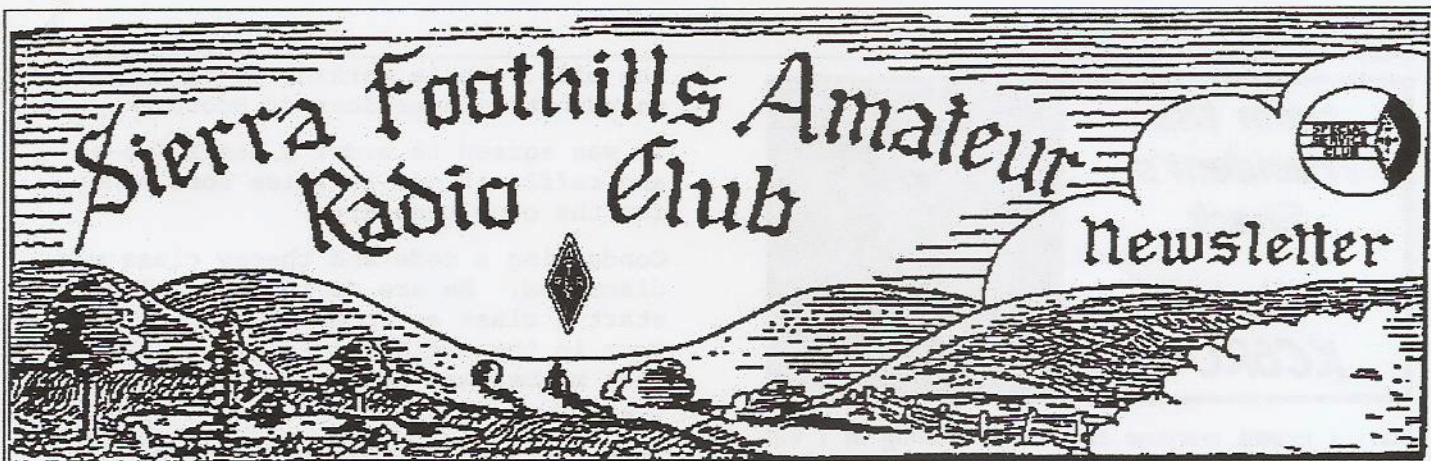




<http://personal.newworld.net/~wingman/sfarc/>

August 2001

P.O. Box 1005, Newcastle, CA 95658



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REPORTERS

Satellite Report
Greg Dolkas, K06TH
40 Years Ago at the SFARC
Gary Cunningham, KQ6RT
VE Program
Bob Metke, W6SUP

REPEATERS

145.430(-0.6 Mhz) PL 162.2
440.575(+5 Mhz) PL 94.8
223.860 (-1.6 Mhz)

CLUB NET

All welcome to check
in Thursdays, 7:30 PM
2M K6ARR & Club
Repeater 145.430

CLUB MEETINGS

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

CLUB BREAKFAST

Last Saturday of the
month at Susie's Café
Cirby at Riverside Ave.
Roseville - 8:00 AM

NET CONTROL OPS

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Gary Cunningham, KQ6RT
Joe Sylvia, KF6OQY
Wayne Mikel, KE6DJE

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2001 Calendar of Events

(Operating Events in Italics)

Aug 8	VE Test
Aug 10	Regular Meeting
Aug 18	Club Picnic
Aug 25	Club Breakfast
Sep 8-9	<i>ARRL VHF QSO Party</i>
Sep 12	VE Test
Sep 14	Regular Meeting
Sep 29	Club Breakfast
Oct 6-7	<i>Cal QSO Party</i>
Oct 10	VE Test
Oct 12	White Elephant Sale
Oct 27	Club Breakfast
Nov 3-5	<i>ARRL Sweepstakes (CW)</i>
Nov 9	Regular Meeting
Nov 14	VE Test
Nov 17-19	<i>ARRL Sweepstakes (Phone)</i>
Nov 24	Club Breakfast
Dec 7-9	<i>ARRL 160m Contest</i>
Dec 12	VE Test

From the President's Shack

**Matt
KC6RUO**



Sorry I missed everyone at the last meeting as I was working. Thank you Vice Pres. Steve Faulkner, KF6OCE for chairing the meeting. Bob Boeckman, WA6ULL was unable to make his presentation at the July meeting due to an illness, but will make his presentation at the August meeting. As you recall, Bob will bring items donated to the club by Harold Grabes, W6JER that are for sale. We will also have our general meeting and raffle.

Please feel free to bring the entire family. See you all at the next meeting.

73,

Matt, KC6RUO

Secretary's Report

**Joe
KF6OQY**



(Ed Note: Joe has been vacationing at Cape Cod, MA in July ... something about a "date with a lobster?" ... His minutes and report will return in the Sep issue)

40 Years Ago At The SFARC

**Gary
KQ6RT**



August 9, 1961

Home of Jim Carman

Meeting was called to order by Pres. Lin Hunter. Minutes of previous meeting were read and approved. Civil Defense was discussed and we planned to get Buzz LaBonte, K6KDU, to come and explain to

the club. He is working as technical coordinator under Sheriff Scott.

It was agreed to order a Heath Two-er and raffle it off to raise some money for the club treasury.

Conducting a code and theory class was discussed. We are definitely going to start a class as soon as we acquire a room in the old Naval Reserve building. Each member was asked to help with the classes.

Next meeting will be held at Sage's, K6ZWZ. Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 P.M. and refreshments served.

Respectfully submitted,

Sage Otow

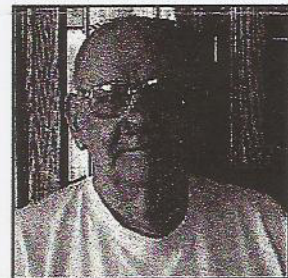
73,

Gary, KQ6RT

(Historical note: The Heathkit "Two-er" and its companion, the "Six-er" were small, crystal controlled AM transceivers for 2m and 6m running a few watts. They were also known as "Benton Harbor Lunch Boxes," as they were about the size of a lunch box and Heath was then in Benton Harbor, MI)

VE Report

**Bob
W6SUP**



Volunteer Examiner Report

Upcoming Exam Dates for 2001

August 8

Sep 12

October 10

Nov 14

Pre-registration is required. Contact Bob Metke, W6SUP for more information.

Special arrangements and dates can be made to accommodate the disabled, including conducting tests at home.

73,

Bob, W6SUP

511 Oak St.

Roseville, CA 95678

916.783.7610

w6sup@rsvl.net

Sunshine Report

**Jerri
K6GKR**



Frank Bird, WA6ODK - SK

It is with deep regret that we record the passing of long-time SFARC member, Frank Bird, WA6ODK. Frank passed away on July 23, 2001. He was 74. In addition to being an active ham, Frank was also active in the Elks, SIRS, and the Auburn Railroad Club. He served as a radio operator in the US Navy during WW II on the USS Lamar in the South Pacific. We extend our sympathy to his wife Janet and family.

Ken Cooley, KA6WUX - SK

We also record this month the passing of Ken Cooley, KA6WUX on Sunday, July 29. Ken and his wife Martha, KA6WUW, were active members of the club until health problems slowed him down. The club extends its sympathy to Martha and the family.

SFARC Event Dates

All at Auburn Recreation Center, 123 Recreation Dr. in Auburn.:

Club Picnic: August 18

White Elephant Sale: October 12 (Stella Irving Room)

Christmas Party: December 14 (Stella Irving Room)

Amateur Satellites

**Greg
KO6TH**



Meet Leila

Leila. The name may be unfamiliar to you, but if you operate through the AO-40 satellite, Leila will be there, patiently waiting to speak to you. She has been heard to join in to QSOs in progress, adding her lyrical voice to the otherwise intense back and forth of the conversation, imposing a magical calmness to the day's activities. Her influence is like the even hand of a spiritual being, bringing order to an unruly world. When the day comes that you

finally meet Leila, you will suddenly know the peace that comes with proper operating technique. She is the Space Age's reincarnation of the Old Man's stick.

Who is Leila? What's her call sign? What is she using for a rig? Are her antennas cross-polarized?

Leila is the one of AO-40's most innovative electronic gadgets. Technically, she is an adaptive set of notch filters that automatically watch the transponder's uplink for unacceptably strong signals. When one appears, a warbling warning tone is injected into the corresponding spot on the downlink; if the signal persists, the notch is activated, and the offending signal is eliminated. But to the operator, she is an effective instrument and operating aid.

Why this is such an important development has to do with the nature of the linear transponders that make up these satellites. Unlike a terrestrial repeater, where the machine listens on one narrow band of frequencies and transmits on another, a linear transponder listens and transmits across a relatively wide band. With a fixed total power available for the satellite's downlink, the amount of power available to any one signal depends on what other signals are being heard at the same time. One very strong signal on the uplink can totally monopolize the entire satellite.

In the past, the rule was that proper use of an analog satellite required the operator to monitor his or her signal against the satellite's beacon, and to adjust their own power in order to never be louder than that. In practice, this is difficult to do precisely, and in the heat of a QSO, often forgotten. Non-ham signals, from both human and non-human sources also caused problems when they happened to stray into the uplink passband. But, it gets worse... With AO-40's strong beacon, and very wide transponder, this rule had to be modified. Now, the operator should be at least 10db below the beacon, which is something almost impossible to measure or enforce. The result would be a very uneven use of the satellite.

Enter Leila. The warning tones are a perfect way to measure your uplink power, as received by the satellite. Simply increase your power until the tones start, then back down a bit. Everyone operating within Leila's rules will be at about the same received signal strength, and everyone will therefore share equally the available transponder power and all can be heard. The notch filters will swiftly deal those who don't abide by these rules. It's a nearly utopian system. It even works.

I have met Leila. I am at peace with AO-40.

73,
Greg, KO6TH

(Hey Greg! Can we get Leila to notch out the lids on 14.313 MHz?)

FCC To Put Regulations in Amateur Hands

(Thanks, ARRL Pacific Division Update)

The FCC says the ball is in the court of the Amateur Service to determine the course of future Amateur Radio regulation. Speaking May 20 at the Dayton Hamvention FCC forum, Bill Cross, W3TN, of the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, said that the days of Commission imposed regulation are past.

"Detailed regulation of the nitty gritty of communication services, including the Amateur Service, is not in the picture," Cross said. "Rather, the FCC is shifting to strong and effective enforcement of truly necessary regulations." The FCC, he said, now plans to look to the amateur community to reach consensus on any new regulations it thinks it wants and needs.

"I hope that those of you who are thinking about asking us to carve up a band by fiat will think again," he said. "You really are asking us to tie your hands regarding your use of your spectrum."

Before the FCC initiates any rulemaking proceedings in the Amateur Service to change privileges, Cross said it wants to see proposals involving the implementation of "new and more modern communications technologies," such as digital. In addition, he said, any future proposal "must include all licensees, and it must include all bands," and--most important--the amateur community must reach a consensus on the topic.

Cross said the FCC does not want and cannot handle "multiple proceedings that address piecemeal changes in operating privileges" that affect only certain classes of licensees or certain bands.

Coming Events

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

Livermore Swap Meet - 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College in Livermore, 7:00 AM to noon, all year. Talk in 147.045 from the west, 145.35 from the east. Contact Cliff Chiba, KF6EII, larkswap@usa.com

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ARRL Files for New 60 Meter Band

(ARRL Bulletin ARLB028)

A petition filed this week by the ARRL could result in a new high-frequency band for US amateurs. The ARRL has asked the FCC to allocate 5.250 to 5.400 MHz to the Amateur Service on a domestic (US-only), secondary basis.

The League told the FCC that the new band would aid emergency communication activities by filling a "propagation gap" between 80 and 40 meters. "There are times on certain paths when a frequency in the 80-meter band is too low, and a frequency in the 40-meter band is too high for reliable ionospheric propagation," the ARRL said in its petition. The ARRL said the propagation gap can hamper communication between the US and the Caribbean during a hurricane or severe weather emergency.

The ARRL Board of Directors approved the proposal at its July 20-21 meeting. The FCC has not yet invited public comments on the petition. Even if the petition finds favor with the FCC, it's likely to be several years before the new band actually becomes available.

As proposed by the ARRL, amateurs General class and higher would be permitted to operate phone, data, image and RTTY on the new band running maximum authorized power. No mode-specific subbands were proposed.

The ARRL said a new 150-kHz allocation at 5 MHz also could relieve substantial overcrowding that periodically occurs on 80 and 40. If the new band is approved, hams would have to avoid interfering with--and accept interference from--current occupants of the spectrum, as they already do on 30 meters. The band 5.250 to 5.450 MHz now is allocated to Fixed and Mobile services on a co-primary basis in all three ITU regions.



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The ARRL's petition cites the success of the League's WA2XSY experimental operation in the 60-meter band, carried out since 1999, which confirmed the communication reliability of 60 meters.

"An amateur allocation in this band would improve the Amateur Service's already exemplary record of providing emergency communications during natural disasters when even modern communications systems typically fail," the ARRL concluded.

A copy of the ARRL petition is available on the ARRL Web site, <http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/5MHz>

New LF Trans-Pacific Record

A signal transmitted on 184 KHz from ZL6QH--the Wellington, New Zealand, Amateur Radio Club's Quartz Hill station--has spanned the Pacific. The transmission, part of a series of announced transpacific tests, was received on June 30 by Steve McDonald, VE7SL, of British Columbia, Canada.

"A claim is made for the confirmed reception of ZL6QH by VE7SL, on 184.4 KHz, over a path of 11,709 km," said Bob Vernall ZL2CA, who organized the transpacific tests. "This is a one-way confirmation, as VE7SL does not have transmitting capability." Vernall said that on June 30, seven New Zealand stations--including ZL6QH--and one Australian transmitted test signals in the 160-190 KHz band for the transpacific tests. Amateurs in New Zealand have access to that band.

McDonald used Argo software to capture the ZL6QH signal and very likely that of ZL4OL, although no claim was being made for the latter. The reception occurred right around the time of sunrise in British Columbia.

ZL6QH was transmitting dual-frequency CW with two-minute elements, one frequency representing dits, the other dahs. The ZL6QH station was running approximately 100 W into a long wire antenna. Efforts to make it across the Pacific have been under way during the winter season in the Southern Hemisphere. The ARRL has petitioned the FCC to authorize Amateur Radio allocations at 136 KHz and in the 160-190 KHz band.

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Help Wanted - Venture Camp Out

The event will be at Camp Lassen, east of Chico on the weekend of Sept. 14-16. We would like a display type booth set up with information and what ever hands-on would be available. This is an event for youth 14-21 (Co-Ed). You can arrive Friday night and set up first thing in the morning, I do not have the exact time that the event will start on Sat, probably around 9AM to end around 4:30PM with a lunch break some where at the appropriate time. If no one from your group will be able to set up and man this event I know you all know people in other clubs in the area and maybe one closer to Chico would be interested. For more information contact: Melody H. Blaz, 530.432.2868

This would be a marvelous opportunity to show a bunch of boys and girls what Amateur Radio is all about. Perhaps other clubs could take place at the same time. Any help you can give by spreading the word would be much appreciated.

Ken, (WA6EMU) GCDBSA Webmaster

(Ed. Note: Even if you cannot participate directly on-site, they will need stations to talk to. Being available on-the-air could be a big help as well)

SFARC News in HTML

Experiments are underway to publish the SFARC News via email and the web in HTML format. Currently it is distributed via email in MS Word 97 format, and is often very large (July's issue was over 4 MB because of the pictures). It is also converted to HTML for posting on the web site, however the internal 2-column formatting is lost in the conversion process.

Electronic publishing can save the Club a great deal of money. Over the years, reproduction and postage has often been the single largest annual expense in the Club budget. The new HTML version will mimic the printed version, however it will contain full-color, full-resolution pictures.

Getting everything to work with both Netscape and Internet Explorer (contrary to urban legend, they do NOT render a page the same way!), and print as well has required some effort. However, this HTML format will be an order of magnitude smaller, and redundant graphics and pictures do not need to be transmitted every time.

We need people to test and report their results. Send the Editor an email if you'd like to participate.

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NOTE* 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 P.O. Box 1005, Newcastle, CA 95658.

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