



SCCARA-GRAM



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

FEBRUARY, 1988

OUR PREZ SEZ

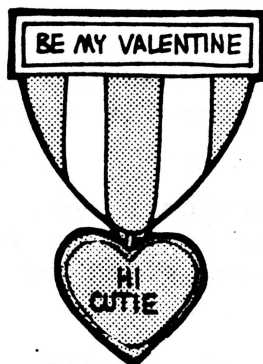
I enjoyed our last meeting, which was set up by Ed Rawlinson. It seems as though we should plan a weekend outing to visit the Monterey Coast Guard Station. I wonder how useful the average Ham Radio Operator would be to them? What kinds of talents and equipment are most useful? Probably the most useful piece of gear is a good DF antenna, but from most of our locations that might not be too helpful. Does anyone want to call the Coast Guard and set up a visit for a weekend in the near future? Please let me know.

Please thank Ed for handling the news letter while Shorty is mending. Ed was quite an active president and it looks as though, at least initially, he's continuing at the same level. Thanks, Ed. ("Aw shucks" edit.comment)

I think we need a field day in the near future. I would like to set up a small camp, like we did last year and have at it for a few days. I have been pretty busy with my new job and don't get much air time in. The only time I am guaranteed of being able to operate is when I can get away. Would anyone care to join me? It's cold now, but sleeping in the car wouldn't be bad for one night.

Our new secretary is off to an excellent start. Great minutes, Tom! He is also preparing a questionnaire to get some ideas about what people are interested in. It'll probably be ready for the next meeting.

Our next meeting will be at the same



place, The Isaac Newton Center. We are set until the card-entry system is installed. I don't have any clear notion when that will happen. Lou, WA6QYS, and Le, KB6MXH, have been working on getting another location that will be more permanent. See you at the next meeting. Come prepared with antenna questions.

Board Meetings will be held on meeting nights, at 6:00 pm PRIOR TO the regular meeting. It will always be held at a restaurant near the location of that night's meeting. Please contact Doc, W6ZRJ, if not otherwise noted. All are welcome. de Allen, N6NOY, Prez.



U.S. Coast Guardsmen at SCCARA Meeting Jan. 11th, (L to R): Radioman, P.O. Mark Smith, Pres. Allen Levin, CPO Carl Young and P.O. Paul Rickey from San Jose Recruiting Office.

NEXT MONTHLY MEETING is February 8th at 7:30 pm, Isaac Newton Center, Santa Clara County Administration Bldg., 70 W. Hedding St., Civic Center, San Jose. Veep Bob, N6PCQ, has arranged for Al Gaetano, W6VZT, to again talk to us on Antennas, this time on H.F. particularly. BOARD MEETING will be from 6:00 pm at J. Winfield's Restaurant (The old San Jose Inn), 1860 The Alameda at University. We have the back room until 7:15 pm. Order as you desire, it's on you. Open meeting.

MINUTES OF THE S.C.C.A.R.A. GENERAL MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 11,
1988 AT THE ISAAC NEWTON CENTER, SAN JOSE.

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. by President Allen Levin, N6NOY, followed by self-introductions of members, visitors, and guests.

President Allen Levin then turned the meeting over to Past-President Ed Rawlinson, WD6CHD, for the introduction of the guest speakers for the evening.

At that time Chief Petty Officers Carl Young, Paul Rickey, and Al Smith of the U.S. Coast Guard delivered an interesting and informative presentation which could have been entitled "Telecommunications, the Coast Guard, and You."

Under New Business several items were discussed. Item number one was the need for a new hall for our regular monthly meetings. Volunteers Lou WA6QYS, Ed WD6CHD, Mike KB6LCJ, and Joe N6PCR agreed to look at alternatives and report their findings to the board of directors.

Field Day was discussed next, and a motion was made by Doc W6ZRJ to return to Mt. Madonna this year. The motion was seconded by J.D. K6YKG. A vote was taken and the motion carried. Art KG6PY agreed to attempt to make reservations at Manzanita Grove for field day weekend.

