

Prez Sez

I think one and all will really enjoy listening to our September speaker, Rod Stafford, W6ROD. He will speak on the ARRL & the IARU. That may sound boring until you understand Rod embodies the ARRL having held many of the major positions of the ARRL including president. You may wonder what the IARU is. It is a group that we, as amateurs, owe a lot to, but you probably never heard of it. I'll give you a hint. The IARU has inspired questions on every class license test you have ever taken. Come find out about the IARU. I don't think you will be bored.

Your club needs your help in a number of ways. The club stores its lesser equipment in lockers that are stored at the residence of Clark Murphy, KE6KXO, thank you Clark. The lockers are wooden. The rains are coming. We need someone with carpentry skills, even if you are a wood butcher. We need help to weather seal and latch the lockers to keep the rains out. If you can lend a hand please let our Vice President, John Parks, W6JPP know.

Second, I think most of us use at least one computer in our daily lives. If you have upgraded that computer and have an old laptop around think about donating it to club. The ones we have now are too old and too slow to do us much good. Even if you want to hang on to your computer arrange to pick up free software for digital modes or logging from myself or Bob N3FAW, Robert Schwimmer. We can burn you a CD or fill up your flash drive if you bring it to a meeting. That way you can learn the programs at home and be ready for next field day.

It's time to throw the scoundrels out of office. Seriously we have a very fine core of officers and directors that run the affairs of SCCARA and I don't mean to besmirch any of them. However there is room for more. Think about what you can do to help. Elections are coming up with nominations in October and balloting in November. All offices and three directorships are open. If you can help out on the nominating committee or better yet by running for office or directorship, please let me know if you can help or run.

Finally a reminder about upcoming events. Pacificon is October 11, 12, and 13 at the Marriott's in Santa Clara. That's by Great America. If you want tickets, particularly to the banquet, now is the time to buy them online. They will cost more at the door and you won't be able to buy a banquet ticket at the door. Go to www.pacificon.org/2013/. If you want to take the one day licensing course you can sign up for that too. Because the convention weekend conflicts with the De Anza flea market,

Calendar

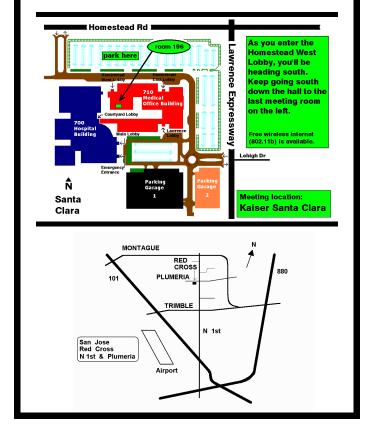
9/9 SCCARA General Meeting

9/14 DeAnza electronic flea market

9/16 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)

General Meeting

Day: <u>Time:</u> <u>Place:</u> Featuring: Monday, Sept. 9, 2013 7:30 PM Kaiser Santa Clara, Rm 196 Rod Stafford W6ROD on the ARRL & the IARU.



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The deadline for articles is 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. (Webmaster: Wally Britten, KA6YMD, 408-293-3847, ka6ymd@arrl.net)

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS (all officers are also directors)

President	Fred Townsend, AE6QL	408-263-8768			
	e-mail: ae6ql@arrl.ne				
Vice President	John Parks, W6JPP	408-309-8709			
	e-mail: w6jpp@arrl.n	et			
Past President	Don Steinbach, AE6PM	408-867-3912			
	e-mail: ae6pm@arrl.r				
Secretary	Viki Moldenhauer, KI6WDS 408-738-8781				
	e-mail: vym@comcas				
Treasurer	Goetz Brandt, K6GKB				
	e-mail: goetz@ix.net@	com.com			
Station Trustee	Don Village, K6PBQ				
	e-mail: donvillage7@				
Director	Clark Murphy, KE6KXO				
	e-mail: clarkmurph@				
Director	Lou Steirer, WA6QYS				
	e-mail: wa6qys@aol.				
Director	Wally Britten, KA6YMD				
	e-mail: ka6ymd@arrl				
Director	Greg Lane KF6FNA				
	e-mail: kf6fna@como				
Director	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU				
	e-mail: wb6yru@ix.n	etcom.com			
COMMITTEES					

COMMITTEES

Editor	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU 408-269-2924		
	e-mail: wb6yru@ix.netcom.com		
Repeater	Wally Britten, KA6YMD 408-293-3847		
1	e-mail: ka6ymd@arrl.net		
NØARY BBS	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU 408-269-2924		
	e-mail: wb6yru@ix.netcom.com		

SCCARA REPEATERS

SCCARA owns and operates two repeaters under the call W6UU: 2 meter: 146.985 - 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 Eagle Rock near Alum Rock Park in the foothills of east San Jose. The 70 cm repeater 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 Village, K6PBQ. On ten meters, 28.385 MHz USB, Thursdays at 8:00 PM. Net control: Wally Britten, KA6YMD. Visitors welcome.

