

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 31, Number 7

July 2015



July Meeting

The speaker for July 13 will be James Bennett KA5DVS from Pacific Antennas / qrpkits.com. James designed the PAC-12 ANTENNA that won the Antenna Shoot Out Competition at Pacificon several years back. In addition to his great portable vertical antenna, he has also recently started marketing qrp kits from his Santa Clara company.

Greg, KF6FNA

Prez Sez

Field Day the Good and the Bad

I think there is a lot more on the good side than the bad. I welcome your comments good or bad as well. Feel free to let me or any other board member know what you think.

There are many to thank but before I get to that subject I'd like to address the broader subject of SCCARA and where we are headed. Some would say that SCCARA is headed for extinction. Look at the membership numbers and the ever increasing age of membership. I call it the grey hair problem and hair dye won't fix it. It is always sad when a member become a silent key. This is often preceded years of health difficulties where the quality and distance to the bathroom takes precedence to the quality of band conditions. There is nothing that can really defeat old age but I will try to make FD accessible for all. For a start I hope we scored high on the potty ratings this year.

Seriously folks Field Day is one of SCCARA's defining events. Your board wanted to make FD2015 as convenient and close to home as possible. In previous years it was also apparent that we were wearing out people before we ever got on the air. Gregg Lane, KF6FNA in particular was a super human at our Alviso location and then I watched as he fell asleep trying to operate. I Don't think Gregg was having very much fun. I think there were a whole lot of people that were not having fun or at least not having enough fun. Field Day was becoming an event to survive and not one to tell your grandchildren about.

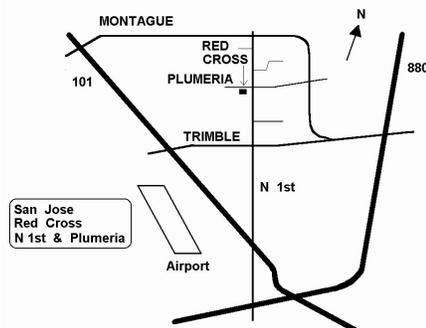
Making a whole lot of contacts is something you tell your grandchildren about. So the question is how do we have fun and make a lot of DX contacts while not spending a whole lot of time setting up the event or traveling beyond our leashes.

Calendar

- 7/11 Electronics Flea Market - De Anza College
- 7/13 SCCARA General Meeting
- 7/20 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)
- 8/8 Electronic Flea Market-- SCCARA hosts!

General Meeting

- Day: Monday, July 13, 2015
- Time: 7:30 PM
- Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Hospital B-06
- Featuring: James Bennett KA5DVS



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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 W6UW.

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 nepa.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

In breaking down our setup timeline, the manpower needed to put up the beam was by far the biggest consumer of hours. Worse it took almost as many hours to take down. Also safety mandated that we didn't hurry the process since this was by far the most dangerous activity. Yes the beam was iconic but it was simply costing us too much and we were lacking the manpower to raise it safely as well.

I made the command decision that we would raise wire antennas first and if we had enough time we would put up the beam. In any event there would be only one beam since we were prohibited from driving stakes in the ground and there would be no way to anchor a second beam. Also the wire antennas would both be Windom antennas. These antennas work from 80 through 6 meters without traps. They do require a tuner but all of our Kenwoods have tuners so only an additional tuner would be needed for the Yaesu. For the first time you would be able to put any HF station on any HF band.

Earlier I made another command decision. Some years ago I took possession of the club batteries since they were not being maintained in storage. I stored them with a trickle charger attached so they would be ready in any emergency. Originally there were three but with another donation, the collection of batteries became four. I also suffered a hernia last year. Although the batteries were not the principle source of the hernia they contributed.

At FD the batteries were charged by automotive battery chargers. This type charger does not contain a filter capacitor and therefore can not be used without the battery to power a station. But the irony is that whenever the generator fails the lights and computers fail as well. A battery doesn't help. Also the battery chargers were dangerous without current limiting or voltage regulation. Lastly we have two Astron 35 amp linearly regulated power supplies and each radio has its own associated supply. The two remaining batteries will be recycled and the chargers sold at the flea market.

In previous years one mast has been used to support several antennas. Receivers have only so much selectivity. Selectivity is the ability of a receiver to discern one station from another nearby station. By nearby we mean both nearby in location and frequency. With such a close location the radiation from one station is closely coupled to another station. The off frequency radiation from a transmitter is captured by the AGC (automatic gain control) of the nearby receiver. This has the effect of reducing the gain of the receiver in what is known as de-sense. Furthermore the sidebands of the transmitter are often detected causing the intended receive signal to grossly distort. An experienced ear can sometimes get around the QRM but it totally mystifies the novice attempting to tune SSB for the first time. It is because my K3 has better tolerance for QRM I decided several years ago to use it for the GOTA station. That didn't help the phone station who often could not operate in the same band with our CW station.

The Vasona Park location gave us the room to spread out and minimize self-inflicted QRM. This is best done by isolating stations in both height and location. In addition it would be good if the stations had an over water take off pattern and were located orthogonally (at right angles). To locate the antennas I used a tool called Google Earth Pro.

Raising the phone station antenna angled at 1 o'clock was easy with Richard assisting and using my tennis ball launcher. The launcher did get some strange looks from passersby. Then it was on to the GOTA station antenna angled at 6 o'clock. This one was not so easy because the tree-line hides a 50 foot cliff with about a sixty degree slope. Richard somehow managed to get the winning shot that had the GOTA antenna high and pretty. Then we went to do the CW antenna at 11 o'clock. The CW antenna plane is actually located 50 feet below the phone antenna plane. Furthermore one end is in dense tree structures. Fresh from his

success with the GOTA Richard fired a shot into the forest of trees. The ball snagged and the line had to be withdrawn. At this point the launcher spindle disintegrated into plastic pieces and a bird's nest of fish line. At that point the CW antenna looked hopeless. Richard took the launcher to his home and removed the bird's nest. Later he returned to glue the spindle together. (We had pizza to eat too, thanks to Richard.) The glue hadn't hardened and darkness was upon us so I gave up thinking we would operate 1A (One station... GOTA doesn't count as part of station count.)

The next morning Richard returned and spooled new fishing line onto launcher. A couple of shots later the CW antenna was flying proudly. However that was not the end of antenna problems.

Don Village prepared his usual tasty breakfast and we were off and contesting with Richard manning the CW station and Robert Schwimmer doing digital modes on the Phone station. Late afternoon we had hot dogs cooked by the John Westmoreland family. Gary ran the phone station until after midnight. By 3am all activity had ceased but not for long. Early Sunday both stations were on the air again with CW guests James Armstrong, NV6W and Scott Lieberman, W6CT cranking out an amazing 156 contacts. By 8:30 Sunday all stations were at work with Gregg Lane, KF6FNA Lane running off calling CQ faster than I could log.

Late Saturday afternoon I was running the GOTA station and the antenna fell down. It seemed a tree and the wind had sawed our suspension line in two. It had failed at the dangerous cliff location that Richard had painfully (scraped his leg) placed. I grabbed the launcher and Lou Steirer, WA6QYS and Wally Britten, and I tried to replace. The wind was blowing a bit and made the shots go astray. I decided to be smart and go the long way around and shoot upwards for the Los Gatos Trail. That didn't work because the trees were so dense I couldn't see a path into our site. Again with Wally's help I tried from the top side. With the cliff so steep I was using a rope to repel to the needed launch point 15 feet below. After what seemed like endless tries I succeed and the GOTA station was back on the air. I couldn't have done it without Wally's help.



are well have a real total of over 400 contacts and over 600 raw points. That does not count any bonus points which will run the score up considerably higher.

I want to thank Paul ? and Lou Steirer, WA6QYS for helping load the trailer. Really they helped everywhere and particularly Lou by also getting the food. By the way Lou holds the singular title of making contacts on both phone and CW. Richard Clare, WB6EWM helped everywhere too, particularly with antennas, placing the EZ Ups, and running the CW station. Gregg Lane, KF6FNA was everywhere as well and whispered in my ear there are folks you need to talk to. Don Village, K6PBQ brought and prepared the breakfast as well as transporting the rigs. Paul, Lou Steirer, WA6QYS, Gregg Lane, KF6FNA, Gary Mitchell, WA6YRU, and Lloyd DeV Vaughns, KD6FJI helped reload the trailer and Gregg Lane, KF6FNA and Gary Mitchell, WA6YRU helped unload the trailer. Gregg was particularly helpful at backing the trailer. We were both very tired and it took a lot of concentration but the trailer was parked on the first try. Not to be forgotten was Bob Schwimmer, N3FAW for handling the digital station and Clark Murphy, KE6KXO for his supervision, advice, and use of his home for setup and storage. Lastly there was Wally Britten, KA6YMD that was our PIO, radio communicator, and all around helpful guy that was there from start to finish. I hope I didn't leave anyone out. If I did I apologize. My brain is like mush now.

73, Fred, AE6QL, ae6ql@arrl.net



Flea Market

SCCARA hosts the Electronics Flea Market, August 8, 2015

The SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION has the honor of sponsoring the Saturday, August 8th Electronics Flea Market at De Anza College.

This is one of the few opportunities SCCARA has to raise funds to offset operating expenses. Please consider volunteering to help. Shifts are in two hour increments:

Shift A...0500-0700 Shift B...0700-0900
Shift C...0900-1100 Shift D...1100-1300.

Come early to help set up the food booth operation, assist with the food sales and stay to pack everything away. Please let me know which shift(s) you would like to sign up for.

If you are new to the club, helping with the Flea Market effort would be an ideal way to get to know your fellow members. Your participation is needed to insure the continuation of SCCARA's mission to help everyone get on the air. Give me a call at 408-241-7999 to let me know your shift(s) preference.

Lou WA6QYS

ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, May 28, 2015

FCC Eliminating Vanity Call Sign Fee

The FCC is dropping the regulatory fee to apply for an Amateur Radio vanity call sign. The change will not go into effect, however, until required congressional notice has been given. This will take at least 90 days. As the Commission explained in a

QSO Summary	
CW QSOs:	222
Digital QSO's:	0
Phone QSO's:	174
Total QSO's:	396

How did we do on contacts this year? Slightly better: The phone total of 174 includes 12 GOTA for a real total of 162. Also the digital totals are not reported yet so when they

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Report and Order, and Order (MD Docket 14-92 and others), released May 21, it's a matter of simple economics.

"The Commission spends more resources on processing the regulatory fees and issuing refunds than the amount of the regulatory fee payment," the FCC said. "As our costs now exceed the regulatory fee, we are eliminating this regulatory fee category." The current vanity call sign regulatory fee is \$21.40, the highest in several years. The FCC reported there were 11,500 "payment units" in FY 2014 and estimated that it would collect nearly \$246,100.

In its 2014 Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) regarding the assessment and collection of regulatory fees for FY 2014, the FCC had sought comment on eliminating several smaller regulatory fee categories, such as those for vanity call signs and GMRS. It concluded in the subsequent Report and Order (R&O) last summer, however, that it did not have "adequate support to determine whether the cost of recovery and burden on small entities outweighed the collected revenue or whether eliminating the fee would adversely affect the licensing process."

The FCC said it has since had an opportunity to obtain and analyze support concerning the collection of the regulatory fees for Amateur Vanity and GMRS, which the FCC said comprise, on average, more than 20,000 licenses that are newly obtained or renewed, every 10 and 5 years, respectively.

"The Commission often receives multiple applications for the same vanity call sign, but only one applicant can be issued that call sign," the FCC explained. "In such cases, the Commission issues refunds for all the remaining applicants. In addition to staff and computer time to process payments and issue refunds, there is an additional expense to issue checks for the applicants who cannot be refunded electronically."

The Commission said that after it provides the required congressional notification, Amateur Radio vanity program applicants "will no longer be financially burdened with such payments, and the Commission will no longer incur these administrative costs that exceed the fee payments. The revenue that the Commission would otherwise collect from these regulatory fee categories will be proportionally assessed on other wireless fee categories."

The FCC said it would not issue refunds to licensees who paid the regulatory fee prior to its elimination.

USNA APRS/PSK31 CubeSats Up and Running

The APRS/PSK31-equipped US Naval Academy satellites appear to be operating, with one exception, following their May 20 launch. Included in the launch was a pair of 1.5U CubeSats -- the PSAT APRS/PSK31 satellite and BRICsat, a propulsion/PSK31 satellite -- as well as a 3U CubeSat, USS Langley (Unix Space Server Langley), and The Planetary Society's LightSail-1 (<http://www.planetary.org/>).

PSAT, a USNA student project named in honor of USNA alum Bradford Parkinson, of GPS fame, contains an APRS transponder for relaying remote telemetry, sensor, and user data from remote users and Amateur Radio environmental experiments or other data sources back to Amateur Radio experimenters via a global network of Internet-linked ground stations.

Brno University transponders on PSAT and BRICsat support multi-user PSK31 text messaging (28.120 MHz uplink/435.350

MHz FM downlink). The BRICsat and PSAT PSK31 transponders operate on the same frequency, although one has PSK telemetry on 315 Hz, the other on 375 Hz.

Bob Bruninga, WB4APR, said the PSAT telemetry on 145.825 MHz (1200 baud AX.25) is working okay, and the APRS downlink page (<http://psat.aprs.org/>) has been capturing PSAT telemetry.

Bruninga said BRICsat's telemetry has been heard, but has been cycling off, due to low power. He said the BRICsat PSK31 downlink has been copied too, but only barely. "BRICsat seems to have some kind of problem," he told ARRL. The USS Langley spacecraft has not been heard yet, he said.

The LightSail-1 packet 9600 baud (FSK) AX.25 downlink is on 437.435 MHz. The Planetary Society's Jason Davis (<http://www.planetary.org/about/staff/jason-davis.html>) is asking radio amateurs to e-mail him (jason.davis@planetary.org) any data they collect from LightSail, including any screenshots.

Bruninga has invited APRS radio amateurs to tune into the packet downlinks and to upload IGate packets into the global APRS-IS system and also to try out the "exciting, new full-duplex PSK31 way of multi-user communication." He notes that the UHF downlink signal is only 300 mW, and a beam antenna would be required to hear the signal. Bruninga advised that those transmitting to the satellites use nothing more than a dipole or quarter-wave vertical, and no more than 25 W output power. Read more at <http://www.arrl.org/news/usna-aprs-psk31-cubesats-offer-something-different>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, June 11, 2015

Letters to Members of Congress Offer Biggest Boost to Amateur Radio Parity Act

ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, has told Section Managers that, while promotion and positive publicity about the Amateur Radio Parity Act (H.R. 1301) are always helpful, the most useful action radio amateurs can take is to contact their members of Congress, urging them to sign on as cosponsors. As of June 9, 72 members of the US House in both parties were listed as cosponsors of the proposed legislation, which would direct the FCC to extend its rules relating to reasonable accommodation of Amateur Service communications to private land-use restrictions. Craigie told the SMs that the grassroots campaign supporting H.R. 1301 needs more letters.

"We have been told quite bluntly by some congressional offices that they want letters from constituents -- that they will be interested in what the ARRL has to say only if they know that voters care about this issue," Craigie said in urging Section Managers to rally the troops. "Why should the congressman care, they ask, if the voters don't? There are tens of thousands of ARRL members who have not written yet. You can do a lot to persuade them to write, because they know you."

Craigie cited the case of US Rep John Carney of Delaware, who signed on as an H.R. 1301 cosponsor this week. Delaware Section Manager Bill Duvencek, KB3KYH, told her that ARRL members have been appealing to the state's lone Member of Congress to support the bill.

"Late last month, ARRL representatives visited Congressman Carney's Washington office and delivered a stack of approximately 50 constituent letters," Craigie recounted. "That, in addition to the in-state contacts, got the congressman's attention, and he agreed to cosponsor."

Craigie pointed out that the 50 letters were all the more impressive in the case of tiny Delaware, where there are fewer than 500 ARRL members. "Do the math!" she said. "If we could get a similar percentage of ARRL members in additional districts to write their members of Congress, the bill's progress would accelerate. Local in-district contacts plus concentrated letter-writing efforts add up to co-sponsorship. Here's to Delaware and all the other districts whose ARRL members are getting the job done for H.R. 1301."

Members are encouraged to contact their member of Congress by writing personalized, signed letters on paper, based on the sample letter, available on the ARRL H.R. 1301 web page (<http://www.arrl.org/hr-1301>). Letters should go to ARRL Headquarters for hand delivery to the appropriate House members. Send letters to ARRL, ATTN H.R. 1301 Grassroots Campaign, 225 Main St, Newington CT 06111.

Sending these letters via ARRL allows Headquarters staff to keep track of how many communications are going to which congressional districts. But more important, Craigie pointed out, when letters are delivered to the Hill in person, there's an opportunity to speak with congressional staffers. "The stack of letters is proof that voters care about the bill," she said. "We have to convince the staff people, so they'll advise the Member of Congress to cosponsor. That's how it works on Capitol Hill."

Craigie further urged Section Managers to mention the bill when they speak at conventions and club meetings. Craigie also encouraged members whose US House member already has signed on to H.R. 1301 as a cosponsor to call, write, or e-mail a message of appreciation. "Good manners, good strategy," she said.

The League is working on having a US Senate version of H.R. 1301 introduced.

The latest House members to sign on as H.R. 1301 cosponsors include Bill Flores (TX), Patrick McHenry (NC), Ann Kuster (NH), John Carney (DE), Marsha Blackburn (TN), and Matt Salmon (AZ).

From *The ARRL Letter*, June 18, 2015

Colorado to Host USA Amateur Radio Direction Finding Championships in August

Registration (<http://www.homingin.com/farsnews>) is open for the 15th USA and 8th IARU Region 2 Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) championships, August 27-30, in Elbert, Colorado. The event will take place at the Peaceful Valley Scout Ranch, a 3300-acre site at 7000 feet elevation, about 40 miles southeast of Denver.

An optional ARDF "training camp" will take place on Monday through Wednesday, August 24-26, just prior to the competition, with separate morning and afternoon sessions planned for each day. Participants may attend as many sessions as they wish. Training sessions will concentrate on how to take reliable bearings, interpret reflected signals, and determine likely transmitter locations, as well as on course strategies, route choices, and other essentials for success.

The championship competition begins on Thursday, August 27 with foxoring -- a combination of RDF and classic orienteering on 80 meters, in which participants navigate to marked locations on their maps where very low power transmitters can be found nearby. A 10-transmitter short-course sprint competition on 80 meters takes place the next day.

The classic full-course 2 meter main event gets under way on Saturday morning, with five transmitters in a very large forest. The banquet and awards presentation follows that evening. A similar full-course 80 meter main event takes place Sunday morning; an awards presentation follows.

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) sets ARDF championship rules. Participants are divided into 11 age/gender categories. In classic ARDF championships, competitors start in small groups made up of different categories. Working independently, they navigate through the course -- a distance of between 4 and 10 kilometers -- seeking hidden transmitters. They plot their direction-finding bearings on provided orienteering maps that show terrain features, elevation contours, and vegetation type.

The USA ARDF Championships are open to anyone of any age who can safely navigate the woods alone; a ham radio license is not required. Participants compete as individuals and bring their own direction-finding gear to the events.

More information is on the Event Information Page (<http://www.homingin.com/usachamps2015>). All entering the ranch must be registered. For additional information on ARDF, visit the Homing In website (<http://www.homingin.com/>).

-- Thanks to ARRL Amateur Radio Direction Finding Coordinator Joe Moell, K0OV

From *The ARRL Letter*, June 25, 2015

New World Distance Records Set on 2.3 and 3.4 GHz Ham Bands

Two California radio amateurs -- one of them in Hawaii -- have set new world distance records on the 2.3 and 3.4 GHz microwave amateur bands. Wayne Overbeck, N6NB, operating from a radio-equipped rental car on the Big Island of Hawaii, worked Gregory Campbell, W6IT, operating from Overbeck's own fixed station near Orange, California, on both bands -- a distance of more than 4024 km (2495 miles). The contacts blew away records that had stood for more than 20 years, and more than doubled the previous distance records for a two-way voice (SSB) contact at those frequencies, Overbeck said, adding that most previous microwave distance records have been set using CW.

"Ours was the first-ever SSB contact between Hawaii and the mainland on 2304," Overbeck noted. He said Chip Angle, N6CA, and KH6HME (SK) made the first transpacific SSB contact on 3.4 GHz in the 1990s.

The record-setting contacts occurred on June 19 (June 18 in Hawaii) on 2.3 GHz at 0257 UTC and at on 3.4 GHz at 0300 UTC. W6IT was in grid square DM13cs, while N6NB/KH6 was in BK29hq. According to the database of distance records maintained by Al Ward, W5LUA, the old records were 3982 km, set on by N6CA and KH6ME on July 14, 1994, on 2.3 GHz (CW) and on July 28, 1991, on 3.4 GHz (SSB).



N6NB's rover-type station at 8000 feet elevation on Mauna Loa, with Mauna Kea, the Big Island's other 13,000 foot mountain, in the background. [Photo courtesy of Wayne Overbeck, N6NB]

Overbeck flew to Hawaii carrying gear for all bands from 144 MHz through 10 GHz "in two large suitcases, plus a roll-aboard and a backpack" -- weighing about 150 pounds in all. In Hawaii, he rented a small SUV and built a rover-style station that included a rotating roof platform, constructed using parts obtained from a home improvement store.

Overbeck said that when a tropospheric duct formed that could convey signals thousands of miles across the Pacific, he drove around the slopes of Mauna Loa -- 13,000 feet up --and selected several promising sites for long-haul DX, "not necessarily the highest possible sites," he added. "By Thursday, June 18, the duct seemed to be peaking," he said.

W6IT activated N6NB's fixed station and quickly worked N6NB/KH6 on six bands, including 2304 and 3456 MHz for world records. Overbeck said he also heard W6IT on 902 MHz and 5.7 GHz, but local, non-amateur interference in California -- likely from Part 15 Wi-Fi devices -- prevented W6IT from hearing N6NB/KH6 on those bands.

A video (<http://www.n6nb.com/2304rcrd.mp4>) of the record-setting 2304 GHz contact between N6NB/KH6 and W6IT (recorded from the Hawaii end of the circuit) is online.

Larry Spector, W2QOV, SK

88 years of a special gifted/giving full life, from Ham radio, military service, physics professional, a Bell Labs New York/New Jersey- early development manager - Semi-conductors developer (with Shockley et-al)/early accomplishments, IBM – hard disk thin film drive coating manager/consultant (Poughkeepsie, Germany, San Jose), Physics PhD, Private Pilot Instrument Flyer/Instructor – Piper, Bonanza, Glider Flyer, Radio Control model builder/flyer... intense family man. Maintained positive demeanor to the end. He was my first real best in SJ friend (result of being another Radio ‘Ham’ W2QOV); --‘adopted’ me to his loving family... Thanks ‘Dad’!

-- Bob N3FAW

{Larry joined SCCARA in 2009. -- Editor}

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, June 18, 2015



{No minutes received by the deadline. -- Editor}

Board Meeting, June 15, 2015



Red Cross Building, 2731 N. 1st. St., San Jose, Ca Status: unreviewed

The SCCARA BOARD MEETING was called to order by President Fred Townsend AE6QL at 19:55.

Attendance: President Fred Townsend AE6QL; Vice President/Secretary Gregg Lane KF6FNA; Trustee Don Village

K6PBQ; Directors: Lou Steirer WA6QYS, Wally Britten KA6YMD, Lloyd DeVaughns KD6FJI, Clark Murphy KE6KXO and Richard Clare WB6EWM. Excused Absence: Treasurer Goetz Brandt K6GKB. Visitors: Paul Gorny KK6HWN and Gwen Steirer KF6OTD.

Announcements: 1) SCCARA FIELD DAY at Vasona Park, June 26-28, 2015 2) ELECTRONICS FLEA MARKET JULY 11 and AUGUST 8, 2015. SCCARA hosting in August. 3) SVECS QUARTERLY BREAKFAST Saturday July 25, 2015. 07:30 setup, 09:00 breakfast, 10:00-noon program.

Secretary's Report: 1) The May Board Minutes were read by Gregg KF6FNA and approved. 2) Wally KA6YMD reported that the Membership Database is up to date.

Treasurer's Report: 1) Goetz K6GKB emailed a balance sheet as of 6/15/15. Checking = 3,313.04, Savings = 500.07, Cash = 403.43, TOTAL = \$4,216.54. 2) Payment to ASVARO of \$2,200.00 has been made. 3) Gregg moved to reimburse Goetz \$51.40 for new repeater coax cables. Motion second by Lou. Motion carried.

Trustee's Report: 1) Don K6PBQ stated that due to FIELD DAY, the CLUB STATION would not be open on the last Saturday of June. 2) Don has returned the radios and power supply that he had been storing to the CLUB STATION.

Vice President's Report: Gregg KF6FNA announced that the speaker for July 13 will be James Bennett KA5DVS from Pacific Antenna / qrpkits.com.

President's Report: Fred AE6QL reported that 1) SCCARA has been contacted to possibly run the HF STATION at Kaiser, San Jose. 2) Fees for FIELD DAY at Vasona Park have been waived. Vasona will not lock up the restrooms at night. SCCARA needs to provide fire extinguishers at each generator. Gregg will move the antenna trailer to Clark's house, where there will be a trailer party on Saturday, June 20, at 10:00. 3) Fred met with SJRACES OES Director and found that free San Jose Park sites could be available for FIELD DAY.

Repeater Report: Wally KA6YMD reported that 1) The phone line is out at the Eagle Rock Repeater. SCCARA is urging the City to have it repaired. 2) The back up repeater has 42 W out of the transmitter, but only 28 W out of the duplexer.

Flea Market Report: Lou WA6QYS suggested that SCCARA rent a 12' enclosed trailer to transport equipment to and from De Anza.

Fred adjourned the meeting at 21:26.

Gregg Lane, KF6FNA, Secretary

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the BBS packet network:

=====
Date: 20 Jul 2010 01:33
From: W1GMF@W1GMF
To: HUMOR@USA
Subject: Doggy Dictionary

LEASH: A strap which attaches to your collar, enabling you to lead your person where you want him/her to go.

DOG BED: any soft, clean surface, such as the white bedspread in the guest room or the newly upholstered couch in the living room.

DROOL: Is what you do when your persons have food and you don't. To do this properly you must sit as close as you can and look sad and let the drool fall to the floor, or better yet, on their laps.

SNIFF: A social custom to use when you greet other dogs.

GARBAGE CAN: A container which your neighbors put out once a week to test your ingenuity. You must stand on your hind legs and try to push the lid off with your nose. If you do it right you are rewarded with all sorts of goodies, but you have to sort it out yourself.

BICYCLES: Two-wheeled exercise machines, invented for dogs to control body fat. To get maximum aerobic benefit, you must hide behind a bush and dash out, bark loudly and run alongside for a few yards; the person then swerves and falls into the bushes, and you prance away.

THUNDER: This is a signal that the world is coming to an end. Humans remain amazingly calm during thunderstorms, so it is necessary to warn them of the danger by trembling uncontrollably, panting, rolling your eyes wildly, and following at their heels.

BATH: This is a process by which the humans drench the floor, walls and themselves. You can help by shaking vigorously and frequently.

BUMP: The best way to get your human's attention when they are drinking a fresh cup of coffee or tea.

GOOSE BUMP: A maneuver to use as a last resort when the regular Bump doesn't get the attention you require. It's especially effective when combined with the Sniff.

LOVE: Is a feeling of intense affection, given freely and without restriction. The best way you can show your love is to wag your tail. If you're lucky, a human will love you in return.

=====
Date: 27 Jul 2010 01:32
From: W1GMF@W1GMF
To: HUMOR@USA
Subject: DANGEROUS HAM

Who is the most dangerous person in the world?

A HAM with an idea, some wire, and a bow and arrow in his hand!

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.

Topics:

Antennas, feed-lines, tuners: NV6W, 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: NV6W, K6PBQ
DX (long distance/propagation): NV6W
Emergency operating/preparedness: WA6QYS
HF operating techniques (SSB, CW): NV6W, K6PBQ
Legal/FCC rules: WB6YRU
SCCARA (club inner workings): K6PBQ, WB6YRU, WA6QYS
EchoLink: KK6MX
License testing, new amateurs: W6JPP

Contacts:

NV6W, James D. Armstrong, Jr.,
evening & msg: 408-670-1680

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 N0ARY
e-mail: wb6yru@ix.netcom.com

Newsletter Notes

The deadline for the *SCCARA-GRAM* was the next day after Field Day. So if Fred's report on the event seems a little rambling or the results half baked, that's why. I'm surprised he had that much ready in time for this issue.

Rumor has it that several photos were taken of our Field Day set-up. Hopefully we'll get some of those and more articles about Field Day in the next *SCCARA-GRAM*.

I'm happy to announce that work is in progress to make past *SCCARA-GRAMs* available on the club web site. More info about that in the near future, stay tuned.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor



SCCARA
 Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association
 PO Box 106
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FIRST CLASS

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SCCARA Membership Form for 2015
 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: _____

 You'll get a short e-mail notice each month letting you know a new SCCARA-GRAM (pdf) is ready for download.

Memberships start January 1 and expire December 31. Annual dues are: **\$20 Individual \$25 Family \$10 Student** (under 18)
 For family memberships (members at the same address), please include the above info for each member, (use separate forms).

New members:

- If joining in January: normal dues
- If joining in February through October: dues x (11 - month) x 10% (e.g. for July, that's: \$20 x 4 x 0.1, which is \$8)
- If joining in November or December: normal dues. That's for next year, and the rest of this year is included free

I want the newsletter on paper delivered by U.S. Mail for an additional \$30 per year, prorated (\$2.50 per month).
 So that's \$27.50 if starting in February, \$25 if starting in March, \$22.50 if starting in April, \$20 starting in May, etc.

\$ _____ Total membership payment for: individual family student

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