

South Peninsula Amateur Radio Klub Newsletter

Vol. MCMXCIX No III Rptr: W6APZ/R 145.230(-.600)MHz - Club Stn: WA6NKK Monday, March 1, 1999

The March 1999 Meeting...

Where: Space Systems/Loral
Bld 3 Auditorium
3825 Fabian Way, Palo Alto

When: Thursday, 4 March 1999
High Noon

Subject: The SPARK Repeater

REPEATER
REPEATER
REPEATER
REPEATER

No Report

The Prez Sez...

No Report.

73 de Jack

A Note From the Treasurer:

Dues are due, still value priced at US\$10.00. Though I would be most happy to see you at the meetings, you may also send them in to me at:

Rolf Klibo
3825 Fabian Way, MS G-16
Palo Alto, CA 94303

Later in the newsletter you will find the Budget for 1999, and the actual costs for 1998. The latest roster is also attached. Please check your information and let me know if there should be a change made.

The following are the meeting dates for 1999:

March 4	August 5
April 1	September 2
May 6	October 7
June 3	November 4
July 1	December 2

73 de Rolf, N6NFI

Morse code signs off

Morse code has finally fallen victim to satellite technology but it could live on as an interface between disabled people and technology. Sci/Tech Morse code signs off Sailors in distress will now call "Mayday" via satellite. The dot-and-dash code which has saved countless sailors' lives has been replaced worldwide from Monday, ending a century of use at sea.

See the story at http://news.bbc.co.uk/hi/english/sci/tech/newsid_269000/269761.stm

FCC SHUTS DOWN TROUBLESOME BAY AREA REPEATER

The FCC has shut down for 120 days the K7IJ repeater facility on Grizzly Peak in the San Francisco Bay area and told the licensee his ham ticket could be in jeopardy. The FCC took the action by modifying K7IJ's license to prohibit repeater operation starting midnight February 28, 1999. The repeater operates on 145.29, 223.78, 440.175, and 441.175 MHz. The FCC also set aside recent license grants of four individuals accused of unlicensed operation on the repeater prior to obtaining their amateur tickets and other behavior. The cases, the first major VHF/UHF enforcement actions the FCC has taken in recent months, were brought to the Commission's attention by the Amateur Auxiliary.

The FCC's Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, said that for almost a year, the repeater's control operator, identified as Blake B. Jenkins, N6YSA, of Berkeley, California, "has apparently not only allowed, but encouraged, use of the repeater by unlicensed operators, rebroadcast of cordless telephone calls, playing of music, and profanity and obscenity." He said extended QSOs have taken place between the control operator and unlicensed stations.

Hollingsworth said the situation was brought to the attention of the licensee, Bruce Wachtell of Carson City, Nevada, but nothing was done. "Such operations are not only contrary to the Amateur Radio Service rules and frequency allocations, but degrade the service for legitimate radio licensees as well," Hollingsworth said in a certified letter to Wachtell February 25. "The operation of the K7IJ repeater system in this manner may reflect adversely upon your qualifications to hold a Commission license."

Hollingsworth said Jenkins' "actions and omissions" while control operator were under separate FCC review, along with those of the secondary control op, Steven R. Rossi, KE6LNH, of Novato, California. The FCC set aside the recent license grants or upgrades of James C. Walker, KF6VAA; Gordon B. Reese III, KF6QKA; Michael J. Nichols, KF6UAS; and Eric B. Shuler, KF6BMG (ex-KF6UJU) pending further investigation. The FCC has permitted Reese, who just upgraded to Tech Plus, to retain his Technician operating privileges while its investigation continues.

The FCC also warned Mervyn Ehambrave of E Palo Alto, California, about unlicensed operation on the K7IJ repeater, and warned Timmy O Sheen Sr, N6MZA, about behavior including "jamming and rebroadcasts of cordless phones" on the repeater, Hollingsworth said.

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ARRL Pacific Division Update

March 1999

by Brad Wyatt, K6WR, Director, Pacific Division, ARRL
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King Hussein, JY1, Becomes a Silent Key:-

Radio amateurs around the world joined in mourning the death over last weekend of Jordan's King Hussein, JY1. Hussein, 63, died Sunday morning, Feb. 7. The Middle East's longest-reigning ruler, he'd been Jordan's king for 47 years, taking the throne when he was just a teenager. His son, Abdullah, 37, succeeds him.

Hussein had earned a reputation as a catalyst for peace and as a conciliator in the Middle East.

Hussein was a Life Member of the ARRL. ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, called him "an enthusiastic radio amateur whose support was invaluable to us in obtaining new amateur bands at the 1979 World Administrative Radio Conference." Sumner recalled that in May 1979, International Amateur Radio Union President Noel Eaton, VE3CJ, was invited to Amman to meet with King Hussein.

"Jordan's support of the Amateur Service was much in evidence at the conference that fall, and was a crucial element in our success," Sumner said. The WARC-79 resulted in Amateur Radio's gaining the 30, 17, and 12-meter bands. That same year, JY1 was featured in the film, "The World of Amateur Radio." Hussein regarded his 1983 contact with Owen Garriott, W5LFL, on board the Space Shuttle Columbia, as a high point in his Amateur Radio activity.

King Hussein also participated in the historic 1995 joint Israel-Jordan JY74X operation on Mt. Nebo, where hams from both countries participated in a Field Day-like operation. The King put in appearances both on the air and in person, much to the delight of the participants and those waiting to work him and JY74X.

All members of the Jordanian royal family automatically have Amateur Radio privileges in Jordan. Although the new king does not appear to have a call sign, King Hussein's widow--the American-born Queen Noor--is JY1NH. King Hussein's brother, the former Crown Prince Hassan, is JY2HT, while his cousin, Prince Raad, JY2RZ, is chairman of the Royal Jordan Radio Amateur Society.

Thanks, ARRL Bulletin and Letter.

J. A. "Doc" Gmelin, W6ZRJ, Becomes a Silent Key:-

Former ARRL Pacific Division Director Jean A. "Doc" Gmelin, W6ZRJ, of Los Osos, California, died February 11, 1999. He was 71. An ARRL Honorary Vice President, Gmelin was Pacific Division Director from 1968 until 1978. He also had served as an Assistant Pacific Division Director, as Santa Clara Valley Section Communications Manager, and as an Assistant Section Manager for public service and external relations in Santa Barbara.

First licensed in 1947, Doc was a past officer of the Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association, the Merced Amateur

Radio Association, and the Northern California Traffic Association. He was active in the Southern California CW Net. He was a member of the A1 Operators Club and had been active in RACES.

He was a Life Member of the ARRL and a member of QCWA, as well as a QST author and a Worldradio magazine columnist.

A graduate of San Jose State University, he served in the Naval Reserve and later worked for several San Jose-area newspapers as a photographer. Later, he taught electronics and math and was audio-visual coordinator at a high school in Sunnyvale, California. He also was an avid duck hunter.

Gmelin's wife, Caroline, K6BGM, is among his survivors. Thanks, ARRL Bulletin and Letter.

Comment Period Now Closed for Restructuring Docket:-

The Reply Comment deadline on FCC WT Docket 98-143 closed Jan. 15, 1999. The implementation of this Docket will set the framework for the Amateur Radio Service in the US for the next several years. The Docket and the ARRL "constructive suggestions" to the FCC on this Docket have been widely discussed in the Sept., Oct., Nov., and Dec. QSTs as well as in recent issues of the Pacific Division Update (see the Pacific Division web site at www.pdarrrl.org). There are over 2,200 Comments of all sorts on file at the FCC on this matter. These comments are available on the FCC web site at <http://gullfoss.fcc.gov:8080/cgi-bin/ws.exe/prod/ecfs/comsrch.hts>. You must have Adobe Acrobat Reader installed to read the actual comments. The ARRL Comments are also posted on the ARRL web site, www.arrl.org.

Thanks to those of you who sent in your Comments and Reply Comments expressing your views about the future of Amateur Radio licensing and related topics!

What happens next? I do not expect to see a Report and Order on this matter from the FCC until late spring 1999. It is also possible that regardless of whatever the FCC decides, Petitions for Reconsideration will be filed which would further delay the effective date of the Report and Order.

FCC's Hollingsworth is Net Guest:-

The FCC's point man for Amateur Radio enforcement, Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, put in a guest appearance January 29 during a session of the South Carolina Single Sideband Net on 75 meters. "They contacted me and asked me if I'd take a few minutes to talk with them," said Hollingsworth, who's a South Carolina native.

Hollingsworth said he told those gathered for the net "where we've been, where we're going, and what we're trying to accomplish" in terms of ham radio enforcement. He said he expects to return to the airwaves from time to time and welcomes invitations from other organized nets. (His e-mail address is rholling@fcc.gov, phone 717-338-2502. Hollingsworth's unannounced and unexpected appearance on 3894.5 MHz January 13 to discuss compliance and enforcement created a stir within the Amateur Radio community.

Thanks, ARRL Letter, Feb. 5, 1999.

ARRL E-mail Addresses Are Available to Members:-

ARRL members can now announce their ARRL membership through their e-mail addresses! Starting February 1, 1999, a new membership service was available for those wishing to have an ARRL e-mail address, and you won't have to switch e-mail services to do it. Not only that, but it will be free-of-charge to League members!

The new, personalized League e-mail addresses will consist of the member's call sign @arrl.net. Electronic mail sent to the address automatically will be forwarded to any e-mail account you choose.

As long as you remain an ARRL member, you'll never have to notify people of an address change - even if you change Internet Service Providers.

Members are able to sign up quickly and easily through the ARRL Members Only Web Site. If you are not already registered for the Members Only Web Site, you can do so at <http://www.arrl.org/members/>.

Members who are not registered for the Members Only Web Site may also obtain their League addresses, but the procedure is a bit more time consuming. For instructions, send a blank message to subscribe@arrl.net.

Thanks, ARRL Letter

Wireless Privacy Bill Re-introduced:-

The Wireless Privacy Enhancement Act of 1999, HR514, has been introduced by Rep. Heather Wilson of New Mexico. The measure is aimed at amending the Communications Act of 1934 "to strengthen and clarify prohibitions on electronic eavesdropping, and for other purposes."

"HR514 is identical to the amended version of HR2369 that passed the House on a 414-to-1 vote during the last session," said ARRL Legislative and Public Affairs Manager Steve Mansfield, N1MZA. The Senate did not act on that measure.

The original bill, HR2369, would have banned most types of scanners and scanner listening; however, the bill's sponsor, Rep Billy Tauzin, worked with the ARRL and representatives of manufacturers, public service organizations, and scanner enthusiasts to redraft the bill top to bottom.

HR514 forbids manufacturing or modifying scanners to receive cellular, PCS, or "protected" paging service frequencies. The bill also forbids receiving, divulging, publicizing, or utilizing such communication. The measure is part of a package of legislation introduced early in the session in the expectation that it will pass quickly and help restore Congressional momentum.

Mansfield says, however, that the Senate prospects for HR514 remain murky.

While Amateur Radio appears to be unaffected by the new bill, the League is on record as opposing the expansion of prohibitions on radio monitoring beyond those that now exist to protect the privacy of services that interface with wireline networks.

The bipartisan list of co-sponsors of HR514 includes Reps. Tauzin of Louisiana; Markey of Massachusetts; Oxley of Ohio; Eshoo (CA 14th? Pacific Division) and Rogan of California; Deal of Georgia; Wynn of Maryland; Cubin of Wyoming; Luther of Minnesota; Sawyer and Gillmor of Ohio; and Pickering of Mississippi.

A copy of the bill is available on the Web at <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c106:h.r.514>.

Thanks, ARRL Letter Feb. 12, 1999

More on the Strange Signals Near 3525 kHz:-

Several East Bay, San Francisco and Santa Clara Valley Section hams have reported strange and strong signals 24 hours per day around 3525 kHz. Several specific reports have come from members of the Northern California Contest Club. This interference has been traced to wireless modems installed with some digital TV/CATV installations. The resolution of the problem is underway. The details on progress can be found on the ARRL web site (www.arrl.org) in the Members Only and the Technical Information Sections.

Thanks, NCCC, Ed Hare (ARRL Lab), and many others who have helped.

Foundation for Amateur Radio Scholarships Available:-

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc., a non-profit organization with headquarters in Washington, D.C., plans to administer sixty-six (66) scholarships for the academic year 1999 to 2000 to assist licensed Radio Amateurs. The Foundation, composed of over seventy-five local area Amateur Radio Clubs, fully funds ten of these scholarships with the income from grants

and its annual Hamfests. The remaining fifty-six (56) are administered by the Foundation without cost to the various donors. Licensed Radio Amateurs may compete for these awards if they plan to pursue a full-time course of studies beyond high school and are enrolled in or have been accepted for enrollment at an accredited university, college or technical school. The awards range from \$500 to \$2500 with preference given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or the pursuit of certain study programs. Clubs are encouraged to announce these opportunities at their meetings, in their club newsletters, during training classes, on their nets and on their World Wide Web home pages.

Additional information and an application form may be requested by letter or QSL card from the following address.

FAR Scholarships
Post Office Box 831
Riverdale, MD 20738

Applications must be postmarked prior to April 30, 1999.
Thanks, FAR.

Dayton Amateur Radio Association Scholarships:-

The Dayton Amateur Radio Association is accepting applications for its annual scholarship awards. The DARA Scholarship Program is open initially to any Amateur Radio operator graduating from high school in 1999. There are no restrictions on course of study, nor does the student need to be pursuing a four-year baccalaureate degree, but schools selected must be accredited. Awards are made on a nondiscriminatory basis. Selection criteria include financial need, scholastic achievement, contributions to Amateur Radio, and community involvement. Decisions of the DARA Scholarship Committee are final. Maximum individual awards are \$2000. For an application and full details, send an SASE to DARA Scholarships, 45 Cinnamon Ct., Springboro, OH 45066. Application deadline is June 15, 1999. Thanks Stan Kuck, NY8F.

ARRL Foundation Scholarships Available:-

There are many scholarships available from the ARRL Foundation. Information and applications can be obtained from the ARRL web site at www.arrl.org, by e-mail to foundation@arrl.org, or by letter to the ARRL Foundation at ARRL HQ, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111-1494.

Nominations Open for Maxim Memorial Award:-

Nominations are open for the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award. The award goes each year to a radio amateur under the age of 21 whose accomplishments and contributions are of the most exemplary nature within the framework of Amateur Radio activities. These include, but are not limited to:

- Participation or leadership in organizational affairs at the local or national level.
- Technical achievement.
- Operating record.
- Recruitment and training of new amateurs.
- Public relations activities.

In keeping with the tradition of the award when it was first established in 1936, formal nominations are made by Section Managers. Supporting information, including the endorsement of ARRL-affiliated clubs and elected or appointed League Leadership officials, should be submitted with the nomination. An award panel will review the nominations received and select the winner. The prize consists of a cash award of \$1000, a suitably engraved plaque, and travel and accommodation expenses to enable the winner to attend an ARRL convention for a formal presentation. Nominations should document as thoroughly as possible the

Amateur Radio achievements and contributions of the nominee during the previous calendar year. Additional information concerning the character of the nominee should be as complete as possible. The award is intended to provide a tangible reward to those deserving young amateurs who contribute their time, skills and energies daily through their commitment to Amateur Radio. As models for their peers, and inspirations to us all, these fine young people are highly visible boosters of Amateur Radio awareness. We must continue to recognize and encourage their hard work and contributions at every opportunity. Nominations must be sent to the Section Manager. Nominations must be received at Headquarters from Section Managers by March 31, 1999. There is no limit to the number of nominations one may make. For more information and an application form, contact ARRL Field Services Manager Rick Palm, K1CE, e-mail rpalm@arrl.org or write him at ARRL Headquarters, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

Thanks, ARRL Letter.

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 Kibbe, KF6EII, (209) 835-6715, e-mail-- larkswap@hotmail.com.
- Kamuela Hamfest, Big Island of Hawaii ? Feb. 27, 1999, at Waimea School. Starts at 9 AM. Potluck at noon. Sponsored by BIARC and HWARS. Contact clubs for details.
- Foothill Flea Market - 2nd Saturday of each month from March to October at Foothill College, Los Altos Hills, CA.
- Yuba Sutter ARC Swapmeet ? March 13, 1999, at Linda American Legion Post #807, 5477 Feather River Blvd., Linda, CA. Talk-in 146.085, +600, WD6AXM/R. Details available from W6HBU, Herb, (530) 674-3648 or KC6JPP, Clara, (530) 742- 2674.
- International DX Convention ? April 9-11, 1999, at the Fresno Radisson Hotel and Conference Center. For information access <http://www.amateur-radio.org/ncdxc.htm> for rooms and pre-registration; e-mail to Gordon Girton, W6NW, at W6NW@amateur-

radio.org; phone (408) 255-9000; or P. O. Box 60307, Sunnyvale CA 94088-0307.

Hoo's Hoo...

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

SS/L Training: Vacant

Picnic Committee:
 Picnic Co-chairman: To be announced

Field Day Committee:
 Chairman: To be announced.
 Members: To be announced

Other positions to be filled:
 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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