

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 18, Number 8

August 2002



ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter* June 21, 2002

FCC INVITES PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NEW AMATEUR BAND PROPOSALS

Public comments on FCC proposals to create two new amateur bands and to upgrade an Amateur Service allocation at 2.4 GHz to primary are due July 29, and reply comments are due by August 12. In response to an ARRL petition, the FCC last month released a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (ET Docket 02-98) that proposed to create a new 5 MHz HF allocation and a new low-frequency band in the vicinity of 136 kHz in addition to elevating amateurs from secondary to primary at 2400 to 2402 MHz.

The FCC adopted the NPRM May 2 on a unanimous vote. The NPRM was published June 14 in *The Federal Register*. A copy of the petition is available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/et02-98/>>. Interested parties may file comments via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) <<http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>>. To view filed comments, click on "Search for Filed Comments;" to file a comment, click on "Submit a filing." In either case, enter "02-98" in the "Proceeding" field. More than 130 parties--most of them individual amateurs--already have filed comments.

If the proposals eventually are approved, amateurs would gain a new, secondary, domestic (US-only) HF allocation at 5.25 to 5.40 MHz and a new LF "sliver band" at 135.7 to 137.8 kHz.

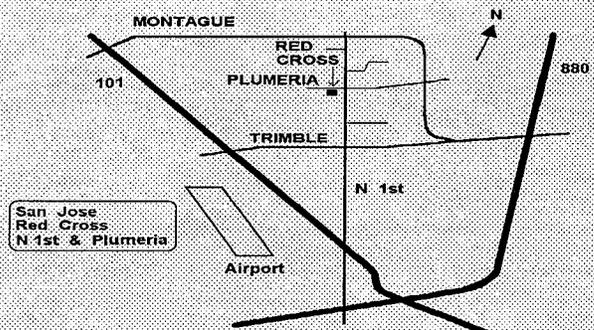
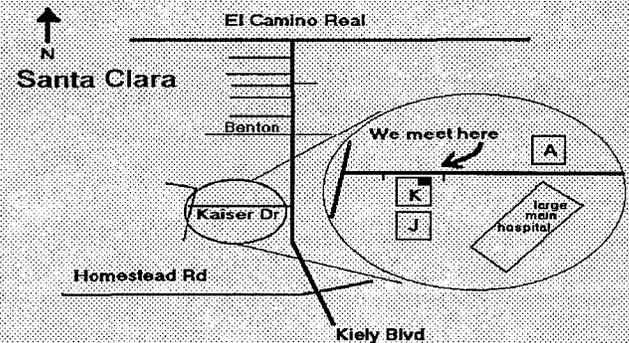
The FCC has recommended permitting amateurs to operate at full legal limit on a new 5 MHz allocation, but it left open for further discussion whether to restrict band access to certain license classes. The FCC also has invited further

Calendar

- 8/10 Foothill Electronic Flea Market
- 8/12 SCCARA General Meeting
- 8/19 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)
- 9/28 SCCARA Picnic

General Meeting:

- Day: Monday, August 12, 2002
- Time: 7:30 PM
- Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Bld K, Rm 1
- Featuring: Don Apte KK6MX will demonstrate renewing your license on-line.



The *SCCARA-GRAM* is published monthly by the SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, PO Box 6, San Jose CA 95103-0006. Permission to reprint articles is hereby granted, provided the source is properly credited.

The deadline for articles is one week before the last Monday of the month.

SCCARA was formed in 1921 and became a non-profit corporation in 1947. SCCARA is an affiliate of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). The club station is W6UW. Web page: <http://www.qsl.net/sccara>.

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N0ARY BBS	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	265-2336
	e-mail: wb6yru@aenet.net	

SCCARA REPEATERS

SCCARA owns and operates two repeaters under the call W6UU:
2 meter: 146.385 + PL 114.8 (none for basic use)
70 cm: 442.425 + PL 107.2

Phone auto-dial and auto-patch is available. The two meter repeater is located at the Santa Teresa Hospital, south-west San Jose (near IBM). The 70 cm repeater and N0ARY BBS is located at the Regional Medical Center (formerly Alexian), east of downtown San Jose (north of 280 and 101).

SCCARA NETS

On our two meter repeater: Mondays at 7:30 PM, (not the second Monday--our meeting night). Coordinator: Don K6PBQ. On ten meters, 28.385 MHz USB, Thursdays at 8:00 PM. Net control: Wally KA6YMD. Visitors welcome.

N0ARY PACKET BBS

SCCARA hosts the packet BBS N0ARY (San Jose). User ports: 144.93 (1200 baud), 433.37 (9600 baud), telephone 408 259-8497, internet (by registration only, get info by sending e-mail to: info@n0ary.org). Sysop: Gary WB6YRU

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

SCCARA contact Clark KE6KXO:	408 262-9334
ARRL/VEC Silicon Valley VE group:	408 243-8349
me-ae6z@worldnet.att.net	

comment on whether the band should be broken down into mode-specific subbands.

On 136 kHz, the FCC has proposed limiting output to 1 W effective isotropic radiated power (EIRP)--or 100 W PEP maximum transmitter output--and with a transmission bandwidth of only 100 Hz. The ARRL had asked for 2 W EIRP and a maximum transmitter power of 200 W PEP. The FCC has asked whether its proposed power limits are appropriate. The FCC proposed to limit access to the band to General and higher-class licensees.

From *The ARRL Letter*, July 12, 2002

ARRL COMMENTS ON FCC SPECTRUM POLICY

The ARRL has told the FCC that marketplace forces should not determine Amateur Radio spectrum allocations and that interference management is a technical, not an economic issue. Those opinions and others came this week in response to a call in early June from the FCC Spectrum Policy Task Force for comments on various issues related to FCC spectrum policy.

"The value to the public of a vital, growing Amateur Radio Service, while perhaps only indirectly measurable in market terms, cannot translate to a marketplace ability to pay for spectrum, no matter what the mechanism," the League asserted. "The non-pecuniary character of Amateur Radio makes it uniquely unsuitable for market-oriented allocation processes." Such a policy, the ARRL said, would "preclude Amateur Radio communications."

The ARRL compared Amateur Radio spectrum to a public park or right-of-way. "Given the wide availability of Amateur Radio to the general public and its value as an educational and public service resource, the concept fits well," the League said.

The ARRL said that "economic balancing" among parties is not the proper mechanism to resolve interference issues. From an Amateur Radio perspective, the League said, "any economic model for interference resolution would effectively place it and other non-commercial services at the mercy of any commercial device manufacturer or industry group." Many interference issues are dealt with using technical solutions that accommodate both parties, the ARRL said, while an economic model presumes a preference for one service over another.

The ARRL again took advantage of the comment opportunity to reiterate its views on the deployment of unlicensed devices under Part 15 rules. Petitioners seeking authorization for new devices or technology that impacts licensed users should "have the burden of demonstrating the

current state of use of the band by its own technical calculations or measurements in certain types of environments," the ARRL said. "As to spectrum congestion, that is perhaps the area about which the Commission has the least information and about which it should have the most."

Noting its participation in a noise study that will contribute to a better understanding about ambient noise, the ARRL said the FCC should require proponents of new devices or technology to provide "studies of individual and aggregate interference potential and effect on ambient noise."

The League also restated its view that unlicensed devices cannot be authorized unless the FCC determines that the devices "do not have a significant interference potential to licensed services." The ARRL said the FCC "has pushed the Part 15 concept beyond the point that it works; no unlicensed device should be permitted to substitute for licensed fixed or mobile radio services."

Petitioners also should provide technical sharing studies every time they propose a new allocation or file a petition for a new unlicensed service, the ARRL said. The League's comments reiterated the goal of the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act <<http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/arspa.html>> now in Congress as HR 817 and S 549. The measure would provide equivalent replacement spectrum for the Amateur Service just as it typically does for users displaced as a result of spectrum auctions.

The full text of the ARRL's comments in this proceeding is available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/et02-135/index.html>>.

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, July 8, 2002



MEETING BEGAN AT 7:30 PM

Introductions: 20 people present, including three visitors. Two of the visitors, Pradeep Kumar, and Philip Sanchez, have not yet passed their license exams, but expect to soon. Robert "Tex" Woodworth KG6ATH, was a first time visitor. Philip Sanchez has become a SCCARA member, even though he is not licensed.

Speaker: Mike Hastings with a Field Day Post-Report:

The antenna trailer clean up done at Stan Getsla's home went well, thanks to extra efforts by Marilyn and Eric Ankey. Field Day: There were not enough operators as was wished, but we did well with what we had. There were three stations: voice/phone, GOTA (get on the air), and code. The

laptops worked well throughout the weekend off of batteries that didn't run out of power before the weekend ended. We need to come up with some better ideas for next year to make the screens easier to read during the daytime. Food: The steaks at dinner were good even though they were from a different meat supplier. Breakfast was okay. Barbara Britten, Food Chairman, reported that she had to do things a little differently this year, due to her recent illness. A BIG thanks went to Joan Hastings, from Barb, because Joan helped with barbecue preparations. Sunday's breakfast burritos were made ahead of time and wrapped in foil, then frozen. Before going to bed on Saturday night, the burritos were taken out to thaw. In the morning the burritos were baked on the grill. The feedback was goof from the Sunday breakfast group. Final Food Report: Total food cost: \$246.13; Total money received for meals: \$228.00; Difference: \$18.13, (what SCCARA paid for Field Day food). Code: We need to merge info from two files into one on 10 meters. The Trailer after the event is in its location at Don Hayden's, but it is not covered. We will need help doing that.

Visitors: We always get visitors at Field Day. This year it was a mouse that took a liking to Mike's van. It entered the van through the front door three times and was chased out three times. The only way they kept it out was to shut the door. We had three first time visitors that did very well at the GOTA station, and logged for the code station.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

President:

Barbara Britten, KD6QEI, suggested that we start looking now for alternative sites for Field Day for next year someplace closer to San Jose than Mt. Madonna. We should still reserve Mt. Madonna as a back up site. We saw the need for that this year. It is a gorgeous spot, and the altitude works towards our advantage for making contacts. For the past two years, we have had a tough time getting operators for Field Day. If we don't get enough operators for next year then perhaps we should consider joining with another group.

Treasurer: Checking Account \$3,053.57; Savings Account \$5,885.72

Secretary: Not Present

Repeater: Stan Getsla had a conversation with the Santa Rosa Station. He convinced them to reduce their power from 100 watts to 20 watts. Stan did some analysis. The problem is with knife edge rather than ducting. Kaiser Santa Teresa hasn't put the brackets up on the wall. We can't do out part, until they get the brackets up. Will talk to Tom Trich this week for an update. There has been no word from Regional Medical Center regarding the installation of wires from the penthouse to the basement. They squelched the idea of putting cable down the laundry shoot or elevator shaft.

BBS

Gary has the BBS. Bob Arasmith will not do anything to fix it. Gary has newer computer, SPARC 5, that he will try to integrate into the BBS. Robert Wentworth can help with the BBS. Gary wants to contact Owen for help also. Gary had two failures, now we have to start from scratch. Sun workstations are proprietary.

OLD BUSINESS

Future Speakers:

Don Apte, KK6MX, talked about getting a laptop, connecting it to a video system in the meeting room, then doing a "walk through" on the computer on how to renew your amateur license, or get a vanity call, by electronics. Renewal by mail takes 6-8 weeks. Renewal by computer takes 2-3 days.

Break

Picnic: Saturday, September 28, at Mary Gomez Park in Santa Clara at San Thomas Expressway and ??????. Bring white elephant gifts for Bingo, your own entree to barbecue, and a dish to share, and your own lawn chair. We need charcoal (small bag) and lighter fluid. There will be a radio set up to use at the sight. Here's a list of who will bring what: Don Village, K6PBQ, antenna; Don Hayden, KO6HH, a separate tuner for the radio; Lou Steirer, WA6QYS, will bring long wire; Mike Hastings, KB6LCJ, will bring a 440 rig with internal tuner; Wally Britten, KA6YMD, will bring a deep cycle battery. Don Village, K6PBQ, reported that we need a dipole. Lou Steirer will bring extra tables.

NEW BUSINESS

All Mode Radio: Clark Murphy, KE6KXO, agreed to do the research to find a good one. This subject is something the Board should look into and act upon. Proceed slowly (Don Hayden, KO6HH). Don Hayden will be on the committee. It was suggested that some old radios be sold to have money for the new radio.

Flea Market: SVECS will sponsor the next flea market at Foothill College on Saturday, July 13. Lou Steirer, WA6QYS, reported that he is pretty well staffed.

SVECS Breakfast: Date is Saturday, July 27, at the Santa Clara Senior Citizen Center on Benton and ?????. There will be a service radio to check your radios for frequency deviation. Call Lou Steirer, WA6QYS, at 408-241-7999, to let him know you are going to be there.

Good and Welfare: John Kerner, KB6RSB, is recovering from parathyroid cancer, He has had surgery, radiation, and chemotherapy. Recent x-rays and scans show that nothing has returned. Congratulations, and continued good health, John.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:20 PM.

Barbara Britten, KD6QEI

Board Meeting, July 15, 2002



{No minutes received by the deadline. --Ed.}

Field Day Report

Field Day 2002 A Success

Another year at Mount Madonna has come and gone. The area is simply beautiful. It would not bother me at all to come back next year. Yes it is expensive and it is a ways from town. On the plus side is little or no traffic or the hustle and bustle of the big city. At any rate, we have time *again* to reevaluate for Field Day 2003.

We started setting up the antennas on Friday afternoon. The attempts with our slingshot were time consuming, but were pretty well done by dusk. Unfortunately, we were unable to start by 1100 except for the CW station. The laptops were not ready plus the antenna work and station setup took more time than planned.

Once started, we did AOK. The CW station needed another operator or two as was the case last year, but Don K6PBQ and Lou WA6QYS still put a big dent in our scoring.

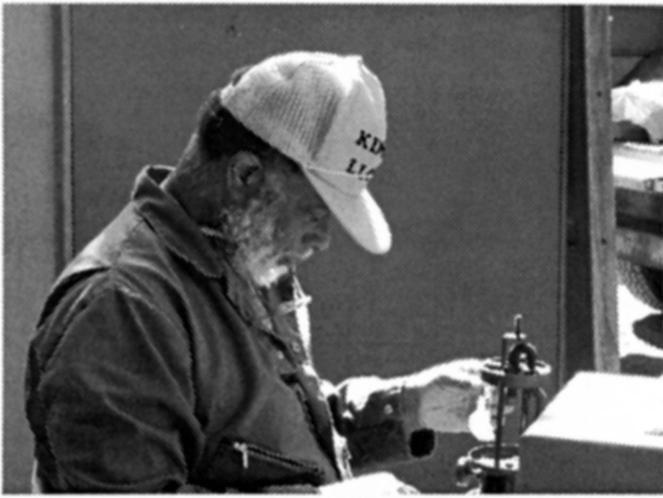
The phone station had enough operators and ran the full 24 hours.

The GOTA station was the big news this year. We had several more operators and the new rules allowed a much expanded radio spectrum to operate in. Looked to be more fun and certainly more active than digging for contacts on 10 meters and CW.

The Saturday afternoon dinner was very nice and the weather cooperated with us.

Take down seemed to go easily thanks to everyone chipping in.

Below are some photos I took. Following that are the scores to be submitted. You can see the major increase in the GOTA station. We would likely have picked up perhaps 85 more digital contacts if we had an all-mode radio to use. Hint Hint. For those that don't know, the adders are X2 multipliers that apply to CW and digital.



Setting up for Field Day

Clockwise starting top left... Lloyd KD6FJI repairing a lantern. Lou WA6QYS and Eric KC6SPV working on a beam antenna. Lunch time. Marilyn KD6CXS and Eric KC6SPV setting up a dipole. Clark KC6KXO "supervising."





Don KO6HH operating on VHF



Michelle gives the GOTA station a try

Field Day Scoring	2001 Raw	2002 Raw	2001 with X2 multiplier for CW and digital	2002 with X2 multiplier for CW and digital
Phone	239	255	239	255
CW	221	199	442	398
Digital	5	17	10	34
Novice/GOTA	78 (Novice)	233 (GOTA)	78	233
Totals	543	704	769	920
Total with X2 power multiplier for 150 watts and under			1538	1840

Hope you all had a great Field Day 2002.

73 Mike KB6LCJ

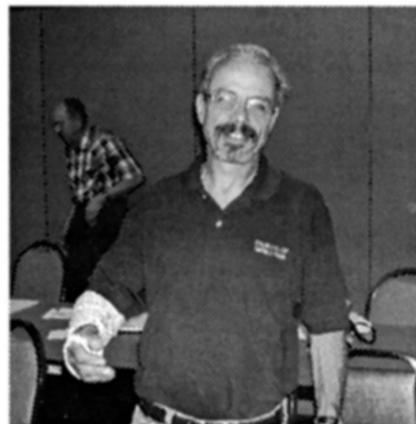
How's Hugh

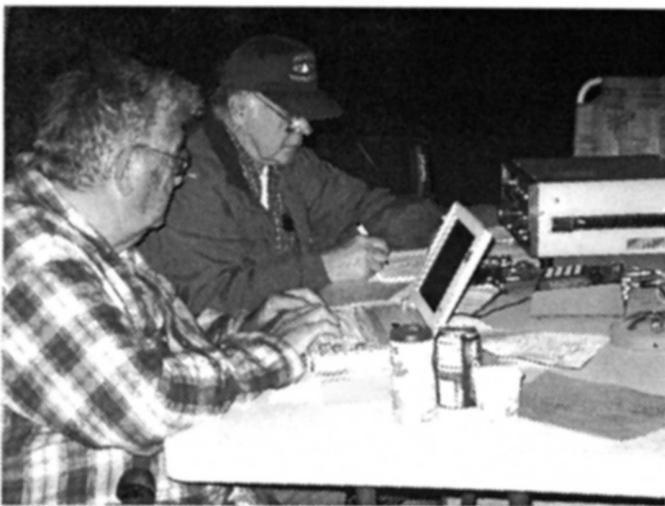
Good News and Bad News

The good news is that Hugh KD6EFL and his family successfully made the move to Redding, CA.

The bad news is that at midnight on the evening prior to the move, Hugh fell and broke his arm. He went to the emergency room the next day and had it put in a cast etc. but then proceeded to drive a truck to Redding and back. He had to have surgery later in the week where they installed a pin in one of the bones. He is on the mend.

Mike, KB6LCJ





Lou WA6QYS and Clark KE6KXO operate the code station at night.

photo by Wally KA6YMD

Need Help?

Amateurs have a long history of helping each other. An experienced amateur who helps another is traditionally called an "Elmer." If you have a question or problem, you are encouraged to ask one of SCCARA's Elmers. Below is a list of topics including who to contact for each.

If you consider yourself to be reasonably competent in at least one area of amateur radio and would be willing help others, please ask the club secretary for an Elmer survey form and fill it out.

Antennas, feed-lines, tuners: WB6EMR, K6PBQ, WB6YRU
Lightning protection, grounding: WB6YRU
Station set-up, equipment: K6PBQ
TVI/RFI: WB6YRU
Homebrew projects, construction: KD6FJI, WB6YRU
Computers: KB6NP; IBM PC: WB6YRU
Packet Network (BBS, forwarding): WB6YRU
Code operating and installations: WB6EMR, K6PBQ
DX (long distance/propagation): WB6EMR
Emergency operating/preparedness: WA6QYS
FM (VHF/UHF, repeaters): WA6VJY
HF operating techniques (SSB, CW): WB6EMR, K6PBQ
Classes/license upgrading: W6ACW
Legal/FCC rules: WB6YRU
SCCARA (club inner workings):
K06HH, K6PBQ, WA6VJY, WB6YRU, WA6QYS
Children's Discovery Museum, volunteer operator:
K6PBQ

W6ACW, Ed Hajny, (408) 739-6105

WB6EMR, James D. Armstrong, Jr.,
evening & msg: (408) 945-1202

KD6FJI, Lloyd DeVaughns,
day: (408) 299-8933, evening: (408) 225-6769

packet: home BBS KB6MER

K06HH, Don Hayden, (408) 867-4643

packet: home BBS NOARY

KB6NP, Jon Dutra, day & msg (408) 428-2058

evening (408) 867-8654

packet: home BBS NOARY

internet: jad@aol.com

K6PBQ, Don Village, (408) 263-2789

WA6QYS, Lou Steirer, (408) 241-7999

packet: home BBS NOARY

WA6VJY, Stan Getsla, day: (408) 738-2888 x5929,
evening & msg: (408) 275-0735

WB6YRU, Gary Mitchell, msg (408) 265-2336

also (408) 269-2924

packet: home BBS NOARY

internet: wb6yru@aenet.net

wb6yru@ix.netcom.com (better for large files)

Newsletter Notes

The cameras were busy this time! I believe this is the most photos the *SCCARA-GRAM* has had in many years.

This is probably a good time to remind folks that if you have photos to submit electronically, please send them to me at my Netcom account, not to my aenet account. That's: wb6yru@ix.netcom.com.

Also, at the very least, please include captions with your photos. Otherwise I have to just make up something on my own, and you know better than I do what's going on in *your* photos.

One last thing... I really shouldn't have to say this, but look over your photos with a critical eye before submitting them. More than once I've received photos from people that apparently were not scrutinized by the photographer. Many of them need to be seriously adjusted with a photo-editor. I've even received photos that turned out to be merely test shots.

On any given photo: is it a good shot, worthy of being published? Is the brightness and contrast good? Does the photo show something interesting and hopefully related to the club or amateur radio? If so, great, send 'em on in! However, please hold off on the experiments and test shots.

I get so little stuff for the *SCCARA-GRAM*, it really bothers me to reject a submission. But folks, please, this isn't the venue for trying things out.

If you want me to look at your photos and comment, that's fine, I'm happy to do that. I'm even happy to work with you to improve your photography. Just let me know.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

S.C.C.A.R.A. Membership Form for 2002

(Fill in name and address if there is no mailing label below; make corrections if the label is incorrect)

Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: E A G T+ T N

Address: _____ Licensed since (yr): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ - Licence Expiration Date (mo/yr): _____

Telephone: () _____ New Member I'm also an
 Renewal ARRL member _____

E-mail: _____ Packet: _____

For family memberships (at the same address), please fill out a separate form for each. Indicate the "primary member" (for mailing purposes) name and call:

Annual membership dues are payable at the first of the year and expire the following December 31. New members joining on or after July 1, pay half the membership dues.

Annual Membership dues: Individual \$15 Family \$20 Student (under 18) \$5 _____

I want _____ SCCARA badges @ \$3 ea. Badge name & call: _____

Please send the repeater Auto-Dial/Auto-Patch codes (no charge, circle): Yes
WE MUST BE ABLE TO VERIFY YOUR AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE
BEFORE ANY REPEATER CODES WILL BE SENT TOTAL: _____

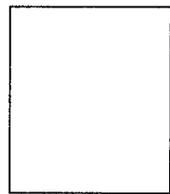
Give this completed form (or copy) with payment to the Secretary or Treasurer at any meeting or mail to the return address below:

===== PLEASE DO NOT TEAR OR CUT FORM =====

SANTA CLARA COUNTY
AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 6
San Jose CA 95103-0006

Affiliate of the American Radio Relay League



FIRST CLASS

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED