

# SCCARA-GRAM



## Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 50, Number 5

May 2025



## ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, April 3, 2025

### HamSCI Call for Operators and Monitors 2025

HamSCI, Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation, is preparing now for a series of meteor scatter (MS) experiments later this year and need amateur radio operators to help.

While the target storms are in August (Perseids) and December (Geminids) preparation and testing is already underway. This is a combination 'special event' and a contest to generate contact data during meteor scatter events using 10 meters and 6 meters. 2025 contest rules will be released shortly.

To be successful, this effort needs operators, both active and passive. Operators are needed to be active (calling CQ) on MSK144 or passive, if possible, reporting via PSK Reporter as 'monitors'.

The best times are early morning hours prior to 10 m opening to F2 propagation. Meteor scatter propagation occurs well below F2 and is supported in or near the E layer where the meteor ionization tracks occur. Saturday mornings are being used regularly to announce and coordinate 10 m contacts using Ping Jockey Central. Announcements are also made on the Front Range Six Meter groups.io due to the substantial number of meteor scatter operators in that group.

The upcoming April-Lyrids shower is an excellent time to set up your equipment and join with other operators preparing for the events later this year. If you do not have the time to be active, at least set up passive reporting. PSK Reporter currently has scarce 10 m MSK144 monitors; so we need to increase those numbers during the early morning hours. Eventually, the HamSci team will be collecting operator contact information, but for now, all that is required is for participants to report through PSK Reporter. For more information on the operating guidelines for the activity, please visit Meteor Scatter QSO Party Guidelines | HamSCI. <https://hamsci.org/msqp>

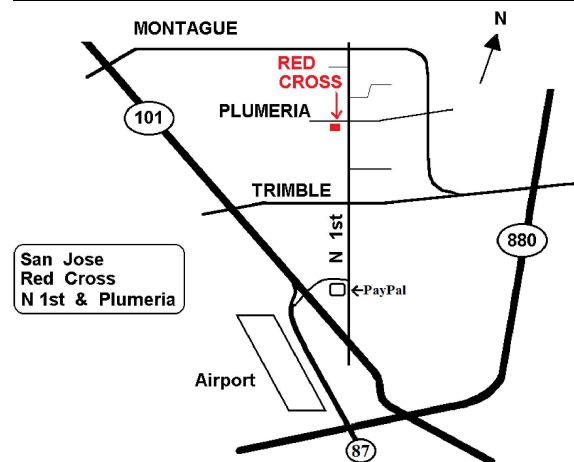
HamSCI serves as a means for fostering collaboration between professional researchers and amateur radio operators. It assists in developing and maintaining standards and agreements between all people and organizations involved. Its goals are to advance scientific research and understanding through amateur radio activities, encourage the development of modern technologies to support this research and provide educational opportunities for the

## Calendar

5/12	SCCARA General Meeting
5/18	Electronic Flea Market (3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat. this month)
5/19	SCCARA Board Meeting: on our repeater
5/31	Club Station open, 10 AM - 5 PM

## General Meeting

Day:	Monday, May 12
Time:	7:30 PM
Place:	San Jose Red Cross, meeting room 3
Featuring:	{to be announced}



amateur community and the public.

For more information about HamSCI and to join our mailing list, please visit our website [www.hamsci.org](http://www.hamsci.org).

From *The ARRL Letter*, April 24, 2025

### Armed Forces Day Crossband Test

A reminder that the annual Armed Forces Day (AFD) Crossband Test, hosted by the Department of Defense, is scheduled for

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.sccara.org](http://www.sccara.org)

#### **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.

#### **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](http://ncpa.n0ary.org).

#### **AMATEUR LICENSE TESTING**

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

Saturday May 10, 2025.

The event will test two-way communications between military stations and amateur radio operators as authorized by the Federal Communications Commission in Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations 47 CFR 97.111. The test provides opportunities "and challenges" for operators to test their individual technical skills in a controlled scenario that will not impact public or private communications. The annual DOD message will be transmitted via RTTY on 14.667 kHz at 1400 and 2000 UTC. Military stations will transmit on selected military frequencies and announce the specific amateur radio service frequencies that will be monitored. All scheduled times will be in UTC, and all scheduled transmissions will be upper sideband (USB), unless otherwise noted. Frequencies, times, and other technical information can be found at DoD MARS - Armed Forces Day. Those who wish to document their contacts with a QSL card should visit [www.usarmymars.org](http://www.usarmymars.org) and complete the request form. For more than 50 years, military and amateur stations have taken part in this event.