NØARY PACKET BBS

SCCARA hosts the packet BBS NØARY (connect to n0ary-1). User ports: 145.09 MHz at 1200 baud, 433.37 MHz at 9600 baud, and telnet sun.n0ary.org (login "bbs"). Sysop: Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU For general packet info, see the NCPA web site ncpa.n0ary.org.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

SCCARA contact Clark KE6KXO: 408-262-9334 Amateur license testing, ARRL/VEC Silicon Valley VE group, Morris Jones, AD6ZH: 408-507-4698 September 14th will be the last flea market of this year. It's a good place to pick up things like coax which is going sky high in the stores.

73, Fred, AE6QL



NOARY BBS

It's 145.09 MHz now. As of Aug. 15, the BBS's two meter user port has changed from 144.93 MHz to 145.09 MHz.

Pacificon 2013

The ARRL Pacific Division Convention will be October 11-13 at the Santa Clara Marriott. Register on line at www.pacificon.org/2013/#registration. (Sponsored by the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club, www.mdarc.org).

Correction

In Greggs' Field Day article in the previous *SCCARA-GRAM*, two photos were not properly credited. The first mentioned Lou WA6QYS loaned the club an antenna. The photo shows Lou with that antenna, but that might not have been clear. The second is Bill AG6EM with the VHF/UHF beam rotator.



Lou WA6QYS with his vertical HF antenna (photo by Teresa Nemeth)



Bill AG6EM tightening the 2M/440 beam on a telescoping mast. (photo by Teresa Nemeth)

ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, July 25, 2013

SYMBOL RATE RULE MODERNIZATION

On the motion of ARRL West Gulf Division Director Dr David Woolweaver, K5RAV, on behalf of the Ad Hoc Symbol Rate Rule Modernization Committee, the Board directed ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, to prepare a Petition for Rule Making with the FCC seeking to modify §97.307(f) to delete all references to "symbol rate.." The Petition would ask the FCC "to apply to all amateur data emissions below 29.7 MHz the existing bandwidth limit, per §97.303(h), of 2.8 kHz.."

The committee determined that the current symbol rate restrictions in §97.307(f) "no longer reflect the state of the art of digital telecommunications technology," and that the proposed rule change would "encourage both flexibility and efficiency in the employment of digital emissions by amateur stations." The committee was dissolved with the thanks of the Board. (In his September 2013 QST "It Seems to Us" editorial, ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, explains the Board's action on symbol rate regulation.)

RECEIVER IMMUNITY STANDARDS UNNECESSARY, IMPRACTICAL FOR AMATEUR SERVICE, ARRL SAYS

Responding to an FCC call for comments based in part on recommendations in a Technological Advisory Council (TAC) white paper, the ARRL this week told the Commission that establishing so-called "harm claim threshold" (HCT) standards for receivers would not work in the Amateur Service. HCTs, expressed in field strength or power flux density, would specify the level of radio interference that receivers should be expected to tolerate before a radio service could claim harmful interference. Limits would be established throughout a service's assigned frequency range as well as within certain frequencies outside that range. The ARRL argued that there is a need for minimum, perhaps even mandatory, receiver performance standards for home electronic devices, but the Amateur Service should not be subject to receiver immunity standards.

"Any performance standards for Amateur receivers would be purely arbitrary, and would compromise the experimental purposes of the Service," the ARRL told the Commission. "Amateurs have the technical knowledge to differentiate between interference from spurious or out-of-band emissions from nearby transmitters and that caused by receiver deficiencies."

In the Amateur Service, the League continued, station-to-station interference issues are typically resolved cooperatively without FCC intervention and are "essentially not a problem." The issue for radio amateurs, the League said, is "protection from spurious and out-of-band emissions from other services."

