



THE READOUT

The Stanislaus Amateur Radio News

21 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

JULY / AUGUST 1997

Field day 97.. REPORTS

Yagi Antenna Design:

by n6ugh

Designing a Yagi-Uda Beam Part 4 Up until now we have designed a driven element and added a reflector and a director. At this point we will skip most of the heavy math and I will just give you some simple formulas to figure the element lengths and spacing. The simplest Yagi beam to build is the 4 element beam. Because of the design of 4 elements the mechanical balance of 4 elements is easy to assemble on the boom. A simple flat plate of aluminum with 4 u-bolts, 2 for the boom and 2 for the element will make building easy. We will start with the reflector length. This is figured by dividing 484 by the frequency in MHz. So in figuring a 20 meter beam centered on 14.25 MHz we will have $484/14.25=33.965$ feet. Now we need to find the spacing to the driven element. To do this divide 197 by the frequency. Once again on our 20 meter beam we will have $197/14.25=13.825$ feet. This is the spacing from the center of the reflector to the center of the driven element. The length of the driven element will be 471.3 divided by the frequency and again on our 20 meter beam we have $471.3/14.25=33.074$ feet. Now the spacing between the driven element and the 2 directors will be figured by dividing 246 by the frequency giving $246/14.25=17.263$ feet on our 20 meter beam. This spacing will be the same between the driven element and the first director and then the

continued pg 2

BE NO-CODE OR USE NO CODE FIELD DAY 97 WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE ?

by N6UGH

Hear the one about the new ham that was talking to an older ham, I mean older cause he had been in amateur radio for a long time, and during the conversation the older ham asked the newer ham what grade he was. When the newer ham said he was a Tech No-Code the older ham abruptly discontinued the conversation, turned and walked to the other side of the room and remarked to another person, "These Tech No-Code people are everywhere."

Now the newer ham was left standing by himself wondering what happened! Bad breath, no. Aaaa, deodorant. no, used that. Must of been something I said, thought the newer ham. "Wonder what it was?"

As the evening continued the newer ham gathered some info about the older ham and found out that he was a Advanced class ham and had been a ham for 38 years.

Later on there was a group talking about CW and someone asked the older ham how much code had he been doing? His reply was, "Hell, I haven't done any code at all after passing the Advance test. I probably could'nt even tell the difference between an "e" or a "t". So don't look to me for any help with code. I have no use for the stuff!"

Newer ham turns and checks for bad breath again. No problem there. "Yea, must of been something I said, but what?"

continued pg 2

Well, another field day has come and gone. My son, KE6NLU, and I arrived at the field day sight on Monday the 24th. We decided we would make a week long camping trip and do some relaxing and also do some plinking with some new as well some old guns. First thing we did was put up a temporary 75 meter inverted-v so we could "keep-in-touch" on the morning and evening nets. On Thursday some of the others started to arrive with a greater number coming in on Friday. Most of Friday and Saturday was spent trying to get the multitude of antennas up in the air. I built a torpedo the slips over a shotgun and shoots a line over limbs in trees. Good idea, but I guess my choice of materials lacked something. As I squeezed the trigger the end of the torpedo went up into the tree with the biggest part still on the shotgun. I had just discovered a very quick way to split PVC pipe.

continued pg 2

IN THIS ISSUE

- : Coded Views.. By kc6vet
- : ARRL Pac.Div. . By Brad Wyatt
- : Field day ... By n6ugh
- : HA HA ... By kc6fsc
- : Field as seen ... By n6kmt
- : Yagi antennas ... By n6ugh
- : The Bozo says... kf6boz
- : Liquid courage? .. By kf6kax

Yagi's

from pg 1

same spacing between the 2 directors. Each of the directors will be the same length and to figure this we will divide 455.8 by the frequency. This will give us $455.8/14.25=31.986$ feet for the length of the 2 directors on our 20 meter beam. Adding all the spacing up we will have an over all boom length of 48.351 feet. This will be the center to center spacing so a little will be added to each end to allow space for the u-bolts holding the elements onto the boom. This will give a power gain of about 9 dB over a dipole and will have a F/B ratio of over 27 dB. The simplest design for a driven element is the dipole. Cut the driven element in half and feed with a 4/1 balun. There are many different ways to mechanically support the split driven element. One is to use PVC pipe to insulate the element from a small piece of aluminum angle bolted to a flat plate on the boom. This is just 1 way to construct the driven element. The builder is free to try any method that will mechanically hold the element and keep the element insulated from the boom. The best aluminum to use in constructing a Yagi beam is called commercial alloy 6061-T6. This aluminum tubing gives the best strength without being brittle and good corrosion resistance. When buying the tubing ask for .058 wall thickness. This allows the next smaller size to telescope into the larger size making assembly easy when tapering elements. There are many outlets for aluminum tubing but many places have a minimum sales amount so you might want to build a few antennas or build with a friend. The boom material can be made cheaply and simply by using irrigation pipe. In this valley there are lots of places to get new or used irrigation pipe. Now that we have all the measurements and a few construction hints all that is needed is to gather all the parts and a few hand tools and start building.

