

# The READOUT

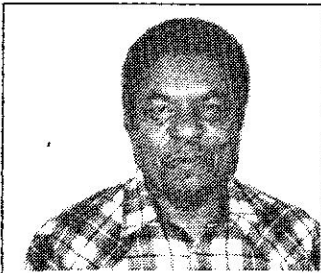
Year 13

Number 1

January 1991

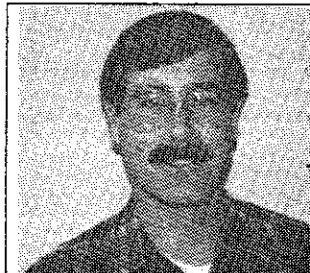
## 1991 SARA Officers

### President



**Oliver Borna, KJ6YZ**

### Vice President



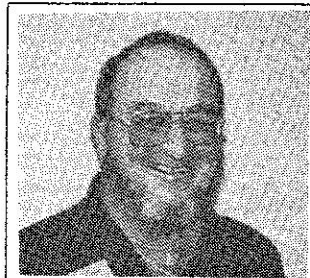
**Dave Grout, N6YHZ**

### Secretary



**Linda Franklin, N6REB**

### Treasurer



**Al Dionizio, N6SAE**

## No-Code License Approved

The FCC announced on December 13 that new Technician Class license applicants will not have to demonstrate Morse code proficiency in order to have all privileges above 30 mhz. Implementation is expected by February 1991. Techs who obtain their licenses prior to that date will be grandfathered, meaning they will continue to have their present HF privileges.

The new codeless Technician written exam will have 55 questions. New Technicians wanting HF privileges will be required pass a 5 wpm code test (element 1a) which must be administered by three accredited VE's. There will be no call sign designator to indicate whether or not a technician has passed a code test, but the FCC will have records of who has passed.

The US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit has denied the ARRL petition for review of the FCC order reallocating 220 to 222 MHz to the land mobile service. The Court concluded that by law it had to give great deference to the views of the Commission, and it could not say that the Commission did not arrive at a reasoned decision about the best way to advance the public convenience, interest, or necessity.

FCC also announced on the same date, that it has amended its rules to make the Amateur service more accessible to handicapped or disabled licensees who are unable to pass a higher speed morse code examination. The FCC decided not to provide a list of disabilities. Instead, the judgment of a

See 'No Code Approved' page 2

**Next SARA Meeting  
January 15, 1991  
730 pm  
Stanislaus County  
Administration Building  
12th & H Streets  
Modesto, CA.**

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**1990 SARA Officers**

**President**

Oliver Borns KJ6YZ 551-5855

**Vice President**

David Grout, N6YHZ 576-8730

**Secretary**

Linda Franklin N6REB

**Treasurer**

AL Dionizio N6SAE 523-4485

**SARA VHF Net**

Thursdays @ 8 p.m. (Except Holidays)

2 meters 145.39 MHz WD6EJF

220 Band 223.68 MHz WD6EJF

10 Meter 28,440 kHz USB

Tuesdays at 730 pm.

Contributions to *The READOUT* are always welcome and may be submitted to the editor by mail or via packet at N6REB-BBS on 145.79 MHz. The deadline for articles is the 15th of the preceding month. Articles regarding religion or politics are not accepted.

**Editor**

Bob Pinheiro, WA6ZLO

1221 Mist Flower Ct.

Modesto, CA. 95355

209-523-5880

**An ARRL affiliated club !**

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

# Frequency Chart Corrections

Murphy was visiting ye ole editor last month just about the time the Amateur Frequency Chart was being assembled. Thank's to Chet, W6XK and Chuck, NW6G, who pointed out the mistakes. Please make the following corrections to the chart.

**Technician:**

**1.25 Meter Band**

*Chart Reads:* 222.100 -223.91 MHz ..... *Should Read:* 222 - 225 MHz CW PHONE

**Extra:**

**80 Meters:**

*Chart Reads:* 3,525-3,750 kHz ..... *Should Read:* 3,500-3,750 CW RTTY DATA

**Extra:**

**40 Meters:**

*Chart Reads:* 7,025-7,150 kHz..... *Should Read:* 7,000-7,150 kHz CW RTTY DATA

**Extra:**

**20 Meters:**

*Chart Reads:* 14,025-14,150 kHz..... *Should Read:* 14,000-14,150 kHz CW RTTY DATA

**Extra:**

**15 Meters:**

*Chart Reads:* 21,025-21,200 kHz..... *Should Read:* 21,000-21,200 kHz CW RTTY DATA

## 'No Code Approved'

*From front page*

qualified physician will be relied upon to determine that a person cannot pass a Morse code examination due to a severe handicap. In response to concerns about the integrity of the process, the FCC staff said anyone abusing the process would be dealt with harshly. The FCC affirmed that because of international requirements, no exemptions would be granted for the 5 wpm morse code requirement. The complete text of the FCC news release on the no-code technician license appears on page 10 of this issue of *The READOUT*.

