

# SCCARA-GRAM



## Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 21, Number 6

June 2005



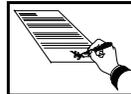
## President's Prose

You may have noticed if you read the minutes of the last board meeting that we have voted to raise the yearly dues. We felt it was necessary because of the increase in cost of running the club. I don't know when the last increase was, but I found records that showed it was \$15 in 1980. The cost of insurance, phone, postage and etc. has certainly increased the last 25 years. Therefore the increase in dues.

The next club activity event will be Saturday June 11 at the flea market. We will be selling the surplus items from the locker. If you would like to help you could give me a phone call. We could use some help hauling the items out to the market. If nothing else, if you are at the flea market stop by our table. We are also going to use this opportunity to promote the SCCARA field day.

Our next meeting will not have a speaker as we will use the time to organize for field day. Be sure to come to the meeting and you can tell us the way it should be done

Clark, KE6KXO



## ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, May 13, 2005

### UK REGULATOR'S STUDY POINTS UP LIMITATIONS OF AMPERION-EQUIPPED BPL TRIAL

Ofcom, the UK's telecommunications regulatory agency, has concluded that Amperion BPL equipment deployed in a field trial in Scotland "as tested is not and cannot be FCC Part 15 compliant above 30 MHz." Ofcom this week released a study, "Amperion PLT Measurements in Crieff," which summarizes measurements it took at the site. PLT is another term for BPL. Ofcom's investigation also demonstrated the limitations of Amperion's "notching" capabilities to mitigate interference to radio reception. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, says Ofcom's study reflects what the League and others have known all along about BPL.

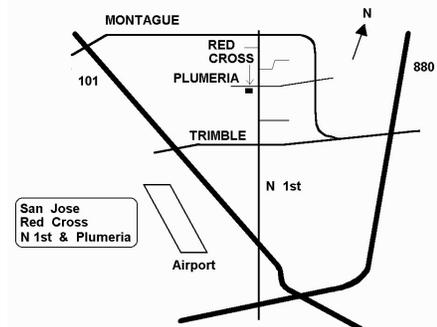
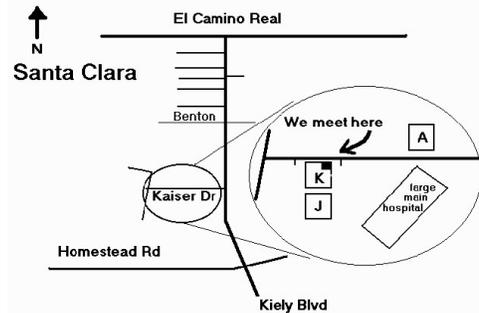
"Ofcom's measurements and conclusions are consistent with ours and with what we have been saying all along about BPL in general

## Calendar

- 6/11 Electronic Flea Market (De Anza College)
- 6/13 SCCARA General Meeting
- 6/20 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)
- 6/25,26 Field Day

### General Meeting:

Day: Monday, June 13, 2005  
Time: 7:30 PM  
Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Bld K, Rm 1  
Featuring: Field Day prep.



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

and Amperion in particular," Sumner said. "It's a shame that we have to look overseas to find a regulator who will say what truly needs to be said: Medium voltage power lines are no place for HF broadband data."

Measurements were made at the pilot system in Crieff, which uses 11 kV overhead power lines and Amperion Griffin PLT equipment made in the US and employing OFDM signal architecture. The Ofcom study says that at HF, radiated leakage emissions from the Amperion-based BPL network operating at its maximum power setting exceeded FCC Part 15 limits by up to 8 dB.

The UK has no defined PLT emission limits, and Ofcom used the FCC's as a reference point. The Ofcom investigation also concluded that if Europe adopts Reg TP NB30 radiated emission limits now in effect in Germany, "such adoption would rule out any European deployment" of the Amperion Griffin BPL equipment on which it took measurements in Scotland.

Above 30 MHz, Ofcom said, radiated leakage exceeded FCC Part 15 limits by up to 27 dB. "In practice, the launch power would need to be reduced by 27 dB to ensure compliance with the FCC limit, and this raises two issues," Ofcom said. "The first is that such a reduction is beyond the 24 dB power control range of the product and secondly it seems certain that the network would fail to provide any functionality at such a reduced power level."

