

SCCARA-GRAM

Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Assn. (SCCARA)
Volume 7 Number 12

Organized in 1921
December 1990

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Once again it's that magic time of year when children are full of wonder and anticipation. Adults hurry to and fro, searching for those special gifts to bring a smile to the faces of the ones they love. To different degrees, we all get caught up in the spirit of the season. Yet, as a society, we have traditionally paused in this season, to share some of what we have with others who are less fortunate than us.

This year, the SCCARA Board voted to suspend the gift exchange that was customary during SCCARA's Holiday Dinner. Instead, if you wish, you can bring a cash donation equal to the value of a gift (\$ 7.50) that will be given to the Santa Clara County Food Bank (City Team Ministries). If you're unable to attend, you may still donate to the Food Bank by sending your check, marked for the Food Bank, to SCCARA's PO box. The address is on the outside cover of the SCCARA-GRAM. I hope, however, to see many of you at the Dinner.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the Nominating Committee for conducting the "talent search" and election for SCCARA. Serving on the Committee were;

Bob Forster, N6PCQ.

Joe Quirantes, WA6DXP.

Ed Rawlinson, WD6CHD.

In case you missed the November meeting, the following is your Board of Directors for 1991;

Pres. - George Allan, WA6D.

Vice Pres. - Doug Eaton, WN6U.

Sec'y. - Don Village, K6PBQ.

Treas. - Kathy Getsla, KB6ICQ.

Dir. - Joe Eykholt, N6PCR.

Next Meeting

Date: Monday 12/10/90

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: **The Le Baron Hotel**

Hope to see you all at the Le Baron for our annual Christmas Dinner.

Please note that the board has opted to eliminate the exchange of gifts. In its place you can donate to the

Food Bank .

This dinner is also installation of officers.



Seasons Greetings from SCCARA.

- Dir. - Shorty Freitas, AE6Z.
- Dir. - Herb Himmelfarb, KB6ABG.
- Dir. - Ed Rawlinson, WD6CHD.
- Dir. - Lou Steirer, WA6QYS.
- Dir. - Carla Watson, WD6X.

The Board of Directors will not meet in December, since everyone is either busy or out of town.

I hope to see many of you at the Holiday Dinner. If you're unable to attend, though, please accept our warmest wishes for a very happy Holiday Season!

de
George and Sylvia Allan,
WA6D and XYL



New member
Wendi KC6MYH

NOTES FROM YOUR TREASURER
KB6ICQ

Most of you by now, have received a call from one of your board members about who will be attending the Holiday Dinner. If you are attending, please remember that your board of directors voted at the Nov 15 meeting to NOT have a gift exchange at the dinner. Instead, SCCARA will collect donations to send to the Food Bank of Santa Clara Valley. This was prompted by an article in the paper that day about how the food bank needed 6000 turkeys for needy families and food kitchens and only had 60. The board passed a motion to ask that those who would have participated in the gift exchange, would instead be asked to contribute the \$7.50 that they would have spent on a gift to SCCARA and SCCARA would pass

on that money collected to the food bank.

Of course, if you want, you can contribute to the fund even if you are not attending the dinner. Please send your contributions to me at my home address (shown on the back page of this SCCARAGRAM). I ask that you send it so that I will receive it no later than December 15, so I will have enough time to forward the amount collected to the food bank before the holidays.

Now for the last word (I promise) on the sale of the stock. I have received the final check (from AT & T) and it has been deposited into our savings account.

It only took 15 months from the time the club voted to sell all the stock until the last check was received. I knew it would not be easy to liquidate all the stock, but never dreamed it would take as long as it did.

Before I sign off, I want to remind all members that dues are supposed to be paid by Jan 1 each year (see the form Mike made up for you to use) and anyone whose dues I have not received by February 1 will have their name and call in the February SCCARAGRAM with a reminder that March 31 is the last day to pay and still be on the roster and continue to receive the SCCARAGRAM in 1991. (The bylaws say that the treasurer must notify all those who have not paid by Feb 28 that they will be dropped by the club if dues are not received by the end of March.)

Last I would like to wish everyone Season's Greeting and a Happy new Year.

REPEATER COMMITTEE REPORT
11/30/90 de WA6VJY

The repeater has been operating well for the last couple of months at its new (but still temporary) site. Trish has taken on the task of designing the battery back-up system for the repeater. This will give the repeater some hours of operation in the event of loss of PG&E to the site. (Of

course, if the power is out at the site, actual use of the repeater will determine just how long the battery will last.)

All the emergency AUTODIAL slot phone numbers have been entered into the 2 meter repeater controller. Those of you who are members of S.V.E.C.S. already have a list of those slot numbers. Please note that the codes on our repeater are different from those used on the SVECS repeater. To obtain information on how to use our AUTODIAL feature, you need to send the following to the club address:

- 1) a photocopy of your license
- 2) an SASE (business size) with 45 cents postage on it
- 3) a note stating that you want the AUTODIAL instructions (NOTE: this is available to all SCCARA members at NO cost).

I will send you an instruction sheet for the AUTODIALer and a list of the emergency services programed into the autodial slots when the treasurer has verified that you are a member in good standing.

Now for the AUTOPATCH feature. I have contacted some other repeater owners in the area who have their repeaters in the same vicinity as ours, to find out their typical phone bills. Based on what they said, the Board of Directors has determined that \$10.00 ANNUALLY is what we have to charge for AUTOPATCH privileges. (This may be adjusted up OR down, depending on the actual use of the phonepatch. The money collected will be used to pay for actual phone line expenses.) As above, if you wish to make use of the AUTOPATCH capability of our repeater, please send the following to the club mailing address:

- 1) a photocopy of your license
- 2) an SASE (business size) with 45 cents postage
- 3) a note indicating your request for AUTOPATCH information (NOTE: this is available to all SCCARA members)
- 4) a check for \$10.00 made out to: "SCCARA REPEATER COMMITTEE".

Both the requests (for AUTODIAL and AUTOPATCH) may be made in one envelope with one SASE enclosed. Please be sure to include all requested information. This first sign-up of members for AUTOPATCH privileges will be good for all of 1991. If you should decide to sign up at some later date, the rate will be one dollar per month from when you sign up until the end of that year. Requests for AUTOPATCH and/or AUTODIAL should be mailed to:

SCCARA REPEATER COMMITTEE
BOX 6
SAN JOSE, CA.
95103-0006.

You may send in your annual club dues at the same time as your request for autopatch or autodial information. The treasurer will be processing all checks, both for club dues and for the AUTOPATCH. Remember: you must be a member in good standing prior to any codes being sent to you. Last, I hope you are planning to be at the Club Christmas dinner. I'm going and look forward to seeing you there!

73 de Stan WA6VJY

Please note the following page of photos. Bob KB6QHD took them just shortly before his "eye problem". Well Bob is back and so are the nice photos. These depict the assembly, testing and installation of the new 2 meter repeater.

THE MEMBER WHO NEVER CAME BACK; A PARABLE.

"It amused me now to think that your organization spends so much time looking for new members -- when I was there all the time. Do you remember me ?

"I'm the fellow who was asked to join, then I was asked to be a loyal and faithful member.

"I'm the fellow who came to every meeting, but nobody paid attention to

me. I tried several times to be friendly, but everyone seemed to have his own friends to talk to and sit with. I sat down among some unfamiliar faces several times, but they didn't pay much attention to me.

" I hoped somebody would ask me to join in, or somehow contribute -- but no one did.

"Finally, because of illness, I missed a meeting. The next month no one asked me where I had been. I guess it didn't matter very much whether I was there or not. On the next meeting date I decided to stay home and watch a good television program. When I attended the following no one asked me where I was the month before.

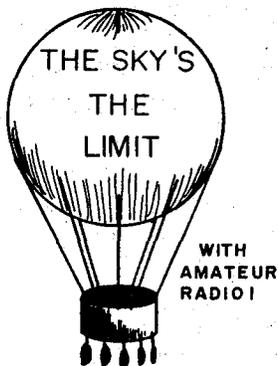
" You might say that I am a good guy, a good family man, that I hold a responsible job and love my community.

"You know who else I am ? I'm the member who never came back!"

(World Radio News)

Mike Shy

Does this fit !!! Is your club this way, if so, maybe you should go over and say hello to the members. After all, you can talk to your friend anytime !



Joe WA6DXP is OK

As all of us (who check into the Monday night net) know, Joe recently had a brief stay in a local hospital. He had Phlivitis which causes blood clots particularly in the legs. Joe is on some blood thinning medication and has to take care that he doesn't cut himself but he is home and in good spirits.

Joe is one of the long time key players in SCCARA. He has run the Monday net for as long as I can remember plus maintains the SCCARA roster. He is a great asset to our club and to Amateur Radio.

Thanks SCCARA

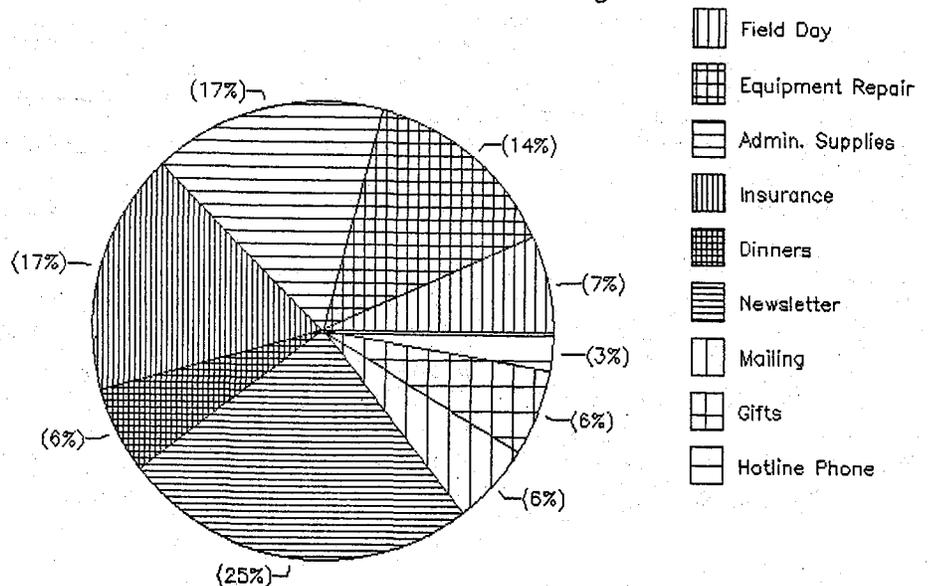
Ed W6ACW and his wife Julie asked that I pass along their thanks for a well done Pacificon. Books Incorporated is run by Ed and has "all kinds" of amateur radio related books. Need an idea for Christmas? You might look Ed up. He's in our roster.

Do Doodley Do DO Dues are Due for You

As the chart on the page shows, your dues are used to keep our club alive and vibrant and yes it is time for paying your dues. I have added a form on the last page for paying them.

Editor

Where your dues go



- Field Day
- Equipment Repair
- Admin. Supplies
- Insurance
- Dinners
- Newsletter
- Mailing
- Gifts
- Hotline Phone

The Big Repeater Move



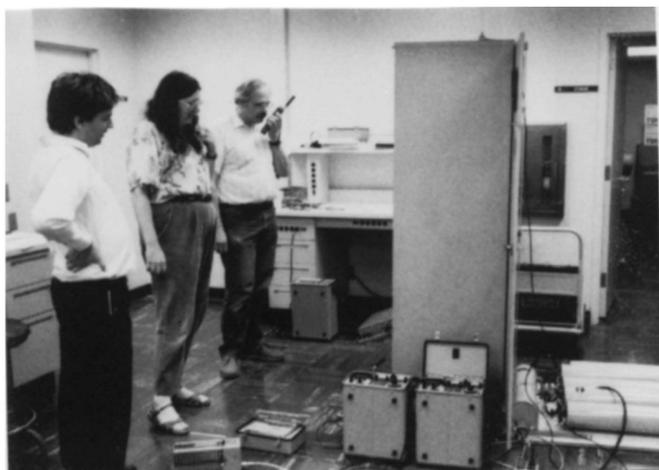
Wally WA6YMD and
Trish WA6UBE



Stan WA6VJY and Trish
WA6UBE lab testing
our new repeater



Cavities for the
2 meter repeater.



The first try



Temporary antenna
installation

Congratulations

Special Congratulations go to the Randy KK6BO and Sally N6QHP. Shortly after Pacificon they headed for Oregon and "tied the knot". Here's to a great couple from the members of SCCARA.

BATTERY SAFETY?

Remember just a reminder!

It has been estimated that a 12v 100 amp hour battery can deliver 2,000 amps into a terminal-to-terminal short circuit for a fraction of a second. Usually the magnitude of short circuit current is reduced by the series resistance of wiring, fuses, switches, etc. Depending upon the conditions of the short it can cause damage from a smoldering fire to a complete explosion of the battery.

Amateur radio operators are known for being ready for the unexpected times which usually helps with the practicing of safety procedures but, it does not hurt to review certain issues since in times when emergency communications is being set up, some of the safety rules may escape the memory at that time. I am just providing some tips and ideas to help to try and keep the project at hand safe.

1. Charging a battery should be done in a well ventilated location since, highly toxic gases are being produced.
2. Despite the size of the battery, it should be shielded or at least the terminals should be shielded from falling or rolling objects.
3. If battery(s) is used in an standby system, make sure all connections are tight and clean from corrosion and other debris.
4. Proper wiring insulation and other

various terminal connections should be insulated where applicable. Also at this time make sure the correct size of wiring is being used since, additional load may have been added since the initial installation.

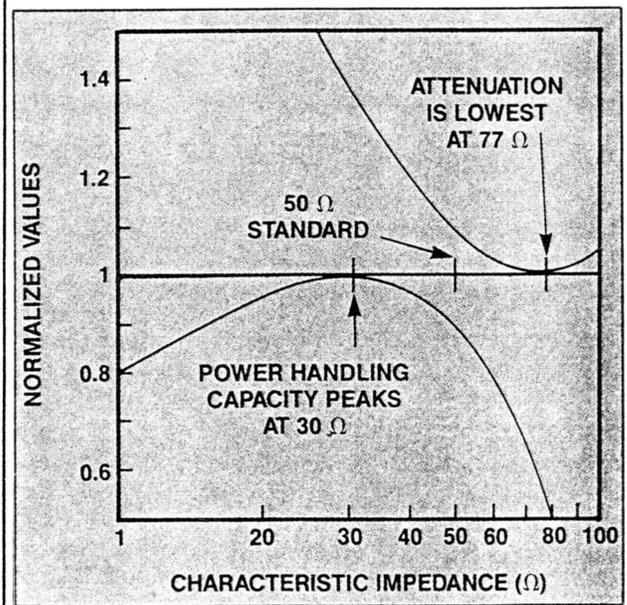
5. Fuses should be used where excessive current draw is possible.
6. If using some sort of battery carrier, including the human body, try to make sure it is in good mechanical and physical condition for the duration of the battery moving process and if not sure, obtain help at the beginning.
7. Any other additional tips or comments.

Thanks

N6XME, Alonzo

Why 50 Ω Connectors?

In the United States, the predominant impedance for coaxial transmission lines and connectors is 50 Ω . The theoretical impedance for minimum attenuation is 77.5 Ω and for maximum power transfer is 30 Ω ; the average of these two impedances is 53.75 Ω or rounded off to 50 Ω . (Figure 14) Therefore, 50 Ω is a compromise between minimum attenuation and maximum power transfer in a coaxial transmission line, and that is why it was selected. There are connectors available with other impedances, the next most popular impedance being 75 Ω (approximate minimum attenuation performance) that is in fairly wide use internationally and in long line communication systems.



SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION



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Joe Eykholt	N6PCR

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REPEATER INFO	
Call	W6JU
2 Meter	146.385+
440	442.425+ (PL) 107.2
Nets are held every Monday evening at 1930 sharp, except for the second Monday which is our meeting night.	
GA STATION TRUSTEE Jean "Doc" Gmelin W6ZRJ	

The SCCARA-GRAM is published monthly by the Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association. Permission to reprint articles is hereby granted, provided, the source is properly credited.

SCCARA HOTLINE 408-249-6909

ARRL VEC HOTLINE 408-984-8353

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY
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 Affiliate of
 American Radio Relay League
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