

# SCCARA-GRAM



## Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 51, Number 2

February 2026



## General Meeting

Ned AC6YY will give a presentation on antenna baluns at the Feb. 9 General meeting. Ned has built a variety of baluns to use on antennas that he built and has gained insight into which antennae/balun combinations work best in a variety of situations.

Bring your curiosity and questions to the San Jose American Red Cross, classroom 3, on Monday, Feb. 9, 2026.

73, Gregg KF6FNA

## Membership

Do you get the feeling there's something you forgot to do?



Let's see... There IS something about the end of the year... New years resolutions? No, not that. We forget about those accidentally on purpose! Something else...

OH, yeah! My SCCARA membership!

If you remembered to renew your membership – a big Thank You!

If not... well, some of you apparently forgot. All club memberships expire at the end of the year. But it's still not too late. PLEASE renew now while you're thinking about it.

There's a form on the back of this newsletter or get one from the secretary at any meeting.

We hope you'll decide to stay with SCCARA. Whether you do or not, if there's something you think the club should have or do, please let us know.



## HAM Radio on Hawaii

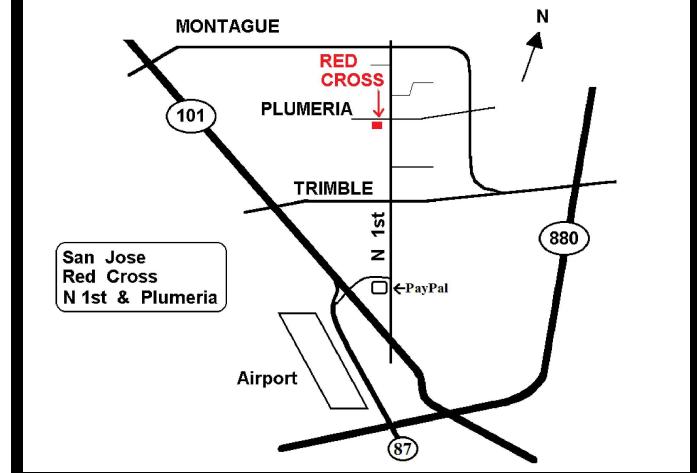
On January 10th I traveled to Big Island Hawaii. I had a flight from San Jose to Honolulu and from Honolulu to Hilo where my nephew lives. I stayed nine days over there and in addition to doing some sightseeing and swimming in the ocean, I operated my radio and talked to local guys on FM repeater.

## Calendar

2/9 SCCARA General Meeting  
2/16 SCCARA Board Meeting  
2/28 Club Station open

## General Meeting

Day: Monday, February 9  
Time: 7:30 PM  
Place: San Jose Red Cross, meeting room 3  
Featuring: Ned AC6YY on Balun transformers



At my nephew's house I put up a 66 foot End Fed dipole for 40 to 10 meters. I took my Elecraft KX2 with me, laptop and all other needed accessories. I operated CW and FT8.

Even though I was running QRP I had very good results. I worked U.S., South America, Pacific, and Asian stations. For FT 8 mode I was running only 2 watts.

I also activated two Parks On The Air Parks: US-6407 Wailoa River State Recreation Area and US-7695 Hilo Forest Reserve.

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**, located at the San Jose Red Cross.

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)

President	Gregg Lane KF6FNA	408-393-5607 texting preferred
		e-mail: <a href="mailto:kf6fna@comcast.net">kf6fna@comcast.net</a>
Vice President	(open)	e-mail:
Secretary	(open)	e-mail:
Treasurer	Ned Tufekcic AC6YY	408-690-7250
		e-mail: <a href="mailto:194nt@hotmail.com">194nt@hotmail.com</a>
Station Trustee	Don Village, K6PBQ	408-263-2789
Director	Lou Steirer, WA6QYS	408-241-7999
		e-mail: <a href="mailto:wa6qys@aol.com">wa6qys@aol.com</a>
Director	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	408-891-1105
		e-mail: <a href="mailto:ka6ymd@arrl.net">ka6ymd@arrl.net</a>
Director	John Parks W6JPP	
		e-mail: <a href="mailto:w6jpp@arrl.net">w6jpp@arrl.net</a>
Director	Janet Motha, KF6PUQ	408 252-3939
		e-mail: <a href="mailto:jmotha21@gmail.com">jmotha21@gmail.com</a>
Director	(open)	e-mail:

#### **COMMITTEES**

Editor	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	408-269-2924
		e-mail: <a href="mailto:wb6yru@ix.netcom.com">wb6yru@ix.netcom.com</a>
Repeater	Goetz Brandt K6GKB	408 259-7287
		e-mail: <a href="mailto:goetzbrandt@gmail.com">goetzbrandt@gmail.com</a>
N0ARY BBS	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	408-269-2924
		e-mail: <a href="mailto:wb6yru@ix.netcom.com">wb6yru@ix.netcom.com</a>
Webmaster	Doug Owens N6DPO	408-568-9870
		e-mail: <a href="mailto:dougowens100@icloud.com">dougowens100@icloud.com</a>

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

#### **AMATEUR LICENSE TESTING**

ARRL/VEC Silicon Valley VE group: <https://www.svve.org>  
Morris Jones, AD6ZH: 408-507-4698



The QRP rig



The dipole antenna



Wailoa River



Laupahoehoe

7	2026-01-16	05:10	ZS4AW	14.075	FT8	KG31		South Africa
8	2026-01-16	04:01	LR1WWA	14.075	FT8	FF58		Argentina
9	2026-01-16	03:52	CX6TU	14.075	FT8	GF25		Uruguay
10	2026-01-16	03:04	LU1EP	14.075	FT8	GF05		Argentina
11	2026-01-15	23:47	W1HZ	14.075	FT8	DM33		United States
12	2026-01-15	22:10	WM8Q	18.101	FT8	DN61ok		United States
13	2026-01-15	06:43	JA2HYD	7.075	FT8	PM86		Japan
14	2026-01-15	03:18	WB0ZRD	21.075	FT8	DM33		United States
15	2026-01-15	03:14	ZWSB	21.075	FT8	GG54		Brazil
16	2026-01-15	03:11	3D2USU	21.075	FT8	RH82		Fiji
17	2026-01-15	01:14	NM5D	14.063	CW	DM62oh		United States
18	2026-01-15	01:10	K50GR	14.063	CW	EM45bb		United States
19	2026-01-15	00:59	K4XP	14.063	CW	EM84xw		United States
20	2026-01-15	00:52	NA7C	14.060	CW	DN44bn		United States
21	2026-01-15	00:50	AK2B	14.060	CW	CM98ia		United States
22	2026-01-15	00:48	WB8YYY	14.060	CW	FM05ro		United States
23	2026-01-15	00:46	K3XLS	14.060	CW			United States
24	2026-01-13	23:53	AC5K	14.060	CW	EM37fa		United States
25	2026-01-13	23:27	N1PRR	14.060	CW	DM33sm		United States
26	2026-01-13	23:22	NI6L	14.060	CW	CN85gf		United States
27	2026-01-13	23:21	KI5GIR	14.060	CW			United States
28	2026-01-13	23:20	VE7KIN	14.060	CW	DN19dn		Canada
29	2026-01-13	23:17	WA8SME	14.060	CW	DM08gm		United States
30	2026-01-13	23:16	KK6KMU	14.060	CW	DM13if		United States
31	2026-01-13	23:15	W6TDX	14.060	CW	BK19xr		United States
32	2026-01-13	23:10	WH6GN	14.060	CW			Hawaii
33	2026-01-13	23:07	KA7HOS	14.060	CW	DM37id		United States
34	2026-01-13	23:05	W5THG	14.060	CW			United States
35	2026-01-13	23:02	K7TAA	14.060	CW	DN16or		United States
36	2026-01-13	18:48	N0HC	21.000	CW	DM791v		United States
37	2026-01-13	17:51	K6DF	14.000	CW	CM87xn		United States
38	2026-01-13	01:03	K3Y/7	21.000	CW			United States
39	2026-01-13	00:12	K3Y/2	14.000	CW			United States

The Log



73, Ned Tufekcic AC6YY

## ARRL News

From *The ARRL*, January 15, 2026

### New 60 m Frequencies Available as of February 13

The new 60-meter frequencies approved by the FCC in December will become available to amateurs as of February 13, 2026, along with new power restrictions on those frequencies. It's a bit confusing, as different rules apply to different segments of the band. The changes result from the FCC's action to approve a worldwide 60-meter amateur allocation made by the World Radiocommunication Conference in 2015 (WRC-15). See <https://tinyurl.com/mt8p8jpa>.

As of February 13, FCC-licensed amateur operators holding General Class or higher licenses may operate on a secondary basis anywhere between 5351.5 and 5366.5 kHz, subject to a maximum bandwidth of 2.8 kHz and maximum transmit power of 9.15 watts ERP (effective radiated power). For the purpose of computing ERP, the transmitter PEP (peak envelope power) is multiplied by the antenna gain relative to a half-wave dipole antenna. A half-wave dipole is presumed to have a gain of 1 (0 dBd). Amateurs using other antennas must maintain in their station records either the antenna manufacturer's data on the antenna gain or calculations of the antenna gain.

Here's the confusing part: The existing 60-meter channels centered on 5332, 5348, 5373, and 5405 kHz remain as secondary amateur allocations with maximum power of 100 watts ERP. However, the old channel at 5358.5 kHz is eliminated as it is now part of the new 5351.5-5366.5 kHz subband and subject to the lower power limit.

For all 60-meter transmissions, emission bandwidth is limited to 2.8 kHz or less and amateurs must not cause harmful interference to, and must accept interference from, stations authorized by the United States (NTIA and FCC) and other nations in the fixed service; and all other nations in the mobile service (except aeronautical mobile). Data or RTTY emissions in particular must be limited in transmission length so as not to cause harmful interference. Digital mode operators must be familiar with offsets in order to stay within the authorized frequencies.

### FCC Poised to Exempt Amateurs from Foreign Adversary Reporting Requirements

At the urging of ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio®, the Federal Communications Commission is expected to exempt radio amateurs from foreign adversary reporting requirements. These rules would have applied to citizens of the listed countries (see below), including those living in the United States, who hold or are applying for an FCC license.

On January 8, 2026, the FCC released a draft Report and Order (R&O) [[GN Docket No. 25-166; PDF](#)] expected to be adopted at its January 29 meeting that will, as requested by ARRL, exempt radio amateurs from requirements that would have applied reporting requirements to every FCC-authorized radio amateur "subject to the jurisdiction or direction of a foreign adversary." This included "(a)ny individual, wherever located, who is a citizen of a foreign adversary or a country controlled by a foreign adversary, and is not a United States citizen or permanent resident of the United States." Foreign adversaries as defined in the draft R&O are: (1) China, including Hong Kong and Macau; (2) Cuba; (3) Iran; (4) North Korea; (5) Russian Federation; and (6) "Venezuelan politician Nicolás Maduro." <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/search-filings/filing/10108294009248>

The draft liberally cites ARRL's comments:

"35. We agree with the National Association for Amateur Radio (ARRL) that, while there is a need to protect national security where entities are 'engaged in commerce by providing networks, services or equipment to the American public, where

there is the possibility of sensitive information being surreptitiously accessed.' [sic] ... As ARRL notes, '[a]mateur radio licensees not only do not sell or provide any communications service, network, or equipment to the public, but in fact they are prohibited from doing so by both international and domestic law.' ... The risk to national security of Foreign Adversary Control over these licenses is minimal due to the lack of connection to any of the nation's communications networks used by the public. We also agree with ARRL that this reasoning applies to similar services where licenses are held by individuals (e.g., GMRS, Commercial Radio Operators), as well as other licenses and authorizations that lack sufficient connection to commercial wireless communications networks in the United States. Furthermore, the Personal Radio Services—a category that encompasses over 1.6 million unique, mostly individual licensees—operate in shared spectrum bands for hobbyist and safety purposes, posing little threat to national security. Similarly, we include antenna structure owners that voluntarily register their towers in Schedule C because they are likely to be individuals or companies that lack sufficient connection to commercial communications networks. Given the sheer number of licensees and authorization holders in this group, the drain on Commission personnel and resources to process the collections and attestations for each individual licensee would far outweigh the little benefit to the public or the agency of doing so."

## Treasurer's Treatise

Banking Summary - 1/1/2026 through 1/31/2026

Income:

Club Dues	\$115.00
Donation	\$ 15.00
Total Income	\$130.00

Accounts:

Petty Cash	\$ 90.00
Checking	\$12,977.52



Ned Tufekcic AC6YY

web site [www.winterfieldday.com](http://www.winterfieldday.com)  
We'll participate at the club station, working digital, SSB, and CW. We'll monitor the repeater for anyone who wishes to stop by and participate.

