of their possible 4 members. On HR 2623, the Pacific Division has NO co-sponsors so far. Please keep writing letters on these important pieces of legislation to your Congressman and Senators with a copy to Perry Williams, W1UED, at ARRL HQ.

**ITU Action:-** WRC-93, recently held and actively participated in by ARRL officials, was called to set the agenda for WRC-95 and the preliminary agenda for WRC-97; apparently, neither will deal directly with amateur issues although we'll have to watch closely how HF broadcasting and wind profiler issues are handled in the preparation for WRC-97.

**Callsigns and Licensing:-** This entire area has experienced a complete turnaround recently. In essence, the FCC has decided to combine the vanity callsign

procedure, the "instant licensing", and the club / military-recreation callsign plans and tie them into one new computerized procedure planned for "about mid year 1994." In a meeting on Dec. 13, 1993, the FCC announced the outline of this new plan. There will be more details as time moves along, but for now it appears that all the separate efforts in these areas have been placed on "hold." Watch QST and other sources for the evolving story.

**Antenna Ordinances:-** Recently there has been both good news and bad news throughout the Pacific Division. The good news is that in Santa Rosa the City Council passed a favorable antenna ordinance as the result of the combined great efforts of the San Francisco SM, John Wallack, W6TLK, the local Volunteer Counsels, and, of course, the local ham community. The bad news is that the Monte Sereno City Council is in the process of passing the most restrictive antenna ordinance known. Essentially, it is a Conditional Use Permit process for any tower over 25-30 feet in height (depending on lot size), a tower over 2 inches in diameter and an antenna array width exceeding 8 feet. The ARRL General Counsel, SCV SM Steve Wilson, KA6S, the local VCs, and the local ham community have tried very hard for months to work with the City Council to develop an acceptable ordinance, but to no avail. There will be more developments, so stay tuned. Your help is needed - We need the help of all hams in the Pacific Division - please help us develop a consolidated Pacific Division-wide antenna ordinance data base for future use by sending me copies of your town, city or county already adopted antenna ordinances. Please be on the alert for all proposed antenna ordinances as well. I would like copies of these also. The individual ordinances will be compiled, indexed, and analyzed to help in future situations. The information will, of course, be available to anyone in the ham community who needs it.

**New FCC actions:-** The Report and Order in PR Docket 92-289, concerning,

among other things, the creation of a sub-band at 222 - 222.15 Mhz for non-repeater operation and Novice usage from 222 - 225 MHz except as repeater control operators, will take effect on Feb. 1, 1994. Complete details will be in the January 1994 QST. The "bio-effects" proceeding (ET Docket 93-62) filing deadline has been extended to January 11, 1994. There are many other Amateur Radio Service proceedings pending at the FCC; however, there seems not to be any firm schedule available on specific dockets. Watch for further information.

**Scholarships and Awards:-** There are many scholarships covering a wide range of situations available to licensed Amateurs. The ARRL Foundation, The Dayton Amateur Radio Association, The Foundation for Amateur Radio, to name only a few, will be announcing their dates for applications for their 1994 scholarships. Watch QST and other amateur radio publications for details as they are announced.

Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award. Do you know a licensed Amateur under the age of 21? He or she might qualify for this award. Write to ARRL HQ for information. The nominations are to be sent to your Section Manager. See page 8 of any QST for your SM's address. There are many young Amateurs who might qualify for nomination, but few are actually nominated. The Pacific Division gives many awards for outstanding service. Included are awards to clubs (by sizes), Ham of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, Ham Recruiter of the Year and Certificates of Merit. These awards are made at each year's Pacificon. Please give serious thought to nominations. Drop me a note for the details.

**Other News:-** ARRL membership continues to grow. For the first time, the total membership has exceeded the 170,000 mark. The Pacific Division now exceeds 10,800 members. Let's keep recruiting new members to ARRL so we can continue to provide the services needed. Do you want to take an amateur exam?

