

COMING EVENTS

December

- 2 Christmas Dinner at MICHELLE'S, Santa Rosa
- 5 VE Exam 9:00am Kaiser Hospital in Novato. Talk in on 147.330 Repeater
- 11 SCRA Board meeting, 5:30pm Bank of the West, Marlow Shopping Center Santa Rosa
- 12 VE EXAM, 5:00pm, Petaluma Senior Citizen Center. Talk in on 146.91 Repeater
- 19 SCRA Foxhunt, Piner High School, Fulton Road, Santa Rosa. Beginner's hunt: 9:00am, Advanced hunt:10:00am

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Happy Holidays!



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W6SON

Short Skip

Sonoma County Radio Amateurs, Inc.

PO Box 116, Santa Rosa, CA 95402-0116

146.730 MHz ● 224.48 MHz ● 441.375 MHz



Repeater Station
W6LFJ

Volume 23 Number 12

December 1998

1998 Holiday Dinner

Michelle's Restaurant, 521 Adams Street, Santa Rosa
No-Host Cocktails 6:30pm / Dinner 7:30pm

This year's traditional year-end dinner will be held Wednesday, December 2 at Michelle's Restaurant in Santa Rosa near Old Railroad Square. Dinner selections will be:

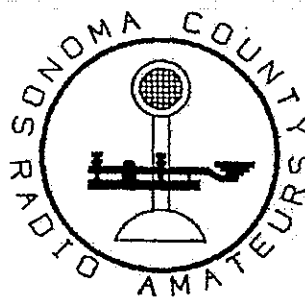
🍷 Half-roasted chicken	\$15.00
🍷 Filet of sole	\$15.00
🍷 Prime Rib	\$20.00
🍷 Pasta Primavera	\$15.00

The cost of the dinner includes tax, tip, and coffee. For reservations call Holly Gleason, KE6MNT, at 824-0135, or e-mail her at hollyg@metro.net. Reservations must be received by Sunday, November 29.



Happy Holidays!





Club Meetings

7:30 pm on the first Wednesday each month at the Hewlett-Packard plant in SANTA ROSA. (See map below). All are welcome.

We invite you to attend our next monthly meeting (see below). Membership in SCRA is open to anyone interested in Amateur Radio. If you would like to join, there is a membership application in this issue.

Next Meeting: December 2
Holiday Dinner
6:30 pm Cocktails/ 7:30 pm Dinner
Michelle's Restaurant in Santa Rosa

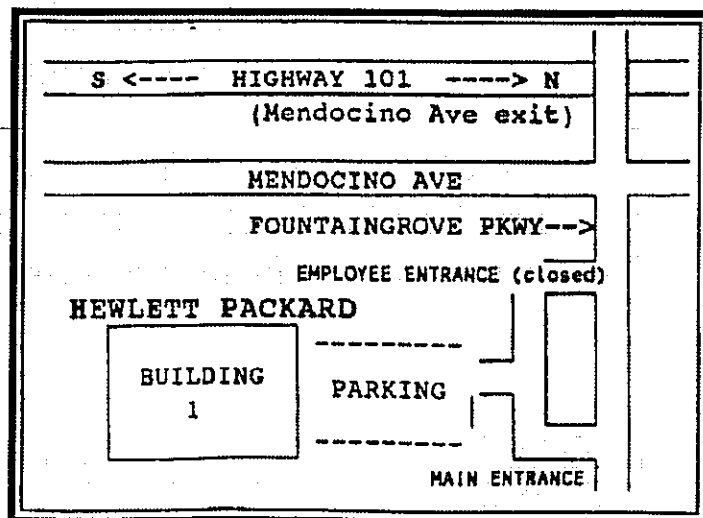
Tuesday Night Net

Check into the Tuesday Night SCRA net on the 146.73 repeater at 7:00 pm. Announcements of upcoming SCRA activities, a Swap Shop, and the latest Amateur Radio Newsline broadcasts can be heard.

Short Skip Advertising Rates

Business Cards:	\$10
First Quarter Column:	\$11
Each Additional Quarter Column:	\$ 3
Full Page, 1 side	\$32
Pre-printed inserts	\$32/sheet

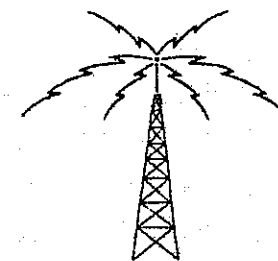
Guaranteed Circulation of 200 per month.



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CONTACTS

Public Relations	Steve Carniglia	KV6A	579-9608
QSL Mgr	Fred Leoni	N6YEU	431-8202
TVI/RFI	Al Bloom	N1AL	538-7115
Antennas	Lee Dibble	KE6EAQ	544-1675
Awards	Open		
Field Day	Larry Gustafson	KD6VUM	523-0266
Swap Meet	Colleen Dean	KF6DHA	578-4098
Education	Greg Gordon	AC6VJ	523-7077
VEC Exams	Bill Kinder	KO6ZG	894-9591
Badge Chair	Fred Leoni	N6YEU	431-8202
Refreshments	Ted DeCroff	KB6PTA	
Meeting Raffle	Ken Harrison	N6MHG	
Membership lottery	James Cureton	KD6GSF	
Packet BBS	Dave Willey	KD6KWM	
Activities/Fox Hunts	Dave Willey	KD6KWM	



Repeater Control Op's

Kelly KD6CJQ	837-9434
Hoppy WD6CKP	542-6750
Steve KV6A	579-9608
Merl N6VUC	584-3898
Ken N6MHG	539-2701
Joel KJ6LF	545-1782
Larry KD6VUM	523-0266

Application for membership in SCRA

Name _____ Callsign _____ License Class _____
 Address _____ Phone _____ Date _____
 City _____ ZIP _____ E-mail _____ () New () Renewal

SCRA Dues: The renewal date for SCRA dues is March 1st. Dues are \$18/year for individual and \$27/year for families. The new member initiation (badge) fee is \$6/person. Dues for new members only are prorated at \$1.50/month for individuals and \$2.25/month for families, starting at renewal time.

ARRL dues: \$34/year, \$28 over 65 with proof of age. (Under 21 rates require application form).

Make checks payable to SCRA

I WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT:

- Public Service Events
- Emergency Services
- Taking a Novice or Technician class
- Teaching a Novice or Technician class
- Taking an upgrade class
- Teaching an upgrade class
- Helping with SCRA Flea Market
- Acting as club Net Control Station
- Helping with VEC license exams
- Field Day, other operating events
- Helping with *Short Skip* Newsletter
- Other _____

SCRA Dues:

Individual \$18, Family \$27	+	_____
Initiation fee \$6.00	+	_____
Prorate discount _____ X _____	-	_____
(# months) (rate)		

ARRL Dues:

\$34 or \$28 if over 65	+	_____
Additional donation to SCRA:	+	_____
Total dues:		_____

Badge (New Members Only)

Fill in this section exactly as you want it to appear on your badge.

Callsign _____
 First Name: _____
 City: _____

AUTOSLOT REQUEST: Licensed SCRA members are entitled to a repeater autoslot. Fill in the information below to apply and send the form to: SCRA, PO Box 116, Santa Rosa CA 95402

Name: _____
 Callsign: _____
 Phone Number: _____

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- All-mode HF receivers
- QRP CW Transmitters
- Etc...

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- ARRL Handbook
- License Manuals
- Antenna Books
- Etc...

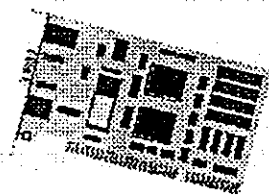
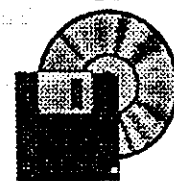
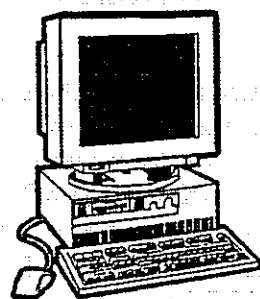
OAK HILLS QRP KITS

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- Code keys
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HANK'S SWAP SHOP

Hosted by Ken Harrison, N6MHG

FOR SALE:

- Epson Notebook 486 DX 60 Computer - Mint condition with: 500 MB hard drive, 4 MB RAM, External keyboard, External video monitor, Software includes Windows 3.1, Excel 5.0, Lotus 4.0, and WordPerfect for Windows and DOS. Asking \$650 for all.
Contact Leland, W6GEE @ 707-942-9076 eves. or leave message or email: wa6dfa@aol.com
- ICOM AT24 - dualband HT (VHF/UHF) \$175. Contact Sal, KC6WTO @ 707-577-4905 or email: salc@sonic.net
- Kenwood TS-520 HF Transceiver, Kenwood SP-820 Matching speaker. Asking \$400 for both. Contact Tim, KD6TXH @ 707-538-0399 or email: tlaurie@rocketmail.com
- Realistic HTX-404 440 HTs - Have two complete brand new in the box, unused. Asking what is invested in them: \$99.97 + tax (each). Contact Bill @ 707-566-8211
- Cuschcraft 215WB Boomer 2m Yagi - 15 ft. boom / 15.5 dBd gain. \$50; Hewlett-Packard 5314A Universal Counter - portable, dual channel 100 MHz counter. \$100; Hewlett-Packard Bench DC Power Supply - 0-9V / 6A. adjustable current limit w/dual-function meter. \$30.
Contact John, WB6FRZ @ 707-838-6398 or email: johnbr@cdis1.net
- Heathkit SB-220 HF amplifier. \$600. Contact Mike, KA6AQS mikey@cdis1.net
- Heathkit DX-60 Transmitter - \$90. Heathkit HR-10 Receiver - \$75. Excellent Condition! Get the pair for \$150. Contact Connie, N6FYV @ 707-823-6668.

There were no 'WANTS' at this time.

Money Matters

10/19/98 - 11/16/98

Beginning Balance

Checking	2251.14
Petty Cash	89.67
SCRA Savings	1493.63
TOTAL	3834.44

Income

73 Magazine	120.00
ARRL Inc	34.00
BADGE INCOME	6.00
Callbook CD Rom	321.00
INITIATION	12.00
DUES	30.00
FLEA MARKET	10.00
KZST Income	135.00
MONTHLY RAFFLE	57.25
REFRESHMENTS	21.73
TOTAL	746.98

Expenses

73 Magazine	90.00
ARRL MEMBERSHIP	29.00
BADGES, NEW MEM	14.50
Callbook CD Rom	353.10
ARRL Insurance	327.00
OFFICERS EXP	31.75
REFRESHMENTS	11.97
REPEATER: PHONE	40.12
TOTAL REPEATER	40.12
SHORTSKIP EXP	110.61
TOTAL	1008.05

Ending Balance

Checking	1979.89
Petty Cash	89.85
Savings	1493.63
TOTAL	3573.37

SCRA Club Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Jennifer Dewey KF6DDQ
November 4, 1998

Meeting was brought to order by Dave New AA6YX.

Visitors: 1
Upgrades: 1 No Code Tech, 1 Advanced

Minutes from October meeting were approved by Jim KE6UAR.

Dave Willey KD6KWM: Dinner on Dec. 2 at Michelle's at Railroad. VE Exams: November 14 at Valley of the Moon; December 5 in San Rafael at Kaiser Hospital.

John Breckenridge WB6FRZ: Elmer List, most names were people who wanted to help. Contact him if you would like some help. There is a Memorial Loaner Library for those who would like to borrow equipment. It is in memory of James Dean KF6DHB. We need equipment for the library.

Joel Nadler KJ6LF read the financial report. He will order the Call Book CD-ROM for \$32.10. See Joel to order. Also you can order 73 magazine for \$20.00; \$5.00 will go to our club.

Kelly Cureton KD6CJQ: Repeater has been up and down, Electric code failed at the site. He is working to fix the problems.

Steve Feil KD6CJR: KZST books are here tonight.

Larry Gustafson KD6VUM: Special Event station will be April 17th and 18th at Kendall Jackson Winery. He needs a steering committee. Wine labels will be used for QSL Labels. Possible names for the expedition might be "Celebration of the Grape Planting" or "Celebration of the Bud Busting"

Proposed constitutional change by Joel Nadler KJ6LF was a unanimous vote No.

It has been so noted that Alan Bloom N1AL, our repeater trustee has approved and appointed the following people for Control Operators: Kelly KD6CJQ, Hoppy WD6CKP, Steve KV6A, Merl N6VUC, Ken K6MHG, Joel KJ6LF and Larry KD6VUM.

