SCCARA-GRAM

Santa Clara County
Amateur Radio Association

Volume 51, Number 11 November 2026

ARRL News

eBay Restricts Listings of Radio Equipment, but Exempts Ham-Band-Only Gear

10/16/2026

Online marketplace eBay has imposed new restrictions on listings of radio transmitting equipment in response to new FCC rules that took effect this week, but responded to the ARRL that its new policy will not apply to gear that operates exclusively on amateur radio frequencies. The FCC's rules are intended to use its equipment authorization program to protect against "national security threats to the communications supply chain" and cover a wide variety of products.

https://www.ebay.com/sellercenter/resources/fcc-id
https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-adopts-rules-strengthen-rules-governing-dangerous-gear-0

In its Third Report and Order issued on July 23, 2026, the Commission makes clear that online marketplaces share in the legal responsibility to assure that unauthorized RF devices are not offered for sale on their platforms. The rules took effect on October 13.

Moving forward, equipment subject to FCC authorization must have its FCC ID number submitted to the marketplace and posted with its listing. There are exemptions for posts already online, "small sellers," and used equipment, but initial messages to sellers from eBay suggested that an FCC ID would be required in order to post a listing for any equipment that transmits RF energy.

In response to a request from the ARRL for a clarification relating to amateur radio equipment that does not require FCC authorization, an eBay spokesperson provided the following statement:

> *"eBay allows the sale of devices capable of operating only on frequencies that the FCC has allocated for use by Amateur Radio Service licensees. As these devices do not require FCC equipment authorization, FCC IDs will not be required for these listings as an amateur licensee may use his or her license to operate such radios.*
>
> *"However, two-way VHF/UHF radio equipment capable of operating outside of the amateur frequency bands cannot be imported, advertised, sold, or operated within the United States, including on eBay, without an FCC equipment certification.*
>
> *"If eBay inadvertently takes action against listings for devices that don't require FCC IDs and are otherwise authorized, the affected seller should inform eBay and we will assess whether to remove restrictions from the listing."*

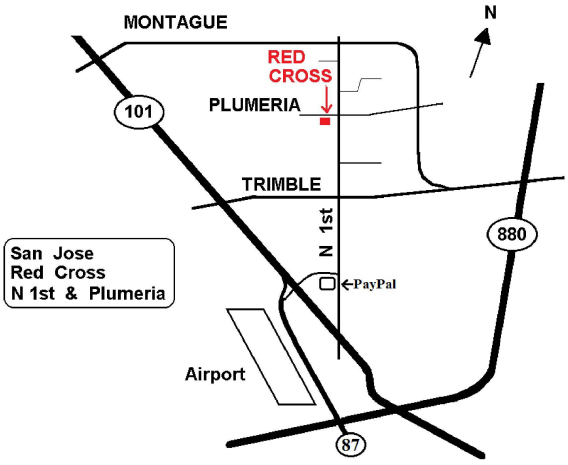
It should be emphasized that the FCC did not change its underlying equipment authorization rules. Amateur radio equipment, except for commercial HF amplifiers, continues to not require FCC authorization.

Calendar

11/9 SCCARA General Meeting
11/16 SCCARA Board Meeting
11/28 Club Station open

General Meeting

Day:	Monday, November 9
Time:	7:30 PM
Place:	San Jose Red Cross, meeting room 3
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**, 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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
(officers are also directors)

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	e-mail:	
Secretary	(open)	
	e-mail:	
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Director	John Parks W6JPP	
	e-mail: w6jpp@arrl.net	
Director	Janet Motha, KF6PUQ	408 252-3939
	e-mail: jmotha21@gmail.com	
Director	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	408-891-1105
	e-mail: ka6ymd@arrl.net	
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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: https://www.svve.org
Morris Jones, AD6ZH: 408-507-4698

December Meeting

Mark Your Calendars...

The December meeting will be our annual holiday dinner meeting! It's our regular meeting night (Monday, December 14) but at **6:30 PM** instead of 7:30 PM.

It will be at Denny's, 333 S. Abbott Ave. in Milpitas, near Hwy. 237 and Hwy.880. From San Jose go North on 880. Exit at Calaveras East, take the first right onto S. Abbott Ave. and follow the curve around to Denny's on the right. We will be in the back room.

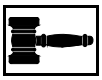
Bring the family with you! We'll each order from the menu individually and pay separate checks.