After some discussion a motion was made by Art KG6PY to have a club picnic at Congress Springs in Saratoga sometime during the next year. The motion was seconded by Tom KB6LUC. A vote was taken and the motion carried. The date was to be set later by Micki N6ODN, depending upon park availability.

A motion was made by Doc W6ZRJ to have quarterly dinner meetings. The motion was seconded by Art KG6PY. A vote was taken and the motion carried. President Allen Levin suggested the month of March for the first dinner meeting at Harry's Hofbrau.

After some discussion a motion was made by Joe N6PCR to hold Old-Timers Nite in the month of September. Dan WM6M seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

No old business was discussed.

No treasurers report was called for, but our Treasurer Dan Dietz, WM6M would have reported that the beginning balance of the SCCARA bank account for December, 1987 was \$5,893.64 and the year end balance was \$5,602.31

The business portion of the meeting concluded at 9:30 p.m.

After the raffle, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Tom Server, KB6LUC.

When Bob WA6KUC Hudgens, our spy at Quements, got a call from a school-teacher asking where she could get help in organizing a school radio club, he knew just whom to call! "J.D." of course. "J.D." K6YKC Dad-dysman, who not only hangs out every Tuesday night at Santa Clara (City) Adult Education Center, throwing code at an ever increasing circle of hams, was game to give it a try. He is always ready to help.

So, as the picture attests, "J.D.", Roy, K6VIP, and Ed, WD6CHD, had a 1st meeting Jan. 25th, noon, with teacher, Mrs. Percy and a group of interested students at Lincoln Middle School in Cupertino. The latest A.R.R.L. Video Tape was shown as an introduction, and demonstrations made with H.T.'s. A 220 MHz contact with San Luis Obispo via the Condor Net was made by Roy, each station relaying, checking in personally. This and the 2 meter contacts that followed were pretty impressive!

A follow-up meeting will be held Feb. 8th Noon. If you are just hanging around that day, leave your radio on, tuned to SCCARA freq. to respond if necessary. Teacher, Mrs. Percy wants to get a license, too!

Incidentally, if you are a "Y.L." and reluctant to mix with all of "those guys", our code class has new respectability with the addition of newly licensed sweet young "Y.L."!

If the Code Class sounds good and you are interested, call "J.D." at (408) 227-2033.

WD6CHD, Ed and K6VIP, Roy demonstrate H.T.s to students at organizational meeting for ham radio club at Lincoln Middle School, Cupertino. K6YKC, "J.D." in background with teacher, Mrs. Percy.

SILENT KEYS

W6YBV, LEE DIMTER
W6NVO, ED TURNER

The City of Mountain View is disposing of the following used Transceivers at \$ 50.00 each plus sales tax. until February 10th:

25 ea Portables (H.T.'s), G.E. Model #PE55

20 ea Mobiles, Motorola "Micor"

5 ea Motorcycle Radios, Motorola "Micor"

These were purchased in 1977. Sunnyvale RACES is receiving some of these.

Please phone Purchasing Agent Jim Williamson at (415) 966-6324 for further information.

We phoned Bob, W600Y, who noted that all of above are crystal controlled, having varying numbers of paired channels from 2 to 12 depending on the model. Crystals for Motorola are complex temperature controlled units, costing about \$175 new. If the crystal is physically larger than new desired frequency, International regrinds them for around \$100. Parts for both brands are expensive, those for GE very hard to come by. The Motorola units would normally make excellent repeater units, since they are so stable. Bob may not be quoted.

LIST YOUR SURPLUS EQUIPMENT IN
SCCARA-GRAM.

ROBERT HALL ELECTRONICS

ELECTRONIC REPAIR SERVICES

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SAN FRANCISCO
CA 94128

SHOP

1666 MCKEE RD
SUITE 3
SAN JOSE
CA 95116
(408) 729 8200

• HAM RADIO



OLD "CC" THE FIRST "VOICE OF AMERICA"

The first radio signal to span the Atlantic took place on December 12, 1901, when a series of telegraphic "S's", transmitted from England, were heard at Signal Hill, Newfoundland. Few know that this remarkable feat was really scheduled for America.

What was to have been the receiving site of the first trans-Atlantic wireless transmission from England by Guglielmo Marconi, is in South Wellfleet, on Cape Cod.

