

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 21, Number 5

May 2005



President's Prose

Our next meeting will be the ever popular dinner meeting to be held Monday May 9 at 6:30 at Angelino's restaurant. It is located at Winchester Boulevard and 3132 Williams Road. It is just behind the Shell station on Winchester. You can take a look at the menu if you go to the web site www.angelinosrest.com.

A group of hams including some of our club members got together at Angelino's for the first of the ham feasts that will be held every second Sunday of the month. Everyone enjoyed the good fellowship, food, and music. Stop by some Sunday after noon and partake of the good times with fellow hams.

As announced previously, SCCARA is going to have a sales table at the flea market June 11. We will be selling surplus club equipment. We are also giving all members and anyone else a chance to get rid of old gear by donating to the club. You can give me a call and I will make arrangements to get the gear to the market.

Thank you, Clark, KE6KXO



ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, April 8, 2005

BPL IS NO BALANCING ACT, ARRL SAYS IN FCC FILINGS

In filings before the FCC, the ARRL has again challenged some basic assumptions made by BPL proponents and included in the FCC's Report and Order (R&O) adopting new rules governing the deployment of broadband over power line (BPL) systems. The League took particular issue with any notion that a balancing test exists between BPL's purported public benefits and its potential to interfere with licensed services.

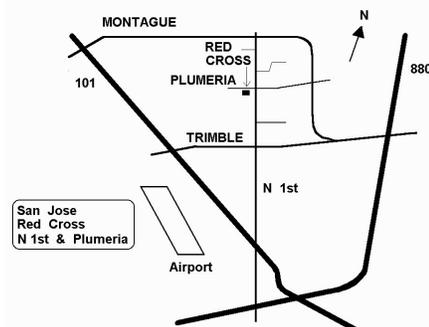
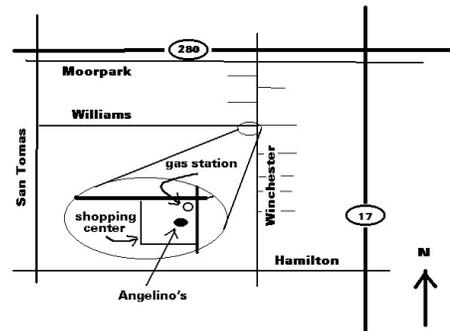
"There is no balancing to be done in the case of compatibility between unlicensed devices and licensed radio services," the ARRL asserted April 1 in its Reply to Oppositions from Ambient Corporation and the United Power Line Council (UPLC). "Unlicensed devices are not entitled to operate if they cause harmful interference to licensed radio services, and they cannot be authorized at all... if they have, as does BPL, a significant

Calendar

- 5/9 SCCARA General Meeting--Dinner!
- 5/16 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)
- 6/13 SCCARA General Meeting

General Meeting:

Day: Monday, May 9, 2005
Time: 6:30 PM
Place: Angelino's Restaurant
3132 Williams Rd San Jose
at Winchester Blvd.
Featuring: Dinner meeting



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/sccara>.

OFFICERS - DIRECTORS - STAFF

President	Clark Murphy, KE6KXO	262-9334
	e-mail: clarkmurph@yahoo.com	
Vice President	- - -	
Secretary	David Paul, AE6MV	946-3423
	e-mail: ae6mv@arrl.net	
Treasurer	Lloyd DeVaughns, KD6FJI	225-6769
	e-mail: kd6fji@arrl.net	
Station Trustee	Don Village, K6PBQ	263-2789
Director	Don Steinbach, AE6PM	867-3912
	e-mail: ae6pm@arrl.net	
Director	Don Apte, KK6MX	629-0725
	e-mail: aptekk@aol.com	
Director	Don Village, K6PBQ	263-2789
Director	Lou Steirer, WA6QYS	241-7999
	e-mail: wa6qys@aol.com	
Director	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	293-3847
	e-mail: ka6ymd@arrl.net	
Editor	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	269-2924
	e-mail: wb6yru@ix.netcom.com	

COMMITTEES

Repeater	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	293-3847
	e-mail: ka6ymd@arrl.net	
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). Sysop: Gary WB6YRU

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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

interference potential to licensed services." The League's remarks reiterated a point it's made in other FCC proceedings pitting unlicensed Part 15 devices against licensed services.

