

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 29, Number 11

November 2013



Prez Sez

Wow! This has been a busy month. I can't remember a time when so many things happened, not even Field Day. I had expected Pacificon to be lively but quiet enough to take in a lot of the forums. I ended up taking in only one and then on Sunday morning. Worse I fell asleep because I didn't get to bed until sometime past 4 am Sunday.

Saturday morning started out with Coffee with Gordon West. Gordon is a ham of another variety, like vaudeville. I met with Gordon later and reminded him he had left out one thing from his menagerie of gadgets and labor saving devices—the magnetic credit card vault for the wife. He said he would use it next year. The vault is the perfect place to store all her credit cards in one place and saves money too. Too bad I'm not married. I could save a bundle. Then it was on to the flea market. I bought lots of little things like trash cans but nothing really for the shack. I did that inside. First stop was inside at the ARRL booth. If you renewed for three years you could get an ARRL Radio Amateur's Handbook for free. I did that last year and got the antenna book. I asked if I could do it again. The answer was yes so I am now renewed for five years out.

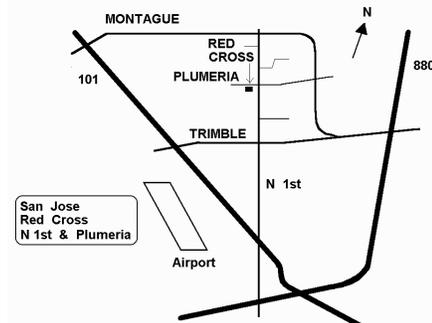
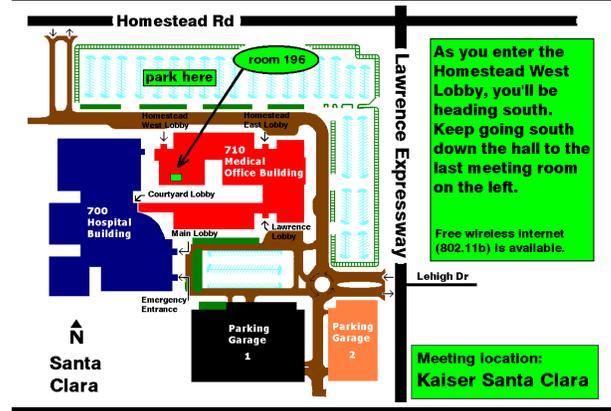
Second stop was W & W Manufacturing. I had picked up a new HT this year so I wanted to get another one of their UC-1, Universal Charger stands. The UC-1 has several nice features. First, it is a real charger stand that you just drop the HT into. Second, it is truly universal. It works with NiCd, NiMH, as well as Li-Ion. The physical adaptation is done with removable cups so theoretically you can use your charger stand with more than one type HT. The trouble is changing cups is a hassle. I got another stand and cup so I can charge the old and the new HT on separate stands. The stands also allow you to charge a spare battery without having to attach it to the HT. Something OEM chargers won't do. The real bonus of this charger is it is pretty idiot proof. I say pretty because there is always a bigger idiot out there to defeat idiot proof. When you place the HT in the stand the light goes to red. When it turns green the HT is fully charged but you can leave it in the stand indefinitely without overcharging the battery. The rest of Saturday was spent in spontaneous meetings with friends. I keep bumping into them in hallways as I tried to go Forums. One chance meeting was with the Boy Scouts. The word was out that the BSA was looking for someone to do JOTA, Jamboree on the Air. I learned JOTA was scheduled for the following weekend but I could never hookup with the people with the JOTA details. I left with an e-mail address for the JOTA head. Saturday night was the Wouff Hong ceremony. The Wouff-Hong is amateur radio's most sacred symbol and stands for the enforcement of law and order in amateur operation. I'd tell you about the ceremony but I can't because it's a secret fraternity. Also there was the California QSO

Calendar

- 11/11 SCCARA General Meeting (club elections)
- 11/18 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)

General Meeting

- Day: Monday, Nov. 11, 2013
Time: 7:30 PM
Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Rm 196
Featuring: Club elections. Fred AE6QL on Antenna Analyzers (bring flash drive, CD, or DVD if you want the videos)



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 W6UU.

Web page: <http://www.qsl.net/sccara>. (Webmaster: Wally Britten, KA6YMD, 408-293-3847, ka6ymd@arrl.net)

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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 (connect to n0ary-1). User ports: 145.09 MHz at 1200 baud, 433.37 MHz at 9600 baud, and telnet sun.n0ary.org (login "bbs"). Sysop: Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU. For general packet info, see the NCPA web site 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

Party this month too. I didn't get a chance to work it. Perhaps Don Village can report.

In the three days following the convention I finally got all the details of JOTA. The BSA would furnish power and tables and SCCARA would provide the station. Gregg Lane, KF6FNA; Lou Steirer, WA6QYS, and myself got most of the antenna, a Windom, in the air before dark Friday night. The same cast along with Viki Moldenhauer, KI6WDS and Clark Murphy, KE6KXO ran the station allowing the Boy Scouts to talk to Scouts in other states on 10, 15, 20, and 40 meters. While we were setting up I tuned in a JOTA station about a mile away in the Blossom Hill area of San Jose. Just 50 KHz down the band was Vietnam (3W3CW I think) clear as a bell. Lou tried to bring him in but Vietnam was only working zeros. Gregg and Viki passed the rest of the time coaching the boys in what to say. We were prepared to give a little schooling toward the BSA Radio merit badge but it seemed all of the boys were lower rank and not ready for merit badges. The Boy Scout Council is in a rebuilding stage. I think we can expect to do it again next year with progressing boys.

The WWW DX contest was held at Clarks this last weekend. I wasn't there. Perhaps John Parks can fill us in.

Finally it's time for elections again. At the October GIG all officers were re-nominated except John Parks who is bowing out of Vice President to take an office elsewhere. Gregg Lane then accepted the nomination for Vice President. All officers are currently unopposed. Floor nominations can still be made at the November meeting. With Gregg moving up from Director, we will have four Director seats open. Presently we have five nominees for those four seats. It is important that you all determine who those four Directors will be. As with the Officers, floor nominations can still be made at the November GIG. Anyone may request an absentee ballot by calling or e-mailing the Secretary at 408-738-8781 or vym@comcast.net. Ballots must be returned by mail or proxy by meeting time, November 11th.

Hope your Halloween was free of QRM and QRN.

73, Fred, AE6QL, ae6ql@arrl.net



December Meeting

Our annual Christmas meeting will be a luncheon on Saturday December 14th at 12:00noon. This year our luncheon will be at 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 exchange is always a lot fun to participate in.

Reservations need to be in by Monday Dec 9th. (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

November Sweepstakes at the Club Station

Our club station at the Red Cross will be open for the November Sweepstakes contests. There are two separate weekends, one for

CW and one for Phone. November 2nd is the CW session starting at 2100 UT (2P M local). November 16th is the Phone session starting at 2100 UT (1 PM local). This is one of the best contests of the year. So lets show up and make this a great activity for SCCARA. This will be the last Saturday at our club station until January 2014 due to the holidays.

73, Don Village K6PBQ

Secretary Says

Due to the preparation for and general exhaustion from the CQ WW DX contest, I don't have articles on the contest, Pacificon, JOTA etc. ready for this month's issue. Sorry for the suspense till next month...

Viki, KI6WDS

15 kHz channels?

The top half of the two meter band has 15 kHz wide channels, but the bottom half has 20 kHz wide channels. There's been some talk lately about the possibility of changing the lower 2 m repeater segments to 15 kHz at least in the lower repeater segments. This would make room for the new digital repeaters, among others. One of the questions is whether this would be a problem for some radios. The problem isn't the transmitters, but the receivers.

At the recent SVECS breakfast, Lou WA6QYS asked a few of us to bring our equipment to do radio testing, like we did at a SCCARA meeting earlier this year. I brought my HP RF signal generator and did receiver evaluations. All but one HT worked fine at 15 kHz channel separation, but one with a wide receiver didn't handle it well, not even at moderate signal strength.

If you have a radio with the ability to receive aircraft or NOAA's VHF weather channel, it may have trouble with 15 kHz channels, but all other radios should handle it just fine.

If NARCC goes with the 15 kHz plan in the lower segments and coordinates repeaters on adjacent frequencies with enough physical separation, then it should work for any radio. The key is to have systems on adjacent channels far enough apart so that the adjacent channel will be weak enough.

73, Gary WB6YRU

ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, October 17, 2013

ARRL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OKAYS FILING SYMBOL RATE RULE MODERNIZATION PETITION

The ARRL Executive Committee has authorized ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, to file a Petition for Rule Making on the League's behalf calling for the deletion of symbol rate references for data emissions in the HF bands. The EC met October 5 in Aurora, Colorado.

The League's Petition, still in the final stages of preparation, would substitute an authorized bandwidth of 2.8 kHz for all data emissions in the bands below 30 MHz. Current FCC rules limit data emissions to a symbol rate of 300 baud below 28 MHz and to

1200 baud on 10 meters. The current limits date to 1980, when US amateurs first were authorized to use ASCII, reflecting the state of the art back then, which, the League points out, has been overtaken by technology. After discussing alternatives to the 2.8 kHz limit, the EC okayed filing the petition as drafted, subject to any final editorial changes.

At its July meeting, the ARRL Board of Directors, on the recommendation (www.arrl.org/files/file/About%20ARRL/Committee%20Reports/2013/July/Doc_28.pdf) of the Ad Hoc Symbol Rate Rule Modernization Committee, directed Imlay to draft a Petition for Rule Making with the FCC seeking to modify §97.307(f) of the Amateur Service rules to delete all references to symbol rate. The Petition would ask the FCC "to apply to all amateur data emissions below 29.7 MHz the existing bandwidth limit, per §97.303(h), of 2.8 kHz." In digital systems "symbol rate" refers to the number of times per second that a change of state occurs. The ARRL chose the 2.8 kHz bandwidth, since the FCC already has applied it to emissions on the channelized 60 meter band and because it's slightly wider than the data mode bandwidths currently in use by amateurs on HF.

The Ad Hoc Committee had determined that the current symbol rate restrictions in §97.307(f) "no longer reflect the state of the art of digital telecommunications technology," and that the proposed rule change would "encourage both flexibility and efficiency in the employment of digital emissions by amateur stations." ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, discussed the symbol rate issue in detail in his September 2013 QST "It Seems to Us" editorial. "The guiding principle for our use of the spectrum allocations to the Amateur Radio Service is cooperation in the sharing of access to a limited resource," Sumner wrote.

On another FCC-related matter, Imlay noted that the FCC has yet to take action in ET Docket 12-338 (www.arrl.org/news/fcc-seeks-to-assign-entire-amateur-portion-of-160-meter-band-to-primary-status-to-amateur-radio-serv) to formally reflect the Final Acts of the 2007 World Radiocommunication Conference in its rules. Comment deadlines were more than 6 months ago. The Commission also has taken no action on the ARRL's November 2012 petition to implement a 472-479 kHz allocation, which stemmed from WRC 2012. Imlay said the subject may be considered in a Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making in the proceeding.

Imlay told the EC that FCC action is expected soon on WT Docket 12-283 (www.arrl.org/news/fcc-seeks-comments-on-proposed-changes-to-amateur-licensing-rules-emission-types) and WT Docket 90-209, which contain several proposals to amend rules governing the administration of Amateur Radio examinations. The League has argued against a proposal to reduce the number of volunteer examiners required at an exam session from three to two.

The EC reviewed a draft FCC filing prepared by ARRL Chief Technology Officer Brennan Price, N4QX, that supports recommendations approved last month by the FCC Advisory Committee for World Radiocommunication Conference 2015. The EC authorized Price to file the comments, subject to any final editorial changes.

From *The ARRL Letter*, October 31, 2013

ARRL SUPPORTS FCC WRC-15 ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS AFFECTING AMATEUR RADIO

The ARRL has expressed its support for three recommendations affecting Amateur Radio frequency allocations, which the FCC's World Radiocommunication Conference 2015 FCC Advisory

Committee (WAC) has already approved. ARRL Chief Technology Officer Brennan Price, N4QX, filed comments on behalf of the League on October 17 in IB Docket 04-286. The League has concluded that the WRC-15 Agenda Item 1.1 recommendation for 420-450 MHz “maintains a status quo that accommodates many users and works well.” The Amateur Service is secondary on the 70 centimeter band in the United States. At least one administration has proposed to introduce international mobile telecommunications (IMT) -- cellular telephone and wireless broadband -- to the bottom 10 MHz of the band, but the League said it agrees with the WAC and the NTIA that things are just fine as they stand.

“The status quo is successful and represents a success story for spectrum management,” the League said. “Introduction of IMT in the 420-430 segment of this band, as proposed by one administration, will most assuredly upset this status quo.” The ARRL pointed out that although ham radio is secondary on the band, “radio amateurs have a vested interest in maintaining their ability to use the band,” and Amateur Radio has been “a responsive and responsible sharing partner” to the band’s primary users.

For its part the WAC said, “The results indicate that for most cases, sharing between IMT-2000 base/mobile stations and the various types of radars when placed in adjacent spectrum is not feasible in the absence of mitigation.” Based on information at hand, the committee said, “it is logical to conclude that co-frequency sharing between IMT and the radiolocation service in the 420-450 MHz bands is not feasible.”

The League also said the WAC recommendation for WRC-15 Agenda Item 1.10 regarding 22 to 26 GHz “protects the only worldwide, primary Amateur and Amateur-Satellite Service allocation between 146 MHz and 47.2 GHz.”

“Sharing with incumbent services, including the Amateur and Amateur-Satellite services at 24.-24.25 GHz will require technical and operation constraints that will result in spectrum being impractical for use by the MSS [Mobile Satellite Service],” the ARRL said. The Amateur and Amateur-Satellite services are primary at 24-24.25 GHz. “Radio amateurs have been responsible stewards of a band that is difficult to use, and the WAC proposal of no change to the entire 22-26 GHz range is particularly applicable to the 24-24.25 GHz segment.”

WRC-15 Agenda Item 1.18 considers a primary allocation to the radiolocation service for automotive applications in the 77.5-78.0 GHz frequency band in accordance with a resolution adopted at WRC-12. The League suggested that the FCC support the WAC recommendations “as a base for eventual reconciliation with an NTIA [National Telecommunications and Information Administration] position,” or that the FCC not support any position on the agenda item, “as conducted studies to not support a position more expansive than that contained in the recommendation.” The Amateur and Amateur-Satellite services are now primary in the 77.5-78 GHz band, with Radio Astronomy Service users secondary.

IARU REGION 2 PUBLISHES NEW BAND PLAN

International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 2 (the Americas) has published a revised IARU Region 2 Band Plan for all allocations from 137 kHz to 250 GHz, effective September 27, 2013 ([www.iaru-r2.org/documents/explorer/files/ Plan de bandas | Band-plan/R2 Band Plan 2013.pdf](http://www.iaru-r2.org/documents/explorer/files/Plan%20de%20bandas%20Band-plan/R2%20Band%20Plan%202013.pdf)). The member-societies of IARU Region 2 adopted the new plan during their triennial General Assembly in Cancun, Mexico, in late September. Delegates from 18 national Amateur Radio associations attended. Representing the ARRL were President Kay Craigie, N3KN, as the voting delegate; First Vice President Rick Roderick, K5UR; Chief

Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, and Technical Relations Specialist Jonathan Siverling, WB3ERA.

“For the first time in Region 2, band plans for the VHF, UHF, and microwave bands were adopted to guide development of these bands,” Sumner said. “HF band plans were reviewed with the objective of improving terminology and aligning them more closely with those of the other regions, particularly Region 1 (Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and the former Soviet Union).” The revised document earmarks a new segment for the Amateur-Satellite Service from 144.000 to 144.025 MHz.

As it states in the plan’s introduction, “The IARU Region 2 has established this band plan as the way to better organize the use of our bands efficiently. To the extent possible, this band plan is harmonized with those of the other regions. It is suggested that member-societies, in coordination with the authorities, incorporate it in their regulations and promote it widely with their radio amateur communities.” The band plan includes definitions for the first time. (Read more at www.arrl.org/news/iaru-region-2-publishes-new-band-plan.)

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, Oct. 14, 2013



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

The SCCARA General Membership Meeting was called to order by Fred Townsend AE6QL at 19:31.

Members and guests introduced themselves, including Norma Chamberlain who just passed her license, Milton Brewster KK6GOK, Wei Chen AG6AQ, Phyllis Steinbach, and Bill Burns.

Announcements: Fred observed Pacificon has come and gone. Next year will be the ARRL’s 100th birthday, and besides the main national convention at Hartford CT, there will be 6 mini-national conventions, one of which is Pacificon Oct 10-12 at the Marriott Santa Clara. Don AE6PM briefly described the Antenna Forum and the technical presentations. Don K6PBQ mentioned that Sheryl KJ6UXU upgraded to Extra at the testing on Saturday; 37 out of 40 passed their tech tests.

Don K6PBQ announced that the station will be open three more Saturdays this year: Oct 26th (last Saturday), and in November for the phone and CW sessions, but not the last Saturday, and not at all in December. He will put station opening information into the SCCARA-gram, as well as signups for the Christmas luncheon.

Sarla WU2SWS/VU2SWS took the floor to propose the club enter the CQ Worldwide Phone Sweepstakes. We would run single transmitter/multi-operator. Clark KE6KXO has offered his place, and John W6JPP will bring his radio and amp over. We would need 4 solid operators and other people to fill in slower periods. Sarla will be going back to India but if all QSL cards go to John, he can send them to her in India where she can mail them from India for 50 cents instead of close to a dollar from the US. Printing a special QSL card would be cheaper there too. The contest runs from Saturday 00:00 UTC to Sunday 24:00 (48 hours). It was decided to use the club call W6UW. Contact Sarla, John or Gregg KF6FNA if you’re interested in operating, or drop by; everyone is welcome.

Lou WA6QYS announced the SVECS quarterly breakfast Oct 26th. Instead of a speaker, there will be radio testing for frequency, power output, deviation. It is at the Santa Clara Senior Center at the corner of Fremont and Monroe. Lou needs a head count to buy eggs. Show up at 07:30 to help cook, 09:00 for breakfast.

Fred AE6QL announced that Andy KR6DD's wife passed away last week; John W6JPP moved that SCCARA send a condolence card, Barbara KD6QEI seconded, the motion passed unanimously. Also Fred has a friend who may need help with an antenna; if interested in helping, contact Fred.

Fred announced that Election of Officers will be next month. Offices up for election are: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and three directors. The only incumbent officer not re-running is John W6JPP (currently vice-president). Gregg KF6FNA offered to run for Vice President, which would open up the remainder of his director term if he were elected. Lloyd offered to run for director.

Lou announced the evening's speaker, Gene Irvine, Business Applications Director for the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission. Lou thanked Bill Burns for suggesting Gene speak to us on the Hetch-Hetchy area of the Rim Fire. Gene had been with the PUC for only 4 months when the fire happened. He described the Incident Command Center set up at Moccasin, the numerous agencies involved, and the complexity of the response. His slides gave a sense of what it was like to be there during the event. He stressed the most important thing for people at the ICS was agility: being flexible in tasks, jumping from one task to another quickly, and handling both low and high level details. Even while responding to the crisis at hand, and threats to PUC assets (like power lines, powerhouse, the reservoir), they had to follow the proper procedures to document damage and ensure later reimbursement from various government agencies and insurance companies. Being in the IT department, his team developed IT solutions to assist the response efforts: firecrews who had not used computers before took Apple iPads and tablets out to collect damage information in real time as they assessed damage. He also described how hams in Merced coordinated with the Red Cross to manage evacuation transport, food and shelter, and figured in the rescue of an injured fire crewman.

The meeting was adjourned after the presentation, and refreshments were enjoyed.

Viki Moldenhauer, KI6WDS, Secretary

Board Meeting, Oct. 21, 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 19:39.

Attendance: President: Fred Townsend AE6QL; Vice President: John Parks W6JPP; Secretary: Viki Moldenhauer KI6WDS; Treasurer: Goetz Brandt K6GKB; Trustee: Don Village K6PBQ; Past President Don Steinbach AE6PM; Directors: Director Lou Steirer WA6QYS, Gary Mitchell WB6YRU, Gregg Lane KF6FNA, Wally Britten KA6YMD, Clark Murphy KE6KXO; Absences (excused): none Visitors: Gwen Steirer KF6OTD, Henry DeKruyff KE6HOU, Herman DeKruyff, Red Vernier N6OKK;

Announcements: Fred AE6QL announced:

- GOTA (Get-On-The-Air) for the JOTA (Jamboree-On-The-Air) October 19th
- SCCARA GIG (general meeting) and Elections November 11th
- SCCARA BoD November 18th
- SVECS Quarterly Breakfast Saturday, October 26 2013, 9am Santa Clara Senior Center
- SCCARA Christmas Party December 14th 12:00

Secretary's Report: The minutes were approved as published in the SCCARAGram. Viki KI6WDS passed out new rosters and noticed an issue with one of them which she will fix. Fred gave Viki a memorial service notice for SK Kevin Gathers for the club records. Viki brought the condolence card for Andy KR6DD's wife, and the board signed it. Viki brought the election forms for review and addition.

Treasurer's Report: Goetz K6GKB handed out the balance sheet: checking=\$4491.64, savings=\$500.07, cash=\$281.28, total=\$5272.99.

Trustee's Report: Don K6PBQ will not have the station open the last Saturday of the month since people will be going to Clark's for the CQ WW DX contest. He will have it open on November 2nd and 16th for the CW and SSB Sweepstakes, respectively. He can also make arrangements to open the station at other times.

Vice President's Report: John W6JPP is waiting for confirmation that Don Anastasio AA6W will be our November speaker on satellite tracking. If he is not available, John will let Fred know by Friday so Fred can prepare a presentation.

John gave a brief description of the planned CQ WW DX contest; we will use the W6UW call sign, entering as single-transmitter-multi-operator, high power (500W). Logs will be uploaded afterwards. We are hoping for enough operators to do 2 hours on, 8 hours off; there will be a cot or bed. The contest runs 17:00 PST Friday to 17:00 PST Sunday. Sarla WU2SWS is offering to handle QSL cards. John W6JPP moved to make Sarla Sharma WU2SWS an honorary member with internet SCCARAGrams; Don K6PBQ seconded; motion passed with 1 opposed.

John also mentioned the Dickens Christmas Faire runs at the Cow Palace from the weekend before Thanksgiving to the weekend before Christmas.

President's Report: Fred AE6QL announced that Jeannie Felix KG6YOR is running for director; Viki will add her to the election forms.

Fred summarized the GOTA for the JOTA: he was contacted at Pacificon by the local Boy Scouts, which are being reorganized. They told us on Wednesday that they wanted us to set up a radio station for their Jamboree-On-The-Air event three days later. Fred AE6QL, Lou WA6QYS, Gregg KF6FNA, Viki KI6WDS, and Clark KE6KXO met at the designated site; Fred brought in the K3 system from Field Day. (Lou heard Viet Nam while setting up!). About 11 scouts came to make contacts over the course of the day; one family may stop by the contest event this weekend. The club may have the opportunity to become merit badge counselors in the future; we have VE's to hold a testing session for them. Don K6PBQ noted this event is open to Girl Scouts as well.

Fred submitted information on laptop inventory, which was already recorded. The property list was discussed, and a consensus was reached on the disposal of specific line items.

Fred will try to write up a document describing the Rigs-for-Rent program for next month, to allow new licensees to try out rigs before buying their own.

Herman KI6ETZ and Henry KE6HOU brought equipment to donate: an HP laptop (red dot on box), a refurbished Apple laptop,

and an ICOM V-80 2m radio. Fred accepted the donations on behalf of the club.

John W6JPP mentioned he is working with the Goss School again this year to make a presentation to the 4th and 5th grade classes; they would like a 3-part program covering 2m through HF. He will also explore the school as a possible Field Day site.

Fred added that RACES will not be using their site next year: they were at DeAnza Park in south San Jose, and can stay overnite. Fred is in discussion with Ray Rogoway W6RAR.

Fred also mentioned that at Pacificon, he was asked to participate in the Wouff-Hong ceremony.

Newsletter: Gary WB6YRU reports there are lots more pictures in the newsletter, and hopes Goetz gets his Works-In-Progress column restarted.

BBS: Gary WB6YRU reported nothing new.

Repeater: Wally KA6YMD reported it is still chugging along, although the new repeater has squeaks and pops and still needs a phone line.

Web page: Wally reports the forwarding addresses are working; he is keeping the web page up to date.

Red Cross antennas: No activity.

Gregg reported that while Lou was selling SVECS J-pole antennas at Pacificon, he let us use part of the table to sell donated equipment from Bob Forster for \$140.

New Business: Red N6OKK introduced himself; he is involved with the USS Hornet radio club, is the station manager of W6YL, and is helping Dave N6ODY get his repeater on the air in Milpitas. He has an echolink repeater he has offered to make available to us. He asked permission to use our 440 repeater for their group. John W6JPP made a motion to authorize Red and his group to hook up echolink to our 440 repeater; Lou seconded the motion; it passed unanimously.

Fred AE6QL adjourned the meeting at 20:48.

Viki Moldenhauer, KI6WDS, Secretary

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the BBS packet network:

=====
Date: 6 Dec 2012 11:59
From: GM3YEW@GB7YEW
To: HUMOUR@WW
Subject: Jokes 6/12
=====

Compliments

An amateur photographer was invited to dinner with friends and took along a few pictures to show the hostess. She looked at the photos and commented "These are very good! You must have a good camera."

He didn't make any comment but as he was leaving to go

home he said "That was a really delicious meal! You must have some very good pots."

Bizarre Recycling Facts

Americans use enough corrugated cardboard in a year to make a bale the size of a football field. About 40% of it gets recycled.

If Americans recycled half our newsprint every year we'd need 3200 fewer garbage trucks to collect municipal trash.

Americans throw away enough used motor oil every year to fill 120 supertankers. It could all be recycled.

To make plastics the U.S. Uses about a billion barrels of petroleum by-products each year. This is enough to fill over 56000 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

Every year Americans dispose of 1.6 billion pens 2 billion razors and blades and 18 billion diapers.

Americans use 100 million steel and tin cans every day. We recycle about 5% of them.

According to the EPA we create enough garbage every year to fill a convoy of 10-ton garbage trucks 145000 miles long.

Dear Ex-Husband,
I'm writing you this letter to tell you that I filled for divorce and have left you for good. I've been more than a good woman to you for seven years and I have nothing to show for it. These last two weeks have been beyond hell. Last week you came home and didn't notice I had gotten my hair and nails done cooked your favorite meal and even wore a new negligee. Instead you came home and ate in two minutes watched the game then went straight to sleep. You don't tell me you love me anymore, you don't touch me or anything. Your boss called to tell me you quit your job and that was the last straw. Either you're cheating or you don't love me anymore. Whatever the case I'm gone.

P.S. If you're trying to find me, don't. Your BROTHER and I have moved away to West Virginia together! Have a great life, loser!

Your Ex-Wife

* * * * *

Dear Ex-wife,
It's true we have been married for seven years although a good woman is a far cry from what you've been. I watch sports so much to try to drown out your constant nagging. Too bad that didn't work. I did notice you cut off all of your hair last week the first thing that came to mind was "You look just like a man!" I was raised to not say anything if you can't say anything nice. As for cooking my favorite meal, you must have gotten me confused with MY BROTHER because I stopped eating pork seven years ago. Yes I went to sleep even though you had on that new negligee. It turned me off for two reasons first because the 9.99 price tag was still on it, second it may have been a coincidence but my brother had just borrowed fifty dollars from me that morning. Even after all of this I still felt that somehow we could work it out. Then I discovered I had hit the lotto for ten million dollars so I quit my job and bought us two

tickets to Jamaica to try to put the spice back into our marriage. But when I got home you were gone and I found the letter you left for me.

Well anyway I guess everything happens for a reason. I hope you and my brother have the life you always wanted. By the way, my lawyer said the divorce letter you wrote came soon enough that you won't be entitled to a dime.

Take care.

P.S. I don't know if I ever told you this but my "brother" Carl was born Carla. I hope that's not a problem.

Sincerely, your Ex

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

Looks like we may not have the Work in Progress column any more. Goetz tells me he believes people are working on projects, but nothing is coming in to him. That's too bad, amateur radio is partly a hobby of experimentation.

The March 2013 *SCCARA-GRAM* is long gone now, but I just remembered something... That issue marked my 20th year as this club's editor. It's hard to believe I've been at it that long.

One of the things that keeps me interested is participation from the membership. I was happy to get many articles from Goertz, but that well seems to be running dry now.

So, if you're working on something related to amateur radio, please keep Goetz informed. Maybe we can revive his column, and help keep your editor interested at the same time. ☺

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

DECEMBER MEETING

Our annual December meeting will be a luncheon on December 14th at the Creekside Inn 544 W. Alma, San Jose. We will have a choice of three entrees, \$32.00 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 \$32.00 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 2014
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.