

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 29, Number 7

July 2013



Prez Sez

I hope everyone had as good a time as I did at Field Day. I have to admit it didn't look well at first. Interest seemed to be lacking and I am not crazy about Alviso. It's not the people, which are very friendly. It's the wind and sand. I'll return to that issue later. In any event I do think it worked well, even after breaking a rotor and battling a windstorm.

The food was great, thank you Lou and Gwen.

The guy that really made it happen was Gregg Lane, KF6FNA. Two truckloads and an antenna trailer haul later he turns his truck into a wind break. Gregg was everywhere always fixing something. Amazing that he got in any rig time all but he did.

Our station managers were great too. Robert Schwimmer, N3FAW, handled the digital (CW to you old timers) station; Lloyd DeVaughns, KD6FJI handled the VHF/UHF station; Clark Murphy, KE6KXO, handled the phone station; and finally Viki Moldenhauer handled the GOTO station.

When I say "handled," there was a waiting line for the GOTO station. I especially liked the smiles of Johnali Westmoreland (no call yet) working GOTA while, looking on with a big smile too, was her dad, John Westmoreland, AJ6BC. I can't say enough about Viki and the preparation she put into being a GOTA coach. She had laminated scripts made up for the GOTA participants and was generally so well organized she made the guys look backward at times. She also brought her solar array to capture EMF for solar points as well.

Your board has been looking at ways to make Field Day easier for everyone. The first step was when the 6 KW generator gave up and we replaced it with a 2KW one. The old one took three men and a boy to lift it on and off the trailer. The new one can easily be handled by one. However downsizing brought its own problems. For one it was too small to run a microwave oven or a coffee maker. Dennis (I'm sorry I didn't get his last name or call sign) offered the use of his 20 kW generator. It ran flawlessly without ever having to shutdown to refuel.

Likewise, the stations ran mostly without using batteries this year. That was enabled by members loaning their power supplies. The supplies are lot safer than batteries and a heck of a lot lighter.

The same for our logging computers. Member owned computers were a lot easier to run than the club owned ones. Do you know that several are using WINDOWS 98? If you are replacing your old computer, think about donating it to the club so that we can retire our WINDOWS 98 computers for good.

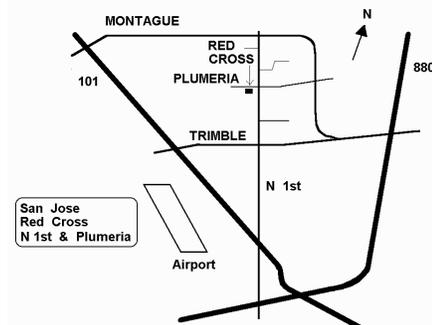
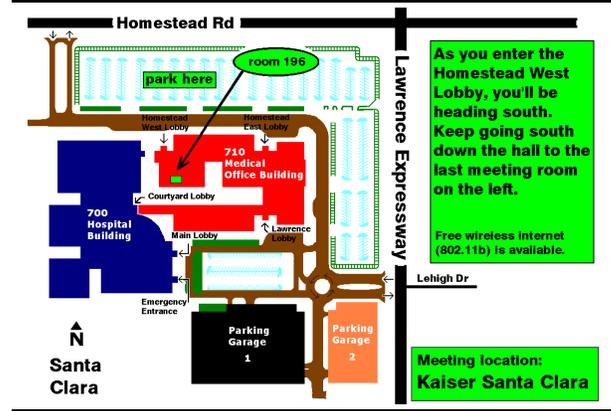
Next month I will talk about Field Day antennas. For now, I am going to catch up on some of that sleep that I missed at

Calendar

- 7/8 SCCARA General Meeting
- 7/13 DeAnza electronic flea market--We Host!
- 7/15 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)

General Meeting

- Day: Monday, July 8, 2013
- Time: 7:30 PM
- Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Rm 196
- Featuring: Allan Bioca W6AKB, on pneumatic antenna launchers



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>. (Webmaster: Wally Britten, KA6YMD, 408-293-3847, ka6ymd@arrl.net)

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS
(all officers are also directors)

President	Fred Townsend, AE6QL	408-263-8768
	e-mail: ae6ql@arrl.net	
Vice President	John Parks, W6JPP	408-309-8709
	e-mail: w6jpp@arrl.net	
Past President	Don Steinbach, AE6PM	408-867-3912
	e-mail: ae6pm@arrl.net	
Secretary	Viki Moldenhauer, KI6WDS	408-738-8781
	e-mail: vym@comcast.net	
Treasurer	Goetz Brandt, K6GKB	408-259-7287
	e-mail: goetz@ix.netcom.com	
Station Trustee	Don Village, K6PBQ	408-263-2789
	e-mail: donvillage7@yahoo.com	
Director	Clark Murphy, KE6KXO	408-262-9334
	e-mail: clarkmurph@yahoo.com	
Director	Lou Steirer, WA6QYS	408-241-7999
	e-mail: wa6qys@aol.com	
Director	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	408-293-3847
	e-mail: ka6ymd@arrl.net	
Director	Greg Lane KF6FNA	408-393-5607
	e-mail: kf6fna@comcast.net	
Director	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	408-269-2924
	e-mail: wb6yru@ix.netcom.com	

COMMITTEES

Editor	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	408-269-2924
	e-mail: wb6yru@ix.netcom.com	
Repeater	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	408-293-3847
	e-mail: ka6ymd@arrl.net	
N0ARY BBS	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	408-269-2924
	e-mail: wb6yru@ix.netcom.com	

SCCARA REPEATERS

SCCARA owns and operates two repeaters under the call W6UU:
2 meter: 146.985 - PL 114.8
70 cm: 442.425 + PL 107.2

Phone auto-dial and auto-patch is available. The two meter repeater is located at Eagle Rock near Alum Rock Park in the foothills of east San Jose. The 70 cm repeater is located at the Regional Medical Center (formerly Alexian), east of downtown San Jose, north of 280 and 101.

SCCARA NETS

On our two meter repeater: Mondays at 7:30 PM, (not the second Monday--our meeting night). Coordinator: Don Village, K6PBQ. On ten meters, 28.385 MHz USB, Thursdays at 8:00 PM. Net control: Wally Britten, KA6YMD. Visitors welcome.

N0ARY PACKET BBS

SCCARA hosts the packet BBS N0ARY (Mt Umunhum). User ports: 144.93 (1200 baud), 433.37 (9600 baud), telnet sun.n0ary.org (login "bbs"). Sysop: Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU (packet info: ncpa.n0ary.org)

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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

Field Day.

73, Fred, AE6QL



Field Day



N3FAW Bob Schwimmer, N3FAW (left) and Mike Madden N9OHW.



Junichi Kokudo W6DAA/JH5DAA (left) and Mike Madden N9OHW

Power Supplies vs Batteries at Field Day

Fred mentioned using borrowed power supplies during Field Day. We have some power supplies in our locker (just down the block at this location). However, Fred also mentioned the

borrowed power supplies were much lighter than the car batteries we usually use. They must have been switching power supplies. The power supplies we have (in the locker) are the old analog type.

Analog supplies are good and quiet, but large and heavy. Modern switching power supplies are an order of magnitude smaller and two orders of magnitude lighter for the same power output. The only catch is that switching supplies can be noisy. But that's usually not a problem especially in models that have extra filtering for sensitive communications use.

This may not be a concern at Field Day, but switching supplies draw almost nothing when idling, analog supplies draw quite a bit. The old 50 amp analog supply that powered the N0ARY BBS radios pulled as much current as a 75 W incandescent light bulb just by itself (no load). We swapped it with switching supplies that only draw a couple of watts when idling. The BBS runs 24 hours a day, so the savings on the electric bill paid for them after just a few years.

The main reason for using batteries and chargers at Field Day is so that we can keep operating whether the generator is running or not. But if we want to trade in the batteries and chargers for power supplies, we probably should consider selling our analog supplies and getting some switching supplies.

73, Gary WB6YRU

NoARY BBS

The BBS's 2 m port will change frequency from 144.93 MHz to 145.09 MHz later this month. The exact date is unknown, but it will be late July, or possibly early August if there are any snags getting access to the site.

Probably the easiest thing for users is to just keep using 144.93 MHz until you can't connect, then try 145.09 MHz.

There are no changes to any of the other ports.

73, Gary WB6YRU

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, June 10, 2013



Meeting called to order at 19:30 Hrs.

Introductions

Field Day Preparations

Viki will be returning soon Goetz is in So. Cal until next month

Elec. Flea Market is July 13, Sccara will be hosting July 27: Svecs Breakfast - Speaker: Chris Cappenor, battery care & feeding of

No Club station open on June 29 due to field day

Field Day will be at Alviso

Gregg: Field Day, SCCARA will be 2A this year 2 radio's - HF Phone, HF Digital & CW

Clarke - HF Phone Lou/Don V. - HF Digital/CW Wally - GOTA J. Parks - UHF/VHF (Is asking for backup coverage due to maybe

not being available due to personal reasons)

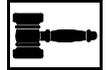
Discussed the field day exchange: (Class) 2A (Section) SCV Solar charged Station

Sign-ups for each station (11 a.m. Sat - 11 a.m. Sun)

Meeting Adjourned 8:33 p.m.

Jeannie Felix, KG6YOR recording

General Meeting, May 13, 2013



Meeting called to order 19:36

Introductions

All officers excused from tonight's meeting

Viki has a illness in the family in Idaho & doesn't know when she will return. reported by Gregg,kf6fna

Goetz has a boat leak. reported by Fred, ae6ql

Lou stated a HF station was set up at Stanford pow-wow, not good turn out to get station up & running otherwise event was entertaining

Don Village brought some misc. to take

Gregg: Field Day June 21-23 , Mt. Madonna reserved

Lou: SCCARA is hosting the electronic flea market on July 13, sign-up sheet sent around, SCCARA will have a selling table

Presentation: Weather spotters Speaker by phone, Matt Mehle, KC0TER MATTHEW.Mehle@noaa.gov

Meeting Adjourned 9:24 p.m.

Jeannie Felix, KG6YOR recording

Board Meeting, June 17, 2013



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

The SCCARA Board Meeting was called to order by Fred Townsend (AE6QL) at 19:37.

Attendance:

President: Fred Townsend AE6QL; Vice President: John Parks W6JPP; Secretary: Viki Moldenhauer KI6WDS; Trustee: Don Village K6PBQ; Directors: Lou Steirer WA6QYS; Wally Britten KA6YMD; Gary Mitchell WB6YRU; Gregg Lane KF6FNA; Clark Murphy KE6KXO; Absences (excused): Treasurer: Goetz Brandt K6GKB; Past President: Don Steinbach AE6PM; Vistors: Gwen Steirer KF6OTD

Announcements: Field Day is June 21-23 at Alviso. The next general membership meeting is July 8th. SCCARA's day at the flea market is July 13. The next BOD meeting is July 15. The next SVECS breakfast is July 27th, with Chris Copener (AI6CC) speaking on the care and feeding of batteries. Pacificon (Pacif

Division) is October 11-13, at the Marriot Santa Clara. John Parks (W6JPP) will not be here next month due to a family emergency; he is due back on July 10th.

Secretary's Report: The May BoD minutes were published in the SCCARAGram, and approved as published. The thank you letter for donated equipment was written by Fred (AE6QL).

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report submitted prior to the meeting was: Checking = \$1552.41; Savings = \$500.07; Cash = \$315.99; Total = \$2368.47. Also the insurance renewal has been paid.

Trustee's Report: Don (K6PBQ) normally has the club station open from 10 till early afternoon, but the station will not be open the last Saturday in June because of Field Day, and also Don and Joan's 50th wedding anniversary. If anyone would like to operate on another day, please call Don to make arrangements. Don cancelled the Mt. Madonna reservation, and a \$419 check will be returned to the club.

Vice President's Report: John (W6JPP) confirmed Alan Biochha will be the July speaker, on pneumatic tennis ball launchers. John has had no response from Valley Christian High School after leaving numerous messages. Gary (WB6YRU) tentatively will try to run a satellite station for Field Day. Don Ferguson (AI6RE) has equipment and might be interested in coming to Field Day to help run it. John reported he, Gregg (KF6FNA), and Bill (AG6EM) gave a presentation to the 5th grade class at Mildred Goss Elementary School that went very well, and they have been asked to come back next year for a 4-part presentation.

President's Report: Fred (AE6QL) reported a new member and two renewals at the last meeting, and gave the forms and dues to Viki. Fred wrote the letter to Tom Booth thanking him for his donations. Fred brought the logging software to download to PC's for the Field Day laptops after the board meeting. For Field Day programs at the GOTA station, black drape will be used to create a theater area (hopefully adjacent to the GOTA station) for the video projector. Three major sections are envisioned with separate playlists that can be started from the computer: What is Amateur Radio, What is Field Day, and Operation of the K3/P3. He also has 3 presentations on the GOTA station, including two showing children operating. Fred is also still working on bringing in youth groups, but so far no one has responded. John (W6JPP) suggested we partner with a Boy Scout troop for the radio merit badge; Don K6PBQ mentioned he had little response last year from Scouts.

Standing Committee Reports:

Newsletter: Gary (WB6YRU) will print up 15 extra copies of the newsletter for Field Day; no other news.

BBS: Gary (WB6YRU) reported in July the N0ARY 2 M user frequency will switch from 144.93 MHz to 145.09 MHz.

Property list: Gary (WB6YRU) received no updates; he needs an update on the computers being retired.

Repeater: Wally (KA6YMD) reported no problems on the repeaters other than intermittent squeaks and pops on the test frequency. Clark checked into phone lines and the cheapest is \$18.99/month; he will coordinate with Goetz.

We bpage: Wally (KA6YMD) is updating the web page as he gets information. The alias is not forwarding; discussion followed. John (W6JPP) will call Jim to find out what we need to do to transfer the domain to us and how much to maintain.

Special Committee Reports:

Field Day: Gregg (KF6FNA) reported: - Dennis (KJ6ZZJ) works at an equipment rental place and will provide a 12 KW WhisperQuiet diesel generator free (we provide fuel) plus a 50-foot distribution cord and scatterbox. This would let us have a coffeepot and microwave. It consumes about 1 gallon/hour (=4\$/hour). We would want to run the club generator as well to put some hours on it. John (W6JPP) moved to accept the offer of the diesel generator for Field Day with the club paying for fuel. Lou (WA6QYS) seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

- Theresa has already made an announcement over community radio about the club Field Day, and other DJ's will also be making announcements. Theresa is also working on getting a reporter from the Santa Clara paper to write an article and take pictures.

- Gregg discussed food with Gwen (KF6OTD), Lou (WA6QYS) and Viki (KI6WDS); the club will provide simple food: hamburgers and hot dogs. Gregg moved we allocate a budget of \$400 for food and porta-potty rental; Don (K6PBQ) seconded, motion passed unanimously.

- Don (K6PBQ) will bring all the breakfast food, and Gregg will bring plates, cups, etc.

-Antenna layout: we will have the tower on the trailer (beam plus 2M/440 vertical), and a vertical (ground mount), and a few wire antennas: keeping it simple. Half of the site (the island) remains flooded. We have a good relationship with Bay Area Storage who owns the property; we have sent them proof of insurance. We have also talked to the tenant living there.

-The GOTA station will be co-located with the UHF/VHF station so the same radio can be shared by both (GOTA can use 2M/440 also).

- People should bring extension cords (long and also short for in the canopies).

- for wind, we will use the antenna trailer and sound partitions to block.

- Gregg had ordered parts for the canopies but they have not come in yet. If they don't get here in time, we will use duct tape and pipes to repair.

- Fred offered 4 2-tube fluorescent light banks for lighting, but there was concern about RF generated.

- Stations: - GOTA: will use Fred's K3; - VHF/UHF: John has an FT-897; - CW: Don and Lou will use the club Kenwood TS-440; - Phone: Clark will use the club Kenwood TS-450; - Digital: Bob will use the club's FT-847. - talk-in: Wally will run on his HT. - For spares, Viki will bring an FT-857 and Gregg will bring an ICOM 718.

- People should bring folding chairs, and cinder blocks for anchoring tables and canopies.

- Gregg will bring quartz lights; we will have task lights in the canopies.

- Gregg has announcements and maps for inviting people to Field Day. John has brochures from the ARRL.

- Lou and Gregg will go to Costco for food.

- Schedule: - Wednesday people meet at Clark's to move the trailer and cut radials. - Friday 11am people meet at Clark's to move stuff from the lockers to the trailer. The porta-potty will be delivered and a lock put on it. Sometime after 2pm when the

restaurant overflow parking crowd clears out, Gregg will drive the trailer to the site. The beam will be assembled and the tower put up.

- Ice chests: Gregg has 1, Wally will bring 2. Lou will get ice at Walmart or Smart&Final.

- Lou has sodas.

- We are planning on food for 30-50 people: if we need more Safeway is not far.

- Station managers will figure out the schedule for their stations.

- John (W6JPP) will be at station W5SHV for Field Day if he can get away.

The Red Cross antennas project is on hold due to Field Day.

There was no other Old Business or New Business.

Fred adjourned the meeting at 20:55.

Viki Moldenhauer, KI6WDS, Secretary

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the BBS packet network:

=====
Date: 25 Mar 2010 01:18
From: W1GMF@W1GMF
To: HUMOR@USA
Subject: Caution

A pharmacy major was taking a course in Dispensing. One day they were discussing the various labels affixed to prescription containers, such as, "Take with food," and "Take with water." At the end of class, the professor passed out a few sample labels.

Days later he noticed that one member of the class had stuck one of them onto his chemistry textbook. It read: "Caution: May cause extreme drowsiness."

=====
Date: 26 Jul 2011 05:27
From: W1GMF@W1GMF
To: HUMOR@USA
Subject: Doctor Interview

During the course of being interviewed by the press, the noted doctor was asked by a reporter: "Doctor, did you ever make a serious mistake?"

He said "Yes, I once cured a millionaire in three visits!"

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
License testing, new amateurs: W6JPP

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

Unfortunately the deadline for the newsletter was the next day after Field Day ended, so we'll get the full report next time. For now we have a couple of pictures to whet our appetite.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor



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 2013

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.