See "ARRL Update" page 8



## ARRL Update

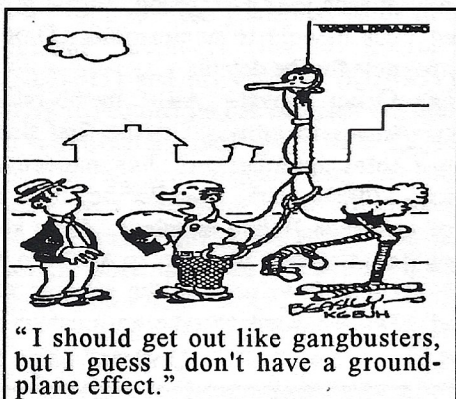
From page 7

Call the ARRL VEC hot line, (408) 984-8353 for exam information. Do you know someone who wants to become a Ham? Call 1-800-32NEWHAM (1-800-326-3942). He / she will get "how to" information, a list of local clubs, a list of local instructors and a list of local volunteer examiners.

**Coming Events:-** -Livermore Swap Meet - 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College in Livermore, CA, 7 AM to noon, all year. Talk in 147.045 from west, 145.35 from the east. Contact Noel Anklam, KC6QZK, (510) 447-3857 eves. - Winterfest, Jan. 15, 1994. National Guard Armory on the campus of Monterey Peninsula College, Monterey, CA. For information contact Doug McKinney, KC3RL, (408) 663-6117. - ARRL International DX Contest - CW, Feb. 19-20, 1994. - ARRL International DX Contest - Phone, March 5-6, 1994.

-Foothill Swap Meet - 2nd Saturday, March - September. Foothill College, Los Altos, CA. -International DX Convention, April 15-17, 1994, Holiday Inn at Visalia, CA. Contact: Don Bostrom, N6IC, 4447 Atoll Ave., Sherman Oaks, CA 91423, (H) (818) 784-2590.

- West Coast VHF/UHF Conference, Cerritos, CA, April 29 - May 1, 1994. Contact Bob Hastings, K6PHE, 854 Bernard Dr., Fullerton CA 90701 (714) 990-9203. -Dayton HamVention, Dayton, OH, April 29 - May 1, 1994. Contact P. O. Box 964, Dayton OH 45401-0964 (513) 276-6930. -Fresno Hamfest, May 7-8, 1994, Riverland Park at Kingsburg, CA. Contact James Wakefield, AH6CO, 1333 N. Palm Ave., Fresno CA 93728 - ARRL Field Day, June 25-26, 1994.



The READOUT

## New Jersey Ham fined \$5,000 for interfering with FAA in Jamaica, N.Y.

A Cedar Grove, NJ, amateur radio operator has been fined \$5,000 for transmitting an unauthorized signal on an aeronautical radio communications frequency. On August 30, 1993, the New York Field Office of the FCC was notified by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Jamaica, NY, that an unknown signal on 243 MHz had been observed at two separate airports in New Jersey for five days.

Using mobile automatic direction finding equipment (MADF), FCC engineers traced the source of the interference on Sept. 1 to a radio repeater installed at 2 Penn Plaza, New York, NY. Subsequent investigation determined the station to be an amateur radio repeater operated by William A. Krause, WA2HDE, an Advanced Class operator. The repeater was either operating off of its coordinated 224.66 MHz transmit

frequency - or had a spurious emission at 243 MHz.

The frequency 243 MHz is designated as the emergency and distress frequency for the use of radio beacons in the Marine and Aeronautical Radio Services. This frequency is monitored by a group of low-orbit satellites which are used for search and rescue operations. This SRSAT/COPAS system is maintained through a cooperative effort by the United States, Canada and Russia.

