

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 28, Number 8

August 2012



President's Prose

Greetings from Butte, Montana, 59701. Temperatures for the last couple of weeks have been in the 80's during the day and high 40's at night. Occasional electrical storms keep things interesting and it's nearly always windy in the afternoons. Light enough to read a newspaper outside until 9:45 PM.

Propagation between here and San Jose on 40 meters hasn't been very good this time around. That, coupled with the incessant S7-S8 noise level, means that I haven't been able to check into the 0930 net on 7263.8 kHz with any degree of regularity.

I'm using a ground-mounted Hustler 4BTV with three one-quarter wavelength radials each on 10/15/20/40 meters. I added five more radials for 40-meters oriented SW in hopes that would make a dramatic improvement, but it didn't. It could be that San Jose is a little close for this take-off angle – but that's an excuse for more experimenting. FYI, the bearing from here to there is 223 degrees (almost exactly SW) and the range is 766 statute miles.

My plan is to try a horizontal dipole next, NVIS and otherwise. I had the good fortune to land some Channel Master telescoping masts locally. There was a classified ad in the Montana Standard (local newspaper) a few days ago advertising 20' and 40' masts, among other things, for sale so I contacted the person. Turns out he had two of each, like new. He wanted \$15 for the 20' masts and \$25 for the 40' masts. Needless to say, it didn't take long for me to extract my wallet from my pants pocket. Now all I have to do is figure out how to install a couple of them where they can't be seen!

That's it for this month. Remember to always drink upstream from the herd and never squat with your spurs on.

Join Don (K6PBQ) and Wally (KA6YMD) on our 2-meter and 10-meter nets. If you have a license, you can be there.

73, Don - AE6PM

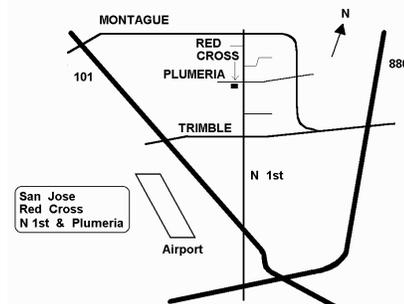
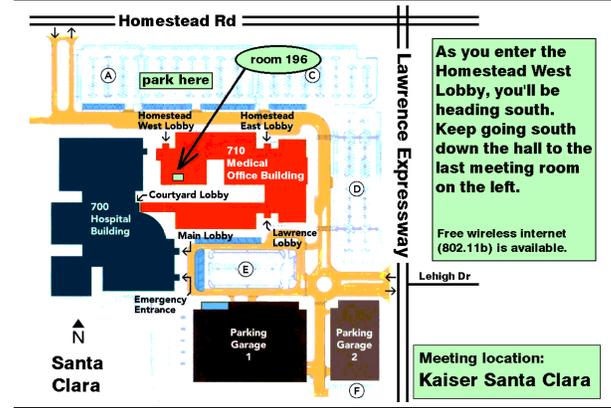


Calendar

- 8/11 DeAnza electronic flea market
- 8/13 SCCARA General Meeting
- 8/18 SCCARA Picnic—Marry Gomez Park, S.C.
- 8/20 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)

General Meeting

Day: Monday, Aug. 13, 2012
Time: 7:30 PM
Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Rm 196
Featuring: Albert Mizuhara, W6DOZ will tell us about large klystrons (see article)



The **SCCARA-GRAM** is published monthly by the **SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION**, PO Box 106, San Jose CA 95103-0106. 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>.

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(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)

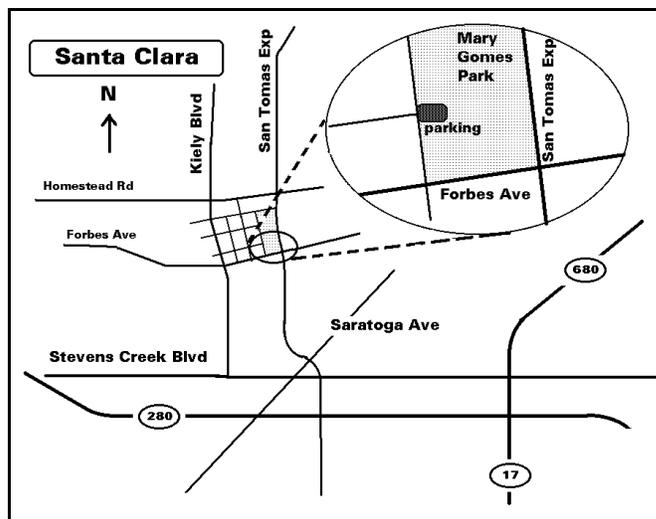
TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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