The notching facility of the equipment as an interference mitigation technique "is compromised," Ofcom concluded, "because notches cannot be placed in the 'upstream' spectrum, and because FCC Part 15 limits are too relaxed to permit the notched spectrum to afford any significant protection to weak signal reception."

A 20 dB notch "is not an effective interference mitigation measure for weak signal reception that is limited only by the local spectrum noise floor," Ofcom said in its report. It concluded that at that level of notching, "Part 15 compliant leakage emissions from a notched PLT line would contribute noise to the HF spectrum at distances as far as 1 km [approximately 0.62 mile] from the line."

Beyond that, Ofcom said, Amperion encountered difficulties when requested to implement a 30 dB notch from 21 to 22 MHz to cover both the amateur 15-meter band and the adjacent HF broadcast band. "They reported problems with this, due to the bandwidth required," the report noted. Graphs indicate that the notching "uncovered" several broadcast signals, most with field strengths in excess of the ITU-recommended minimum protected value.

In its report, Ofcom noted that power lines were not designed, shielded or balanced for high-frequency use and can radiate significant leakage even when buried below ground. "PLT leakage emissions occupy parts of the high frequency radio spectrum above 2 MHz and have the potential to interfere with the reception of radio communication services, including shortwave broadcasts," the agency said.

While the BPL/PLT interference issue has "proved to be contentious" and continues to be a discussion topic in Europe and elsewhere, Ofcom said, it also appears that "none of the proposed emission limits can currently satisfy the dual objective of protecting radio reception whilst, at the same time, allowing PLT to operate in a commercially viable manner."

The Ofcom study involved a BPL field trial by Scottish and Southern Energy plc (SSE). The agency says it believes its measurements were "sufficient to indicate the general situation" at the Crieff site. A copy of the Ofcom report is on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/files/amperion.pdf>>.

According to the Radio Society of Great Britain, an SSE

representative indicated recently that the company would not be undertaking any further PLT rollout in the UK and was unlikely to invest further in the technology. Reasons given were the lack of progress on PLT technical standards and the commercial position of PLT with respect to other broadband services. The RSGB said it welcomed the announcement.

## **HAMSAT IS NOW VO-52**

The latest Amateur Radio satellite now has an OSCAR designation. Acting at the request of AMSAT-India's Nagesh Upadhyaya, VU2NUD, AMSAT-NA's Bill Tynan, W3XO, has announced that HAMSAT (or VUosat) is VUosat-52 or VO-52 for short.

"Congratulation on the successful launch of HAMSAT," Tynan told VU2NUD. "I know that you and a number of VU amateurs have worked hard to make this happen. I am sure that the international amateur community is grateful to all the amateurs in India who labored on this project."

VO-52 is India's first Amateur Radio satellite. Its transponders were turned on shortly after its May 5 launch, and AMSAT-India Secretary "Pop" Kumar, VU2POP, has invited the global amateur community to use the satellite and e-mail any comments <reports@amsat.in>. Ground controllers have activated one of the two linear transponders aboard VO-52, which operates in Mode U/V, with passband center frequencies of 435.25 MHz for the uplink and 145.90 MHz for the downlink. Passbands are 50 kHz wide. For SSB, uplink in LSB and downlink in USB.

AMSAT-India says VO-52 has been monitored by radio amateurs around the world, and it has already received a few reports from users and listeners <<http://www.amsat.in/hamsatreports.htm>>.

AMSAT Contests and Awards Director Bruce Paige, KK5DO, says the new satellite has generated a lot of excitement in the amateur community. "QSOs are made in sideband or CW," he said. "Even though the satellite is capable of FM operation, it is much more useful in sideband mode as multiple QSOs can be completed at the same time, as everyone slides up or down in the passband." Paige reminds users to correct for Doppler shift.

Conferring an OSCAR designation is not a requirement for an Amateur Radio satellite to be recognized and used in the Amateur Service, but it is a tradition that has continued since the launch of OSCAR 1 in December of 1961.

There's more information on HAMSAT VO-52 on the AMSAT-India Web site <<http://www.amsat.in/>>.

