

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County
Amateur Radio Association



Volume 20, Number 6

June 2004

SCCARA Hosting Flea Market June 12th

Come and be a part of the NEW electronics flea market held in Sunnyvale near the intersections of Highway 101, Highway 237 and Mathilda Avenue. The conveniently accessible new location saw a lot of action, to the satisfaction of both buyers and sellers at the first flea markets. SCCARA will be responsible for the management of the June 12th edition of this exiting event.

Flea Markets do not happen by themselves. It is the hard work of the volunteers of the sponsoring organization that ensures a successful operation. Here is your opportunity to help SCCARA gain a boost to its coffers while enjoying the camaraderie of you fellow hams. Help at the flea market is needed throughout the day from 0400 to 1400, but the two critical times are set up and clean up. Shifts are arranged in two hour increments, but you are encouraged to sign up for multiple shifts. None of the tasks are too strenuous and the more volunteers there are, the easier it is for everyone. Please sign up and be a part of this rewarding endeavor, and be a participant in the activities of your club.

To volunteer, call me, Lou WA6QYS, at (408) 241-7999 and let me know your shift preference.

- A. 0400 - 0600
- B. 0600 - 0800
- C. 0800 - 1000
- D. 1000 - 1200
- E. 1200 - 1400

Let's join together and make the most of this exciting opportunity.

Lou WA6QYS

No more Foothill?

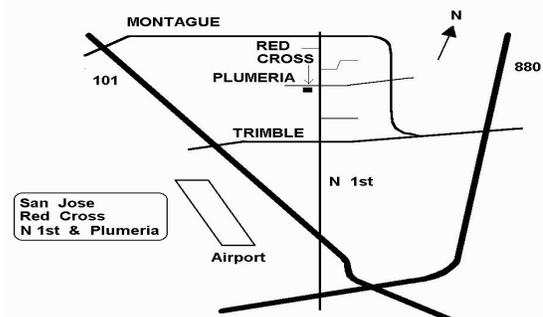
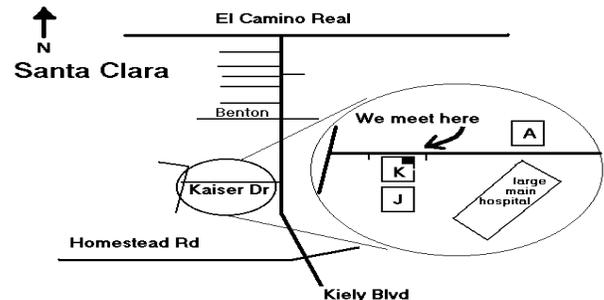
For those who may not have heard... "Foothill" (as in Foothill College) is gone now from The Foothill Flea Market. Furthermore, The Perham foundation, who used to call the shots, is gone, bought out by a historical group in San Jose. The group that runs the flea market now is ASVARO (Association of Silicon Valley Amateur Radio Organizations). Their home web site is <http://www.ASVARO.org>, for complete directions see: <http://www.asvaro.org/fleamarket.shtml>. The location has moved, see the following map. - Editor

Calendar

- 6/5 Livermore Electronic Flea Market
- 6/12 Electronic Flea Market - We host!
- 6/14 SCCARA General Meeting
- 6/21 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)

General Meeting:

- Day: Monday, June 14, 2004
- Time: 7:30 PM
- Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Bld K, Rm 1
- Featuring: Getting ready for Field Day, Clark KE6KXO, chairman.



FREE FREE FREE

Available for pick up at Clark's, KE6KXO's, house:

- 2 10/15 meter verticals
 - 1 Hi-Gain Hi-Tower Multi band vertical
 - 1 Hi-Gain 6 element tri-band beam
 - 2 2 meter J-Pole antennas
- Various diameter, length and wall thickness aluminum tubing.
(Ideal for fabricating custom antennas.)

For info contact Clark KE6KXO at (408) 262-9334.

ISS Communications

International Space Station Amateur Radio Communications

You can contact or listen to ISS crews using amateur radio 2 meter frequencies, and handhelds should have good signal quality. However, be aware ISS astronauts and cosmonauts do not have much free time for ham radio activities.

