CROSSTALK

News Bulletin of the TRW Amateur Radio Club
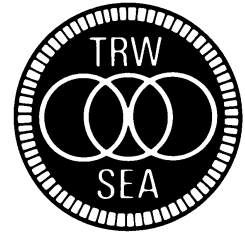
Field Day Site (Circa 1983 drawing)
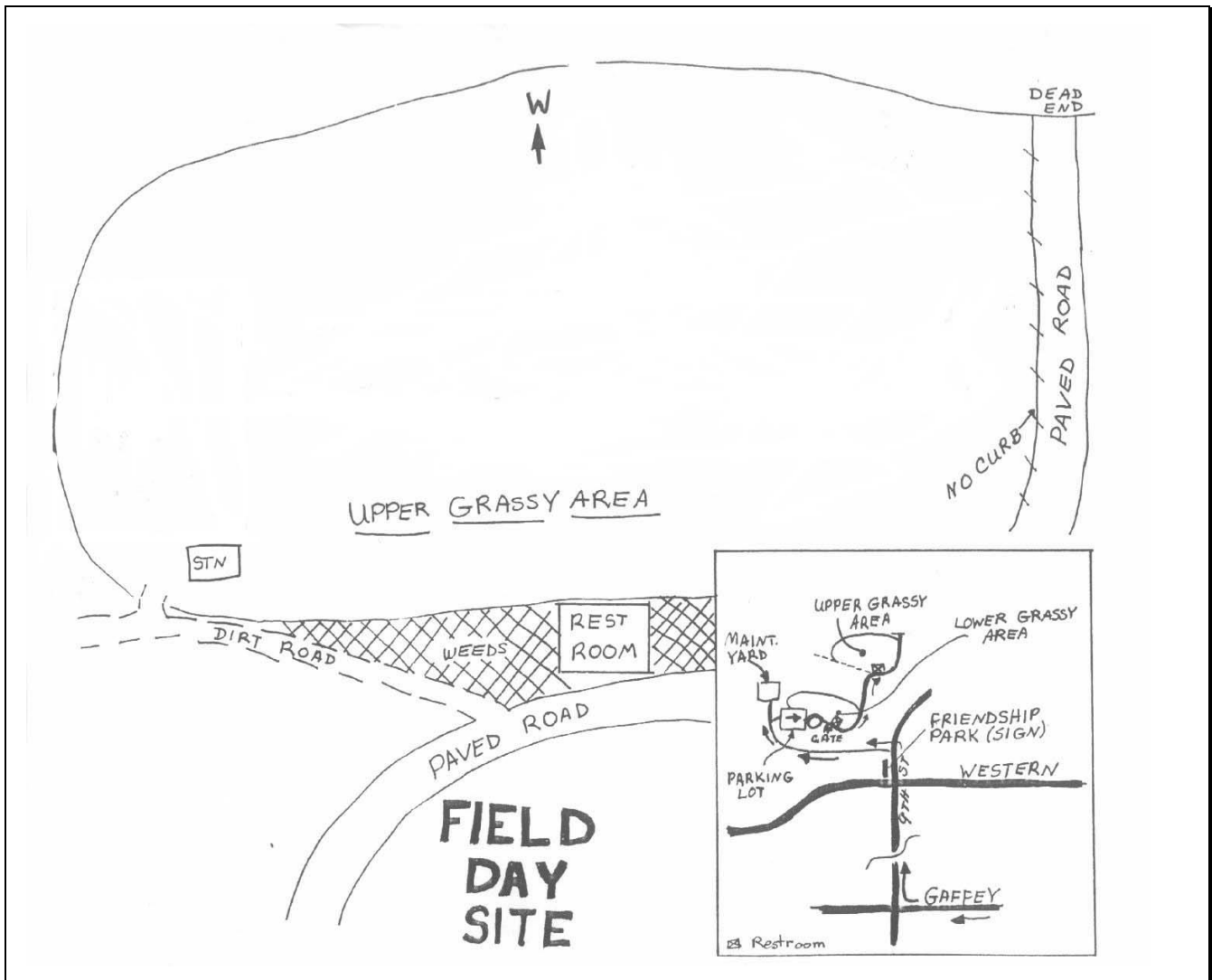
Here is a Map of the Field Day site that I found in a Crosstalk dated May 1983.
It's at the same location again this year Ed.