During the time Mr. Krause's radio was transmitting on 243 MHz, emergency radio communications could have been blocked over a large geographical

The action was taken as part of the Commission's continuing effort to preserve the integrity of the aeronautical radio system, a system that pilots depend on for safety while in flight. (FCC News Bulletin, Oct 18, 1993 via W5YI Report)

### Better Known "Hams" Around the World

W6QYI.....	Roger Mahony.....	Cardinal of Catholic Church
VU2RG.....	Rajiv Gandhi.....	Late Prime Minister of India
VU2SON.....	Sonia Gandhi.....	Widow of Rajiv Gandhi
KC40CA.....	Gordon Barnes.....	TV Meteorologist
N4KET.....	David French.....	CNN News Anchor
HS1A.....	Bhumibol Adulyade.....	King of Thailand
5YC.....	Howard Hughes.....	Late millionaire
EA0JC.....	Juan Carlos.....	King of Spain
H18MMJ.....	Manny Mota.....	Ex baseball player
JY1 & EP1MP.....	King Hussein.....	King of Jordan
IOFCG.....	Francesco Cossiga.....	President, Italy
W2NSD.....	Wayne Green.....	Publisher of 73 Magazine
K2ORS.....	Jean Shepherd.....	Author and humorist
WB4KCG.....	Ronnie Milsap.....	Country Music singer
WA4CZD.....	Chet Atkins.....	Famous Nashville guitarist
K4LIB.....	Arthur Godfrey.....	Late Radio-TV personality
W5LFL.....	Owen Garriot.....	NASA Astronaut
WA6BGA.....	Ray Noble.....	Big Band Leader
K6DUE.....	Roy Neal.....	Retired NBC Newsman
KB2GSD.....	Walter Cronkite.....	Retired CBS Newsman
W6EZV.....	Curtis LeMay.....	Retired 4 star General
Ex-KA7EVD.....	Donny Osmond.....	Singer-Entertainer
WA6IOG.....	Vernon Orr.....	Former Sec. of Air Force
NK7U.....	Joe Rudi.....	Former baseball player
WB6RER.....	Andy Devine.....	Late actor
FO8GQ.....	Marlon Brando.....	Movie Star
W6UK.....	Alvino Ray.....	Big Band Leader
K7UGA.....	Barry Goldwater.....	Former U.S. Senator
WA7WYN.....	Andy Griffith.....	T.V. and Movie actor
YN1AS.....	Anastasio Somoza.....	Former dictator Nicaragua
KD4WUJ.....	Patty Loveless.....	Country Music Singer



# Doctors drive N6OCS nuts

By Bob Vrengdenhil, N6OCS

I was driving home one day recently and talking to some friends on the *SARA* repeater. It was during the evening commute hour when I heard KJ6DO. Chuck, break the repeater. Being the good ham that I am, I recognized his break and asked how he was doing. About that time W6ASO, Chuck, broke the repeater. After we exchanged some pleasantries. I remembered that KJ6DO had a TS-50 HF transceiver in his car and I wanted to take a look at it. I asked Chuck (meaning KJ6DO) if I could meet him somewhere and take a look? Just then, Chuck, W6ASO, came back and said "sure where would you like to meet?"

As you can imagine there was some confusion in my mind (which is not all that unusual). I remembered that "DO" was a dentist, so I thought I would call clear up the confusion by calling him "Doc Chuck". It didn't work! At that time Chuck, ASO, came back again.

Seems he is a dentist too! It really got confusing when I realized that there were two "Chucks" on frequency, both were from Oakdale, both are dentists, and both of them own TS-50's which they operate in their mobiles.

I decided to sign off after which I started talking to myself about a "pair of docs" and a paradox.

By the way, in all the confusion, I never did see a TS-50 in operation. The only thing I got to see was my psychiatrist.



**Program for  
February 15, 1993  
SARA Meeting:  
KN6SW, Rich  
Harrington, T-Hunt coordinator  
for the Livermore and Fremont  
Amateur Radio clubs, will  
present tips on T-Hunting techniques and equipment. This  
presentation will be comparable  
to his demonstration given at  
PACIFICON last October.**



By LeRoy Campbell, NV6S

This month there have been a few items accomplished on the technical front. The O2AT handy talkie that is used at the club station for packet, and is available for special events to members, was examined and an alkaline battery pack was secured as the Nicads are not exercised frequently enough to keep them in decent shape. I also made up a cigarette lighter adapter for the radio so it may be used from a mobile as well as a clip lead adapter so it can be connected to an external supply.

If you use it PLEASE OBSERVE POLARITY, as a mistake can ruin the radio. The cigarette lighter adaptor is only to be used in a negative ground system. Connection to a positive ground system will surely cause lots of smoke. Of course no one would guess that the positive lead on the clip on connector is red. HI HI

Boyd, W6DSM, donated a very nice thirty amp charger-supply to the club and

# Technical Report

with that I was able to get the KA-Node back and up running. The MFJ-1278 that operates our ten meter digi has been repaired and is waiting for a ride up the mountain.

I attempted to check our receiver frequency on the two meter repeater while I was on the mountain top with the KA-node but had poor results as I found my frequency counter was not up to the task. I'll return with my HP counter next trip. With a little luck I will be able to improve on the second harmonic problem.

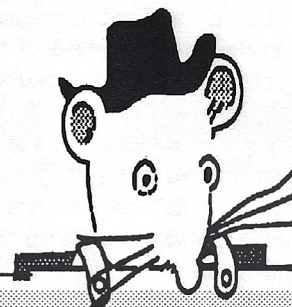
I thank those who have helped with the technical chores. Skip, N6ZAA, accompanied me on the most recent trip and I thank him. Alex, K6LPG, repaired the MFJ at a bargain price and we owe thanks to him. Boyd, W6DSM donated the supply-charger that enabled me to get the digital site back in order. We owe thanks to Boyd. I owe thanks to the membership for patience while I attempt to find problems as well as time to work on the problems located. 73, LeRoy.

## News From SARA Members in the Pacific Northwest

News about *SARA* members in the Pacific Northwest. Jim, KB6DJ, in Grants Pass, Oregon is recuperating from a total of three surgeries. His spirits are high and he reports he is on the mend.

We are sorry to report the death of Doris Wharton, wife of former *SARA* member Dick Wharton, N6MOK, now living in Roseburg, Oregon. Our condolences to Dick and the family. Dick retired from the Post Office in Modesto and moved to Oregon several years ago.

Now, for some good news from Oregon. Jerry Nichols, KL6GHT, has accepted a new position as Chief Engineer of KMTR, the NBC television station in Eugene, Oregon. Jerry and his wife Flo, KL7GHV, have been living in Salem, Oregon for the last several years. Jerry worked for KCSO-TV in Modesto several years ago before moving to Oregon.



**What:  
Novice & Technician Classes**

**Where:  
LDS Church, 1111 East "A"  
Street, Oakdale**

**When:  
Starting January 18, 1994  
for 10-12 weeks.  
Text: "Now you're Talking"  
available at Radio Shacks or  
ARRL.**

**Instructor & more info: Call  
Chuck, KJ6DO, 209-847-5491**





# SARA Minutes

By Ernie Rader, K6UVI, Secretary

The regular monthly **SARA** meeting was called to order @ 7:34 PM on December 21st. Twenty-one members and guests signed the sign-in sheet as introductions were made. Treasurer's report:

November Expenses: ..... \$408.85  
Income: (through 12-13-93) ..... \$99.50  
Expenses: ..... \$75.00  
Income: ..... \$473.10  
Balance as of 12/14/93 ..... \$1,579.51

Moved and seconded to accept the treasurer's report.

The Secretary read several pieces of correspondence received during the month, and the minutes for the previous meeting, as printed in **The READOUT**, were accepted as printed.

LeRoy reported that the digital node is again up and running thanks to the donation of a 35 Amp. power supply by Boyd, W6DSM, and the purchase of a new deep cycle battery. Some of the 10 meter equipment is being repaired and will be back on the hill soon.

LeRoy's still looking for the intermod problem the two meter repeater is being assaulted with, and the batteries in the club's portable have been replaced making it serviceable again.

V.P. Liz reported that Brad, KC6TDH will present some fox hunting/hiding procedures at the next meeting, and the following one will have Rich Harrington as its guest speaker. Rich will speak on T-hunting techniques.

Under Old Business, Ernie reported that the communications trailer repairs continue slowly. The particle board flooring has been installed and it's ready for the linoleum. Dirt brown is the color to be selected.

The slate of next year's officers presented by the nominating committee was accepted with no additions and it was unanimously voted to elect Liz, KD6GIW as president, Mark, WB6BJN as vice president, Bob, KC6TVE as treasurer, and Debbie, KC6TVE as secretary.

Bob, WA6ZLO requested the new officers pose for pictures for **The READOUT**.

Dennis, NU6O reported that the ham radio classes will resume on January 18th at the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Oakdale taught by Chuck, KJ6DO.

Sandy reminded those that haven't, to pay their dues soon, and the meeting was adjourned. Respectfully submitted, Ernie, K6UVI, club secretary.

The following have renewed their membership in **SARA** for 1994.

WB6BJN, WB6IDT, NV6S, W6SKH, WB6REM, NW6G, KC6JYD, KC6YDA, WB6WQL, KC6MSQ, KD6VZE, N6TIV, KD6KAC, WA6KEP, KD6KZP, KD6TTM, and N6LRB.

#### New information;

KC6TBK, new address: 13813 Skyline Blvd., Waterford, CA., 95386 phone: 874-4765 KD6ZAD, new home phone: 735-5668 WD0FFX, new address: 365 Grandview Drive, Bishop, CA., 93514 KD6KAK, upgraded to general KA6WBY, new zip: 95382 W6MMH, new address: 150 W. Catalina Drive #57 Yuma, AZ., 85364 KD6OQI, new address: 1509 Michele Way, Escalon, CA., 95320

#### Brand new members:

Jeffrey Souza, KE6CXZ 1900 Oakdale Road #273 Modesto, CA., 95355 551-1819 and he's a tech. Paul Kendrick KE6AIP 2506 Torrid Ave. Modesto, CA., 95358 578-2958 and he's a tech.

Randy Hotchkiss KA6WWT 4801 Ft. McKinley Place Mt. Home AFB, ID., 83648 (208) 832-4429 and he's a tech.

As of 12-21-93 our membership stood at 192 members.

Respectfully submitted by SARA Secretary, Ernie, K6UVI.

## Whole Family of Hams

In the beginning there was but one, the OM. Now, the whole family is involved with "ham" radio. Congratulations to Andrea Billikoft, KE6DPB who received her Novice license just in time for Christmas. She is the fourth member of the family to be licensed. Her dad is Gregory, KA6VVV; her mother is Linda, N6VGK and her brother is David, N6WAG. Congratulations to the whole family.

## KC6TVC recovering after surgery

**SARA** member, Ray Erickson, KC6TVC, is recovering from open heart surgery last month at Doctor's Hospital.

Ray ran into some severe complications following surgery and has been in Doctor's Hospital for over a month. According to Fred, KK6FH, Ray is feeling better, and hopes to go home soon.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery.





# Time To Renew Your SARA Membership

## 1994 Membership Dues Schedule

Full Membership .....	23.00
Associate (Unlicensed Applicant) .....	12.00
Student (Upto Sophomore in college) .....	12.00
Family (Head of Household) .....	23.00
Next two members living in same home .....	12.00 ea
Out of Area .....	11.00

(More than 150 miles from Modesto )

The **SARA** membership year runs from January 1st through December 31st of each year. The dues rates are reviewed each year and adjusted if necessary based on the general financial health of the club treasury and anticipated expenses vs. the estimated number of members. As we have often stated, running a club is just like running a small business. We must have the income to pay our bills. The biggest part of your dues goes to support of this newsletter followed by liability insurance, equipment insurance and maintenance. You will not be billed separately for membership dues. Your only notice will appear here in **The READOUT**. If you prepaid for 1994 please disregard this notice.

