



# SCCARA-GRAM



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SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION  
AN ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB-----ESTABLISHED 1921  
REPEATER CALL: W6UU-----SECONDARY CALL: W6UW



## UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE, 1988

SCCARA MONTHLY MEETING, JUNE 13th, 7:30 pm at Agnews Developmental Center, featuring movies taken at our 1987 Field Day, and final planning preparations for Field Day, 1988. A great deal of preliminary planning has gone into our preparations to date so that ALL classes of licensees can participate. Particular attention will be given to Novice and Techs. Much work has gone into upgrading our antenna trailer so that it will enhance our operations. Please come to meeting if you are going to participate on Field Day.

The easy way to get to meeting is North on Lafayette, beyond Montague Expressway, to Palm Ave. Turn onto Palm and go to Circl Drive. Our meeting place is the second floor of the Auditorium Bldg. Keep your speed down, and park in designated spaces. They have a VERY active patrol.

SCCARA BOARD MEETING will again be a 6:00 pm Dinner Meeting, preceding the above at Tasman Street Cafe at N/E corner Tasman & Lawrence Expressway.

HAM-GEAR FLEAMARKET is scheduled for Saturday, June 11th at Foothill College. Action starts about 8:00 am, and tapers off about noon. Hot items go early. No charge for buyers. VEC Tests at Noon in Electronics Museum, if you can't make ours on the first and third Saturdays at Tandem.

HOT LINE NUMBERS ARE ON LAST PAGE. These phone numbers will give you the latest info. and addresses.

## PACIFICON '88

Chairman AE6Z, Shorty Freitas, had a first meeting of the Convention Committee at Hotel Le Baron last April 30th to get things rolling. Things must have hummed, because the following initial committee appointments were made and accepted:

Conv. Operations Mgr: Geo Allan, WA6O  
Exhibits: Ed Rawlinson, WD6CHD  
Eyeball QSO Contest: Joan Hastings, KB6LFZ; Mike Hastings, KB6LCJ  
Finance: Le Henderson, KB6MXH Master Ceremonies: Doc Gmelin, W6ZRJ  
Photography: Bob Keller, KB6OHO  
Prize Acquisition/Distribution:  
Dan Dietz, WM6M; Stan Getsla, WA6VJY

Program: Bill Stevens, W6ZM  
Rod Stafford, KB6ZV

Program Editor: Geo Allan, WA6O  
Wouff Hong Ceremony: Kathy Getsla, KB6ICQ

Also in attendance were WO6X, Carla; KB6LUC, Tom; K6VIP, Royal; K6IUU, Virginia; N6PCQ, V.P. Bob; and K6YKG, "J.D."

Much, much remains to be done, but much was accomplished. It was decided to award several major prizes at the Banquet to insure attendance. This year we'll have a choice of beef or fish to tickle your palate. We are talking about bringing our station inside - if possible. The completion of light rail facilities and possible reduced rates at Marriott's Great America and Winchester House should greatly enhance our Ladie's Day Program. (Who chairs this committee?)

Don't be surprised if you get a call from one of the above asking for your help!

# QRZ

de Bob, KB6OH0



L. CARLA WATSON, W06X

Carla's greatest joy in ham radio is rag-chewing on CW, spending 50% of her time air time working DX. Her HF rig is a Yaesu FT-757 GX, running barefoot into a Cushcraft 4-element tribander or an inverted Vee. Favorite bands are 15, 20 and 40-meters, decreasing in that order. As an active member of the 1500 woman international Young Ladies Radio League, Carla has "adopted" a YL in Sicily. And every nite at 11 pm, conditions permitting, she makes contact with IT9KXI on 20-meter side band. Carla also belongs to SPECS and SARES. For VHF activity, she uses two 2-meter Ringo Ranger antennas - one fed by a Yaesu FT-2700 RH or Azden 300 in the shack and the other by an FT-727R HT when working in the kitchen. She also has 440 & 220 J-poles and an FT-109 which gets a lot of use on the Condor net. Although she finds PACKET boring, Carla is planning to try out RTTY and AMTOR soon. A 3-year member of SCCARA, Carla began hamming as a novice 4 1/2 years ago, and quickly upgraded to extra class. Her pet peeve is hearing some one tune-up on her QSOs. Carla works as a Classified Document Control operator at Lockheed Missiles & Space Co.

