

SCCARA-GRAM

Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association (SCCARA)
Volume 8 Number 4

Organized in 1921
April 1992

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Here we are, almost to our April meeting. This has been a busy month. Please read the short article regarding JD K6YKG who is now a silent key. The club donated \$50 to the Heart Fund in his name.

Our meeting this month will be held at the Sizzler near Almaden Blvd. Guests are most welcome. Featured are two films. One dates back to SCCARA in the mid 1920s and the other is a field day in 1950. We have some great history behind us.

The Club will pay the tip and room fee so your expense will be the cost of the dinner only. More info in the newsletter plus check our hotline at 249-6909.

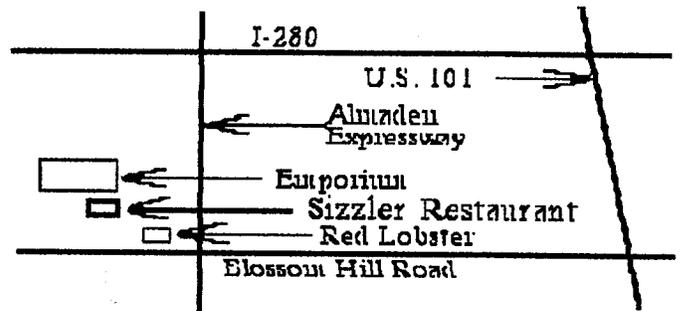
I must thank Doug Eaton WN6U who has offered to be the 92 Field Day Chairman. Doug has already set up an initial Field Day meeting on 03/27. We also have a June Flea Market chairman. Lou Steirer WA6QYS will chair this event and will be needing volunteers to make this event a go.

As mentioned in the last SCCARA-GRAM, there is a move afoot to consolidate the clubs belongings. At our last board meeting, we voted to expand our storage space at StorAway to include club archives and equipment. We currently house our flea market items there.

The board is also looking into the status of Amateur Radio publications at the libraries. The ARRL has a "Library Set" which the club can purchase at a good price. The cities of Santa Clara and San Jose have been researched. If you would

Next Meeting

Date: Monday 04/13/92
Time: 1830 - 2200 Approx.
Place: Sizzler Restaurant
5353 Almaden Expressway
Located in the Almaden Fashion Plaza next to The Emporium.



Agenda

Oltimers, Newcomers and Guests Night
Bring your Memories and Friends and enjoy evening of sharing Friendsip and Stories, both old and new ones, of Adventures in Ham Radio.

Important Dates

04/11 Foothill Flea Market
04/13 SCCARA Monthly Meeting
04/27 SCCARA Board Meeting
05/01 SCCARAGRAM Deadline.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Cont'd.)

like to check "your" city, give me a call for particulars. In this vein, our club is now listed in the South Bay Cooperative Library System data base. A presentation will be given at the May meeting.

I saw a couple SCCARA QSL card ideas at the last board meeting. More on that elsewhere in the SCCARAGRAM.

Well hope you all noted that we did close last months meeting at 2130. That gave us a little "rag chewing" time after. Hope to see you at the dinner.

73..Mike KB6LCJ

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

March 9, 1992

Meeting was called to order at 1930 by President, Mike Hastings KB6LCJ. His first remarks addressed the passing of "JD", K6YKG. In Ham Radio it is called "Silent Key". Mike related his experiences with this operator as a "good man who liked to help others" and "who never had a bad word to say about anyone". Wally Britten KA6YMD asked those assembled for a moment of silence. There will be no services or flowers, but you may donate to the Heart Fund. A motion was made and seconded that the club donate \$50 to the Heart Fund in JDs name.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as printed in the SCCARGRAM.

Good and Welfare: Herb Himmelfarb commented that " you don't know the day you are going to die; so every day you honor God. He also said we we should be kinder to our older members since they are the ones who have supported the club over the years. Ed Rawlinson WD6CHD is recovering satisfactorily from his recent heart operation. Frank

McCormick, AA6LL has been placed on swings at his work. This puts us in jeopardy for the license classes and flea market activity. Flea Market: Gary Mitchell says the locker is full. Don Hayden offered the use of his truck. Gary needs more helpers. Membership: Bob Forster N6PCQ has upgraded the club hotline recording. It will give specific meeting data one week before the event and a general SCCARA message otherwise. Field Day: June 27 & 28; Need a chairman. Red Cross: Wally Britten KA6YMD will call the Antenna committee as soon as a firm install date is set for the vertical. Ten meter net: We are getting good check-ins. QSL cards: Card must contain club logo plus ARRL symbol. Other than that, let your creativity go. Sister club: Mike Hastings KB6LCJ reported that he was in contact with Jim Hartwell K7UDG and that Jim can get us in touch with a Russian club. Old Business: Still nothing in writing concerning the June 13 Flea market. We need a chairman for this affair. New Business: Next meeting will be old timers nite. It will be at the Sizzler in the Almaden Fashion Plaza.

Doug Eaton WN6U proposed the purchase of a PK232 TNC and a computer to be housed at the Red Cross. This would expand our HF capabilities. Cost would be \$1675. A discussion ensued concerning best prices, best equipment etc. More at our next general meeting.

Drawing: Everyone with a winning ticket is happy...

Meeting adjourned at 2130.

de Gene W6LYG

MARCH GUEST SPEAKER

Bill Brothers N6ZPC introduced Al Gaetano W6VZT who was our March speaker. His topic was CW. Doc Gmelin W6ZRJ was in bed with pneumonia so Al was on his own. Al started out saying that he was mobile near Bullhead City and needed to talk with Doc on the West Coast Amateur Service net located at 7.255MHZ but couldn't make contact. Switched to CW and voila! The moral here is that CW gets through when PHONE is nothing more than a garbled mess.

When first starting on CW the first rule is to LISTEN. Listen for a while. You will start hearing all kinds of signals. You should make yourself a worksheet of the basic things you want to say. It could be:

CQ CQ CQ DE YOUR CALL and then listen. Try it a few times.

When you get a reply, then send:

TXN FER CALL,

YR SIG HR IS 599

QTH IS (YOUR QTH).

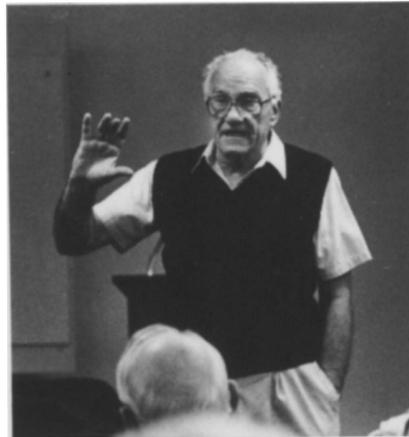
NAME IS (YOUR NAME). HOW COPY?

You only need to repeat your call every 10 minutes.

You can then talk about your equipment, weather etc.

Now about NCN (Northern Calif. Net) which is an ARRL affiliated

Al Gaetano, W6VZT



net. The NCN is on at 2100. To break in send: BK. When acknowledged, give your call, qth and who you would like to contact. Only send at the speed that you can copy. The "other" operator will respond at the same speed. The net control may ask you to go U5 (up five) to do your QSO.

Al did a bit of reminiscing about how he wouldn't buy a house that didn't provide a long space where wire could be hung up to radiate 80 meters up and down the coast.

Thanx, Al, for a great talk!



JIM DADDYSMAN, K6YKG



To those who haven't heard, JD K6YKG, "The All American Boy", as he loved to introduce himself, has become a silent key. JD was proud to be an American, proud to be an Amateur Radio Operator, proud to be a member of SCCARA and proud to be a respected CW operator in the National Traffic System.

I remember many things about JD:

- He NEVER had anything bad to say about anyone. JD ALWAYS DEALT IN POSITIVES.
- He loved to teach Amateur Radio Classes and did so for many years at the Santa Clara Adult Ed. center. Many hams owe their licenses to this man's patience and kindness.
- He loved the Flea Markets and was instrumental in getting the club to have a regular booth. This directly resulted in the fine 2 meter repeater (and repeater fund) which we have today. JD always greeted people with a handshake and a warm smile

when they came to our booth.

- And he loved his CW. I am sure many of us have seen JD come to an event with his "bug" under his arm. He helped me for two years at the Moffett Air Show when we had a demo booth. He was in his element there, telling people about our hobby and giving demos.
- JD was a "loyal" member of the "Wouff Hong". He was directly involved with the ceremonies, the first two times they were presented at Pacificon.

What a great model he was for us. We'll miss you, JD.

Just one more thing. Dan is JD's son and was "one of us" at the flea markets and other events. He was JD's driver, flea market items collector and all around good man. You are always welcome at our club functions, Dan.

73..Mike KB6LCJ



San Jose RACES Celebrates 40 Years



Pictured l-r Al Wirt K6ZYY, Bob Wharton W600Y, Trish Gibbons WA6UBE, Bill Salsbury WB6QFG, John Charcho N6FBA and San Jose Mayor Susan Hammer.

Congratulations are in order for the San Jose Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (Races) that is celebrating its 40th year. Mayor Susan Hammer honored them in a special ceremony. San Jose RACES provided an invaluable link during the 1989 earthquake. As a result, the city opted to fund a major upgrade of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Today's EOC is state of the art and a model to other cities. Instrumental in the design of the room was Trish Gibbons,

WA6UBE who provided the technical direction and recommended equipment acquisitions, John Charcho N6FBA who is the chief radio officer and Bill Salsbury WB6QFG who is the assistant Chief Radio Officer. Also pictured are Al Wirt K6ZYY who is the Membership chair and Bob Wharton W600Y who is the longest standing member. Congratulations to all from SCCARA.

73 Mike KB6LCJ

N6WQC THIS KC6SOC...

"Thank you, Atlantis. You've been the center of our studies for the last six weeks. We are thrilled! And, even though it's Saturday, we have children and parents all here. We have five children waiting to talk to you...", said Carol Greenwald, Principal of Norwood Creek Elementary School in San Jose, Calif.

She was communicating with the space shuttle, Atlantis via Two meter amateur radio station being operated by Terry Young, KC6SOC as a participant in the SAREX Mission. As the callsign tells you, Terry is a relative newcomer to Ham Radio. But, he brought the same zeal and enthusiasm to the hobby that has fueled it since it began.

When Terry heard about the possibility of having students from his son's school talk to astronauts on Atlantis, he immediately set out on his own mission. His mission was to get his school on the list of scheduled contacts. He did it! Norwood Creek Elementary became one of only nine U.S. schools to be included in the Mission.

His next task was to coordinate the revival of the school's closed circuit TV system, so the whole school could witness the event. He then turned to reading Mission Control's frequency, antenna and system recommendations. His last task was to familiarize the Kids with talking on the Ham Radio. Finally, everything was set and excitement grew as they anticipated the big day.

Friday, March 27th, the big day finally arrived. Everyone was there; the press; local TV; ARRL Vice Director, Brad Wyatt, K6WR and many, many parents.

They planned to establish contact with Atlantis, have the school's principal say a few words and then

each child would talk to, and ask a question of the astronaut. Problem was, they couldn't establish a two way QSO. To everyone's dismay, the Shuttle could hear the signal from the school, but the school couldn't hear signal from the shuttle.

What a disappointment! But in the true spirit of Amateur Radio, Terry contacted and negotiated with Mission Control and got them to agree to try again the following day. Meanwhile, Brad Wyatt contacted his longtime friend, Frank Glass, K6RQ and the pair of them prevailed upon the IBM ARC for the loan of an eight element, 2-meter beam. They mounted it on a temporary mast and hustled it off to the school, where it would be turned by the "Armstrong method". "Nothing to it..Just like Field Day!" Frank commented.

We never dreamed there would be so many people there on Saturday. They all watched on closed circuit TV, as the children took turns talking with Atlantis. One really didn't know they were even there, until they poured into the school's courtyard to join the jubilant celebration.

The QSO lasted about six minutes as the shuttle sped across the sky at 18,000 MPH from coast of Alaska to the tip of Baja. It didn't take long. And the QSO: it went great! Not only was it "Q5" copy, but it was "full quieting" and crystal clear.

So it happened the way things sometimes do in ham radio. Not exactly the way they are planned, but with outstanding results!

Congratulations, Terry. You have touched the lives of these kids in a way they will never forget.

73 from SCCARA!

MARCH FLEA MARKET



The first Foothill College electronic flea market of the season has come and gone. Despite some rain, we made over \$115 after expenses. I never cease to be amazed at what people will buy; one person picked up an electronic chassis, poured the rain water off and asked "how much ya want fer this?"

This first turnout was good, but not as packed as was expected (probably due to the rain forecast for that morning).

Thanks go to: Don Hayden KC6WMM who help transport goodies and helped sell stuff the whole day, Frank McCormick AA6LL brought a load of stuff and helped sell for a couple of hours -- despite being dead tired! Don Village K6PBQ also helped out with the selling.

Remember, the money made at previous flea markets has changed the SCCARA 2 meter repeater from a mediocre one to good one -- let's keep it up. We need people who can transport stuff to the flea market early Saturday morning (and maybe

back to our storage locker) and/or help sell the stuff. SCCARA will supply some refreshments for those who help. We also need donations of anything even remotely related to electronics or amateur radio. If you would like to help, contact me or any club officer (see back of the SCCARA-GRAM).

By the time you read this, it may be too late; but, the next flea market is Saturday morning, April 11th. The following one is May 9. Stop by the SCCARA booth and say hello.

73, Gary WB6YRU



WA6DXP RECUPERATING

Joe Quirantes, WA6DXP, our genial host of the Monday night 2 meter net is back home and resting. Joe had laser surgery on his eye. We're all happy to hear you're back home, Joe, and hope you're feeling well. Hope you're able to make it to the meeting at the Sizzler.

73, WA6O, George

REPEATER COMMITTEE REPORT

FIELD DAY REPORT

3/31/92

de WA6VJY

de WN6U

I held a repeater committee meeting last Tuesday (3/24) to discuss the recent noise problem at the repeater site. Members and others present were: Mike KB6LCJ, Trish WA6UBE, Ron N6VUW, Scott KD6FTC, Jerry KB6ICS, Gary WB6YRU, and myself. (Jerry KB6ICS is a radio technician who works with Trish.)

Look for the repeater to be down one weekend during April (actual date yet to be determined). We will be doing routine maintenance and testing on the repeater and antenna systems at that time. (We will also be performing similar tasks on the 442.425 repeater later this summer.)

The net on Monday nights has been going pretty well. We are getting quite a few check-ins from the membership. If you would like to check in with Joe WA6DXP (net control), you may do so every Monday night (other than meeting nights) at 7:30pm. You might find it interesting and informative.

I am looking for someone to join the repeater committee who is interested in being the "public" side of the committee. This person should be a member in good standing, knowledgeable in the theory and operation of repeaters and FM in general, and be willing to make monthly status reports to the club membership at meetings and in the SCCARA-Gram. If you are interested, contact me at 275-0735.

Field Day is rapidly approaching. Are you ready? The dates are June 27 and 28. See you there!

73 and CUL, Stan WA6VJY

The first Field Day committee meeting was held on March 27th at the Red Cross and was attended by Lou WA6QYS, Mike KB6LCJ, Gary WB6YRU, and Doug WN6U. We discussed most of the main points of getting Field Day off to a good start: shelters for the stations, rigs and antennas, logging, meals, etc. The club will again have the use of the Red Cross "Whale" and the Gilroy Fire Dept. emergency communications bus. KB6LCJ has also volunteered use of his motor-home again this year. We could still use one more shelter if anyone has one they could bring.

The committee decided to go back to computerized logging this year and Gary WB6YRU has started writing a software program that will be easier to use than the program the club has used in the past. It should be ready for a demo at the SCCARA regular meeting in June.

The meals will be served this year by Bill N6ZPC and his crew. The Saturday meal will be served at 2:00 PM as was the case last year. It was felt that an early meal has a lot of advantages, especially for those who come up for Saturday only, as they will be able to leave before dark.

The next Field Day committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, April 21, at 7:30 PM in the Red Cross.

73 and CUL, Doug.

REMEMBERING "PROF" HAROLD

By Doc Gmelin, W6ZRJ

Contrary to some popular opinion, many of us know that the claim of KDKA as to being the first broadcast radio station is wrong. We know that Charles "Prof" Harold started the first radio broadcasts ever made and he started those broadcast in the heart of the Santa Clara Valley.

A recent article in the San Jose Mercury News attests to this, as a professor at San Jose tries to set the record straight. This isn't a first time happening, however. Gordon Grebb, a now retired San Jose State Professor at San Jose State and the University Chapter of Sigma Delta Chi, the national Journalism society, had a plaque placed at the location of the building where "Prof" Harold did his work. I know, because I helped Professor Grebb with this project since I was active in SDX at the time.

But that wasn't the first time I heard about "Prof" Harold. I joined SCCARA in August 1946 in a regular meeting held in one of the rooms of the Civic Auditorium. In those days the club held alternate meetings, a regular business meeting one month, and a dinner meeting the next month. At the time, the dinners were held at Vahl's in Alviso.

I attended my first SCCARA Dinner Meeting in September of 1946 and "Prof" Harold was the speaker. It was one of the most interesting meetings that I attended during my many years with SCCARA. I was new to ham radio and had no idea of what had gone on in San Jose over the first quarter of the 20th Century, but I soon learned. Many of our founding members were students of "Prof" Harold's radio school and were involved with what became Radio Station KQW in San

Jose.

In the 30's us "kids" knew all about KQW because every year they had our Hester School Glee Club come and sing a few numbers over the radio. At the time my 5th Grade Teacher, Mabel Madson was the Director and I can remember going down town to sing on KQW. It was a big thing and our parents and all of our friends tuned in. Boy we thought we were real "celebrities."

Interestingly enough, we seldom listened to KQW because it was a local radio station at the time. We listened to the network stations in San Francisco because they had all the good shows, "The Lone Ranger," "Lum and Abner," Amos and Andy" and of course "I Love a Mystery."

In the late 1940's CBS bought KQW and moved the studios to San Francisco and the transmitters to the North Bay. The old station was located at 2nd & San Antonio Streets as I recall. Later the call letters were changed to KCBS. I really didn't know how much "Prof" Harold did for radio and for that matter for amateur radio and SCCARA. When I attended my first SCCARA dinner meeting I learned a lot of local radio history.

It's a good example of how much I've learned over the years as a member of SCCARA. Every meeting has featured and informative and interesting speaker. Well most were anyway. I learned enough about radio and electronics to teach the subject in high school.

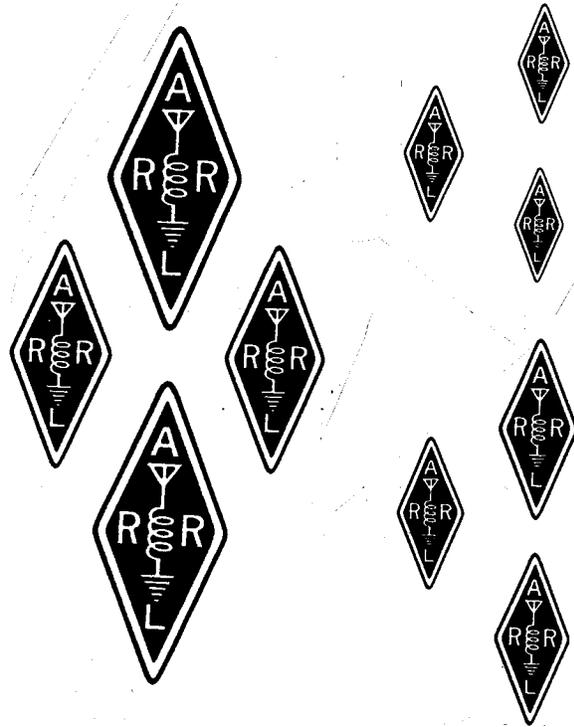
I bet that Dick Barrett could tell us all about the old timers who were members of SCCARA and attended "Prof" Harold's Radio School. That should make another interesting and informative talk.

73, Doc, W6ZRJ

SCCARA QSL CARD CONTEST

The QSL Committee will choose a winner based on originality and keeping with the intent of conveying the unique Santa Clara County image. The card **MUST** include the SCCARA and ARRL Emblems. An entry deadline still hasn't been set. So you can still get a jump on the rest of the field! One other detail: the design should be such that it will fit on a standard postcard of (5 1/2" X 3 1/2"). ARRL Emblems have again been included here for your use in the design. Again, I suggest drawing a circle of the appropriate size to represent the SCCARA Emblem.

73 & Good Luck. WA60, George.



SCCARA UPGRADE HONOR ROLL

At our last meeting, it was noted that Sam Teresi W6EOA had upgraded to EXTRA class. Congratulations are in place and you are the first person to enter our SCCARA UPGRADE HONOR ROLL. Ok guys, the ice is broken. Lets see some more upgrades.

73, Mike, KB6LCJ

CLUB MEETING INFORMATION

In case you've ever wondered whatever happens to those sign in sheets at the meetings, I'll let you know. The board is starting to use the data to help us plan for the future. We had 48 members sign in with four guests at our March meeting.

Our guests were;

KA4ESQ, Mike Simon
KM6IU, Larry Moore.
KN2YUU, Alan Pease
W6HNR, Norman Fredman

We were glad to have you. Please come again.

Also noted from our January signin, about 90% of our members are ARRL affiliated.

We will have a new signin format soon to make it somewhat easier to sign in.

73...Mike



1992

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March

- 9 7:30pm SCCARA MEETING Doc W6ZRJ Talk on CW
- 7:30pm SCCARA MONTHLY MEETING
- 14 Foothill Flea Market
- 17 St. Patrick's
- ~~23~~ 26 7:30pm SCCARA BOARD MEETING (ALL INVITED)

April

- 1 April Fools Day
- 3 Newsletter Articles Due
- 5 Daylight Savings—set ahead 1 hour
- 11 Foothill Flea Market
- 13 7:30pm SCCARA MONTHLY MEETING
- 7:30pm SCCARA MEETING Old Timers Nite
- 19 Easter
- ~~27~~ 23 7:30pm SCCARA BOARD MEETING (ALL INVITED)
- 25 9:00am SVECS Quarterly Breakfast

May

- 1 Newsletter Articles Due
- 9 Foothill Flea Market
- 10 Mother's Day
- 11 7:30pm SCCARA MONTHLY MEETING
- 16 Armed Forces Day
- 25 Memorial Day (Observed)
- ~~26~~ 28 7:30pm SCCARA BOARD MEETING (ALL INVITED)
- 29 Newsletter Articles Due

June

- 8 7:30pm SCCARA MONTHLY MEETING
- 13 Foothill Flea Market

This is our Month

- 14 Flag Day
- 21 Father's Day
- ~~22~~ 25 7:30pm SCCARA BOARD MEETING (ALL INVITED)
- 27 Field Day 92
- 28 Field Day 92

July

- 1 Dominion Day (Canada)
- 3 Newsletter Articles Due
- 4 Independence Day
- 11 Foothill Flea Market
- 13 7:30pm SCCARA MONTHLY MEETING
- 23 7:30pm SCCARA BOARD MEETING (ALL INVITED)
- 31 Newsletter Articles Due

August

- 8 Foothill Flea Market
- 10 7:30pm SCCARA MONTHLY MEETING
- 27 7:30pm SCCARA BOARD MEETING (ALL INVITED)

September

- 4 Newsletter Articles Due
- 7 Labor Day
- 12 Foothill Flea Market
- 14 7:30pm SCCARA MONTHLY MEETING
- 24 7:30pm SCCARA BOARD MEETING (ALL INVITED)

October

- 2 Newsletter Articles Due
- 12 Columbus Day (Observed)
- Thanksgiving Day (Canada)

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REPEATER INFO

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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.

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**SANTA CLARA COUNTY
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