

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 49, Number 11

November 2024



ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, Sept. 19, 2024

AM Jamboree 2024

There is time to plan participation in this year's Amplitude Modulation International (AMI) Jamboree 2024, starting at dusk November 29 and ending at dawn on December 1. The event is open to all amateur radio operators who have equipment to operate on the designated amateur AM bands. John McGrath, N9AMI, AMI Executive Director, said the jamboree is not a contest. "I like to call this an AM rally or AM operating event promoting the use of AM, camaraderie, and friendship." In the late 1980s, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) proposed new rules that would effectively lower the "legal limit" output power of homebrew and commercially manufactured amateur AM transmitters. The FCC adopted the new rules but added a ten-year grandfather clause to allow AM stations to continue operating at high power until the new power limit took effect. Dale Gagnon, KWHI, one of AMI's founders, said the good news that came out of this change was a strong FCC statement in support of AM's continuing importance in amateur radio in the United States. There are four categories for operation. Any rig or transmitter/receiver combo may be used except for broadcast transmitters, which have their own category. All information about operating power, bands, and certificates is available at the [AMI website](https://arrrl.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0zMTQxMDYyJnA9MSZlPTUyMjY3NTk1OSZsaT0zNTE1MDAxNg/index.html).
<https://arrrl.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0zMTQxMDYyJnA9MSZlPTUyMjY3NTk1OSZsaT0zNTE1MDAxNg/index.html>

Classic Exchange

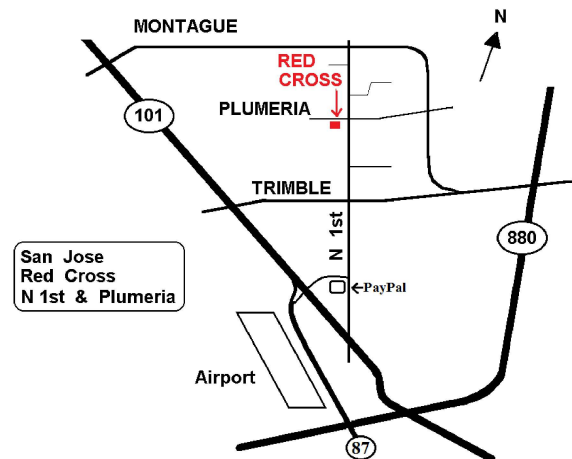
The Fall 2024 Classic Exchange (CX) event will take place October 13 - 16, 1300Z to 0700Z for phone contacts. CW contact days are October 20 - 23 from 1300Z to 0700Z. The CX is a twice-yearly operating event organized as a contest but is a low pressure activity, with many rag chews and mostly talk about equipment of the past... vacuum tube radios. Amateur radio operators will be reminded what it was like to tune the older radios and offers collectors of these memorable rigs an opportunity to use and enjoy them. Additionally, it gives owners of modern equipment an opportunity to hear how the old rigs sound on the air. CX began 50 years ago when Stu Stephens, K8SJ (SK), his brother Al, and Bob Morgan, K8RBV, were "waxing" nostalgic about their early 50s gear. Current CX organizers are Ron Pollack, N2RP, and Mark Bell, K3MSB. All rules and more information about CX can be found at the [Classic Exchange Website](https://arrrl.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0zMTQxMDYyJnA9MSZlPTUyMjY3NTk1OSZsaT0zNTE1MDAxOA/index.html).
<https://arrrl.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0zMTQxMDYyJnA9MSZlPTUyMjY3NTk1OSZsaT0zNTE1MDAxOA/index.html>

Calendar

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

General Meeting

Day: Monday, Nov. 11
Time: 7:30 PM
Place: San Jose Red Cross, meeting room 3
Featuring: club elections



From *The ARRL Letter*, Sept. 26, 2024

Anniversary of the first trans-global contact

Celebrating the Dawn of Mass Global Communication, a centenary event, will be re-enacted in October 2024, by amateur radio operators in New Zealand and the United Kingdom. The first trans-global two-way radio communication was achieved on October 18, 1924, by amateur radio operators Frank Bell, 4AA, a sheep farmer in Shag Valley, South Island New Zealand, and Cecil

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

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(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.

NØARY PACKET BBS

SCCARA hosts the packet BBS NØARY (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

Goyder, 2SZ, a student operating from Mill Hill School, North London. Two special call signs will be in operation for this year's event. At Mill Hill and Shag Valley stations on October 18, radio amateurs will recreate and re-enact the first contact, hopefully on a frequency close to that used in 1924. In addition, two other amateur radio stations with call signs reflecting the centenary will be active. GB2NZ will be operated from September 29 - October 26 from a number of United Kingdom locations. ZM1Å~Å~DX will be operated from early September 2024 - December 26 from a number of New Zealand locations on CW, SSB, and a number of other modes. Awards and QSL cards will be available for those who make contact with these special stations. For additional information visit <http://www.gb2nz.com> or <https://www.zl4aa.org.nz>.

