

# SCCARA-GRAM

Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 9, Number 6

June 1993

## FIELD DAY ISSUE

### President's Prose

I received a telephone call last week from W6DPD, the ARRL Pacific Division Director. He told me that if we want to do Pacificon in 1994 we have to get started now. This would require a general chair as well as about ten other members to do the groundwork. If we are to do this, these people must be aboard this month. Let me know your opinions on whether we should do this, and if so, who these people should be.

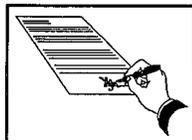
Jim, WE6V is stepping down as director of the morse code training program. He, Frank AA6LL, and JD, K6YKD shared the program for several years and Jim has done the last two years almost alone. Thanks, Jim. Doug, WN6U has agreed to take over and will be looking for assistance soon. Please give Doug a hand here.

I have received a request for having a general class theory class. If there are enough people that attend the code class at 13 words per minute or have already passed the 13 wpm test this will be considered. Let me or Mike, KB6LCJ know your needs.

The Foothill Flea Market was an outstanding success! Thanks to Lou, WA6QYS.

We have eleven new Hams from the class! Thanks to: Mike KB6LCJ, Harold KK6ZE, Jim WE6V, "J" KD6JHD, Don KC6WMM, and Doug WN6U.

73, Don KC6WMM



### Calendar

- 6/12 Foothill Flea Market
- 6/14 SCCARA General Meeting
- 6/21 Field Day Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)
- 6/26 Field Day
- 6/28 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:00p, all are welcome)
- 7/10 Foothill Flea Market
- 7/12 SCCARA General Meeting

#### Next General Meeting

- Day: Monday, June 14, 1993
- Time: 7:30 PM
- Place: United Way Building
- Agenda: Nick Marshall, W6OLO will discuss Project Moonray.

The United Way Building is about one mile South West from the San Jose Air Port. From I-880, take the Alameda turn-off going South for ½ block then turn left on McKendrie. From the South: go North on the Alameda, ½ block past Hedding turn right on McKendrie.

As soon as you turn onto McKendrie (heading East), turn right into the parking lot just behind the small church on the corner. It's best to park at the far end of the parking lot.

The entrance is up the steps at the South East corner of the building. There is wheelchair access at another door at the North East corner, but for security reasons, only one door is open at a time--someone will have to notify the guard if you need wheelchair access. Also, try not to be too late--the doors may be closed with nobody around to let you in.

The San Jose Red Cross is located at the East end of McKendrie, across the I-880 freeway (South) from the San Jose Air Port. From I-880, take the Colman turn-off, head South, turn left (East) at the first road--that's McKendrie. From the South, go North on Colman, just past Hedding turn right (East) on McKendrie.

## **Apologies to ALL**

### **New Members:**

Since becoming the newsletter editor, I've noticed that we have NOT been consistent in welcoming new members in the SCCARA-GRAM. Some new members got a regular welcome--a few even saw their photo in the SCCARA-GRAM; however, many weren't even mentioned. When I joined, I was one of the lucky few who got a welcome in the SCCARA-GRAM with a photo--it felt good! Unfortunately, this process is very haphazard; in short, we simply don't have our act together.

So, to our valued members who never were properly acknowledged: SCCARA offers its sincere apologies... and WELCOME!

### **Old Members:**

It has been brought to my attention that some of SCCARA's long time members took offense at the recently published roster. The listed year of first membership was wrong in most cases. Mike KB6LCJ, our treasurer and current keeper of the membership list, thought it would be nice to include the year in which people first joined SCCARA. Unfortunately, he did not have that information and just used the last known year of member renewal. I knew this information was wrong too, and said so in the blurb before the roster. Neither of us thought much of it at the time; we just expected to receive that information from you later. In hindsight, it does sort of look like an official statement from the club about everyone's membership status. Sorry about that; absolutely no insult was intended. Please tell Mike KB6LCJ when you first joined SCCARA. Hopefully, the next roster update will be a lot less insulting.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

## **Good and Welfare**

Our belated congratulations to SCCARA's secretary, Lloyd De Vaughn, KD6FJI, who upgraded to General class last month. That's the big one that merits the envy of a whole bunch of us that can't hack 13 words per minute.

George Fuji, K6DEZ, welcomed his bride, Hisako, home after a month of convalescence following surgery. George is going to be a busy boy until his wife can take over again.

**SILENT KEY:** KB6DLG, Clarence "Duke" Dodge, two time parliamentarian during my tenure returned to his maker after 81 years on this Earth. Our sympathies to his wife, Peggie and daughter, Barbara. A memorial service was held April 27<sup>th</sup>. Duke's hobby was assisting stranded motorists.

I'm also saddened to report the loss of my wife of fifty years, Natalie. She passed away on Wednesday May 12<sup>th</sup>, due to the stroke she suffered in January. Services were held on the following Tuesday.

If you become aware of something that we should cover, please call me at 264-2988.

Ed Rawlinson, WD6CHD, "Chile Hot Dog"

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## **Meeting Minutes**

**Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association  
General Membership Meeting, May 10, 1993**

Don KC6WMM, President, opened the meeting. Self introductions followed as is the custom.

The speaker for the night was Trish, WA6UBE, club member. Her topic was Near Vertical Incident Skywave (NVIS). This type of communication is used on HF bands where communication is desired over relatively short distances, generally a few hundred miles or less. The object is to have the radio wave go straight up and come straight down and the best method of doing this is a straight wire or dipole antenna. The

need for good dependable short distance HF communication came about after the 1989 earthquake where using a vertical antenna just did not do the job. Trish pointed out that the military was the pioneer in developing NVIS technology because it needed reliable HF communication between its many units in the field. This is a simple system to setup and use; and, as Trish pointed out, a lot of power is not needed although she said that this is not a QRP system. She said she got good results with 10 watts.

The club would like to thank Trish for her fine presentation.

Brad Wyatt, K6WR, ARRL Vice Director, Pacific Division made a few comments about ongoing and pending actions concerning amateur radio. The first thing he mentioned was the battle concerning antenna ordinances in the city of Monte Sereno and the unincorporated areas of the county.

