

# SCCARA-GRAM



## Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 28, Number 10

October 2012



## October Meeting

The October 8th meeting will feature Home Brew night where members show what they have built up. It doesn't have to be completely home brewed. Kits are great too. Time allowing there will be a demonstration of a P3 Pan adapter. If there is still time there will be a ARRL National Convention preview.

Fred AE6QL

## President's Prose

Inspired by an article in the August QST (Remote Radio Control Made Easy, p39) and emboldened by my recent success with Echolink, I decided to try my hand at remote- controlling my Yaesu FT-847. I had already installed LogMeIn on my "remote" computer and was able to operate that computer from another computer via the Internet. I planned to use Skype for the audio link and that should be a no-brainer once I build a simple interface box to control the levels and provide some isolation (overkill, maybe?). So far, so good. I found a null modem cable at Central Computers and a USB-to-RS232 adapter at Fry's. Now the fun starts because the blessed USB thingy comes with drivers that don't work. Back to Fry's the next day to take it back and buy another one from a different manufacturer. Fortunately, this one works. I loaded Ham Radio Deluxe on the remote computer and was able to control the radio, sans audio, from another computer. Am I done? Afraid not. Other priorities came along and I still need to get the audio in place and who knows what else will rear its head. I hear that Goetz (K6GKB) and Bob (N3FAW) are also working on their own remote operating schemes, so maybe I can borrow on their expertise.

The alternate 2-meter repeater is in the final stages of its evolution. Lou (WA6QYS) and Gregg (KF6FNA) brought the duplexers from Regional Medical Center of San Jose to my place on September 12. The three of us spent most of Saturday, September 22, repackaging the six cavities from their original linear arrangement to a rectangular cube structure that will fit inside the rack cabinet. (See the photos.) As usual, the project took many more hours than expected.

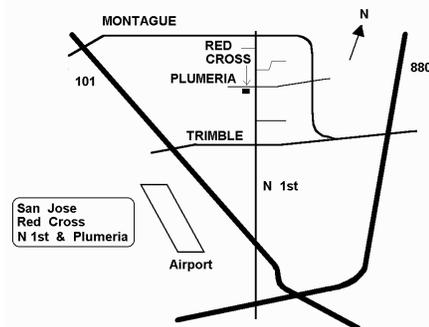
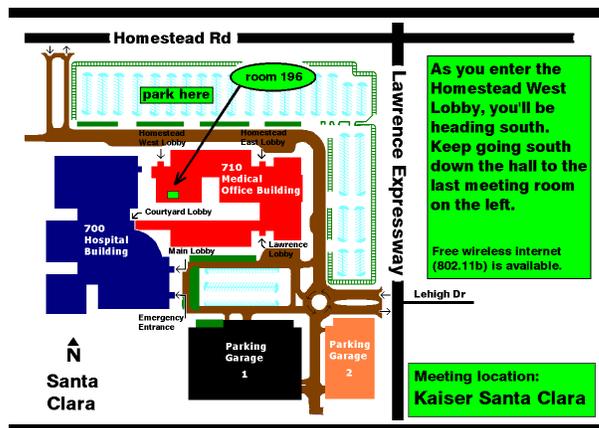
Fred (AE6QL) plans to have Home Brew Night as the subject of the October meeting. This is always one of my favorites, but unfortunately I'll be out of town this time. I really like to design and build electronic projects and I have several in various stages of completion. Maybe next year.

## Calendar

- 10/8 SCCARA General Meeting
- 10/12-14 Pacificon (ARRL National Convention)
- 10/15 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)

## General Meeting

- Day: Monday, Oct. 8, 2012  
Time: 7:30 PM  
Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Rm 196  
Featuring: Member's Night: home brew projects



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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 W6UU.

**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](http://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



The original arrangement of the duplexer cavities on a sheet of plywood was fine for mounting on a wall, not in a cabinet.



Lou (WA6QYS) and Gregg (KF6FNA) completing the repackaging of the duplexer cavities so that they will fit into a standard rack cabinet

Elections are just around the corner, so be thinking about who you would like to see in office next year. Maybe one of you would like to volunteer for a turn? Joe Castellano (W6SNV) has agreed once again to head up a nominating committee of one. Thanks Joe!

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

# October Flea Market

The October electronic flea market at DeAnza College has been **canceled** since it conflicts with the Pacificon weekend.

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## Repeater Report

San Jose RACES Will use the W6UU 2 Meter repeater on Tuesday October 30, likely beginning at 08:00 or 09:00, to participate in the county-wide drill that date. [it may last until 2 or 3PM]

Wally KA6YMD

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## ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, September 27, 2012

### OCTOBER 12-14 -- ARRL NATIONAL CONVENTION

This year the ARRL National Convention is **Pacificon**, at the Santa Clara Marriott, 2700 Mission College Blvd. See [www.pacificon.org](http://www.pacificon.org) for details.

### HAMS FROM FIVE COUNTRIES HELP PUT KOSOVO ON THE AIR FOR THE FIRST TIME

Hams from England, the US, the Netherlands, Croatia and Finland went to Kosovo earlier this month to help with the first Amateur Radio activation in that country. [Nigel Cawthorne, G3TXF, photo]

On September 12, the Autoriteti Rregullativ i Telekomunikacionit (ART) -- Kosovo's telecommunications regulatory authority -- created the necessary legal framework for the development of an Amateur Radio Service in the Republic of Kosovo by approving its Regulation for Amateur Radio Services. Although not formally assigned a prefix by the International Telecommunication Union, Kosovo will use the Z6 prefix. Currently, Kosovo does not count toward the ARRL's DXCC Award, as it has not been assigned a prefix by the ITU (per DXCC rule II.1.a), nor has it been recognized by the United Nations (per DXCC rule II.1.b).

Nigel Cawthorne, G3TXF, and Bob Barden, MD0CCE/N2BB -- members of the Chiltern DX Club (CDXC) -- were part of a team of operators led by IARU Region 1 President Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, that activated Z60K, the first Amateur Radio station in the Republic of Kosovo. Along with Cawthorne, Barden and Blondeel Timmerman, the team included the following radio amateurs: Nik Percin, 9A5W; Emil Balen Zdravko, 9A9A; Emir Mahmutovic, 9A6AA; Martti Laine, OH2BH; Jorma Saloranta, OH2KI, and Pekka Holstila, OH2TA. Click [here](#) for Cawthorne's and Barden's account of the Z60K activation.

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## Picnic

I don't have much to add to Goetz' report from last month, but here are some pictures from the day. Due to an overoad at work, I wasn't organized enough to bring a radio, and I didn't get around to checking out all the radios everybody else brought, so I can only report on one, and apparently I don't have pictures of it! One of

our newer members Brieuc KG4TSR brought along a visitor, Jun W6/JH5DAA, from Japan who is working here for a couple of years. He brought along a microscopic CW QRP rig, which runs max power of 0.1W (yes, 100 mW). He had a wire antenna strung up on a flexible mast (my first look at the "fishing pole" telescopic mast approach), but it needed more guying that we had. He also had a tiny little key to use with it. It was an impressively portable setup. I missed checking out Fred AE6QL's Elecraft and Bob N3FAW's RTTY setup. This year I really enjoyed the social aspect of the picnic: I chatted with people and played bingo instead of operating radios. All told we had 35 people sign in and at least a couple escaped the sign-in sheet. It was a very relaxing, healing day, for someone in my burned-out state. Thanks to everyone who showed up and especially those who worked to make it a fun day.



John W6JPP shows me what my ladderline dipole should look like if I ever get that project going.



Here's how the wires get connected to the top of the ladderline (inside the plastic cap).



L-R: Jerry Thompson N6SWC, Goetz K6GKB, Joan Hastings KB6LFZ, Gwen Steirer KF6OTD, John Parks W6JPP



Food time! Fred's radio setup at the back left; the mystery tennis ball collection on the trash can. They disappeared during the course of the day, but I don't know to where... L-R: Fred AE6QL, Peter Parrish KG6KWV, Mike Hastings KB6LCJ, John Scoville AE6ZR, Bill Staehle AE6EM, Doug Pietrock AF6CI, Roz Thompson.

L-R: Bill Staehle AE6EM, Doug Pietrock AF6CI, Roz and Jerry Thompson N6SWC.



Lou WA6QYS and Don K6PBQ at the grill.



L-R: Fred AE6QL, Peter Parrish KG6KWV, Mike Hastings KB6LCJ, John Scoville AE6ZR, Bill Staehle AE6EM, Doug Pietrock AF6CI



Fred AE6QL, Peter Parrish KG6KWV, the food table.



The food table, with Don K6PBQ at the grill at the left, and Lorraine and Joe Webere KJ6WYO talking to Wally KA6YMD



Bob N3FAW's RTTY setup, with Lloyd KD6FJI and Herman KI6ETZ



Brieuc KG4TSR, Jun W6/JH5DAA (visitor from Japan), Gregg KF6FNA, Clark KE6KXO



Lloyd KD6FJI and Herman KI6ETZ



Betty KI6UII and Del K6JPX, Henry KE6JOU



The mast supporting the fan dipoles.

Viki, KI6WDS

# NoARY BBS

The powers that be in this region (the BBS sysops in No. CA) have decided to consolidate some of their frequencies. There aren't that many packet BBSs around these days and those that remain are far apart geographically. So, they're going to try putting all the 2 M user ports on the same frequency.

The upshot is that NOARY will be moving its 2 M user port from 144.930 MHz to 145.090 MHz in July of 2013. (There will be other notices later.)

To some extent this is an experiment. If after a year it seems there's too much crowding, they'll spread out to a second channel, but that will be 144.370 MHz.

So, don't worry about it now, just be aware that there will be changes next summer.

Gary, WB6YRU

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## Work in Progress

The great thing about procrastination is, the longer you wait, the sooner it will happen. And so it is that my wind generator is still in the living room, the nested 40 foot tower only half way up the driveway, and the entire project in limbo. All those hellacious winds disappeared the day I bought the generator anyway. In the meantime I am one of the many who are trying to operate their ham rigs remotely. By this I mean, entirely from a PC and eventually from a PC at some other location like a motel. Trying to accomplish this task sent me to Ham Radio Outlet where I was talked into a RigBlaster Advantage. This will be the hardware that connects the remote computer (base station) to a PC. Next was the download of Ham Radio Deluxe which is still free if you opt for a previous release. The final piece of the puzzle, and I mean PUZZLE, is Skype, the video/audio program. Skype needs to be loaded on both the remote and local PC.

So what's the problem? To begin with you have to select the right cables, RS232 versus USB. Not too tough! Then you need to get the microphone and audio connected, which requires jumpers and level settings. Then you have to tell HRD what radio protocol, and is that number decimal or hexadecimal? What might the baud rate be? And do we need Xon/Xoff? And is that the same as DSR/DTR? And which COM port are we talking about, and is it configured properly? This works out to about a 10X10 matrix of combinations and permutations which doesn't produce results until you have tried them all. After forever your radio appears on the screen of your computer, but the radio is stuck in transmit mode, something that the rest of the world is aware of, but not you. Learning to use HRD is the next challenge and that is where I am stuck at this time. Will keep you posted...

Goetz K. Brandt

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## Faraday Cage

Being simple minded has the benefit of turning even the most ordinary experience into an extraordinary event. As I was driving north on I5, just passing through Vancouver Washington, I was listening to the radio in my 1998 Camry. This is a model that has the AM antenna buried in the rear window glass much like the defrosting wires which are co-located. The result is that only the very strongest stations can be heard, which in this case all seemed to be very right wing rants on the state of the nation.

All of a sudden the radio went quite, then loud, then quite repeatedly. That's when I noticed that I was crossing a wide river via a multi sectioned truss bridge. It was painted green to make it blend with the lush countryside. There must have been seven or eight sections of these trapezoidal bridge sections, all with an open section between. Didn't take long to realize that when inside a bridge section, no radio, however when emerging between two trusses, loud and clear. So I was passing from one Faraday Cage to another with all the protection from electromagnetic radiation that nature could provide.

I was reminded of my earliest physics classes where spheres were charged with static electricity and told that the inside of the sphere was devoid of charge. I once saw a man stand inside a wire cage while a bazillion volts from a Tesla Coil tried in vain to do him harm. My passage through this bridge on I5 reminded me once again that the safest place you can be in a lightning storm is in your car, the best high voltage Faraday Cage of all.

Goetz K. Brandt

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## December Meeting

Our annual Christmas meeting will be a luncheon on Saturday December 15 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 Monday, Dec. 10, (see the 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

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## Automation

I just returned from a one week trip to Washington State with a return through Idaho and Nevada in time to make my 3 PM ham net which includes Clark (KE6KXO). As I was describing my trip on our 20 meter scheduled frequency, I began to smell what I thought might be a barbecue. As our QSO progressed the smell turned to burned and I thought some neighbor must be having trouble with his Weber. Finally we signed and I went into the kitchen for a snack. As you might guess, the smoke was in my kitchen and squeezing out from under the glass lid on my cast iron frying pan.

Backing up a bit, let me explain that I was gifted an induction hot plate by the Japanese wife of my sailing buddy. She brought it back from Japan, although it said "NOT FOR USE IN THE USA." At first I thought this might have to do with the voltage difference which in this case was 100 versus our 110. But now I think it might have to do with the instructions which are all in Kanji characters and leave a lot to the imagination. Not hard to figure out that the button on the right turns the hot plate on. Next to that, two buttons which up/down the temperature. On the far left, a button that turns things off. But the buttons just left of the LCD display might do just about anything! Apparently they can be used to schedule an automatic cooking of a meal to begin at let's say 3 PM.

Back to the smoke filled kitchen and the cast iron pan with the transparent glass lid. Well, the lid isn't transparent anymore; in fact it is opaque black! It seems that before I left on vacation I fried some hamburger patties and left the residue in the pan. In the mean time the induction hot plate has been faithfully following the instructions I unknowingly gave it and has been cooking a meal for me every day I was gone. At max temperature to be sure! Don't you just love automation?

Goetz K. Brandt

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## Meeting Minutes

### General Meeting, Sept. 10, 2012



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 19:34.

In an attempt to be able to caption future pictures in the newsletter, the Secretary KI6WDS videotaped the introductions of members and guests.

#### Announcements:

Don AE6PM announced that we will have a club meeting before Pacificon, but he will not be at the meeting. He also announced that someone donated an oscilloscope that sold at the flea market, and he has the check for the treasurer.

Lou WA6QYS announced that the September flea market was sponsored by SVECS, which appreciates the SCCARA members who helped. The results aren't tallied yet but they did well enough. This was the last flea market for the year; there will not be one in October because of Pacificon.

Don K6PBQ announced that the club station will be open the last Saturday of the month (Sept 29); Bob N3FAW will come give a RTTY demo. Also there were various radios at the club picnic in August, with various antennas.

Fred AE6QL announced there would be a drawing at the end of the meeting. He is trying to get Elecraft to present at the October meeting; if not, then October is the builder's night: club members who have built something in the last year can bring it in and present it. If Elecraft is coming in October, then the November meeting is builder's night.

#### Presentation

Fred introduced Mike Lavelle K6ML who gave a presentation on Introduction to Amateur Microwave Radio, or DXing on the one-inch band. He explained that in the microwave bands, "DX" is reaching across town. He showed slides of pictures of various rigs in use, as well as technical slides showing propagation modes and activities. He then described the rig he brought along, based on a Yaesu 817 for the IF (intermediate frequency) and home-assembled components feeding the re-purposed dish antenna. He took questions throughout, and invited people up to look at his rig afterwards.

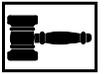
After the presentation, Lou WA6QYS announced that he has reserved the room at Kaiser for meetings for the next year. A drawing was held for a 2009 Handbook (donated by Bob Vallio?), which was won by Gwen KF6OTD.

Don AE6PM adjourned the meeting at 21:29.

Viki Moldenhauer, Secretary KI6WDS

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## Board Meeting, Sept. 17, 2012



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

The SCCARA Board Meeting was called to order by Don AE6PM at 19:39.

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

Announcements: Don AE6PM announced the SCCARA-gram inputs are due to Gary no later than September 30, 2012.

Treasurer's Report: Goetz K6GKB submitted account balances of:  
Checking = \$4683.66  
Savings = \$500.07  
Cash = \$231.65  
Total = \$5415.38.

Secretary's Report: A collection of past minutes were reviewed and minor typos corrected (July general and Board meetings, and August general meeting).

Vice President's Report: Fred AE6QL confirmed that the November meeting presentation will be from Elecraft, covering the KX3, KBA500, and KX3/O. October's meeting will be homebrew show and tell. Fred also announced he has collected 10 videos about auxiliary gas tanks for the generator on DVD; he brought 3 and handed them out to Gregg, Goetz, and Wally.

#### Discussion Topics:

- Location of the MOU with San Jose: Fred AE6QL will email Chris Swarthout.

- Wally KA6YMD commented he got no response from the City of San Jose, regarding the power outage that took out our repeater, which is supposed to have back-up power.

- The club also received an email from David Paul, requesting the use of our repeater by San Jose RACES for a city-wide drill on Tues Oct. 30th.

- Fred reported he had turned off the automated email meeting announcement which was misbehaving.

- 2M repeater: Don AE6PM has the Kenwood TKR-750. Lou WA6QYS had removed the duplexors from SJ Medical and delivered to Don AE6PM. The 64" rack was delivered from Clark KE6KXO to Don AE6PM. The duplexors will need to be reconfigured to fit in the cabinet, ideally without changing any of the coax lengths. Don already has the RC-85 Controller. The S-meter circuit can be added any time. There was discussion of battery backups for the system.

- Red Cross station: Digital modes: Bob N3FAW has added RTTY capability, and has offered to tutor folks on the weekends when the contests are on. HF antennas: Gregg KF6FNA reported that Lou WA6QYS, Gregg, Wally KA6YMD, Viki KI6WDS, and Bill

AG6EM worked on the antennas on the roof of the Red Cross building. They raised the vertical 10 ft, and checked the SWR which was beautiful. The fan dipole was raised to 18 feet, and a 20m antenna was added to the fan. The SWR is still a work in progress, but Lou reported that the fan dipole is lots quieter than the vertical: he could understand a voice station in LA on the dipole, but not on the vertical. Gregg reported he has receipts to submit for costs incurred on the antenna project: a 3x3 foot rubber mat for use as a base for the beam, 20 feet of 2" PVC pipe for the dipole mast, 4 rolls of 3/16" guy rope. Fred AE6QL moved to advance Gregg not to exceed \$200 for expenses, Lou WA6QYS seconded, the motion was unanimously approved.

Station Trustee's Report: Don K6PBQ announced the station would be open on Sept 29th, and also for the Boy Scouts Jamboree On The Air on Oct 20th. George will bring a radio down to hook up to the antennas; he will bring 10 scouts at a time.

Editor and N0ARY BBS Report: Gary WB6RYU submitted reports by email: "Nothing much new to report on the SCCARA-GRAM. On the NoARY BBS... The local (county) emergency packet guys want to have a link with the general BBS network. They have a station on Crystal Peak, and installed a port on 223.60 MHz (the BBS channel for local forwarding). However N0ARY didn't respond. I was able to go up Saturday and fix it. Turns out the BBS's 1.25M radio wasn't connected to the antenna. I'm not sure how that happened, but at least it's an easy fix. I didn't notice anything was wrong earlier because there haven't been any other local BBSs to forward with for some time. While I was there, I also did some work on the BBS's 6M antenna to make it more robust against the high winds they sometimes get up there. (I had planned to work on that since last winter anyway)."

Repeater Chairman's Report: Wally KA6YMD had nothing to report beyond the power hiccup on the hill last month, which took us off the air.

Web Masters Report: Wally KA6YMD had nothing to report.

Future Actions: Elections: Voting is in November; the nominating committee reports in October; the nominating committee gets appointed now. Gregg KF6FNA suggests we contact Joe W6SNV to run a nominating committee. Don AE6PM announced he would not run for President; John Glass announced he will not re-up after his term ends. Don AE6PM will not be here for the November or December meetings most likely.

Don K6PBQ announced the Christmas party will be December 15. Fred AE6QL suggests the secretary send invitations to the Pacific Division Director Bob Vallio, the Section Manager, and the Assistant Section Manager. Lou will send contact information to the secretary.

Lou WA6QYS announced that Gwen KF6OTD was donating the ARRL Handbook that she won at the last meeting to the club station, where it will be available for reference.

Gregg KF6FNA asked for clarification on schedule for the repeater antenna: Don AE6PM leaves Oct 29, won't be back until Christmas. John NU6P recommended the club spend \$500 to \$600 for a commercial omnidirectional Telewave Antenna. Fred moved to proceed with a Telewave Antenna of John NU6P's designation, but in the discussion that followed it was noted that this needs a real tower or telephone pole: it is a 30-40 lb antenna. Gregg observed what we have is a TV mast. John suggested a single-band Comet from HRO. Fred's motion was cancelled for lack of second. Gregg and Goetz will research the antennas and report back.

Don adjourned the meeting at 20:22.

# Packet Pieces

## Downloaded from the BBS packet network:

=====  
Date: 21 Jan 2012 21:24  
From: VK6ZSE@VK6ZRT  
To: HUMOUR@WW  
Subject: Bronze Rat.  
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A tourist wanders into a back-alley antique shop in San Francisco's Chinatown. Picking through the objects on display he discovers a detailed, life-sized bronze sculpture of a rat. The sculpture is so interesting and unique that he picks it up and asks the shop owner what it costs.

"Twelve dollars for the rat, sir," says the shop owner, "and a thousand dollars more for the story behind it."

"You can keep the story, old man," he replies, "but I'll take the rat."

The transaction complete, the tourist leaves the store with the bronze rat under his arm. As he crosses the street in front of the store, two live rats emerge from a sewer drain and fall into step behind him. Nervously looking over his shoulder, he begins to walk faster, but every time he passes another sewer drain, more rats come out and follow him.

By the time he's walked two blocks, at least a hundred rats are at his heels, and people begin to point and shout. He walks even faster, and soon breaks into a trot as multitudes of rats swarm from sewers, basements, vacant lots, and abandoned cars.

Rats by the thousands are at his heels, and as he sees the waterfront at the bottom of the hill, he panics and starts to run for the bridge.

Making a mighty leap, he jumps up onto a light post, grasping it with one arm while he hurls the bronze rat into San Francisco Bay with the other, as far as he can heave it.

Pulling his legs up and clinging to the light post, he watches in amazement as the seething tide of rats surges over the breakwater into the sea, where they drown.

Shaken and mumbling, he makes his way back to the antique shop.

"Ah, so you've come back for the story," says the owner.

"No," says the tourist, "but I was wondering if you have any bronze politicians!"

=====  
Date: 27 Sep 2010 01:42  
From: W1GMF@W1GMF  
To: HUMOR@USA  
Subject: WHO IS THE QUICKEST  
-----

Two guys are out in the woods hiking.

All of a sudden, a bear starts chasing them. They climb a tree, but the bear starts climbing up the tree after them.

The first guy gets his sneakers out of his knapsack and starts putting them on.

The second guy says, "What are you doing? He says, "I figure when the bear gets too close, we'll have to jump down and make a run for it." The second guy says, "Are you crazy? You can't outrun a bear!"

The first guy says, "I don't have to outrun the bear. I only have to outrun you.

=====  
Date: 27 Mar 2011 18:22  
From: W1GMF@W1GMF  
To: HUMOR@USA  
Subject: Candles in the Dark  
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A mother took her three-year-old daughter to church for the first time. The church lights were lowered, and then the choir came down the aisle, carrying lighted candles. All was quiet until the little girl started to sing in a loud voice, "Happy birthday to you. Happy birthday to you..."

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## 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 your topic isn't listed, ask one of the Elmers under the topic that comes closest and we'll ask around.

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

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## Newsletter Notes

Thanks to Viki for the article with many photos and to Goetz for yet another handful of articles. (I'm surprised he still hasn't burned out.)

Please be sure to keep Goetz informed of any projects you're working on so we can keep his *Work in Progress* column going nicely.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

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## December Meeting Sign-up

Our annual December meeting will be a luncheon on December 15 at the Creekside Inn 544 W. Alma ave, San jose. We will have a choice of three entrees, \$28.00 each. 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 \$28.00 ea.

\_\_\_\_ Coulett 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 106 San Jose CA 95103-0006



**SCCARA**

Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association  
PO Box 106  
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.