

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 23, Number 12

December 2007



President's Prose

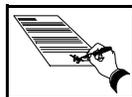
Happy Holiday's: Thank you to the members of SCCARA for making 2007 one of the best years for Ham Radio.

New 70cm Repeater Coming Soon Santa Said: "It's Back Ordered"

Have a Safe Holiday and a vary Happy New Year. See you Soon.

73 Jim T,

Your comments are welcomed:
kg6udw@arrrl.net



December meeting

Our annual Christmas meeting will be a luncheon on Saturday December 15 at 12:00 noon. This year our luncheon will be at the Creekside Inn 544 W. Alma ave. San Jose (one block west of Hwy 87).

This year we will be having a gift exchange. The way it works is that everyone brings a wrapped gift suitable for a man or woman costing about \$10.00. This type of gift exchange is always a lot of fun to participate in.

Reservations need to be in by Friday Dec 7, (see sign-up sheet). Talk-in will be on our repeater, W6UU, 146.985-(simplex if you can't hit the repeater). Why not renew your membership at the same time?

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you there!

73, Don K6PBQ

ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, November 16, 2007

WRC-07 WRAPS UP IN GENEVA; WILL LIKELY MEET AGAIN IN 2011

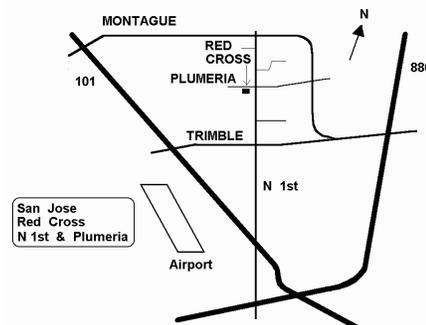
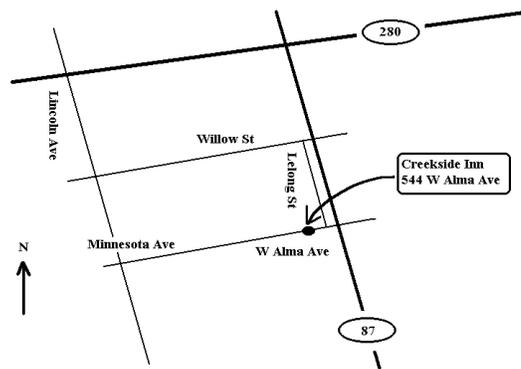
The final working session of the 2007 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-07) in Geneva drew to a close Thursday afternoon, November 15. The signing ceremony for the Final Acts will take place Friday. According to International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ, the principal

Calendar

- 12/15 SCCARA General Meeting--luncheon
12/17 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)
1/14 SCCARA General Meeting

General Meeting

Day: Saturday, Dec. 15, 2007
Time: 12 noon
Place: Creekside Inn, 544 W Alma Av. S.J.
Featuring: Annual meeting, luncheon



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	
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	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	
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	e-mail: wa6qys@aol.com	
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	e-mail: ka6ymd@arrl.net	
Editor	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	269-2924
	e-mail: wb6yru@ix.netcom.com	

COMMITTEES

Activities	John Parks, W6JPP	309-8709
	e-mail: w6jpp@arrl.net	
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)

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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

achievements and disappointments, as they relate to the Amateur Services, of the conference are:

Achievements * Maintenance all existing amateur allocations, including the 7.200-7.300 MHz allocation in ITU Region 2 (the Americas) that had been somewhat at risk in connection with consideration of additional allocations for HF broadcasting (see below). * A new worldwide secondary allocation at 135.7-137.8 kHz with a maximum radiated power limit of 1 W e.i.r.p. (given the low efficiency of practical antennas for this frequency range, this limit is not as severe as it may sound). * Inclusion of an item, "to consider an allocation of about 15 kHz in parts of the band 415-526.5 kHz to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis, taking into account the need to protect existing services" on the provisional agenda for WRC-11 (set for 2011). * Avoidance of future agenda items that pose serious threats to key amateur allocations. * Some improvement in the so-called "country footnotes" that provide for different allocations by country in all or part of the 1.8, 3.5, 50 and 430 MHz amateur bands.

Disappointments * No new allocation for the Amateur Service in the vicinity of 5 MHz, and no agenda item to consider such an allocation at a future conference. * No future agenda item to consider an amateur allocation at 50 MHz in ITU Region 1 (Europe, the former Soviet Union, Mongolia, Africa and parts of the Middle East).

The amateur issues were of course a minor part of the WRC-07 agenda, but the Amateur Service was involved in one of the most contentious agenda items dealing with allocations between 4 and 10 MHz. A series of European Common Proposals had proposed changes to allow for an increase of 350 kHz in HF broadcasting allocations, with a footnote for administrations to allow the Amateur Service to use 5.260-5.410 MHz on a secondary basis and with a radiated power limit of 250 W; however, HF broadcasting had no support from the other regional organizations and no compromise acceptable to all parties could be found. Ultimately the European administrations had to accept "no change" for broadcasting, effectively scuttling our chances for a 5 MHz allocation.

The IARU had hoped that if an allocation could not be achieved at WRC-07, an appropriate agenda item could be included for WRC-11. The 2007 conference, however, had little interest in taking up HF issues at the next conference, tentatively set for 2011, having little to show for a great deal of effort expended on HF in preparing for WRC-07. The only HF issues on the provisional WRC-11 agenda have to do with oceanographic radar applications and the implementation of new digital technologies for the maritime mobile service.

The International Telecommunication Union's planning for the next World Radiocommunication Conference begins on Monday in Geneva, with the convening of a two-day Conference Preparatory Meeting for WRC-11. Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, will attend on behalf of the IARU.

From *The ARRL Letter*, November 30, 2007

500 kHz Experiment Charting New Territory

The evening of November 13 saw the first transatlantic contact on 500 kHz between amateur experimental stations. US experimental station WE2XGR/2 (Jay Rusgrove, W1VD, in Connecticut) and GI4DPE (Finbar O'Connor, EI0CF, in Northern Ireland) communicated by standard-speed CW for about 15 minutes. On that same night, US experimental stations WD2XSH/12 (Mike Mussler, AI8Z, in Colorado) and WD2XSH/20 (Rudy Severns,

N6LF, in Oregon) made the first contact in the western half of the USA. Two days later, WE2XGR/2 and GI4DPE repeated their feat and WD2XSH/12 had contacts with WD2XSH/6 (Pat Hamel, W5THT, in Mississippi) and WD2XSH/13 (John Oehlenschlager, K0JO, in Minnesota). The ARRL 500 kHz experimental license, WD2XSH, was issued in September 2006 and has 19 active stations. Fritz Raab, W1FR, of Vermont, serves as experimental project manager for The 500 KC Experimental Group for Amateur Radio <<http://www.500kc.com/>>.

Mike Aronoff, WB0TOW, Secretary
Don Village, K6PBQ, Station Trustee
Lou Steirer, WA6QYS, Director
Wally Britten, KA6YMD, Director
Don Village, K6PBQ, Director
John Parks, W6JPP, Director
John Glass, NU6P, Director
Bill Dale, N2 RHV, was nominated for Director but withdrew.

Spring picnic

To all members.

We are planning a family outing/picnic for the spring. I need input from you the members as to when and where you would like to have this. Keep in mind in May we have the pow-wow, and we have the dinner meeting coming up as well. I am thinking of possibly in April, please e-mail your thoughts to me. W6JPP@arrl.net. Remember this can only happen with your input.

73 W6JPP
activities chairman

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, Nov. 12, 2007



The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM with introductions. 33 members and 6 guests were present.

The president requested a moment of silence in recognition of Veterans Day, and to honor the many veterans in the club.

There was a brief announcement that RACES would be using the repeater on Wednesday (11/14) to participate in the Golden Guardian statewide emergency exercise.

After a brief description of the club election nomination process, the president turned the meeting over to our guest speaker.

Evening Program:

The featured speaker was Pink Foster, KG6ILA, Acting Section Traffic Manager for the ARRL, and net control of the popular morning talk net on 145.23. Pink introduced the ARRL National Traffic System, which has been in operation since 1915, and was the justification for founding the League. The NTS operates on all modes and is available to all license classes and skill levels. Pink presented the standard message form, ARRL embedded texts, message handling etiquette, net schedules, and conducted a practice message handling exercise. For additional reference, the ARRL publishes the Public Service Communications Manual (\$1.00), Net Directory (\$5.00), as well as message pads and delivery postcards. Contact Pink directly, via the NTS, or on the morning talk net with questions.

The club election was run by the chairman of the nominating committee, Joe Castellano (W6SNV), with the help of two impartial guests. There were 32 eligible voting members present. There were no nominations from the floor. The nominees were:

Jim Tyranski, KG6UDW, President
Fred Townsend, AE6QL, Vice President
Don Steinbach, AE6PM, Treasurer

On the first ballot, all officers and Lou Steirer and Don Village were elected. There was a tie for the remaining Director position between John Parks and Wally Britten. A second ballot between John and Wally was distributed and counted. There was again a tie for the third seat. The two candidates were asked to speak briefly in their own behalf and ballots were distributed. Wally was reelected to the third open directors position on the last ballot.

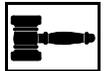
Closing Remarks and Announcements:

Don Village reported that the club station operated the CW Sweepstakes with six operators and 20 contacts. 15 meters was open. 2 Meter net activity has been averaging 20 check-ins, with ten on the 10 meter net.

The meeting was adjourned formally at 10:00 PM, our time limit for vacating the meeting room.

Mike Aronoff, Secretary

Board Meeting, Nov. 19, 2007



The meeting was called to order at 1940 hours.

The following members were in attendance:

Jim Tyranski, KG6UDW, President
Fred Townsend, AE6QL, Vice President
Don Steinbach, AE6PM, Director & Treasurer
Wally Britten, KA6YMD, Director
Lou Steirer, WA6QYS, Director
Ned Tufekcic, AC6YY, Director
Don Village, Director & Trustee
Mike Aronoff, WB0TOW, Secretary
John Parks, W6JPP, Activities Chairman
Clark Murphy, KE6KXO, (immediate past president)
Gwen Steirer, KF6OTD, caterer

Treasurer's Report

Current account balances were \$2,259.46 in checking, \$6,285.00 in savings, and \$204.65 cash-on-hand for a total of \$8,749.11. This is still before any expenditures for the new 440 repeater.

Secretary's Report

The minutes were as published in the last SCCARA-GRAM. The primary action item was to review proposals for changes to the club bylaws.

Club Station Report

W6UW had six operators and about 37 contacts logged on the Phone Sweepstakes this past weekend. Don Village purchased a new logbook, and was reimbursed from petty cash (\$8.60).

Repeater Report

The old 2M repeater was pulled from Kaiser Santa Teresa on October 18th, and is awaiting review and disposition. The new 440 repeater is still backordered from Kenwood in Japan.

Newsletter Editor's report - There was no report with Gary absent.

Old Business

Discussion of the revision of the bylaws was the first order of business. The consensus among those present was that the needed changes are extensive, and that starting from scratch might be more efficient than patching the old organization, provisions, and wording. For example, we need to include the use of on-the-air board meetings, eliminate or minimize the clause on expelling members, make the secretary and treasurer voting members of the board, make the station trustee an appointed rather than elected office (to assure continuity), authorize absentee ballots for elections, etc. Fred pointed out that the ARRL has a form available for use by member clubs. Without objection, the president delegated the bylaw committee to meet and prepare a recommended new bylaws draft before the February board meeting, present it to the board for review at that meeting, and have the results ready for publication in the March SCCARA-Gram. The membership would then be asked to vote on the changes at the March general meeting. The committee is chaired by Gary Mitchell, and includes Fred Townsend, Don Steinbach, and John Parks.

Gary Mitchell sent via email additional details on the status of the BBS equipment and requirements for the proposed move to Crystal Peak. Fred raised the following issues:

- 1)The BBS is acting as a place-holder for the UHF repeater at its current location, and probably should not be moved until that is reinstalled;
- 2)The BBS is using old ham equipment that may not be suitable for the high user density environment at Crystal Peak;
- 3)Power for the computer does not appear to be accounted for in the cost estimate;
- 4)The maintenance requirements of the equipment and the remoteness of the site need to be considered.

After further discussion, Fred moved and Don Steinbach seconded that approval for the move be re-tabled until the 440 repeater is operational and the issues above have been addressed. The motion passed without objection.

New Business

Lou noted that the new storage lockers in Alviso need weather-proofing (slanted roofs, painting, etc.). Don Steinbach moved and Lou seconded that the club authorize up to \$200 for supplies. The motion passed without objection. Jim is to place a notice in this month's newsletter setting a date and asking for volunteers for a working party. The contacts will be Clark and John Parks.

The activity chairman wants to have a spring social activity like the fall picnic. The president appointed John to research dates and locations for the January board meeting. It was noted that the family dinner meeting is in March.

Lou questioned whether SCARRA will sponsor a special event station at the Stanford Powow this year (the Saturday before Mother's Day). There was a discussion about listing the event with the ARRL for inclusion in QST, about using the trailer, etc. It was decided that we will participate, but not use the trailer of list the event in QST this year. Lou will submit an article for the newsletter.

Lou noted that the general meeting location for next year will be in Room A1 and the new Kaiser Santa Clara (closer to the lobby).

Lou also reported that the Red Cross would like to have a written procedure for a licensed operator to use the HF radio equipment in an emergency if no SCCARA operator is available. This is common with other such facilities. Don Steinbach and Lou will

prepare and laminate a current set of instructions.

Lou then reported that Don Apte would like to get back the repeater that he loaned to the club for use as a backup. Fred will deliver it by the next meeting.

The club trailer is being stored for us without charge in the Maxi-Crete lot. The board has in the past authorized an appreciation gift for them at this time of year. Lou and Gwen researched party platters as possibilities. Clark volunteered to get approval and a date from the foreman. Don Steinbach moved and Don Village seconded that \$60.00 be allocated. The motion was passed without objection.

The meeting was adjourned at 2106 hours.

Mike Aronoff, Secretary

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the packet network:

=====
Date: 5 Jan 2005 05:57
From: ZL3AI@ZL3VML
To: HUMOUR@WW
Subject: Overdone/Tube

You Know You Overdid Christmas Dinner When . . .

Paramedics bring in the Jaws of Life to pry you out of the EZ-Boy.

The "Gravy Boat" your wife set out was a real 12' boat!

You receive a Sumo Wrestler application in your e-mail.

Friday you set off 3 earthquake seismographs on your morning jog.

Pricking your finger for cholesterol screening only yielded gravy.

A guest quotes a Biblical passage from "The Feeding of the 5000."

That rash on your stomach turns out to be steering wheel burn.

Representatives from the Butterball Hall of Fame called twice.

Your arms are too short to reach the keyboard & delete this.

The London Tube

A list of (alleged) actual announcements that London Tube train drivers have made to their passengers...

"Ladies and Gentlemen, I do apologize for the delay to your service. I know you're all dying to get home, unless, of course, you happen to be married to my ex-wife, in which case you'll want to cross over to the Westbound and go in the opposite direction."

"Your delay this evening is caused by the line controller suffering from E & B syndrome, not knowing his elbow from his backside. I'll let you know any further information as soon as I'm given any."

"Do you want the good news first or the bad news? The good news is that last Friday was my birthday and I hit the town and had a great time. The bad news is that there is a points failure somewhere between Stratford and East Ham, which means we

probably won't reach our destination."

"Ladies and gentlemen, we apologize for the delay, but there is a security alert at Victoria station and we are therefore stuck here for the foreseeable future, so let's take our minds off it and pass some time together. All together now....'Ten green bottles, hanging on a wall.....!'"

"We are now traveling through Baker Street, as you can see Baker Street is closed. It would have been nice if they had actually told me, so I could tell you earlier, but no, they don't think about things like that."

"Beggars are operating on this train, please do NOT encourage these professional beggars; if you have any spare change, please give it to a registered charity, failing that, give it to me."

"Let the passengers off the train FIRST!" (Pause ...) "Oh go on then, stuff yourselves in like sardines, see if I care - I'm going home...."

"Please allow the doors to close. Try not to confuse this with 'Please hold the doors open'. The two are distinct and separate instructions."

"Please note that the beeping noise coming from the doors means that the doors are about to close. It does not mean throw yourself or your bags into the doors."

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

ANNUAL DECEMBER MEETING

Our annual December meeting will be a luncheon on Saturday December 15, at the Creekside Inn 544 W. Alma Ave. San Jose. We will have a choice of three entrees, \$21.00 each. Reservations need to be in by Friday, December 7. Talk-in on our W6UU, 146.985- (simplex if you can't hit the repeater). I'm looking forward to seeing all of you there. Why not renew your membership (back cover) at the same time? See December Meeting article for information on the gift exchange.

– Don K6PBQ

For the annual meeting in December, Sign me up for the following lunch(es):

_____ Coulette Steak _____ Chicken Marsala _____ Salmon

Name: _____ Call: _____

Give this form (or copy) with payment to the Treasurer or Mail to:
SCCARA PO Box 6 San Jose Ca 95103-0006



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 2008

(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: _____

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.