TRW ARC Monthly Calendar of Events

First Tuesday of each month	5:30 pm	**Executive Board Meeting, R4/2041** (All Club Members are invited)
Second Tuesday of each month	5:30pm	**Club Meeting** **Round Table Pizza, (Redondo Bch. & Hawthorne)**
Second Tuesday of each month	12:00 noon	**Emergency Communications Team Meeting** R3 Emergency Operations Center
Last Saturday of each month	7:00 am	**TRW ARC Swap Meet** Marine and Aviation (Northeast Corner)
After the Swapmeet	12:00 noon	**T-Hunt** Swap Meet Parking Lot - 144.72 MHz

Weekly Events

Every Monday Night (Except the 1st & Holidays)	7:30 pm	**Disaster Communication Systems (DCS) Net** DCS Members: Check in on 2 Meter Repeater
Every Wednesday	12:00 noon	**ECT Net on 2 meter Repeater** All Amateurs Welcome
Every Thursday	7:00 pm	**Space Hams Net on 2 meter Repeater** with N6SHI and W6EKK
Every Mon, Wed, Fri	2:00 pm	**TRWARC Retirees Net** 7185 KHz
Every Friday Morning	7:30 am	**TRW Amateur Radio Club Breakfast** Building S Cafeteria - Everyone is invited Talk-in on 2 Meters

Other Events

Computer Fair   *Hours: 10:00 to 17:00* (get a $25.00 annual pass see:
http://www.lacomputerfair.com/annpass.html)
POMONA $6.00 admission
Live Broadcasts: KFI-Jeff Levy "On Computers", KZLA, Y-107FM
May 22 & 23, 1999 (Sat. & Sun.) bldgs. 6 & 7
Fairplex Exposition Complex Exit Highway 10 at Fairplex Drive.
Go north to McKinley Avenue, turn right. Turn left on White Avenue to Gate 14.
RESEDA $3.00 admission
May 1, 1999 (Sat.) June 12, 1999 (Sat.)
Sherman Square Entertainment Center From the 101 Freeway take the Reseda offramp,
go north to Sherman Way and turn right. Go one block to Canby Street. 18430 Sherman Way.
BUENA PARK $5.00 admission
May 2, 1999 (Sun.) June 13, 1999 (Sun.)
Sequoia Conference Center Take the Beach Blvd. exit off the 91 Freeway.
Go one block north to 7530 Orangethorpe.
All Shows Open to the Public 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Call for more information (408) 778-5200 or 800-800-5600 Fax# (408) 779-1374
*Other Ham Swap meets***:**
Inland Empire ARC - 2nd Sat. ea. mo. 7:00 to 11:30 AM @ A.B. Miller High School, Walnut & Oleander
in **Fontana** Talk-in 145.480 (-600 pl=77.0hz)
El Cajon ARC - 1st Sat. ea. mo. 6:00 AM @ Santee Drive-in Theater, Woodside Ave. @ Hwy 67 in **Santee** Talk-in 146.52
CAL POLY - 3rd Sat. ea. mo. 7-11am in lots F8,F9 and F10 @ CAL Poly Pomona at 3801 West Temple.
Talk-in TBD *(if you know, please email me… ed.)*

Contest Corner   **Jim Harrison K6OUE**

Spring VHF/UHF Sprints

This month contains the last two Spring VHF/UHF sprints. The combined 902, 1296, 2304 MHz sprint will be on Saturday May 8 from 6 AM to 1 PM local time. And the 6 meter sprint will be on Saturday May 15 from 4 PM to 8 PM local time. For more information and how to enter your contest logs, see the April issue of Crosstalk.

The two meter sprint was on Monday evening April 12. At the last minute I decided to move my all-mode 2m/440 base radio into my car and drive up to Signal Hill for the contest. It was a beautiful evening (this was after the big rainstorm on Sunday) and there were a lot of hams on the air. It looks like the fact that the ARRL quit sponsoring these sprints did not kill them. I made about 40 contacts with my vertical antenna, about half on FM and half on SSB. There was another ham on the hill with a big horizontal 2m beam, he said he made contacts up into Fresno county and the San Francisco bay area. Try these sprints out, I like them because they are only four hours long. And of course no-code techs can enter these contests.

CQ VHF Activity Weekend

This month is the last VHF activity weekend sponsored by CQ-VHF magazine. From 6:00 PM Friday May 21 to midnight Sunday May 23, you can try to contact as many stations as possible on VHF and UHF frequencies using packet, RTTY, AMTOR, or any other digital modes, or any video modes such as SSTV or ATV. For this contest repeater contacts are allowed. For more information and how to enter your log, see http://www.cq-vhf.com/spring.html.

I think that CQ-VHF set up these contests because the ARRL quit sponsorship of the Spring Sprints, and they assumed that everyone would move from the sprints to these "activity weekends." However, when some amateur radio clubs picked up sponsorship of the sprints, the need for the activity weekends evaporated. I called for an hour at the beginning of the FM activity weekend on March 19 and there was absolutely no one on the air.

Callbook CD ROM

The club has purchased the 1999 Radio Amateur Callbook CD ROM. The CD ROM contains US and international call signs with license information and mailing addresses. It also contains maps, a database of QSL managers, and other information. On the US state maps it will show the location of the particular ham you are looking for. It will also create files of addresses that can be printed on labels or envelopes. This callbook has more foreign ham listings than any of the web based callbooks, though it still doesn't have all. There are two very good free callbooks on the web that have all US call signs and a few foreign call signs. They are at http://www.qrz.com and http://www.buck.com/cgi-bin/do_hamcall.

To use the Callbook CD ROM:

It is installed on the computer at the primary HF station (next to the Yaesu FT-1000) in the S shack.
The computer should be on, the monitor may need to be turned on.
Make sure the CD is in the CD ROM drive.
Click on START at the lower left corner of the screen.
Move the cursor over Programs, Rac, RAC1999, click.
Enter the call sign you are looking for in the call sign box and hit return.
When you are finished exit from the program and turn off the monitor. (Do not turn off the computer.)

This item cannot be checked out. PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE THE CD FROM THE S SHACK. This is the kind of item that could easily be lost or stolen. For access to the S shack contact Dave AB6DU.

Battle Over Control of Mini Sputnik   Jim Harrison K6OUE

A bizarre situation has taken shape in the amateur satellite world. AMSAT-France built a very small transmit-only satellite to be hand launched from the MIR space station. It is very similar to two other mini-sputniks that they built over the last two years and were launched sucessfully from MIR. Sputnik-40 in 1997 transmitted beeps similar to the original 1957 Sputnik. Sputnik-41 transmitted "1998 is the international year of air and space" in English, French, and Russian. Both sputniks transmitted in the 2 meter band for about a month until their batteries died.

Sputnik-42, later renamed Sputnik-99, is a little more sophisticated. It is capable of transmitting 10 different voice messages and also digital messages including HTML pages. AMSAT-Russia was responsible for integrating the satellite, programming the messages into it and getting it to MIR for release in space. However, the Russian Space Flight Control Center made a secret deal with the Swatch company to put messages about their new "internet time" watches into it. AMSAT-Russia did not know about this until the satellite was already being launched up to MIR. Swatch is now calling it their "Beatnik" satellite on the web.

Update: *On April 16 Swatch finally backed down and said that they will "donate the 'Beatnik' batteries to the MIR cosmonauts for other uses, so the satellite will not be launched." They will instead have the cosmonauts read the messages in a live videoconference on April 22, and will launch a "virtual Beatnik that will carry your messages around cyberspace."*

AMSAT-France has completely disowned the satellite, asking amateurs to not listen to it, not advertise its existence, and to not publish the orbit times for the satellite. AMSAT-Russia has apologized for the whole incident. The ARRL has contacted the CEO of Swatch and asked them to not launch the satellite from MIR because it is a commercial use of an amateur frequency. The CEO of Swatch has refused, saying that none of the messages mention the Swatch name, therefore it is not advertising. Meanwhile on Swatch's web site, amateurs from around the world are posting messages disapproving of Swatch's actions, sometimes in not so polite terms.