## 10 Meter Digi On The Air Soon

**A** new 10 meter packet digipeater, N6KMR-5, will soon be on the air from Mt. Oso. Jim, N6KMR, has built the system which will be housed in the club's two meter vault on Mt. Oso. The digi is composed of a MFJ 1278 TNC and a Uniden 2600 10 meter transceiver.

Jim advises that he has had the system in low-level operation at his home for sometime and has worked many station throughout the country and the world. The digi *See '10 Meter Digi' page 10*

# Scouts Jamboree-On-The-Air

By Chuck Bowers, KJ6DO

**A** Field Day ...a chance to have dozens, maybe hundreds, of young people operate your radios? That's J.O.T.A., Boy Scouts of America's annual Jamboree-on-the-Air. It was held this year on October 20-21st.

The purpose of this event is to introduce young men and women to ham radio and the great fraternity that we all enjoy. The Modesto effort this year centered around 4 hams, 150 Scouts, two dipoles and lots of fun.

As Scoutmaster of Oakdale's Troop 42, I knew of this event and was planning for it for several weeks...but finding some other hams was my biggest concern. JOTA was to happen in conjunction with an overnight camping trip planned for Gardner's Cove, a small privately owned campground on highway 132 a few miles West of Modesto. It had everything we needed; trees, electricity, picnic tables, small grocery store...but Murphy came along too!

Several local hams volunteered to be there...*"unless something came up"*, which probably means unless their wives objected! On Saturday morning, one hour before the planned start up time, Skip, N6ZAA, came driving up! What a welcome sight he was!! Later we were joined by Jesse KC6CJX...and then arriving in palatial splendor came Tim, WB6UJD, in his brand new RV!! Well, with all this talent, getting some QSO's going shouldn't be too difficult. But Murphy was there in the form of only one electrical outlet, one extension cord...the wrong co-ax sleeve adapters, not enough coax, not enough rope, too much sun...etc,etc.

Skill and cunning again overcame fear and superstition, and we were actually on the air right on schedule at 0900! Tim had his RV parked in the shade, with a 10 meter dipole strung from the rear roof rack off to a nearby

tree. His operation was certainly the most comfortable. His HF rig was sitting on the table in the RV's dining area, the boys crowded around and were suitably impressed. Tim's operation lasted about 5 hours and included contacts with Mexico, Texas and other places to the East. A spanish speaking Scoutmaster held a very enjoyable QSO with a Scout group down in Mexico. His language ability and the bit of English the Mexican Scouts could speak, demonstrated to our Scouts just how International this hobby can be.

Jesse had his HF rig sitting on the nearby picnic bench and worked stations in Canada, Texas and California. He had a lo-o-o-ng dipole strung between two trees and a fancy tuner to keep things happy in the rigs finals. The major problem for his operation was keeping shade, the table umbrella was none too secure and kept falling down. Skip and I only had VHF stuff

along, so we demonstrated just what a handie-talkie would do. An old Azden PCS-2000 and a mag mounted 1/4 whip up on the building's rain gutter kept us in good contact. Skip's wife and daughter heard him having all the fun and decided to come down too.

The Scouts came to the demonstration site in small groups, we introduced them to Ham Radio and got them on 2 meters first, then shuttled them off to either Tim or Jesse. The unsung hero of this entire day had to be Chuck, NW6G. Each boy got a chance to speak with him on 2 meters. The comments were really interesting! At first, the boys were a bit mic-shy, but quickly they overcame that problem and started to enjoy themselves. Someone (who shall remain nameless) even put a scout up to answering Chuck with *"Golly Bum, that's great, Fer Darn Sure"*!! Everyone got a laugh out of that exchange.

(See 'Scouts' next page)



Back Row L-R- Chuck, KJ6DO. Scout leader. Tim, WB6UJD. Skip, N6ZAA. Jesse, KC6CJX. In front of Skip is his daughter Carrie .



# 'Whose Under the Car?'

Some people tend to cover up the truth when they show up in public with a black eye, broken arm, or using crutches. They try to explain what happened and come up with elaborate stories to explain it. Regardless, the truth usually comes out sooner or later.

One young man now confesses that several years ago he went to a family reunion with extremely red ears and had a heck of a time trying to explain how it occurred although he never admitted how it happen. His story was that he was deeply engrossed in watching a football game and hoisting a few beers.

His wife was ironing clothes nearby when she left the room and left her hot iron next to the telephone. The phone rang and he picked up the hot iron and put it to his ear thinking it was the phone. He was then asked how the other ear got burned. He said, "the man called back" right after he hung up.