Good luck and happy building.

N6UGH ... _ _

code

from pg 1

Older ham was still talking to the group. "What are we going to do about all these Tech No-Codes?" One of the other hams answers, "Want to get rid of the Tech No-Codes? The best way I have found is the next time you meet one grab them by the hand and help them up-grade. You know, if every ham did that there would'nt be any No-Codes!"

Older ham shakes his head back and forth, "Should'nt of let them know-nothings into ham radio in the first place". Turns and walks off.

New Tech No-Code drives home wondering who really needs help? The new Tech No-Code, or the Advanced ham?

"Yep, must of been something I said."

Anyway, back to my code tapes. DADITDIT let's see, dog-did-it, that's a "D". DITDIT-----

If this will not do I will be at the next meeting and can give you a disk with story set in columns plus the second half of It Was Fun While It Lasted story also. Pleas advise.

Sea-U-Later {]:-) John KE6VET

It Took Liquid Courage

by kf6kxx

As one of the clubs newest Hams I can say beyond a shadow of a doubt that the yearly celebration known as FIELD DAY was everything I expected, plus some. I had been told by veteran Hams, that Mount Sara where we must journey for field day was one of the best spots in the world to work dx.

I must admit that I was nervous and as a rookie ham I was intimidated by not only the phrase CQ, but suffered from a severe case of tongue-tie'itus. I tried practicing on the cool blue kenwood but only frustrated myself to embarrassment.

On arrival to Mount Sara, I quickly observed that those veteran Hams were right, this was the perfect place for a field day. continued pg3

Field day

from pg 1

At this point a numer of sayings came into mind. best laid plains, back to the drawing board, etc. Anyhow, we did manage to get wires strung into many trees with the help of sling shots brought by Leroy, NV6S, and Mel, NF7U. We did manage to get 9 stations on the air, too bad band conditions didnt cooperate. The only band that really did much was 40 meters but I think even with conditions all operators had a good time. At noon on Sunday we had the drawing for the prizes. With the help of The 2 HT holsters donated by Doug & Susan Huston of Starfire Tech were won by NV6S and KF6BOZ. The mag mount dual band antenna donated by Jim Kataoka and Steve Burluson of Kataoka Radio Sales and Service was won by KF6FIR. The AM-FM radio donated by Jim Call, KE6HVB, was won by KF6LEU. Three ground rods donated by Derrill Coffman, WA6FBE, and Jim Jones, N6UGH, were won by WD6FFF, KF6KXX, and KE6UCY. The 1 year free subscription to World Radio was won by KF6BPC. At this point all the afore mentioned winners tickets were placed back into the can and Mark, WB6BJN, was called upon to draw out 1 ticket and the winner of a years free dues in SARA was KF6BPB. We had some dust, we had some cool weather, and we had much good food but I think all that attended the SARA sight of Field Day 97 had a good time. And for all those that didn't make it up the hill you sure missed out on an excellent BBQ of tri-tips and potato salad and baked beans. Field Day 97 is just a memory but now is the time to start planning for SARA Field Day 98. I look forward to seeing all there next year.

N6UGH ... _ _

Radio Quotes

from the OLE BOZO

Hello to everyone who reads the newsletter, The newsletter always seems to have good information. I might not read it all, but I do read a majority of it. By the way Jim (n6kmr) you do a fabulous job, continued pg 3

courage?

from pg 2

What they didnt tell me, but I immediately observed was Mount Sara was outfitted with verticals, dipoles, beams, ground planes coax's, ladder line and radios of every shape size and color. Diffinently Ham mecca, I was impressed by the whole show.

The welcoming committee (Jim N6UGH, Duane KF6BPA, Ed KF6FIR, Jim N6KMR, Derrell WA6FBE and Al WG6M) showed both Tim KN6GU and I around Mount Sara. They did their best to put me at ease, but I still was unable to un-knot my tied tongue and it showed.

Tim KN6GU, who accompanied me on this first journey to Mount Sara was also enjoying his first Field Day, but being a ham veterano he immediately diagnosed my tongue-tied condition and prescribed an old family remedy known as liquid courage or in this case copious amounts of a orange nector labeled Fuzzy Navel. I tossed back a couple of those fuzzy navels and immediately felt my toung unwind and my back straighten. Ed KF6FIR gave me a 2 meter Yaesu for one hand and a yagi for the other. Steve KF6BMP ushered me into his motorhome and within moments CQ CQ CQ WHISKEY 6 ECHO ROMEO ECHO - FIELD DAY was rolling off my tongue smooth as molasses, and fast as lightning. I had my first, second, then third contact, they were coming in fast and I was scribbling call signs faster than our states speed limit....three pages later I was requesting more liquid courage, not for my nerves, but for my memory! I wanted to remember my first field day and all those who made it an excellent time. Thanks to all those Hams who made my day!

See ya at Mount Sara next year.....

Paul KF6KXX

Ese's HA HA

Found this on the TNOS-TOPICS mail list... Thought you guys might just get a kick out of it.....

Tim...ke6fse

Date: Sun, 27 Apr 1997 15:18:19 -0400 (EDT) From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com> Subject: fwd: The Light Bulb Change To: TNOS Topics Mailing List <tnos-topics@lantz.com>

How true it is! You all ought to enjoy this....

Brian

Q: How many internet mail list subscribers does it take to change a light bulb?

A: 1,334:

1 to change the light bulb and to post to the mail list that the light bulb has been changed

14 to share similar experiences of changing light bulbs and how the light bulb could have been changed differently.

7 to caution about the dangers of changing light bulbs.

27 to point out spelling/grammar errors in posts about changing light bulbs.

53 to flame the spell checkers

156 to write to the list administrator complaining about the light bulb discussion and its inappropriateness to this mail list.

41 to correct spelling in the spelling/grammar flames.

109 to post that this list is not about light bulbs and to please take this email exchange to alt.lite.bulb

203 to demand that cross posting to alt.grammar, alt.spelling and alt.punctuation about changing light bulbs be stopped.

111 to defend the posting to this list saying that we are all use light bulbs and therefore the posts ****are**** relevant to this mail list.

306 to debate which method of changing

light bulbs is superior. where to buy the best light bulbs, what brand of light bulbs work best for this technique, and what brands are faulty.

27 to post URLs where one can see examples of different light bulbs

14 to post that the URLs were posted incorrectly, and to post corrected URLs.

3 to post about links they found from the URLs that are relevant to this list which makes light bulbs relevant to this list.

33 to concatenate all posts to date, then quote them including all headers and footers, and then add "Me Too."

4 to suggest that posters request the light bulb FAQ.

1 to propose new alt.change.lite.bulb newsgroup.

47 to say this is just what alt.physic.cold_fusion was meant for, leave it here.

143 votes for alt.lite.bulb.

12 to post to the list that they are unsubscribing because they cannot handle the light bulb controversey.

19 to quote the "Me Toos" to say, "Me Three."

3 to admonish the unsubscribers for not unsubscribing correctly.

73 de Tim...

Quotes from pg 2

as always.

I also believe that the club needs more activities, especially if the SARA club is to survive. When and if we do get new members we want them to stay and not get bored and move on to another club. There are alot of clubs out there.

I have had a few suggestion that wouldnt even cost the club anything, what they were was since we have a meeting once a month maybe we could have a get together once a month at a park, it can be a BYOF.(bring your own food) If anyone else has any other suggestions that would encourage the club to stay alive, I would imagine

continued to pg 4

Quotes from pg 2

that the President Ed kf6fir would be more than happy to listen. I have brought this up a few times but it has never seemed to go anywhere. I admit that I havent talked to Ed about it yet, but I have mentioned to others. Well at the next meeting I will bring it up. Hope to here other suggestions as well.

Concerned about our club

KF6BOZ Nanette

**Northern California Packet Association
Packet Band Plan -- May 1997**

50 MHz -----51.12 SCA backbone 51.14
BBS 51.16 Keyboard to Keyboard 51.18
Experimental

144 MHz -----144.31 BBS (1) 144.33
Balloon & experimental (1) 144.35
Keyboard to keyboard (1) 144.37 BBS
LAN forwarding (1) 144.39 APRS (same
as Canada) (1) 144.41 duplex, lower half
(145.61 upper half, 1.2 MHz split) (1, 2)
144.43 TCP/IP (OK to run duplex with
145.65) (1) 144.91 Keyboard to Keyboard
144.93 BBS 144.95 DX Cluster 144.97
BBS 144.99 BBS 145.01 APRS 145.03
Keyboard to Keyboard 145.05 Keyboard
to Keyboard 145.07 BBS 145.09 BBS
145.61 duplex, upper half (144.41 lower
half) (2) 145.63 BBS 145.65 TCP/IP 9600
bps 145.67 DX Cluster 145.69 BBS
145.71 9600 bps 145.73 BBS 145.75
TCP/IP 145.77 DX Cluster 145.79 BBS
146.58 DX Cluster

(1) The allocations from 144.31 through
144.43 are tentative for now. Please be
sure you are not over-deviating on these
frequencies since they are relatively close
to the weak-signal sub-band.

(2) Duplex channels are intended for
high-volume applications. 9600 baud is
encouraged, but not required at this time.

220 MHz -----223.54 LAN, East Bay
(EBAY) 223.56 LAN, West Bay (WBAY)
223.58 LAN, Gilroy (GARLIC) (3) 223.60
LAN, Sacramento Valley (SACVAL)
223.62 LAN, South Bay (SBAY) 223.64
TCP/IP 223.66 Keyboard to Keyboard
223.68 BBS 223.70 LAN, Monterey Bay
& North Coast (MRYBAY) 223.72 LAN,
North Bay (NBAY) 223.74 DX Backbone

(3) TCP/IP interlink (Sacramento) Not to
interfere with node uplink.

440 MHz -----441.50 Any

More 70 cm packet channels are currently
being investigated. Contact the NCPA for
details.

900 MHz -----903.500 1 MHz wide -
TCP/IP 904.500 1 MHz wide - TCP/IP
915.500 1 MHz wide - Experimental
916.100 200 KHz Wide - Experimental
916.300 200 KHz Wide - Experimental
916.500 200 KHz Wide - Experimental
916.650 100 KHz Wide - Experimental
916.750 100 KHz Wide - Experimental
916.810 20 KHz Wide - Experimental
916.830 20 KHz Wide - Experimental
916.850 20 KHz Wide - Experimental
916.870 20 KHz Wide - Experimental
916.890 20 KHz Wide - Experimental
916.910 20 KHz Wide - Experimental
916.930 20 KHz Wide - Experimental
916.950 20 KHz Wide - Experimental
916.970 20 KHz Wide - Experimental
916.990 20 KHz Wide - LAN links
(Contra Costa County only)

900 MHz activity is on a non-interference
basis to vehicle locator service. 900 MHz
is not considered suitable for
omindirectional systems, use for point-
to-point links only.

1296 MHz -----1248.500 1 MHz wide -
Experimental (4) 1249.000 to 1249.450
Unchannelized - Experimental 1249.500
100 KHz wide - Experimental 1249.600
100 KHz wide - Experimental 1249.700
100 KHz wide - Experimental (4)
1249.800 100 KHz wide - Experimental
(4) 1249.870 20 KHz wide - Experimental
1249.890 20 KHz wide - DX Packet
Cluster 1249.910 20 KHz wide -
Experimental (4) 1249.930 20 KHz wide -
Experimental (4) 1249.950 20 KHz wide -
Experimental (4) 1249.970 20 KHz wide -
Experimental (4) 1249.990 20 KHz wide -
Experimental (4) 1250.500 1 MHz wide -
Experimental 1251.500 1 MHz wide -
Experimental 1297.000 to 1298.000
Unchannelized - Experimental 1298.500 1
MHz wide - Experimental (4) 1299.000 to
1299.450 Unchannelized - Experimental
1299.500 100 KHz wide - Experimental
1299.600 100 KHz wide - Experimental
1299.700 100 KHz wide - Experimental
(4) 1299.800 100 KHz wide -
Experimental (4) 1299.870 20 KHz wide -

North Coast LAN 1299.890 20 KHz wide
- DX Packet Cluster 1299.910 20 KHz
wide - Experimental (4) 1299.930 20 KHz
wide - Experimental (4) 1299.950 20 KHz
wide - Experimental (4) 1299.970 20 KHz
wide - Experimental (4) 1299.990 20 KHz
wide - Experimental (4)

(4) Full-duplex channel pairs: 1249 / 1299
(eg: 1249.910 / 1299.910)

Definitions -----''Experimental'' --
Anything goes except full service BBS or
any 24 Hr/Day services (nodes, gateways,
etc). This is where you can come and test
new gear, programs, etc. These channels
may be reassigned in the near future, so
no permanent activities please.

''Backbone'', ''Uplink'', ''Interlink'' --
No uncoordinated stations. These
channels are for specific purposes as
defined by the NCPA and/or affiliated
groups. This is where the various BBS,
nodes, and clusters interlink and are very
high usage channels. Please use the
normal user entry points of the network
you want to access rather than these
channels.

''Keyboard to Keyboard'' -- Anything but
full service BBS, TCP/IP, or DX Cluster.
Primarily chat channels. These are also
the primary emergency channels.

''BBS'' -- These frequencies are for user
access to a full-service BBS. Keyboard-
to-keyboard is tolerated. Please don't put
high level nodes or digipeaters on these
channels since they are *local*. A low-
level direct link or node that links into a
backbone on another frequency is the
proper implementation.

''LAN'' -- Local Area Network. BBSs are
grouped into LANs for more efficient
forwarding. A LAN frequency is the
forwarding channel within a LAN. Please
do not attempt to access the BBS network
on these channels.

''Personal mailbox/maildrop'' -- A BBS-
like system, often running entirely within
a TNC, with a small number of users that
handles information of a personal, local or
special-purpose nature. A mailbox is
allowed on keyboard-to-keyboard
channels *only* if it does not forward
with other BBSs. Mailboxs may forward
with full-service

continued pg 5

Band plan from pg 4

BBSs on LAN channels at the discession of the BBS SYSOP.

“TCP/IP” -- Stations using TCP/IP protocol on top of AX.25. Some AX.25 tolerated to communicate to TCP/IP stations if a compatible p-persistence access method used.

“DX Cluster” -- Northern California DX spotting network. No other activity should be on these channels.

“9600 Bps” -- Stations using 9600 Bps with direct FSK (G3RUH, TAPR, etc.) modems.

Procedure for changes -----
--Users should contact either the frequency coordinator or the NCPA board. The frequency coordinator will then present the requests to the board at the next meeting along with suggested assignments. The NCPA board elected by you, the packet user, makes all assignments!

Note: NCPA does not coordinate individual stations, nodes, etc. BBS station coordination is done by the PSNC, DX spotting is done by DXPSN.

NCPA board internet remailer: board@ncpa.ampr.org NCPA frequency coordinator: Roy KA6EYH@KA6EYH (cunuk@muncey.com) NCPA president: Gary WB6YRU@N0ARY (wb6yru@arasmith.com)

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE
BULLETIN 124.03

FROM AMSAT HQ SILVER SPRING, MD, MAY 04, 1997 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT BID: \$ANS-124.03

MIR: (New frequencies implemented 1 January 1997: Uplink 145.2 MHz FM Downlink 145.8 MHz FM) Note, the above split is used for both packet and voice operation. ANS has received information that states that all amateur activity from MIR has been suspended until further notice.

SAFEX, MIR 70cm Repeater (Uplink 435.750 MHz FM, Downlink 437.950 MHz FM, Subaudible tone 141.3 Hz) ANS has received information that states

The Readout

that all amateur activity from MIR has been suspended until further notice.]

RS-10: (Uplink 145.865-145.905 MHz CW/SSB, Downlink 29.36-29.4 MHz CW/SSB) RS-10 is operational.

RS-12: (Uplink 21.21-21.25 MHz CW/SSB, Downlink 29.41-29.45 MHz or 145.91-145.95 Mhz CW/SSB) The downlink on 10m continues to be very strong, with some slow fading noticeable, but still nice strong signals heard and worked from Arizona and Puerto Rico into northern NJ. [ANS thanks Dick Montgomery, N3DV, for this update.]

RS-15 (Uplink 145.858-145.898 MHz CW/SSB, Downlink 29.354-29.394 MHz CW/SSB) Be aware that RS-15 has battery charging problems. When the satellite is in the dark it has low output power.. [ANS thanks Geoff Perry for this report.] (Hint: If SSB doesn't work for you, try CW. CW is very easy to hear on the downlink!)

RS-16 RS-16's 70 cm, 435.504 Mhz beacon on RS-16 operational. RS16 had no beacons active on 10 meters ,2 meters . [ANS thanks Kip Pettersson, SM1TDX,

FO-20 (Uplink 145.9-146.0 MHz CW/LSB, Downlink 435.8-435.9 MHz CW/USB) Operating normally. Strong downlink signal.

KO-23 (Uplink 145.85, 145.9 MHz FM, Downlink 435.175 MHz FM, 9600 Baud FSK.) KO-23 operating normally. KO-25: (Uplink 145.980 MHz FM, Downlink 436.5 MHz FM, 9600 Baud FSK.) KO-25 operating normally. [ANS thanks Jim Weisenberger, AA7KC, for his reports on KO-25 and KO-23.]

AO-27: (Uplink 145.85 MHz FM, Downlink: 436.792 MHz FM (As of April 1, 1997) Operating normally. The satellite continuous working excellently over Europe ,but continues to be interfered with by non amateur operators.

Current AO-27 schedule information can be found at www.umbra.com

Tepr 4 = 32 counts 16 Minutes Tepr 5 = 66 counts 18 Minutes

AO-27 Will turn on Every pass 16 Minutes after entering the sun and will continued to page 6

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 time applicants dues are pro-rated from the month you join the club. Use \$1.91 times the number of months remaining in the year. I.E- You join in July = 6 x \$1.91 = 11.46

SARA, repeaters are, on MT.OSO... 2mtr > 145.390 pl 136.5, 220band > 224.14 pl 136.5, 440 band >440.225 pl 136.5, 6mtr. > 52.800 , packet> SARA> 144.91and 145.65 TCP/IP&ax25 radio mailbox & Internet e-mail... Internet address > Sara@modesto.n6kmr.ampr.org Web page > HTTP://WWW.joshuanet.com/~n6kmr/index.html CHECK US OUT....

stay on for 18 minutes. This corrects the early shut off that has been going on for the passed few weeks.

Northern Stations will see the satellite turn on after AOS for the next week or so. This is due to the TEPR states being calculated for a while from now instead of Today. So the schedule will be drifting into a better state. This gives us a longing time before the schedule gets out of whack.

Thanks goes out to the Alternate Control Station KM4NZ/NIXAU for the use of their station via the Internet for Controlling the satellite. With new software that lets me control the satellite at remote sights, He hopes to be able to keep the TEPR Schedule more up to date. [ANS thanks Michael Wyrick, N4USI, AO-27 Control-op, and Miguel A. Menendez, EA1BCU, for this update.]

FO-29 Voice/CW (Uplink 145.9-146.0 MHz CW/LSB, Downlink 435.8-435.9 MHz CW/USB) Digital (Uplink 145.85, 145.87, 145.910 MHz FM, Downlink 435.910 MHz FM 9600 baud BPSK) The latest FO-29 Schedule can be found at <http://www.kt.rim.or.jp/~jr1nvu/eindex.html> May 2(Fri) 10:26z(19:26) JD 1200bps 9(Fri) 00:57z(09:57) JD 9600bps 16(Fri) 01:35z(10:35) JA 23(Fri) 00:29z(09:29) JD 1200bps 30(Fri) 01:07z(10:07) JD 9600bps [ANS thanks Kazu Sakamoto, JJ1WTK, for this report.]

----- End of forwarded message -----

Area for Kf6fir but did not get it in.... Agian....!!!! Wasted Space...

ARRL PACIFIC DIVISION UPDATE JULY, 1997

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

New Federal Legal Protection for Volunteers:-

On June 18, President Clinton signed into law S. 543, "The Volunteer Protection Act of 1997" which should provide Federal protection from "frivolous, arbitrary, or capricious" lawsuits against our OO/AmAux and VE volunteers as well as other volunteers. The law is known as Public Law 105-19 which becomes effective on Sept. 16, 1997. The text is now 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 soon. PL 105-19 is much broader in scope than the Amateur Radio Volunteer Services Act of 1997, discussed briefly below. 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 July QST, p. 15-16 for more details based on information available at QST press time. The legal community continues to review the details.

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 be withdrawn from further consideration. As previously reported, the Amateur Radio Volunteer Services Act was introduced in Congress in March 1997 as H.R. 1013, by Congresswoman Anna Eshoo (CA 14th) from the Pacific Division area. This bill was designed to protect volunteers in the VE and the Amateur Auxiliary/OO programs. At last report, 29 cosponsors

have signed up. an increase of 8 over last month's total. For now, let's see what PL 105-19 is and what Congresswoman Eshoo plans before we attempt to secure additional cosponsors for H.R. 1013.

FCC Issues Amateur Spread Spectrum NPRM:-

On March 9, 1997, the FCC issued a Notice of proposed Rule Making (NPRM), WT Docket 97-12, proposing to make significant changes in the regulations governing Amateur Radio use of spread spectrum (SS) technology. The changes are proposed in order to encourage greater use of this mode, a mode that is expanding very rapidly in the Part 15 commercial world. This NPRM was in response to an ARRL petition submitted on Dec. 12, 1995. The text of the Docket can be found on the FCC web site at <http://www.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Wireless/Notices/1997/fcc97010>. See page 78 of May QST for more information. Comments were due by May 5. Reply Comments were due on June 5. The text of the known Comments and Reply Comments can be found on the TAPR WWW site --<http://www.tapr.org/ss>. Only 14 entities filed Comments, while a few more filed Reply Comments -- a very low number of filings for such an important issue. I urge you to read the filings and participate now even after the deadline.

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. There is clearly no consensus of opinion. Please remember that this is just a proposal and there is no continued page 7

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. In addition to the U.S. license restructuring proposal it developed, the WRC-99 Planning Committee of the ARRL Board was charged with the task of developing recommendations to be passed to the U.S. Government delegation to WRC-99, dealing with potential changes in the International Telecommunications Union Rules governing the Amateur Service. This activity resulted in the survey published in QST last August, 1996, as well as an additional mail survey subjected to careful statistical controls. The results of this survey were published in the Jan., 1997, QST.

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.

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 number 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:-

After another round of meetings in Geneva, concluded in mid June, it appears that the Little LEO companies have not been able to advance their proposal for the "broad allocation" scheme they submitted to the U. S. delegation to WRC 97. The FCC/NTIA apparently have not been able to develop a position on this whole matter as yet. This situation may remain this way until WRC 97 opens in Geneva in November. However, other country's delegations may yet propose this or some other scheme as the Little LEO companies have been busy in other parts of the world trying to sell their ideas. Also, while it is possible that in WRC 97 nothing may come of this matter, the Little LEO companies are not giving up. Regardless of what happens at WRC 97, they are sure to be back for WRC 99. However, their fate may be resolved for them by the financial markets as it evaluates Little LEOs with other competitive satellite programs. See page 71, July QST for more information. ARRL continues to be deeply involved with this matter. 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.) On another topic, unhappily we may be coming closer to having the wind profiler devices in the 70 cm. band. Details are very sketchy, but ARRL is trying hard to be sure that if there are any allocations they are not in certain key parts of the band. Remember that our allocation at 70 cm. is secondary not primary. There is some interesting news on the entire Spectrum Auction process. Some in Congress are having second thoughts on several aspects of this process. See page 16, June QST and page

16, July QST. Unfortunately, the future of all these threats is unknown. We won't be able to breathe easily about WRC-97 issues until the final gavel comes down on Nov. 21, 1997.

Pacific Division Amateurs Named to CQ Hall of Fame:

At the Dayton Hamvention, Bob Ferrero, W6RJ, and Bob Vallio, W6RGG, were named to the CQ DX Hall of Fame, and Carl Cook, AI6V, was named to the CQ Contest Hall of Fame for their contributions and accomplishments in their respective fields. Congratulations to Bob, Bob and Carl!

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.
- ARRL Field Day, June 28-29, 1997.
- Humboldt ARC Hamfest, Aug. 2-3, 1997, in Eureka, CA. Contact Wayne and Cynthia Carlson, KF6AAP & KF6CMC at (707) 668-4396.
- River City Hamfest, Aug. 16, 1997, at Bella Vista High School, Fair Oaks, CA. Contact Lewis Tuttle, AC6QP, (916) 771-2336
- 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.

kf6fir report goes here when he gets time to get it in on time!!!!

Field Day 97 !!

by n6kmr ... editor

All I can say to start is one word....WOW....Did you miss a good one. The social event of the Year! I came up on Friday night about 8 PM. Found a good site to set up, after leveling the truck and setting up the bedding and such. I went to visiting the other campers in our group and noticed most of the rigs were all ready in anticipation for the next day. I went to the first trailer there was Duane KF6BPA and Nan KF6BOZ (duane says kf6bozo) they were enjoying dinner and downing a few Brewed Pale Ales. Then off to the military installation of N6UGH Jim and James KF6NLU and Darnel WB6SBA, with all of their Military gadgets and such (Gads I thought I was in Nam. Or the something) Rolling around down the path to see Leroy NV6S setting up camp next to Mel NF7U. Who was all ready listening on 40 meters and standing ready for the big event. Then off to one side of Mel was our new novice waiting for call Devonna. And boy friend Rick. After saying my hellos I heard laughter coming down the hill, Who could mistake the laughter of Mark WB6 BJN (who sounds like Archie from the cartoon comic books) I took off for the sick cow sounds and tee hee noise from the group by the entrance to the area. Here's ole Steve KC6YCB, Jimmy KF6BPC, Steve KF6BPB and Pat KF6UCY swapping lies and tales to Jim KF6HVB. After A few gross stories and slight dig's at some one I headed back to the truck to get my coat, Grab a beer and join in around the camp fire that Doug and girl friend Desiree had made. More showed up and boy did the stories and Jokes really fly then. I was astounded at some of the stories that the girls were telling?!?! Found out that John KF6IVV and Pat KF6IVU were located down in the clearing in their motorhome enjoying the quite life and preparing to work 20 meters. After a bit a few walked off to slumber for the evening. Especially the ones that brought the children. (Probably afraid of where the next stories was going!) About 11.30 the fire died and we all bid good night and off we went. Morning woke me up at 4:30 (Gads I am programmed for work....) got up and went for a walk till everyone woke up,

There is allot of nice and pretty scenery to see in that area. When the sun was up and hearing a few moans and groans from the camp spot. I headed back to the trailer of Steve and Jimmy and Pat. They were arguing for who was going to cook breakfast. I settled that. Scrambled Eggs and Bacon with flour tortillas. Mmmm good. After all that. The rest of the group were visiting the little houses that were provided by the club for convenience. Scratching bellies and blowing noses, complaints about who snored the most and emanated noxious gases and such. All were preparing for the 11:00 start time.. Low and behold Ed KF6FIR and daughter showed up. CQ Field day, CQ Field day this is W6ERE . (our club special event call was used as a group for the first time.) I do believe Mel was the first to start calling. Duane and I were fussing with a 160 meter wire with bugs in the system, it would not resonate. (Groan Placed here...) We through it up and pulled it down three times before we got close. Then we needed to get it longer about ten feet.. so I hooked it to the barb wire fence and made a connection. Wow it was Flat match!! I heard that Ed was in a little hurry for field day ... Placed the antenna he had on the 30 foot mast and put it up in record time with guy wires and all just before the 11:00 deadline... FORGOT TO CONNECT THE COAX. ON THE ANTENNA.... Ha ha Mark started his collection of beer cans He swore for every contact he was going to have. A new can of Beer should be placed in front of him... note.. the stack was high. And he was in a hurry to get more. 2 cases worth. Standing back and listening in the center of the camp you could hear nothing but "cq c q cq this is w6ere cq field day. Roger we are 9 alpha s j v " .. "Qsl, good luck " . And on and on it went for hours. Slowly few stragglers from the valley showed up to say hello, some of the visitors were, Larry KF6HDT, Kevin KF6BTY, Bob W6WDZ, Jerry WB6FFF, Al W6GM, Paul KF6KXX , Scott WA3JKX and son Ricky, and Tim KN6GU. If I forgot one or two Sorry. Steve Kf6bpb started cooking those tri-tips that the club paid for. Gads they were good.... by that time just before dinner the Happy Hour started. Boy did the lies really start. Friends who have never met

finally meet for the first time face to face.... some were surprised to find out that they were not what they pictured them as. (Been there and done that several times.) Remember Mark back at the desk of beer cans? Well they were all empty and him and Bob went on a beer run. Ole Jerry (wb6fff) brought a special prize for Mark.. They all shared that with great enthusiasm. With Happy Hour over it was time to sit around the fire, listening to cq cq and lies about lies and watching the children play in the center of the camp. Watch Tim kn6gu fall down , See Jim (ugh) limp around. Mark visit the out house repeated times, waving good by to the visitors. Finally Duane was able to work on 160. A few were feeling the strains of voice, swelling of fingers and drupe eyes. Time for bed, morning we will get at it! Sunday morning, bright and early. Ha ha right. Slowly everyone got up, turned on the radios and sat down to listen. It all started all over again till eleven o'clock. Then the tear down started. What took hours to get up took only minutes to drop. The drawing started promptly at twelve. With all the rigs in line to leave, we had to leave and bid found farewe!! to the camp site. All were saying this was the best time and most relaxing field day yet... Bound to say see ya next year....

n6kmr

This area is for your article, hear say stuff, Ham radio things for sale. Sara's new web page is Up, Thanks to wac.com, try stanara@wac.com, try wac.com/stanara.html

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THE READOUT

!! READ ME ... IMPORTANT INFORMATION HERE !!

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Next Meeting Is JULY 21, and also AUGUST 19, 1997 At 7:30 pm & You're Invited to come to the Stanislaus County Ad. Biulding lower level in the conference room. Next meetings subject is How to connect coax before put up antenna.