THE READOUT

The Stanislaus Amateur Radio News

21 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

SEPT / NOV 1997

HTTP://WWW.WAC.COM/~STANARA

SARA LOWERS DUES! Sara's Web Page Has the Field Day's PIX's for U...

Ham-Space Digest

Sun, 31 Aug 97 Volume 97 : Issue 289

Today's Topics: Amateur Radio Page Getting started in satellite tracking and communications (2 msgs) Help with Scientific Atlanta Downconverter? Mars Lander Freqs

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Ham-Space@UCSD.Edu> Send subscription requests to: <Ham-Space-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu> Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Ham-Space Digest are available (by FTP only) from ftp.UCSD.Edu in directory ''mailarchives/ham-space''.

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: Sat, 30 Aug 1997 15:15:50 -0500 From: Robert Newland <rnewland@cyberramp.net> Subject: Amateur Radio Page

http://www.cyberramp.net/~rnewland

Date: Sat, 30 Aug 97 10:36:53 GMT From: dssn@uhura.cc.rochester.edu (Douglas Stockman) Subject: Getting started in satellite tracking and communications

Point your web browser to http://www.amsat.org . AMSAT publishes a few small booklets that can help get you started. ARRL (http://www.arrl.org) publishes a book entitled The Satellite Experimenter's Handbook, by Martin Davidoff, K2UBC which is another good reference. Hope this helps, and good luck.

Douglas Stockman, N2ZYE/9G5DS dssn@uhura.cc.rochester.edu

Date: Sat, 30 Aug 1997 09:29:42 -0700 From: Dennis Erwin Thurlow <geosynq@trader.com> Subject: Getting started in satellite tracking and communications

Douglas Stockman wrote: > publishes a book entitled The Satellite Experimenter's Handbook, by Martin > Davidoff, K2UBC which is another good reference.

And he _does_ mean reference. There's little real info in the book. Just intros and bibliographies. Good luck chasiing down citations. In fact, unless you've got lots of money and intend to buy everything off the shelf, it's difficult to find the info you need to ''work the birds''. -- Teach! Testify!

Date: Mon, 25 Aug 1997 16:20:16 -0600 From: CJ Johansson <cj_@_boi.hp.com> Subject: Help with Scientific Atlanta Downconverter?

This may be a bit off the subject for a few of the groups, but...

I'm trying to find information on a Scientific Atlanta Downconverter. The specifics are:

Mfr.: Scientific Atlanta Model: NJR2110-3 Part No.: 865-013

On a second label, it says

Model 6513

But this label looks more like it was put

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on by a different company than Sci. Atlanta, it has no company name.

I'm interested in the freq. range, IF, and LO signal requirements, etc. I know that it runs on +15 to +24 Volts, but since it doesn't have a separate power connector, it must come in on the LO or the IF out line. Also, the two co-ax connectors are marked with "H" and "V", which doesn't give me a clue as to which is the LO and which is the IF.

The down converter came attached to an off-axis dish, approx 2ft x 3ft elliptical. Looks like maybe for one of the satellite cable networks (there are a few folks who have Prime Star in the neighborhood, and other than the fact that this dish is a different color, it looks fairly close).

I'm hoping that this will make a suitable downconverter for the S-band weather satellites. If not, can anyone think of other good uses? If anyone knows where I can find the info on this beast, please let me know.

Thanks, -cj

|cj_@_boi.hp.com | KD6AEG (Remove the '_'s for E-mail) | |Hewlett-Packard | Give a man a beer | |Storage Systems Division | and he'll waste an hour | |11413 Chinden Blvd. M/S 831 | Teach him to brew | |Boise, ID 83714 | and he'll waste the rest of his life.|

Date: Sun, 31 Aug 1997 00:31:11 GMT From: ouisie@ripco.com (Ouisie) Subject: Mars Lander Freqs

Would anyone out here happen to know the frequencies used by the Mars lander? I'm interested in dxing them and would like to know such things as data type, date xfer rates, etc...in addition to the freqs. I've already e-mailed nasa but so far, no reply...so I thought I'd check out here.

End of Ham-Space Digest V97 #289 **********

Have an article that you wish to see printed?

Have a comment on how to errect and antenna or a radio, Hints and kinks?

