

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 23, Number 4

April 2007



President's Prose

Many HAMS looking for a way to do HF from their car have resorted to the much sought after Screwdriver Antenna. March 24th nine of our club members had the pleasure to visit the small town of Esparto CA and meet with the very creative inventor Don Johnson.

Commander Don Johnson Retired US Navy Aviator is better known by HAMS World Wide as the father of today's modern Screwdriver Antenna. Don is an avid inventor and contributor to the hobby for more than 6 decades. Many of Don's electronics designs boggle the mind in complexity balanced with sheer simplicity with creative use of commonly available ordinary parts. Don's demonstrated designs are extra ordinary in performance will easily deliver a tuning range of 10m to 80m. He is still active designing while approaching his 90th birthday. His workshop is a treasure of ham radio history that held our attention for nearly 2 hours. He captivated us describing some of his early inventions.

Mr. Johnson disclosed he was a member of SCCARA in the fifties and had a group photo of the members of that era. Don is willing to share a photocopy for our members and club archives.

Thanks to Don Johnson in anticipation of our visit our members purchased 10 antennas. Our memorable visit to this early mobile ham radio pioneer had been pre-arranged by SCCARA member John Parks, W6JPP.

Your comments are welcomed:
kg6udw@arrl.net

73, Jim T.



Raffle

There will be a Yaesu VX -170 HT for raffle at the April meeting. This unit was donated by K6HWK, a member of our club.

ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, March 23, 2007

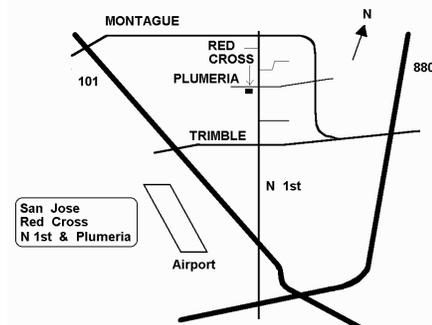
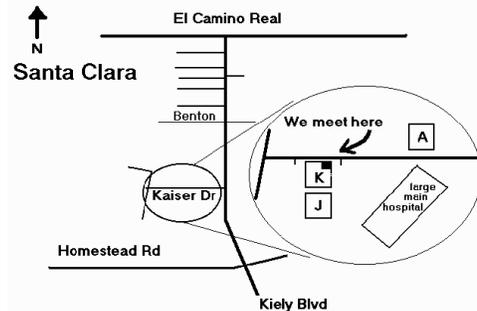
**ARRL OFFERS ALTERNATE APPROACH TO
"REGULATION BY BANDWIDTH"**

Calendar

- 4/9 SCCARA General Meeting
- 4/14 Electronic Flea Market (DeAnza)
- 4/16 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)
- 5/14 SCCARA General Meeting

General Meeting

Day: Monday, April 9, 2007
Time: 7:30 PM
Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Bld K, Rm 1
Featuring: Rod Stafford, W6ROD, will tell us about the IARU and ITU



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	Jim Tyranski, KG6UDW	453-0745
	e-mail: kg6udw@arrl.net	
Vice President	Fred Townsend, AE6QL	263-8768
	e-mail: fred@dcctolight.net	
Secretary	Mike Aronoff, WB0TOW	781-5704
	e-mail: aronoff@att.net	
Treasurer	Don Steinbach, AE6PM	867-3912
	e-mail: dlsteinbach@comcast.net	
Station Trustee	Don Village, K6PBQ	263-2789
	e-mail: donvillage7@yahoo.com	
Director	Don Steinbach, AE6PM	867-3912
	e-mail: ae6pm@arrl.net	
Director	Ned Tufekcic, AC6YY	690-7250
	e-mail: ac6yy@arrl.net	
Director	Don Village, K6PBQ	263-2789
	e-mail: donvillage7@yahoo.com	
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 Village, K6PBQ. On ten meters, 28.385 MHz USB, Thursdays at 8:00 PM. Net control: Wally Britten, 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.. Sysop: Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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

In the wake of recent changes in the Part 97 Amateur Radio rules, the ARRL has revised its "regulation by bandwidth" proposals to match the new reality, avoid some unintended consequences and temper some of the controversy the original petition had aroused. In a November 2005 Petition for Rule Making (RM-11306 <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/rm-11306/RM-11306-asFiled.pdf>>) <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/rm-11306/RM-11306-asFiled.pdf>>, the League asked the FCC to establish a regulatory regime that would segment bands by necessary bandwidths ranging from 200 Hz to 100 kHz rather than by emission mode. The ARRL now is urging the FCC to adopt a "subset of the rules <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/rm-11306/appendixA.html>> <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/rm-11306/appendixA.html>> contained in its original petition that largely affects only the amateur bands at 28 MHz and above.

"Because the proposals affecting the bands above 28 MHz had not aroused much controversy, they were retained in the shortened list," ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, explained this week. "Regulation by bandwidth rather than by mode of emission remains controversial below 28 MHz because of its perceived potential impact on established operating patterns, so these proposals were removed from the list with one narrow exception."

That exception addresses the fact that current rules impose no effective bandwidth limit on HF digital operation. "Digital emissions using multiple carriers, such as OFDM [orthogonal frequency division multiplexing], can be designed for any bandwidth while staying within the existing rules," Sumner points out, "so, the subset of proposed rule changes includes a bandwidth limit of 3 kHz on RTTY and data emissions below 28 MHz."

The proposed 3 kHz RTTY/data bandwidth limit aims to avoid the possibility existing under the present rules that a single digital station could monopolize large MF and HF band segments. In an Erratum this week the ARRL also asked the FCC to retain the existing 500 Hz bandwidth limit that applies to certain automatically controlled RTTY/data stations under §97.221.

The ARRL proposal would amend the definition of "bandwidth" in §97.3(a)(8) to read: "For a given class of emission, the width of the frequency band which is sufficient to ensure the transmission of information at the rate and with the quality required under specified conditions." The rule references the definition of "necessary bandwidth" appearing in Parts 2 and 97 of the FCC rules.

If the FCC adopts the League's revised proposals, the 10, 6 and 2 meter amateur bands would be segmented into subbands allowing maximum emission bandwidths of 200 Hz, 500 Hz, 3.0 kHz (with an exception for double-sideband, full-carrier AM phone), 16 kHz or 100 kHz. Above 222 MHz, the entire emission must be within the allocated Amateur Radio band to comply with §97.307(d).

Sumner concedes that the subset of proposed rule changes in RM-11306 would provide less protection to CW, RTTY and other narrowband modes than the League's original proposals afforded, but not less than the existing rules provide. "In fact, protection against interference from wideband digital modes would be increased, not decreased, even by adoption of the subset," he contended.

Some confusion arose because of an inadvertent omission in the initial notice of a meeting on this subject between ARRL officials and FCC staff. This week's Erratum addressed that issue.

Additional consternation followed in the wake of a widely circulated, but erroneous, comment alleging "the complete absence

of CW as a mode in the table of HF modes" the ARRL submitted. The ARRL has proposed no change to §97.305(a) of the rules, which authorizes CW on all amateur frequencies except on 60 meters.

The League has petitioned the FCC to permit CW and other modes on 60 meters, in addition to the presently permitted upper-sideband SSB.

After studying the topic several years, the ARRL Board of Directors continues to support the principles of regulation by bandwidth contained in the original RM-11306 petition.

"Regulation by bandwidth provides a better regulatory framework, not only for the introduction of future digital emissions but for the protection of traditional narrowband modes as well," Sumner asserted this week. He expressed the hope that the subset of RM-11306 modifications offers an alternative that "will make it easier for the FCC to move at least part of the way in that direction."

ARRL 500 KHZ EXPERIMENT LOGS THOUSANDS OF ACTIVITY HOURS

ARRL 500 kHz Experiment <<http://www.500kc.com>> Coordinator Fritz Raab, W1FR, reports that a total of 16 participating stations have been active on the air since the experiment got under way in late 2006. The FCC Office of Engineering and Technology granted the WD2XSH experimental license to the ARRL last September. Raab says the low-frequency investigation has demonstrated ground-wave communication at distances of 100 miles in New England, in the Gulf Coast states and in Colorado.

"This might not sound very dramatic, but it is very important, as no current amateur band has the capability for beyond-line-of-sight communication that does not depend upon the whims of the ionosphere," Raab told ARRL Headquarters. In his second quarterly Project Status Report <<http://www.500kc.com/#report2>>, Raab noted that during the past three months, WD2XSH participants have racked up another 2250 hours of operation, bringing the total to 4629. As of the end of February, the project had recorded 75 two-way contacts and more than 3100 reception reports via its Web site.

Raab says most of the records for QSO and reception distances set in the experiment's first three months have not been broken. "The longest distance over which a QSO has been maintained is 884 miles -- from New Hampshire to Tennessee," he notes. WD4XSH/10 (W4DEX operator) completed a crossband (500 kHz/137 kHz) QSO with WD2XNS (W1VD operator) in Connecticut. Stations have been using CW or very slow-speed CW (QRSs).

Even daylight contacts have been completed via ground wave. These include a 127-mile path between Massachusetts and Connecticut and an 87-mile path between Mississippi and Louisiana. "The Mississippi-Louisiana link has proven reliable multiple times at all times of the day or night," he commented. Daytime ground wave reception also has been reported over paths of 25 miles and 150 miles.

"These QSOs and reception reports provide preliminary verification of the capability for amateurs to use this band for regional emergency communication that does not depend upon the ionosphere," Raab said.

SM6BHZ in Sweden has been authorized to operate from 505.0 to 505.2 kHz. Two German experimental stations that had been operating in the vicinity of 400 kHz have shifted to 500 kHz too.

"We moved our operations up 200 Hz to create a 'DX Window' for them," Raab said. "The UK is now issuing special permits for 501-504 kHz."

Raab says the WD2XSH participants plan to continue their current operating pattern through the end of May. "We are trying designated QSO nights to increase the number of contacts," he pointed out. "Given successful completion of the third quarter, we would like to begin use of PSK/FSK/MSK31. Since these signals fit within the spectrum of the currently authorized CW signal, we should be able to use these digital modes by simply filing notice under Section 5.77 of the FCC rules."

Because a few of the original WD2XSH stations no longer are able to participate, Raab says he's looking into adding other stations to the list of those authorized to operate under the experimental license. "At present, nearly two dozen amateurs have submitted information forms with the hope of being added to the license," he notes. Criteria for additional participants include expansion of geographic coverage, expansion of ground wave tests, narrowband digital-mode capability and an on-going ability to contribute to the experiment.

The two-year WD2XSH authorization permits experimentation and research between 505 and 510 kHz using narrowband modes at power levels of up to 20 W effective radiated power (ERP).

Important WD2XSH Frequencies: CW beacons: 505.300-506.300 kHz; QRSs operation: 505.250-505.255 kHz, and calling frequency: 507.5 kHz (band center).

From *The ARRL Letter*, March 30, 2007

DO NOT FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS IN BOGUS E-MAILS

The ARRL is alerting members--and especially users of the ARRL E-Mail Forwarding Service <<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/emailfwd.html>> -- about bogus e-mails that claim to be from the "arrl.net user support team." There is no such entity, and the messages do not originate with ARRL but appear to be coming from outside the US. Recipients should not follow the instructions in the e-mail, which reads, "We have received reports that your e-mail account has been used to send a large amount of unsolicited commercial email messages during this week. We suspect that your computer had been infected by a recent virus and now contains a hidden proxy server. We recommend you to follow our instructions in order to keep your computer safe." Following the instructions will have the opposite effect, however, infecting your computer with the MyDoom Trojan worm and making it part of a spamming network. The League urges all members to invest in and use anti-virus software.

ARRL ANNOUNCES CARD CHECKING PROGRAM CHANGES

The ARRL has announced some changes in the DXCC, WAS and VUCC card checking program rules. Effective immediately, the 10-year rule has been dropped for DXCC <<http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc>> card checking. ARRL DXCC card checkers now have been authorized to check cards **for current entities only**, dating back to November 15, 1945. Card checkers still may not verify cards for 160-meter contacts nor cards confirming contacts with deleted entities. In addition, DXCC card checkers now may check applications for Worked All States Award (WAS) <<http://www.arrl.org/awards/was>> and The VHF/UHF Century Club Award (VUCC) <<http://www.arrl.org/awards/vucc>>, if they agree to do so. For

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, March 12, 2007



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

Board Meeting, March 19, 2007



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

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the packet network:

=====
Date: 18 Feb 2004 11:51
From: W1GMF@W1GMF
To: HUMOR@USA
Subject: HUMOR FOR TODAY 0216

A preacher, who shall we say was "humor impaired," attended a conference to help encourage and better equip pastors for their ministry.

Among the speakers were many well known and dynamic speakers. One boldly approached the pulpit and, gathering the entire crowd's attention, said, "The best years of my life were spent in the arms of a woman that wasn't my wife!"

The crowd was shocked! He followed up by saying, "And that woman was my mother!" - The crowd burst into laughter and delivered the rest of his talk, which went over quite well.

The next week, the pastor decided he'd give this humor thing a try, and use that joke in his sermon. As he surely approached the pulpit that sunny Sunday, he tried to rehearse the joke in his head. It suddenly seemed a bit foggy to him.

Getting to the microphone he said loudly, "The greatest years of my life were spent in the arms of another woman that was not my wife!" The congregation inhaled half the air in the room. After standing there for almost 10 seconds in the stunned silence, trying to recall the second half of the joke, the pastor finally blurted out, "...and I can't remember who she was!"

Daily Thoughts

A conscience is what hurts when all your other parts feel really good.

I know a Buddhist who refused Novocain during a root canal--he wanted to transcend dental medication.

Reader's Story

When my daughter was 3 years old we were sitting in church. I looked over at my her and noticed she was picking her nose.

I told her that was dirty, gross etc. and explained that we needed to go get a tissue and wash her hands.

At which time she told me, in no uncertain terms, that she wasn't picking her nose, she was moving the boogers so that she could breathe better.

~ Lorri M.

Last Laugh

A man is trying to understand the nature of God and asked him: "God, how long is a million years to you?"

God answered: "A million years is like a minute."

Then the man asked: "God, how much is a million dollars to you?" And God replied: "A million dollars is like a penny."

Finally the man asked: "God, could you give me a penny?" And God says: "In a minute."

=====
Date: 20 Jul 2004 08:51
From: W1GMF@W1GMF
To: HUMOR@USA
Subject: HUMOR FOR TODAY 0720

What Doctors Say vs. What They're Really Thinking:

"This should be taken care of right away."
(I'd planned a trip to Hawaii next month, but this is so easy and profitable that I want to fix it before it cures itself.)

"Welllllll, what have we here...?"
(He has no idea and is hoping you'll give him a clue.)

"Let me check your medical history."
(I want to see if you've paid your last bill before spending any more time with you.)

"Why don't we make another appointment later in the week."
(I'm playing golf this afternoon, and this is keeping me from the links.)

"We have some good news and some bad news."
(The good news is, I'm going to buy that new BMW. The bad news is, you're going to pay for it.)

"Let's see how it develops."
(Maybe in a few days it will grow into something that can be cured.)

"I'd like to prescribe a new drug."
(I'm writing a paper and would like to use you for a guinea pig.)

"If it doesn't clear up in a week, give me a call."
(I don't know what it is. Maybe it will go away by itself.)

"This should fix you up."

(The drug company slipped me some big bucks to prescribe this stuff.)

"Everything seems to be normal."
(Rats! I guess I can't buy that new beach condo after all.)

"I'd like to run some more tests."
(I can't figure out what's wrong. Maybe the kid in the lab can solve this one.)

"Do you suppose all this stress could be affecting your nerves?"
(You're crazier than an outhouse rat. Now, if I can only find a shrink who'll split fees with me...)

"There is a lot of that going around."
(That's the third one this week! I'd better learn something about this.)

"If those symptoms persist, call for an appointment."
(I've never heard of anything so disgusting. Thankfully I'm off next week.)

Daily Thoughts

"I just got back from the hospital. My girlfriend had to get her stomach pumped because I fed her what I thought was cotton candy and turned out to be insulation on a stick."
– Steven Wright

"The reason why worry kills more people than work is that more people worry than work." – Robert Frost

Isn't it a bit unnerving that doctors call what they do "practice?"

Last Laugh

A doctor and a lawyer were talking at a party. Their conversation was constantly interrupted by people describing their ailments and asking the doctor for free medical advice.

After an hour of this, the exasperated doctor asked the lawyer, "What do you do to stop people from asking you for legal advice when you're out of the office?"

"I give it to them," replied the lawyer, "and then I send them a bill."

The doctor was shocked, but agreed to give it a try. The next day, still feeling slightly guilty, the doctor prepared the bills. When he went to place them in his mailbox, he found a bill from the lawyer.

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):
HF operating techniques (SSB, CW): WB6EMR, K6PBQ
Classes/license upgrading: W6ACW
Legal/FCC rules: WB6YRU
SCCARA (club inner workings): K6PBQ, 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,
(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

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

Newsletter Notes

Apparently a fair number of you have switched over to the electronic version of the *SCCARA-GRAM*. The number of labels printed for the April 2007 issue is 52—that's down by almost 1/3 from January 2007. No doubt some of that is due to non-renewing memberships, but many are from folks switching to the electronic version.

The newsletter is one of our biggest on-going expenses. Enough of you have switched over to make a substantial decrease in those expenses.

If you're thinking about it, but are not sure, you can try the electronic version without giving up receiving the paper copy. The latest issue and the previous issue are available in PDF format on SCCARA's web site: www.qls.net/sccara..

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor



SCCARA

Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association
PO Box 6
SAN JOSE CA 95103-0006

Affiliate of the ARRL,
American Radio Relay League



FIRST CLASS

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SCCARA Membership Form for 2007

(Fill in name and call only if renewing and no info has changed)

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

Address: _____ Licensed since (yr): _____

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

Telephone: () _____ New Member Renewal
 I'm also a member of the ARRL

E-mail: _____ Packet: _____

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)
For family memberships (at the same address), please include a separate form for each family member.

I want the newsletter by: U.S. Mail internet (make sure your e-mail address is legible and correct)

Give this completed form (or copy) with payment to the Secretary or Treasurer at any meeting or mail to the club address.