Frequencies:

- 145.80: Worldwide downlink for voice and packet
- 145.20: Region 1 voice uplink (Europe, Central Asia and Africa)
- 144.49: Region 2 and 3 voice uplink (The Americas, and the Pacific)
- 145.99: Worldwide packet uplink

ISS Callsigns:

- Russian callsigns RSOISS, RZ3DZR
- U.S.A. callsign NA1SS
- Packet station mailbox callsign RS0ISS-1
- Packet station keyboard callsign RS0ISS

Websites:

- ISS Reference for Ham Radio,
<http://spaceflight.nasa.gov/station/reference/radio/index.html>

ARISS School Application Form for organized radio contact with ISS, <http://www.arrl.org/ARISS/ariss-ap.html>

Orbital Pass Predictions:

Web page allows users to determine when the International Space Station will be in range for visual observations or for radio communications. Data are provided in tabular form.

SatTrack Contact Schedule for SF Bay Area,
http://www.bester.com/Pred/ISS.San_Francisco_CA_USA.html

Satellite Passes Over North American Cities,
<http://www.bester.com/satpasses.htm>

– Michael Wright, K6MFW

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, May 10, 2004



Monthly Meeting, May 10, 2004, 19:30, Bldg K, Kaiser Santa

Clara. Attendance: 24, including 20 members and 4 visitors. Members present (in alphabetical order): Don Apte KK6MX, Barbara Britten KD6QEI, Wally Britten KA6YMD, Robert Forster N6PCQ, Del Harbold KG6JPX, Joan Hastings KB6LFZ, Mike Hastings KB6LCJ, Howard Krawetz N6HM, Roy Metzger K6VIP, Virginia Metzger K6IUU, Gary Mitchell WB6YRU, Clark Murphy KE6KXO, David Paul AE6MV, Tom Root KF6NEW, Gwen Steirer KF60TD, Lou Steirer WA6QYS, Gerald Thompson N6SWC, Don Village K6PBQ, El Wirt K6ZYY, James Wissick KG6MSO Visitors present: Scott Morse KC6SKM, Scott Petersen KG6SPF, Douglas Turner KG6USU and Michael Wright K6MFW

President Barbara Britten, KD6QEI, opened the meeting at 19:45. Barbara welcomed everyone and introduced the speaker, Michael Wright, K6MFW Michael's topic for the evening was NASA Communications. The astronauts talk to earth stations using an up-frequency of 144.490 (no tone) and a down frequency of 145.600. When they are not talking, the same frequency is used for packet. Michael often monitors the frequency. One evening recently, he started picking up traffic that sounded like packet: he look up at the night sky, and saw the bright light moving quickly across the sky. Michael next presented an overview of the Emergency Communications Center at NASA Ames. At NASA Ames, DART = their Disaster Assistance & Rescue Team. Supporting that team is DARTCOM, NA6MF, the communications specialists of DART. The ECC at NASA Ames also supports the NASA AMES EOC, such as for the Air Show being held this coming 5/29-30. NASA AMES EOC also supports the NASA AMES Traveler's center, AM 1700. Michael presented and explained many detailed pages, including an extensively detailed explanation of the NASA Ames Communications Center and the High Speed Earth Station satellite Communications system. For further information, look at <http://dart.arc.nasa.gov/Com/Com.html> or <http://hamradio.arc.nasa.gov/>. (The tour of the NASA Ames wind tunnels is no longer available). Topic change to ATV Pictures of the (cable) channel 57 ATV repeater on Mt. Hamilton. It is possible that an Amateur Tv booth might be set up at the Air Show being held this coming 5/29-30, but it won't be determined for certain until a few days before the show. A live ATV presentation followed. The meeting broke at 20:29 During the break, a drawing was held. The prize - a 10M antenna, new, donated by N6XME. Don Village was chosen to draw the call of the winner, as he has no use for a 10M antenna. The winner was: KF6NEW.

- The meeting re-convened at 20:45.

- President Barbara Britten said that she is trying to get Debbie to speak to us about radio communication by blind persons, either in July or August. Do we want an August Picnic or Pizza Party?

- The Secretary asked for changes to the minutes of last month's meeting; Lou Steirer found a misspelled name, which will be corrected. No other changes were brought up.

- Gary Mitchell WB6YRU reported no change in status of the BBS.

