



# SCCARA-GRAM

W6UU .....VOLUME 5 NUMBER 2 ....W6UW  
SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION  
\*\*\*\*ORGANIZED IN 1921 SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA\*\*\*\*



## SCCARA IS ON THE MOVE



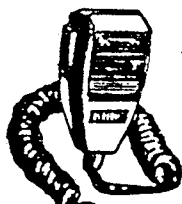
BRING YOUR VALENTINE TO THE NEXT CLUB MEETING! SHOW THEM YOUR REALLY CARE.



# LET'S WORK TOGETHER!

CQ CQ CQ.....de WB6WKM

Boy O Boy if you missed the January meeting you should live to regret it forever. Our speaker was a man of steel! The pictures alone made me shutter. Those men and women who can climb up and install towers higher then 20 feet in the air amaze me. My hats off to them. By the way yours truly's tower is a big 35 feet in the air, I have to add that it cranks down to 21 feet, but for me to work on it scares the heck out of me. Anyway it has been pretty reliable and in almost 6 years only the rotor has given me a problem. With all of the programs that are lined up for us already in 1986, I suggest that you plan on not missing a single one, Art KG6PY and crew have lots of nice programs lined up and as an example, this month we will have Craig Stewart KF6SD, give up all the secrets and codes to operate the new repeater controller and as Art says "don't miss this one". In March we have Harry Wijtman, AE6M a long time member of SCCARA, and a real supporter of our club, to give us a presentation on RTTY and AMTOR. Those of us who have followed Harrys articles on RTTY can hardly wait!! When the chips are down, we really can count on our club officers. They are truly dedicated to offering all of the help that they can. So when you feel up to it don't be bashful to stop and let them know how you feel about some subject. They will bring it up and discuss it at a board meeting. Your input is what is needed to keep the club alive and running. Not one of the officers feels like he can do it alone, and believe me he can't...so write a note and pass it on. Look for you at the next meeting, and by the way, bring your dues if you forgot to re-up for 1986, a bargin like this is hard to find.....73, Dick



FROM THE PREZ

For the past few weeks we have been reading in the paper of school and other local government problems in obtaining liability insurance. Usually, that kind of thing only happens to "other people", so I guess it was inevitable that it should happen to SCCARA. Last week we received notice abruptly that our liability insurance was cancelled as of December 31st, and a check enclosed for the unused part of the premium. SCCARA insures through ARRL, our agent being Albert H. Wohlers & Co., the same one that insures our individual ham gear. This is a group insurance for ARRL Clubs. Our original coverage was for \$ 1,000,000, underwritten by Atlanta International. In September, when last renewed, the coverage was halved to \$ 500,000 for \$140/yr. A new underwriter, INA (Insurance Company of North America) has been obtained by ARRL, but their new offering is now \$551 for \$1,000,000.

If we are to continue as a club, we can't exist without it in our "sue happy" society. As I read it, California is one of the so called "deep pocket states", which means that in the case of a lawsuit, the plaintiff names everyone that has any degree of involvement, then if a judgement is rendered, and the defendant has insufficient funds or insurance to pay, anyone named in the suit with the ability to pay is tapped. That means if SCCARA was sued, and had insufficient insurance, we (you and I) as officers and members of the club could be liable. I called my agent (for one of the largest companies), and he told me first, that my homeowner's insurance did not cover this type of thing; second, that his company had discontinued such insurance; and third, to get some insurance pronto, the quote we had being a good one. I hope your insurance is better than mine . . . and that it is good on today's market. This is probably going to go on until legislation is passed to limit liability and/or contingency lawyer fees. With Field Day, meetings, classes and a bang up convention in October I asked our Treasurer to draw a check.

If you were at our January Meeting you enjoyed a good program. We also discussed among other things what classes we wanted and asked for a show of hands as to what areas we wanted covered. With this information at the Board Meeting that followed the next Thursday, we determined that we would try for Novice, Technician/General, and 13 wpm Code. We have instructors, but as of this writing no classrooms. Red Cross is unable to schedule rooms until March. The Board also decided to welcome blind or otherwise handicapped persons to our classes so that they, too could share in the fun of amateur radio. Please call me (Ed, WD6CHD) at 264-2988, if you know of any suitable place to hold classes, need a ride to meeting, or would like to have your name on a list for upcoming classes. We'll do our best.

You might want to practice up on your code in the interval before classes start. If so, listen on 35.90 MHz to W6QIE from 8:00 to 9:00 pm, Tuesday thru Sunday, or 145.45 MHz at 8:30 pm, Tuesday and Thursdays. Then there's W1AW, frequencies and times as listed in QST.

SCCARA has for several years had a 440 MHz NARC frequency allocation. Such allocations are now in short supply. We are in imminent danger of losing ours unless we put a repeater on it. Please be prepared to discuss this at our February meeting. Let's either do something about a repeater, or give the frequency up so that someone else can use it!!!!

Remember the box at our Christmas Party labelled "Red Cross Emergency Disaster Relief"? Red Cross thanks all the SCCARA members that contributed \$ 104.00 to it.

73 de Ed, WD6CHD (Chili Hot Dog)



~~SECRET~~

FROM YOUR TREASURER.....

Let's kickoff 1986 by recognizing new club members Allen Medley; Claire True, KB6LBW; Helen Tanner, K6GJJ; William Keough; Steve Choate, N7CJS; and Frank Wiefels, M.D. WELCOME!!! Let's also salute our new Novices who received their calls at yearend: Paul Allan (G1NPA), KB6LCT; Kevin Baltz, KB6LCS; Anna Cracchiolo, KB6LCO; Joan Hastings, KB6LFZ; Mike Hastings, KB6LCJ; Eric Homa, KB6LCR; Ray Hutcherson, KB6LCV; Cathy Martens, KB6LCL; Brian Pacchetti, KB6LCK; Tim Roschmann, KB6LCU; Maryann Saso, KB6LCP; Ron Saso, KB6LCQ; Cindy Senff, KB6LCM; Mike Senff, KB6LCN; and Burt Seymour, KB6LCI.

**CLASSES.....**

We intend to begin a Novice session early in March at the San Jose Red Cross building. As before, class will meet weekly from 7 to 9 PM. The evening depends on availability of facilities. Instructors are desperately needed. If you wish to help, please call me! We will use the ARRL *Tune In The World* package with their code tape along with the Ameco or ARRL FCC question and answer guide. If you will attend Novice class, you should purchase these items now so we can get right to work once class starts! We also will begin a 13 WPM code class early in March to be taught by Jim Daddysman, K6YKG. Watch the next *SCCARAGRAM* for class dates.

**Worldradio.....**

You will soon see *SCCARA* listed in the *Worldradio*. We'll draw each month for a lucky winner of a 1-year free subscription.

**Club Roster....**

The 1986 club roster will be in the March *SCCARAGRAM*. Joe, WA6DXP is hard at work preparing it. We'll also publish a roster next August.

**ARRL.....**

ARRL is continuing the *Club Challenge For The 80's* program in 1986. This program is for NEW ARRL members only. This is a membership recruitment program and a contest to see which club can get the most new League members. There are 3 divisions according to club size. *SCCARA*, having over 75 members, is regarded as a large club so we will be competing with the larger organizations in the country. The apparent 1985 large club winner is the West Coast ARC with 51 new League members. Can *SCCARA* do better? What could we win? Each club class (small, medium and large) will win a new HF transceiver! If you wish to join the League please do it through *SCCARA*. The membership forms are available from me.

**What's Ahead?...**

1986 will be a real ripper folks! Plans for the ARRL Pacific Division Convention on October are coming along nicely under the direction of Shorty, AE6Z. The Board has discussed renewing Potluck night, a Summer evening or Saturday picnic/meeting for the entire family, Field Day, Old Timers' Night and the Annual Christmas Dinner. There is a lot of fun and frolic ahead...along with the work and dedication required to make things happen in '86. Be an active *SCCARA* member in '86 and really enjoy the hobby and the club!

Until next time.....73, Dan, WM6M

## THE ABC'S OF RTTY #2

Signals received by the transceiver are presented to the TU in audio form. Usually, the audio is taken from the external speaker connection of the radio and presented to the TU input. Here the audio cable from the receiver is attached to the AUDIO IN jack. An external speaker is then attached via the EXTERNAL SPEAKER jack so that the received audio can also be heard.

In turn, signals generated by the computer are converted by the TU to audio tones. These tones are then sent to the transceiver's microphone input. The audio tones, called AFSK (audio frequency shift keying) signals, are cabled via the XCVR plug to the transceiver microphone jack. PTT (push-to-talk) control is cabled here too.

The tones used for amateur RTTY are similar to those used for computer communication by telephone. In each case a signal is represented by two tones, called MARK and SPACE. Generally, a mark is a "0" and a space is a "1". Instead of transmitting ones and zeros by phone, which cannot be done really, tones which represent these numbers are sent. For example, to send a 1010 we would send a mark, a space, a mark and a space. Marks and spaces are defined as specific audio frequencies. For example, for amateur RTTY the mark is a 2125 Hz tone and the space is a 2295 Hz tone. For phone-line work a different frequency set is used. Since the two tones for amateur radio RTTY are spaced 170 Hz apart and a signal sequence is represented by shifting between these tones, the signals are referred to as 170 Hz shift Audio Frequency Shift Keyed RTTY, or 170 Hz shift AFSK.

Now let's consider briefly the connection between the TU, or terminal unit, and your computer. Generally, only two TTL or RS-232 voltage level lines are required - one for data receive and one for data transmission. In addition, a ground reference line is needed.

With your computer, TU, and transceiver in place how do you go about making a contact or tuning in to listen to RTTY? First, let's set your transceiver in the proper mode and on the right frequency. Let's suppose that you are going to listen and make contacts on 20 meters. Hence, tune to about 14.080 and set your transceiver for l.s.b. Tune around a bit until you hear signals that have two tones alternating. Second, you will need to properly tune in this signal in order to receive it.

Tuning RTTY can be critical. Remember, the two tones are only 170 Hz apart and the TU filters are generally very sharp. Your transceiver must be stable and able to tune to 10 Hz resolution. The TU includes on the front panel two LED'S, one for mark and the other for space indication. To tune an RTTY signal, slowly turn your transceiver dial until the tones come up in frequency to 2295 and 2125 respectively. These tones are high in pitch, so tune slowly and watch the mark and space LED's; they should blink in sequence with the tones when properly tuned. If you are too low, only the mark LED will light. When your transceiver is turned just right, both LED's will light. At this point, with your computer operating, you should be receiving RTTY.-----to be continued-----

# FOR SALE & WANT

Rules are that only SCCARA Club members in good standing may use this service. Only items directly involved with Ham Radio may be submitted. A suggested price must be stated. All items will run for one issue only, unless resubmitted. Both name and phone number to be included.

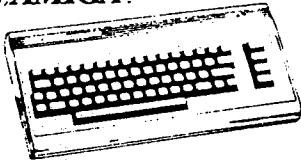
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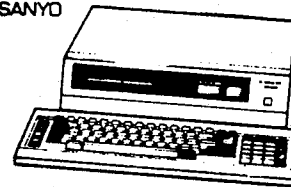
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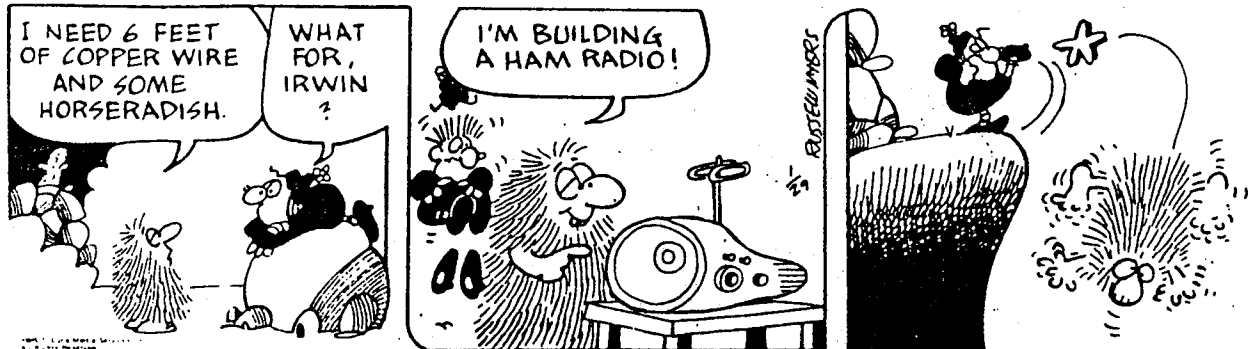
The latest systems are now on display, including the AMIGA and C-128 by Commodore, SANYO new models, MBC-675, small portable, MBC-775 Color Portable and MBC-885 XT Compatible Computers. Also on display is the NEC 8401 Starlet Lap Top Computer.

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## Broom Hilda



# YOUR DUES PAID???

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VICE PRES.....Art Furtado, KG6PY / 371-2655  
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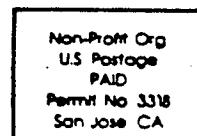
CLUB REPEATER....Input 146.985 MHZ-Output: 146.385 MHZ. On-the-air meetings Monday Nights 7:30PM Local time except on regular meeting nights.

REGULAR MEETINGS, are held the second Monday of each month. Meetings start at 7:30PM Local and are held at the RED CROSS Building, 333 McKendrie, San Jose, 292-6242 .

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SCCARA-GRAM is published monthly by the Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association.

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