

# SCCARA-GRAM



## Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 19, Number 4

April 2003



## President's Prose

This month has been a rough one for me. I've worked too many hours, again, and haven't gotten enough sleep. There have been conflicts to my time when I am awake. Please bear with me this month.

Last month's dinner meeting was great! It is always nice to see so many people out to enjoy each other's company. Whenever there is food at a meeting, there is always a good time. I noticed that no one went hungry. We had a brief meeting after dinner.

Our next big event is Field Day. Mike Hastings announced at the dinner meeting that he would not be Field Day Chairman this year. We need to find one for this year. Is there anyone who would volunteer to be F.D. Chairman this year? I am planning to take care of the food part of the weekend. The chairman only needs to work on the technical end of the weekend requirements. There was a discussion about manpower for the weekend. We have had problems in the past few years to get enough people to run the few stations we have had. It was suggested that if we don't get a chairman or enough people to man the stations that we join another group for the weekend. There is a group meeting at a Berryessa Park for the weekend. They have been having the same manpower problem that we do. It was also suggested that we talk to the West Valley Club. Last year they had more stations and more modes than anyone in California. They broke a record with the number of stations they ran. Whatever the club wants is what will be discussed at the Board meeting. If you plan to attend F.D. this year, please let your opinion be known to the Board, or at the next meeting.

Lloyd DeVaughns, our treasurer, was handed back the checkbook at the dinner meeting. He will be able to give a report at the next meeting. He looked good and seems to be on the road to recovery. He has had a lot to learn in a short period of time in regards to controlling his diabetes. Gwen Steirer donated a cookie jar that was won by Lloyd.

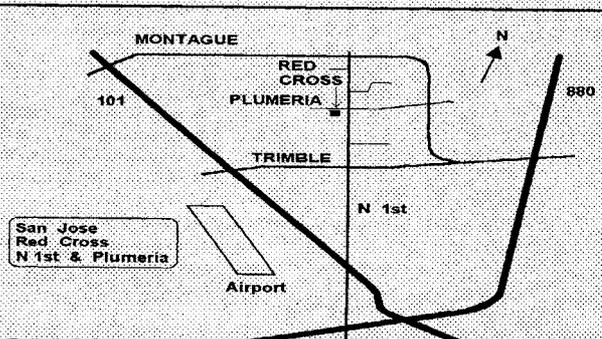
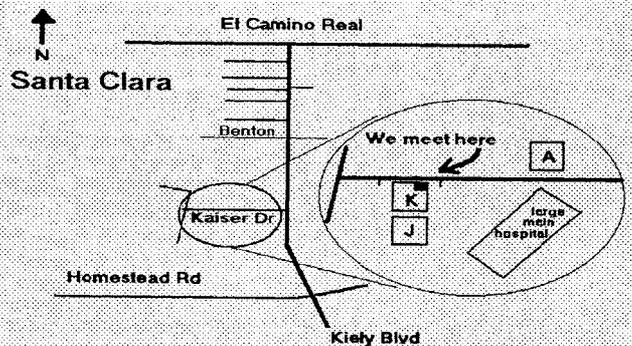
I want to say thank you to Lou and Gwen Stierer for coordinating to pizza and salad at the February meeting.

## Calendar

- 4/12 Foothill Electronic Flea Market
- 4/14 SCCARA General Meeting
- 4/21 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)
- 5/9 SCCARA General Meeting

### General Meeting:

- Day: Monday, April 14, 2003
- Time: 7:30 PM
- Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Bld K, Rm 1
- Featuring: {to be announced}



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The deadline for articles is one week before the last Monday of the month.

SCCARA was formed in 1921 and became a non-profit corporation in 1947. SCCARA is an affiliate of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). The club station is W6UW. Web page: <http://www.qsl.net/sccara>.