- Lou Steirer, WA6QYS reminded us that our turn to run the Flea market will be June 12. We will need everyone's help to staff the food booth. Lou passed around the signup sheet, as we still need more volunteers. May's Flea Market had 152 vendors; the lot can handle 200, the maximum at the new location was 180 in March.

- Clark Murphy KE6KXO spoke of Field Day, which will be June 26-27 this year. Clark displayed a copy of the Rules & Regulations. Clark wants to have Phone, CW and 2 meter all operating.

- Don Village K6PBQ spoke of the club's recent participation in the annual MS Walk. Don thanked all those who helped out in communications and also the "Village Bounders": those who pushed his XYL three miles up the route to the rest stop where he was stationed.

New Business

- Del Harbold KG6JPX asked if the club owns a crimping tool for Anderson Powerpole (TM) connectors (standard for Emergency Communications radios in California). Del was pointed to HamStop for a reasonable cost tool, and many shared their recommendations and hints for crimping the barrels of the connector lugs.

- American Legion Amateur Radio Post 380 has withdrawn from the J-pole business, spare parts were available at the meeting for those needing replacement parts for their Post 380 J-poles.

- Clark Murphy moved that the meeting be closed, the motion passed and meeting was adjourned at 21:30.

After the meeting concluded, Douglas F. Turner KG6USU, submitted his Membership Application and paid his dues for 2004. Welcome, Douglas!

David Paul, AE6MV
Secretary

Board Meeting, May 17, 2004



The meeting was called to order at 19:46 by the President, Barbara Britten, KD6QEI. A quorum was present.

Attendees: Barbara Britten, KD6QEI, President, Lloyd DeVaughns, KD6FJI, Treasurer, Clark Murphy, KE6KXO, Director, Wally Britten, KA6YMD, Director, Lou Steirer, WA6QYS, Director, Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU, Editor, Gwen Steirer, KF60TD, XYL and David Paul, AE6MV, Secretary. Director, Don Village, K6PBQ was on vacation.

President Barbara Britten, KD6QEI, spoke of the club's Tower Trailer used for Field Day. Barbara had thought that one of her friends who lives in Morgan Hill might be willing to allow the Trailer to be stored on his land; but Barbara contacted them and they are moving to Pacific Grove. The same person who moved the trailer last year is willing to move it again: Barbara offered him \$50 and free camping in gratitude. Discussion ensued regarding where we might be able to store the trailer. The Secretary reported he had met with the Director of the San Jose EOC, but learned that to be stored on City land, property must be owned by the City. Clark Murphy said that storage in Alviso runs \$3 per foot per month, which would mean \$75 per month for our 25 foot trailer. Gary Mitchell suggested that we might be able to store it at the Red Cross HQ on Plumeria in San Jose. Barbara will look into the possibility.

We received QSL cards from the ARRL 6th Bureau, but we need to arrange for more envelopes as they are now out. The Secretary agreed to look into the matter and report.

Treasurer Lloyd DeVaughns, KD6FJI, had the wrong printouts with him, but reported that the club is solvent.

Wally Britten, KA6YMD reported nothing new with the repeaters.

Secretary David Paul, AE6MV, presented the minutes of the last Board Meeting: no changes were needed. The Manteca Club's newsletter was returned by the post office; the Secretary will look into the matter.

BBS Committee Chair Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU, reported no change with the BBS. It continues to be attacked by spam. Gary now reboots the system automatically once every day and deletes the spam. Wally suggested a new version of SendMail might help, but Gary explained that the system needs to be reconfigured, and he

needs Owen's help with that. SCCARAGRAM Editor Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU, shared the laminated FCC Club Call documents (W6UU and W6UW), that he had laminated for the club repeaters and station, and distributed them appropriately, to be applied to the equipment at the sites.

Gary also showed a possible method to print new color SCCARA business cards. Gary printed some with the color printer, then tried various methods of color copying, and came up with some really good looking samples. Wally Britten suggested trying photo-quality paper for the master. Gary will print up a hundred (100) to start, determine the cost/hundred, then also get a quote from a printer for printed color cards.

Gary also showed color printouts of a proposed flyer for the New Ham mailing. Suggestions were made for a rewording of the introductory sentence, but otherwise, all present were impressed. Gary will revise the sentence then print a few; Clark will obtain Calls and Addresses for new hams in our area, and Gary will mail the flyer and a SCCARAGRAM or two to them. Gary also agreed to print up a hundred (100) two-sided Field Day invitations, to be distributed at the Flea Market.