## **LEAGUE SAYS AMPERION MISREPRESENTING FACTS IN TEXAS BPL INTERFERENCE CASE**

The ARRL has taken issue with BPL manufacturer Amperion's version of events, posted on its Web site <<http://www.amperion.com/market.asp?id=70>> (scroll to "TXU Trial Deployment"), surrounding a Texas BPL interference complaint last fall. Amperion claims that an interference complaint from radio amateurs at a BPL trial operated by utility TXU in Irving, was based "on measurements taken last year but not brought to the attention of TXU or Amperion until March 2005." According to Amperion, that was five months after TXU had completed its trial and decommissioned the system. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, says the facts stand in stark contrast to Amperion's version of events.

"Amperion's claims that the Irving BPL system was decommissioned in October 2004 and that neither TXU nor

Amperion was aware of the interference until March 2005 are blatant misrepresentations," Sumner said.

Setting the record straight, Sumner points out that former North Texas Section BPL Task Force Chair Jory McIntosh, KJ5RM, who regularly commutes through the BPL test zone in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, first logged interference from the TXU BPL system on July 24, 2004. McIntosh said at the time that at a distance of 300 feet from the power line, the interference obliterated normal Amateur Radio signals in the 40, 20, 17, 15, 10 and 6-meter bands.

TXU responded and company personnel accompanied McIntosh to the site the same day. "They observed that the system was producing considerable interference across much of the radio spectrum below 50 MHz," Sumner recounted. Despite system adjustments, the interference remained. McIntosh logged interference from the BPL installation on 11 separate days from August through October, when ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, visited the site and measured interference levels on several frequencies.

Sumner notes that McIntosh filed his formal written complaint with the FCC on November 15, 2004, noting his July 24 visit with TXU representatives. "The complaint was acknowledged, but the only action the FCC took was to refer him back to the system operator," he said.

"It was only after no action resulted from this complaint that the ARRL filed its complaint on March 15, 2005, that included a test report from Mr. Hare," Sumner continued. He emphasized that before filing the complaint the League verified--on March 9--that the interference "was still present to the same extent as previously reported."

Sumner says TXU actually shut down its BPL system and removed the equipment on March 29, 2005, not October 2004, and that the utility advised McIntosh of the shutdown the following day. The ARRL withdrew its now-moot complaint the same day, after McIntosh personally verified that the equipment had been removed.

In a writeup on its Web site, Amperion asserted that TXU decided to decommission the network after it "had already completed its technical trial in October 2004" following seven months of operation. "The decision had nothing to do with the interference complaints that were filed," Amperion stated.

A bill now before the Texas legislature--SB 1748--would amend the Utilities Code to "encourage the deployment of BPL" by electric utilities.

To date, four BPL trial sites using Amperion BPL equipment have shut down in the wake of complaints from Amateur Radio operators.

## **HAM RADIO REGULATORY CHANGES REPORTED ABROAD**

Sweden's telecommunication regulatory agency PTS has taken steps to deregulate Amateur Radio and essentially no longer requires a government license. Effective last fall, the PTS turned over Amateur Radio operator "certification" to the Society of Swedish Radio Amateurs (SSA), that country's IARU member-society. Under the new regulatory regime, the SSA administers testing and issues operator certificates and call signs, which have SA prefixes and three-letter suffixes. There's no longer a Morse code requirement for HF access.

The PTS still handles relevant international agreements, such as

band allocations, in conjunction with the ITU. Sweden no longer dictates mode-specific subbands within amateur bands, but band plans are in place. The new call signs can be issued by both the SSA and the PTS, but the SSA option reportedly is less expensive. All previously issued Swedish call signs are valid for life. Foreign visitors from countries outside the CEPT agreement must still apply to the PTS for temporary operating authority in Sweden.

Kenya's telecommunications regulator, the CCK, recently issued a new schedule of Amateur Radio frequencies, modes and power limits. Ted Alleyne, 5Z4NU, of the Amateur Radio Society of Kenya reports that radio amateurs there now may use 30 meters (10.100 to 10.150 MHz) and 160 meters (1.810 to 1.850 MHz).

The National Telecommunications Commission of Thailand has granted permission through 2005 for all Thai radio amateurs to use 80 and 160 meters during contest periods. HS- and E2- stations may use 1.800-1.825 MHz and 3.500-3.540 MHz, CW or SSB, during contest weekends.

