

# SCCARA-GRAM

Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Organized in 1921

Volume 8, Number 12

December 1992

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Seasons Greetings to all. This will be my last article as President of SCCARA. I want you to know that it was not all a bed of roses but was certainly fun. What helped immensely was a cooperative board and members who get involved. Thank you to all. The deadline is rapidly approaching for our annual Christmas Dinner. The price is right and the dinner is great. Our banquet area at Renzo's will open on Friday 12/18 at 1830 with dinner at 1930. There will be several drawings for prizes with the first one set aside for anyone who has gotten their ticket or upgraded this year and are present at the dinner. Tickets will be distributed at the door for the upgrade drawing. The form for sending in for the dinner was in the November SCCARA-GRAM. Note that the form also left a spot open for donating to the United Way. The United Way has been good to us and it seems like the least we can do.

We had a pleasant November board meeting with the 1993 board members also present. The planned Tech+ class was discussed and we need your help!!! Tentative start date is Thursday February 25 at 1930. Want to do something meaningful for the club? Here is your chance. The video of the 22 Crew was discussed and the board decided to donate \$50 to their efforts. If you would like to see the tape, let me know.

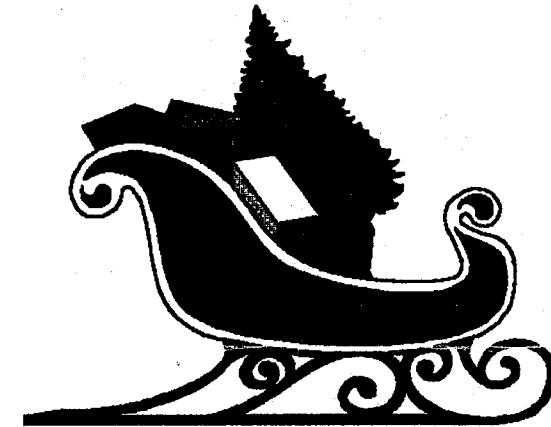
Great news! The Perham Newsletter indicated that SCCARA will be doing the May Foothill Flea Market. That is assuming that the flea markets continue.

Don't forget to get those dues paid. Dues have not changed in several years and the board decided that there was no need to change this year either. (Continued; Page 2, Col.1.)

## IMPORTANT DATES

- 12/18 SCCARA Holiday Dinner Party
- 12/21 SCCARA Board of Directors Meeting
- 12/20 Hanukkah
- 12/25 Christmas Day
- 1/1 New Years Day

## Seasons Greetings!



## Next Meeting

No Regular Meeting in December!  
Instead, We Will Have Our Annual  
Holiday Dinner Party at Renzo's.  
See Pages 3 & 8 for Details.

## Agenda

### Installation of Officers

Fun for all!



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ( Cont'd)**

Heres hoping that you all have a happy holiday season and good fortune and good health for 93.

73 Mike KB6LCJ

**MINUTES  
GENERAL MEETING NOVEMBER 9, 1992**

Mike, KB6LCJ called the meeting to order at 1933 hrs. with an explanation about the video shown (briefly) before the meeting. It concerned a radio club in New York City, that claims to have 19,000 members! But it does help to provide an education in the technology of electronics to young students in the "Big Apple" via Ham Radio. Mike will loan the this tape to members who would like to view it in its entirety. The bottom line is; they are looking for contributions.

Self introductions followed, as is the custom. Scott, KB6UOO was the speaker for the evening. His subject was CELLULAR TELEPHONY. He passed around a "mobile" type rig, not unlike those you may have seen used in ham radio. But inside, in one narrow closed box resides the duplexer: small, because the (short wavelength) 800 Mhz signal allows it: not like big ones required for 2 meters. He passed around an old style cellular H.T., and literature about equipment and calling rates. Scott continued with a brief description of how cellular telephones work; Basically the same as ham repeaters, except greater coverage and person to person. Mobile car phone output is only 3 watts.

Mike asked for corrections to minutes as printed in the *SCCARA-GRAM*. There was a statement to the effect that the incoming *SCCARA-GRAM* editor would be Gary, WB6YRU. It is the Secretary's mistake: no one has been appointed at this time. The records have been corrected. (My apologies. Gene, W6LYG).

**Treasurer:** Stan, WA6VJY had forms on hand and is accepting dues and reservations for (the Holiday) dinner. Stan reminded everyone to get their reservations in early. Space is limited.

Mike asked for Don, KC6WMM to address the subject of "election of officers" for next year. Don stated that Mike, K8ERL had withdrawn his candidacy for President due to conflict with meeting time of a veterans group which he had recently joined. He then advised that he would stand in nomination for the office of President. Therefore, the list of nominees presented were;

President: KC6WMM, Don Hayden  
Vice President: KK6ZE, Harold Welch  
Secretary: KD6FJI, Lloyd DeVaughns  
Treasurer: KB6LCJ, Mike Hastings  
Directors: WA6VJY, Stan Getsla  
WA6QYS, Lou Steirer  
WN6U, Doug Eaton  
Station Trustee: WN6U, Doug Eaton

At this time, Don Apte, KK6MX placed his name in nomination for the office of director, which necessitated a closed ballot. The votes were collected and counted. The results were;

Don, KK6MX Received 12 votes.  
Doug, WN6U Received 21 votes.  
Stan, WA6VJY Received 20 votes.  
Lou, WA6QYS Received 20 votes.

So, the three with the highest number of votes win!  
Congratulations!

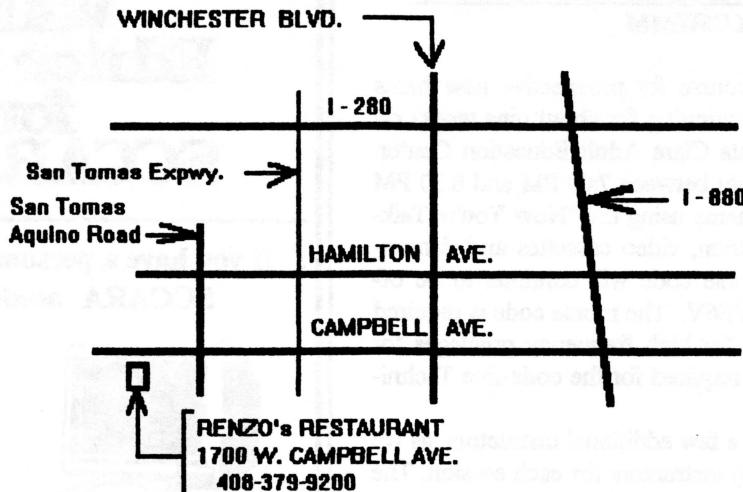
Not to keep you in suspense any longer; the remainder of the candidates were voted in by acclamation.

The evening wore on with "raffles" and I observed many happy recipients! The motion to adjourn came at 2139 hrs.

"73" Submitted for members' approval. Gene, W6LYG.



**Scott Hensley, KB6UOO Makes a Point About Cellular Telephony at our November Meeting.**



## Directions to SCCARA's Christmas Dinner Party

SCCARA's Holiday Dinner is Being Held On Friday December 18th At RENZO's RESTAURANT In Campbell. Cocktails At 6:30 And Dinner At 7:30 PM. Dinner Includes; Tossed Green Salad, Tortellini Supreme, Potatoes, Fresh Vegetables, Choice of Beef Brochette or Chicken Saute Sec, Strawberry-Cream Roulade and Coffee. FULL PRICE (Including Tax & Tip) ..... \$ 15.00

## SCCARA's Board of Directors for 1993

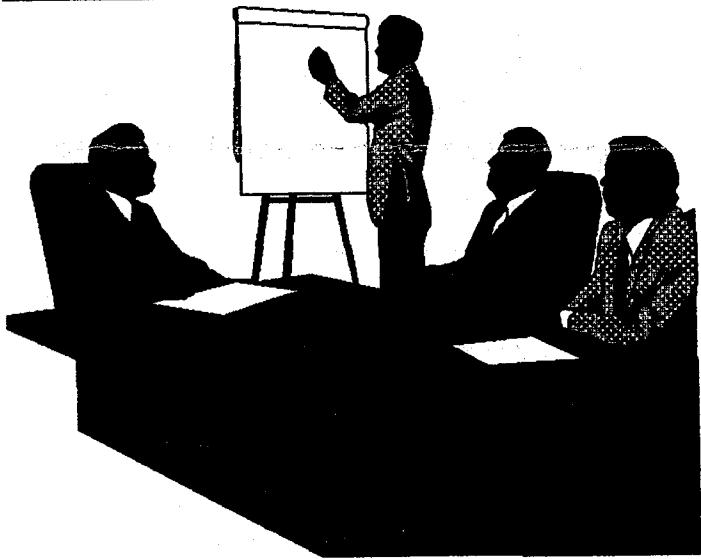


Left to Right (Standing); Mike Hastings, KB6LCJ, Treas.; Lloyd DeVaughns, KD6FJI, Sec'y.; Harold Welch, KK6ZE, Vice Pres.; Don Village, K6PBQ, Dir.; Lou Steirer, WA6QYS, Dir. (Seated); Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU, Dir.; Don Hayden, KC6WMM, Pres.; Stan Getsla, WA6VJY, Dir.; Doug Eaton, WN6U, Dir.

**1993 SCCARA NOVICE/TECHNICIAN COURSE**  
**de KC6WMM**

We will be offering a course for prospective new hams starting February 25 and continuing for about nine weeks on Thursday nights at the Santa Clara Adult Education Center. The theory part will be taught between 7:00 PM and 8:30 PM by a team of experienced hams using the "Now You're Talking" ARRL book. In addition, video cassettes and demonstrations will be used. Morse code will continue to be offered at 6:00 PM by Jim, WE6V. The morse code is required for the Novice license and for high frequency privileges for Technicians, but no longer required for the code-free Technician license.

SCCARA is looking for a few additional instructors, as we hope to have two (or more) instructors for each session. The ARRL outlines for each session are available, see Mike, KB6LCJ for details. We need a VCR and monitor or TV set. There will be an instructor meeting in mid-January to complete the organization of the course.



**REPEATER COMMITTEE REPORT**

11/26/92 de WA6VJY

Happy Thanksgiving to you all! I hope everyone had plenty of good eats today. If you are interested in being the Repeater Committee Chairman, this may interest you. I feel it is time to give someone else a chance to fill this position. If you are interested, come to the repeater committee meeting in January next year. The time and place has yet to be determined and will be announced in the next issue of the SCCARA-GRAM. If you have any questions, I may be reached at 408-275-0735 or on packet at the N0ARY-1 BBS.

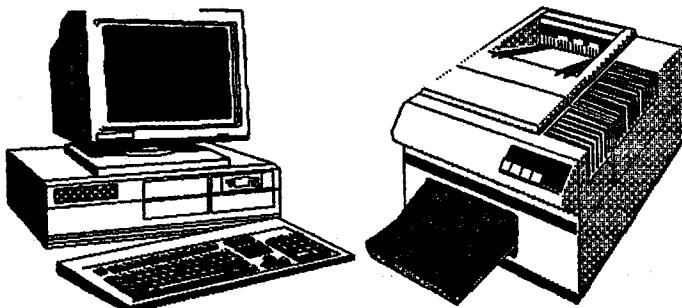
The repeater AUTOPATCH and AUTODIAL codes will be changing early next year, so remember to send in your dues.

See you all at the Holiday Dinner.

73, Stan WA6VJY

**WANTED**  
**Editor in Chief**  
**for the**  
**SCCARA-GRAM**

If you have a personal computer & a printer,  
SCCARA needs you & your talent.



SCCARA, a leading Amateur Radio Club and producer of Ham Radio Operators in the Santa Clara Valley, seeks a person to serve as Editor in Chief of the *SCCARA-GRAM*, the Club's monthly newsletter. Position available now!

**On the Job Training provided by former editors**

**For Immediate Consideration**  
Contact Don Hayden, KC6WMM at 408-867-4643  
Or Contact Any Club Officer

**Final Issue Message**  
**de WA6O**

As you can see by the foregoing message, this will be my final issue as Editor of the *SCCARA-GRAM*. I can honestly say that it has been a learning experience for me. It was also very rewarding, in the sense that I came into contact with so many people, all of whom contributed in a variety of ways. All I had to do was put everything together.

So, thanks to all who contributed articles for publication. It's those articles that made it *your* newsletter. Special thanks go to Bob Keller, KB6OHO for his terrific photography; to Joe Quirantes, WA6DXP for keeping the roster and running mailing labels; and to Tony Sanchez, K6MOB for delivering each issue to the Bulk Mail Facility at the Main Post Office.

Finally, I want to recognize and thank a person who has become a special friend to me in this past year. Doc Gmelin W6ZRJ became my confidant and was always there when needed someone to talk to. Thank you, Doc. 73 to everyone. de WA6O, George.

**WHAT THE HECK IS AMATEUR RADIO?**  
**By Doc Gmelin, W6ZRJ**

For better than three quarters of a century, radio amateurs have given outstanding communications service in time of disasters and emergencies. This is indicative of the success of radio amateurs in developing complex communications systems that can be useful during emergencies.

But amateur radio does not exist just to serve in communication emergencies. In fact such services are supposed to be a secondary activity of radio amateurs, used only when there are no other communications channels. Amateur radio is not supposed to be the primary communications service for any government agency or business.

What then is the purpose of amateur radio? Actually, amateur radio is an experimental service, that can also unequally give service in time of emergency. Amateurs also transmit third party messages and communications for the general public. Such messages are sent for practice and amateur radio is not supposed to be a primary communications service for the public and the messages that we send are not supposed to be for business or personal gain for anyone involved. In fact, the messages are supposed to be of an insignificant nature that would not be sent on commercial channels. In other words, amateurs are not supposed to be in competition with commercial communications channels.

To return to the primary service of experimental radio, amateurs are supposed to be working to advance the radio art through technical service, and in fact that is what many amateurs do. Communications may not be for either personal or commercial gain, in other personal business communications is not allowed. There is a service for personal and business communications. It's called the Citizen Band, although it doesn't work very well. In fact, many newcomers are entering amateur radio in hopes of finding a better "citizen band", and our successful VHF repeaters appear many who are entering our ranks through the "no code" route, just the communications channel they want.

Case in point. Recently I talked to a friend I hadn't seen for some time and learned that he had become a "no code" Technician Class radio amateur. This surprised me because I didn't know he was interested in ham radio and he didn't know that I was an active ham.

During our discussion, I asked him if he would like some help in upgrading so that he could work the high frequency bands. His answer to that question was an emphatic NO. He told me that he wasn't about ready to learn that "stupid" code and all he wanted was to work on the local repeater.

OK, everyone has the choice of doing whatever he or she wants to in amateur radio, but I was disturbed by his next comment. He told me that the only thing that he didn't like on

his local repeater were the hams who insisted in talking about "radio", particularly all that "technical" garbage.

So I asked him why he had become a ham if he wasn't interested in radio and he told me that it's all he wanted was the autopatch so that he could call his wife or if he has car trouble, he could call for help. I asked why he didn't use CB and he told me he had tried that, but it was impossible to use with all the willful interference by many people.

He went on to say that amateurs do nothing to serve the public and the stupid messages we transmit take up needed channel space for more important communications.

I didn't pursue the matter any further, but it was apparent that this individual was not really interested in amateur radio and did not fit any of our purposes for existence as stated in the FCC Regulations.

As if this is not bad enough, I now hear more and more unidentified communications found today on both the VHF AND HF (40 meters) bands, just like on the Citizen Band. I wonder if such operations will endanger all of amateur radio?

Well, what to do? I'm looking for suggestions. Any ideas?

Doc, W6ZRJ

**TREASURER'S COLUMN**  
**11/26/92 de WA6VJY**

Now is the time to send in your membership renewal (dues). You may use the signup form elsewhere in this issue (or last month's issue) to:

- 1) pay your dues,
- 2) sign up for AUTODIAL and AUTODIAL features on the repeater.
- 3) buy club badges,
- 4) indicate what menu selection you wish for the holiday dinner meeting.
- 5) indicate whether you want your SCCARA-GRAM mailed first class.
- 6) make an optional donation to the United Way of Santa Clara County.

I hope you all had a good Thanksgiving, and if I don't see you at the holiday dinner meeting, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

73, Stan WA6VJY



**Peace**



# FREE Public Service Event (INDOORS)

REGIONAL CLUB PARTICIPATION

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## 4th ANNUAL NPSARC

# WINTERFEST

HAM Radio Demonstrations

*Voice and CW*

*ATV (Television)*

*Slow Scan TV*

*Computers*

*Satellite*

*Packet*

*MARS*

*ARES*

93

HAM Radio Equipment

*Commercial Vendor*

*Indoor Flea Market*

*Outdoor Tailgate Market*

Monterey Peninsula College Armory  
Monterey, CA

*Indoor Flea Market @ \$10/vendor space*  
*Outdoor Tailgate Market @ \$5/vendor space*

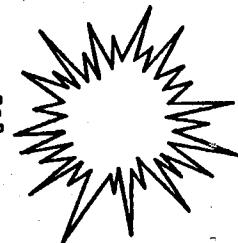
Check-In 146.97-

Saturday  
JAN 16



SCCARA-GRAM  
November 1992

RAIN  
or  
SHINE



8AM-1PM+

Doug KC3RL  
9 Glenn Ave.  
Prunedale, CA 93907  
408-663-6117  
Pat KA6IRS Days only  
408-649-4444 20°

**ARRL PACIFIC DIVISION UPDATE, December, 1992**

by Charles P. McConnell, W6DPD, Director ARRL Pacific Division. 1658 W. Mesa Ave. Fresno, CA 93711-1944. 209-431-2038. Packet @ N6ZGY

**CLUB CALLSIGNS AGAIN.** Callsigns for Amateur Radio clubs and Military Rec. Stations will soon be available under legislation recently signed into law. This law allows the FCC to seek the assistance from a 501(c)3 organization in the implementation of the program. Announcements will be made on the start date of the program. Do not send your form 610B for a club callsign yet. Callsigns will come from a block of callsigns currently being used, perhaps Group D. Clubs will NOT be able to request a specific callsign at this time.

**ARRL OR AARL?** The ARRL Board will consider the change in the name of the ARRL to AARL at the Board meeting in January. See pages 77-78 in the Nov. 1992 *QST* for an informative article on the pros and cons of the proposed change of name for the organization. Send me your QSL card with name change, Yes or No, to voice your opinion. I need to know what you think.

**NEW DIGITAL COMMITTEE PROPOSAL.** The ARRL Digital Committee met with representatives of the STA participants on Sept. 26. They worked out a proposal to allow unattended HF digital operations in specified portions of each Amateur Band 160 through 10 meters. There are two areas that may cause problems in the proposal. The first is 10.130 - 10.150 MHz. Amateurs have a secondary allocation on the 30 meter band, and they must not cause interference to primary users. The second is a digital subband at 7100 - 7120 KHz which is in the U.S. Novice band. This would put the unattended packet stations in position to interfere with Novice operations and vice versa. The subbands were worked out at the recent IARU Region 2 Conference in Curacao. Please read the information on the page 96 of the November ,1992, *QST*. Please send me a card with your preference on this proposal. You may use the same card you send for the name change. Just put, Digital Proposal, Yes or No.

**AMATEUR LICENSE STATISTICS.** The FCC has released Amateur License numbers for the end of the fiscal year, Sept. 30, 1992. The numbers show 580,806 Amateur Operator Licenses, and a total of 583, 237 station licenses. These breakdown as follows: NOVICE 98,569; TECHNICIAN 187,231; GENERAL 124,727; ADVANCED 109,537; and EXTRA 60,692. There were 48,984 new Amateur licenses issued in fiscal 1992, and there were 26,796 upgrades (this does not include upgrades from Tech to Tech plus). Thanks go to the clubs that sponsor training classes for Amateurs and to the Volunteer Examiners who give the examinations for the Amateur Service.

**ARRL INSTRUCTOR AWARDS.** Now is the time to thank your favorite Amateur Radio instructor by nominating him or her for one of the ARRL Instructor Awards.

The **Herb S. Brier Instructor of the Year** award is awarded to a volunteer Amateur Radio Instructor (not paid for teaching) and the **ARRL Professional Teacher of the Year** award is awarded to a teacher who is paid for teaching Amateur Radio or uses Amateur Radio in the curriculum. Nominations are due to your Section Manager by January 31, 1993. You can find the address of your Section Manager on page 8 of any *QST*. This is a neat way to honor your Amateur Radio instructor. Please consider making a nomination.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL.**

1993 DUES

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_ License \_\_\_\_\_  
Class \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL member? Y N

For family memberships, please list other name(s) & call(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dues Amounts are: \$15.00 for Individual  
\$20.00 for Family (hams at same address)  
\$ 5.00 for students (under 18)

\*\*\*\*\*  
I would like the 1993 Auto Dial Codes (no charge)

I would like the 1993 Auto Patch Codes (\$10.00 for an individual and  
\$15.00 for a family)

DON'T FORGET TO INCLUDE A COPY OF YOUR LICENSE IF YOU ARE REQUESTING  
REPEATER CODES FOR AUTOPATCH OR AUTODIAL !!!

\*\*\*\*\*

Please send my SCCARA-GRAM by First Class mail (\$3.50)  
\*\*\*\*\*

HOLIDAY DINNER RESERVATIONS (DEADLINE IS 12-10-92)

- Beef Brochette Dinner(s)  
Chicken Saute Sec Dinner(s)  
Total number of dinners @ \$15.00 each = \$\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

SCCARA Badge(s) Please PRINT Badge info below:

First name or Nickname \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_

First name or Nickname \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of Badges @ \$3.00/ea = \$\_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*\*\*\*

Membership Dues \_\_\_\_\_ \$\_\_\_\_\_

Repeater Dues (with copy of license) \_\_\_\_\_

First Class Mailing of SCCARA GRAM \_\_\_\_\_

Holiday Dinners @ \$15.00 each \_\_\_\_\_

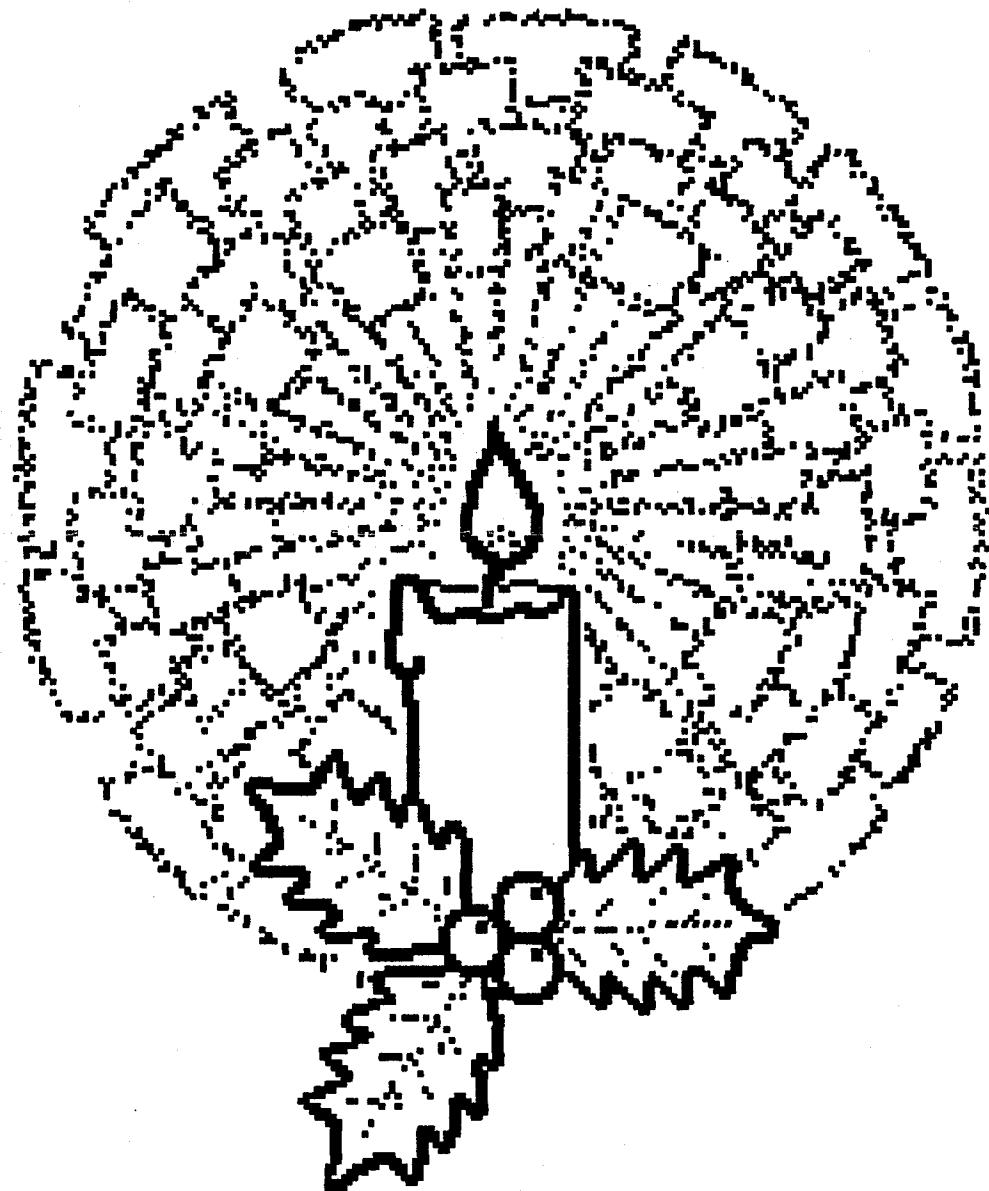
United Way Donation \_\_\_\_\_

SCCARA Badge(s) @ \$3.00/each \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_ \$\_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: SCCARA Treasurer, PO Box 6, San Jose, CA 95103-0006

# MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



**FROM YOUR SCCARA-GRAM STAFF  
AND FRIENDS IN SCCARA**

# SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

CLUB OFFICERS			
PRESIDENT	MIKE HASTINGS	KB6LCJ	243-6745
VICE PRESIDENT	BILL BROTHERS	N6ZPC	225-5826
SECRETARY	GENE DUCKETT	W6LYG	293-2046
TREASURER	STAN GETSLA	WA6VJY	275-0735
477 PAMLAR AVE. SAN JOSE, CA. 95128			

DIRECTORS		
HERB HIMMELFARB	KB6ABG	408-226-2819
GARY MITCHELL	WB6YRU	408-265-2336
DON VILLAGE	K6PBQ	408-263-2789
LOU STEIRER	WA6QYS	408-241-7999
GEORGE ALLAN	WA6O	408-446-0140

SCCARA STAFF		
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FACILITIES	DON VILLAGE	K6PBQ
GOOD+WELFARE	HERB HIMMELFARB	KB6ABG
SCCARA-GRAM STAFF		
EDITOR	GEORGE ALLAN	WA6O
PHOTOGRAPHER	BOB KELLER	KB6OHO
DATA BASE	JOE QUIRANTES	WA6DXP
MAILMAN	TONY SANCHEZ	K6MOB
296-6676		

REPEATER INFO		
REPEATER COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN		
STAN GETSLA	WA6VJY	408-275-0735
CALL	W6UU	
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**

Affiliate of

American Radio Relay League

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