

# SCCARA-GRAM



## Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 19, Number 2

February 2003



## President's Prose

It's a New Year, and membership renewal time. Make sure you get your membership renewed before you are dropped from the rolls. The final roster will soon be issued. I don't want anyone to be left out of *SCCARA-GRAMs*, social events, or updates on progress of the club repeater and BBS. So send your renewal in, or come to a meeting and hand it to Wally KA6YMD or Lloyd KD6FJI. If you need to check if we got the renewal, contact Wally, KA6YMD who is maintaining the database.

It looks like this year is off to a good start. The 2 Meter repeater is up at Eagle Rock site, being tested and is working. Thanks to Trish Gibbons, WA6UBE - San Jose Radio Shop, Ben Vickers, WB6FRM RACES member, and Roy Metzger, K6VIP, for all the hard work that it took to get things this far. There is more work to be done before things are just the way the City and Trish want them to be. Trish has plans to purchase a second controller that would be ready to go as an emergency backup spare. The backup would be in place while the SCCARA's is being repaired. This would ensure that the repeater is always going to be on the air. The City depends upon this repeater for emergencies, and SCCARA needs it for club communications, club member's use, and special events communications. I hope we will get good service from the new location. The BBS is also up and almost running. Thanks to Gary Mitchell WB6YRU and the help of Owen DeLong, KB6MER who ran a 'sister' BBS also on a unix machine.

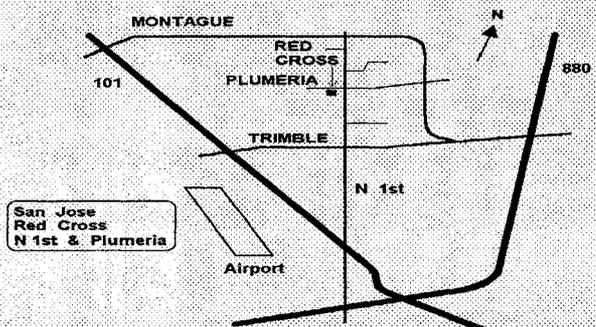
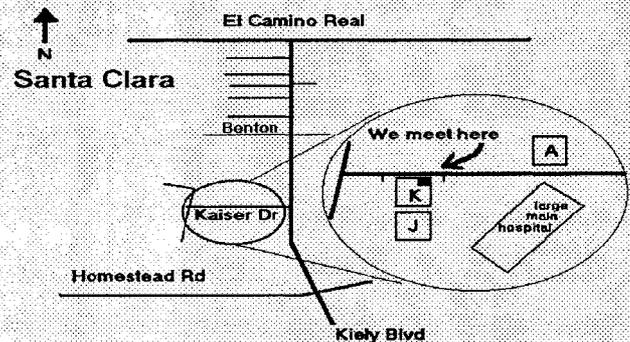
Gary Mitchell is always asking for some articles on technical subjects and other activities from club members. There is such a vast array of knowledge in this club. Won't you share that knowledge with other club members? Please write an article for the *SCCARA-GRAM* or arrange to be a speaker at a meeting. The part about this club that I have always enjoyed is the sharing of knowledge. This is the oldest club in Santa Clara County. There are great stories of how things used to be, radios that aren't anymore, antenna raising parties, Field Days BB (before barbecues), what

## Calendar

- 2/10 SCCARA General Meeting--Pizza party!
- 2/17 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)
- 3/8 Foothill Electronic Flea Market
- 3/10 SCCARA General Meeting--Dinner meeting!

### General Meeting:

- Day: Monday, February 10, 2003
- Time: 7:30 PM
- Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Bld K, Rm 1
- Featuring: Pizza party, \$3 per person



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The deadline for articles is one week before the last Monday of the month.

SCCARA was formed in 1921 and became a non-profit corporation in 1947. SCCARA is an affiliate of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). The club station is W6UW. Web page: <http://www.qsl.net/sccara>.

**OFFICERS - DIRECTORS - STAFF**

President	Barbara Britten, KD6QEI	293-3847
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:kd6qei@arrrl.net">kd6qei@arrrl.net</a>	
Vice President	- - -	
Secretary	- - -	
Treasurer	Lloyd DeVaughns, KD6FJ1	225-6769
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:ldevaughns@aol.com">ldevaughns@aol.com</a>	
Station Trustee	Don Hayden, KO6HH	867-4643
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:wa6vjy@juno.com">wa6vjy@juno.com</a>	
Director	Clark Murphy, KE6KXO	262-9334
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:clarkmurph@yahoo.com">clarkmurph@yahoo.com</a>	
Director	Don Apte, KK6MX	629-0725
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:aptek@aol.com">aptek@aol.com</a>	
Director	Don Village, K6PBQ	263-2789
Director	Lou Steirer, WA6QYS	241-7999
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:wa6qys@aol.com">wa6qys@aol.com</a>	
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	e-mail: <a href="mailto:ka6ymd@arrrl.net">ka6ymd@arrrl.net</a>	
Editor	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	265-2336
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:wb6yru@aenet.net">wb6yru@aenet.net</a>	

**COMMITTEES**

Repeater	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	293-3847
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:ka6ymd@arrrl.net">ka6ymd@arrrl.net</a>	
N0ARY BBS	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	265-2336
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:wb6yru@aenet.net">wb6yru@aenet.net</a>	

**SCCARA REPEATERS**

SCCARA owns and operates two repeaters under the call W6UU:  
 2 meter: 146.385 + PL 114.8  
 70 cm: 442.425 + PL 107.2  
 Phone auto-dial and auto-patch is available. The two meter repeater is located at the Santa Teresa Hospital, south-west San Jose (near IBM). The 70 cm repeater and N0ARY BBS is located at the Regional Medical Center (formerly Alexian), east of downtown San Jose (north of 280 and 101).

**SCCARA NETS**

On our two meter repeater: Mondays at 7:30 PM, (not the second monday--our meeting night). Coordinator: Don K6PBQ. On ten meters, 28.385 MHz USB, Thursdays at 8:00 PM. Net control: Wally KA6YMD. Visitors welcome.

**N0ARY PACKET BBS**

SCCARA hosts the packet BBS N0ARY (San Jose). User ports: 144.93 (1200 baud), 433.37 (9600 baud), telephone 408 259-8497, internet (by registration only, get info by sending e-mail to: [info@n0ary.org](mailto:info@n0ary.org)). Sysop: Gary WB6YRU

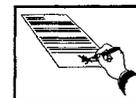
**TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

SCCARA contact Clark KE6KXO:	408 262-9334
ARRL/VEC Silicon Valley VE group:	408 243-8349
<a href="mailto:me-ae6z@worldnet.att.net">me-ae6z@worldnet.att.net</a>	

people are working on now, certificates that have been earned (ie, worked all countries, contests you participated in, etc.), what new equipment you have purchased, and how it is working, what you did with the old equipment (boat anchor?), etc. This is your club. Let us hear from you. Thanks.

The next two meetings are food meetings. February is a pizza party with pizza, salad, and soda, at our usual Kaiser Santa Clara meeting site. The March meeting is going to be at The Hometown Buffet in Santa Clara at 6 PM. Bring spouses. Enjoy! I hope to see many of you there.

Barbara, KD6QEI



# Meeting Minutes

## General Meeting, Jan. 13, 2003



INTRODUCTIONS: 13 regular members; 3 visitors: Trish Gibbons, WA6UBE; Ben Vickers, WB6FRM; & Carla - a guest of Trish..

SPEAKERS: Trish Gibbons and Ben Vickers reported on the placement of the repeater at Eagle Rock in the City vault near Alum Rock Park. The presentation included: a history of the repeater, current problems with installation, and what has to be done; the changes in the predicted coverage at the Eagle Rock site versus the Santa Teresa Hospital site. Trish presented the Board members with a draft of the agreement drawn up between the City and SCCARA. The repeater equipment is City owned, while SCCARA is the licensee and control operator, owning the controller and one antenna. SCCARA will have full control over programming and operation. More testing has to be done to check for interference to/from Santa Rosa, Manteca, and Sacramento areas. An auto patch is also part of the planning. The Board members looked over the wording of the draft and suggested some changes. Trish took them in advisement. Each Board member was given a copy of the draft and asked to study it at home so that changes could be made at the next Board meeting. Trish will then take the draft to the City attorney for final approval. Trish thought it would take about three to four months to finalize things. As for now, the repeater is working at the Eagle Rock site. The Board will report things to the club as they develop.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

PRESIDENT: The Perham Foundation has merged into the San Jose History Museum at Kelly Park. The Electronic

flea markets will still be held at Foothill College under a new umbrella corporation. Each member club is asked for about \$750 seed money to start the process for this year. Each club will have one person, (the president or a designee) to be a representative in the umbrella corporation. Each representative has one vote on matters that come before the Corporation. Things are not finalized just yet. I will inform Club members as things progress.

TREASURER: Checking: \$1,270.65; Savings: \$5,903.54

REPEATER: "I can't top Trish's report."

NEWSLETTER: Wally Britten has updated the database. Gary Mitchell feels that a better way should be used to approach new hams.

BBS: Owen DeLong KB6MER (a Unix expert) has been working with Gary to get to BBS up and running. It still has problems, but should be fixed by the end of the month. Owen has been able to get things running since Bob Arasmith, N0ARY couldn't be available.

#### NEW BUSINESS

MILITARY RADIOS: Trish Gibbons has a list of military radios and military gear from all past wars. Contact her at: grz.com - WA6UBE

DON APTE: Don has suggested that we set up Echolink on a computer, using a free software program for 440 machine that will link to the internet, and other repeaters at no cost to the user. The idea is to get more usage on that machine. His investment was \$60.00 for a soundboard. It requires 56K modem, and a tech license or above to operate. Gary Mitchell and Don Apte to do a feasibility study to do this. Don Apte may donate a computer for the process. Gary said there is room in the cabinet for a computer. Don Apte will provide a demonstration at the next Board meeting.

DON HAYDEN: Don needs help at his place to reset the tarps over the antenna trailer. The last windstorm blew everything awry. Clark Murphy volunteered.

SVECS BREAKFAST: Saturday, January 25, at 9 AM, at the Santa Clara Senior Center. The speaker was to be Mike, KQ6SA, on HF backpacking. The new Milpitas com van was to be there.

ADJOURN: 10:10 PM

Barbara KD6QEI

**Board Meeting, Jan. 20, 2003**



MEMBERS PRESENT: Clark Murphy, KE6KXO; Lou Stierer, WA6QYS; Gwen Stierer, WE6OTD; Wally Britten, KA6YMD; Roy Metzger, K6VIP; Barbara Britten, KD6QEI; Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU; Don Apte; KK6MX; Trish Gibbons (visitor), WA6UBE; Ben Vickers (visitor) WB6FRM.

Trish Gibbons: Presented a draft of the agreement between the City and SCCARA to the Board. The City will maintain the radio station, but SCCARA will have control of it. A discussion followed regarding use of the repeater in emergencies or for events. Trish noted some changes in the wording. The repeater will need to be re-sanctioned at the new site with NARCC. These are the phases planned for the next four months: 1) Test the repeater at its present location with respect to Sacramento and Manteca using the low height ground plane antenna. 2) Define nuisance interference. If 5db above a microvolt, with no problems, then, 3 dB of transmit attenuation will be removed, and the system will be retested. It is possible to these two tests can be done in one day. 3) Use the 4-element collinear antenna for receive, and run checks on talk-in. Now, the talk-in is less than the talk-out. The plan is to complete everything in 4-5 months. Wally Britten, Stan Getsla (recently retired station trustee), and Don Hayden, current station trustee, to get together and see what has to be done to get the new repeater sanctioned at the new site. Stan Getsla has agreed to oversee the transition from to outgoing station trustee to the new station trustee, so the transition will be as smooth as possible.

Barbara Britten suggested that Trish Gibbons and Ben Vickers, be given complimentary membership in SCCARA for this year, as a token of thank you for all the work that they have done to get the repeater moved, and to get it running. Clark Murphy, made the motion - seconded by Lou Stierer. The motion carried. It was then amended to include badges. Motion carried.

It was mentioned that SCCARA should be using the same PL frequency for the Monday night nets to avoid having both transmitters up. The Eagle Rock PL tone is to be 114.8, the Santa Teresa frequency to be 146.2. The PL tones are to be swapped soon. In the meantime use the 146.2 tone only during nets. The Eagle Rock ID'er & courtesy tones are lower in pitch than Santa Teresa.

BBS: The computer is back at the site. The UPS battery was changed. Now has an uninterruptible power source again. Phone line is working. BBS is not working like it should, but should be soon. It is indicating a perpetual state of "bringing up." BBS software still has a problem. It will be fixed this month.

SCCARA-Gram: 130 SCCARA-Grams went out this month. New hams are getting 2 months of complimentary SCCARA-Grams. Gary says the present SCCARA-Gram does not really reflect what SCCARA is all about. Gary

suggested a change. Send a letter written by the President with a short history of the club, our social activities, and what is going on in the club now, instead of a newsletter, to the new hams. (Less costly.) It would be more informative and more personal than the way it is being done now. Barbara, KD6QEI, promised to take it under advisement.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

TRISH GIBBONS: Gave a little more history about the repeaters.

FLEA MARKET: A coalition is being formed to get the flea market at Foothill College restarted, under a new umbrella corporation. It looks it is going to go ahead.

SVECS BREAKFAST: Saturday, 1/25/03, 9 AM at the Santa Clara Senior Center.

ADJOURN: 9:30 PM.

Barbara KD6QEI

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## NOARY BBS

It's been a while, but the NOARY BBS is (nearly) back in operation. It's still not 100 percent, but it should be soon. I haven't been able to test the two meter user port myself, as my own TNC (PK-232) has recently developed a fatal flaw. (What's going on with packet equipment lately anyway, some cosmic hex?)

A big THANK YOU goes to Owen DeLong, KB6MER (sysop of the former KB6MER BBS in San Jose, another NOARY type BBS), for his UNIX administrator expertise and getting the machine working again.

For those who may not know... The NOARY BBS runs (did run) on a Sun Sparc 1 workstation under UNIX. It now is on a resurrected Sparc 2.

At the moment, the internet modem isn't being initialized for some reason, so the packet-to-email gateway may not be available, nor is internet forwarding. However, the dial-in port *is* working. (Type "bbs" to log-in, from there it's the same as connecting over the air.)

Gary WB6YRU

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## SCCARA's Repeater to the Rescue

Dec. 14, KO6HH had telephone failure. On the Morning of Dec. 15, a large Oak tree blocked the driveway and I was trapped without access, except by HAM radio.

K6VIP replied on our W6UU repeater and called a friend who had chain saws to clear the driveway.

Don KO6HH

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## Dues are past due!

Forget to send in your SCCARA dues? All memberships expire December 31. If your call is list here, we didn't receive your membership renewal. Don't drop out, renew today!

W6ACW K6CAY W6CFK WD6CGI KO6CI KG6COB  
AD6EC W6EOA W6ESL W6FS KE6FTZ KG6HEF N6HM  
KG6INB KB6LCJ KK6MX KF6NEW AA6ON W6OOY  
N6PCQ W6SXO KC6TDK KG6UMI WA6VJY KK6ZE

Until someone volunteers to be our Secretary, Director Wally Britten KA6YMD is keeping the database updated.

If you did renew, but your call is here anyway, contact Wally soon and get it cleared up; otherwise, this will be your last *SCCARA-GRAM*.

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## News from the ARRL

From *The ARRL Letter*, January 17, 2003

### HIGH SPEED MULTIMEDIA HAMMING COULD BE THE NEXT BIG THING

High-speed multimedia hamming via the "Hinternet" could be the next big thing for Amateur Radio. That's the hope of the ARRL High Speed Multimedia (HSMM) Working Group, which is adapting the highly popular IEEE 802.11b Part 15 wireless Internet protocol to Part 97 amateur operating.

"We expect it to be nothing less than revolutionary!" says John Champa, K8OCL, who chairs the ARRL HSMM Working Group--a subset of the League's Technology Task Force. The Working Group's new "High-Speed Digital Networks and Multimedia" page <<http://www.arrl.org/hsmm/>> recently premiered on the ARRL Web site.

Champa's team is calling the specific techniques, software and hardware involved "the ARRL 802.11b protocol" to distinguish it from the unlicensed, commercial protocol. Systems employ direct-sequence spread spectrum techniques and operate in the 2.4 GHz range. The term "Hinternet"

(ham + Internet), Champa says, is a user-friendly way to refer to the development of high-speed Radio Local Area Networks (RLANs) capable of simultaneously carrying audio, video and data signals.

"The development of the ARRL 802.11b protocol will significantly enhance Amateur Radio, especially with respect to emergency communication and support of public service activities," Champa predicted. He and his HSMM Working Group colleagues also expect that it will attract many technically oriented users of the Internet and wireless LANs to get their amateur tickets.

In addition to emergency communication, Hinternet applications could include two-way streaming video, full-duplex streaming audio, Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) applications such as eQSO, EchoLink, iLink and IRLP, and digital voice. As on the wired Internet, communication can be point-to-point, point-to-multipoint and multicast at high bandwidth.

"An emergency volunteer equipped with a laptop or a wireless PDA (personal digital assistant) with a microphone and a small video camera now has the tools to be a mobile set of eyes and ears in the midst of a communications emergency," says Working Group member Kris Mraz, N5KM.

In Michigan, the Livingston County HSMM Experimenters Team already has three HSMM access points--called "APs" in the commercial world--and about a dozen stations on the air centered on 2437 MHz. Another group of Amateur Radio 802.11b enthusiasts has recently organized in the San Antonio, Texas, area.

Although other amateur allocations also would be appropriate for Hinternet operation, the use of 2.4 GHz was an easy choice, since Part 15 WiFi (wireless fidelity) devices already operate in that part of the spectrum, and inexpensive commercial equipment is widely available. Acting on an ARRL petition, the FCC has proposed elevating amateurs to primary at 2400 to 2402 MHz.

The ARRL publications catalog now includes the book 802.11 Wireless Networks: The Definitive Guide <<http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?category=&words=802.11>>by Matthew S. Gast. The book covers the topics of creating and administering wireless networks.

Champa says that taken in a nationwide context, the meaning of the term Hinternet goes deeper than just an amalgamation of words. "In nautical terms the word hinterland is 'the land beyond the coast,'" he said. "And so it is with us. 'The Hinternet' is the radio net beyond the Internet."

#### FCC LAUNCHES "CONSUMER-FRIENDLY" ELECTRONIC COMMENT FILING SYSTEM

The FCC has launched "ECFS Express," an updated electronic system that the Commission says will make it easier for at least some members of the public to file comments on FCC proceedings. ECFS Express is a simplified version of the popular Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), but it is not available for all FCC proceedings.

ECFS Express is accessible from the FCC home page <<http://www.fcc.gov>>. Users just click on the "File Comments" logo--which is on the left-hand side of the page about one-third of the way down under the words "Filing Public Comments." To comment, users click on a topic, fill in their personal information, write their comments and hit "SEND."

"ECFS Express will highlight the proceedings most likely to generate consumer interest," the FCC said this week in a Public Notice. "The topics will change periodically as new issues emerge."

The downside is that if the particular issue you want to comment upon is not listed among the ECFS Express topics, you'll have to use the "expert version" of ECFS to comment, the FCC said. At the moment, the ECFS Express list includes no Amateur Radio-related petitions. The FCC says the original Electronic Comment Filing System--which includes all docketed FCC proceedings--will remain accessible on its Web site <<http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>>.

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## Packet Pieces

### Downloaded from the packet network:

=====  
Date: 23 Jun 2000 23:50  
From: AB7RG@AB7RG  
To: QUOTES@WW  
Subject: QUOTES # 043 !!!  
-----

QUOTES 43:  
=====

- Good Day: When your ground rods save your equipment.
- Bad Day: When your equipment was struck by lightning.
- Famous Last Words: "Don't worry!"
- Keep it up, and I'll Quote you!
- Another day another Quote.

Failure is NOT an option.

To avoid criticism, say nothing, do nothing, be nothing.

Nothing is impossible.

Famous Last Words: "Nothing is impossible."

"Look out! Behind you!" {Bet you did!}

Failure only occurs when you're not using a Macintosh.

The future is what you make of it.

Money is always there, but the pockets change.

A question CAN be an answer...

It's what you learn after you know it all that counts.

All good ideas have already been thought; the point is to try to think them again. {The same goes for Quotes...}

What kind of mood am I in today? It depends upon which one of my personalities that you're asking.

It's not a good sign when you're driving and you hear a loud "thud"...

War does not determine who's right, war only determines who will be left to say that they were right.

The only "stupid" or "dumb" question is the one that is not asked.

I know I'm not perfect, but I'm so close it scares me.

Before you give me advice, make sure I want it.

It's not an "attitude", it's the way I am...

I'm not opinionated. I'm just always right.

Out of my mind; back in five minutes...

The only time that I was ever wrong was when I admitted to being wrong.

They say that money talks, all mine ever says is goodbye!

Ever have "one of those days"??? I am, now...

Oxymoron: Small amount of high explosives.

In order to "see" into the future, you have to live in the present.

If you don't study, you learn nothing.

Good humor is goodness and wisdom combined.

Famous Last Words: "Let's go do something, even if it's wrong."

Passion is the ultimate motivator.

We're sorry, but reality is not in service at this time...

"Oh no! It's Deja Vu all over again!!!"

Have you hugged your antenna tuner today?

Oxymoron: Harmless explosives.

Gun Control means being able to hit your target.

Famous Last Words: "Thunder? I don't hear any thunder."

73 & May the FARCE be with you! Clinton, AB7RG.  
[ AB7RG @ KB7FRV.AZ.USA.NOAM ]

=====  
Date: 23 Jun 2000 23:50

From: AB7RG@AB7RG

To: FARCE@WW

Subject: How To Photograph A Puppy:  
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#### How To Photograph A New Puppy:

- 1.) Remove film from box and load camera.
- 2.) Remove film box from puppy's mouth and throw in trash.
- 3.) Remove puppy from trash and brush coffee grounds from muzzle.
- 4.) Choose a suitable background for photo.
- 5.) Mount camera on tripod and focus.
- 6.) Find puppy and take dirty sock from mouth.
- 7.) Place puppy in pre-focused spot and return to camera.
- 8.) Forget about spot and crawl after puppy on knees.
- 9.) Focus with one hand and fend off puppy with other hand.
- 10.) Get tissue and clean nose print from lens.
- 11.) Take flash cube from puppy's mouth and throw in trash.

- 12.) Put cat outside and put peroxide on the scratch on puppy's nose.
- 13.) Put magazines back on coffee table.
- 14.) Try to get puppy's attention by squeaking toy over your head.
- 15.) Replace your glasses and check camera for damage.
- 16.) Jump up in time to grab puppy by scruff of neck and say, "No, outside! No, outside!"
- 17.) Call spouse to clean up mess.
- 18.) Fix a drink.
- 19.) Sit back in Lazy Boy with drink and resolve to teach puppy "sit" and "stay" the first thing in the morning.

73 & May the FARCE be with you! Clinton, AB7RG.  
[ AB7RG @ KB7FRV.AZ.USA.NOAM ]

evening & msg: (408) 945-1202

KD6FJI, Lloyd DeVaughns,  
day: (408) 299-8933, evening: (408) 225-6769  
packet: home BBS KB6MER

K06HH, Don Hayden, (408) 867-4643  
packet: home BBS NOARY

KB6NP, Jon Dutra, day & msg (408) 428-2058  
evening (408) 867-8654  
packet: home BBS NOARY  
internet: jad@aol.com

K6PBQ, Don Village, (408) 263-2789

WA6QYS, Lou Steirer, (408) 241-7999  
packet: home BBS NOARY

WA6VJY, Stan Getsla, day: (408) 738-2888 x5929,  
evening & msg: (408) 275-0735

WB6YRU, Gary Mitchell, msg (408) 265-2336  
also (408) 269-2924  
packet: home BBS NOARY  
internet: wb6yru@aenet.net

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## Need Help?

Amateurs have a long history of helping each other. An experienced amateur who helps another is traditionally called an "Elmer." If you have a question or problem, you are encouraged to ask one of SCCARA's Elmers. Below is a list of topics including who to contact for each.

If you consider yourself to be reasonably competent in at least one area of amateur radio and would be willing help others, please ask the club secretary for an Elmer survey form and fill it out.

Antennas, feed-lines, tuners: WB6EMR, K6PBQ, WB6YRU  
Lightning protection, grounding: WB6YRU  
Station set-up, equipment: K6PBQ  
TVI/RFI: WB6YRU  
Homebrew projects, construction: KD6FJI, WB6YRU  
Computers: KB6NP; IBM PC: WB6YRU  
Packet Network (BBS, forwarding): WB6YRU  
Code operating and installations: WB6EMR, K6PBQ  
DX (long distance/propagation): WB6EMR  
Emergency operating/preparedness: WA6QYS  
FM (VHF/UHF, repeaters): WA6VJY  
HF operating techniques (SSB, CW): WB6EMR, K6PBQ  
Classes/license upgrading: W6ACW  
Legal/FCC rules: WB6YRU  
SCCARA (club inner workings):  
K06HH, K6PBQ, WA6VJY, WB6YRU, WA6QYS  
Children's Discovery Museum, volunteer operator:  
K6PBQ

W6ACW, Ed Hajny, (408) 739-6105

WB6EMR, James D. Armstrong, Jr.,

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## Newsletter Notes

From elsewhere in this issue, you may get the impression I'm against sending the *SCCARA-GRAM* to new amateurs.

Just to be clear: I don't have a problem sending out the newsletter to prospective members. In fact, this issue is going out to about 140 addresses. Of those, 54 are new Amateurs (non-members). There are only 28 current SCCARA members, with another 26 who have yet to renew (maybe half of whom probably will). That's a pretty high ratio.

However, as a member recruitment tool, I feel this practice is, at best, a very inefficient way to go. The *SCCARA-GRAM* usually doesn't present a very clear picture of the club. And, depending on the number of pages, each newsletter costs almost \$1 to copy and mail out. That may not sound like much, but just this month alone will cost us about \$50 to mail a *SCCARA-GRAM* to new amateurs. I don't think we're getting much bang for the buck.

In my opinion, it would be much better to send out an introductory letter (probably from the president) explaining what SCCARA is all about, describe the things we do, and give an overview of the club history. We could include photos of Field Day and even brag a little about our repeater (now that it's nearly back in shape) and the BBS (now that it's nearly back in shape). Of course, it wouldn't hurt to include a newsletter too.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

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# S.C.C.A.R.A. Membership Form for 2003

(Fill in name and address if there is no mailing label below; make corrections if the label is incorrect)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: E A G T+ T N

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Licensed since (yr): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Licence Expiration Date (mo/yr): \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  New Member  I'm also an  
 Renewal  ARRL member \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Packet: \_\_\_\_\_

For family memberships (at the same address), please fill out a separate form for each. Indicate the "primary member" (for mailing purposes) name and call:

Annual membership dues are payable at the first of the year and expire the following December 31. New members joining on or after July 1, pay half the membership dues.

Annual Membership dues:  Individual \$15  Family \$20  Student (under 18) \$5 \_\_\_\_\_

I want \_\_\_\_\_ SCCARA badges @ \$3 ea. Badge name & call: \_\_\_\_\_ .....

Please send the repeater Auto-Dial/Auto-Patch codes (no charge, circle): ..... Yes  
WE MUST BE ABLE TO VERIFY YOUR AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE  
BEFORE ANY REPEATER CODES WILL BE SENT TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

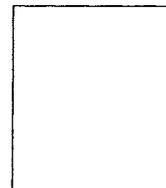
Give this completed form (or copy) with payment to the Secretary or Treasurer at any meeting or mail to the return address below:

===== PLEASE DO NOT TEAR OR CUT FORM =====

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY  
AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION**

PO BOX 6  
San Jose CA 95103-0006

Affiliate of the American Radio Relay League



**FIRST CLASS**

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**