

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 25, Number 10

October 2009



President's Prose

Our bylaws specify that the Officers and Directors of SCCARA are nominated in October and elected in November. As I mentioned at our September General Meeting, every effort is being made to accommodate absentee ballots, recognizing that we have members who can't always attend the General meetings, especially the October and November meetings. Likewise, nominations can be made electronically this year for the same reason. Joe Castellano has agreed to coordinate and oversee this activity with the help of our Secretary, David Dippon, who maintains the membership roster and mailing list. The timing is critical, so watch the October and November SCCARA-GRAMs for more information if this affects you.

I spent most of last week in Las Vegas. If you ever have some time to spend in that area, be sure to visit Hoover Dam. Bring your checkbook and take one of the guided tours into the innards of the dam. Security is the same drill as the airlines, so leave your rifle and hunting knife at home. Another place worth visiting is the Atomic Testing Museum, an affiliate of the Smithsonian. There is also the Hoover Dam Museum in Boulder City (where most of the construction workers lived). Of course I paid a visit to Amateur Electronic Supply as well. They had a Yaesu FTDX-9000MP (HF-6M, 400 watts) on display. It's a monstrous thing as is the price: \$10,999.99 delivered to your doorstep. There are about \$3,000 worth of accessories available for it as well.

The last time I was in the area was February 2008, when it was considerably cooler temperature-wise. It was tolerable this time though, since the humidity really is about zero percent. For those of you who don't get out much, Las Vegas is an easy 0800 to 1800 drive (about the same distance as San Diego but without having to deal with Los Angeles) or a 60-minute flight (plus four hours dealing with the airport, the rental car agency, etc.). I drove last time and flew this time. Las Vegas airport prices are something else. The basic \$4.95 Burger King combo is about \$8.00. My \$125.35/week rental car was \$180.05 after the airport/city fee add-ons and sales tax.

The Kenwood TKR-850 UHF repeater is on order. We don't have a delivery date yet, but it will probably be a month or two before we see it. Then there will likely be cables to make, finding a power supply, integrating it with our controller, etc. The unit can actually be used right out of the box if we forego voice id/messages and phone patch capability.

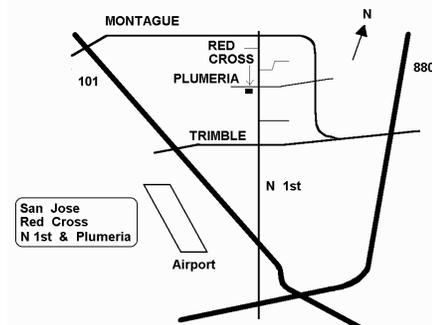
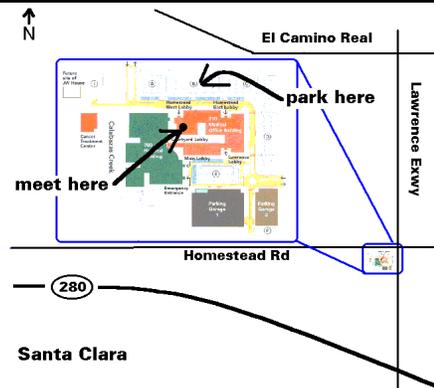
Lastly, reserve December 19 for the Holiday dinner

Calendar

- 10/10 Electronic flea market (DeAnza College)
- 10/12 SCCARA General Meeting
- 10/19 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)

General Meeting

- Day: Monday, Oct. 12, 2009
Time: 7:30 PM
Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Rm 196, 1
Featuring: Eric Norris, WD6DBM, Moon bounce for the masses.



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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)

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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.

N0ARY PACKET BBS

SCCARA hosts the packet BBS N0ARY (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/ncpa)

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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

meeting (at Creekside, again) and don't forget the 2-meter FM net on Monday nights, and the 10-meter SSB net on Thursday nights.



73, Don - AE6PM

Lost & Found

Found at the SCCARA picnic: one size 14 woman's heavy blouse/wind breaker. Kaki colored. Please claim by e-mailing Fred Townsend at ae6ql@arrl.net.

Thank you, Fred

Home-brew Night

Our November 9th meeting will be home-brew night. Everyone is invited to bring their projects and share them with fellow members.

December Meeting

Our annual Christmas meeting will be a luncheon on Saturday December 19 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 4th (see sign-up sheet). Talk-in will be on our repeater. W6UU, 146.985-. Why not renew your membership at the same time?

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

73, Don K6PBQ

Club Station

Club station contests: SCCARA will operate the following contests from our club station at the Red Cross. On Oct. 3 is the California QSO Party. In November the ARRL has 2 sessions for sweepstakes. On Saturday Nov. 7 we will operate the CW portion and on Saturday Nov. 21th we will operate the phone portion. These are great contests to operate as a club activity. So lets all make these fun contests for our club.

73 Don K6PBQ

ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, September 11, 2009

NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL RESPONDS TO ARRL: NO EVIDENCE OF "SIGNIFICANT CRASH RISKS" WHILE

OPERATING MOBILE

ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, wrote a letter to National Safety Council (NSC) President Janet Froetscher in July expressing the ARRL's concerns that Amateur Radio not become an unintended victim of the growing public debate over what to do about distracted drivers <www.arrl.org/news/files/NSC_Letter7-30-09.pdf>. Froetscher has now replied, saying the NSC does not support bans or prohibitions on the use of Amateur Radios while driving <www.arrl.org/news/files/NSC_Response_to_ARRL.pdf>.

Noting that there is significant evidence that talking on cell phones while driving poses crash risk four times that of other drivers, Froetscher observed that the NSC position calling for bans on the use of cell phones while driving is grounded in science. "We are not aware of evidence that using Amateur Radios while driving has significant crash risks," Froetscher wrote in her August 24 letter. "We also have no evidence that using two-way radios while driving poses significant crash risks. Until such time as compelling, peer-reviewed scientific research is presented that denotes significant risks associated with the use of Amateur Radios, two-way radios or other communication devices, the NSC does not support legislative bans or prohibition on their use."

Froetscher said that while "the specific risk of radio use while driving is unmeasured and likely does not approach that of cell phones, there indeed is some elevated risk to the drivers, their passengers and the public associated with 650,000 Amateur Radio operators who may not, at one time or another, not concentrate fully on their driving." She points out that the "best safety practice is to have one's full attention on their driving, their hands on the wheel and their eyes on the road. Drivers who engage in any activity that impairs any of these constitutes an increased risk."

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, said the ARRL "appreciates NSC President and CEO Janet Froetscher's clear statement that the NSC does not support legislative bans or prohibitions on the use of Amateur Radio while driving. We applaud the NSC for taking positions that are grounded in science. At the same time, all radio amateurs should heed her call to concentrate fully on driving while behind the wheel. It is possible to operate a motor vehicle safely while using Amateur Radio, but if it becomes a distraction we owe it those with whom we share the road, as well as to our passengers, to put safety first."

On January 30, 2009, the ARRL Executive Committee adopted the ARRL's Policy Statement on Mobile Amateur Radio Operation <<http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/MobileAmateurRadioPolicyStatement.pdf>> that states "Amateur Radio mobile operation is ubiquitous, and Amateur Radio emergency and public service communications, and other organized Amateur Radio communications activities and networks necessitate operation of equipment while some licensees are driving motor vehicles. Two-way radio use is dissimilar from full-duplex cellular telephone communications because the operator spends little time actually transmitting; the time spent listening is more similar to, and arguably less distracting than, listening to a broadcast radio, CD or MP3 player. There are no distinctions to be made between or among Amateur Radio, public safety land mobile radio, private land mobile radio or citizen's radio in terms of driver distraction. All are distinguishable from mobile cellular telephone communications in this respect. Nevertheless, ARRL encourages licensees to conduct Amateur communications from motor vehicles in a manner that does not detract from the safe and attentive operation of a motor vehicle at all times."

In his letter, Harrison explained to Froetscher that Amateur Radio operators provide essential emergency communications when regular communications channels are disrupted by disaster:

"Through formal agreements with federal agencies, such as the National Weather Service, FEMA and private relief organizations, the Amateur Radio volunteers protect lives using their own equipment without compensation. The ability of hams to communicate and help protect the lives of those in danger would be strictly hindered if the federal, state and local governments to not ensure that Amateur Radio operators can continue the use of their mobile radios while on the road."

Froetscher replied that she "appreciate[s] your focus of Amateur Radio for emergency communications during disasters. I encourage ARRL to adopt best practices for the safe operation of vehicles that confines use of Amateur Radios while driving only to disaster emergencies."

The Policy Statement asserts that the ARRL "is aware of no evidence that [mobile] operation contributes to driver inattention. Quite the contrary: Radio amateurs are public service-minded individuals who utilize their radio-equipped motor vehicles to assist others, and they are focused on driving in the execution of that function."

AMATEURS WITH GENERAL CLASS LICENSES TO BE GRANTED RECIPROCAL LICENSES IN SOME CEPT COUNTRIES

On Thursday, September 10, the Federal Communications Commission released a new Public Notice implementing changes in CEPT reciprocal operating arrangements for US citizens who hold an FCC-issued General, Advanced or Amateur Extra class Amateur Radio licenses. DA-09-2031 continues to allow US licensees "to utilize temporarily an amateur station in a European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) <www.cept.org/> country that has implemented certain recommendations with respect to the United States," subject to the regulations in that country and implements recent changes in the agreement <hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-09-2031A1.pdf>.

When an Amateur Radio operator with US citizenship holds an Advanced or Amateur Extra Class license, they continue to be granted CEPT Radio Amateur License privileges in accordance with CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01 (as amended) <www.erodocdb.dk/docs/doc98/Official/word/TR6101%20off%20140905.d>. There is no change in reciprocity for those license classes. What has changed is that US citizens holding a General class license -- who had lost all CEPT reciprocal privileges in 2008 -- are now granted CEPT Novice Radio Amateur License privileges in accordance with ECC Recommendation (05)06 (as amended) <www.erodocdb.dk/docs/doc98/Official/word/Rec0506.doc>.

The Public Notice states that while operating an amateur station in a CEPT country, the person "must have in his or her possession a copy of this Public Notice, proof of US citizenship and evidence of an FCC-issued Amateur Radio license. These documents must be shown to proper authorities upon request." The Public Notice can be found online on the FCC's Web site <hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-09-2031A1.pdf>.

According to ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, the changes in the CEPT reciprocity are a two-part result of changes made by the European Communications Office (ECO) in February 2008 when they re-examined US license class equivalency in comparison to their HAREC examination contest. "The result of that review was full CEPT reciprocity was only granted to US Amateur Extra and Advanced class licensees, leaving US General and Technician class operators without CEPT reciprocal privileges." The new public notice now reflects that change.

“In order to re-obtain at least some limited privileges under CEPT for those class licensees, the ARRL approached the FCC, asking that the US consider accepting ECC Recommendation (05)06” Henderson continued. “Reciprocal agreements between the US and other countries are actually diplomatic arrangements and come about through the agreements through the State Department. In the winter of 2008/2009, the FCC followed up on our request and contacted the US Department of State, asking that the US formally approach the ECO with a request to become party to the recommendation.”

At its meeting in late spring 2009, Henderson said that the ECO working group that handles issues pertaining to Amateur Radio accepted the US request to join ECC Recommendation (05)06, and authorized US General Class licensees to operate under that recommendation's terms. It did not extend those privileges to US Technician class licensees.

Henderson stated that it is important to note two things about ECC Recommendation (05)06: “First, not all European countries have implemented this recommendation. Therefore, a US General class operator does not have reciprocal privileges in many countries, including popular US travel destinations like Italy, the UK or France. Second, as with any reciprocal operation, the band frequencies and privileges are those allowed by your host country -- they are not the frequencies and privileges extended by your FCC license. Travelers need to make sure they are familiar with the authorized privileges for the CEPT Novice Radio Amateur License if operating using ECC Recommendation (05)06 or T/R 61-01.”

CEPT countries participating in CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01 as of September 10, 2009 include Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark (including Greenland and the Faroe Islands), Estonia, Finland, France (including Corsica, Guadeloupe, French Guyana, Martinique, St Bartholomew, St Pierre and Miquelon, St Martin, Reunion and its Dependencies, Mayotte, French Antarctica, French Polynesia and Clipperton, New Caledonia, and Wallis and Futuna), Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Monaco, Netherlands, Netherlands Antilles, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom (including Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man).

CEPT countries participating in ECC Recommendation (05)06 as of September 10, 2009 are Belgium, Denmark (including Greenland and the Faroe Islands), Germany, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Switzerland.

From *The ARRL Letter*, September 24, 2009

PREPARATIONS UNDERWAY FOR WRC-12

Approximately 200 participants came together in an ITU preliminary meeting that ended September 16 in Geneva, Switzerland to help African countries prepare for the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12) <www.itu.int/ITU-R/index.asp?category=conferences&link=wrc-12>. The six regional telecommunications organizations -- APT (Asia-Pacific), ASMG (Arab States), ATU (Africa), CEPT (Europe), CITEL (the Americas) and RCC (independent states of the former Soviet Union) -- were represented at the meeting. This meeting was part of a series of ongoing international and regional preparatory meetings to allow government and industry to address

the far-reaching and complex agenda of the WRC-12. ARRL Technical Relations Specialist Jonathan Siverling, WB3ERA, and IARU Region 1 Vice President Tafa Diop, 6W1KI, were among the participants.

WRC-12, which will be held in Geneva from January 23-February 17, 2012, will review the international treaty that governs radiocommunications -- the ITU Radio Regulations <www.itu.int/publ/R-REG-RR-2008/en>. The conference will be preceded by the Radiocommunication Assembly (RA-12), also to be held in Geneva, January 16-20, 2012.

The agenda for WRC-12, developed by the delegates at the last WRC in Geneva in 2007 (WRC-07), was formally adopted by the ITU Council in 2008. There are 25 agenda items addressing potential new or revised spectrum allocations to existing services. A key objective is the review of the international regulatory framework applicable to radiocommunications. This review should reflect the convergence of some radio services arising from the development of next-generation networks (NGN) <en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Next_Generation_Networking>, as well as new radio applications and technologies. Of most interest to amateurs is agenda item 1.23, “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.”

“This agenda item is the highest item on my long term priority list,” said ARRL Technical Relations Manager Brennan Price, N4QX. “We are fortunate that this upcoming WRC presents an opportunity for a new secondary allocation in the medium waves. While the outcome is far from certain, our experience in other bands -- most notably 30 meters -- indicates Amateur Radio's compatibility with certain other services as a secondary user.”

According to the ITU, WRC-12 will focus on appropriate spectrum sharing mechanisms to make the best use of the digital dividend in the UHF and other frequency bands, providing new opportunities for radiocommunication services. It will also identify the spectrum requirements to increase security for both maritime and aeronautical transport services. Additional spectrum resources will also be identified for scientific and other radiocommunication services, specifically related to the environment, meteorology and climatology, as well as disaster prediction, mitigation and relief. Along with the introduction of more efficient digital services requiring less power consumption, WRC-12 will be a milestone to meet ITU's commitment to achieve climate neutrality with the use of Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs) <en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Information_and_communication_technologies> as effective tools to combat climate change and its effects.

Along with IARU volunteers worldwide, Price and Siverling are monitoring developments on a number of other agenda items that could affect Amateur Radio if they take unanticipated turns, including:

- * Agenda item 1.14, considering requirements for and implementation of the radiolocation service (radar) between 30-300 MHz.
- * Agenda item 1.15, considering possible allocations between 3-50 MHz for oceanographic radar applications.
- * Agenda item 1.19, considering regulatory measures to enable software-defined and cognitive radio systems.
- * Agenda item 1.22, examining the effect of emissions from short-range devices.

“Oceanographic radar is perhaps our biggest defensive issue,” Price said. “Fortunately, its proponents have acknowledged that sharing with Amateur Radio would be problematic.”

The ITU preparatory meetings ahead of WRC-12 provide an opportunity to exchange information and views on the ongoing studies regarding WRC-12 agenda items, as well as on the common proposals and positions of the regional groups and other organizations. The discussions in this meeting addressed all WRC-12 agenda items and identified those deserving special consideration for African countries, including the sensitive issue related to the operation of security systems for ships and ports and the shared use of the planned digital TV spectrum by other services.

The Director of ITU's Radiocommunication Bureau Valery Timofeev noted that the agenda for WRC-12 was likely to be as complex as the previous World Radiocommunication Conference held in 2007. "We need to continue the trend toward increasing the number of common and coordinated proposals," he explained. "This process, which highlights the great spirit of international cooperation and consensus building at ITU, has proved to be increasingly successful in the WRC process." Timofeev added that the level of participation at the meeting indicated the importance of the WRC process "to improve regulatory procedures, to provide frequency and orbit resources for new technologies and to strengthen the technical framework for the operation of services."

Recognizing that WRC-12 is an important event for the future of information and communication technologies, ITU Secretary-General Hamadoun Toure, HB9EHT, said the forthcoming conference will be a landmark in achieving ITU's connectivity targets: "WRC-12 will be held only three years ahead of 2015 -- the target date to connect all villages, towns and cities, universities and schools in the world and to achieve the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) <www.un.org/millenniumgoals/>. If there is any chance to meet these goals, we must rely on ICTs -- omnipresent tools with profound implications for all economic sectors -- to accelerate the process and bridge the digital divide." -- Thanks to the ITU for some information

MORE CUBESATS IN ORBIT

Early Thursday morning (UTC), an Indian PSLV-C14 rocket carried the Oceansat-2 satellite <en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oceansat-2> to orbit, along with four CubeSats and two RubinSats. The RubinSats are 8 kg research modules that will remain attached to the PSLV-C14 booster. CubeSats are very small satellites, typically only a few inches on each side. As they are a relatively inexpensive research spacecraft, they've become increasingly popular with university science programs. A number of CubeSats use Amateur Radio frequencies to downlink telemetry, as is the case with this latest group. Early reports indicate that all of the CubeSats are active. You can check out the frequencies and modes of the four satellites on the ARRL Web site <www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/09/23/11090/?c=1>.

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, Sept. 14, 2009



The meeting was called to order at 1940 hrs by Don Steinbach, president. Self introductions were made around the room. There were approximately 35 attendees.

The president made the following announcements:

- The annual picnic was a success. Someone left a jacket, size

14W.

- The balun (photo in the September SCCARA-GRAM) was passed around.
- The 440 repeater is still operational. Steps are being taken to order a Kenwood replacement this month.
- The September SCCARA-GRAM is the first issue published in color.
- He (Don) will be making a Autodial & Phone Patch presentation at the SJ RACES meeting Wednesday night. There may be unusual activity on the 2-meter repeater.
- The next BoD meeting is next Monday at the Red Cross. Board members were reminded to bring a copy of the bylaws and a copy of the last BoD meeting minutes.
- The Silicon Valley VE Group tests at the Saratoga Fire Station the first and third Saturdays of every month.
- Officer and Board Member elections are to be held in November. Nominations occur in October.

The meeting was turned over to Fred Townsend who introduced the guest speaker, Jason Lohn of x5systems. Those interested in previewing the antenna design software presented by Jason should log onto x5systems.com and follow the instructions.

A 15-minute coffee/social break followed the presentation. The meeting reconvened at approximately 2055 hrs.

The officers and committee chairmen were polled. There were no significant announcements except that the Club station will not be open at the Red Cross on the last Saturday of this month, but will be open instead for the California QSO Party (reported by Don Village). Gary Mitchell purchased 8 Motorola Mitrek units for \$150. They are candidates for the 6-meter packet linking project he is heading up (with SCCARA support). Gary also pointed out that this issue of the SCCARA-GRAM is the first that has been published in color. Color costs more, but only the pages that have color cost the higher rate, not the entire SCCARA-GRAM.

Don (president) then shifted the focus of the meeting to the upcoming elections. He proposed some changes to past practices:

- There will be no nominating committee as such, but Joe Castellano as a committee of one has agreed to compile and coordinate nominations for the October nominations and November election.

- Joe has agreed to implement a system to accommodate absentee ballots. This has been an issue (though minor) in the past where members have a desire to vote, but can't make it to the November meeting.

- Self nominations are encouraged. Anyone who would like to run for a particular office should let Joe know via email:

Joe agreed to take the initiative to contact the entire membership so that everyone can participate. The mailing list to do that apparently doesn't exist, or is questionable, and Joe has agreed to run some tests to verify its validity. We still have time and Joe will be at the next BoD meeting. The bottom line is that all members will have a chance to nominate and/or vote this time.

Don summarized the officer and director positions and election status. Positions up for election this year and the current office holders are:

President - Don Steinbach

Vice President - Fred Townsend

Secretary - David Dippon

Treasurer - Ned Tufekcic

Director - Lou Steirer

Director - Wally Britten

Director - Gary Mitchell (replaced Don Village whose term would have ended in December 2009).

Directors having one year remaining in their term of office are:

John Parks

John Glass

Don pointed out that Officers serve for one year and Directors serve for two years. There are four Officers and five Directors per the Bylaws dated April 14, 2008.

Minutes submitted by Don Steinbach, President

Board Meeting, Sept. 21, 2009



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

The meeting was called to order at 7:46 pm by Don Steinbach.

Attendance

Board Members

Don Steinbach, AE6PM, President
Fred Townsend, AE6QL, Vice President
Ned Tufekcic, AC6YY, Treasurer
David Dippon, AE6YE, Secretary
Don Village, K6PBQ, Trustee
Lou Steirer, WA6QYS, Director
John Parks, W6JPP, Director
John Glass, NU6P, Director
Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU, Director

Guests: Herman DeKruyff, KI6ETZ, Joe Castellano, W6SNV

Excused Absences - Wally Britten, KA6YMD, Director

Announcements

Don Steinbach asked the board members to review the agenda. There were no changes. He announced that the deadline for the upcoming SCCARA-GRAM is the end of the month.

Old Business

440 Repeater Status: John Glass has placed order for new 440 repeater hardware on 9/15/2009.

ARRL Mailing List: Fred Townsend is reviewing the ARRL Mailing List.

New Business

Last Meetings Minutes: David Dippon gave Ned Tufekcic a membership check from Terese Nemeth. Lou Steirer moved to accept last months board meeting minutes. John Parks seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Don Steinbach distributed minutes from the September 14th membership meeting, which were reviewed the by the Board members. He asked for the name of speaker, who was Jason Lohn. There was discussion about jacket left behind at the Fall picnic. Lou Steirer moved to accept the minutes from the September 14th meeting as amended. John Parks seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Ned Tufekcic reported the following balances:

Checking	\$ 6426.26
Savings	\$ 3844.99
Cash approximately	\$ 269.81

Roof over Storage Units

Don Steinbach mentioned that funds needs to be allocated for

material for a roof to cover the Club storage units. There was discussion about the source of materials. John Parks will coordinate with Clark Murphy. Don Village moved to authorize up to \$75.00. John Parks seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Auto-Dial/Phone Patch

Don Steinbach mentioned a few new members had not received auto-dial/phone patch codes. There was discussion about the new member packets. It was discussed that both the Secretary and Treasurer will each carry copies of the new member packets. Herman DeKruyff mentioned that some of the repeater phone codes are inaccurate. Don Steinbach mentioned that David Paul and Ben Vickers offered to review the phone codes. Lou Steirer asked about the controller at the 2 meter repeater, and if it allows one to check the number programmed.

Election of Officers and Directors

Don Steinbach mentioned that the Bylaws require elections at the November membership meeting. Joe Castellano requested an email list. David Dippon is going to send an updated roster to the Board and to Joe Castellano. There was discussion about the SCCARA Yahoo group. Joe Castellano further asked about the handling of absentee ballots. Joe Castellano will solicit the current incumbents, and determine if they are interested in running for their current office.

After some discussion, the following decision was made about absentee ballots:

The deadline for nominates will be the October membership meeting, after which the Secretary will create a ballot. Candidates will not be added to the ballot after the October membership meeting. There will be mention in the October SCCARA-GRAM for any member wishing to vote absentee to contact the club Secretary for an absentee ballot. Ballots must be returned to the Secretary by the November membership meeting.

Bylaw Revisions

Don Steinbach asked to have this discussion differed until the next Board meeting. John Glass moved to defer the Bylaw discussion until the October board meeting. Gary Mitchell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice President's Report

Fred Townsend mentioned that he does not have a speaker for the next membership meeting. Gary Mitchell mentioned a member's night where each member would speak for a few minutes about a project or subject of interest. Fred Townsend suggested a session about programming HTs. Lou Steirer suggested showing a DVD about the Scarborough Reef DXpedition. Ned Tufekcic suggested a satellite talk by Nick Garner.

Trustee

Don Village announced that the club station will open on October 3rd for California QSO party, November 7th for the ARRL CW Sweepstakes, and November 21th for the ARRL SSB Sweepstakes. The club station will not be open in December.

Don Village also mentioned that the December 19th will be Club's annual luncheon meeting at the Creekside Inn.

Activities

John Parks did have any new activities planned and will resign as Activities Director position, but not his board position.

Newsletter

Gary Mitchell reported a positive reaction to the SCCARA-GRAM in color. The cost is about three the cost of black and white. Gary Mitchell also mentioned that the membership meeting topics should be submitted for publication in the SCCARA-GRAM.

BBS

Gary Mitchell announced that the power supply on the BBS failed. He has proposed a replacement that will cost \$422.00 plus tax, which he has ordered. Don Steinbach asked John Glass how much current the new 440 repeater draws (about 8 amps), and suggested using the failed BBS power supply for the new 440 repeater. John Parks moved to reimburse Gary Mitchell \$421.65. Don Village seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Gary Mitchell reported that eight 6 meter radios had been located for BBS links. He asked if there was interest in covering the cost of 6 meter radios for other (non-SCCARA) BBS. The consensus was against paying for equipment related to non-SCCARA BBS systems.

John Parks moved to authorize an amount not to exceed \$150.00 for radios and crystals for the BBS links. Don Village seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Repeater: No report was given.

Web Master: No report was given.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:19 pm

Respectfully Submitted, David Dippon, Secretary

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 NOARY
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 NOARY

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

Newsletter Notes

Correction:

Due to an editors error, the picnic photos were credited to Don AE6PM, but were actually from Mike KB6LCJ. Sorry about that, Mike. Also, in one of the photos, Betty's call was given as KI6IUU, that should be KI6UII.

73, Gary WB6YRU

Annual December Meeting Sign-up

Our annual December meeting will be a luncheon on Saturday December 19, at the Creekside Inn 544 W. Alma Ave, San Jose. We will have a choice of three entrees, \$25.00 each. Reservations need to be in by Friday, December 4.

Talk in on our W6UU, 146.985- repeater (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), \$25 each:

_____ Coulette Steak _____ Chicken Marsala _____ Salmon

Name: _____ Call: _____ Total for lunch (es): \$ _____

Give this form (or copy) with payment to the Treasurer or mail it 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 2009

If none of your info has changed, fill in name and call only

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.