

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 34, Number 8

August 2018



August Meeting

The program for the Aug. 13, 2018 SCCARA General meeting will be Svend Jensen KF6EMB who will be speaking on "Building a Go Kit Radio Station." Hams who have volunteered to help at the Santa Clara Art and Wine Show or the Santa Clara 4th of July Fire Works Show may have seen or operated Svends portable station.

Svend will bring his station to the meeting and will be speaking about the goals he had when designing the station and take us through the selection process of deciding which components to include.

Svend is active in Santa Clara ARES and an active member of West Valley Amateur Radio Association.

73, Gregg KF6FNA

President's Prose

I would like to invite everyone to attend the SCCARA picnic, starting at 09:00, on Sunday, August 19, 2018 at Henry Schmidt Park in Santa Clara. SCCARA will provide hot dogs, buns, condiments, sodas and charcoal for this pot luck event. There will be park tables and benches shaded by pop-up canopies, but attendees should consider bringing their own folding chairs for more comfort.

Several SCCARA members will be there at sunrise to claim tables and hang at least one HF antenna and to set up a 2 m station for talk-in on the SCCARA repeater. Attendees are welcome to show up early and help with set-up, (it is rumored that there will be donuts for the early risers). There will be more information at the August 13, 2018 SCCARA General meeting.

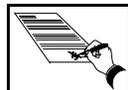
Directions:

1) From 280 exit Saratoga Road North. Drive 1.6 miles to the intersection of Los Padres Blvd and Saratoga Road. Henry Schmidt Park is on your left (if you see Scott Blvd you have gone too far).

2) From El Camino Real take San Tomas South 1.8 miles. Turn left on Saratoga Road. Drive 0.7 miles to Henry Schmidt Park, 555 Los Padres Blvd, Santa Clara. There will be talk-in on the SCCARA 2 m repeater after 09:00.

Hope to see you there!

73, Gregg KF6FNA, kf6fna@comcast.net

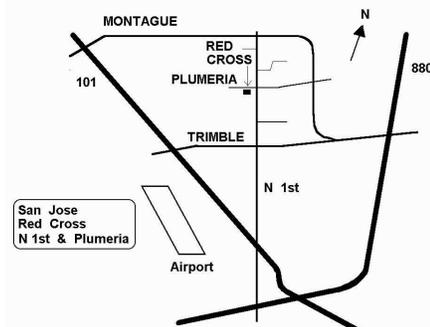


Calendar

- 8/11 Electronic Flea Market--(Fry's in Sunnyvale)
- 8/13 SCCARA General Meeting
- 8/20 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)

General Meeting

- Day: Monday, August 13, 2018
- Time: 7:30 PM
- Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Hospital B-06
- Featuring: Svend KF6EMB on building a go-kit radio station.



The **SCCARA-GRAM** is published monthly by the **SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION**, PO Box 106, San Jose CA 95103-0106.

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.

Permission to reprint articles is hereby granted, provided the source is properly credited.

The deadline for articles is the **last Monday of the month.**

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

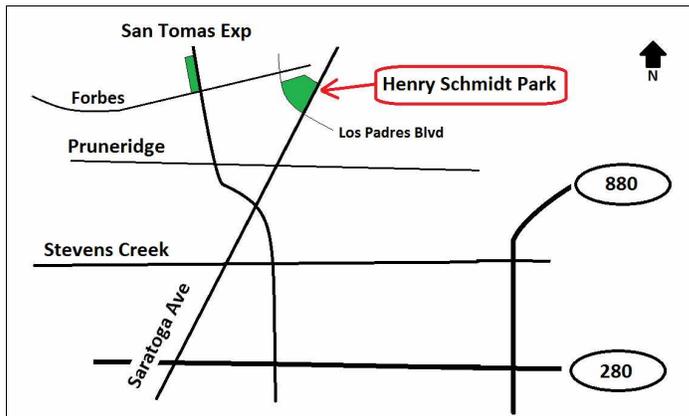
On our two meter repeater: Mondays at 7:30 PM, (not the second Monday--our meeting night). Coordinator: Don Village, K6PBQ. On ten meters, 28.385 MHz USB, Thursdays at 8:00 PM. Net control: Wally Britten, KA6YMD. Visitors welcome.

NØARY PACKET BBS

SCCARA hosts the packet BBS NØARY (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



Field Day 2018

A couple more Field Day photos, these by Kelly WB6AAJ:



Our banner out front at the San Jose Red Cross



Lloyd KD6JFI at the phone station, Jason KM6GNA logging

Health & Welfare

1) Clark Murphy KE6KXO was in an automobile accident on Friday, July 27, 2018 while on Mt. Hamilton Road. We wish a speedy recovery and hope to see you soon.

2) On a happier note, several SCCARA members were invited to celebrate the 100th Birthday of Bob Schwimmer N3FAW. Bob's catered celebration was held at the American Legion in Willow Glen and was attended by friends and family from all over the country. His son gave commentary to a slide show of Bob's life so far, after which Bob proved that candles were no match for his lungs.

Bob was especially active in SCCARA's radio room at the Red Cross and spent many hours configuring a HF Digital Station. Congratulations Bob!

73, Gregg KF6FNA

ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, July 12, 2018

ARRL Urges Regulatory Regime to Keep Non-Amateur Satellites off Amateur Spectrum

ARRL wants the FCC to facilitate bona fide Amateur Satellite experimentation by educational institutions under Part 97 Amateur Service rules, while precluding the exploitation of amateur spectrum by commercial, small-satellite users authorized under Part 5 Experimental rules. In comments filed on July 9 in an FCC proceeding to streamline licensing procedures for small satellites, ARRL suggested that the FCC adopt a "bright line test" to define and distinguish satellites that should be permitted to operate under Amateur Satellite rules, as opposed to non-amateur satellites that could be authorized under Part 5 Experimental rules.

"Specifically, it is possible to clarify which types of satellite operations are properly considered amateur experiments conducted pursuant to a Part 97 Amateur Radio license, and [those] which should be considered experimental, non-amateur facilities, properly authorized by a Part 5 authorization."

ARRL said it views as "incorrect and overly strict" the standard the FCC has applied since 2013 to define what constitutes an Amateur Satellite, forcing academic projects that once would have been operated in the Amateur Satellite Service to apply for a Part 5 Experimental authorization instead. This approach was based, ARRL said, on "the false rationale" that a satellite launched by an educational institution must be "non-amateur" because instructors were being compensated and would thus have a "pecuniary interest" in the satellite project. ARRL said well-established Commission jurisprudence contradicts this view.

ARRL told the FCC that justification exists to expand the category of satellite experiments conducted under an Amateur Radio license, "especially those in which a college, university, or secondary school teacher is a sponsor." But, ARRL continued, a compelling need exists to discourage Part 5 Experimental authorizations for satellites intended to operate in amateur allocations by non-amateur sponsors, "absent compelling showings of need."

"There is no doubt but that Amateur Radio should be protected

against exploitation by commercial entities, and there should be a compelling justification for a Part 5 Experimental license issued for a satellite experiment to be conducted in amateur spectrum," ARRL said.

ARRL noted that International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) policy regarding satellites operated in Amateur Radio spectrum is only to coordinate satellites where licensees and control operators are radio amateurs, as well as having a "mission and operation" consistent with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Radio Regulations' definitions of the Amateur and Amateur Satellite services.

ARRL asserted that incorporating Amateur Radio in experiential learning using small satellites -- e.g., CubeSats -- is good for Amateur Radio, for students, and for the advancement of technology, and it urged the FCC to adopt a regulatory paradigm that encourages this approach.

AMSAT-NA also filed comments in the proceeding. The AMSAT remarks reflect several of the same concerns expressed by ARRL. Interested parties may file reply comments in the proceeding, IB Docket No. 18-86, by August 7, 2018.

From *The ARRL Letter*, July 26, 2018

Significant Changes in Store for FT8 and MSK144 with WSJT-X Version 2.0

WSJT-X co-developer Joe Taylor, K1JT, has announced that major changes are coming to the FT8 and MSK144 digital protocols when WSJT-X version 2.0 arrives in a few months. Taylor said version 2.0 should be ready by January.

"Much of the necessary programming is finished," Taylor said in a post to the Packrats reflector. "Many of the new features have been tested on the air, and we find them to work well."

Taylor was quick to point out that the new capabilities are not yet publicly available, not even in beta form. He said that he, Steve Franke, K9AN, and Bill Somerville, G4WJS, have been developing "enhanced versions of the MSK144 and FT8 protocols that extend the message payload to 77 bits."

"Don't rush to download something," he cautioned. "There is more testing and code optimization to do." He said current plans call for a beta-testing period "probably starting in mid-to-late September," with a full release "possible a couple of months later."

Taylor ticked off a few possibilities WSJT-X version 2.0 will bring to the table:

- ARRL Field Day operation with standard Field Day exchanges.
- ARRL RTTY Roundup operation with standard contest exchanges.
- North American VHF contest operation with full support of grid exchanges and rover (/R) call signs.
- European VHF contest operation with the exchange of six-digit grids, QSO serial numbers, and portable (/P) call signs.
- Better and more user-friendly support for compound and nonstandard call signs.
- A special "telemetry" message format for exchanging

arbitrary information up to 71 bits.

- Support for the existing "FT8 DXpedition Mode," with a more powerful DXpedition Mode possible too.

"All of these features work seamlessly and automatically," Taylor said. "No 'contest mode' checkboxes are needed. In most situations, decoding sensitivity will be slightly better than at present for FT8; for MSK144 it will sometimes be about 0.5 dB worse. Occupied bandwidths will be the same as they are now, and false-decode rates will be significantly lower."

Taylor said WSJT-X version 2.0 will be available in time for users to digest the new documentation and to practice using the software before actually using it on the air, but he offered one important caveat. "The new protocols cannot be backward compatible with the existing ones," he said in his post. "We will probably provide some temporary 'bilingual' capability for FT8, but not for MSK144. It will be essential for users to upgrade to version 2.0 in order to use the new features and communicate with others who have made the upgrade."

Taylor promised "plenty of advance notice" about the transition period and a must-upgrade-by date.

July 30, 2018.

- 2) Don moved to loan George Williams N6NKT SCCARA's FT-847 to be used to set up a digital station for the Red Cross. Second by Wally. Carried.

Repeater Report:

- 1) Goetz stated that the EchoLink computer reboots at 09:00 daily.
- 2) Gary stated that he had a 2 m band pass filter for the repeater. He will get it to Goetz.

Old Business:

- 1) SCCARA's sales table at the flea market brought in \$685.00.
- 2) Field Day - The deadline for submitting the Field Day score to the ARRL is July 22, 2018.
- 3) SCCARA is still looking for non amplified speakers to be used at General Meetings with the projector. Gary is working on it. Goetz said that he might have speakers that the club could use.
- 4) Field Day - Several Field Day Guests requested more information on Ham Radio / SCCARA. Gary will mail out information packets to them.

New Business:

- 1) The SCCARA picnic will be Sunday, Aug. 19, 2018 at Henry Schmidt Park.
- 2) Lou will donate a CW keyer to SCCARA.
- 3) Goetz will check out the HF Amp that was donated to SCCARA.

Meeting adjourned at 20:41.

Gregg Lane, KF6FNA

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, July 9, 2018



{No minutes were submitted. -- Editor}

Board Meeting, July 16, 2018



Red Cross Building 2731 N 1st St, San Jose, CA.

Meeting called to order by President Gregg Lane at 19:50.

Attendance:

President Gregg Lane KF6FNA; Treasurer Goetz Brandt K6GKB; Station Trustee Don Village K6PBQ. Directors: Lou Steirer WA6QYS, Wally Britten KA6YMD, James Rustermier KI6ZSK. Editor Gary Mitchell WB6YRU.

Announcements:

- 1) SVECS quarterly breakfast Saturday, July 28, 2018. "Team Rubicon" by Magdy Zakary.
- 2) SCCARA club station will be open on Saturday, July 28, 2018 after the SVECS breakfast. Listen on the SCCARA 2 m repeater for the announcement that the station is open.
- 3) Lou extends his thanks to all of the SCCARA members that helped out with the SVECS flea market.

Treasurer's Report:

checking = 8,340.54
 savings = 500.07
 cash = 721.57
 TOTAL = \$9,562.18

Trustee's Report:

- 1) Don will be out of town at the end of July. Wally will open the Club Station on Saturday, July 28 after the SVECS breakfast. Wally will also be Net Control for the SCCARA Monday net on

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the BBS packet network:

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=====
Date: 22 Dec 2015 01:25
From: GM3YEW@GB7YEW
To: HUMOUR@WW
Subject: Jokes 22/12
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A Benefit Of Being Older

Because they had no reservations at a busy restaurant an elderly man and his wife were told there would be a 45-minute wait for a table.

"Young man we're both 90 years old" the husband said. "We may not have 45 Minutes."

They were seated immediately.

Lincoln

Johny at breakfast: "dad today is Lincoln's birthday. He was a great man wasn't he?"

Dad always eager to teach his young son a lesson: "Yes son indeed he was." Then he added pompously "And mind you when Abraham Lincoln was your age he was out splitting rails."

"Yes Dad I know." replied Johny. "And when he was your

age he was President of the United States."

Alligator

A park ranger in the Everglades was making his rounds a couple of summers ago when a woman came bolting out of the weeds right in front of his truck. She seemed frantic and he finally got her calm enough to say that her five-year-old son was sitting on the back of an alligator.

Now the ranger was frantic. Running in the direction she was pointing he found the lad astride a twelve foot alligator which was trying to relieve itself of its load by twisting and snapping. As the brave ranger moved in he tried to console the mother by saying "I think I can grab the boy and move away before the gator moves. Be ready to grab your son. I may have to shoot the gator."

To which the lady replies "Good heavens no! Don't shoot him. I just wanted you to make him hold still for a minute so I could take my son's picture on his back."

An 80-year-old Italian goes to the doctor for a check-up. The doctor is amazed at what good shape the guy is in and asks, "How do you stay in such great physical condition?"

"I'm Italian and I am a golfer," says the old guy, "and that's why I'm in such good shape. I'm up well before daylight and out golfing up and down the fairways. I have a glass of vino and all is well."

"Well," says the doctor, "I'm sure that helps, but there's got to be more to it. How old was your dad when he died?"

"Who said my dad's dead?"

The doctor is amazed. "You mean you're 80 years old and your dad's still alive. How old is he?"

"He's 100 years old," says the old Italian golfer. "In fact he golfed with me this morning, and then we went to the topless beach for a walk and had a little vino and that's why he's still alive".

The doctor says, "Well, that's great, but I'm sure there's more to it than that. How old was your grandfather when he died?"

"Who said my grandpa's dead?"

Stunned, the doctor asks, "You mean you're 80 years old and your grandfather's still living!? Incredible, how old is he?"

"He's 118 years old," says the old Italian golfer.

The doctor is getting frustrated at this point, "So, I guess he went golfing with you this morning too?"

"No. Grandpa couldn't go this morning because he's getting married today."

At this point the doctor is close to losing it. "Getting married! Why would a 118 year old guy want to get married?"

"Who said he wanted to?"

73 de dave
gm3yew

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 (available from the club secretary or on our web site).

Topics:

Antennas, feed-lines, tuners: **NV6W, W6JPP, K6PBQ**

CW (Morse code): **NV6W, K6PBQ**

DX (long distance, propagation): **NV6W**

EchoLink: **K6GKB**

Emergency operating, preparedness: **WA6QYS**

HF operating techniques: **NV6W, K6PBQ**

Homebrew projects, construction: **WB6YRU**

Legal, FCC rules: **WB6YRU**

License testing, new amateurs: **W6JPP**

Lightning protection, grounding: **WB6YRU**

Packet Network (BBS, forwarding): **WB6YRU**

SCCARA (club inner workings): **K6PBQ, WB6YRU, WA6QYS**

Station set-up, equipment: **K6PBQ, W6JPP**

TVI, RFI: **WB6YRU**

Contacts:

K6GKB, Goetz Brandt, 408-259-7287

e-mail: goetz@ix.netcom.com

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

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

I'm told the work is done on our Field Day logs, but no report has been submitted to the *SCCARA-GRAM* yet. I'm trying to find out whether we filed a report to the ARRL (as usual). If so, I'll try to get a copy. In the mean time, we have a couple more photos, these by Kelly WB6AJJ.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor



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



FIRST CLASS

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SCCARA Membership Form for 2018

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

Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____

Address: _____ Licensed since (year): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip+4: _____

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 = \$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.