The timbers from the huge wooden towers are still there, protected by U.S. National Park Service in the Cape Cod National Seashore. Some are under water now since Cape Cod is slowly eroding away at the rate of three feet a year.

After Heinrich Hertz demonstrated the existence of electric and magnetic waves, Marconi began dreaming of a way to send messages from transmitter to receiver without the aid of wires. In 1894 he was able to detect an electric wave 30 ft. away; in 1895, it was one mile. By 1901 a 200 mile range was achieved. Wireless telegraphy became the rage of Europe..then America. Marconi thought magnetic waves could leap the ocean! The great American electric inventor, Thomas A. Edison, said it was impossible!

South Wellfleet, Massachusetts, was selected by Marconi as the westernmost tip of America. In 1901 Marconi had a powerful station constructed. He paid \$250 for eight acres of otherwise worthless land .. now worth millions!

The U.S. station was modeled after the one in Poldhu, England. A circular series of twenty 200 ft. high ship's masts were planted in the sandy soil about 165 ft. from the ocean. Then disaster struck! The ring of towers in both England and the U.S. blew down in storms. The Poldhu antenna was replaced with a "V"-shaped aerial between two salvaged 150-ft. masts.

The western leg of the experiment was then transferred from Cape Cod to St. John's, Newfoundland. It was prearranged that the three-dot Morse code signal would be transmitted from Poldhu starting Dec. 11th, 1901. The following day it was heard!

To Marconi's dismay, a Newfoundland cable company had exclusive communications rights. Four days later, Marconi was served with a "Cease and Desist Order", and required to vacate Signal Hill. The Canadian government offered Marconi another site at Nova Scotia.

A new set of four 210-ft. high towers was constructed at Nova Scotia in 1902. On Jan. 18th, 1903, Marconi himself tapped out a telegraphic message that was to have been relayed to England through the station at Nova Scotia. All involved were stunned when the reception acknowledgment came direct from Poldhu, England!

The message was greetings on behalf of the American people from President Teddy Roosevelt to His Majesty, King Edward VII. A return message to the president from "Edward R. & I" was received.

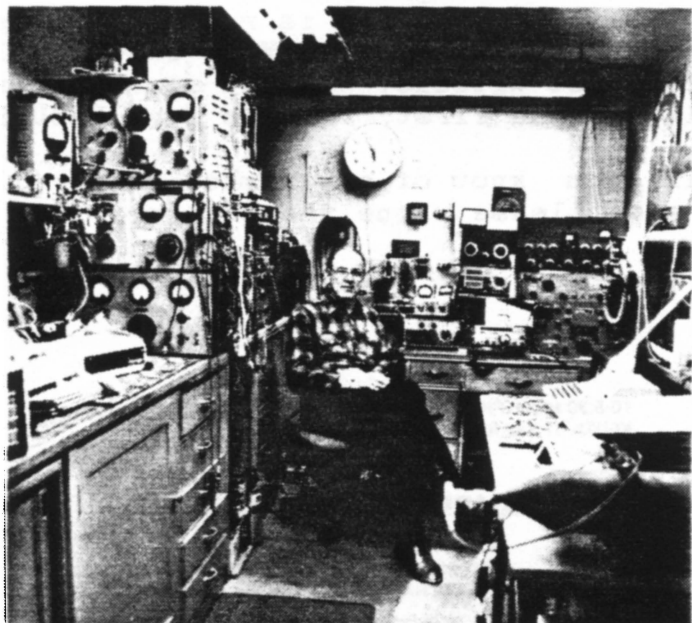
From that day forth, European news was relayed to the New York Times thru Cape Cod. Ocean-going vessels adopted Marconi's apparatus to receive news broadcasts. Business and social messages could be sent to Europe for \$.50 a word.

Local Cape Cod residents could hear the crashing spark some four miles away. Telegraphers operating at 17 wpm manned the Cape Cod station for some 15 years when, due to erosion and threatened by collapse, the station closed, never to reopen.

A replica has been installed in the National Park Service Headquarters building at South Wellfleet of the original spark gap transmitter.

from Hangtown ARC Newsletter, based on a W5YI Report.

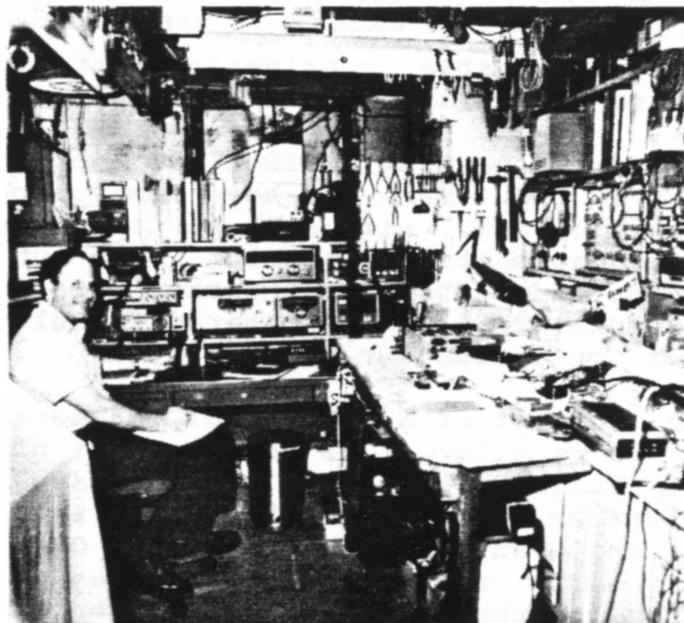
 This month's column features two hams who are devoted to building, repairing, and general tinkering. This aspect of amateur radio sadly seems to be vanishing. Roy and Wally still find enjoyment in it, and their shacks, filled with tools and test equipment, reflect their involvement with this part of the hobby.



ROYAL METZGER, K6VIP

Besides an extra class ticket, Roy holds a General Commercial Radio Telephone Operator license which was required during his 35 years as an employee of "Ma-Bell". Now retired, he is a member of RACES/ARES and also spends a lot of time as a VE; both at the test sessions and in the equipment support for code testing. Roy operates mostly using SSB on his favored: 10, 20, and 160 meter bands using Drake TR-3 and RV4, Johnson Viking II, Collins R390 and Yaesu FT-757GX. These are are switched into a long-wire, an inverted-V, and a Mosley TA-33Sr. For VHF, the latter has a vertically polarized, 7-element yagi mounted above it. For local contacts Roy uses an ICOM IC-27 on 2, a Santec -440 and on 220 the Kenwood TH-31BT won at the Christmas party. His Atari computer gets occasional use on CW, RTTY and ASCII. About 10% of his air time is spent working DX. A member of SCCARA for four years, Roy boasts 32 years of ham radio experience. XYL, Virginia is K6IIU.

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WALLACE BRITTEN, KA6YMD

Wally joined SCCARA five years ago as a student in our novice class. Then using that ticket he was the second place winner for our section in the 1984 novice roundup. Now Wally holds an advanced class license and has served as an instructor for several classes himself. I got my start in one of those classes. Wally also donates time and expertise to the club repeater. His large inventory of VHF and UHF gear includes: Yaesu FT-708, FT-208, and FT2700RH; ICOM IC271A, IC-471, IC-37A, and IC3AT. His favorite band is 2-meters, but he works voice on the other UHF and VHF bands that he is equipped for, and he also operates voice on the HF bands using a TEN-TEC OMNI-D fed into parallel dipoles for 40, 20, and 10 meters or an 80-meter long-wire. J-poles are used on the higher frequencies. Wally belongs to SVECS-RACES/ARES. He occasionally dusts off the keyboard to work some packet. He is employed by Santa Clara County

FEBRUARY 1988 ISSUE

FROM YOUR TREASURER

SUNSHINE REPORTS

My thanks to the approximate 1/3 of our membership who have sent in their 1988 dues. Yes, it is that time again. If you have not done so, please send your renewal check to my home address, soon. Dues for 1988 are \$15.00 for individuals, \$20.00 for family memberships and \$5.00 for youth membership. (Student not to exceed 18 yrs of age) Very reasonable considering what you get for being a SCCARA member.

Our first meeting of 1988 was another active one. Sure, we have some problems to deal with such as finding a permanent meeting site, but given our dedicated membership, we should solve this dilemma or any other difficulty that could come our way.

The concept of a SCCARA HOTLINE seems to be popular. The idea is that of Bob Hudgens, WA6KUC. We now have a volunteer for giving a home to a machine and even a donated machine. Given the small monthly rate we'd pay for incoming phone service: and given the anticipated popularity of such a service, it really seems like a winner!

Let's welcome new members Barbara Monroe and David Keller, KB6UQG. Barbara is being ably tutored for Novice by Wally, KA6YMD. David holds a Novice license, and is the son of our photographer, Bob, KB6OHO. Welcome to both of you!

Although not a recent upgrade, let's recognize a new call for Norm Galassi, now AA6CZ. Our last Novice class has given us Technician John Candito, KB6VIW, and Bill Eastman, N6RCF, who has his General. There are some other new calls to announce; however, I have not reached those people as of this date. I will pass on their call info in the next issue. If YOU have an upgrade or callsign change, please let me know. If I'm not home, I have an answering machine to gather the info.

Another Novice class will probably be presented within the next two months . . . ie as soon as Jim, WE6V, and I get together and organize our effort. Watch for details in a future SCCARA-GRAM.

73 de Dan, WM6M

Regular SCCARA-GRAM Editor Shorty AB6Z Freitas, continues to improve and sounds almost like his old self. A little complication kept him from doing the whole newsletter this month, but he did do one page. Can you guess which?

Phil N6IEC Vargas just had a "five-vein bypass", and is recuperating at San Jose Hospital. Your cards would be most welcome. If you plan to visit, phone first, reports Fran KA6UUS.

If you know of any member major illness, please phone the Editor.

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

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OWNER

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Remittance: \$ _____ for
Individual \$15; Family \$20; Youth \$5

Name.....

Address.....

City.....Zip.....

Phone.....Call.....

Class.....ARRL?.....
yes or no

Make check out to SCCARA and mail to Dan Dietz, Treasurer, 6220 Hopi Circle San Jose, CA 95123. If you include ARRL dues, SCCARA gets \$2 return, or note #1802 on your check to ARRL.

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GET TO KNOW OUR SCCARA MEMBERS

YOUR QUICK RESPONSE IS VITAL TO THE CLUB FOR PLANNING 1988 ACTIVITIES
WE NEED YOUR INPUT!!

CALL SIGN: _____ NAME: _____ HANDLE: _____

PREVIOUS CALLS HELD _____ NO. YRS HAMMING _____

YR FIRST LICENSED _____

OTHER HAMS IN YOUR FAMILY/RELATIONSHIP _____

MEMBERSHIP IN OTHER RADIO CLUBS _____

HAMMING ACTIVITIES _____

HF EQUIPMENT AND ANTENNAS _____

VHF EQUIPMENT AND ANTENNAS _____

UHF EQUIPMENT AND ANTENNAS _____

WORK (SKILLS) _____ COMPANY (RETIRED) _____

HOME TOWN/STATE _____

SPOUSE'S NAME _____ NO. YRS MARRIED _____

NON-HAM INTERESTS _____

MEMBERSHIP IN NON-HAM GROUPS/CLUBS/SERVICES _____

WHAT KINDS OF THINGS CAN WE DO AS A CLUB TO MAKE THE MEETINGS MORE
APPEALING TO MORE MEMBERS? _____

WHAT OTHER HAM-RELATED ACTIVITIES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE THE CLUB
PARTICIPATE IN? _____

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE THE CLUB USE THE PROCEEDS LEFT OVER FROM
PACIFICOM '87? _____

WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO SERVE ON COMMITTEES TO FIND ANSWERS TO THE
ABOVE THREE QUESTIONS? _____

RETURN TO TOM SERVERS, KB6LUC, SECTY. SCCARA, P.O. BOX 6, SAN JOSE, CA 95103

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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

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A.R.R.L. VEC HOTLINE: (408) 984 8353

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TIME DATED BULLETIN