

SCCARA-GRAM

Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association
Volume 8 Number 2

Organized in 1921
February 1990

Presidents Column

Well, here it is February already and this is my first message to you. First of all, on behalf of SCCARA, I want to thank Dan Dietz, WM6M for his service to the Club for these past several years and also for leading the club thru some rather difficult times in 1989. Dan is continuing to serve SCCARA as both a member of the Board of Directors and as an advisor to me. And I'm sure I'll be looking to him many times during the year for his advice.

This year promises to be a very busy one, so more of you will be asked for your help confronting and dealing with the issues facing us. Two of those issues are;

1. Repeater Enhancements.
(See Repeater Committee Report in this Issue)
2. Club (HF) Station location, control and access.

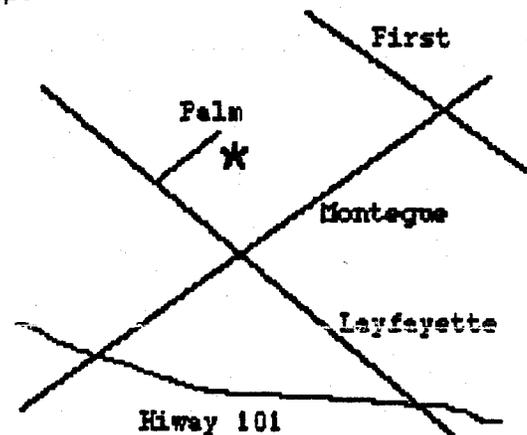
As you know, one of the benefits of SCCARA Membership is access to and use of its repeaters. I feel that the problems we've experienced with our (2 Meter) repeater are well on the way to being solved. I feel very confident that you will begin to see a noticeable improvement in both signal strength and quality by midyear.

Another benefit of SCCARA membership is the privilege to use SCCARA's HF Station. This privilege makes a first class station available to us to improve our operating skills. It

NEXT MEETING

Date: Monday 02/12/90
Time: 1930- 2200 approx.
Place: Agnews Facility. Located on Palm Avenue just a bit East of the intersection of Montegue and Lafayette.

Map:



SPEAKER

Jim O'Keefe (our new VP) is vigorously looking for good speakers for our meetings. This months guest speaker is Ben Vickers WB6FRM. The topic is

RADIO DIRECTION FINDING.

Remember the Transmitter Hunt at the last Pacificon??? Heres a chance to bone up for next year.

MEETING AGENDA

Pacificon 90 ???

Field Day 90

Our HF station

becomes a problem, though, when access to the station is controlled by someone other than SCCARA. For this reason, we formed a Committee to explore different ways to control access to the station and, if necessary, find a new home for it. Committee Members will be announced at our next regular meeting. Please, try to attend it, if possible.

Jim O'Keefe, WE6V has a good program for us. So come on out and enjoy the friendship, refreshments and a few eyeball QSO's. I look forward to seeing you there.

73 de
George, WA6D

Treasurers Column

With the new year behind us, I'm looking forward to all the activities coming up this year.

Frank AA6LL and his gang have said they are going to start up their side business again and make some more money for the repeater fund at the flea market this year. Now is a great time to keep that New Year's resolution and make arrangements with him to get all that GOOD junk out of the house and into SCCARA's repeater coffers. If you would like to help Frank with his efforts, I'm sure he would gladly hire you (for the right salary of course). He can be reached on W6UU late evenings or by phone at 408-453-1223. He says it is easiest to reach him at home in the early evenings. And if you find you can't help him either with time or merchandise, be sure to stop by SCCARA's booth at the flea market and say hello.

Another activity that is coming up sooner than you think is Field Day 1990. SCCARA has reserved our traditional site at Mt Madonna County Park. We have the Manzanita Group Campground reserved from 1:00 PM on Fri June 22 through 4:00 PM Sun June 24. So mark your calendar NOW!!

Some of you have asked me about how to get a SCCARA badge like you have seen one some of our members at the

meetings. They are \$3.00 ea and may be ordered from Joe WA6DXP. He is your net control on SCCARA's Net on Monday's at 7:30 PM on W6UU, can usually be found at SCCARA meetings or you can call him at 408-371-0959. And by the way Joe, thanks for all you do to help out SCCARA.

Although most of you receive your SCCARAGRAM before the meeting night, those who are consistently having trouble can either talk to your carrier (as they are mailed a week in advance) or send me \$3.00 per year and you will have your SCCARAGRAM sent to you by first class mail for the rest of the year. The board approved that as a yearly charge to offset the increase in postage cost to sent it first class.

On a different note, I have sent in the forms and letters that Bell South said they required to liquidate our stock. Once they have taken care of this and we have the check, I will do the same with the other 7 companies, pointing out that Bell South accepted the paperwork we sent them. Apparently, these companies are very reluctant to liquidate the stock, because they are afraid that the officers of the club may not be who they say they are and/or they may not have the authority of the club to do so. Unfortunately that's the way things work in our suit-happy times now.

And finally, don't forget to pay your 1990 dues, so that you can remain a member of a great club. We currently have 206 members, of which on 92 have paid 1990 dues. Much as I hate to do so, I will be printing a list of those who are still delinquent in the March issue of the SCCARAGRAM. If you don't want to see your call on that list, all you have to do is make sure I have received your dues by Monday Feb 26. Now that means I must have your dues in hand (not just postmarked) by that date or your call will appear on the list. For your convenience, you will find a dues form elsewhere in this SCCARAGRAM. You may get your dues to me by mailing them to the club PO Box or my address on the back of the SCCARAGRAM. I will also accept your dues from you in

person. You can find me at the Feb 12 SCCARA meeting, the Feb 22 SCCARA Board meeting, the Feb 10 SVECS Breakfast and at most of the Friday lunches at Harry's Hofbrau. If you are not sure if you have already paid, you can call me on W6UU/R or at 408-275-0735. Every year we lose some members who fail to keep current in their dues. Please don't let that be you.

73 Kathy KB6ICQ

Repeater Report

REPEATER COMMITTEE REPORT

1/27/90

de WA6VJY

This week the repeater committee held a meeting. Members present were: Stan WA6VJY, Trish WA6UBE, Ed KB6DLB, Ron N6VUW, and Wally KA6YMD. George WA6D was also present. Among the topics discussed were: emergency power at the repeater, availability of a phone line for personal phone calls, antenna maintenance, and PL'ing of the repeater.

The committee decided that more members would be able to use the repeater if we open the squelch more (set it so weak signals can bring up the machine). Unfortunately, if we do so without some protection, we would end up with severe ducting interference from the Paso Robles repeater.

The solution to making the repeater more sensitive and at the same time preventing unwanted interference is to implement CTCSS ("PL") access to the repeater. This will be done in early March (the exact date will be dictated by the weather).

CTCSS stands for "continuous tone coded squelch system". This means that as long as you transmit, you will need to have a sub-audible tone on your signal in order to use the repeater. This tone is in the 60-250 Hz range on one of 32 specific frequencies. As long as the repeater can detect the tone on your transmission, it will retransmit what you say. Of those members who answered my survey last August, 79% indicated either already possessing PL capability or a willingness to purchase a PL encoder

for their transmitters. CTCSS ("PL") encoders can be purchased for around \$30-\$40 at many amateur radio outlets both locally and by mail. If you want more information about purchasing installing such a unit, please feel free to contact me.

We plan to use a tone of 107.2 Hz. Please note, however, that this is tentative and may change. Listen to the repeater for announcements regarding what frequency to program into your encoder. Some rigs now available are capable of detecting (decoding) a CTCSS tone on a transmission and opening the squelch only when it is detected. We will be transmitting the same tone (107.2 Hz) on the repeater output. This will definitely help mobiles when driving past the phone company building in downtown San Jose or anywhere else intermod may appear. Another benefit of retransmitting a CTCSS tone is that the Paso Robles repeater (W6YDZ/R) should be able to listen for our tone and NOT key up their repeater when it is received.

Their local users should easily be able to override our signal when trying to work their repeater.

Contact me on the repeater or phone (275-0735) if you have any questions or comments regarding the use of CTCSS access on our repeater. 73 de Stan WA6VJY..

WELCOME & CONGRATULATIONS

We have a bumper crop of new members this month. Four of them have come to us from JD's class on Tuesdays.

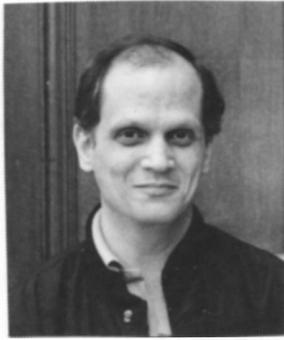
They are Rodney Laas KA6PRV, Eric Aubery N6WFK and Susan Aubery KC6HKS (congrats Susan on the new ticket).

Also joining SCCARA from the class are Masatake Miura and Gene Arnold who are both working on Novice licenses.



Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU joined SCCARA as the January meeting and he is interested in specialized

Gary WB6YRU



John Cabdito KB6VIW, Dara Ea KC6DFT
New Sccara Members. Want your picture
in the SCCARAGRAM? See Bob KB6OHO on
our meeting night. ED..

techniques and flea markets. Well Gary (and as a reminder to others) the Foothill Flea Markets start this year on Sat March 10 and run the 2nd Sat of the month thru Sept.

Finally, six have joined after finding flyers at Quements. They are Jim Vickonoff N6XGW, Robert Murrow N6XIB, Jack Myers N6WUZ, David Schwenke WB7AOK, Len Wade WA6YEM and Dan Delwiche ex KC6AKB who recently upgraded to extra call AA6LP. Welcome to all of you and we look forward to meeting you (maybe at the Feb meeting).

Congratulations go to Eric Carlson ex KC6BZY who recently upgraded to advanced class call KK6OA.

Also to be congratulated are Lou Deleersnyder KB6LJI who went from tech to general.

Don't forget to inform me of any upgrades and/or call changes (as well as other roster info that needs updating). That way we can all give you a big hand and congratulations as we all know it takes a lot of hard work to become licensed or upgrade.

SCCARA'S Novice and Upgrade Class

(I received the following report with the latest class roster from Frank AA6LL and Joe N6PCR about SCCARA's class.)

The Ham Radio class, held Tuesday nights at 6:30 at the Wilson Adult Education Center in Santa Clara, was

off to a good start in January. There are currently 24 people in the class, including 19 who are working hard to become new hams.

The class, normally conducted by Jim Daddysman ("JD") K6YKG, has been held by Jim WE6V, Frank AA6LL, Ed W6ACW and Tony K6MOB while JD recovers from his illness. Ira AA6OF, Rod KA6PRV and Joe N6PCR also attend and can be found helping where needed.

The sessions are an informal way to get help with Morse code and any Ham Radio questions. The idea is to make code practice easier by working with others.

The Wilson Adult Education Center is East of Scott Blvd, between Homestead and Kiely. Enter from Homestead and park near the entrance. The classes are in room 36.

HURRY BACK JD!!! WE MISS YOU!!!

(I did hear JD on W6UU/R a couple times in that last week and he said he is getting a little better each day, although he wishes he could progress faster. de KB6ICQ)

More on JD

I spoke with JD K6YKG this morn. He sounds in good spirits but misses the class, meetings etc.

JDS problem is that he has an enlarged heart (I guess that is different than having a big heart). He does get on the radio occassionally but has to mind his P's and Q's until his doctor gives him the green light.

JD did mention a want..... As you know, Frank AA6LL and others are running the class in JDs absence. It seems that the recorders used are flea market specials. The class is in need of cassette players (not fancy ones). If you have an extra, please let Frank AA6LL or Jim WE6V know.

Perhaps the club should spend a couple shekles here.... Editor

Buy and Sell

Don K6PBQ has a 30 meter coil for sale for a Butternut HF2V vertical antenna. Price= \$20.00 Don can be reached at 408 263-2789

1990 FOOTHILL FLEA MARKET SCHEDULE

DATE	SPONSOR
03/10	SPECS REPEATER ASSN.
04/14	EMARC ELECTRONICS MUSEUM ARC
05/12	PALO ALTO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
06/09	FARS FOOTHILL AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
07/14	PERHAM FOUNDATION
08/11	SPECS USERS GROUP
09/08	AMATEURS DONATION TO THE PALO ALTO RED CROSS

NOTE: All Amateur flea markets at Foothill are through the courtesy of the operators of the Foothill Electronics Museum and the Perham Foundation.

ARRL DUES ARE INCREASING !!

At the last ARRL Board of Directors meeting, it was decided that after nine years of no increases, membership dues would be increasing on April 1, 1990. The new rates for a regular membership was increasing from \$25 to \$30 for a one year sign up. Senior, family, blind and life memberships are going up as well. However, the good news is that if you want to join or add time to your existing membership, you can do so at the old rates before April 1, 1990.

I have included a sign up form in the SCCARAGRAM with the current rates to make it easy for you to join now or add to your current subscription before the new rates take effect. All you need to do is fill out the form and get it to me no later than March 15, 1989 to allow me to get it to ARRL in time. If you do this through the club, SCCARA will get the commission. PLEASE MAKE

SURE YOUR CHECK IS PAYABLE TO SCCARA AND NOT ARRL IF YOU WANT TO HANDLE THIS THROUGH THE CLUB !!

Also please note that unlike in the past, SCCARA does NOT get the commission if you simply renew to ARRL directly and note the club code on your renewal. That way of doing it was changed about 6 months ago.

1990 DUES ARE OVERDUE NOW

For those who haven't already sent in their dues, I want to remind you to do so. They are due Jan 1st each year and you can use the form below. - - - -

1990 MEMBERSHIP DUES SIGN UP FORM

Call _____ Nov Tech Gen Adv Ex

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

ARRL? Yes No Send ARRL Information

Family Names, Calls and Class of License

Individual \$15.00 Family \$20.00
Students under 18 \$5.00

Additional comments: _____

Mail to: SCCARA Dues, PO Box 6,
San Jose, CA 95103

THIS PAGE IS JUST FOR FUN IIIII

IQ TESTER

To test your ability to answer "idiotic questions", just see how many of the following blanks you can fill in.

Example:

16 = O in a P Ounces in a Pound

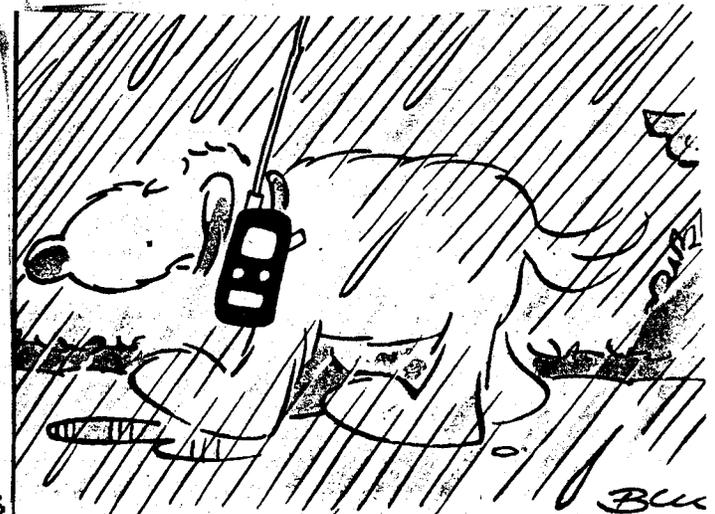
1. 26 = L of the A _____
2. 7 = W of the A W _____
3. 1001 = A N _____
4. 12 = S of the Z _____
5. 54 = C in a D (with the J's) _____
6. 9 = P in the S S _____
7. 88 = P K _____
8. 13 = S on the A F _____
9. 32 = D F at which W F _____
10. 18 = H on a G C _____
11. 90 = D in a R A _____
12. 9 = L that C have _____
13. 8 = S on a S S _____
14. 0 = T that Y can E Y in a L A and L to T A I _____
15. 4 = Q in a G _____
16. 24 = H in a D _____
17. 1 = W on a U _____
18. 9 = D in a Z C _____
19. 57 = H V _____
20. 11 = P on a F T _____
21. 1000 = W that a P is W _____
22. 29 = D in F in a L Y _____
23. 64 = S on a C _____
24. 40 = D and N of the G F _____
25. 76 = T that L the B P _____
26. 2001 = S O _____
27. 55 = S L in the U S _____

Thanks Stan WA6VJY and Kathy KB6ICQ for the puzzle. Answers can be found elsewhere in the newsletter.

Well something new this month. I have always wanted original "Ham Radio Related" cartoons. Ideas I have but artistic talent, well that's a different matter. Seems like I have located a talented artist (Mark) who is taking classes (as a Junior at Fremont High School) in art. He loves to draw all kinds of figures. His average figure tended to be quite muscular (ala physically fit). I had to explain to him that the "typical ham" does not fall into that category. To further explain, I showed him our 1990 board.... We are working on a character that would be representative. So here is the first one. Incidentally, I am looking for material. You have ideas... Please pass them on to me. The "dog" cartoon was dug out of my archives. Don't even remember where it came from but I like it. Editor



"HAM ON RYE" *Mark*



"Okay, Prince, walk one more block then turn around and come home." *Blax*



Your friendly Silicon Valley Volunteer Examiners eagerly await. Busily processing paper work for ham license aspirants are seated in back (L to R) Frank K6RQ, Don W6YHM, Shorty AE6Z, Roy K6VIP, and Dave KA6RHF. Also other regular VEs from SCCARA not pictured are Carla W06X, Frank AA6LL and J.D. K6YKG. It all started when, under the coordination of Bill Stevens W6ZM and several club members, the first ARRL sponsored license testing in the entire USA was conducted during the Pacificon convention at the Marriott hotel in 1984. Since then the exam site and schedule have been changed several times until the regular, current location at Tandem in Cupertino, every 1st and 3rd Saturdays, was established 2 1/2 years ago. Shorty, who has been with the program continuously, estimates that during the last five years well over 2000 applicants have been tested by this VE group. Of these, about 30 % are new licenses. Incidentally, 4000 new licenses are assigned per month nationally, which, after deducting silent keys and drop-outs, translates to about a 2 % annual growth in the ham population. At Tandem an average of 15 exams are given at each bi-weekly session. That number was doubled for several weeks immediately following the October 17 earthquake! Shorty suggests that the pass-rate of examinees is high in this area - 70% to 90% - because of an abundance of electronics career people. The good treatment applicants have received from this team has earned a reputation so wide that hams have travelled from as far as Redding and San Luis Obispo, and many places in between, expressly to be tested here! So, what are you waiting for? de Bob KB60HO

ANSWERS TO THE QUIZ

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Letter of the Alphabet 2. Wonders of the Ancient World 3. Arabian Nights 4. Signs of the Zodiac 5. Card in a Deck (with the Jokers) 6. Planets in the Solar System 7. Piano Keys 8. Stripes on the American Flag 9. Degrees Fahrenheit at which Water Freezes 10. Holes on a Golf Course 11. Degrees in a Right Angle 12. Lives that Cats Have 13. Sides on a Stop Sign | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14. Times that You can Electrocute Yourself in a Linear Amp and Live to Tell About It 15. Quarts in a Gallon 16. Hours in a Day 17. Wheel(s) on a Unicycle 18. Digits in a Zip Code 19. Heinz Varieties 20. Players on a Football Team 21. Words that a Picture is Worth 22. Days in February in a Leap Year 23. Squares on a Checkerboard 24. Days and Nights of the Great Flood 25. Trombones that Lead the Big Parade 26. Space Odyssey 27. Speed Limit in the United States |
|--|--|

Quement Electronics

"SINCE 1933"

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POST OFFICE BOX 6000
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA 95150

PHONE 998-5900

PLANT ADDRESS:
1000 SOUTH BASCOM AVENUE
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA 95128

Dear Frank,

It was with my deepest gratitude to have been presented the very distinguished plaque honoring my father, Frank Quement's past loyalties to the SCARA Club. The club always was one of his life's highlights and it's continued existence is a tribute to your membership.

We have developed a special corner at Quement Electronics which houses some of my father's momentos all centered around the SCARA plaque.

I would like to invite you personally and other SCARA members to take a moment to stop by and visit this dedicated spot to my father's achievements.

And a special thanks to you, Frank, for your personal involvement and support given at the time of my dad's death. It really meant a lot to me.

Thanking you again.

Sincerely yours,

B

Bernard Quement

This letter was addressed to Frank AA6LL. Frank read it at the January 1990 meeting. I was approached after the meeting and asked to print it for the newsletter. We have a proud heritage at SCCARA. Frank Quement W6NX exemplified the finest. Editor

SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION



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Mailman	Tony Sanchez	K6MOB	296-6676

REPEATER INFO	
Call	W6JU
2 Meter	146.385+
440	442.425+ (PL) 107.2
Nets are held every Monday evening at 1930 sharp, except for the second Monday which is our meeting night.	
STATION TRUSTEE	
Jean "Doc" Gmelin W6ZRJ	

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SCCARA HOTLINE 408-249-6909

ARRL VEC HOTLINE 408-984-8353

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