## QUEMENT DONATION

Amateur radio has again benefited from the generosity of Frank Qument. A variety of steel tower parts was picked up April 13th from his warehouse. Those parts that can be utilized on our antenna trailer: gin pole, winches, steel angle and flats were retained. Some six or seven miscellaneous steel tower pieces are being passed along to the San Jose State Radio Club for improvement of their antenna system.

A new triangular antenna base (rebar cage) is still available and located at WD6CHD's QTH. Telephone Ed at 264-2988 if interested. It would appear to be a Rohn for about a 40+ foot tower, since it is four feet high and would go nicely into a 2X2' hole. Thanks, Frank!

## AGNEW COUNTRY FAIR 5/15/88

SCCARA members participated in the Agnew Country Fair, Sunday, May 15th. This annual benefit provides carnival type games and handicraft sales, profits of which go to the purchase of patient needs not covered by budget.

SCCARA members Le Henderson, KB6MXH, Allen Levin, N6NOY, Frank McCormick, KJ6EY, Omer Thomsen, AA6IG and guest Jeff Wiberg, KB6QET manned the gates and directed traffic into the facility. Le extends the thanks of "Community Volunteer Services for Agnew", who sponsors the event to all of our people who participated.

Next year's event, same time, will require TEN persons from 0730 to 1330 hours. Plan now to help.

10-5:30 MON-FRI., 10-5 SAT.  
K6DTX, 32 YEARS

DAVID SHAVER  
OWNER

## CAMPBELL ELECTRONICS SHAVER RADIO, INC.

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## TREASURER'S REPORT

Welcome new SCCARA John Shinn, WA6WST.  
John joined at our last meeting.

This could be YOUR last SCCARAGRAM!!!!  
The following list of names are members not renewing membership for '88. If your name is here in error, please let me know. If you've not paid, please be advised that, unless you send me your dues by June 15th, I must, regrettably, drop you from SCCARA membership:

Segundo Acuna, WA6WNU	Alan Heller, W8MDA
Diane Aldis-Firenzi	Eugene Hill, N6ANE
George Allan, WA6D	Rick Karlquist, N6RK
Gale "Al" Allen	Harold Kell, KA6LJG
Bill Ashby	James Kell, KA6AEC
Lowell Ashby, N6FFC	Robert Kellert, KB6UBB
Severino Balague	Bill Keogh, KB6MYO
Kevin Baltz, KB6LCS	Ben Kuckens, K16EW
Phil Barker, KB6NZV	Tony Lebar
Michael Bergman, N6QLD	Francis Legendre, KB6MXF
Roy Berner, KA6PZD	Noel Lozada, N6JFD
Alvin Boyd, KA6LJD	William McLester, N6PCT
Rich Bradley, KB6PYK	John Morgan, K6KLL
Jerry Brody, WA6UMD	Frank Nemec, W6NJR
Alan Brownstein, KB6UBA	Andy Noble, N6QCY
Arthur Bye	Martin Oppenheimer, KB6BW
Flor Canonizado, KB6MHA	Frank Drozco, KA6IWA
James Catto, WA6TOF	Brian Pacchetti, KB6LCK
Don Coelho, NA6F	Don Parsons, N6KLP
Dana Corbett, WB6JJX	Daniel Plata, KB6RZQ
Devin Corbett, WB6GSZ	Theresa Plata, KB6TYG
Gene Corbett, WB6GSW	Roy Poweroy, KA6ACK
Anna Cracchiolo, KB6LCO	Teryl Pratt, N6NRQ
Jerry Cracchiolo, KJ6L	Mary Russell, KB6UFP
Allan Davies, N61QT	Rosa Salinas
Dale Detwiler, W6SXO	Tony Sanchez, K6MOB
Joe DeAngelo, KA6IWF	Jackie Scellato
Trien Dinh	Roy Scellato, KB6GHF
"Duke" Dodge, KB6DLG	Paul Schmidt, WB6YRS
Jim Dyson, WB9YTZ	Mark Shapiro
Robert Eggers, KD6US	James Shaw, WA6PXU
Dave Elliott, WB5FRV	Angelito Sioson
Marie Elliott, KB6QDN	Ivan Smith, KB6UBD
Bill English, KB6IIL	Rod Stafford, KB6ZV
Doris Federwisch, KB6PYL	Dave Stoddart, KB6QQ
Hal Federwisch, KB6PYM	Stewart Hall Stone
Marshall Feldman, N6QHO	Stephen Sturgis, K16KA
Patricia Gibbons, WA6UBE	Irvin Sullivan, KB6PYP
Bill Glover, N6QIN	Claire True, KB6LBW
Steve Goelz	Herb Vanderbeek, WY6G
Rus Goodlive, WB6ESZ	Ed Walker, N88XD
Frances Grambsch, KB6JBB	Bill Walters, W6MKE
Rick Grambsch, WA6TEM	John Wilhelm, KB6HSL
Frank Grasso, N6NSQ	Uriel Winfree
Joe Grasso, N6NSN	Mike Wooding, KB6PYQ
Bill Gritter, N6OCH	Ernest Zum Brunnen, WB6UOM
Charles Hale, KG6A	

See you at Field Day! 73 de Dan, WM6M

## HERE COMES THE JUDGE

SCCARA's very own KB6ZV, Rod Stafford, ARRL Pacific Division Director, donned a greater honor May 12th when he assumed the robes and title of Traffic Judge in San Jose Municipal Court.

Very active in amateur radio circles, Rod richly deserves this new honor. An authority on "Antenna Law", Hon. Rod has been a pro-tem judge for some time to help out. Never one to shirk a job, we KNOW he will do well. He once even edited "SCCARA-GRAM".

## EARTHQUAKE SYMPOSIUM

### EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS SYMPOSIUM.

By WA6QYS, Lou Steirer.

On behalf of San Jose RACES/ARES, I would like to thank SCCARA for the use of the tower trailer and beam at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds on April 30th. The local emergency group was participating in an Earthquake Preparedness Symposium that was held in conjunction with the annual ScoutORama.

Demonstrations in the HF, VHF and UHF bands including packet, FM, SSB, ATV and RTTY were well received by the public.

Santa Clara Valley Section Manager Glenn, WB6W, in contact with another ScoutORama station in Texas via RTTY generated a lot of sign ups for licensing classes. Many of these prospective hams already have a nodding acquaintance with computers and would be eager to expand their horizons via amateur radio.

Again thanks to SCCARA, all the hams who manned the booth and to Tom, KB6LUC, who ferried the trailer for this cooperative effort to publicize HAM RADIO.

## GOOD & WELFARE

By Herb Himmelfarb, KB6ABG

A whole battery of cheers for the following hams that just upgraded to to ADVANCED: Sam Bigham, N6NRX; Bill Oliver, WB6ORU; and Tony Sanchez, K6MOB.

# THE LOWFER COLUMN

Herb, WY6G

THE LowFER Column

#1

THE LowFER Column exists not as an alternative to but as an extension of Ham Radio.

The name LowFER (Low Frequency Experimental Radio) was coined several years ago by Ken Cornell, W2IMB, an active experimenter and Ham Radio operator. The "Band" extends from 160kHz to 190kHz. We find that often when we say 160kHz that most amateurs immediately interpret this as 160 meters. As a result we have been referring to "our" band as the "1750 meter band." Of course a quick calculation will show that 1750 meters is 171,428.57 Hertz. That is obtained by dividing the speed of electromagnetic radiation, (300,000,000 meters per second) by 1750 meters, the wavelength in meters. It is an easy number to remember and does not become confused with 160M.

We become LowFERs for many reasons. My own reason I believe is because it is an area where one can experiment, "on the air", with complex or simple circuits without interfering with others illegally.

Many regular electronic publications have published articles concerning the 1750M band but virtually all are concerned with a quick project to fill up a page or two in that publication. The project is usually a little "legal" transmitter, which while useful if utilized properly, is simply a time filler if not put to work. Little is described of antennas that really work, and less about receiving techniques that produce viable results.

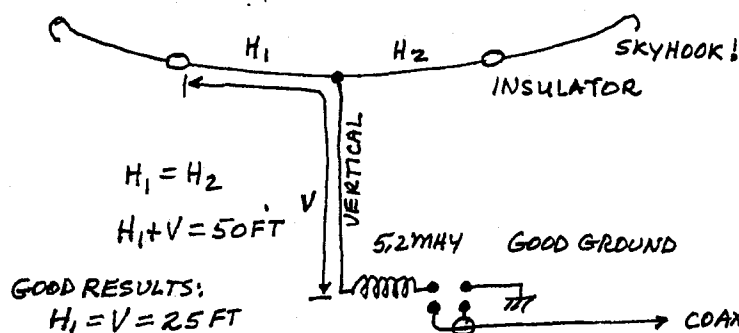
Since this "hobby" is not Ham Radio you will not see articles in QST on the subject. Note the QST mast head, "devoted entirely to Amateur Radio". I know of no one who quibbles with that. "ham radio magazine" might publish 1750M articles, but LowFER activity is not considered serious Ham Radio. Other Ham magazines and electronics hobby magazines have published articles but they are only of the "Wow" and "Gee Whiz" variety.

I have heard an oft repeated complaint from many Hams and interested parties saying that they have listened on their expensive general coverage receivers and haven't been able to hear anything but one or several Non Directional Aero Beacons (NDBs), and a lot of noise. If there is a common problem with both Ham and LowFER activity it is that the individual does not realize that it is the antenna that makes the station.

LowFERs are limited to a transmit antenna of less than one percent of the wavelength and so REAL LowFERs make their antennas as REAL as possible. Jim Ericson, KC6EK, suggested that as an example, a 1% antenna on 160 meters (1.9mHz) would be 5.2 feet long. That sounds like the limitation imposed by some cities building codes! There are two simple types of LowFER receiving antennas. The simplest is made from 50 to 100 feet of copper wire and a small inductor! A more complex type is the "Active Whip" and costs more, about \$45! Since the wire antenna will transmit and the active whip won't it seems reasonable to start with the wire first.

The simplest statement of the FCC regulations under which LowFERs operate is 15 meters of antenna, 1 Watt of input power to the final amplifier, and all out of band radiation 20 dB or more below the carrier. In today's world we find that out of band radiation only a little better than 20 dB below the carrier produces interference in our own equipment and thus will probably cause attention of our neighbors to us and therefore we strive for more, such as 40 dB. Indeed any interference is too much and thus our goal should be: No Interference. A good goal even for Hams!

The following are the suggested parameters of a good starter LowFER receiving and transmitting antenna. The inductor is necessary and serves two purposes; tunes the antenna and in conjunction with the coaxial line to the receiver functions as a low pass filter.



INDUCTOR 5.2 mHz  
 430 FEET # 20 INS COPPER (MAGNET WIRE)  
 270 TURNS ON 6" DIAMETER FORM 10" LONG  
 RECEIVES FINE, NEEDS TO BE PRUNED FOR TRANSMITTING.  
 MY PORTABLE ANT HAS 5 WIRES 25 FEET LONG. H<sub>1</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>3</sub>, H<sub>4</sub> & V.

JUNE SCCARAGRAM PAGE FOUR

# SECRETARY'S MINUTES

MINUTES OF SCCARA GENERAL MEETING  
HELD AT AGNEW DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER  
ON MAY 9, 1988.

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 pm by President Allen Levin, N6NOY, who then called for self-introductions of the 37 members, visitors and guests in attendance.

Vice-President Bob Forster, N6PCQ, in charge of program, turned the meeting over to Lou Steirer, WA6QYS, for introduction of our speaker for the evening. Dr. Kent Cullers, WA6TWX, who heads up a NASA group searching for extra-terrestrial intelligence in the universe. Dr. Cullers treated us to a most interesting discussion of that search, and the reasons for it, and described the 1000 ft diameter dish being constructed in Puerto Rico for completion in 1989.

After the talk and a ten minute break Allen, N6NOY, turned to the subject of Field Day, calling on Chmn. Mike Hastings, KB6LCJ. Mike reviewed how we did last year, noting areas where we could improve. He asked for volunteers to gather necessary equipment and to take charge of various jobs associated with getting the stations up and running. Mike also announced a (preliminary) Field Day Planning Meeting, Wednesday, June 1st, 7:30 pm at the Com Room, Red Cross Hq.

Mike then discussed his ideas concerning getting the tower trailer outfitted for Field Day, and as an emergency communications vehicle. After much discussion, a motion was made by N6KLQ for the club to spend up to \$700 outfitting the trailer, not including a generator. Motion was seconded by W6ZRJ, voted upon and carried. Doc, W6ZRJ, who chairs the convention profit spending committee, stated: "The information I have received so far about what people want to do with the money (profits from PACIFICON 87) is to buy stuff for the club. That's about a 70% majority, and I think we can go ahead on that basis. I don't have



Kent Cullers  
WA6TWX

the slightest trepidation about buying something for Field Day, or a station, or anything else that helps us all out".

Next, there was a roundtable discussion covering portable generators, and Mike, KB6LCJ, volunteered to try and contact the owner of the generator we have had the use of since the loss of ours, and to do some comparison shopping on new ones.

Kathy, KB6ICQ, announced that she is looking for volunteers to assist in the Convention Wouff Hong Ceremony.

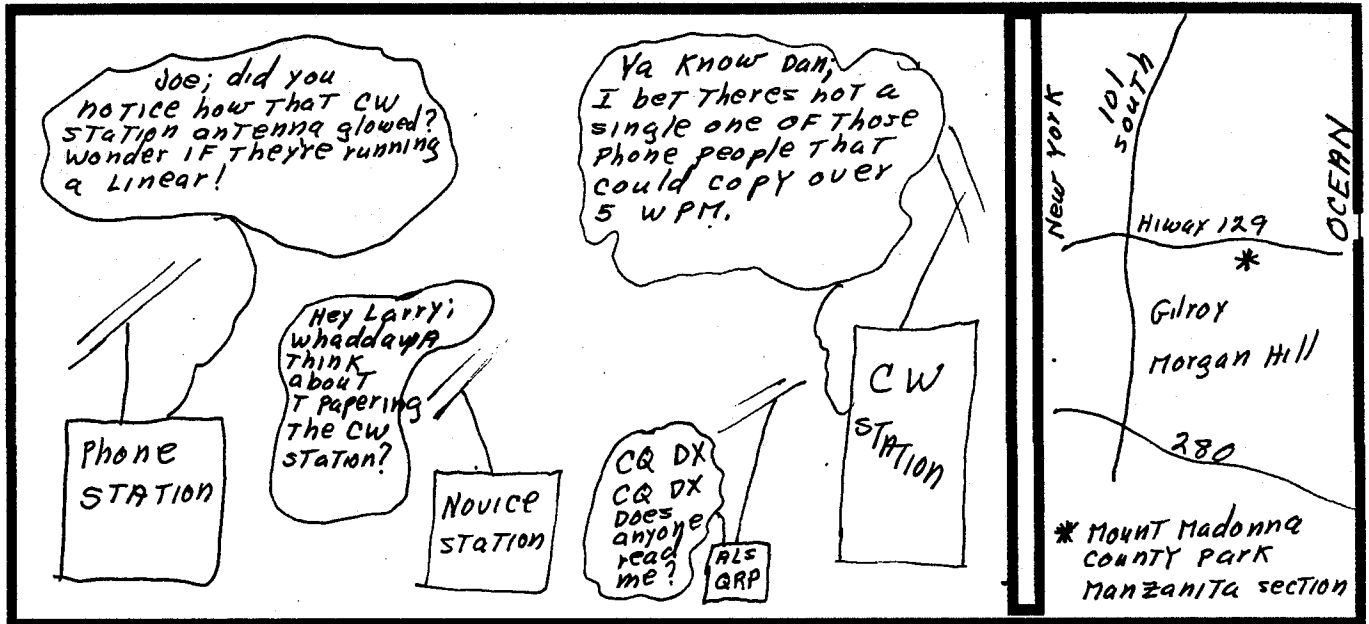
Treasurer's Report was not called for, but if so, would have reported April deposits of \$366, disbursements of \$258.89, and an ending balance of \$ 5,849.75 (Thanks, Dan)

Just prior to the end of the meeting the Raffle was conducted, prize winners were: N6OFG, AA6IG, KB6ICQ, W6ACW, N6KLQ, KN6LUC, N6PAQ, KB6ISF, N6OFG again, KB6LCJ and KJ6EY.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Tom Server,  
KB6LUC, SCCARA Secretary.

# field day 88



DATE	06/25 AND 06/26
WHERE	MOUNT MADONNA (SEE MAP)
WHY	FIELD DAY IS FUN! IT WILL SHARPEN YOUR SKILLS LEARN OPERATING PROCEDURES MEET SOME REAL NICE PEOPLE HAVE SOME GREAT STEAKS GET INVOLVED
WHO	ANY ONE

Have you wanted to get on the air but just haven't yet?  
Do you feel intimidated by all the seasoned hams who seem to know it all?  
Have you wondered what a tribander, a pileup, a balun, a mini quad, is?  
Well come on out and join us on SCCARAS 23rd year of field daying.....

cul Mike (KB6LCJ) Field Day Chairman

## LINCOLN UNIVERSITY DAY

Four SCCARA members received the honorary degree of "Doctor of Lincoln" for their efforts in explaining ham radio to four classes of students last May 6th in the school's "Lincoln University Day". Lincoln School, across from Memorex in Cupertino sets aside a special day three times yearly to learn about different careers, cultures, hobbies or professions. Please call members KB6HRN, Larry; K6YKG, "J.D."; K6VIP, Royal and WD6CHD, "Chile-Hot-Dog" by the title, "Doctor", if you please.

Students were shown the latest ARRL video tape, and given "H.T." demos, which they really ate up. Larry almost convinced them he was talking to "E.T." direct.

I today received a sheaf of thank you letters from students of the classes above. They will be available for reading next meeting. (Ed.)

## FIELD DAY '88

### TRAILER STATUS

Our trailer is coming along quite nicely thanks to Ed WD6CHD, Tom KB6LUC, Frank KB6HWC, Lou WA6QYS and yours truly.

A meeting was held on 05/19 at my home to come up with a plan of action. Ed did the initial shopping for us and on 05/22 we picked up the trailer, had breakfast at Carrows and then visited Dick WB6WKM. Dick has offered to paint the trailer for us!

We then drove to Morgan Hill where we went to work. Frank fashioned the supports for the sewer pipe (antenna holders) and the rest of us worked on cutting the pipe and installing the floor. Frank worked again on 05/28 to finish the mounting of the braces. Another trip is planned for 06/05 to firm up the floor and bring the trailer back to San Jose.

Paint day is 06/11. To make the work go smoothly, Dick sez we need a half dozen people. Come and join us.... Please let me know if you can help.

cul....Mike KB6LCJ

## FIELD DAY PLANNING SESSION

A meeting was held to iron out the details for FIELD DAY 88. The turnout was excellent as was the interaction. That is what makes an event FUN TO DO. In attendance were Lou WA6QYS, Dan WM6M, Frank KB6HWC, Joe N6PCR, Tom KB6LUC, Bob N6PCQ, Herb KB6ABG, Le KB6MXH and me. Particulars will be presented at the next meeting. Thanks again to the volunteers and particularly to Joe N6PCR for offering to be in charge of the phone station and Larry KB6HRN who is in charge of the Novice station. I still need a CW station person. Any takers????

cul....Mike KB6LCJ

### FOOD FOR FIELD DAY

First, the bad news. I don't know how many of you shop for food, but today's meat prices are outrageous. Last year we paid \$3.29 a pound for rib eye steaks; this year they are \$4.88. Rather than go back to the Treasurer to make up the difference between income and expense last year (\$18.30), we are going to increase the food cost this year. The club will have to vote on the increase at the June meeting. I'm suggesting raising the cost to \$7.50 per person.

Please remember to call me with your reservations, and whether you want steak or chicken, baked potato or beans, or both, etc. Up to 22 May I have received only five reservations. Please call me, any evening but Friday, at 226-2919.

Herb, KB6ABG

### TRUCK OWNERS ATTENTION

If you have a truck capable of pulling our antenna tower trailer, have a trailer hitch with a standard 2" ball, and would be available on occasion to pull it on site in emergency, WE NEED YOU! Four more responsible persons, so equipped are needed. We would further ask that you be able to accommodate a standard seven conductor cable plug, (Ed has hookup). The trailer is not equipped with brakes so a truck is really needed. Call Mike Hastings or Ed Rawlinson if you are available.



President . . . . . Allen Levin, N6NOY (408) 255 6852  
Vice-President. . . . . Bob Forster, N6PCQ (408) 296 5509  
Secretary . . . . . Tom Server, KB6LUC (408) 264 4482  
Treasurer . . . . . Dan Dietz, WM6M (408) 224 9023

6220 Hopi Cir., San Jose, CA 95123

Facilities/Coffee . . . . . Le Henderson, KB6MXH (408) 241-7081

Station Trustee . . . . . Doc Gmelin, W6ZRJ (408) 973 8583

Directors:

Art Furtado, KG6PY (408) 371 2655, Ed Rawlinson, WD6CHD (408) 264 2988

Bob Richmond, N6KLQ (408) 961 8793, Lou Steirer, WA6QYS (408) 241 7999

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Bob Keller, KB6OHO, "QRZ" By-Line/Photographer

Joe Quirantes, WA6DXP, Data Base Mgr. (408) 371-0959

Jim Basinski, , Mailman (408) 629-8025

Club Repeater: 146.985 MHz in/146.385 out--447.425 MHz in/442.425 out,

simultaneously keyed open repeater (on PL). Net meets Monday nights

at 1930 PT, except on 2nd Monday. Call : W6UU. Repeater Committee:

Wally Britten, KA6YMD, Keith Butts, KN6K, Ed Mangan, KB6DLB.

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