Early last year then-FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski tasked the TAC with studying the role of receivers "in ensuring the efficient use of spectrum and to provide recommendations on avoiding obstacles posed by receiver performance to making spectrum available for new services." In late April, the FCC released a Public Notice (ET Docket 13-101, apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/ view?d=7022305447), detailing the recommendations of the TAC's working group on receivers and spectrum in a white paper called Interference Limits Policy -- The use of harm claim thresholds to improve the interference tolerance of wireless systems. A General Accountability Office report in February recommended that the FCC "consider small-scale pilot tests and other methods to collect

information on the practical effects of various options for improving receiver performance." The FCC accepted comments on both the TAC white paper and the GAO report.

The ARRL told the FCC that the HF environment is not conducive to fixed receiver standards and that it would be impossible to establish reasonable HCTs for HF radio equipment. "The most pressing need," the League said, "is for improved immunity of consumer electronic devices and systems. The Commission has had the authority to require this for many years, and has failed repeatedly to exercise it." Read more at www.arrl.org/news/ receiver-immunity-standards-unnecessary-impractical-for-amate ur-service-arrl-says.

From The ARRL Letter, August 1, 2013

AMSAT WANTS AMATEUR SATELLITES OFF US MUNITIONS LIST

AMSAT wants the federal government to confirm that the Amateur Satellite Service will not be subject to International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), as a result of export control reforms now underway. In May the US Department of State Directorate of Defense Trade Controls (DDTC) proposed changes to the US Munitions List (USML) Category XV (Spacecraft Systems and Related Articles). The changes redefine satellites that would remain under the USML. Satellites removed from USML would be transferred to the Department of Commerce Commerce Control List (CCL).

"We ask that the Directorate of Defense Trade Controls explicitly confirm that satellites, ground equipment, and associated technical data for items pertaining to the Amateur Satellite Service are not subject to the ITAR when the new Category XV provisions are implemented," AMSAT said in comments filed earlier this month "Over the past 43+ years AMSAT has been integral to the development of Amateur Radio communications spacecraft based upon the model of an all-volunteer organization that follows 'open source' practices and creates spacecraft that are very low cost, which also reflects relatively low levels of sophistication compared to commercial satellites," AMSAT said.

A related set of AMSAT comments went to the Department of Commerce Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS), which has proposed creating a separate CCL category for satellites formerly under ITAR. AMSAT asked that Amateur Satellite Service spacecraft and associated equipment be separately categorized and controlled, given the significant differences between commercial and Amateur Satellite Service spacecraft.

"We ask that the Department of Commerce recognize the relative impacts of regulatory oversight on small, not-for-profit scientific and education organizations such as AMSAT and to find ways to mitigate these impacts on both AMSAT and our volunteers," AMSAT said. Read more at www.arrl.org/news/amsat-wantsamateur-satellites-off-us-munitions-list. (AMSAT News Service)

From The ARRL Letter, August 8, 2013

AO-7 "ZOMBIE" SATELLITE AGAIN ENJOYING ITS TIME IN THE SUN

It's baaaaack! Launched November 15, 1974 as the second AMSAT Phase 2 satellite, AO-7 may be the zombie of the Amateur Radio satellite world, having returned from the dead more than a decade ago, then periodically re-emerging. Next year, it will be 40 years old–ancient in satellite years. After its batteries

succumbed to old age, AO-7 went silent in 1981, only to spring back to life in 2002, although some believe it may have resurrected itself as much as a year earlier. AMSAT describes the Mode A/B bird as "semi-operational" and "almost certainly" running solely from its solar panels. AMSAT theorizes that AO-7's batteries shorted when they failed, but the short circuit subsequently opened, allowing the satellite to return to life. This means AO-7 only works when it's receiving direct sunlight and shuts down when in eclipse. Since the satellite became undead, terrestrial users have enjoyed numerous contacts via AO-7.

"AO-7 is alive and doing okay," satellite observer Frank Griffin, K4FEG, reported this week. "This season's eclipse cycle has ended." Griffin explained that the eclipse period, during which AO-7 falls silent, lasts about 9 weeks, from mid-spring to mid-summer. According to its operating plan, AO-7 switches to Mode B (70 centimeters up/2 meters down) at 0000 UTC.

"The satellite has started its mode switches, but it has not quite settled back down yet," Griffin told ARRL. For example, he said, AO-7 was in Mode A at 1230 UTC on August 5, but had been reported in Mode B earlier. He suspects that even though the satellite is now in sunlight, its orientation to the sun may still affect electrical power onboard the satellite "until it gets a little further into the full illumination." This, in turn, could degrade the transponder performance.

