

# THE READOUT

## The Stanislaus Amateur Radio News Publication

17 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE AND STILL GOING

The official newsletter of the Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association

1996  
January - February

### OUT WITH THE OLD IN WITH THE NEW

Well...It's that time of year when I want look back over the year and see what has been accomplished.

There have been many changes up on Mt. Oso. The tower has some new sections and new guy wires and anchors. Also, new ground rods have been added and all guy wires are grounded as well as new grounding for the tower. We now have a new 440 MHZ antenna and a different 2M antenna. The old 2M antenna was in need of some repair, which has been completed and now waits to be installed at the low level repeater site. Changes have been made inside "the shack" as well. We now have a new 440 MHZ repeater and some new control boards added to the 2M repeater. Although this does't sound like much, many trips by many people have been made "up the hill" in order to get all the work done.

We have had some fun also while working on Mt. Oso, and we have had some frustrating times. Seems that person named Murphy has followed us up the hill many times.

Some of our meetings this past year have been a little different. We had one meeting with the largest attendance that any one can remember. There have been some very interesting presentations and demonstrations. We did not have any fund raising drawings but we did start a special fund for new equipment, funded entirely by donations. It is out of these donations that the new 440 repeater was purchased.

Also, I have tried to have our meetings over by 9:30PM and for most of the meetings I think we kept very close to that. We will have to over look the January meeting. That meeting did run very long, but there was a lot of ground to cover. Setting a budget is never quick or easy.

Our field day effort this last year was very good considering that our weather prognosticators delt us

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Mins of Dec. Meeting The December 19, 1995 meeting of SARA was called to order at 735 PM by President, Jim Jones, N6UGH. Introductions of 13 members and guests followed.

1. UGH summed up the accomplishments of the club during the past year. The number one goal of upgrading all of radio systems on Mt. Oso, was achieved. 2. Treasurer Bob, KC6TVE gave the treasurer's report. Income year to date, \$4,244.33. Expenses year to date \$3,614.62. Check book balance \$2,345.95. 3. Secretary Bob, WA6ZLO, reported on the status of our rental agreements for sites on Mt. Oso. He reported that Bob, TVE, had discovered both the Bureau of Reclamation and Mt. Oso Communications (Ray Thompson) had overlooked billing SARA for the yearly rent for the last three years. Further, SARA overlooked the payments apparently due to the change in officers each year. It was also determined that our contract with the Bureau of Reclamation for the digital node site had expired in 1992. Letters and checks were mailed to bring us up to date. We also asked the Bureau of Reclamation to renew our contract, hopefully with the same terms and conditions as contained in the original agreement. 4. UGH reported on the Communication trailer and the club's efforts to get rid of it.

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The Readout

### QST QST QST from W6XK

The VE schedule for the Tri-County VE Team for 1996 is as follows:

Where? When? Who? Phone?

Modesto January 13, 1996 W6XK (209) 883-2968 Turlock  
May 11, 1996 W6XK (209) 883-2968 Modesto September 14,  
1996 W6XK (209) 883-2968

If you have any questions regarding the Tri-County VE Team examination schedule, please do not hesitate to contact W6XK @ KD6JZZ or phone (209) 883-2968.

\* \* THESE ARE ARRL/VEC SPONSORED SESSIONS \* \* \*

SUBJECT: ANOTHER FOR READOUT QST QST QST -  
The Tri-County VE Team is sponsoring an amateur radio examination session on Saturday, December 9, 1995 at 9:00 a.m. at Prescott Senior Elementary School on Rumble Road in Modesto, California.

All classes of license - Novice to Extra - will be administered. Test fee is \$5.90 (except Novice). Bring the original and a photocopy of your ham ticket and any CSCEs in your possession. 610s provided by the team. Two test rooms to minimize waiting. Take 99 to Standiford. East on Standiford to Conant. South on Conant to Rumble. East on Rumble one block to the school. For additional information, contact Chet (W6XK@KD6JZZ) or (209) 883-2968.

Good luck and vy 73, Chet W6XK

^^^ THIS IS AN ARRL/VEC SPONSORED SESSION ^^^

Upcoming sessions: January 13, 1996 - Modesto May 11, 1996  
- Turlock September 14, 1996 - Modesto

### **IN THIS ISSUE**

- \* **ARRL NEWS**
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- \* **CLUB MINUTE**
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**PACKET RAMBLINGS FROM THE CROWD:**



**N6LSF:** Tom, for the readout

Howdy Jim, Tom, N6LSF is in modesto for the holidays..Probably going back to Australia Jan 1...might put in the readout...73 for now..bill

by WB6SHE via Packet

**WELCOME BACK TOM !!!**

**Subject : OAKDALE CLASS**

\*\*\*\*\* NOTICE \*\*\*\*\*

A Series of Entry Level Amateur Radio classes are scheduled to begin on JANUARY 2, 1995 at The L.D.S. Church 1111 East "A" Street Oakdale Ca.

Classes Covering the NOVICE and TECHNICIAN license requirements are scheduled to be held every tuesday from 7:00pm to 9:00pm with A VE SESSION scheduled at the end of the classes on Saturday, March 23 1996

Contact, Chuck KJ6DO (209) 847-5491 for more information.

**UPGRADERS PRAYER:**

FROM THE KINGS ARC NEWSLETTER.

Now I set me down to study

I pray the lord I won't go nutty.

If I should fail to learn this junk

I pray the lord I will not flunk.

But if I do, Don't pity me, Jack,

Just lay my bones in the radio shack.

Tell my Elmer I did my best

Then pile my gear upon my chest.

Now I lay me down to rest,

And pray I'll pass the comming test

If I should die before I wake

Thats one less test I'll have to take!!!

**BEEN THERE, DONE THAT !!!!**

**OUT** continued from pg 1 one of the hottest weekends of the summer, and I had to come up sick on that particular weekend. We did however get the club call, WD6EJF, into QST as having 436 points, but the winner had 10,000 points. We may not have won but from the reports I have

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**ARES:** by K6UVI

ARES is alive and well!

Stanislaus County ARES is well over 60 strong with its members actively participating in several ways. Our organization is dedicated to providing emergency communication service to Stanislaus County during natural or man-made disasters. During the spring floods of Oristimba Creek and The San Joaquin River our organization was called upon three times to provide needed auxiliary communications. We also maintain close ties with the Tuolumne and Calaveras Counties group in case additional help is needed during the forest fire season.

Stanislaus County ARES has two meter antennas at most of the local hospitals installed to augment communications facilities already in place commercially. Often ARES members check in to the Wednesday evening net from these locations in an effort to maintain a visible presence and make certain the facilities are in tact. ARES has a similar antenna structure at the Red Cross headquarters in Modesto, and activities have been coordinated from that location as well. The County of Stanislaus values its ARES members and their capabilities so much that active members are registered with the county as Disaster Services Workers. As a result, we are covered under the blanket of insurance provided by the county when actively supporting its rescue work.

In November, our local ARES organization participated with many local service agencies in an SET (Simulated Emergency Test) designed to see if the hospitals were capable of operation when their emergency rooms were overloaded. Agencies participating included sheriff, police, Emergency Medical Services, the schools, all of the local hospitals, several fire departments, and the emergency dispatch center. The accident was a school bus with 50 high school students aboard. These students were recruited from the school drama classes and were painted and bandaged to simulate actual accident victims.

That same month, ARES participated in a Region wide communications test. Modesto's water supply was supposed to be contaminated with many casualties resulting. Several modes of communication were tested in conjunction with The Emergency Medical Services in Stanislaus County. These modes included several FM voice frequencies, FAX, and packet. Believe it or not, the FAX transmissions were the only ones that were not effective.

In addition to these exercises, our ARES group participates in many of the walk-a-thons and bike-a-thons where we sharpen our communicating skills. We also put together our own SETs from time to time with the same purpose in mind. Should any of you be interested in joining this organization and giving something back to the community in terms of service, please feel free to check into our net every Wednesday night at 8 PM on the SARA repeater, and introduce yourself to us. We'd be glad to welcome you aboard. 73, K6UVI.

NOTE: This section is provided in courtesy to the area ARES members and not so members of our club. Please support.

## Minutes of November Meeting The November 23, 1995

meeting of SARA was called to order by President, Jim, N6UGH at 737 PM. 17 members and guests present introduced themselves. 1. Minutes of the previous meeting were printed in the last newsletter. 2. LeRoy, NV6S, gave the Technical report. All systems up and running. LeRoy asked if the club might be interested in a 6 Meter repeater. He offered to donate a Motorola Micor transceiver to such a system. He pointed out that it would cost at least \$500 to get such a repeater going on Mt. Oso. Discussion followed. In view of the fact only a couple of members are equipped for 6 meters, it was decided to table the matter for now. 3. Treasurers report given by Bob, TVE. Income year to date-\$3951.18, Expenses \$2870.60. Checkbook balance \$2796 77. Equipment fund account includes \$463.20. 4. N6UGH reported that the club has received several surplus computers donated by Proctor and Gamble. UGH said that he was working on them and that he expected to be able to put together 7-8 working units which would be ideal for packet. They will be sold for \$75 to \$150. If you would like one, contact N6UGH. 5. N6UGH suggested that the club's communications trailer was not being used as expected and we should consider getting rid of it. TVE was going to check about the title. If one was found, it was suggested that we sell it. It was also suggested that we donate it to the local ARES group if they would take it. TVE reported the club had invested a little over \$300 renovating it. Matter tabled to later meeting. 6. Break for refreshments. 7. Derrill, WA6FBE, gave a short program on how to shop at government surplus equipment actions. He pointed out that many good buys can be made on electronic equipment. 8. Nomination of officers for 1996 opened. Nominated for President, AC6PQ, Mike. Vice-President- open. Secretary, Barbara, KE6SUM. Bob, TVE, said he would run again for Treasurer. Nominations from the floor and elections will be held at the December 18th club meeting. 8. Meeting adjourned at 9 PM

Respectfully submitted by Bob, WA6ZLO, Secretary.

## TECH REPORT by Leroy NV6S

Hello to all, The technical front has been pretty quiet for a while. The K-NODE died a few weeks ago. I took a trip up the hill and cleaned some contacts where a board plugs into the Micor receiver which solved the problem. That is a common problem with that radio and required a cleanup about annually. All appeared to be working fine when I left the hill. I received complaints that people were having difficulty getting into the digi again. I made another trip and had to retune the tuned cavity in the output of the Micor. Apparently I must have bumped the adjustment when I was there the working on the radio ont he previous trip. A mysterious interfering signal appeared a couple weeks ago and desensed the two meter repeater for about a whole weekend and seems to have disappeared now. At this point I have little idea of what might have been causing the problem. Perhaps it was a spur on another transmitter which finally caused the transmitter to die and now has been fixed. Perhaps we have a problem that will reappear soon. Anyway I cannot fix it when there is nothing to fix.

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## ARRL PACIFIC DIVISION UPDATE DECEMBER, 1995

by Brad Wyatt, K6WR, Director, Pacific Division, ARRL  
18400 Overlook Rd. #5, Los Gatos CA 95030-5850 (408)  
395-2501 Packet: K6WR@N0ARY.#NOCAL.CA Internet:  
bwyatt@arrl.org

### No Change For CW Requirements For HF Licenses:-

In late October, FCC announced the dismissal of three more petitions for changes in the CW speed requirement for HF licenses in the U. S. See page 15 December QST. On the international front, at the World Radio Conference - 95 in Geneva, Switzerland, it was decided at the Working Group level, that New Zealand's proposal to delete the Morse requirement for amateur operation below 30 MHz on a world wide basis will not be taken up at WRC-95. The matter of placing it on the agenda of a future conference, probably not before 1999, will be taken up in another Working Group, the Working Group of the Plenary, later in the conference. Nothing is final until adopted in the final review of documents in the Plenary, usually late in the conference. This conference is scheduled to end November 17.

### Vanity "Preferred" Call Signs - Still No Start Date -

It appears as though the program for the actual application for individual call signs, other than the sequentially issued club call sign part of the program, will continue to be delayed, perhaps until 1996.

### Telecommunications Reform and a Proposal to Eliminate the FCC:-

Telecommunications reform is one of the key topics in Washington DC currently as Congress returned from its August recess. Both the House and Senate have passed differing Telecommunication Reform Acts. Apparently these bills focus on broadcast TV, cable TV, telephone service and related matters. It appears that these bills do not affect the Amateur Radio Service directly, but there may yet be surprises. A conference committee from both houses is trying to reconcile the differences between S. 652 and H. R. 1555. The conference committees have been named. In the Pacific Division, Anna Eshoo (D) CA 14th is a member of the House conference committee. Little progress has apparently been made pending the resolution of the overall budget battle which continues as this is being written on Nov. 11. There are also various other proposals floating around Washington DC including proposals to eliminate the Department of Commerce and the FCC, as examples. This latter idea comes from the "Progress and Freedom Foundation," a "Think Tank" group consisting of folks with various political views. The proposal, essentially, is to eliminate the FCC and allocate the entire RF spectrum on a "property rights" basis. The mood in Congress seems to be to enact some sort of telecommunications reform, but just what is unclear so far. The ARRL Washington Team continues to monitor these developments and be active on our behalf. See September QST page 50, October QST page 53, and December QST page 52 for more details.

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### **Save Those MARS Stations:-**

With the closing of the military bases, the related MARS stations will likely be closed. There are several groups working to attempt to save the MARS stations involved. Several have written proposals to save the stations but with mixed results. One Federal program which might be a great aid in saving the MARS stations is the "Federal Lands to Parks Program" as described in a brochure "U. S. Government Printing Office 1993-0-359-650" and related information available from the National Park Service, Western Regional Office, Planning, Grants and Environmental Quality Division, 600 Harrison St., Suite 600, San Francisco CA 94107, (415) 744-3972. A preliminary contact with Pete Sly, the manager of this program has been made. There may be other contacts and programs, but this is the only one found so far. If you would like a listing of facilities closed or realigned since 1988 in the Pacific Division, just ask for a copy.

### **Pacific Division Ham Shot - Saved by Ham Radio:-**

As reported last month, Rory Clark, KD6RKL, of Citrus Heights CA, a suburb of Sacramento, was shot while standing at a bank automatic teller machine. Using his hand-held transceiver, he called for help on the N6ICW repeater owned and operated by Chris Huber. As a result, he was able to obtain medical assistance promptly. In the words of local authorities, "That contact saved Rory's life." As this Update goes to press, Rory continues to recover. In a conversation with him on Nov. 11, he was in good spirits and reported that he is now "up and about." Good luck, Rory, and thanks to all who were involved!

### **FCC News:-**

In late Oct., the FCC adopted the proposed changes announced on Aug. 17, by FCC Chairman Reed Hundt to save money, including personnel reductions and facility closings. In the Pacific Division, the Honolulu HI field office and the Livermore CA monitoring station would be closed by the summer of 1996. The Honolulu field office is now part of the FCC's San Francisco Region as the Seattle Regional office is now closed with the retirement of the Regional Director. One facility, in Laurel MD, would be the central site for "electronic monitoring." The FCC will add a new centralized FCC Call Center, where for the first time members of the public anywhere in the United States will be able to call one toll-free number to reach the FCC for information or assistance. See December QST page 84 for more details. In another announcement, the FCC is considering privatizing the resolution of radio frequency interference to consumer electronics devices. Under the plan, private repair shops would be used to fix problems in the field. FCC spelled out the Commission's concept at a meeting in Tampa, saying "Since it is not feasible for the Commission to attempt to resolve these complaints" (the most of which come from Citizens Band operation), "it is our policy not to investigate interference to home electronic equipment. Likewise, we do not offer any protection from interference." Over the past several years, the FCC has been unofficially out of the "retail" RFI business, and parties who contact the FCC about an interference problem are asked to work together toward a solution. Depending on what the local repair shop found, either the shop would fix the equipment or, in the case

of a violation of FCC rules, the service shop would refer the case back to the FCC for possible FCC action. The question of who would pay was not addressed. See October QST page 80 for additional details. The FCC Compliance and Information Bureau has recently released a new 24 page color publication titled, "Interference to Home Electronic Entertainment Equipment Handbook." This document states, "cost-cutting manufacturing techniques, such as insufficient shielding or inadequate filtering, may also cause your equipment to react to a nearby radio transmitter. This is not the fault of the transmitter and little can be done to the transmitter to correct the problem." The publication called Bulletin CIB-2, May 1995, apparently may be obtained directly from the FCC CIB Field offices, although reports of actual availability vary. One known source is the U.S. Government Printing Office, PO Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250. The price is \$2.50 postpaid. See October QST page 15 for additional details.

### **Spectrum Protection Battles Continue:-**

No "new" news since the Sept. 1995 Update, but the 2300 - 2310 MHz battle is coming soon.

### **New Pacific Division Appointments:-**

It is my pleasure to announce that Michael E. Petersen, WB6ZKF, of Placerville CA, has been appointed as a Volunteer Counsel in the El Dorado Co. area of California. Welcome, Mike, to the Pacific Division team! I am pleased to announce that Rusty Epps, W6OAT, after meritorious service as Assistant Director for Legal Affairs, has taken on a new responsibility as Assistant Director for Special Projects. His first effort will be to represent the Pacific Division in the development of the World Radio Team Championship - 1996 to be held in the San Francisco Bay Area in June 1996. Thank you, Rusty, for all your help and good luck with WRTC 96! Succeeding Rusty as Assistant Director for Legal Affairs will be Phil Kane, N6SP, who is currently serving as a Volunteer Counsel in the San Francisco and Redwood City areas. Phil will also continue the development of the antenna and tower ordinance data gathering project for the Pacific Division. Welcome and thanks, Phil, for taking on the additional role!

### **Antennas, Towers and Ordinances:-**

The struggles over these ordinances continue in Fresno, Sonoma and Napa counties. No significant news to report. Please forward copies of all antenna, tower and related ordinances to Phil Kane, N6SP, to help with the collection of this data. Phil can be reached at P. O. Box 280192, San Francisco CA 94128-0192, (415) 369-7373 and commlaw@netcom.com. Please read the article by Chris Imlay, N3AKD. ARRL General Counsel, "But I Never Agreed to That" starting on page 47 of Dec. 95 QST.

### **Scholarships and Awards:-**

There are many awards and scholarships covering a wide range of situations available to licensed Amateurs. For example, the ARRL Awards include the International Humanitarian (nomination due Dec. 31); the Herb S. Brier Instructor of the Year; Professional Educator of the Year;

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Professional Instructor of the Year; Excellence in Recruiting, Phil McGan Memorial Silver Antenna (nominations all due Feb. 15); Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial; Field Organization Volunteer of the Year (nominations all due March 31). See the September 1995 edition of the ARRL Section Leader or contact the Field Services Dept. at ARRL HQ for details. To apply for ARRL Foundation scholarships, write to The ARRL Foundation Inc., 225 Main St., Newington CT 06111. Deadline for applications and transcripts is Feb. 1. See Sept. QST pages 118-119. The Dayton Amateur Radio Association is now accepting applications for its 1996 college scholarships. Amateur Radio licensees graduating high school in 1996 are eligible for 2000 dollar scholarships. Each year the DARA offers eight such scholarships. No specific field of college study is required. Winners will be announced around June 1, 1996. Interested students should send a self-addressed, stamped envelope for an application to DARA Scholarships, 45 Cinnamon Court, Springboro, Ohio 45066. Other organizations will be announcing their dates for applications for their 1996 scholarships. Watch QST and other amateur radio publications for details.

**Coming Events:-**

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

**Interested Amateurs**

FR: Chet, W6XK - TRI-COUNTY VE TEAM

The results of the ARRL/VEC sessions held in Modesto and Stockton on 12/09/95:

Number of applicants: 26 Number of new licenses: 4 New Novice: 0 New Technician: 3 New Technician-Plus: 0 New General: 0 New Advanced: 0 New Extra: 1 Pass rate (30 elements administered): 40%

Participating VEs: W6XK, N6SAE, K6RAU, AC6LS, KA6FTA, WA6PIC, WA6GUO, KJ6DO, AC6PQ

Total number of applicants served by the Tri-County VE Team: 1986: 15 1987: 104 1988: 187 1989: 123 1990: 107 1991: 221 1992: 224 1993: 220 1994: 286 1995: 220 Total: 1,707

Upcoming test sessions: Modesto, CA - 1/13/96 @ 9:00 a.m. contact: W6XK @ KD6JZZ or (209) 883-2968

Oakdale, CA - 3/23/96 @ 9:00 a.m. contact: W6XK @ KD6JZZ or (209) 883-2968

**\*\* THIS WAS AN ARRL/VEC SPONSORED SESSION \*\***

**OUT** from pg 2 received a good time was had by all that braved the heat.

I will close this out by saying that I wish Mike AC6PQ, new President; and Jim KE6HVB, new VP; and Barabra KE6SUM, new Secretary; and Bob KC6TVE, money keeper; all the best in the new year. 73's Jim, N6UGH

**TECH REPORT** from pg 3

The \*5 function is working as planned. I have another board ready to go up to replace that board. It will give us an additional \*6 function which will allow you to put it back in tone squelch immediately if there are interfering signals. I hope to get that installed soon. I have been doing some other work on Oso and still have a couple other trips planned. Perhaps I will be able to plug the new board in on one of these trips. Once again I wish to thank those who have helped with the technical chores. A lot of progress has been made this year including tower upgrading and grounding. I still have much planned in terms of grounding and simply cleaning up the wiring around the repeaters. I thank everyone for being patient. 73 and cul.....LeRoy

**MORE LOCAL GOSSIP ... HERE...**

**Antenna Damage**

Hello Jim , Brad hr in Waterford. I lost my main antenna mast in the storm last weekend. Two dual band dipoles, my tv antenna and 2m/70cm dual band beam. Folded the mast in two about 20 ft up , ( luckily I have your two new ones to rebuild with ) , it's still folded over in the yard , I'd like to submit a photo of the mess for the newsletter but lack the camera. The antenna system was pointing EAST for Fresno TV the night it toped. Hay best 73, Brad.

**Has anyone else been a casualty of the storm too? Let me know and I'll print your demise here.... the editor.**

**SEND ME TO A FRIEND !!!!**

**SARA Membership Application**

Call : \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City & State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL Member?: ( yes ) ( no )

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Clas Of Lic: \_\_\_\_\_

Year First Licensed: \_\_\_\_\_

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

SARA, repeaters are, on MT.OSO/ 2mtr = 145.390 pl 136.5  
 220band= 224.14, / 440 band = 440.225 pl 136.5 / SARA  
 Ka-node =WD6EJF/ SARA= 144.91 / 10mtr digi= 28.103

**From: NASANews**

To: press-release-nasa Subject: Space Disturbance Detected by NASA Satellite before Reaching Earth Date: Monday, November 06, 1995 4:19PM

Don Savage Headquarters, Washington, DC November 6, 1995 (Phone: 202/358-1547)

Jim Sahli Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD (Phone: 301/286-0697)

RELEASE: 95-202

**SPACE DISTURBANCE DETECTED BY NASA SATELLITE BEFORE REACHING EARTH**

A NASA spacecraft detected a huge interplanetary disturbance which struck the Earth's protective magnetic field on Oct. 18, producing a magnetic storm and auroral displays, or "Northern Lights" that persisted for two days.

The phenomenon was visible in the United States as far south as Denver, according to scientists at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD, who reported critical satellite data to other government agencies and scientists around the world.

The information was relayed electronically to the U.S. Air Force and to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Space Environment Laboratory, in Boulder, CO, where evaluators issued an updated "space weather alert" to commercial satellite operators, electrical utilities and other organizations worldwide.

"The rapid response to the Wind observations and the prompt issuance of the alert were made possible by advanced data systems, technology and networks," said Dr. Keith Ogilvie of Goddard, NASA's Project Scientist for Wind. The central processing and distribution systems were developed and implemented by NASA and supported by the Wind science teams, NOAA, the Air Force, and international partners.

The disturbance, called a "giant magnetic cloud," was 65 million miles across and speeding toward the Earth at over 2.1 million miles per hour when it was detected at 3 p.m. EST on Oct. 18 by NASA's Wind spacecraft. Wind is an unmanned spacecraft patrolling interplanetary space 662,000 miles from Earth, pointed toward the Sun. Invisible to normal telescopes and to the human eye, the cloud was composed of magnetic fields and electrified subatomic particles ejected from the outer atmosphere or corona of the Sun.

About thirty minutes after the front edge of the giant cloud passed over the Wind probe, it swept over Japan's GEOTAIL satellite, which was located on the sunward side of the Earth in its 120,000 X 40,000 mile elliptical orbit. GEOTAIL also gathered important scientific data. Minutes later, the disturbance struck the outer limits of the Earth's magnetic field, which acts as a protective buffer. The impact compressed the magnetic field on the sunward side of the Earth and stretched it out away from the Sun on the night side, triggering the magnetic storm and aurora.

"It was detected with instruments on Wind that sense the

magnetic fields, particles and waves in interplanetary space," said Dr Ogilvie. "This is a good example of what we had been expecting since Wind was launched Nov. 1, 1994. This wonderful observation is a great first birthday present from Wind."

A complete analysis of the Oct.18 Wind data, and data from other spacecraft and instruments, may take months or years, but is expected to tell scientists much about how interplanetary disturbances propagate through space and affect the Earth's environment. Future disturbances are anticipated as the 11-year sunspot cycle is expected to peak shortly after the year 2000, according to NASA scientists.

EDITOR'S NOTE: A color drawing depicting the disturbance is available to news media representatives by calling the Headquarters Imaging Branch on 202/358-1900.

Photo numbers are: Color: 95-HC-651 B&W: 95-H-664

Users of the Internet World Wide Web can obtain background information on Wind, GEOTAIL and related space missions, and view scientific data on the Oct. 18 disturbance at the following URL:

[http://bolero.gsfc.nasa.gov/\(tilde\)solart/cloud/cloud.html](http://bolero.gsfc.nasa.gov/(tilde)solart/cloud/cloud.html)

-end-

NASA press releases and other information are available automatically by sending an Internet electronic mail message to [domo@hq.nasa.gov](mailto:domo@hq.nasa.gov). In the body of the message (not the subject line) users should type the words "subscribe press-release" (no quotes). The system will reply with a confirmation via E-mail of each subscription. A second automatic message will include additional information on the service. Questions should be directed to (202) 358-4043.

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**dec minutes** continued from pg 1.

He said that we have no papers on the trailer and therefore we can not sell it. Further, it would be expensive to outfit it with the proper equipment in order to get it registered in order to sell it. It was suggested that it be sold as "parts". The matter will be looked into further by the new officers. 5. UGH reported the surplus computers donated to the club by Procter and Gamble are ready to go. An ad will be placed in the next newsletter with all the information. Anyone wanting one of the computers should contact UGH. He intends to get rid of them ASAP. 6. Election of 1996 officers followed. Elected unanimously- President- Mike Heenan, AC6PQ VP- Jim Call, KE6HVB Secretary- Barbara Fiskum, KE6SUM Treasurer- Bob Kimball, KC6TVE Meeting adjourned at 9 PM. Respectfully submitted by 1995 Secretary, Bob, WA6ZLO.

**GOODBYE**

From the Editor, I wish to say goodbye to all that has served the club for the year 1995. Lets make 1996 a good one, Support the new officers and there appointiees, Good luck Mike and Crew !!!! HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!!!!.....



# THE READOUT

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Contributions to the READOUT are always welcomed and may be submitted to the editor by packet, phone modem or by disk in txt format, send packet mail too N6KMR@KD6JZZ or direct to me at N6KMR-1 on 144.910. The deadline for articles is the 15th of the preceding month of publication. Articles of religion or goverment politics are not accepted.

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

SARA is not responsible for the orgin or accuracy of the items published in the READOUT. No material published is intended to malign, defame. or cause harm to any individual , organization or location. Any interpretation to the contry is solely the responsibility of the reader.

## THE 1995 SARA OFFICERS....

**PRESIDENT:** Jim Jones, N6UGH

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Mark Lemmons, WB6BJN

**SECRETARY:** Bob Pinheiro, WA6ZLO

**TREASURER:** Bob Kimball, KC6TVE

SARA VHF Net: Thursdays @ 8:pm (except holidays) / 2mtrs - 145.539 pl 136.5 Club Call WD6EJF

**Satanislaus Amateur Radio Assoc, Inc.**

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**Next Meeting Is January 16, 1996 and also Febuary 20, 1996 At 7:30 pm & You're Invited to come**