From *The ARRL Letter* Oct. 17, 2024

Special Event Station

Throughout November, members of [Radio Club Limburg](#) (RCLB) in the North Limburg region of the Netherlands, will activate special event station PF16F.

<https://arrl.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0zMTY1NTM4JnA9MSZ1PTUyMjY3NTk1OSZsaT0zNTUxNTY3NA/index.html>

The event marks the retirement from the Royal Netherlands Air Force of the F-16, or Fighting Falcon, aircraft after 45 years of service, from 1979 to 2024. RCLB members hope to contact amateur radio operators around the world in November. QSL information is available from [QSL Manager PD8RW](#).

<https://arrl.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0zMTY1NTM4JnA9MSZ1PTUyMjY3NTk1OSZsaT0zNTUxNTY3NQ/index.html>

From *The ARRL Letter*, Oct. 24, 2024

Ham Bootcamp

[The Nashua Area Radio Society](#) in New Hampshire will be holding an online Ham Bootcamp on Saturday, November 9, 2024, from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm ET. The Ham Bootcamp program includes a series of demonstrations and tutorials designed to help new, inactive, and prospective hams gain the skills and information needed to get on the air. It is open to any interested ham or prospective ham in the U.S. and Canada and there is no charge to attend.

<https://arrl.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0zMtY1NTM4JnA9MSZ1PTUyMjY3NTk1OSZsaT0zNTU5Mzcw/index.html>

Ham Bootcamp activities are provided online via a series of sessions geared towards Technician class licensees, prospective hams, General class licensees and higher. Bootcamp participants will find all of the material interesting and fun no matter what their focus or license level. The online Bootcamp program is available to all licensed and prospective hams. [Click here to register for the next Ham Bootcamp session.](#)

<https://www.n1fd.org/register-ham-bootcamp/>

For questions or additional information, email to bootcamp@n1fd.org.

Treasurer's Treatise

Banking Summary - 10/1/2024 through 10/31/2024

Expenses SCCARA-GRAM 64.58

Checking account: \$12,483.18



73, Ned Tufekcic AC6YY

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, Oct. 14, 2024



{no minutes were submitted. }

Board Meeting, Oct. 21, 2024



Held verbally on our 2 m repeater W6UU/R

Meeting called to order by President Gregg Lane KF6FNA at 7:42 PM

Attendance: President Gregg Lane KF6FNA, VP John Parks W6JPP, Treasurer Ned Tufekcic AC6YY, Station Trustee Don Village K6PBQ, Directors Lou Steirer WA6QYS, Doug Owens N6DPO, Janet Motha KF6PUQ, Gary Mitchell WB6YRU, and Wally Britten KA6YMD.

Excused absence: Secretary Truman Lindsey N6TRU

Visitors: John AE6JQ, Riley KN6JWW

Announcements:

Gregg KF6FNA:

The club station will be open Saturday Oct. 26. Check in on the 2 m repeater first to make sure we're there.

Club elections will be at the November 11 general meeting.

We'll have a dinner meeting in December, location is yet to be determined.

John W6JPP: Pacificon was last weekend. We might get some speakers from that.

On Wed. 12 noon, we could use a little help taking our beam down at the American Legion.

President's Report, Gregg KF6FNA: Nothing new

Vice President's Report, John W6JPP: I'll be out of town Nov 2-14 (that includes our Nov. meeting).

Secretary's Report, Gregg KF6FNA:

The previous board meeting minutes were published in the SCCARA-GRAM.

On the Sept. 9 general meeting minutes, any corrections? (none heard)

Approved by acclamation

On the Sept. 16 board meeting minutes, any corrections? (none heard)

Approved by acclamation

Treasurer's Report, Ned AC6YY: I'm mobile now and will send in the treasurer's report tomorrow.

Trustee's Report, Don K6PBQ: Status quo with the club station.

Editor's report, Gary WB6YRU: The ARRL suffered a ransomware attack several months ago, one result was there were no more articles from ARRL Letter in the SCCARA-GRAM. Thanks to Doug N6DPO, we have them back now.

BBS Sysop's report, Gary WB6YRU: The BBS was down for a while, re-starting it apparently did the trick.

Repeater Chairman's report, Wally KA6YMD: not much new to report.