Sputnik-99 arrived on MIR aboard a Progress rocket April 4 and is tentatively set for launch April 16. It will carry a 100 mW transmitter and transmit on 145.815 MHz FM. The satellite will have an approximately 30-day life span.

KC2AEI has set up a "Swatch Protest and Boycott Site" at http://wmbc.umbc.edu/rob/swatch-protest/   You can send your own responses to Swatch at http://www.swatch.com/beatnik/frameset.html

EMERGENCY EFFORT GETS NATIONAL TV COVERAGE *via the ARRL Letter Vol. 18 #16*

An effort to obtain health-and-welfare information via Amateur Radio from Yugoslavia war zone got some national media attention recently. Thanks to efforts by the ARRL, Diane Ortiz, K2DO, and Stephan Anderman, K2SMA, a TV news crew from Fox News Channel spent about two hours April 10 at the Long Island home of Mid-Island Amateur Radio Club President Mike Christopher KG2M, where this operation is taking place. A three-minute feature aired the following day on FNC.

On April 9, Christopher, who's also ARRL New York-Long Island Section Bulletin Manager, activated MIARC's International Emergency Assistance Unit for the purpose of passing health-and-welfare traffic from refugees in the Yugoslavia war zone to family and loved ones in the United States. This is being accomplished with the help of Drago, T94GB, in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the only country in the Balkans with which the US has a third-party traffic agreement.

T94GB will be QRV daily on 80 meters with the war zone and refugee areas, gathering health and welfare traffic, then passing that to the IEAU on 15 meter SSB for forwarding to the National Traffic System.--The Hudson Loop
via Mike Grant, N2OX

1999 Field Day Update by Dennis Santiago, KQ6KR

Field Day preparations are off to a great start. For those of you with internet access, check out how we're doing via our W6TRW Field Day website at http://www.dbcms.com/w6trw.

Here's the radio operations status report. As of April 15th, the band captain slots were filled as follows:

Category Transmitters:

1 10m/80m - Jim Harrison and Rod Scott
2 15m SSB - John Shepherd
3 20m SSB - Steve Lambert
4 40m SSB - Mike Worshum
5 HF Digital - Kerin Tyrell
6 20m CW - missing
7 40m CW - missing

Free Transmitters:

Satellite - Jim Harrison, coordinating
VHF/UHF - Greg Shreve
Special Bands - Wendy Crawford
Novice - missing

I'm sure you can all see what we're missing. Right now we only have enough to compete in the 5A category instead of our traditional 7A class.

We really need to find some CW folk who will work these two bands. We need some band captains to build stations around. We'd love to have a solid CW op who will go the full 24 hours but it will also be a lot of fun to get more people involved in shifts. So if you'd like to look into a 2 to 3 hour shift operating CW give me a call at (310) 479-9715 or e-mail me at dennis@cms.dbc.com.

We also need all you Technicians, Tech Pluses and Novices for the "NOVICE" station. One of you with a 5 WPM ticket gets to use your callsign on the air as our field day Novice stations ID. Most of the operations will be on 10 meters SSB between 28.3 an 28.5 Mhz. In the evening you can try your hand at a little CW on 40 meters on 7.100 to 7.150 Mhz if you want. I guarantee t you that doing 10m SSB on Field Day is a thrill you will never forget. We're hoping to hear from several of you soon so we can get a team together. A solid Novice station really helps boost the points. Get in touch with Dennis soon.

Jim Harrison also needs to hear from all of you who would be interested in working on the satellite station. The satellite team is running Keplerians on a good number of satellites for field day. From what I can tell, it's going to be pretty busy. We can use people particularly on Saturday. My suggestion particularly for you Techs is to split your Field Day time between the Novice and Satellite stations.

Here's where we stand on some other aspects of Field Day 1999.

Set-Up and Tear Down - There's quite a crowd building for the Friday set-up party. We can always use more. At this time, we need some more bodies on Sunday to show up around 10am to help tear down and transport the gear back to TRW.

Sunday Breakfast - Roy Schwarz and Tom Sperry have graciously agreed to organize breakfast. We can use at least one more person to help. Two more people would be ideal. Call Dennis if you're interested. Believe me, you'll be much appreciated by a field full of people on Sunday morning if you join this team.

April Roberts is working on a new set of signs for Field Day. This year we got smart and remembered that we need to make signs for the gates and parking lots leading from the park entrance to our Field Day site. We'll mark that metal gate to get to the grass field this time so visitors won't get lost.

Pete Livingston is working on an 80 meter loop antenna for Field Day. It should be a very good performer. We circulated the EZNEC sheets from his design at the last club meeting.

One last note. Field Day 1999 rules are published in this month's QST. They're also on the internet. Our field day website has a link to the rules page on the ARRL website.

New Link Standard *via Newsline #1127*

Fifteen top technology companies have agreed to create a common technical standard to easily link future generation consumer electronics with the Internet. The agreement announced Monday, March 1st is intended to hasten the day when people can routinely use their home phones to access the Internet, or have refrigerators and other appliances checked remotely for defects.

The participants in the group, called the Open Service Gateway Specification, include IBM, Motorola Corp., Sun Microsystems Inc., Lucent Technologies and Oracle Corp. The new standard, based on Sun's Java universal programming language
is intended to help speed the development of consumer devices, which today use software specific to that device. (Lucent)

N6NHG "Super Hacker" plea bargain *via Newsline #1127*

The ham dubbed by the press as a super hacker could be a free man within twelve months. This as the Los Angeles Times reports that Kevin David Mitnick, N6NHG, who was due to stand trial this month on software theft charges has instead agreed to enter a plea of guilty.

According to the Times, Mitnick will be sentenced to five years in jail but will also be given credit for the time he has already been in detention while awaiting trial. The report also says that the thirty five year old Los Angeles native would be barred from using computers for about three years after his release from prison.   If he is caught using a computer, he will be returned to jail. The Times also indicates that Mitnick will likely be barred from ever profiteering from his story. This means that he cannot sell his story for gain.

Mitnick was arrested for hacking during the 1980s and previously served a one year prison term. He was on probation in the early 90's when prosecutors say that he resumed his hacking. On Christmas Eve 1992 he fled the Los Angeles area. He remained a fugitive until his capture in North Carolina in 1995.

The plea agreement is still subject to court ratification. What action if any that the FCC might take against Mitnick's N6NHG Amateur Radio license grant is unknown. (LA Times)

FCC ISSUES STRENGTHENED SCANNER RECEIVER RULES *via the ARRL Letter Vol. 18 #15*

The FCC has amended its rules to strengthen existing prohibitions on scanning receivers that can receive cellular telephone transmissions. While the new rules contain specific exemptions for the Amateur Service, they will have important ramifications for the manufacture of new Amateur Radio equipment that scans frequencies outside the ham bands.
The new rules--released March 31 in a Report and Order--broaden the definition of a scanning receiver to include receivers that automatically switch among two or more frequencies between 30 and 960 MHz that can stop at and receive a detected signal. Still exempted are receivers designed solely for operation as a part of a licensed station. In response to an ARRL request, the FCC clarified that the rules do not apply to Amateur Service receivers unless they cover frequencies outside the ham bands. Receivers that allow reception of cellular frequencies because of their poor image response would be illegal under the new rules. As it proposed, the Commission adopted a 38 dB rejection standard for signals in the cellular bands "for any frequency to which the receiver can be tuned." A copy of the Report and Order is available on the ARRL Web site at: http://www.arrl.org/announce/et98-RandO.html

Restructuring the FCC   *via Newsline #1127*

A top federal legislator wants the FCC out of the regulatory business and to concentrate on making money for the federal government. Newslines Don Wilbanks, KC5MFA, reports from New Orleans:

Louisiana Republican Billy Tauzen says that the FCC needs to be revamped to have a competitive rather than regulatory mission. Tauzen is the chairman of the House Commerce on Telecommunications chairman. On Friday, March 12th he told reporters that he hopes to have a bill drafted by June detailing the changes in the FCC's mission and structure that congress would like to see implemented.

