

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County
Amateur Radio Association

Volume 25, Number 6

June 2009



President's Prose

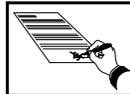
The ARRL Field Day is the main ham radio event in June. SCCARA will be back at Mt. Madonna again this year. You'll recall that we didn't operate from there last year because the wildfire in the immediate area a few days earlier left everything covered in soot and ash. The official operating hours are from 11:00 a.m. Saturday, June 27 to 11:00 a.m. Sunday, June 28. We have the campground reserved beginning on Friday the 26th. Camping is permitted and there are outhouses and water available on site or within walking distance. Bring your own food or take your chances. Final details will be presented at the next regular meeting on June 8. See John Parks (W6JPP) or Fred Townsend (AE6QL) with any questions.

Four of our members joined up with past-president Jim Tyranski (KG6UDW), now living in Magalia, and went with him and his motorhome to the ARRL National Convention in Dayton, Ohio. They've all returned and are still speaking, so I guess it wasn't too much togetherness.

SCCARA had a station in operation at the Stanford powwow on May 9. We didn't attract much attention, but the food made it all worth it. Gwen Steirer (KF6OTD) and Lou (WA6QYS) are heavily involved in this annual event.

Don't forget the 2-meter net on Monday nights, the 10-meter net on Thursday nights, and the Electronics Flea Market at DeAnza College on June 13 hosted by our SVECS friends.

73,
Don - AE6PM



Previous meeting...

From the talk at the May meeting: our speaker Craig Anderson's email is acraiga@pacbell.net. See also svwux.org. More about Outpost that was mentioned: www.outpostpm.org

ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, May 1, 2009

HOUSTON REPRESENTATIVE INTRODUCES AMATEUR RADIO BILL IN CONGRESS

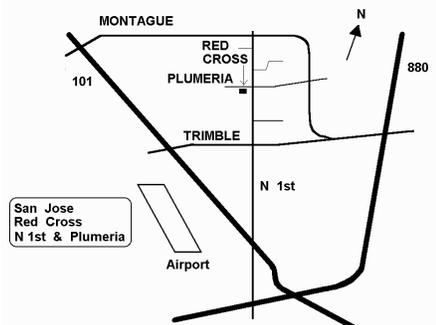
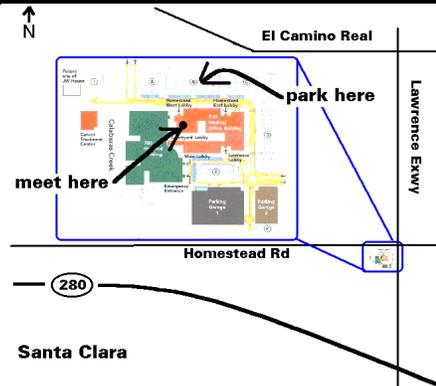
On Wednesday, April 29, Representative Sheila Jackson-Lee

Calendar

- 6/8 SCCARA General Meeting
- 6/13 Electronic Flea Market DeAnza
- 6/15 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)
- 6/26-28 Field Day SCCARA goes to Mt. Madonna

General Meeting

Day: Monday, Oct. 13, 2009
Time: 7:30 PM
Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Rm 196, 1
Featuring: Field Day planning



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

(all officers are also directors)

President	Don Steinbach, AE6PM	867-3912
	e-mail: ae6pm@arrl.net	
Vice President	Fred Townsend, AE6QL	263-8768
	e-mail: fred@dctolight.net	
Past President	- - -	
Secretary	David Dippon, AE6YE	
	e-mail: dippon@atstar.com	
Treasurer	Ned Tufekcic, AC6YY	690-7250
	e-mail: ac6yy@arrl.net	
Station Trustee	Don Village, K6PBQ	263-2789
	e-mail: donvillage7@yahoo.com	
Director	John Glass	
Director	Lou Steirer, WA6QYS	241-7999
	e-mail: wa6qys@aol.com	
Director	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	293-3847
	e-mail: ka6ymd@arrl.net	
Director	John Parks, W6JPP	309-8709
	e-mail: w6jpp@arrl.net	
Director	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	269-2924
	e-mail: wb6yru@ix.netcom.com	

COMMITTEES

Activities	John Parks, W6JPP	309-8709
	e-mail: w6jpp@arrl.net	
Editor	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	269-2924
	e-mail: wb6yru@ix.netcom.com	
Repeater	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	293-3847
	e-mail: ka6ymd@arrl.net	
NØARY 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 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.

NØARY PACKET BBS

SCCARA hosts the packet BBS NØARY (Mt Umunhum). User ports: 144.93 (1200 baud), 433.37 (9600 baud), telnet sun.n0ary.org (login "bbs"). Sysop: Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU (packet info: www.n0ary.org/nepa)

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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

(D-TX) introduced HR 2160 -- the "Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009" -- in the US House of Representatives. This bill, if passed, would "promote and encourage the valuable public service, disaster relief, and emergency communications provided on a volunteer basis by licensees of the Federal Communications Commission in the Amateur Radio Service, by undertaking a study of the uses of Amateur Radio for emergency and disaster relief communications, by identifying unnecessary or unreasonable impediments to the deployment of Amateur Radio emergency and disaster relief communications, and by making recommendations for relief of such unreasonable restrictions so as to expand the uses of Amateur Radio communications in Homeland Security planning and response." The bill has been referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce <http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?bname=111_cong_bill_s&docid=f:h2160ih.txt.pdf>.

If enacted into law, HR 2160, would instruct the Secretary of Homeland Security to undertake a study and report its findings to Congress within 180 days. The study would spell out uses and capabilities of Amateur Radio communications in emergencies and disaster relief. The study shall:

- Include recommendations for enhancements in the voluntary deployment of Amateur Radio licensees in disaster and emergency communications and disaster relief efforts.
- Include recommendations for improved integration of Amateur Radio operators in planning and in furtherance of the Department of Homeland Security initiatives.
- Identify unreasonable or unnecessary impediments to enhanced Amateur Radio communications -- such as the effects of private land use regulations on residential antenna installations -- and make recommendations regarding such impediments.
- Include an evaluation of Section 207 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-104, 110 Stat 56 [1996]).
- Recommend whether Section 207 should be modified to prevent unreasonable private land use restrictions that impair the ability of amateurs to conduct, or prepare to conduct, emergency communications by means of effective outdoor antennas and support structures at reasonable heights and dimensions for the purpose in residential areas.

The Secretary of Homeland Security shall utilize the expertise of the ARRL and shall seek information from private and public sectors for the study.

The bill currently has five co-sponsors: Madeleine Bordallo (Guam), Mary Jo Kilroy (D-OH), Zoe Lofgren (D-CA), Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-MO) and Bennie Thompson (D-MS). Representative Thompson currently serves as Chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security. Representatives Jackson-Lee, Lofgren and Kilroy are members of that committee.

"We understand that Representative Jackson-Lee was very impressed with the radio amateurs she encountered on a visit to an Emergency Operations Center in Houston during Hurricane Ike last September," said ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ. "We are grateful to her and to the five original co-sponsors for their support of Amateur Radio and the encouragement that their bill offers."

ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, concurred: "We are excited to have Representative Sheila Jackson-Lee introduce HR 2160. It is extremely encouraging to have the support of a number of original co-sponsors -- including several members of the House Homeland Security Committee -- who recognize the importance of Amateur Radio's long history of public service."

From *The ARRL Letter*, May 8, 2009

FCC RELEASES REDACTED BPL CASE STUDIES AFTER ARRL FOIA REQUEST

Earlier this month, the FCC released the redacted portions of the studies on which they relied with regard to its Broadband over Powerline (BPL) rulemaking in 2004 after ARRL filed a Freedom of Information Act request <http://www.arrl.org/news/files/BPL_FOIA_Request033109.pdf> on March 31 for the studies. In October 2007, the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit heard ARRL's case against the Commission <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2007/10/25/102/>>, stating, among other things, that the FCC not only withheld the internal studies until it was too late to comment, but had yet to release portions of studies that may not support its own conclusions regarding BPL. The FCC claimed that the studies were "internal communications" that it did not rely upon in reaching its decision to adopt the BPL rules. In its April 2008 ruling, the Court ordered the FCC to release the studies <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2008/04/25/10064/>>.

In its decision, the Court agreed with the ARRL that the FCC had failed to comply with the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) <http://biotech.law.lsu.edu/Courses/study_aids/adlaw/> by not fully disclosing for public comment the staff studies on which it relied and that "there is no APA precedent allowing an agency to cherry-pick a study on which it has chosen to rely in part." Writing for the three-judge panel of Circuit Judges Rogers, Tatel and Kavanaugh, Judge Rogers summarized in the Court's decision that "The Commission failed to satisfy the notice and comment requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act ('APA') by redacting studies on which it relied in promulgating the rule and failed to provide a reasoned explanation for its choice of the extrapolation factor for measuring Access BPL emissions." The Court concluded that "no precedent sanctions such a 'hide and seek' application of the APA's notice and comment requirements."

Judge Tatel agreed with Judge Rogers, saying, "[I]n this very case the Commission redacted individual lines from certain pages on which it otherwise relied...there is little doubt that the Commission deliberately attempted to 'exclude [] from the record evidence adverse to its position'"

After almost a year after the Court's decision, the FCC had done "literally nothing" about releasing the complete studies <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/03/04/10685/>>. When President Obama came into office in January 2009, new Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) guidelines <<http://www.state.gov/m/a/ips/>> were put in place. Using these new guidelines, the ARRL filed an FOIA request on March 31 for the studies. The FCC responded to the FOIA request and released the unredacted studies the last week of April.

A look at the unredacted studies show that the FCC knew BPL was not a point source, but these same studies in redacted form show just the opposite -- information proving BPL was not a point source was deleted. In one study concerning Main.net's BPL system, the FCC clearly disregarded information provided by a BPL provider's Chief Technical Officer, considering the point -- "[i]f distance scaling were based on distance to the pole ground wire rather than the nearest part of the BPL system, measurements would have passed with 1 dB margin at the selected quasi-peak measurement location" -- as "invalid" <<http://www.arrl.org/news/files/Redacted1.pdf>>.

Another unredacted study from 2003 in Allentown, Pennsylvania, plainly showed that BPL was not a point source, noting: "NOT A POINT SOURCE. Emissions exhibit no noticeable decay 230 m down from the coupler." In the redacted version, this information

was deleted, but all other information, including a graph, was left intact <<http://www.arrl.org/news/files/Redacted2.pdf>>.

A study regarding Access BPL showed the same thing, but all information had been redacted from the file, leaving just a blank page. The unredacted study concluded that "The tested overhead PLC devices do not act as point sources. Emission from line shows virtually no decay 230 m from coupler. Differential two-wire signal injection affects the polarization of radiated emissions from overhead devices" <<http://www.arrl.org/news/files/Redacted3.pdf>>.

"Comparing the redacted and unredacted documents will take some time," ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, said, "but these three sets of pages...show exactly what prompted Judge Tatel to say what he did. We are continuing to analyze all the documents and we'll see just what has been going on."

From *The ARRL Letter* May 22, 2009

TAKE AN INSIDE LOOK AT THE ARRL REGULATORY INFORMATION DEPARTMENT

Hams always seem to have questions on how to interpret FCC rules and regulations. The ARRL's Regulatory Information Department (RID) -- led by Dan Henderson, N1ND -- is the first point of contact at ARRL Headquarters for such situations. The ARRL does not maintain its own legal department, so the RID provides answers to these types of questions, providing ARRL members with accurate information about the rules and regulations that govern the Amateur Radio Service. Its goal is to provide radio amateurs with the information they need to operate their stations safely, legally and appropriately.

RID handles hundred of e-mails and phone calls each month that ask for information on correctly interpreting Part 97, as well as other federal, state and local regulatory matters. According to Henderson, the most frequently asked questions concern FCC frequency allocations, the ARRL Band Plan and whether a particular activity is permitted on the amateur bands. "The most frequent areas of concern to members are antenna and tower issues, including questions about CC&Rs (deed covenants, conditions and restrictions) and PRB-1," Henderson said. PRB-1 is the FCC ruling that states that local and state governments must make reasonable accommodation when an amateur wishes to erect antennas and towers.

The RID is responsible for a wide range of regulatory related areas and activities at ARRL Headquarters. It maintains a close working relationship with other departments at HQ, particularly the Membership and Volunteer Programs Department concerning issues related to the ARRL Field Organization and emergency communications. The RID acts as a liaison to ARRL Official Observer (OO) Coordinator Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG, on matters related to interference and on-the-air operating abuses. The office also works with the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) staff on issues such as international operating requirements, the vanity call sign program and license renewals. It also maintains regular contact with FCC staff on Amateur Radio enforcement issues, rule interpretations and questions. The RID also administers the Division-level Legislative Action Programs list server and serves as a resource for list members.

For amateurs who need the services of an attorney in their area to deal with Amateur Radio issues, the RID manages the Volunteer Counsel (VC) program <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/local/vci.html>>. The VC program maintains an up-to-date list of attorneys capable of representing amateurs

involved in antenna or RFI disputes. These attorneys provide members with an initial consultation when they need to address legal issues. The RID also maintains the Volunteer Consulting Engineer (VCE) database <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/local/vcei.html>> that refers members to ARRL VCEs in their area. VCEs provide assistance to amateurs who may need to meet structural requirements set forth by local zoning authorities.

Henderson, along with his staff of colleagues, volunteers and professional associates, provides expertise, knowledge and outstanding service to League members and to Amateur Radio. Find out more about the ARRL's Regulatory Information Department on the RID Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/index.html>>.

"THE DOCTOR IS IN" THE ARRL LETTER

This week, ARRL Letter readers are in luck! The ARRL's very own Doctor, author of the popular QST column "The Doctor Is IN," answers a question from his mailbag:

Question -- Mario Bedard, VE2FZH, of St-Andre de Kamouraska, Quebec, Canada, asks: Is an antenna tuner of any use in a receiving system with a long wire or dipole antenna? If not, should I disable it while strictly receiving?

The Doctor Answers -- This is one of those "that depends" kind of questions. A mismatched receive antenna will result in a reduction of both signal and atmospheric noise reaching your radio. If the atmospheric noise is much stronger than the internal noise in your radio, the resulting signal-to-noise ratio will be almost the same, even though the signal will be weaker. It is often the case -- especially on 20 meters and above -- that the external noise may not dominate and you won't hear weak signals that you might have heard with the tuner properly tuned.

It is somewhat more complicated with a transceiver with an internal automatic tuner. There may be no way to adjust it without transmitting, especially a problem if listening outside the amateur bands. That means that in listening mode -- unless it remembers the settings for each band -- you may have a mistuned tuner. That can be much worse than no tuner. If it's easy to bypass the tuner, try it each time and see which is better.

Do you have a question or a problem? Send your questions via e-mail <doctor@arrl.org>; or to "The Doctor," ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111 (no phone calls, please). Look for "The Doctor Is IN" every month in QST, the official journal of the ARRL.

SCCARA at Stanford Pow-wow

SCCARA had a station set up at the Stanford pow-wow on May 9. Members present included Clark Murphy (KE6KXO), John Parks (W6JPP), Ned Tufekcic (AC6YY), Lou Steirer (WA6QYS), Fred Townsend (AE6QL), Gregg Lane (KF6FNA) and Don Steinbach (AE6PM). Gwen Steirer (KF6OTD) was also there, but as a pow-wow participant.

We were located near the American Indian Alliance canopy where food was the major attraction.

Don AE6PM



The SCCARA station location at the Stanford Pow-wow.



Clark, our PR man, providing information to a visitor.



Lou understanding the finer points of knots.



The trout await Lou with the garlic salt.



Fred helps out with the cooking.

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, May 11, 2009



{No minutes were submitted by the deadline. – Ed.}

Board Meeting, May 18, 2009



Unapproved Minutes
Red Cross, 2731 North 1st Street, San Jose, CA

The meeting was called to order at 7:43 pm. by Don Steinbach.

Attendance
Board Members
Don Steinbach, AE6PM, President Fred Townsend, AE6QL, Vice President David Dippon, AE6YE, Secretary Don Village, K6PBQ, Trustee Lou Steirer, WA6QYS, Director Wally Britten,

KA6YMD, Director Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU, Director John Glass, NU6P, Director

Guests Gwen Steirer, KG6OTD

Excused Absences
Ned Tufekcic, AC6YY, Treasurer John Parks, W6JPP, Director

Announcements
Don Steinbach asked the Board members to review the agenda. Two items were added under New Business. He reminded that items for the SCCARA-GRAM are due to Gary Mitchell by last Saturday of the month. He further announced that he had tickets to the Maker Fair to give away.

{That should be the last MONDAY of the month. – Editor}

Vice President's Report.
Fred Townsend reported that a new system is needed to host the email distribution list. He recommended that SCCARA create a Yahoo group. The June membership meeting will be dedicated to Field Day. Craig Anderson will be discussing APRS at the July membership meeting. Fred Townsend also checked the batteries. There are three batteries which all took a full charge. He added 30 amp Power Poles to one of the batteries. In the next couple weeks, he will check the computers.

Secretary's Report
The minutes from April's board meeting were reviewed. Lou Steirer moved that the minutes from April's board meeting be approved with minor corrections. Fred Townsend seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report No Treasurer's report was given.

Trustee's Report Don Village announced that the club station will open on May 30th. The primary activity will be to test the club radios in preparation for Field Day.

Activities No Activities report was given.

Newsletter Gary Mitchell did not have any new status to report.

BBS Gary Mitchell reported that the BBS is running fine. He mentioned that a couple of D-star repeaters were interfering with BBS systems.

Repeater
Wally Britten reported that the repeaters are running smoothly.

Web Master Wally Britten did not have any new status to report, and updates the web site as he receives new information.

Old Business

Pow Wow
Lou Steirer reported that Clark Murphy and John Parks operated a station at the Stanford Pow Wow. Lou asked if the club wanted to continue to have a station at future Pow Wows. Don Steinbach did not feel that the effort is worth the exposure we get for the club or ham radio. The general consensus was that future participation will be up for discussion for next year.

Field Day pre planning (See the Vice President's report.)

MOU City of San Jose
City of San Jose emergency services budget was cut 56%. Their director, Kimberly Shunk, is resigning, effective June 30. San Jose RACES will then report to the San Jose Fire Department. Ms. Shunk has tried to get the MOU through the City for approval,

however it is not clear if progress is being made toward that objective. Ms. Shunk has committed to purchase a repeater controller. The controller should be purchased no later than June 24. Don Steinbach expressed concern that if the City is out of funds how would we get work done on the 2 meter repeater. Don Steinbach further asked if we moved the repeater would this new controller stay with the City. Don Steinbach also asked who owned the various pieces of the repeater, and what would happen if we moved the repeater out of the City vault. The cost of controller is about \$800, and thus is not a large enough amount to be overly concerned.

RACES and phone patch

Fred Townsend asked about SCCARA membership for San Jose RACES so they can use the repeater phone patch. Fred Townsend explained that the SCCARA repeater phone patch is a priority line during an emergency. Fred Townsend further reminded Don Steinbach that he agreed to give a presentation to RACES on phone patch use. Fred is going to advocate SCCARA membership at the May 20 RACES meeting. Don Steinbach agreed to give a phone patch presentation at the July RACES meeting.

Email DOB list

Fred Townsend announced that his new ISP does not allow email list capability. He suggested a Yahoo group for SCCARA. Gary Mitchell asked if our current web site could be used to host an email list. Wally Britten mentioned that the Club would incur additional cost. The consensus was in favor of using a Yahoo group for board and membership communications.

New Business

Wireless Door Bell

Don Steinbach asked about purchasing a wireless door bell for use at the club station at the Red Cross. Fred Townsend asked that a better quality device be considered than is available at Orchard Supply. The consensus was in favor. Lou Steirer asked for clarification of the location and exact use of the door bell. Don Steinbach told the Board that purpose of the door bell to allow any one in the hallway to alert those operating the club station that someone is waiting in the wall way. Don Village moved that up \$50 be authorized for the purchase of a wireless door bell. John Glass seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Membership Roster

Don Steinbach mentioned the discussion at the last general meeting about how to publish the membership roster. Gary Mitchell showed the Board a sample from 2005 of a printed roster. There was discussion about adding a statement to the membership form stating that membership information is only distribution within the club.

Gary Mitchell proposed that we publish the roster for distribution. Don Steinbach suggested that a privacy statement be added. Fred Townsend moved that the roster be published similar to the 2005 example presented by Gary Mitchell for distribution to the membership with a privacy disclaimer added. Lou Steirer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Don Steinbach asked if the membership form should be changed to allow member to have their phone number dropped from the published roster. A number of opinions were offered, but a consensus did not form.

John Glass asked about welcome packages. . The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 pm

Respectfully Submitted, David Dippon, Secretary

NOARY BBS

Part 4, sending messages

Last time we looked at how to read messages. This time how to sent personal messages, bulletins, and replies.

Personal messages

Sending a message to another amateur is pretty straight forward. Use the **send personal** command, or just **sp**, and the call sign of the destination. (e.g. **sp K6ABC**) If the person uses this BBS or the BBS already has his/her address in its database, that's all there is to it. NOARY will fill in the rest of the address.

If that person is not known, you may have to include the call of the BBS he/she uses. Suppose his/her home BBS is N6RME, you'd enter: **sp K6ABC@N6RME**. N6RME is a known BBS, so NOARY will fill in the rest. If that's not the case, then you'll have to include the whole address. In this example, it would be: **sp K6ABC@N6RME.#NCA.CA.USA.NOAM**.

There is a standard there. From right to left, that's a four letter continent code, a three letter country code, a two letter state code, the region code, and the BBS. Not all addresses follow that exact format, for example, some may have a country code but no state code.

That format was developed for the BBS network to route traffic. It's a little bit like e-mail, but please keep in mind this is NOT e-mail. If you enter an e-mail address, your message will go nowhere and the sysop will have to deal with it.

If you don't know the full address and neither does the BBS, it will ask you questions and attempt to figure it out.

Next the BBS asks for a brief subject (usually best to keep in under 30 or 40 characters) and then goes into editor mode where you enter the text of your message.

Message editor

Be warned, the BBS's message editor is very primitive. If you've used some of the early DOS word editing programs from the late 1970's and early 1980's, you might find this somewhat reminiscent.

There are just a handful of commands, each starts with a forward slash on a new line. The most common is **/ex** (exit), that tells it you've finished and to send the message. **/?** gives a list of the editor commands. **/ab** aborts this message. **/nu** displays your message (so far) with line numbers. **/ad #** adds (inserts) a new line just before the line number given. **/kill #** kills (erases) a line. **/ed #** edits (retype) the specified line. **/in xxx** includes a file if xxx is a file name or a message if xxx is a message number. The editor will begin each line with **>** to indicate it is included—much like replying with e-mail. There are a few more, the best thing to do is get in there and play with it. And when you're done, just give the **/ex** command to exit and send the message (or **/ab** to quit without sending).

If you already created salutation with the **signature** command and turned it on with the **signature on** command, your signature file will be appended automatically as you exit (with **/ex**). Use the **help signature** command to learn about that.

Bulletins

Bulletins are entered exactly like personal messages, except you send them to a category instead of a call sign. Use the command **send bulletin** or **sb**.

There are two parts to the "TO" field, just like with a personal message: **title@flood**. The first part is the title, it should be no longer than the longest possible call sign. The title gives the readers an idea of what this is about just from the listing. The

flood tells the network how widely to distribute ("flood") your bulletin. The standard floods are: N0ARY (this BBS only), NCA (northern CA), CA (all of California), WUSA (western US), USA (the country), and WW (world wide). So if you want to send a bulletin to this country about amateur satellites, you might send to SAT@USA, or AMSAT@USA.

Note: some BBS sysops avoid worrying about configuring their BBS to do proper routing by just forwarding every bulletin to everywhere. So, don't be too shocked if someone from England responds to your USA post.

It's possible to flood personal message just like a bulletin, but this is normally done by sysops to send notices to the other sysops over a given area. No one will be able to read such messages except the addressee and sysops. (sysop: system operator, BBS owner.)

Try to use a little common sense when selecting the title and flood. For example, you don't want to send a bulletin to sale@ww if you intend for the buyer to be local. Also, try not to fall into the trap of using "all" as the title, that doesn't tell people anything. You'll see what I mean fast enough just by noticing how people label their bulletins, (use the **list** command).

Reply

There is a **reply** command. Basically it's just the **send personal** command, but it automatically fills in the address of the sender of the last message you read. If you include a message number (**reply #**), it will do so with the specified message.

This works the same with personal messages and bulletins. So if you want to reply to a bulletin, but have the reply also be a bulletin (not just go back to the originator alone), you have to use the **sb** command. instead of **reply**.

Next time, NTS messages

73, Gary WB6YRU

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the BBS packet network:

=====
Date: 19 Nov 2008 02:05
From: W1GMF@W1GMF
To: HUMOR@USA
Subject: INDIAN JOKE

Why were the Indians here first in America?
They had Reservations.

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, W6JPP, 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
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 N0ARY
e-mail: jad@aol.com

K6PBQ, Don Village, (408) 263-2789
e-mail: donvillage7@yahoo.com
WA6QYS, Lou Steirer, (408) 241-7999
packet: home BBS N0ARY

WB6YRU, Gary Mitchell, (408) 269-2924
packet: home BBS N0ARY
e-mail: wb6yru@ix.netcom.com

Newsletter Notes

I'd like all you potential shutter bugs to take note of Don's article about the pow-wow. He included an article and captions with the photos. Isn't this a lot better than pictures by themselves? Thanks Don.

Field Day

This being the June issue, we normally would have lots of stuff about our up coming Field Day activity, but nothing was submitted, (just that one paragraph in the President's Prose).

For those new to Field Day, it's a USA and Canada contest, the most popular of the year. The basic idea is to set up as you might do for communications during a disaster and make as many contacts as possible. It's a lot of fun.

Be sure to attend the next meeting. Also, I can give you a map of the place and some basic info about how it works and what to expect (from previous years), just let me know. wb6yru@ix.netcom.com..

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor



SCCARA

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

Affiliate of the ARRL,
American Radio Relay League



FIRST CLASS

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SCCARA Membership Form for 2009

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: _____

Memberships begin January 1 and expire December 31.

If renewing: annual membership dues (base rate) are: \$20 Individual, \$25 Family, \$10 Student (under 18)

For new members:

If joining in January: base rate

If joining in February through October: base rate x (11 - month) x 10% (e.g. for June, that would be: base rate x 50%)

If joining in November or December: free for November and December if paying the base rate for the following year

\$ _____ **Dues payment for:** individual family student

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.