George N6NKT, Red Cross rep.: We'd prefer if at least two people are there, for safety reasons.  
Also, eventually we'd like the club station to have WinLink capability on HF and VHF.

Gregg KF6FNA:

The club station will be open Jan. 31 (the last Saturday of the month), 10 am to 6 pm.

Misc. discussions

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm

Gary Mitchell WB6YRU recording for the secretary

## Board Meeting, Jan. 19, 2026



Held verbally on our 2 m repeater W6UU/R

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

Attendance:

Officers: President Gregg Lane KF6FNA, Station Trustee Don Village K6PBQ.

Directors: Wally Britten KA6YMD, John Parks W6JPP.

Absent: Treasurer Ned Tufekcic AC6YY, Dir. Lou Steirer WA6QYS, Dir. Janet Motha KF6PUQ

Visitors: Gary WB6YRU editor

We don't have a quorum. We'll have another board meeting next Monday, January 26, same time.

President's Report, Gregg KF6FNA: Winter Field Day will be Jan. 24-25, 2026, from 8 am Sat to 2 pm Sun. We'll participate at the club station.

Vice President's Report, (vacant)

Secretary's Report, (vacant):

Treasurer's Report, Ned AC6YY: (absent)

Gary WB6YRU: The year-end statement was published in the latest SCCARA-GRAM.

Station Trustee's Report, Don K6PBQ: Nothing new to report

John W6JPP: We got help from Jeff AJ6WX getting our antenna trailer up and running, including some expenses he covered. I propose we give him a complimentary membership. (this will have to wait until we have a quorum)

Standing Committees

Editor's report: Gary WB6YRU: If you looked over the January edition, based on all the available information, the SCCARA-GRAM just turned 50 years old! We've had a newsletter before that, but this is the golden anniversary of it being called the "SCCARA-GRAM". And by the way, this is my 33rd year as editor, so I've been editor for 2/3 of that time.

BBS Sysop's report: Gary WB6YRU: Nothing new to report, the

BBS is working OK.

Repeater Chairman's report, Goetz K6GKB:  
Gregg KF6FNA: Goetz said everything is OK.

Webmaster's report, Ned AC6YY: (absent)

Gary WB6YRU: Once in a while we get someone trying to join the members-only announce list. Most likely this is because it was mistakenly described in the web site. We do have a regular chat list, but that one isn't mentioned. Our web site is in need of maintenance.

#### Old Business

Gregg KF6FNA: Regarding the antenna switch idea: Gary, have you priced the switch costs?

Gary WB6YRU: No, I need details of how many antenna inputs will be needed. It hasn't even been decided whether we want to do such an upgrade. However, a 3 input switch is around \$30 to \$50.

Gary WB6YRU: Last time I sent a proposal in writing to the board explaining how we could simplify the dues for new members, including samples of the membership form with the changes. At that meeting nothing was done. Now that the board has had time to think it over, should the proposed changes be implemented?

(this will have to wait until we have a quorum)

To recap: Currently, the first year dues for new members is prorated, so they have to do a math problem to figure the dues amount. But if they join in November or December, they pay the full dues for the following year and the remainder of the current year is included free. Basically, the proposal would do away with the prorating and expand that last part to include all the months of their first year, except if joining in January.

The club would lose between \$2 and \$18 in dues, but only one time and only for new members. So, new members would get a good deal, everyone loves a good deal. It's a typical sales technique--buy one get a second one half off. And the way the club has been going lately, we need to encourage new members.

John W6JPP: I'm in favor.

New Business  
(none)

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM

Gary Mitchell WB6YRU, recording for the Secretary



## Board Meeting, Jan. 26, 2026

Held verbally on our 2 m repeater W6UU/R

Meeting called to order by President Gregg Lane KF6FNA at 7:44 PM

Supplement to the board meeting of last Monday, we didn't have a quorum then.

Attendance:

Officers: President Gregg Lane KF6FNA, Treasurer Ned Tufekcic AC6YY, Station Trustee Don Village K6PBQ.

Directors : Lou Steirer WA6QYS, Wally Britten KA6YMD, John Parks W6JPP, Janet Motha KF6PUQ.

Visitors: Gary WB6YRU

#### Old Business

John W6JPP: We got help from Jeff AJ6WX getting our antenna trailer up and running, including some expenses he covered. I move we give him a complimentary 1 year membership.

Don K6PBQ: second

AC6YY, WA6QYS, KA6YMD, KF6PUQ: voting YES  
Gregg KF6FNA: Motion passes

Gary WB6YRU: Please send in a membership form with his info, for the dues just write "complimentary".

Gary WB6YRU: Proposal to change the dues for new members. Currently, the first year dues for new members is prorated, so they have to do a math problem to figure the dues amount. But if they join in November or December, they pay the full dues for the following year and the remainder of the current year is included free. Basically, the proposal is to do away with the prorating and expand that last part to include all the months of their first year, except if joining in January.

The club would lose between \$2 and \$18 in dues, but only one time and only for new members. So, new members would get a good deal, everyone loves a good deal. It's a typical sales technique--buy one get a second one half off. And the way the club has been going lately, we need to encourage new members.

John W6JPP: I move to approve the change as described.

Wally KA6YMD: second

AC6YY: (nothing heard)

WA6QYS, KF6PUQ, K6PBQ: voting YES

Gregg KF6FNA: motion passes

#### New Business

Gregg KF6FNA: We have a radio without a tuner, both Lou and I have a good one, a LDG Pro-2, and maybe we should have one at the club station. HRO has it for \$310

Lou WA6QYS: I move that SCCARA purchase a LDG AT 200, Pro-2 tuner for the club station.

John W6JPP: second

AC6YY, KA6YMD, KF6PUQ, K6PBQ: voting YES

Gregg KF6FNA: motion passes

Don K6PBQ: Would like a new log book for the club station. If anyone could donate one that would be good.  
(Discussion about on-line logging vs paper logging.)

Wally KA6YMD: We need to be more careful about getting permission to talk, not just jump in and double with someone else.  
Gregg KF6FNA: Yes, good point.

Gregg KF6FNA: Anything other business? (nothing heard)

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM

Gary Mitchell WB6YRU, recording for the Secretary

## Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the BBS packet network:

=====

Date: 7 May 2020 22:53  
From: GM3YEW@GB7YEW

To: HUMOUR@WW  
Subject: jokes 8/5

---

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."

---

There are two statues in a park; one of a nude man and one of a nude woman. They had been facing each other across a pathway for a hundred years, when one day an angel comes down from the sky and, with a single gesture, brings the two to life.

The angel tells them, 'As a reward for being so patient through a hundred blazing summers and dismal winters, you have been given life for thirty minutes to do what you've wished to do the most.'

He looks at her, she looks at him, and they go running behind the shrubbery. The angel waits patiently as the bushes rustle and giggling ensues. After fifteen minutes, the two return, out of breath and laughing.

The angel tells them, 'Um, you have fifteen minutes left, would you care to do it again?'

He asks her 'Shall we?'

She eagerly replies, 'Oh, yes, let's! But let's change positions. This time, I'll hold the pigeon down and you crap on its head.'

---

"The Times Are Changin"  
(Sung to Bob Dylan's Song)

Come gather round people wherever you roam  
And accept that the networks around you have grown  
And admit that software piracy you don't condone  
If your data to you is worth saving  
Then you better make backups  
On your Macs or PC clones  
For the times they are a changin

Come students and staffers who double-click with your mice  
And keep your eyes open - your screen savers look so nice  
And don't blame network downtime on poltergeists  
The new copy of WORD just delivered  
Takes 2 dozen diskettes and needs 40 megabytes  
Cos' the times they are a changin

Come faculty and administrators, please read your e-mail  
It's been there for months now and it's getting stale  
Our attempts to get more disk space from ADP have failed  
The battle on campus is ragin  
Whether we will use windows or Macs will prevail  
Yup the times they are a changin

Come users and sysadmins all over the LAN  
Your bandwidth requirements we don't understand  
Your digital desktops and cryptic commands  
Your multimedia stations

Were not in the budget of our five year plan  
But the times they are a changin

With Ethernet, Token Ring and FDDI  
We've got the best network that money can buy  
With Internet access and registration on-line  
But yesterday when he was cleaning  
The janitor unplugged the power and all systems died  
Oh the times they are a changing

---

Married Life...

Three women: one engaged, one a mistress, and one married are chatting about their relationships and decide to amaze their men...that night, all three will wear a leather bodice S&M style, stilettos and a mask over their eyes!

After a few days they meet again...

The engaged girlfriend: 'The other night, when my boyfriend came back home, he found me with the leather bodice, 12cms stilettos & mask. He saw me & said: 'You are the woman of my life, I love you' .. then we made love, sweet love all night long.'

The mistress: Ah! Me too...the other night I met my lover in the office and I was wearing the leather bodice, mega stilettos, mask over my eyes and a raincoat & when I opened the raincoat he did not say anything, but we had wild sex all night!

The married woman: "Well, the other night I sent the kids to stay at my mothers for the night. I got myself ready: leather bodice, super stilettos and mask over my eyes. My husband comes home from work, opens the door, slaps me across the bum and says 'All right Batman, what's for dinner?'"

---

Date: 15 Apr 2020 23:08  
From: GM3YEW@GB7YEW  
To: HUMOUR@WW  
Subject: jokes 16/4

---

One tequila, two tequila, three tequila, floor.

Atheism is a non-prophet organization.

The main reason that Santa is so jolly is because he knows where all the bad girls live.

I went to a bookstore and asked the saleswoman, "where's the self-help section?" she said if she told me, it would defeat the purpose.

What if there were no hypothetical questions?

If a deaf child signs swear words, does his mother wash his hands with soap?

If someone with multiple personalities threatens to kill himself, is it considered a hostage situation?

Is there another word for synonym?

Where do forest rangers go to "get away from it all?"

What do you do when you see an endangered animal eating an endangered plant?

If a parsley farmer is sued, can they garnish his wages?

Would a fly without wings be called a walk?

Why do they lock service station toilets? Are they afraid someone will break-in and clean them?

If a turtle doesn't have a shell, is he homeless or naked?

Can vegetarians eat animal crackers?

If the police arrest a mute, do they tell him he has the right to remain silent?

Why do they put braille on the drive-through bank machines?

How do they get koalas and wombats to cross the road only at those yellow road signs?

What was the best thing before sliced bread?

One nice thing about egotists: they don't talk about other people.

Does the little mermaid wear an algebra? (This one took me a minute)

Do infants enjoy infancy as much as adults enjoy adultery?

How is it possible to have a civil war?

If one synchronized swimmer drowns, do the rest drown too?

If you ate both pasta and antipasto, would you still be hungry?

If you try to fail, and succeed, which have you done?

Whose cruel idea was it for the word 'lisp' to have 's' in it?

Why are hemorrhoids called "hemorrhoids" instead of "assteroids"?

Why is it called tourist season if we can't shoot at them?

Why is there an expiration date on sour cream?

If you spin an oriental man in a circle many times, does he become disoriented?

Can an atheist get insurance against acts of God?

Why do shops have signs, 'guide dogs only', when the dogs can't read and their owners can't see?

## 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)

## Newsletter Notes

Regarding Ned's article about Hawaii:

Ah... Hilo Hawaii in January: highs around 80, lows in the 60's, playing with the radio in shorts and a tee shirt, a gentle tropical breeze, lush greenery as far as the eye can see... sounds really rough. 

It's quite a contrast to the major cold snap our countrymen on the East Coast were dealing with: sub-zero temps, snow, ice, freezing winds, schools and businesses closed. Even ARRL HQ (in Connecticut) closed part of the time.

And I was almost feeling guilty about the mild weather we were having here in San Jose... almost.

In the ARRL News, no doubt you've noticed the peculiar 9 W power restriction the FCC put on the new 60 m allocation. Yet the existing 60 m individual channels still retain the 100 W limit. I understand the FCC is open to being more reasonable about that, but they need to hear from us.



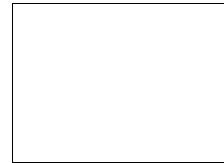
73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

**SCCARA**

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

**FIRST CLASS**

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**SCCARA Membership for 2026**

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)**

**Family memberships:** (more than one member per household) please include the above info for each member, use separate forms.  
**New members:** Your dues are for *next* year (a full year), the remainder of this year is included free!

**Memberships start January 1 and expire December 31.**

**I want the printed newsletter delivered by U.S. Mail for an additional \$15 per year**

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

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

Rev. 1/31/2026