It was agreed that as many as possible would meet at Clark's house this Saturday at 1:00 p.m. to help work with the trailer.

Director Clark Murphy, KE6KXO, Director, has a plethora of used equipment to be sold, given away, or scrapped.

Director Clark Murphy, KE6KXO spoke of Field Day. We don't have an all-modes 2 Meter unit. Lou Steirer moved and Clark seconded the motion to authorize Gary Mitchell to look into purchasing one for the club, before Field Day. After discussion, the motion was passed unanimously.

It was discussed and determined to set the annual Picnic for Saturday September 25 at Mary Gomez Park.

- Lou Steirer, WA6QYS reminded us that our turn to run the Flea market will be June 12. We have paid the extra \$100 to Howard, and we still need more volunteers signed up..

The President, Barbara Britten, KD6QEI asked for any other items of business, new or old.

Clark Murphy moved that the meeting be adjourned, Wally seconded, and Barbara agreed. The meeting was adjourned at 22:01.

Upcoming Meetings:

- The June General Meeting, will be held Monday June 14 at 19:30, in Bldg K, Kaiser Santa Clara. The speaker has not yet been announced. Field Day and Repeater Codes will be discussed.

- The next Board Meeting will be June 21 at 19:30 at the San Jose Red Cross HQ.

David Paul, AE6MV, Secretary

ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, April 30, 2004

NTIA STUDY DOCUMENTS RADIO INTERFERENCE FROM BPL

The first phase of a long-awaited broadband over power line (BPL) study the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) released this week suggests it's possible to accommodate BPL technology while managing the interference risk. In a cover letter to FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell, Acting NTIA Administrator Michael D. Gallagher pledged that the NTIA would "work with the Commission to establish a firm technical foundation for responsible deployment of BPL to protect critical federal communications systems." But, Gallagher added, "technical rules governing their deployment must address potential harmful interference to critical systems." Released April 27, NTIA Report 04-413 <<http://www.ntia.doc.gov/ntiahome/fccfilings/2004/bpl/index.html>> analyzes 10 million BPL system measurements.

"Most studies have been oriented to determine whether interference will occur at the variously proposed limits," NTIA says in describing its study's approach. "In contrast, NTIA has oriented its study to find a solution that accommodates BPL systems while appropriately managing the risk of interference to radio systems." The NTIA acknowledges that BPL signals "unintentionally radiate" from power lines. But, the agency said, "there is substantial disagreement as to the strength of the emissions and their potential for causing interference to licensed radio systems." The NTIA also said current FCC Part 15 measurement techniques may "significantly underestimate" peak BPL field strength.

The hefty, two-volume NTIA Phase 1 study looks at BPL systems using the HF and low-VHF spectrum from 1.7 to 80 MHz and "defines risks of interference from BPL systems to local radio reception" while assuming the systems comply with existing Part 15 rules. That spectrum, NTIA said, is home to some 59,000 federal frequency assignments. The study proposes protecting 41 frequencies of the "most sensitive and likely most severely affected federal systems."

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, said the NTIA study clearly demonstrates that BPL systems pollute the radio spectrum. "How can any responsible public official encourage the deployment of such systems," he asked, "and how can any investor seriously consider pouring money into such an obviously flawed technology?"

Among interference mitigation techniques, the NTIA study recommends reducing BPL device output power--which it called "the single most effective method" of reducing interference potential--and "shifting or notching" BPL frequencies. Others included differential-mode signal injection, absorbing filters, adopting a "one active device per frequency and area" rule and using a single point of control for each BPL service area.

Interference calculations by the NTIA engineers indicated that a BPL transmitter operating within Part 15 limits would significantly increase the noise floor for land-mobile receivers on frequencies below 30 MHz. The agency said it could be inferred from its calculations that "a vehicle-mounted HF receiver" operating in a residential neighborhood next to a BPL-energized line "may experience harmful interference" depending on the frequency, distance along the line from the BPL transmitter, the BPL transmitter's duty cycle and the number of BPL devices on the power line.

The NTIA study calculated that interference "is likely" to mobile stations in areas extending to 30 meters and to fixed stations in areas extending to 55 meters from a single BPL device and the power lines to which it's connected. With "low to moderate desired signal levels," the NTIA study continued, interference is likely at these receivers within areas extending to 75 meters for mobiles and 460 meters for fixed stations.

