

From the President's Desk

Hello All,

The City of Eureka is getting rid of about 20 of the boxes shown below. (Not sure of the exact number) They are made of thick aluminum and stainless steel. They are 36" high, 20" wide, and 18" deep. They were used at intersections throughout the city to house the electronic controls for traffic signals. Over the years the technology has changed. In addition, each signal is now equipped with batteries that will keep them running at least 8 hours during a power failure. The bottom line is that these boxes are now too small so the city is discarding them.

The boxes are wired for power and contain a fluorescent worklight as well as a thermostat operated cooling fan. They are very heavy duty and virtually impervious to weather. They have key locks that would have to be re-keyed, or they can be locked with a padlock. They could be used as a nice radio rack with enough room for emergency batteries. Maybe a storage locker, gun safe, or even a nice smoker!

Fundraiser

Since HARC is going to be buying stuff for the new shack at the Muni - perhaps a fan dipole and maybe a radio or two, I thought this would be a great time to raise a little money for that as well as the trailer project.

So, one of these amazing boxes can be yours for a \$40 tax-deductible donation to HARC. A great deal!

Please email me at kw6jim@yahoo.com if you want one. There is one on display for inspection in our new place at 406 11th Street. You can see it Thursday at the 15th at 1900 if you come to the EmComm meeting. Please don't wander in during the day and bother the Parks and Rec people. I will also have one (If there are any left) at the January meeting.

First come, first serve. One per customer initially.

73 and Merry Christmas!

Jim Armstrong KW6JIM
Humboldt Amateur Radio Club

Comparing Ham Radio to 11 meter Citizens Band:

I was giving a demo of a newly purchased HF transceiver out at RV campsite with a relative. We strung up a Windom long wire and he picked up on the RG-58 as CB coax. He asked how many channels is ham radio compared to CB. Whew! -- I say many many more but I was at a loss to qualify

the difference. I just never considered the metrics in that comparison.

So here it is. I did not attempt to show CW only or other limits but just compared 10 kHz channel width count from 14 ham bands 160 meters to 70 centimeters. So you can see those ham band segments offer 43.4 MHz of spectrum vs. CB's 0.4 MHz its well over 100 to 1 ratio...that is a wow factor I never quantified. (Don't let FCC chairman Wheeler see this or he will start the auction to pay down the national debt.)

With SSB and CW you can pack much tighter than channelized CB band. If you channelize the digital modes: PSK, JT-9, WSPR X, RTTY, Olivia so forth and so on...

It is privilege to have access to so much RF real estate! On the other hand with the number of licensed ham operators it would seem impossible to occupy all that bandwidth at any one time. But it's something for everyone... You got to wonder if allocations were being made today you wonder how that would go.

This is amazing when you think about the bandwidth 'granted' to citizen hobbyist. Would this have happened under today's tic-for-tac administration? I am sure if it weren't for ARRL it would be gone. Support for ARRL dues is the 'spectrum fee' paid by the ham operators. Hams have this entire spectrum to use: uses it, pay for it, stay active, or loose it. Talk about a cryptic hobby. Names like ARRL, ham operator, DX, bands in meters, are the inside lingo.

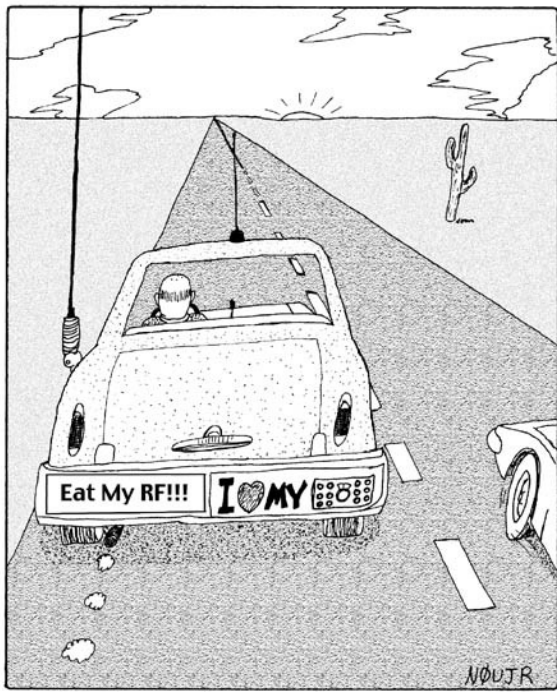
Amateur Radio Bands and 10 kHz Channel Count:

<u>Band</u>	<u>Span in MHz</u>	<u>10 KHz Channels</u>
160 Meters	1.8 to 2.0	20
80 Meters	3.5 to 4.0	50
60 Meters	5.33 to 6.4	5
40 Meters	7.0 to 7.3	30
30 Meters	10.1 to 10.15	15
20 Meters	14.0 to 14.35	35
17 Meters	18.06 to 18.17	10
15 Meters	21.0 to 21.45	45
12 Meters	24.89-24.99	10
10 Meters	28.0 to 28.7	70
6 Meters	50-54	400
2 meters	144-148	400
1.25 Meters	222-225	300
70 centimeters	420-450	3000

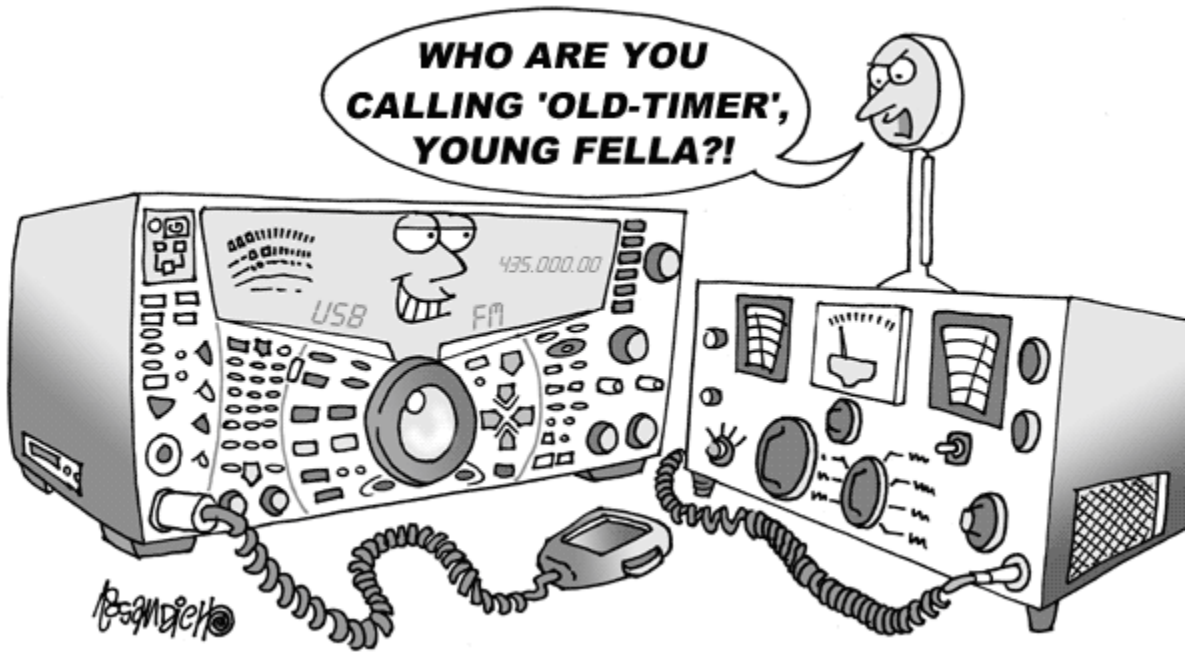
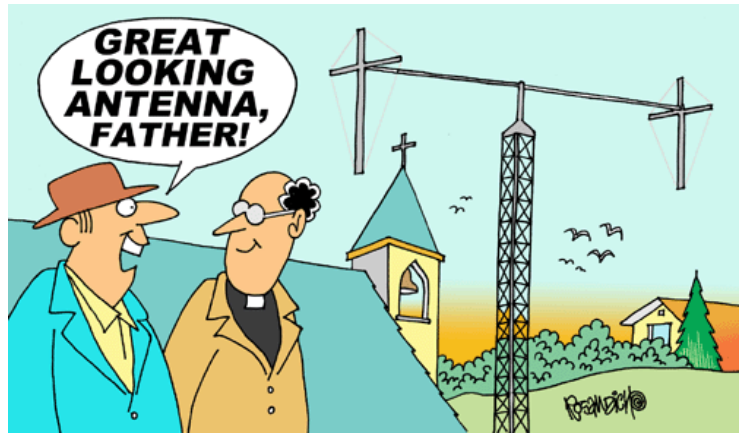
11 meter CB	27 MHz	40
Family Radio Svc		8

Warren Shulz WA9GXZ

<http://www.oham.net/articles/37780>



QCWA members with an attitude...



Happy Holidays

Here is a toast to all the wonderful hams that keep in touch with us here in Humboldt. You editor wishes you all the finest of festivities and a great new year to all! Remember, Straight Key Night (SKN) is December 31 and January 1. Find those old rigs and a key and make a few contacts this year. This is an event, not a contest—vote for your favorite ham on the ARRL web site! While we are at it, make sure to remember our fellow hams who went SK this year.
73 all

Bob Valio, W6RGG – Pacific Division Director
Jim Tiemstra, K6JAT – Pacific Division Vice Director

AGENDA

- a. Use of Mobile Wireless, A.B. 1785
- b. Amateur Radio Parity Act, HR 1301 & S 1685
- c. ARES and Emcomm
- d. FCC update
- e. Open Discussion

b. Amateur Radio Parity Act, HR 1301 & S 1685

If enacted, amateurs who are living in deed-restricted communities would be guaranteed that there would be no preclusion of Amateur Radio communications by an HOA, that the Amateur would have the ability to construct an effective outdoor antenna on property under exclusive use of the licensee, and that the HOA must allow such facility using the least practicable restriction by the HOA to achieve their lawful purposes.

Go to ARRL website to email your Senator encouraging their support.

a. Use of Mobile Wireless, A.B. 1785

This bill would instead prohibit a person from driving a motor vehicle while holding and operating a handheld wireless telephone or a wireless electronic communication device, as defined.

The Bill does not specifically exclude Amateur Radio. The ARRL would probably defend a Ham found in violation to set up a case law definition. San Francisco Section Manager Bill Hillendahl, KH6GJV, suggested an opinion be requested of the CA DOJ. Bob pointed out that we have a new AG and it would be a while before any opinion would be forthcoming.

The Bill is attached below.

c. ARES and Emcomm

ARRL is conducting a top to bottom review of the Field Organization including ARES and the NTS to assure that ARES is recognized by ARRL partners and to make ARES more useful to Incident Commanders. Anyone can purchase ARES logo'ed apparel diminishing credibility. Effective credentialing is being considered.

Sacramento Valley Section Manager Dr. Carol Millazzo, KP4MD, mentioned that volunteers at events had been required to sign waivers.

Bob Wiser, K6RMW, Santa Cruz County EC asked if ARRL might dump emcomm entirely. Jim responded in the negative, pointing out that in US, Amateur Radio is taken seriously – in contrast with Europe where it is seen as a contesting sport.

d. FCC update

FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Laura Smith's talk at Pacificon is available on the SV Section website, <http://www.arrl.org/Groups/view/sacramento-valley>. Topics covered:

- * FCC Amateur Radio Enforcement moved to Spectrum Enforcement Division
- * The New FCC Online Complaint Filing System
- * Filing radio frequency interference (RFI) complaints and how they are handled
- * Notices of Liability and Forfeitures
- * Advice to radio amateurs in cases of malicious interference

- * Licensees with past felony convictions
- * FCC field office closings
- * Revision of the ARRL Official Observer program
- * A Recent Unlicensed Intruder Enforcement Case
- * Amateur radio community participation in rulemakings
- * Filing comments on FCC NPRM 16-96 - Data communications symbol rates
- * Filing comments on FCC NPRM 15-40 - Removing public access to historic licensee address information from the ULS
- * Questions and answers

The USAF and DOD appreciate Amateur Radio cooperation in eliminating 70cm band interference with the Pave Paws radar system at Beale and Cape Cod. Due to the critical functions of the system (among other things it tracks Low Earth Orbit space debris) operating restrictions will not be lifted soon. The system operates continuously between 420-450 Mhz.

There was much discussion about the dysfunction in trying to resolve RFI complaints;

- * FCC says seizure of imported grow-lights not their function.
- * ARRL lab tests products, identifies store chains selling products in violation, and notifies FCC.
- * The AM broadcast industry is concerned and engaged.
- * Bill suggests an ARRL letter writing campaign to make FCC aware of and study the rising noise floor.
- * Make minimizing RFI a permit condition for dispensary that grow.
- * Work with grower coalitions.
- * The proliferation of inexpensive Chinese radios 9/10 of which are comb generators. From Wikipedia - A comb generator is a signal generator that produces multiple harmonics of its input signal. The appearance of the output at the spectrum analyzer screen, resembling teeth of a comb, gave the device its name. These radios are certified under Part 90 CFR and certification was achieved by providing hand-picked radios.
- * Solar panels as RFI sources. In some arrays, individual panels each have microinverters that communicate via BPL. See the article in QST.
- * Success stories – a broad-band noise source, a switching power supply in a sign, overloaded key fobs incapacitating vehicles including public safety. FCC sent police to the power company to shut the sign down. Nevada Section Manager John Bigley, N7UR, reported that RFUI generating street lights labeled “Not for use in residential areas” were replaced after being inappropriately installed in residential areas.

e. Open Discussion

ARRL is trying to bring youth back in to radio. Debra Johnson, K1DMJ, is the contact for publications for educators, workshops, ARISS. The NVEC is requesting input on re-phrasing exam questions to make them better understood by young persons. Education and youth will be the theme for the next Pacificon.

ARRL has entered in to a contract with RFinder to populate the next repeater directory. Formerly repeater info was purchased from repeater coordination groups.

Bob reported that ARRL has IT related fiscal problems – the web page needs updating again and managing the amount of data demands upgrades. Programs supported by the ARRL have become administrative and fiscal burdens – NPOTA, 100th Anniversary programs such as the W1AW Portable

Stations, Logbook of the World, and the QSL Bureau.
Assembly Bill No. 1785
CHAPTER 660

An act to repeal and add Section 23123.5 of the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.
[Approved by Governor September 26, 2016. Filed with Secretary of State September 26, 2016.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1785, Quirk. Vehicles: use of wireless electronic devices.

Existing law prohibits a person from driving a motor vehicle while using an electronic wireless communications device to write, send, or read a text-based communication, as defined, unless the electronic wireless communications device is specifically designed and configured, and is used, to allow voice-operated and hands-free operation, as specified. A violation of these provisions is an infraction.

This bill would instead prohibit a person from driving a motor vehicle while holding and operating a handheld wireless telephone or a wireless electronic communication device, as defined. The bill would authorize a driver to operate a handheld wireless telephone or a wireless electronic communications device in a manner requiring the use of the driver's hand only under specified conditions. By changing the definition of a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Digest Key

Vote: MAJORITY Appropriation: NO Fiscal Committee: YES Local Program: YES

Bill Text

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1.

Section 23123.5 of the Vehicle Code is repealed.

SEC. 2.

Section 23123.5 is added to the Vehicle Code, to read:

23123.5.

(a) A person shall not drive a motor vehicle while holding and operating a handheld wireless telephone or an electronic wireless communications device unless the wireless telephone or electronic wireless communications device is specifically designed and configured to allow voice-operated and hands-free operation, and it is used in that manner while driving.

(b) This section shall not apply to manufacturer-installed systems that are embedded in the vehicle.

(c) A handheld wireless telephone or electronic wireless communications device may be operated in a manner requiring the use of the driver's hand while the driver is operating the vehicle only if both of the following conditions are satisfied:

(1) The handheld wireless telephone or electronic wireless communications device is mounted on a vehicle's windshield in the same manner a portable Global Positioning System (GPS) is mounted pursuant to paragraph (12) of subdivision (b) of Section 26708 or is mounted on or affixed to a

vehicle's dashboard or center console in a manner that does not hinder the driver's view of the road.

(2) The driver's hand is used to activate or deactivate a feature or function of the handheld wireless telephone or wireless communications device with the motion of a single swipe or tap of the driver's finger.

(d) A violation of this section is an infraction punishable by a base fine of twenty dollars (\$20) for a first offense and fifty dollars (\$50) for each subsequent offense.

(e) This section does not apply to an emergency services professional using an electronic wireless communications device while operating an authorized emergency vehicle, as defined in Section 165, in the course and scope of his or her duties.

(f) For the purposes of this section, "electronic wireless communications device" includes, but is not limited to, a broadband personal communication device, a specialized mobile radio device, a handheld device or laptop computer with mobile data access, a pager, or a two-way messaging device.

SEC. 3.

No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII?B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII?B of the California Constitution.

Pacific Division Leadership Meeting

December 3, 2016

Respectfully submitted, Donald S. Campbell, KE6HEC

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HARC minutes and reports—nothing submitted to RAIN

RARC minutes and reports—nothing submitted to RAIN

SHARC minutes and reports—nothing submitted to RAIN

RAIN
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North Coast Nets

Sunday	0800	North coast emergency net	3.855 MHz SSB
Monday	1900	Arcata Emergency simplex net	146.430 MHz
Monday	1900	Eel River Emergency net	147.090 PL103.5
Monday	1900	Eureka Emergency simplex net	146.460 MHz
Monday	1900	Southern Humboldt Emergency net	146.790 PL 103.5
Monday	1915	Eureka & north UHF Emergency net	444.400 +5000 PL103.5
Monday	1930	Humboldt county Emergency net (nearest FWRA repeater to you)	146.700 PL1031.5 147.000 PL1031.5 146.760 PL1031.5 146.610 PL1031.5
Monday	1945	Humboldt County HF emergency net	3.955 MHz SSB
Monday	2000	California State net	3.992 MHz SSB
Monday	2005	Humboldt HF Digital emergency net	3.582 USB
Tuesday	1930	ORCA digital operations net	3.581 MHz USB
Tuesday	1930	California-Mendocino net	3.915 MHz SSB
Wednesday	1000	California State net	7.230 MHz SSB
Wednesday	1930	FWRA net	146.760 PL103.5



[humboldt-arc.org](http://www.humboldt-arc.org)