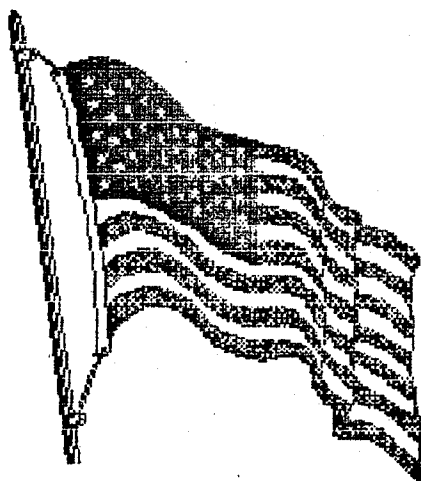


# SCCARA-GRAM

Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Assn. (SCCARA)  
Volume 8 Number 2

Organized in 1921  
February 1991



## Its a grand old Flag

### THE PREZ SEZ....

In our last Board Meeting, we worked on planning for the rest of 1991. Some of the events we planned are events we've enjoyed in the past, but with a new twist here and there. We kicked around a number of ideas and finally came up with the following;

APRIL 8th; Oldtimers, Newcomers and Guests Night - probably at Harry's Hoffbrau.

MAY 13th; Packet Radio Program.

JUNE 10th; Focus on Field Day.

JULY 8th; Amateur Television.

AUGUST 12th; (program open).

AUGUST (Time & Place to be announced); Club Picnic.

SEPT 9th; Focus on Pacificon.

OCTOBER 14th; Spaghetti Feed?

NOV 11th; Election of Officers.


DECEMBER (Date & Place to be announced); Holiday Dinner.

## NEXT MEETING

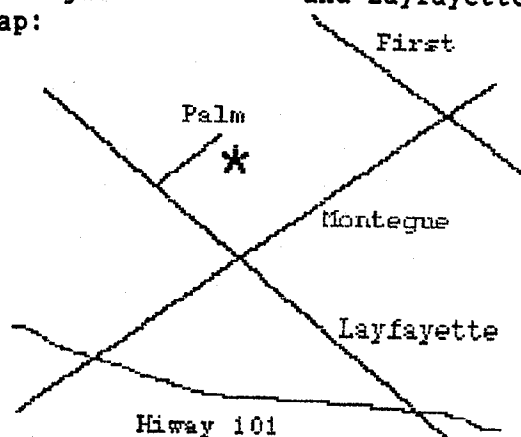
Date: Monday 02/11/91

Time: 1930- 2200 approx.

Place: Agnews Facility. Located on

 Palm Avenue just a bit East of the intersection of Montegue and Lafayette.

Map:



**Our own  
Mike Marneris  
K8ERL  
Will give a talk on  
Amateur  
Radio  
Satellites.**

Please come and join us for a most informative session.

By including Newcomers and Guests in Oldtimers Night, we hope to share some of SCCARA's traditions with our newer and soon to become members. I've always enjoyed this event and I promise not to spoil it with Club business. Hi Hi!

The Picnic will be held in August to take advantage of what we hope will be warmer weather. The site and exact date are still being determined. The decision will depend upon factors such as accessibility, availability and attractions for both non-ham and ham participants.

Pacificon will also take on a little different look this year. The details will unfold as we get closer to the convention, but for now it's appropriate to say that it will probably be a "first" for this type of event.

We're looking at changing the place and maybe the week night of our Holiday Dinner. We want to arrange it where convenient facilities are available for further socializing and dancing after the dinner and installation. In this way, the Holiday Dinner will become a more festive event, taking on a party atmosphere.

Exact dates and times for the above events should be determined by the February Meeting and will be reported both there and in the next issue of the SCCARA-GRAM.

The program for this meeting will be a talk on AMSAT by Mike, K8ERL. Also, we will introduce a QUESTION ABOUT THE 1992 PACIFIC DIVISION CONVENTION. You need to be heard on this and other important matters. So, please come and let your opinions be counted.

We also need to hear how you feel about SCCARA and the kinds of activities you would like to have us offer. SCCARA can only be as good as SCCARA Members want it to be. So let us hear from you. Hope to see you there.

73 de George, WA60

## COME ONE, COME ALL!

For the February SCCARA meeting we will have a talk on Amateur Radio satellite operations by Mike Marneris, K8ERL.

Mike is a SCCARA member and is life member #108 of AMSAT; he also serves on the Board of Directors of Project OSCAR.

Mike will discuss the history of the Amateur Radio satellites from the early days to the present. The presentation will include demonstrations of the latest satellite tracking software which displays 200 satellites, including all current Ham satellites.

For those who have been interested in getting on satellites, but didn't know how to get started, Mike will show how to get going with a minimum of new equipment, or even existing equipment that's sitting on the shelf collecting dust.

Handouts and other information will be available on active satellite organizations and nets around the world.

So, don't miss out on the best program of the year (so far!). Come to the meeting and bring a friend.

## FROM YOUR TREASURER...

de Kathy KB6ICQ

Not much going on in the treasury, except of course all the renewals. Keep them coming and remember, the next SCCARAGRAM will contain a list of those members who have not paid by March 1, 1991. If you don't want to see your call on the list, make out the check today and mail it in. Of course, I will be at the February meeting to accept your payment then.

I'd like to take the time in this column to mention a couple of things going on in ham radio.

First, the California Department of Forestry (CDF) has a Volunteers In Prevention (VIP) program. Most hams

who sign up, volunteer to work in the communications end of the program, although I understand that they can really use you in the other parts of the program. These include helping explain fire safety to the public via school programs and the county fairs each summer. If you want more information, they have an information recording at 277-5057. They have a training meeting each month (except December) on the third Saturday of each month. One of the items on the agenda for February is new enrollments.

Also be sure to read the ARRL News Release printed elsewhere in this issue. A bill that is very important to ham radio has been introduced in the House of Representatives. If you want the future of ham radio to be protected, then this is definitely the time to write to your representative. Let's let Congress know how important ham radio is--not only to us obviously, but also to our local community and the rest of the world.

Finally, this is the month that the Technician license will become the first NO-CODE license in the US. There will be quite a number of new Technicians in our midst and it is very important that we welcome them.

I have heard a number of hams (both old-timers and new ones also) say that these new Techs will not be REAL hams. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Not only will they have become LEGAL hams (we all know there are a number of ILLEGAL ones out there and the code test wasn't the only thing in their way), but many of them can become real assets to ham radio as well as our club.

If we do not welcome them, but instead snub them, then we will have only ourselves to blame when ham radio degenerates into a real mess with very little courtesy on the bands. If you

think it is bad now--just wait.

SCCARA has always been a friendly club and I would like to see it continue that way. The way our club welcomes these new hams can only come back to help or hurt the club. Let's all welcome the new Technicians and help ham radio grow and not disintegrate.

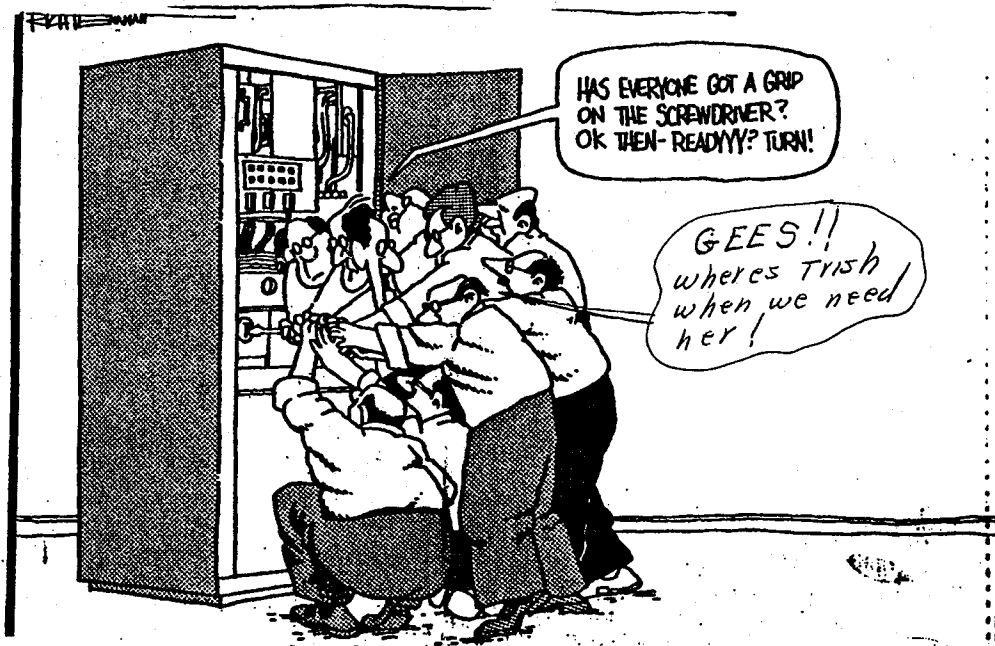
Whew!! I sure didn't sit down to write an editorial, but this is VERY important. It is much easier to start on the right foot than it is to try to change in the middle of the song.

### REPEATER COMMITTEE COLUMN

1/27/91

de WA6VJY

The fee for family sign-ups for AutoPatch use on the 2meter repeater



has been set by your Board or Directors. For the first member of a multiple-ham household, the fee is as stated in previous SCCARA-Grams: \$10.00. However, no "family rate" had been set until now. For all other hams in the same household the fee is an additional five dollars (\$5.00). This means that any family with two or more hams at the same residence will pay \$15.00 maximum.

AutoDial and AutoPatch sign-ups have been coming in steadily for the last month. After the treasurer has removed any dues and/or autopatch funds, the requests are sent to me for

processing. I need to remind you that if you do wish to sign up, the Board of Directors requests that you be a member in good standing (dues paid for the current year). I request that when you send your request in, you should enclose a business-size SASE (Self-Addressed STAMPED Envelope) with sufficient postage for 2 OUNCES. For those of you who haven't enclosed what has been requested, you will be sent a postcard detailing what I need before I can process your request for AutoPatch/AutoDial information. If you have upgraded or otherwise had any changes to your license in the past year or so, you need to enclose a photocopy of your license. I can check most licenses on the N60YU Callbook-Server BBS on 145.750 (packet) and obtain your license expiration that way, but new licenses or recent changes won't be in the database. (The database is updated only about once a year and was done so a few months ago.)

Current status of the 440 repeater: the repeater is still on the air at Alexian Brother's Hospital. PL is 107.2hz and the repeater is open to all who can reach it. Plans are for repackaging its controller and eventually integrating it into the 2Meter repeater cabinet. Until that time, there are no plans to open up that machine for AutoPatch or AutoDial functions as they currently exist on the 2Meter repeater.

As of the 5th of February, our repeater will be utilized every Tuesday at 7:30pm for the San Jose RACES/ARES net. The club and the Board have both voted to allow them the use of our repeater. This net is for San Jose area hams who are involved with those groups mentioned, and visitors. Please feel free to check in when the net control so



Ben KA6SIQ

indicates. Ben Young KA6SIQ is both a member of SCCARA and the appointed ARRL EMERGENCY COORDINATOR for the City of San Jose. Contact him for further details regarding participation in either RACES, ARES, or both. Participating in these organizations is an excellent way to enhance your skills as an emergency communicator and to generally become more prepared for the next earthquake (which is bound to happen sooner or later!).

The SVECS quarterly breakfast-meeting was held yesterday (1/26) and over 80 people attended. There was plenty of food and an interesting speaker who talked about ham participation in various city governments and the communication plans they have written. The next breakfast is scheduled for the 27th of April and will most likely be in the auditorium building where we have our club meetings. For more information regarding the next breakfast, contact Lou WA6QYS.

I wish to thank Al N6VYI for his generous donation to the repeater fund in the amount of \$75.00. Al is a strong supporter of our repeater. Thank you!

As always, feel free to contact me on the air or at my home phone number if you have any questions regarding the repeater and its features.

--de Stan WA6VJY--

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

FCC CENSORS/CENSURES PACKET RADIO  
1/31/91 WA6VJY

I read a series of messages tonight on the N6IIU-1 BBS that are rather disturbing. Apparently the FCC has issued citations to a number of packet BBS operators because of a message that was put out to "@USA". (One meant for distribution to ALL packet bulletin board systems) The message contained a 1-900-XXX-XXXX phone number. (All such numbers are business oriented) When mentioned in a message that each of the BBS stations handled, each station was technically

in violation of Section 97.113(a)\*. Any and all digipeaters, TCP systems, NETROM nodes, etc. that passed the message would also technically be in violation of that section.

The FCC appears to be saying that a BBS sysop is responsible for the content of ALL messages which get entered into his system. Each and every message (prior to posting for the public to read) must be screened and "censored".

As baud rates increase, more and more messages are being handled automatically. If human intervention were necessary at every step of the forwarding process, what now works fairly well would grind to a halt very quickly. People would refuse to pass traffic that was in any way suspect. Since each person has a perhaps different interpretation of what is "proper material" according to the FCC rules, excessive censoring would become common. Messages which might pass one persons' test might fail at the next and be censored.

This is easily carried over into the voice world. We would have to immediately enlist volunteer censors to monitor all repeaters. When an apparent violation might occur the repeater should be shut off to prevent the trustee from being ticketed by the FCC.

Just by mentioning the name of a business establishment, you could be in violation of the section yourself. Consider this: Quements has advertising in a local newspaper. The medium which carries their name is the newsprint. If you mention their name on the radio, their name is now carried by RF. The medium is different, but either way, people are made aware of the store name. You probably are not paid to mention the store name, but the effect is the same. Other people are now aware of the store name. It could be said that by merely mentioning their name, you have helped them (which is facilitating their business) by advertising for them.

If you are interested in reading the messages which prompted this article, they are from W3IWI and are

addressed to "URGENT@ALLUS" in four parts. I will make some copies available at the next club meeting on 2/11.

**\*: "SECTION 97.113(a)**

**No amateur station shall transmit any communication the purpose of which is to facilitate the business or commercial affairs of any party. No station shall transmit communications as an alternative to other authorized radio services, except as necessary to providing emergency communications."**

--de Stan WA6VJY

**WELCOME & CONGRATULATIONS**

We have two new members to welcome this month. Lindsay Even, KC6PLO and his daughter Jenna Mandis, KC6PLG are new hams and new to SCCARA. They joined just in time to receive the last SCCARAGRAM and came to the January meeting. If you see them at the next meeting, be sure to go over and say hello.



Jenna Mandis KC6PLG

This is the time of year that I find out about upgrades that have happened during the last year.

Ralph Silveira, N6UNE said he upgraded to Extra at the last Pacificon and Tom Hambleton, N6WIJ upgraded to Extra in December and says he will keep his call. Also a call sign change for Randy Miltier, ex N6HMO and now ex KK6BO. He says he has a really



Lindsay Even KC6PLO

Top Quality call now--KK6TQ.





'Would you look at that? ... By thunder, you couldn't do that in *our* day — yessiree, the rocks were just a lot heavier back then.'

### GOOD AND WELFARE

de Herb KB6ABG

30 January 1991

I'm almost sorry I complained so much last month. Since that time, I've had two attacks of stomach flu, causing me to miss both the Club meeting and the Board meeting in January.

Cynthia was ill also during the month. JD was somewhat under the weather during December and January. Joe WA6DXP entered a hospital on January 29. Sharon N6MWD is probably giving birth to their first child about the time you read this. Our good wishes to everyone.

In spite of the above, I'd still appreciate it if you could call me at 226-2919 with any items you might have for our Good and Welfare column.

Thanks for the information.

73s and 88s, Herb

### Subject: OIL COMPANYS

we (SHELL) not (EXXON)erate saddam hussein for his actions we will (MOBIL)ize to meet this threat to our vital interests in the Persian (GULF) until an (AMOCO)ble solution is reached

### Editors Comments

Plenty to read in this issue. I appreciate all the inputs to the newsletter. Please keep them coming.

Well next month is **FLEA MARKET** time at Foothill. This is a major money generator for the club!! We have some dedicated people (Frank AA6LL, JD K6YKG (plus JDs son who's not even a ham) putting in 110%. They need you!! Here are a the basic steps to have a successful flea market:

1. Pick up flea market items and get them to the storage area. The "stuff" comes from everywhere.
  2. Find trucks (five or so). Meet at our storage area near the San Jose Red Cross on the Friday before the flea market to load up. A couple extra people are needed to help.
  3. Reserve spots for us at the Foothill area. Carla WO6X was sometimes out there "before the birds to get a good spot.
  4. Get the trucks out there "early" and unload.
  5. Man the booth.
  6. Around noon it's load back up. The "junk" goes in a truck or two to the dump. Perhaps a truck will take copper etc. to a salvage place. The rest goes back to the storage area.
- Hey it's a little work but it's also fun PLUS you get to work with some "motivated people".

Frank AA6LL is interested in running a full fledged license class soon. If you want to help, give Frank a call and lets get the show on the road.

73 Mike KB6LCJ

# **AMATEUR RADIO NEWS RELEASE**



**THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE, INC. ■ 225 MAIN STREET, NEWINGTON, CT 06111**

January 8, 1991

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

David Sumner, K1ZZ

Tel 203-666-1541

Fax 203-665-7531

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **BILL TO PROTECT AMATEUR RADIO SPECTRUM INTRODUCED IN HOUSE**

On the first day of the new 102nd Congress, a bill to prevent the loss of radio spectrum by the Amateur Radio Service was introduced by Rep. Jim Cooper (D-Tennessee). Cooper is a member of the House Subcommittee on Telecommunications and Finance, where the bill is likely to be referred for consideration. The bill, The Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 1991, is designated as H.R. 73.

The legislation proposes that "the Federal Communications Commission shall not diminish existing allocations of spectrum to the Amateur Radio Service after January 1, 1991. The Federal Communications Commission shall provide equivalent replacement spectrum to the Amateur Radio Service for any frequency reallocation after January 1, 1991."

In commenting on H.R. 73, the President of the American Radio Relay League, Larry Price, W4RA, welcomed Rep. Cooper's support of the Amateur Radio Service and expressed the hope that many Congressmen will join him as co-sponsors. "We know that Amateur Radio has many friends on Capitol Hill. Our success in defeating unreasonable license fees in 1989 proved that," said Mr. Price.

In the findings portion of his bill, Rep. Cooper states that nearly one-half million radio amateurs are licensed by the FCC, after thorough examination in radio regulations and technical principles of radio communications; that amateurs operate their stations solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest; that among the basic purposes of the Amateur Radio Service is to provide voluntary non-commercial radio services, particularly emergency communications; and that emergency communication services by volunteer radio amateurs "have consistently and reliably been provided before, during, and after floods, tornadoes, forest fires, earthquakes, blizzards, train wrecks, chemical spills, and other disasters." However, he also notes that the FCC "has taken actions which resulted in the loss of over 100 MHz of spectrum to Amateurs."



# THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE, INC.

ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT

CHARLES P. McCONNELL, W6DPD  
DIRECTOR, ARRL PACIFIC DIVISION  
1658 WEST MESA AVENUE  
FRESNO, CA 93711-1944  
(209) 431-2038

On the opening of the 102nd Congress, Representative **QST-** Cooper of Tennessee introduced a bill called the "SPECTRUM PROTECTION ACT OF 1991. It is designated H.R. 73. This bill, if enacted into law would prohibit the FCC from removing spectrum from the Amateur Service and would require the FCC to provide equivalent replacement spectrum if a portion of Amateur Radio spectrum is reallocated after January 1, 1991.

Now is the time to get other members of the House of Representatives to support H.R. 73. Please write your Representative and ask for his or her support of H.R. 73. You should also ask your Representative to become a co-sponsor of the bill. We need 218 members of the House to become co-sponsors to insure passage of the bill.

Please send a copy of your letter to Perry Williams at ARRL Headquarters. He will work from the Washington office to help sign up the co-sponsors.

It is very probable that a similar measure will be introduced in the Senate. When this happens, we will need to contact the Senators to urge their support and ask for co-sponsorship. Listen to WIAW for information. Read the March 1991 issue of **QST** for more information on this important effort for Amateur Radio.

There is considerable interest among Radio Amateurs in receiving desert storm military radio transmissions in the HF fixed and aeronautical bands. Amateurs are reminded that divulging or otherwise utilizing such communications may be a violation of Section 705 of the Communications Act, regarding unauthorized publication of communications. This is from Special Bulletin 3 January 26, 1991 on WIAW.

On February 14, 1991, Amateur Radio in the United States will welcome its first no-code Technicians into the Amateur Service. It is very important that all Amateurs welcome these new Amateurs in to the service and give them all the assistance they may need to get started in Amateur Radio. We need to renew our efforts at Elmering these new Amateurs. Each of these new Amateurs will have something to offer to the service. Please give them help if they ask for it. Invite them to join the local club.

## UPCOMING EVENTS.

1. FOOTHILL FLEA MARKET 2nd Saturday March-September at Foothill College in Los Altos.
2. FRESNO HAMFEST May 3-5, 1991 at the Airport Holiday Inn in Fresno. Contact the Fresno Amateur Radio Club. P.O. Box 783; Fresno, CA 93712-0783 for information.
3. RENO HAMFEST August 3, 1991 in Reno. Contact K7HRW for information.
4. COMPUTER NETWORKING CONFERENCE Sept. 27-29, 1991 San Jose.



# HAM RADIO SWAP MEET

Sponsored by:

Livermore Amateur Radio Klub (LARK)

1st Sunday of each month 7 am - 12 noon (rain or shine)

Beginning Sunday February 3, 1991

Las Positas College  
Livermore, Ca.  
Exit 580 at Airway Blvd.

Buyers: FREE

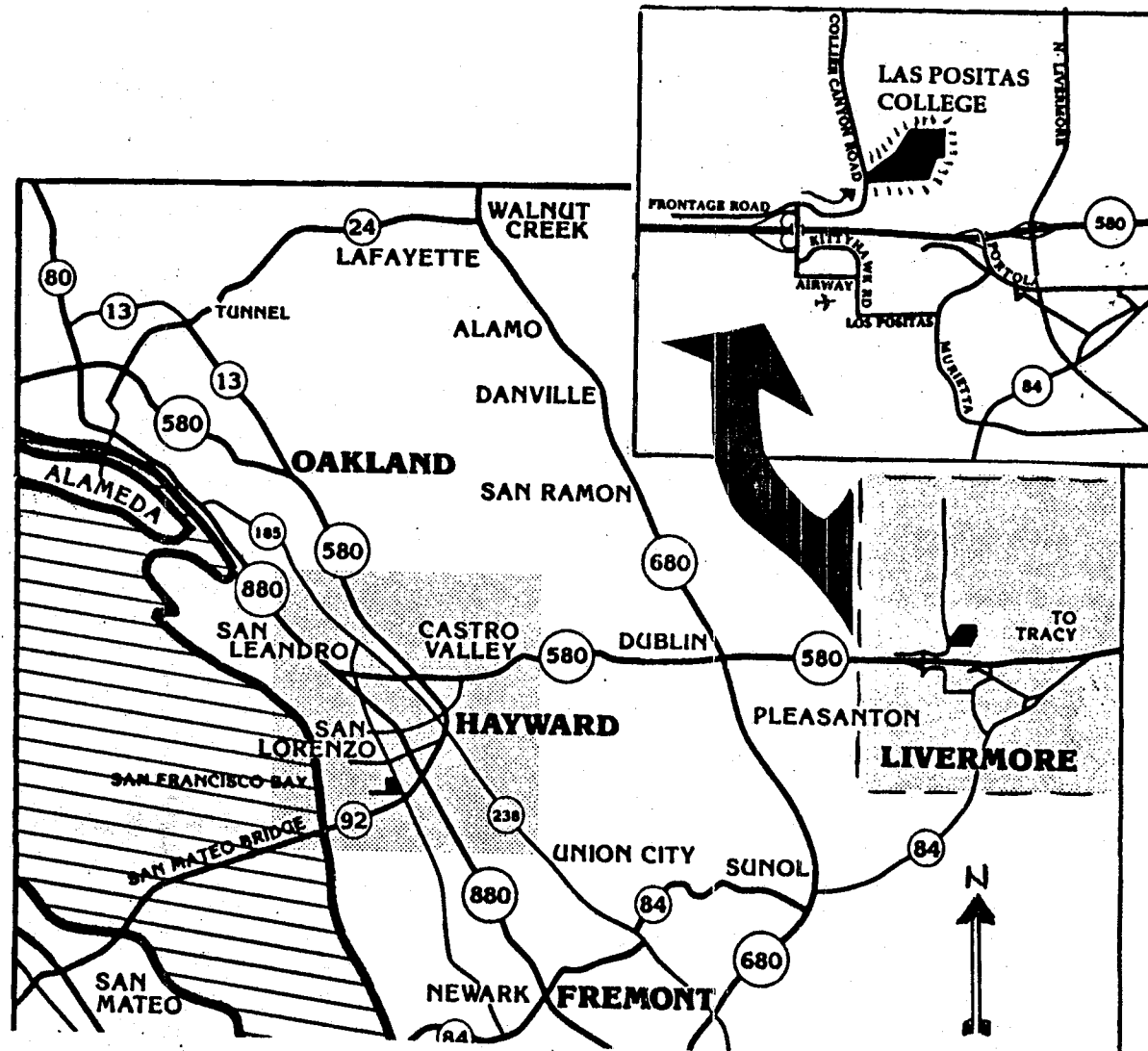
Food and refreshments

Setup begins at 7 am  
Free nearby parking  
\$10 per selling space

MANY SPACES COVERED

...AVAILABLE IF WEATHER IS BAD

For information and talk in:  
147.045 (+) Bay Area  
145.350 (-) Central Valley



AMERICAN RED CROSS  
OPERATION DESERT STORM  
MESSAGE INFORMATION  
1/25/91

As of January 25, 1991, only messages regarding the birth of a service member's child, the serious illness, injury, or death of a member of a service member's immediate family, or the break-down in a child care plan for a service member's child can be forwarded to U.S. forces world-wide. This includes forces on land and on ships and includes forces in the United States. The military defines "immediate family" as the service member's or the service member's spouse's parents, including stepparents, a person acting in loco parentis, spouse, children, sister, brother, or only living relative. Any messages not in compliance with these guidelines will be returned to the originator by Red Cross Emergency Communications, Washington, D.C.

A Red Cross caseworker is always on duty; therefore, you can contact a service member in the United States Armed Forces by calling the nearest Red Cross Chapter at any time of the day or night. The message must be within the above guidelines.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff have ordered the guidelines imposed by ordering a "Minimize" condition on communications. This is due to the saturation of the military communications system.

Messages within the guidelines may be sent by the service member's family contacting the nearest Red Cross Chapter. They should not be sent by Amateur Radio as the Red Cross should deal direct with the family involved. The Red Cross must verify messages concerning medical conditions or family problems to enable commanding officers and service members to make an educated decision regarding emergency leave or extension of leave.

"Health and Welfare" messages such as "Haven't heard from you in awhile, are you Ok?" are restricted when the military imposes "minimize" conditions on communications.

Your message will be processed more quickly if you know the following information about the service member:

1. First and last name.
2. Branch of service.
3. Rank
4. Military address
5. Social Security number.

The Red Cross will try to deliver a message within the guidelines even if you do not have all the information, but it may require more time to deliver.

The individual casualty branch of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines will notify a service member's next of kin or designated persons of the service member's serious illness, injury or death. Red Cross does not become involved in casualty notification unless requested by the military.

If a family member receives a Invitational Travel Order from the military to go to the hospital at which a service member is a patient, the Red Cross will assist the family if assistance is needed.

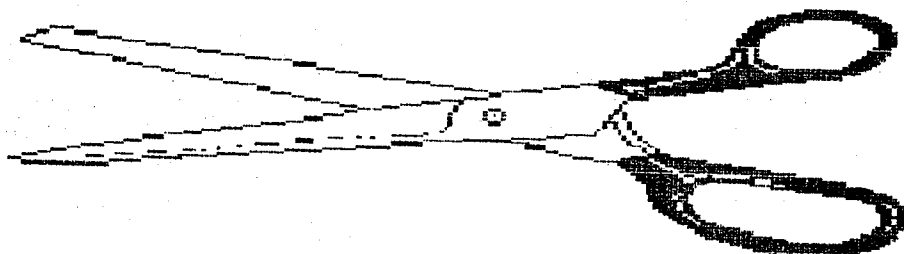
Individual \$15.00  
 Student >18 5.00  
 Family 20.00  
 Autopatch 10.00

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Join SCCARA**

First	Last	Call	Class
Address		City	St Zip
Home Ph.	Arrl Member? yes no	Serve as Officer? yes no	
Family Names, Calls and License Classes			
Interests and Other Hobbies			

Mail To: Sccara Dues, P.O. Box 6 San Jose, Ca. 95103    Note Please add \$3.00 to your dues if you desire first class postage.



**ARRL BULLETIN 54 ARLB054  
 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS  
 NEWINGTON CT DECEMBER 13, 1990  
 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS**

FCC announced on December 13 that new Technician Class license applicants will not have to demonstrate Morse code proficiency in order to have all privileges above 30 MHz. Implementation is expected by February, 1991. Techs who obtain their licenses prior to that date will be grandfathered, meaning they will continue to have their present HF privileges.

The codeless Technician written exam will have 55 questions. New Technicians wanting HF privileges will be required to hold a CSCE for element 1A, that is 5 WPM, which must be administered by three accredited VEs. There will be no call sign designator to indicate whether or not a Technician has passed a code test, but FCC will have records of who has passed.

More details will be forthcoming in February QST.

# SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

\*\*\*\*\*

## CLUB OFFICERS

President	George Allan	WA6O	927-9921
Vice President	Doug Eaton	WN6U	377-3736
Secretary	Don Village	K6PBQ	263-2789
Treasurer	Kathy Getsla	KB6ICQ	275-0735
477 Pamilar Ave. San Jose, CA. 95128			

## DIRECTORS

Herb Himmelfarb	KB6ABG
Carla Watson	WO6X
Shorty Freitas	AE6Z
Ed Rawlinson	WD6CHD
Lou Steirerr	WA6QYS
Joe Eykholt	N6PCR

## REPEATER COMMITTEE

Wally Britten	KA6YMD
Keith Butts	KN6K
Stan Getsla	WA6VJY
Trish Gibbons	WA6UBE
Ed Mangan	KB6DLB
Ron Bardarson	N6VUW

## SCCARA STAFF

Coffee	Stan Getsla	WA6VJY
Facilities	Lou Steirer	WA6QYS
Good+Welfare	Herb Himmelfarb	KB6ABG

## SCCARA-GRAM STAFF

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Photographer	Bob Keller	KB6OHO	252-2090
Data Base	Joe Quirantes	WA6DXP	371-0959
Mailman	Tony Sanchez	K6MOB	296-6676

## REPEATER INFO

Call	W6UU
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.

## 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 AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Affiliate of

American Radio Relay League

P.O. Box 6, San Jose, CA. 95103

Non-Profit Org.  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit # 3318  
San Jose, CA.

## TIME DATED BULLETIN

WD6CHD  
Rawlinson, Ed  
2619 Aragon Way  
San Jose, CA. 95125-5811