

# SCCARA-GRAM



## Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 23, Number 6

June 2007



## President's Prose

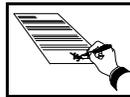
Looking forward to Field Day activities Antennas, Food, Camp Site, the Committees, my head is spinning. Thinking back to the last meeting in May, one or more notable thoughts come to mind: Our Raffle drawing was a huge success that produced a winner—whose son is a ham and will benefit. The prize, a Yaesu HT donated in “the spirit of helping the club” was a huge success. Hawk K6HWK & Greg KF6FNA who for with there generosity a young Ham will get a 2nd chance. His first HT was stolen and now he has a new Yaesu HT. His father received the HT and a Yaesu 50th Anniversary ball cap. May I take this moment to thank all of you the club members whose participation in the raffle made it all possible for the club to benefit.

We all have greatly benefitted from the generosity of Mitch Cipriano AE6AI owner of "The Ham Stop" for all he has done for our club. Some of our members recently helped Mitch and in return he donated six tables and the soldering irons, wire-strippers that where available for free at our May meeting. This is what ham radio is all about, helping others in small ways, as a group will yield big results.

June 16th 10:30 AM, activities begin with a not to be missed opportunity to visit with Don Johnson inventor of the screwdriver antenna. Jun 9th 10 AM, Practice Field Day coordinated Antenna raising. Please contact John W6JPP@arrl.net.

73 Jim T

Your comments are welcomed:  
kg6udw@arrl.net



## Antenna Party

Our antenna trailer check-out party for Field Day will be 6/9/07 at Clark's house (KE6KXO) at 10:00 AM. This will include trailer washing, rotor operation checking and other minor items. The trailer is in excellent shape thanks to the efforts of club members last year. This antenna party should only take a few hours at most. hope to see every body at Clark's on 6/9/07.

Please note that Jim will provide tri-tip and fixings for sandwiches for field day, Don K6PBQ will cook breakfast Saturday, he rest of the meals are pot luch or on your own.

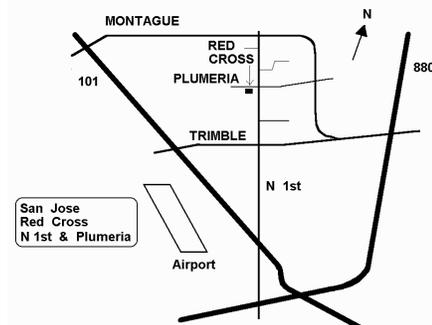
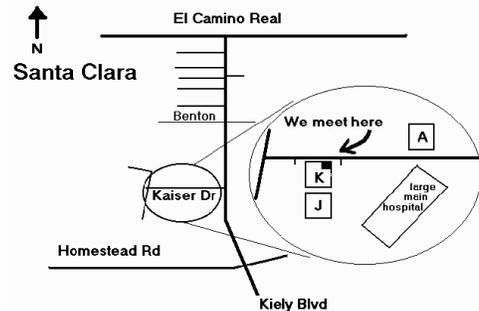
73 W6JPP (W6JPP@arrl.net)

## Calendar

- 6/9 Electronic Flea Market (DeAnza)
- 6/11 SCCARA General Meeting
- 6/18 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)
- 6/23,24 Field Day (6/22 set-up)

## General Meeting

Day: Monday, June 11, 2007  
Time: 7:30 PM  
Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Bld K, Rm 1  
Featuring: {to be announced}



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@dctolight.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

## **New Members**

SCCARA would like to welcome a new member to the club:

**Matt Dion, KF6NBO**

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

## **ARRL News**

From *The ARRL Letter*, May 4, 2007

### **ARRL FINDS WELCOME NEWS IN FCC "SMART RADIO" ORDER**

In a recent Memorandum Opinion and Order (MO&O) <[http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/FCC-07-66A1.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-07-66A1.pdf)> on cognitive or "smart radio" systems, the FCC has affirmed its favorable policy toward the regulation of amateur software defined radios (SDRs). A cognitive radio system is an SDR that can adapt its operating parameters by interacting with its RF environment. The FCC's April 20 MO&O was in response to petitions seeking clarification of the Commission's March 2005 Report and Order (R&O) in ET Docket 03-108. In that proceeding the agency declined to adopt any new regulations for cognitive Amateur Radio transceivers or for digital-to-analog (D/A) converters. ARRL Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, says the April MO&O indicates that the FCC intends to treat Amateur Radio SDRs the same as any other Amateur Radio equipment.

