

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 26, Number 6

June 2010



President's Prose

Field Day is the big event for June. SCCARA will be at Mt. Madonna again, barring any unforeseen events. Clark Murphy (KE6KXO) has agreed to act as Chairman, the person who makes sure that everything gets done. Details to follow at the June 14 general meeting. As usual, our objective is to have a good time, get the antennas up and the equipment in place without any mishaps, make sure everyone gets a chance to operate, man the GOTA station and maybe even make a few contacts.

Here's a final reminder that the new Technician Class question pool will become effective on July 1, 2010. If you know someone who has been studying the 2006 pool, you might want to remind them to take the exam before the end of June. The new question pool has approximately 400 questions and includes some graphics and diagrams.

The ARRL has three new books available: PIC Programming for Beginners, Storm Spotting and Amateur Radio, and Remote Operating for Amateur Radio. I think the ARRL books are really top quality and I own many of them. Anyone who would like a good technical overview of ham radio and electronics would do well to pick up a copy of the ARRL Extra Class License Manual and read chapters 2 through 9. It's probably the best book you can buy for \$19.

Don't forget the 2-meter FM net on Monday nights, and the 10 meter SSB net (28.385 MHz USB) on Thursday nights. Anyone who has a license can participate in these nets.

73,
Don - AE6PM



Packet BBS NOARY

The NOARY BBS is back up and running, thanks to a spare computer Bob NOARY had in storage. The replacement computer is old, but has just been sitting unused for a decade. Hopefully we'll get many years of service out of it.

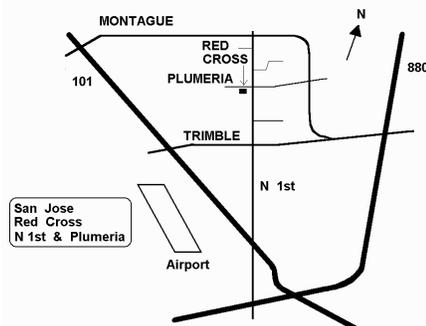
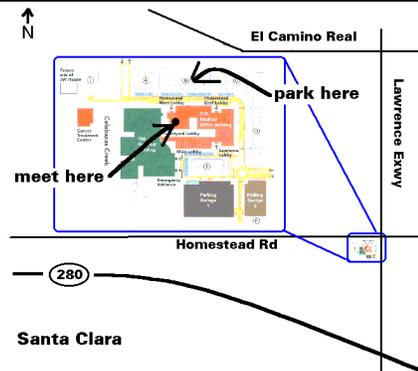
At the same time, the BBS has a new forwarding port on six meters. This won't mean too much to most users, but the main

Calendar

- 6/14 SCCARA General Meeting
- 6/21 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)
- 6/25-27 Field Day--SCCARA will be at Mt. Madonna

General Meeting

- Day: Monday, June 14, 2010
- Time: 7:30 PM
- Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Rm 196, 1
- Featuring: Field Day preparations



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@detolight.net	
Past President	---	
Secretary	Jeannie Felix, KG6YOR	293-3847
	e-mail: jrfv7600@yahoo.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

Editor	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	269-2924
	e-mail: wb6yru@ix.netcom.com	
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 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

point is that we're trying to re-establish RF forwarding between all the BBS's in the region instead of relying on the internet. This is amateur radio after all.

73, Gary WB6YRU

SCCARA at Stanford Pow Wow

SCCARA's HF operation at the 39th annual Stanford University American Indian Pow Wow went very well. Thanks to John W6JPP, David AE6YE, Greg KF6FNA, Clark KE6KXO, Gwen KF6OTD and Lou WA6QYS we had radios and antennas up and running to demonstrate Ham Radio to the thousands of visitors to the Pow Wow. We made quite a number of contacts including DX to Wales, Bulgaria and two European Russian stations. Another of our contacts was with our own Alvin W6ATW who was operating from the U.S.S Hornet station NB6GC. Jerry N6SWC and Christina WO1NDR came by to say hello. Thanks also to Teresa for documenting our club activity with her expert photography.

Lou WA6QYS



Greg KF6FNA at the controls.



Lou WA6QYS working DX....a Banana Republic?



Matchbox for seven band vertical dipole antenna.



Gwen KF6OTD....There's more to be done than operate!



John W6JPP helping at the Bar B Que.....smoke signals?

Photos by Teresa.



John W6JPP taking a turn at the controls supervised by Greg KF6FNA.

ARRL News

From *the ARRL Letter*, May 6, 2010

THE LAST TECH-PLUS LICENSE TO EXPIRE IN JUNE

In February 1991, the FCC dropped the 5 WPM Morse code requirement for new Technician licensees, and in 1994, it created a new class of Amateur Radio license: the Technician-Plus, also called Tech-Plus. This new license differed from the Technician license in that Tech-Plus licensees had passed the code test and had more operating privileges on HF. Patricia Phillips, N3IGI, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, received her Technician licensee on June 12, 1990. On March 21, 2000, she upgraded her...

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In 2000, the FCC restructured the license classes, and where there were six classes -- Novice, Technician, Tech-Plus, General, Advanced and Amateur Extra -- only the Technician, General and Amateur Extra survived. Novice and Advanced class licenses could still be renewed and modified, but Tech-Plus licensees would be classified as Technicians upon renewal, but still retain their code credit and HF operating privileges.

According to the FCC's Bill Cross, W3TN, the Tech-Plus licenses came about when those who had earned their Technician licenses when the Morse code requirement was still in effect wanted a way to distinguish themselves from the new Technician licensees (who did not have a Morse code requirement). In 1994 -- and effective December 20, 1994 -- the FCC issued an Order called Amendment to Amateur Service Rules to Change Procedures for Filing an Amateur Service License Application and to Make Other Procedural Changes that instituted the Tech-Plus license class: "Technician Plus means that a Technician class licensee has also passed a telegraphy examination. We believe that showing this information in our licensee data base and license document as a separate class rather than continue to treat it as a category of the Technician class is consistent with current licensing procedures."

From *the ARRL Letter*, May 13, 2010

CANADIAN HAMS MAKE USE OF NEW PRIVILEGES

After several years of hard work by the Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) and Industry Canada (IC) -- Canada's equivalent to the FCC -- Canadian amateurs received privileges on 2200 meters (135.7-137.8 kHz) at the first of the year. Scott Tilley, VE7TIL, of Roberts Creek, British Columbia, and John Gibbs, VE7BDQ, of Delta, British Columbia, completed the first official Canadian two-way 2200 meter QSO on April 24. Using CW, the Canadian amateurs reported strong signals during daylight QSO on 137.100 kHz. Roberts Creek and Delta are about 41 miles (66 km) apart. Gibbs used a homebrew tube transverter at 100 W output into a short top-loaded backyard wire vertical, while Tilley was running 400 W from a homebrew FET transmitter into a 60 foot top-loaded

wire antenna. "As well as heralding the arrival of a new 'top band,' the QSO demonstrates that even amateurs located in typically small city-sized lots can enjoy the challenges that 2200 meters has to offer," Tilley told the ARRL. "Hopefully many other Canadian amateurs will soon be melting solder to join the fun on our new band!" More information on Canadian 2200 meter activity may be found on Tilley's Web site www3.telus.net/sthed/argo/ and at the [VE7SL Radio Notebook Web site](http://www.ve7sl.com/) <http://members.shaw.ca/ve7sl/136.html>.

FCC PROPOSES ADDITIONS, CHANGES TO AMATEUR 5 MHZ ALLOCATION

Acting on a 2006 Petition for Rulemaking filed by the ARRL, the FCC has issued a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM), ET Docket No 10-98 to modify the rules that govern amateurs' secondary use of five channels in the 5 MHz frequency range known as 60 meters. The proposed changes would substitute a new channel for one that is seldom available because of occupancy by the fixed service, which is primary in this range. Also proposed is an increase in power from 50 to 100 W effective radiated power (ERP) and the addition of CW, PSK31 and PACTOR-III modes with provisions to ensure that such operations would be compatible with the primary service. The proposed changes can be found beginning on page 8 of the NPRM.

"The ARRL is pleased that the Commission has opened this proceeding to increase the usefulness of the limited 5 MHz Amateur Service allocation" said ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ. "We are gratified that the Commission and the NTIA agree that the responsible manner in which amateurs have been using the five USB channels warrants some expansion of privileges so that the Amateur Service can be even better prepared for service to the public."

Read more details at: www.arrl.org/news/fcc-proposes-additions-changes-to-amateur-5-mhz-allocation.

From *the ARRL Letter*, May 20, 2010

FCC NEWS: FCC SEEKS COMMENTS ON NEWLY PROPOSED RULES FOR AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS USING SPREAD SPECTRUM COMMUNICATIONS

In March, the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-10-45A1.pdf) that proposed to amend Part 97 to facilitate the use of spread spectrum communications technologies by eliminating the requirement that amateur stations use automatic power control (APC) to reduce transmitter power when the station transmits a spread spectrum (SS) emission, and reducing the maximum transmitter power output when transmitting a SS emission (WT Docket No 10-62). On May 14, a summary of the NPRM and the Order was published in the Federal Register; the FCC is seeking comments on the NPRM. Comments must be filed on or before June 14, 2010 (30 days after publication in the Federal Register); reply comments must be filed on or before June 28, 2010 (45 days after publication in the Federal Register). Instructions on how to file comments are listed beginning on page 5 of the NPRM (hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-10-38A1.pdf).

The Commission also attached an Order (edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-11385.pdf) to the NPRM that makes certain non-substantive revisions to Part 97. According to the FCC, the rules are necessary to amend the Amateur Service rules or conform them to prior Commission decisions, enhancing

the usefulness of the Amateur Service rules by making them conform with other Commission rules, thereby eliminating licensee confusion when applying the rules to Amateur Service operations. According to the Federal Register, the new rules take effect July 13, 2010.

See www.arrl.org/news/fcc-proposes-to-eliminate-spread-spectrum-apc-requirement-reduce-spread-spectrum-power-limit-cleans for more details.

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, May 10, 2010



Kaiser Hospital 710 Lawrence Expy., Santa Clara, CA. 95051

Featured Speaker: Bob Iannuci, W6EI

Presentation: Foxhunt TM For Iphone

Don Steinbach called the SCCARA Membership Meeting to order @ 19:35

We had introductions of members & visitors

Announcements

Recent Events:

04/17 M.S. Walk 05/08-09 Stanford Pow-Wow

Our Presentation is Presented By Bob Iannuci, W6EI and he is one of the founders of RAI Laboratory LLC, a startup pursuing opportunities in amateur radio hardware and software. Formerly, Bob was senior vice president and CTO of Nokia. There, he played a defining role in reshaping the company's long term R&D strategy. Challenging traditional management thinking, he brought open innovation to Nokia and built a research environment suited to Internet ways of working and systems-level thinking. With three decades in the IT industry— first at IBM during the mainframe days, then at Digital with its minis, and next at Compaq in the 1990s, plus three startups—he brings insights in reshaping mature businesses into growth businesses and tackling the so-called Innovator's Dilemma. Bob holds a PhD in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and is the author and co-author of two books and several academic papers. He holds five patents.

Bob Iannuci, W6EI : bob@rail.com and his website is <http://foxhunt.rail.com>

Meeting Adjourned @ 2100 Jeannie Felix, KG6YOR - Secretary

Board Meeting, May 17, 2010



Red Cross 2731 N 1st St., San Jose, CA.

The SCCARA Board meeting is called to order @ 19:42 by AE6PM, Don Steinbach.

Attendance: AE6PM, Don Steinbach - President AE6QL, Fred Townsend - V. P. KG6YOR, Jeannie Felix - Secretary K6PBQ, Don Village - Trustee NU6P, John Glass - Director WA6QYS,

Lou Steirer - Director KA6YMD, Wally Britten - Director WB6YRU, Gary Mitchel - Director W6JPP, John Parks - Director

Excused Absence: AC6YY, Ned Tufekcic - Treasurer

Visitors: KE6KXO, Clark Murphy - Field Day Chairperson; KF6FNA, Gregg Lane; AE6MV, David Paul; KF6OTD, Gwen Steirer

Announcements:

Don Steinbach, AE6PM announced the sccara-gram deadline is 05/31/10.

Don Steinbach, AE6PM announced the new 440 repeater is now sitting in his garage & owes a check to John Glass in the amount of \$1738.20. The programming cable and software hasn't yet arrived.

Clark Murphy, KE6KXO is appointed Field Day Chairperson.

Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU is asking to have the sccara property list updated.

Jeannie Felix, KG6YOR is fixing issues w/ the membership database.

Fred Townsend, AE6QL announced he has found a new projector bulb for \$281.89

Gary made motion to increase the amount to pay fred for his projector bulb of \$281.89. The motion was seconded by John Parks, W6JPP. Motion carried.

No issues for 440 repeater w/ PAVEPAWS.

John Parks, W6JPP put a motion on the floor to accept the April board meeting minutes as fixed. Don Village seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Wally Britten, KA6YMD to possibly schedule Red Cross antenna work sometime after Field Day.

Calender Items:

May 29 - club station open June 12 - electronic flea market June 14 - general membership meeting June 25 - 27 - field day Aug. 21 - SCCARA picnic

Fred Townsend, AE6QL is proposing to have kit building class w/ 2 continguits 1. Enough people sign up 2. Location Class to be tentatively held in August.

Fred Townsend, AE6QL suggested a shopping list for HF equipment

Don Steinbach, AE6PM is asking for a concensus for backup 2 meter repeater from the board; thoughts, opinions etc.

Fred Townsend, AE6QL made a motion to readdress the issue of the backup 2 meter repeater to a future meeting. John Parks, W6JPP seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Lou Steirer, WA6QYS made a motion for the use of the sccara 2 meter repeater on July 17 for San Jose R.A.C.E.S County Drill. John Glass Seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Fred Townsend, AE6QL volunteered to do a study on IRLP feasibility.

Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU announced the BBS is still down and needs a new computer & is working on getting it fixed.

Fred Townsend,AE6QL to send out info about the kit building class.

Treasurer's Report given by John Parks,W6JPP in AC6YY, Ned Tufekic absence. \$6137.16 - Checking Balance \$3846.36 - Savings Balance \$9400 - Cash on Hand Total :\$10,077.52 Check's \$85.00 , \$1738.20, \$281.89

Gary Mitchell,WB6YRU will be looking into cost cutting measures for the sccara-gram.

Meeting Adjourned @ 21:20 Jeannie Felix,KG6YOR - 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, W6JPP
TVI/RFI: WB6YRU
Homebrew projects, construction: KD6FJI, WB6YRU
Computers: older IBM PC: WB6YRU
Packet Network (BBS, forwarding): WB6YRU
Code operating and installations: WB6EMR, K6PBQ
DX (long distance/propagation): WB6EMR
Emergency operating/preparedness: WA6QYS
HF operating techniques (SSB, CW): WB6EMR, K6PBQ
Legal/FCC rules: WB6YRU
SCCARA (club inner workings): K6PBQ, WB6YRU, WA6QYS
EchoLink: KK6MX

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

W6JPP, John Parks, (408) 309-8709
e-mail: w6jpp@arrl.net

K6PBQ, Don Village, (408) 263-2789
e-mail: donvillage7@yahoo.com

WA6QYS, Lou Steirer, (408) 241-7999
e-mail: wa6qys@arrl.net

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

Newsletter Notes

In the past we haven't had many photos in the *SCCARA-*

GRAM, but since we switched to color it's been almost every issue. So *THAT's* the secret, huh? All I need to know now is the secret incantation for articles. ☺

The only fly-in-the-ointment is that while color copying is cheaper than it ever has been, it's still substantial—about five times as much as black & white. With three color pages (like this issue), the SCCARA-GRAM costs almost two and a half bucks to print and mail.

On the average, the newsletter currently costs more than we take in from the annual dues. Fortunately we're making enough hosting the DeAnza Electronic Flea Market to keep us in the black.

I'm going to try implementing some cost cutting measure, but there's a limit to what can be done. Hopefully you won't notice any difference.

There is something *you* can do—switch to electronic delivery. All you have to do is just check the appropriate box on the membership form and include your e-mail address.

The way it works is that each month we'll send you a short e-mail letting you know the latest SCCARA-GRAM is ready on our web site, with a link. It will be there in pdf format ready to download. If you'd rather have it on paper, it's your choice to print it. The pdf version is always in color.

Not only will we save money on the color copies, but in mailing too.

It appears we aren't the only ones, I've noticed many other clubs and organizations are moving to electronic newsletters too. Some of them charge extra for a mailed copy or don't even give you a choice.

However, *we* still do. If you'd rather continue receiving the paper copy by regular US mail, you don't have to do anything.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

Field Day

Field Day will be discussed at the June meeting. However, since this will be the last *SCCARA-GRAM* before Field Day, something needs to be said in this issue. Unfortunately not much has been submitted to the newsletter to date. Below is what I understand to be the case as of this writing...

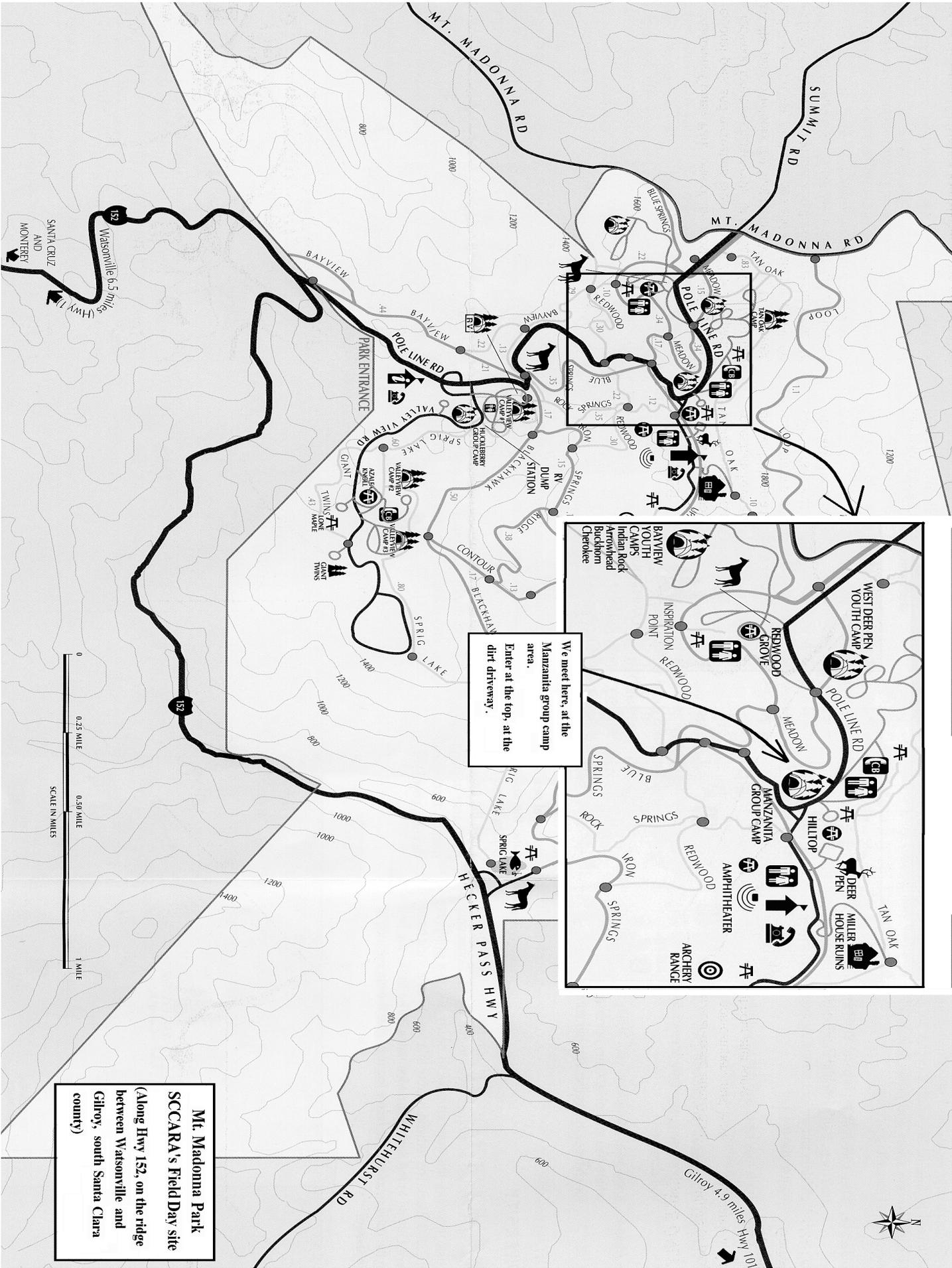
– Editor

Details about the Field Day contest itself can be found on the ARRL's web site: www.arrl.org/field-day.

Those interested in helping set up will meet in the Manzanita Group Camp Ground at Mt. Madonna park Friday afternoon, June 25. There are no plans to meet first for lunch and go up in a caravan, as we've done in previous years.

Mt. Madonna Park is located at the highest point along Hwy 152, (Hecker Pass) between Gilroy and Watsonville. At that point, take Pole Line Road north into the park. (If you miss Pole Line Rd and start going down hill again, you've gone too far.) There is no need to stop at the park entrance booth (a short distance in), the club already paid for the Manzanita camp ground.

Meals will be pot-luck, or fend for yourself. The central table (in the middle of the camp area) is where to put pot-luck food. There will be ice chests for stuff that should be kept cool. Anything on that table or in the nearby coolers is considered "fair game," help yourself. So if you intend to fend for yourself, don't keep your food there. Cook stoves will be available.



Mt. Madonna Park
SCCARA's Field Day site
 (Along Hwy 152, on the ridge between Watsonville and Gilroy, south Santa Clara county)

We meet here, at the Manzanita group camp area.
 Enter at the top, at the dirt driveway.

BAYVIEW YOUTH CAMPS
 Indian Rock
 Arrowhead
 Buckhorn
 Cherokee

WEST DEER PEN YOUTH CAMP

REDWOOD GROVE

MANZANITA GROUP CAMP

HILLTOP

DEER PEN

MILLER HOUSE RUINS

TAN OAK

INSPIRATION POINT

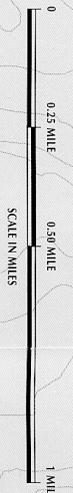
REDWOOD

MEADOW

POLE LINE RD

AMPHITHEATER

ARCHERY RANGE





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 2010

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

Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: E A G 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.