Webmaster's report, Doug N6DPO: Since last week I've done some updates. Our board meetings weren't listed in the calendar, they are now. Let me know of any problems or suggestions.

Old Business:

Gregg KF6FNA: Red Cross roof work will happen this Wed. We'll be moving the beam from the American Legion.

Doug N6DPO: About the Log-book-of-the-world, that's a work in progress, hope to be finished next month.

Gregg KF6FNA: Our antenna trailer will have to be moved by Nov. 6. Still need to work on a new location.

Doug N6DPO: There's some movement with the City of San Jose and SJ RACES. We'll see what happens.

Gregg KF6FNA:

We'll have elections at the Nov. 11 meeting. More nominations can be made then.

Our dinner meeting will be on Dec. 9. There were several ideas where to have it. Anyone like to be the chairman on this?

John W6JPP: Ned AC6YY and I will be co-chairs on that.

New Business:

Gregg KF6FNA: Should we have a board meeting on Dec. 16?

Gary WB6YRU: Skipping it really is not a "tradition". That's when we do year-end reports and initial plans for the following year. Besides, one hour on a Monday in the middle of the month shouldn't be much of a time burden, especially on the repeater.

John W6JPP: I suggest we do a poll.

W6JPP: yes, AC6YY: yes, WA6QYS: no, KA6YMD: yes, WB6YRU: yes, KF6PUQ: yes, N6DPO: yes, K6PBQ: (no answer).

Gregg KF6FNA: We will have a normal board meeting in December.

John W6JPP: In the process of taking down the antenna at the American Legion we also will have a crank-up tubular tower that needs a new home.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM

Gary Mitchell WB6YRU, recording for the Secretary

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the BBS packet network:

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=====
Date: 3 Apr 2020 22:23
From: GM3YEW@GB7YEW
To: HUMOUR@WW
Subject: jokes 4/4
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Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?

If you're too open-minded, your brains will fall out.

Do not worry about what people think, they don't do it very often.

Going to church doesn't make you a good person anymore

than standing in a garage makes you a car.

Artificial intelligence is no match for stupidity.

If you must choose between two evils, pick the one you've never tried before.

My idea of housework is to sweep the room with a glance.

Not one shred of evidence supports the notion that life is serious.

It is easier to get forgiveness than permission.

For every action there is an equal and opposite government program.

If you look like your passport picture, you probably need the trip.

Bills travel through the mail at twice the speed of checks.

A conscience is what hurts when all the rest of your other parts feel good.

Eat well, stay fit, and die anyway.

No man has ever been shot while doing the dishes.

Middle age is when broadness of the mind & narrowness of the waist change places.

Opportunities always look bigger going than coming.

Junk is something you've kept for years and throw away three weeks before you need it.

A balanced diet is a cookie in each hand.

There is always one more imbecile than you counted on.

Experience is a wonderful thing. It enables you to recognize a mistake when you make it again.

By the time you can make ends meet, they move the ends.

Someone who thinks logically provides a nice contrast to the real world.

It ain't the jeans that make your butt look big, trust me.

The Royal College of Nursing has weighed in on the Prime Minister's health care proposals for the junior doctors in the National Health Service.

The Allergists voted to scratch it, but the Dermatologists advised not to make any rash moves.

The Gastroenterologists had a sort of a gut feeling about it, but the Neurologists thought the Administration had a lot of nerve.

The Obstetricians felt they were all laboring under a misconception.

Ophthalmologists considered the idea short-sighted.

Pathologists yelled, "Over my dead body!" while the

Pediatricians said, "Oh, Grow up."

The Psychiatrists thought the whole idea was madness, while the Radiologists could see right through it.

The Surgeons were fed up with the cuts and decided to

wash their hands of the whole thing.

The Ear Nose and Throat specialists didn't swallow it, and just wouldn't hear of it.

The Pharmacists thought it was a bitter pill to swallow, and the Plastic Surgeons said, "This puts a whole new face on the matter."

The Podiatrists thought it was a step forward, but the Urologists were pissed off at the whole idea.

The Anaesthetists thought the whole idea was a gas, but the Cardiologists didn't have the heart to say no.

In the end, the Proctologists won out, leaving the entire decision up to the arseholes in Whitehall.

A Flight To Chicago

Unaware that Indianapolis is on Eastern Standard Time and Chicago on Central Standard time, Bob inquired at the Indianapolis airport about a plane to Chicago.

"The next flight leaves at 1:00 p.m." a ticket agent said "and arrives in Chicago at 1:01 p.m. Do you want a reservation?"