Then there is the young couple who had a terrific argument one morning before leaving for work. The wife couldn't get her dress zipped up in back, so she backed up to her husband and motioned to her zipper. He was irritated with her request and

briskly whipped the zipper up and down until it broke. The only way he could get her out was to cut the dress off. The wife was furious and boiled over the incident all day. When she got home that evening, she walked through the garage on the way into the house. She saw her husband under a car fixing something with his legs sticking out. She decided her moment for revenge had come. She leaned over, grabbed his pants zipper, and whipped it up and down several times. She then walked into the house only to find her husband standing in the kitchen.

Sheepishly, she asked him who was under the car? He said it was the next door neighbor who had come over to help him work on the car. The acutely embarrassed wife asked her husband to help explain to the neighbor what happened. The returned to the garage and asked the neighbor to come out from under the car. He did not respond. They finally had to pull him out and found him unconscious and bleeding from slamming his head into the underside of the car when he got zipped by surprise. And then there is the story about the fellow that could not give a convincing explanation about how he broke his arm. He

kept muttering about trying to stick his arm through a car window that he thought was down. That was the public story.

In private, he confessed that it happened at home when his wife brought some potted plants inside that had been out on the patio all day. A garter snake had hidden in one of the pots and later slithered out across the floor where the wife spotted it.

"I was in the bathtub when I heard her scream," he related. "I thought she was being murdered, so I jumped out to go help her and didn't even grab a towel. When I ran into the living room, she yelled that a snake was under the couch. I got down on my hands and knees to look for it when my dog came up behind me and cold-nosed me. I guess I thought it was the snake and I fainted. My wife thought I had a heart attack and called for an ambulance. I was still groggy when it arrived, so the medics lifted me onto a stretcher.

When they were carrying me out, the snake came out from under the couch and frightened one of the medics. He dropped his end of the stretcher, and that's how I broke my arm." -Thanks Rogue River ARC

## 'Scouts' from page 3...

At 3:00 PM, as we folded up the operation, we all felt that the day had been well spent. A lot of the local youth had been exposed to our hobby and we had the fun of a mini-field day. Jesse got a bit of sunburn due to the lazy umbrella. Skip nearly lost his voice explaining how a

repeater works. Tim had the most chuckles...and comfort. Chuck, NW6G, has regained his voice... and composure.

I had a wonderful time and want to thank each person that helped this event to be such a success. You might want to mark your calendars for next year. The third weekend in October we'll do it all again, and you are invited!!





# Introduction To Packet

## Part 4

By Ernie Rader, K6UVI Springfield, Or.

One of the most exiting ways to exchange messages via packet is to use your local BBS. Linda, N6REB has an active Bulletin Board System there in Modesto, and there is a digipeater on Mt. Oso as well to relay packet messages from outlying areas. It's easy to use. I've included my BBS responses in the next few paragraphs, and I encourage those of you that haven't used this capability to do so.

To "Connect" to your BBS, tune to its frequency and type: C N6REB. Naturally, if N6REB is not your BBS, then use the call sign that is. My BBS call sign is N7DXT so I type C N7DXT. Momentarily, I receive the following on my screen: \*\*\*\* CONNECTED to N7DXT [MSYS-1.08-HM\$] Hello Ernie, Welcome to N7DXT's MSYS BBS in Eugene, OR. The system serves Florence and the south central Oregon coast off the FLO node. Enter command: A,B,C,D,G,H,I,J,K,L,M,N,P,R,S,T,U,V,W,X,?,\* I may now sigh in relief for two reasons: (1) I am connected to the BBS, and (2) the only thing that I will see on the screen from now until I disconnect, will be information that is addressed directly to me. All the other stuff on the frequency will only make lights glow on my rig and TNC, but will not affect anything that I will be doing with my contact with my BBS.

The command line, the last one with the alphabet on it, is a reminder that these letters are the only ones that can be used to initiate some kind of action at your BBS station. In other words, E (something) would only result in something like "huh?" or "whatzat?" from your BBS. On the other hand, S (something) would start the wheels rolling to send a message to someone. A list of what each of these commands will do can be had from your SysOp, the operator of the BBS, or you can print them all out by downloading them to an ASCII file for printing at a later time.

The real "action" character in this string of letters is the ". That character is the only one of the bunch that invites you to DO something. If you try to initiate anything without having first received that ".", you will confuse the whole issue at hand and find yourself in two conversations at the same time. Therefore, I highly encourage you to look for that "." character before you make any further moves or type anything on your screen. It'll save a lot of heart aches. OK. Now that I've received my ".", I'm going to send a message to Lois, NX7V. I know that Lois gets

her mail at WA7ARI, so I type: SP NX7V @ WA7ARI

If I were going to send Lois a message "at" WA7ARI and I were located a long distance from her, like in Florida or something, I'd address it:

SP NX7V @ WA7ARI.OR.USA.NA All that stuff after WA7ARI, is called the hierarchial address and is used to route mail from BBSs that might not be familiar with the location of WA7ARI. After sending the "SP NX7V @ WA7ARI", the BBS comes back with: Enter title if local, CITY STATE & POSTAL CODE if not local: Here, there's no "." character at the end.

Don't worry, it's time to send something. When I'm sending a message to Lois, here is where I put a short introduction to my full message which will follow. I can say some- thing like "Hi" Lois, long time no hear. " or something like that. If I were sending this from a long distance for the first time, the CITY, STATE & POSTAL CODE (inserted here instead of "Hi Lois.") along with the hierarchial address (in the "SP" part of the message) would help get the message there easier. In any case, after "Hi, Lois", the BBS will come back with: Enter text, end with ^Z or /EX, ^A to abort.

This is where I send my message. Hi Lois,,, (blah-blah-blah). When I get done with my dissertation, I hit to get to a new line and then hit Ontrl-Z. This tells the BBS to save my message on its hard drive and forward that message to where ever it's addressed to. After the message is saved, I'll get the "alphabet" and the "." again and this is where I send the letter "B" for "Bye." This disconnects me from my BBS, lets all the other stuff that's going on on the frequency be printed on my screen, and allows me to use my computer for what ever I want it for.

What's neat about the routing system within the BBS system, is that the sender of the message doesn't need to know anything about what frequencies or routing stations are used by all the BBSs that will forward his/her message. It's all done automatically by the system operators (Sys-Ops) when they establish their forwarding routes in their computers.

As a result, a message to Luxembourg is sent with the same ease as one sent into the next town. "The system" takes care of it all for you. Give it a try! I get my mail at K6UVI @ N7DXT. I'll be watching for a message from you.

73's,,,,,Ernie

# VE News & Testing Dates

By Chet Jensen, W6XK

The Tri-County VE Team will be conducting amateur radio examinations for all classes of license in 1991 at various locations throughout Stanislaus, Merced, and Tuolumne Counties. Pre-registration is not required, in fact, we encourage "walk-ins" at our test sessions. The test fee is \$5.25 and you may pay with cash or a check made out to "ARRL/VEC". There is NO test fee if you are planning on taking only Elements 1A and 2 (the Novice test).

You must also provide the team with: 1) two proofs of identification such as a driver's license, social security card, credit card, etc. and 2) the ORIGINAL and a PHOTOCOPY of your most recent amateur license and any Certificates of Successful Completion (CSCE) in your possession. The team will furnish 610 forms, all test materials, and scratch paper. The following schedule has been established for 1991:

DATE	LOCATION	TIME	COMMENTS
Jan. 17, 91	Turlock	7 PM	NOV-TECH ONLY
Feb 16, 91	Merced	9 AM	ALL CLASSES
Mar 2, 91	Modesto	9 AM	ALL CLASSES
Apr 13, 91	Sonora	9 AM	ALL CLASSES
May 18, 91	Turlock	9 AM	NOV-TECH ONLY
Jun 1, 91	Modesto	9 AM	ALL CLASSES
Sept 7, 91	Modesto	9 AM	ALL CLASSES
Nov 16, 91	Sonora	9 AM	ALL CLASSES
Dec 7, 91	Modesto	9 AM	ALL CLASSES

The team will attempt to make the test room environment as quiet and orderly as possible. You are asked to arrive approximately one-half hour before test time to complete the registration process. All code tests are administered first in descending order (from 20 w.p.m. to 13 w.p.m. to 5 w.p.m.). All written elements are administered approximately one hour later in ascending order (Element 2-Novice through Element 4B-Extra). All code tests include a 10 question comprehension exam (fill-in-the-blank). Unsuccessful applicants can also pass a code test by copying one minute "perfect" during the code test session.

There are no tricks or deliberate mistakes. The code test transmission is a duplication of a normal ham-type on-the-air QSO. All written exams have been developed from published question pools. Please check the date on your study material so that you are preparing with the

latest and most up-to-date question pools. If you currently hold an Extra Class or Advanced Class operator license and would like to become a Volunteer Examiner with the ARRL/VEC, simply send a request asking for the "VE PACKET" to the American Radio Relay League, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. Complete the application form, submit a photocopy of your ham ticket and answer the questions on a simple "open-book" test.

Your "VE badge" should arrive in several weeks. If you are currently accredited with the ARRL/VEC, please contact me regarding your availability as a Volunteer Examiner during 1991.

Procedures are being developed by the FCC and the various VECs regarding the new "No-Code Technician License". It appears that this new class of license will become available in February.

Additional information will be distributed to all popular ham publications (including the STANISLAUS AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION'S READOUT) during the next couple of months. If you have any questions regarding testing procedures and/or dates and h)locations for our exam sessions, please contact me on packet using "SP W6XK @ N6REB" or phone (209) 883-2968. Good luck de Chet, W6XK.