Starting May 1 in the Czech Republic, new regulations provide access to 7.100 to 7.200 MHz for Amateur Radio on a secondary basis. Power output is limited to 250 W PEP. The Czech Republic also has begun issuing Novice class licenses with OK9-prefix call signs and three-letter suffixes. Operation is permitted on 160, 80, 15 and 10 meters on HF, and up to 2 meters on VHF, at a maximum power output of 10 W.

The Malta Communication Authority has automatically extended HF privileges to "codeless" Class B licensees. Licensees in Malta still must pass a Morse code examination to operate CW on the HF bands, however.--The Daily DX <<http://www.dailydx.com>>; RSGB; SM0JHF; ARSK; OK1MP/Czech Radio Club; MCA

---

## Meeting Minutes

### General Meeting, May 9, 2005



Monthly Meeting, Monday, May 9, 2005, 18:30, Angelino's Italian Restaurant

Attendance: 25 including five non-members.

Members present (in alphabetical order): Donald R Apte KK6MX, Barbara Britten KD6QEI, Wally Britten KA6YMD, Lloyd Devaughns KD6FJI, Jeannie Felix KG6YOR, Del Harbold K6JPX, Joan Hastings KB6LFZ, Mike Hastings KB6LCJ, Roy Metzger K6VIP, Virginia Metzger K6IUU, Gary Mitchell WB6YRU, Clark R Murphy KE6KXO, David Paul AE6MV, Scott Petersen KG6SPF, Don Steinbach AE6PM, Gwen Steirer KF60TD, Lou Steirer WA6QYS, James W Tyranski KG6UDW, Don Village K6PBQ, Bob Wharton W6OOY,

Non-members present: Barbara Apte, Briana Paul, Joan Village, Dennis (Red) Vernier W6ALC, and Joyce Wharton

The President, Clark Murphy, stood at 19:57 and welcomed everyone to the Dinner Meeting

- The Collins has now been transported to a local Collins specialist; this topic will be discussed further at the Board Meeting.

- A short-term goal is to eliminate the club Locker, as we are now spending \$720/month to store stuff.

- This month's Business will be discussed at next week's Board Meeting, so if you're interested, come to that meeting.

- The topic of the June meeting will be plans and preparations for Field Day.

Upcoming SCCARA Activities:

- 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.

- The June Board Meeting will be 6/20/05 at 19:30 at the San Jose Red Cross HQ.

- Field Day will be held June 24-26 at Mount Madonna Park.

David Paul, AE6MV, Secretary

---

### Board Meeting, May 16, 2005



President Clark Murphy, KE6KXO, called the meeting to order at 19:35. 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; Don Steinbach AE6PM, Director; Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU, Editor and BBS Chairman; David Paul, AE6MV, Secretary, Gwen Steirer, KF60TD, XYL and Members Jim Tyranski KG6UDW, Fred Townsend AE6QL.

The minutes of the previous meeting were discussed and accepted

Treasurer's report: not available

Wally Britten reported that the repeater is working okay.

Lou Steirer asked a surprising question - is the W6UU 2M repeater coordinated? NAARC website says we are in conflict resolution status, but we previously received an email saying we were coordinated, and the list previously said we were coordinated. Wally emailed them a query, and is awaiting a response.

BBS - As a cost-savings measure, this is under discussion, as it costs the club \$30/month. But Clark pointed out that it is a Radio event, which is what we are supposed to be doing, so we don't want to cut that unless we need to.

Newsletter. The newsletter was lighter this month (cost-savings measure). Gary shared a chart showing SCCARA membership, 1980 to present, from 200 in 1990, down to 50 now.

Old Business

We have 39 New Ham letters left; Lou will send Gary a few more addresses.

Field Day: We will not have a BBQ because Barbara has to work that weekend. Fred Townsend will print 100 Field Day Handouts for distribution.

Flea market problems - now we can't sell Hot Dogs (!?!). Howard did the negotiation with De Anza, but after the contact was signed,

De Anza changed the rules. Certain folks are checking with various groups, Intel, Sun, etc, for other possible sites.

Flea market booth results from May: we netted \$ 700.70, after the \$15.00 booth fee, plus \$40 cash for the signal generator. And we didn't sell any major radios. No bites on the Kenwood (no microphone with it).

Rockwell / Collins DKWM 380 - needs new capacitors, one element of the LCD (or driver) is bad, so for a tune-up, repair and overhaul, he will charge us for a tune-up, \$200-500. He feels certain that any cost will be offset by an increased selling price.

Motion: Don Village moved that we have it refurbished, seconded by Don Steinbach. The motion was approved unanimously. Lou will tell him.

Amplifier- we need to get a key, and not change the lock. Lou Steirer will send a request to the Collins reflector.

It was learned that the old tuner in the Red Cross is ours, so we will take that to the Flea Market also.

Need more drivers for taking gear to the June Flea Market, Stevens Creek & Stelling, NE corner of De Anza. (The secretary volunteered).

Will the Club Station be open again this month, on the last Saturday, 5/28? Yes, this month, staffed by Don Village, David Paul and Clark Murphy. But not next month, as the last Saturday of June is Field Day.

It was suggested and discussed that we put up a radio station at the Flea Market.

It was moved by Don Steinbach and seconded by Don Village that the Club dues be increased to \$20 per year. After discussion, the motion passed unanimously. It was suggested that the topic be discussed further at the next meeting.

Lou Steirer moved that we adjourn, and Clark adjourned the meeting at 21:12.

David Paul, AE6MV  
Secretary

---

## 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

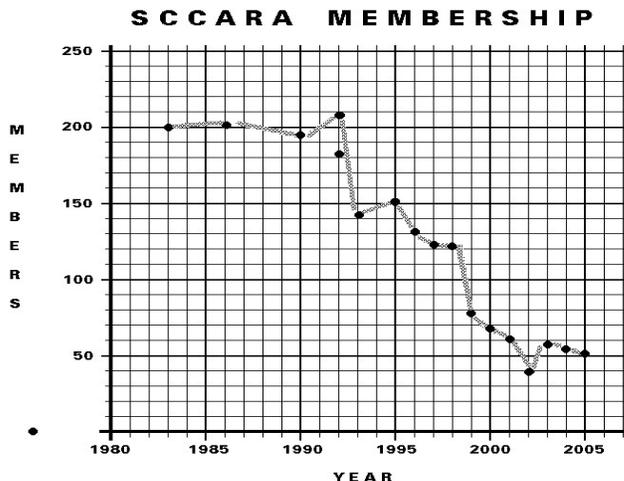
WA6VJY, Stan Getsla, day: (408) 738-2888 x5929,  
evening & msg: (408) 275-0735

WB6YRU, Gary Mitchell, msg (408) 265-2336  
also (408) 269-2924  
packet: home BBS NOARY  
e-mail: wb6yru@aenet.net

---

## Newsletter Notes

In the board meeting minutes, the secretary mentioned a chart that I passed around. I just thought you'd like to see it:



I was going through some stuff recently and came across the information, which I gathered when I was secretary years ago. There wasn't much data available priory to me being secretary, so

it's spotty before 1995 (and I've got conflicting info for 1992). I recently thought it'd be interesting to plot the info out and look at it graphically.

One question seems to be: what happened around 1992 or 1993 and again around 1999? Possibly just random glitches in an overall trend? The only thing I can think of that really changed during the nineties was the increasing popularity of the internet. That is, maybe many people simply got wrapped up in another hobby...web surfing, e-mail, newsgroups, etc..

Don KO6HH was president and I became editor. in 1993 Doug WN6U was president in 1994. Then in 1995, Mike K8ERL became president and I became secretary, taking over from Lloyd KD6FJI. I remember a real knockdown drag out board meeting January 1995, but nothing else significant around that time. Hugh KD6EFL took over as president in 1996, then Jack AC6FU in 1997, and then Barbara KD6FJI in 1998 through last year.

At least it seems to be leveling off. If the current trend continues, it looks like we'll settle in around 30 something.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

---

## Join SCCARA for Field Day 2005!

2005 Field Day contest weekend is June 25 & 26. Mark your calendars!

### WHAT

Field Day is one of the biggest amateur radio contests of the year, involving the U.S. and Canada. The underlying idea is to give amateurs practice making contacts under disaster conditions. This means the participants are encouraged to set up and operate portable stations powered by something other than PG&E. You can operate at home, but it's better (worth more points) to "setup shop" elsewhere.