The Reply to Oppositions comments mark the last opportunity for BPL stakeholders to comment in the FCC rule making proceeding that led to last October's R&O. In separate replies, the ARRL zeroed in on oppositions to petitions for reconsideration filed by Ambient, the UPLC, Current Technologies, three utilities--Ameren Energy Communications, Virginia Electric Power and Tucson Electric Power--Homeplug Power Line Alliance and Intellon.

The ARRL targeted Ambient's stated assumption that the FCC's goal in the proceeding should be to "ensure that its interference protection rules and policies do not inadvertently hinder development and deployment" of BPL. The League cited its own experiences with Ambient to make its point.

"Ambient's priorities and spectrum manners are evident not only in [its] statement, but as well in its atrocious record of harmful interference and unresponsiveness to verified interference complaints in its BPL test operations," the ARRL said. It attached a copy of its latest interference complaint involving Ambient's Briarcliff Manor, New York, BPL pilot project." The interference to Amateur Radio communications at that site has been unresolved for a period of an entire year," the League emphasized.

Ambient's Opposition filing, the League said, suggests the company "believes that the potential future benefit of BPL justifies whatever harmful byproduct there is in terms of interference to licensed radio services." But the Ambient pilot project, the ARRL continued, "form an obvious, empirical rebuttal" to the FCC's assertion in the R&O that BPL has a low interference potential, and that BPL providers have some incentive to remedy BPL interference. "Both of these fundamental premises have proven false," the ARRL said.

The ARRL also took issue with the UPLC's suggestion in its Opposition that the FCC's R&O "struck the right balance between protecting against potential interference and promoting the public interest in BPL deployment." The League said previously stated FCC policy that radiated emission levels sufficiently low to prevent interference to licensed services rather than mitigating it after the fact have provided the basis for authorizing unlicensed RF devices such as BPL.

Any "balancing test" with respect to BPL is improper, the ARRL concluded, adding that any future public benefits of unlicensed BPL systems "are irrelevant" under the Communications Act.

Beyond that, BPL operators have a greater incentive to deny the existence of any interference, harmful or otherwise, the ARRL said, "and so far, the Commission has given every indication that it will indulge them."

"BPL providers are the beneficiaries of the Report and Order." Amateur licensees on the other hand, the ARRL said, "must bear the burden" the R&O creates, despite the fact that Amateur Radio is a licensed service.

The ARRL says analyses by the National Telecommunications and Information Agency (NTIA) and others have shown that if a large number of BPL emitters is deployed, "they will raise the ambient levels of man-made noise worldwide." The League countered assertions that BPL is a point-source radiator for measurement purposes rather than a line-source radiator.

The ARRL also urged BPL providers to seriously rethink the idea of using BPL to carry emergency communications and provide utility company management of the power grid. "BPL is entitled

to no protection from interference at all, and it can neither expect nor claim any such protection," the ARRL said, pointing to tests demonstrating that even low levels of RF can disrupt BPL transmissions.

Copies of the League's Reply to Oppositions are on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/files/>>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, April 15, 2005

ARRL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE READIES BANDWIDTH RECOMMENDATIONS

Acting on the premise that the amateur bands must flexibly and comfortably accommodate present and future operating modes and technologies over the long haul, the ARRL Executive Committee has reached consensus on recommendations to the ARRL Board of Directors for a regulation-by-bandwidth proposal. The recommendations the panel adopted April 9 in Denver will form the basis of a draft ARRL petition to the FCC seeking to govern the usage of amateur spectrum by emission bandwidth rather than by mode. The proposals remain only EC recommendations at this point, and the League will file nothing with the FCC until the ARRL Board gives its go-ahead. Five of the 15 voting Directors sit on the EC. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, says a key principle underlying the League initiative is that the amateur community must shoulder the responsibility for resolving conflicts among potentially conflicting modes and not expect--or wait for--the FCC to impose its own solutions.

"We are in the early stages of a dramatic shift in amateur HF operating patterns, and it's impossible to predict where this shift may lead," Sumner said. "The FCC rules should not stand in the way of where technology takes us in our fulfillment of the bases and purposes of Amateur Radio." The bandwidth initiative is aimed in part at encouraging new digital modes, but the primary emphasis is to avoid having to write a new rule every time a new mode bursts onto the scene. The League's proposals will establish a framework that creates an environment for change over the next decade--and perhaps longer, Sumner concluded. The Board will consider the draft petition, now on the drawing board, at its July meeting.

The EC recommendations abandon efforts to have the FCC segregate digital and analog emissions by rule. As the EC sees it, the FCC rules should simply set out band segments in which amateurs may employ bandwidths of up to 3 kHz, with any further subdivision left up to amateur band planning. The EC acknowledged a need to improve band planning mechanisms for this approach to work well, however.

"Certainly there have to be mechanisms to minimize interference between analog and digital stations, since they cannot compatibly share the same frequency," Sumner explained. But, he says, using FCC rules to subdivide the HF bands is the wrong approach, in part because they're too static and too difficult to change.

Resolving two issues that have been hanging fire, the EC's proposals would permit semi-automatic control (ie, with a control operator at the querying station) throughout the amateur HF bands. Sumner says that while this carries some risk of interference, the EC believes the amateur community can manage it more effectively through a combination of technology and respectful operating practices. Additionally, automatic control would continue to be permitted at bandwidths of up to 3 kHz in narrow segments of some HF bands.

The EC made no change to its earlier recommendation that the

rules continue to permit double-sideband, full-carrier AM and independent sideband (ISB) as specific exceptions to the 3 kHz bandwidth limit--with restrictions of 9 kHz and 6 kHz respectively--on all bands now allowing 'phone transmissions. (In ISB, or independent sideband, each sideband of a double-sideband signal carries information or data independent of the other.)

FCC rules now permit RTTY and data emissions throughout the HF CW subbands. "It is only through compliance with 'gentlemen's agreements' that RTTY and data signals are not heard in the parts of the band that are generally used for CW," Sumner notes. The ARRL would propose limiting bandwidth in the "CW subbands" to 200 Hz, which also will accommodate data modes such as PSK31. In addition, the League's proposal would set bandwidth limits of either 500 Hz or 3 kHz in the rest of the bands below 29 MHz. The proposals would not affect 60 or 160 meters.

"The objective is not to expand the phone bands to let robot stations run roughshod over the phone bands, or to effect any other immediate change in amateur operating practices," Sumner emphasized. For example, while the 3-kHz bandwidth segment of the 30-meter band theoretically could accommodate voice, this is prohibited by international band plan agreements because the band is so narrow. Additionally, the Amateur Service is secondary on 30 meters and must protect the primary fixed service from interference.

Sumner pointed out that there now is no effective bandwidth limit on HF digital operation. The existing 500 Hz bandwidth limit applies only to automatically controlled stations in semi-automatic operation. Band segments limited to 200 Hz and 500 Hz respectively provide greater protection for narrowband operations than exists today, Sumner stressed.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on the EC recommendations are available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/bandwidth/bw-faq.html>>. Direct comments on these proposals via e-mail to <bandwidth@arrl.org>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, April 29, 2005

US HOUSE RESOLUTION CALLS ON FCC TO EVALUATE BPL INTERFERENCE, REVIEW RULES

Rep Michael Ross, WD5DVR, of Arkansas, has introduced a resolution in the US House of Representatives calling on the FCC to "conduct a full and complete analysis" of radio interference from broadband over power line (BPL). The resolution, H. Res 230, says the Commission should comprehensively evaluate BPL's interference potential incorporating "extensive public review and comment," and--in light of that analysis--to "reconsider and review" its new BPL rules, adopted last October. If approved by the full House, the non-binding resolution, introduced April 21, would express the requests as "the sense of the House of Representatives."

"We are grateful to Congressman Ross and his staff for taking a leadership position in recognizing that the BPL interference issue deserves more careful consideration than the FCC was willing to give it under former Chairman Powell," said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ. The resolution has been referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, on which Ross serves.