**OFFICERS - DIRECTORS - STAFF**

President	Barbara Britten, KD6QEI	293-3847
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:kd6qei@arrl.net">kd6qei@arrl.net</a>	
Vice President	- - -	
Secretary	- - -	
Treasurer	Lloyd DeVaughns, KD6FJI	225-6769
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:ldevaughns@aol.com">ldevaughns@aol.com</a>	
Station Trustee	Don Hayden, KO6HH	867-4643
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	e-mail: <a href="mailto:clarkmurph@yahoo.com">clarkmurph@yahoo.com</a>	
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	e-mail: <a href="mailto:aptekk@aol.com">aptekk@aol.com</a>	
Director	Don Village, K6PBQ	263-2789
Director	Lou Steirer, WA6QYS	241-7999
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:wa6qys@aol.com">wa6qys@aol.com</a>	
Director	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	293-3847
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:ka6ymd@arrl.net">ka6ymd@arrl.net</a>	
Editor	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	265-2336
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:wb6yru@aenet.net">wb6yru@aenet.net</a>	

**COMMITTEES**

Repeater	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	293-3847
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:ka6ymd@arrl.net">ka6ymd@arrl.net</a>	
N0ARY BBS	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	265-2336
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:wb6yru@aenet.net">wb6yru@aenet.net</a>	

**SCCARA REPEATERS**

SCCARA owns and operates two repeaters under the call W6UU:  
 2 meter: 146.385 + PL 114.8  
 70 cm: 442.425 + PL 107.2  
 Phone auto-dial and auto-patch is available. The two meter repeater is located at the Santa Teresa Hospital, south-west San Jose (near IBM). The 70 cm repeater and N0ARY BBS is located at the Regional Medical Center (formerly Alexian), east of downtown San Jose, north of 280 and 101.

**SCCARA NETS**

On our two meter repeater: Mondays at 7:30 PM, (not the second monday-our meeting night). Coordinator: Don K6PBQ. On ten meters, 28.385 MHz USB, Thursdays at 8:00 PM. Net control: Wally KA6YMD. Visitors welcome.

**N0ARY PACKET BBS**

SCCARA hosts the packet BBS N0ARY (San Jose). User ports: 144.93 (1200 baud), 433.37 (9600 baud), telephone 408 259-8497, internet (by registration only, get info by sending e-mail to [info@n0ary.org](mailto:info@n0ary.org)). Sysop: Gary WB6YRU

**TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

SCCARA contact Clark KE6KXO:	408 262-9334
ARRL/VEC Silicon Valley VE group,	
Morris Jones, AD6ZH:	408 507-4698

Good job, as always!

SCCARA will do the Foothill Flea Market on May 10. Lou Steirer will coordinate it. He is going to need a lot of help. Please let him know what hours you are available to work. He wants each person to work a block of two hours. There is set up, selling the doughnuts and hot dogs, and sodas, cooking the hot dogs, and then cleanup and tear down. Whatever time you can give will be appreciated.

Please participate in the Monday night net and the 8:00 Thursday 10M net. We need your input regarding how well you get into the repeater from your location at home. The old repeater is temporarily shut down. There is no word from Trish as to when the repeater will be tested from Sacramento. Ben was up at the repeater site and made some adjustments. Things seem to be working a little better. The phone patch is still unavailable due to volume level problems.

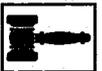
Thanks for stopping by at the dinner, coming to the meetings, and supporting the club. I like to see you all at the meetings. Your input in club matters is needed and appreciated.

73 Barbara, KD6QEI



## Meeting Minutes

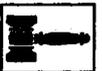
### General Meeting, March 10, 2003



The SCCARA Meeting was held at Hometown Buffet in Santa Clara. Since the meeting was a Dinner Meeting no formal business was held. Lloyd was welcomed back after his recent illness.

Barbara KD6QEI

### Board Meeting, March 17, 2003



The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM by Wally, KA6YMD as Barbara had to work on Monday again. Present were Wally, Clark KE6KXO, Don K6PBQ, Don KK6MX, Lou WA6QYS, and Visiting - Gwen KE6OTD. Absent were Lloyd KD6FJI, Barbara KD6QEI, and frequent attendee Gary WB6YRU.

Field Day: Find a volunteer for chairmanship of Field Day as Mike KB6LCJ expects work conflicts this year. As usual Wally & Barbara have accepted the food duties. Mt

Madonna site is already reserved. Other possibilities discussed were joining the City RACES group at their site in a combined effort, and possibly an in city site proposed by Don KK6MX. This discussion needs to be continued with a full board.

Repeater: The Santa Teresa site is turned off temporarily until its PL can be switched to 146.2. The Eagle rock test site is now using PL 114.8. NARCC finally accepted the submitted paperwork for the Santa Teresa site and shows its status as "processing".

HF Station: No motion from Regional Med.

BBS & SCCARA-Gram no report due to Gary's absence.

Treasurer: No report due to absence.

The meeting closed at 8:25 PM

Wally KA6YMD

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## **ARRL News**

From *The ARRL Letter*, March 7, 2003

### **FCC MAKES HOUSEKEEPING CHANGES IN AMATEUR SERVICE RULES**

The FCC has made some minor changes in the Part 97 Amateur Service rules as a result of decisions at past World Radiocommunication Conferences. In a wide-ranging Report and Order released March 3 that affects several radio services, the FCC has removed 97.401(b) and international footnote 5.120 from the Amateur Service rules. The sections reference International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Resolution 640, which invited administrations to provide for the needs of international disaster communications and for the needs of emergency communications within their national regulations using certain amateur bands. Resolution 640 was deleted at WRC-97, and footnote 5.120 at WRC-2000. "We do not think this will have an impact on the Amateur Service emergency communications because Sections 97.111(a)(1) and 97.101(c) of our Rules allow amateur stations to communicate with foreign stations in disaster areas, making the provisions based on the former ITU Resolution No. 640 unnecessary," the FCC said in the RO&O in ET Docket 02-16. Those sections permit "transmissions necessary to exchange messages with other stations in the amateur service" unless an administration objects and require control operators "at all times and on all frequencies" to give priority to stations providing emergency communications. Footnote 5.120 had listed 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12 and 2 meters as bands to be used in the event of natural disaster.

From *The ARRL Letter*, March 14, 2003

### **WILL HAM RADIO BE SHUT DOWN IF WAR IS DECLARED?**

Some amateurs have been wondering if the FCC will shut down Amateur Radio in the event that war breaks out in the Middle East. The short answer is "no."

Just prior to the Gulf War, §214.4(b)(4) of Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations was deleted. This section had mandated the closing of all Amateur Radio stations except Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) stations in the event that the president proclaimed a war or national emergency. The last time Amateur Radio was shut down was during World War II, although the FCC continued to give Amateur Radio examinations.

While the Amateur Radio Service will not automatically be shut down if the president invokes the War Powers Act, Amateur Radio licensees must continue to observe any directives the FCC may issue in the interests of national security and of making spectrum available for government use.

The FCC is directed to work in coordination with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to issue "appropriate rules, regulations, orders and instructions" for use of the spectrum "as may be necessary to ensure the effective use of those portions of the radio spectrum shared by government and non-government users." Amateurs share most UHF allocations with the US government.

### **HEARING SET ON CALIFORNIA AMATEUR RADIO ANTENNA BILL**

A legislative committee hearing has been set for March 26 on California's latest attempt to pass an Amateur Radio antenna bill, Assembly Bill 1228. The measure, introduced February 21 by Assemblyman Bob Dutton (R-63rd), has been referred to the Committee on Local Government.

ARRL Pacific Division Director Bob Vallio, W6RGG, and ARRL staffer and antenna expert Dean Straw, N6BV, are among those scheduled to testify on behalf of AB 1228 later this month before the committee.

In 2000, the California Legislature passed a bill incorporating the essence of the limited federal preemption known as PRB-1, but Gov Gray Davis vetoed the measure. Davis said at the time that he turned down the bill, then known as SB-1714, because funds for required studies were not included in his budget and because he considered amateur antennas "a local rather than a state issue."

ARRL Southwestern Division Director Art Goddard, W6XD,

says AB 1228 addresses Gov Davis' objection to the 2000 bill by eliminating the need for a study at taxpayer expense. Goddard says the committee also is addressing concerns already raised by The League of California Cities.

Goddard said he and the late Pacific Division Director Jim Maxwell, W6CF, were involved in reviving the Amateur Radio antenna bill during the current legislative session. But he cited Mike Mitchell, W6RW, as "the sparkplug" of the 2003 PRB-1 bill committee. The committee is composed of Northern and Southern California hams, since California spans two ARRL divisions.

The new bill would incorporate the language of PRB-1 into California's statutes. AB 1228 would require any ordinance regulating Amateur Radio antenna structures to not preclude Amateur Radio Service communications, to "reasonably accommodate" amateur communications, to allow amateur station antenna structures "at heights and dimensions sufficient to accommodate Amateur Radio Service communications," and to constitute "the minimum practicable regulation to accomplish the legitimate purpose of the city or county."

So far, 16 states have incorporated the essence of PRB-1 into their laws. An Amateur Radio antenna bill awaits the governor's signature in Utah, and similar measures are pending in several other states.

A copy of the proposed legislation is available on the California Legislature Web site <[http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/bill/asm/ab\\_1201-1250/ab\\_1228\\_bill\\_20030221\\_introduced.html](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/bill/asm/ab_1201-1250/ab_1228_bill_20030221_introduced.html)>.

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From *The ARRL Letter*, March 21, 2003

#### ARRL SURVEYING INTEREST IN HIGH-SPEED DIGITAL NETWORKS

The ARRL High Speed Multimedia (HSMM) Working Group is surveying the amateur community to gauge interest in IEEE 802.11b "Hinternet" activity. The HSMM Working Group encourages spread-spectrum communication modes including such protocols as IEEE 802.11b operating on Amateur Radio frequencies under FCC Part 97 rules. It's adopted Hinternet (a contraction of "ham" and "Internet") as a way to describe the technology. The HSMM Working Group's survey is on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/hsmm>>.

"The primary goal of the survey is to encourage amateurs to get on the air and start playing with this cheap digital microwave gear," says HSMM Working Group Chair John Champa, K8OCL <[k8ocl@arrl.net](mailto:k8ocl@arrl.net)>. Hinternet Radio Local Area Networks (RLANs) typically use direct-sequence spread spectrum between 2412 and 2437 MHz and are capable of

simultaneously carrying audio, video and data signals. Hinternet aficionados adapt commercial 802.11b interfaces designed for Part 15 operation to amateur use.

The HSMM Web survey is brief and permits an opportunity for open-ended input. It asks if respondents have a IEEE 802.11 or "other high-speed digital station" running under Part 97. If so, amateurs are asked to register their stations. It also asks respondents to explain how they might use a high-speed digital system or network if they were to set one up.

Champa urged Hinternet-minded amateurs to also report what they've learned and any new applications to the ARRL IEEE 802.11b reflector operated by Texas A&M University <<http://listserv.tamu.edu/archives/arrl-80211b.html>> (and linked from the "HSMM Resources" menu under "Contacts").

Asked if the Hinternet is catching on within Amateur Radio, Champa simply points to the more than 15,000 hits to the HSMM Working Group's Web site. The Hinternet also is the focus of the article "High Speed Multimedia Radio" by Kris Mraz, N5KM, in the April 2003 issue of QST.

Hinternet proponent Mark Williams, AB8LN, of Milford, Michigan, says he envisions growth of amateur 802.11b operation to cover all large metropolitan areas in the US, not just the few miles some contend is the outer limit for such point-to-point connections. "This is just too easy," he says. "With some of the Amateur Radio pioneering that we are famous for, we should be able to push this technology to its limits--50, 75 and 100-mile links at 2.4 GHz." He said wireless networks dedicated to Amateur Radio stretching across states and linking hams everywhere with high-speed voice and video are possible.

"File-sharing and e-mail, network gaming and pop-up chat are just the tip of a titanic iceberg," he predicted.

Applications abound for public service work too. Amateurs recently involved in the Texas search for debris from the shuttle Columbia used a 802.11b high-speed system on ham radio to link the net control station in Nacagdoches with the Internet.

More information is available on the ARRL High Speed Digital Networks and Multimedia Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/hsmm/>>.

#### CALIFORNIA ANTENNA BILL HEARING POSTPONED

A legislative committee hearing on California's latest attempt to pass an Amateur Radio antenna bill, Assembly Bill 1228, has been postponed until April 2 while the lawmakers turn their attention to more pressing matters. "They are going ahead full speed on the budget now," explained ARRL Pacific Division Director Bob Vallio, W6RGG, who had been

among those scheduled to testify on behalf of the bill. AB 1228 was introduced February 21 by Assemblyman Bob Dutton (R-63rd) and has been referred to the Committee on Local Government. Mike Mitchell, W6RW, who is spearheading amateur activity in support of AB 1228 says letters to the committee in support of the measure must be received by Friday, March 28, to be considered at the Wednesday, April 2, hearing. Send letters to Committee Chair and Assembly Member Simon Salinas, Assembly Local Government Committee, 1020 N Street, Room 157, Sacramento, CA 95814. In large letters on the envelope and below the address on the letter itself write "AB 1228 (Dutton) SUPPORT." Letters will be summarized for the committee's consideration.

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## Packet Pieces

### Downloaded from the packet network:

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Date: 5 Apr 99 07:03  
From: LZ1JW@LZ1JW  
To: HUMOR@WW  
Subject: two birds with one stone

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"Which was the happiest moment in your life?"  
"When I killed the man in the bed of my wife and I understood that he was my tax collector."

73.Ivan LZ1JW@LZ1JW.#SOF.BGR.EU  
lz1jw@issp.bas.bg

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## Need Help?

Amateurs have a long history of helping each other. An experienced amateur who helps another is traditionally called an "Elmer." If you have a question or problem, you are encouraged to ask one of SCCARA's Elmers. Below is a list of topics including who to contact for each.

If you consider yourself to be reasonably competent in at least one area of amateur radio and would be willing help others, please ask the club secretary for an Elmer survey form and fill it out.

Antennas, feed-lines, tuners: WB6EMR, K6PBQ, WB6YRU  
Lightning protection, grounding: WB6YRU  
Station set-up, equipment: K6PBQ  
TVI/RFI: WB6YRU  
Homebrew projects, construction: KD6FJI, WB6YRU  
Computers: KB6NP; IBM PC: WB6YRU  
Packet Network (BBS, forwarding): WB6YRU  
Code operating and installations: WB6EMR, K6PBQ

DX (long distance/propagation): WB6EMR  
Emergency operating/preparedness: WA6QYS  
FM (VHF/UHF, repeaters): WA6VJY  
HF operating techniques (SSB, CW): WB6EMR, K6PBQ  
Classes/license upgrading: W6ACW  
Legal/FCC rules: WB6YRU  
SCCARA (club inner workings):  
K06HH, K6PBQ, WA6VJY, WB6YRU, WA6QYS  
Children's Discovery Museum, volunteer operator:  
K6PBQ

W6ACW, Ed Hajny, (408) 739-6105

WB6EMR, James D. Armstrong, Jr.,  
evening & msg: (408) 945-1202

KD6FJI, Lloyd DeVaughns,  
day: (408) 299-8933, evening: (408) 225-6769  
packet: home BBS KB6MER

K06HH, Don Hayden, (408) 867-4643  
packet: home BBS NOARY

KB6NP, Jon Dutra, day & msg (408) 428-2058  
evening (408) 867-8654  
packet: home BBS NOARY  
internet: jad@aol.com

K6PBQ, Don Village, (408) 263-2789

WA6QYS, Lou Steirer, (408) 241-7999  
packet: home BBS NOARY

WA6VJY, Stan Getsla, day: (408) 738-2888 x5929,  
evening & msg: (408) 275-0735

WB6YRU, Gary Mitchell, msg (408) 265-2336  
also (408) 269-2924  
packet: home BBS NOARY  
internet: wb6yru@aenet.net

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## Newsletter Notes

This probably should have been in the previous issue, but it's been TEN YEARS! I've been the *SCCARA-GRAM* editor since March 1993. It hardly seems possible. Has that much time really passed? I must be either crazy or overly dedicated... or both. ☺

I'm not tired of it yet, so I'll keep plugging away. Getting amateur radio articles from the membership would certainly make the job a lot more rewarding and would make the newsletter more interesting, hint hint.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank El Wirt, K6ZYY for helping to prepare the newsletter for mailing each month.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

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# S.C.C.A.R.A. Membership Form for 2003

(Fill in name and address if there is no mailing label below; make corrections if the label is incorrect)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: E A G T+ T N

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Licensed since (yr): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Licence Expiration Date (mo/yr): \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  New Member  I'm also an ARRL member  
 Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Packet: \_\_\_\_\_

For family memberships (at the same address), please fill out a separate form for each. Indicate the "primary member" for mailing purposes: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual membership dues are payable at the first of the year and expire the following December 31. New members joining on or after July 1, pay half the membership dues.

Annual Membership dues:  \$15 Individual  \$20 Family  \$5 Student (under 18)

Please send the repeater Auto-Dial/Auto-Patch codes (no charge, circle): ..... Yes  
WE MUST BE ABLE TO VERIFY YOUR AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE  
BEFORE ANY REPEATER CODES WILL BE SENT

Give this completed form (or copy) with payment to the Secretary or Treasurer at any meeting or mail to the return address below.

====> PLEASE DO NOT TEAR OR CUT FORM <====

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY  
AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION**

PO BOX 6  
San Jose CA 95103-0006

Affiliate of the American Radio Relay League



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