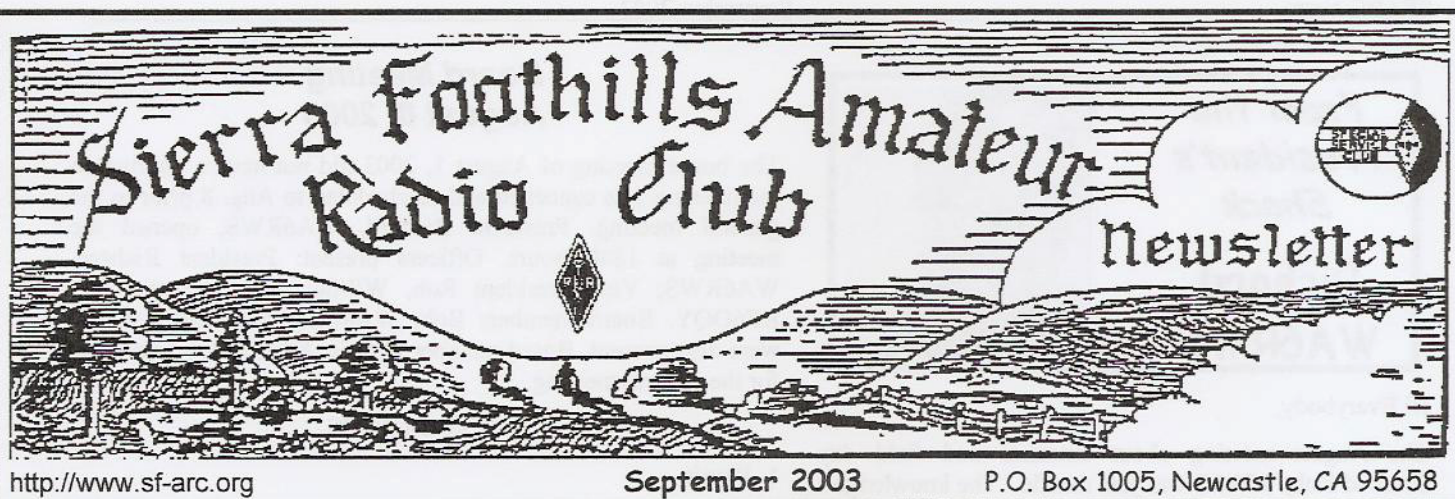




At the Key of S.F.A.R.C.



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History: Gary, KQ6RT
Digital: Rob, WW6G

REPEATERS

145.430 (-0.6 MHz/PL 162.2)
440.575 (+5.0 MHz/PL 94.8)
223.860 (-1.6 MHz/PL 100.0)

CLUB NET

All welcome to check in
Thursdays, 7:30PM, K6ARR/R
145.430

CLUB MEETINGS

Second Friday of the month,
7:30PM at the Auburn
Library, 350 Nevada St,
Auburn

CLUB BREAKFAST

Last Sat of the month at
Susie's Café, Cirby at
Riverside, Roseville - 8:00 AM

NET CONTROL OPS

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2003 Calendar of Events

(Operating Events in Italics)

Sep 5	Board Meeting
Sep 6	<i>No. American Sprint (CW)</i>
Sep 12	Regular Meeting
Sep 13	<i>No. American Sprint (SSB)</i>
Sep 20	CLUB PICNIC!
Sep 27	Club Breakfast
Oct 4-5	<i>Cal QSO Party (CQP)</i>
Oct 10	WHITE ELEPHANT SALE

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Sacramento Valley Section News

Part 15 and BPL

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The SFARC Newsletter is published monthly by the Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club for the information of its members and friends. The newsletter is distributed via the US Mail and E-mail, and is posted to the SFARC Web Site. Permission is granted to non-profit amateur radio organizations to reproduce text verbatim with attribution. Use of images is prohibited without prior written approval of the SFARC, and of all individuals pictured in the images. All logos are the property of the represented organizations and may not be used without their permission.

From the President's Shack

**Richard
WA6RWS**



Hi Everybody,

The August meeting about antennas and field day featured Rob, WW6G was just terrific. The knowledge I gained was helpful the next day when I attended the Hamfest in Anderson. Rob is a great teacher and a real asset to the club.

Rob will be running for president this coming year and I can tell you that we are in for some more exciting times. So come to the meetings and enjoy.

The club picnic will be held on September 20, 2003 at the Auburn Regional Park just West on Dry Creek off of Highway 49 in Auburn. The festivities will start around 11am with lunch at 12. Talk-in will be on the club repeater. See map in newsletter for directions to picnic.

The raffle continues to be an exciting part of the meetings, but the only way you can win is to come to the meetings, so come on down and have some fun.

The club received a very generous donation from Greg Soderlund, Director of the Western States Endurance Run. He also wanted to thank SFARC members who helped with the 2003 event and for use of the club repeater.

It won't be long and our White Elephant sale will be coming up. This is just a reminder to start getting all that good stuff out and dust it off for the upcoming sale.

Hope to see you all at the next Board meeting on September 5th and the next club meeting on September 12th.

73,
Richard, WA6RWS

Secretary's Report

**Joe
KF6OQY**



Board Meeting August 8, 2003

The board meeting of August 1, 2003 did not have a quorum so the meeting was cancelled and rescheduled to Aug. 8 prior to the general meeting. President Richard, WA6RWS, opened the meeting at 1840 hours. Officers present: President Richard, WA6RWS; Vice President Rob, WW6G; and Secretary Joe, KF6OQY. Board members Bob, WA6ULL; and Casey, W7IB were also present. Board member Debbie, KF6LXN, was present for the general meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Picnic

The club picnic date has been moved to September 20 with a location to be announced at a later date.

2. Club Patches

It was decided to order the 3 1/2 inch diameter patches. Rob WW6G will procure them.

3. Nominations

Several names were mentioned for the upcoming vacancies of officers positions. These people will be asked to accept nominations and their names will be published upon their acceptance. Donna, KD6PJN, has accepted the nomination for the Treasurer's position, and husband Larry, AE6CC, has accepted the nomination for a Director's position. Rob has accepted the nomination for President with Casey, W7IB, accepting the nomination for Vice President. All officer positions are open for nomination to any member who might be interested. Please contact any Board member.

4. School Program

Chris, KF6NFW, has filed all of the necessary paperwork for the school program allowing the kids to make radio contacts with the ISS. Chris was assured that the club would assist him in implementing the program.

President Richard adjourned the meeting at 1922 hours.

General Meeting August 8, 2003

President Richard, WA6RWS, opened the meeting at 1942 hours. He led the membership with the pledge of allegiance followed by the introduction of officers, members and guests in attendance. Officers present: President Richard, WA6RWS, Vice President Rob, WW6G, and Secretary Joe, KF6OQY. Board members Bob, WA6ULL, Casey, W7IB, and Debbie, KF6LXN, were also present. Secretary Joe KF6OQY read the minutes of the July 11 general meeting. Member Gene, KG6NYH, asked that the wording used describing the Western States event be changed. Birton N6UG made a motion to accept the minutes as read pending the change of the word running to start and the word run to ride. Motion was seconded by Eldred, KD6ZSL. Motion carried and the announcement now reads: "Mary Ann, KE6EST, announced the start of the Western States 100 mile ride will be on the weekend of July 12 and 13 starting at 0400 Saturday."

President Richard, WA6RWS, gave the Treasurer's report for Treasurer Mike, KG6EFK, who is away on business. Rob, WW6G, gave a VE report and announced that the September 6 testing session will be returning to the Folsom Lake College site. Greg, KO6TH, gave a satellite report. This was followed by the membership giving Greg recognition by commending him for his good work in reporting on the satellite activities.

Jim Carman, K6ARR, reported that both repeater functions regarding the 2m and 70cm are in good working order. Chris, KF6NFW, gave an update on the student radio program for the school project to contact the ISS. Paperwork for this program has been completed and sent in and we are waiting for a reply for permission to participate.

