

SCCARA-GRAM

W6UW

SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

W6UU

September 1976

President: Bill Stevens, W6ZM
Vice-Pres: Gordon Kerker, W6JTR
Secretary: Bob Hudgens, WN6KUC

Treasurer: Al Gordoy, K6LHQ
Editor: Jeannette Wildhofer, WA6VKB
Publisher: Paul Wildhofer, WA6VKE

Meeting: Monday, September 13, 1976 Time: 7:30 P.M.
Place: Red Cross Building, 333 McKendrie Street, San Jose

Dr. Sy Stein, WA6ROM, will address us on Monday, September 13. He will give us an insight into astro-medical developments as they relate to our problems on earth. With his broad background which includes his work with NASA, Sy will give us another fascinating and informative presentation that will be of great interest not only to radio amateurs but also to those who want to know how the space program may affect our daily lives. We are most fortunate to have an authority of Dr. Stein's caliber in our midst. Plan to attend and bring your guests. We know the XYLS will enjoy hearing Dr. Stein.

During Labor Day week-end, September 4 to 6, will be the Pacific Division Convention. Judging from the comments of the Program Chairman Bill Vette, K6TXR, there will be many sessions you will not want to miss. You will have your choice of varied programs, including a fascinating presentation on extra-terrestrial communications, FCC and ARRL forums, technical programs, contest forum and meetings of DXers. Between sessions you may inspect new equipment displays of various electronics companies and distributors to help your plans of up-dating your hamshack.

For the ladies and other family members Caroline Gmelin, K6BGM, and Helen Gaetano are working on a thoroughly delightful program of entertainment. The bus tour will take you to the Factory in Campbell which is really lots of fun, then on to Saratoga to visit the famous Paul Masson Champagne Cellars. That's not all! Count on an enjoyable week-end at the convention.

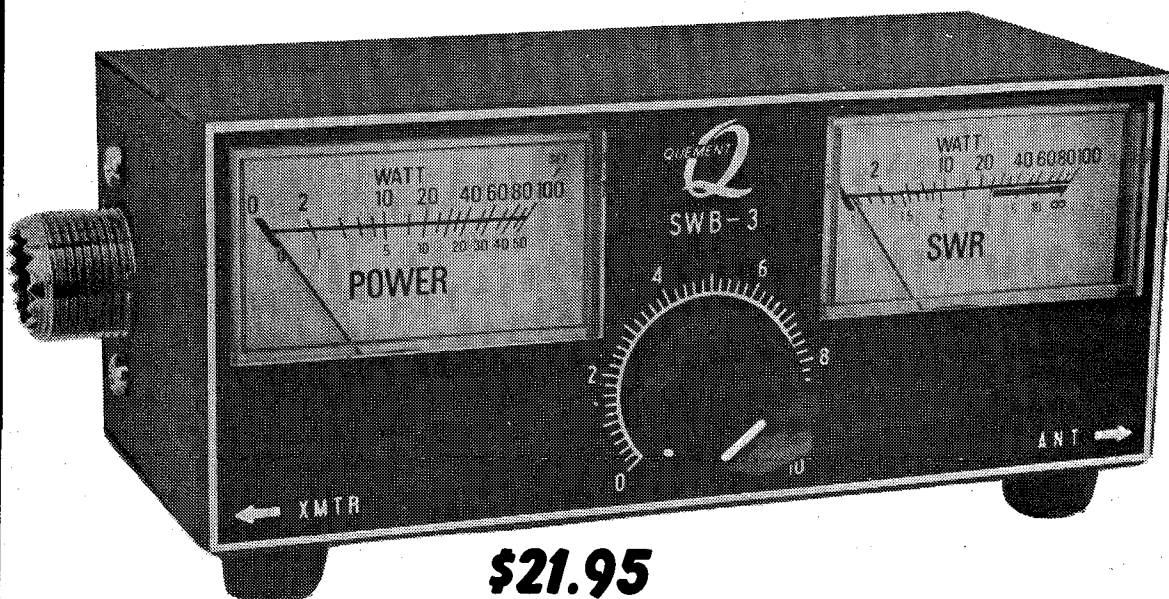
On Sunday, September 5, will be the Convention Banquet when we can hope to win some of the fine valuable prizes which include an "Atlas" to cap our gastronomical and social enjoyment.

Bring your family and take part in the whole convention to enjoy all the fun. If you can't take in everything, at least try to attend the technical sessions. You will find them worthy of your time and effort at a cost of \$5.00.

From the many comments we received, it was certain that the Family Night in August was a great success. Dorothy and Bob Hudgens, WN6KUC, prepared the tasty spaghetti dinner that was enjoyed by about 80 members and guests at the Red Cross Auditorium. It was capped by a delicious chiffon cake provided by Norbert Geldner, owner-manager of Cambrian Bakery which was formerly owned and operated by Joe Quirantes, WA6DXP.

After the dinner Joe Quirantes entertained the participants with his demonstration of cake decoration. The way Joe deftly produced roses, pink elephants, clowns, and other figures was most fascinating not only to the ladies but also to the "boys" who are more interested in devouring than producing such creations.

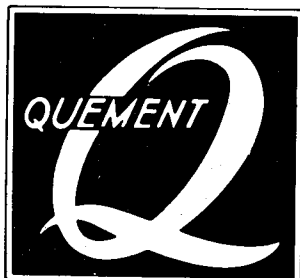
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Another interesting part of the program was a demonstration of "Opticon" an electronic instrument replacing the Braille system in helping blind persons to read printed matter by electronic scanning. Jim Gammon, WA6EKS, gave us this presentation. Although sightless from early childhood, Jim ably proved that with courage, perseverance, and proper assistance, blind persons can overcome much of their disability and become active, participating members of society.

One of the pleasant surprises of the evening was the awarding of a "Diploma" to Joyce Walters for her continued assistance in our club activities by typing the copies of SCCARA-GRAM for the past several years. Joyce was surprised, and your publisher and editor were greatly pleased by the thoughtfulness of President Bill, W6ZM, in presenting her with this recognition.

During the business meeting Dick Barrett, W6CFK, presented SCCARA with a Bicentennial Award for our association's involvement in local bicentennial activities.

Bill Vette, K6TXR, showed us the draft of the Bicentennial Award to be awarded by SCCARA to all amateurs who will request it after sending one dollar and qualifying by gaining 200 points through working San Jose, Santa Clara County or Pacific Division stations.

Incidentally, if you do not have your new colored SCCARA badge, order it very soon from Bill, K6TXR. Get one for your XYL, too. If you do not have your call letters, you can still buy a badge for \$2.00 and exchange it later for one with your name and call.

Joe Quirantes, WA6DXP, our net coordinator wishes to remind you that he is patiently waiting for your calling W6UW on Wednesday evenings at 7 P.M. PDT on 21,355 KHz. Take a few minutes and surprise him with your call next Wednesday evening.

Our novice training is progressing nicely. In a week or two they will be taking the FCC exam. President Bill, W6ZM, announced that another novice class will start on Sept. 21, the third Tuesday of the month. It will be conducted by SCCARA staff of instructors utilizing the latest ARRL teaching aids.

Later in the fall, a class is planned for those aspiring for higher license classifications. Bill, W6ZM, wants to know how many of us would participate. Give him a call.

Some of our members and acquaintances may be interested in the FCC Licensing class offered by Frank Glass, K6RQ, and his assistants as part of the Adult Education Program. In this course you may get basic electronic knowledge required to obtain commercial and amateur radio licenses. Reviews basic mathematics required for solving radio circuit equations and discusses instruments, circuits, and all other necessary information.

This year Frank Glass will have his class at Camden High School (Union Ave. at Camden) on Thursday evenings 7 to 10 p.m. beginning Sept. 16.

We welcome new members Rufus Tucker, Bob Higday, Earl McLaughlin, David Toews, Leo Kaems, H.G. Follows, and Curtis Thompson. We hope they will enjoy our association and be frequent participators in our activities.

Congratulations to Mel Jolley, WN6MZE, and Shane Mathern, WN6OSF, for passing the novice exam and getting their call letters.

You may keep your roster up-to-date by posting the above information and those new members we mentioned since the roster was issued in July. Currently, our membership stands at 154. By license classes we have 12 Extra, 37 Advanced, 19 General, 3 Conditional, 9 Technician, 16 Novice, and 58 unlicensed members.

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For the program in October Bill, W6ZM, secured a very interesting NASA film: "Four Rooms-Earth View". It should give us additional insight into space exploration.

Also in October, we shall have the nominations for the officers and four board members for 1977. Let Bill know your ideas about who should lead our fast growing association next year.

November is election time nationally and at SCCARA. Come and vote for your favorite candidates for SCCARA officers.

We shall also have two films after the business meeting: "The Age of Space Transportation" (How computers work in space transportation) and "Mars, The Search Begins". Both are NASA films and promise to be very informative.

Have you marked your calendar for Thursday, December 9? That is the evening of SCCARA's Annual Christmas Party to be held again at the Cabana Hotel in Los Altos. Our president says it will be bigger and better than last year. That will really be great. As we recall, our party last year was delightful. Do plan to attend. Also, each gentleman brings a gift for a gentleman; each lady brings a gift for a lady.

Curt Behrens, WA6JQC, our emergency coordinator who is also officiating in the communications department of the Red Cross, took just pride in amateur radio the other night. He learned that on the occasion of the Medical Exercise held on the eve of the spaghetti dinner, amateur radio operators reported the necessary information most accurately among the participating groups. It is good to know of things such as this. Keep in touch, Curt. Let's publicize future achievements of amateur radio operators.

More and more hams are becoming aware of the desirability of the 220 MHz amateur band. It is not crowded at present and the repeaters within reach offer good service for mobile operations. There are four 220 repeaters within effective range in the Bay Area. We have an opportunity to acquire a repeater to be set up and controlled by SCCARA.

President Bill, W6ZM, wants your opinion whether SCCARA should expand in this area and purchase a 220 MHz repeater available at reasonable cost. Send Bill a note or call him by land line or on the air. He needs your views very soon to be able to consider this favorable opportunity.

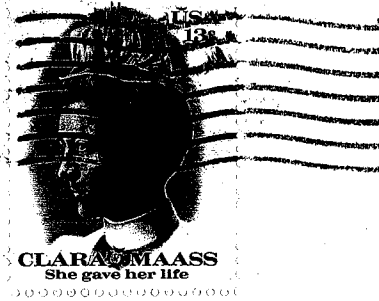
Several of our novice trainees are getting their licenses and will be anxious to get on the air. The lack of available reliable gear suitable for novice operation at reasonable cost may become a discouraging factor. If you know or learn of the availability of equipment suitable for novices, please let us know. Call Burt Simpson, WA6GBQ, in charge of novice training at 294-2115 so that he may inform his interested novices.

Cookies are needed for the Hospitality Room at the convention. Doc, who represents us at ARRL, made the request at our last meeting. Let's respond generously.

"73" de Jeannette, WA6VKB

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