

# SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County  
Amateur Radio Association

Volume 21, Number 1

January 2005



## President's Prose

By the time you read this I will no longer be president as I will have turned the gavel over to the new president, Clark Murphy, KE6KXO, at the Christmas luncheon and I will no longer be doing the President's Prose. Clark will be writing these articles in the future.

I want to say thank you to all of the people who have helped me in the past five years, especially the Board members; Gwen Steirer, KF6OTD, who has done numerous things throughout the year to take the load off of my shoulders; Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU, the newsletter editor, has helped me with the President's Prose editing before it went into the newsletter; Joan Hastings, KB6LFZ - who helped with numerous projects; Jeannie Felix, who was my assistant for Field Day; and of course my husband, Wally Britten, KA6YMD. He has carried my president's briefcase, transferred the President's Prose from laptop computer to the regular computer, and sent it to Gary Mitchell for publishing in the newsletter. I contribute much of my success to his help and support.

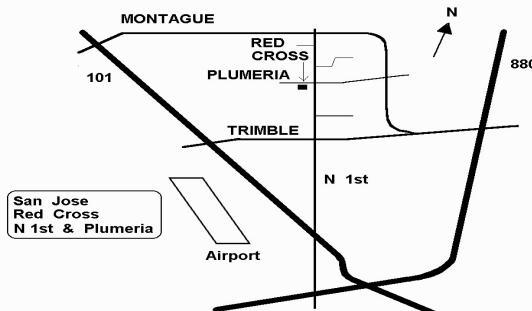
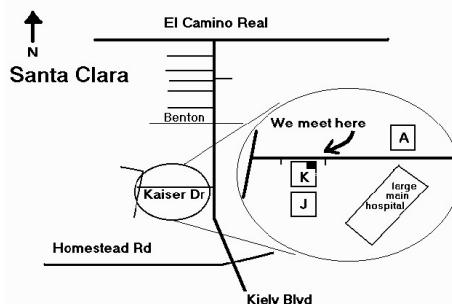
The club has done much over the past five years. Here are some of its accomplishments. 1) The repeater antenna has been moved into its new site in the City vault at Eagle Rock in Alum Rock Park. 2) Successful Field Days with the help of GREAT Field Day Chairmen. 3) We have had some interesting speakers. 4) The club members and their families have enjoyed the various social events held at parks, restaurants, and meetings. 5) The electronic flea markets sponsored by SCCARA were successful bringing in enough money, along with member dues to keep the club solvent. 6) We have lost some valued and talented members, but we have gained some new ones. Our membership has averaged about 60. 7) The price of dues has not gone up. 8) We have acquired some new and old equipment. We are trying to sell some of the old equipment that the club does not need. Most of the old equipment has been acquired through transfers from deceased members' families. The equipment has been checked for its workability before considering it for sale. Thank you to Don Village, K6PBQ, for doing most of the testing. 9) Recently, the radio station at Red Cross has become more active since the vertical antenna was retuned, and the "80/160 meter" antenna was found to be cut completely off frequency (which is the reason the radio wasn't working) and then retuned to be a 40/80 Meter antenna. The radio room was opened to members for contests. It is my hope that the room will be used much more in the future. Unfortunately, the radio station at Regional Medical Center has stalled. The problem is installing a cable from the roof where the antenna is to the basement with no more available ducts. The plan is to have the radio station in a desk, donated by John Tanner, in the basement of the medical center. I will do as much as I can to

## Calendar

- 1/10      SCCARA General Meeting  
1/17      SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)  
2/14      SCCARA General Meeting

### General Meeting:

Day:                  Monday, January 10, 2005  
Time:                7:30 PM  
Place:                Kaiser Santa Clara, Bld K, Rm 1  
Featuring:           K6PRK David Smith speaking on crystal radio sets.



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 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/scara>.

#### **OFFICERS - DIRECTORS - STAFF**

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N0ARY BBS	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	269-2924
	e-mail:	wb6yru@ix.netcom.com

#### **SCCARA REPEATERS**

SCCARA owns and operates two repeaters under the call W6UU:  
2 meter: 146.985 - PL 114.8  
70 cm: 442.425 + PL 107.2  
Phone auto-dial and auto-patch is available. The two meter repeater is located at Eagle Rock near Alum Rock Park in the foothills of east San Jose. 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](mailto:info@n0ary.org)). Sysop: Gary WB6YRU

#### **TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

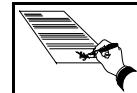
SCCARA contact Clark KE6KXO:	408 262-9334
ARRL/VEC Silicon Valley VE group,	
Morris Jones, AD6ZH:	408 507-4698

help Clark to get that project back on track. I regret not getting it completed during my time in office.

Finally, I want to thank all those unnamed people who have done so many of the little things that have made my job look easy. The last five years have been the most interesting, exciting, satisfying, and at times, trying and hard. I was glad to be your president. I hope that I did the job you expected me to do. I could not have done it without your help, support, and input.

I'm glad I chose to take the plunge to be president, but I need some time off from being an officer. I will be in the background, but I will not be silent. You will hear from me. I will support Clark as much as I can. I will still be food coordinator for Field Day in 2005. Thank you sooo much for the past wonderful five years. See you at the meetings. Oh, don't forget to sign in on the Monday night 2 Meter and Thursday 10 Meter nets. I hope everyone had a wonderful and happy holiday season.

Barbara K. Britten, KD6QEI



{Note: Normally this farewell address would be in the December issue and the first message of our new president would be in this January issue. However, obviously that didn't happen. —Editor}

## **For Sale SCCARA radios**

ICOM 736 HF + 6 meters with built-in AC power supply: \$500

Kenwood TS520 HF 10-80 meters: \$200

The following have been sold: ICOM 735 HF, ICOM IC 745, ICOM ICPS15

Contact Don Village, K6PBQ, 408 263-2789

## **ARRL News**

From *The ARRL Letter*, December 17, 2004

#### **ARRL AIMS TO DAMPEN CALIFORNIA UTILITY COMMISSIONER'S ENTHUSIASM FOR BPL**

Citing its accumulated experience in dealing with Broadband over Power Line (BPL) issues, the ARRL has suggested that California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) member Susan P. Kennedy temper her "excessively optimistic" view of the technology. Speaking recently about BPL with Marc Strassman of California Politics Today, Kennedy contended that it's "criminal that California does not have a major BPL pilot project or commercial project under way." Kennedy said she intends to see the CPUC do everything possible to change that. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, wrote Kennedy December 10 to raise the caution flag and offer the League's BPL expertise.

"It has yet to be demonstrated that BPL systems can be deployed without polluting the radio spectrum," Sumner said. "Until this issue is resolved, we respectfully suggest that public statements that paint an excessively optimistic picture of BPL are inadvisable." Even the CPUC acknowledged the BPL interference issue in its reply comments in the FCC's BPL proceeding, ET Docket 04-37, Sumner noted. Citing BPL's status as "a nascent service" and the "significant disagreement" over the level of

interference, the CPUC suggested the FCC "ensure that adequate testing is performed and industry standards are developed before any deployment takes place."

Sumner told Kennedy that BPL's interference potential is "not surprising" since it uses unshielded power lines. "The fact that they radiate radio frequency energy is simply a matter of physics," he pointed out. California is home to some 100,000 Amateur Radio licensees--about 14 percent of the nation's total.

This fall, a BPL field trial in Menlo Park, California, where FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell had extolled the technology's virtues earlier this year, was aborted before getting very far off the ground. The demonstration of BPL technology was co-sponsored by Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) and AT&T, which decided to direct its business energies elsewhere. PG&E said that without a telecommunication partner in the venture, it didn't make sense to continue the trial.

California Politics Today article noted the apparent lack of interest on the part of California utilities in getting involved in BPL. Sumner said there are "a number of good reasons why BPL is not moving forward very fast," including the interference "caused by virtually all BPL systems to nearby radio receivers."

Nonetheless, Kennedy told Strassman that she'd be surprised if California could not get "something substantial" under way in the BPL area by the middle of next year. She suggested she'd like to pave the way for BPL at the state level in much the same way that the FCC has done at the federal level. On October 14, the FCC adopted a Report and Order (R&O) spelling out Part 15 rules specifically aimed at enabling the rollout of BPL technology. At the same time, the new rules impose certain regulatory requirements aimed at mitigating interference.

Sumner said radio amateurs were not alone in their concern. He pointed to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's BPL study, which concluded that interference to low to moderate radio signals was likely from BPL systems 75 meters from land mobile stations and 460 meters from fixed stations. The FCC cited the NTIA's findings in its decision to prohibit BPL systems from using Aeronautical Radio Service frequencies, he said.

"The ARRL is continuing its efforts to persuade the FCC that in order to conform to international agreements and the Communications Act, other radio services must be afforded the same protection," Sumner told Kennedy. "We at the ARRL would be pleased to work with you and your staff to answer any questions you may have," he concluded, directing Kennedy's attention to the BPL information available on the League's Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/bpl>>.

The California Politics Today interview is available on the Web <<http://www.etopiamedia.net/empnn/pages/cpt-emnn/cpt-emnn22-5551212.html>>.

#### **MAJOR ISP TELLS FCC BPL NOT A "COMMERCIALIY VIABLE ALTERNATIVE" TO CABLE, DSL**

Officials of Internet service provider EarthLink told the FCC that broadband over power line (BPL) cannot compete with the dominant cable or DSL technology today or in the near future. A BPL industry spokesperson subsequently criticized the ARRL apparently for reporting the company's statements. EarthLink President and CEO Garry Betty and other company officials met November 16 with FCC Chairman Michael Powell and Commission attorney Aaron Goldberger to deliver an ex parte presentation on several Wireline Competition Bureau and Common

Carrier Bureau proceedings.

"EarthLink discussed that it has invested in and is in trials with several potential 'third wire' broadband transmission paths to the home, including WiFi, WiMax, MMDS and broadband over power lines," EarthLink Counsel Mark J. O'Connor informed FCC Secretary Marlene Dortch in a November 17 letter. "However, EarthLink pointed out that cable and DSL still account for virtually all consumer broadband connections and that none of these alternative technologies offer a commercially viable alternative today or in the near future."

An EarthLink analysis indicated that BPL is the most expensive of the broadband technologies it evaluated. In a chart titled "Next generation broadband," EarthLink said that wireless and BPL "are not likely to be competitive in cost and performance with cable and DSL over the last mile to the home."

EarthLink judged as "not successful" one unspecified BPL technical trial using Amperion equipment in a "wireless/BPL combo." In discussing other trials using Ambient and Current Technologies equipment--in one of which EarthLink had invested--the ISP's assessment was that the high cost per household passed--\$125 in both instances--would require a better than 15 percent market penetration to attain a competitive cost.

EarthLink said its assessment determined that ADSL2+ technology is the "best option" and can offer VoIP as well as high-speed broadband (at 6 to 10 Mbps) and video over copper wire and using on-premise consumer equipment. The company also indicated that it plans to invest in ADSL2+ technology. The company's ex parte submission is available on the FCC Web site <[http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/prod/ecfs/retrieve.cgi?native\\_or\\_pdf=pdf&id\\_document=6516883843](http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/prod/ecfs/retrieve.cgi?native_or_pdf=pdf&id_document=6516883843)>.

ARRL's reporting of EarthLink's submission to the FCC apparently struck a nerve at Ambient, with which EarthLink has a business relationship. In a classic case of shooting the messenger, Ambient CEO John J. Joyce took the League to task on behalf of the BPL industry in a statement posted via Market Wire on the CBS Market Watch Web site <<http://cbs.marketwatch.com/tools/quotes/newsarticle.asp?guid={ABFA5879-0D B7-43C3-BA02-94071FAEC3D}&siteid=mktw&dist=nbs&symb=>>

. Joyce seemed to suggest that the League itself had provided the EarthLink information and was spinning the company's remarks to advantage.

"The release by the ARRL clearly takes the statements of EarthLink's attorney out of context and conveniently ignores many developments in the industry that contradict ARRL's conclusions," Joyce said, adding that 2005 promises to be "the year of BPL."

Among other things, Joyce said that "the ARRL perception of BPL's economics fails to consider that consumer broadband is only one application for a BPL-enabled utility system." he said there are other industrial applications that may augur in BPL's economic favor. He also emphasized that the projects with which his company and EarthLink have collaborated were demonstrations "never intended to be competitive installations" and are "in no way representative of BPL economics."

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, said the League stands by its account, which Joyce characterized as a "claim" on the ARRL's part. "ARRL's report on the document was accurate in every way, and we stand by our report," he said. "The conclusions given are not ours, but EarthLink's. Anyone who wishes to do so can read the submission for themselves."

From *The ARRL Letter*, December 24, 2004

## ARRL RENEWS DEMAND FOR FCC TO SHUT DOWN NEW YORK BPL FIELD TRIAL

The ARRL has once again asked the FCC to shut down a BPL field trial now under way in Briarcliff Manor, New York. It's also asked the Commission to withdraw the system's Part 5 Experimental authorization. After the League's first shutdown request in October, the chief engineer of Ambient Corporation, which provides the pilot project's BPL hardware and holds the Experimental license, suggested that Amateur Radio interference complaints had been addressed through improved software and notching performance. Not so, says a December 17 letter to the FCC from ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD. Writing on the League's behalf, Imlay contends that the FCC is not sticking to its commitment to prevent interference to Amateur Radio from BPL systems and to enforcement where interference occurs.

"Based on the Commission's complete inaction to date with respect to documented interference complaints at various BPL test sites, the commitment seems vacuous," Imlay said. "ARRL demands that this BPL site be shut down immediately, pending compliance determinations and a demonstration that the system can operate without causing harmful interference." ARRL member Alan Crosswell, N2YGK, a resident of the community, has documented interference, complaints and related information on his "BPL in Briarcliff Manor" Web site <<http://www.columbia.edu/~alan/bpl/>>.

Imlay says another complaint from Crosswell and the League's own observations on December 16 confirmed the existence of harmful interference on 20 meters "sufficient to preclude virtually all Amateur Radio communications."

ARRL observations December 16 indicated that BPL noise "precludes or repeatedly disrupts" ham radio communication using typical receivers. The harmful interference was noted at a distance of approximately three-quarters of a mile from the modem, affecting a wide area, "unlike Part 15 point-source radiators," Imlay said.

The December 17 letter went to FCC Enforcement Bureau Chief David Solomon, FCC Deputy Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) Chief Bruce Franca and OET's Experimental Licensing Division Chief James Burtle. Copies went to Ambient Chief Engineer Yehuda Cern and to FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth. In cooperation with utility Consolidated Edison, Ambient has been operating the Briarcliff Manor BPL system under an experimental license, WD2XEQ.

The FCC should shut down the Briarcliff Manor BPL field trial and pull the Experimental license too, Imlay argued. "Given the unsupported and demonstrably false allegations contained in the Ambient October 12, 2004, response to ARRL's interference complaint," he concluded, "the Commission should rescind the experimental authorization as well, and determine other appropriate sanctions against Ambient Corporation."

The Briarcliff Manor BPL system was the focus of a March 2004 front-page Wall Street Journal article, "In This Power Play, High-Wire Act Riles Ham-Radio Fans," by technology writer Ken Brown. ARRL staff members accompanied Brown to the BPL site so he could hear the interference firsthand.

## MORSE REQUIREMENT, LICENSE RESTRUCTURING REMAIN ON FCC'S RADAR

The ARRL does not anticipate the FCC will offer up any proposals on the Morse requirement and further restructuring of the Amateur

Radio licensing system until sometime in mid-2005, possibly sooner. The FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau continues to review thousands of comments it received on 18 petitions for rule making--including one from the ARRL.

The various petitions called for eliminating or altering the Morse code requirement and changing other sections of the Amateur Service Part 97 rules, including further restructuring of the amateur licensing system.

In addition to agreeing on other changes affecting Amateur Radio, World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03), left the choice to require Morse proficiency for HF access up to individual countries, and several already have dropped Morse code as an examination requirement. That has not yet happened in the US.

Before the FCC adopts any changes in the Morse requirement and the license structure, it must complete its comment review, issue a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) reflecting its interpretation of consensus within the amateur community based on comments received and invite further comments on the NPRM. The FCC then will review those comments before issuing a Report and Order that spells out any final rules. The ARRL does not anticipate any changes in the Morse requirement or in other Amateur Radio licensing requirements before 2006, possibly later.

While this rule making process is under way, no changes have been made in the Amateur Radio Service rules. The 5 WPM Morse code requirement (Element 1) to gain HF privileges in the US remains in place, and no proposed automatic upgrades or other rule changes have been put into effect. The ARRL has posted answers to frequently asked questions on its own restructuring proposals <<http://www.arrl.org/news/restructuring2/faq.html>>.

## FCC PERMITS NEW UNLICENSED WIDEBAND DEVICES, AFFIRMS UWB RULES

The FCC has adopted a Second Report and Order and Second Memorandum Opinion and Order in ET Docket 98-153 to promote introduction of new unlicensed wideband devices in the 6 GHz, 17 GHz and 24 GHz bands.

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, said the League is looking over the final rules "to determine their impact on the amateur 24-GHz allocation and, if necessary, take steps to defend the continued usefulness of this important international allocation."

The wideband devices will include automotive safety radar systems and tracking systems for personnel location and inventory control. The Commission previously established regulations to permit marketing and operating certain types of new products incorporating ultra-wideband (UWB) technology.

Partly in response to petitions for reconsideration of the First Report and Order (R&O) in this proceeding, the Commission proposed further changes to the Part 15 regulations for wideband devices. In the Second R&O, the Commission amended its rules for general Part 15 unlicensed operations that use wide bandwidths but are not now classified as UWB devices. It increased the peak power limits and reduced the unwanted emission levels for three frequency bands already available for unlicensed operation: 5925-7250 MHz, 16.2-17.2 GHz, and 23.12-29 GHz.

Higher peak power limits in these bands will facilitate wideband operations such as short-range communication, collision avoidance, inventory control and tracking systems, the Commission said.

The FCC also amended its measurement procedures to permit

frequency-hopped, swept frequency, and gated systems operating within these bands to be measured in their normal operating mode. The Commission made no major changes to current UWB technical requirements and made only a minor change to the measurement procedure applied to gated UWB vehicular radar systems.

The FCC also dismissed petitions for reconsideration filed by the Satellite Industry Association and by Cingular Inc, and it reaffirmed UWB decisions it adopted in its First R&O.

## HANDHELD OUTPLAYS CELL PHONE IN ACCIDENT'S WAKE

When Storey County, Nevada, Emergency Coordinator Randy Davenport, KA4NMA, got into an automobile accident early on December 10, he sure was glad to have his 2-meter handheld transceiver along. "I was going down a side road and hit a sheet of ice," he reports. "I fish-tailed into the other lane and nearly hit a car head on! But for some reason, my Ford Explorer turned sideways going down the road, and it did not roll over." Instead, he ended up sliding off the roadway into a creek, sustaining some injuries in the process. "I had no cell phone service, so I grabbed my HT and put out a call on 146.61," he said (the antenna for his 2-meter mobile was broken in the accident). Richard Foreman, KK7SL, an ARES Assistant Emergency Coordinator in Carson City, heard his distress call and dialed 911. "The fire and sheriff department was on the scene within minutes," Davenport said. "Lesson learned: Cell phones do not work everywhere. Always carry a 2-meter radio (or other band) of some sort--handheld with charged battery or mobile--for emergency communication."

## FCC APPROVES FIRST SOFTWARE DEFINED RADIO

The FCC for the first time has approved use of a software defined radio (SDR) device in the US. This new class of equipment allows users to share limited spectrum, increases flexibility and reduces interference concerns. "This is the first step in what may prove to be a radio technology revolution," FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell said after the November 19 action. "The industry's pioneering work to find more creative and efficient use of our airwaves will continue to bring benefits to consumers." The Laboratory Division of the Commission's Office of Engineering and Technology issued a Grant of Certification to Vanu Inc, a software development company, for a cellular base station transmitter. SDRs can change frequency range, mode or output power without resorting to hardware changes or switches. This programmable capacity permits radios to be highly adaptable to changing needs, protocols and environments. An FCC rule making proceeding, ET Docket 03-108, is pending to further streamline SDR requirements. The ARRL has told the FCC that Amateur Radio is "a fertile testing ground" for SDRs and that the technology would be especially valuable to facilitate disaster communications.

# Meeting Minutes

## General Meeting, Dec. 18, 2004

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

## Board Meeting, Dec. 13, 2004



President Barbara Britten, KD6QEI, called the meeting to order at 19:44:19. A quorum was present.

Attendees: Barbara Britten, KD6QEI, President; Lloyd DeVaughns, KD6FJI, Treasurer, Clark Murphy, KE6KXO, Director; Don Village, K6PBQ, Station Trustee and Director; Lou Steirer, WA6QYS, Director; Wally Britten, KA6YMD, Director; Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU, Editor; David Paul, AE6MV, Secretary; Don Steinbach, AE6PM, Director-elect; Gwen Steirer, KF6OTD, XYL

President Barbara Britten welcomed everyone to the meeting, specifically welcoming incoming President Clark Murphy and incoming Director Don Steinbach. Barbara explained that the turnover will happen this Saturday, when she delivers the oath to the new officers and hands over the gavel to Clark.

Barbara thanked everyone for all the support over the last five years, for all the help, support and knowledge shared. The President's Prose for the January Newsletter is already done. Barbara vowed to help as needed during the next year.

David Paul asked about the minutes of the last Board meeting; no corrections were suggested.

The Treasurer answered a few questions regarding the finances for the year of 2003, brought by Gary Mitchell.

Wally noted that NARCC has re-coordinated the 440 MHz repeater until 5/2/2007.

Gary Mitchell reported nothing new with the newsletter and no significant change with the BBS. The dialup modem is locked again.

Don Village reported that Tom Server will check out the Heath Linear.

### Old Business

Don Village reported that the annual Christmas Luncheon now has 33 reserved attendees.

Lou Steirer asked concerning the status of the design of the new Club QSL card. Jeannie committed to having a design by the end of next year.

### New Business

Lloyd DeVaughns suggested that since the proprietor of Irwin Electric stores our trailer for free, we should send him a card with Thanks, or a small gift. Lou Steirer moved that we send as a gesture of thanks to Irwin Electric, an assortment of fancy teas. Don Village seconded the motion, which passed with a sole Nay from Clark Murphy. Clark explained that he has set as a goal for himself for the coming year to stop all unnecessary Club spending.

Director Clark Murphy moved, and Lou Steirer seconded, that the Board thank the President for the Pizza served at the meeting. All agreed.

No further business was brought up.

Clark Murphy moved that the meeting be adjourned, and all agreed. The meeting was adjourned at 21:16.

## Upcoming Meetings:

- The December General Meeting will be the annual Christmas Luncheon, Saturday, December 18, at Jericho's Steakhouse (ex-Hungry Hunter Milpitas). It will include a gift exchange, and as usual, Barbara will present each attendee a gift.

David Paul, AE6MV, Secretary

# Packet Pieces

## Downloaded from the packet network:

===== Date: 18 Feb 2004 01:40  
From: W1GMF@W1GMF  
To: HUMOR@USA  
Subject: HUMOR FOR TODAY 0204

### Today's Joke

#### How to give a cat a pill

1. Grasp cat firmly in your arms. Cradle its head on your elbow, just as if you were giving baby a bottle. Coo confidently, "That's a nice kitty." Drop pill into its mouth.
2. Retrieve cat from top of lamp, and pill from under sofa.
3. Follow same procedure as in 1, but hold cat's front paws down with left hand and back paws down with elbow of right arm. Poke pill into its mouth with right forefinger.
4. Retrieve cat from under bed. Get new pill from bottle. (Resist impulse to get new cat.)
5. Again proceed as in 1, except when you have cat firmly cradled in bottle-feeding position, sit down on edge of chair, fold your torso over cat, bring your right hand over your left elbow, open cat's mouth by lifting the upper jaw and pop the pill in - quickly. Since your head is down by your knees, you won't be able to see what you're doing. That's just as well.
6. Leave cat hanging on drapes. Leave pill in your hair.
7. If you're a woman, have a good cry. If you're a man, have a good cry.
8. Now pull yourself together. Who's the boss here anyway? Retrieve cat and pill. Assuming position 1, say sternly, "Who's the boss here, anyway?" Open cat's mouth, take pill and...Ooops!
9. This isn't working, is it? Collapse and think. Aha! Those flashing claws are causing the chaos.
10. Crawl to linen closet. Drag back large beach towel. Spread towel on floor.
11. Retrieve cat from kitchen counter and pill from potted plant.
12. Spread cat on towel near one end with its head over long edge.
13. Flatten cat's front and back legs over its stomach. (Resist impulse to flatten cat.)

14. Roll cat in towel. Work fast; time and tabbies wait for no man-or woman.

15. Resume position 1. Rotate your left hand to cat's head. Press its mouth at the jaw hinges like opening the petals of a snapdragon.

16. Drop pill into cat's mouth and poke gently. Voila! It's done.

17. Vacuum up loose fur (cat's). Apply bandages to wounds (yours).

18. Take two aspirins and lie down.

### Daily Thoughts

I got rid of my husband. The cat was allergic

"You will always be lucky if you know how to make friends with strange cats." Colonial American proverb

There is no snooze button on a cat who wants breakfast.

### Reader's Story

My daughter's co-worker sleeps with his cat snuggled against the top of his head.

The other morning he woke up because kittens were cascading on his head and bed.

He sat up and discovered slimy cat afterbirth in his hair!

His cat had just given birth to a litter of kittens there.

~K. Proctor

### Last Laugh

Top 9 Signs Your Cat Has Learned Your Internet Password

9. E-mail flames from some guy named "Fluffy."

8. Traces of kitty litter in your keyboard.

7. You find you've been subscribed to strange newsgroups like alt.recreational.catnip.

6. Your mouse has teeth marks in it... and a strange aroma of tuna.

5. Hate-mail messages to Apple Computers, Inc. about their release of "CyberDog."

4. Your new ergonomic keyboard has a strange territorial scent to it.

3. You keep finding new software around your house like CatInTax and WarCat II.

2. On IRC you're known as the IronMouser.

and the #1 Sign Your Cat Has Learned Your Internet Password...

1. Little kitty carpal-tunnel braces near the scratching post.

=====

Date: 25 Jul 2004 04:51  
From: W1GMF@W1GMF  
To: HUMOR@USA  
Subject: HUMOR FOR TODAY 0725

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### Today's Joke

The top toothbrush salesman at the company was asked by his boss how he managed to sell so many brushes.

He replied, "It's easy!" and he pulled out his card table, setting his display of brushes on top.

He told his boss, "I lay the brushes out like this, and then I put out some potato chips and dip to draw in the customers." He laid out his chips and dip.

"That's a very innovative approach," his boss said, as he took one of the chips, dipped it, and stuck it in his mouth. "Yuck, this tastes terrible!"

The salesman replied "IT IS? Want to buy a toothbrush?"

### Daily Thoughts

Hypochondriac's headstone epitaph: "See?"

"If you wish to make an apple pie from scratch, you must first invent the universe." Carl Sagan

"When I was a kid, I said to my father one afternoon, 'Daddy, will you take me to the zoo?' He answered, 'If the zoo wants you, let them come and get you.'" Jerry Lewis,

### Last Laugh

As the airliner was flying over Arizona on a clear day, the co-pilot was providing his passengers with a running commentary about landmarks over the PA system.

"Coming up on the right, you can see the Meteor Crater, which is a major tourist attraction in northern Arizona. It was formed when a lump of nickel and iron, roughly 150 feet in diameter and weighing 300,000 tons, struck the earth at about 40,000 miles an hour, scattering white-hot debris for miles in every direction. The hole measures nearly a mile across and is 570 feet deep."

From the cabin, a passenger was heard to exclaim, "Wow! It just missed the highway!"

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## 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 fill out an Elmer form from the club secretary.

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):

K6PBQ, WA6VJY, WB6YRU, WA6QYS  
Children's Discovery Museum, volunteer operator:  
K6PBQ  
EchoLink: KK6MX

W6ACW, Ed Hajny, (408) 739-6105

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

KD6FJI, Lloyd DeVaughns,  
day: (408) 918-4635, evening: (408) 225-6769  
e-mail: lloyddevaughns@sbcglobal.net

KK6MX, Don Apte, (408) 629-0725  
e-mail: kk6mx@aol.com

KB6NP, Jon Dutra, day & msg (408) 428-2058  
evening (408) 867-8654  
packet: home BBS NOARY  
e-mail: 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  
e-mail: wb6yru@aenet.net

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## Newsletter Notes

Happy New Year everyone! I hope Santa was good to you. And speaking of toys of the amateur radio variety...

Most of you know that I'm always trying to talk articles out of the membership. Here's a topic I thought might be interesting: SCCARA has a lot of older members. How would you compare the amateur radio toys and gadgets of yesteryear to those of today?

Or how about this topic: It used to be that you could make something nearly as good as you could buy using only a soldering pencil, needle-nose pliers, and a screw driver set. Those times have passed.... Yes? Well, perhaps not quite. The new big thing seems to be software defined radios, where all but the front end is "constructed" completely in software. Need a different filter or the ability to detect some other mode? No need for a different radio or parts, it's just a matter of changing the programming. Now, (or soon), instead of bending leads with needle-nose pliers, we're "bending" software code. This field is still in its infancy, but the writing is on the wall. So, what has that done to amateur radio, or what do you foresee it doing?

I'd like to get your thoughts on either one of those for the newsletter. It should be interesting, especially from those of you who have been in this hobby for a long time

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

## **SCCARA Membership Form for 2005**

(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: \_\_\_\_\_

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:**  \$15 Individual  \$20 Family  \$5 Student (under 18)

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

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**