

SCCARA-GRAM

Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Assn. (SCCARA)
Volume 7 Number 10

Organized in 1921
October 1991

THE PREZ SEZ....

Well, we're at it, again!
We're moving our meeting place.
This time, though, it looks like
it's the last one for awhile.
We'll be meeting in the United Way
Building on The Alameda, just off
I-880, between McKendrie and
Hedding Streets in San Jose. If
you're coming from the south on
I880, you'll need to get in the
left lane immediately after exit-
ing the freeway to make a left
turn at McKendrie Street to access
the parking lot. If you miss the
turn, you can make a U-turn at
Hedding to come back to McKendrie.
You can't miss the building. It's
a three or four story structure.
But parking is in the rear and can
only be accessed via McKendrie.
Please see the map elsewhere in
this issue for additional details.
We like the amenities the new fac-
ility has to offer and think it
will serve our needs quite well
into the future. I also think
you'll like this month's program.
Our speaker is Doug Eaton, WN6U
(our VP), whose topic is AMTOR.

I look forward to both hearing
Doug's talk and to seeing you
there, on October 14th.

The Quarterly SVECS Breakfast
is scheduled for October 12th at
the Agnews Developmental Center,
where we used to meet. It's a
terrific event which offers good
food, a good program and a chance
to get acquainted with emergency
services. I definitely recommend
this event.

Please be thinking about people
you would like to serve as club
officers next year and get their

Next Meeting

Date: Monday 10/14/91
Time: 1930- 2200 approx.
Place: United Way located at
1922 The Alameda.

**Please note that we
have a new meeting
place. Check the map
located on the last
page**

Agenda

**Our October speaker is Doug Eaton
WN6U who will talk about AMTOR.
Don't miss this most interesting
talk.**

Important Dates



| | |
|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 10/12 | SVCS Quarterly Breakfast |
| 10/12 | PAARA Annual Auction |
| 10/14 | SCCARA Monthly Meeting |
| 10/19 | Boy Scout Jamboree on the air. |
| 10/24 | SCCARA Board Meeting |
| 12/13 | SCCARA Annual Christmas Dinner |

names to Herb Himmelfarb, KB6ABG, who is chairing the Nominating Committee. If you're asked to run for an office, please consider it. Just remember this; most of us are far more capable than we think we are. Your contribution is both very important and badly needed. Don't underestimate yourself. Take this opportunity to discover yourself and what you can do for your Club.

Plans for our Holiday Dinner at Renzo's in Campbell are nearing completion. The board decided on the (two) entree choices for the meal. The menu will be as follows;

*Fresh Tossed Green Salad with
Renzo's Special Dressing*

Tortellini Supreme

Potatoes and Fresh Vegetable

Choice of either;

*Beef Brochettes
or*

Chicken Saute Sec

Coffee

Strawberry-Cream Roulade.

All of this for only \$15.00, tax and tip included.

As you might expect, SCCARA is picking up the cost of tax and tip. We only ask that guests be limited to spouses, significant others or dates. A sign up sheet has been included in this issue, so please, sign up early. The Deadline is December 1st and we can only accommodate two hundred people.

The ARRL Pacific Division Election is now upon us and you should (if you're an ARRL member) be receiving your ballot in the mail very soon. Please vote and, in particular, remember that our Candidate for Vice Director is Brad Wyatt, K6WR. We feel that Brad is both eminently qualified

and is the right man for the job. We also urge you to be sure to vote your choice for the office of Director.

Hope to see you at the meeting.

73, George, WA60.

Minutes of September 9, 1991 SCCARA meeting

Our meeting this month was held at the Sizzler Restaurant. The meeting was called to order at 8:05 PM by President George Allan WA60. Attendance was approximately 33.

A moment of silence was held for Bonnie Russell and Ed Watson. Brad Wyatt K6WR gave us an update on his campaign for Vice Director of the ARRL Pacific Division.

The balance of the evening was spent with a round table discussion of everyone's experience with the FCC testing sessions.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 PM. Don Village K6PBQ, Secretary.

Health and Welfare de Herb KB6ABG

It is with sadness that it was reported that Ed Watson (husband of Carla W06X) has passed away. He often accompanied Carla to club get togethers. We will all miss him.

REPEATER COMMITTEE REPORT 10/06/91 de WA6VJY

AUTOPATCH CODES CHANGE 1 FEBRUARY, so it's time to think about renewing your membership in the club and the repeater. Look for repeater and club membership renewal forms in this and upcoming SCCARA-Grams. Your club dues cover basic repeater membership and afford you emergency AUTODIAL privileges if you want them (at no additional cost). The additional fee for AUTOPATCH use covers the cost of the phone bill (keep in mind that there are areas of the

408 area code which are long distance from the location of the repeater near Alum Rock Park).

NOW is your chance to clean out that garage! Frank AA6LL is already planning ahead for next year. He can use flea market donations for next year's sales efforts and for occasional trips to the Livermore club flea market. (Frank raised over \$125 today at the Livermore flea market. It sounds like a trip to Livermore for you flea market addicts may be in order!) To all of you who helped this year, THANK YOU!

Some people will hesitate to interrupt a phone call in progress on the repeater (and some won't). You need to be aware of this. Please be considerate of others and keep your phone calls short so others may also use the repeater. Also, the party you are calling may not be aware of the fact that their conversation with you is being heard by many people. Inform the called party of this if you have any doubt as to what they might say over the air. You, as the control operator for the phone call, are responsible for what goes out over the air during your phone conversation.

There is in existence a "gentleman's agreement" for every Amateur Radio band that indicates what mode(s) should (and should not) be used for any given frequency. Just because your radio might allow transmission on a frequency using a particular mode, it doesn't necessarily mean you can transmit that mode on that frequency. If you have any questions as to what is appropriate and what isn't, ask someone. You can also find bandplan information in a number of ARRL publications including the "Handbook", the FCC "Rules and Regulations", and the Repeater Directory. There are many other publications regarding

the proper operation of an Amateur Radio station to be found on the bookshelves of any amateur radio store. Pick one of these up and keep it where you can refer to it when in doubt. It just might save you from one of those "PINK TICKETS" the FCC hands out on occasion.

After the thunderstorms earlier this last month, it occurred to me that there are probably a number of Hams who haven't provided adequate lightning protection for their equipment. I STRONGLY encourage you to invest in grounding equipment for your station. One lightning bolt can carry 100-300 Kilo-Amps! (YES, up to 300,000 AMPS!) What's more, you might look up the free-air breakdown voltage for a discharge path about 1-2 miles in length (many THOUSANDS of VOLTS). Now, imagine what that kind of power could do to your radio and computer equipment! Lightning doesn't have to strike your antenna. It might also hit power or phone lines, so don't forget them.

(A word to the wise...)

73 and CUL,
Stan WA6VJY

SVECS BREAKFAST

The Silicon Valley Emergency Communications System quarterly breakfast will be held on Saturday, October 12 at the Agnews Auditorium. All you can eat breakfast for \$5.00 starts at 9 AM.

Art Botherell, Communications Director for region 2 of the California State Office of Emergency Services will be the guest speaker.

Please let me know if you plan to come as we need to know how much food to prepare. See you there,
Lou WA6QYS ph 408 241-7999

Jamboree On the Air

The Boy Scout Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) is held annually during the third weekend in October. This year, the weekend will be October 19-20.



JOTA frequencies are: (CW) 3590, 7030, 14070, 21140, 28190 (SSB) 3940, 7290, 14290, 21360, 28350, 28990. Foreign stations may be using 3749 and 7090.

The Childrens Discovery Museum will operate both days. Don K6PBQ and Mike KB6LCJ will be working on Saturday. Interested in helping?? In addition, SCCARA will be running a station at the Red Cross. It may actually turn into two stations if the whale is utilized. That station will also require volunteers.

Job Postings

SCCARA PRESIDENT-- Requires that you attend both the SCCARA board plus regular meetings. You will provide direction for the club plus be its official representative. Write a column for the monthly newsletter.

SCCARA VICE PRESIDENT-- Assist the president as needed. Fill in for the president in his absence plus provide speakers and drawing prizes.

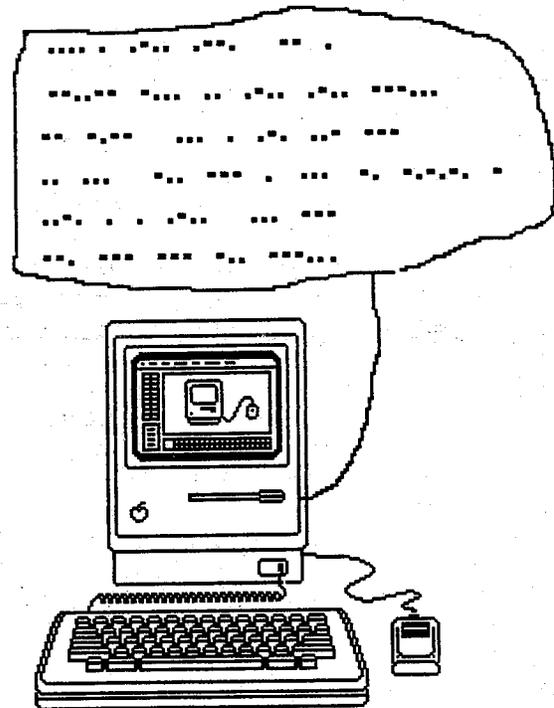
SCCARA SECRETARY-- Record activities at the monthly board and regular meeting. Submit copies of the proceedings to the newsletter editor.

SCCARA TREASURER-- Responsible for the financial well being of the club. Write checks, receive

monies and provide reports as needed. Oversee the club dues program.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR-- This is not an elected post and you are not required to attend the board meeting. Coordinate the collection, arrangement, printing and mailing of the monthly newsletter.

Anyone interested in the jobs listed can contact Herb KB6ABG and associates at 408 226-2919. We are an equal opportunity club so join us as a club officer.



Bill N6ZPC reported a strange phenomenon at his work. It seems that a disk drive which came in with a Digital Equipment System would not work correctly. Local technical people tried to fix it to no avail. After a "while" Bill noted that the unit select light blinked strangely when powering up. After studying it and jotting down the format, Bill decided that it was morse code..... Breaking down the code

brought out the message, "servo error".

After extensive calling, Bill determined that the design engineer for the interface area was a ham. Seems that he could not determine a convenient way to bring out the error codes in the interface area and finally decided to use the light. So who says that CW is dead...

HOLIDAY DINNER INFO

10/5/91 de KB6ICQ/WA6VJY

The club is planning once again to have a holiday dinner. This year the dinner will be on December 13. The location will be RENZO'S CONTINENTAL CUISINE Restaurant at 1700 W. Campbell Avenue. The restaurant is on the south side of Campbell Ave. and is next to a Nob Hill market. The cost is \$15.00 per person and will include the following: fresh tossed green salad, choice of Beef Brochette or Chicken Saute Sec, Tortellini Supreme, potatoes, fresh vegetables, coffee, and strawberry-cream Roulade. A no-host cocktail hour will start at 6:30pm with dinner

to start at 7:30.

The deadline for getting your meal orders in is December 1st. The club secretary needs your order by that date to place the meal order with the restaurant.

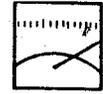
We will again be requesting voluntary donations for the Food Bank in lieu of a member gift exchange. Last year we collected and sent \$215 to the Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara County. You need not sign up for the dinner to donate to the Food Bank. The club renewal form has a place to enter your donation.

Totally Tubular

Many thanks to George F. Raven K6OG and Fred F. Canham K6YT. These two fellows have been regulars at the Foothill Flea Market and their area of expertise is vacuum tubes. Not just a pile of them but a well labeled and arranged display. At any rate they decided that enough was enough so the whole kit and kaboodle was donated to SCCARA. Many thanks to both of you. Editor...

Sccara Scuttlebutt

- * The current SCCARA officers (and editor) have been at their post for a few years now and want (as Count Dracula would say) some new blood.
- * Frank AA6LL, JD K6YKG and his son Dan ventured to the Livermore swap meet on 10/06 with SCCARA treasures to sell and came away \$135 richer. Not bad..... Thanks go to Ed Mcelheney W6NJG who donated some old radios that were sold at the Lvmr. swap.
- * Would you believe that FrankAA6LL and Jim WE6V are teaching a NO-CODE class every Thursday at Westinghouse. They have 14 in the class and are in week 4 of a 14 week class.
- * The Tuesday evening sessions at the Adult Ed center are also doing well. They average 6 students each week.
- * Ralph Erickson WA6CQA (Phone 408 245-6034) reports that the station at the Childrens Discovery Museum is doing well. There are 50 Hams signed up. You can operate by simply getting a copy of your license to Ralph plus fill out a form that the museum requires. You can then operate at a scheduled or time or check out the key. It's fun!! Ask Don K6PBQ or Mike KB6LCJ for particulars.



At the last Foothill Flea Market, Frank AA6LL noticed this article which was listed in the December 1930 copy of the Oscillator. Looks like SCCARA has a long history as a progressive organization. I hope you find it as interesting as I did. Editor...

December 1930

The OSCILLATOR

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S. C. C. A. R. A. Page

By F. J. QUEMENT, W6NX-SCM

It is not a matter of record that a new Section known as the San Joaquin Valley Section was formed, which included counties taken from the Santa Clara Valley and Los Angeles Sections. We are informed by our Director that "the impelling reason was the continual effort on the part of the San Jose Club to stir up agitation." Inasmuch as the Los Angeles Section was also a victim of the "deal" it appears that both the Santa Clara Valley and Los Angeles Sections are being accused of being centers of "agitation." Well, Sandham, OB, it looks like we will have to take the remnants of our Sections and embark on the shores of Soviet Russia where "agitators" are "agitators," and proud of it, hi.

This so-called "agitation" has consisted of the following propositions which have received unqualified support from members of this Section. We have continually maintained the right of amateurs to handle any type message free of charge, appreciating the fact that this is the greatest advertising medium that amateur radio has to obtain favorable public opinion. We amateurs have no desire to conduct other people's commercial correspondence, but we do not propose to see any rights threatened.

We are strongly in favor of arrangements being made by ARRL to make available to ARRL members a complete report of the proceedings of the Annual Board Meeting. Just how the Directors voted and the arguments offered on the various questions is vital information if we are to be able to learn of the actions of our Director.

We have continually denounced the continued advertising in QST that we have privileges adequate for their purposes and that we must accept without "bucking" the restrictions demanded by the commercials in the name of "progress." In this, we are happy to say, we have noted a complete change of policy in QST.

We are in favor of restoring to the Philippine Island amateurs, their right to vote, which was taken away from them by a move initiated by our Director. We have heard many reasons why this was done. One of them was due to the Army traffic being handled over there. That is distinctly bad, for at the coming Madrid Convention, where our very existence will be threatened, we will need the wholehearted support of the Army and Navy. We

are not helping the cause along by slapping the Army in the face in the PI's. Another reason we have chanced to hear is that the PI amateurs are radicals. They were made such, it is claimed by our good friend Lt. Commander Stanley Mathes, old KA1CY and now W7GM. Incidentally, the PI hams are "agitators" much like the SCV gang.

There are other propositions strongly backed by this Section which will later be discussed. Fellows, next time you hear us called agitators, ask the reason, and the chances are that the reply will strengthen your belief in the sound policies advocated by the SCCARA and SCV Section.

Merry Christmas

Word reaches us that our Director made a hurried trip to Tacoma in the interest of a certain candidate being put into the field up there by adherents of the "old school." Many of the incumbents are getting stiff competition in the various elections being held this month. In the NW, our friend Waskey is making a strong bid for the Directorship, while in the Central Division, old W8GZ is giving Angus something to think about. Even in li' old New York, progressive men are being nominated. In this matter of educating the hams we must expect small gains laboriously arrived at, and even if some of the progressives now running should meet defeat, only the apathy of hams in general could be blamed.

Inasmuch as we have it that the impelling reason for organizing the new San Joaquin Valley Section was due to the constant agitation of the San Jose Club, it might be deduced that the recent petition circulated in San Mateo County, petitioning that the county become part of the San Francisco Section, might be construed as a rebellion against the progressive stand taken by the SCM and the SCCARA. However, such is not the case, and as far as can be determined, San Mateo County wants to stay under the jurisdiction of the SCV Section. It happened that a school boy residing in San Francisco, but attending college at San Mateo, made the rounds of all the ARRL members he could get hold of, and many of these amateurs, without reflection, signed the petition. On second thought, however, they soon realized that no benefit could be gained by making the change, and on the other hand, some harm might come, so they promptly

(Continued on page 16)

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S. C. C. A. R. A.

(Continued from page 13)

notified the Director that they wished their name stricken off the petition. Why the school boy should make the rounds is not quite clear, but in a letter he had this much to say, "Since all the ops at W6YU are SF Fellows we are naturally pulling for SF. The SCM of Frisco has OK'd the change." Anytime a few hams from outside this Section think that they can disrupt the Section, they have another guess coming! And about the SCM "OKing" the change—that's real officiousness.

Four "Y" stations have been issued the new ORS certificates, i.e., W6YL, W6YAO, W6YU, and W6YU. These stations can be depended upon to handle a large volume of traffic.

The SCCARA recently celebrated its ninth anniversary in a fitting spirited meeting, which packed the club rooms. Jim Warner of "Southern Cross" fame was the principle speaker. Already the SCCARA members are preparing for the 10th anniversary, and it is planned to fittingly celebrate a decade of service to amateur radio.

Merry Christmas

W6ALW is on the air consistently and can be depended upon for deliveries and relays. Recently, 50 ARRL subscription blanks were received, and it is the earnest desire of the SCM to be able to fill out each one with a subscription. Let every ham become an ARRL member.

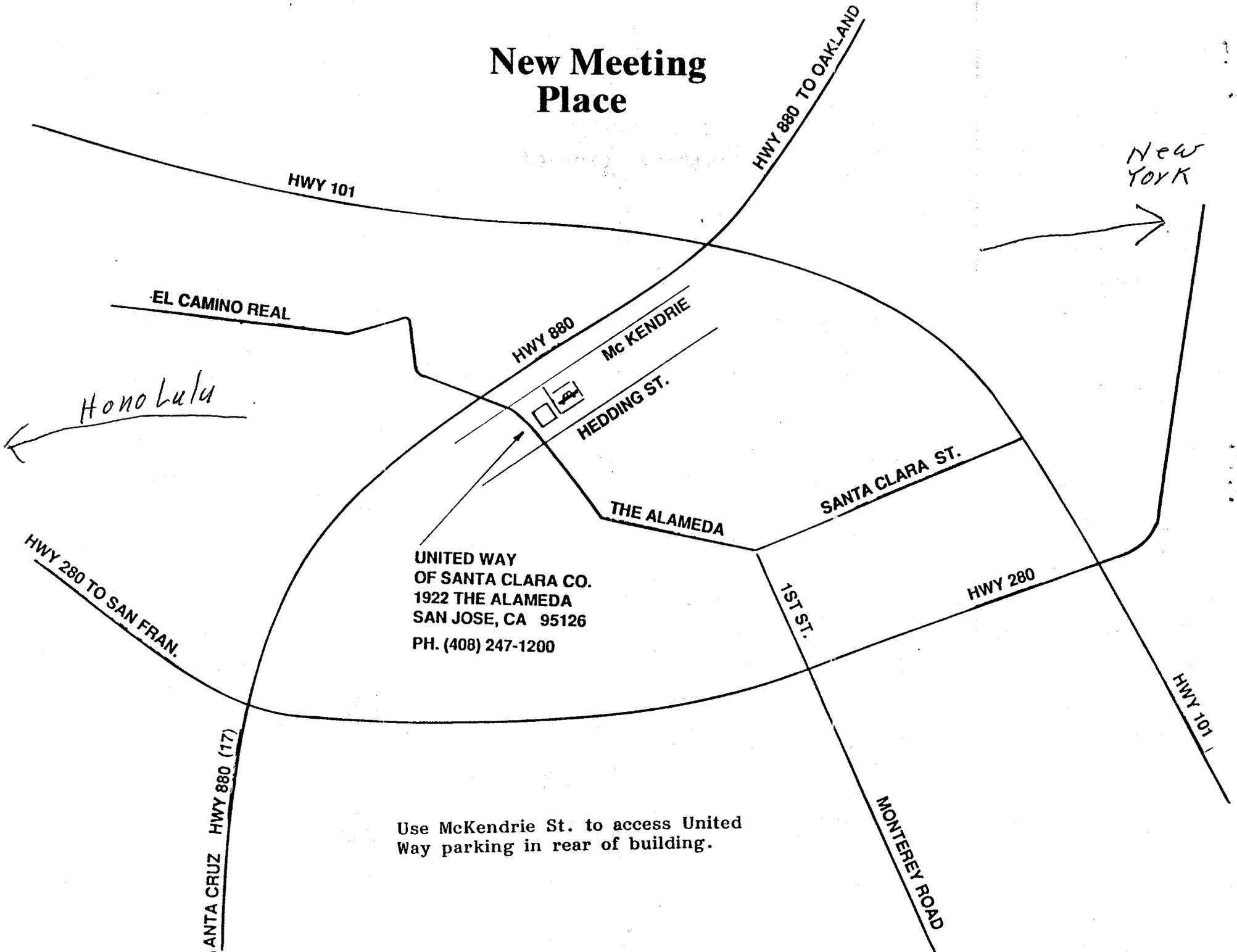
At last the Crystal controlled set at W6NX is approaching completion. It has been a long job, but the hours spent in constructing the transmitter have been most enjoyable.

San Jose has several phone stations with a wallop, notably, W6BON and W6AGJ. The USNR Station W6YAO, located at the University of Santa Clara has just installed two special long wave Navy Receivers. The commander of the Unit is Joseph Russell.

The new officers of the SCCARA are Dan Bardin, W6PH, President; Harry Engwicht, W6HC, Vice-President; B. Ballou, W6BET, Secretary; A. W. Ellis, W6BKT, Treasurer; W. Bailey, Supervising Operator. The "Ex" board is composed of W6BYY, W6NX, W6BHY, W6KG, and W6BKT. The Association meets every Friday evening at 8 p.m. and visiting amateurs are always welcomed to sit in on the "agitation."

W6HM is back on the air handling his usual PI and Trans-Pacific traffic. A total of 387 was last month's work, and every one to and from PI and the Orient!

New Meeting Place



UNITED WAY
OF SANTA CLARA CO.
1922 THE ALAMEDA
SAN JOSE, CA 95126
PH. (408) 247-1200

Use McKendrie St. to access United Way parking in rear of building.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION



CLUB OFFICERS

| | | | |
|----------------|--------------|--------|----------|
| President | George Allan | WA6O | 446-0140 |
| Vice President | Doug Eaton | WNGU | 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 | 408-226-2919 |
| Carla Watson | WO6X | 408-773-1885 |
| Shorty Freitas | AE6Z | 408-243-8349 |
| Ed Rawlinson | WD6CHD | 408-264-2988 |
| Lou Steirerr | WA6QYS | 408-241-7999 |
| Joe Eykholt | N6PCR | 408-984-7844 |

SCCARA STAFF

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

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| Mailman | Tony Sanchez | K6MOB | 296-6676 |

REPEATER INFO

Repeater Committee Chairman
Stan Getsla WA6VJY 408-275-0735

| | |
|---------|---------------------|
| CALL | W6JU |
| 2 METER | 146.385+ |
| 440 | 442.425+ (PL) 107.2 |

Nets are held every Monday evening at 19:30 sharp.
except for the second Monday which is our meeting
night.

STATION TRUSTEE

Jean "Doc" Gmelin W6ZRJ 408-973-8583

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 249-6909

ARRL CLASS HOTLINE 971-1424

ARRL VEC HOTLINE 984-8353

SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

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