AO-7 has beacons on 29.502 MHz (used in conjunction with Mode A) and 145.972 MHz (used in conjunction with Mode B and Mode C -- low power Mode B). The 435.100 MHz beacon has an intermittent problem, switching between 400 mW and 10 mW.

Potential AO-7 users are advised that due to changes in Amateur Service and Amateur Satellite Service rules, the legality of transmitting to AO-7 on its Mode B uplink is questionable, since that frequency no longer falls within an Amateur Satellite Service allocation. §97.207(c)(2) and §97.209(b)(2) of the FCC rules authorize space station and earth station operation only in the 435-438 MHz segment, and it's unclear whether a 1974 FCC waiver might still cover operation on the original Mode B uplink frequency. (Thanks to Frank Griffin, K4FEG; AMSAT News Service; AMSAT)

{Additional info:

Mode A: 145.850-950 *MHz uplink and* 29.400-500 *MHz downlink* (non-inverted) *Mode B*: 432.180-120 *MHz uplink and* 145.920-980 *MHz downlink* (inverted)

- Editor}

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, Aug. 12, 2013



Kaiser Hospital, 710 Lawrence Expressway, Santa Clara CA 95051 Status: Unreviewed

The SCCARA General Membership Meeting was called to order by Fred Townsend AE6QL at 19:30.

Members and guests introduced themselves, including Sarla Sharma WU2SWS visiting from India where she is also licensed as BU2SWS. Announcements: Fred brought ARRL DVDs and played the video "A Few of My Favorite Things About ARRL Field Day."

John (W6JPP) announced that Pacificon is in October, and again will offer to refund the admission fee for people who volunteer for 8 hours over the weekend; sign up on the Pacificon website.

Lou WA6QYS announced the annual club picnic will be this coming Saturday August 17 at Mary Gomez Park, at the corner of San Tomas and Forbes, from 9am to 4-5pm. Don K6PBQ and Gregg KF6FNA will get there early and may even get antennas up before 9am. The club will bring hot dogs, hot links, beans, charcoal, condiments. Members should bring a dish to share and anything they want to grill. Also Bingo will be played, so bring a prize or 2. The club does not have sodas from the flea market, but Gregg will bring a coffee pot. Members can bring a radio, especially a QRP rig; we will have a generator and a power supply. Also bring portable tables and chairs.

John W6JPP introduced the evening's speaker: Rich Harrington KN6FW, on Radio Direction Finding, or Transmitter Hunting. Rich described the basic theory behind transmitter hunting, and showed various equipment used. He had placed a transmitter in the room, and showed how just a HT with a stub of wire or paperclip can be held close to the body, and indicate a general direction (about 30 degrees) when the body is between the HT and the transmitter. He also had a couple types of beams that give a finer resolution of the direction to the source, and a doppler system that is useful while moving. He also described some of the hunts put on by the local bay area group whose web site is rdf-sf.org. The web site also has instructions on building some of the equipment he demonstrated. He invited people to try a hunt, and suggested bringing water, food, warm clothing, a bright flashlight, a full tank of gas, and a compass and maps. He shared exciting stories of hunts in which these things came in handy, and revealed the sneakiness used by various "foxmasters" in hiding the transmitters.

The presentation ended at 8:30, after which Rich took questions and showed more of the equipment that he had brought along.

Viki Moldenhauer, KI6WDS, Secretary

Board Meeting, Aug. 19, 2013



Red Cross Building, 2731 N 1st St, San Jose CA Status: Unreviewed

The SCCARA Board Meeting was called to order by Fred Townsend AE6QL at 19:38.

Attendance: President: Fred Townsend AE6QL; Vice President: John Parks W6JPP; Secretary: Viki Moldenhauer KI6WDS; Treasurer: Goetz Brandt K6GKB; Trustee: Don Village K6PBQ; Directors: Gary Mitchell WB6YRU, Gregg Lane KF6FNA, Wally Britten KA6YMD, Clark Murphy KE6KXO; Absences (excused): Director Lou Steirer WA6QYS, Past President Don Steinbach AE6PM;

Announcements: Fred AE6QL announced: SCCARA Open Station August 31st, 12:00+, SCCARA GIG (general meeting) September 9th, SCCARA BoD September 16th, Pacificon (Pacific Division) October 11-13 2013 Marriott Santa Clara. They are offering to exchange 8 hours of volunteer time for admission and a T-shirt.

Officers' Reports:

Secretary's Report: The minutes were approved as published in the SCCARAgram. Viki KI6WDS handed out printed rosters to the board members, and asked about some members who had not renewed. Goetz K6GKB had a renewal form for Don AE6PM; Fred AE6QL and Henry KE6HOU did not get their dues posted so they will be updated. Viki read an email from Lou.

Treasurer's Report: Goetz K6GKB handed out the balance sheet: checking = \$2024.41, savings = \$500.07, cash = \$4105.89, total = \$6630.37. Viki made a motion to pay \$20 to Wally KA6YMD to cover repair of the banner; Don K6PBQ seconded; the motion passed; Goetz wrote the check. Goetz will also reimburse Gary WB6YRU for the routine newsletter costs.

Trustee's Report: Don K6PBQ will have the station open the last Saturday of the month. He will also set up a time in the evening to meet with Sarla WU2SWS, and can make arrangements with others to open the station if they would like. He also reported the TS-450 panel display is fine, as bright as the other radios inside; it just isn't visible in bright sunlight.

Vice President's Report: John W6JPP announced the September speaker will be Rod Stafford W6ROD, who is the International Secretary for the IARU, and has held many positions at ARRL. He will speak on the ARRL and IARU organizations. The October speaker is tentatively Don Anastasia speaking on satellite contacts. All the November speakers cancelled; John W6JPP proposed having a dinner meeting but that is election of officers.

President's Report: Fred AE6QL distributed the domain information, which Viki should add to the records. There was discussion about updating the domain at GoDaddy.com to be in the club's name; before March, we need to email GoDaddy and request the transfer papers, to be sent to Jim Tyranski. Fred and Viki will take this offline.

Standing Committee Reports:

Newsletter: Gary WB6YRU reported last month's issue was thicker than usual due to the Field Day article.

BBS: Gary WB6YRU reported the 2 m user port frequency has been changed and is now on 145.09, same frequency as other BBS in the state. The 6 m backup radio has had a pre-amp installed to increase receiver sensitivity. Also the FM deviation has been set at 4 kHz. The existing 6 m radio is set at 2 kHz deviation. It is hoped these changes will be enough to make the forwarding link to N6RME BBS work. The backup radio will be swapped with the existing radio soon.

Property list: Gary WB6YRU sent a modified version to the board and requested input on missing items. The following items will be removed from the list: Coleman propane lantern (failing); Coleman white gas lantern (failing); water bottle, green, 5 gal; 2 gas cans (spouts leak), 5 gal. Other unresolved items are Comet Diplexor from the locker, 3-4 computers (Fred will check for the computers at his place). There is also a 16mm film made by club members which should be transferred to DVD. Fred may have a VHS tape of it but won't have time to look in the near future. Gary will talk to Don AE6PM, Gregg KF6FNA, and Goetz K6GKB about what equipment is located at the new repeater site.

Repeater: Wally KA6YMD reported both repeaters seem to be working ok. People need to let the second repeater drop before transmitting. He is still hearing grunge on the test system, possibly from internal interference. A nearby water system was suggested as the cause. Goetz and Gregg will look at a DCI 2m filter in the locker: this could be put on the receiver in series with the antenna; we can transmit and receive through it. Webpage: Wally had no further news.

Special Committee Reports:

Red Cross antennas: Gregg KF6FNA asked Don K6PBQ about the time frame: the Red Cross is moving slowly on approving us putting a tower on site (a 30-ft mast and rotor). No work party has been scheduled yet: anyone interested in helping contact Greg or Lou. There will also be a work party request to take all our antennas down when the Red Cross building gets re-roofed.

Old Business:

The rotor damaged at Field Day needs to be located (either on the trailer or in the cabinets) for Goetz to work on it.

New Business:

Gary WB6YRU raised the issue of the lockers not being weather tight, and the need for shelving in the middle locker. During Field Day prep he found equipment and papers in the old record boxes that have water damage and the bottom boxes are crushed. The middle cabinet needs shelving and the doors need to be weathertight. John W6JPP will look for weather gasketing, and John and Gregg Will look into shelving on the center unit. Fred will ask in the President's column for anyone with carpentry skills to help with shelving, and for donations of laptop computers.

Don K6PBQ asked for ideas for next year's picnic to avoid losing the park location, as happened this year. The park selection is limited: the city of San Jose doesn't allow gas generators. Suggestions included calling the Parks Department, and looking into Vasona Park, which takes reservations.

Fred AE6QL adjourned the meeting at 21:07.

Viki Moldenhauer, KI6WDS, Secretary

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the BBS packet network:

An man is cleaning his rifle and accidentally shoots his wife. He immediately dials 911.

"It's my wife! I've accidentally shot her, I've killed her!"

Operator: "Please calm down Sir, can you first make sure she is actually dead!"

"OK, just a second" In the background the operator hears BANG!

"OK, done, what next?"

A fifty-ish woman was at home happily jumping on her bed and squealing with delight.

Her husband watches her for a while and asks, "Do you have any idea how ridiculous you look? What's the matter with you?"

The woman continues to bounce on the bed and says, "I don't care. I just came from having a mammogram and the doctor says I have the breasts of an 18 year-old."

The husband said, "What did he say about your 56 year old bum?"

"Your name never came up," she replied.

I thought you would want to know about this e-mail virus. Even the most advanced programs from Norton or McAfee cannot take care of this one. It appears to affect those who were born prior to 1950.

Symptoms:

1. Causes you to send the same e-mail twice.

2. Causes you to send a blank e-mail.

3. Causes you to send e-mail to the wrong person.

4. Causes you to send it back to the person who sent it to you.

5. Causes you to forget to attach the attachment.

6. Causes you to hit 'SEND' before you've finished.

7. Causes you to hit 'DELETE' instead of 'SEND.' 8. Causes you to hit 'SEND' when you should 'DELETE.

IT IS CALLED THE 'C-NILE VIRUS.'

A man is stumbling through the woods, totally drunk, when he comes upon a preacher baptizing people in the river.

He proceeds to walk into the water and subsequently bumps into the Preacher.

The preacher turns around and is almost overcome by the smell of alcohol, whereupon he asks the drunk,

'Are you ready to find Jesus?'

The drunk shouts, 'Yes, I am.'

So the preacher grabs him and dunks him in the water.

He pulls him up and asks the drunk, 'Brother have you found Jesus?'

The drunk replies, 'No, I haven't found Jesus.'

The preacher shocked at the answer, dunks him into the water again for a little longer.

He again pulls him out of the water and asks again, 'Have you found Jesus me brother?'

The drunk again answers, 'No, I haven't found Jesus.'

By this time the preacher is at his wits end and dunks the drunk in the water again --- but this time holds him down for about 30 seconds and when he begins kicking his arms

and legs he pulls him up. The preacher again asks the drunk, 'For the love of God have you found Jesus?'

The drunk wipes his eyes and catches his breath and says to the preacher, "Are you sure dis is where he fell in?"

One day a guy died and found himself in hell. As he was wallowing in despair he had his first meeting with a demon.

The demon asked 'Why so glum?'

The guy responded 'What do you think? I'm in hell!'

'Hell's not so bad' the demon said. 'We actually have a lot of fun down here. Are you a drinking man?'

'Sure' the man said' I love to drink.'

'Well you're gonna love Mondays then. On Mondays all we do is drink. Whisky tequila Guinness wine coolers and beer. We drink till we throw up and then we drink some more!'

The guy is astounded. 'That sounds great.'

'You a smoker?' the demon asked.

'You better believe it!'

'You're gonna love Tuesdays. We get the finest cigars from all over the world and smoke our lungs out! . If you get can cerno biggie you're already dead remember?'

'Wow the guy said 'that's awesome!'

The demon continued. 'I bet you like to gamble.'

'Why yes as a matter of fact I do'

'Wednesdays you can gamble all you want. Craps black jack roulette poker slots whatever. If you go bankrupt well you're dead anyhow.

You into drugs?' The guy said' Are you kidding? I love drugs! You don't mean . . .'

'That's right! Thursday is drug day. Help yourself to a great big bowl of crackor smack. Smoke a doobie the size of a submarine. You can do all the drugs you want you're dead who cares!'

'Wow' the guy said starting to feel better about his situation. 'I never realized Hell was such a cool place!'

Then demon said 'Are you gay?'

'No.'

'Ooh you're gonna hate Fridays!'

Morris, an 82 year-old man went to the doctor to get a physical.

A few days later the doctor saw Morris walking down the street with a gorgeous young woman on his arm.

