

# SCCARA-GRAM



## Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 32, Number 12

December 2016



## No Holiday Luncheon

The luncheon has been **cancelled**, evidently not enough people signed up. There will not be any meetings at all in December.

Those who have already paid the reservation for the luncheon are due a refund. As of this edition, no word yet on the details.

-- Editor

## Prez Sez

"Veni, vidi, vici"

"Veni, vidi, vici" is a Latin phrase popularly attributed to Julius Caesar. In American it means: 'I came, I saw, I conquered'. Well does two out of three count? It's close but as the saying goes: Close only counts in horseshoes, hand grenades, and atomic warfare.

My trip to Oregon had three goals. Personal research at a court house, investigate a business opportunity, and finally family involvement. Specifically to get my grandson introduced to amateur radio.

Conversations with our Division Director, Bob Vallio, confirm what I term as the grey hair problem is endemic. However, if grey hair were really the problem then, hair dye and wigs would be the solution. Of course the real problem is we are losing members faster than they can be replaced.

If only we knew why, with an increasing population, we are getting fewer newbies into the fraternity. On the plus side it has never been easier to become a licensed amateur. There are many online and in person tutors and the volunteer amateur radio question pool is far better than anything the FCC ever produced. Likewise there are many volunteer examiners in many locations to administer those questions. I think it safe to say the license is not a barrier to admission. What has changed?

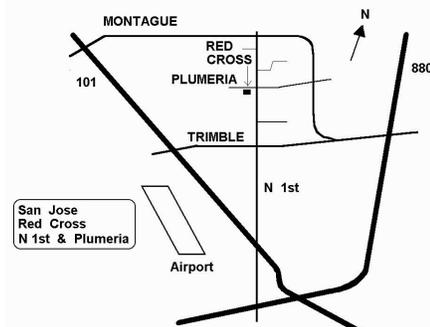
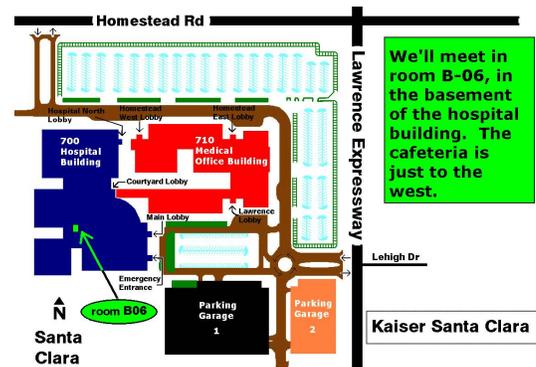
To find out, as the Lone Ranger says, "Let us return to those thrilling days of yesteryear". For me radio did not begin with ham radio. It was broadcast AM Radio. On weeknights from 7 until 9 pm there would be four, half hour, network radio shows. The 9 to 10 pm slot was reserved for one hour drama series such as 'The

## Calendar

- 12/10 SCCARA General Meeting -- CANCELLED
- 12/19 SCCARA Board Meeting -- CANCELLED
- 1/9 SCCARA General Meeting

## General Meeting

- Day: Monday, January 9, 2017
- Time: 7:30 PM
- Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Hospital B-06
- Featuring: *{to be announced}*



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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](http://www.qsl.net/sccara). (Webmaster: Wally Britten, KA6YMD, 408-293-3847, [ka6ymd@arrl.net](mailto: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](http://ncpa.n0ary.org).

### TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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

Lux Radio Theater', 'Suspense Radio Theater', or 'One Man's Family'. Saturday night it was 'Gang Busters' and 'The FBI'. Sunday was family friendly network from 1pm to 9 pm with the evening hours bringing 'Fibber McGee and Molly', 'Amos n Andy' and 'Jack Benny'.

At that time many of the radio shows originated in San Francisco. On one visit our family took in a whole afternoon of radio productions. While there were transcription devices available at that time, they lacked the fidelity of a live performance so everything was live. The so called theater was nothing but a 100' x 100' room. It was carpeted of course and there were two large boom mikes on either front corner. Centered in the back of the room was a smaller boom mike for the sound effects technician. In between were rows and rows of folding chairs for the live audience. The live audience might have well been dead because you couldn't make a sound.

The sound technician played some sound effects from 18" transcription disks and others, like hoof beats, were created live in the sand box. I left feeling a little sad that my ears were so easily deceived into thinking horses created those sounds.

The point was broadcast radio was thrilling. Then my father purchased a secondhand military surplus BC348 receiver. A little research showed the BC348's were used on large, mostly, Navy airplanes like the Catalina Flying Boats. This gave a thrill to using the receiver but the biggest thrill was exploring the sounds I couldn't understand. The Boy Scouts came to my aid by teaching me Morse code so I got to be fair at copying CW but there was still this mysterious dital-dital sound I later found out was radio teletype.

Books were my main training aid but there are some things like zero beating and tuning SSB for which books didn't get the point across. I needed hands on experience. Fortunately the basement of the police station housed W6LIE, Living In Ecstasy station belonging to the Kern County Amateur Radio Club where hands on Elmers were readily available. The station was exclusively equipped with National HRO-60s receivers and Johnson Rangers or Vikings. The HRO had a lot more selectivity than my BC348 which was really needed when working that 50 kHz piece of the novice band for which I was first licensed.

I begged and borrowed transmitters then because my radio budget didn't stretch to a transmitter. Fortunately our high school radio club had a Heathkit DX40 that was my mainstay. However Novices were not allowed to use transmitter VFOs. That meant you used crystals and for which at any one time there would be 5 other novices using the same rock. When any of your novice friends announced their upgrade to General or Conditional you rushed to congratulate them and then asked for their crystals.

You cherished most of your QSL cards. The cards you sweated were from an OO (Official Observer) or worst the pink ones from the Friendly Candy Company. It wasn't that you intentionally tried to do something wrong, although some novices used more than the legal 75 watts and some used VFOs, it was because you were frequently operating within an eyelash of the band edge to get away from QRM. Some penciled their crystals to move them a kHz or so but the result was usually a very dirty signal. One colleague told me he really sweated getting a FCC pink ticket because he lived beside a FCC listening post. I was happy to inform him he lived beside the county communication facility, not the FCC. The nearest FCC listening post was hundreds of miles away in Dublin, CA. I think that may have saved us all.

Comparing then and now it the difference seems obvious. Unlike the one year, non-renewable Novice license the Tech license is for 10 years and you can renew it for the rest of your life so there is no

urgency to immediately start operating. When you do turn on a HT and set it to your desired operating frequency and start talking, not a lot of skill is needed. Therefore there is not a lot of thrill of accomplishment. Some will compare the HT to their cell phone and tell they can talk around the world on the cell and it will help them calculate their homework too. They will text and the abbreviations they use will sound a lot like the abbreviations used on CW. For their thrills they rely on their Xbox or PS4.

I can recommend amateur radio as a career builder but not everyone wants to become an engineer. The Air Force will tell you Xbox or PS4 players make the best fighter pilots so there is a career influence in that direction too.

As far as my grandson is concerned his only motivational factor is his Xbox. If his grades are up and the homework turned in he may play it. If not the Xbox is turned off. Oh yes he uses his cell phone to play competitive Xbox games with his friends. I did teach him to solder so perhaps he will still find his way inside of electronics.

A side note: In the Umpqua Valley Amateur Radio Club (Roseburg, OR) most members are NRA members too so they share hamming and shooting. I wonder if they shoot jammers?

To those of you that I have met and worked with in SCCARA in the future I will be around Silicon Valley most of the time however I am moving into litigation regarding my Bakersfield house so I will be preparing evidence and at the same finishing the remodeling of my own house. I will always be happy to take your call.

73, Fred, AE6QL,  
408-425-8216, [ae6ql@arrrl.net](mailto:ae6ql@arrrl.net)



## ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, November 3, 2016

### IARU General Assembly Adopts Revisions to Region 2 Band Plan

Delegates to the 19th International Amateur Radio Union Region 2 (IARU-R2, <http://www.iaru-r2.org>) General Assembly in mid-October adopted ARRL-proposed changes to the Region 2 (the Americas) band plan, as well as other recommended revisions. Representatives of 24 IARU member societies took part in the General Assembly, held in Viña del Mar, Chile, either in person or by proxy. ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, headed the League contingent. Alternate head of delegation and ARRL Second Vice President Brian Milesosky, N5ZGT, chaired the IARU Region 2 B/C Committee, which handled LF/MF/HF and VHF+ band-planning matters and proposals and made recommendations to the full assembly -- or plenary.

“The IARU Region 2 has established this band plan ([http://www.iaru-r2.org/documents/explorer/files/Plan\\_de\\_bandas\\_Band-plan/R2\\_Band\\_Plan\\_2016.pdf](http://www.iaru-r2.org/documents/explorer/files/Plan_de_bandas_Band-plan/R2_Band_Plan_2016.pdf)) as the way to better organize the use of our bands efficiently,” the introduction to the updated document states. “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.”

General Assembly delegates approved minor modifications to band segments and modes of operation within 160, 80, and 15 meters, to align the Region 2 band plan with the Region 1 and 3 band plans, where appropriate. Changes also acknowledged AM operation within band plans where it commonly occurs (e.g., 160 meters), and added narrowband (i.e., 200 Hz bandwidth or less) digital operation to accommodate such modes as WSPR.

The revisions adopted also called for changing references to 660 meters to 630 meters, to more accurately describe the wavelength of the spectrum actually allocated to Amateur Radio; adding 60 meters to the Region 2 band plan, and making minor modifications to bands at 13 centimeters and above, with respect to Amateur-Satellite operation -- again, to bring the Region 2 band plan into alignment, as appropriate, with the Region 1 and 3 band plans.



ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR (second from right), confers with members of the Elections Committee.

The General Assembly unanimously approved the formation of a region-level working group that will interact with Region 2 member societies in order to become better informed of and to track band planning issues, challenges, and opportunities. The working group would interact with corresponding Region 1 and 3 groups toward developing a more global approach to band planning. Driving formation of the working group was a desire to transition Region 2 band planning to an ongoing process, rather than addressing it every 3 years -- especially given the rapid pace of technological development within Amateur Radio.



Members of the HF/VHF Committees. Standing (L-R): Cesar Brousek Delboy, OA4CLU; Carlos Rodriguez, CX7CO; Shizuo Endo, JE1MUI; Don Beattie, G3BJ; Christian Buenger, DL6KAC; Ronald Tsoi-a-Fatt, 9Y4RX; Ole Garpestad, LA2RR; Jonathan Siverling, WB3ERA, and Gopal Madhavan, VU2GMN. Seated (L-R): Paulo Hernandez, PT2NP; Flavio Archangelo, PY2ZX; Brian Milesosky, N5ZGT, and Glenn MacDonell, VE3XRA.

Elected members of the IARU Region 2 Executive Committee for

new 3-year terms were Reinaldo Leandro, YV5AM, president; Ramón Santoyo, XE1KK, vice president; Jose Arturo Molina, YS1MS, secretary and Area D director; Jay Bellows, K0QB, treasurer and Area B director; George Gorsline, VE3YV, Area A director; Noel Donawa, Area E director; Gustavo de Faria Franco, PT2ADM, Area F director, and Ernesto Syriani, LU8AE, Area G director.

The proposal of Radio Club Peruano for Lima to be the venue of the 20th General Assembly in 2019 was adopted unanimously.

## Rule Making Petition to FCC Calls for Vanity Call Sign Rule Changes

The FCC is inviting comments on a Petition for Rule Making (RM-11775) from a Nevada radio amateur that seeks changes to the rules governing the Amateur Radio Vanity Call Sign Program. Christopher LaRue, W4ADL, of North Las Vegas, is proposing that any licensee obtaining a vanity call sign be required to keep it for the full license term. LaRue contends in his petition that excessive and frequent vanity call sign filings are hampering the ability of other qualified licensees to obtain vanity call signs in one of the more desirable  $1 \times 2$  or  $2 \times 1$  formats. LaRue said that since the FCC dropped the fee to file for a vanity call sign, some applicants are taking advantage by regularly obtaining new call signs, thereby keeping them out of circulation.

“Some are changing call signs almost monthly, just to keep the newer code-free Extra class operators from obtaining a shorter call sign,” he said in his petition. “I even saw an older operator that said he does it all the time and has not even owned a radio in over 6 years. When I looked him up, he has had 16 different [call signs] in 18 months.”

LaRue said his proposed minor rule change would require any licensee applying for and obtaining an Amateur Radio vanity call sign “be required to keep it for the duration of the license, which is currently 10 years.”

He said this would “alleviate a lot of the stress on the ULS system and manpower requirements” at the FCC. “It will also keep inactive amateurs from changing call signs regularly, thereby tying up call signs for 2 years after dismissal of said call.”

Interested parties may comment using the FCC Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS). Comments are due within 30 days of the October 26 posting date.

## New Russian Over-the-Horizon Radars Set for 2017 Startup

According to media accounts, more long-range, new over-the-horizon (OTH) radars that can identify aerial and sea targets hundreds of miles away are scheduled to begin operation next year in the Russian Arctic. It's doubtful, however, that the news heralds the return of interference on the level of that generated by the so-called “Russian Woodpecker” OTH radar, which plagued Amateur Radio HF bands in the 1970s and 1980s.

Over the past couple of years, OTH radars, sans woodpecker, have become increasingly commonplace intruders on Amateur Radio bands, according to the International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 (IARU R1) Monitoring System (IARUMS), which has noted OTH radars in Russia, China, Cyprus, Iran, and Turkey. The Russian systems-intelligence “Konteyner RLS” OTH radar, transmitting from the Nizhny Novgorod region, is frequently spotted on 20 meters. While no woodpecker, it transmits a broad,

frequency-modulated CW signal at 50 sweeps per second with a bandwidth of 80 kHz or greater, accompanied by signal splatter, IARUMS Coordinator Wolfgang Hadel, DK2OM, reported recently.



The Konteyner receiving site southeast of Moscow.

Sputnik, a Russian government-controlled radio service, cited a Rossiiskaya Gazeta newspaper report that six OTH radar installations will operate in the region. Deputy Defense Minister Dmitry Buklgakov, who visited the construction site, said a runway capable of handling all types of combat aircraft was simultaneously being reconstructed nearby, the report continued. Other reports have indicated that similar systems will be deployed in the far east in 2018.

## Maybe a Solar Minimum Can Be Too Deep for 160 Meters

Propagation observer Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, recently offered some “deep thoughts” on the Top Band Reflector. As he explained, while less geomagnetic field activity heading into winter bodes favorable 160-meter propagation, more galactic cosmic rays entering our atmosphere could become a factor.

“The Sun's magnetic field is weakening, probably to the lowest levels in our lifetimes,” Luetzelschwab said. “With a weak solar magnetic field, more galactic cosmic rays will be able to get into Earth's atmosphere. We are now seeing unprecedented high neutron counts (neutrons are one of the byproducts of cosmic rays). Since galactic cosmic rays are mostly very energetic protons, they can get down to low atmospheric altitudes, causing collisional ionization in the D region and lower E region.”

He said a cursory estimate using cosmic ray ionization rates confirms greater ionization in the lower atmosphere, and 160 meters is not too tolerant of more absorption.

“Many of us think that 'solar min is solar min is solar min,’” Luetzelschwab said in his post, “but maybe a solar minimum can be too deep for 160 meters.” He said a good question to ask in the early 2020s may be, “How was 160 meters?” -- Thanks to the ARRL Contest Update

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From *The ARRL Letter*, November 10, 2016

## Austrian Moonbounce Enthusiast Demonstrates Success with Small-Scale Setup

Hannes Fasching, OE5JFL, of Braunau am Inn, Austria, has demonstrated that you don't need a huge antenna system to operate EME (moonbounce) successfully. Fasching fired up for the October 22-23 weekend of the ARRL EME Contest, using a small horn antenna on 1.2 GHz.



The small-scale moonbounce setup at OE5JFL in Austria.

“Because of other commitments I had only a few hours to be QRV in the first part of the ARRL EME Contest,” he said in a Moon-Net post on October 26. “As tests with my recently built 23-centimeter horn antenna were promising, I decided to give it a try to work some stations.”

Fasching placed the horn on his balcony with an 80 W solid-state amplifier. Operating WSJT, he logged contacts with Switzerland, Russia, Germany, and the Czech Republic.

He also heard stations in the Netherlands, Finland, Denmark, and Italy on digital modes and in the UK, Czech Republic, Denmark, and Italy on CW. Fasching, who also has a 7.3-meter homemade dish, has uploaded recordings of some EME signals to his website, along with the results of tests with his small system.

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From *The ARRL Letter*, November 17, 2016

### “An Amazing Night” Reported for Special Activity on 630 Meters

Texas radio amateur and FCC Part 5 Experimental licensee John Langridge, KB5NJD/ WG2XIQ, reported “an amazing night” for the 630-meter special event on November 12-13. One highlight was a North America-to-Europe Amateur Radio contact on the medium-wave band, to which US operators are still awaiting access.

“Last night is what it is all about, and I had a front row seat for the festivities,” Langridge said in his lengthy post-event report, adding that the activity represented “a significant moment in 630-meter lore.” The weekend event featured participation by the Marine Radio Historical Society’s KPH, Canadian radio amateurs making cross-band contacts with US stations, and Part 5 Experimental stations either beaconing or contacting other experimental stations.

Langridge credited radio amateurs in Canada, who already have access to the 427-479 kHz band, with playing “a massive role” in providing cross-band QSOs; advance publicity also helped, he said. Newfoundland MW enthusiast Joe Craig, VO1NA, completed a contact on CW with Kees Nijdam, PE5T, in the Netherlands. Langridge said the contact was among only a handful of transatlantic CW contacts completed so far on 630 meters. Others in Europe reported hearing VO1NA.

Mitch Powell, VE3OT, worked several other North American stations cross-band, with all contacts -- from Maine to Iowa to Alabama -- taking place on 80 meters. Many stations in the western US were also successful in working or hearing stations in British Columbia.

In Australia, Roger Crofts, VK4YB, reported “horrid conditions,” with just a single transpacific report. Laurence Howell, KL7L/WE2XPQ, in Wasilla, Alaska, reported a lot of noise on

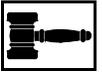
VLF and warble on HF signals, with periods of total blackout overnight. Merv Schweigert, K9FD/WH2XCR, in Hawaii, experienced a spectacular night with stations in Japan.

“We live in a time when a lot of people want the easy way out, and there is nothing easy about 630 meters, even when the band is in good shape,” Langridge said.

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## Meeting Minutes

### General Meeting, Nov. 14, 2016



{No minutes were submitted. -- Editor}

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### Board Meeting, Oct. 17, 2016



Meeting started at 19:37 (7:32 PM)

Excused Absences - Lloyd

Visitors: Gwen - KF6 OTD, Paul - KK6HWN

Secretary:  
Minutes approved as read.  
2 new members  
No correspondence

Nominations:  
President - Gregg  
Vice President- None  
Secretary - Praveen - KK6VGB  
Treasurer: Goetz K6GKB  
Board Member:  
Don Village (New)  
Clarke Murphy  
James Rustermier KI6ZSk(New)

Board Positions Expiring:  
Bill Staehle  
Clarke Murphy  
Lloyd Devahns

Treasurer:

Trustee:  
On 29th - Club station will be open.  
November 5th - SweepStakes - Saturday Afternoon to Sunday - 24 hours.  
November 19th SSB

Vice President:  
Next meetings speaker -  
Trailer modifications to be determined.  
Putting up a rotor on the beam - Rotor to be tested. Goetz volunteered to test.

President:  
Club doesn't have a projector. Don moved to buy a LG LED projector. Lou Seconded. Motion carried.

Wally - No issues with the club repeater.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM

Praveen Akunuru, KK6VGB, Secretary

**Board Meeting, Nov. 21, 2016**



Meeting started at 7:40 PM

Fred appointed Mr Rustermier to the board for rest of the year as there is an empty position in place of Bill. This will not affect his 2 year term starting next year as this is an interim position in place of an empty board position.

Lloyd - Excused Absence

Visitors: Gwen, Paul

**Announcements:**

- Cancelled - SCCARA Christmas Dinner - December 10th 12 noon, Michales at Shoreline Blvd, Mountain View, CA 94043 - Reservations to Don Village; Payment to Goetz \$26.75. - Stands cancelled due to less signup.
- First SCCARA General meeting of 2017 - January 9th
- First SCCARA BOD meeting of 2017 - January 16th
- Cancelled - Last SCCARA BOD of 2016 December 19th.

Meeting minutes of BOD meeting 10/17/2016 accepted as read.

Secretary informed the board that the election went through with voice vote. As there are no competitors, all nominated members were elected.

**New elected positions:**

- President - Gregg Lane - KF6 FNA
- Vice President- None
- Secretary - Praveen Akunuru - KK6VGB
- Treasurer: Goetz Brandt K6GKB

**Board Member:**

- Don Village (New)
- Clarke Murphy
- James Rustermier KI6ZSk(New)

Don moves to certify the election. Seconded by Wally. Motion Carried.

**Treasurer- Goetz's report:**

- Checking: 7829.72
- Savings: 500.07
- Total Bank Accounts: 8329.79
- Cash: 49.82

**Trustee:**

- Contest Report - 16 contacts
- Station will not be opened in November and December due to holidays.
- Christmas Dinner - Not enough people - Hence cancelled.

Clarke moved to cancel the Christmas Dinner as we do not have enough people. Goetz seconded. Motion carried. Next year plan the event with another club so that we get more people.

**Vice President:**

Speakers for January meetings: TBD

**President:**

Report of projector purchase.

Report on SCCARA owned equipment in the possession of the City of San Jose. Not much movement.

Report on SCCARA owned equipment in Fred's personal possession.

- Battery
- Old Computers - Junk now.
- VHF Amp

Wally Britten:

- Accepting content from Gary for Website.
- Repeater looks ok.

Meeting closed at 8:31 PM.

Praveen K Akunuru, KK6VGB, Secretary

**Packet Pieces**

**Downloaded from the BBS packet network:**

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=====
Date: 14 Nov 2012 21:22
From: GM3YEW@GB7YEW
To: HUMOUR@WW
Subject: Jokes 6/11
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A man went to a barber for a trim and a shave. While the barber was lathering the man up for his shave, the man told the barber that he always has a hard time getting a close shave on his cheeks.

The barber pulled a small wooden ball out of this cabinet drawer. Place this small ball between your cheek and gum on the right side and I can give you a close shave."

The man did this, and the barber shaved the right side of his face. "Wow!" exclaimed the man, "that is great!"

He put the ball in the left side of his mouth, in anticipation of the Barber's next move and with muffled voice asked, "But what happens if I accidentally swallow the ball?"

The barber said, "Just bring it back the next day,. .. that's what the last guy did."

Now for our intelligence test.

Get out a piece of paper and pen. Number down the left side of the paper 1 through 5, (there are five questions). Try to answer each question as quickly as you can. The answers are at the bottom, don't look at them until done.

OK, relax, clear your mind and... Begin.

1. What do you put in a toaster?
2. Say "silk" five times. Now close your eyes and spell "silk" aloud. What do cows drink?
3. If a red house is made from red bricks and a blue house is made from blue bricks and a pink house is made from pink bricks, and a black house is made from black bricks, what is a green house made from?

4. It's twenty years ago (that's 1992), and a plane is flying at 20,000 Feet over Germany (If you will recall, Germany at the time was Politically divided into West Germany and East Germany.) During the flight, TWO of the engines fail. The pilot, realizing That the last remaining engine is also failing, decides on a crash landing procedure. Unfortunately the engine fails before he has time and the plane fatally crashes smack in the middle of "no man's land" between East Germany and West Germany. Where would you bury the survivors, in East Germany or West Germany or in "no man's land"?

5. Without using a calculator, doing all the math in your head... You are driving a bus from London to Milford Haven in Wales. In London, 17 people get on the bus. In Reading, six people get off the bus and nine people get on. In Swindon, two people get off and four get on. In Cardiff, 11 people get off and 16 people get on. In Swansea, three people get off and five people get on. In Carmarthen, six people get off and three get on. You then arrive at Milford Haven. What was the name of the bus driver?

Answers...

1. Bread. Did you say toast?
2. Cows drink water. Did you said milk?
3. Greenhouses are made from glass. Did you say green bricks?
4. You don't bury survivors, do you?
5. It was you. Don't you remember your own name?

If it helps any, 95% of people get at least one of the questions wrong!

=====  
Date: 11 May 2011 15:54  
From: W1GMF@W1GMF  
To: HUMOR@USA  
Subject: OF GENIES AND HAMS  
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A HAM is operating Field Day alone at a deserted beach. He is taking a little break from the action, walking around on the beach and notices an antique brass bottle mostly buried in the sand. He digs it out and discovers it's a genie bottle!

He manages to get it open and a genie appears. "Thank you for freeing me, O Master!" said the grateful genie. "I will grant you any wish you want." The ham thinks about it and says, "OK, I got it. I live right in a restrictive neighborhood. I would like to have a 500 foot tower with all sorts of antennas, despite the homeowners association."

The genie looks worried. "O Master! That's a big order. The power of these HOAs and their CC&Rs is most great. In fact, they are more powerful than even I. I would beg you to please choose something else for your wish."

The HAM says, "OK, let's do this..." He pulls out his log books. "See this entry? This is a contact I once made with AC6V. I would sure like to get his QSL card after all this time." The genie looks at the logbook. Then he says, "Now regarding that 500 foot antenna tower, do you want it galvanized or stainless steel?"

## 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

### Contacts:

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

KK6MX, Don Apte, 408-629-0725  
e-mail: [kk6mx@aol.com](mailto:kk6mx@aol.com)

W6JPP, John Parks, 408-309-8709  
e-mail: [w6jpp@arrl.net](mailto:w6jpp@arrl.net)

K6PBQ, Don Village, 408-263-2789  
e-mail: [donvillage7@yahoo.com](mailto:donvillage7@yahoo.com)

WA6QYS, Lou Steirer, 408-241-7999  
e-mail: [wa6qys@arrl.net](mailto:wa6qys@arrl.net)

WB6YRU, Gary Mitchell, 408-269-2924  
packet: home BBS N0ARY  
e-mail: [wb6yru@ix.netcom.com](mailto:wb6yru@ix.netcom.com)

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## Newsletter Notes

The *SCCARA-GRAM* archives on our web site now go back to 1993, although I haven't filled in the highlight comments yet. I'm currently working on 1990 through 1992.

The 1992 *SCCARA-GRAMs* are the oldest we have with masters. All prior to 1992 are production copies that had been mailed out. (Most were donated to the club by Ed WD6CHD SK.) So the quality won't be quite as good, but I'll do my best to keep it as high as possible.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor and archivist

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**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.