The F.C.C. has certain items before it that may or may not take effect: 1) Amateur radio may get the 219 - 220 Mhz band as a broadband radio band. This band would not be used by the average ham, but by BBSs to exchange data. 2) Wind profilers used to study wind shear would share the 449 Mhz band with hams. 3) And there is still talk of the spectrum auction of radio frequencies.

The Field Day Committee will meet at the Red Cross on Monday May 17 at 7:30 P.M.

Lou, WA6QYS, reported that SCCARA had an income of \$3,826.59 and an expense of \$1,177.29 for a net income of \$ 2,649.20 for our efforts at the Foothill Flea Market.

Ed, WD6CHD, Good and Welfare said that George Fuji's wife was out of the hospital. Ed also noted that Duke Dodge is a silent key.

Wally, KA6YMD, said that the Red Cross may secure its radio room containing the club station and anyone wanting to use it would have to be accompanied by Wally or Stan Getsla, WA6VJY.

Mike, KB6LCJ, Treasurer, reported:

April SCCARA-GRAM cost	\$ 65.92
Postmaster(3 mo. bulk mail)	\$ 50.00
Income (from dues)	\$ 75.00
QST Magazine	\$ 30.00

Mike request that everyone check the roster for errors and notify him if any are found.

Class report: 13 of 14 students passed the novice theory test.

Gary, WB6YRU, said that Quement's is going out of the amateur radio business.

Lloyd, KD6FJI, Secretary

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## **A Class Act**

The SCCARA Novice/Tech class was successful! The class which started back in February has recently concluded after graduating 11 new hams. This was the first theory class that the club has run in quite some time.

The class was held on Thursday evenings immediately after the CW class run by Jim WE6V. It was originally planned to run for 9 weeks, but more time was need to cover all of the material, so the class was extended to 12 weeks.

The following students all passed their No-Code Tech license except as noted: Elizabeth Baker (HF Tech), Bradley Baker, Sandra Buckingham, Mong Chew, Mary Ann Enault, Lydie Heidweiller (HF Tech), Joanne Moses, Edward Powell, Yvonne Ricardex, Ruth Smith, and Andy Wirt. The following students passed their Novice written: Frank Busse and Sean McKnight.

Congratulations to all of the students and many thanks to the instructors who volunteered to teach the class.

The SCCARA CW class will continue on Thursday evenings and hopefully we will run another Novice/Tech theory class this fall.

73 de WN6U

## Flea Market

SCCARA sponsored the May Foothill electronic flea market; so, we did not have our regular booth. Lou, WA6QYS mentioned we did quite well, \$2649 (net), versus \$2273 last year. This was our second turn at hosting the flea market--it looks like we are getting the hang of it!

As for the next one... our locker is reasonably full of goodies. I can bring *some* stuff, but there is a real need for a large vehicle (pick-up) and a willingness to show up EARLY Saturday. Let me know if you can help.

73, Gary WB6YRU

The May 8<sup>th</sup> SCCARA sponsorship of the Foothill Electronic Flea Market went quite smoothly thanks to the great support from the following (in order by call):

Ed WD6CHD, Lloyd KD6FJI, Bob KC6HPH, Dave N6JQJ, Mike KB6LCJ, Gene W6LYG, Dan WM6M, Tony K6MOB, Imre KD6MZM, George WA6O, "J" KD6PBH, Don K6PBQ, Bob KD6PWK, Odell KD6QZA and his wonderful daughter Lisa, Scott KB6UOO, Roy K6VIP, Stan WA6VJY, Rich WB5VUL, Don KC6WMM, Wally KA6YMD, Gary WB6YRU, and Harold KK6ZE. From the SCCARA Thursday class: Brad Baker, Elizabeth Baker, and Alex Fanelli.

It is a pleasure working with dedicated fellow hams who join together for the good of the club. Without the support of each and every one of you, it couldn't have been done. I salute you for a job well done. THANKS!

Let us now show our dedication to keep SCCARA the best club in the area by supporting Doug, WN6U, with the club's field day effort.

Keep up the good work! ...73, Lou, WA6QYS

## From our Field Day Chairman...

Field Day 1993! de WN6U

The Field Day committee has met recently and plans for this years Field Day are coming along nicely. The biggest change we will see this year will be the use of QRP power levels. For those of you who aren't familiar with the term, QRP means an output power level of no more than 5 watts. That means that ALL of the transmitters are limited to 5 watts or less. Also, each station must run on battery power or some form of natural power, generators are permitted only for recharging the batteries.

While the decrease from 100 watts to 5 watts will certainly reduce the number of contacts we make, that will hopefully be more than offset by the fact that we will be able to multiply our point totals by a factor of five.

Those who haven't operated QRP before might also become more skillful operators once they realize that simply shouting into a microphone doesn't always result in another call in the log.

We plan on running in class 3A (battery) this year. That means we will have a station running CW, a phone station, and an HF digital station running RTTY, AMTOR and possibly PACTOR. Also, we will have a 2M packet station, a Satellite station, and a VHF/UHF SSB station running on solar power! Last but not least we will have a Novice station operating the HF novice bands: 80-40-15 & 10 Meters.

We'd like to see some new faces up at Field Day this year. If you haven't been to a Field Day before you're missing a great experience. You don't have to be a SCCARA member to join us, you don't even have to be a ham. Our Field Day site is at Mt. Madonna County Park near Gilroy. There's plenty of stuff to do there besides hamming, so bring the family.

The early birds will be leaving San Jose in a caravan on Friday (June 25) at about Noon or 1

PM. It takes about 45 minutes to get to the park if we don't have any stragglers. (We usually do!) When we arrive at the park we start by putting the beams together and erecting the towers. After that's done it's time to get out the slingshot and use it to put up our long wire antennas. This is often the most amusing part of the whole weekend. (Bring a camera). By the time we finish all of this everyone is getting hungry so we start the Potluck dinner, usually hot dogs and CDF chile. (Good stuff).