The main event of the evening was a presentation by Rob, WW6G, regarding propagation and how it works. He specifically explained the use of the various antenna designs used at the Field Day event. There was a discussion on the contacts made and the propagation conditions. He further explained the use of HF and the ionosphere in relation to how distances are achieved depending on antenna height and angle of the signal.

He also explained the meaning of the solar flux numbers. A reading of over 150 would indicate good DX conditions. At the present time we are on the down side of the solar cycle and it will get worse. It was an interesting presentation as well as informative. Well done, Rob. Thank you and also thank you to the 29 people who attended this meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 2110 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Sylvia, KF6OQY
Secretary

Sacramento Valley Section Nets

The Sacramento Valley Section Nets are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 1900 on 146.085 [+600/127.3] (Yuba Sutter ARC repeater), and at 1930 on 3.987 MHz. NCS is usually Jettie, W6RFF, our Section Manager.

The Section ARES net meets on the 1st, 3rd, and 4th Wednesday of each month at 1930 on 3.987 MHz. Dave, K6SOJ, is the Section Emergency Manager, and he and others will be NCS.

All amateurs are encouraged to check in, regardless of whether or not you are an ARES member.

**30 & 40
Years Ago
In SFARC**

**Gary
KQ6RT**



Twenty Years Ago at SFARC

September 1983

Meeting opened by WB6GZI, Jim, Vice President, at 7:30 PM.

Dave KA6KUT asked for names for officers for coming year. Nominations will be made at the next meeting.

Introduction to old timers night, each old timer got up and told about their experiences, too numerous and amusing to mention here. Well done!

Raffle prizes; won by:

W6HIA John

KA6KUT Dave

W6KCS Ed

Meeting closed at 9:30.

Bob Rett, W6MEI

**Amateur
Satellites**

**Greg
KO6TH**



Lots of Changes

It's been said that you can't tell the players without a scorecard. Well, lately that applies to satellites too; several of our satellites have had a change in their status.

UO-14, the FM "Easy Sat" is off the air, hopefully only temporarily. The bird, launched some 13 years ago, is believed to be getting reset due to a low voltage coming from the battery pack. After more than 74,000 charge/discharge cycles, it's about time for one of the cells to fail. Unfortunately, when the reset occurs the whole satellite goes silent until it is commanded back on the air by the ground controllers. Since the satellite's computer

failed a few years ago, there is no way to program an automatic recovery. The control team is gathering telemetry at this time, and hopes to have a plan worked out to get UO-14 back on the air soon.

FO-29 may also appear to have gone silent, but in this case there is nothing to worry about. If you tune your receiver to slightly above the downlink passband, around 435.910 or so you'll hear the satellite's digital voice recorder proclaim (with a slight Japanese accent) "This is JAS-2", followed by some chirping sounds. The satellite was put into this mode as part of a Ham festival the JARL was putting on. We are told that the show was a big success, and that FO-29 will be put back into it's normal transponder mode in early September. Until then, take a listen!

The International Space Station's packet system saw a brief return to service in late August. The Station's crew activated the 2 meter packet system, and many stations were able to digipeat through the Station's system until it suddenly turned off in the middle of a pass over the West Coast on August 24th. Procedures are being written up to be passed to the crew for some lite debugging and eventual reactivation. Meanwhile, contacts with schools around the world are continuing, and a new crew is getting ready to replace the current one. Both of the new crew members are hams, and veterans of space station life (including Amateur Radio in space).

Good news has been reported regarding SO-41. This satellite has been off the ham bands for many months, as the bird was being used for other purposes. It has just been reactivated for Amateur use, and strong signals were heard on August 30th. Reports are that it's tricky to get the uplink right, but there was still a lot of activity on the bird.

NO-44, aka "PCSAT", was reported earlier has having failed due to battery problems. Turns out that when the satellite is in the right position, there's just enough power available to run the packet system. Unlike some other satellites, PCSAT cannot run from it's solar panels alone. The transmitter requires more peak power than the limited solar panels can provide, with the rest coming from the batteries. But as a packet satellite, the transmitter is run only for very short bursts, so overall there is generally enough power. It's like running your HT while it's sitting in the trickle charger. The charger can't handle the full current demands when you transmit; that comes from the battery. But in between, the battery recharges. Unfortunately, PCSAT's batteries aren't holding enough charge, so when the transmitter turns on, the under-voltage regulator sometimes kicks in and turns it back off again. This problem will get worse as the batteries continue to deteriorate, but it's not quite over yet.