"No" said Bob "But I'd love to hang around and watch that thing take off."

Puzzle

A man has a basket of eggs for sale. He meets someone who buys half of his eggs plus half of one egg. A little later another person buys half of his eggs plus half of one egg. Later another person buys half of his eggs plus half an egg. At this point he has sold all of his eggs and he never broke an egg. How many eggs did the man have to start with?

Try to figure it out first. Skip down below to see the answer.

A Golf Poem

In My Hand I Hold A ball White And dimpled Rather Small.
Oh How Bland It Does appear This Harmless Looking Little Sphere.

By Its Size I Could Not guess The Awesome Strength It Does Possess.

But Since I Fell Beneath Its spell I've Wandered Through The Fires Of Hell.

My Life Has Not Been Quite The same Since I Chose To Play This Stupid Game.

It Rules My Mind For Hours On end a Fortune It Has Made Me Spend.

It Has Made Me yell Curse And cry I Hate Myself And Want To Die.

It Promises A Thing Called par If I Can Hit It Straight And Far.

To Master Such A Tiny ball Should Not Be Very Hard At All. But My Desires The Ball refuses And Does Exactly As It Chooses.

It Hooks And Slices Dribbles And dies And Even Disappears Before My Eyes.

Often It Will Have A Whim To Hit A Tree Or Take A Swim. With Miles Of Grass On Which To land It Finds A Tiny Patch Of Sand.

Then Has Me Offering Up My soul If Only It Would Find The Hole.

It's Made Me Whimper Like A Pup And Swear That I Will Give It Up.

And Take To Drink To Ease My Sorrow But The Ball Knows ... I'll Be Back Tomorrow.

Stand proud you noble swingers of clubs and losers of balls. A recent study found the average golfer walks about 900 miles a year. Another study found golfers drink on average 22 gallons of alcohol a year. That means on average golfers get about 41 miles to the gallon. That's almost like a hybrid!

Egg puzzle answer:

7 eggs. The first person bought half of his eggs plus half an egg ($3 \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 4$ eggs), this left him with 3 eggs. The second person bought half of his eggs plus half an egg ($1 \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 2$ eggs) leaving the man with 1 egg. The last person bought half of his eggs plus half an egg ($\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 1$ egg) leaving no eggs.

=====

Date: 4 Apr 2020 22:24
From: GM3YEW@GB7YEW
To: HUMOUR@WW
Subject: jokes 5/4

Clothes make the man. Naked people have little or no influence on society.
-- Mark Twain

He had a photographic memory that was never developed.

Father Murphy walks into a pub in Donegal, and asks the first man he meets, 'Do you want to go to heaven?'
The man said, 'I do, Father.'
The priest said, 'Then stand over there against the wall.'
Then the priest asked the second man, 'Do you want to go to heaven?'
'Certainly, Father,' the man replied.
'Then stand over there against the wall,' said the priest.
Then Father Murphy walked up to O'Toole and asked, 'Do you want to go to heaven?'
O'Toole said, 'No, I don't Father.'
The priest said, 'I don't believe this. You mean to tell me that when you die you don't want to go to heaven?'
O'Toole said, 'Oh, when I die, yes. I thought you were getting a group together to go right now.'

Tomorrow, this will be part of the unchangeable past but fortunately, it can still be changed today.

An insurance agent is someone who gladly rents you an umbrella when the sun is shining, and asks for it back just before it starts to rain.

Rain is caused by big high-pressure areas cold fronts warm moist air and the first day of your vacation.

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@arrl.net

K6PBQ, Don Village, 408-263-2789

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

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

Newsletter Notes

Nothing was submitted about the club elections. However, I can report from the October general meeting we managed to get one nominee for each seat, except V.P. If you've been thinking of getting more involved, here's your chance.

I was flipping through a recent HRO catalog and noticed they have a few software defined receivers. They cover from 1 kHz to 2 GHz--isn't that impressive? And they're not prohibitively expensive anymore, in the \$100-\$300 range. It's this one little black box with a couple of antenna connections, a USB port and that's all, everything else is in software on your computer. So any upgrade or new feature is merely a software update.

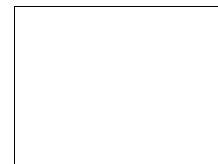
Has anyone played around with one? What kind of performance do they have? How would you compare it to a good analog receiver? Does it have any problems or shortcomings? It sure would be great to have some reviews in the SCCARA-GRAM! hint hint



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 2025**

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: $\text{dues} \times (11 - \text{month}) \times 10\%$ For example: July would be $\$20 \times (11-7) \times 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.