



Mike And Key



An ARRL Special Services Club

Founded 1914

SARC Calendar

September

- 05th Executive Committee Meeting, Keith Crandall's QTH at 7:00 PM.
- 12th General Meeting: Sacramento Blood Center, Alhambra Annex, 1625 Stockton Blvd, Sacramento at 7:00 PM. Informal get-together at 6:30 PM.
- 26th SIG Meeting: Sacramento Blood Center, Alhambra Annex, 1625 Stockton Blvd, Sacramento at 7:00 PM.

October

- 3rd Executive Committee Meeting, Keith Crandall's QTH at 7:00 PM.
- 10th General Meeting: Sacramento Blood Center, Alhambra Annex, 1625 Stockton Blvd, Sacramento at 7:00 PM. Informal get-together at 6:30 PM.
- 31st SIG Meeting: Sacramento Blood Center, Alhambra Annex, 1625 Stockton Blvd, Sacramento at 7:00PM

ITU Adopts Recommendations On Amateur Qualifications

The International Telecommunication Union has adopted a recommendation that outlines basic qualifications for Amateur Radio operators worldwide. Recommendation ITU-R M.1544, Minimum qualifications of radio amateurs, states that minimal operational and technical qualifications are necessary for proper operation of an amateur or amateur-satellite station. It recommends that any person seeking an amateur license at least be able to demonstrate specific theoretical knowledge of radio regulations, radio communication methods, radio systems, radio emission safety, electromagnetic compatibility, and RF interference avoidance and resolution.

"The international Radio Regulations have long required that administrations take such measures as they judge necessary to verify the operational and technical qualifications of any person wishing to operate an amateur station," observed International Amateur Radio Union Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ. "In anticipation of changes that are likely to be made in the amateur and amateur-satellite service regulations at the next World Radio Communication Conference, the new recommendation provides additional definition to these qualifications without reducing the prerogative of an administration to set its own standards."

Recommendation M.1544 came about as part of the IARU's multi-year effort to prepare for the 2003 World Radio Communication Conference, where delegates will consider possible revision of Article S25 of the international Radio Regulations.

IARU President Larry E. Price, W4RA, said that establishing uniform minimum qualifications for Amateur Radio operators should help in the area of mutual recognition of amateur licenses for international roaming "and particularly for cross-border movement of amateur operators for disaster communications." Having the recommendation in place, he explained, makes it possible to maintain an ITU document on Amateur Radio operator qualifications within

oversight of the ITU-R Study Group and avoids the cumbersome process of modifying Article S25 of the Radio Regulations.

ITU Recommendations are available from the ITU electronic bookshop: <http://ecs.itu.ch/cgi-bin/ebookshop>
.--IARU news release

Amateurs Complete First 24-GHZ Earth-Moon-Earth QSO

Here's another one for the Amateur Radio record books. On Saturday, August 18th, hams in Texas and Manitoba completed the first 24-GHz Earth-Moon-Earth (EME) QSO. The contact followed by several months the first documented echoes from the moon on 24 GHz.

Noted microwave enthusiast Al Ward, W5LUA, of Allen, Texas (EM13), says his QSO with Barry Malowanchuk, VE4MA, in Winnipeg, Manitoba (EN19), was a result of several years of effort in trying to optimize antenna gain and receiver sensitivity, and to obtain adequate power to make the roughly half-million mile path to the moon and back.

"Signals were weak but easily copied at both ends," Ward said. The August 18th QSO took place at 1417 UTC on 24,192 MHz. Malowanchuk said the two exchanged "M" reports.

After many failed attempts, Ward succeeded last March in hearing 24 GHz EME echoes and documenting them for the first time. Such accomplishments on 24 GHz are particularly significant because water-vapor absorption of signals peaks at around that frequency.

VE4MA used a 2.8-meter offset-fed dish and a traveling wave tube amplifier producing 70 W. W5LUA has a 3-meter prime focus dish and a TWT amp producing 80 W. A fixture in the VHF-UHF and microwave standings, Ward was the recipient of the 2000 ARRL Microwave Development Award.

Additional details are on the North Texas Microwave Society Web site, <http://www.ntms.org>

Amateur Morse Testing Changes – Effective July 1, 2001

New Morse code exam standards went into effect July 1 for all Volunteer Examiner Coordinators. The new standards call for Farnsworth character speed in the 13-to-15 WPM range and the end of multiple-choice questions for routine Morse code exams.

In the wake of restructuring and the establishment of 5 WPM as the sole amateur Morse requirement, the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators voted last July to set up the revised standards for the administration of Morse code examinations in the US.

ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, points out the required change to the Farnsworth protocol replaces the 18-WPM character speed ARRL VEC has used since 1989. "Standard 5 WPM messages with 5 WPM characters are available as an accommodation," he said. "Standard (non-Farnsworth) speed messages are available upon special request from the ARRL VEC for ARRL VE teams."

In addition, the Morse exam audio frequency range should be between 700 and 1000 Hz for routine exams. Consistent with the revised standards, Jahnke said, ARRL VEC has set 15-WPM characters as its Farnsworth setting and 750 Hz as its audio-frequency standard.

Code practice transmissions from Maxim Memorial Station W1AW will reflect the new Farnsworth standard. W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, says transmissions using the new protocol will begin Monday, July 2nd. Code transmissions at speeds below 18 WPM will drop from 18 WPM to 15 WPM character speed. W1AW Web code practice files, at <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/morse.html> will mirror the new standards too.

The new Morse examination standards also affect test administration. After July 1, Morse examinees will have to supply fill-in-the-blank answers for the 10-question Element 1 quiz. Multiple-choice type examinations no longer will be acceptable. Under the new testing regime, Morse code examinees must either correctly answer seven of the ten fill-in-the-blanks questions or correctly copy 25 consecutive characters.

Changes are on the horizon for the written examinations as well. Revised Amateur Extra question pool will go into effect July 1, 2002. Reworked Technician and General question pools will become effective on July 1 2003 and 2004 respectively.

Maritime Net “Delivers” Baby To Sailor At Sea

Thanks to Amateur Radio, a sailor aboard a US Navy destroyer at sea got to hear his newborn son's cries for the first time. On August 12th, members of the Maritime Mobile Service Net, with cooperation of the Pacific Seafarers Net, put sailor Mark McDonald in touch with his wife, Wendy, in California, who was about to go into labor. The sailor later was able to chat with his wife and her mom and to listen to his son's crying.

Terry Pipitone, KB1FMM, in Connecticut, got a front-row seat. He said the Net session started out in typical fashion on 14.300 MHz. It soon got interesting after Tom Lange, W4MDL, on McDonald's ship checked in seeking help from anyone who could put the husband and wife in contact. When no West Coast stations were available, Pipitone made some calls to California, where--as it turned out--Wendy McDonald was headed for the hospital.

As the Net's closing time neared, the proceedings shifted to the Pacific Seafarers Net on 14.313 MHz. While KB1FMM remained in contact with the hospital, Tom Whelchel, WA6TLL, in California stepped in to provide a phone patch between the hospital and the ship--somewhere in the North Atlantic.

As Pipitone tells it, things happened pretty fast after that. "At 0810 the baby was born and at 0815 Mark and his new son--Justin Alexander McDonald--were on the phone together," he said. "Mother and son were all doing fine, and the proud father was in tears. The timing and the cooperation could not have been better."

Listening in on the proceedings was Eric Boyle, N0YET, in Kansas, who reports Mark McDonald not only was able to speak with his wife and his mother-in-law but got to hear his baby crying for the first time. "This was neat!" he enthused. "It is times like this that make me extremely proud to be part of the Amateur Radio Community!"

For more information on the Maritime Mobile Service Net, visit the Net's Web site: <http://www.mmsn.org/>

What Else Could Go WRONG - One Bad Day !

I walked into my neighborhood tavern and saw my old pal Frank, WD4AHN, sitting inside the bar, just looking at his drink. I spoke to him, but he didn't acknowledge my greeting. He didn't move for a half-an-hour. Then, this big trouble-making truck driver stepped up right next to him, took the drink from him and just drank it down. My buddy, was so distraught, he started to cry. The truck driver turned and said: "Come on man, I was just joking. Here, I'll buy you another drink. I just can't stand to see a man cry."

"No, it's not that. This weekend was the worst one in my life. First, I attempted to participate in Field Day with my friends. Everything was going great until I discovered the high SWR on my antenna. SHORTED COAX. Then I replaced the coax and started to operate.. NO contacts for at least an hour. WRONG ANTENNA for the band I was operating. Finally on the air about twenty minutes and my battery pack was discharging fast and I had no backup. I decided to just forget the whole thing and have some dinner from the cooler I brought along, but the ice had melted and made my sandwich bread all soggy. I crawled into

my sleeping bag for a good night rest and my buddy some 50 feet away was snoring up a storm. I left the site the next day and headed home. When I arrived at home, I found a note from my wife, saying she was fed up with my ham radio hobby. She was going back home to her mother. I left home depressed and came to this bar. And now, when I was thinking about putting an end to my life, YOU show up and drink my poison.”

SARC Meeting Change

Effective October 2001, the SARC Board Meeting will be held the 1st Wednesday of the month. The Special Interest Group (SIG) Meeting will be on the last Wednesday of the month. General Membership Meeting will remain the same, the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

H E L P

The well is running dry! We are in desperate need of guest speakers for our monthly membership meetings. If you know of anyone who has a unique hobby, career, etc. that would be of interest to our membership, please let us know about this person. Ask them if they would be interested in speaking to the membership. Provide us a name, a telephone number and the subject matter and we will contact them to make arrangements. Although we are a radio/communications oriented organization, we entertain speakers with a wide range of interests.

Editors Soapbox

At one of our general membership meetings this past summer, there was a discussion concerning the operation of a special events station or as a group, operating from a predetermined location for a specific purpose. We had a few good ideas, but we are looking for more great ideas. Bob Browning, K6RWB, has been investigating the possibility of operating during the 2002 Jazz Jubilee. The Board is open for ideas and suggestions. Think about it again and bring those suggestions to the September meeting, September 12th. I am looking for items to put in the newsletter. So any help in the news item(s) department would be greatly appreciated.

PACIFICON 2001

PACIFICON 2001 will be held October 19 – 21, at the Sheraton Hotel in Concord. As always, there will be exhibits by various manufacturers and amateur radio organizations. There are numerous forums scheduled throughout the convention. AMSAT and QRP forums are two of the more popular in attendance. In the past, SARC members have attended the convention as a one-day trip, leaving Sacramento early in the morning to check out the swap/flea market and to insure a good parking space. Bring a good pair of walking shoes, an ample amount of money for those HAM radio must have items and a smile for the friends you haven't seen since this time last year. Hope to see you there!

SACRAMENTO VALLEY OPEN REPEATERS

<u>Output</u>	<u>Tone</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>Organization</u>
145.150	123.0	Lake Tahoe	N6ICW	links to 147.195
145.190	162.2	Sacramento	K6IS	North Hills ARC links to 224.400
145.210	100.0	Stockton	WA6SEK	
145.230	162.2	Sacramento	KC6MHT	CSUS
145.250	162.2	Sacramento	N6NA	River City ARC
145.270	156.7	Auburn	KD6MTF	Placer SAR links to 146.640
145.330	100.0	Mt Diablo	K6POU	
145.430	94.8	Auburn	K6ARR	Sierra Foothills
146.085	127.3	Yuba City	WD6AXM	Yuba Sutter ARC
146.625	151.4	Grass Valley	WB4YJT	CDF VIP - NYP
146.640	131.8	Donner Summit	W6SAR	Placer SAR links to 145.270
146.745	156.7	Foresthill	N6PYF	Placer SAR
146.775	88.5	Clear Lake	KA6JJW	
146.790	100.0	Sacramento	W6HIR	RAMS
146.805	123.0	Placerville	KA6GWY	
146.835	100.0	Pine Grove	K6ARC	Amador ARC
146.850	123.0	Lake Tahoe	W6CSP	Tahoe ARA
146.880	94.8	Stockton	WA6TCG	Central Valley VHF FM Club
146.910	100.0	Sacramento	W6AK	Sacramento ARC links to 442.800
146.970	123.0	Berryessa Pk	KE6YUV	Berryessa ARC
147.000	136.5	Mt. Vaca	WA6UGY	Mt. Vaca ARC
147.015	151.4	Grass Valley	W6DD	Nevada ARC
147.060	100.0	Mt. Diablo	W6CX	Mt. Diablo ARC
147.120	162.2	Sacramento	KF6SQL	
147.150	123.0	Mt. Rose	W7ROZ	Truckee Meadow
147.195	123.0	Sacramento	N6ICW	links to 145.150
147.240	123.0	Lake Tahoe	NR7A	Tahoe ARA
147.270	77.0	Mt. Vaca	W6AEX	Society of AR
147.300	136.5	Sacramento	K6NP	Pioneer Repeater
147.405		Sacramento	N6ICW	NASA Audio

<u>Output</u>	<u>Tone</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>Organization</u>
147.825	82.5	Placerville	N6DPP	El Dorado ARC
223.840	156.7	Mt. Vaca	WB6ABM	Condor
223.860	100.0	Auburn	WB6OHV	Sierra Foothills
224.100	100.0	Sacramento	W6AK	Sacramento ARC
224.220	123.0	Sacramento	KC6MHT	CSUS ARC
224.400	162.2	Sacramento	K6IS	North Hills ARC
224.420	100.0	Mt. Vaca	N6NZM	
224.700	107.2	Sacramento	AA6IP	
224.720	162.2	Sacramento	KG6XX	River City ARC
224.780	77.0	Mt. Diablo	W6CX	Mt. Diablo ARC
440.750	100.0	Shingle Springs	WB6JKV	links to 442.475
442.475	100.0	Lake Tahoe	WA6EWV	links to 440.750
442.600	100.0	Sacramento	KG6XX	River City ARC
442.800	100.0	Sacramento	W6AK	Sacramento ARC links to 146.910
444.500	94.8	Granite Bay	K6IOK	
444.600	192.8	Auburn	N6NMZ	
447.750	131.8	Mt. Vaca	K6RTL	

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Emergency Service Organizations

SBC

Sacramento Blood Center
Contact Jim Rich N6SZQ
361-3542

OES-ACS

Auxiliary Communications Service of the Governors Office
Emergency Services
Contact Cary Mangum, State ACS Officer at 916-2621670
or Les Balinger WA6EQQ or Herb Bennett KA6VHF

SARCR

Sacramento Amateur Radio Communications Reserve
Sacramento City RACES
Contact Chuck Miller KD6AQM at 916-362-5924. Net on
Monday's at 19:00 on 145.190 PL 162.2

CDF-VIP

California Division of Forestry Volunteers in Prevention El Dorado
Co.
Contact Bill Ozment, W6LSW at 530-644-7066

SHARP

Sacramento County Sheriff Amateur Radio Program
Contact: Jim Collentine, K6JMC, 977-1862

W6AK

ON THE AIR

146.91 – PL 100 * 224.10 – PL 100 * 442.80 + PL 100

RADIO NET

Sacramento Valley Noon Net - Every Day at Noon

Membership Meeting

General Meetings are the second Wednesday of every
month at the Sacramento Blood Center, Alhambra
Annex, 1625 Stockton Blvd, Sacramento 7:00PM

On the WEB

<http://w6ak.home.sprynet.com>

Sacramento Amateur Radio Club

P. O. Box 161903, Sacramento, Ca. 95816-1903

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION and RENEWAL FORM

Date _____

New Renewal Change of Address

MEMBERSHIP CLASS

General, \$16.00 Associate, \$16.00 Family, \$16.00+\$5.00 for each additional Student, \$8.00

Please fill in and circle anything you do not wish to have printed in the SARC Roster.

Family memberships must reside in the same household.

NAME _____ CALL _____

LICENSE CLASS: N T T+ G A E Birthday _____ ARRL Member: Yes No

Family member: NAME _____ CALL _____

LICENSE CLASS: N T T+ G A E Birthday _____ ARRL Member: Yes No

Family member: NAME _____ CALL _____

LICENSE CLASS: N T T+ G A E Birthday _____ ARRL Member: Yes No

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE (____) _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Areas of interest, bands and modes used:

Emergency communications capabilities:

ACS/RACES or ARES

New memberships in mid-year will be pro-rated.

This form must accompany your check, made payable to SARC. Send to SARC at address above.

The Sacramento Amateur Radio Club *Founded 1914.* An ARRL Special Service Club. **2001 SARC Officers:** President—Tom Preston, KQ6EO, 722-9358; Vice President—Tim Tribble, KD6MDV, 689-7680; Secretary—Bob Browning, K6RWB, 689-9594; Treasurer—Ed Braaten, K6EKB, 939-1432; **Directors:** Les Ballinger, WA6EQQ, 393-4775; Herb Bennett, KA6VHF, 451-6864; Keith Crandall, K6QIF, 452-5056; Mike McDermott, KF6RUQ, 682-6994. W6AK Trustee—Keith Crandall, K6QIF, 452-5056; Mike and Key Editor—Frank Zawalick, WD6DCV, 682-1589. **Club Dues** -- \$16 per year, from January to December (new memberships will be prorated). **The SARC Newsletter, Mike and Key,** is published monthly by and for the membership of the Sacramento Amateur Radio Club. Permission is granted to other amateur radio organizations to reproduce in whole or in part for internal non-profit use, provided credit is given to the SARC Newsletter and to the authors of the reproduced materials. **Articles**—Manuscripts and letters are welcome. Items may be sent to Frank Zawalick, email at wd6dcv@arrl.net, or snail-mail at *Editor, Mike and Key*, 8191 Heflin Ct. Sacramento, Ca. 95828. **Advertising**—commercial non-personal advertising, business cards through full page, is available. Contact the editor above for information. Classified advertising is free to members of SARC. Submit ads monthly to the Editor at the above addresses.