## **Meeting Minutes**

**General Meeting, March 10, 2025**  
**General Meeting, April 14, 2025**



*{no minutes submitted this month}*

**Board Meeting, March 17, 2025**  
**Board Meeting, April 21, 2025**



*{no minutes submitted this month}*

## **Packet Pieces**

**Downloaded from the BBS packet network:**

=====  
Date: 9 Apr 2020 23:05  
From: GM3YEW@GB7YEW  
To: HUMOUR@WW  
Subject: jokes 10/4  
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Two elderly radio hams had been friends for many decades. Over the years they had shared all kinds of activities and adventures on the ham bands. Lately, their activities have been limited to meeting a few times a week to play cards. During a game one looked at the other and said, "Now don't get mad at me... I know we've been friends for a long time... but I just can't think of your name and call! I've thought and thought, but I can't remember them. Please tell me what they are."

His friend glared at him for over a minute. Finally he said, "How soon do you need to know?"

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The Honolulu Advertiser has carried a legal notice advising the public of a change of name:

"From Waiaulia Alohi Anail Ke Alaamek Olanithenoheno Kam Phagmans to Waiaulia Alohi anail Ke Alaamek Kawaipi Olanithenoheno Kam."

So that's cleared up.

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A new priest at his first mass was so nervous he could hardly speak. After mass he asked the Monsignor how he had done.

The Monsignor replied, 'When I am worried about getting nervous on the pulpit, I put a glass of vodka next to the water glass. If I start to get nervous, I take a sip.'

So next Sunday he took the Monsignor's advice... more or less. At the beginning of the sermon, he got nervous and took a drink... way more than one. He proceeded to talk up a storm. Upon his return to his office after the mass, he found the following note on the door:

- 1) Sip the vodka, don't gulp.
- 2) There are 10 commandments, not 12.
- 3) There are 12 disciples, not 10.
- 4) Jesus was consecrated, not constipated.
- 5) Jacob wagered his donkey, he did not bet his ass.
- 6) We do not refer to Jesus Christ as the late J.C.
- 7) The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost are not referred to as Big Daddy, Junior, and the spook.
- 8) David slew Goliath; he did not kick the s\*\*t out of him.
- 9) When David was hit by a rock and was knocked off his donkey, don't say he was stoned off his ass.
- 10) We do not refer to the cross as the 'Big T.'
- 11) When Jesus broke the bread at the last supper he said, 'Take this and eat it for it is my body.' He did not say 'Eat me'.
- 12) The Virgin Mary is not called 'Mary with the Cherry'.
- 13) The recommended grace before a meal is not: Rub-a-Dub-Dub thanks for the grub, Yeah God.
- 14) Next Sunday there will be a taffy pulling contest at St. Peter's not a peter pulling contest at St. Taffy's.

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A friend of mine confused her Valium with her birth control pills... she has 14 kids but doesn't really care.

One of life's mysteries is how a 2-pound box of chocolates can make a woman gain 5 lbs.

My mind not only wanders, it sometimes leaves completely.

I get along very well with everyone except animals and people.

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## Need Help?

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

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

**Members: sell your item(s) at SCCARA's booth at the Electronic Flea Market, June 8**

SCCARA's turn to host the **Electronic Flea Market** is Sunday June 8. No info has been submitted to the *SCCARA-GRAM* yet, but I can tell you this much:

As usual we will have our sales booth next to the concession stand. However, this year we have nothing to sell, so the club will make the space available to **YOU, our members!**

Do you have a couple of things to sell but it's not worth buying your own seller's booth? Here's your chance! Bring your item(s) to SCCARA's booth and sell it there--no charge to members.

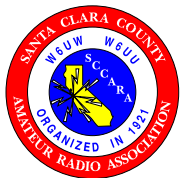
SCCARA will provide a table and a canopy for shade. It's up to you to sell your own item(s), don't expect the club to do it for you. And please be reasonable, this isn't for cleaning out your garage--we have to share the one spot.

I expect we'll have more info in the next edition. The club will be hosting it so we'll need volunteers.

For general info see <https://www.electronicfleamarket.com>.



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: 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.