

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 49, Number 3

March 2024



Next Meeting

Ned AC6YY will present and demonstrate how to program your radio with CHIRP programing tool. CHIRP is a free, open-source tool for programming your radio. It supports a large number of manufacturers and models, as well as provides a way to interface with multiple data sources and formats.

Bring your radio and programing cable and we will program your radio. Ned will bring programing cables for Baofeng, Kenwood and Yeasu radios.



73, Ned Tufekcic AC6YY

SCCARA to Host Electronic Flea Market

The April 8, 2024 SCCARA meeting at the American Red Cross will be about SCCARA hosting the **April 14, 2024 Electronics Flea Market**. This is our chance to raise funds to support our repeaters, the club station, Field Day, picnics, and SCCARA-GRAM. www.electronicfleamarket.com.

SCCARA is looking for volunteers to:

- 1) Shop for food items to be sold at the concession booth.
- 2) Pick up and return concession canopy and associated items from the ASVARO storage. Need 2 volunteers.
- 3) Help set up & take down the concession canopy/tables/ice tubs on the day of the flea market. Need 6 volunteers.
- 4) Sell at the concession booth. Need 3 volunteers per each 2 hour shift.
- 5) Help at the vender ticket gate / direct parking of the venders. Need 2 volunteers especially until 9am.

Times:

5:00 AM Vender ticket gate opens (need 2 volunteers until 9AM - first shift, second shift after 9AM?)

5:30 AM Set up concession canopy area (need 6 volunteers)

6:00 AM Food sales start (need 3 volunteers per each 2 hour shift)
Venders are set up and selling starts.

12:00 Noon. Flea market ends. Concession canopy tear down and clean up. (need 6 volunteers)

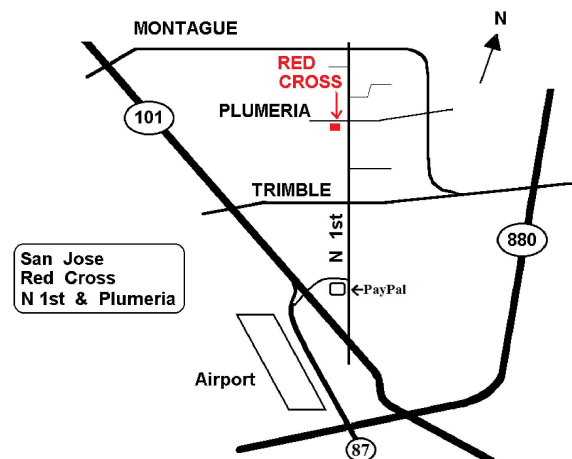
1:00 PM Return canopy etc. to ASVARO storage.

Calendar

3/11 SCCARA General Meeting
3/18 SCCARA Board Meeting:
3/30 Club Station open, 10 AM - 5 PM

General Meeting

Day: Monday, March 11
Time: 7:30 PM
Place: San Jose Red Cross, meeting room 3
Featuring: Ned AC6YY will give a demo of the CHIRP radio programming tool.



SCCARA has helped other clubs with set up and tear down of concession canopy. There should be a few volunteers from other clubs that will be willing to help SCCARA. I will be contacting members before the April 8, 2024 meeting to look for volunteers. Feel free to contact me / talk to me at the March 11 or April 8, 2024 meetings.

See you at the meetings,
Gregg KF6FNA, SCCARA President

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(officers are also directors)

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SCCARA REPEATERS

SCCARA owns and operates two repeaters under the call W6UU:

2 m: 146.985 - PL 114.8

70 cm: 442.425 + PL 107.2

Phone auto-dial and auto-patch is available. The 2 m 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 2 m repeater: Mondays at 7:30 PM, (not the second Monday--that's our meeting night); net control: Don Village, K6PBQ. On 10 m, 28.385 MHz USB, Thursdays at 8:00 PM; net control: *{to be announced}*. 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.

AMATEUR LICENSE TESTING

ARRL/VEC Silicon Valley VE group:

Morris Jones, AD6ZH:

408-507-4698

Bob W6OOY SK

I just received some bad news: long time member Bob Wharton W6OOY died on January 24, 2024. He joined SCCARA in 1956 and was our original repeater chairman in the 1960's.

Wally KA6YMD

Elmer Courses

The Northern California DX Club has Instructional Elmer Courses available for the general public. The link is: <https://ncdxc.org/elmer-course/>

This information was provided to SCCARA by our American Red Cross contact George Williams N6NKT.

