

# SCCARA-GRAM



## Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 35, Number 11

November 2019



### President's Prose

The next SCCARA meeting on November 11, 2019 will include election of officers for 2020. Nominations were held at the October meeting, however there will still be a chance to nominate other candidates before the vote is taken. The list of nominations so far are:

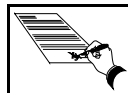
President - Gregg Lane KF6FNA  
Vice President - Ned Tufekcic AC6YY  
Secretary - Barbara Britten KF6QEI  
Treasurer - Goetz Brandt K6GKB  
Directors - Wally Britten KA6YMD, Lou Steirer WA6QYS  
(two positions open)

The December SCCARA meeting will be a Holiday Dinner Meeting and will start at 6:30 p.m. The location will be announced at the November meeting and published in the December SCCARA-GRAM.

The club station at the Red Cross will be open two more times this year: November 2 for the CW Sweepstakes, and November 16 for the SSB Sweepstakes. You can get more information about the club station at the meetings, on the Monday night 2 m SCCARA net, or by contacting the station trustee Don Village K6PBQ.

Have a happy Thanksgiving!

73, Gregg KF6FNA, [kf6fna@comcast.net](mailto:kf6fna@comcast.net)



### Club Station

Our club station at the Red Cross is normally open on the last Saturday of the month and some contests or special event during the year.

On October 5th our station was open for the California QSO Party. SCCARA made 75 contacts with the help of Gregg KF6FNA, Lou WA6QYS, and myself Don K6PBQ.

SCCARA will operate the ARRL Sweepstakes, both CW and SSB. On November 2: CW from 2100 UTC (2 PM) to 4 PM. On November 16: SSB 2100 UTS (1 PM) to 4 PM

Members should come down to the Red Cross station to operate and have "eye-ball" QSO's with our members.

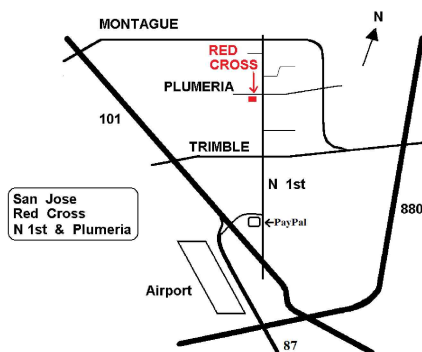
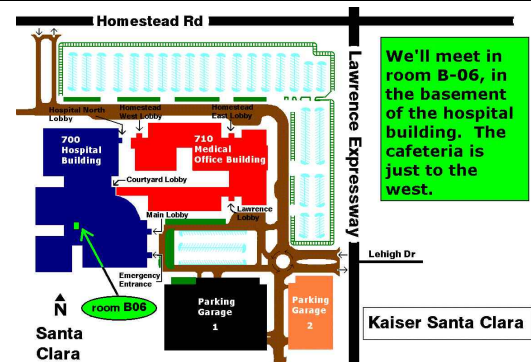
73, Don K6PBQ

### Calendar

- 11/2 Club station open, 1 PM - 4 PM  
11/11 SCCARA General Meeting - club elections!  
11/16 Club station open, 12 PM - 4 PM  
11/18 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)

### General Meeting

Day: Monday, Nov. 11, 2019  
Time: 7:30 PM  
Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Hospital B-06  
Featuring: club elections



The **SCCARA-GRAM** is published monthly by the **SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION**, PO Box 106, San Jose CA 95103-0106.

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.

Permission to reprint articles is hereby granted, provided the source is properly credited.

The deadline for articles is the **last Monday of the month.**

**Web page:** [www.qsl.net/sccara](http://www.qsl.net/sccara)

club email: [w6uw@arrl.net](mailto:w6uw@arrl.net) or [w6uw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:w6uw@sbcglobal.net)

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

(officers are also directors)

President	Gregg Lane KF6FNA	408-393-5607
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:kf6fna@comcast.net">kf6fna@comcast.net</a>	
Vice President	Ned Tufekcic AC6YY	408-690-7250
	<a href="mailto:94nt@hotmail.com">94nt@hotmail.com</a>	
Secretary	Barbara Britten, KD6QEI	408-293-3847
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:kd6qei@arrl.net">kd6qei@arrl.net</a>	
Treasurer	Goetz Brandt, K6GKB	408-259-7287
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:goetz@ix.netcom.com">goetz@ix.netcom.com</a>	
Station Trustee	Don Village, K6PBQ	408-263-2789
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:donvillage7@yahoo.com">donvillage7@yahoo.com</a>	
Director	Janet Motha, KF6PUQ	408-252-3939
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:jmotha21@gmail.com">jmotha21@gmail.com</a>	
Director	Lou Steirer, WA6QYS	408-241-7999
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:wa6qys@aol.com">wa6qys@aol.com</a>	
Director	Truman Lindsey, N6TRU	408-896-1878
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:n6truhamradio@gmail.com">n6truhamradio@gmail.com</a>	
Director	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	408-293-3847
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:ka6ymd@arrl.net">ka6ymd@arrl.net</a>	
Director	James Rustermier, KI6ZSK	408- 972-1689
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:rustermier@gmail.com">rustermier@gmail.com</a>	

#### **COMMITTEES**

Editor	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	408-269-2924
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:wb6yru@ix.netcom.com">wb6yru@ix.netcom.com</a>	
Repeater	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	408-293-3847
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:ka6ymd@arrl.net">ka6ymd@arrl.net</a>	
N0ARY BBS	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	408-269-2924
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:wb6yru@ix.netcom.com">wb6yru@ix.netcom.com</a>	
Webmaster	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	408-293-3847
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:ka6ymd@arrl.net">ka6ymd@arrl.net</a>	

#### **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 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.

#### **N0ARY PACKET BBS**

SCCARA hosts the packet BBS N0ARY (connect to n0ary-1). User ports: 145.09 MHz at 1200 baud, 433.37 MHz at 9600 baud, and telnet sun.n0ary.org (login "bbs"). Sysop: Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU. For general packet info, see the NCPA web site [ncpa.n0ary.org](http://ncpa.n0ary.org).

#### **AMATEUR LICENSE TESTING**

ARRL/VEC Silicon Valley VE group:  
Morris Jones, AD6ZH: 408-507-4698

## **For Sale**

Vibroplex keys:

Lighting bug, grey base, SN 271598, 1973.  
Mint condition.

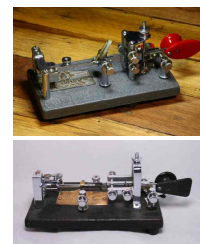
With case (fair condition) \$170

Original bug, black base, SN 114662, 1940.  
Good condition.

With case (fair condition). \$170

Don Village K6PBQ. 408-263-2789

{stock photos}



## **ARRL News**

From *The ARRL Letter*, Oct. 10, 2019

### **US Coast Guard Aims Proposal to End MF Navigational Telex (NAVTEX) Broadcasts**

The US Coast Guard is seeking comments on a proposal that it may stop broadcasting medium-frequency (MF) Navigational Telex (NAVTEX).

([www.regulations.gov/document?D=USCG-2019-0702-0001](http://www.regulations.gov/document?D=USCG-2019-0702-0001)) The service says it first will ensure that the information contained in NAVTEX broadcasts is available via International Maritime Organization-recognized satellite services. Interested parties may submit comments online (<http://www.regulations.gov/>) by November 12. The proposal is docket USCG-2019-0702. Comments should include the docket number, specific section of the document to which each comment applies, and a reason for each suggestion or recommendation. Comments may be anonymous.

"Current MF NAVTEX equipment is in dire need of replacement. The equipment is antiquated, and essential replacement parts are difficult to find and expensive, placing overall operation of MF NATEX at risk," the Coast Guard said. "Any approved GMDSS satellite terminal will be able to receive this information."

NAVTEX is an international automated service for radio delivery of navigational and meteorological warnings and forecasts, as well as urgent maritime safety information. It provides a low-cost means of broadcasting this information to ships out to approximately 100 nautical miles offshore. NAVTEX is part of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) which has been incorporated into the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) treaty, to which the US is a party. The US Coast Guard operates the system nationwide.

System coverage is reasonably continuous in the east, west, and Gulf coasts of the US, as well as the area around Kodiak, Alaska; Guam, and Puerto Rico. The US has no coverage in the Great Lakes, although coverage of much of the Lakes is provided by the Canadian Coast Guard. The US Coast Guard originally only installed NAVTEX at sites where Morse code messages had been previously transmitted, and some coverage gaps exist.

"We believe the transition from terrestrial broadcast to satellite will provide for more reliable delivery of NAVTEX information and allow better, more cost-effective products in the future," the Coast Guard said.



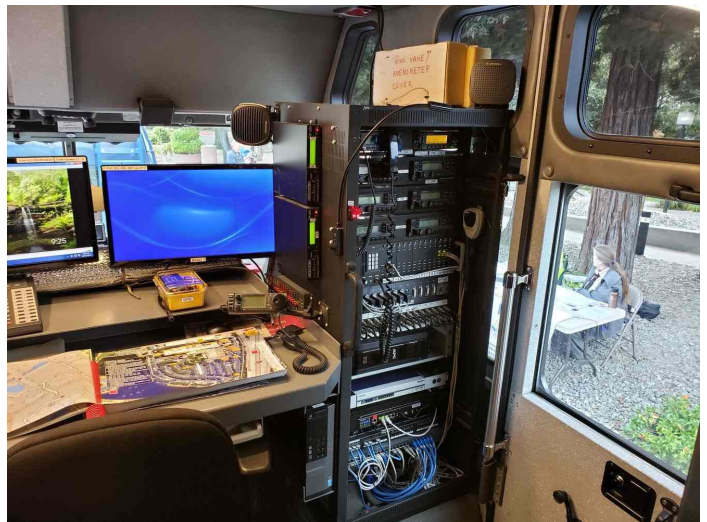
# Pacificon Pictures



Kristen K6WX, at the conclusion of her "SWR-so what" talk.



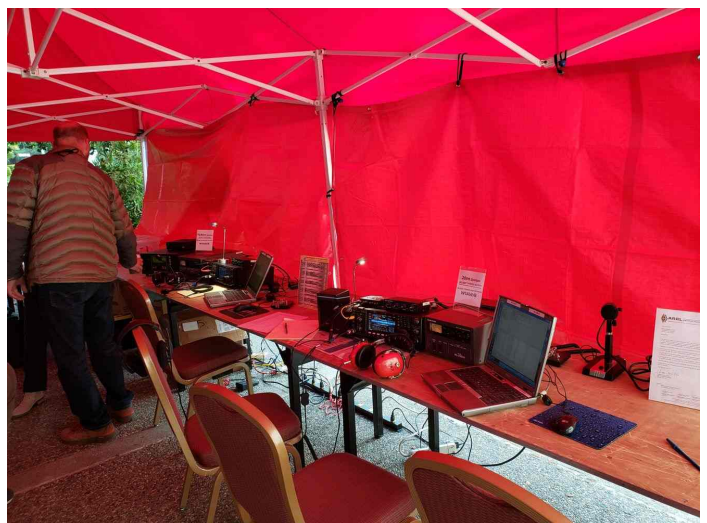
San Ramon Valley Com truck



Equipment inside the San Ramon Valley Com truck



MDARC Com Van



Under the tent of W1AW/6



# Meeting Minutes

## General Meeting, Oct. 14, 2019



*{No minutes received. -- Editor}*

## Board Meeting, Oct. 21, 2019



American Red Cross, N 1st & Plumeria, San Jose, CA

Meeting called to order by President Gregg Lane KF6FNA at 8:00 PM

### Attendance:

President Gregg Lane KF6FNA; Station Trustee Don Village K6PBQ; Directors: Lou Steirer WA6QYS; Wally Britten KA6YMD; Truman Lindsey N6TRU.

Excused absence: Secretary Barbara Britten KD6QEI; Treasurer Goetz Brandt, K6GKB.

Absent: James Rustermier KI6ZSK.

Visitors: Garret Ruiz

The previous board meeting minutes were not read -unavailable.

### Announcements:

President's Report, Gregg KF6FNA:

SVECS breakfast 10/26/19 at 9:00 AM, Club station to open at about 12:00 CQ WW DX contest will be on the air.

Vice President's Report, none

Secretary's Report, Barbara KD6QEI: none

Treasurer's Report, Goetz K6GKB: none

Trustee's Report, Don K6PBQ: Don echoed the 10/26 activities and noted 11/2 will be CW Sweeps startinf 2100 UCT, and the SSB sweeps 11/16 again 2100 UCT.

### Standing Committees

Repeater chairman's report, Wally KA6YMD: none

Webmaster's report, Wally KA6YMD:

Brief discussion about the intermittent QRM' to our repeater from San Mateo. OO Andy is checking on it but as it only occurs when one specific person is net control it is hard to observe.

### Old Business:

Discussed briefly plans for SCCARA's 100year anniversary QSL card. Will it be a one time thing, or kept as a new version. SCCARA Holiday lunch to be on 12/9/19. Further details pending.

New Business: none

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Wally Britten KA6YMD, for the Secretary



W1AW/6 stations, with appropriate decorations of the season.



Solar panel & Control box



Selfie of me with Koji JP1HUJ/AI7HU (left). I caught him at the Japan ARC table Saturday night. He had just arrived in from New York. We had a nice eye ball chat. Koji is the founder and CEO of Xcelux Design.

73, Kelly WB6AAJ

# Packet Pieces

## Downloaded from the BBS packet network:

=====  
Date: 29 May 2011 04:43  
From: ZL3AI@YB8EW  
To: HUMOUR@WW  
Subject: Bottle/Anchor/Rabbit/Church  
-----

### You've Got Bottle

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A ragged individual stranded for several months on a small desert island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean one day noticed a bottle lying in the sand with a piece of paper in it. Rushing to the bottle, he pulled out the cork and with shaking hands withdrew the message.

"Due to lack of maintenance," he read, "we regretfully have found it necessary to cancel your e-mail account."

### Anchorwoman

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"Most cars on our roads have only one occupant, usually the driver." - Carol Malia, BBC Anchorwoman

### Rabbit

-----

If a rabbit is raised indoors, would it be an ingrown hare?

### Attending Church

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After Sunday service a young couple talked to the pastor about joining the church. He hadn't met the husband before, so he asked what church he was transferring from.

The husband looked down at his feet and replied... "I am transferring from the Municipal Golf Course."

=====  
Date: 28 May 2011 04:10  
From: W1GMF@K7EK  
To: HUMOR@USA  
Subject: Dating Dinosaur Bones  
-----

Some tourists in the Chicago Museum of Natural History are marveling at the dinosaur bones. One of them asks the guard, "Can you tell me how old the dinosaur bones are?"

The guard replies, "They are 3 million, four years, and six months old."

"That's an awfully exact number," says the tourist. "How do you know their age so precisely?"

The guard answers, "Well, the dinosaur bones were three million years old when I started working here, and that was four and a half years ago."

# 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 and who to contact for each. If your topic isn't listed, ask one of the Elmers under the topic that comes closest and we'll ask around.

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 (available from the club secretary or on our web site).

## Topics:

Antennas, feed-lines, tuners: **NV6W, W6JPP, K6PBQ**  
CW (Morse code): **NV6W, K6PBQ**  
DX (long distance, propagation): **NV6W**  
EchoLink: **K6GKB**  
Emergency operating, preparedness: **WA6QYS**  
HF operating techniques: **NV6W, K6PBQ**  
Homebrew projects, construction: **WB6YRU**  
Legal, FCC rules: **WB6YRU**  
License testing, new amateurs: **W6JPP**  
Lightning protection, grounding: **WB6YRU**  
Packet Network (BBS, forwarding): **WB6YRU**  
SCCARA (club inner workings): **K6PBQ, WB6YRU, WA6QYS**  
Station set-up, equipment: **K6PBQ, W6JPP**  
TVI, RFI: **WB6YRU**

## Contacts:

K6GKB, Goetz Brandt, 408-259-7287  
e-mail: [goetz@ix.netcom.com](mailto:goetz@ix.netcom.com)

NV6W, James D. Armstrong, Jr.,  
evening & msg: 408-670-1680

W6JPP, John Parks  
e-mail: [w6jpp@arrl.net](mailto:w6jpp@arrl.net)

K6PBQ, Don Village, 408-263-2789  
e-mail: [donvillage7@yahoo.com](mailto:donvillage7@yahoo.com)

WA6QYS, Lou Steirer, 408-241-7999  
e-mail: [wa6qys@arrl.net](mailto:wa6qys@arrl.net)

WB6YRU, Gary Mitchell, 408-269-2924  
packet: home BBS N0ARY  
e-mail: [wb6yru@ix.netcom.com](mailto:wb6yru@ix.netcom.com)

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## Newsletter Notes

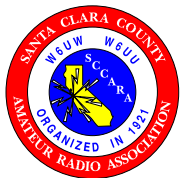
We have one candidate for each office position for the club elections. But don't let that stop you if you're interested in running for club office. You'll have a chance to throw your hat in the ring before the vote at the November meeting.

As usual, we want to have a dinner meeting in December. What is not so usual is the location has yet to be decided as of this edition. If you have any good ideas, let us know.

Regarding the Coast Guard's proposal to end its NAVTEX broadcasts in the MF band... If this keeps up, I wonder if we could eventually get more MF amateur segments.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

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**SCCARA**

Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association  
PO Box 106  
SAN JOSE CA 95103-0106

**FIRST CLASS**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**SCCARA Membership Form for 2020**

If renewing and none of your info has changed, we only need your name and call

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

only for club communications and the SCCARA-GRAM newsletter (pdf)

**Membership type and dues:**      **Individual, \$20**      **Family, \$25**      **Student, \$10 (under 18)**

Memberships start January 1 and expire December 31.

Family memberships (more than one member per household): please include the above info for each member, use separate forms.

**New members:**

Dues are prorated: dues x (11 - month) x 10% For example: July would be \$20 x (11-7) x 0.1 = \$8)

If joining in November or December: normal dues for next year, the rest of this year is included free.

**I want the paper newsletter delivered by U.S. Mail for an additional \$20 per year**

(Prorated, \$1.67 per month. That's \$18.33 if starting in February, \$16.67 if starting in March, etc.)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Total** enclosed

Give this completed form and payment to the Secretary or Treasurer at any meeting or mail to the club address.