The NTIA says its Phase 2 study will "evaluate the effectiveness" of its Phase 1 recommendations and address potential interference via ionospheric propagation of BPL "from mature, large-scale" deployed BPL networks.

SWLS MAY FILE BPL INTERFERENCE COMPLAINTS

FCC Part 15 rules prohibit interference to licensed services from unlicensed devices. This means that, with limited exceptions, short-wave listeners (SWLs) may file formal complaints if broadband over power line (BPL) signals interfere with their reception. "There is no doubt that international broadcast listeners have standing to complain about interference to the reception of foreign broadcast signals," says ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD. "One does not have to be a licensee of a transmitter in order to receive harmful interference from a United States-based RF source and have standing to complain about it." Listeners to international short-wave broadcasts originating in the US, Imlay explains, do not have standing to complain, however, because they are not the target audience for such broadcasts. Imlay says that while FCC and court cases involving standing to file are complex, "the cases are clear that the allegation of suffering actual electromagnetic interference to reception of a broadcast service, even one generated internationally, from a domestic RF source, is sufficient in every case to demonstrate standing to file a complaint." International Telecommunication Union Radio Regulations require member nations to "take all practicable and necessary steps to ensure that the operation of electrical apparatus or installations of any kind, including power and telecommunication distribution networks, but excluding equipment used for industrial, scientific and medical applications, does not cause harmful interference to a radiocommunication service."
--Gary Pearce, KN4AQ

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the packet network:

=====
Date: 27 Jun 2000 01:37
From: AB7RG@AB7RG
To: FARCE@WW
Subject: Interview With The CIA:

Three men answered and ad for CIA agents. The ad stated the men were to bring their wives.

The first man was called in for the interview. The Agent in charge handed him a gun, then said, "We must have absolute loyalty in this service. Take your wife in the next room and shoot her."

The man looked shocked. He thought and said "I'm afraid I can't do that. I just got married 2 weeks ago and I still love my wife." He left.

The second man came in and the agent gave him the same pitch. The man, almost in tears said, "Oh no. I can't do that to her, she's about to have a baby." So he left.

The third man entered and was given the pitch. So he took the gun and his wife into the next room. Soon "bam bam bam bam bam!" Then there was noise of furniture

being broken, woman's screams, then nothing. The man comes back out.

The agents asked, "What went on in there??!!!"

The man said: "Some idiot put blanks in the gun so I strangled her!"

73 & May the FARCE be with you! Clinton, AB7RG.
[AB7RG @ KB7FRV.AZ.USA.NOAM]

=====
Date: 27 Jun 2000 01:50
From: AB7RG@AB7RG
To: QUOTES@WW
Subject: QUOTES # 044 !!!

You know you're alive only when you come face to face with death.

Excuse me, but another Quote just came to me...

Thinking is good, except in some sections of the military.

There's nothing to fear but fear itself, except for a high SWR reading...

If there's no risk, then what's the point?

Passion is the ultimate motivator.

When in danger, when in doubt, run in circles, scream and shout.

"Speed Thrills!!!"

Drive it like you just stole it.

If winning isn't important, then why compete?

Do not try, do or do not.

If you don't have a sense of humor, then you don't have any sense at all.

Wisdom is only found in truth.

Government: (n) An institution consisting of people who know absolutely nothing about anything.

When life throws you a lemon, make lemonade!

When in doubt, mumble.

Macintosh -- The Porsche of computers!

If life is just a highway, then the soul is just a car.

If you don't learn how to master your fears they will master you.

If you believe in something strong enough, good or bad; it will happen.

Live each day for what it is, to it's fullest extent, for worry and stress do no good; they only consume...

Humor and laughter is good for the soul -- try it!

If you're using anything but a Macintosh right now to read this, it's time to upgrade to one!

Do you have ANY idea what your cat is up to right now???

Cats are such efficient climbers. Don't you wish they'd do all your tower work?

"Misspelled? What do you mean it's misspelled? Packet is an error-correcting mode!"

Famous Last Words: "It'll hold together..."

Bad Day: When the cloud in the sky is a mushroom.

Good Day: When YOU are the DX station.

I drive a Porsche, therefore I am.

Reckless: (v): Being able to drive your sports car beyond other's limits, and not crash it.

Bad Day: When you are abducted by aliens.

Good Day: When you are not abducted by aliens.

If you don't know the answer make up something that sounds highly technical. Most will people will never know the difference.

Ever get a bad feeling, like when the Dust Devil out in the distance keeps getting bigger, and it's heading your way?

Don't argue with fools. Some people might not be able to tell the difference...

Smile :-) Be Happy! After all, your HD might crash in a few minutes. (Well, at least you'd be happy up until that moment...)

73 & May the FARCE be with you! Clinton, AB7RG.
[AB7RG @ KB7FRV.AZ.USA.NOAM]

=====
Date: 28 Jun 2000 21:20
From: AB7RG@AB7RG
To: FARCE@USA
Subject: The Elk Hunt...

Bubba and Jake chartered a plane with a pilot to drop them off in the wilds of Alaska for a week of elk hunting, just the same as they did the year before.

When the pilot returned with the plane Bubba exclaimed joyfully to the pilot, "We had a great hunting trip! We bagged four elk!" The pilot regretfully explained, "Unfortunately, our plane can only fly with the weight of two elk. You'll have to leave the other two behind."

Bubba and Jake were both infuriated and insistent. "We won't allow you to fly this plane out without all four elk," Jake demanded.

The eager to please pilot relented and the plane took off

with the three of them and their four elk. About fifteen minutes into the flight the engine started to sputter, and within seconds they were hurtling to the ground.

Wearily arising from the wreckage, Bubba looked at Jake and wheezed, "Do you have any idea where we are?"

Jake, quite pleased with himself, replied, "Yes! We're about a mile from where we crashed last year.

73 & May the FARCE be with you! Clinton, AB7RG.
[AB7RG @ KB7FRV.AZ.USA.NOAM]

=====
Date: 28 Jun 2000 00:21
From: AB7RG@AB7RG
To: FARCE@USA
Subject: The Electric Chair...

These three guys go down to some Latin American country one night and get drunk and wake up in jail. They found out that they are to be executed for their crimes but none of them can remember what they've done.

The first one is strapped in the electric chair and is asked if he has any last words. He says, "I am from the Baylor school of divinity and I believe in the almighty power of God to intervene on behalf of the innocent." They throw the switch and nothing happens, so they figure God must not want this guy to die, so we better let him go.

The second one is strapped in and gives his last words. "I am from the University of Texas School of Law and I believe in the eternal power of justice to intervene on the part of the innocent." They throw the switch and again nothing happens. They figure that the law is on this guy's side, so they better let him go too.

The last one is strapped in and says, "Well, I'm a Fightin' Texas Aggie Electrical Engineer, and I'll tell you right now you'll never electrocute anybody if you don't connect those two wires."

73 & May the FARCE be with you! Clinton, AB7RG.
[AB7RG @ KB7FRV.AZ.USA.NOAM]

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 fill out an Elmer form from the club secretary.

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):
K6PBQ, WA6VJY, WB6YRU, WA6QYS
Children's Discovery Museum, volunteer operator:
K6PBQ
EchoLink: KK6MX

W6ACW, Ed Hajny, (408) 739-6105

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

KD6FJI, Lloyd DeVaughns,
day: (408) 918-4635, evening: (408) 225-6769
e-mail: lloyddevaughns@sbcglobal.net

KK6MX, Don Apte, (408) 629-0725
e-mail: kk6mx@aol.com

KB6NP, Jon Dutra, day & msg (408) 428-2058
evening (408) 867-8654
packet: home BBS NOARY
e-mail: 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
e-mail: wb6yru@aenet.net

Newsletter Notes

I wish I had thought of this sooner, before this issue...

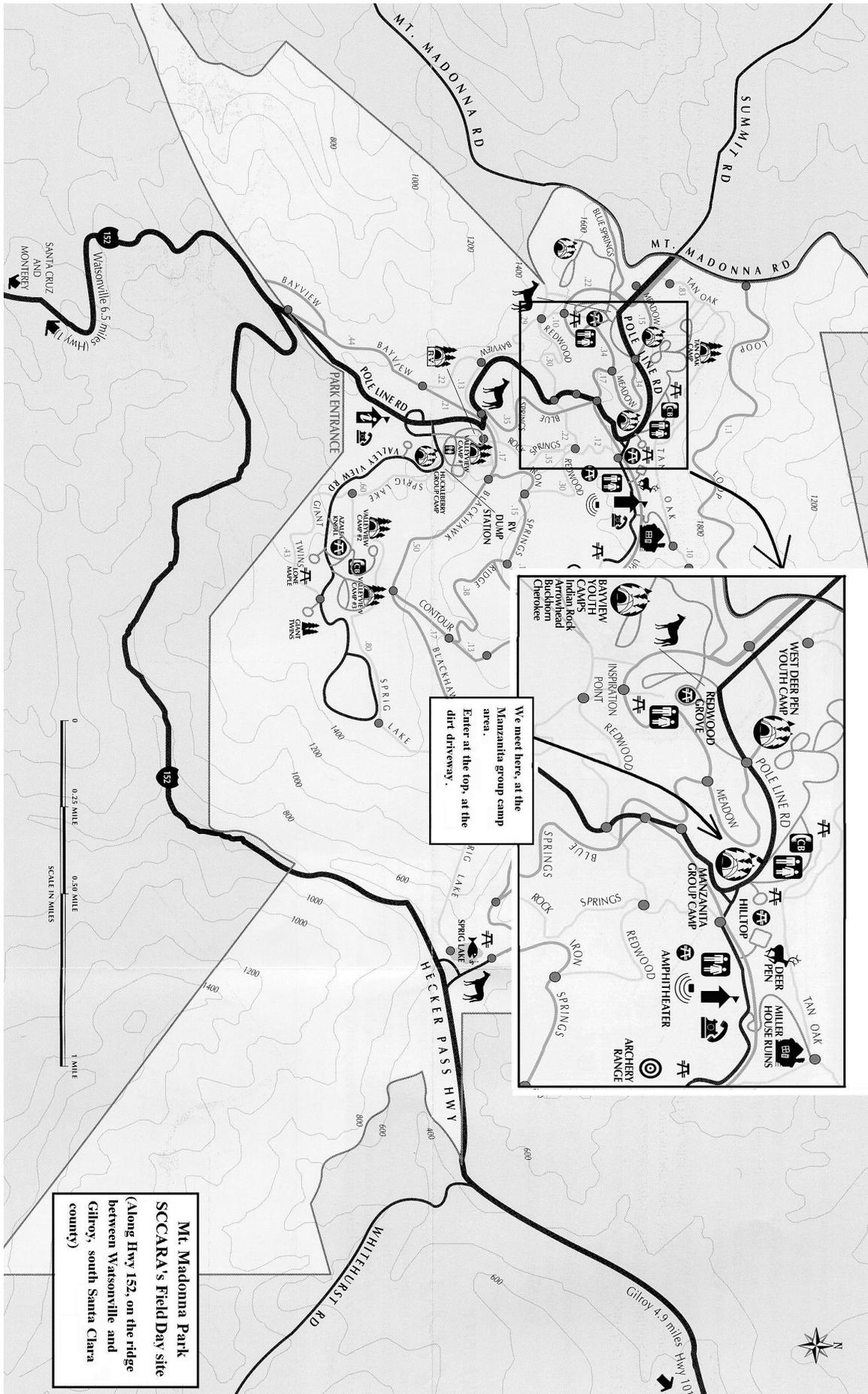
Every once in a while I hear someone tell a story or anecdote about things that happened during past Field Days. Sometimes those tales will make it in the Field Day report later that summer, but there's rarely something like that before Field Day.

I really think such stories would help encourage others to attend. Of course there's no guarantee something especially interesting or funny will happen at any given Field Day, but if you don't go, you surely won't know, at least not first hand.

Perhaps you may have made a passing reference to "hams" (pigs) or mice, or maple syrup, or putting up antennas in the dark or whatever, and some people never knew quite what that was about. Here's a good opportunity to tell those stories!

So, folks, how about putting some of your favorite Field Day stories to paper for the *SCCARA-GRAM*?

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor



**Mt. Madonna Park
SCCARA's Field Day site**
(Along Hwy 152, on the ridge
between Watsonville and
Gilroy, south Santa Clara
county)

We meet here, at the
Manzanita group camp
area.
Enter at the top, at the
dirt driveway.

Inset Map Details:

- West Deer Pen Youth Camp**
- Pole Line Rd**
- Manzanita Group Camp**
- Hilltop**
- Deer House Ruins**
- Miller House Ruins**
- Archery Range**
- Amphitheater**
- Redwood**
- Blue Springs**
- Iron Springs**
- Rock Springs**
- Bayview Youth Camp**
- Inspiration Point**
- Redwood Grove**
- Bayview Camp**
- Maple Rock**
- Arrowhead**
- Buddhorn**
- Cherokee**

Join SCCARA for Field Day 2004!

2004 Field Day contest weekend is June 26 & 27. Mark your calendars!

Field Day is one of the biggest amateur radio contests of the year, involving the U.S. and Canada. The underlying idea is to give amateurs practice making contacts under disaster conditions. This means the participants are encouraged to set up and operate portable stations powered by something other than PG&E. You can operate at home, but it's better (worth more points) to "setup shop" elsewhere. For the past several years we have been going up to Mt. Madonna County Park (Southern end of the county). We usually have a variety of stations and antennas. The stations have included phone, CW, digital, novice, solar, VHF, etc. The antennas have been: beams on towers (one is a sizable crank-up on a specially made trailer), a long wire, and miscellaneous dipoles and verticals. The more exotic the power source, the better. We usually use batteries, generators, and solar cells. We operate under a classification where several transceivers are on the air at one time. We are allowed a certain amount of time to set up--that's why some of us go up Friday afternoon. Once set up, we have 24 hours (starting at a specific time) to make as many contacts as possible. It's a lot of fun and a great way to hone those operating skills! Everyone is encouraged to participate. You can make a weekend of it or just show up for part of it, whatever you like.

The SCCARA Field Day weekend will again be held at Mt. Madonna County Park on June 26 & 27, at the Manzanita group camp site. **SCCARA pays your camping fee!** Just show up. You don't need to stop at the park entrance station (just stay to the left and drive on past), but if you do stop, just tell them you're with the SCCARA radio club at the Manzanita group camp area.

You are encouraged to join the set-up group going up on Friday, June 25 and stay through Sunday, helping with both setup and tear-down. The set-up group plans to meet for lunch on Friday, June 25 around 1 PM at Carl's Jr. at Branham and Almaden (north west corner). We then take off in a convoy to Mt. Madonna, chatting along the way (this by itself is kind of fun). We'll be on our repeater 146.985(-), switching to simplex once we get into the mountains. Anyone may join the set-up group. If you don't go up with us in the convoy (but you should), we'll show up at the Manzanita group camp area around 3 PM. Monitor the repeater output (146.985) in the mountains.

Clark Mruphy KE6KXO is SCCARA's Field Day 2004 Committee Chairman. If you would like to get more involved, contact Clark: 262-9334. There'll be an "antenna party" (checking out our antenna trailer) some time early or mid June.

We're expecting a great Field Day this year, so please come join us!

The club will be serving a BBQ dinner at 2:00 PM on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday morning. All other meals are pot-luck (nobody goes hungry) or fend for yourself if you wish. (For the pot-luck, rumor has it Barbara will be bringing her CDF Chili again...very popular.)

The BBQ Saturday dinner will be your choice of steak or chicken, all the "fix'ns" are included. Please indicate your choice(s) below. The cost of the dinner is \$11 per person and the Sunday breakfast is \$5 per person. You must let us know in advance so we'll know how much food to buy--**Monday, June 21 is the cutoff date** (Board meeting).

Field Day BBQ/Breakfast Sign-Up

Name _____ Call _____

_____ Saturday steak dinner(s) (\$11.00 per person): \$ _____

_____ Saturday chicken dinner(s) (\$11.00 per person): \$ _____

_____ Sunday breakfast(s) (\$5.00 per person): \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

Please fill out this sign up sheet (or copy) and get it to Barbara by Monday, June 21. Deliver it by hand at the next club meeting or mail it with your check (payable to SCCARA) to:

Barbara Britten, KD6QEI 585 S 14th ST San Jose CA 95112

If you decide you want to get in on the BBQ, but there isn't time to get the money in, just tell Barbara. We can collect the money later.

Questions? About food: Barbara KD6QEI at 408 293-3847. About Field Day: Clark at 408 262-9334.

SCCARA Membership Form for 2004

(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



**FIRST CLASS
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**