Gregg KF6FNA

Free HAM Books and Magazines

The California Historical Radio Society (CHRS) in Alameda is now making available to interested amateurs and ham radio clubs duplicate copies of *QST* (1920s to 1970s), *CQs*, vintage ham radio handbooks, *Popular Communications*, *Monitoring Times*, *Old Timers Bulletins*, and many hard-to-find books on amateur and commercial radio history. We have many boxes of these volumes, including, for example, complete sets of 1940s *QSTs*. These are going out on a first come, first serve basis.

We are a non-profit dedicated to preserving wireless communication history, located at 2152 Central Avenue in Alameda, founded 1974. <https://californiahistoricalradio.com> Donations are appreciated, but not required.

Those interested in taking this opportunity to expand their collections should contact CHRS archivist Bob Rydzewski at brydzewski@sbcglobal.net.

73,

Bob Rydzewski KJ6SBR

Club News

The archives section on our web site has been updated, some new material added. So far only the 1920's through 1950's pages have been updated. More updating will be done soon, the pages for the 1960's and 1970's are next..

https://www.qsl.net/sccara/club_history_archives.htm

If you've had trouble connecting to the N0ARY packet BBS recently, there's a good reason. The RF ports are down due to a broken antenna. It's a tri-band antenna for the 2 m 1.25 m and 70 cm ports. A new antenna as been purchased and will be installed soon.



73, Gary WB6YRU

ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, Feb. 15, 2023

Senators Roger Wicker and Richard Blumenthal Introduce S.3690 to Eliminate Private Land Use Restrictions on Amateur Radio

On January 30, 2024, US Senators Roger Wicker (MS) and Richard Blumenthal (CT) introduced [S.3690](#), the Senate companion bill to H.R.4006, [introduced last June](#). Both bills reflect the Congressional campaign efforts by ARRL to eliminate homeowner association land use restrictions that prohibit, restrict, or impair the ability of an Amateur Radio Operator to install and operate amateur station antennas on residential properties they own.

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/3690/text>
<https://www.arrl.org/news/legislation-to-remove-private-land-use-restrictions-on-amateur-radio-introduced-in-congress>

Amateur Radio Operators repeatedly are relied upon to provide essential communications when disaster strikes, but their ability to do so is being impaired by the exponential growth of residential private land use restrictions that hinder their ability to establish stations in their homes with which to train and provide emergency communications when called upon.

In announcing the introduction of S.3690, Senator Wicker said: "Because communication during natural disasters is often hindered, we should be making every attempt to give folks more options. Reliable access can make the difference between life and death in an emergency. Our legislation removes roadblocks for amateur radio operators looking to help their friends, families, and neighbors."

In a similar announcement, Senator Blumenthal stated: "Our measure will help clarify the rules so ham radio enthusiasts can successfully continue their communications. In the face of emergency or crisis, they help provide vital, life-saving information that allow listeners to properly and safely respond, but prohibitive home association rules and confusing approval processes for installing antennas have been an unnecessary impediment. The Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act resolves these bottlenecks and ensures that radio operators can function successfully."

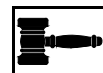


U.S. Senators
Richard
Blumenthal
(CT) [left] and
Roger Wicker
(MS)

ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, and Director John Robert Stratton, N5AUS, Chair of the ARRL's Government Affairs Committee, both extended on behalf of ARRL, its Members, and the Amateur Radio community their thanks and appreciation for the leadership of Senator Wicker and Senator Blumenthal in their continuing efforts to support and protect the rights of all Amateur Radio Operators.

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, Feb. 12, 2024



Meeting called to order by President Gregg Lane KF6FNA at 7:49 PM

Customary self introductions.

Announcements

President Gregg KF6FNA:

The 2m net is on Mondays at 7:30 pm on the W6UU repeater, except for SCCARA General Meeting nights.

The 10 m net is on 28.385 MHz every Thursday at 8:00pm. The club station is scheduled to be opened on the last Saturday of the month. The Board of Directors meeting is being held on the air on February 19th.

SCCARA has been scheduled for the second Electronics Flea Market of the year on April 14th.

Director Wally KA6YMD: I received the unfortunate news that a past SCCARA member Bob Wharton W6OOY has passed away on January 20th. He was repeater coordinator for a time.

Vice President John W6JPP: I'd appreciate any help I can get in getting new speakers for future meetings.

The American Legion post intends to updating and reflooring the hall for 5-7 days, which would be an excellent time to work on the antenna trailer.

The beam still needs to be tuned as well.

Editor Gary WB6YRU: We sent out the membership renewal reminders a few days ago by mail. Members should have received them by now. I anticipate receiving renewals from now.

I might recommend having a table for the Electronics Flea Market, selling goods for the club and perhaps allow members to sell stuff too.

I have been updating the Archives section on SCCARA's webpage with new material.

The SCCARA website could be updated for mobile phones and iPads in the future. Send me suggestions!

Our speaker Ned AC6YY gave an interesting presentation on how to install the N1MM software suite.

Ned AC6YY also shared a video about Bill Crane W9ZN, a famous audio engineer/technician for WGN, DJ for WVON AM station, and musician who was also a ham radio operator, proficient in CW. He passed away in 2023 at the age of 84.

Many thanks to Ned AC6YY for sharing the video on Mr. Crane and giving a presentation on N1MM!

Meeting adjourned at 9:26 PM

Truman M. Lindsey N6TRU, SCCARA Secretary

Board Meeting, Feb. 19, 2024



Held verbally on our 2 m repeater W6UU/R

Meeting called to order by President Gregg Lane KF6FNA at 7:48 PM

Attendance: Pres Gregg Lane KF6FNA, VP John Parks W6JPP, Treas Ned Tufekcic AC6YY, Directors: Lou Steirer WA6QYS,

Wally Britten KA6YMD, Gary Mitchell WB6YRU, and Doug Owens N6DPO.
Unexcused Absence: Dir. Janet Motha KF6PUQ, Sec. Truman Lindsey N6TRU.
Excused absence: Station Trustee Don Village K6PBQ

Announcements: Gregg KF6FNA: Don K6PBQ had a fall and is the hospital at Kaiser in Santa Clara, he is expected to be back at home in 4 weeks. The April 14 flea market will be at Foothill College

President's Report, Gregg KF6FNA: nothing to report

Vice President's Report, John W6JPP: We're still waiting for confirmation for the remodeling work at the American Legion. That's the time we should do the antenna work.
Ned and I will be out of town during the flea market.

Secretary's Report, Gregg KF6FNA: The previous board meeting minutes were published in the SCCARA-GRAM. Any corrections? (none heard) Approved by acclamation

Treasurer's Report, Ned AC6YY: Our current accounts are: checking = \$ 11536.00 , cash = \$ 107.04
The year 2023 ended with checking \$11683.89, cash \$87.04.
It costs \$265 for five years for our sccara.org domain name, payment is due March 10, 2024.

Standing Committees

Editor's report: Gary WB6YRU: Not much new to report, just that we need to make a greater effort to get info about club events in the newsletter. The deadline for the March edition is next Monday.

BBS Sysop's report: Gary WB6YRU: I have the replacement antenna, the PVC armor is done, it now just needs to be installed.

Repeater Chairman's report, Goetz K6GKB: The antenna needs to be re-installed, it's just hanging upside down, but it is working.
Wally KA6YMD: the cooling fan on the 70 cm repeater should be cleaned.

Webmaster's report, Doug N6DPO: There are some places that offer less expensive domain registration, such as \$20 per year. Is the board OK with maintaining the sccara.org domain name?

Old Business:

Gregg KF6FNA: A date for working on the antenna trailer is to be determined

John W6JPP: We should have Doug look into the new domain name provider.

Doug N6DPO: I would like to get direction from the board as to whether to move our domain name registration to another source (for typically \$20 / year), such as qsl.com.

Gregg KF6FNA: Our Red Cross rep. George N6NKT is working on getting a coax jumper put in to the second radio location in the radio room for the club station.

We need to get info for a "cheat sheet" on working the digital station, that's a work in progress.

John W6JPP was asking about a presentation for a school. (no response from John)

We need to work on getting our log book of the world re-established, that's a work in progress.

New Business:

Doug N6DPO: I'd like SCCARA to maintain the URL sccara.org, there's qsl.com who will do it for \$20 per year. There are some logistics involved, unlocking the record with the current provider

and starting the new registration with a new provider at the same time so no one will grab it. Qsl.com can make those kinds of changes.

I move that the board approve maintaining the sccara.org URL, and authorize \$20 per year.

Lou WA6QYS: second

W6JPP, AC6YY, WA6QYS, KA6YMD, WB6YRU, and N6DPO all voting YES. Gregg KF6FNA: The motion passes unanimously.

John W6JPP: I called Janet KF6PUQ, she is ill and won't be joining us tonight.

Gregg KF6FNA: Thanks to Goetz for hosting our repeater. We need to pay for the electricity. He said he could submit a bill twice per year. Our repeater antenna suffered some damage, the mast broke. Goetz has a new mast. His son offered to re-install the antenna.

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM

Gary Mitchell WB6YRU, recording for the Secretary

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the BBS packet network:

=====

Date: 14 Mar 2020 23:23
From: GM3YEW@GB7YEW
To: HUMOUR@WW
Subject: blockheads

I was at the checkout of a K-Mart. The clerk rang up \$46.64. I Gave her a fifty dollar bill. She gave me back \$46.64. I gave the money back to her and told her that she had made a mistake in MY favor. She became indignant and informed me she was educated and knew what she was doing, and returned the money again. I gave her the money back, same scenario! I departed the store with the \$46.64.

I walked into a Starbucks with a buy-one-get-one-free coupon for a Grande Latte. I handed it to the girl and she looked over at a little chalkboard that said 'buy one-get one free.' They're already buy-one-get-one-free,' she said, 'so I guess they're both free'. She handed me my free lattes and I walked out the door.

One day I was walking down the beach with some friends when one of them shouted, 'Look at that dead bird!' Someone looked up at the sky and said 'Where'?

While looking at a house, my brother asked the real estate agent which direction was North because, he explained, he didn't want the sun waking him up every morning. She asked, 'Does the sun rise in the north?' When my brother explained that the sun rises in the East, and has for sometime, she shook her head and said, 'Oh I don't keep up with all that stuff.'

I used to work in technical support for a 24/7 call center. One day I got a call from an individual who asked what hours the call center was open. I told him, 'The number you dialed is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.' He responded, 'Is that Eastern or Pacific time?' Wanting to

end the call quickly, I said, 'Uh, Pacific.'

My sister has a lifesaving tool in her car designed to cut through a seat belt if she gets trapped. She keeps it in the trunk.

My friends and I were buying beer and noticed that the cases were discounted 10%. Since it was a big party, we bought 4 cases. The cashier multiplied 4 times 10% and gave a 40% discount.

I couldn't find my luggage at the airport baggage area, so I went to the lost luggage office and told the woman there that my bags never showed up. She smiled and told me not to worry because she was a trained professional and I was in good hands. 'Now then,' she asked, 'has your plane arrived yet?'

While working at a pizza parlor I observed a man ordering a small pizza to go. He appeared to be alone and the cook asked him if he would like it cut into 4 pieces or 6. He thought about it for some time before responding. 'Just cut it into 4 pieces; I don't think I'm hungry enough to eat 6 pieces.'

=====
Date: 1 Apr 2020 22:23
From: GM3YEW@GB7YEW
To: HUMOUR@WW
Subject: kids and religion

The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt. Little Jason interrupted, "My Mommy looked back once while she was driving and she turned into a telephone pole!"

A Sunday school teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan. She asked the class, "If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what would you do?" A little girl broke the hushed silence, "I think I'd throw up."

A Sunday school teacher asked, "Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark?" Johnny said, "No. How could he with just two worms."

Nine-year-old Joey was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday School. "Well, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. When he got to the Red Sea, he had his army build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely. Then he radioed headquarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved." The mother said, "Now, Joey, is that really what your teacher taught you?" Joey said, "Well, no, but, if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!"

The preacher's 5 year-old daughter noticed that her father always paused and bowed his head for a moment before starting his sermon. One day, she asked him why. "Well, Honey," he began, "I'm asking the Lord to help me preach a good sermon." To which she asked, "How come He doesn't answer it?"

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 for the above topics:

K6GKB, Goetz Brandt, 408-259-7287
e-mail: goetz@ix.netcom.com

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

W6JPP, John Parks
e-mail: w6jpp@arri.net

K6PBQ, Don Village, 408-263-2789
e-mail: donvillage7@yahoo.com

WA6QYS, Lou Steirer, 408-241-7999
e-mail: wa6qys@arri.net

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

Newsletter Notes

Bob KJ6SBR from the California Historical Radio Society contacted SCCARA to see if the club or any member might be interested in some of their extra HAM books or magazines.

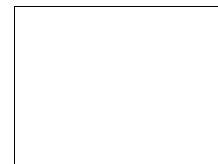
It's sad to say, but the internet being what it is these days, old magazines are now hard to even give away. I had some magazines in great shape, but my local library said they have no use for them. However, if you would like some *vintage* HAM magazines or books, it would be nice if the CHRS' excess inventory could find a new home. If not, oh well, c'est la vie.



73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

**SCCARA**

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

**FIRST CLASS****ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED****SCCARA Membership for 2024**

If renewing and none of your info has changed, please only fill in 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: _____

For delivery of the SCCARA-GRAM (pdf) and club announcements

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

☞ All 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 \$15 per year

(Prorated, \$1.25 per month. That's \$13.75 if starting in February, \$12.50 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.