We will again have a gift exchange. To participate, bring a wrapped gift costing about $15 or so. If it's intended for a man or woman, label it as such. The way it works is: one at a time each participant chooses a wrapped gift and opens it *OR* they may "steal" an already opened gift. The "victim" of a steal (if there is one) then chooses another gift. Each specific gift can only be "stolen" once. It ends when all the wrapped gifts have been opened. It's a lot of fun!

Happy Holidays!
73, Gregg KF6FNA

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, Oct. 12, 2026



Room 3, American Red Cross, N 1st & Plumeria, San Jose, CA

Meeting called to order by President Gregg Lane KF6FNA at 7:38 PM

Customary self introductions. Gregg KF6FNA, Janet KF6PUQ, Marcelo Chistick (no call yet), Lou WA6QYS, Ned AC6YY, Don KG6GO, Gary WB6YRU, John W6JPP, George N6NKT.
Visitors: Neville Mehta KO6PHP, Russ Sansom, Denzell Dixon.

Announcements
George N6NKT: San Jose Red Cross is the new vehicle radio test center for the area. November 3 and 4 some Red Cross vehicles will be tested. If SCCARA would like to get in on that let me know.

Gregg KF6FNA: The club station will be open Oct. 31, if you come down it would be a good idea to call on our 2 m repeater first, make sure we're there.
We have a Monday Night Net on our 2 m repeater at 7:30 pm except the second Monday, that's our meeting night.
We have another net on HF, 28.385 USB, Thursdays, 8:00 pm.
Next Monday, Oct. 19, will be our board meeting on our 2 m repeater right after the net.
Pacificon will be October 16-18 at the San Ramon Marriott, 2600 Bishop Ave.

John W6JPP: The antenna on our antenna trailer has been repaired. There may be a storage fee, to be discussed at the board meeting.

Gregg KF6FNA: We plan to have our traditional holiday dinner meeting on December 14 (our normal meeting night), unless people would like another date? We have been going to Denny's in Milpitas. Family is welcome.
Discussion on another Denny's closer to most of us. To be

decided.

Don KG6GO: The ICom 7300 has a SD slot for a memory card. It could be used to store messages, which would come in handy during Field Day. I'm willing to donate a SD card.

Gregg KF6FNA: At the up coming board meeting we'll discuss getting a couple of headphones for the club station.

John W6JPP: CERT will be holding some emergency practice drills, will use our antenna trailer. SCCARA members may want to participate.

Gregg KF6FNA: Winter Field Day will be Jan. 23 and 24. We probably will participate at the club station.

Question for the group on antennas for limited space or apartments with restrictions.
Discussion on small antennas.

Gregg KF6FNA discussed license renewals at Pacificon or through the ARRL.

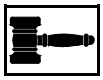
John W6JPP discussed possible operation on Mt Hamilton at Lick Observatory

Ned AC6YY suggested we make some "measuring tape" Yagi antennas for another project meeting. They're used for portable operation and transmitter hunting, they fold up easily.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm

Gary Mitchell WB6YRU, recording for the Secretary

Board Meeting, Oct. 19, 2026



Held verbally on our 2 m repeater W6UU/R

Meeting called to order by President Gregg Lane KF6FNA at 7:46 PM

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.
Absent: Janet Motha KF6PUQ
Visitors: Gary WB6YRU
(We have a quorum, 6 needed)

Announcements
Gregg KF6FNA: Still working on a location for out holiday dinner meeting.

We should have had nominations at the October general meeting. Club elections will be during the November general meeting.
WB6YRU: We haven't had a V.P. nor a Secretary this year, and we're down by one director too. It would be good to not repeat that problem.

Officer Reports

President's Report, Gregg KF6FNA: (none)

Secretary's Report, (vacant):
Gregg KF6FNA: The meeting minutes were published in the SCCARA-GRAM.

Re: minutes of the general meeting of Sept. 14, 2026, any corrections? (nothing heard)
Any opposed to accepting minutes as published? (nothing heard)
Accepted as published.

Re: minutes of the board meeting of Sept. 21, 2026, any corrections? (nothing heard)
Any opposed to accepting minutes as published?
John W6JPP : move we accept minutes as published.
Don K6PBQ: second
KF6FNA: any opposed? (nothing heard)
Accepted as published.

Treasurer's Report, Ned AC6YY: We have $ 11418 in the checking account. $ 0 in petty cash.
John W6JPP : move we accept the report, subject to audit.
Wally KA6YMD: second
Gregg KF6FNA: any opposed? (nothing heard)
Accepted as given.

Station Trustee's Report, Don K6PBQ: I haven't been there in several months, but I don't think there's anything new.

Standing Committees

Editor's report, Gary WB6YRU: Not much new to report. Just that we should have an article in the next edition about who the nominees are for the club elections in November.

BBS Sysop's report, Gary WB6YRU: Nothing new to report, the BBS is running fine.

Webmaster's report, Ned AC6YY: The web site is running OK.

Repeater Chairman's report, Goetz K6GKB:
Gregg KF6FNA: The 2 m repeater seems to be OK, I haven't heard from Goetz. Any reports? (nothing heard)

Old Business

Gregg KF6FNA: We have a tower and beam to set up at the Red Cross, more on that later.
Antenna trailer has a beam with a rotator, but we're missing a controller.
John W6JPP: I'm not sure what's needed. To be determined.
Gregg KF6FNA: Coax jump board at club station. Gary came up with a design.
Gary WB6YRU: I came up with one for coax switches too, but we need to know what the maximum number of antenna coaxes will be.
Gregg KF6FNA: I think it's five, but we can double check that when the club station is open Oct. 31.

New Business

Gregg KF6FNA: In the past we have had our dinner meeting at the Denny's in Milpitas.
John W6JPP: There's a Denny's not too far from Oak Hill in San Jose.
Gary WB6YRU: there's one near the Prune Yard.
Wally KA6YMD: That one is fairly small.
Gregg KF6FNA: I need the specific locations, please get the addresses to me.
The date will be Monday Dec. 14, our usual meeting night.
We've had gift exchanges, any comments on an amount limit?
John W6JPP: I think it's always been $10, but we should increase that.
I move we increase the cap to $15.
Don K6PBQ: second.
Gregg KF6FNA: Any objections to the increase? (nothing heard)

Motion passes

Gregg KF6FNA: Any nominees for Director?
John W6JPP: I nominate myself for director.
And I nominate AC6YY to stay as treasurer.
Lou WA6QYS: second
Gregg KF6FNA: Gary has been filling in for Secretary, would anyone like to nominate someone for Secretary? (nothing heard)
John W6JPP: nominate Janet for director
Gregg KF6FNA: V.P. gets speakers and manages the meetings. Any nominations for V.P.?
(Nothing heard)
KF6FNA: Any nominations for president? (nothing heard)
Any interest in forming a nominations committee?
John W6JPP: I'll do that.
Gregg KF6FNA: I'll help do that too. That's a committee of two. Anyone else? (nothing heard)
Lou and Wally have one more year to go as director. John and Janet are nominated, any others?
Gary WB6YRU: I'll put my name in for the third director seat.
Lou WA6QYS: I nominated Gregg for Pres.
Don K6PBQ: second
Gary WB6YRU: Until we get a secretary, I'll continue filling in taking minutes and maintaining the roster. But it's important to realizes that doesn't cover everything the secretary does.

Gregg KF6FNA: AC6YY suggested we do another project meeting.
Ned AC6YY: There are kits available for a measuring tape beam for transmitter hunting, $26 each.
John W6JPP: transmitter hunting is a lot of fun. We could combine it with a camping trip.
Gary WB6YRU gave a summary on T hunting done by a group that does monthly T hunting in Fremont.
Gregg KF6FNA: Comments on the fee?
Gary WB6YRU: How about the club buys them and asks for donations. That way those with money can pay, those on a serious budget won't be left out.
Gregg KF6FNA: I like that approach.
John W6JPP: Or they could pay for half and SCCARA pays half.
Gregg KF6FNA: How many kits should we get?
John W6JPP: Should limit it to members? I'll be on a committee to work on the logistics.
Gregg KF6FNA: We want to encourage prospective new members to attend. This won't be for a few months yet, we have time. I'll help on that committee.
Gary WB6YRU: I'll be on that committee too.

Gregg KF6FNA: About the holiday dinner meeting, ideas on the location?
(Discussion on the location. Some say it should be more centrally located, Milpitas isn't even in the same county. Several commented that the Milpitas location is good, despite the distance.)
John W6JPP: Since time is getting short, let's go to the Milpitas Denny's and we can look into others over the coming months for next year.
Lou WA6QYS: I'll make the reservations for the Denny's in Milpitas.

Gregg KF6FNA: Anything else? (nothing heard)
I appreciate people putting forth the effort to make the club more active.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM

Gary Mitchell WB6YRU, recording for the Secretary

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the BBS packet network:

==========
Date: 5 Nov 2020 22:52
From: GM3YEW@GB7YEW
To: HUMOUR@WW
Subject: jokes 6/11

Intelligence Test

Below is a way to gauge your loss or non-loss of intelligence. Don't look at the answers before you've given your own.

1. What do you put in a toaster?

2. Say "silk" five times. Now spell "silk." What do cows drink?

3. If a red house is made from red bricks and a blue house is made from blue bricks and a pink house is made from pink bricks and a black house is made from black bricks, what is a green house made from?

4. It's fifty years ago, and a plane is flying at 20,000 feet over Germany. If you will recall, Germany at the time was politically divided into West Germany and East Germany. During the flight, one of the two engines fails. The pilot, realizing that the remaining engine is also failing, decides on a crash landing procedure. Unfortunately the engine fails before he has time and the plane fatally crashes smack in the middle of "no man's land" between East Germany and West Germany. Where would you bury the survivors? East Germany or West Germany or in "no man's land"?

5. Without using a calculator - You are driving a bus from London to Milford Haven in Wales. In London, 17 people get on the bus. In Reading, six people get off the bus and nine people get on. In Swindon, two people get off and four get on. In Cardiff, 11 people get off and 16 people get on. In Swansea, three people get off and five people get on In Carmarthen , six people get off and three get on. You then arrive at Milford Haven. What was the name of the bus driver?

Answers:

1. It's "bread." If you said "toast," then give up now and go do something else. Try not to hurt yourself.

3. Greenhouses are made from glass. If you said "green bricks," what the devil are you still doing here reading these questions?

3. Cows drink water. If you said "milk," your brain is obviously over stressed and may even overheat. It may be that you need to content yourself with reading something more appropriate such as Children's World.

4. You don't bury survivors. If you said ANYTHING else, you are a real dunce and you must NEVER try to rescue anyone from a plane crash. Your efforts would not be appreciated.

5. Oh, for crying out loud! Don't you remember your own name? Now pass this along to all your "smart friends" and hope they do better than you did.

It may help to know that 95% people fail in most of the questions!!

==========
Date: 7 Nov 2020 22:52
From: GM3YEW@GB7YEW
To: HUMOUR@WW
Subject: jokes 8/11

Out of my mind. Back in five minutes.

A blonde goes to her local pet store in search of an 'exotic' pet. As she looks about the store, she notices a box full of frogs. The sign says: 'SEX FROGS' Only $20 each! Comes with 'complete' instructions.

The girl excitedly looks around to see if anybody's watching her. She whispers softly to the man behind the counter, "I'll take one!"

As the man packages the frog, he quietly says to her, 'Just follow the instructions.'

The blonde nods, grabs the box, and is quickly on her way home. As soon as she closes the door to her apartment, she opens the instructions and reads them very carefully. She does exactly what is specified:
1. Take a shower.
2. Splash on some nice perfume.
3. Slip into a very sexy nightie.
4. Crawl into bed and place the frog down beside you, and allow the frog to do what he has been trained to do.

She then quickly gets into bed with the frog and to her surprise nothing happens! The blonde is very disappointed and quite upset at this point. She re-reads the instructions and notices at the bottom it says: "If you have any problems or questions, please call the pet store."

So she calls the pet store. The man says, "I'll be right over." Within minutes the man at the door. The blonde welcomes him in and says, "I've done everything according to the instructions. The damn frog just sits there!"

The man, looking very concerned, picks up the frog, stares directly into its eyes, and sternly says: "Now, listen to me... I'm only going to show you how to do this ONE MORE TIME!"

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 sent in about the up coming club elections. However, at the last meeting the nominations were:
President: Gregg KF6FNA (incumbent)
Vice President: (open)
Secretary: (open)
Treasurer: Ned AC6YY (incumbent)
Station Trustee: Don K6PBQ (incumbent) *
Directors (3):
John W6JPP (incumbent)
Janet KF6PUQ (incumbent)
Gary WB6YRU
(the two other directors have one more year to go)

Nominating committee: John W6JPP and Gregg KF6FNA.

* Note: The office of Station Trustee has no set term, so Don wasn't actually nominated. He said he hasn't been to the club station in many months (no longer able to drive) and suggested someone else might want to take over. The Station Trustee must have an Extra class license. If anyone is interested, please contact the club president, Gregg KF6FNA.



73, Gary WB6YRU



Happy Thanksgiving!

SCCARA
Santa **C**lara **C**ounty **A**mateur **R**adio **A**ssociation
PO Box 106
SAN JOSE CA 95103-0106

FIRST CLASS

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SCCARA Membership for 2027

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.

Rev. 10/29/2026