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## Hi Yo Zorro

Calling himself, "Zorro", a citizen in Sonoma County, is assisting police in arresting drug dealers. Zorro apparently is an avid listener of cordless telephone frequencies and had heard many drugs deals being arranged. He has recorded the conversations and anonymously forwarded the tapes to local authorities.

The tapes contained phone conversations over a two month period between two local drug dealers. When local authorities listened to the tapes they were able to obtain enough information to obtain a search warrant. They ended up arresting several men on drug charges and hope for more....thanks to "Zorro".

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## No Minutes

Due to the holidays, the minutes of the December meeting were not ready in time for this issue of The READOUT. They will appear next month.

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# Editor's Notes

By Bob Pinheiro, WA6ZLO

Those at our December club meeting got the opportunity to meet our new ARRL Section Manager, Byron Smith, WA6YLB, from Exeter. Byron gave us the latest information on the new no-code license and other items of interest. He encouraged anyone with comments on the no-code matter or other items of interest with the FCC or ARRL, to contact him. His address is 504 S. Joyner, Exeter, Ca. 93221. We appreciate Byron making the long trip to attend our meeting.

- Hopefully, the post office will deliver this newsletter in time for you to make your plans to attend the very special meeting of the Turlock Amateur Radio Club on January 8, 1991. Tom Christian, VR6TC and family, will present the program on "Life on Pitcairn Island". Included will be slides and native music. Tom and his family will be in the Los Angeles area on the 8th and the Turlock club will pay his expenses to come to Turlock. This is a rare opportunity to see, hear and talk to Tom and his famous family. All Amateurs and the public are invited.

- Welcome to new member Judith Wetherington, KC6MEI, of Modesto. Judy is a new Technician and is an accounting clerk in Modesto. She and Dave, KJ6DL, operate from their home in Modesto.

- I received a note from Glen, KA6WBY, advising that his son Randy, KA6WWT, has been sent to Saudi Arabia as part of Operation Desert Shield. He was stationed in Germany prior to receiving his current orders. He expects to be there a least six month. Also, former SARA member, Chaplin Cal Gleaton, WA4ROH, of Lathrop, is now a part of Operation Desert Shield.

- A new call has arrived for Chas, KJ6CH. His new Extra call is AA6ZY. Chas has been a Extra for a long time, but just recently decided to ask for an Extra call sign.

- I'm happy to report that SARA member Neil, N6LAB, is coming along nicely following a brief stay in a local hospital. Neil had another partially blocked heart artery unclogged. Good luck Neil.

- Speaking of Neil, he and two other members are now actively working the OSCAR satellites. The others are Victor, KC6NSH and Tim, WB6UJD. Although they are still learning, they would be glad to help you if you are so inclined.

- The ARRL and the AMSAT (Radio Amateur Satellite Corp.) are registering concern for the Amateur radio

spectrum at the 1992 World Administrative Conference (WARC-92). This conference of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) will be able to modify allocations in several key parts of the spectrum. Proponents of new radio services are anxious about WARC-92, where mobile satellites, digital pocket phones and digital audio broadcasting (DAB) are a few of the new services looking for spectrum.

- In comments filed with the FCC, the ARRL supports the proposed 40 meter Amateur reallocation to 6900-7200 kHz worldwide. The Amateur Service would have exclusive access to 7000-7200 kHz segment and primary access to 6900-7000 kHz with secondary access available to land mobile radio.

- Anticipated spectrum fees and consumer electronics luxury taxes were absent from the 1991 budget-reduction legislation signed by President Bush last month. Some \$41 billion in savings this fiscal year will in part come from new gasoline and local/long distance telephone excise taxes and spending reductions. By the way, the FCC was appropriated \$115.8 million for their 1991 budget.

- Two teenage hackers have been arrested for causing more than \$2 million in damages at 73 Magazine's Peterborough, N.H. parent company offices. The 14 and 17 year old brothers accessed the company's electronic mail computers, left bomb threats and obscene messages, erased ad insertion orders and destroyed other valuable data. The youths were caught with the help of phone line traps placed by AT&T on incoming 800 number lines.

- The FCC has shown no signs of letting up in its recent enforcement program against questionable HF Amateur operations. The agency issued yet another Notice of Apparent Liability (NAL), for \$300 to Glenn Baxter, K1MAN of Belgrade Lakes, Maine. Baxter already owes the FCC \$1,000 for interference and \$500 for broadcasting. The source of the latest NAL is the Belfast, Maine Field Operations Bureau which charged Baxter with repeated use of the Amateur Radio Service to facilitate the business activities of several Amateur Radio organization with which he is connected.

Specifically, he was accused of broadcasting announcements soliciting membership in the International Amateur Radio Network and the Amateur Radio Peace Corp. According to the FCC this activity facilitated the business affairs of these organizations and therefore was in violation of Section 97.113 (a). Baxter was given 30 days pay the fines or show cause why he shouldn't.

- I hope you had a good holiday season and will continue to support your club by sending in your dues. See page 11 for the renewal information. Please remember the slight increase to help us keep up with expenses. 73, Bob.



# Special TARC Meeting Jan. 8th. at 7 pm VR6TC To Speak

A special program has been scheduled for the January 8, 1991 meeting of the Turlock Amateur Radio Club at 7 pm. Tom Christian, VR6TC, and his family, will present a slide /sound show depicting life on Pitcairn Island.

Tom and his family are inhabitants of Pitcairn Island and descendants of the nine British sailors who, in 1798, commandeered the Bounty and set Captain William Bligh, adrift. They returned to Tahiti for the women who became their wives and later took refuge on Pitcairn.

The events were made famous in the 1932 novel, Mutiny on the Bounty. Pitcairn Island is located in the South Pacific midway between New Zealand and South America.

Unlike other islands in the area, Pitcairn Island is without coral reefs with steep basaltic cliffs rising abruptly from the sea. There are no streams and the soil is volcanic. Agriculture is the chief industry on the island and oranges and pineapples are the main crops which are exported.

Pitcairn was discovered uninhabited in 1767 by an English navigator. In 1790, the island was taken over by nine of the mutineers of the H.M.S. Bounty. Only one of the original nine British sailors, Adams, was left in 1800, and from him the present inhabitants are descended. The population of the island is around 100.

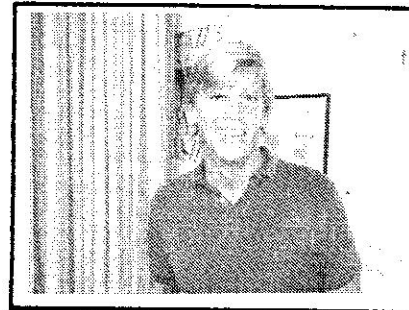
All Amateurs and the public are invited to this meeting at the Turlock War Memorial Building, 247 Canal Drive, Turlock. From Modesto go south on Hwy 99 to the Fulkerth Rd. off ramp. Turn left at the bottom of the ramp on Fulkerth and go to the second stop sign which is Golden State Blvd. Right on Golden State Blvd. to Canal Drive. Left on Canal Drive two block to N. Palm and turn left into the parking lot on your right. Talk-in on 147.03 Mhz.

**Have You Paid  
Your 1991 Dues?  
If Not, Use The Application  
Form on Page 11  
And Mail Your Check Today.  
Thank You !**

A reminder...1991 Dues are now due. See Page 11 for application form . Thank You!



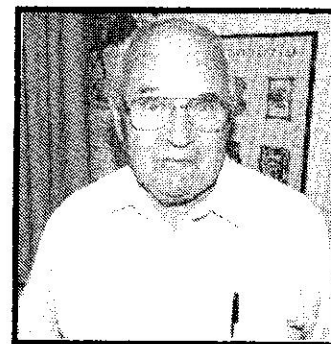
Neil Heath N6LAB



Ken Fisher, WA6CSC



Don Butterfield WA6QWY



Don Ellis K2OXU

# New Laws For 1991

As is customary, the dawning of a new year brings with it many new state laws. Effective January 1, 1991, the handwriting is on the wall for graffiti artists. If you are 13 years or older, a scribble on an inviting wall, fence, building etc., could leave you walking for the rest of the year. The new law allows courts to suspend the driving privileges of anyone convicted of graffiti type vandalism for up to a year.

In conjunction with this new law, cities and counties will be allowed to tax aerosol spray cans ten cents each, and indelible felt-tip markers five cents each to pay for graffiti cleanups. It will also become an infraction to write graffiti on public transit buses or trains and will require those convicted of such infractions to be sentenced to picking up litter or cleaning up graffiti.

Other new laws of note gives counties the authority to increase vehicle registrations by \$1.00 for up to five years to begin programs for removal of abandoned vehicles. Smog certificate fees will increase one dollar to \$7.00. Anyone registering a vehicle from out of state which does not meet California smog emission control standards would be assessed a one time "smog impact fee" of \$300. Another law allows local governments to seek approval from the voters for a \$1.00 vehicle registration surcharge with proceeds dedicated to prosecution of suspected auto thieves and other vehicle theft counter-measures. All service stations will now be required to post all of the taxes included in the per-gallon price of gas.

AB 2953 benefits handicapped persons by expanding the definition of "pedestrian" to include persons using wheelchairs or similar devices. A new law allows cities to lower speed limits to 25 mph on streets adjacent to senior citizen centers. SB 2061 allows law enforcement agencies to send warning letters to motorists who fail to stop behind school buses displaying rear flashing red lights. AB 2498 redefines traction devices. In addition to tire chains, vehicles can now use tire traction devices meeting CHP safety guidelines.

AB 2912 requires non-operable vehicles to be reported to the DMV with a \$5.00 fee. AB 4261 increases the maximum weight limits of travel and fifth-wheel trailers which may be towed by a driver with only a class "C" license. AB 2737 requires insurance companies which have "affiliated" group companies to offer insurance to good drivers at the lowest available rate. The law that required you to show proof of insurance to any peace officer is no longer required as of December 31, 1990. And finally, the limit in Small Claims court has been increased from \$2,000 to \$5,000.

# Technical Report

The 10 meter digi will be put at the 220 site soon, and it will operate at the 25 watt level. It looks like we will be putting up a 1.296 repeater in a few months as well and there is a possibility of a 900 meg unit.

The repairs are coming along as I can find time to get them done. I have much of the circuitry completed. I hope the crystals will come in in the next few days and we should get the 440 machine running sometime in January. I hope the patch will be operable about the same time. The big hold up is the crystals that were ordered over three weeks ago.

We have one dead receiver to work on that will be the autopatch up link. I'm still putting the logic circuitry together although it is well along. I also must cut the modulation down on the two meter machine which means that I will have to develop a control on the ACC ID'er. The levels are too hot now and it is clipping some of the tones and possibly overdeviating on strong audio. The clipping is in a low level stage rather than in the transmitter.

As to the 220 machine inference, I have asked Grady, K6IXA, to give me an assist in locating the problem. I can hear nothing down here but it is definitely there on the hill top.

The new two meter repeater has been ordered and should arrive in early January.

73 and again I thank everyone for being patient with all the problems until we can get them fixed. Happy New Year. De LeRoy, NV6S.

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## License Classes Set

Phil, WD0FFX, will be starting another SARA license class on January 17, 1991. The classes will be held at our club station, room 51, at Downey High School in Modesto. Classes will be for Novice, Technician and General licenses. Class hours will be 630 pm to 8pm. For more information call WD0FFX at 544-8515.

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## 10 Meter SARA Net

An informal 10 meter net of SARA members (and others) is growing. The net manager is Bill, WB6SHE and meets on 28.440 USB each Tuesday evening at 730 pm. Stations from Stockton to Turlock and the mountains have been checking in with Charlie, KJ6GE, handling any relays from his home in Ceres.

# FCC News Release on New Codeless License

DEC. 13, 1990 FCC ESTABLISHES NEW CODELESS CLASS OF AMATEUR OPERATOR LICENSE (PR DOCKET 90-55) The Commission has revised the examination requirement for the Technician Class operator license, thereby creating a new codeless class of amateur operator license.

After these revisions become effective, an examinee will not be required to prove that he or she can send and receive texts in Morse code telegraph signals to qualify for a Technician Class amateur operator license. The amateur service currently consists of five classes of licenses having increasing privileges and each being progressively more difficult to obtain. The classes are Novice, Technician, General, Advanced, and Amateur Extra.

The FCC noted that offering a codeless license class that authorizes control operator privileges at stations which transmit exclusively above 30 MHz, provides an entry level opportunity to otherwise qualified persons who find telegraph a barrier to pursuing the purposes of the amateur service. Therefore, the FCC has established the Technician Class as the codeless class of license. This license includes all amateur privileges above 30 MHz.

The Commission also amended the rules to grandfather frequency privileges below 30 MHz to current Technician Class licensees. In addition, the Commission decided to retain the Novice Class operator license in order to provide an alternate entry level operator license opportunity to persons who desire to pursue the purpose of the amateur service and who can pass a telegraphy requirement in place of the more comprehensive written examination requirement for the codeless Technician Class operator license.

## '10 Meter Digi'

*From page 2*

works just like the more commonly known VHF/UHF digi's with a couple of important exceptions. The main difference is the 300 baud rate and the input frequency, which is 28.103 MHz. This will allow Novices and Technician to use the system as the frequency is in the Novice portion of the 10 meter band. A few adjustments to normal VHF/UHF TNC parameters would also be required.

So, how does it all work? Suppose you want to call CQ through the digi. You first of all set your TNC for 300 baud. Then you would type from the command prompt: CMD:UNP CQ N6KMR-5. Then wait for a response. You

NO-CODE TECHNICIAN CLASS AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE Q&A (Based on FCC Info)

Q: How does the "new" Technician obtain HF privileges (below 30 MHz)? A: By passing a 5 WPM Morse code test. The Volunteer Examiner (VE) will award a Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) and will notify the FCC that the Technician has completed the Morse test. This CSCE will be valid for life. No new license or callsign will be issued.

Q: Will the "HF" Technician have to identify in any special way? A: No. The FCC decided not to require a suffix or any other special ID for Technicians, whether or not they have passed 5 WPM. The regular callsign system will continue in effect. The only indicator that one has HF privileges will be the CSCE and the name on file at the VE Coordinator and FCC.

Q: I already have a Technician license. Does anything change for me? A: No. You will keep all current privileges including your HF privileges. Q: The FCC proposed to get rid of Novice Class. Did this happen? A: No. Novice will remain as is. Q: How many questions will there be on the Technician written test? A: Fifty-five. The FCC decided not to require extra written questions about the "utility and tradition" of Morse code. Q: When will the "New" Technician license be available? A: By February, according to FCC staff.

Q: Why did the FCC do this? A: "The Amateur Service is not growing to the extent it probably should, based on what it has to offer. One of the reasons we think that providing a non-code entry will be helpful is that it will get people, particularly young people who have a primary interest in digital communications and computers, interested in this service." - Private Radio Bureau chief Ralph Haller, N4RH

can resend the CQ as many times as you want. When the band is open the world could respond. With the altitude of the digi at 3,400 feet, the ground wave propagation of the digi is greatly increased and contacts from Fresno to Sacramento are possible even when the band is open. When the band goes out, the local ground wave propagation is still reliable.

Also on frequency is a gateway to 145.07 Via N6KMR-3 which is Jim's home station. Please note that the digi and Gateway are not the same system and are at different locations.

Again, if there is any questions or possibly need some help getting on or trying to understand HF packet, please leave notes or questions at W6FGC-2 BBS or you can call Jim, N6KMR, at 209 531-1157.



# SARA 1991 Dues



It's that time of the year. Time to keep the ship afloat by paying your 1991 dues. The financial pressure on our treasury continues to grow with many increases led by postage and printing costs and liability insurance. All of our yearly expenses are paid from the general treasury, so your support is vital. We have only had three dues increases since our club was founded nearly 15 years ago in 1976. The first rate was \$15.00 per year.

A few years back we increased it to \$20.00 and this past year to \$21.00. The aforementioned increased costs, as well as others, has forced us to increase the dues by another dollar this year for full and head of family memberships. The student and associate rates will remain the same. The new rates are as follows.

### Membership Rate

<b>Full Membership</b> .....	<b>\$22.00</b>
<b>Student to Sophomore in College</b> ..	<b>\$11.00</b>
<b>Associate (Unlicensed)</b> .....	<b>\$11.00</b>
<b>Family... (head of household)</b> .....	<b>\$22.00</b>

For each additional member of the same household (living in the same home) \$11.00. The fourth, or more, members of the same family living in the same home are FREE!

Graduates of SARA license classes will be granted a free membership in SARA for the first year.

The dues for newly joining members will be pro-rated from the month they join.

<u>Join In:</u>	<u>Pay:</u>	<u>Join In:</u>	<u>Pay:</u>
January . . . .	\$22.00	July . . . . .	\$11.00
February ..	\$20.25	Aug . . . . .	\$9.25
March . . . . .	\$18.35	Sept. . . . .	\$7.35
April . . . . .	\$16.50	Oct . . . . .	\$5.50
May . . . . .	\$14.70	Nov . . . . .	\$3.70
June . . . . .	\$12.85	Dec . . . . .	\$1.90

## ARRL Memberships

SARA is an affiliated club of the ARRL. ARRL membership (new/renewals) can be made through SARA with the club earning a \$2.00 commission for handling. Make your check payable to SARA. We will deduct \$2.00 and send the ARRL a check for the difference.

Please be sure to include a membership application for new applicants. For renewals, include the mailing label from your last QST.

Rates are \$30.00 for full membership. \$24.00 for applicants 65 or older. Proof of age required. Special rates are available for Amateurs 17 or younger. Write to ARRL 225 Main St. Newington, Ct. 06111. Allow 5-6 weeks for delivery.

Membership & QST can not be separated. Fifty percent of dues is allocated to QST, the balance for membership.

**1991 SARA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION** Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Member Of ARRL? \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address \_\_\_\_\_ Bus. Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Date Of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Class of License: (E) (A) (G) (T) (N) \_ Year First Licensed \_\_\_\_\_

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## Calendar

Jan. 8, 1991 ... Tom Christian, VR6TC ... 7:00 pm  
 Special Program at TARC Meeting

Jan. 15, 1991 .. SARA Monthly Meeting ... 7:30 pm  
 Feb. 19, 1991 .. SARA Monthly Meeting ... 7:30 pm  
 Mar. 19, 1991 .. SARA Monthly Meeting ... 7:30 pm

SARA meets the third Tuesday of each month (except holidays) at the Stanislaus County Administration Building at 12th and H streets in downtown Modesto. The meetings are held in the lower-level conference room starting at 7:30 pm. Visitors and interested parties are most welcome. SARA is an ARRL Affiliated Club and is affiliated with Stanislaus County and City of Modesto RACES. Repeaters WDBEJF operated on 145.39 MHz and 223.68 MHz. Informational nets are held each Thursday evening at 8:00 pm.

**Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association**  
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**Happy New Year & Please Pay Your 1991 Dues**