

SIERRA FOOTHILLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

NEWSLETTER

Volume 39, Number III

March 1998

P.O. Box 1005, Newcastle, CA 95658

At the Key



PRESIDENT

KQ6RT
Gary Cunningham
663-4143

VICE PRES

KM6KV
Bill Parrish
878-1433

SECRETARY

WA6RWS
Richard Kuepper
878-6220

TREASURER

N6SHD
Dave Hund
624-0978

CLUB NET

All Are Welcome To Check In
Thursdays 7:30 PM 2M
K6ARR & Club Repeater
145.430 (-600, PL 94.8)
10 Meter Net is on Sundays- 7:30 PM
28.415 MHz

CLUB MEETINGS

Second Fri. of the month 7:30 PM
Auburn Library, 350 Nevada St.
Auburn, CA

CLUB BREAKFAST

Last Saturday of the month
Susie's Country Cafe,
Roseville, Hwy 80 & Riverside

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

KF6CXO
Theresa Hansen
885-2640

N7TK
Roger Hedgpeth
983-2912

W6LOE
Chuck Eder
966-2004

2 m NET CONTROL
WB6RBE, Dave Jenkins

10m NET CONTROL
KC6LOE, Greg Huttula

2 m OPERATORS

WB6RBE KQ6RT KC6LIX KC6LOE
Dave Jenkins Gary Cunningham Jan Huttula Greg Huttula

NEWSLETTER EDITOR KC6LOE, Greg Huttula (916) 786-3530

Club Meetings & Events

Mar 13 Club Meeting - Topic is **K6ARR Repeater** Presented by **Jim Carmen K6ARR**

Mar 28 7:30 a.m. Breakfast at Susie's
Roseville

Apr 10 Club Meeting - Topic is **Overseas Volunteer Work** Presented by
Bob Friebertshauser

Apr 25 Transmitter Hunt - Time TBA

Apr 25 Club Breakfast at Susie's
Roseville

May 8 Club Meeting - Topic TBA

May 30 Club Breakfast at Susie's
Roseville

June 12 Club Meeting - Topic is **Field Day**
Presenter is **N7TK, Roger Hedgpeth**

June 27 Breakfast Susie's Roseville

TBA - To Be Announced

Key News Inside

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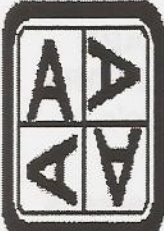


Thanks to a tip from W6SUP the R.A.C.E.S. group at Sacramento Fire Dept. Reserves station 70 got a free 40' tower. It all started back in January when Bob informed me about a "come and get it" tower belonging to a friend. I went to meet the owner and

continued on page 2

President Shack Continued...

inspect the tower and saw it was a real beauty, a 40' free stander without a spot of rust. Only one problem, It was in a small backyard, right up against the house. There were trees, fences, power lines, you name it. The owner was understandably concerned that whomever did the job needed to be well equipped and experienced at removing towers. I then contacted my friend Roy KD6LLE, the president of River City ARCS. Roy immediately knew of



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the perfect group to donate the tower to and had no trouble assembling a crew of well-equipped volunteers to do the job. The tower was presented at the March River City A.R.C.S. meeting where thanks were given to Bob Metke and their friends at S.F.A.R.C.

Please keep your thoughts and prayers with Frank Hogan W6ISX. Frank's wife of 58 years, Barbara past away on January 25 and then Frank suffered a stroke four weeks later. His daughter, Beth, tells me that he is recovering well, but his main concern is that he be able to set up a radio station at the hospital where he is. He says he misses being able to participate in our Thursday evening nets. That has to be a good sign.

73's Gary KQ6RT

GOOD EXCUSES?

The following are actual notes from parents to teachers.

My son is under a doctor's care and should not take P.E. today. Please excuse him.

Please excuse Lisa for being absent. She was sick and I had her shot.

Dear School: Please excuse John being absent on Jan. 28,29,20,32,32, and also 33.

Please excuse Roland from P.E. for a few days. Yesterday he fell out a tree and misplaced his hip.

John has been absent because he had two teeth taken out of his face.

**General Meeting
February 13, 1998**

The meeting was called to order by President Gary, KQ6RT at 1937hrs. Officers present were Gary, Bill KM6KV, Dave N6SHD and Richard WA6RWS.