Larry KD6VUM wants to loan HDX202 to Jeff Basham KF6TGQ. Article 9 Section 1 in the constitution. Joel moved to loan it, Ken N6MHG seconded. It was passed.

Nominations:

- President - None
- Vice President - None
- Secretary: Dorothy Davison KD6OTC - Possible
- Treasurer: Joel Nadler KJ6LF
- Member at Large: Brian Torr N6IYY
- Member at Large: Tracy Reese WB6TMY

It was passed that the above people who were listed be nominated. Approved, passed.

SCRA Board Minutes

Submitted by Jennifer Dewey KF6DDQ
November 11, 1998

Meeting was brought to order by Dave New AA6YX at 5:45 P.M. Present were Joel Nadler KJ6LF, Dave Willey KD6KWM, Jen Dewey KF6DDQ, Ken Harrison N6MHG, Kelly Cureton KD6CJQ. Visitors: Brian Torr N6IYY, Darlene LaMont KD6GCK, Jim Robinson KE6UAR and Bill Hillendahl KD6GJV

Dave New: Dinner for December 2, names are being gathered to give to the restaurant so we know how many people to expect. He has been asking people if they would like to become president for next year. Secretary name is pending. He will be meeting with Lee and Joel on Monday November 23rd to finalize our board and this year's budget. They may do the last two years.

Kelly hopes to get up on the hill. He is looking at two days for .730 to be down. He is still looking at the problems with .535.

Bill H. Minutes were insufficient for the last year. Club needs to see the business that goes on. He wants to make sure the equipment that is being loaned out is acknowledged at the board meeting.

Brian N6IYY and Tracy Reese WB6TMY were voted in as members at large. **Dave New** is Past President on the Board. **Joel** was voted and approved to be treasurer.

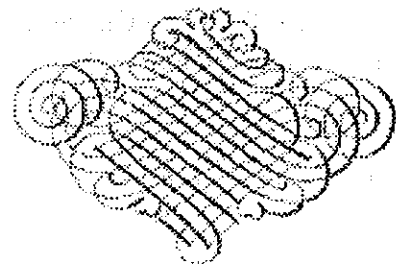
Joel: Wants people to go the Santa Rosa City Council meeting on December 10th. The Golf Center will be on the agenda. The meeting will be at the City Hall.

Darlene: Hated coming to the last 6 months or so at the monthly meetings. There is too much turmoil going on in the group and it is embarrassing. Dues were raised and people were not happy. Can we lower the dues again. What if we lowered prices for people who help.

Bill and Dave opposed lowering dues. So that we have money to fall back on if something happens to the equipment. Dave would like to earmark money for emergencies only. Joel says we would have to add another amendment to make that plan work.

Joel wants to leave about \$700 in checking and put the rest in savings.

Meeting adjourned at 6:14pm



Twass the Net before Christmas

by Kathy Mahan, KC6UXJ

Twass the net before Christmas
And all through the house
Not a radio was on
To the delight of my spouse.

The mic's and HT's were all hung with care
Not a single squelch from anywhere.
The Icoms and Kenwoods were all in a line
So I just layed back sipping my wine.

When out on the roof there arose such a clatter
I sprang from my seat to see what was the matter.
Away to the window I flew in a flash
Tore open the shutter and threw up the sash.

The moon shone so bright on the top of my quad
It gave a luster of midday to my neighbor's sod.

When what to my wondering eyes should appear
But a miniature sleight filled with radio gear,
With a little old driver exactly on course
I knew in a moment t'was old Samuel Morse.

More rapid than eagles his coursers they came
And he whistled and shouted and called them by name,
A Kenwood, an Icom, a Yaesu for starters
An Ameritron, Santec and Alinco for barter.

To the top of the porch to the top of the wall
I could only hope he wouldn't fall.
And then in a twinkle he was on the roof
And the dits and dahs were certainly proof.

As I drew in my heat and was turning around,
Down the antenna ole Sam came with a bound.

He was dressed incognito from his head to his foot,
And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot.
A bundle of radios he had flung on his back
And he looked like a salesman just opening his pack.

The radios how they sparkled, all clean and new
I only hoped he would leave just a few.
Then he turned on an HT - 2 meters was free
He hoped to say a few words on 146.73.

He gave us his callsign, WB6SAM, hoping for a contact with any ham
Then he sprang up the antenna without a dilemma.
And pressing his finger on the PTT, he gave a memorable QST

And I heard him exclaim as he drove out of sight
'Happy Christmas to all and to all a good night!'

Reprinted from December 1994 *Short Skip*

Briefs from the ARRL Letter

Vol. 17, No. 45

November 13, 1998

FCC LEVIES HEFTY FINE ON JERSEY HAM

The FCC has levied a \$7500 fine on a New Jersey ham who interfered with a net operation on 40 meter SSB. James C. Thompson, KA2YBP, of Waretown also was ordered off 40 meters until further notice after the October 18 incident. The case against Thompson, 58, stemmed from interference complaints from other amateurs, including the Association of North American Radio Clubs (ANARC), which conducts a Sunday morning net on 7240 kHz.

The FCC charged Thompson with illegally retransmitting programs from a Standard Broadcast (AM) station on 40 meters and willfully interfering with the net. The FCC also said Thompson failed to properly identify.

DRAKE ENDS FACTORY SERVICE FOR OLDER GEAR

R. L. Drake Company has announced it no longer will provide factory service for most of its older Amateur Radio and marine equipment. The list includes much--but not all--of the popular 4-Line equipment.

Veteran Drake Service Manager Bill Frost, WD8DFP, says it's getting harder to get parts for the older Drake units. "The big switches, you can't buy those things anymore," he said this week. "The big electrolytics are not available."

Technicians familiar with the older, mostly tube-type gear also are in short supply these days. "Our technical expertise on the older equipment has gradually been diminished by the loss of long-time employees due to retirement," Frost said. He also said the cost of repairs can easily exceed the cost of the equipment.

The company has posted a list on its Web site at <http://www.rldrake.com/tech/Outofservice.html> of items that it no longer can service. The list includes The R-4 and R-4A receivers, the popular T-4X, XB, and XC HF transmitters, and the TR-3 and TR-4 transceivers, as well as most of the power supplies for those units, the SSR-1 receiver, and the TR-22, 22C and TR-33C 2-meter transceivers. Items on the list and sent to Drake for repair will be returned to the sender unrepaired accompanied by a bill for shipping, handling, and applicable COD fees.

Frost said Drake is still servicing "to an extent" the R-4B and R-4C receivers as well as the TR-5 and TR-7 transceivers. The company also still will provide factory repair service for the L-4, L-4B and L-7 linear amplifiers.

Drake says its supply of unique parts is limited, but it

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(Near Disneyland)
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(800) 854-6046
Janet, WØMF, Mgr.

BURBANK, CA
2492 W. Victory Bl., 91506
(818) 842-1786
(800) 854-6046
Marv, K6VIV, Mgr.
Victory Blvd. at Buena Vista
1 mi. west I-5

OAKLAND, CA
2210 Livingston St., 94606
(510) 534-5757
(800) 854-6046
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I-880 at 23rd Ave. ramp

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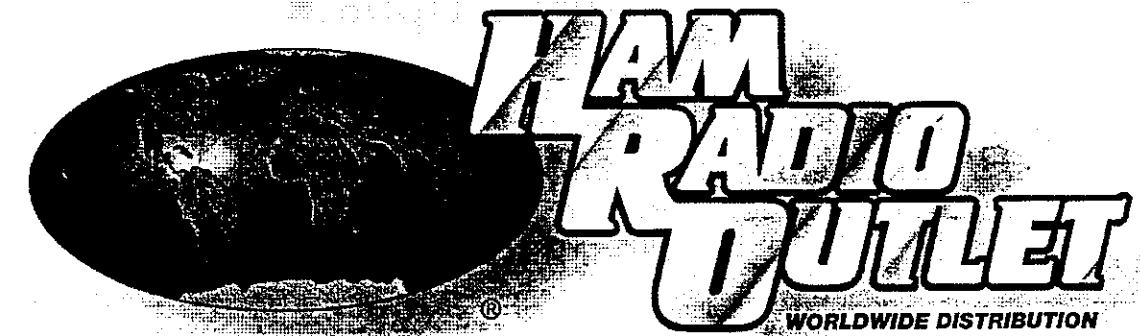
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Mike, KA3TMO, Mgr.
Exit 161, I-95, So. to US 1

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(Near Boston)
224 N. Broadway, 03079
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sales@hamradio.com
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- 100W • 12V DC • ODS
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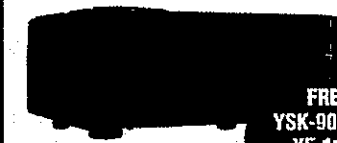
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2M 440mHz

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- 1.5W standard
- 5W option
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Call For **Low Price!**



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2M/440 Sub-Mini HT

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- 5W output
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Call Now For **Your Low Price!**



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2M/440mHz Compact HT

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- Battery Saver
- 112 Memories
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Ultimate Base Station. HF/VHF/UHF

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- 1200/9600 Baud Packet Ready

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- 9600 Baud Compatible • Alpha Numeric Display

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- Built-in DVR, CW Memory Keyer
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- Backlit mic • Remotable front panel w/opt. YSK-8100

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ARRL Update

ARRL PACIFIC DIVISION UPDATE DECEMBER, 1998

by Brad Wyatt, K6WR, Director, Pacific Division,
ARRL

Last Chance to Comment on Major Amateur Radio
License Restructuring Proposals:-

The Comment deadline on FCC WT Docket 98-143 is Dec. 1, 1998. The implementation of this Docket will set the framework for the Amateur Radio Service in the US for the next several years. The Docket and the ARRL "constructive suggestions" to the FCC on this Docket have been widely discussed in the Sept., Oct., Nov., and Dec. QSTs as well as the recent issues of the Pacific Division Updates. Already several hundred comments are on file at the FCC on this matter and are available on the FCC WWW site. For those of you who have not sent in your Comments, it is now YOUR turn to express your views about the future of Amateur Radio licensing and related topics in the US!

For your consideration, following is a capsule summary of the ARRL plan that will be covered in the ARRL's Comments that will be filed.

Number of License Classes and Privileges.

- 4 classes - Technician, General, Advanced, Extra.
- No one to lose any privileges.
- Novices and Tech Plus licenses become Generals immediately.
- Refarm the Novice HF bands to better uses.
- Technicians to have CW privileges on HF in General segments to help broaden their scope of Amateur Radio.

- Morse Code Examination

- 5 wpm for General; 12 wpm for Advanced and Extra.
- Solid copy or fill in the blanks examination.

- Enforcement

- FCC Compliance and Information Bureau (CIB) to have full enforcement capability.
- FCC/CIB to enforce all Amateur Radio Service rules.

-- Written Examinations

- Modify topics and questions to be more relevant to class of license.
- Enlarge the total number of questions in the question pool.

- Questions to be more difficult for higher level of licenses.
- Retain the syllabus in the rules to maintain national uniformity.
- Explore newer techniques for distractor generation.

-- Greater Volunteer Examiner Opportunities

- Advanced Class to have greater opportunities as VEs.

-- RACES Station Licenses

- Special RACES licenses no longer relevant, but keep RACES.

Of course, you many have a different approach than the ARRL Board has taken. This NPRM provides a unique opportunity to express your views on the direction that Amateur Radio should take in the US in the years ahead. I urge all of you to write and send your constructive comments to the FCC at one of the addresses noted in the following paragraph. To be effective, you should not only include your suggestions for change (or no change) in your message, but should also include the rationale behind your suggestions. If you wish, please also send a copy to me at k6wr@arrl.org or at the address on page 10 of any QST.

Several hundred comments have already been filed with FCC on this Docket. These comments range from very simple comments such as "I like it" or "I don't like it" with little or no rationale for the points made to very extensive Comments with accompanying rationale. Suggestions have been made for as few as three license classes (one no code VHF; one with 5 wpm code for current General class HF privileges; and one with 5 wpm code for all current Extra class privileges). Others have asked the FCC to "leave it all as it is." Most Comments are from individuals, but some are from organizations. All the Comments can be found on-line at the [fcc.gov](http://www.fcc.gov) WWW site.

The FCC is encouraging electronic comments via the WWW at <http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html> or by email at ecfs@fcc.gov. For instructions on how to file using the ecfs address, send an email to ecfs with the words "Get form <your email address>" in the body of the message. Of course, written comments can be sent by hardcopy by US mail to Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 1919 M St. NW, Washington DC 20554. Be sure to include reference to WT Docket 98-143.