Picnic

The SCCARA Picnic this year will be on Saturday August 18th at 10AM until 4PM or so. at Mary Gomez Park in Santa Clara. Its located at the north-west corner of San Tomas Expressway and Forbes. Enter from the west side: go west on Forbes north on Bucher. Then right into the small parking lot (see the map below). We will have a HF radio set up again for a miniature field day operation. Gwen, Lou, Sheryl and Edward will be running our bingo game. So please bring a gift or two for prizes, The club will provide sodas, plates, utensils, condiments and charcoal. Please bring your own meat and a dish to share.

Don Village K6PBQ



August Meeting

I am excited to announce Albert Mizuhara, W6DOZ, will be the SCCARA's August 13th speaker. If the name sounds familiar but you can't quite place it I'll give you a hint. A few AI's associates were Bill Orr and Bert Jennings. Still need more help? Can you say Eimac? Can you say Varian? Can you say Jennings vacuum capacitors?

In 1948, when Al Mizuhara was licensed as W6DOZ, Russell H. Varian and Sigurd F. Varian, founded Varian Associates and introduced the klystron as their commercial product. Al later joined Eimac where he worked on gridded tubes. Then he moved to Varian for a while and then returned to Eimac only have Varian acquire Eimac. In the process Al moved from gridded tubes to klystrons.

Al is retiring from CPII, the successor company to Varian Eimac. Al will be telling us about building the giant 500 KW klystrons used for deep space voyager missions. Maybe we can get him to tell us what is like working with Bill Orr as well.

Fred AE6QL

Treasurer's Treatise

I got the monthly statement from Union Bank and there was a charge for 1.89 against our account. I went down to the bank

and had a face-to-face with one of the twenty year old vice presidents and he told me it was a charge for depositing cash. Talk about bending over in the shower! So we had a heart-to-heart and when he was assured that this would only happen once a year, he removed the charge. A bull elephant has bee bees in his jewel case compared to these cork sackers.

So I have resolved to take any cash given to me in the future, put it in my wallet and write a check for the same amount from my bank and stick it in our club's bank. They haven't started charging for checks yet at either bank. We are circling the drain folks!!!

Goetz K. Brandt, K6GKB

ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, August 2, 2012

FCC DENIES PETITION SEEKING TO DESIGNATE NATIONWIDE EMERGENCY CALLING FREQUENCY

Saying that it believes that the Amateur Radio Service "allows flexibility to provide emergency communications in a way that takes into account channel availability and other local conditions," the FCC denied a Petition for Rulemaking on July 31 that sought to create a nationwide emergency calling frequency. The Petition -- filed by Bryan Boyle, WB0YLE, of Morrisville, Pennsylvania, and Jim Dixon, WB6NIL, of Alhambra, California -- called upon the FCC to designate 146.550 MHz as a "non-exclusive nationwide Amateur Radio Service emergency communications channel using FM wideband modulation." Read more at www.arrl.org/news/fcc-denies-petition-seeking-to-designate-nationwide-emergency-calling-frequency.

{146.550 is a FM simplex channel. -Editor}

SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS IN LONDON AND WALES ON THE AIR FOR 2012 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES

Two British special event call signs have been activated to celebrate the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games: 2O12L (two Oscar one two Lema) from London, England and 2O12W (two Oscar one two whisky) from Barry, Wales. Both stations will be on the air for the duration of the Games -- July 25-August 12 -- and continuing through September 9. Organizers hope to make at least 80,000 contacts during the seven weeks that 2O12L and 2O12W are on the air. Read more at www.arrl.org/news/special-event-stations-in-london-and-wales-on-the-air-for-2012-olympic-and-paralympic-games.

Preferred operating frequencies. These are guidelines only, we will choose frequencies to avoid QRM to other band users.

