

South Peninsula Amateur Radio Klub Newsletter

Vol. MCMXCIX No XII Rptr: W6APZ/R 145.230(-.600)MHz - Club Stn: WA6NKK Tuesday, November 23, 1999

The December 1999 Meeting...

Where: **SPACE SYSTEMS/LORAL**
Bld 3 Auditorium

When: **Thursday, 2 December 1999**
High Noon

Subject: **"APRS, An Introduction" with**
Andreas Junge, N6NU

REPEATER
REPEATER
REPEATER
REPEATER

No report this month
73 de, Rich, W6APZ, e-mail: w6apz@arrl.net

The Prez Sez...

Ian Kushner, as chair of our nominating committee, will report on our slate of candidates at the December meeting. The election will be at the January meeting. Anyone for Prez?

73 de Jack

Meetings 2000

Next years proposed meeting dates are:

January 13
February 10
March 9
April 6
May 4
June 1
July 6
August 3
September 7
October 5
November 2
December 7

The first three meetings are actually the second Thursday of the month because of the New Year's Day position in the calendar and succeeding four week periods.

ARRL Pacific Division Update

December 1999

by Brad Wyatt, K6WR, Director, Pacific Division, ARRL
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New Pacific Division Leadership Team in 2000

Jim Maxwell, W6CF, the Pacific Division Director- Elect will become the Pacific Division Director on Jan. 1, 2000. Jim has been my outstanding Vice Director for these last six years. On Nov. 19, Bob Vallio, W6RGG, was elected as the Pacific Division Vice Director-Elect also to take office on Jan. 1, 2000.

Thanks to Jettie Hill, W6RFF, and John Ronan, K3ZJJ, for running for Vice Director. Again, congratulations to Jim and Bob! I am certain that you and your team will have great success in the years ahead.

New FCC Enforcement and Consumer Information Bureaus are Now Official

It's now official! The FCC created two new bureaus--the Enforcement Bureau and the Consumer Information Bureau--effective November 8. FCC Chairman William Kennard made the announcement during testimony October 26 before the House Telecommunications Subcommittee on the FCC's Five- Year Strategic Plan.

"Our decision to establish bureaus devoted exclusively to enforcement and consumer information signals the enormous importance of these functions in our transition from an industry regulator to a market facilitator," Kennard said. "This reorganization is the first step in a larger effort to streamline and modernize the FCC."

As expected, FCC Deputy General Counsel David H. Solomon was named to head the Enforcement Bureau. The new bureau will consolidate enforcement functions-- including amateur--and personnel from the Commission's existing Common Carrier, Mass Media, Wireless Telecommunications and Compliance and Information Bureaus. Solomon has been Deputy General Counsel since 1994.

Current FCC Legal Adviser for Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, says he hopes the reorganization eventually will permit him to increase the amount of time he's able to devote to Amateur Radio enforcement. Hollingsworth will get a new title as part of the reorganization: Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement, in the Enforcement Bureau. In a surprise move, Kennard announced that Lorraine C. Miller to be Bureau Chief of the new Consumer Information Bureau. Miller now directs the Office of Congressional Relations at the Federal Trade Commission. Current Compliance and Information Bureau Chief Richard Lee had been expected to become the new CIB chief. Instead, Lee has been appointed Senior Director of Licensing Analysis in the Chairman's office. In that role, he'll advise the FCC on consolidating licensing functions across the agency.

The new CIB will consolidate the FCC's Gettysburg Call Center (to be renamed the Consumer Center) as well as staff from various bureaus who handle consumer complaints and public information requests. Hollingsworth has agreed to be detailed from the new Enforcement Bureau to the new Consumer Information Bureau to handle the Consumer Center at Gettysburg. The temporary duty will last four to six weeks. Hollingsworth says Amateur Radio enforcement will be his priority, and, by agreement between the two bureaus, amateur enforcement will continue at its present pace. Hollingsworth's current duties also include Land Mobile Service enforcement. For more details on the reorganization plan, visit http://www.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Miscellaneous/News_Release/s/1999/nrmc9072.html Thanks, FCC news release

FCC Amateur Radio Enforcement Log

Although there have been several enforcement letters sent nationwide this last month, there have been no new letters sent to hams in the Pacific Division.

For additional information, see December QST, pages 69-71.

Amateur Radio License Restructuring Details Possible by Year's End

Knowledgeable sources in Washington say the amateur license restructuring issue has moved to the front burner at the FCC, and a Report and Order could be released before the end of 1999.

The Amateur Radio community has been awaiting license restructuring--known officially as the 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review of Part 97 (WT Docket 98- 143)--for nearly one year now. While no one has mentioned a hard-and-fast date to wrap up the long- awaited proceeding, reports from several sources suggest that the R & O draft is in its final stages and could be complete within a month or so. During a recent visit to top FCC officials in Washington, League officials pressed again for early action on the license restructuring rulemaking. They were assured that the issue was not stalled and that the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau was "working very actively" to move restructuring along. There is no information on what the anticipated Report & Order will contain.

The restructuring debate generated more than 2200 comments to the FCC, many of them from individual amateurs. Once the FCC approves the Report & Order, a Public Notice will be issued, and the actual R&O will be released probably within a few days.

Thanks ARRL Bulletin. See also December QST, page 16.

FCC Logs Vanity Headway

There's additional progress to report on the vanity call sign front. The FCC reported November 5 that it had processed vanity call sign applications received through September 7.

"Slowly but surely," says the ULS Task Force. It appears from FCC records that 1528 vanity applications were filed between August 16--the first day of Universal Licensing System Amateur Service deployment--and October 29. The FCC granted 524 vanity call signs since it resumed vanity processing in mid-September.

The FCC also says it's eyeing possible improvements to the Universal Licensing System. The ULS Task Force says it agrees that Microsoft Internet Explorer must be fully supported by the ULS, and the system will be modified to support it in early 2000. Right now, the ULS supports only the latest versions of Netscape.

The FCC has given the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau authority to make ULS electronic filing available via the Internet provided "security concerns can be overcome." While no formal determination has been made to go with Internet or Web access instead of a dial-up connection, the WTB reportedly is taking steps to make online filing available and could do so as early as the first quarter of next year.

The ULS Task Force also says it's looking into more beta testing of ULS software prior to public release. Thanks ARRL Letter. See also, December QST, pages 68-69.

Phase 3D Accepted for "First Suitable" Ariane 5 Launch

AMSAT-NA says the Phase 3D Amateur Radio satellite has been accepted as a payload for the "first suitable" Arianespace Ariane 5 vehicle launch. The announcement came recently from Phase 3D Project Leader and AMSAT-Germany President Karl Meinzer, DJ4ZC, who said a launch opportunity could come during the first half of next year.

"As the primary agency responsible for securing a launch opportunity for Phase 3D, I am pleased to announce that AMSAT-Germany and Arianespace have now come to an agreement calling for the launch of P3D as a secondary payload aboard the 'first suitable' Ariane 5 flight," Meinzer said in a statement from Marburg, Germany. "From the very beginning of the Phase 3D project, we considered the Ariane 5 series our primary launch vehicle. Our long history of success and mutual cooperation with both the European Space Agency and Arianespace, coupled with our need to lift P3D into a high geostationary transfer orbit, made the Ariane 5 the unanimous choice by AMSAT." Specific details of the launch agreement were not released.

ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, welcomed the AMSAT announcement. "Congratulations to AMSAT's Phase 3D team on moving another important step closer to launch," Sumner said. "For those who have been putting off getting their stations ready for Phase 3D, the time for procrastination is just about over." The League has been a major contributor to the Phase 3D project.

Based on its new 'standby' launch status, Phase 3D is slated to be delivered to the Guiana Space Center in Kourou, French Guiana, later this month to be ready once a specific Ariane 5 launch is identified. The Phase 3D project has been an international effort that has worked with donated resources. In addition to AMSAT-DL and AMSAT-NA teams, AMSAT groups from Austria, Great Britain, Japan, Canada, Finland, Russia, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Slovenia, France, New Zealand and Hungary also have participated.

For more information, visit ARRL Web Extra for Members Only at arrl.org.

Thanks, ARRL Bulletin and ARRL Letter. See also, December QST, page 68.

ARRL Task Force Seeks Future Technology Proposals

The ARRL Technology Task Force wants to hear from hams with ideas and proposals for new technology to carry Amateur Radio into the next century. The ARRL Board of Directors created the Task Force and the companion Technology Working Group last January, and ARRL President Rod Stafford, W6ROD, has appointed a number of leading amateurs to serve on both panels. The Task Force and the Working Group will work hand-in-hand to identify, evaluate, and promote the most promising 21st Century technologies for Amateur Radio.

The Task Force consists of members of the ARRL Board family and the Headquarters staff. Chairing the Task Force is ARRL First Vice President Steve Mendelsohn, W2ML. Other TTF members are Roanoke Vice Director Dennis Bodson, W4PWF; Hudson Director Frank Fallon, N2FF; New England Director Tom Frenaye, K1K1; Southwestern Vice Director Art Goddard, W6XD; Pacific Director-elect (and current Vice Director) Jim Maxwell, W6CF; International Affairs Vice President Larry Price, W4RA; and Rocky Mountain Director Walt Stinson, W0CP.

The Technology Working Group will evaluate technical proposals and make recommendations to the Technology Task Force, which, in turn, will make specific policy proposals to the ARRL Board of Directors.

The Working group is an expert panel selected from among League members representing a broad spectrum of Amateur Radio interests and activities. Chairing the Working Group is CQ Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU. Other members are AMSAT-NA President Keith Baker, KB1SF; Peter Coffee, AC6EN, a computer industry

analyst; Mike Cook, AF9Y, Engineering Director of Communications Systems Engineering, ITT Aerospace/Communications Division; Gene McGahey, NR0NR, Deputy Manager of Communications Technology, NLECTC (NIJ/DOJ); ARRL Technical Relations Manager Paul Rinaldo, W4RI; Dennis Silage, K3DS, a Temple University professor involved in digital communications; and QEX Editor Doug Smith, KF6DX. ARRL Laboratory Supervisor Ed Hare, W1RFI, will serve as ARRL HQ staff liaison to both committees. The Task Force invites information and concepts on a wide range of technologies with the potential to improve Amateur Radio and to promote what the FCC calls "continuation and extension of the amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art." The Task Force invites the submission of ideas and proposals from all parts of the amateur community, and will use the input to help formulate League policy recommendations on a wide range of technical issues.

Amateurs are invited to complete the form on the ARRL Website at <http://www.arrl.org/news/ttf/>, send e-mail to the Task Force at tffinput@arrl.org, or offer your ideas by mail to the ARRL Technology Task Force, c/o Ed Hare, W1RFI, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. Suggestions are requested by November 30, 1999.

Thanks, ARRL Bulletin.

Rosalie White, WA1STO, to Head Field and Educational Services Department in ARRL HQ

Rosalie White, WA1STO, was named to head ARRL Field and Educational Services, effective November 11. The appointment, announced by ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, fills the gap left by departing Field Services Manager Rick Palm, K1CE. Palm is going into semi-retirement in Florida, and November 10 was his last day at ARRL Headquarters. (Thanks, Rick, for your many years of outstanding service to Amateur Radio and ARRL in your various roles in ARRL HQ - we will miss you!) White has been serving as ARRL Educational Services Manager since the Field Services and Educational Activities departments consolidated last January 4. She and Palm have co-managed the combined units since then. As Field and Educational Services Manager, White becomes the main contact person for Section Managers as well as representing the League to the outside agencies it serves and promoting and supporting the field organization. She'll also serve as the primary staff contact for Amateur Radio in space issues.

White stressed that Amateur Radio public service will continue to be a high priority under the new F&ES management regime, and supporting field volunteers in disaster response efforts will get top attention. "It's one of the most important aspects of Amateur Radio and one of the main reasons why we enjoy the myriad frequencies we've been allocated," she said.

Since the inception of the combined department last winter, White says she's been ramping up her knowledge of the "Field Services" side of the unit and familiarizing herself with the issues and personnel involved. Earlier this month, she was on the road to support both halves of the house, meeting on the West Coast with the Enforcement Task Force then jetting to Texas to confer on matters related to Amateur Radio on the International Space Station program.

"We have a good team in place in the department that values customer service and is capable of serving a variety of needs across the broad spectrum of field volunteers," she said.

The 1995 Dayton Hamvention Amateur of the Year, White, 50, was first licensed as WN9FJT in 1970 in her native Indiana. She holds bachelors and masters degrees in education. White began her career at ARRL Headquarters in 1973, and in 1976, she became the first woman manager at ARRL Headquarters when she was tapped to head the new Club and Training Department. She left the HQ staff in 1979 but rejoined it nine years later as Educational Activities Department manager.

White says she particularly enjoys operating Maxim Memorial Station W1AW for Field Day and during contests, Kid's Day and School Club Roundup. A private pilot, White also enjoys hiking and canoeing. Thanks, ARRL Letter.

For more information on this story visit the ARRL Web Extra for Members Only website at arrl.org. See also, December QST, page 69.

East Bay Section Manager Election Ballots to be Counted Nov. 23

The ballots for the East Bay Section Manager election will be counted on Nov. 23. The ballots were due on Nov. 19. The candidates are the incumbent, Bob Vallio, W6RGG, and the challenger, Don Smith, W6NKF. The results will be noted in the January 2000 issue of the Update

Len Gwinn, WA6KLLK, Appointed San Francisco Section Manager

In early November, Len Gwinn, WA6KLLK, of Willits, CA, was appointed to complete the term of John Wallack, W6TLK, ARRL San Francisco Section Manager. John resigned the position due to family and work related reasons.

Len has been the CEO of the Willits ARC most recently.

Welcome, Len, to the Pacific Division official family.

John, many thanks for your years of outstanding service to the San Francisco Section as Section Manager! Good luck!

Latest News on Spectrum Protection

It's round two in Congress for the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act. At the request of the ARRL, Rep. Michael Bilirakis introduced the 1999 version of the proposed legislation, HR 783, on February 23. As of Nov. 19, the bill had received 131 co-sponsorships including Pacific Division Congresswoman Mink (HI - 2), Delegate Underwood (GU), Congressmen Farr (CA - 17), Miller (CA - 7), Campbell (CA - 15), Abercrombie (HI - 1), Stark (CA - 13), and Congresswoman Lee (CA - 9) [in order of co-sponsorship]. Nationally, we now have more co-sponsorships than we had for the 1998 bill - but we need to obtain some 218 co-sponsorships to have a majority of the House as co-sponsors. Keep up the good work!

The bill is aimed at ensuring the availability of spectrum to Amateur Radio operators. It would protect existing Amateur Radio spectrum against reallocations to or sharing with other services unless the FCC provides "equivalent replacement spectrum" elsewhere. Bilirakis, a Florida Republican, also sponsored last year's measure, which attracted upwards of 83 cosponsors on both sides of the aisle. Rep. Frank Pallone Jr., a New Jersey Democrat, is the initial cosponsor of the 1999 bill.

ARRL Legislative and Public Affairs Manager Steve Mansfield, N1MZA, says the 1999 bill "is largely the same as last year's HR 3572." The major difference is that the 1999 version adds "Amateur Satellite Service" frequencies to "Amateur Radio Service" in detailing the frequencies that would be afforded protection under the act.

Specifically, HR 783 would amend the Communications Act to require the FCC to provide "equivalent replacement spectrum" to Amateur Radio and the Amateur Satellite Service in the event of a reallocation of primary amateur allocations, any reduction in secondary amateur allocations, or "additional allocations within such bands that would substantially reduce the utility thereof" to amateurs.

Mansfield said it's too soon to predict how HR 783 will fare in the new Congress, but said the fact that it has been introduced so early in the session "bodes well for our prospects." He said that a number of the cosponsors from last year already have indicated an interest in signing on again, "so I think we'll have a lot of support."

A copy of the measure and the current list of co-sponsors are available via the THOMAS Web site, <http://thomas.loc.gov/>

Thanks, ARRL Letter, ARRL Bulletin, and THOMAS web site.
See also, December QST, pages 15-16.

Coming Events

- Livermore Swap Meet - 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College in Livermore, 7:00 AM to noon, all year. Talk in 147.045 from the west, 145.35 from the east. Contact Cliff Chiba, KF6EII, (209) 835- 6715, e-mail: larkswap@usa.com.

- Radiofest 2000 sponsored by the Naval Postgraduate School ARC will be held on Feb. 19, 2000, at the General Stilwell Community Center, POM Annex, 4260 Gigling Rd, Seaside, CA, starting at 8 AM. Contact Will Costello, WC6OX, at (831) 375-8133, email at wc6ox@arrrl.net. or the website at <http://www.k6ly.org/radiofest>. Talk in on 146.79.

Hoo's Hoo...



L-R: Bill Jimenez, Jack Nawrocki, Rolf Klibo, Rich Stiebel, Gary Hendra, Dick LeMassena

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President:	Jack Nawrocki
Vice Pres:	Bill Jimenez
Treasurer:	Rolf Klibo
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Control Operators: John Buonocore, KD6ZL, Dan Connell, W6ASD,
Rolf Klibo, N6NFI, Tom Holden, KN6KL; Gregg Schlaman,
WA6ECQ

Repeater Technical Committee:

Committee Chairman: Rich Stiebel, W6APZ
N6NFI - Rolf Klibo and KN6KL - Tom Holden

Other appointed positions

Club historian:	To be announced.
Retiree Representative:	John Gibson, N6OM
Club emergency comm coordinator:	Randy Bassett, N6RUR
Club ARRL Coordinator:	To be announced
Club swap meet coordinator:	To be announced.
Club Project coordinators:	To be announced

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