Please examine the membership dues schedule appearing on this page and then prepare your check or money order and **ALONG WITH THE MEMBERSHIP FORM** below, mail them to the club's post office box listed below. Make your checks or money orders payable to **SARA**. Remember to include the completed membership form with your payment. Thank You for your support!

Please remember if you move to let the club know ahead of the move. **The READOUT** is bulk mailed and the Post Office will not forward bulk mail regardless if you left a forwarding address.



## 1994 Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association Inc.

P.O. Box 4601, Modesto, Ca. 95352

### Membership Application

<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> New Membership	Date _____
Name _____		Call _____
Address _____		Member of ARRL? _____
City _____	State _____	Zip Code _____
Home Phone _____		
Business Address _____		Bus. Phone _____
Occupation _____		
Class of License _____		Year first licensed? _____

Make checks or money orders payable to **SARA** and mail to **SARA PO Box 4601, Modesto, CA. 95352**





# Calendar

Jan 15 ..... WINTERFEST ..... All Day  
 ..... Monterey National Guard Armory  
 Jan 18 ..... SARA Monthly Meeting ..... 730 PM  
 Program: Brad KC6TDH on Transmitting Hunting  
 Jan 18 ..... Novice-Technician License class begins  
 in Oakdale at the LDS Church. Contact KJ6DO.  
 Feb 15 ..... SARA Monthly Meeting ..... 730 PM  
 Program: T-Hunting equipment and techniques with  
 Rich Harrington, KN6SW, from Livermore  
 Apr 19 ..... SARA Monthly Meeting ..... 730 PM  
 May 7-8 ..... Fresno Hamfest ..... All Day  
 ..... Riverland Park at Kingsburg  
 June 25-26 .... ARRL Field Day ..... 24 hours

SARA meets the third Tuesday of each month (except holidays) at the Stanislaus County Administration Building 11th and H Streets in downtown Modesto. The meetings are held in the lower-level conference room at 730 pm. Visitors and interested persons are most welcome to attend. SARA is an ARRL affiliated club and is also affiliated with the Stanislaus County and City of Modesto RACES/ARES programs.

The READOUT is mailed with a bulk mailing permit. Please notify us if you move as the Post Office will not forward bulk mail regardless if you left a forwarding address.

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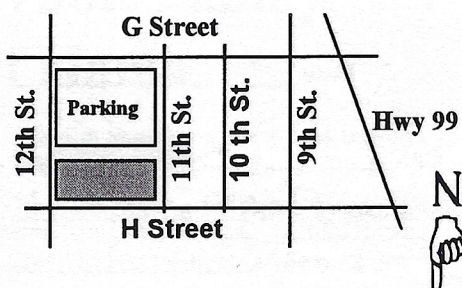
8 AM - 5 PM Monday - Friday

SARA repeaters on Mt. Oso at 3,300 feet- 145.39(-) MHz PL 136.5 Hz or \* 5 to override the PL. 224.14 (-) MHz, 440.225 (+) MHz PL 136.5 Hz . KA-Node Digipeater 144.91 MHz. Ten Meter Digipetar 28,440 kHz

## Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 4601  
 Modesto, CA. 95352

### Address Correction Requested



SARA Meeting Location  
 1100 H Street, Modesto, CA  
 Lower Level Conference Room.  
 730 pm third Tuesday of each month.

## Notice

This will be the last issue of The READOUT that we can send you if you have not paid your 1994 dues. Please don't let it happen. Use the form on page 11 to renew. Thank You!

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**Next SARA Meeting is January 18th at 730 pm & You're Invited!**