160 M	1.833, 1.843 MHz
80 M	3.523, 3.783 MHz
40 M	7.023, 7.043, 7.083, 7.143 MHz
30 M	10.103 MHz
20 M	14.023, 14.073, 14.173, 14.273 MHz
17 M	18.083, 18.103, 18.133 MHz
15 M	21.023, 21.083, 21.283 MHz
12 M	24.903, 24.923, 24.963 MHz
10 M	28.023, 28.083, 28.483 MHz
6 M	50.093, 50.133 MHz

WIAW'S ECHOLINK AND IRLP NODES BACK IN SERVICE

With the recent upgrades to the ARRL's Internet system completed, the WIAW EchoLink Conference Server WIAWBDC and WIAW's IRLP Node 4292 (www.arrl.org/echolink-irlp) are now back in service. Amateurs are able to once again listen to code practice transmissions and digital bulletins via the WIAW EchoLink Conference Server.

Work in Progress

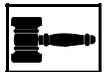
I have no reports of anyone working on anything, so I will report on my own latest project. I have purchased a two section tubular tower, the classic 40 foot model with the accompanying gin pole. I already have one of these at one end of the house, this one will go at the opposite end. However, I won't be placing an antenna on top, instead I intend to mount a wind generator.

I have the impression that this year has more windy days than any I can remember. Checking GOOGLE has presented me with many options. Most are complete systems which only need a battery to store the energy. My intention will be to get some of my radios "OFF THE GRID." Will keep everyone posted. In the meantime, any projects out there would give me material for future articles.

Goetz K. Brandt, K6GKB

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, July 9, 2012



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

The SCCARA General Membership Meeting was called to order by Vice President Fred AE6QL at 19:35, as President Don AE6PM was not present.

A Discone antenna was passed around for show and tell, while introductions of members and guests were made.

Announcements:

Fred AE6QL thanked Gregg KF6FNA for running an excellent Field Day; Gregg thanked everyone involved in setup and teardown, and Fred AE6QL (computer logging & battery support), Viki KI6WDS (GOTA station), Lou WA6QYS (port-a-potty), Goetz K6GKB (antennas), Clark KE6KXO (public outreach), John W6JPP (antenna setup & trailer towing), Wally KA6YMD (PIO), Gwen KF6OTD (food), Don K6PBQ (breakfast), and Mike KB6LCJ (setup). Gary WB6YRU also thanked Goetz for his writeup.

Fred AE6QL walked everyone through the Field Day Entry Form as submitted (with pictures) the night before. Points of interest are: - we had no digital points, because no Ned, and problems with RTTY - the Windom antenna worked well on 80-10m - there was no CW in the late evening - there was 20dB more noise in the daytime than at nite - there were NO accidents at all - Lloyd KD6FJI helped with setup, John NU6P came to operate, friend Dan Hackler helped log in the wee hours of Sunday morning, Don AE6PM helped with setup and tear down.

Lou WA6QYS has a nice check for \$634.43 for food from the flea market for the treasurer; according to Gwen KF6OTD this is because we sold bananas.

Lou WA6QYS announced the next activity is the SVECS quarterly breakfast on July 28th; the speakers will be the Commander and Lieutenant Commander of the Civil Air Patrol Squadron 80, from Reid-Hillview airport, speaking on their mission and communications capability. See www.svecs.net for more details. Let Gwen and Lou know if you want to eat breakfast so they have enough food. The breakfast is at the Santa Clara Senior Center, at the corner of Fremont and Monroe.

Also, September 9 is the SVECS flea market; let Lou WA6QYS know if you can help setup or man the booth.

Lou also mentioned that CK6S is a special events station for the 100th anniversary of the Calgary Stampede, which will be on air for 10 days, starting maybe yesterday, on 14.252MHz.

Don KK6MX announced that on June 17th, he was in Montreal for a ham convention, and the VP of RIM gave a presentation with pictures taken every 5 years, of equipment from Parris Worth up to today; he has requested the presentation to share with the club.

Fred AE6QL announced the speaker for August will be Al Mizuhara W6DOZ; for Sept or Oct will be Elecraft. October is the National ARRL convention.

Clark KE6KXO announced the annual club picnic will be August 18th at Mary Gomez park: we'll set up radios, play bingo, and (what the club is famous for) eat. The park is at the corner of San Tomas and Forbes. Parking is limited. Bring something for potluck: we will have hamburgers, hot dogs, etc.

John W6JPP noted Pacificon (in October) is asking for volunteers to work during the convention: if you work 8 hours over the 3 days, you can get a refund of your admission. Contact John, who is going to their organizational meeting tomorrow night.

The club station will be open on July 28th; generally people come after the breakfast.

Goetz K6GKB has printouts of the Band Plans and made extras; see him to get copies.

Our speaker for the evening was Michael Wright K6MFW, who spoke on Amateur Television. He described the technical details of amateur video signals, and showed a live demo, with a camera set up in the back of the room, transmitting to an antenna in the front, which fed a monitor. He described the use of these systems for RACES, to monitor emergency scenes, or operations areas. He recommended the Sony TRV-138 video camera which easily allows adding the call sign overlay, and disabling the auto-shut-off. A good monitor is a 12V analog tv set with built-in VHS recorder, allowing later review. He also recommended having a Bag-O-Connectors, and lots of spare cables, since configuring the setup in an emergency situation is very unpredictable.

Jerry N6SWC also recommended always storing coaxes by attaching both ends (male) to a female-female barrel connector, and then wrapping with 2-3 bungee cords. Then you have what is needed to use the coax as an extension cord as well as directly.

Viki Moldenhauer, Secretary KI6WDS

Board Meeting, July 16, 2012



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

The SCCARA Board Meeting was called to order by Vice President Fred AE6QL at 19:38.

Attendance: Vice President: Fred Townsend AE6QL; Secretary: Viki Moldenhauer KI6WDS; Trustee: Don Village K6PBQ; Directors: Lou Steirer WA6QYS, Gregg Lane KF6FNA, Wally Britten KA6YMD; Visitors: Gwen Steirer KF6OTD, Clark Murphy KE6KXO Absent: President Don Steinbach AE6PM, Treasurer Goetz Brandt K6GKB, Directors John Glass NU6P and Gary Mitchell WB6YRU

Announcements:

Fred AE6QL announced that Don AE6PM is out of town, Gary and Goetz sent email that they might not make the meeting.

The SCCARA picnic is August 18; bring potluck food and radios.

The SVECS Quarterly Breakfast Meeting is Saturday July 28. The SCCARA station is open that Saturday also.

The club received a request for volunteers to work at the Garlic Festival, also the last weekend of the month.

And ALSO on the last weekend of the month is the PAARAShoot (sp?), and the Country Cousins annual BBQ in Rio Vista.

The inputs to the SCCARA-gram are due to Gary the last Monday of the month, which is July 30.

Officers' Reports:

Secretary: Viki KI6WDS's printer is broken, so please let her know if you want a printed copy of a roster ahead of the meeting. The minutes from June stand approved as submitted. Viki will confirm welcome packages have been/will be sent to new members Joe Weber and anyone else from last meeting.

Treasurer: Goetz K6GKB sent his report by email: Checking = \$4729.73, Savings = \$500.07, Cash = \$253.95, Total = \$5483.75. There was discussion about whether the larger sum should be in savings rather than checking.

Vice President: Fred AE6QL will write a letter to the August speaker Al Mizuhara W6DOZ to confirm. Battery Report: the club has 3 excellent batteries, and one bad one which he will dispose of. Computer Report: the club will retire 3 bad computers; there is one good laptop with Windows 98 and 2 good batteries; Don AE6PM also donated an XP laptop which has no video output, but external monitors weren't very useful at Field Day. The logging program we used at Field Day was simpler than the other options; Fred is corresponding with the ARRL regard the points logging procedure.

President: is on vacation.

Standing Committee Reports:

Newsletter/BBS: Gary WB6YRU reported by email that he has nothing to report.

Repeater/Webpage: Wally KA6YMD reports status quo.

Trustee: Don K6PBQ received a very nice special event station certificate from the Shriners. He will mail a check for the \$419 Mt. Madonna reservation refund to Goetz. The original reservation was \$438, which is fairly inexpensive insurance to hold

the site. We have until December to reserve Mt. Madonna for next year if we want.

Special Committees:

Picnic: We have leftover from Field Day: plates, napkins, charcoal, lighter fluid, 24 hamburgers (in the freezer!), hotlinks, hotdogs, cold cuts, ketchup, mustard. We need to buy: hamburger buns, loaf of bread; Lou WAQYS and Gregg KF6FNA will buy food. Location: last year someone else stayed all night and grabbed the good shady sites by the tennis courts; this year Don K6PBQ will get there early to hold the site. Sheryl and Edward will bring the Bingo machine, Don K6PBQ is getting cards. Fred A6QL and Don K6PBQ will bring antennas and 2 batteries. We will have HF and a 2m talk-in. Gregg will bring a generator. Lou and Gwen may have a conflict and might not be there. People should bring in things for Bingo prizes.

Field Day:

Expenses: Gregg K6FNA has \$192.37 (gas + food) out of 250\$ budgeted; Wally has \$35.40 (3 * 3.80 ice, 24 hard hats); Lou has \$166 for the port-a-potty (need to ask Goetz if he got a receipt at the club PO box). With the new generator, we used 6.1 gallons of gas vs. 10+ gallons in previous years.

Lessons learned: Gassing the generator: Discussion was held about internet information on how to modify the generator to use a pressurized boat tank that would get us get 2-3 days non-stop operation. The cap runs 24-30\$, the tank 100\$ at Walmart. Concern was expressed about storing gas (normally we manually empty the generator at the end of Field Day and put the gas in the vehicle of whoever towed the trailer.). Fred AE6QL will email the link to the video. Wally will make up a CD/CVC and bring a laptop to view it.

Battery Chargers: Fred AE6QL brought one club charger, and one of his own. These have problems (noisy, cumbersome, no protection). One club battery is Glass Mat and weighs 100lbs. He suggested we run DC power supplies from the generator, across batteries. He brought in a Powerwerx SS-30DV power supply that runs on 110V in, puts out 13.85V 30 A. It weighs 2 lbs and costs ~120\$ at HRO. (These are shipped set to 230V, need to change a switch to set to 110V). There are no noise complaints about these in the internet reviews. The club does have linear Astron power supplies: these are heavier but do work. (The Powerwerx is 92% efficient, the Astrons with linear transformers are 60-70% efficient). There are also 2 Kenwood supplies from the Children's Discovery Museum. Fred recommended the club buy 1 or 2 of the Powerwerx, to give us more flexibility, safety, portability, and help with storage issues. Gregg KF6FNA raised concern about known upcoming expenditures such as insurance, PO box, newsletter, and in the absence of the treasurer, further discussion was deferred. We need the treasurer to do a financial analysis and see how much we have for projects like improving the antennas at the Red Cross, and setting up a computer for RTTY at the club station.

Other Field Day comments: - There are opportunities to streamline FD with respect to batteries and battery chargers. - The Windom antenna worked exceptionally well: two could have been put up. They are omnidirectional and cover more bands, but need a tuner. The worst bands were 40 and 15 (3:1), the others were 2:1. - The Alviso location was better at night, but there was a marked 20dB increase in noise (not man-made) when the sun came up. - Band conditions were much worse than last year. The Pan-Adaptor was only useful finding local stations. - There was CW interference at the GOTA station when both stations were on the same band. - Bob N3FAW had a bad coax putting out white noise, and we didn't have a good spare. - The roofing filter on the K3 kept the noise down. - We had 162 contacts on phone, 277 on CW, 0 on digital, and 15 on GOTA. - We need to label the antennas at the stations (someone was working 80m on the 20m antenna). - Simplifying the

antennas would make FD setup much easier. - We need an antenna/band coordinator: want 3 bands operating at all times. - At the Alviso location we got a lot more participation and help setting up, but not operating. - Bob N3FAW needed more help troubleshooting: if people bring their own gear, we need people to help them get set up. - We need designated station manager and operators. - The educational class was a failure: there was the security issue of leaving the K3 out, and everyone took off in the evening. - We need to plan for the wind better: we have broken canopies and need to order parts to fix them. - We need to have black drapes behind the operating stations to prevent glare on the screens. White sidewalls reflect too much. - We need docents to show people around, but we didn't have enough people. - We need a survey committee to find other sites. The city of San Jose is not friendly (generators and camping overnight are issues). Milpitas is more friendly: we should look at Ed Levin or Cordoza Park (but there is no camping in county parks). We should create a book with different possibilities. - We could enlist Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts; the GOTA station could have scheduled times for groups.

New Business:

Lou WA6QYS announced that Bob N3FAW has access to a computer with flatscreen monitor to be given to SCCARA, for a dedicated digital station for RTTY, AMTOR, etc at the Red Cross. Viki K16WDS will send a thank you letter when given the information. We need to check whether the 847 club radio is compatible.

Lou also received an email from George Williams regarding the Boy Scouts Jamboree On The Air on October 20th. George is being asked to host Boy Scouts at the Red Cross; as we're the HF part, he would like us to be here to help. However our HF antenna is dismal and we would like them to actually be able to contact other Boy Scouts: we need to jack it up 10 feet, and work on the fan dipole, moving it up 10 feet. Lou asked for volunteers for the antenna party: Don K6PBQ, Lou WA6QYS, Gregg K6FNA, Fred AE6QL volunteered, with Wally KA6YMD and Viki K16WDS depending on when the work party is. Lou will convey to George that we will help but we need access to the roof to improve the antennas. Other discussion on the Red Cross antennas included: Clark has a 40-50 foot antenna (mast? available to the station; we need to put a rubber mat down before we put anything on the roof, then a pallet with the antenna mounted to it, and held down with concrete blocks. The plan decided upon was: 1. crank up the antenna we have by 10 feet, and 2. add bands on the fan dipole.

Fred AE6QL bought a copy of the ARRL digital communication book. We will need isolation transformers between the computer and the rig. It is about 30\$ for the card with 2 transformers; this would give us capability for PSK31, JT65, clover and pactor (dead?, and slow-scan TV. Further discussion was deferred until after the picnic.

Fred AE6QL adjourned the meeting at 21:28.

Viki Moldenhauer, KI5WDS, Secretary

Universal Constants

I was reminded once again of the fixed nature of constants. Pi for example is 3.14159â and so on forever. Avogadro's number shows up all over the place in electronics, gases, etc. There is "E", the base of natural logarithms.

Then there are my own personal favorites, like the time between biting my cheek. About six months. The interval between taste buds on my tongue going berserk, about six months. The time

between ingrown hairs in my neck, about six months. Catastrophic failure of a trash bag, six months. And so it goes.

But my all time favorite is brewing a full pot of coffee with no pot in the coffee maker. Yep! It's been six months. Thank God the tile counter top has a slight lip around the edges, that way the lake of coffee is somewhat contained. When I told this story to a friend, he said his coffee cascaded through four drawers on its way to the floor. Made me feel good, I was not the only idiot who did this. So now I'm good for another six months.

By they way, if I have told you this story before, it's probably been six months!

Goetz K. Brandt, K6GKB

Knots

To begin this article, it might be useful to give a definition of a knot. Long ago I came up with this description which I have remembered for its brevity and clarity. A knot is a complication in a line or rope that can be duplicated and has a use. A very critical consideration when selecting the appropriate knot is whether it needs to be undone or untied at a future date. With this in mind, I advised the use of a bowline when attaching guy lines to towers during field day. The more tension applied to a bowline, the more secure it gets. It has the drawback, usually acceptable, that it can't be untied under tension. However, when towers come down, tension is gone and the bowline can be disassembled by capsizing the knee of the knot and it simply disintegrates.

Another knot used at our last field day was the bowline on a bight. This creates a loop in the middle of a guy line from which other things can be hung. You get two loops by default, and as tension increases, the knot becomes more secure. When no longer needed, it allows itself to be disassembled like a simple bowline.

My final favorite knot is the prussic which is a classic climbers knot. It is a sliding knot that locks under pressure and can be used to remove guy line stakes or apply additional tension to a guy line already under tension.

These knots are all beautifully described on the internet; use GOOGLE SEARCH to have a look.

Goetz K. Brandt, K6GKB

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the BBS packet network:

=====
Date: 28 May 2011 04:43
From: W1GMF@W1GMF
To: HUMOR@USA
Subject: A Day at the Races

A Rabbi is walking slowly down the street when a gust of wind blows his hat from his head. The hat is being blown down the street, but he is an old man, using a cane, and can't walk fast enough to catch the hat. Across the street a young man sees what has happened

and rushes over to grab the hat and then returns it to the Rabbi.

"I don't think I would have been able to catch my hat," said the Rabbi. "Thank you very much." The Rabbi then places his hand on the man's shoulder and says, "May God bless you."

The young man thinks to himself, "I've been blessed by the Rabbi. This must be my lucky day!" So he goes to the Racetrack and in the first race he sees there is a horse named Stetson at 20 to 1. He bets \$50 and sure enough the horse comes in first.

In the second race he sees a horse named Fedora at 30 to 1, so he bets it all and this horse comes in first also. Finally at the end of the day he returns home to his wife. When she asks him where he's been, he explains how he caught the Rabbi's hat and was blessed by him and then went to the track and started winning on horses that had a hat in their names.

"So where's the money?" she asks.

"I lost it all in the ninth race. I bet on a horse named Chateau and it lost."

"You fool, Chateau is a house, Chapeau is a hat!"

"It doesn't matter," he said, "the winner was some Japanese horse named Yarmulke."

=====
Date: 30 May 2011 01:55
From: W1GMF@W1GMF
To: HUMOR@USA
Subject: A Dead Horse

Dakota tribal wisdom says that when you discover you are riding a dead horse, the best strategy is to dismount. However, in business we often try other strategies with dead horses, including the following:

1. Buying a stronger whip.
2. Changing riders.
3. Saying things like "This is the way we always have ridden this horse."
4. Appointing a committee to study the horse.
5. Arranging to visit other sites to see how they ride dead horses.
6. Increasing the standards to ride dead horses.
7. Appointing a team to revive the dead horse.
8. Creating a training session to increase our riding ability.
9. Comparing the state of dead horses in today's environment.
10. Change the requirements declaring that "This horse is not dead."
11. Hire contractors to ride the dead horse.

12. Harnessing several dead horses together for increased speed.
13. Declaring that "No horse is too dead to beat."
14. Providing additional funding to increase the horse's performance.
15. Do a CA Study to see if contractors can ride it cheaper.
16. Purchase a product to make dead horses run faster.
17. Declare the horse is "better, faster and cheaper" dead.
18. Form a quality circle to find uses for dead horses.
19. Revisit the performance requirements for horses.
20. Say this horse was procured with cost as an independent variable.
21. Promote the dead horse to a supervisory position.

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 Date: 21 May 2011 01:24
 From: W1GMF@W1GMF
 To: HUMOR@USA
 Subject: Dangers of Technology

At a recent Sacramento PC User's Group meeting, a company was demonstrating its latest speech-recognition software. A representative from the company was just about ready to start the demonstration and asked everyone in the room to quiet down.

Just then someone in the back of the room yelled, "Format C: Return."

Someone else chimed in: "Yes, Return"

Unfortunately, the software worked.

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 Date: 21 Jun 2011 01:40
 From: W1GMF@W1GMF
 To: HUMOR@USA
 Subject: Diets and Donuts

A very devout man who was very over weight decided to go on a diet. One of his main problems was stopping for donuts every morning on the way to work. So to make things easier for himself, he changed his route to work to avoid the temptation of stopping. As the weeks went by he started losing a lot of weight and was receiving compliments from his friends and co-workers.

Then one morning without thinking, he accidentally turned onto the road which would take him by the donut shop. At first he was going to turn around but then he thought to himself, "maybe the Lord is rewarding me for my efforts". So, he said a short prayer telling the Lord that if this was His true intention let there be an open parking place directly in front of the shop.

And sure enough, on the fifth time around the block there was an open spot right up front.

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

We don't have photographs this time, but Goetz continues to come through with several interesting articles. Thanks Goetz! Don't let Goetz have all the fun, let's have something from you too.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor



SCCARA

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SAN JOSE CA 95103-0106

Affiliate of the ARRL,
American Radio Relay League



FIRST CLASS

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SCCARA Membership Form for 2012

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: _____

make sure your e-mail is legible and correct if you want the newsletter by internet

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
(costs the club about \$35/year)

Give this completed form (or copy) with payment to the Secretary or Treasurer at any meeting or mail to the club address.