Gary announced that Roger N7TK, a member of the board of directors, has volunteered to be the chairman for Field Day. Debbie KF6LXN, Gary's XYL has volunteered to be the head, top dog, cook for this event. Thanks Gary and Debbie for stepping up to the Plate.

On April 18, 1998, there will be a swap meet hosted by the North Hills ARC. Gary asked for donations to sell at the event and the money will go to SFARC fund.

Dave gave the treasurer's report and we are still in the black.

Jettie W6RFF, gave the ARRL report. He announced there are a couple of contests coming up for both CW and phone. He asked that everyone read the March QST board of director's minutes.

Bob W6SUP gave the VE report and also stated that the **wabbit** got away again. Must be a lucky rabbit.

Jerri K6GKR gave the sunshine report and said that John Tiernan KA6LNC is not doing too well and has lost some weight.

Wayne Mikel KE6DJE was voted unanimously to the board of directors taking
Continued on page 3



*"Hear that? It's the can opener!
Go see if it's for you or for me."*

General Meeting Minutes Continued

the place of a board member who resigned.

Greg KO6TH gave the satellite report.

Bill KM6KV introduced the guest speaker, Jack Morgan KF6T who gave a great talk on contesting. Thanks Jack for some great insights into contesting. The meeting adjourned at 2110hrs.

Respectively submitted by

Richard Kuepper, Secretary

A special thanks to all VE team members for promoting amateur radio through giving their time and talents to the VE program.



February 1998 the VE Team gave 3 tests with 6 people tested.

Test Schedule - 7:00 p.m. Wednesdays

March	4, 25
April	8, 29
May	6, 27
June	3, 24

Pre-Registration is Required Fee is \$6.25

For upgrades, or questions, contact W6SUP **Bob Metke, 783-7610**. Special test needs are accommodated, e.g. in-home testing, support assistance for specific types of disabilities.

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**FREE
FREE
HAM RADIO
CLASSES**

FOR NO-CODE TECHNICIAN LICENSE

The instructor is Lewis Tuttle, A6UD. Lewis holds an Extra Class amateur radio license.

Class Schedules are:

SPRING

TIME: 7:00 to 9:00 PM THURSDAYS

PLACE: Roseville Library
255 Taylor, Roseville, CA

DAYS: March 26
April 2, 16, 23, 30
May 7

You need to provide your own book.

For more information contact
Lewis Tuttle, A6UD at (916) 771-2336.



**February Community
Service Activities**

No requests for Club sponsored Communications Assistance was received in February.



SATELLITE REPORT

By KO6TH Greg Dolkas

Working the new
"Easy Sat"

Last year the satellite community mourned the loss of RS-10, long known as The Easy Sat. RS-10 was the satellite that introduced many a ham to a new mode of op-

15 meters. Here hams without VHF gear can get into satellite communication. Many HF operators, in fact, end up working RS-12 without knowing it while working other hams between 15.210 and 15.250 mhz. But, RS-12 had other capabilities. With the loss of RS-10, RS-12 was recently commanded into a dual mode, where its uplink can be on either 15 or 2 meters. Its downlink remains on 10 meters.

Recently, I gave RS-12 a try in its new mode. It's just as easy as RS-10 was, and made me feel right at home. Anybody with a Technician license or better can work this satellite. All you need is a 2 meter SSB or CW transmitter, and a receiver capable of receiving the 10 meter SSB/CW downlink. The receiver doesn't need to be fancy - I worked New York on RS-10 with a Radio Shack short-wave radio and a wire antenna! You only need a few watts and a ground plane antenna for the transmitter.

Try this: Tune your receiver to 29.440, USB, and your transmitter to 145.940, USB. When the satellite is over head (listen for its CW beacon around 29.407 if you don't have a computer), listen to the receiver while you transmit (this is important!). Tune the TRANSMITTER up slowly in frequency. Within 1-2khz you should hear your own signal coming back down from space. Call CQ and see who comes back. You will need to keep adjusting the transmitter to compensate for Doppler, but it's not difficult. If you need to change the receive frequency, start transmitting with the last 2 digits of the frequency the same, and go up from there. It's that easy!

73's, hope to hear you on the birds,
Greg, KO6TH



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erating. Especially to Technicians, for whom long distance communication meant hitching a ride on a linked repeater, RS-10 opened up communication coast to coast. Its easy access and minimal equipment requirements got many hams comfortable with satellite operations, allowing them to move on to other 'birds' with confidence. It sure did all of those things for me.

RS-10 has a cousin in orbit, RS-12. RS-12 has been the only satellite with an uplink on the HF bands, straddling the Advanced/Extra boundary n

Wanted:

Junk radio parts, throw away radio's. Bits and pieces. Anything from the tube era. Also any books or magazines.



W6JDT, Bill Aston
(916) 652-9038

Luck

I don't know anything about luck. I've never banked on it, and I'm afraid of people who do. Luck to me is something else; hard work and realizing what is opportunity and what isn't.

Lucille Ball

ARRL Board Holds Annual Meeting, Votes Not to Restructure

Highlights of the Board meeting include:

- 1) On a 11-4 vote, the Board voted not to petition to the FCC to restructure the Amateur Radio License classes and to increase HF privileges for Novice and Technician Plus licensees.
- 2) The Board also rejected a proposal to look into the feasibility of asking the FCC to reduce the number of license classes from five to three. Class A would have consisted of Extra and Advanced, Class B would have included General and Tech Plus, and Class C would include Technician.
- 3) The League will petition the FCC to permit additional call sign formats for special event stations.
- 4) The Board created an International Membership category which will be open to Amateurs who are not eligible for full membership to Amateurs who are not eligible for full membership by virtue of residence.
- 5) In view of the new RF safety rules, the Board agreed to permit "QST" advertising of antenna performance claims derived from antenna modeling programs.
- 6) In response to repeated malicious interference and foul language complaints, an Enforcement Task Force was established to press for better rules enforcement from the FCC.

Amateur - CB - Scanners - Short-wave - Cellular - Commercial
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(916) 387-0730 fax: (916) 387-0744 - Glenn Still Well,

WR60

- 7) The ARRL also will ask the FCC for a declaratory ruling that affirms that any operation that conflicts with established voluntary band plans "is good amateur practice" and would be considered a rules violation.

From the February 15, W5YI Report

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



To:

Janet Bird	KB6KTU	March
Jettie Hill	W6RFF	March
Jim Standley	KA6GZI	March
Cynthia Vollman	KF6OBI	March

"Life is no brief candle to me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for a moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations."

George Bernard Shaw

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SFARC's February Breakfast

At the February 28th Club Breakfast there were 13 SFARC members enjoying the food and conversation at Susie's Restaurant.

The food is always good at Susie's. Come on and join us at Susie's Restaurant. The next Club Breakfast is on Saturday, March 28. It is recommended you arrive around 7:30 a.m.. Susie's is located off of Cirby in Roseville.



SFARC NEWSLETTER

BOOSTER Club '98

Jerri Metke	K6GKR	1-98
Bob Metke	W6SUP	1-98
Bev McCune	AC6SF	1-98
Ralph McCune	AC6SG	1-98
Richard Kuepper	WA6RWS	1-98
Jan Huttula	KC6LIX	1-98
Greg Huttula	KC6LOE	1-98
Mardis Gleason	KG6LA	1-98
TJ Hossli		1-98
Greg Dolkas	KO6TH	1-98
Holly Dolkas	KE6ETT	1-98
Fred Campbell	KE6MJC	1-98
Theresa Hansen	KF6CXO	3-97
Carl Crump	WA6VLS	7-97
John "ED" Ahlstrom	KQ6CK	7-97
Ken Weger	WA6EMU	8-97

Thank You, for your support

If you would like to join the SFARC Newsletter Boosters Club, Contact the Club's Treasurer.

1000'S OF BATTERIES FOR 1000'S OF ITEMS



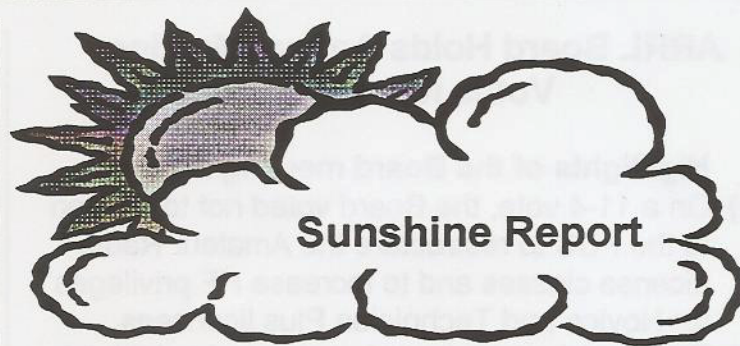
BATTERIES PLUS 722-3300

Batteries for Ham Radio, Cam Corders, Computers, Cell Phones, as well as Golf Carts.
8025 Greenback Lane Citrus Heights, CA



Happy St. Patrick's Day

May the strength of
three be in your journey through life.
-Irish blessing



Sunshine Report

KC6LIX, Jan Huttula is still recuperating from Pleurisy we're hoping she will soon be up and about.

Irene Gleenslade's broken leg is vastly improved. She is almost ready ready now to drive the motor-home.

Tri Valley Vending Inc.

Professional Vending Services



Gary Cunningham
Assistant Manager

969-8866

For Sale



35 Reddy Heater, 35,000 BTU \$50.00
This is a great heater for the garage or any where outdoors. It uses kerosene and electricity.



Dodge Motorhome slps 5, fully self contained.
With 4KW gen. \$8000 in New upgrades. \$10,000.
Call KC6LOE Greg at (916) 786-3530



3 Station Gymnasium. Almost brand new. Originally sold for \$400.00. TJ Hossli will sacrifice this unit for \$100.00.
Call TJ Hossli at (916) 728-4375

Do you have something for sale? Contact the newsletter editor to advertise your item.



Field Day 1998

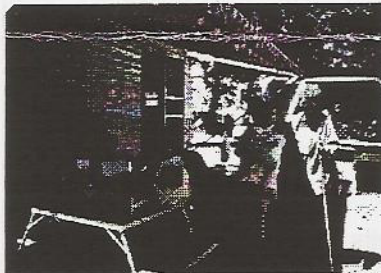
N7TK, Roger Hedgpeth volunteered to be this years Field Day Chairperson. If you have any

comments, questions or if you can lend a helping hand with this years Field Day contact N7TK, Roger at 983-2912. Chief Cook is KF6LXN, Debbie Cunningham. Great job Roger and Debbie.

Photos from 1997 Field Day were recently found. From left to right is KM6KV Bill and KD6CMX, Shannon Parrish. When Bill and Shannon came to NYACK to visit with everyone



during Field Day they also made many contacts.



Relaxing during Field Day from left to right is KE6RTM, Ron Kirby, WA6ULL, Bob Boeck-

man, KF6NNS, Tammy Addensen, and Bob's XYL Linda Boeckman.

W6ISX, Frank Hogan and his XYL are just setting up for Field Day. After setting up his equipment Frank sat down for some CW contacts.



This photo was found from Field Day 1993. KC6LIX, Jan Huttula is helping the National Guard find a place to set up their equipment.

American Radio Relay League



This certifies that

Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club, K6ARR

has contributed to the 1998 ARRL Fund for the Defense of Amateur Radio Frequencies to ensure that the ham community continues to have a strong voice in Washington and Geneva in the year to come.

"The access to the radio spectrum that we enjoy is a priceless national and international resource. If we lose it, we lose it forever."—David Sumner, K1ZZ

Rodney J. Stafford
Rodney J. Stafford, KB6ZV
ARRL President

American Radio Relay League has honored Sierra Foothills with this certificate. After SFARC contributed to the 1998 ARRL Fund for the Defense of Amateur Radio Frequencies.

Please Welcome SFARC's New Members

Steven Faulkner
Greg Gilbert
Casey O'Hair
Evan Phillips
Michael Zachary
Linda Zachary

KF6OCE
KF6OKS
KF6OCF
WB6MLU
KF6ATH
KF6IDN



Thanks to all who have renewed their membership with SFARC, our membership is now growing. Renewal applications are still coming in. There are hams that were members from years ago who are rejoining the club, and new licensed hams who have joined in the last month.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY



March 17, St. Patrick's Day honors the patron saint of Ireland. Legend says Saint Patrick used the three leaves of the shamrock to explain the Trinity.

FM and Repeaters

By Brian Batties, WS1O

ARRL Headquarters

(Reprinted from ARRL Operating Manual Fourth Edition 1991, Chapter 11)

The reason for the popularity of FM and repeaters is their versatility. They offer something for everyone. HF DXers swap information with fellow DXers, traffic handlers pass traffic between the local and section levels, and packet and radioteletype enthusiasts communicate digitally using repeaters dedicated to their specific modes. If you just like to talk, strike up a conversation on any repeater. Adding to the versatility of repeater operation is the ability to communicate while walking, driving or simply relaxing in the comfort of your home.

What's a Repeater?

The term "repeater" can be confusing to newcomers. A standard repeater is simply a relay station. It consists of separate "input" receiver and an "output" transmitter connected to each other and tuned to two separate frequencies on the same band. When the receiver picks up a signal on the input frequency, it simultaneously retransmits the same signal on the output frequency. In this way a repeater forms a link between two stations that may not be able to communicate with each other directly.



No Free Lunch

It takes time, money, knowledge and energy to operate a reliable repeater system. How often do you stop to think of what goes into the machine you conveniently key up any time, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year? Nobody should feel compelled to join any group, and you can use thousands of repeaters across the US without joining any Club. On the other hand, if you frequent a system-support your local repeater.



Many repeaters are run by Clubs whose members pool their resources to operate the repeater. Some members provide the equipment that makes up the repeater, other members provide funds to pay the electric, phone, maintenance and site-rental bills, and others provide manpower at the repeater site whenever their help is needed.

Autopatch

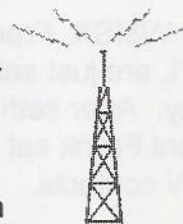
An autopatch is a device that allows hams to make telephone calls through a repeater. In most repeater autopatch systems, the user simply has to generate the standard telephone company tones to access and dial through the system. This is usually done by interfacing a telephone tone pad with the user's transceiver. Dual-tone multifrequency (DTMF) tone keypads are often mounted on the front of hand-held portable transceivers or on the front of fixed or mobile transceiver microphones.

Operating

To use a repeater, you must know one exists. There are various ways to find a repeater. Local hams can provide information about repeater activity.

Your First Transmission

If the repeater is quiet, pick up your microphone, press the switch, and transmit your call sign "KC6RUO listening" or "KQ6RT monitoring" to attract someone's attention. After you stop transmitting, the repeater sends an unmodulated carrier for a couple of seconds to let you know it's working. If anyone is interested in talking to you, they'll call after your initial transmission. Some repeaters have specific rules for making yourself heard, but usually your call sign is all you need.



Don't call CQ to initiate a conversation on a repeater. It takes a lot longer to complete a long CQ than to simply transmit your call sign. Efficient communications is the goal.

Continued on Page 9

FM and Repeaters *Continued From Page 8*

If you want to join a conversation already in progress, transmit your call sign during a break between transmissions. The station that transmits next should acknowledge you. Don't use the word "break" to join a conversation (unless it's the operating practice in your area). "Break" usually suggests an emergency and indicates that all stations should stand by for the station with emergency traffic.

If you want to call another station and the repeater is inactive, simply call the other station. For example "KC6RUO this is KQ6RT". If the repeater is active, but the conversation in progress sounds as though it's about to end, be patient and wait until it's over before calling another station. Make your call short. If your friend responds to your call, ask her to move to a simplex frequency or another repeater, or to stand by until the present conversations is over. Thank the other users for letting you interrupt them to place your call.



Acknowledging Stations

If you're in the midst of a conversation and a station transmits its call sign between transmissions, the next station in queue to transmit should acknowledge that station and permit the newcomer to make a call or join the conversation. It's discourteous not to acknowledge him and it's impolite to acknowledge him but not let him speak. You never know; the calling station may need to use the repeater immediately. He may have an emergency on his hands, so let him make a transmission promptly.

The pause That Refreshes

A brief pause before you begin each transmission allows other stations to participate in the conversation. Don't key your microphone as soon as someone else releases his. If your exchanges are too quick, you'll block other stations from getting.



For more information on Repeaters join SFARC members at the next General meeting Friday March 13, at 7:30 p.m. in the Auburn Library located at 350 Nevada Street in Auburn. The program is on Repeaters and the presenter is Jim Carmen, K6ARR.

A Farmer had been taken many times by the local car dealer... One day the car dealer informed the farmer that he was coming over to buy a cow. So the farmer priced the cow like this:

BASIC COW	\$ 200.00
TOW TONE EXTERIOR	\$ 45.00
EXTRA STOMACH	\$ 75.00
PRODUCE STORAGE COMPOST	\$ 60.00
STRAW CHOPPER	\$ 150.00
FOUR SPIGOTS -\$10 @	\$ 40.00
COWHIDE UPHOLSTERY	\$ 125.00
DUAL HORNS	\$ 15.00
AUTO FLY SWATTER	\$ 35.00
FERTILIZER ATTACHMENT	\$ 150.00

FARMERS SUGGESTED LIST PRICE	\$ 930.00
ADDITIONAL DEALER ADJUSTMENTS	\$ 300.00

TOTAL LIST PRICE	\$1,230.00
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SFARC Newsletter Contest Results



The SFARC newsletter Contest is over. The  Buck has been found. One person actually shot a hole in the front page of the newsletter just below the letter U and above the  Buck.

"We have a winner." The first response to the  Buck contest came in from KC6LIX, Jan Huttula. KC6LIX found the  Buck when she was visiting her Mother K6GKR, Jerrie Metke. She quickly mailed her findings into the newsletter editor and became the winner of the contest. If you have not found the  Buck (a deer with horns) yet, look at the first page of the February newsletter. The  Buck is in center of the letter-header below the letter U in Club.

The first two letters received came from KC6LIX, Jan and W6RFF, Jettie Hill.

KC6LIX, Jan's letter was very short she said;

 "Greg, KC6LOE the dear or buck is on page 1 in the letterhead middle of the page."

W6RFF Jettie's Hill wrote an email it read;

 On Wednesday after I had gotten the mail, which contained your very nice Newsletter, I was cleaning my gun and it went off accidentally and blew a hole in the front page of the newsletter just under the letter U in the word Club and above the Buck. I'm glad I didn't blow out the buck!!!

The staff of the newsletter greatly appreciate all the letters sent in response to the contest. They are sorry all the letters received can not be printed. But because the response was so positive in favor of the contest the newsletter staff have agreed to hold another contest. The next contest will begin in the May newsletter. *Thanks for reading the NL, The Staff*

SFARC NEWSLETTER

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Articles and opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the individual opinions of members or Board members. Articles that members seek to have published in the next edition of the newsletter must be submitted no later than the 20th of the month. Submit Articles, letters, and personal classified radio gear advertisements to: Editor - SFARC Newsletter P.O. Box 1005, Newcastle, CA 95658. Call KC6LOE, Greg Huttula (916) 786-3530.

For Business, Non-Personal Advertisements contact SFARC's Treasurer N6SHD, Dave Hund. Full page ads to three line ads are available. Reasonable rates are offered on advertisements and on graphic designs for ads.

Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club (SFARC) is committed to promoting radio knowledge, encouraging fraternalism, enhancing operating efficiency, and advancing the general interest of Amateur Radio. SFARC is a Special Service Club and is associated with the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), the premiere Amateur Radio advocacy organization.

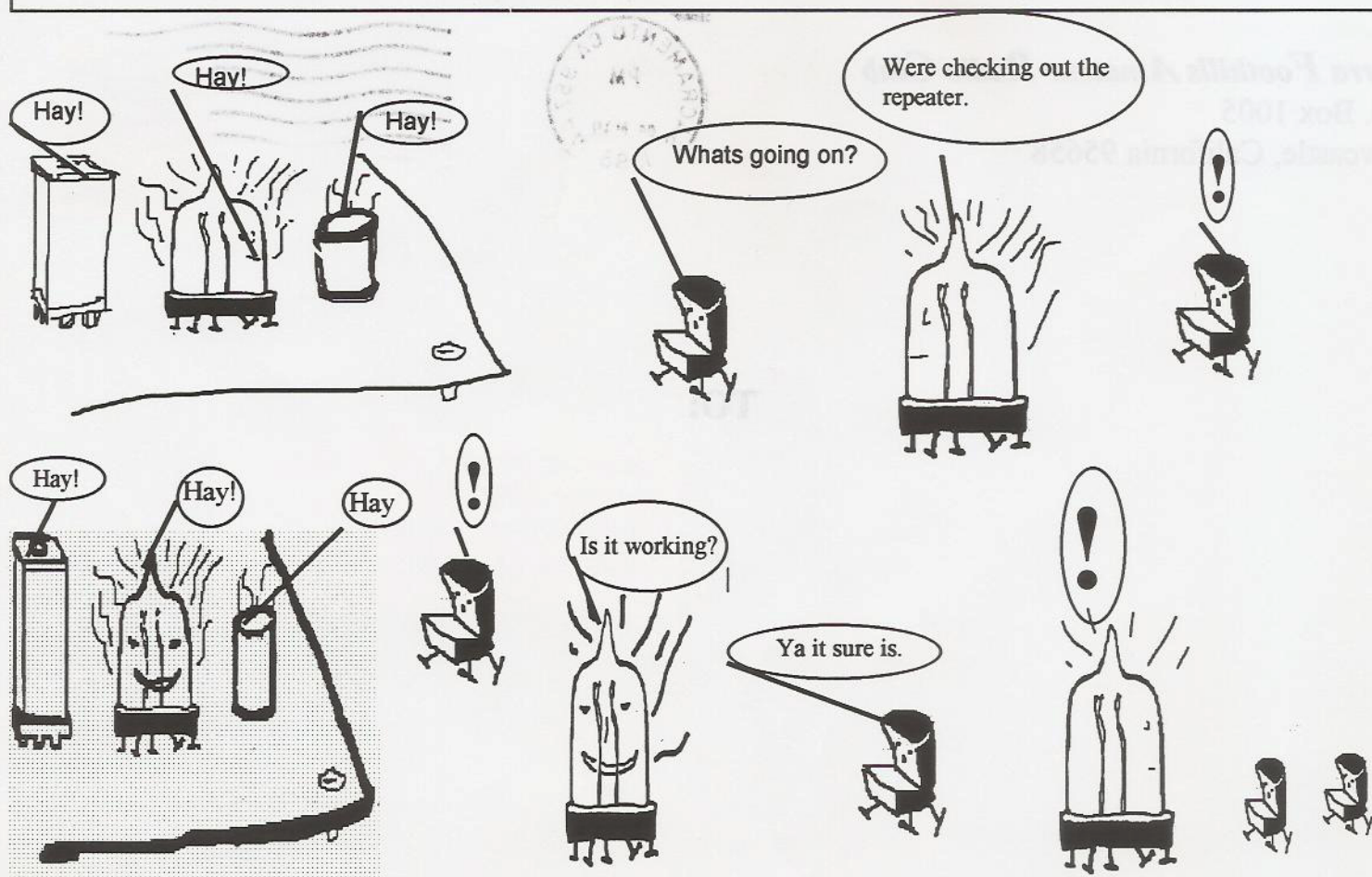
Advertising Opportunities Available

Many opportunities for advertising are available exclusively to members of SFARC...are you aware of them?

- ♦ No cost to Members of SFARC to advertise in the Newsletter.
- ♦ Monthly fliers* can be inserted to advertise your item (s) or your business.
- ♦ Reach businesses and over 100 members by advertising on an annual basis, in the SFARC Newsletter.

* Contact Dave Hund N6SHD at (916) 652-0978 for flier cost.

Mr. Glo-Tube & Repeaters By Greg Huttula



Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club



Membership Application

				Please Circle Amounts that Apply	
Name	Call Sign	License Class		Member Dues:	\$17.00
Address	Birth Date	Years as Ham		Associate Dues:	\$ 7.00
City	State	Zip		ARRL Renewal	\$34.00
Associate Name	Call Sign	License Class		ARRL (Spouse)	\$ 5.00
()				ARRL (Special)*	\$28.00
Telephone	E-Mail Address	Birth Date	Years as Ham	Club Patch	\$ 2.00
				Club Placard	\$ 3.50
Application: (Circle One) New Member Renewal ARRL MEMBER? Y N				Badge	\$ 5.50
Bands Used: 160 80 40 20 15 10 6 2 220 440 Other: _____				Repeater Donation	\$ _____
☐ I would like a Calendar of Events				Auto Patch Donation	\$ _____
☐ Check me in on the Thursday 2 Meter Net.				Newsletter	\$ _____
Renewing your ARRL membership through the Club earns the Club money with no additional cost to you. To renew your ARRL membership through SFARC make check payable to SFARC and mail to SFARC P.O. Box 1005, Newcastle, CA 95657.				World Radio Renewal	\$ _____
				Other	\$ _____
				Total	\$ _____
*Special is under age of 17 or over 65					

Date: _____ Treasurer: _____ Secretary: _____ Entered to Roster _____

Payment: _____ Check Number: _____ Cash _____ Other _____

Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 1005

Newcastle, California 95658



TO:

