

# SCCARA-GRAM



## Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association



Volume 23, Number 7

July 2007

## President's Prose

FOOD FUN FRIENDS underlined by safety was the theme for a successful 2007 Field Day event.

Thanks to you the club members whose participation in Field Day made it all possible. We all have greatly benefitted from the work provided by the field day team.

Our field day team led by: John, Andy, Greg, Ned, James and the field day antenna team whose watchful eyes provided the needed safety for all our activities (SAFETY FIRST).

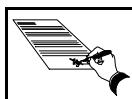
The GOTA station and long hour's, patience by Eric provided the next generation of Hams the opportunity to experience our passion for the hobby.

The antenna team trained for the assembly and rising of two heavy antennae towers and encouraged the increased use of safety gear. Finally a last minute scramble to purchase tires for our +3000# antenna trailer increased its road safety.

The June 16th catered lunch provided by Don Johnson inventor of the screwdriver antenna was a huge success. Mr. Johnson provided the club with a 1954 picture of the Pacific Division Convention with many SCCARA members.

73, Jim T,

Your comments are welcomed: kg6udw@arrl.net



## New Members

SCCARA would like to welcome these new amateurs to the club (in "callbook" order):

Adam Allustiarti, KI6JDR  
Ray Allustiarti, KD6JUD  
David Dippon, AE6YE  
Eric Allustiarti, (no call... yet)

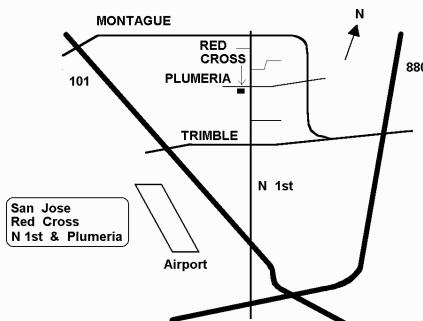
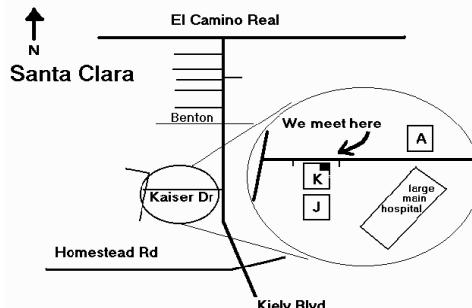
If you have any questions, ideas, or comments about SCCARA or any activities, please don't hesitate to ask.

## Calendar

- 7/14 Electronic Flea Market (DeAnza)  
7/9 SCCARA General Meeting  
7/16 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)  
8/13 SCCARA General Meeting

## General Meeting

Day: Monday, July 9, 2007  
Time: 7:30 PM  
Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Bld K, Rm 1  
Featuring: Don Steinbach AE6PM will demonstrate his constant 13.5 V power supply from a 12 V battery..



The **SCCARA-GRAM** is published monthly by the **SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION**, PO Box 6, San Jose CA 95103-0006. Permission to reprint articles is hereby granted, provided the source is properly credited.

**The deadline for articles is the last Monday of the month.**

SCCARA was formed in 1921 and became a non-profit corporation in 1947. SCCARA is an affiliate of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). The club station is W6UW.

**Web page:** <http://www.qsl.net/scara>.

**OFFICERS - DIRECTORS - STAFF**

President	Jim Tyranski, KG6UDW	453-0745	e-mail: kg6udw@arrl.net
Vice President	Fred Townsend, AE6QL	263-8768	e-mail: fred@dcotlight.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 (packet info: [www.n0ary.org/ncpa](http://www.n0ary.org/ncpa))

**TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

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

# Field Day Report

Field day 2007 we had a total of 29 members show up as well as getting 3 new members at field day. Also we had 18 guests, as well as the head ranger at Mt. Madonna make an appearance. He stated he was very impressed and pleased that we appeared to organized and that every one working around the towers wore protective hats.

At this time the station stats are approximate cw 100+ digital 100+, GOTA 100+, hf 100+ I do not have a count for vhf & uhf at this time.

Again this year both towers were up along with at least 3 dipoles. radio conditions was not the best but { WE HAD FUN}.

Also this year Jim KG6UDW and Andy KI6DSN provided tri-tip hot the meal Saturday evening. One thing can be said we don't ever go hungry there. As soon as Andy and I get all the stats we will figure out our score and let every body know hopefully at the July meeting. For those who could not make it there ya'll were missed. Maybe you can make it next year.

73 de W6JPP







Photos by Don Steinbach, AE6PM

## Here's a Blast From the Past!

Joe Castellano, W6SNV, noticed this article about SCCARA in January 1937 QST... 70 years ago this year! SCCARA, (at first called the San Jose Amateur Radio Association) was just 16 years old at the time.

### With the Affiliated Clubs

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**W6SV**  
By Richard F. Barrett, W6CFK

**T**HE Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association of San Jose, Calif., is preparing for increased public service and at the same time perpetuation the name of its most distinguished member, the late Col. Clair Foster, W6HM.

When the Colonel closed his shack in the summer of 1935 for his annual vacation trip to British Columbia it was for the last time. In October death found him at Denver, Colo., where he had rushed when stricken ill as he prepared to return home. As his friends recovered from the shock of his death, it became a natural speculation as to what would be done with the expensive equipment, which, sending out impulses from the shack among the pines of Carmel-by-the-Sea, had made the colonel's vigorous personality known the world over. Then, through Ralph Heintz, W6XBB, of Heintz & Kaufman, San Francisco, good friend of the Colonel, it was learned that Mrs. Foster desired to give to his home club, The Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association, not only HM's radio equipment but all the curios he had collected as a result of his widespread operation.

the club was gratified but stumped by the need of a place to house the gift, having no regular rooms of its own. Inquiries were launched.



**W6IXJ AND W6NRG ABOUT TO FIRE UP THE  
W6HM RIG AT ITS NEW LOCATION SIGNING  
W6SV**

The place that seemed most obvious was the city's new Municipal Auditorium, an earthquake-proof structure completed last spring after an expenditure of approximately \$675,000. In designing the building the architect had provided a copper-covered tower near the southeast corner for two reasons: first, to provide an outlet for the main exhaust fan and second, to balance the stage loft at the rear, diving the California-Spanish style structure dynamic symmetry, as he called it. After the fan was installed below and the motor to run it, there was ample empty space remaining. Like a famed Mormon leader when he led his band into Utah, club members said

figuratively, "This is the place."

Although city officials seemed favorable, it took something else to get the project started. The "something" was one of those happy coincidences that doesn't dare turn up in fiction. The Red Cross-American Legion Disaster Relief Corps was puzzling over the establishment of an emergency communication system in case another earthquake such as that of 1906 should visit the region. Harry Engwicht, W6HC, charter member of the club, was delegated to confer with Corps leaders.

What could be more appropriate than an emergency station ever ready to serve the community in hour of need as a memorial to Colonel Foster, a man who had given of himself so generously for the benefit of others?

On August 23<sup>rd</sup> five members of the club made the 50-mile trip to Carmel, taking a truck and trailer belonging to Lloyd Saxon, W6EEX, and a large Cadillac sedan belonging to Willis Clayton, W6JTE, secretary of the club. Other members of the party were: Al Clark, W6MUC; C. W. Jacklin, WIXJ, and the writer. At Carmel the party was met by Mr. Heintz, who supervised operations and said the shack was to be stripped completely. A glance about showed the equipment to include a three-kilowatt Kilbourne-Clark ship generator and a five horsepower motor to run it. The transmitter, a variety of receivers and boxes and closets of miscellaneous meters, tubes, crystals, wire and other odds and ends, not to mention a stuffed alligator and a handsome antelope head which friends had sent the colonel from far corners of the earth were all there, as well as the colonel's log books, which are being carefully preserved.

Thanks to the good strong backs of Clark, Saxon and Jacklin the generator and motor were finally loaded into the trailer, with Bill Clayton and the writer offering helpful suggestions and getting in the way at the psychological moments. The transmitter was disconnected and loaded with less difficulty. It comprised of a '47 crystal oscillator, two '10 stages into a pair of '10's, into a pair of '52's feeding a pair of 204A's in the final. These items, together with the miscellaneous parts and apparatus filled the car, truck and trailer to capacity. By mid-afternoon the party headed homeward to San Jose after making the acquaintance of Charles Guth, W6NAL, Carmel traffic officer and a good man to know.

At its regular meeting the following evening the club moved into its new quarters, the generator being "hiked" up five flights of stairs by a larger crew. President Roy Pinkham appointed Clark, chief operator, Jacklin as technician and Harry Engwicht to supervise installation.

The club is now turning its attention to the organization of a five-meter net to serve as a field

organization feeding the central station, W6SV. That call by the way, has long been held by the club. A drill will be held in cooperation with the Disaster Relief Corps when arrangements have been completed. The club is also considering ways of making the station a memorial to Colonel Foster and a Museum of early radio developments. The colonel's collection included tubes and equipment long obsolete and rarely seen. San Jose is also rich in relics of radio's formative period due to the experiments of Charles D. Herold and others.

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Reprinted with permission. Courtesy January 1937 QST

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## ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, June 1, 2007

### ARRL TO FCC: SHUT DOWN "GROSSLY NONCOMPLIANT" AMBIENT BPL PILOT PROJECT

The ARRL has again demanded that the FCC shut down Ambient Corporation's broadband over power line (BPL) pilot project in Briarcliff Manor, New York. On May 21 the FCC called on the BPL equipment maker and system operator to demonstrate it's complying with all terms of the Part 5 Experimental license <<http://www.arrl.org/news/bandhereat/BriarcliffManorResponse20070521.pdf>> authorizing the system, or face possible enforcement action. In a May 31 letter to FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division Chief Kathryn S. Berthot, ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, contended that it's "long past time that the Commission enforce its own rules," and again objected to the Commission's "inexplicable inaction" in the face of evidence the system is noncompliant. Imlay pointed out that the FCC's May 21 letter made no mention of Condition #1 of Ambient's Part 5 Experimental license.

"That condition requires that if any interference occurs, the holder of the authorization will be subject to immediate shutdown," Imlay wrote. "Interference has repeatedly occurred, and it has been witnessed and verified by a member of the Commission's Enforcement Bureau staff. Yet no action has been taken whatsoever to terminate this experimental authorization over a period of more than two and one-half years. This is inexcusable."

Ambient operates the Briarcliff Manor BPL pilot program under Experimental license WD2XEQ. ARRL testing as recent as late May indicated the system is operating outside of the parameters of its FCC authorization.

The League called the FCC's most recent push to get the company to comply with the terms of its Experimental license "too little, too late and an abdication of the Commission's responsibility to protect its licensees from interference from unlicensed RF devices."

"The Commission's obsessive compulsion to avoid any bad news about BPL has clearly driven its multi-year inaction," the League continued. "Had this been any other experimental authorization dealing with any technology other than BPL, the experimental authorization would have been terminated long ago."

The League's complaints regarding interference to Amateur Radio

communication from the Briarcliff Manor system date back to October 2003 and included supportive technical reports and test results.

As it stands, the League maintained, the FCC should have shut down Ambient's BPL system a long time ago. The ARRL further objected to Ambient's "repeated misrepresentations in its six-month reports claiming that its Briarcliff Manor BPL system meets FCC emission limits."

New measurements done May 24 by ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, conclusively establish that the Ambient BPL system, in Hare's words, "continues to operate well above the Part 15 emission limits that are stipulated as a condition of its Experimental license." Hare said his latest excursion marked the third time his emissions testing in Briarcliff Manor showed the system to be operating significantly above Part 15 emissions limits.

"The spectral masks in this system intended to protect some radio services from interference work poorly enough in this generation-1 equipment, but when the system is operated at excessive levels, strong interference is an inevitable outcome," he commented. "By operating this system above the Part 15 emissions limits, Ambient is making it impossible for any electric utility to use results from this experiment to reach any conclusions about the technical and commercial viability of BPL."

The ARRL further argued that the Ambient BPL system should not be permitted to continue operating under the radar with an Experimental license instead of under the FCC's Part 15 BPL rules, adopted in 2004. The Briarcliff Manor system does not even appear in the FCC's BPL database, the League noted.

"Causing Ambient to operate in accordance with the BPL rules rather than allowing it to hide behind its experimental authorization would at least be consistent with the Commission's regulatory plan for BPL, however inadequate that plan is in terms of interference avoidance," Imlay's letter concluded.

#### **RILEY REITERATES RECOMMENDATION TO "LIGHTEN UP" ON HAM BANDS**

FCC Special Counsel in the Spectrum Enforcement Division Riley Hollingsworth's main message at the Dayton Hamvention <<http://www.hamvention.org>> 2007 FCC Forum may not have been a new one. But it's certainly one he believes bears repeating -- at least until it starts cutting through the QRM and QRN that pervade more communication channels than our Amateur Radio bands.

"Well, you could have gone to the flea market, but you came to church instead," Hollingsworth quipped to his Dayton forum audience. "I've got you now."

Hollingsworth repeated what for many Riley Watchers has become a familiar refrain: That the Amateur Radio community needs to "lighten up" on the air. Acknowledging that he was repeating himself, Hollingsworth urged his audience to take his message more to heart. "All of you can learn from each other," he said, "and you need to work together more and show a little more respect for your diverse interests and for the Amateur Service as a whole. It isn't about you. It isn't about enforcement. It's about Amateur Radio."

As radio amateurs take to the airwaves, he continued, they need to decide what's most important -- the best interests of ham radio or their ego, pride or perceived "rights."

"I realize I may be preaching to the choir here, but on the air you

need to be more cooperative and less argumentative -- and I need you to take this message with you when you go home," he continued.

As a "homework assignment," Hollingsworth encouraged his listeners to read the "It Seems to Us . . ." editorial, "Most Effective Use" <<http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2007/05/01/1/>>, by ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, in May 2007 QST. In his commentary, Sumner stressed that interference occurring as a side effect of legitimate Amateur Radio activities in crowded bands "is simply a fact of life" and that it's "unfair to your fellow amateurs to assume that every instance of interference you may encounter is a hostile act."

Hollingsworth offered good news and bad news. "The good news: Nothing is wrong with Amateur Radio," he allowed. "It is a good service that is showing its value to the public on a daily basis."

The bad news, he asserted, making a comparison to "road rage," is "that there is an element of Amateur Radio that too often reflects present society generally."

Hollingsworth urged all radio amateurs to cooperate more and depend less on the FCC to solve their operating issues.

"We live in a rude, discourteous, profane, hotheaded society that loves its rights, prefers not to hear about its responsibilities, and that spills over into the ham bands," he said.

Hollingsworth's bottom line: Be flexible in your frequency selection and make regular use of the "big knob" on the front of your transceiver to shift to any of the "thousands of frequencies and hundreds usable at any given time of day or year" as necessary to avoid problems. "The world is ugly enough -- don't add to it," Hollingsworth advised.

"We can enforce our rules, but we can't enforce kindness and courtesy or common sense," Hollingsworth concluded. "And a very wise person, who happens to be standing to my left [FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau staffer Bill Cross, W3TN -- Ed] once told me: 'You can't regulate stupid.' If we could, we'd be working for the United Nations instead of the FCC."

In his comments, Cross singled out the controversy that erupted recently over fears that automatically controlled digital stations would overwhelm the amateur bands, eclipsing most other modes. Cross cited §97.7 of the rules, which requires each amateur station to have a control operator and, in essence, to employ a "listen-before-transmit" protocol."

When a station is under automatic control, regardless of the transmission mode, Cross explained, the control operator need not be at the control point, but must employ station control devices and procedures while transmitting that ensure compliance with the FCC rules and does not cause harmful interference to ongoing communications of other stations.

The operational rule, Cross said, is: "Your call sign, your responsibility."

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From *The ARRL Letter*, June 8, 2007

#### **ARRL, DoD, FCC TRY TO COME TO TERMS WITH PAVE PAWS**

The ARRL has sent out more than 100 letters to repeater owners/trustees who have repeaters affected by the "Pave Paws" radars (PPR). Citing an increasing number of interference

complaints, the US Air Force has asked the FCC to order dozens of repeater systems to either mitigate interference to the Pave Paws radars or shut down. The ARRL is working with the US Department of Defense (DoD) to develop a plan to mitigate alleged interference from 70 cm ham radio repeaters to this military radar system on both coasts.

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.

ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist Dan Henderson, N1ND, stresses that the Defense Department acknowledges Amateur Radio's value in disasters and emergencies and is being extremely cooperative -- and a wholesale shutdown of US 70 cm Amateur Radio activity is not on the table.

The Amateur Radio Service is a secondary user in the 420-450 MHz band, both by the Table of Frequency Allocations and the FCC Part 97 regulations. As such, Amateur Radio licensees, jointly and individually, bear the responsibility of mitigating or eliminating any harmful interference to the primary user, which in this case is the Government Radiolocation Service that includes the DoD Pave Paws systems.

The letters sent to affected repeater owners/trustees give them an up-to-date briefing on the ongoing negotiations with the US Air Force, as well as outlines the DoD's plan. The DoD has indicated a willingness to try a mitigation proposal, but they have also indicated their need is for these issues to be resolved sooner rather than later. With that expediency in mind, the proposed mitigation strategy is as follows:

- All repeaters on the DoD list in the affected areas will immediately reduce power to 5 W transmitter power output (TPO). Each repeater licensee/trustee should contact Henderson to confirm this once this has been done for their system. Confirmation of this being done is needed from each repeater owner by Friday, June 15, 2007.
- The ARRL will provide the Longley-Rice calculations for each repeater to the DoD by June 15, 2007. The DoD will provide engineering data to the ARRL and FCC by June 15, 2007. These studies will be reviewed by the DoD, the ARRL Lab and the FCC to determine the amount of mitigation necessary for each repeater. Based on this review by the DoD, additional mitigation proposals for individual repeaters (including further power reductions, lowering of antenna heights, use of more directive antennas and other possible mitigation techniques) will be provided by the ARRL as needed to individual repeater owners. If there is a disagreement on the conclusions, a conference call will be held to resolve any outstanding issues.
- All interference must be resolved no later than August 1, 2007.
- Beginning in August 2007 (and continuing on a periodic basis), the DoD will have a follow-up engineers study at each PPR site to ensure corrective actions have been taken and the interference and to ensure that successful mitigation continues.

According to the DoD, the in-band interference from Amateur Radio fixed FM voice repeaters has increased to an unacceptable level. Pave Paws radars are used for national security functions, including early detection of water-launched missiles. They are critical to our national defense and are in use 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

The goal of the ARRL has been to develop and implement a plan that would mitigate the interference, and at the same time to permit

the repeaters to continue operation and to operate on as liberal a basis as possible. To do so, the League has offered to work closely with the two involved repeater coordinating groups, as well as the individual repeater owners, sharing information and dealing with this issue on a coordinated basis with all stakeholders.

The League has also been in contact with representatives of the FCC. They have the ultimate responsibility for enforcing any mitigation plan, up to and including ordering specific repeaters to shut down operations. The FCC is aware of the complex nature of this problem and the mitigation strategy being proposed by the DoD.

Since Amateur Radio operators are secondary users on the band, the ARRL has few options, and all options involve cooperation with the DoD. It is hoped the Longley-Rice calculations from the ARRL and the DoD's engineering studies will provide enough data to allow as many of the repeaters in the affected areas as possible to remain on the air at reasonable power levels.

It is entirely probable that even with extreme mitigation techniques, some repeaters in close proximity to the PPR sites may have to be shut down permanently. If that happens, official notice would come from the FCC. It is also possible that some repeaters might be required to operate permanently at a lower power level in the areas near these Air Force bases. In those cases, the League will be in contact with the individual repeater owners with that information and the FCC will be notified.

Henderson requests that all repeater owners/trustees affected by this issue immediately implement the 5 W TPO for your repeater/s; please contact his office by June 15 indicating if you have implemented the power reduction. This will allow the ARRL to have voluntary compliance on hand that can be used to show the cooperation of the amateur community.

Henderson stresses that it is to each repeater's long-term advantage to implement the power reduction as soon as possible. The DoD indicated they will be collecting engineering data during June. This presents the opportunity to assess a repeater's actual impact at the lower power level and a more honest determination of its continued potential for harmful interference to the PPR sites. If any repeaters are running at higher power levels, then the determinations can only be based on assumptions rather than on actual data.

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From *The ARRL Letter*, June 15, 2007

#### **US SENATE TO INVESTIGATE BPL'S INTERFERENCE POTENTIAL TO AMATEUR RADIO**

Sen Mark Pryor of Arkansas filed a bill yesterday in the US Senate calling on the Federal Communications Commission to conduct a study on the interference caused by broadband Internet transmission over power lines, otherwise known as BPL. Sen Pryor is a member of the Senate's Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

If passed, Senate Bill 1629 would require the FCC to "conduct and submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives, a report on a study of interference potential of systems for the transmission of broadband Internet services over power lines."

The bill states that there are to be four required areas of study.

1. "The variation of field strength of BPL service signals with

distance from overhead power lines, and a technical justification for the use of any particular distance extrapolation factor.

2. "The depth of adaptive, or 'notch,' filtering for attenuating normally permitted BPL service radiated emission levels that would be necessary and sufficient to protect the reliability of mobile radio communications.

3. "A technical justification for the permitted, radiated emission levels of BPL signals relative to ambient levels of man-made noise from other sources.

4. "Options for new or improved rules related to the transmission of BPL service that, if implemented, may prevent harmful interference to public safety and other radio communication systems."

ARRL president Joel Harrison, W5ZN, said, "The ARRL is grateful for Senator Pryor's support. The radio amateurs of my home state of Arkansas are fortunate to be represented in both the Senate and the House of Representatives by legislators who are sensitive to our needs and concerns. The Senator's recognition of Amateur Radio's role in emergency communications and public safety is greatly appreciated."

This bill calls for the same studies to be performed as House Bill 462, introduced January 12, 2007 by Rep Mike Ross of Arkansas.

To view Senate Bill 1629, please see [www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/amateur\\_radio\\_act.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/amateur_radio_act.pdf).

## Meeting Minutes

### General Meeting, June 11, 2007



There were 30 members and 4 guests present.

#### General announcements:

- KI6JDR, Adam Allustiarti, is our newest (and youngest) General Class licensee. Good going Adam!

- David Dippon, AE6YE, is the newest member of the club this month.

- Fred Townsend warned the meeting about the growing safety hazards of imported (Chinese, Nigerian, Middle East) power strips and other electrical components with fake UL, CSA, or CE registration marks. There were numerous examples of failures and serious fires traced to these devices. Missing or defective grounds, non-existent surge protection, poor workmanship, and under-rated materials are common problems. Either be sure of the source, or take the time to closely inspect or test your "bargains."

- Lou Steirer reminded the meeting about the upcoming SCARRA Flea Market date September 8th, and the next SVECS Breakfast on June 28. Details will be repeated on the nets.

- We need to find a new meeting location after the July meeting, since Kaiser Santa Clara is closing. Options are still being sought. Also, the old repeater (reversed offset, now) has to be removed from Kaiser Santa Teresa.

- There are two surplus heavy-duty electric staplers for sale by the club for \$10 each.

Field Day preparations (John Parks, and Andrew Stoddard, Co-Chairs):

- During the discussions, a continuous slide show of previous years' Field Day activities was shown at the front of the room.

- Schedules and maps were distributed, and clothing for the expected range of weather was discussed.

- Hard hats will be required for anyone working on or under the antennas. Lou Steirer has new hats available for \$12.

- A motion was made by John Parks and seconded by Wally Britten to allocate up to \$100 for Don Village to use for Saturday breakfast. Passed by show of hands.

- The station and area captains were introduced: Greg, KF6FNA, Safety James, K6WRJ, PSK/RTTY (digital modes) Gary, WB6YRU, VHF/UHF (with antenna on top of the main tower this year) Don, K6PBQ, CW (running dipoles again this year) John, W6JPP, GOTA (Needs Tech operators; both rotators are working this year) Fred, AE6QL, HF Phone

- Gary Mitchell discussed the logging software we will be using and arrangements for PCs and sun screens.

- The travel arrangements were reviewed, including meeting location, and use of the repeater output on simplex.

- The net managers will repeat the important information on the Monday 2M and Thursday 10M nets this month.

Minutes submitted by Mike Aronoff

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### Board Meeting, May 21, 2007



The meeting drifted to order between 1905 and 1925 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 Wally Britten, KA6YMD, Director Ned Tufekcic, AC6YY, Director Mike Aronoff, WB0TOW, Secretary Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU, Editor John Parks, W6JPP, Field Day Activity Co-Chair Clark Murphy, KE6KXO, (immediate past president) Gregg Lane, KF6FNH Jeannie Felix, KG6YOU.

#### Secretary's Report:

Don Steinbach's minutes from the last meeting were read without objection.

#### Treasurer's Report:

The SCCARA checking, savings and cash on hand totals \$5,937.07 before payment of post office box renewal fees due this month. There is still one surplus heavy-duty electric stapler available for \$10.00

#### Repeater Committee :

No new action on the 440 repeater. It was moved by Don Steinbach and seconded by Don Village that the standby repeater on loan from Don Apte be returned. Passed by voice vote.

#### Newsletter Editor's report:

- The old newsletter archive records have been organized, consolidated by year, and labeled. Box #2 was not in the old locker (since located- sec.) There is a separate box for films and tapes.

- It has been over a year since the last physical inventory, and with the closing of the old storage locker, a new inventory needs to be taken to update property lists.

- Storage conditions in the new outdoor cabinets will not be suitable for documents long-term. A method of humidity control or protection will be needed by fall.

- Minutes for regular and board meetings should be published in the newsletter for members who can not attend meetings. Jeannie Felix expressed a deeply-felt dissatisfaction with the job the club secretary was doing, called for his removal, and volunteered to fill the vacancy immediately. Since visitors may not make motions or vote, the President called for an unofficial straw poll of the board members and guests present. The result was nine against any

change, with three abstentions. (Improvements will be made- Sec.)  
- The mailing list for non-members and club exchanges is to be reviewed and updated

#### Old Business:

- An antenna party needs to be held after Field Day to complete removal of the donated equipment noted in the minutes last month. Don Village also noted that he had been approached by the widow of George Brady (AB6OZ, SK) about donating or selling his station. Don will discuss this further and advise.
- The location of general meetings after July has still not been resolved. Lou Steirer was not present to report. Various restaurant, hospital, library, and commercial sites were discussed without much enthusiasm for any of them.

#### Field Day:

-The need to buy fire extinguishers for Field day was discussed, with the primary concern being grass, cooking, and generator fires. Chemical and water extinguishers are not ideal for electronics, but since everything will be well-fused and attended, they did not justify the cost, weight, and maintenance of CO<sub>2</sub> extinguishers. A quick poll indicated that there will be at least a half-dozen personal chemical extinguishers and one or two pressurized water extinguishers on site. By consensus, no further purchases were necessary.

-The digital station will share time on the CW station when the two CW operators are too tired to continue.

-The loading party was set for 9:00 AM Friday at Clark's house.

-All need batteries are accounted for. Gas cans will be filled on the way to the site.

-Don Steinbach will make signs for all the operating positions, with laminated band plans. Don also has fuses and spare hardware for the beams. Ned has documentation kits for each station

-Clark will modify the free-standing tower base to accept construction stakes, and make sure we have enough for all anchors. Gregg Lane will be pulling the trailer to the site, and did not feel the tires were safe. After discussion, Fred Townsend moved and Don Steinbach seconded that John Parks be authorized to purchase and mount load class C or D tires (3000 lb rated) in time for Field Day. Passed unanimously. Gregg Lane loaned the club \$300 to expedite the purchase. Thank you Greg.

The meeting was adjourned at 2105 hours.

Minutes submitted by Mike Aronoff.

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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

In the Field Day report, it was mentioned that the log info had not been sent yet. Well, yes it was—I sent the logs to both our joint chairman late Sunday night. Perhaps they didn't check their e-mail before submitting the report. In any case, here's the missing info:

Station	Contacts
HF Phone	179
HF CW	144
HF Digital	111
GOTA	119
VHF	9

#### Electric stapler

The club has one electric stapler left (\$10). It will be available at the next meeting, or to whomever contacts me first about it. It works fine and takes standard staples.

#### World Radio back issues

In an effort to keep our storage requirements under control, the Editor's records are being reduced. Specifically, we have some old World Radio magazine issues that will be available free at the next meeting for members to take. It will be first come first served. Issues range from 1998 through 2004.

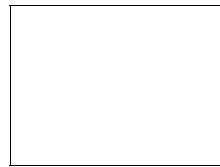
73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

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**SCCARA**

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

Affiliate of the ARRL,  
American Radio Relay League

**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.

Rev. 1/16/2007