Send them in, let me know will make room for you, I would rather see articles from our members than from other news sources... Jim , n6kmr

Subject: Special Pacific Division Update: H.R. 2369

ARRL PACIFIC DIVISION UPDATE SPECIAL EDITION - AUGUST 24, 1997 by Brad Wyatt, K6WR, Director, Pacific Division, ARRL 18400 Overlook Rd. #5, Los Gatos CA 95030-5850 (408) 395-2501 (Phone and FAX) Packet: K6WR@N0ARY.#NCA.CA.USA.NOAM Internet: K6WR@arrl.org WWW Pacific Division Home Page -- http://www.pdarrl.org/

Congress Is Considering New Laws Concerning Electronic Eavesdropping:-

This Special Edition of the Pacific Division Update provides to Pacific Division members current information about HR 2369 itself, ARRL understanding of the potential impact of the bill, and ARRL actions to date to protect Amateur Radio interests.

Congress is currently in recess and will not return until after Labor Day. As a result, there is really no one in Washington DC to talk to currently on this matter. ARRL met with Congressman Markey's staff concerning potential impact of HR 1964 on Amateur Radio interests prior to the recess. ARRL plans to meet with Congressman Tauzin's staff after Labor Day to discuss the potential impact of HR 2369 on Amateur Radio.

This Special Edition Update will be posted to the Pacific Division WWW site at www.pdarrl.org.

Here is the story in a nutshell:

QST de W1AW ARRL Bulletin 46 ARLB046 From ARRL Headquarters Newington CT August 8, 1997 To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB046 ARLB046 ARRL studies new eavesdropping bill

The ARRL is closely studying another bill introduced in Congress to beef up prohibitions against electronic eavesdropping. The bill, HR 2369, was introduced by Rep Billy Tauzin of Louisiana. Dubbed the Wireless Privacy Enhancement Act of 1997, it has scanner enthusiasts and equipment makers worried and could affect some Amateur Radio equipment. If passed, it would--among other things--amend the Communications Act of 1934 to ban the sale of scanning receivers capable of receiving transmissions on any frequency allocated to any Commercial Mobile Radio Service (CMRS). The CMRS is a relatively new umbrella designation of subscriber-based radio services that act like telephone services. In addition to cellular telephone, such services include commercial paging services, commercial air-to-ground services, offshore radiotelephone, personal communication services, and specialized mobile radio services.

HR 2369 would prohibit receiving, divulging, publishing or using any intercepted transmission, and subject violators to substantial fines or prison terms. It also would make it illegal to modify equipment so that it may be used to unlawfully intercept or divulge radio communications. The FCC would be charged with investigating complaints and enforcing the stiffer regulations.

As currently drafted, the bill appears to affect equipment available to scanner enthusiasts, hams who use scanning transceivers to receive out-of-band, and hams who use out-of-band capability for volunteer work. It would not affect ham frequencies, per se. The League's Legislative and Public Relations Manager, Steve Mansfield, N1MZA, says the ARRL is studying the bill to determine its long term implications for ham radio and ham gear. The ARRL has contacted Tauzin's office to express its concerns, and Mansfield says the League "will continue to work with members of Congress to have the bill modified to reflect the needs of the Amateur Radio community."

The Tauzin bill comes fast on the heels of very similar, but less-stringent, legislation proposed by Rep Edward Markey of Massachusetts (see The ARRL Letter, Vol 16, No 29 and Sept. 1997 QST, pages 15 - 16). The ARRL has met with Markey's staff to discuss the negative implications of HR 1964 for Amateur Radio. That bill was not given much chance of passage.

An incident last year in which House Speaker Newt Gingrich's cellular telephone conversation was illegally intercepted, taped and published by the media prompted calls in Congress for stronger anti-eavesdropping legislation.

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For reference purposes, here is the text of the new Bill:-

Wireless Privacy Enhancement Act of 1997 (Introduced in the House)

HR 2369 IH

105th CONGRESS

1st Session

H. R. 2369

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to strengthen and clarify prohibitions on electronic eavesdropping, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

July 31, 1997

Mr. TAUZIN (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. OXLEY, Mr. GILLMOR, Ms. ESHOO, and Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to strengthen and clarify prohibitions on electronic eavesdropping, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the `Wireless Privacy Enhancement Act of 1997'.

SEC. 2. COMMERCE IN ELECTRONIC EAVESDROPPING DEVICES.

(a) PROHIBITION ON MODIFICATION- Section 302(b) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 302(b)) is amended by inserting before the period at the end thereof the following: ', or to modify any such device, equipment, or system in any manner that causes such device, equipment, or system to fail to comply with such regulations'.

(b) PROHIBITION ON COMMERCE IN SCANNING RECEIVERS- Section 302(d) of such Act (47 U.S.C. 302(d)) is amended to read as follows:

'(d) The Commission shall prescribe regulations denying equipment authorization (under part 15 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, or any other part of that title) for any scanning receiver that is capable of--

'(1) receiving transmissions in the frequencies allocated to any commercial mobile service (as defined in section 332(d),

'(2) readily being altered to receive transmissions in such frequencies,

'(3) being equipped with decoders that convert digital commercial mobile service transmissions to analog voice audio, or

'(4) being equipped with devices that otherwise decode encrypted radio transmissions for the purposes of unauthorized interception.'.

(c) IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS- Within 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal Communications Commission shall prescribe amendments to its regulations for the purposes of implementing the amendments made by this section. In prescribing such amendments, and in response to subsequent changes in technology or behavior, the Commission shall review and revise its definition of the term 'capable of readily being altered' as necessary to prevent commerce in devices that may be used unlawfully to intercept or divulge radio communication.

SEC. 3. UNAUTHORIZED INTERCEPTION OR PUBLICATION OF COMMUNICATIONS.

(a) AMENDMENTS- Section 705 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 605) is amended--

(1) in the heading of such section, by inserting `interception or' after 'unauthorized';

(2) in the second sentence of subsection (a), by striking 'and divulge' and inserting 'or divulge';

(3) in subsection (e)(1)--

(A) by striking 'fined not more than $2,000 or'; and

(B) by inserting 'or fined under title 18, United States Code,' after '6 months,';

and

(4) in subsection (e)(3), by striking 'any violation' and inserting 'any receipt, interception, divulgence, publication, or utilization of any communication in violation'; and

(5) in subsection (e)(4), by striking 'any other activity prohibited by subsection (a)' and inserting 'any receipt, interception, divulgence, publication, or utilization of any communication in violation of subsection (a)'.

(b) RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENFORCEMENT- Notwithstanding any other investigative or enforcement activities of any other Federal agency, the Federal Communications Commission shall investigate alleged violations of section 705 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 605) and may proceed to initiate action under section 503 of such Act (47 U.S.C. 503) to impose forfeiture penalties with respect to such violation upon conclusion of the Commission's investigation.

For those of you who may not have the ''DC Currents'' article in Sept. 1997 QST on pages 15 - 16 concerning HR 1964; here is the text: -

House Bill Riles Scanner Buffs

Many scanner enthusiasts are concerned about a seemingly *technical* change in a bill recently introduced in the House of Representatives by Ranking Minority Telecommunications Subcommittee Member Edward Markey (D-MA-7th). The bill is intended to create added privacy protections for consumers using the nation*s communications networks.

HR 1964, the *Communications Privacy and Consumer Empowerment Act,*. instructs the Federal Trade Commission to look into data collection via computer of consumer information, as well as to examine parental ability to block alcohol and tobacco promotion targeted to children on the internet. It requires the Federal Communications Commission to examine privacy rights and issues regarding use of telephone, cable, satellite and other technology, including what consumers can do to protect their own

continued on next page

privacy, and what providers should do to protect the privacy of their subscribers. It requires the FCC to promulgate regulations on software for parents to block access by their children to objectionable material on the internet, and it contains a number of provisions on local exchange interconnects and network data security, including a preemption clause for domestic restrictions on encryption technology.

But what has some scanner operators riled is language in the bill expanding the current ban already in the Communications Act against FCC certification of scanners able to receive cellular frequencies. Under HR 1964, the ban would include scanners that receive Commercial Mobile Radio Service (CMRS) frequencies. That could cast a very wide net, and could even preclude the certification of VHF/UHF amateur gear equipped with out-of-band scanning capability. Such gear has virtually captured the Amateur Radio market today, comprising as much as 90 percent of all new amateur HT and mobile gear, and accounting for half of all Amateur Radio sales.

The Commercial Mobile Radio Service is a relative new *umbrella* designation of radio services that act like telephone services [see sidebar]. Such services are offered on a subscriber basis to *a substantial portion* of the public and where the service can be interconnected to regular telephone services. These services are described in the federal regulations governing radio (Part 47 CFR), and appear to include commercial paging services, commercial air-to-ground services, cellular telephone, offshore radiotelephone, personal communication services and specialized mobile radio services. As a general rule-of-thumb, it appears that any device that walks like a telephone and talks like a telephone is likely to be included in the definition of CMRS, regardless of the operating frequency. The bill includes *digital transmissions* on those frequencies.

While the avowed purpose of the bill is to ensure the privacy of *telephone* conversations, the worst-case outcome of the bill could be to inhibit, if not completely block the further sale of radio scanners, since designing a cost/effective device that would selectively filter all of the proscribed frequencies could prove difficult for manufacturers, and would certainly cut a wide swath through the frequencies scanner enthusiasts enjoy. The impact on scanner use among law enforcement and emergency service users is less clear.

FCC*s certification process is much like type acceptance. It essentially is an authorization for the manufacturer of a transmitter or receiver that emits RF noise to sell such devices in the US. All scanning receivers, including the receiver portions of scanning transceivers, are subject to FCC certification.

Certification of a transmitter or receiver requires the filing of an application with the FCC. The process may include an FCC review of lab tests of the device to determine spurious noise, as well as a review of circuit board diagrams, block diagrams, instruction manuals and labeling. In the case of scanning receivers, the FCC may require proof that the device blocks reception of cellular frequencies, and sometimes requires that a sample of the scanner be submitted as part of the review. Scanners that receive any of the frequencies that might be used by the Commercial Mobile Radio Services would no longer qualify for certification.

And that is why Amateur Radio operators may also want to sit up and take notice. One of the bill*s (perhaps) unanticipated side effects could be to include scanning receivers in the certification ban, and that would cut a broad swath through current VHF and UHF scanning transceivers that scan out of band in order to receive law enforcement and public service frequencies. The ability for amateurs to monitor these frequencies can be critical in emergency situations where amateur volunteers must coordinate their efforts with local emergency or law enforcement personnel.

As a result of this possibility, ARRL is meeting with Congressman Markey*s staff to seek clarification and to discuss ways to amend the bill before it moves much further through the legislative mill. But this legislation may have deeper (and more politically sensitive) roots than a mere desire for consumer privacy. Early in the 105th Congress, Speaker of the House Gingrich was publicly embarrassed by the disclosure of the purported contents of a cellular conversation he had regarding strategy in his ethics case. Since virtually every member of Congress uses a cellular telephone, the issue was watched with great interest and no little discomfort. As a result of public attention to the issue, the House Telecommunications Subcommittee conducted a fairly emotional hearing on the issue of cellular privacy. The witness list pitted Bob Grove, one of the best-known scanner distributors in the US, against Tom Wheeler, President of the Personal Communications Industry Association, whose association is leading the industry fight against scanner eavesdroppers. The hearing was extremely contentious and prompted speculation that more restrictive legislation might be forthcoming.

At least based on the general tenor of that hearing, which ARRL attended, it would appear that commercial interests who supply Commercial Mobile Radio Services may be a driving force behind the legislation. It also appears that the Association of Public Safety Communications Officers (APCO), has chosen to sit this one out on the sidelines since membership opinion is divided on the issue of scanners. Even so, one of the primary issues affecting whether this bill will go anywhere could turn out to be the effect it would have on scanner use by -- in addition to amateurs -- law enforcement, fire departments, emergency services, newsgathering organizations and other non-recreational users.

Interestingly, the legality of amateur equipment with out-of-band capability was the subject of an FCC Memorandum of Opinion and Order as recently as September of 1993 (PR Docket No. 91-36) ruling in favor of an ARRL motion seeking FCC preemption of local ordinances affecting such transceivers. In the Memorandum of Opinion, the FCC ruled that *state and local laws must not restrict the possession of amateur transceivers simply because they are capable of reception of public safety,

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special emergency or other radio service frequencies...* This ruling could be overturned by HR 1964 in its current form.

There are, of course, broader issues to be considered, such as how much of the security burden the service provider should bear through encryption or other techniques, as well as the effect of existing *don*t divulge* provisions of the Communications Act. While the prognosis on this legislation is still unclear, ARRL believes that Amateur Radio emergency operations could be significantly affected should the bill move forward with its current language, and will continue to provide information to Congress. Our overall strategy will depend upon what kind of progress the bill makes over the next few months.

Please remember, this information is a snapshot of this situation as of Aug. 24, 1997, and may change.

More information will be provided as it becomes available.

www.wac.com/~stanara

go there and see your field day pictures your repeater cleanup crew, working !! and much more to see.....

great many of the ''guest speakers'' can be found among our own ranks! Have you ever seen the radio equipment inside the Modesto Police Department's mobile command post? Did you know there is a full HF/VHF ham station inside the county administration building? Have you ever seen the inside of emergency dispatch and how it works? What about the person who likes building electronic/ham equipment, or the ham that uses microwave frequencies? How does PAC-BELL work in this day of high tech electronics? How about a discussion on antennas, common or otherwise. Everyone has a job, career, skill or knowledge that would be of interest to others, but most of the time we take those skills or issues for granted. If we want to increase attendance, and membership, let's give people a reason for coming to the meetings!

Views are encouraged from you, Thanks Scott for sending it in..... Jim,

FOOD FOR THOUGHT (Part 1)

by Scott Warner, WB3KJX

At the Sept 16th meeting, there was discussion why there was a decline in membership and meeting attendance. Why are people losing interest, and how can we increase their interest? How about making the meetings **INTERESTING**? Like the weekly net, there seems to be very little new or anything to attract attention. In my past 27 years of ham radio experience, I've attended an unknown number of various club meetings. The ones that I do remember are because they were interesting! The format I liked the most was when the meetings were broken into two parts. The first half of the meeting was regular club business, officer's reports, discussions, etc. Then there was a short 10-15 minute break. The second half of the meeting was taken up with an unusual or unique topic. There are literally hundreds of topics out there that would interest the general membership, whether directly related to amateur radio, or not. It might involve just a talk, photos, display or demonstration of equipment, etc. And a

SARA Membership Application

Call : _____ **Date:**_____

Name:_____

Address:_____

City & State:_____

Zip Code:_____ **ARRL Member?: (yes) (no)**

Home Phone:_____ **Alt Phone:**_____

Occupation:_____

Date Of Birth:_____ **Clas Of Lic:** _____

Year First Licensed:_____

Dues: Renewal $23.00 per year. Out of area more than 150 miles from Modesto is $11.00. New first time applicants dues are pro-rated from the month you join the club. Use $1.91 times the number of months remaining in the year. I.E- You join in July = 6 x $1.91 = 11.46

SARA, repeaters are, on **MT.OSO..** 2mtr > **145.390 pl 136.5,** 220band > **224.14 pl 136.5**, 440 band >**440.225 pl 136.5**, 6mtr. > **52.800** , packet> SARA, **144.91and 145.65** TCP/IP&ax25 radio mailbox & Internet e-mail... Internet address > **Sara@modesto.n6kmr.ampr.org** Webpage: **HTTP://WWW.wac.com/~stanara**
CHECK US OUT....

ORACLE Begins WRC-99

by Paul Owen kf6kxx

September 13, 1997 The Future of Amateur Radio

Recently, I spent the better part of my day off studying CW. I am attempting to upgrade to "General" having passed the written element 3B, and as yet to pass the element 1B 13 words per minute. The postmen's arrival interrupted my concentration of jotting down letters that Gordon West WB6NOA was sending me in the form of dits and dahs.

I took a much needed break, thumbing through the letters and bills delivered by Garrison the Postman. Immediately my attention was drawn to a letter marked " W5YI REPORT" America's oldest ham radio newsletter. On the front page I saw in bold letters "ORACLE Begins WRC-99 Campaign to End Code Requirement." I was at once curious as I had just months earlier struggled learning CW at five words per minute, and now trying to speed up to 13 wpm. I grabbed a fuzzy navel adult beverage from the fridge, unfolded a lawn chair on the deck and started reading the article that now had my full attention.

This article said in part, that ORACLE is a New Zealand based "Organization Requesting Alternatives by Code-Less Examinations, Inc. has sent a formal letter to the telecommunications regulatory agencies of 64 different countries. In it they ask support in ending the Amateur Radio manual telegraphy requirement. ORACLE is the group that persuaded their government in 1994 to support an end to the international Morse code requirement. The ORACLE letter dated August 16, 1997, " . . . seeks the support of your administration on preparation for updating international radio regulations for the amateur service." That being S25-5 which is the international regulation that requires Amateur radio operators to prove that they are " . . . able to send correctly by hand and to receive correctly by ear, texts in Morse code signals" when the operation takes place below 30 MHz.

ORACLE has suggested that " . . . proficiency in sending and receiving texts in Morse code has not been a genuine international licensing requirement for many years, but instead is a form of restrictive practice aimed at limiting participation on frequencies below 30 MHZ.

ORACLE believes that " . . . requiring candidates to demonstrate proficiency in a subject that is not a genuine requirement is a form of discrimination. Current Morse code testing regulation is easily illustrated by the policy used by some Administrations to grant waivers to persons with disabilities, which is in effect reverse discrimination'. ORACLE suggests, " . . . this practice of granting waivers to persons who could not undertake a test is proof enough that Morse code proficiency is not a genuine international qualification requirement."

I certainly realize that they're are some very strong views for and against Morse code testing in the amateur service, I know that I have an opinion. I am also aware that the drop in the number of amateur radio licensees and candidates for amateur radio examinations in recent years is not a good sign for the future of amateur radio.

I too am uncomfortable with the image of amateur radio being the dinosaur of radio services. Up until August 1995, the Amateur Service has been expanding at an average rate of 7%. It came to a screeching halt last year when the growth rate slipped to 1.8%. It is even less in 1997.

But for me, I like the challenge of learning a new language, and besides I have invested a considerable amount of time learning CW. For this reason I continue my plight to upgrade from Technician Plus to General with my sites set on Amateur Extra!

73's DE KF6KXX Paul

Send In a article and we can print it, Are you running a favorite antenne? Or great radio review. Heard a great story? Lies about your nieghbor? Your feeling about what this club should do? Starting a new project and want to see if others are also interested? Send it in.... De Jim N6KMR

Views?

By Jim, n6kmr

Hello, well we winding down another year. We had a great year after a rocky start with the floods and all that came after it. They say the after math of a disaster is harder to take, and more distressing than the initial shock of the disaster. Those who where affected, my deepest sympathy to your family.

Things started to move along and had a good turn out on field day, missed some of you ole timers, Lose the car keys? Better yet it was too far to drive.... Had 2 graduating classes of hams and several passed their exams and are currently on the air. Contributing to the system of SARA, some are even holding positions of committees heads. Glad to see the local PD is taking interest in ham radio. I believe we have 3 new hams from the classes that belong to the force, we welcome you. Also have a old ham that re did his licensee and got back on the air. Welcome back Scott, wb3kjx.

Elections are coming up soon, we wish that you will step forward and lead this group. You may have new ideas, suggestions and direction. All offices are going to be opened up for nominations on Novembers meeting, best be thinking about it starting now. Also they have changed the format on the Thursday night net. Stop by and listen, check in and support your club...

Needed ARTICLES for publication in this Newsletter,

Sorry for not printing the club minutes but they have not arrived as of yet for the last 3 months, They have taken them but Barbara has been gone and then she falls down and cries and I can't get up! GET WELL BARB, but they have made progress, Looks like that we are looking into a site for a swap meet to be held monthly or semimonthly, we have a committee for that function and a location but the logistics have to be worked out. Also may move our low level machine, Site to be announced soon...

Looking to put a recorder on the phone that we have for the auto patch for information and bulletins about the club... Should of thought about that years ago...

Never cross my mind... dooh

I would like to get articles in the web page too but time and lack of scanner is a good excuse? ....

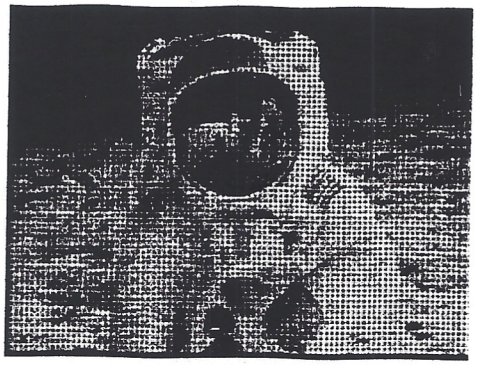
ARES coordinator Chuck called me about three weeks ago and ask to get something in the newsletter but he still hasn't gotten it to me as of this time of writings. So look for his write up... PS... tell ARES members that this is still part of their club too and we will put ARES write ups in this news letter and on the web page if they get them to me or Dave NT6K the web page editor.

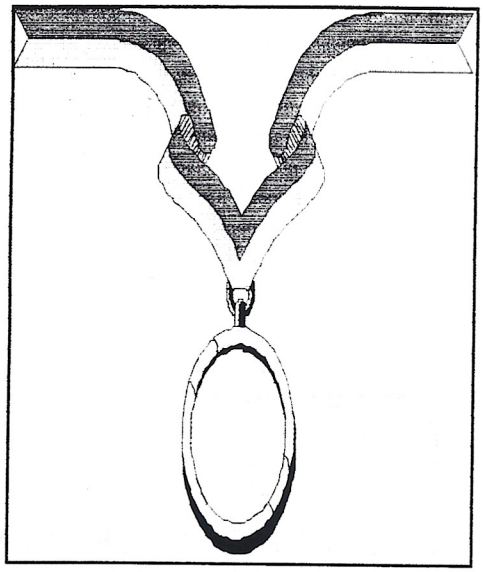
Hey I lobbied to get the yearly membership dues down and look ....

$ 20.00 .... a year!!!

Also we have the Wine and Cheese festival coming up soon so TONY KC6YCT is looking for bodies for the communications part... last time they got cool looking tee shirts and food... Sorry Mark no beer here. Also the Tour-de-cour contact BOB KC6TVE for communications on that too. Your help is always appreciated.

Have a good month, see you at the meeting, Jim N6KMR





DOOH award!!!!

Goes to ED KF6FIR

1> Forgets to send in his home work

2> Forgot the coax connection on field day to the antenna.....

3> Too Many Others to Mention!!!

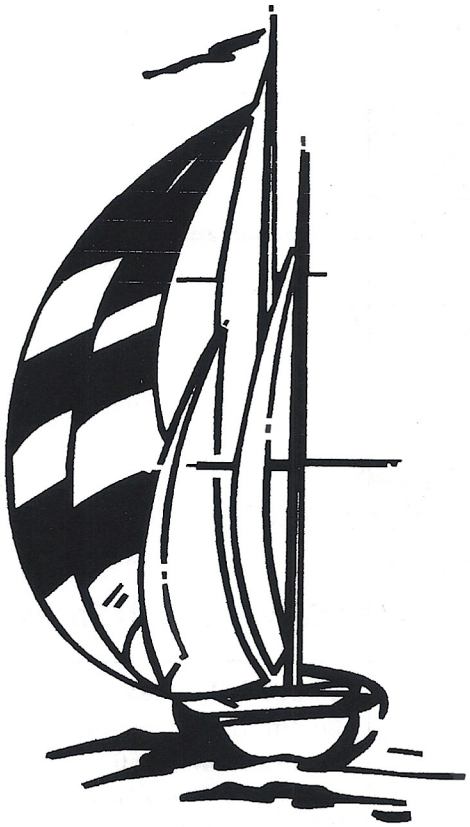
CONGRATS TO W6EZ...

As of this news break, In your QST Local news area, Berry w6ez has ben accepted as the ARRL's OO for the area... If you have any questions about Arrl's OO functions call berry on 145.330 simplex and leave a message... hi hi ...

NO MINUTES

NO PRESIDENTS QUOTES!!!

THIS SPACE IS RESERVED FOR THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF SARA>>>



BOB SIMPLETON'S GUIDE TO PL CONNECTORS

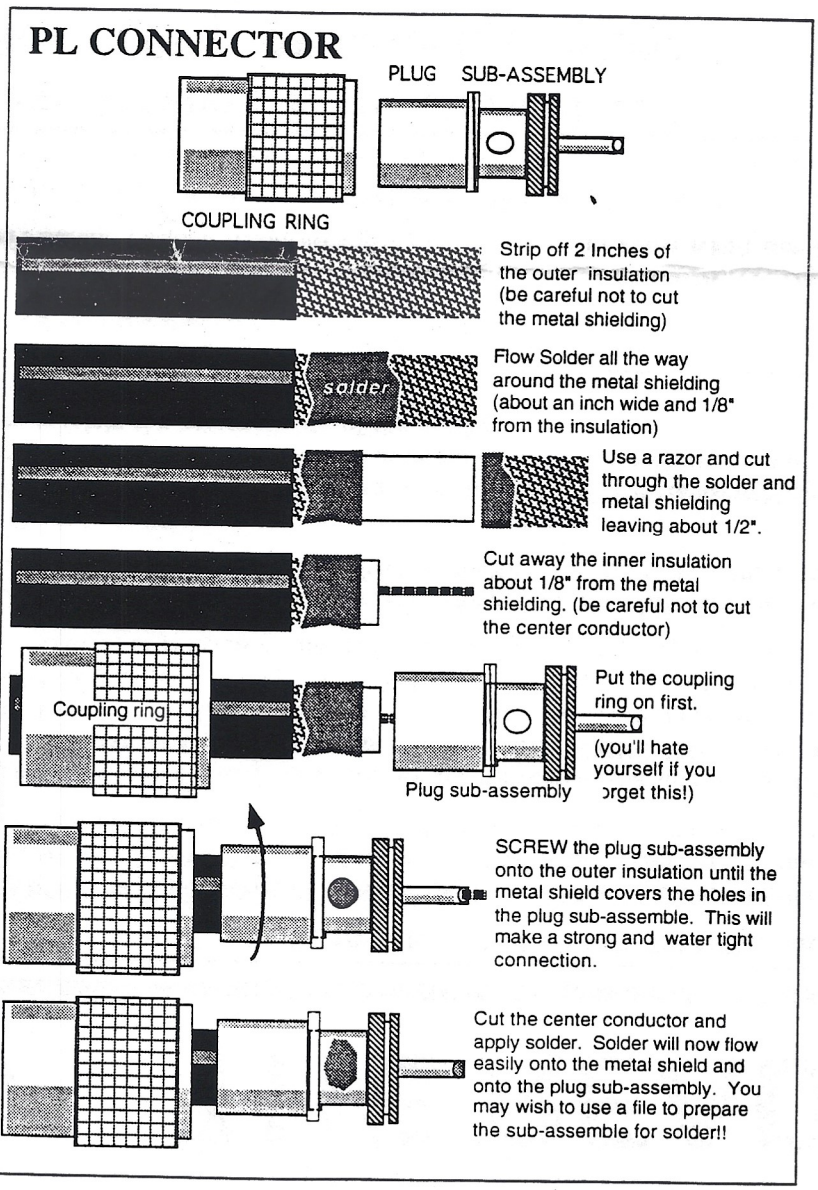
brought to you by *Amateur Radio Trader*

Soldering cannot be avoided when you are working on your antenna system. A low wattage soldering iron is the recommended tool when working with most electronics. However when it comes to PL style coax connectors a high power solder gun is best. The higher heat is required to bond the solder to the plug sub-assembly. The goal is to get in, bond the solder to the connection and get out without overheating the entire assembly.

There are many variations for installing PL connectors on RG-8 style coax cable. Everyone will agree on one firm requirement; to only have to build the connection once and have it operate properly for the life of the cable. Sound like a lot to demand? If you take a little extra time and care, the procedure is easy and straight forward.

A proper connection will be water tight and as electrically conductive as possible. If you skip over some steps, in the long run, you'll lose signal power and reliability.

This method starts by preparing the shield by giving it a jacket of solder. This prevents it from unraveling and also provides a perfect surface for the plug sub-assembly solder points.



When you cut the solder jacket, use a sharp razor blade; you need to keep the cut edge as clean as possible. A sloppy edge may not fit in the plug assembly.

The plug sub-assembly has screw threads on the inside. Use these to screw the plug onto the coax outer insulation jacket.

The solder jacket will be visible in the plugs solder holes. If you can see some of the center insulator, the coax is not inserted deep enough.

Use the solder gun to bond the solder jacket to the plug through the three holes. Cut and solder the center conductor.

Use a volt/ohm meter to test your cable. The center conductor on both ends should be conductive. The plug sub-assembly shields on both ends should also be conductive. There should be NO conductivity between the center connectors and the outer shields of the plug.

PL connector installation with smaller RG-58 style coax requires a reducer and a different procedure, but that is another story.....

Remember to have fun and show someone else how to install a PL Connector. 73

THE READOUT

!! READ ME ... IMPORTANT INFORMATION HERE !!

Contributions to the READOUT are always welcomed and may be submitted to the editor by packet, phone modem or by disk in txt format, send Internet E-mail too N6KMR@MODESTO.N6KMR.AMPR.ORG or direct to me at IPMOD on 145.650, SARA's Web page is at -- http://www.wac.com/~stanara -- try a YAHOO or Info .seek for n6kmr or Stanislaus Amateur Radio, CHECK IT OUT... The deadline for articles is the 15th of the preceding month of publication. Articles of religion or government politics are not accepted.

ARRL membership may be paid through SARA with the club recieving a $2.00 commission. Please send your ARRL membership form along with your check to SARA, we will deduct the commission and place your membership with theARRL.

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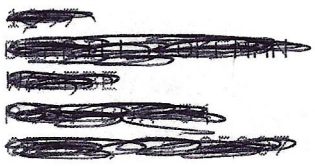

Next Meeting Is OCTOBER 21, and also NOVEMBER 18, 1997 At 7:30 pm & You're Invited to come to the Stanislaus County Admin. Biulding lower level in the conference room. Next meetings special: The famous ---Homer Simpson Awards---