Saturday morning we finish setting up in preparation for the start of the contest at 11 AM. This year we're really going to try to be ready on time! If you want to operate one or more of the stations this would be the time to sign-up for the times you would like to operate. If you don't have any experience don't worry, there's plenty of hams who will show you the right way to operate. Or several right ways to operate!

At 2 PM Saturday dinner will be served. This year you have a choice of steak or chicken as the main course. If you'd like to eat dinner with us make sure to fill out the sign-up sheet elsewhere in this newsletter, if you don't sign-up in advance you won't get to eat!

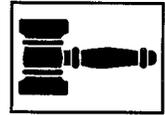
The contest continues through Saturday night and if you operate throughout the night you can count yourself among the true faithful. For those VERY few, it can get awful lonely about 3 AM Sunday morning. Most of us begin to stir again after sunrise, and breakfast isn't far behind. The contest ends at 11 AM Sunday June 27<sup>th</sup>. Stick around for the tear-down, it takes about a quarter of the time that set-up takes! Watching us try to uproot the 6 ft. long ground rods is a good way to build your vocabulary, keep the kids away from this one. All that's left is the caravan home to San Jose, and the anticipation of doing it again next year.

Join us, it's a blast!

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## Moved and Seconded

### May Board Meeting



The Milpitas and Campbell libraries have expressed a strong interest in our offer to supply them with a set of ARRL amateur radio books. The board voted to purchase two book sets from the ARRL and have them delivered to these libraries. Other libraries in Santa Clara County will be considered in the future.

The board voted to make a donation to the heart fund on behalf of Ed WD6CHD's wife.

We must decide SOON if SCCARA will sponsor the 1994 Pacificon. We will proceed only if there is sufficient interest demonstrated at the next general meeting.

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## Call For Help ONLY If You Need Help

### Downloaded from Packet

QST DE W1AW, FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS  
NEWINGTON CT MAY 13, 1993  
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS

An amateur extra class licensee has been sentenced for making fake distress transmissions on 14.313 MHZ.

Fifty-year-old Jorge Mestre, NS3K, of Fairfax, Virginia, had pled guilty in February to knowingly and willfully communicating false distress signals on August 7, 1992. At that time, he made a plea agreement to surrender his FCC amateur license, dispose of his amateur radio equipment within 60 days, and make immediate restitution of \$50,000 to the U.S. Coast Guard.

At sentencing in U.S. District Court in Alexandria, VA., Mestre was given one year probation on condition of his serving 60 days home confinement, ordered to perform 200 hours of community service, and to pay a \$50 special assessment.

Mestre could have received a fine of up to \$250,000 and up to 6 years imprisonment.

More information is in April, 1993 QST, page 79.

# Packet Pieces

## Downloaded from the packet network:

### Computers Don't Lie

A computer salesman visited a company president for the purpose of selling the president one of the latest talking computers.

Salesman: "This machine knows everything. I can ask it any question and it'll give the correct answer. Computer, what is the speed of light?"

Computer: 186,000 miles per second.

Salesman: "Who is the greatest homerun hitter in Major League history?"

Computer: Henry Aaron.

Salesman: "Who was the first president of the United States?"

Computer: George Washington.

President: "I'm still not convinced. Let me ask a question. Where is my father?"

Computer: Your father is deep-sea fishing in the Atlantic Ocean.

President: "Hah. The computer is wrong. My father died over twenty years ago!"

Computer: Your mother's husband died 22 years ago. Your father just landed a twelve pound bass.

...Relayed to you from W17Y of Brush Prairie, Washington by way of AG3Y and AK3P in Maryland.

Keep smiling! :) 73, Gary WB6YRU

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## News Letter Notes

So far, very few people have indicated a preference as to when they receive the news letter, (during the week preceding the general meeting or a week earlier). At the last meeting, most people didn't seem to care one way or the other. A few

evidently preferred leaving it the way it is now. So, unless a significant number of people object, the SCCARA-GRAM mailing date will remain unchanged. This means the due date for articles remains the same as the board meeting date.

I'm happy to include an article in this issue from Doc W6ZRJ. Please consider submitting articles yourself--it doesn't have to be a PhD thesis either. Articles can be comments about something you heard, questions about some problem you are having, or even responses to previous articles. Ads from members wishing to sell or buy something are OK too.

I think it would be great to have a little dialogue going here between members. Come on folks, don't be shy--we're all friends here. This can be informative and fun!

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

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## What will it be, HAM radio or CB?

### An Essay on Amateur Radio by Doc Gmelin, W6ZRJ

The other day I was talking to a friend from another city who I heard had gotten a ham license. I was delighted to hear this until we talked a little further. I didn't even know that this individual was interested in amateur radio. And it turned out that he ISN'T very much interested in ham radio. I now suspect that many new so called "hams" aren't interested in ham radio either.

That sounds funny, but this is how I found out about my friends "interest" (non-interest) in ham radio:

When I asked him about his new ham license, he informed me that his call was KD6--- (I really don't want to identify him) and that he had gotten a "no-code" license and he seemed very proud of the fact. Well, since I have taught ham radio on and off for many years, and since I have

helped many individuals learn the code and later upgrade to General Class or Higher, I asked him if he would like some help to upgrade.

He said, "H--- No. I'm never going to learn that G-- D--- code, it's worthless."

I asked him if he ever wanted to work the low bands, at least on phone, and he said,

"No I don't want to work that stupid radio stuff, I just want to talk through the local repeaters."

So I asked him why he just wanted to work the repeaters, and he said,

"So that I can talk to my wife on the radio to tell her when I'm coming home and she can give me any information from telephone calls about appointments. And more important, if I get in trouble on the highway, I can call for help."

I pointed out that this was the purpose of the Citizen Band and he said that he had tried CB but because of the interference, it was impossible to use. Now he had found a radio telephone that works. I asked him why he just didn't get a cellular telephone and he said that he looked into that but it was just too expensive. His Company just couldn't afford it.

Then he gave me a final comment. He said, "The only trouble with the repeater is that there are too many people on who want to talk about the technical aspects of radio and that's a waste of time. I don't care about technical radio. I just want to use it for personal communication."

Well it would be a waste of time to discuss anything further about the situation with this individual, so I just let the subject drop. It was something of a case where the attitude was, "Don't bother me with facts, my mind is already made up."

Later on I found out that there are a number of no-code Tech's operating in that city. It seems that a ham who is a member of another social organization thought it would be good if others in the organization got ham licenses so they could talk to each other over the radio.

I notice more and more CB type operation appearing on our local repeaters and we are starting to hear a lot of unidentified and probable willful interference. One wonders where ham radio is going with this type operation appearing.

And of course a number of CB'er types who have no-code licenses are starting to put pressure on the FCC to open the bands below 30 MHz to a no-code license in that part of the spectrum.

Fortunately that can't happen for some time at least. It will take action by a conference of the International Tele-communications Union (ITU), to change that rule. And the good news is that the ARRL Board of Directors passed a unanimous motion to keep the International CW requirements. I suspect this also reflects the attitude of the International Amateur Radio Union, IARU, the international organization of Radio Societies. The representatives of these member societies can and do influence the votes of their countries representatives at any ITU conference.

I'm also concerned with what I see happening in local radio clubs, at least in my area. A friend of mine gave a talk to a local radio club on antennas recently. I've often been a partner in this presentation and know that it's aimed at the radio amateur who doesn't have a great deal of technical background. Even so, my friend was taken to task by some who felt that his talk was far too technical. I suspect that for some of the hams in that club, any technical discussion was "far too technical."

With all of the recent changes in ham radio, I sometimes wonder where we are going. Is ham radio just going to be another mobile telephone service?

I'm starting to strongly agree with the statement: "*REAL HAMS KNOW CODE.*" And I might add, they also know a lot about radio and electronic theory.

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## **QSL via USA Bureau**

QSL Bureau for the USA: The purpose is to promote the exchange of QSL cards in the states. By using the Bureau, you will: 1) not need a call book, 2) send to only one address, 3) save on mailing cost, and 4) receive QSL's free (except for postage--just send up to four 4"x9" (#10) SASE's with your call in the upper left corner).

To send cards, place the call of the receiving station on the address side in large letters. Friends, clubs, etc. may combine cards to lower cost. Presort by call area and alphabetically. Enclose \$1 per 25 cards. Send to:

USA Bureau  
P.O. Box 309  
Magnolia Springs, AL 36555

QSL via the USA BUREAU  
Operated by KB4TOX

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## Field Day Fun

Are you ready and waiting for Field Day? The remainder of this "short" multi-part article mentions most of what you wanted to know about field day, but were afraid to ask...

### What is Field Day?

Field Day, sponsored by the ARRL, is one of the biggest amateur radio contests of the year. The basic purpose is to give amateurs practice making contacts under disaster conditions. Stations are set up as if a MAJOR disaster had occurred (with generators, make-shift antennas, etc.). When operating as a group, we establish our selves under a classification where several transceivers are on the air at one time. The more exotic the power source, the better. Solar cells or generators running on something other than gasoline are worth more points. Operating with low power is worth more points. Once set up, we have 24 hours (starting at a specific time) to make as many contacts as possible. It's a lot of fun and a great way to hone those operating skills! Everyone is encouraged to participate. You can make a weekend of it or just show up for part of it, whatever you like.

## We'll be QRP!

For field day this year, it was decided to try running *3A - battery*. The "3A" means three transmitters on the air simultaneously, not counting "free-bees," and we are a club group or portable. The "battery" designation means all transmitters are QRP (putting out 5 Watts or less) and the power source is something other than commercial mains or motor-driven generators (e.g. battery, solar, water generator, etc.). Batteries may be charged while in use provide the source is independent of the commercial mains (PG&E).

In the past, we operated with around 100 Watts. This time, with only 5 Watts, we expect to make fewer contacts and those we make will come a little harder. Operator skills and techniques will be much more important. If you have made many contacts QRP, you are especially invited to participate and help out the rest of us with tips and suggestions. Also, you might want to try making some QRP contacts before field day to "get a few under your belt" in preparation.

With many people trying desperately to make contacts during field day, here's a good opportunity to really hone those skills.

Since we won't be using high power, the antenna will be much more important. We have already lined up a couple of HF beams, eleven element and four element two meter beams, some dipoles and a long wire ( $\frac{1}{2}$  wave on 160 M). If you have a good antenna or antenna suggestion (that you know works well) please contact Doug WN6U (field day chairman) right away to make arrangements.

**The following are some QRP tips from W0KEA and N8CQA as reported in The National Contest Journal of the ARRL:**

The lower the power the more important the antenna and feed line. 5 W into a good tribander is similar to 100 W into a dipole. Remove anything between the rig and the antenna (antenna switches, etc.) that might drain power. Make sure you have a good power meter so you don't go over the 5 W limit for QRP.

Near the beginning of the contest, concentrate on the top portion of the band, the competition is less intense there. Move to the lower parts of the band as things slow down.

Calling CQ yourself works better than trying to respond to others calling CQ. Don't even think about competing with most other stations in a pile-up; QRP is no match for a station with a kilo-Watt into a beam! A station unreachable now, (because of a pile-up) will most probably still be around later when things cool down.

Consider the "S7" rule. If the other station is coming in with an S meter reading of less than 7, don't expect to be able to easily contact him. A weak station is worth at least one or two tries however, he might be running QRP as well.

If a station continues calling CQ after you make 3 or 4 attempts to make contact (with no apparent interference), try that station later when conditions might be better.

Pay attention to band openings: a good opening can do more for you than great gobs of power into a good antenna during a marginal opening.

## Events

The "setup crew" goes up to Mt Madonna early Friday afternoon (June 25<sup>th</sup>), in a caravan. We maintain contact on 2 meters using SCCARA's repeater at first, then switch to simplex on the output frequency as we get up into the hills. This is kind of fun itself. Hopefully, nearly everything will be set up and ready to go by evening. A pot-luck / fend-for-yourself-and-share-if-you-want-to meal will be held that evening and Saturday morning.

The Field Day contest starts Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup> at 1800 UTC and ends Sunday, June 27<sup>th</sup> at 2100 UTC. Class A and B stations may operate during the whole 27 hours if they start setting up Saturday at 1800--we have no plans to do this. Stations that set up ahead of time (SCCARA) must begin no earlier than Friday 1800 UTC, then operate no longer than 24 consecutive hours. So, we'll plan on starting Saturday at 2100 UTC.

If you signed up (and paid) for the dinner

and breakfast: we plan on having the dinner around two or three Saturday afternoon. And, if you're still able to keep awake after all night of raking in those contacts, Sunday morning breakfast will probably start sometime around eight.

Our 3A classification means we may operate three transmitters simultaneously. In addition, we may operate the following "for free:" one Novice station, one packet station, one VHF/UHF (non-packet) station, and one satellite station. The VHF/UHF and satellite stations will probably share the same spot. Be sure to check out each station!

We will again be using computer logging / duplicate checking. If you have any problems or questions with that program, please contact me (Gary WB6YRU, I'll be around the whole time).

We will also try getting the extra points for operating one of our stations using "natural power." This means power from solar, wind, falling water, methane, grain alcohol, or batteries (not dry cells) charged by one of these. The plan is to power the VHF station from a gell-cell battery charged with solar cells.

Some other miscellaneous rules: We will be operating as a club, so all contacts must be made with the SCCARA club call W6UW. If you transmit once on a certain band, you may not change bands again for 15 minutes. All voice modes are considered to be "voice" and all digital modes are considered CW. A given station may be worked once on each band and each mode. Two transmitters may not operate at the same time in the same band using the same mode (not counting the Novice station). Except for packet and satellite contacts, repeaters may not be used, (of course, this doesn't include our talk-in activity on 146.385). And don't forget to monitor your power level--keep it under five Watts. The May issue of QST (p. 123) spells out the rules in detail.

## Field Day Committee

The last Field Day committee meeting will be on June 21, 7:30 PM, at the San Jose Red Cross. The bulk of the agenda will be to tie up any loose ends and make specific plans for the "set-up" group going up the following Friday. The

Chairman is Doug WN6U. You don't have to be on the committee to participate.

At a time yet to be determined (probably shortly before this last field day meeting), the tower trailer and other components will be made ready. If you would like to help out with this please contact Doug WN6U. If you would like to join the setup crew, check the appropriate box on the sign-up sheet (elsewhere in this news letter) or make arrangements with Doug WN6U. NOTE: SCCARA will pay the entire park camping fee for anyone who helps set up Friday and tear down Sunday.

## **Plan Precluding Procrastinators**

Alright, you procrastinators, take note: This is your last chance--Field Day is coming up near the end of the month. Please help the planners plan: Barbara KD6QEI is managing the Saturday dinner and Sunday breakfast, and Doug WN6U is taking care of the park fees, etc. Do you intend to join us for the Saturday dinner and/or spend the weekend? If so, and you haven't sent in your field day sign-up sheet, please do it now while you are thinking about it. If you do NOT plan to spend the night OR join the BBQ dinner and Sunday breakfast, then the sign-up form isn't necessary.

## **How do I get there?**

We will again operate among the groves of oak and redwood at the Manzanita camp area of Mt. Madonna County Park in the mountains between Gilroy at Watsonville.

From 101 (South bound) in Gilroy, take 152 (Hecker Pass) West up Mt. Madonna.

Or take the scenic route: (this is the way the set-up crew usually goes) Almaden Expressway (South-bound) ends at Harry, turn right, go ½ block, then turn left onto Mckean Road. Mckean passes by Calero Reservoir then is renamed Uvas

Road. Uvas Road (past Uvas Reservoir) ends at Watsonville Road, turn right. Watsonville Rd. ends at 152 (Hecker Pass) near the foothills of Mt. Madonna, turn right.

NOTE: the area at the South end of Almaden Expressway has been re-worked in recent years, a map older than two or three years may be incorrect. Also, most maps show this entire route as County Road G8.

Follow 152 Hecker Pass up the mountain. Turn right into the park entrance near the top at Pole Line Road--it's easy to miss! If you see Bella Vista Lane (left turn) or find yourself going down the other side of the mountain, headed for Watsonville, STOP! Go back!

Once in the park, if you are only staying for the day you need to pay the day-use fee yourself at the check station. If you plan to spend the weekend--and sent in your fee with the sign-up sheet to Doug WN6U--then we will take care of that for you; just drive on up (pass the check station by keeping to the left). About a mile past the check station, enter the Manzanita Group Campground from the North (small dirt road just off Pole Line Rd. after a sharp left turn). See the park map elsewhere in this newsletter.

For the more adventurous, you can try Summit Road along the mountain ridge South (along the Santa Cruz - Santa Clara County border). Summit Rd. becomes Pole Line Rd. inside the North West end of the park.

Also, we will be monitoring the SCCARA repeater output frequency (146.385) most of time. However, please keep in mind that you will probably not be able to use the repeater after you get into the hills around Calero Reservoir. At this point, you should switch to simplex. We will be working simplex ourselves.

Drive Carefully, Good Luck to ALL, and See You There!

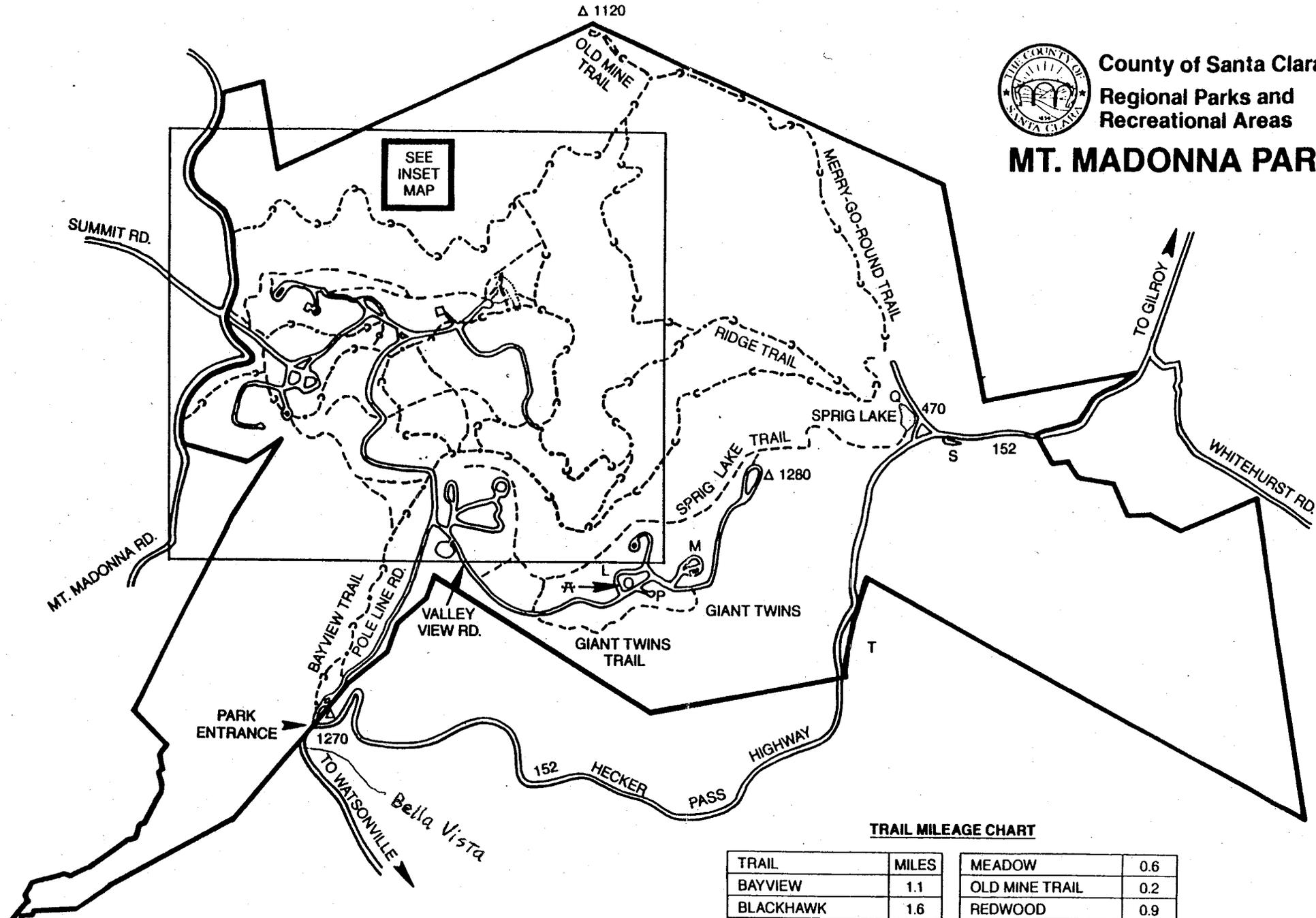
73, Gary WB6YRU

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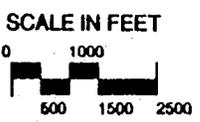
County of Santa Clara  
Regional Parks and  
Recreational Areas

# MT. MADONNA PARK



**TRAIL MILEAGE CHART**

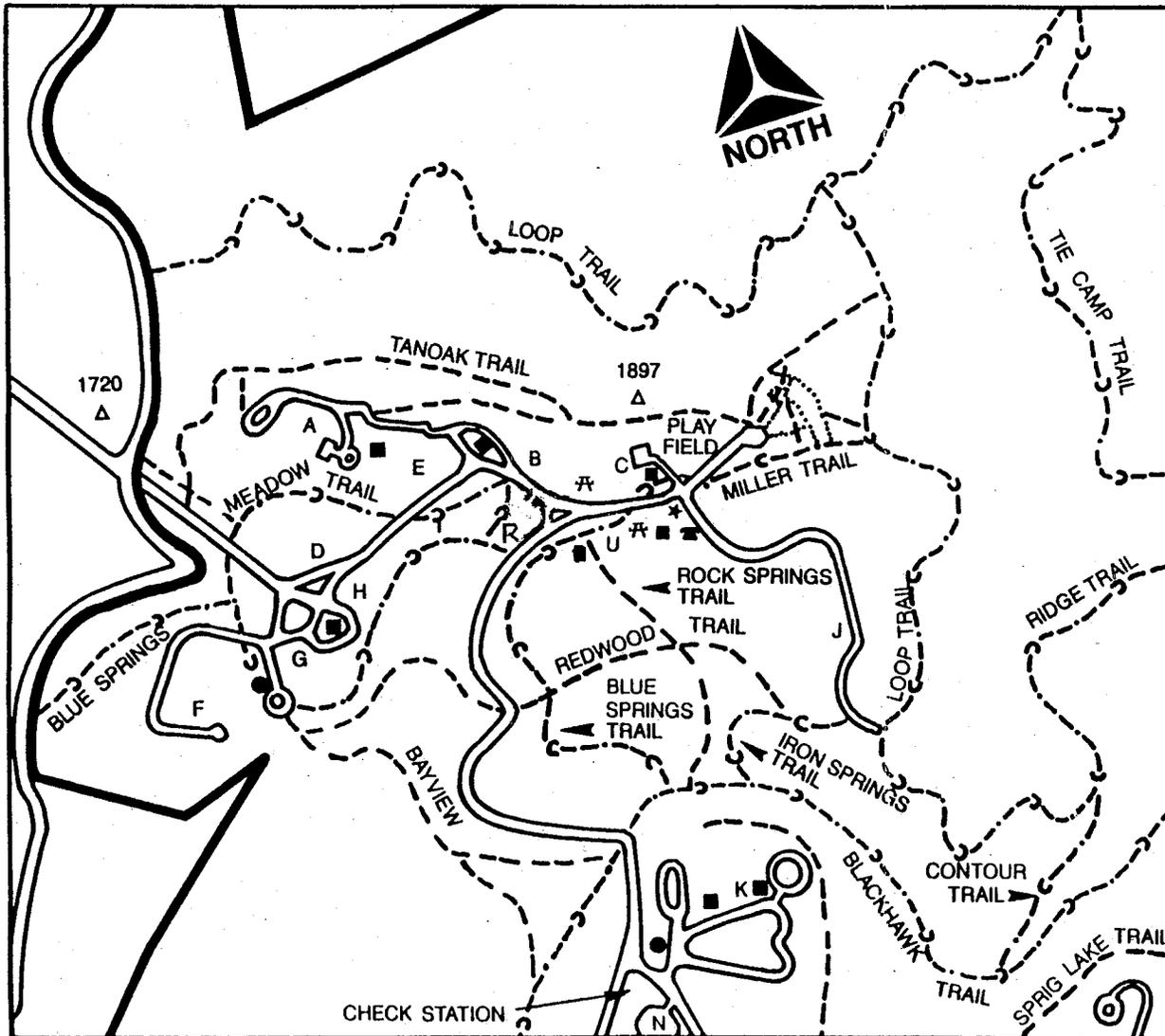
TRAIL	MILES	MEADOW	0.6
BAYVIEW	1.1	OLD MINE TRAIL	0.2
BLACKHAWK	1.6	REDWOOD	0.9
BLUE SPRINGS	1.3	RIDGE	1.8
CONTOUR	0.3	ROCK SPRINGS	0.4
GIANT TWINS	0.7	SPRIG	1.8
IRON SPRINGS	0.2	TANOAK	0.9
LOOP	2.1	TIE CAMP	0.9
MERRY-GO-ROUND	1.9	CONNECTOR TRAILS	1.3





County of Santa Clara  
Regional Parks and  
Recreational Areas

**MT. MADONNA PARK**



**LEGEND**

- ★ VISITOR CENTER/PARK OFFICE
- A TANOAK CAMPGROUND
- B DEER PEN PICNIC AREA
- C HILLTOP GROUP AREA
- D WEST DEER PEN GROUP AREA
- E DEER PEN
- F BAY VIEW YOUTH AREA:  
ARROWHEAD  
BUCKHORN  
CHEROKEE  
INDIAN ROCK
- G INSPIRATION POINT PICNIC AREA
- H BIG PIT GROUP AREA
- I SOUTH DEER PEN PICNIC AREA
- J ARCHERY RANGE
- K VALLEY VIEW CAMPGROUND NO. 1
- L VALLEY VIEW CAMPGROUND NO. 2
- M VALLEY VIEW CAMPGROUND NO. 3
- N HUCKLEBERRY GROUP CAMPGROUND
- O AZALEA PICNIC AREA
- P LONE MAPLE PICNIC AREA
- Q SPRIG LAKE PICNIC AREA
- R MANZANITA GROUP CAMPGROUND ←
- S BODFISH PICNIC AREA
- T MAGIC SPRINGS PICNIC AREA
- U AMPHITHEATER
- COMFORT STATION
- HORSE AND HIKING TRAIL
- - - HIKING TRAIL ONLY
- ..... NATURE TRAIL
- HORSE STAGING AREA
- △ ELEVATION IN FEET
- TELEPHONE (COIN)
- ⌘ NEW COVERED PICNIC AREAS

## Past Field Days...



Up goes one of several antennas.



Feeding a thirsty generator.



The antenna trailer with one station in the the shade.

## Roster Addendum

This is a list of members added since the 1993 roster was printed last month:

CALL	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	CLSS	TELEPHONE	ADDRESS	CITY	ST	ZIP
W6CNN	RUTH	LEO	G	408 722-8890	101 SHELL DRIVE #115	WATSONVILLE	CA	95076
KD6SV	PETSCHONEK	RAY	A	408 729-7893	1573 SAW LEAF CT.	SAN JOSE	CA	95131
K6WR	WYATT	BRAD	E	408 395-2501	18400 OVERLOOK ROAD #5	LOS GATOS	CA	95030
KK6MX	APTE	DONALD	A	408 629-0725	71 SOUTH SEA COURT	SAN JOSE	CA	95138
K6EJF	TANNER	JOHN	A	408 244-2445	POB 802	SANTA CLARA	CA	95052
N6ZPC	BROTHERS	BILL	G	408 225-5826	5840 ARAPAHO DRIVE	SAN JOSE	CA	95123
KD6STI	HSU	BEN S.	T	408 255-8297	1175 DERMOTT DRIVE	SAN JOSE	CA	95129
KD6RJQ	HSU	MELVIN S.	T	408 255-8297	1175 DERMOTT DRIVE	SAN JOSE	CA	95129

73, Mike KB6LCJ, Treasurer

## **ARRL PACIFIC DIVISION UPDATE, June 1993**

by **Charles P, McConnell, W6DPD, Director ARRL Pacific Division.** 1658 W. Mesa Ave. Fresno, CA 93711-1944. 209-431-2038. Packet W6DPD @N6ZGY

**Do you want to become a Ham?** Call 1-800-32NEWHAM (1-800-326-3942). You will get how to information, a list of clubs, a list of instructors, and a list of volunteer examiners in your zip code area.

**A MILESTONE REACHED!!** In March of 1993, the number of Amateurs reached 600,000, the most in U.S. history. The technician class continues to be the most popular class of license. The total licensees as the end of March was **602,876**.

### **SEMI-AUTOMATIC OPERATION OF HF DIGITAL OPERATION TO BE DISCUSSED.**

The ARRL Digital Committee will present a recommendation to the ARRL Board in July for semi automatic digital operation on bands below 50 MHz in July. Please consider these ideas: (1 ) Semi-automatic operation would be permitted in digital sub bands as adopted in ARRL and IARU band plans (the parts of the bands where digital operation is permitted). Semi-automatic operation outside the fully automatic sub bands would be required to have a bandwidth of 500 Hz or less. (2) Beacons would not be permitted. (3) Guidelines for semi automatic operation would be developed by the ARRL, the Digital Committee, and interested Amateurs. Semi automatic means that there is a control operator at one end of the circuit. Separate rules have been proposed in February for full automatic operation. For manual operation (a control operator at each station) there would be no change in the rules. Is this plan for semi automatic operation reasonable? Please let me know by card or letter.

**NOVICE EXAMS TO GO UNDER THE VEC PROGRAM.** Effective July 1, 1993, the FCC will place the Novice exam program under the VEC System. This is in PR Docket 92-154. VECs will be permitted to accredit General Class Amateurs, who will be allowed to administer Elements 1A, 2 and 3A, Novice and Technician class licenses. General Class Amateurs desiring to become accredited examiners should contact a VEC.

**CLUB AND MILITARY RECREATION CALL SIGNS TO RETURN.** The FCC has changed the Amateur rules to permit a Station Call sign Administrator to process properly completed application forms from clubs and Military Recreation Stations and send the forms to Gettysburg for endorsement and mailing. Each administrator will be assigned a call sign block having a 2 letter prefix from the NA-NZ by three series (Group D). The action was announced on May 11 by the FCC. The effective date will be announced when the report and order is released.

**SCANNERS PROHIBITED APRIL 24, 1994.** The FCC has changed Part 15.121 rules to prevent the manufacture or import of scanners and converters for use with scanners that can receive cellular telephone frequencies. After April 24, 1994, scanners that do not meet the rules may not be imported, manufactured, or sold in the United States.

**PACIFICON '93 TAKES SHAPE.** The convention committee has PACIFICON '93 on schedule. Jon Bloom, KE3Z, ARRL Lab Engineer, will discuss digital signal processing. Chris Imlay, N3AKD, ARRL General Counsel, will discuss Amateur Radio and the legal issues. There are a large number of commercial exhibitors signed for the event. Plan to attend. See the *COMING EVENTS* section for more information.

# LAST CHANCE FIELD DAY SIGN-UP SHEET

**If you plan to join the SCCARA dinner & breakfast and/or stay over night then PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM AND SEND IT IN NOW! Everyone is welcome, even if you are not a member or an amateur.**

The 1993 Field Day weekend will again be held at Mt. Madonna county park on the last weekend in June (the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> with setup on the 25<sup>th</sup>). Club members who arrive on Friday and stay through Sunday and help with both setup and tear-down will be able to stay for free. All others will be charged \$8.00 per night per vehicle. Fees for those staying overnight may be paid in advance with this sign up sheet, or will be collected by the Treasurer on Field Day. Those who won't be staying overnight will be responsible for paying the "day use" fee at the Park entrance.

The club will be serving dinner around 2:00 PM on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday morning. The menu for Saturday dinner include steak or chicken--please indicate your choice on this below. The cost of either dinner with Sunday breakfast for one person is \$10.00. You must pay for the meals in advance so that we know how much food to buy. We're expecting a great Field Day this year, so please come join us!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Overnight camping fee @ \$8.00 / night / vehicle: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

OR

\_\_\_\_\_ I will join the group going up Friday to help set-up, then tear-down Sunday.

\_\_\_\_\_ Steak dinner(s) with Sunday breakfast @ \$10.00 / person: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Chicken dinner(s) with Sunday breakfast @ \$10.00 / person: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out this sign up sheet (or a copy) and bring it with you to the next club meeting or mail it with your check (payable to SCCARA) to me, the Field Day chairman:

Doug Eaton WN6U  
185 Union Ave. #22  
Campbell, CA 95008

**OFFICERS and DIRECTORS**

President	Don Hayden, KC6WMM	867-4643
Vice President	Harold Welch, KK6ZE	578-3273
Secretary	Lloyd DeVaughns, KD6FJI	225-6769
Treasurer	Mike Hastings, KB6LCJ	243-6745
Station Trustee	Stan Getsla, WA6VJY	275-0735
Director	Don Village, K6PBQ	263-2789
Director	Lou Steirer, WA6QYS	241-7999
Director	Doug Eaton, WN6U	377-3736
Director	Stan Getsla, WA6VJY	275-0735
Director	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	265-2336

**STAFF**

Database	Joe Quirantes, WA6DXP	371-0959
Editor	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	265-2336
Facilities	Don Village, K6PBQ	263-2789
Mailman	Tony Sanchez, K6MOB	296-6676
Photographer	Bob Keller, KB6OHO	725-1034
Welfare	Ed Rawlinson, WD6CHD	264-2988

**COMMITTEES**

Repeater	Stan Getsla, WA6VJY	275-0735
Flea Market, Monthly	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	265-2336
Field Day	Doug Eaton, WN6U	377-3736

**SCCARA REPEATERS**

SCCARA currently owns and operates two repeaters under the call W6UU:

2 meter:	146.385 +
70 cm:	442.425 + PL 107.2

Phone patch capability is available with a small subscription fee. The two meter repeater is located in the Mt. Hamilton foothills, Alum Rock area. The 70 cm repeater is located at the Alexian Brothers Hospital, North of 280 and 101.

**SCCARA NETS**

Mondays at 1930, on our 2 meter repeater. Net control: Joe WA6DXP.

Thursdays at 2000, on 28.385 MHz USB. Net control: Wally KA6YMD.

Members and visitors alike are encouraged to join in on the SCCARA nets. Wally KA6YMD usually conducts the ten meter net from the SCCARA club station: W6UW, located at the San Jose Red Cross (just South from the San Jose Air Port).

**IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

SCCARA HOTLINE:	249-6909
ARRL CLASS HOTLINE:	971-1424
ARRL VEC HOTLINE:	984-8353



The SCCARA-GRAM is published monthly by the SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION. Permission to reprint articles is hereby granted, provided the source is properly credited.

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY  
AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION**

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# Extra

More photos were submitted than were actually published.

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



Kathy Getsla KB6ICQ, Stan Getsla WA6VJY,  
Lloyd DeVaughns KD6FJI, Don Hayden KC6WMM,  
?, Bill Brothers N6ZPC



Imre Takacs KD6MZM, Wall Britten KA6YMD



Gwen Steirer KF6OTD, Jack Russell WA6IER,  
Joan Hastings ? KB6LFZ, Mike Hastings KB6LCJ,  
Mary Russell ? KC6UFP, Lou Steirer WA6QYS



Lou Steirer WA6QYS, Ken KD6ABI



Harold Welch KK6ZE, Mike Hastings KB6LCJ