

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 33, Number 6

June 2017



President's Prose

Field Day - June 24-25, 2017

ARRL Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. On the fourth weekend of June of each year, more than 35,000 radio amateurs gather with their clubs, groups or simply with friends to operate from remote locations.

Field Day is a picnic, a camp out, practice for emergencies, an informal contest and, most of all, FUN!!

It is a time where many aspects of Amateur Radio come together to highlight our many roles. While some will treat it as a contest, other groups use the opportunity to practice their emergency response capabilities. It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio to the organizations that Amateur Radio might serve in an emergency as well as the general public. For many clubs, ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights of their annual calendar.

The contest part is simply to contact as many other stations as possible and to learn to operate our radio gear in abnormal situations and less than optimal conditions.

We use these same skills when we help with events such as marathons and bike-a-thons, fund raisers such as walk-a-thons; celebrations such as parades and exhibits of fairs, malls and museums - that are all large, pre-planned, non-emergency activities.

But despite the development of very complex, modern communications systems - or maybe because they *are* so complex - ham radio has been called into action again and again to provide communications in crisis when it really matters. Amateur Radio people (also called "HAMS") are well known for our communications support in real disaster and post-disaster situations.

This year SCCARA's Field Day will be held on the acreage of Goetz Brandt K6GKB located at 712 Lariat Lane, San Jose, CA. Directions: 1) from 680 exit Berryessa Rd. East (becomes Suncrest Ave.) and drive 2.6 miles until it ends at Boulder Dr. 2) turn RIGHT onto Boulder Dr and travel 0.4 miles to Lariat Lane (Boulder Drive becomes Claitor Way at bend in road). 3) turn RIGHT on Lariat Lane and travel 0.1 miles to 712 Lariat Lane (on your left at bottom of hill.)

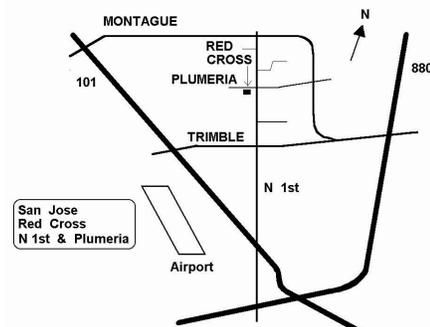
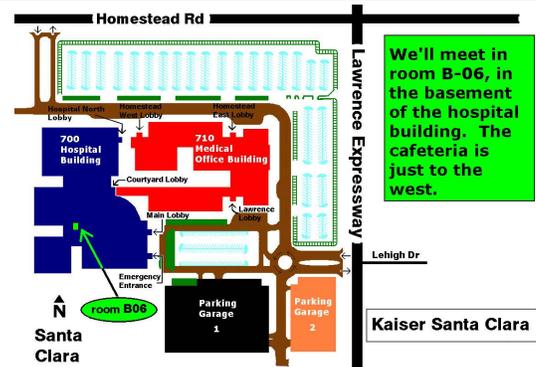
Don't miss the presentation on SCCARA's Field Day at the June

Calendar

- 6/10 Electronics Flea Market
- 6/12 SCCARA General Meeting
- 6/19 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)
- 6/24-25 Field Day

General Meeting

- Day: Monday, June 12, 2017
Time: 7:30 PM
Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Hospital B-06
Featuring: Field Day



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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

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(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

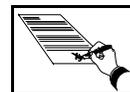
SCCARA hosts the packet BBS N0ARY (connect to n0ary-1). User ports: 145.09 MHz at 1200 baud, 433.37 MHz at 9600 baud, and telnet sun.n0ary.org (login "bbs"). Sysop: Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU For general packet info, see the NCPA web site ncpa.n0ary.org.

AMATEUR LICENSE TESTING

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

12, 2017 SCCARA meeting at Kaiser Santa Clara. You will have a chance to learn of the opportunities for both club members and visitors at this year's Field Day !!

73, Gregg KF6FNA, kf6fna@comcast.net



Holiday Lunch

Last year we had to cancel our lunch due to lack of sign-ups. This year the board would like to try to have the luncheon back again. We have a tentative reservation for Saturday Dec 16 at Michael's at Shoreline in Mountain View. We must have a minimum of 25 paid lunches by Monday, August 28th in order to confirm our reservation. See sign up sheet.

73 Don Village K6PBQ

Electronic Flea Market

The next Electronics Flea Market will occur on June 10th two days before the SCCARA June 12th meeting. The last Flea Market was a huge success according to all involved. Many buyers were seen carrying their new found treasures to their cars, sellers were glad to see their items finding new homes and the food booth sold all their donuts.

The June Flea Market will be sponsored by SVECS (Silicon Valley Emergency Communications System) and I am asking SCCARA for help with the event. Some members have already signed up but extra help would be most appreciated during the set up and tear down of the food booth. Set up is at 5AM and tear down at 11AM. Come early, help set up and then check out the bargains before they are gone. If you can help give me a call 408-241-7999 or e-mail WA6QYS@arrl.net.

Thanks, Lou WA6QYS

ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, April 27, 2017

Inaugural AM Rally a Hit! Participants Log Nearly 1,500 Contacts

The numbers are in, and the first AM Rally, April 1-3, was a huge success, with nearly 1,500 contacts reported on the 72 logs submitted. Unique call signs logged numbered 664. Event co-organizer Clark Burgard, N1BCG, feels the actual number of contacts was quite a bit larger, because not all participants submitted logs, although logs continue to trickle in past the entry deadline. Burgard said he's been hearing a lot of newcomers on AM lately, and he believes the AM Rally is a factor.



Stephen Harris, KB1VWC, in Massachusetts obviously is a major Heathkit fan. He operated several rigs from his collection during the AM Rally.

“Perhaps the most endearing moments were an exchange between an op who got his General and an IC-7300 just in time for the event, and a report from an old timer, who said that he'd 'dusted off my DX-100 and got her ready a week early for the Rally. First time back on AM since 1969,” Burgard recounted. “This was just a sample of the positive spirit shared that weekend.”

Burgard said that several AM “tall ships” anchored throughout the bands greeted newcomers and helped all to make some easy contacts.

The top stations in terms of total contacts were W1AW at ARRL Headquarters in Connecticut; and Steve Cloutier, WA1QIX, and Stephen Harris, KB1VWC, both in Massachusetts. W1AW and Cloutier -- an AM Rally co-organizer with Burgard and others -- are ineligible to receive certificates, however.



Steve Cloutier, WA1QIX, has a lot of heavy metal in his Massachusetts shack.

W1AW logged 178 contacts in 29 states, while WA1QIX made 138 contacts in 26 states, and KB1VWC snagged 132 contacts in 28 states. Rounding out the top five were inveterate AMer Paul Courson, WA3VJB, in Maryland, with 121 contacts in 28 states, and John Bogath, N2BE, in New Jersey, with 57 contacts in 29 states. Some of the stations submitting logs worked just a single contact.

“Considering the solar flare, which wiped out the lower bands for a significant portion of the event, it was an amazing turnout,” Cloutier told ARRL. “For the future, it would be better to have the event in February -- better propagation and less static, and a good thing to cure cabin fever.”

Burgard praised W1AW and WA1QIX for their significant contributions to the successful event and participants for their dedication. “I’m sure there are stories of hardened determination and profound sacrifice that weekend!” he added.

Harris topped the field in Category A, vacuum-tube commercial AM amateur equipment (KW1, 32V3, DX-100, etc.). Only a few stations entered in Class B -- homebrew largely vacuum-tube transmitter, and Rex Greenwell, K0KP, in Minnesota, was the top scorer. W1AW was number 1 in Category C -- commercially built solid-state transmitter, although the top station eligible for a certificate in that class was David Hockaday, WB4IUY, in North Carolina.

Just two stations entered in Category D -- homebrew solid-state transmitter: WA1QIX and KC9HFR, in Wisconsin. Ditto for Class E -- hybrid (solid state plus tubes) commercially built transmitter, with WB2JCC in New York, and KM3D in Pennsylvania making a handful of contacts between them. No one entered in Category F -- hybrid (solid state + tubes) home-built transmitter. Only three stations turned in logs in Category G -- converted AM broadcast transmitter, with WA3VJB topping the field, followed by KC8ZUL in Ohio, and K0SF in Minnesota. In Category H -- military transmitting equipment -- were five stations, topped by W6SAI, the Bill Orr Legacy Radio Club in Alabama. There were eight entries

in Category I -- software-based (SDR), with KP2XX at number 1.

Three special event stations -- N1A, W1G, and W2A -- were active during the AM Rally.

Some 44% of contacts were made on 75 meters, with 40 meters a close second at 40%, and 20 meters at 13%. Less than 2% of participants reported making contacts on 160 or 15 meters, and none were reported on 10 meters, likely due to poor HF conditions that weekend. Fewer than 1% made contacts on 6 meters.

Burgard said he hopes the AM Rally will turn into an annual event with even greater participation, now that it's left so many positive experiences in its wake.

The View from W1AW

W1AW operator and ARRL Assistant Lab Manager Bob Allison, WB1GCM, offered his observations about working the AM Rally from the Maxim Memorial Station.

Throughout the weekend, the AM windows were very busy with radio amateurs operating AM mode using vintage vacuum-tube and solid-state equipment. Transmitters heard ranged from World War II-era BC-610s to Johnson Desk Kilowatts and other heavy metal, such as converted AM broadcast transmitters and solid-state homebrew units using Class E modulation. Plenty of name-brand transceivers were on the air, and many operators were excited to use AM for the first time. The on-air atmosphere was relaxed and cordial, with operators sharing their ham radio experiences and equipment used.

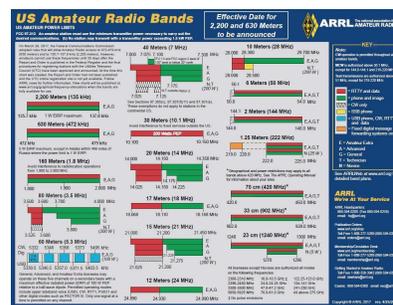
In the past couple of years, many manufacturers of Amateur Radio transceivers have made their equipment sound good and talk well on AM, without having to make complicated adjustments. That's great!

W1AW was active on 80, 40, 20, and 15 meters, making 177 contacts. Equipment consisted of a K7DYY Super Senior 80/40-meter transmitter, with external speech compressor and equalizer, a Collins 75S-1 receiver, and a dipole antenna suspended above ARRL Headquarters. A Johnson Valiant transmitter and National NC-303 receiver were also put on the air for a few contacts.

ARRL thanks AM Rally organizers Clark Burgard, N1BCG; Brian Kress, KB3WV, and Steve Cloutier, WA1QIX.

From *The ARRL Letter*, May 18, 2017

Updated ARRL “US Amateur Radio Bands” Charts Now Available



ARRL has revised and updated its “US Amateur Radio Bands” charts, and these are now available at <http://www.arrl.org/graphical-frequency-allocations>.

These are PDF documents, available in color or grayscale presentations.

The revised allocations charts reflect the new 630- and 2,200-meter bands, but

also emphasize that these bands are not yet available for Amateur Radio use.

The effective date of the recent FCC Report & Order granting these allocations has not yet been determined. Until the FCC sets a start date, it is not legal under an Amateur Radio license to transmit on either band. The FCC will publish a notice in The Federal Register "announcing such approval and the relevant effective date." ARRL will announce the UTC notification procedures and the effective date to use these new bands as soon as these are known.

ARRL will update the Amateur Radio frequency charts at that time. These reference guides are available for purchase in 11 x 17 and 8.5 x 11 formats in packs of 50 from the ARRL Store. Both include an ARRL Worked All States (WAS) map on the reverse side.

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, May 8, 2017



{no minutes were submitted this month. -- Editor}

Board Meeting, May 15, 2017



{no minutes were submitted this month. -- Editor}

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the BBS packet network:

Date: 21 Oct 2015 01:25
From: GM3YEW@GB7YEW
To: HUMOUR@WW
Subject: Jokes 21/10

About a week ago, I came across an Internet advice column that told me how to eliminate the paperwork clutter on my desk.

Great.

So I printed out the five pages of how-to instructions, and placed them on top of the rest of the stuff on my desk. Now I can't find them.

The year is 2222 and Mike and Maureen land on Mars after accumulating enough frequent flier miles.

They meet a Martian couple and are talking about all sorts of things. Mike asks if Mars has a stock market, if they have computers, how they make money, etc.

Finally, Maureen brings up the subject of sex. 'Just how do you guys do it?' asks Maureen.

The Martian responds, 'Pretty much the way you do.'

A discussion ensues and finally the couples decide to swap partners for the night and experience one another.. Maureen and the male Martian go off to a bedroom where the Martian strips. He's got only a teeny, weenie member about half an inch long and just a quarter-inch thick.

'I don't think this is going to work,' says Maureen.

'Why?' he asks. 'What's the matter?'

'Well,' she replies, 'it's just not long enough to reach me!'

'No problem,' he says, and proceeds to slap his forehead with his palm. With each slap of his forehead, his member grows until it's quite impressively long.

'Well,' she says, 'that's very impressive, but it's still narrow.'

'No problem,' he says, and starts pulling his ears. With each pull, his member grows wider and wider until the entire measurement is extremely exciting to the woman.

'Wow!' she exclaims, as they fell into bed and made mad passionate love.

The next day the couples rejoin their other partners and go their separate ways. As they walked along, Mike asks, 'Well, was it any good?'

'I hate to say it,' says Maureen, 'but it was wonderful. How about you?'

'It was horrible,' he replies. 'All I got was a headache . She kept slapping my forehead and pulling my ears.'

73 de dave
gm3yew@gb7yew

=====
Date: 20 Oct 2015 01:55
From: GM3YEW@GB7YEW
To: HUMOUR@WW
Subject: Jokes 20/10

LONGEVITY

Married men live longer than single men do, but married men are a lot more willing to die.

DOUGH... The stuff...that buys me beer...
RAY..... The guy that sells me beer...
ME..... The guy... Who drinks the beer,
FAR..... The distance to my beer
SO..... I think I'll have a beer...
LA..... La la la la la la beer
TEA..... No thanks, I'm drinking beer...
That will bring us back to...(Looks into an empty glass)
D'OH!

Detective

"So," Jane asked the detective she had hired. "Did you trail my husband?"

"Yes ma'am. I did. I followed him to a bar, to an out-of-the-way restaurant, and then to an apartment."

A big smile crossed Jane's face. "Aha! I've got him!" she said gloating. "Is there any doubt what he was doing?"

"No ma'am." replied the sleuth, "It's pretty clear that he was following you."

Trouble

While my wife and I were shopping at a mall, a shapely young woman in a short, form-fitting dress strolled by. My eyes followed her.

Without looking up from the dress she was examining, my wife asked, "Was it worth the trouble you're in?"

73 de dave
gm3yew@gb7yew

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

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

You may be wondering what the *December* luncheon sign-up is doing here in the *June SCCARA-GRAM*.

Normally first mention of it appears in October and reservations are due in early December, but this time apparently they want *very* advanced paid reservations. Why? No idea. Don K6PBQ didn't seem to know either.

If the President's Prose column this month looks a little familiar, you're right! Most of it is indeed "borrowed" from the ARRL's Field Day flier.

The details of what SCCARA will do for Field Day should be in this *SCCARA-GRAM*, but so far the only thing known is the location. Unfortunately, the next issue will be July, too late for more info.

So, if you're interested in participating in Field Day with SCCARA, be sure to attend the June meeting to get the details!

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

December Luncheon Sign-up

Our annual December meeting will be a luncheon on Saturday, December 16, 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, \$30 each. We need your **paid** reservations (this form) no later than Monday, August 28. 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 \$30 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 newsletter (pdf)

Membership type and dues: Individual, \$20 Family, \$25 Student, \$10 (under 18)

Memberships start January 1 and expire December 31.
 Family memberships (more than one member per household): please include the above info for each member, use separate forms.

New members:

Dues are prorated: dues x (11 - month) x 10% (Example: July would be \$20 x (11-7) x 0.1, which is \$8)
 If joining in November or December: normal dues for next year, the rest of this year is included free.

I want the paper newsletter delivered by U.S. Mail for an additional \$30 per year
 (Prorated, \$2.50 per month. That's \$27.50 if starting in February, \$25 if starting in March, etc.)

\$ _____ **Total** enclosed

Give this completed form and payment to the Secretary or Treasurer at any meeting or mail to the club address.