The resolution's prime focus is on BPL's potential to disrupt critical public safety radiocommunication. It cites National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) studies that "have determined that broadband over power line creates a 'high risk' of radio wave interference, and that harmful

interference to public safety mobile radio receivers can be expected at distances of 75 meters from the power line where broadband over power line is in operation, and at distances of up to 460 meters from fixed stations, such as VHF police or fire dispatch communications facilities."

The resolution notes that the same NTIA study determined that BPL interference to aeronautical and airline travel communications "could be expected at distances up to 40 kilometers from the center of the broadband over power line system, and that interference to outer marker beacons for airline instrument landing systems could be expected at great distances as well."

Many public safety agencies and support services, including emergency medical services, fire, and law enforcement, utilize Low-Band VHF (30-50 MHz), the resolution points out. According to the resolution, at least 13 states--California, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, West Virginia and Wyoming--use the band for state police operations. It's the primary public safety radio band in nine states.

The resolution further notes that the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials Inc (APCO), and the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC), urged the FCC to withhold final action in the BPL proceeding for at least a year, pending a "conclusive determination" of BPL's potential to interfere with public safety and other licensed radio systems operating below 80 MHz. It also cites comments filed by the Missouri State Highway Patrol, which uses a statewide radio system with more than 1400 Low-Band VHF users. The Missouri State Highway Patrol commented that the overall effect of BPL implementation would be "a potentially significant increase in interference to the mission of critical public safety communications," the resolution says.

The resolution recounts that the FCC has struggled for years to resolve widespread harmful interference to the radiocommunications of first responders on 800 MHz and "should not have proceeded with introduction of a technology which appears to have substantial potential to cause destructive interference to police, fire, emergency medical services, and other public safety radio systems" without first conducting a comprehensive evaluation.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, has urged ARRL members to contact their US representatives to support the resolution. A sample letter is available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/filings/hres230/HRes230-SampleLtr.doc>>

Members are encouraged to express their support in their own words. If you're not sure who represents your congressional district, visit the United States House of Representatives Web site <<http://www.house.gov/>>.

To expedite delivery, send all correspondence bound for Members of Congress--preferably as an attachment--to <hres230@arrl.org> or fax it to 703-684-7594. The ARRL will bundle correspondence addressed to each Member of Congress for hand delivery.

A copy of HRes 230 is available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/filings/hres230/HRes230.pdf>>.

"ENIGMA MACHINE" SPECIAL EVENT

As a tribute to the work of England's voluntary interceptors (VIs) during World War II, the Scarborough Special Events Group

(SSEG) will operate special event station GB2HQ from GCHQ--Government Communications Headquarters--in Scarborough. VIs intercepted encrypted Enigma messages transmitted in Morse code; these were passed to code breakers at Bletchley Park who were attempting to crack the German Enigma code. The GB2HQ special event will take place over the May 7-8 weekend, with activity on SSB, PSK and CW (around 3515 or 7015 kHz). A souvenir QSL card showing an Enigma cipher machine and an HRO receiver will commemorate the occasion. GCHQ has provided a working Enigma machine for use by the SSEG, and Ofcom--the UK telecommunication regulator--has authorized transmission of an enciphered Enigma message in Morse code on the amateur bands for this event only. The Enigma message will be transmitted Saturday, May 7, 1100 UTC (repeated at 1300 and 1900 UTC), at a speed of 15 WPM. Listeners are invited to submit a copy of the Enigma message, and certificates are available for those achieving 100-percent copy. Entries and QSLs go to G0000, Scarborough Special Events Group, 9 Green Island, Irton, Scarborough YO12 4RN UK. Further details are on the SSEG Web site <<http://www.sseg.co.uk/>>.

New Members

SCCARA would like to welcome this new amateur to the club:

Terry Nakashima, WB6PVU

If you have any questions, ideas, or comments about SCCARA or any activities, please don't hesitate to ask.

MS Walk

SCCARA supports the MS Walk

On behalf of the MS Society, I would like to thank SCCARA for providing vital radio communications for the annual MS Walk on April 9, 2005. For the safety of the walkers and visitors of the walk, radio communications is so important. I would like to thank the following SCCARA members and HAMS for their services: Wally Britten KA6YMD, Jeannie Felix KG6YOR, Lloyd DeVaughns KD6FJI, Lou Steirer WA6QYS, Gwen Steirer KF6OTD, Mike Hastings KB6LCJ, Tom Root KF6NEW, Ralf Erickson WA6CQA, and Don Holdener N6MMK. Again, thanks for your support. Until next year...

73, Don K6PBQ

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, April 11, 2005



Meeting Began: 19:40

Introductions:

Members Present, 15: Barbara Britten KD6QEI, Wally Britten

KA6YMD, Lloyd Devaughns KD6FJI, Del Harbold K6JPX, Joan Hastings KB6LFZ, Mike Hastings KB6LCJ, Howard Krawetz N6HM, Clark R Murphy KE6KXO, Terry Nakashima WB6PVU, Scott Petersen KG6SPF, Tom Root KF6NEW, Don Steinbach AE6PM, Dennis (Red) Vernier W6ALC, Don Village K6PBQ, Visitors: 1 (The Speaker), James Bennet KA5DVS

FLEA MARKET: The flea markets are now being held at DeAnza College. The weather, sprinkles, was a deterrent, but there was a fairly decent turnout. The college site provides more room, but at a higher price. The college will not supply the port-a-potties, nor will it pay for the two campus security people the college is insisting must be there during the event.

REPEATER: It has two problems. 1) It crackles. Wally thinks the noise heard is due to a cracked antenna moving in the wind, more noticeable at low signals than on strong ones. Red Vernier, W6ALC, suggested that there could be problems with the duplexer. They are very sensitive to temperature changes. We need to make sure the vault that the duplexer isn't subject to wide temperature gradients. 2) The repeater is not working well. Wally plans to talk to Trish Gibbons, WA6UBE about the problems.

KD6UD, Warren (Gill) Gilleran is a 60-year member of the ARRL. He has been a member of SCCARA for many years.

HAM FEAST: This event was a success! It was held Sunday, April 10, from 2PM till about 5 PM, at Angelino's Restaurant at S. Winchester and Williams Roads. There were about 35 people who dined on pizza and other Italian foods, while being entertained by Dean Cook, the organist. It was a very pleasant afternoon. The next Ham Feast will be held on May 8, Mother's Day. At that Ham Feast, there will be a silent movie, with the organ providing the accompaniment, just like in the old time theaters. Input from Barbara: "I've been to many of these silent movies. You will enjoy it!" One of our own members is working at Angelino's. It is Jeannie, KG6YOR. She works evenings on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and soon, Sundays.

HAM TECH DAY: It was held at the Stanford Linear Accelerator (SLAC) off Sandhill Road in Palo Alto, from 8AM until 9PM. One ham gave a demonstration of a homemade portable antenna that really worked. He made contacts as far away as Antarctica. The next Ham Tech Day will be the 2nd Saturday in May, (May 14). It is the same day as the Ham Flea Market. You can go to the flea market in the morning, grab some lunch, and the head to the Ham Tech Day via 280 north.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE A DINNER MEETING: to be held at Angelino's restaurant at 6:30 PM., on the 2nd Monday of May, (May 9)

BOARD MEETING: Will pay bills, discuss the flea market, and pay club insurance.

SPEAKER: James Bennett, KA5DVS/6 on Portable Antennas. He gave us a lot of good information and had lots of demonstrations to show the audience.

ASVARO REPORT: Howard M. Krawetz, N6HM, gave an update on ASVARO, the parent organization of the Electronic Flea Markets. Each has to give \$200.00 more this year because of the higher costs demanded by DeAnza College.

Minutes by KD6QEI

President Clark Murphy, KE6KXO, called the meeting to order at 19:42. A quorum was present.

Attendees: Clark Murphy, KE6KXO, President; Lloyd DeVaughns, KD6FJI, Treasurer; Don Village, K6PBQ, Director and Station Trustee; Lou Steirer, WA6QYS, Director; Wally Britten, KA6YMD, Director; Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU, Editor and BBS Chairman; David Paul, AE6MV, Secretary and Gwen Steirer, KF60TD, XYL

President Clark Murphy welcomed everyone to the meeting. He is looking for the key to the radio Room. We need to be more careful with the budget. Th website is updated, thanks to Wally. At the HamFeast, Red Vernier paid for the organist out of his own pocket. The next meeting will be a dinner meeting at Angelino's.

The Secretary asked for any changes or corrections to last Month's Board minutes, none were forthcoming.

The Treasurer had not arrived, so the treasury will be discussed later in the meeting.

Repeater Chairman Wally Britten reported that the 2M autopatch autodial is working correctly. The repeater however, is very noisy & crackly. Trish is retiring and will be replaced as head of the SJC Radio Shop.

SCCARA-GRAM: we are working to get a PDF version of the newsletter.

The Club Station will be open 4/30, after the SVECS quarterly breakfast meeting.

Our SVARO month is July, and we plan to have a booth in June. Should we raffle the short wave?

We learned that a new Ham, KG6YQY, received our New Ham letter.

Old Business

- Field Day: Fred Townsend is expected to tow the trailer up to Mount Madonna. He expects to pick it up one day before and store it at his house until the next day. The tarp might need repair.
- The new QSL cards are not yet available.
- We still have the Heathkit Linear the needs to be tested and then sold. Perhaps Red Vernier would do the testing for us.
- We need to finish cleaning the Club locker, but we need to wait until after the rains.
- Trailer maintenance is needed: it needs to be sanded and painted, but we need to wait until after the rains.

The Treasurer reported that the Club Savings is \$1937.85, and the Checking Account balance is about \$1000. We need to pay the annual Insurance bill, \$325, pay \$1400 to SVARO, \$63.78 for the phone bill, \$ 192.99 for the SCCARA-GRAM.

After discussion of a Standing Rule that all usual expenses be paid, Lou Steirer moved and Don Village seconded that the Insurance be paid. The motion passed unanimously.

Lloyd added that after these items are paid, we will be very tight for funds until after the Flea Market.

Discussion ensued as to how to save money. We should make this our last year at Mount Madonna. Maybe we could ask for donations from those camping and visiting, but the campsite is now expensive. The locker costs \$756 per year, but it has kept us from



losing club equipment when a member becomes silent. We need to sell the Collins and the other excess equipment; Lou & Clark will take a picture of the Collins.

No further business was brought up, and the meeting was adjourned at 21:10.

Information

Next SVECS (Breakfast) Meeting: 4/30 at the VFW, Monroe & Franklin, Santa Clara.

SVARO dates: 5/14 PAARA (Palo Alto), 6/11 SPARK (SPARC, Southern Peninsula), 7/9 SCCARA, 8/13 SPECS, Southern Peninsula, 9/10 FARS (Foothill-Cupertino), 10/8 SVECS.

Upcoming Meetings

- The May General Meeting will be 5/9/05, 18:30 at Angelino's (Italian) Restaurant, 3132 Williams Road at Winchester Blvd, 408-243-6095, AngelinosRest.com

- The May Board Meeting will be 5/16/05 at 19:30 at the San Jose Red Cross HQ.

- The June General Meeting will be 6/13/05, 19:30 at the Santa Clara Kaiser Hospital, Bldg. K.

David Paul, AE6MV, Secretary

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the packet network:

Date: 18 Feb 2004 09:10
From: W1GMF@W1GMF
To: HUMOR@USA
Subject: HUMOR FOR TODAY 0213

Ron and Kim were doing some shopping. Having purchased everything they needed, they returned to the parking lot to drive home.

"Where's the car? Good golly, someone has stolen it!"

They notified the police from a phone booth inside the mall and made a report at the Police station. A young detective drove them back to see if any evidence remained from the scene of the crime. But, what do you know, there is the stolen car, back in the exact spot! A note is on the windshield with two tickets to a concert attached. The note thanks the young couple for the use of their car, but the culprit's wife was about to give birth and had to be rushed to the hospital.

The young couple's faith in humanity is restored and they go to the concert and have a wonderful time. They arrive home late that night to find their entire house robbed, with a note on the door reading, "Well, I gotta put the kid through college, don't I?"

Daily Thoughts

"There is no such thing as "fun for the whole family." Jerry Seinfeld

Its not that I don't want to clean my room its just that I have this theory that everything is balanced just right and if I attempt to move anything the whole structure of the house will come down like a house of cards.

"The whole problem with the world is that fools and fanatics are always so certain of themselves, but wiser people so full of doubts." Bertrand Russel

Last Laugh

Jon went to dinner at a new friend's house. While they ate, the new friend's small son kept staring at the guest.

Finally, Jon asked, "Why are you staring at me like that, young fellow?"

The kid says, "Daddy told me you were a self made man."

"I am."

"Well, why did you make yourself like that?"

Date: 18 Feb 2004 09:11
From: W1GMF@W1GMF
To: HUMOR@USA
Subject: Cat Physics

1 - Law of Cat Inertia

A cat at rest will tend to remain at rest, unless acted upon by some outside force--such as the opening of cat food, or a nearby scurrying mouse.

2 - Law of Cat Motion

A cat will move in a straight line, unless there's a really good reason to change direction.

3 - Law of Cat Magnetism

All blue blazers and black sweaters attract cat hair in direct proportion to the darkness of the fabric.

4 - Law of Cat Thermodynamics

Heat flows from a warmer to a cooler body, except in the case of a cat, in which case all heat flows to the cat.

5 - Law of Cat Stretching

A cat will stretch to a distance proportional to the length of the nap just taken.

6 - Law of Cat Sleeping

All cats must sleep with people whenever possible, in a position as uncomfortable for the people involved as is possible for the cat.

7 - Law of Cat Elongation

A cat can make her body long enough to reach just about any countertop that has anything remotely interesting on it.

8 - Law of Cat Acceleration

A cat will accelerate at a constant rate, until he gets good and ready to stop.

9 - Law of Dinner Table Attendance

Cats must attend all meals when anything good is served.

10 - Law of Rug Configuration

No rug may remain in its naturally flat state for very long.

11 - Law of Obedience Resistance

A cat's resistance varies in proportion to a human's desire for her to do something.

12 - First Law of Energy Conservation

Cats know that energy can neither be created nor destroyed and will, therefore, use as little energy as possible.

13 - Second Law of Energy Conservation

Cats also know that energy can only be stored by a lot of napping.

14 - Law of Refrigerator Observation

If a cat watches a refrigerator long enough, someone will come along and take out something good to eat.

15 - Law of Electric Blanket Attraction

Turn on an electric blanket and a cat will jump into bed at the speed of light.

16 - Law of Random Comfort Seeking

A cat will always seek, and usually take over, the most comfortable spot in any given room.

17 - Law of Bag / Box Occupancy

All bags and boxes in a given room must contain a cat within the earliest possible nanosecond.

18 - Law of Milk Consumption

A cat will drink his weight in milk, squared, just to show you he can.

19 - Law of Furniture Replacement

A cat's desire to scratch furniture is directly proportional to the cost of the furniture.

Daily Thoughts

"When the mouse laughs at the cat there is a hole nearby."
Nigerian Proverb

Last Laugh

Timmy went with his dad to see a litter of kittens. On returning home, he breathlessly informed his mother, "There were 2 boy kittens and 2 girl kittens."

"How did you know?" his mother asked.

"Daddy picked them up and looked underneath," he replied. "I think it's printed on the bottom."

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: kd6fji@arrl.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

Newsletter Notes

Normally there'd be a notice here in the May issue about Field Day. Unfortunately, no information was submitted.

Some of you may have heard that the club is facing some financial problems. One suggestion made recently is perhaps we shouldn't spend hundreds of dollars for the camp site at Mt. Madonna for Field Day this year. I don't know if that will happen or not. In any case, our treasurer said that we won't be there next year, (unless a big pile of money falls on us).

So, stay tuned for the June issue of the *SCCARA-GRAM*. for details and sign-up, or any possible alternatives. In the mean time, let's assume it will be business as usual and we'll be at Mt. Madonna again this year.

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 <====



SCCARA
Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Assn.
PO Box 6
SAN JOSE CA 95103-0006
Affiliate of the American Radio Relay League



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS