

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 26, Number 11

November 2010



President's Prose

The election of Officers and Directors will take place at our November meeting. So far, we have one candidate for each open position (four Officers and two Directors) except for Treasurer, which so far has no takers. Nominations will be accepted right up until the actual election. If you are interested in running for any of these offices, contact Joe Castellano (W6SNV) at joec2neurodyne@pacbell.net. No experience required, salary negotiable.

Several SCCARA members attended Pacificon in San Ramon October 15-17. Next year it will supposedly be held here in Santa Clara/San Jose. I'm looking forward to eliminating the 100-mile round trip each day and the parking hassle at the San Ramon Marriott. The technical forums and the vendor exhibits make it worth the trouble, however, and I was certainly happy to see it return to the Bay Area this year.

Ham radio received some great publicity in the full-page article "Ham Radio Operators Help Local Citizens" published in the October 13, 2010 & October 19, 2010 issue of the Santa Clara Weekly. SCCARA members featured in the article were Lou Steirer (WA6QYS), Gwen Steirer (KF6OTD) and Tom Root (KF6NEW). Nice work! You can read the article at www.santaclaraweekly.com/1593.html. The photo in the on-line article (person unknown) is different than the photo in the newspaper (Tom Root).

A Technician Class license class and exam session will be held at West Valley College on November 13. If you know someone who is interested, have them contact me (ae6pm@arrl.net) for more information

Don't forget the 2-meter FM net on Monday nights, and the 10-meter SSB net (28.385 MHz USB) on Thursday nights

73,
Don AE6PM



Sweepstakes

**Club Station open for November
SWEEPSTAKES Contest**

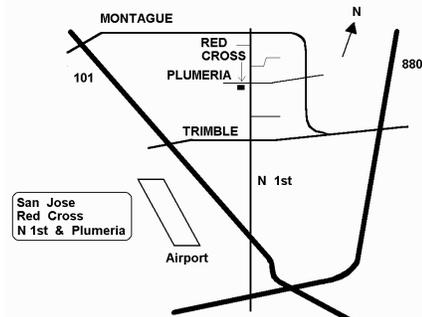
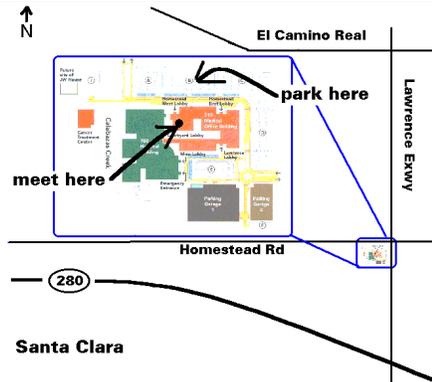
SCCARA will operate the sweepstakes contest from our

Calendar

- 11/6 Sweepstakes contest, CW-club station
- 11/8 SCCARA General Meeting--elections
- 11/15 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)
- 11/20 Sweepstakes contest, phone-club station

General Meeting

Day: Monday, Nov. 8, 2010
Time: 7:30 PM
Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Rm 196, 1
Featuring: Andy Stoddard KI6DSN, radio safety Club Elections



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: ftownsend@sbcglobal.net	
Past President	---	

Secretary	Viki Moldenhauer, KI6WDS	738-8781
	e-mail: vym@comcast.net	
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	e-mail: ac6yy@arrl.net	
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	e-mail: donvillage7@yahoo.com	
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	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
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	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

club station at the Red Cross. In November the ARRL has two sessions for sweepstakes. On Saturday Nov.6 at 2:00pm will operate the CW portion and on Saturday Nov.20 at 1 pm 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

December meeting

Our annual Christmas meeting will be a luncheon on Saturday December 18 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 women 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 3rd (see sign-up sheet). Talk-in will be on our repeater. W6UU, 146.985-. Why not renew your membership at the same time. Looking forward to seeing all of you there

73, Don Village K6PBQ

Silent Auction

by Fred Townsend, AE6QL

It is with sadness that we mark the passing of SCCARA member Warren Gilleran, KD6UD. His estate has donated his equipment to SCCARA. His rigs will first be offered to SCCARA members in a silent auction. (See auction details below.) If no one bids, the equipment will be offered to the general public.
Item:

1. Kenwood TS180 HF SSB Transceiver. This is a high serial number, all solid state, rig manufactured in the late seventies or early eighties. It weighs about 25 pounds including internal power supply. It runs about 200 watts PEP or 160 watts CW on most bands. It features digital frequency control and digital display. It does not have WARC frequencies or bandpass filters. However there is information on modifying the auxiliary bands to WARC. It does have a DSP.