Tauzen says that he doesn't have many specifics and is open to suggestions. He and others Republicans in Congress have criticized the FCC for acting too regulatory. This is particularly true in areas such as the implementation of a 1996 law freeing cable, local and long-distance companies to get into each other's business.

Meanwhile, FCC Chairman Bill Kennard says that he is very interested in working with congressional lawmakers to help the agency run effectively into the 21st century. Kennard says that he will present an upcoming congressional Telecommunications hearing with a blueprint for restructuring the agency that would be open to public comment. He says that by the fall he would like to have a final plan in place.

What impact such a restructuring might have on Amateur Radio is hard to say, but it would definitely make any spectrum above 50 MHz – and possibly some in the shortwave region more vulnerable to reallocation and auction. This may well be the main reason that the ARRL is pressing so hard for the passage of its Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act. This as a way of insuring that hams have a place to operate no matter what happens to the mission and the structure of the FCC.

>From Billy Tauzen's home territory, I'm Don
Wilbanks, KC5MFA in New Orleans reporting for
Newsline.

New French Astronaut Ham   *via Newsline #1127*

Bernard Pidoux, F6BVP, the President of AMSAT France, says that his nation has a new ham radio Astronaut. Bernard identifies him as French Air Force General Jean-Pierre Haignere, FX0STB.

Bernard also says that Jean-Pierre is currently assigned to duty on the Russian Mir space station and can be heard occasionally operating voice on 145.985 MHz. His QSL manager for is the:

     Radio Club F5KAM
     22 rue Bansac
     63000 CLERMONT
     FERRAND, France

TRW AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

ELECTED OFFICERS

President	**Greg Shreve**	**KE6YEX**	**201A/3009**	**(310) 812-2079**
Vice President	**Elizabeth Kunkee**	**KS4IS**	**D1 / 1024**	**(310) 813-0524**
Secretary	**Craig Gullickson**	**N6ED**	**R6 / 2529F**	**(310) 812-5389**
Treasurer	**Steve Lambert**	**KQ6ZC**	**R6 / 2529**	**(310) 812-5019**

APPOINTED STAFF

447 Repeater Autopatch	Duane Park	WA6EIK	R8 / 2778A	(310) 813-4219
Activities Chairman	Greg Martens	N6RRY	M1 / 1275	(310) 813-4049
Crosstalk Editor	Duane Park	WA6EIK	R8 / 2778A	(310) 813-4219
Emer. Comm. Coordinator	Wendell Young	KE6ASC	R5 / 1060B	(310) 813-7691
Librarian	Steve Papa	KO6VF	O2 / 1715	(310) 812-5305
Membership Chairperson	Dave Nelson	AB6DU	R8 / 2144	(310) 813-9775
Past President	Rich Sauer	N6CIZ		
Publicity Chairperson	Dave Nelson	AB6DU	R8 / 2144	(310) 813-9775
QSL Manager	Bryan DeAro	KN6OW	120 / 1020B	(310) 812-4789
S.P. Packet/Internet Sysop	Chris Wachs	WA2KDL	M4 /	(310) 813-1506
SEA Representative	Nina Whiddon	KN6FL	01 / 2020	(310) 813-9351
Swap Meet Manager	Greg Martens	N6RRY	M1 / 1275	(310) 813-4049
Technical Chairperson	John Cheatham	KE6OJM	R9 / 2477	(310) 813-5903
Training Chairperson	Bryan DeAro	KN6OW	120 / 1020B	(310) 812-4789
Trustee of W6TRW License	Elizabeth Kunkee	KS4IS	D1 / 1024	(310) 813-0524

TRW ARC Hotline (Club Answering Machine) (310) 813-8569
W6TRW 2 Meter Repeater (Open Repeater) 145.32 (-600) PL 114.8Hz
W6TRW UHF Repeater (Open Repeater / Closed Autopatch) 447.00 (-5 MHz) PL 100 Hz
W6TRW-3 Packet Radio Internet Gateway and BBS (1200 Baud Port) 146.745 (-600)
W6TRW Internet Home Page http://gw.w6trw.ampr.org/w6trw

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Redondo Beach, CA 90278

Deliver To: