SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 24, Number 6

June 2008



New Equipment

The Childrens Discovery Museum in San Jose tool down their Ham Radio Station 3 years for a new exhibit area. They have decided not re-install it. They graciously have donated the Station Radio's to SCCARA. So we are the proud owners of the Kenwood TS140S HF rig with CW filter and the TM2530A 2 meter FM transceiver. Both come with matching power supply and ext speaker. Thanks again for the donation.

73 Don Village K6PBQ

Field Day

- 1. Field Day will be chaired by Fred AE6QL and Jim KG6UDW.
- 2. Greg Lane KF6FAN our refreshments chairman will tow the antenna trailer.
- 3. John Parks will handle public Information. Bill Dale offered assistance.
- 4. A BBQ will include standard fair with Tri-Tip for Saturday night.
- 5. Greater emphasis will be placed on digital modes.
- 6. Lou & Gwen Steirer will bring the clubs contribution of Hotdogs and drinks.
- 7. James Wilson K6WRJ our resident expert and Ned AE6YY will lead our digital efforts with PSK31 / RTTY when Lou Steirer WA6QYS,Don Village K6PBQ and Ned Tufekeie AC6YY will cover CW
- 8. Andrew Stoddard our trained EMT would be present for emergency first aide.

Electrical Safety and Antenna erecting would have greater emphasis on covering observed safety improvements noted from last year.

Jim T.

Treasurer's Treatise

Recent expenses included \$320 for our \$1M liability insurance policy through 6/8/2009 and \$1550 to ASVARO for our 2008 Flea Market fee. We have a total of \$5576.87 in checking, savings and cash on hand. Future near-term expenses will include Field Day, any antenna trailer modification costs, upgrading the monitors for our laptop computers, and finishing the 440 repeater

Calendar

6/9 SCCARA General Meeting 6/14 Electronic Flea Market (DeAnza)

6/16 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red

Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)

6/27-29 Field Day

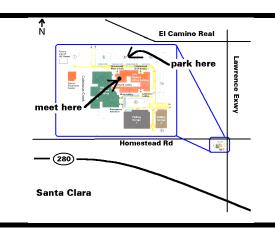
General Meeting

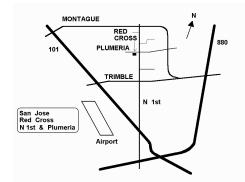
<u>Day:</u> Monday, June 9, 2008

Time: 7:30 PM

Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Rm 196, 1

Featuring: Field day prep.





The *SCCARA-GRAM* is published monthly by the **SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION**, PO Box 6, San Jose CA 95103-0006. Permission to reprint articles is hereby granted, provided the source is properly credited.

The deadline for articles is 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

(all officers are also directors)

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Director Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU 269-2924

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NØARY BBS Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU 269-2924
e-mail: wb6yru@ix.netcom.com

SCCARA REPEATERS

SCCARA owns and operates two repeaters under the call W6UU:

2 meter: 146.985 - 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 Eagle Rock near Alum Rock Park in the foothills of east San Jose. 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 Village, K6PBQ. On ten meters, 28.385 MHz USB, Thursdays at 8:00 PM. Net control: Wally Britten, KA6YMD. Visitors welcome.

NØARY PACKET BBS

SCCARA hosts the packet BBS NØARY (San Jose). User ports: 144.93 (1200 baud), 433.37 (9600 baud), telnet sun.n0ary.org (login "bbs"). Sysop: Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU (packet info: www.n0ary.org/ncpa)

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

SCCARA contact Clark KE6KXO: ARRL/VEC Silicon Valley VE group, Morris Jones, AD6ZH:

408 262-9334

408 507-4698

project. We also have an obligation to reimburse the cost of two canopies in the amount of \$44.95 ea plus tax. There will likely be a need to purchase one or more tarps to cover the antenna trailer at some later date.

Don Steinbach - AE6PM Treasurer

ARRL News

From The ARRL Letter, May 16, 2008

"THE DOCTOR IS IN" THE ARRL LETTER

This week, ARRL Letter readers are in luck! The ARRL's very own Doctor, author of the popular QST column "The Doctor Is IN," answers a question from his mailbag:

Question -- Mel, Snyder, K8MIW, of West Olive, Michigan, asks: I have a question about feeding a folded dipole, spaced about 5 inches between wires. What would be the difference between feeding it with the usual 300 ohm twin lead and using the popular 450 ohm window line as a feed line? I operate mostly on 75 meters. Years ago I used a folded dipole and found it to be an effective and wide band antenna. I have heavy duty window line on hand, but would have to buy the twin lead and the only line I can find is light duty line. Would the mismatch with the 450 ohm line cause any problems?

The Doctor answers -- The most significant difference would be the level of mismatch at the transmitter end. If you are using an antenna tuner, I doubt that you will notice any difference at all.

There will actually be slightly less loss with the 450 ohm (usually closer to 400 ohm in my experience) line. Let's see, if the antenna is about a quarter-wavelength high, the actual feed impedance will be closer to 200 ohms than to the free space value of 300 ohms. With 300 ohm line that results a 1.5:1 SWR at resonance, or 2:1 with 400 ohm line.

I would go ahead and use the window line. It should be less bothered by rain and will probably last longer. If your tuner has a problem at any frequency you operate at, try changing the feed line length by 20 feet or so and see what happens -- you are likely to find a length that works across the band. Just don't roll up any excess. In my cellar shack, I usually put any excess window line between the overhead floor joists, away from other wires and secured with TV standoff insulators.

That should be a great antenna! You may even be able to tune it on other bands, if you have a wide range tuner -- especially 30 meters. On that band, the window line will make even more of an improvement.

From The ARRL Letter, May 23, 2008

FCC'S BILL CROSS, W3TN, CALLS HAM RADIO "BELOW THE RADAR"

William Cross, W3TN, a staff member in the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, and Riley Hollingsworth, Special Counsel for the Spectrum Enforcement Division of the FCC's Enforcement Bureau, spoke at the FCC Forum on Saturday afternoon at the 2008 Dayton Hamvention. Cross opened by explaining just where Amateur Radio falls in the FCC's bureaucracy.

"The Mobility Division of Wireless Telecommunications Bureau has the oversight of the Amateur Radio Service," Cross said. "We handle the day-to-day administration of the Amateur Service and some of the rulemaking activities that affect the Amateur Radio Service. The Gettysburg office handles applications, licensing --including vanity calls -- and the ULS. Within the Commission, other bureaus also make rules that affect you. The Office of Engineering and Technology handles spectrum allocations and equipment issues. Our Managing Director's Office is the office that handles matters relating to fees, such as the fees relating to vanity call signs, Debt Collection Improvement Act matters, the need for Federal Registration Numbers."

Cross divided comments into two areas: Proceedings where the Commission has issued a decision and rulemaking requests that have been filed with the FCC, but which are pending resolution by the Commission.

Calling the past year "interesting, because it has been a quiet year on the regulatory front," he said that no big rulemaking items were released. "This being an election year, there doesn't seem to be any legislation on Capitol Hill that is of direct interest or impact on the Amateur Service. This year is a good time for Amateur Radio to be flying 'below the radar,' and that's where ham radio is right now in terms of the big picture -- below the radar," Cross said. "We wrapped up a couple of Petitions for Rulemaking [PRM] that were pending and it doesn't look like (at least in the near future) there will be anything else coming out."

One of the cases the FCC issued a decision on was what Cross referred to as the Miller Order. This Order, released May 7, dismissed a PRM from Mark Miller, N5RFX. Miller sought three points: To delete the FCC's 2006 addition to how it defines data, to amend the rules to prohibit automatically controlled stations from transmitting on frequency segments other than those specified in Section 97.221(b), and to replace the symbol rate limits in Section 97.307(f) with bandwidth limitations.

"The effect of these changes," Cross explained, "when taken together, would have been, as [Miller] said, 'A small number of wider bandwidth modes, including Pactor III, would no longer be authorized.' Translating that into English, what he was asking for was 'bye-bye Winlink.' Don't get me wrong -- Winlink as a communications system seems to have become the 'Brussels sprouts of ham radio' -- you either love it or you hate it. And trying to bury it under ketchup or hollandaise sauce hasn't changed the basic like or dislike for Winlink. Most of the controversy here seems to swirl around how certain licensees use it. Some use it for a radio e-mail system. Others use it for getting weather maps while they are on sailboats in places the brave dare not go. Others use it for their personal business activities, such as buying and selling stocks. These uses are really a Section 97.113, a 'prohibited communications' question, not a technology question."

Cross mentioned that there are "some things coming down the pike that you want to keep track of. The ARRL has a pending petition -- RM 11325 -- that requests that we amend the rules that apply to the power stations may use when transmitting spread-spectrum emissions -- BPL. The DC Circuit Court of Appeals remanded the FCC's final BPL rules. The Court did not vacate the rules, so they are still in effect. There will be another proceeding to address what the Court told the Commission it had to address."

The Northern California Packet Association has filed a request for clarification that the FCC define what is meant by the term "simultaneously" as it is used when defining a repeater. "The issue here is that in California," Cross explained, "D-STAR repeaters have been coordinated on channels that are set aside for auxiliary stations, on the basis that, because there is a delay in retransmission of the signal, the retransmission is not simultaneous, and therefore the repeating station is not a repeater." Cross said others have advanced what he calls "the duck argument: If the

station looks like a repeater, if it functions like a repeater, and it sounds like a repeater, it should be treated as a repeater -- and confined to the repeater subbands. A decision on this will be coming [from the Commission] shortly."

When Hollingsworth stepped up to the podium, he spoke about what he called "the magic of radio," saying, "we need to realize the debt we owe to those who work so hard to further the goals of Amateur Radio, whether it's the Emergency Communications participants, club members, teachers, VEs, the League. One of the richest rewards in doing something is to experience joy in doing it. And with so many people working so hard on their own time to further the goals of Amateur Radio, we're all a little more free to enjoy radio and to make it fun as well as a public service."

Saying that "things have calmed down a lot in the Amateur Radio Service," Hollingsworth explained, "[that] when it comes to the Amateur Radio Service, there's one enforcement tool we need very badly and we just don't have it -- and that's straitjackets," he deadpanned, eliciting guffaws from the crowd of more than 150 people. "Some days I want to ask, 'Why can't everybody just get along?"

Hollingsworth noted that since the 75 and 80 meter phone band has been expanded, "a lot of these regular small groups, ragchews and some of the Nets should consider "spreading out, because a lot of the regular operations every night are clumped together. Yes, there are still interference issues and interference allegations, but if everybody would spread out a little bit, now, it's going to take a real change of habit by a group that has used the same frequency for 40 years to talk across the state, but you really need to spread out and take advantage [of the band] expansion."

He also noted that interest in Morse code "seems to be higher than ever before." On the enforcement side, Hollingsworth said he has noticed "no difference in enforcement problems related to no-code, and I think I'm seeing more young people at events that I go to." He reminded audience that only 1 percent of Amateur Radio licensees filed comments in the Morse code Proceeding. "I see the new code keys for sale here, and I always see a big crowd of people around anything related to code or code keyers. I think the interest has really peaked."

Hollingsworth pointed out a 12 year old boy who sat in the front row. When asked, the boy responded he received his license three years ago when he was 9. "The future President of the League might be sitting right there," Hollingsworth explained, pointing at the boy. "That's our future, right there, and we're depending on you. We need a lot more young people and I think that Morse code seems to interest young people -- hopefully they're getting tired of instant messengers and the Internet. Last night someone told me about a 14 year old Net Control Operator on a national Net."

Calling for "more courtesy" on the Amateur Radio bands, Hollingsworth said, "This fighting amongst yourselves is the worst thing that you can do. You have some rude operators and operators who don't care and who are hateful and bitter about life in general, but every group has that, whether it's doctors, electricians, lawyers, plumbers, whatever, every group has a certain percentage of people like that. What you have to do is to remind yourself every day to stay on the high road and report to us if you can't resolve a problem after you've given it a chance to go away. There are plenty of ugly situations in the world and you don't have to add to them. Now, there are a few idiots in your Service who know all the answers, only because they haven't thought of all the questions. They just want recognition and reaction. Don't give it to them. Don't be baited. Don't feel insulted -- they are their own worst punishment. Don't dignify them with a response."

Hollingsworth implored the audience to "never let the Commission get by again with handing you 10 to 12 years of neglect. You have to stay vigilant. Even though the bands may sound better to you, you have to be vigilant to protect your Service, and be part of the solution -- not the problem -- and operate as if the whole world is listening, because generally it is."

You can listen to the FCC Forum in its entirety on the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/news/images/nms/other/FCCForumMP3.mp3>.

NEW AMATEUR RADIO SATELLITE RECEIVES OSCAR DESIGNATION

Earlier this week, Bill Tynan, W3XO, announced that Amateur Radio satellite Delfi C-3 http://www.delfic3.nl/ has been issued an OSCAR number: Delfi-C3 OSCAR-64 or Dutch OSCAR-64. The shortened version of either of these two designations is DO-64. Delfi C-3 was successfully launched April, 28, 2008 from India aboard a Polar launch vehicle and was successfully commissioned, currently transmitting telemetry on the 2 meter amateur band. In addition to its 2 meter downlink, Delfi C-3 has an uplink on the 70 cm band. This newest amateur satellite was developed by a team of some 60 students and facility members from various polytechnic schools in The Netherlands. Delfi C-3 carries two experiments: one involving thin film solar cells developed by Dutch Space, and an autonomous wireless Sun sensor from the Dutch Government Research Institute (TNO). According to Delfi C-3 Project Manager Wolter Jan Ubbels, Delfi C-3 has been duly coordinated through Region 1 IARU representative Graham Shirville, G3VZV, that the satellite meets all of the criteria necessary to be issued an OSCAR number. "AMSAT-NA is pleased to welcome DO-64 into the family of Amateur Radio satellites," Tynan said. "We are hopeful that it will fulfill its intended mission of furthering education and increasing interest in the Amateur Radio space program. We congratulate all of those responsible for designing, building, testing and launching this new Amateur Radio satellite and look forward to its long and productive life."

MS Walk

On Sat. May 3rd the National Multiple Sclerosis Soceity held their annual MS walk in San Jose along the guadalupe river trail. Starting at the Arena Green Park and walking up to Hedding St. and back down to the Childrens Discovery Museum and back to Arena Green Park. SCCARA again provided amateur radio communication for the walk. On behalf of the MS Society and Joan and I we would like to thank the following members for their services. Wally Britten KA6YMD, Jeannie Felix KG6YOR, Lou Steirer WA6QYS. Gwen Steirer KF6OTD, Mike Hastings KB6LCJ, Don Village K6PBQ, Matthew Root KI6HKH, Tom Root KF6NEW and LLoyd Devaughns KD6FJI. Thanks again for a great job.

73 Don Village K6PBQ

Reviews

How about let's have equipment reviews from the members as a regular column of the *SCCARA-GRAM*. It doesn't have to be anything huge, just give us some likes and dislikes of a recent radio or equipment purchase you've made The sort of thing you'd tell a fellow member if they asked you about it.

I'll do the first one...

Icom IC-W32A dual band hand-held

I've had this HT for a few years now it has worked pretty well. It's a dual band 2 M / 70 cm, almost like two radios in one, which is nice. It shows info about both on the display at the same time. It's 5 watts on high power.

I only have two complaints: 1) the receiver on 2 M is quite wide, this allows you to receive the weather channel. That's a nice feature, but the problem with this is that a strong signal anywhere around the middle of the VHF band will overwhelm the receiver. You won't know it, it just appears to stop receiving. Pager transmitters seem to be a problem. 2) This second problem may be common to most modern HT's, but it's a problem nonetheless. When the thing is on my belt, once in a while I'll bump the keys against something and it'll get into some mode that I can't get it out of without the manual.

Other than that, it's a nice HT. I like being able to swap battery packs and not have it forget where it was.

73, Gary WB6YRU

Ned in Bosnia

I spent my vacation in Bosnia from May 7th to May 21st. During my stay in Sarajevo I operated as E7/AC6YY. I worked mostly CW and PSK31 on 40, 30 and 20 meters as well as on 2 m with the local guys.



My setup was ICOM 706 MK2G, LDG Z-11 Pro Tuner, Signal link SL-1 sound card interface, random wire antenna, MFJ 33 foot push up mast and HP Omni book laptop. I worked most of Europe, West Asia, Middle East and some DX stations. I worked Siberian and North American East Coast stations. Propagations were pretty good and bands were open almost the whole day and night, but unfortunately not very good for communication with California.

I also visited a few old ham friends: E74KC Akif, and T99T Mujo. E74KC is RTTY World Champion and T99T is on the Honor DXCC List, he worked all DXCC entities, his last country was BS7H. In order to work that station T99T built four-element quad antenna.

73, Ned, AC6YY

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, May 12, 2008



General Meeting, May 12th, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM with introductions, including new Directors WB6 YRU Gary Mitchell and W6JPP John Parks. There were 23 members signed in.

Announcements:

Bill Dale, N2RHV reported that a good time was had by the various club members who attended Emcomm West, including John Parks- who took home the top door prize. Gordon West was very pleased to be the speaker at the banquet.

Field Day:

Chairman Fred Townsend explained the organization structure and the latest spots he has filled. John Parks is the public information officer (remember the spell-checker, John). Greg Lane will be in charge of safety, the generator, and fuel (SG&E).

We will be operating in Class 2A again this year. One of the many rule changes includes points for having classes as part of the operation. We will organize at least one class during the weekend to get those points.

Late news: there has been a court decision against the FCC in the ARRL's suit over their BPL rulings. The court found that the FCC had violated it's own rules, used false data, and then illegally withheld data from the public record.

Evening Program:

Fred again came through with a very well researched and illustrated presentation on the development of data storage technology, from simple switches and basic logic building blocks to magnetic cores, magnetic storage on tape and disk, to bubble memory, flash, and the various volatile and non-volatile solid state devices we have today. He included their performance characteristics and limitations, as well as the driving forces behind each new generation. Almost everyone present could relate to one or more "ancient" (20th century) technologies.

Closing Announcements:

Jim reviewed recent activities- the Spring picnic with 35 in attendance, the Stanford Powwow, the May 3rd MS Walk, the SVECS De Anza Swap Meet with 125 vendors, and the NARCC meeting.

Upcoming ham class at West Valley College. Ned, AC^YY is in Europe and working CW

Field Day is June 28-29, with a practice session at the Red Cross station on May 31. There will be an antenna trailer party to rebalance the load in early June.

The club now has Kenwood TS140 HF and 2530 2M transceivers from the Children's Discovery Museum.

The meeting didn't really adjourn- it sort of wandered out around 9:30...

Minutes submitted by Mike Aronoff

Board Meeting, May 19, 2008



The meeting was called to order at 1932 hours, following the Monday night NET.

The following members were in attendance:
Jim Tyranski, KG6UDW, President
Fred Townsend, AE6QL, Vice President
Don Steinbach, AE6PM, Treasurer
Lou Steirer, WA6QYS, Director
Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU, Director & Newsletter Editor
John Parks, W6JPP, Director & Activities Chairman
Don Village, Trustee
Mike Aronoff, WB0TOW, Secretary
Gwen Steirer, KF6OTD, guest and hostess
Clark Murphy, KE6KXO, senior member
Gregg Lane, KF6FNA, assistant activities chairman

The President presided.

Secretary's Report

The minutes and action items from the April meeting were read. There was one correction requested: the BBS node will be run properly without a backup battery, which will therefore not be replaced as reported.

Treasurer's Report

Current account balances were \$340.29 in checking, \$5,091.98 in savings, and \$144.60 cash-on-hand for a total of \$5576.87. John Parks seconded Lou's motion to accept the report, which then passed without objection.

Announcements:

Jim reported on the results of the NARCC meeting. All repeaters have to have their coordinates rechecked. Some are off by as much as 3 meters because of a USGS software error (involuntary shedder). There will be no new 450 MHZ coordinations within 150 miles of Beal AFB. The Air Force will accept interference calculations from W1RFI (ARRL Lab). D-Star frequencies are also expanding, with 19 new repeaters and some reallocations.

Lou reported on the Stanford Powwow, showing pictures and the special QSL cards made. There were eight contacts, one of which was apparently a line-of-sight QRP contact. The pictures prompted a question: is there a Q-signal for "It is time to eat yet?"

Field Day Preparation:

John reported he is holding on the purchase of the new tarps for the trailer until Fall.

Don Village reported that the radios from the Children's Discovery Museum have been checked out and are ready to go after a little cleaning. Also, W6UW will be open for training and practice on Saturday, 5/31.

Fred is still looking for HF and GOTA station captains. Also, we will be checking out a new Windows logging program from WB3L. It has a call sign database for validation, and is recommended by the ARRL. A comparison with the tried-and-true SCARRA Classic (DOS) logger will be held on 5/31.

There was an energetic discussion about using external monitors with the notebook computers for better visibility. Gary is going to test a TFT version and report the results.

Failing to resolve the monitor question, the subject of the awnings or canopies next ignited. The existing ones are difficult to erect, are not very stable, and are wearing out. Gary moved and Don Village seconded that John procure two new pop-up canopies for no more that \$250. The motion passed without objection. It was suggested that the old ones be offered on the Monday net. (Secretary's note: John got the canopies for a total of \$90 plus tax)

Jim again raised the question of ordering club patches for Field Day, but no motion was forthcoming.

Old Business:

Crystaled channel elements for the 440 repeater are on order from International Crystal. We still need to locate a manual before the repeated can be fired up.

Webmaster. The speed of downloading the newsletter has been improved by Gary, by reducing the photo true image sizes by as much as 75%. They view correctly in the newsletter, but cannot be enlarged further.

BBS. The WH6IO BBS in Benicia may be closing down, and some links may switch to NOARY. There is also the possibility of putting in an HF packet link in the future. There were six BBS check-ins this past month. The report elicited a brief discussion of emcomm packet nets and the differences with the BBS network.

John Parks moved and Fred seconded that the meeting be adjourned. To the president's evident dismay, the motion passed at 2110 hours.

Minutes submitted by Mike Aronoff, Secretary

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 fill out an Elmer form from the club secretary.

Antennas, feed-lines, tuners: WB6EMR, W6JPP, K6PBQ, WB6YRU

Lightning protection, grounding:

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):

HF operating techniques (SSB, CW): WB6EMR, K6PBQ

Classes/license upgrading: W6ACW

Legal/FCC rules: WB6YRU

SCCARA (club inner workings): K6PBQ, WB6YRU, WA6QYS

EchoLink: KK6MX

W6ACW, Ed Hajny, (408) 739-6105

WB6EMR, James D. Armstrong, Jr., evening & msg: (408) 945-1202

KD6FJI, Lloyd DeVaughns,

(408) 225-6769 e-mail: kd6fji@arrl.net

KK6MX, Don Apte, (408) 629-0725

e-mail: kk6mx@aol.com

KB6NP, Jon Dutra, day & msg (408) 428-2058 evening (408) 867-8654

packet: home BBS NOARY

e-mail: jad@aol.com

K6PBQ, Don Village, (408) 263-2789

e-mail: donvillage7@yahoo.com

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

WB6YRU, Gary Mitchell, msg (408) 265-2336

also (408) 269-2924 packet: home BBS NOARY

e-mail: wb6yru@ix.netcom.com

Newsletter Notes

About Field Day...

Information

The SCCARA-GRAM normally contains a lot of information about what SCCARA has planned for Field Day. But for some reason that I don't understand, nothing was submitted this year.

The only thing I know for sure is that we'll again do Field Day from Mt. Madonna off Hecker Pass HWY 152, in the southern tip of the county (see map on the last page), and there's a list of leaders and their functions, (see page 1).

Rumor has it that meals will be a combination of pot-luck and club provided. I also imagine there will be a set-up crew going up Friday June 27, but I've got no information on that.

Some of you may remember that I'm also into astronomy and set up a telescope one night during a previous Field Day. Jim has asked for me to do that again. Let's tentatively plan on Saturday night for a little astronomy to go with Field Day.

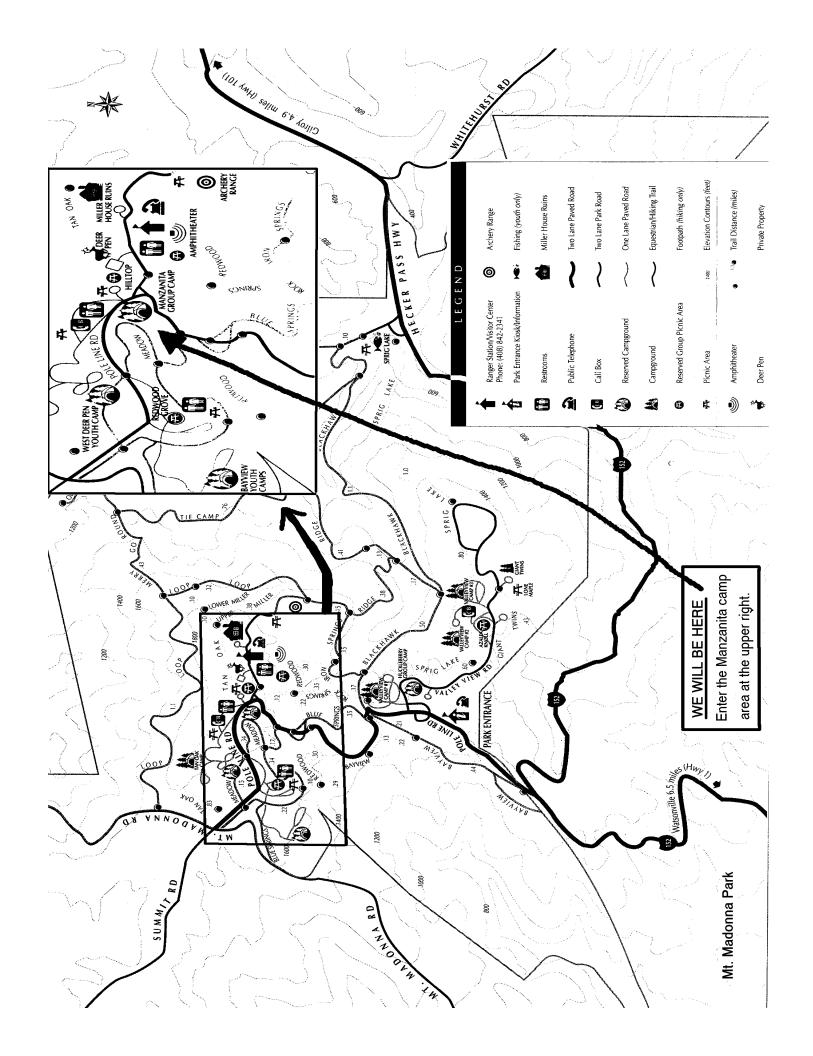
Computer logging

Most of you are well aware of the problem we've had seeing our computer screens during the day. TFT type LCD monitors are supposed to visible in daylight. I experimented with one recently and it appears to be true—they're much easier to see in daylight. So, this year I'm going to get some to try out. Hopefully this will cure that problem.

One other thing... I've been working on my logging program, adding a correction mode. In the past, we've had to make bogus entries with a note in the information field that the previous X number of entries have some certain error. Then the log would be fixed later. A way of doing a proper correction has been lacking, up to now.

I hope to have something usable in time, but I can't make any promises. The basic function of the program will be exactly the same, you won't notice any difference, except there will be a new function choice.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor







FIRST CLASS

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SCCARA Membership Form for 2008 Fill in name and call only if renewing and no info has changed

Name:		Call:	Class: E A G T+ T N
Address:			Licensed since (yr):
City:	State:	Zip:	Licence Expiration Date (mo/yr):
Telephone: ()		ew Member	lenewal ————————————————————————————————————
E-mail:			
Memberships begin January 1 and expire December 31. If renewing: annual membership dues (base rate) are: \$20 Individual, \$25 Family, \$10 Student (under 18) For new members: If joining in January: base rate If joining in February through October: base rate x (11 - month) x 10% (e.g. for June, that would be: base rate x 50%) If joining in November or December: free for November and December if paying the base rate for the following year			
\$ Dues payment for:	\square individual \square fami	ly 🗆 student	
For family memberships (at the same address), please include a separate form for each family member.			
I want the newsletter by:	☐ U.S. Mail	☐ internet (make sure	your e-mail address is legible and correct)