

SCCARA-GRAM

Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Assn. (SCCARA)
Volume 7 Number 7

Organized in 1921
July 1991

THE PREZ SEZ...

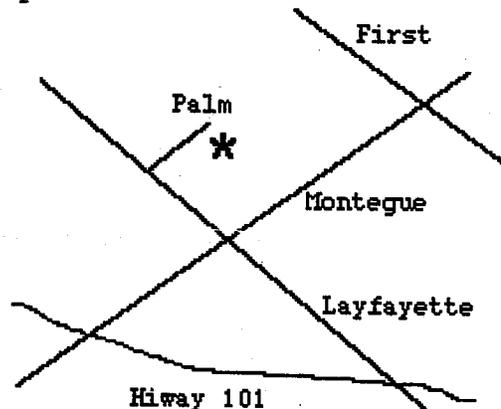
If you think I'm excited about what's happening in SCCARA right now, you're absolutely right!! Take the Monday night 2M Net for example; check-ins have shown a dramatic increase in recent weeks. That has to be very gratifying to Joe, WA6DXP, who has hosted the Net for years. It must also, be very gratifying to Joe to have an excellent repeater, such as W6UU, on which to host the Net. That's another dramatic improvement I'm excited about and it's a direct result of the technical prowess of our Repeater Committee.

It shouldn't come as a surprise, therefore, that three of the seven people asked to serve on SCCARA's newly formed Technical Committee, are from the Repeater Committee.

NEXT MEETING

Date: Monday 07/08/91
Time: 1930- 2200 approx.
Place: Agnews Facility. Located on Palm Avenue just a bit East of the intersection of Montegue and Lafayette.

Map:



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Our July speaker will be

Don KK6MX

who will give a presentation on
Amateur Television.

This is your chance to learn about ATV. Don will have "real time" demos. Mark your calendars and we'll see you there.

Important Dates

- 07/04 Independence Day.
- 07/07 Livermore Flea Market.
- 07/08 SCCARA Monthly Meeting.
- 07/13 Foothill Swap Meet.
- 07/25 SCCARA Board Meeting.



The following is a list of people who were asked to serve;

K8ERL	MIKE MARNERIS
KK6MX	DON APTE
WN6U	DOUG EATON
WA6UBE	TRISH GIBBONS
WA6VJY	STAN GETZLA
N6VUW	RON BARDARSON
N6ZPC	BILL BROTHERS.

The mission of the Technical Committee (TC) is to review and make recommendations to the Board of Directors (BOD), relative to the technical matters of SCCARA. As conceived, the committee could become an "umbrella" under which other committees would operate. For example, the Club Station, Repeater and Elmer Committees might all get direction from the Technical Committee (TC).

The precise direction it takes will be determined by the TC, itself and presented to the BOD for approval. It could be argued that all matters facing the Club are technical in nature, requiring that they be referred to the TC. It will be up to the TC, itself to recognize its limitations and set its boundaries, accordingly. If unable to do so, then limits would be set by the BOD. This check will prevent the possibility of the "tail wagging the dog". I expect but good things to come from the committee and look forward to the future. Which brings us to the next subject; the future.

It's not too early to consider next year and the possibility of SCCARA doing a HAMFEST. Right here, let me add that this is a HAMFEST -not a CONVENTION! Since there will be a new BOD by then, I've asked Doc Gmelin, W6ZRJ and Al Gaetano, W6VZT to co-chair a Hamfest Feasibility Committee to determine whether this is a doable thing. As many of you know, I've wanted the Club to explore this idea for quite awhile. My thought is; if we can do it successfully,

it might evolve into a well known, regular event. This committee will examine the idea in detail and decide once and for all, if it's a practical idea. I hope so because, to me, it's an exciting idea.

I'm also pretty excited about our upcoming programs. This month we will have a live demo of ATV, presented by Don Apte, KK6MX and the South Bay ATV Group. They plan to use a portable repeater to transmit a strong signal into the meeting hall for the live demo. This promises to be one of the most interesting programs we've ever had on a subject that few of us know about. We will probably have a good turnout for this one, so you may want to come early to get a good seat.

For August, Bill Brothers, N6ZPC will talk on the care and feeding of disk drives, in Lay-terms and will also, speak on what's new in the field. This talk will be at the Leading Edge of Disk Drive Technology and should be another "get there early" meeting. Bill has also promised to make a few "goodies" available for the raffle that night.

Our September meeting will be a Spaghetti Feed (details later) and Shorty Freitas, AE6Z consented to talk about TVI in October. Doug Eaton, WN6U will talk on AMTOR to supplement election of officers in our November Meeting. Finally, we will conclude our year on December 13th, at Renzo's in Campbell, with the installation of Officers. This gala event will take the place of our normal meeting which was moved to Friday night. This will allow us to party late, if we want without being concerned about having to work the next day.

In closing, I want to thank everyone who participated SCCARA's Field Day Operations this year. I was, personally, unable to attend, but I've been told that it was very enjoyable. I've also been told that the "All American

Boy"

made an appearance and operated CW for a while. That's good to hear!

And again thanks to Lou, WA6QYS; Herb, KB6ABG; Stan, WA6VJY; Bill, N6ZPC; Trish, WA6UBE; Kathy, KB6ICQ; Ed, WD6CHD; and many others, who took part. A special thanks to Dave Larton, N6JQJ, who arranged for us to use the Gilroy Communications Van for the event.

Finally, I want to express our appreciation to Joe Quirantes, for (in addition to many other things) having done the Club Badges. Joe retired from this activity and has donated the equipment, which he bought, to the Club for our use. All we need now, is someone to do it as faithfully as Joe did. Joe, Thank you for your donation to the club. More importantly, however, thank you for your faithful service to SCCARA.

Field Day '91

Well, Field Day has come and gone. The weather was perfect. The meals were delicious. There was pleasant camaraderie amongst the participants. Although there were fewer attendees the number of QSO's was 22% higher. It was good to see that both H F stations were operated through most of the 24 hours.

Kudos to	
KB6LCJ/N6PCR	Phone Station
WE6V/K6PBQ	CW Station
KB6VOO	Novice/Tech Station
WA6VBE	Packet Station
KK6MX	Solar Power Station
WN6V	Satellite Station
WA6VJY	Message Coordinator
KB6ABG	Master Chef

They were the Spark Plugs but the other members present contributed to the smoothness of the operation.

Special thanks to:
N6JQJ and the City of Gilroy for

the use of the Communications Bus.

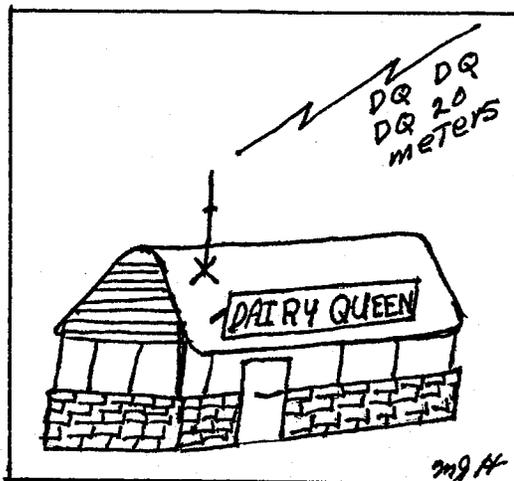
KB6UOO and the San Jose Chapter of Red Cross for the use of "The Whale"

KB6LCJ for the use of the RV.
WA6UBE for the use of the Army Vehicles

All in all it was a good exercise. I am sure that everyone who participated gained valuable experience that would serve them well in actual emergency circumstances.

We missed some of you. Where were you? Mark your calendars for next year now. Next years Field Day is already in the planning stages. Mt. Madonna is already reserved. If you have any input give me a call. Let me know all those "What if's" and "if only we had's". Now is the time to bring them up for consideration before they fade from memory. Thanks for all your support for SCCARA's Field Day.

de Lou WA6QYS



It's not too early to
start planning for
Field Day
1992



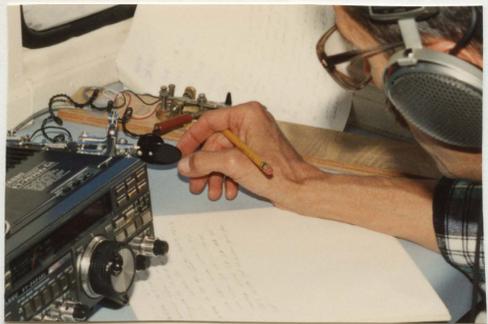
The BUG. Only a few can really operate them.



Generators were quiet this year.



Trish WA6UBE "on the air."



Gary WB6YRU and El K6ZYY



Wally KA6YMD
JD K6YKG
Don KK6MX



The CW tower plus the Gilroy Com. Van



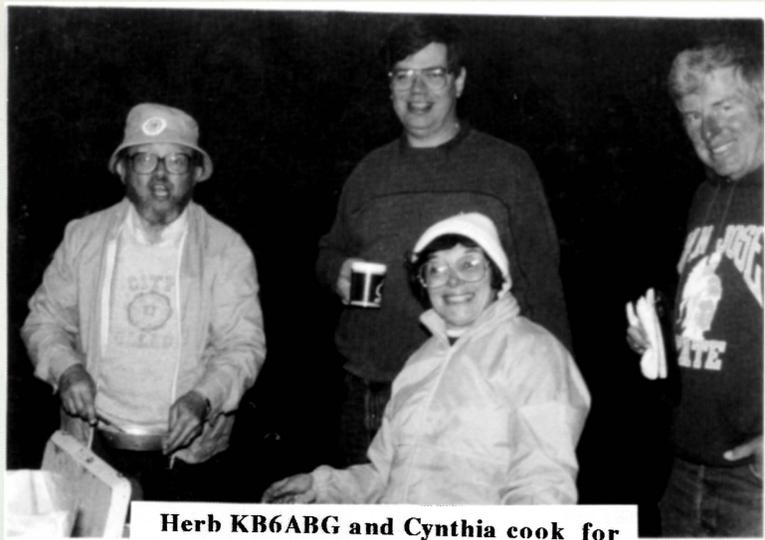
Doug WN6U and Imre KD6MZM making a satellite contact.



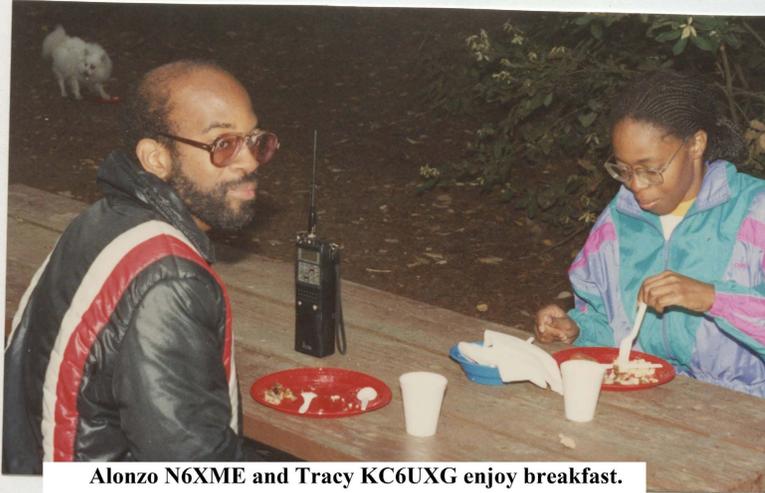
Don KK6MX at the Solar Station.



Larry KB6HRN and Lou WA6QYS at the Phone Station.



Herb KB6ABG and Cynthia cook for Bill N6ZPC and Harold KK6ZE.



Alonzo N6XME and Tracy KC6UXG enjoy breakfast.



Late night satellite pass.



Mike KB6PDA, Dave N6JQJ, and Scott KB6UOO pull up a ground rod.



Don K6PBQ and Jim WE6V operate CW.



Larry KB6HRN bends more than an ear. That's Bill N6RCF beside him.



Ed WD6CHD sez... That's all folks...

REPEATER COMMITTEE COLUMN

6/24/91

de WA6VJY

Field Day has come and gone once again. I have to say that this year was just about the best one I've been to. The weather was just about perfect. We weren't plagued with high power line noise levels as had been the case in years past. Everyone who wanted to had an opportunity to operate. The food was superb! Herb KB6ABG and his XYL really out did themselves this year. Thank you Herb and Cynthia.

Of course, the person who deserves the most thanks is Lou WA6QYS, who did all the planning and motivating required to coordinate such a fine operation. If you weren't there, you missed quite a bit!

By the time you read this, the repeater committee will have had a planning and organizing meeting to take on a few improvements to the repeater system. We plan on installing an S-meter circuit so you can check how well the repeater is hearing you. We also will be going ahead with a linking transceiver on 440 to tie our two repeaters together again when we want to. Another goal will be to upgrade the radio hardware on the 440 repeater.

That's about it for this month. If you want AutoPatch or AutoDial information, contact me for details. My name, phone number, and address is on the back sheet on this newsletter.
73, Stan WA6VJY

WELCOME & CONGRATULATIONS

SCCARA's class is still going strong and continuing to send club members our way. We gained another three this month. Michael Braden KC6WCP is a new technician. He works in the communications department at University of Santa Clara. Also joining us from the class are

novices J Ferris Norman KC6VPZ and Don Hayden call pending. Even though he has not received his license in the mail yet, Don has already been active on the novice bands as he spent a lot of time at the novice station at SCCARA's Field Day. The other two members joining SCCARA this month are Noel Duckett W6LYG and Craig Haggart KC6VHQ. Both found SCCARA flyers at Quments.

SCCARA welcomes all of you and hope to see you at the July meeting.

No news this month about any members upgrading or changing calls. If you have changed your license class or call, please be sure to let me know so the SCCARA can give you a big hand.

MINUTES OF THE JUNE SCCARA MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:38 PM by President George Allan WA6O at Agnew's. 30 people were in attendance. Our program was on Field Day by Lou WA6QYS. He had a video on the Las Cumbres ARC 1990 Field Day. This year we will operate in Class 2A. Mike KB6LCJ and Joe N6PCR will man the Phone Station, and Jim WE6V and Don K6PBQ will man the CW station. Don KK6MX will man the solar powered station. Trish WA6UBE will handle the packet station. Doug WN6U will man the satellite station. We will try to copy the ARRL bulletin. We will have an antenna party on Saturday June 15 at the Red Cross at 12:30 PM.

Secretary minutes were approved as written in the SCCARA-GRAM. The Repeater committee report was given by Stan WA6VJY. Stan mentioned that we should be careful with our conversations on the air so we don't jeopardize our station license.

Health and Welfare: JD K6YKG

and Bill Stevens W6ZM are recovering from being in the hospital and are home recuperating. A speedy recovery to you both.

The next board meeting is on June 27 at 7:30 PM at the Red Cross Comm. Center.

The meeting adjourned at 9:16 PM. Don Village K6PBQ, Secretary.

FIELD DAY A GREAT SUCCESS!

For those of you who couldn't make it this year, Field Day was one of the best we've ever had. Everything seemed to go right this time. Set-up went very smoothly because of those who prepared and checked out the antennas and rigs the weekend before Field Day. For once the weather was cooperative; it was shirt-sleeve weather most of the weekend with no sign of the wet fog and rain that we usually get. Never got overly hot either.

The food this year was terrific, thanks to Herb KB6ABG and his XYL. We had steaks and barbecued chicken with baked potatoes, garlic bread, and salad for dinner on Saturday. For breakfast Sunday morning we had eggs, sausage, Canadian bacon and cereal. For those who came up Friday night there was a potluck dinner.

Station setup was a bit different this year. The phone station got the 6 element KT-34XA antenna and the big tower this year while the CW crew made do with the 3 element beam on the smaller tower. The CW station was set up in the bus provided by Gilroy RACES, and the phone station was in KB6LCJ's motor home. Our Novice station was setup in the Red Cross van. Band conditions were good for most of the weekend. We were able to work quite late Saturday evening on 20 meters. We had

enough operators to keep the Phone station going for the whole 24 hours, but we only had 3 or 4 to run the CW station. This year we put up a long wire for the phone station and were able to work quite a bit on 80 and even made some points on 160. The rigs this year were Yaesu 757's and a Kenwood 440 for the Novices. The only problem we had was with the headphone plug on the CW rig which gave us a bit of trouble.

In addition to the main stations, we got bonus points for making contacts with solar power, for copying the ARRL message, for passing traffic, for our packet station, and for making satellite contacts.

The end of the contest came all too soon, but this year we had plenty of help for the tear down and we were able to pack everything up in record time. Thanks to all who stayed and helped out.

A few things we might try in the future: fixing the CW rig so that we can use headphones while at the same time driving the external speaker. This would enable people to hear what's going on rather than just watching someone pound the key (pretty boring!). Also, we really need to find a way to do computer logging and duping. Duping on paper seems to work for the first couple of hours, but after that it slows the QSO rate way down. We called a lot of stations that we'd already worked because we couldn't check the dupe sheet fast enough.

All in all it was a great Field Day folks. Hope more of you will join us for next years event. I would like to offer special thanks to Lou WA6QYS for his hard work as Field Day Chairman. 73 de Doug WN6U.

GOING MOBILE
Estimating Costs

New Dual Band Radio	497.00
Mag-mount Antenna	45.40
Lighter DC Adapter	7.00
Shipping Charges	8.40
TOTAL BASIC COST	557.80
Add for Deluxe Set-up	
Radio Mobile Mount	22.50
Roof Mount Antenna	65.50
Battery Power Harness	12.00
New Headliner	255.00
Headliner Labor	135.00
Rewire Vehicle	610.25
Rental Car (6 days)	240.00
Towing	37.50
Fire Dept Run Charges	150.00
TOTAL-FIRSTCLASS!	2103.65
Speeding ticket	145.00
Failure to Stop	85.00
Slow Driving	60.00
Insurance Increase	825.00
GRAND TOTAL	3218.65

(by Russ NW6U, reprinted from THE SCUTTLEBUTT, May 1991)

SCCARA SCUTTLEBUTT

Rumor has it that Larry KB6HRN has been using the "M" word. (as in getting married).

John Rogers WA6LQO has pulled up stakes and moved to Georgia. Good luck John. Let us know how Ham Radio is in that area.

Several SCCARA members are on Prodigy. Doc K6ZRJ, Mike KB6LCJ and John WA6LQO to name a few. If you are also, let us know.

The HP Deskjet 500 printer is popular in SCCARA. I know of at least five members that have them. PS.. Don't throw away those old cartridges. There may be a

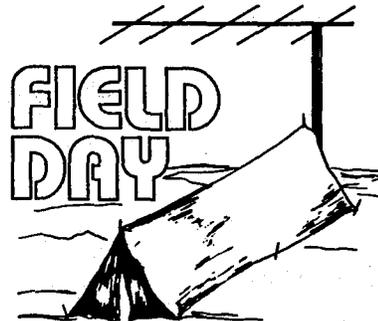
way to refill them.

If you have some "good gossip" for the SCCARAGRAM, please let your editor (KB6LCJ) know.

**ATTENTION NON-MEMBERS OF
SCCARA**

This complimentary copy of the SCCARAGRAM is our invitation to join SCCARA. Please send your check for dues and your mailing label on the back page to SCCARA, PO Box 6, San Jose, CA, 95112. Be sure to make any corrections needed and add your phone #, license class, and ARRL membership status. Also list the same info along with their name(s) and call(s) of any family members wishing to join with you. The yearly dues are \$5.00 for students under 18, \$15.00 for individuals and \$20.00 for families (hams living at the same address). The dues are 1/2 the yearly amount from July thru December. Emergency autodial info available at no cost, auto patch available for \$10.00 per year. If you want either or both, send an SASE (52 cents) and a copy of your license with your request. Let us also encourage you to come to a meeting or class (you need not be a member to attend). Our hotline at 408-249-6909 has more info on time and place.

73 de SCCARA



FCC AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE CLASS

Classes are on-going and open to Hams and non-hams alike. Theory info will also be discussed as the need arises.

FREE



**BEGINNER (5 WPM),
GENERAL (13 WPM),
EXTRA CLASS (20 WPM)**

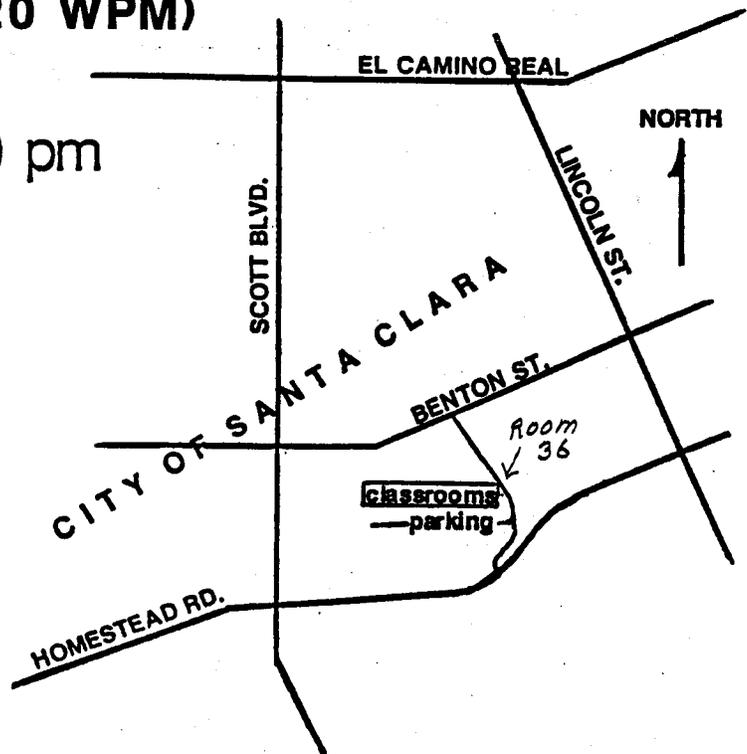
Tuesday Evenings 6:30 pm

ADULT EDUCATION CENTER

1840 Benton St., Santa Clara

For information, call:

(408) 971 - 1424



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SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION



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REPEATER INFO	
Repeater Committee Chairman	
Stan Getsla WA6VJY 408-275-0735	
CALL	W6UU
2 METER	146.385+
440	442.425+ (PL) 107.2
Nets are held every Monday evening at 19:30 sharp. except for the second Monday which is our meeting night	
STATION TRUSTEE	
Jean "Doc" Gmelin W6ZPJ 408-973-8583	

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SCCARA HOTLINE 408-249-6909

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Extra

More photos were submitted than were actually published.

Just for fun, here are the extras of Field Day that weren't in the original SCCARA-GRAM:



Don Apte KK6MX running the solar station Lou Steirer WA6QYS and Harold Welch KK6ZE



After the event, pulling out one of our ground rods turned out to be a challenge. Doug Eaton WN6U watches as we used a wench...



... and, much to the amusement of all, actually bent the handle!

Lou Steirer WA6QYS inspects the damage.



Plan B: With a lot of hammering to loosen the grip of the dirt and another wench (on the back of the Red Cross truck) we finally manage to work it out. There for a while it looked like we might have to just cut it off and leave the part stuck in the ground as a “hidden monument” of SCCARA’s Field Day 1991.