Clark has extensively tested this rig and his friends have said he has never sounded better. This would make an excellent first rig for a general. The rig is sold as is without warranty. Electronic docs are available on request.

2. Yaesu FT301SD HF transceiver with FP301D speaker- power supply and FC301 tuner. This is a QRP rig with digital display putting out 20 watts PEP on a good day. The receiver has crystals filters for SSB and CW. The rig is very clean and the power supply is in good shape. The transceiver functions are diode switched but it appears the mechanical switches that change the bias on the diodes need cleaning. The switches are mounted on the front panel and are accessible for cleaning. This is a good rig for a novice tinker. The rig is sold as is without warranty. Electronic docs are available on request.

3. Yaesu FR101 all HF-VHF band, receiver including 6 and 2 meters.



This is a continuous tuning (HF), SWL receiver. The tuning is a little stiff and could probably use some lubrication. The wafer switches probably need cleaning too. This would be a good SWL receiver for a young tinker with a mentor to show them the ropes. Receivers have this kind have recently sold on e-Bay for >\$150. The rig is sold as is without warranty. So far I have not been able to find docs. If anyone has docs for this rig please share them with us.. Don't confuse with a FT101.

For further information on this equipment or to make an appointment to view, e-mail or call me or Clark.

To make a bid, log into SCCARA YAHOO Groups and leave a message containing your bid. Be sure to state which item you are bidding on as well as your bid price.

Not a member of SCCARA YAHOO Groups? It's painless to join. SCCARA Groups are an easy way for everyone to communicate without the need to know everyone's e-mail address. Sometimes it's the only way we can communicate those last minute changes, like *the picnic is cancelled by rain*.

There are several ways to get to groups. You can go directly to: tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/SCCARA. You can also go to yahoo.com and click on the *Groups* tab. Then enter SCCARA when asked to find a group.

You can also email directly to the addresses but either way you must be a member of the group using your registered e-mail address to read or post messages.

To join, go to the SCCARA group as indicated above and then click on *Join This Group!* After you enter your information a message is sent to the moderator for approval. Approval is usually granted within 24 hours. As soon as you receive your approval message you can post messages to the group.

Group Email Addresses:

Post message: SCCARA@yahoogroups.com

Subscribe: SCCARA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Unsubscribe: SCCARA-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, October 14, 2010

DXCC NEWS: FOUR NEW ENTITIES PLACED ON DXCC LIST

With the dissolution of the Netherlands Antilles on October 10, two now-deleted DXCC entities are now four new DXCC entities, effective October 10, 2010. The island pair of Bonaire and

Curacao (PJ2 and PJ4, the Leeward Islands) and the three-island group of Sint Maarten, Saba and St Eustatius (PJ5, PJ6 and PJ7, the Windward Islands) have been deleted from the DXCC list of active entities and replaced with four new entities. Not since the aftermath of World War II -- with so many new European entities -- and the break-up of the French colonies in Africa in the early 1960s -- have so many new DXCC entities come into existence all at once.

On October 10, the US Department of State recognized the dissolution of the Netherlands Antilles, placing the new entities on its Dependencies and Areas of Special Sovereignty List, saying that "Curacao and Sint Maarten (the Dutch two-fifths of the island of Saint Martin) became autonomous territories of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Bonaire, Saba, and St Eustatius now fall under the direct administration of the Netherlands."

According to the DXCC rules, entities may be added or removed from the DXCC List as a result of political or geographic change. These new entities qualified to be listed on the DXCC List under Section 2, Rule 1(b) of the DXCC rules: "The entity contains a permanent population, is administered by a local government and is located at least 800 km from its parent. To satisfy the 'permanent population' and 'administered by a local government' criteria of this sub-section, an Entity must be listed on either (a) the US Department of State's list of 'Dependencies and Areas of Special Sovereignty' as having a local 'Administrative Center,' or (b) the United Nations list of 'Non-Self-Governing Territories.'"

The PJ2T station, located at Signal Point, Curacao.

With so many DXCC entities all coming into being at the same time, many amateurs made their way to Curacao (PJ2T, PJ2/OH1VR, PJ2/PB2T, PJ2A and PJ2MI), Sint Maarten (PJ7E, PJ7MF), Bonaire (PJ4B, PJ4D, PJ4I, PJ4LS and PJ4W), Saba (PJ6A) and St Eustatius (PJ5/AA4NC, PJ5/AH6HY and PJ5/K1XM) to put these new ones on the air. Beginning at 0400 UTC on October 10, the airwaves were filled with those looking to snag these new entities; just days after the entities became "live," stations on the islands had made more than 15,000 QSOs on SSB and CW.

Per the ARRL DXCC Desk, no confirmations for these new entities will be accepted until after January 1, 2011; other administrative changes will be announced as they are finalized. Look for more information on the ARRL Web site, in upcoming editions of *The ARRL Letter* and in the December 2010 issue of *QST*.

From *The ARRL Letter*, Oct. 28, 2010

IN THE SHACK: TWO NEW ARRL KITS COMING SOON

Two new ARRL kits are in the final throes of production. The first is a Morse code oscillator, produced for ARRL by MFJ Enterprises. The project is a good "beginners" electronics kit. We expect the kit will be popular with members, particularly newcomers, and with clubs, instructors and teachers seeking a classroom kit-building experience. A supplementary resource guide for students and educators will be made available by the ARRL Education and Technology Program. The guide helps cover the fundamentals of the working circuit and its components.

The ARRL Morse code oscillator kit -- produced by MFJ -- is a great way to introduce kit building and CW skills to hams, (www.arrl.org/shop/ARRL-Morse-Code-Oscillator-Kit/).

A second kit is a PIC programming lab and project, produced for

ARRL by Cana Kit (Canada), (www.arrl.org/shop/ARRL-s-PIC-Programming-Kit/). This more substantial kit is intended to be used with ARRL's PIC Programming for Beginners book (revised first edition), www.arrl.org/shop/ARRL-s-PIC-Programming-for-Beginners/. The kit includes all the necessary components, parts and boards, and follows the book's step-by-step exercises and tutorial. The kit also includes all the necessary parts to build a microprocessor-controlled CW keyer, which is the book's culminating project.

"We're excited about these new projects, which help emphasize kit construction, basic electronics, and the extraordinary potential of microcontrollers," said ARRL Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R. "There's no better way to advance the radio art than by introducing more hams to project building and homebrewing." Order your ARRL Morse Code Oscillator and ARRL PIC Programming Kit today in the ARRL Online Store.

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, Oct. 11, 2010



Kaiser Hospital, 710 Lawrence Expressway, Santa Clara CA 95051 Status: Unreviewed

The SCCARA General Membership meeting was called to order by Don Steinbach AE6PM at 19:38.

Introductions of members and guests were made.

Announcements:

- SVECS breakfast is Oct. 23 at the Santa Clara Senior Center. At 7:30am helpers arrive, 9am is breakfast, 10 am is a presentation by the Sunnyvale Amateur Radio Group showing their emergency radio kits. They will also have door prizes including a 125\$ HRO gift certificate.
- Pacificon is Oct 15-17 at the San Ramon Marriott. Parking was discussed.
- A Technician class license class will be held at the West Valley College Nov 13 from 8am-5pm. Contact Don AE6PM.
- The club has items for sale from a member's estate: details will be in the SCCARA-gram. Club members will have first chance to buy.
- SVECS has equipment to sell as well: a Kenwood TS950 SVX transceiver and a Yaesu FL7000 linear amplifier.
- Don AE6PM passed around a board he designed and built for a battery backup power supply for the repeater in Saratoga.
- Mike KB6LCU read a notice from an RV park banning "autoformers" (raises voltage to an RV rig, for mobile stations), and requested info from other club members.

Fred AE6QL introduced our speaker Bob Forster N6PCQ, who gave an overview of the Ubuntu Operating System, a small-footprint, open source unix kernel with Gnome windowing system.

After the break, John W6JPP noted that the generator is fully repaired.

Election of officers was discussed: officers and board members are elected in November, they take positions in December. Officers elected every year are: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Board members serve for 2 years in staggered terms. Two directors (John Parks and John Glass) are up for election this year. Interested in running or nominated so far are: President: Don

AE6PM Vice President: Fred AE6QL Secretary: Viki KI6WDS Board: Gregg KF6FNA, John Glass NU6P. More nominations will be accepted at next month's meeting. Voting will take place at the Nov 8 General Meeting. Joe W6SNV will send out an email describing the absentee voting process and cutoff date.

Fred AE6QL announced the speaker for November will be Andy Stoddard KI6DSN talking about radio safety.

The meeting was adjourned at 21:17.
Viki Moldenhauer, Acting Secretary

Board Meeting, Oct. 18, 2010



Red Cross, 2731 N 1st St, San Jose CA Status: Unreviewed

The SCCARA Board Meeting was called to order by Don AE6PM at 19:42.

Attendance: President: Don Steinbach AE6PM Vice President: Fred Townsend AE6QL Acting Secretary: Viki Moldenhauer KI6WDS Treasurer: Ned Tufekcic AC6YY Trustee: Don Village K6PBQ Directors: John Glass NU6P, Lou Steirer WA6QYS, Wally Britten KA6YMD, Gary Mitchell WB6YRU Excused Absence: Director John Parks W6JPP Visitors: Gregg Lane KF6FNA

Announcements: Don AE6PM announced the SCCARA-GRAM inputs are due to Gary no later than Monday October 25.

Treasurer's Report: checking = \$4781.72 savings = \$3846.78 cash = \$134.39 Ned AC6YY took possession of the P.O. box key since he lives closer, and he will pick up the mail.

Secretary's Report: Don AE6PM appointed Viki KI6WDS to serve as Acting Secretary following the resignation of Jeannie KG6YOR. The Board Meeting Minutes for September were reviewed and amended with respect to Field Day Location Poll to read: "Field Day Location Poll: 11 for Mt. Madonna; 2 for alternate location; and 1 don't care." Lou WA6QYS moved to accept the September Board Meeting Minutes as amended; Fred AE6QL seconded; the motion carried. Roster/mailling list status: Gary WB6YRU had just received the text data to generate the paper version of the roster.

Vice President's Report: Fred AE6QL has arranged for Andy Stoddard to speak on equipment safety for the November meeting. There is no speaker for December although Bob Vallio will be present. Several speakers are lined up for 2011.

Old Business: Election planning: An email from Joe W6SNV describing the absentee voting process was read.

New business: - Upcoming events: no additions.

- SCCARA equipment for sale: Discussion was held about how to handle the sales process. John NU6P proposed advertising in the SCCARA-gram with a price; if no takers, go to HRO for consignment sale. Fred AE6QL will write up the description of model #s, condition, asking price, contact.

- SLVARC auction: Tom Kernville W6TJK sent an email describing equipment his club is auctioning off; this was passed around.

- Secretary Software: Discussion was held about how the

membership database is kept (Microsoft Access database program), what functions are done in which tools, and whether the process should be simplified. Viki KI6WDS will look into options. Fred AE6QL will mail the website for Open Office to Viki.

Station Trustee's Report: Don K6PBQ said the club station will be operating at the Red Cross on Oct 30 (last Saturday of the month) and also for 2 contests in November: ARRL CQ Sweepstakes: Nov 6th CW and Nov 20th phone.

Editor's Report: Cost of color photos in printed newsletter was discussed: the electronic form saves money. Members should inform the secretary if they want to switch to the electronic version.

N0ARY BBS Report: Gary WB6YRU reports the BBS is up and running normally. The memory problem seems to be just a software thing; Gary is keeping an eye on it. Work continues on the 6M forwarding project.

Repeater Chairman: Wally KA6YMD had nothing to report.

Website Chairman: Wally KA6YMD had nothing to report.

Other misc announcements:

- Lou WA6QYS mentioned the SVECS breakfast is this Saturday Oct 23 at the Santa Clara Senior Center, with the topic of Sunnyvale Hams emergency radio kits. Let Lou know in advance if you are coming, 5\$ at the door; HT or gift certificate for door prize.

- Lou WA6QYS brought copies of the Oct. 13th issue of the Santa Clara Weekly community paper with an article on Ham Radio (see www.santaclaraweekly.com).

- Don AE6PM mentioned there is a Technician class license class and exam on Nov 13 at West Valley College.

- Lou WA6QYS had tendered the request for use of the Kaiser facilities for general meetings and is awaiting a reply.

- Discussion was held about using other meeting rooms at the Red Cross for board meetings instead of the break room; Lou will contact George Williams N6NKT of the Red Cross.

Future Actions: The Fixit List was discussed: the generator fuel system and belts are done; the muffler can't be upgraded. No change on the trailer, coax repair, or rotator connectors. Nothing to report on the HF transceiver upgrade.

Don AE6PM adjourned the meeting at 20:45.
Viki Moldenhauer, Acting 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

Annual December Meeting Sign-up

Our annual December meeting will be a luncheon on Saturday December 18, at the Creekside Inn 544 W. Alma Ave, San Jose. We will have a choice three entrees, \$25.00 each. **Reservations need to be in by Friday December 10.** See December meeting article for information on the gift exchange. Talk-in will be on our repeater, W6UU, 146.985-. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you there. Why not renew your membership (back cover) at the same time?

73, Don K6PBQ

For the annual meeting in December, sign me up for the following lunch(es) at \$25 ea.

____ Coulette Steak ____ Chicken Marsala ____ Salmon

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

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



SCCARA

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

Affiliate of the ARRL,
American Radio Relay League



FIRST CLASS

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SCCARA Membership Form for 2011

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.