

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 34, Number 9

September 2018



September Meeting

The speaker for the September 10, 2018 SCCARA meeting will be Ed LaBel KD6KCA. Ed will be speaking about ALLSTAR, a very high quality and flexible communications platform.

Ed sells a ASTERISK-ALLSTAR Radioless node adapter that he created. Just plug in a DTMF mic and a speaker for each node. You can plug up to 4 of these nodes into 1 Raspberry PI. Each node can completely control a repeater or work without a radio at all.

Hope to see you at Kaiser Santa Clara for the September SCCARA Meeting.

73, Gregg KF6FNA

Clark Murphy, KE6KXO, SK

Clark Murphy, KE6KXO, current Board of Directors member and past President of the Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association passed away in the early morning hours of Friday, August 24th, 2018.



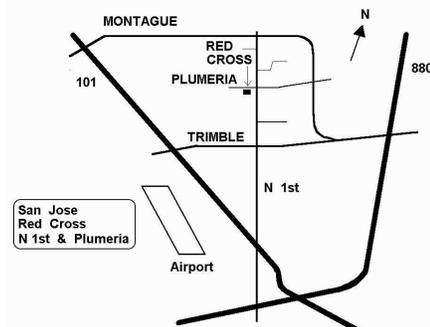
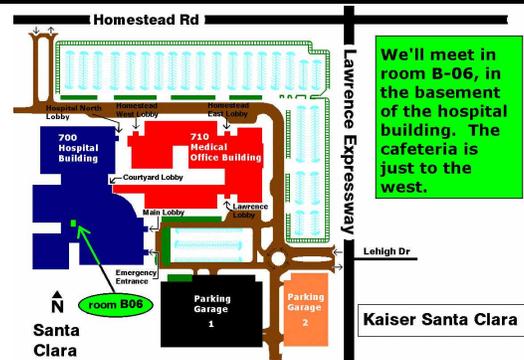
Late last month he was a passenger in his car traveling on Mt. Hamilton Road when it was sideswiped, run off the road and stopped by a tree next to a downhill slope. Clark, thinking it was

Calendar

- 9/8 Electronics Flea Market--(Fry's Sunnyvale)
- 9/10 SCCARA General Meeting
- 9/17 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)

General Meeting

- Day: Monday, September 10, 2018
- Time: 7:30 PM
- Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Hospital B-06
- Featuring: Ed LaBel KD6KCA on ALLSTAR



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

best to get away from the disabled car, did not realize there was no place to gain footing, exited the car and tumbled down the incline. Although he did not suffer any broken bones he was severely bruised and had to be air-evacuated to Regional Hospital's Trauma Unit. After a couple of weeks he was stabilized enough to transfer to Kaiser Santa Clara. He improved to the point where he was able to be sent to an Assisted Living Facility. Unfortunately in less than a day he passed away.

Memorial services have not been finalized. Information will be passed along as they become available.

Lou WA6QYS

Clark was first licensed in 1991, he joined SCCARA in early 1995. At first he had not decided whether this was the right club for him. Then came Field Day...

The weather was very hot during Field Day in 1995, over 100° F. We arrived early afternoon and parked the antenna trailer at our usual spot in the Manzanita camp grounds at Mt. Madonna Park. I remember sitting at a picnic table--in the shade, looking at the antenna trailer and saying: "I'm not going out there now in this heat to set that thing up in the sun. I'll help later, after it cools off." Everyone else agreed. We're enthusiastic amateurs, but we're not crazy. :)

That's when Clark decided, saying: "Yeah, this is my club." He liked to tell that story to new or prospective members.

Clark became a Director the following year and became club President in 2005 and 2006. Then a serious health issue forced him to just be a mere member for a while. In 2013 he rejoined the Board, despite now being wheelchair bound. He has been a Director ever since.

He will be missed.

73, Gary WB6YRU

Club Station

Club station open Saturday, Sept. 29, 2018

SCCARA is opening the club station at the Red Cross to visitors and members on Saturday, September 29, 2018. Station hours will be roughly 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. The radio room is room 15, the Santa Clara Room. It is the first room on your left after you pass the restrooms. There should be a door bell by the door in case the door is closed (it locks automatically). Hope to see you there!

Gregg KF6FNA

ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, August 2, 2018

ARRL Board Adopts Volunteer Monitoring Program; Official Observer Program to be Retired

The ARRL Board of Directors has adopted the recommendations of the Official Observer Program Study Committee, which would retire the venerable Official Observer (OO) Program and institute the Volunteer Monitoring (VM) Program. The Board took the action at its July 20 - 21 meeting in Windsor, Connecticut, instructing that the transition "be implemented as soon as

practicable.” Under the terms of the new program, current Official Observers will be invited to apply for appointment as Volunteer Monitors. The Board expressed its appreciation for the OOs and their dedicated volunteer service over the years.

The Board said the action is expected to re-energize enforcement efforts in the Amateur Radio bands and was undertaken at the request of the FCC in the wake of several FCC regional office closures and a reduction in field staff. Coordination of cases and evidence gathering would become the responsibility of ARRL Headquarters staff, while the FCC will retain the responsibility for final decisions regarding action in specific cases.

The study committee report spelled out the additional steps necessary to launch the Volunteer Monitoring Program. Among them would be the appointment of a dedicated Headquarters staff member or an independent contractor working under the direction of ARRL Headquarters to administer the new program and interface with its participants. The Volunteer Monitoring Program administrator would, among other duties, create a vetting and accreditation process for prospective Volunteer Monitors. The authority to accredit, appoint, and dismiss Volunteer Monitors would be assigned to ARRL Headquarters staff. Section Managers will continue to be a part of the vetting process for VMs, although they will not have appointment or dismissal authority.

Volunteer Monitor accreditation would be limited to a 3-year term, renewable by satisfying requirements necessary to ensure competency. A new Volunteer Monitoring Training Manual is in the final stages of development.

The administrator will create a target for the number of geographically distributed Volunteer Monitors. Preliminary plans would include up to five Volunteer Monitors per ARRL Section and up to 250 Volunteer Monitors overall.

The administrator would also “develop a rubric or other aid for program participants to highlight offenses and other criteria that the FCC considers a priority,” the motion said. The administrator also would be charged with organizing periodic webinars, highlighting technologies, techniques, and other continuing education topics that would assist, motivate, and better enable Volunteer Monitors. The FCC will be actively involved in the development and presentation of these training opportunities.

The new Volunteer Monitor Program would continue to send notices recognizing good on-the-air operating practice. Under the new program, positive or negative operator notices eventually would be sent from ARRL Headquarters, not by individual Volunteer Monitors, in part to maintain their anonymity.

The action further authorized ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, to terminate the standing Amended Agreement between ARRL and the FCC Field Bureau regarding the use of amateur volunteers and execute a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between ARRL and the FCC Enforcement Bureau. The MOU is under final review.

From *The ARRL Letter*, August 9, 2018

ARRL Comments in “Strong Opposition” to Part 15 Modification Petition Affecting 5 GHz

ARRL has commented in “strong opposition” to a Petition for Rulemaking by RADWIN Ltd. that seeks to amend certain Part 15 rules to permit point-to-multipoint (P2MP) communication services in portions of the 5 GHz band, at power levels now permitted only for point-to-point unlicensed systems. ARRL has

focused its concern on proposed high-power P2MP operation in the band from 5.725 - 5.850 MHz, but points out that the entire 5.650 - 5.925 GHz allocation has been “subjected to a continuing series of overlays domestically” for more than 2 decades. Amateur Radio is secondary to military radars on the band.

ARRL said the Amateur Radio national “weak-signal” calling frequency of 5.760.1 GHz already has experienced a “very substantial” rise in ambient noise in many areas that has significantly affected Amateur Radio operation in the 200 kHz centered on that frequency, where extremely weak received signal levels are typical. Only low-density usage and the low-power levels permitted for unlicensed national information infrastructure (U-NII) devices have sustained “a good deal of compatibility” between Amateur Radio and U-NII devices at 5 GHz, ARRL said.

“It is quite obvious that RADWIN’s proposal for simultaneous point-to-multipoint transmission, with higher input power and [effective isotropic radiated power (EIRP)], using an electronic steerable antenna system, presents an exceptionally high interference potential to ongoing, weak-signal Amateur Radio Service communications,” ARRL said in its comments filed on July 30. With users located “at all points of the compass from the distribution point,” ARRL said, the potential for interference to Amateur Radio “is much greater.” Greater yet, ARRL noted, is the potential of interference to users of RADWIN’s system.

ARRL said the FCC “has no idea at all” about aggregate noise levels in the 5 GHz band in general, while Amateur Radio and Amateur Satellite users have reported increased ambient noise levels in the band, especially near 5.760 GHz. “Both the Petition and the technical statement accompanying the Petition are silent on potential interaction between P2MP simultaneous transmission systems operating at high power, and any Amateur Radio facility,” ARRL said. “As a result, the petition is fatally flawed and should be dismissed, relative to the 5.725 - 5.850 GHz band.”

ARRL asserted that the FCC lacks jurisdiction to authorize Part 15 device operation by rule, “absent a specific finding that the device will not predictably cause interference.” Unlicensed, very low-power Part 15 devices may not cause interference to licensed services and must accept any interference caused by a licensed station and must shut down if notified by the FCC that the device is causing harmful interference.

From *The ARRL Letter*, August 16, 2018

HAARP’s WSPR Research Campaign Yields Hundreds of Reports on 40 and 80 Meters

Just-completed research at the High-Frequency Active Auroral Research Program (HAARP) transmitters in Gakona, Alaska, successfully took advantage of the WSPR digital protocol and the Weak Signal Propagation Reporter Network (WSPRnet) on July 30 through August 1. University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) Space Physics Group researcher and HAARP Chief Scientist Chris Fallen, KL3WX, told ARRL that the research -- HAARP’s fourth research campaign under management of the University of Alaska Fairbanks -- went well.

“My ‘citizen science’ experiments were funded by the National Science Foundation and were conducted for approximately 30 minutes at the end of each campaign day,” Fallen said. “They consisted of 2-minute transmissions using the WSPR digital mode in the 40- and 80-meter bands, with a 2-minute off period between transmissions.” He said HAARP transmitted in full-carrier, double-sideband AM because it does not have SSB capability. HAARP operated under its Part 5 Experimental license, W12XFX,

with Special Temporary Authority (STA) from the FCC to transmit on amateur bands.



The HAARP WSPR spots map.

“I systematically varied the HAARP transmission parameters, such as gain, net power, beam direction, and polarization, to see how they affected the reception reports collected in the WSPRnet.org database,” Fallen said. “During the 3 days, we gathered more than 300 confirmed reports of signal strength and location from nearly 100 unique participants throughout Canada and the US.”

Fallen said the spots, collected along with the corresponding HAARP transmission parameters, are available online, (1) and (2). He said the spreadsheet at the second link is editable by the public, “specifically by citizen scientists who want to manually add their spot or other interesting data analysis,” he added. “In this sense, the experiment continues.”



HAARP Transmitter shed, and part of the antenna array.

He said that HAARP's low-elevation transmissions on 40 meters resulted in the greatest number of spots. “The most distant spot was located at grid EL96xi, near Boca Raton, Florida, reported by WINEJ, from a distance of 6,154 kilometers,” Fallen said. “Interestingly, HAARP was aimed in the magnetic west direction during that spot.”

HAARP and the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico are planning to conduct heating campaigns this fall, Fallen noted, although not at the same time, as experimenters are shared

NIST FY 2019 Budget Would Eliminate WWV and WWVH

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) FY 2019 budget request includes shutting down “NIST radio stations in Colorado and Hawaii,” an apparent reference to WWV and WWVH. Radio amateurs, HF listeners, and others around the world routinely make use of the time and frequency standard signals, which also include propagation information. NIST said eliminating funding currently “supporting fundamental measurement dissemination” would include putting WWV and

WWVH off the air for a savings of \$6.3 million. The overall NIST FY 2019 budget request for efforts related to fundamental measurement, quantum science and measurement dissemination is \$127 million, which, the agency said, is a net decrease of \$49 million from FY 2018 levels.

“The proposed reductions will allow NIST to consolidate and focus on narrower core [fundamental] measurement programs while meeting budget levels,” the agency said in its FY 2019 budget summary. “NIST will focus on basic research while reducing funding for efforts applying some of its breakthroughs into new measurement applications.”

The FY 2019 proposed budget cuts developed earlier this year came to light via Tom Witherspoon, K4SWL, who maintains The SWLing Post website (<https://swling.com/>), after a number of viewers called it to his attention. He posted an article on his blog, (<https://swling.com/blog/2018/08/nist-fy2019-budget-includes-request-to-shutdown-wwv-and-wwvh/>).

“I've always considered WWV and WWVH to be the heartbeat of the shortwaves here in North America -- a constant, timely companion and brilliant gauge of HF propagation,” Witherspoon wrote. “I assumed both stations would be some of the last to go silent on the shortwaves.”

“I find this budget request very disappointing,” Witherspoon said with respect to the proposed elimination of WWV and WWVH. “Let's hope, somehow, this does not come to fruition.” He said The SWLing Post would be tracking and posting any new developments.

From *The ARRL Letter*, August 22, 2018

Concern Rising within Amateur Radio Community over WWV Shutdown Proposal

ARRL members and Amateur Radio clubs are expressing increased concern over the inclusion of WWV and WWVH on a list of proposed cuts in the White House's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Fiscal Year 2019 budget request. The proposed cuts, which only recently came to light, would also include the Atomic Clock signal from WWVB. Online petitions (<https://petitions.whitehouse.gov/petition/maintain-funding-nist-stations-wwv-wwvh>) soliciting signatures include one established by Tom Kelly II, W7NSS, of Portland, Oregon, who would like to see funding for the stations maintained. The decision is up to Congress.

“It is important to note that no changes to NIST services have occurred, and if the proposal were to be implemented, public notice would be provided,” NIST said this week.

ARRL is suggesting that members of the Amateur Radio community who value the stations for their precise time and frequency signals and other information sign the petition and contact their members of Congress promptly, explaining how the stations are important to them, beyond government and military use. WWV is among the oldest radio stations in the US and has broadcast the official time for nearly a century.

According to the NIST Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 budget request, the specific cut would come from the NIST Fundamental Measurement, Quantum Science, and Measurement Dissemination budget and would amount to \$6.3 million.

“NIST has a long-standing history of providing time and frequency services through our radio stations and we appreciate that many

people use these services,” NIST said in a statement. “WWV is the longest continuously operating radio service in the US. At the same time, the proposed NIST budget for FY 2019 required difficult choices about budget priorities.”

NIST said that it plans to eliminate “efforts that have been replaced by newer technologies, measurement science research that lies outside NIST's core mission space, and programs that can no longer be supported due to facility deterioration.”



The WWV campus in Fort Collins, Colorado.

WWV and WWVH broadcast 24/7. Announcements include time announcements, standard time intervals, standard frequencies, UT1 time corrections, a BCD time code, geophysical alerts, and marine storm warnings. Transmissions are broadcast from separate transmitters on 5, 10, 15, and 20 MHz. An experimental 25 MHz signal is also currently on the air. WWVB transmits standard Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) signals on 60 kHz to appropriately equipped devices.

Shortwave Radio Reports May Offer Best Evidence of Amelia Earhart's Fate, Group Believes

The International Group for Historic Aircraft Recovery (TIGHAR) believes it has the key to unlock the decades-old mystery of what happened to famed aviator Amelia Earhart and her navigator Fred Noonan in their planned circumnavigation of the globe in 1937. TIGHAR's The Earhart Project analyzed dozens of radio transmissions received by radio amateurs and other shortwave listeners during the frantic search to locate Earhart's plane when she did make her scheduled arrival at Howland Island. Many theories have sprung up over the years to explain the mysterious disappearance, but a TIGHAR research paper entitled The Post-Loss Radio Signals, published in July by The Earhart Project, maintains that “the patterns and relationships emerging from the data show that TIGHAR has answered the 81-year-old question: ‘What really happened to Amelia Earhart?’”



Amelia Earhart standing under nose of her Lockheed Model 10-E Electra in 1937. [National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution; gift of George R. Rinhart, in memory of Joan Rinhart]

The Earhart Project “is testing the hypothesis that Amelia Earhart and Fred Noonan landed, and eventually died, on Gardner Island,

now Nikumaroro in the Republic of Kiribati,” its website says.

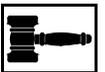
In July 1937, a young teenager named Betty Klenck, listening to shortwave bands on her family's radio, intercepted and transcribed pleas for help that TIGHAR calls “a remarkable record of perhaps the last communication” from Earhart and Noonan and “leave little doubt” that the 15-year-old heard a genuine distress call from the pair, transmitted from the aircraft Electra. Klenck's notebook, discovered in 2000, inspired TIGHAR's effort to catalog all reception reports.

TIGHAR analyzed nearly 60 other reception reports made in the wake of Earhart's failure to arrive on Howland Island. The vast majority, TIGHAR said, came from government or commercial operators as well as “licensed amateurs” working for the US Interior Department on Howland and Baker Islands, listening on Earhart's primary, harmonically related frequencies of 3,105 and 6,210 kHz. TIGHAR contends that higher-order harmonics of the primary frequencies enabled the “accidental” reception of Earhart's transmissions at greater distances, because those higher-frequency signals would be more prone to ionospheric propagation.

Reports came from the Pacific and the continental US, TIGHAR said, with Earhart reporting her plane down “on an uncharted island” that was “small, uninhabited.” According to accounts, the radio transmissions became progressively more desperate, with Earhart reporting that Noonan was injured and subsequently delirious. The commander of the US Coast Guard vessel Itasca, which was involved in the search, discounted the contemporary radio reception reports, saying that all available land areas had been searched. He expressed doubt that Earhart and Noonan made any radio transmissions after their plane disappeared on July 2, 1937.

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, Aug. 13, 2018



Santa Clara Kaiser Hospital Building, 700 Homestead Rd., Room B-06.

The meeting was called to order by President Gregg Lane at 19:33.

Introductions were made.

Announcements:

- 1) The SCCARA club station at the Red Cross will be open on August 25, 2018. Don will open the station from 10:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M.
- 2) The SCCARA picnic will be on Sunday, August 19, 2018 at Henry Schmidt Park in Santa Clara. from 9:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M. See the SCCARA-GRAM for more information.
- 3) Clark Murphy KE6KXO is recovering from a car accident. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Gregg introduced the evening's speaker Svend Jensen KF6EMB who set up and spoke about the construction of his go-kit portable uhf/vhf radio station. The 60 pound station was built into a gun case and had 3 radios: 2 m, 220 MHz and 440 MHz. It included a 3 band antenna with a triplexer that fed all 3 radios. It had an internal battery and a battery charger/power supply with the ability to tap into various power sources in the field. All equipment had circuit breakers and was metered. This was the nicest portable station that I've seen.

The meeting was adjourned at 20:11 and refreshments were enjoyed by all.

Gregg Lane, KF6FNA

Board Meeting, Aug. 20, 2018



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

Meeting called to order by President Gregg Lane at 19:43.

Attendance:

President Gregg Lane KF6FNA; Treasurer Goetz Brandt K6GKB; Station Trustee Don Village K6PBQ; Directors: Lou Steirer WA6QYS, Wally Britten KA6YMD, James Rustermier KI6ZSK. Excused absence: Clark Murphy KE6KXO. Visitors: Editor Gary Mitchell WB6YRU; Praveen Akunuru KK6VGB.

Announcements:

- 1) Club Station at the Red Cross to be open August 25, 2018 and September 29, 2018. Hours 10:00 A.M. till 4:00 P.M.
- 2) Last Flea Market at Fry's, Sunnyvale September 8, 2018.
- 3) Clark Murphy KE6KXO is in the hospital after an automobile accident.

Secretary's Report:

Gary reported that he sent out SCCARA information as requested by Field Day guests. So far there is 1 new SCCARA member in response to his outreach.

Treasurer's Report: Goetz submitted as of 8/20/18

checking	8,386.54
savings	500.07
cash	1,424.57
TOTAL	10,311.18

Trustee's Report:

- 1) Don will open the club station on the last Saturday of the month on August 25 and on September 29, 2018.
- 2) The CQP will be October 6-7, 2018. The Club Station will be open on these days instead of the last Saturday in October.
- 3) The CW Sweepstakes will be November 3-4, 2018. The SSB Sweepstakes will be November 17-18, 2018. The Club Station will be open on these days instead of the last Saturday in November.
- 4) Gary mentioned that it would be nice to have a SCCARA packet station at the Red Cross. We will see what equipment we have for this.

Editors Report:

- 1) Gary is looking for a Field Day Report to publish in the newsletter.
- 2) SCCARA will consider changing fees for a mailed SCCARA-GRAM.

BBS Report:

- 1) There is new and improved BBS code running which has improved performance.

Old Business:

- 1) P.A. speakers were bought by Gary for improved audio at General Meetings.
- 2) Goetz is in the process of evaluating the donated Kenwood transceiver and amplifier.

New Business:

- 1) John Parks is looking for volunteers to work security at

- Pacificon 2018 in exchange for free admission. He will email Don so that his request will be announced on the Monday Net.
- 2) Praveen presented a new option for SCCARA's participation with Meet-Up. Goetz moved to discontinue SCCARA's association with Meet-Up. Don seconded. Carried.
- 3) Lou suggested that SCCARA reevaluate it's membership/SCCARA-GRAM fees to make it less expensive to get the newsletter mailed to members.

Meeting adjourned at 20:42.

Gregg Lane KF6FNA

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the BBS packet network:

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=====
Date: 6 Oct 2015 01:55
From: GM3YEW@GB7YEW
To: HUMOUR@WW
Subject: Jokes 6/10
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A lady went into a pet shop. "I'd like to buy two canaries" she told the owner.

"We don't have any canaries but we have these" the owner said. He showed the lady some pale green parakeets.

"That's not what I'm looking for" the lady stated. "Canaries are yellow. I want yellow canaries!"

But the pet store owner refused to give up. "Just think of them as yellow Canaries that aren't quite ripe yet" he said.

Teenagers

Teenagers are people who express a burning desire to be different by dressing exactly alike.

Marital Support

A kleptomaniac woman had been caught shoplifting in a supermarket and had to appear in court, taking along her long-suffering husband for marital support.

The prosecution proved that the theft had taken place so the judge told her that considering her record he was forced to impose a jail term.

"This time you stole a can of tomatoes. Let us suppose that there were six tomatoes in the can. Do you agree?"

The woman agreed.

"Then I sentence you to six nights in jail."

The husband jumped to his feet addressing the judge "Your honour may I approach the bench?"

"Well, this is somewhat unusual but I will make an

exception in this case. You may approach the bench."

The husband wasted no time getting there and leaning forward he whispered "She also stole a can of peas."

Truck

There was a man driving down the road behind an 18 wheeler. At every stoplight the trucker would get out of the cab run back and bang on the trailer door. After seeing this at several intersections in a row the motorist followed him until he pulled into a parking lot.

When they both had come to a stop the truck driver once again jumped out and started banging on the trailer door. The motorist went up to him and said "I don't mean to be nosey but why do you keep banging on that door?"

To which the trucker replied "sorry can't talk now I have 20 tons of Canaries and a 10 ton limit I have to keep half of them in the air all the time!"

Sign On The Wall Of An Estate:

"Trespassers will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.
- Sisters of Mercy."

Tax

The government is taxing the mathematically illiterate. It's called the lottery.

Forgot My Glasses

Yesterday my daughter again asked why I didn't do something useful with my time.

I told her that I had just joined a parachute club. She said, "Are you nuts? You're 72 years old and you're going to start jumping out of airplanes?"

I proudly showed her that I even got a membership card. She said, "Good grief, where are your glasses! This is a membership to a Prostitute Club, not a Parachute Club."

I signed up for five jumps a week." I told her.

She fainted.

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

Disturbing news from the ARRL (two articles above) about the White House's proposed 2019 budget that could eliminate WWV.

If you have one of those clocks that sets itself – that uses WWVB. Isn't that a great thing? I have three of them! Have you ever checked your radio's frequency using one of the transmitted frequency standard signals? That's WWV in Colorado and WWVH in Hawaii. Having them both is useful for quickly checking propagation conditions on different bands too.

In my opinion, this is very penny wise and pound foolish. The money they'd save is a mere pittance that would never be noticed among the vast sums of the Federal budget. Are we supposed to believe the richest country in the world can't afford to transmit time and frequency standards? TSK!

The second article (above) on the subject includes a link to the White House opinion pole web site. If 100,000 sign that petition, the White House is required to respond. At least this would put it on their radar. I signed it, how about you? The link in this PDF should be active, if you're reading this on your computer--just click on it. (After you sign the petition, it sends you an email asking you to click on the provided link to verify that you're a real person, not a robot.) As of this writing, already over 12,000 people have signed it. Tell your friends.

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor



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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.