

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 32, Number 11

November 2016



ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, Oct. 6, 2016

ARRL Gauging Impact of Revised California Distracted Driving Law

California has upped its game in cracking down on distracted driving, and radio amateurs there are concerned that a recent revision to the state's Motor Vehicle Code could affect Amateur Radio mobile operation. The old law, which included an Amateur Radio exemption, already prohibited motorists from using electronic wireless communication devices to write, send, or read a text-based communication while in motion, unless the device was configured for voice-operated and hands-free operation. The revised law does not exempt Amateur Radio.

Assembly Bill 1785, http://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160AB1785 signed into law on September 26 by Governor Jerry Brown, prohibits a motorist from driving "while holding and operating" a handheld wireless telephone or a wireless electronic communication device, as defined by the code. But it authorizes a driver to operate such devices mounted on a vehicle's windshield like a GPS or on the dashboard or center console "in a manner that does not hinder the driver's view of the road," if the driver can activate or deactivate a feature or function "with the motion of a single swipe or tap of the finger."

The language defining devices covered by the law does not accurately specify what activity is prohibited, leaving its application subject to misinterpretation by individual law enforcement officers, but it does not specifically proscribe use of mobile Amateur Radio equipment for voice communication. The list of covered devices includes, but is not limited to, "a broadband personal communication device, a specialized mobile radio device, a handheld device or laptop computer with mobile data access, a pager, or a two-way messaging device." A first offense would incur a \$20 base fine and \$50 for subsequent offenses.

Initial wording of the legislation was not considered to be a threat to Amateur Radio operation, but the measure's language changed substantially as it worked its way through the California General Assembly.

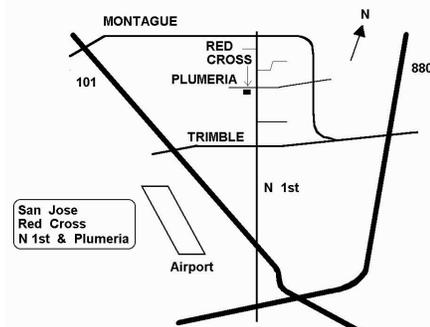
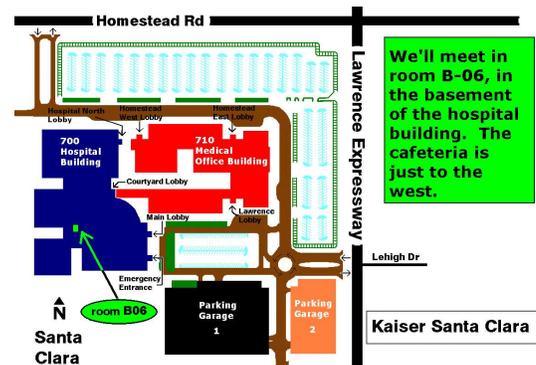
ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, said there are two principal ways to protect Amateur Radio in this type of legislation. "One is by sufficiently narrowly defining prohibited activity so as to exclude Amateur Radio," he said. "The other is to create

Calendar

- 11/14 SCCARA General Meeting
- 11/21 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)

General Meeting

- Day: Monday, Nov. 14, 2016
- Time: 7:30 PM
- Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Hospital B-06
- Featuring: club elections



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

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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

Amateur license testing, ARRL/VEC Silicon Valley VE group,
Morris Jones, AD6ZH: 408-507-4698

specific exemptions where the definitions are confusing. This new statute is an example of bad legislative draftsmanship. It creates a motor vehicle law with citations issued for certain activity that includes the words 'but is not limited to' in the language defining the violation."

In addition to scrutinizing the language of the revision, ARRL will be consulting with Field Organization officials in California to determine its next steps.

From *The ARRL Letter*, Oct. 13, 2016

Current Rules Holding Hams Back from Adopting State-of-the-Art Technology, ARRL Says

In comments filed on October 12 with the FCC, ARRL reiterated its case that the FCC should change the Part 97 rules both to delete the symbol rate limits in Section 97.307(f) and replace them with a maximum bandwidth for data emissions of 2.8 kHz on amateur frequencies below 29.7 MHz.

In a July Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in WT Docket 16-239, the FCC proposed to eliminate the current baud rate limitations for data emissions, consistent with ARRL's Petition, but it declined to propose a bandwidth limitation for data emissions in the MF and HF bands to replace the baud rate limitations.

ARRL told the FCC in its comments that the current HF symbol rate "speed limit" reflects 1980s technology and has no place in an experimental radio service in which modern protocols could be efficiently deployed in crowded RTTY/data subbands.

"The symbol rate limit was created in order to maximize the efficient use and reuse of that crowded, shared spectrum, but the assumptions made at the time are no longer valid," ARRL said, "and the rules now prohibit radio amateurs from utilizing state-of-the-art technology, thus precluding or substantially inhibiting any meaningful contribution to the advancement of the radio art in this area." ARRL said earlier assumptions are no longer valid mainly because there is no correlation between the data rate and the occupied bandwidth in the rules now.

The League said present rules in the HF data subbands promote inefficiency, allowing data transmissions of unlimited bandwidth as long as the symbol rate is sufficiently low, and it stressed that there must be some limit on occupied bandwidth for HF data emissions.

"Eliminating the symbol rate limitations for data emissions and substituting a maximum authorized bandwidth would permit the utilization of all HF data transmission protocols presently legal in the Amateur Radio Service, as well as state-of-the-art protocols that fall within the authorized bandwidth," the League said. The deadline to file reply comments in the proceeding -- i.e. comments on comments already filed -- is November 10.

From *The ARRL Letter*, Oct. 27, 2016

Broadcasters, Jammers Wreak Havoc on Amateur Radio Frequencies

The battle continues between Radio Eritrea (Voice of the Broad Masses) and Radio Ethiopia, which is said to be jamming the Eritrean broadcaster with broadband white noise. The problem for radio amateurs is that the battle is taking place in the 40-meter phone band -- 7.145 and 7.175 MHz -- with the jamming signal reported by the IARU Region 1 Monitoring System (IARUMS) to

be 20 kHz wide on each channel.

The on-air conflict has been going on for years; Ethiopia constructed new transmitting sites in 2008 and is said to use two or three of them for jamming purposes. The interfering signals can be heard in North America after dark. According to IARUMS Region 1 Coordinator Wolf Hadel, DK2OM, Radio Eritrea is airing separate programs on each frequency. He said in the IARUMS September newsletter that telecommunications regulators in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland have been informed, so they could file official complaints.

Other AM broadcast intruders on 40 meters include Radio Hargeisa in Somaliland on 7.120 MHz, which, Hadel said, is even audible in Australia and Japan. He further reports that the Voice of Iran's signal on 7.205 MHz is spluttering up to 5 kHz on either side of its channel, while Radio France International, which operates on the same frequency, is spluttering down to 7.185 MHz.

Holiday Luncheon

December Meeting

Our annual holiday meeting will be a luncheon on Saturday, December 10th at 12:00 noon. This year our luncheon will be at Michael's at Shoreline 2960 North Shoreline Blvd in Mt. View, (east on Shoreline next to the golf course).

We will also be having a gift exchange. The way it works is that everyone brings a wrapped gift suitable for a man or woman costing about \$10.00. This type of exchange is always a lot of fun to participate in.

Reservations need to be in by Monday, December 5, (see the sign up sheet below). Talk in will be on our repeater, W6UU 146.985(-). Why not renew your membership at the same time? I'm looking forward to seeing all of you there.

73, Don Village K6PBQ

Al Gaetano W6VZT, SK

Al Gaetano, W6VZT, former SCCARA member, died on October 8, 2016, at age 91.

Al can best be remembered by his part in the "Doc & Al" presentations they so well did.

Wally, KA6YMD

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, Oct. 10, 2016



{No minutes received. -- Editor}

Board Meeting, Oct. 17, 2016



{No minutes received. -- Editor}

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the BBS packet network:

=====
Date: 12 Apr 2011 01:50
From: W1GMF@W1GMF
To: HUMOR@USA
Subject: City Fisherman

A fisherman from the city was out fishing on a lake in a small boat. He noticed another man in a small boat open his tackle box and take out a mirror.

Being curious the man rowed over and asked, "What is the mirror for?"

"That's my secret way to catch fish," said the other man. "Shine the mirror on the top of the water. The fish notice the spot of sun on the water above and they swim to the surface. Then I just reach down and net them and pull them into the boat."

"Wow! Does that really work?"

"You bet it does."

"Would you be interested in selling that mirror? I'll give you \$30 for it."

"Well, okay."

After the money was transferred, the city fisherman asked, "By the way, how many fish have you caught this week?"

"You're the sixth," he said.

=====
Date: 9 May 2011 02:51
From: W1GMF@W1GMF
To: HUMOR@USA
Subject: Interesting Facts

-Apples, not caffeine, are more efficient at waking you up in the morning.

-Alfred Hitchcock didn't have a belly button.

-A pack-a-day smoker will lose approximately 2 teeth every 10 years.

-People do not get sick from cold weather; it's from being indoors a lot more.

-When you sneeze, all bodily functions stop, even your heart.

-Only 7 percent of the population are lefties.

-Forty people are sent to the hospital for dog bites every minute.

-Babies are born without kneecaps. They don't appear until they are 2-6 years old.

- The average person over 50 will have spent 5 years waiting in lines.
- 40,000 Americans are injured by toilets each year.
- The average computer user blinks 7 times a minute.
- Your feet are bigger in the afternoon than any other time of day.
- Most of us have eaten a spider in our sleep.
- Michael Jackson owns the rights to the South Carolina State anthem.
- Prince Charles and Prince William NEVER travel on the same airplane, just in case there is a crash
- The first Harley Davidson motorcycle built in 1903 used a tomato can for a carburetor.
- Most hospitals make money by selling the umbilical cords cut from women who give birth. They are used in vein transplant surgery.
- If coloring weren't added to Coca-Cola, it would be green.
- The liquid inside young coconuts can be used as substitute for blood.
- No piece of paper can be folded in half more than 7 times.
- Donkeys kill more people annually than plane crashes.
- 1 in every 4 Americans has appeared on television.
- You burn more calories sleeping than you do watching television.
- The king of hearts is the only king without a moustache.
- A Boeing 747s wingspan is longer than the Wright brother's first flight.
- Venus is the only planet that rotates clockwise.
- The 57 on the Heinz ketchup bottle represents the number of Varieties of pickles the company once had.
- The plastic things on the end of shoelaces are called aglets.
- Most dust particles in your house are made from dead skin.
- The first owner of the Marlboro Company died of lung cancer.
- Michael Jordan makes more money from Nike annually than the entire Nike factory workers in Malaysia combined.
- Adolf Hit's mother seriously considered having an abortion but was talked out of it by her doctor.
- All US Presidents have worn glasses. Some just didn't like being seen wearing them in public.
- Walt Disney was afraid of mice.
- It takes 3,000 cows to supply the NFL with enough leather

for a year's supply of footballs.

- Thirty-five percent of the people who use personal ads for dating are already married.
- The three most valuable brand names on earth: Marlboro, Coca Cola, and Budweiser, in that order.
- Average life span of a major league baseball: seven pitches.
- A duck's quack doesn't echo and no one knows why.
- Richard Milhouse Nixon was the first US president whose name contains all the letters from the word "criminal."
- Humans consume 6 gallons of saliva a year
- The larger your head the smaller your brain.
- Every 30 seconds, somewhere in the world someone commits suicide.
- Every minute a meteor (most likely small ones) hits the earth.
- Slugs and potatoes have the same atomic structure as a black hole. (I doubt this is true but think about eating something that has the atomic structure of a black hole)
- 46% of percentage statistics are randomly made up on the spot.
- In Texas, if 2 trains meet at a railroad track, both trains shall stop and neither will continue until the other has gone
- Every 300 seconds a Starbucks is opened
- Human thigh bones are as strong as concrete
- Slugs have 4 noses
- There is enough carbon in our bodies to fill 900 pencils
- If you are asleep, you grow average of 2 centimeters
- While awake and being upright, you shrink the same amount as you grow in the morning
- "Out of sight, out of mind" when translated by computer into Russian and back becomes "Invisible maniac".
- When biting your finger nails you swallow the same amount of germs as licking a toilet seat
- You have a better chance to die on your way to get a lottery ticket than actually winning the lottery.
- Around every 300,000 years the polarity of the Earth changes (I definitely know this is true. I saw a documentary on it)
- In medieval England there was once a proposed law that only someone of the rank of baron or higher could eat a meat pie
- The words assassination and bump were made by Shakespeare

- No Person may keep a skunk as a pet- VA
- It is illegal to park a car on railroad tracks- VA
- It is illegal for a woman to drive a car down main street unless her husband is in front of the car waving a red flag- VA
- It is illegal to wrestle bears- Alabama
- Putting salt on railroad tracks will lead to death penalty- Alabama
- If an animal control officer is wearing his uniform it signifies he is an animal control officer- Alabama (lol)
- It is illegal to sell your children- Florida
- There was once a proposed American law that the death sentence would be used for violent offences such as murdering an official poultry inspector.

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

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

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 and 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
 Lightning protection, grounding: WB6YRU
 Station set-up, equipment: K6PBQ, W6JPP
 TVI/RFI: WB6YRU
 Homebrew projects, construction: 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

Newsletter Notes

I'm currently working on the 1997 - 2001 SCCARA-GRAMs. They'll be added to the SCCARA-GRAM archives on the web site over the next couple of weeks.

As you probably know, I have been archiving our historical records. I ran into a bit of a snag. We have a hand full of newspaper clippings about us and our activities. The oldest dates back to 1936, most are from the 1950's. The problem is: newspapers are copyrighted and corporations have been getting more stingy about their copyrights in recent years.

Personally, I think these things qualify as "fair use," but I'm not a lawyer and don't know for certain. If anyone knows about that, please contact me.

This month we hold club elections. Oddly, nothing was received for the SCCARA-GRAM about that, not even meeting minutes. I believe we still need someone to run for Vice President and there are one or two open director seats. It's best if we have more than one person running for each office, but we need at least one person each.

Please consider helping the club out. If you've thought of being more active, here's your chance. Officers serve for one year, director serve for two years, starting January 1.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

December Meeting Sign-up Form

Our annual December meeting will be a luncheon on Saturday, December 10, at 12 noon. This year our luncheon will be at Michael's at Shoreline, 2960 North Shoreline Blvd in Mountain View. You have a choice of three entrees, \$26.75 each. We need your reservations (this form) no later than Monday, December 5. I hope to see you all there!

73, Don Village K6PBQ

For the annual meeting in December. sign me up for the following lunch(es) at \$26.75 each:

_____ Roast beef English cut _____ Chicken Cordon bleu _____ Broiled 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 95103-0106



SCCARA
 Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association
 PO Box 106
 SAN JOSE CA 95103-0106



FIRST CLASS

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SCCARA Membership Form for 2017

If renewing and none of your info has changed, we only need your name and call

Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____

Address: _____ Licensed since (yyyy): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Licence Expiration
 Date: (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Telephone: _____ New Member Renewal I'm also an ARRL member

E-mail: _____
 (only for club communications and the SCCARA-GRAM (pdf) newsletter)

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 and payment to the Secretary or Treasurer at any meeting or mail to the club address.