A couple of days later the doctor spoke to Morris and said 'You're really doing great aren't you?'

Morris replied 'Just doing what you said Doc: 'Get a hot mamma and be cheerful."

The doctor said 'I didn't say that. I said you've got a heart murmur be careful.'

There was an unexpected knock on my door, and like I always do I first opened the peephole and asked, "Who's there?"

"Parcel post, ma'am. I have a package that needs a signature."

"Where's the package?" I asked suspiciously. The deliveryman held it up.

"Could I see some ID?" I said, still not convinced.

"Lady," he replied wearily, "if I wanted to break into your house, I'd probably just use these." And he pulled out the keys I had left in the door.

A customer was continually bothering the waiter in a restaurant; first, he'd asked that the air conditioning be turned up because he was too hot, then he asked it be turned down because he was too cold, and so on for about half an hour.

Surprisingly, the waiter was very patient, walking back and forth and never once getting angry. So finally, a second customer asked why didn't they just throw out the pest.

"Oh I don't care." said the waiter with a smile. "We don't even have an air conditioner."

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 your topic isn't listed, ask one of the Elmers under the topic that comes closest and we'll ask around.

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

Antennas, feed-lines, tuners: WB6EMR, W6JPP, K6PBQ, WB6YRU Lightning protection, grounding: WB6YRU Station set-up, equipment: K6PBQ, W6JPP TVI/RFI: WB6YRU Homebrew projects, construction: Computers: older IBM PC: WB6YRU KD6FJI, WB6YRU Packet Network (BBS, forwarding): WB6YRU Code operating and installations: WB6EMR, K6PBQ DX (long distance/propagation): WB6EMR Emergency operating/preparedness: WA6QYS HF operating techniques (SSB, CW): WB6EMR, K6PBQ Legal/FCC rules: WB6YRU SCCARA (club inner workings): K6PBQ, WB6YRU, WA6QYS EchoLink: KK6MX License testing, new amateurs: W6JPP WB6EMR, James D. Armstrong, Jr., evening & msg: 408-945-1202 KD6FJI, Lloyd DeVaughns, 408-225-6769 e-mail: kd6fji@arrl.net KK6MX, Don Apte, 408-629-0725 e-mail: kk6mx@aol.com W6JPP, John Parks, 408-309-8709 e-mail: w6jpp@arrl.net

K6PBQ, Don Village, 408-263-2789 e-mail: donvillage7@yahoo.com

WA6QYS, Lou Steirer, 408-241-7999 e-mail: wa6qys@arrl.net

WB6YRU, Gary Mitchell, 408-269-2924 packet: home BBS NOARY e-mail: wb6yru@ix.netcom.com

Newsletter Notes

Some of you may have expected an article and photos of our recent picnic. I believe we'll have something next time.

In this issue, we have the surprising news item from the ARRL about satellite AO-7 waking up. I understand that some older NiCd rechargeable batteries can eventually develop "whiskers" that will short them out. If enough current is applied, even just for an instant, it can clear the short. I wonder if this is how AO-7 has managed to come back, one of those whiskers was there and has somehow become disconnected or dissolved or power from the solar panels eventually did the job. Maybe we'll never know.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor



SCCARA Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association PO Box 106

SAN JOSE CA 95103-0106



Affiliate of the ARRL, American Radio Relay League

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FIRST CLASS

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SCCARA Membership Form for 2013 If none of your info has changed, fill in name and call only

Name:		Call:	Class: E A G T N		
Address:			Licensed since (yr):		
City:	State: Zip:		Licence Expiration Date (mo/yr):		
Telephone: ()	□ New Memb □ I'm also a n	er Renewal nember of the ARRL			
E-mail:					
m	ake sure your e-mail is legible and corr	ect if you want the new	sletter by internet		
 Memberships begin January 1 and expire December 31. If renewing: annual membership dues (base rate) are: \$20 Individual, \$25 Family, \$10 Student (under 18) For new members: If joining in January: base rate If joining in February through October: base rate x (11 - month) x 10% (e.g. for June, that would be: base rate x 50%) If joining in November or December: free for November and December if paying the base rate for the following year 					
\$ Dues payment for	\Box individual \Box family \Box stu	Ident			
For family memberships (at the same address), please include a separate form for each family member.					
I want the newsletter by:	U.S. Mail sts the club about \$35/year)	\Box internet			

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