"This is welcome news from the FCC as it clarifies the matter of certification of amateur equipment," Rinaldo remarked. "It applies not only to terrestrial amateur equipment but also to amateur satellites, which increasingly are using SDR in their designs."

AMSAT-NA has announced it's revamped the design of its Project Eagle satellite to take maximum advantage of software defined transponder (SDX) technology.

The "cognitive radio" proceeding is emblematic of the FCC's ongoing struggle to address thorny regulatory issues to keep pace with cutting-edge technology. In its 2005 R&O, the FCC concluded that neither software programmable amateur transceivers nor high-speed D/A converters "present any significantly greater risk of interference to authorized radio services" than conventional hardware radios.

April's MO&O was in response to petitions from Marcus Spectrum Solutions (MSS), owned by Mike Marcus, N3JMM, a former FCC staffer and a member of the ARRL Software Defined Radio Technology Working Group, and from Cisco Systems. While the League was satisfied that the FCC's 2005 R&O had exempted Amateur Radio SDRs from its certification requirement, MSS felt the Order was ambiguous and sought further assurances.

In response, the FCC said it "did not intend to impose any new certification requirements for Amateur Radio equipment" in its 2005 R&O, including SDR equipment that may be modified by someone other than the manufacturer. The Commission noted, however, that external RF amplifiers operating below 144 MHz

and marketed for amateur use "will continue to require certification before they can be marketed."

MSS also requested a Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making with respect to digital-to-analog (D/A) devices. Marcus predicted that if high-power, high-speed D/A converters with antenna-like connectors ever became readily available, it could bypass the entire FCC equipment certification program and open the door to D/A-equipped computers capable of operating on any frequency. The FCC declined to act on Marcus's request, saying MSS did not "demonstrate any current need for regulation of D/A converters."

The FCC reiterated that it "may revisit the issue of the certification of amateur equipment with software modifiable features in the future, if misuse of such devices results in significant interference to authorized spectrum users."

ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, expressed confidence that it would not prove necessary for the FCC to revisit the issue, however, "as no misuse of amateur SDR technology is anticipated." For the FCC to impose any limitations on amateur SDR equipment "would be contrary to the goals enunciated for the Amateur Radio Service in §97.1 of the FCC's rules," he added.

Cisco had asked the FCC to revise its rules to better specify those classes of devices that do not require SDR certification. It also wanted the FCC to establish a policy that software that supports security measures not be made public if doing so could compromise security or enable illegal operation.

In response, the FCC revised §2.1(c) its rules to state that only radios with software "designed or expected to be modified by a party other than the manufacturer" -- such as downloading from the Internet -- and that would affect frequency range, modulation type, maximum power output or the circumstances under which the transmitter operates legally, would have to be certified as SDRs.

The FCC said it anticipates Commission requests for software source code would be extremely rare. "It would not be burdensome for a manufacturer to request confidentiality for software source code in the event we request it," the Commission added.

## **MOTOROLA SUSPENDS POWERLINE LV BPL DEVELOPMENT**

Less than two years after announcing its Powerline LV Access BPL product, Motorola has decided to suspend product development and to devote its resources to more promising markets, industry sources say. Motorola reportedly has decided to focus on a product called Powerline MU, which is for use within multiple-unit dwellings. The decision to stop work on its Access BPL product reflects declining interest in residential broadband service delivery among utilities coupled with more immediate demand for in-building BPL systems. Motorola has indicated that it's not scrapping Powerline LV altogether, however.

Powerline LV united Motorola's Canopy wireless broadband Internet platform with enhanced ham band-notching HomePlug technology, drastically reducing BPL interference potential by restricting the application of high-frequency RF to the low-voltage side of the power transformers serving customers' homes, not the medium-voltage wires that line many residential streets. As a result, Powerline LV avoided the system architecture that poses the greatest risk of BPL interference to radio communication -- radiation from the medium-voltage power lines.

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, expressed appreciation for Motorola's approach to the thorny issue of radio interference from BPL systems. In an effort to minimize

interference, particularly to the Amateur Radio bands, Motorola designed its Powerline LV system in close cooperation with the League's technical staff, Sumner noted. A test stand Access BPL system was in operation briefly at ARRL Headquarters. Measurements and subjective listening tests on the ham bands showed that Powerline LV was Amateur Radio-friendly.

"As one would expect from a company with such a distinguished record in the field of radio communication, Motorola acknowledged at the outset the seriousness of the interference problem," he said. "Motorola's system architecture influenced other vendors, raised industry awareness of the interference issue, and demonstrated the value of working with the ARRL to find positive solutions."

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From *The ARRL Letter*, May 18, 2007

## **ARRL SUBMITS PLAN TO MITIGATE REPEATER INTERFERENCE TO MILITARY RADARS**

The ARRL has submitted an interference mitigation plan to the US Department of Defense (DoD) as part of an effort to resolve reported interference from dozens of 70 cm amateur repeaters to US military radar systems on both coasts. Since Amateur Radio is secondary to government users from 420 to 450 MHz, hams must not interfere with primary users and, under the rules, can be forced to cease operation. Earlier this year, the US Air Force asked the FCC to order dozens of repeater systems to either eliminate interference to its "PAVE PAWS" missile and satellite detection and tracking radars in Massachusetts and California or shut down.

"We are waiting the response of the DoD representative to the proposal and will continue to provide information as to its status when it becomes available," commented ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist Dan Henderson, N1ND. The interference mitigation plan has four primary steps.

- All repeaters the DoD has identified as potential interference sources will immediately and temporarily reduce transmitter power output (TPO) to 5 W.
- The ARRL will conduct Longley-Rice studies on each repeater system to determine what further mitigation techniques might apply to individual repeaters. These could include relocating the system, the use of directional antenna systems to create nulls towards the PAVE PAWS site, permanent power reductions or a combination of these techniques.
- The DoD will review ARRL's studies to determine if the proposals will meet DoD's unspecified field strength requirements to mitigate the potential interference satisfactorily.
- Once the DoD reviews and approves the proposals, the ARRL will provide the recommendations to respective repeater frequency coordinating groups and the FCC.

The situation affects 15 repeaters within less than 100 miles of Otis Air Force Base on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, and more than 100 repeaters within some 140 miles of Beale Air Force Base near Sacramento, California. PAVE PAWS facilities occupy essentially the entire 70 cm band -- one factor that makes mitigation difficult. Feeding upward of 1800 active antenna elements, the broadband radar transmitters emit an average power output of more than 145 kW.

Henderson says repeater owners and trustees ultimately would be responsible for implementing the mitigation proposals or for developing alternatives that protect the radar systems to the same

extent.

Cooperation will be the key to a successful resolution of the situation, Henderson says. "Although ARRL has no means to compel compliance with the mitigation strategies, each repeater is absolutely obligated not to interfere with these radars," he emphasized. "Failure to implement the mitigation strategy or otherwise eliminate interference attributed to an individual repeater will result in immediate FCC action."

Henderson points out that the FCC is aware of and monitoring this situation and will act as necessary to protect the radars from interference. He stresses, however, that the US military is aware of the critical role Amateur Radio repeaters play in disasters and emergencies, and a wholesale shutdown of US 70 cm Amateur Radio activity is not under consideration.

A US Air Force contractor identified the allegedly problematic repeater systems last summer, but the situation didn't become critical until the Air Force contacted the FCC in March. ARRL officials met with Defense Department representatives later that month to discuss alleged interference to the PAVE PAWS radar sites, and last month Henderson contacted Amateur Radio frequency coordinating organizations in both affected areas -- the Northern Amateur Relay Council of California (NARCC) and the New England Spectrum Management Council (NESMC).

Contact Dan Henderson, N1ND <n1nd@arrl.org>; (860-594-0236), with specific questions or issues associated with this situation.

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From *The ARRL Letter*, May 25, 2007

### **ARRL FILES FEDERAL APPEALS COURT BRIEF IN PETITION FOR REVIEW OF BPL RULES**

The ARRL has filed a federal appeals court brief outlining its case and requesting oral arguments in its petition for review of the FCC's broadband over power line (BPL) rules. The League has petitioned the US Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit to review the FCC's October 2004 Report and Order (R&O) in ET Docket 04-37 and its 2006 Memorandum Opinion and Order. In its brief filed May 17, the ARRL contends, among other things, that the FCC's actions in adopting rules to govern unlicensed BPL systems fundamentally alter the longstanding rights of radio spectrum licensees, including Amateur Radio operators.

"For the first time ever, the FCC has permitted new unlicensed devices to operate in spectrum bands already occupied by licensees, even if the unlicensed operations cause harmful interference to the licensees," the League said in stating its case. "The orders under review reverse nearly seven decades of consistent statutory interpretation and upset the settled expectations of licensees without so much as acknowledging the reversal, let alone justifying it."

The ARRL argues that the FCC's approach to adopting rules to govern BPL flies in the face of Section 301 of the Communications Act, which requires that operators of devices that emit radio frequency energy first obtain an FCC license. "For years, the FCC has consistently read Section 301 to apply to unintentional radiators, such as BPL devices, and has expressly embodied that interpretation in its rules," the League's brief recounts.

The Commission then compounded its error by asserting that BPL devices do not fall within Section 301 at all, the League said. "This hail-Mary attempt at justification is another unexplained departure from prior policy that independently requires invalidation of the orders," the ARRL remarked in its brief.

The ARRL contends that the FCC orders under review "jeopardize

the license rights of ARRL's members and other license holders by authorizing providers of a new device -- Access Broadband over Power Lines, or 'BPL' -- to send radio signals across the electric grid in the frequencies the license holders occupy, but without having to obtain an FCC license."

The League's brief further asserts that the FCC "has failed to discuss or disclose significant information in the record that potentially contradicts its key interference findings," and seeks to have the FCC produce the information. The ARRL alleges that the Commission not only withheld its internal studies until it was too late to comment but has yet to release portions of studies that may not support its own conclusions. The FCC has claimed that these are "internal communications" that it did not rely upon in reaching its decision to adopt the BPL rules.

"If, as seems more likely, the Commission actually considered and rejected the information contained in the redacted portions of its studies, then it had a duty to disclose the information and reasons for rejecting it. Either way, the FCC acted improperly."

The League also takes issue with what it argues is the FCC's "arbitrary and capricious" adoption of a BPL emission measurement standard that's unsupported by the record in the proceeding and ignores contrary evidence. Additionally, the ARRL says, the FCC rejected a proposed alternative without even considering it.

Said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, in his "It Seems to Us . . ." editorial for July QST: "The Commission's penchant for ignoring contrary evidence is illustrated even more vividly with regard to how quickly RF emissions are assumed to decay as one moves away from the source. This is important because if the signal is assumed to decay more quickly than it really does, the interference potential of the emissions will be underestimated."

As Sumner notes, the FCC has claimed that "many parties" have presented experimental data supporting a 40 dB per decade (10 times increase in distance) rate. "In fact, there is no such evidence in the record -- and empirical evidence supporting a lower number was ignored," he asserts.

The League maintains that the Commission failed to consider the ARRL's sliding-scale alternative that would have avoided what Sumner calls "the logically indefensible situation that now exists in the rules: the extrapolation factor is 20 dB/decade at 30.001 MHz and 40 dB/decade at 29.999 MHz."

In addition, the ARRL wants the court to determine if the FCC was arbitrary and capricious in failing to limit BPL providers "to frequencies where interference was less likely to occur without materially harming BPL deployment." The League argues that the FCC ignored evidence that restricting BPL to the 30-50 MHz frequency range would have obviated interference to long-distance HF communications without causing problems for public safety services.

The ARRL brief asserts that, for the first time ever, the FCC "has authorized the operation of unlicensed devices that it concedes interfere with licensed devices" and has declared that such devices "may continue operating even where proven to cause interference."

The FCC, ARRL contends, has concluded that BPL's acknowledged interference risks are manageable, but it bases that conclusion -- which ARRL calls "the linchpin of the challenged orders" -- on FCC studies the Commission has declined to make public in unedited form.

"It is clear," the ARRL contends in his brief, "that the withheld pages contain information" that is at odds with the FCC's conclusion to adopt the current rules governing BPL deployments.

"ARRL is not trying to stop the deployment of BPL," the League's brief concludes. ARRL and other commenters have provided the FCC with alternative proposals -- ones that have been demonstrated to work in the real world -- that would have allowed BPL to prosper without harm to licenses or to Congress's licensing regime."

"What is perhaps most unfortunate about the FCC's radical actions in this case is that they were entirely unnecessary."

The FCC's response to the League's brief is due July 2.

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## Meeting Minutes

### General Meeting, May 14, 2007



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

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### Board Meeting, May 21, 2007



The meeting was called to order at 1945 hours.

The following members were in attendance:

Jim Tyranski, KG6UDW, President  
Fred Townsend, AE6QL, Vice President  
Don Steinbach, AE6 PM, Director & Treasurer  
Don Village, K6PBQ, Director & Trustee  
Lou Steirer, WA6QYS, Director  
Wally Britten, KA6YMD, Director  
John Parks, W6JPP  
Andrew Stoddard, KI6DSN

#### Secretary's Report :

None. Mike Aronoff was on travel. Don Steinbach agreed to fill in for the evening.

#### Treasurer's Report :

- The SCCARA liability insurance policy will be renewed with the Marsh Affinity Group for another year at a cost of \$320. This provides us \$1M coverage.
- The Yaesu VX-170 HT donated by Hawk, K6HWK, netted SCCARA \$255.58 after two raffles. The first winner was Greg, KF6FNA, who redonated it for the second raffle. Total ticket sales were \$262.00 and the preprinted tickets cost \$6.42. The Board thanks Hawk and Greg.
- The SCCARA checking, savings and cash on hand totals \$5,903.57

#### Repeater Committee :

- There has been no response from the City of San Jose yet to the Radio Communications Agreement submitted earlier this year.
- There is no new information on the PAVE-PAWS issue affecting the 440 MHz repeaters in the area.

#### Field Day :

- Fred Townsend moved and Don Steinbach seconded, that anyone working near the tower(s) wear a hard hat and that SCCARA will make them available at cost through SVECS at the next general meeting. The possibility of SCCARA furnishing hard hats as part of the trailer equipment was discussed and rejected. The negative factors were possible liability issues, personal hygiene (web sterilization), storage/maintenance and potential

deterioration with time. The issue was surfaced by John Parks. The motion carried unanimously.

● The trailer tarp needs replacement. Don Steinbach moved and Fred Townsend seconded that John Parks look into prices and recommend a replacement. The motion carried unanimously.

● John Parks will look into the price of fire extinguishers to keep near the generator. Fred Townsend will also contact David Paul for a recommendation.

● Don Steinbach discussed his notes from the last Field Day: one of the beams needs a u-bolt for the balun; the mishmash of sheet-metal screws used to assemble the beams should be discarded and replaced with #7 hex head screws per the drawing; bring spare fuses for "your" equipment; there needs to be a welcoming sign at the entrance – more than just a banner that says SCCARA; there should be a sign at each operating position; handouts should be available for visitors.

● Don Steinbach handed out a draft procedure for erecting the free-standing tower using six individuals. Properly securing the base is a primary concern. The holes in the baseplate should be enlarged if needed so that at least two construction stakes can be driven in place to hold it from skidding. Wally Britten cautioned that the stakes need to be driven down so that the tower clears them on tilt-up. Also, the mast section atop the rotator is a piece of iron or steel water pipe weighing an estimated 30 lbs. This needs to be replaced with a piece of electrical conduit or equivalent.

● Jim Tyranski moved and Don Village seconded, that all questionable rope on the trailer be discarded. Don Steinbach moved and Fred Townsend seconded that John Parks be authorized to replace at least 300' of rope at a cost NTE \$150. The motion carried unanimously.

● Don Steinbach will either repair the SCCARA FC-757AT Automatic HF Antenna Tuner or bring a SWR meter to the field day site. He took the tuner home from the Red Cross to determine what should be done as a repair.

#### New Business :

● Lou Steirer moved and Don Steinbach seconded that the Hustler 4-BTV antenna refurbished by Don be removed from the Property List and handed off to John Felix, KI6ANW. SCCARA has never used the antenna and has no plans to do so. The motion carried unanimously.

● John Parks reported that the following equipment was donated by Marty, WB6OFM:

SBC SB2-LA linear amplifier  
SBE-34 HF exciter  
Johnson Viking II transmitter  
Hallicrafters HT-37 transmitter  
Wire Way Secretary wire recorder (yes, wire)  
Two "junkier" CBs

● There are still two 20' towers on the property and a 3-band quad and rotator John Parks will retain the 3-band quad for his personal use. All other equipment is to be sold to SCCARA members or otherwise. All is presently stored in Don Steinbach's garage.

● Don Steinbach reported that SCCARA did not set up a station at the Stanford Powwow due to lack of interest on the part of SCCARA members and other conflicts that weekend.

● Lou Steirer reported that SCCARA has the meeting room at Kaiser through July of this year. It will probably not be available after that. New meeting place is TBD.

The meeting was adjourned at 2155 hours.

– Don Steinbach, recording for the secretary.

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## Packet Pieces

**Downloaded from the packet network:**

=====  
Date: 27 Nov 2005 13:20  
From: ZL3AI@ZL2BAU  
To: HUMOUR@WW  
Subject: Message/Thanks/Pillar  
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#### Message Puzzle

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April was puzzled recently by the odd messages she kept getting on her voice mail. Day after day, all she'd hear from friends, family, and customers alike, would be their message and then they'd ALL say, "BEEP."

We were talking about something else and I had her check her voice mail message to find something out. She discovered the solution to the BEEP riddle.

Her message said, "I'm not available right now, so please leave a beep after the message."

#### Thankfulness

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He was a good man but a bit stingy. He would bargain and haggle on a price, never paying the price asked. He especially hated paying his medical fees.

One day, while eating fish, a bone became lodged in his throat and within minutes he could scarcely breathe. His wife frantically called the family doctor, who arrived just as the patient's face was turning blue. The physician quickly removed the bone with a pair of forceps.

After he was breathing normally again, although overwhelmed with gratitude to the doctor for saving his life, he began to worry about the medical fees.

Trying his best to keep his costs down, he turned to the good doctor and asked, "How much do I owe you for this small two-minute job?"

The doctor, who knew his patient's miserly habit all too well, replied, "Just pay me half of what you would have when the bone was still stuck in your throat!"

#### Pillar Interruption

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The Sunday School teacher described how Lot's wife looked back at Sodom and was turned into a pillar of salt.

Suddenly Jimmy interrupted. "My mother looked back once while she was driving," he announced triumphantly, "and she turned into a telephone pole!"

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## Need Help?

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

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

Antennas, feed-lines, tuners: WB6EMR, K6PBQ, WB6YRU  
Lightning protection, grounding: WB6YRU  
Station set-up, equipment: K6PBQ  
TVI/RFI: WB6YRU  
Homebrew projects, construction: KD6FJI, WB6YRU  
Computers: KB6NP; IBM PC: WB6YRU  
Packet Network (BBS, forwarding): WB6YRU  
Code operating and installations: WB6EMR, K6PBQ

DX (long distance/propagation): WB6EMR  
Emergency operating/preparedness: WA6QYS  
FM (VHF/UHF, repeaters):  
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

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## Newsletter Notes

### For Sale:

Two electric staplers: A Swingline model 67 and a Panasonic Model AS-302NN.

The Panasonic is only a couple of years old. Both are in perfect working order and take standard staples. They've only been used once a month to process the SCCARA-GRAM. A new electric stapler like these usually runs around \$60 or \$70, we're only asking \$10 (each).

The maximum stapling stack for these is 20 sheets, that's pretty standard for typical staplers. However, it doesn't just cut off at 20 sheets, the chances of a misfire increase gradually above about ten sheets. A ten or twelve page SCCARA-GRAM (ten or twelve sheets thick when folded for mailing), might get a misfire ten percent of the time. So we got one that drives slightly heavier duty staplers.

They'll be available at the next meeting, or send me an e-mail: wb6yru@ix.netcom.com.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

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# **COME FOR A WEEKEND OF FUN JOIN SCCARA FOR FIELD DAY 2007      JUNE 23 & 24**

Field day is one of the biggest amateur radio contests of the year, involving the US 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 its better (worth more points) to "set up shop" elsewhere.

For the past several years we have been going to Mount Madonna County Park. Mount Madonna is at the southern end of Santa Clara County, right on the ridge between Gilroy and Watsonville along State Route 152. Enter at Pole Line Road right at the top of the hill. (If you find yourself going down hill, you have gone too far.)

Meals will be pot-luck. If you chose not to participate in the potluck, you are responsible to provide your own food. There is always a gas camp stove and bbq available for use. (Food on the centrally located picnic tables are fair game to all participants to consume, if you don't want it eaten by others, don't put it on the table.) Breakfast on Saturday will be provided by Don K6PBQ.

SCCARA usually has a variety of stations and antenna. The stations have included phone, CW, digital, novice, solar, VHF, etc. In the past, the antennas that have been used included beams, dipoles, and long wire to name a few. Often times, we utilize batteries, generators and solar energy to power the various equipment needed for field day.

SCCARA operates under a classification where several transceivers are on the air at one time. We are allowed to a certain amount of set up time. A group of club members usually head up to Mount Madonna on Friday to begin setting up the various stations. Once everything is set up, SCCARA can begin making contacts for a 24-hour period beginning and ending at times dictated by ARRL. For a complete list of rules, please view <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2007/fd.html>.

This even is a lot of fun and a great way to hone one's operating skills. Everyone is encouraged to participate. Participants are welcome to participate for the entire weekend, or any part of the weekend, depending on personal preference.

As mentioned earlier, SCCARA Field Day will be at Mount Madonna County Park. SCCARA has covered all camping fees for members and visitors, so feel free to simply show up. This means that you don't need to stop at the ranger station. Simply stay to the left and continue to the Manzanita Group Camp Ground.

All members and visitors are encouraged to join the set up group on Friday June 22. The staging area for the set up group will be at 1101 Branham Ln, San Jose; NW Corner of Almaden Expressway at Branham; Parking lot of Carls Jr. Please be ready to depart this location promptly at 12:30PM. If you so choose to eat prior to leaving please arrive with ample time to do so, so that we may leave as scheduled. We will be using SCCARA simplex (146.985) en route to Mount Madonna.

Andrew Stoddard (KI6DSN) and John Parks (W6JPP) are SCCARA's Field Day Chairmen. If you would like to become more involved, please feel free to contact Andrew at [KI6DSN@gmail.com](mailto:KI6DSN@gmail.com) or John at [W6JPP@arrl.net](mailto:W6JPP@arrl.net).

SCCARA looks forward to seeing each and every one of you, and all visitors at the 2007 ARRL Field Day.

– Andrew KI6DSN and John Parks W6JPP

OPERATIONAL PERIOD: JUNE 22-24  
Friday 6/22, 1230  
Saturday 6/23, 0000-2400  
Sunday 6/24, 0000-1400

CONTEST OPERATIONAL PERIOD:  
Saturday 1100-2400, Sunday 0000-1300

COMMAND STAFF:  
INCIDENT COMMAND: John W6JPP / Andrew KI6DSN  
SAFETY: Greg KF6FNA  
PIO: Jim KG6UDW

OPERATIONS STAFF:  
GOTA STATION: John W6JPP  
CW: Don AE6PM, Don K6PBQ  
HF: Ned AC6YY  
DIGITAL: James K6WRJ  
2M SIDE: John W6JPP ???  
COMPUTER LOGGING: Gary WB6YRU

NOTE: The individuals assigned to managing the above stations will be responsible for making sure that ALL of the equipment needed for the station is brought to the field day location and is operational for their assigned station.

LOGISTICS STAFF:  
MEDICAL: Andrew KI6DSN (EMT-B)  
FOOD: On Your Own

COMMUNICATIONS:  
TRAVEL FREQUENCY: 146.985 simplex  
OPERATIONS TAC FREQUENCY: 147.555 simplex

STAGING INSTRUCTIONS:  
LOCATION: 1101 Branham Lane, San Jose; NW Corner of Almaden Expressway at Branham; Parking lot of Carls Jr.  
DEPARTURE TIME: 1230 hrs, PROMPT  
STAGING MEAL: 1100 hrs



**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.