It's a lot of fun and a great way to hone those operating skills! Everyone is encouraged to participate. You can make a weekend of it or just show up for part of it, whatever you like. We're expecting a great Field Day this year, so please come join us!

### WHERE

For the past several years we have been going up to Mt. Madonna County Park. Mt. Madonna is at the Southern end of Santa Clara county, right on the ridge between Gilroy and Watsonville along Hwy 152. Enter at Pole Line Road right at the top—if you find yourself going down hill, you've gone too far.

The SCCARA Field Day weekend will again be held at Mt. Madonna, at the Manzanita group camp site. SCCARA pays your camping fee—just show up—although donations would be very welcome. You don't need to stop at the park entrance station (just stay to the left and drive on in), but if you do stop, just tell them you're with the SCCARA radio club at the Manzanita group camp area.

### HOW

We usually have a variety of stations and antennas. The stations have included phone, CW, digital, novice, solar, VHF, etc. The antennas have been: beams on towers (one is a sizable crank-up on a specially made trailer), a long wire, and miscellaneous dipoles and verticals. The more exotic the power source, the better. In the past we have used batteries, generators, and solar cells.

We operate under a classification where several transceivers are on the air at one time. We are allowed a certain amount of time to set up—that's why some of us go up Friday afternoon. Once set up, we have 24 hours (starting at a specific time) to make as many contacts as possible. (For a copy of the rules see the ARRL web site: [www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2005/rules-fd-2005.html](http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2005/rules-fd-2005.html).)

### WHO

Clark Murphy KE6KXO is SCCARA's Field Day 2004 Committee Chairman. If you would like to get more involved, contact Clark: 408 262-9334. There'll be an "antenna party" (checking out our antenna trailer) some time early or mid June.

### WHEN

The Field Day contest starts at 10 AM Saturday, June 25, and ends Sunday, June 26 at 10 AM (a 24 hour stint). We're allowed up to 24 hours to set up. So, the set-up group will begin setting up Friday afternoon—see below.

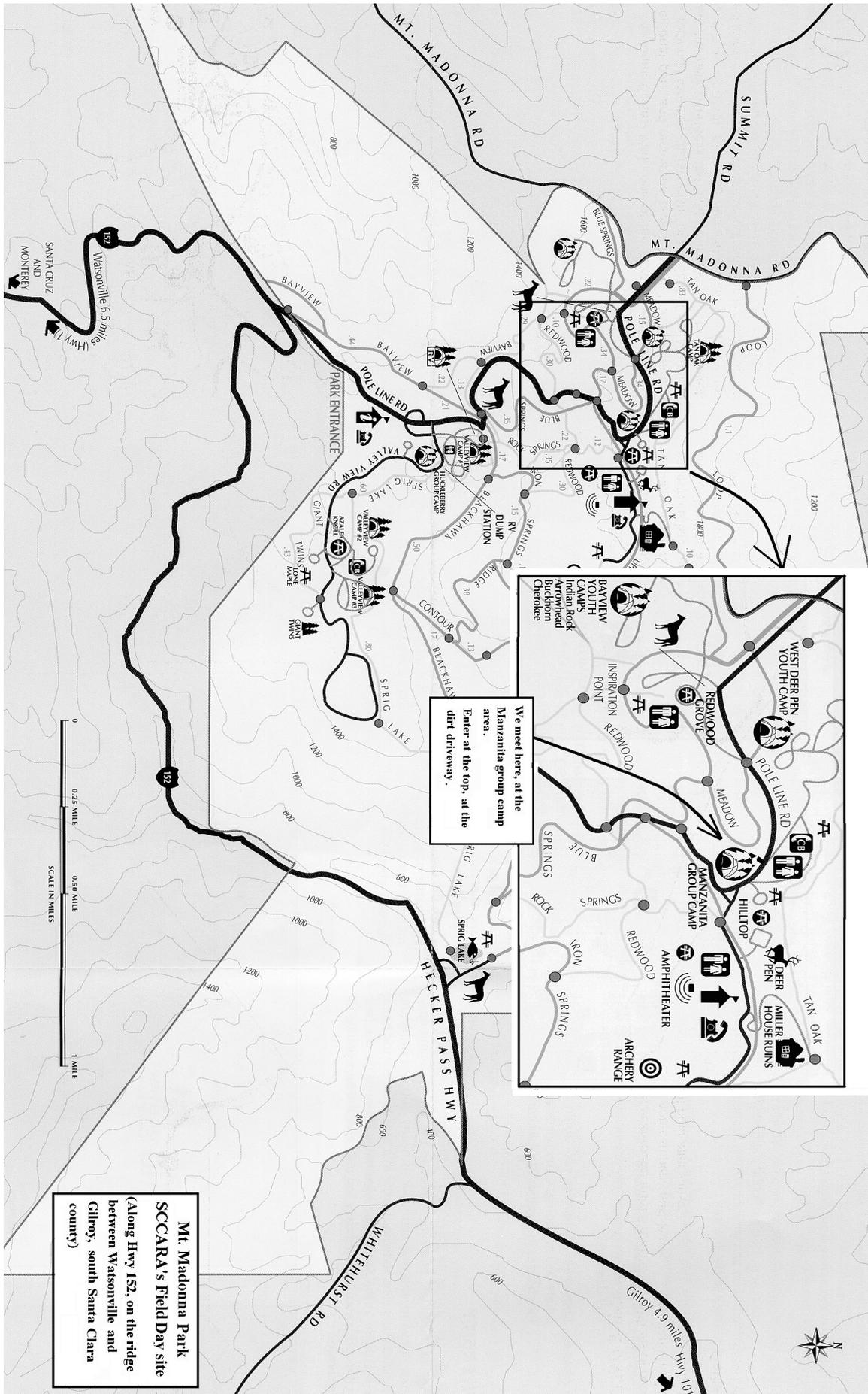
### FOOD

Meals will be pot-luck or fend for yourself if you wish. There'll be a gas camp stove available on the picnic tables in the middle of the camp site. In general, anything on those central tables is part of the pot-luck and up for grabs, so help yourself. :)

### JOIN THE SET-UP GROUP

You are encouraged to join the set-up group going up on Friday, June 24 and stay through Sunday, helping with both setup and tear-down. The set-up group plans to **meet for lunch on Friday, June 24 around 1 PM at Carl's Jr.** at Branham and Almaden in San Jose (across the street from Orchard Supply Hardware). We then take off in a convoy to Mt. Madonna, chatting along the way--this by itself is kind of fun! We'll be on our repeater 146.985(-), switching to simplex once we get into the mountains. Anyone may join the set-up group. If you don't go up with us in the convoy (but you should), we'll show up at the Manzanita group camp area around 3 PM. Monitor the repeater output (146.985) in the mountains.

**NOTE, for you regulars:** This year there are a couple of changes. All meals will be pot-luck, no sit-down prepared BBQ Saturday afternoon. Over the past few years the park fee has gone up (almost \$400 now) and club finances have gone down, so we'll be passing the hat for donations. If our finances don't change, we'll probably have to go somewhere else for Field Day next year. So if you have any ideas on a good location, please let us know. (Over night stays and running a generator should be allowed..)



**Mt. Madonna Park  
SCCARA's Field Day site**  
(Along Hwy 152, on the ridge  
between Watsonville and  
Gilroy, south Santa Clara  
county)

We meet here, at the  
Manzanita group camp  
area.  
Enter at the top, at the  
dirt driveway.

This inset map provides a detailed view of the Manzanita group camp area. It shows the Manzanita Group Camp, Hilltop, Deer House Ruins, Miller House Ruins, Archery Range, Amphitheater, Inspiration Point, Redwood Grove, and West Deer Pen Youth Camp. Other nearby locations include Bayview Youth Center, Redwood, and Pole Line Rd. A north arrow is also present in this inset.

# 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 Exp. 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:**  \$20 Individual  \$25 Family  \$10 Student (under 18)

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 CUT OR TEAR FORM <====



## SCCARA

Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Assn.

PO Box 6

SAN JOSE CA 95103-0006

Affiliate of the American Radio Relay League



**FIRST CLASS**

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**