

S.P.A.R.K.

South Peninsula Amateur Radio Klub Newsletter

Vol. MCMXCVII No 8

Rptr:W6APZ/R 145.230(-.600)MHz - Club Stn: WA6NKK

Thursday, August 28, 1997

The September 1997 Meeting...

Where: **Space Systems/Loral Auditorium Bld 3 Lobby**

When: **Thursday, 4 September 1997**
12:00 Noon to 1PM

Subject: **SHOW AND TELL and COME TO MEET THE GANG**

The Prez Sez...

When we were associated with Ford, we had a pretty nice ham club. I remember even earlier than that, about 20 years ago, the SPARK amateur radio club was known throughout the valley. I remember the flea markets in the parking lot behind the cafeteria, the auctions in the cafeteria and the ham shack. At that time, the hamshack was equipped with the best equipment for its time. There was a CW group, a field day group, a home build group, and a whole bunch of activity in ham radio.

I joined the company in 1986, and one of the first things I did was get the key for the ham shack. It had not been used for several years and the dust band around the door was evidence that the door had not been opened for several years. It took a little bit of cleaning up. The rig was still operational so every lunch hour I got a bowl of soup and went to the hamshack and got on 20M SSB. That beam antenna on the roof was in excellent condition and I surprised myself almost every time I got on the air. I could get into pileups and be the first station responded to following my call - operating barefoot with 90W. You know, I did not turn on the 2000W amplifier for the first two years.

Meetings were well attended. Most of the members had worked here for 10 years or longer. Most were friends. The transition to LORAL, resulted in retirement of most of the old timers. The SPARK club felt the loss. However, a large number of retirees remained members and were the spirit of the club with us upstarts trying to get organized. Meeting attendance declined. Then LORAL sold the Sunnyvale and San Jose divisions to Lockheed/Martin and the SPARK club really fell apart. Without the retirees and members who remained with Lockheed/Martin, and without active members at SS/L we have had very sparse attendance at meetings. If you are wondering why I wrote such a long preamble, I'll get to the point.

Without active attendance at meetings, I cannot invite someone from outside the company to be a presenter at a meeting. Just imagine setting up equipment for a demonstration and spending several hours on the presentation, and having only three to six people attend the meeting. It would be insulting if I was in that situation. We have over thirty members. Please attend a meeting or two, meet the other members, eyeball ragchew, bring a show and tell item, or do anything to get involved. This meeting will be a show and tell. Please come to the meeting on September 4, 1997 in the Building 3 Auditorium at 12:00 noon. Bring a show and tell item, or just be there to introduce yourself. There is no pending business so the meeting will be very short leaving lots of time to rag chew.

I hope to see you at the next SPARK meeting in September.
73, Ian, AF6K

July Meeting Minutes

The July '97 SPARK meeting was held on Thursday, June 10 at SS/L in Building 28. The following members (7) attended the meeting: Ian Kushner/AF6K, Rich Stiebel/W6APZ, Gary Hendra/WA6SUW, Jack Rowe/KD6SU, Rolf Klibo/N6NFI, Collin Lim/KD6YCV, and Bill Jimenez/KE6FTO. Three SPARK officers attended the meeting: Ian Kushner (President), Rolf Klibo (Treasurer), and Collin Lim (Secretary). Ori Mizrahi-Shalom/AC6AN was the guest speaker. Ian called the meeting to order at 12:07 PM.

President's Report: Vice President, Mike Spate, will be holding next month's meeting.

Vice President's Report: Absent.

Secretary's Report: The SPARK Web page is being developed. The URL is <http://www.macscouter.com/SPARK>. Ham radio or club related photos are needed for Web page graphics. Contact the Secretary, Collin Lim, at 415/852-6615 to submit your inputs or photos.

Treasurer's Report: 1997 membership cards are ready.

Old Business: None.

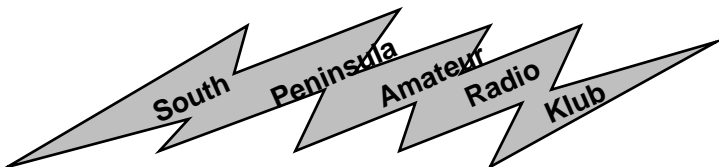
New Business: Rolf indicated that the space shuttle ham packet is running.

Announcement: Gary Hendra's wife has received a ham license, her call sign is KF6LWJ. Gary's oldest son is also a ham, his call sign is KF6MMN. Congratulations!

Program: Guest speaker Ori Mizrahi-Shalom/AC6AN gave a presentation on QRP. The presentation focused on the "38 Special", a 30 meter QRP transceiver. The "38 Special" kit is being made available by the Norcal QRP Club. Collin Lim/KD6YCV, Secretary

WA6SUW is No More!

No, I'm not a silent key (thank goodness)! But after 26 years as WA6SUW, I requested and was granted W6NOE. This callsign was my late uncle's. He held it for a couple decades before it lapsed back in the late 60's. I hope to get more of the history of the call from my aunt. Sad to see WA6SUW go, but W6NOE sure rolls off the tongue easier!



SPARK Web Site

SPARK now has a very impressive World Wide Web site located at www.macscouter.com/SPARK. If you have photo's, anecdotes, or anything that would show the world what SPARK is all about, please send it to the SPARK Webmaster Collin Lim, lim.collin@ssd.loral.com.

Bring some Ham Radio related photographs to the September SPARK meeting, so we can pick some things to put on the Web site.

REPEATER
REPEATER
REPEATER
REPEATER

CLEAR SIGNALS RETURN

We had been receiving reports of stations having trouble accessing the repeater from locations where previously they had accessed the repeater with solid copy. Initially, these reports were few and far between, without a definite pattern. Then, we began to notice a crackle sound on local hand-held stations that previously had been solid into the machine. Only high-powered stations did not have the crackle. The crackle sounded familiar. It was the same sound we remembered hearing several years ago when we had a repeater antenna problem. At that time, replacing the antenna solved the problem.

On Sunday July 13, a crew from SRI and SPARK went up to the repeater site and changed the antenna. The one that had been taken down several years ago did indeed have a broken internal connection. That connection was fixed by the SRI crew, the antenna retuned to our frequency, and the antenna was reinstalled on the 13th.

From the results to date, all the crackle is gone and the repeater operation appears to be back to normal. Thanks to John, N6WBP, who fixed the old antenna and climbed the antenna pole to change-out antennas. Thanks also to Rolf, N6NFI; Dan, W6ASD; Dennis, N6MGQ, and Rich, W6APZ, who participated in the team effort.

AC POWER LOST 523 Heard on 527?

On Tuesday, July 22, the repeater courtesy tone changed from the usual three-tone cheerful high pitched tones to three-tone low pitched sad tones. This is a subtle difference, but it indicates the loss of 120 VAC power and operation on back-up battery power. After a few days, my unmusical ear could not distinguish between the three-tone high and low pitched tones. Since the repeater continued to operate normally, I assumed the machine was back on AC power as the battery pack will support the machine for a week maximum.

Meanwhile, we had been receiving reports of the 523 signal showing up on the output frequency of 145.270. My initial investigation of this problem consisted of listening on 527 with my ICOM dual band IC-W32A to both 523 and 527 simultaneously at home on my 2-meter ground plane antenna. I heard nothing. I even went up the hill to the machine, but I heard nothing on 527 during the 9 AM talk net on 523. I was convinced that the repeater was clean.

Enter VE3FZK, Andy, our local expert on Fox Hunting. He DF'd the 527 signal directly to the repeater! How could that be?

Why did he hear the signal there and I did not? Well, I found the answer to be a quirk in the design of the IC-W32A. When the HT is squelched, there is no indication of any received signal on the LCD display. In order to hear 527, I had to totally unsquelch the radio. Then I was able to hear 527, but only in certain locations, when our machine was on the air. Meanwhile, N6NFI, Rolf, verified that he could hear the signal not only on 527, but also on 145.531 MHz. Again, a question from VE3FZK led to the fix. He asked if we had a switching power supply at the repeater operating on 40 kHz. I remembered that our battery back-up system uses a DC/DC converter to change the 24 volt back-up battery pack voltage to 12 volts for the repeater.

A trip up the hill revealed that the Micor AC power transformer was stone cold. The repeater was, and had been operating on battery back-up for weeks! Since the AC power to the site had NOT failed, the batteries were kept charged by the AC trickle charger. This was possible due to the relatively low repeater usage during the night, which allowed the batteries to recharge. The controller has its own AC supply, and that was still operating. The Micor power supply has three fuses, only two of which are accessible from the outside of the supply. The ten-amp main power fuse was mounted internally and was the main suspect. On Sunday, August 17, KD6ZL, John (from SRI), and W6APZ, Rich, removed the Micor power supply and verified that the main fuse had blown. The fuse holder was relocated to be accessible from the outside of the supply. If/when that fuse blows again, replacing that fuse will take less than a minute, instead of nearly 2 hours.

While we were working on the repeater, VE3FZK helped us verify that the signal on 527 disappeared when we were on AC power, but was audible on battery back-up. This tends to point to the need for more filtering of the DC/DC converter. After we are sure the Micor AC supply will operate reliably, we will remove the DC/DC converter and fix the filter circuit. The repeater has a new courtesy tone when on AC power, one which is very different from the back-up power tone.

PHOTOVOLTAIC PANELS?

There is an obvious solution to worrying about AC power loss. Become independent of AC power! If anyone is aware of surplus photovoltaic panels, the repeater could use them to keep the batteries charged when PG&E goes down, or to power the repeater instead of PG&E. The batteries trickle charge at 27 Volts DC and they can accept up to a 40 Ampere charge. Even 27 Volts at 8 Amperes would go a long way toward keeping the repeater operating in an emergency. Of course, any photovoltaic current capability would be better than none. To make the repeater relatively independent of PG&E, photovoltaic panels that produced more than 27 Volts in full sun would be needed. These panels would need a charge controller that would protect the batteries from overvoltage and overcharging. If anyone knows of any photovoltaic panels and/or a charge controller that we might get donated to SPARK, please call Rich, W6APZ, at 415-494-0128.

73 de Rich, W6APZ <w6apz@svpal.com>

Wanted

HP 5245 L counter in working condition. Mine just recently died. Will pay top dollar (as determined by extensive negotiation. I don't know where they can still be bought otherwise). Will consider others that will take the plug-in modules, or will consider another counter that goes up to 6 GHz preferable, 2.5 GHz minimum."

Thanks. Fred NM6J

ARRL Pacific Division Update

August and September 1997

by Brad Wyatt, K6WR, Director, Pacific Division, ARRL
18400 Overlook Rd. #5, Los Gates CA 95030-5850
(408) 395-2501 (Phone and FAX)
Packet: K6WR@N0ARY.#NOCAL.CA
E-mail: K6WR@arrl.org
Pacific Division Home Page: <http://www.pdarrrl.org/>

Gate 3 of the Vanity Call Program to Open Aug. 6, 1997

The FCC announced on July 3 that Gate 3 for Advanced Class licensees will open on Aug. 6, 1997. Details on the Vanity Call program can be found on the ARRL WWW site at www.arrl.org or by calling the FCC National Call Center at 1-888-CALL-FCC. To file, use Form 610-V available via the FCC Internet Homepage at <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/amradsrv.html> or from ARRL HQ. The fee remains \$30 for a 10 year license until Sept. 16, 1997.

The date for opening Gate 4 has not yet been announced. The new fee of \$50 for the 10 year license will take effect Sept. 16, 1997.

Federal Legal Protection for Volunteers:-

"The Volunteer Protection Act of 1997", Public Law 105-19, should provide Federal protection from "frivolous, arbitrary, or capricious" lawsuits against our OO/AmAux and VE volunteers as well as other volunteers. The law becomes effective on Sept. 16, 1997. The text is available on the WWW at <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c105:S.543.ENR>: The text should also be available from other sources.

PL 105-19 is much broader in scope than the Amateur Radio Volunteer Services Act of 1997 -- To quote PL 105-19, "The purpose of this Act is to promote the interests of social service program beneficiaries and taxpayers and to sustain the availability of programs, nonprofit organizations, and governmental entities that depend on volunteer contributions by reforming the laws to provide certain protections from liability abuses related to volunteers serving nonprofit organizations and governmental agencies".

See p. 15, August 1997 QST for more information.

What Happens to the Amateur Radio Volunteer Services Act of 1997?:-

Now that PL 105-19 is law, it is likely that H.R. 1013 will not have further consideration in Congress, although it is technically alive. Many thanks to Congresswoman Anna Eshoo (CA 14th) for introducing H.R. 1013!

Spread Spectrum NPRM Now In FCC Hands:-

WT Docket 97-12, proposes to make significant changes in the regulations governing Amateur Radio use of spread spectrum (SS) technology. The changes are targeted to encourage greater use of this mode, a mode that is expanding very rapidly in the Part 15 commercial world. The text of the Docket can be found on the FCC [web site at http://www.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Wireless/Notices/1997/fcc97010](http://www.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Wireless/Notices/1997/fcc97010). See page 78 of May QST for more information. The text of the Comments and Reply Comments on the NPRM can be found on the TAPR WWW site -- <http://www.tapr.org/ss>. I urge you to read the filings and participate in the discussion even though the deadline for comments has passed.

ARRL WRC-99 Committee Proposes New Licensing Plan:-

One of the charges given to the ARRL WRC-99 Planning Committee by the ARRL Board of Directors early last year was to study the U.S. amateur licensing structure. A full discussion of the

Committee's proposals related to the U.S. licensing structure is given in March QST at page 55. Please read it and offer your comments to ARRL and to me.

My thanks to all of you who have written already. I have read each e-mail and hard copy letter and noted your thoughts. My goal is to respond to each of you in the Division who have written me directly. It is interesting to note that so far there seem to be as many views on this matter as letters and messages received. So far, there is clearly no consensus of opinion.

Please remember that this is just a proposal and there is no certainty that the ARRL Board will adopt this or any other proposal on this matter. Further, it is not clear that the FCC is even interested in revising the Amateur Radio licensing and testing structure.

ARRL VEC Pacific Division Phone Number:-

To obtain all the Amateur Radio license testing information for the ARRL VEC Pacific Division, call (408) 984-8353. Follow the menu to obtain the necessary details. This information is also available on the Pacific Division WWW site at www.pdarrrl.org.

Ham Newsletter Competition Entries Sought:-

The Amateur Radio News Service (ARNS) seeks entries in its annual competition to identify and recognize "superior performance in Amateur Radio journalism" and to evaluate club newsletters "with suggestions for improvement."

The contest is open to all ham radio organizations, and membership in ARNS is not required to enter. Prospective applicants should obtain a contest entry form from ARNS by sending a business-size SASE to ARNS President Lee Knirko, W9MOL, 11 S La Salle St., Suite 2100, Chicago, IL 60603-1302. The deadline for entries is December 31, 1997. Thanks - Jerry Boyd, K6BZ/ARNS

Pacific Division WWW Site Has a New Webmaster:-

Paul Wesling, KM6LH, has agreed to assume the helm of the Pacific Division web site. Paul has been most recently the assistant webmaster handling the Club and VEC sections of the site. Paul is seeking volunteers to help. Contact Paul at paulw@pdarrrl.org.

All information on the site is now current. There are significant changes planned for the future.

Many thanks to Randy Foutch, KE6HCI, who has been the webmaster and an Assistant Director since the inception of the site. Randy has gotten us this far, but his many other activities required him to resign both positions recently.

Continuing Avalanche of New Antenna Ordinances:-

There is a huge new wave of antenna ordinances being proposed by cities and counties. These ordinances are being driven by the spectrum auctions and by new and expanding numbers of Cellular and Personal Communications Services licenses being issued.

All of us need to be aware of this trend. When you first sense any of this action in your community, contact your Section Manager, the ARRL Regulatory Information Branch, and me immediately so that we can get help to you and the rest of the hams in your community. The key to a successful defense is to separate the commercial interests from Amateur Radio in the minds of the responsible officials. It's vitally important that your city or county officials understand Amateur Radio involvement with emergency communications - this story must be told repeatedly, especially before the antenna ordinance crisis develops!

Latest Band Threat News

There is nothing specifically new to report this month on the Little LEO matter. This situation may remain this way until WRC 97 opens in Geneva in November. However, other country's

delegations may yet propose the "broad allocation" scheme as the Little LEO companies have been active all over the world selling this idea. See also p. 9, August 1997 QST.

So WHAT do we do now?

1. Continue to monitor the progress of this unfolding drama! For the latest news on this volatile issue, read QST, Pacific Division Updates in hard copy. Read ARRL Letter, Pacific Division Updates on e-mail; visit Pacific Division WWW site. Visit the ARRL home page at <http://www.arrl.org/> and select "Band Threat News."

2. Join ARRL! The ARRL is the only effective national organization fighting for YOUR 2 meter, 1.25 meter and 70 cm operating privileges. It is easy to join and help us win this battle to preserve our privileges. Think positive thoughts!

3. Contribute to the Fund for the Defense of Amateur Radio Frequencies! (See page 76 of October 1996 QST for all the details.) We won't be able to breathe easily about WRC-97 issues until the final gavel comes down on Nov. 21, 1997.

For more information on spectrum matters involving the U. S. budget and other spectrum issues, see pages 15, 16, and 74, August 1997 QST.

Pacific Division Amateur Named Sacramento County Citizen of the Year:-

The Sacramento County Board of Supervisors recently named Jay O'Brien, W6GO, as its Citizen of the Year. The full story is on page 11-12 of the July issue of Worldradio. Congratulations, Jay! Tnx - Worldradio.

Robert L. Chortek, AA6VB, appointed Volunteer Counsel

I am pleased to announce that Robert Chortek, AA6VB, has become a Volunteer Counsel for the Pacific Division in the San Jose CA area. Welcome, Bob.

September Update

FCC Asks for Comments on the ARRL Private Enforcement Proposal:-

In what may be the start of the most significant enhancement of enforcement of Amateur Radio rules in years, the FCC announced, on Aug. 1, that the public Comments on the ARRL Petition for a Private Rules Enforcement Plan, now called RM-9150, will be accepted until Aug. 31, 1997.

The following is the W1AW bulletin that was sent when the petition was originally filed on March 28, 1997:

QST ARL ARLB020

ARLB020 ARRL calls on FCC to privatize handling of malicious interference complaints

Citing "a substantial need to improve and increase the quantity and quality" and timeliness of enforcement in malicious interference complaints, the ARRL has called on the FCC to "create a streamlined, privatized enforcement process" to handle and adjudicate the most serious Amateur Service rules violations. In a petition for rulemaking filed March 28, the League asked that the FCC change its rules to permit members of the volunteer Amateur Auxiliary to bring evidence of malicious interference violations directly before the FCC's Chief Administrative Law Judge (ALJ). The Chief ALJ would be authorized to determine if the complainants have a valid case, to issue show-cause orders, and to designate complaints for hearing.

The League recommended that the FCC capitalize on the volunteer resources available through the Amateur Auxiliary to relieve the evidence-gathering burden in such cases. If the rules changes are approved, the League said it would likely assist members of the Amateur Auxiliary in preparing and submitting complaints and in presenting cases at administrative hearings. "The increased use of volunteer resources would seem to be

entirely appropriate in the Amateur Service, which involves avocational use of radio only," the ARRL concluded.

While noting that most hams obey the rules, the League said Amateur Radio needs the Commission's help "in a very few, persistent, serious enforcement cases" but has not been getting it in recent years because of the FCC's staff and budgetary limitations.

"Indeed, notwithstanding the best efforts of the Commission over the past several years, there has been no resolution of the four or five most serious cases brought to the Commission's attention," the League said in its petition. Even in some of the cases the FCC did act upon, the League said the Commission did not go far enough to make the problems go away permanently. The League cited a case in New Orleans where fines against several amateurs were reduced but remain unpaid and uncollected. "There is a widespread, and growing, perception that administrative forfeitures are not collectable," the ARRL said, pointing to the complex, time-consuming method of collecting fines that is required by federal law.

The ARRL noted that while the FCC suspended one ham's license in that city in 1996, it failed to look into malicious interference charges against at least two other hams in that area. The League said examples like these send a message that the FCC won't enforce Amateur Service rules in malicious interference cases. "Malicious interference problems, if left unchecked, tend to spread and increase in intensity," the League said. The ARRL suggested that a series of "visible, successful enforcement actions" would deter rules violations and promote self-regulation.

The ARRL also suggested that some FCC policies get in the way of timely, effective enforcement. Current Wireless Telecommunications Bureau policy requires the Commission to independently corroborate evidence gathered by Amateur Radio volunteers. "The policy often acts as an absolute obstacle to any enforcement activity whatsoever," and it demoralizes volunteers who view their efforts as wasted.

While noting that malicious interference cases often attract a lot of attention within the amateur community, the League said ham radio can be "justifiably proud" of its history of voluntary rule compliance. "The overall level of compliant behavior among amateurs has not deteriorated over the years," the League emphasized, citing fewer than 10 active malicious interference cases in the US at present.

END ARLB020

Please comment in a positive fashion to help encourage FCC to issue a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) on this matter.

NOTE: Based on extensive investigation, the FCC has apparently made NO provision to receive e-mail messages on RM-9150, so all Comments MUST be in hard copy format. Please send an original and four copies of your Comments to the FCC.

It's always best to write using your own thoughts, expressed using your own words. However, as a guide, here's a sample letter:

Secretary, Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW,
Washington DC 20554.
(date)
RE: RM-9150

I support the ARRL Petition to have the FCC change its rules
t orders, and to designate complaints for hearing.
Please issue a Notice of Proposed Rule Making on this
matter.

Signed (your name, call, address)

For those of you with WWW access there is additional information available on line: The Aug. 11 Special Edition of the Pacific Division Update is on the Pacific Division WWW site at <http://www.pdarrl.org/pdu/pdu9708a.html>, while the full text of the original petition can be found on the Pacific Division WWW site at <http://www.pdarrl.org/pdu/rm9150.html>.

These entries were developed by the superb efforts of Paul Wesling, KM6LH, Pacific Division Webmaster, and Glen Lokke, Jr., KE6NBO, who converted the hard copy material into machine readable. Many thanks, Paul and Glen!

See also ARRL Letter of Aug. 15, 1997.

One last item -- the deadline for submitting Reply Comments, to reply to the original Comments, is Sept. 15, 1997.

Federal Legal Protection for Volunteers:-

The Volunteer Protection Act of 1997, Public Law 105-19, should provide Federal protection from "frivolous, arbitrary, or capricious" lawsuits against our OO/AmAux and VE volunteers as well as other volunteers. The law becomes effective on Sept. 16, 1997. The text is available on the WWW at <http://thomas.loc.gov/>. Search for PL 105-19.

See p. 15, August 1997 QST for more information. This law may become a very strong companion to RM-9150 in a major turnaround in Amateur Rule enforcement.

Gate 3 of the Vanity Call Program Opened Aug. 6, 1997

Gate 3 opened for Advanced Class licensees on Aug. 6, 1997. Details on the Vanity Call program can be found on the ARRL WWW site at www.arrl.org or by calling the FCC National Call Center at 1-888-CALL-FCC. To file, use Form 610-V available via the FCC Internet Homepage at <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/amradsrv.html> or from ARRL HQ. The fee remains \$30 for a 10 year license until Sept. 16, 1997.

The date for opening Gate 4 has not yet been announced. The new fee of \$50 for the 10 year license will take effect Sept. 16, 1997.

Latest Band Threat News:-

The best news this month is that Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, ARRL Technical Relations Manager, has been named as an official member of the U. S. delegation to WRC 97 in Geneva this November.

There apparently has been no specific new band threat news this month on the Little LEO matter. This situation may remain this way until WRC 97 opens in Geneva in November. However, other country's delegations may yet propose the "broad allocation" scheme as the Little LEO companies have been active all over the world selling this idea. See also p. 9, August 1997 QST.

So WHAT do we do now?

1. Continue to monitor the progress of this unfolding drama! For the latest news on this volatile issue, read QST, Pacific Division Updates in hard copy. Read ARRL Letter, Pacific Division Updates on e-mail; visit Pacific Division WWW site. Visit the ARRL home page at <http://www.arrl.org/> and select "Band Threat News."

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For more information on spectrum matters involving the U. S. budget and other spectrum issues, see pages 15, 16, and 74, August 1997 QST.

KN6FR, Named Herb S. Brier Instructor of the Year:-

The ARRL Board at its July meeting named Eric J. Lagerstrom, KN6FR, of Seaside, California, as the recipient of the Herb S. Brier Instructor of the Year Award for 1996. Congratulations, Rick!

Sara Hanna, KE6MWX, Winner in the 46th Annual Calif. Science Fair:-

Congratulations, Sara! Her project, "Does the design of the driven element affect the radiation pattern of a Yagi antenna," placed first in the Junior Division of Electricity and Electronics. Thanks to the Willits ARC newsletter.

Landon Quan, KE6UAS, Wins QCWA Scholarship:-

Landon Quan of San Rafael, CA, was named by The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc., as one of the winners of the QCWA Memorial Scholarships -- specifically, the QCWA Robert Cresap (W9LRI) Memorial Scholarship. Thanks to FAR, Inc. news release

Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV, is New National Contest Journal Editor:-

Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV, of Carson City, Nevada, will be the new editor of the National Contest Journal (NCJ), starting with the November/December issue. "It's an awesome honor," Motschenbacher said when he learned he'd gotten the job. "I'm very excited." Congratulations, Dennis! -- ARRL Letter.

Coming Events:-

- Livermore Swap Meet - 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College in Livermore, CA, 7:00 AM to noon, all year. Talk in 147.045 from west, 145.35 from the east. Contact Noel Anklam, KC6QZK, (510) 447-3857 eves.

- Foothill Flea Market - 2nd Saturday of each month from March to October at Foothill College, Los Altos Hills, CA.

- Reno Ham Radio Flea Market - Aug. 23, 1997 at Naval and Marine Corps. Reserve Center at 4601 Cocoa Ave., (Stead Complex) Reno NV - 8 AM until 3 PM. Sponsored by SNARS. Talk in 146.610 -, PL 123. VE test session at 0900. For more info on test session call Steve W7VI at (702) 972-3672. For overall info, call Swede, WD0AXP at (702) 852-2402.

- ARRL Southwestern Division Convention, Sept. 12-14, 1997, at Riverside CA. Contact Jerry Verduft, AD0A, (310) 784-1295.

- Sonoma County Radio Amateurs Hamfest, Sept. 20, 1997, at Sebastopol CA. Contact Rick Reiner, K6ZWB, (707) 575-4455.

- Pacificon'97 (Pacific Division Convention) to be held at the Concord Hilton, Concord CA, Oct. 17-19, 1997. For information: (510) 932-6125; PACIFICON@designlink.com; WWW <http://www.mdarc.org>. Hotel reservations - 1-800-826-2644 for the special room rate.

DX Advisory Committee Supplement to the September 1997 Pacific Division Update:

Jack Troster, W6ISQ, Pacific Division DX Advisory Committee, reports the following DX news:

DXAC REPORT

There are no petitions for new countries and no petitions to delete any countries before the DXAC.

What is of interest to DXers is the first draft of the report by the

DXCC2000 Committee, which generally outlines the rules and regulations for the new, revised DXCC Achievement Award.

Any newsletter editor or interested person may request a copy of that document by sending an e-mail to: jmtroster@aol.com. The reply will come via e-mail..

Please understand that this document is only a first pass. The Committee is still working on it. Your present DXCC score will

be with you always, so stay cool and loose. There will be changes made by the Committee as it works out the wording and details to avoid future ambiguities.

Meanwhile, the WWV numbers have been improving slightly over the past 10 days, so maybe Cycle 23 is trying to nudge onward and upward.

de W6ISQ

Hoo's Hoo...

Officers:

President: Ian Kushner
Vice Pres: Mike Spate
Treasurer: Rolf Klibo
Secretary: Collin Lim

SS/L Shack Trustee: Ian Kushner, AF6K

Newsletter Editor: Gary Hendra, W6NOE -- SS/L
 3825 Fabian Way, MS-G86, Palo Alto 94303
 E-mail to 'Hendra, Gary' on the Loral Network, or via Internet to 'hendra.gary@.ssd.loral.com' [<http://www.macscouter.com>]

Repeater Trustee/Control Operators(Primary):

Repeater Trustee: Rich Stiebel, W6APZ
 Control Operators: John Buonocore, KD6ZL, Dan Connell, W6ASD, Robert Reiling, W6JHJ, Rolf Klibo, N6NFI, Tom Holden, KN6KL; Gregg Schlaman, WA6ECQ

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

For Address Changes, or If Undeliverable, Return to:

Gary Hendra MS-G86
SPACE SYSTEMS/LORAL
 3825 Fabian Way
 Palo Alto, CA 94303-4604