AO-40's K-band transmitter has been activated again, now that squint angles are good and the satellite's power budget has returned to normal. Yes, K-band, as in 24

GHz. Reports are that it's "not that hard" to get on that band. Yeah, right!

Finally, David, KD5QGR, has put together a great website that lists the status of many of the Ham satellites. The site is at: <http://oscar.dccarr.org/> Check it out!

73

Greg, KO6TH

Sacramento Section News

Greetings From Roseville: So far, as Labor Day ends, we have not had any large fire emergencies this summer, but it is still about 2 months before we get any rain. So stay alert for any ARES call out. Dave, K6SOJ, is preparing a Section Emergency Plan, to be filed with the ARRL and the Section. Dave has put in a lot of work on the emergency system for the section and I am sure the members, as well as myself, thank him for his efforts.

NORTH VALLEY HAMFEST: The hamfest in Anderson was a great success and the two clubs, Amateur Radio Club of Anderson and Shasta Cascade Amateur Radio Society, should be commended for their efforts. They hope to do it again next year. I will be speaking at the ARCA meeting on September 11, in Anderson.

RIVER CITY ARCS: A swap meet will be held on Saturday Sept. 27, 7am, at Sutter Middle School, Alhambra Blvd. and I St., in Sacramento. A joint Picnic with the North Hills RC, will be held on Saturday September 13, 11am, at Gibson Ranch Park (fee for the park). Bring your favorite dish for the Pot Luck.

TAHOE ARA: They will host their annual Bar-B-Q on Saturday September 13, on the beach at Zephyr Cove, NV. This is also a Pot Luck.

EMCOMM: Registration for the ARRL Emergency Communication courses have had openings for several days after registration opens, so it is much easier to sign up for the courses. Registration for Course 001 opens on the first Monday of the month, Course 002 on the 2nd Monday. So sign up!

AMADOR COUNTY ARC: Ron Brown, WA6WIY, has resigned as President and Bobby Brown, WZ6Y, has taken over the club reins. Bobby, previously has been President for several years. Dennis, N6KD, spoke to the club on ECHOLINK and whether the club would be interested in connecting to it. K6KO and K6TA presented their program on P40TA and the trip to Aruba. The club's annual Swap Meet is October 11, in the WalMart parking lot in Martell.

CALIFORNIA QSO PARTY: This competition for all hams to contact California hams will be held Saturday/Sunday, October 4/5. This is a fun contest as all the world is trying to contact CA and it's 58 Counties. Most of the 20 Counties in the SV Section are fairly rare for the County Hunters. More information on the NCCC web pages. <http://www.cqp.org>.

MOTHER LODGE DXCC: The MLDXCC is asking for more clubs to participate in the annual Northern California Contest

Club's California QSO Party (CQP). They have won the club competition for several years, and would like to see more clubs enter. New member is Jack Morgan, KF6T, who is a well known tester. Jack has won or been near the top of many contests, both CW and Phone.

PACIFICON 2003: The Pacific Division Convention, hosted by MDARC, will be held October 17-19 at a new location. It will be held in San Ramon, CA, at the San Ramon Marriott Hotel. The Mt. Diablo club does a wonderful job with these conventions. There will be a Swap Meet. For more information go to <http://www.pacificon.org>.

WHITE ELEPHANT AUCTIONS: Several clubs have white elephant sales in the month of October. Here is a chance to get rid of some of those boat anchors that have been taking up room in the shack -- or to bid on some one else's junk, all for a good cause. Start collecting the stuff now.

EL DORADO COUNTY ARC: President Frank, W6DHN, and XYL returned from a 3000 mile trip in their motor home. They decided that summer is not the best time to visit high desert country, especially when the motor home breaks down!

The EDCARC's ARES group is building up gradually and getting good training. Frank is also the Emergency Coordinator for El Dorado.

SECTION NETS: I hope you will check into on or both of the section nets, on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7 pm on 146.085 MHz. pl-127.3 and 7:30 PM on 3987 KHz. I hope I remember, as I missed a couple times.

73,

Jettie, W6RFF

Sacramento Valley Section Manager

when renewing a vanity call sign, and why refunds were not automatic.

Telecommunications Act provisions governing regulatory fee assessment cover applications for vanity call signs, which, the FCC said, "are voluntarily requested by licensees" and are "a value-added benefit not afforded to all licensees." Assessment of a regulatory fee to cover the FCC's processing and enforcement costs to make the vanity call sign service available is reasonable, the FCC concluded.

The FCC said its current policy of assessing "a nominal fee" at the time of initial application and at each renewal also allows greater access to vanity call signs. "A high one-time-only fee would be cost prohibitive for many entities wishing to obtain a vanity call sign," the Commission said. The Commission also said it incurs costs to manage each vanity call sign throughout its existence, not just in the first 10 years.

Regarding refunds due when the FCC denies an application, the FCC said its rules require a written request from applicants before it can process refunds of regulatory fees. "The written request serves as documentation when cross-referencing each unique file number that may be entitled to a refund," the FCC added.

The FCC said the documentation was particularly important in the case of Amateur Radio vanity applications, "because filing trends indicate that some applicants file several vanity call sign applications per day for several days on end." Requiring a written request makes it easier to certify "which fees are to be refunded for which dismissed applications," the Commission said. In addition, those processing applications in FCC bureaus and offices don't have the authority to issue refunds without proper documentation.

Visit the FCC website at:

http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-03-184A1.doc

to review the Report and Order.

National and International News

(Courtesy ARRL News Services)

Vanity Fees

The FCC has announced that the new Amateur Radio vanity call sign regulatory fee of \$16.30 for the 10-year license term will go into effect September 9. Until then, applicants for amateur vanity call signs will continue to pay the current \$14.50 fee per vanity call sign application. The FCC says it expects to collect close to \$160,000 from 9800 Amateur Radio vanity call sign applicants during Fiscal Year 2003. That's up by almost \$30,000 and 800 applications from FY2002.

In releasing its annual Report and Order on the assessment and collection of regulatory fees for FY2003, the FCC responded at some length to comments filed from the amateur community. Some commenters had questioned the need for the fee, the requirement to pay it

FCC Denies ARRL 24 GHz Petition

The FCC has denied the ARRL's Petition for Reconsideration of a Commission decision to allow fixed point-to-point transmitters in the 24.05 to 24.25 GHz band to operate at field strengths 10 times the level Part 15 rules now permit. The ARRL had asked the FCC to reconsider and reverse a portion of its December 2001 Report and Order (R&O) in ET-98-156. The League's reconsideration petition contested the FCC's jurisdiction to authorize unlicensed operation of RF devices that pose significant interference potential to licensed services. It also asserted that such devices should be licensed. The FCC did not agree on either count.

"We reject the assertion that there is a significant interference potential from the unlicensed operation authorized in the Report and Order," the FCC concluded in a Memorandum Opinion and Order (MO&O) released July 21. The FCC also said the League failed to support its argument that the devices it authorized should be disqualified from Part 15 unlicensed operation because they may serve a similar function as those in licensed services.

The FCC MO&O reaffirmed its authorization to permit the Part 15 devices at field strengths of up to 2500 mV per meter and noted its requirement to use directional antennas. The ARRL had called the proposed power levels and antenna gain figures--33 dBi--"entirely inappropriate for Part 15 unlicensed facilities."

The Commission turned away the ARRL's contention that the FCC's R&O had expanded the concept of unlicensed devices far beyond its original concept and what is permissible under Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934. In its denial of the League's reconsideration petition, the FCC repeatedly made the point that ARRL had "conceded" the FCC's jurisdiction to make reasonable regulations regarding the interference potential of RF devices.

In its February 2002 reconsideration petition, however, the ARRL had said the issue was not whether the FCC had jurisdiction to enact reasonable regulations concerning RF devices. "Rather," the League said, "it is whether or not a device which has substantial interference potential to licensed radio services must be licensed." The limit of the FCC's jurisdiction to permit unlicensed operation of RF devices, the ARRL had argued, "is reached when it is concluded that the operation of such devices has a substantial interference potential to licensed services."

The ARRL has raised similar arguments regarding the FCC's Part 15 authority as part of its efforts to combat a proposal by SAVI Technology--in ET Docket 01-278--to permit RF identification tags to operate as unlicensed Part 15 devices between 425 and 435 MHz. In that case, the ARRL has said the FCC lacks authority to permit the RFIDs to operate under Part 15 at the proposed field strengths and duty cycles.

Amateur Radio is primary at 24.0 to 24.05 GHz and secondary on the rest of the band. The AO-40 satellite includes beacon, digital and analog transmitters in the vicinity of 24.048 GHz.

View the FCC's Latest M&O at:

http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-03-175A1.doc.

FCC Seeks Morse Code Comments

(Excerpts from ARRL Letter 22-34)

The FCC has invited public comments on six separate Morse code-related petitions for rule making. World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) made optional the requirement to prove the ability to send and receive Morse signals to operate below 30 MHz.

RM-10781 KI1I: Give all Technician licensees current Novice/Tech Plus CW privileges on 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters and limited phone and image privileges on 80, 40 and 10 meters. Also proposes new Tech phone/image privileges on 3850-3900 KHz and 7225-7300 KHz. Does not eliminate Element 1.

RM-10782 KG4QDZ, KG4YUM, and KG4QDY: Eliminate Element 1 from the rules. Would grant Tech Plus HF privileges to current Technician licensees. It also would retain the current CW-only subbands

RM-10783 WA6BJH: Asks the FCC simply to "remove all requirements for knowledge of Morse code" from the Amateur Service rules. Dale Reich, K8AD, petitioned the FCC to delete Element 1 for General class applicants but keep it in place for Extra class applicants. Under Reich's scheme, "no-code" Techs wanting HF privileges would have to upgrade to General first. Reich's petition is designated RM-10784.

RM-10785 N0HHS: Seeks immediate elimination of "proficiency in telegraphy using Morse code."

RM-10787 National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC): Would delete Element 1 and give "Tech Plus" privileges to current Technician licensees. The NCVEC also asked the FCC to "take expedited action" to allow volunteer examiner coordinators (VECs) to discontinue administering Element 1 "as soon as possible." The ARRL-VEC abstained from voting on the NCVEC's petition question when it came up during the NCVEC's July 25 meeting in Pennsylvania.

At its own July meeting in Connecticut, the ARRL Board of Directors affirmed its interest in reviewing members' input on the Morse issue as well as on other possible revisions to Part 97 arising from WRC-03. The Board's current position is to retain the Morse requirement for HF access.

Two more recently filed petitions--one from No Code International and another from two amateur licensees--are expected to be put on public notice in the near future.

Interested parties may file comments on any or all of these petitions using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>, which also permits users to view the petitions and all comments on file. There is a 30-day comment window.

To file a comment, click on "Submit a Filing" under "ECFS Main Links." In the "Proceeding" field, type the full RM number, including the hyphen, and complete the required fields. "RM" must be upper case. You may type your remarks into a form or attach a file. ECFS also accepts comments in active proceedings via e-mail, per instructions on the ECFS page.



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Part 15 and BPL

In a marked departure from historic attempts by others to encroach on or otherwise obtain parts of the spectrum allocated to amateurs, the big (as in "REALLY BIG") threat we face today is from Part 15 devices. Basic knowledge of this threat entails a basic understanding of Part 15, and understanding the threat will improve the quality of all of our comments to the FCC, so fasten your seat belt ... here's Part 15 in a nutshell:

The FCC operates under the authority of the *Communications Act of 1934*, which requires that the FCC regulate all devices which emit RF energy. In the obvious case of "real" transmitters (like ours), the FCC imposes technical performance specifications and requirements, and requires a license for both the operator and the station. Amateurs are regulated by 47CFR97, otherwise known colloquially as "Part 97." A great number of devices radiate small amounts of RF, and individual licensing of each would be out of the question. Part 15 of the FCC Rules regulates unlicensed devices that radiate RF energy.

There are three classes of unlicensed radiators:

Intentional: A device that intentionally generates and emits radio frequency energy by radiation or induction. Examples include a wide variety of devices such as the thermometer/transmitter that sends outside temperature to your atomic clock, RFID tags/interrogators, cordless phones, WiFi broadband systems, and "Broadband over Power Line" (BPL), likely the worst threat we face.

Unintentional: A device that internally generates RF for its normal operation, but which does not need to radiate that energy for its normal operation. It is virtually impossible to totally contain RF within a device, so some actually does radiate. The best example is your computer and monitor.

Incidental: A device whose normal operation does not require the generation or emission of RF, but which does anyway. Dimmer switches, motors, fluorescent lights, and such all fall into this class.

Part 15 allows devices to radiate in just about any part of the spectrum. However, it does impose extremely strict limits on their field strength and duty cycle. We have been living with Part 15 devices radiating in the ham bands for a long time. Listen to 433.920 FM for awhile and you'll hear a variety of squawks, squeaks, growls, and what sounds like noise bursts ... all very short duration ... all Part 15 intentional radiators.

The FCC also requires that all Part 15 devices "accept interference for any source." That is, a user of such a device has no legal recourse if his device (e.g. a garage door opener) malfunctions because of interference from a licensed service (e.g. you). More on this in a moment.

All the furor and hubris currently centers around intentional radiators. The proposed new devices and

systems cannot operate successfully under the current FCC Part 15 limits for field strength and duty cycle. Thus the manufacturers seek to relax those limits (by several orders of magnitude!)

Broadband over Power Line (BPL) would couple HF energy (1 - 40 MHz or so) into the 12KV distribution lines (and also the 115V lines in our houses) to provide high speed Internet access. Despite some half-hearted and wrong technical arguments by the proponents, power lines and house wiring make very good antennas, and these signals will radiate ... some possibly very long distances (remember 10 meters at the sunspot maximum when 0.5W to a stealth antenna will work Europe?). This noise across our bands is often seen as the big threat to hams, but, while massive by itself, the news regrettably gets worse.

Antennas receive as well as they transmit, even if they're power lines. 100W on 20m into an antenna possibly 60-100 ft from the power line couples a lot of energy into the line. Right now, no one cares. But, should your neighbors have BPL receivers in their homes, your signal will probably overwhelm the weaker Part 15 signal, and they'll quit working. Of course, you are a licensed service within your assigned band(s), and you take precedence over the Part 15 users, no? Well, yes ... legally.

Practically, it will be a vastly different matter when the people in your neighborhood lose their broadband Internet connection every time you transmit. Regardless of our legal right to transmit and interfere with the Part 15 devices, we also have to live in the neighborhood. Additionally, should the FCC permit deployment of this technology and these devices, and should they later come to the conclusion that it was a really bad idea, there is no practical way to "undeploy" them. A great deal of money will have been spent, and they will have become ubiquitous in our environment.

Both the Comment and Reply Comment windows have closed on the proposed BPL action. FCC actions are often amended and re-issued, however. Over 4,000 hams filed comments against the current BPL proposal, and the NTIA has yet to weigh in definitively. (The ARRL's Comments and Reply Comments are a technical work of art). Stay tuned ... we may have yet another chance.

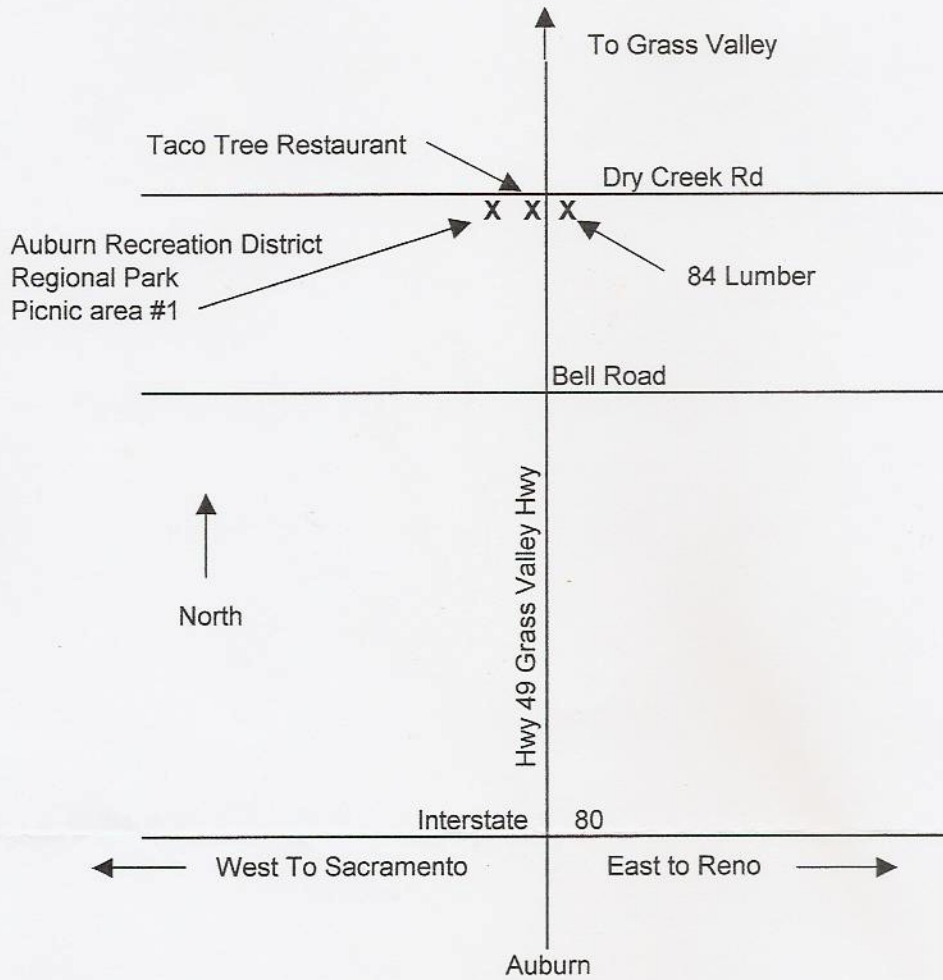


AMATEUR RADIO CONVENTION

October 17-19, 2003
 San Ramon Marriott Hotel
 San Ramon, CA
www.pacificon.org

SFARC Picnic

September 20, 2003
11am til the food is gone



Regional Park picnic area #1 is located 200 yards West of Hwy 49 on Dry Creek Rd., Auburn

From Sacramento - Take Interstate 80 East to Hwy 49 in Auburn.

Go North on Hwy 49 to Dry Creek Rd. Left on Dry Creek and then left into the parking lot.

Please bring your favorite side dish and your own plates and utensils.

Hamburgers, hot dogs and cold drinks provided by the club.

Talk-in on the club repeater - 145.43 -.600 pl 162.2

SIERRA FOOTHILLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P.O. Box 1005
Newcastle, CA 95658



SIERRA FOOTHILLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
2003 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ e-mail: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Associate Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____

Phone Number: _____ Application: (Circle One) New Renewal

Member Dues: Circle Amounts That Apply. Applications received in the middle of the year will be pro rated. Contact the President or Treasurer for exact rate.

Membership:	\$22.00	Name Badge:	\$6.50
Associate:	\$ 7.00	Repeater Donation:	\$ _____
Auto Patch Donation:	\$ _____	Newsletter Booster:	\$ _____
Miscellaneous Donation:	\$ _____	Christmas Donation:	\$ _____
Worldradio Renewal:	\$ _____	TOTAL:	\$ _____

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DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

Date: _____ Treasurer: _____ Secretary: _____ Roster: _____

Payment: _____ Check Number: _____ Cash: _____