

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 34, Number 11

November 2018



Club Elections

Club elections will be held at the November meeting. We nominated some officers and directors at the October meeting, nominations are still open. Feel free to nominate yourself.

Officers have one-year terms, Directors have two-year terms, Trustee has no term limit. There are five Director seats, approximately half are elected in alternating years. Directors Lou WA6QYS and Wally KA6YMD have one more year to go. Three Director seats are up for election.

Open positions and nominations so far:

President: - - -

Vice President: - - -

Secretary: - - -

Treasurer: Goetz K6GKB

Director: Rusty KI6ZSK

Director: Truman N6TRU

Director: - - -

Of course we can have more than one nominee for any given office, then we can have actual elections instead of merely confirmations.

NOTE: Officers are voting members of the Board of Directors. So if for example Wally were to become an Officer, we would have four open Director seats. Since Wally's Director term has one year to go, one of the newly elected Directors would have a one-year term.

Holiday Dinner Meeting in December

Mark your calendars. Reserve the date. The Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association will hold its Holiday Dinner at Harry's Hoffbrau on Monday, December 10th. Harry's is located at 390 Saratoga Ave., San Jose, just north of Highway 280 (between 280 and Stevens Creek Blvd). We have the corner area reserved from 6:30 PM. As you enter the front door turn left down the first aisle of tables and booths and proceed to the next room. This is where we will have our Gala Holiday Feast.

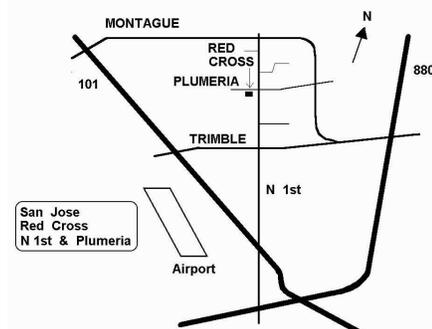
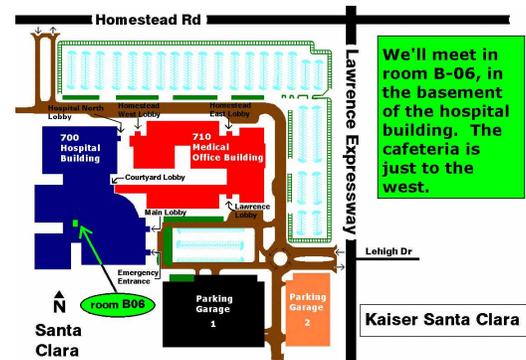
Do come and join your fellow SCCARA members and by all means bring the entire family. Guests, ham or not, are cordially invited. Invite your acquaintances who have shown an interest in ham radio. Witnessing the camaraderie of the club might entice them to join SCCARA and get their ham ticket.

Calendar

- 11/12 SCCARA General Meeting
- 11/19 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)

General Meeting

- Day: Monday, November 12, 2018
- Time: 7:30 PM
- Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Hospital B-06
- Featuring: club elections



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

club email: w6uw@arrl.net or w6uw@sbcglobal.net

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(officers are also directors)

President	Gregg Lane KF6FNA	408-393-5607
	e-mail: kf6fna@comcast.net	
Vice President	(open)	email:
Secretary	(open)	e-mail:
Treasurer	Goetz Brandt, K6GKB	408-259-7287
	e-mail: goetz@ix.netcom.com	
Station Trustee	Don Village, K6PBQ	408-263-2789
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Director	(open)	e-mail:
Director	(open)	e-mail:

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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

The menu offers delicious meals large or small at reasonable prices. Their draft beers are endless in variety. Something for every taste, including sodas. Let us reminisce about our past activities and plan for future adventures. Looking forward to seeing all SCCARA members and visitors on December 10th.

Let Don Village, K6PBQ, know how many are coming in your party.

Lou WA6QYS

For Sale

SCCARA has the following for sale:

- Icom IC-R70 HF/MF/LF general coverage receiver. The FM option is *NOT* installed. It has been tested and is working fine. It comes with a Ramsey model AA7B Active Antenna, (RF amplifier). It has not been tested.
- Yaesu FT-101ZD HF transceiver. 1979 vintage, it has 3 tubes. It comes with the power cord for 120 VAC and a couple of other cables, but no mic and no key. Not tested yet.

The asking prices currently found on ebay range from \$190 to \$368 for the IC-R70, and \$325 to \$425 for the FT-101ZD. SCCARA members may expect to pay *significantly* less.

Make an offer! If you're the only member interested, we'll probably accept your offer. They'll be available at the November meeting. If you're interested, but won't be at the meeting, contact Gary WB6YRU, wb6yru@ix.netcom.com.

Manuals, **FREE** to a good home:

- Ten Tec model 276 Century Calibrator, accessory to the Century/21. (6 pages, 3 sheets)
- Collins HF transceiver, model KWM-380, Rockwell Int. (photocopy, 52 pages, 26 sheets)

These will be available at the November meeting. If you won't be at the meeting, we can mail it to you.

73, Gary WB6YRU

SDR

By now everyone is aware of the new radio technology that allows the speed of microprocessors to directly sample radio frequencies and demodulate the intelligence that might be present. These radios are called **Software Defined Radios** and are replacing the traditional analog radios we grew up with. No longer are mixers used to heterodyne the VFO selected frequency to create an intermediate frequency which is further processed electronically to isolate and translate what we are looking for. I don't pretend to understand how SDR radios actually work, but I can parrot what I have heard and say that the mathematicians have taken over. The incoming signal is directly sampled at an extremely high rate and Fourier analysis is used to transform the wave form into something intelligible. Having said that, I can say that I don't understand any of it.

The manufactures of our ham radios are slowly making the transition. Some are creating crossover radios that have a little of both technologies. Some have started from scratch and provide true digital radios. Yet another approach is to get online and buy an adaptor which when plugged into your PC combines to provide an SDR radio. If you buy a complete transceiver from the big boys you will spend real money. So this article suggests a way for you to try out SDR radios without spending a cent. Your only requirement is that you have a PC and it is connected to the internet.

Any number of people have put powerful SDR radios on line and allow you to connect and listen to Hams all over the world. One such facility is just south of Half Moon Bay where a fellow has made use of the old commercial transpacific radio site <http://69.27.184.62:8901/>. Another is in Utah <http://websdr1.utahsdr.org:8901/>. If you type these links into your browser or click on them in your pdf reader, you will attach to the radio chosen. And now the fun begins. Using what you know about browsing you can manipulate the distant radio as if it were your own. Using the slider on the right hand side of the screen you can scroll down and using the radio buttons control functions normally accessed on your analog radio. You would begin by clicking on the radio button for the band you wish to monitor and then you need to choose between Phone and CW. Finally you would select the modulation you wish to hear and this would possibly be side band and depending on frequency, upper or lower.

Now back up to the spectrum analyzer display and click on the frequency bar for the signal you wish to receive. The beauty of the waterfall displayed is that you can see all signals that have recently appeared. With luck, an already provided tab may take you directly to a net in progress without making any decisions. In any case, you can use the radio buttons for + and - to move back and forth on what was once a dial. ++ or -- move faster and triple shifts even faster. The trick is to move the aperture until the signal sounds properly. It doesn't take long and you will be manipulating the controls like a pro. For fun, you could click on the "Rhubarb Net" tab any Monday through Thursday at 9:30AM and listen to some of the SCCARA members participate in a 40 year old kaffee klatsch. Of course this will only allow you to monitor, but once hooked, who knows what your loose change will provide?

Goetz Brandt, K6GKB

See <http://www.websdr.org> for a list of many SDR sites, their capabilities, and other info. --Editor

ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, October 4, 2018

Spray-On Antennas Could Be the Wave of the Future, University Researchers Believe

Researchers at Drexel University's College of Engineering report a breakthrough in nanomaterials technology that promises to make installing an antenna as easy as applying sunblock or bug spray. The University reported the research in a DrexelNOW article, "Drexel's Spray-On Antennas Could Be the Tech Connector of the Future." The advance could mean wearable and invisible antennas that could find their place in the next generation of the Internet of Things (IoT), and even have Amateur Radio applications.

"The ability to spray an antenna on a flexible substrate or make it optically transparent means that we could have a lot of new places to set up networks," said Drexel Wireless Systems Laboratory Director and engineering professor Kapil Dandekar, a co-author of the research published recently in *Science Advances*.

"This technology could enable the truly seamless integration of antennas with everyday objects, which will be critical for the emerging Internet of things," Dandekar said.

In their paper, Dandekar and his colleagues laid out a method for spraying invisibly thin antennas made from a type of two-dimensional metallic material called MXene -- a conductive, two-dimensional titanium carbide material -- which can be

dissolved in water to create an ink or paint. They said the exceptional conductivity of the material enables it to be employed as an RF radiator, even when applied in a very thin, nearly invisible coating. The MXene antennas perform as well as those now being used in mobile devices, wireless routers, and other devices, the Drexel researchers said. In addition, the MXene materials were shown to be 50 times better than graphene and 300 times better than silver ink antennas in terms of preserving the quality of RF transmission.

"Current fabrication methods of metals cannot make antennas thin enough and applicable to any surface, in spite of decades of research and development to improve the performance of metal antennas," said Yury Gogotsi, Ph.D., director of the A.J. Drexel Nanomaterials Institute, who initiated and led the project. "We were looking for two-dimensional nanomaterials, which have sheet thickness about 100,000 times thinner than a human hair; just a few atoms across, and can self-assemble into conductive films upon deposition on any surface. Therefore, we selected MXene as a candidate for ultra-thin antennas."

"The MXene antenna not only outperformed the macro and micro world of metal antennas, we went beyond the performance of available nanomaterial antennas, while keeping the antenna thickness very low," said Babak Anasori, a research assistant professor in the A.J. Drexel Nanomaterials Institute. "The thinnest antenna was as thin as 62 nanometers -- about a thousand times thinner than a sheet of paper -- and it was almost transparent."

Unlike existing nanomaterial fabrication methods that require several steps, the Drexel research team's spray-on antennas can be fabricated in a single step by airbrush spraying a water-based MXene ink, Anasori said. -- Thanks to DrexelNow

Peggy Sue, ex-K5PSG, SK



Peggy Sue Gerron, ex-K5PSG, of Lubbock, Texas, who inspired singer Buddy Holly's 1957 rockabilly hit "Peggy Sue," died on October 1. She was 78. First licensed in 2004 as KE5AKW, she later obtained the vanity call K5PSG. Her license expired in 2014, and K5PSG has since been reissued. Gerron went to high school with Holly and later married The Crickets drummer, Jerry Allison. As rock 'n' roll history has it, Holly originally titled the song "Cindy Lou," but Allison convinced

the singer to change the tune's name to "Peggy Sue." In a 2004 interview, Gerron said that story is close to the truth, but not entirely accurate. After Holly's death in 1959, Gerron toured with The Crickets when the band got back together. Over the years, Gerron made public and media appearances all over the country. She said her participation in the 2004 W5B special event in Lubbock commemorating Holly helped inspire her Amateur Radio aspirations. "You can do TV specials, and you can be interviewed by the very best DJs," she said, "but there is nothing like the feeling of putting your finger down, and transmitting your call sign, and having somebody answer back."

From *The ARRL Letter*, October 11, 2018

The International Amateur Radio Union Monitoring Service (IARUMS) reports interference on 40 meters from various Russian sources

The Russian coastal over-the-horizon (OTH) radar “Sunflower” was very active on 40 meters and audible in Europe in the evenings, transmitting FM on pulse. The site is believed to be northeast of Vladivostok. IARUMS Region 1 Coordinator Wolf Hadel, DK2OM, said it was monitored in September. In addition, a Russian ship was observed transmitted on 7,110 kHz on F1B with 50 baud and 200 Hz shift. The vessel was believed to be in the vicinity of Cyprus and on the air daily in September. Another Russian ship was heard on September 18, transmitting AT3004D with 12 × 120 baud PSK2A on 7,179 kHz with a 2.6 kHz bandwidth, also in the area of Crete. And a Russian military system, believed to be near Moscow, was heard transmitting on 7,198 kHz in AT3004D test mode. Elsewhere, fishing crews often were monitored on 3,500; 3,535; 3,540; 3,560; 3,585; 3,590; 7,000 kHz, and 14,320 USB.

From *The ARRL Letter*, October 18, 2018

FT8 to be Permitted in 2019 ARRL RTTY Roundup

The ARRL Contest Branch has announced that participants in the 2019 ARRL RTTY Roundup will be permitted to use the new FT8 protocol, (<https://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/wsjt.html>), which is part of the WSJT-X software suite. The RTTY Roundup takes place January 5 - 6, 2019.

“Even though digital modes other than RTTY have been permitted in the RTTY Roundup for 30 years, FT8 was excluded in 2018, because it could not manage the required exchanges,” ARRL Contest Branch Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, said. “Through the work of the WSJT-X development team, the latest version of FT8 can handle the necessary exchanges that earlier versions were unable to do.”

Some limitations will apply to FT8 entrants. Participants must use WSJT-X version 2.0 or later to ensure they are able to transmit and receive the exchange messages the event requires. No unattended operation, including QSO/macro automations, will be allowed. Neither is FT8's Fox and Hounds mode; each contact must be carried out in a one-to-one mode, manually accepting/logging each contact.

Because ARRL contest rules regarding spotting assistance prohibit the use of “automated, multi-channel decoders” by Single-Operator entrants, stations using software that decodes more than one FT8 signal at a time will have to enter as Single-Operator Unlimited or as Multioperator, just as PSK participants have had to do in the past when using fldigi or DigiPan software.

The Contest Branch is encouraging participants to spread out to help increase decoding and contact success.

“This is a great opportunity for beginners interested in digital mode contesting,” Jahnke said. Complete rules are on the ARRL website, <http://www.arrl.org/rtty-roundup>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, October 25, 2018

Achieving a “Clean Sweep” is the Brass Ring of ARRL November Sweepstakes

ARRL November Sweepstakes (SS) is just ahead. The popular operating events -- one for CW and the other for phone (SSB) -- typically attract approximately 3,000 logs combined. For this 77th running ARRL November Sweepstakes, the CW event is November 3 - 5 (UTC), and phone is November 17 - 19 (UTC),

each starting at 2100 UTC on that Saturday and running through 0259 UTC on that Monday. Stations may operate 24 of the available 30 hours. Logs are due within 7 days after the event is over. Last year saw 1,275 entries for the CW weekend, while the phone weekend attracted 1,674 logs.

The challenge of SS -- or “Sweeps” -- is to work as many stations in as many of the 83 ARRL and Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) sections as possible within the 24 hours available to operate. The number of sections worked is a score multiplier. Making a “clean sweep” is the goal of many SS aficionados -- working all 83 of the available US and Canadian multipliers, and qualifying for a clean sweep coffee mug. In the 2017 CW event, only 10 operators managed to work them all. Phone participants had better luck, with 78 clean sweeps. Last year, Puerto Rico (PR) and the US Virgin Islands (VI) were still reeling from devastating hurricanes, making those sections rare.

At one time, the most difficult SS multiplier was Northern Territories (NT) in Canada, where J. Allen, VY1JA, in Yukon Territory, was often the only station available. That's changed now that the VY1JA station not only has been thoroughly upgraded but can be remotely operated (as VY1AAA), although by a Canadian operator, thanks to Gerry Hull, W1VE/VE1RM, who told ARRL this week that VY1AAA is ready for SS action.

Other hard ones in 2017 appear to have been Alberta (AB), Northern New York (NNY), US Virgin Islands (VI), and Wyoming (WY).

SS is a “domestic” contest with broad appeal, and even stations with modest equipment and antennas can enjoy success. Many stations like to operate in the QRP category (output of 5 W or less), although that challenge is more daunting at this point in the solar cycle.

SS and the Traffic-Handling Tradition

ARRL November Sweepstakes is the oldest domestic radiosport event (the first was in 1930). The SS contest exchange has deep roots in message-handling protocol and replicates a radiogram preamble. In SS, stations exchange:

- A **consecutive serial number** (NR). Operators do not have to add leading zeros on numbers less than 100.
- **Operating category** -- Q for Single Operator, QRP; A for Single Operator, Low Power (up to 150 W output); B for Single Operator, High Power (greater than 150 W output); U for Single Operator, Unlimited, regardless of power; M for Multioperator, regardless of power, and S for School Club.
- **Your call sign**
- **Check** (CK) -- the last two digits of the year of first license for either operator or station.
- **Section** -- ARRL/RAC Section.

“Casual operators are very important to SS, so I would advise that if you come across [operators] who just want to help you out with a QSO, take the time to walk them through the proper exchange sequence, and encourage them to work other stations and to submit a log,” said now-retired SS Manager Larry Hammel, K5OT. “Your patience might be rewarded with a motivated op next year!”

The SS Operating Guide package, available for download, (<http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes>), explains how to participate in the Sweepstakes, including all rules and examples of log formatting. -- Thanks to Gerry Hull, W1VE; Larry Hammel, K5OT, and Bart Jahnke, W9JJ.

Treasurer's Treatise

Better late than never...

Year end financial statement for 2017
1/1/2017 through 12/31/2017

INCOME

Club Badges	3.50
Club Dues - 2017	490.50
Club Dues - 2018	180.00
Club Dues - 2019	20.00
Donation	15.00
Flea Market	3542.00
Flea Market Food Booth	635.00
TOTAL INCOME	4886.00

EXPENSES

Archives	872.14
BBS	364.20
Business Cards	55.71
Field Day	174.08
Flea Market	2400.00
Insurance	200.00
Misc	79.34
Office Supplies	125.95
PO Box	94.00
SCCARA-GRAM	395.01
TOTAL EXPENSES	4760.43

NET CASH FLOW +125.57

Accounts	1/1/2017	12/31/2017
checking	7147.06	7005.63
savings	500.07	500.07
cash	67.82	334.82
TOTAL	7714.95	7840.52

Goetz Brandt, K6GKB

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, Oct. 8, 2018



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

The meeting was called to order by President Gregg Lane at 19:30.

Introductions were made.

Announcements:

1) SCCARA participated in the California QSO Party from the Club Station at the Red Cross.

2) SCCARA will participate in the ARRL Sweepstakes on Nov. 3-4, 2018 for CW (starting at 2PM) and on Nov. 17-18 for SSB.(starting at 1PM) at the Club Station at the Red Cross.

3) A 40' Tubular Tower is looking for a home. See Gregg if you are interested.

4) SCCARA is selling an Icom IC-70 receiver and a Yaesu FT-101ZD HF transceiver. See Gary.

5) SVECS Quarterly Breakfast at the Santa Clara Senior Center is Oct. 27, 2018 starting at 0900, program at 1000. The speaker is Frank Fox AF0XX who will be speaking about MARS (MILITARY AUXILIARY RADIO SERVICE).

6) Elections for 2019 Officers will be at the November 12, 2018 General Meeting. Nominations can be made at the Oct. and Nov. meetings. The election will be for President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and 3 positions for Directors.

a) Goetz K6GKB was nominated for Treasurer by Gary WB6YRU, second by Don K6PBQ.

b) Rusty KI6ZSK was nominated for Director by Lou WA6QYS, second by Janet KF6PUQ.

c) Truman N6TRU was self nominated for Director, second by Gary WB6YRU.

Gregg introduced the evenings speaker Paul Ewing N6PSE who spoke on "DXpeditions: Lessons Learned." He entertained and educated us with examples of what went into the planning trips and how things could change both before and during a trip. For anyone that missed this presentation I recommend they check out the Intrepid DX Group page at www.Intrepid-DX.com where you can get information and see videos about Paul's DX Group.

The meeting was closed at 2107 and refreshments were shared by all.

Gregg Lane KF6FNA

Board Meeting, Oct. 15, 2018



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

Meeting called to order by President Gregg Lane at 19:45.

Attendance:

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

Announcements:

1) The Club Station at the Red Cross will be open for the ARRL Sweepstakes for CW on Nov. 3-5, 2018 (2 PM start) and for SSB on Nov. 17-19, 2018 (1PM start.)

2) SVECS breakfast on Oct. 27, 2018. Food at 0900, program at 1000. Frank Fox AF0XX speaks about MARS.

3) Pacificon Oct. 19-21, 2018.

Treasurer's Report: Goetz submitted as of 10/15/2018

checking	\$8,245.53
savings	500.07
cash	1,538.57
TOTAL	\$10,284.17

Trustee's Report:

Don is updating the club station log books. He requested that someone going to Pacificon buy a log book since he only has 3 empty pages in the current log book.

Old Business:

1) The availability of a reservation at Harry's Hoffbrau for the Holiday Dinner on Dec. 10, 2018 has yet to be confirmed.

2) On the sale of club property: Gary has not sold the IC-R70 or the FT-101ZD. He will continue to advertise until they are sold. He requested that the BOD make a Statement of Policy for the sale of club property. TBD. Gary suggested that a SCCARA PayPal account could make sales of property easier. The discussion was tabled.

Meeting adjourned at 20:24

Gregg Lane KF6FNA

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the BBS packet network:

=====
Date: 26 Dec 2015 03:28
From: GM3YEW@GB7YEW
To: HUMOUR@WW
Subject: Jokes 25/12

British Jokes...

Riots in Birmingham last month caused over 1 million worth of improvements.

Muslims have gone on the rampage in Manchester, killing anyone who's English. Police fear the death toll could be as high as 8 or 9.

They've had to cancel the pantomime 'Jack & the Beanstalk' in Birmingham, Bristol, Oldham, Bradford, Burnley, Leicester, Manchester and London. Apparently the giant couldn't smell any Englishmen.

On a recent trip to the United States, Tony Blair, Ex. Labour Prime Minister of the UK and now U.N. Middle East Peace Envoy, addressed a major gathering of Native American Indians.

He spoke for almost two hours on his success in bringing about a lasting peace settlement amongst the warring nations of the Middle East, likening it to the way that the U.S. Government found a suitable agreement with the North American tribes.

At the conclusion of his speech, the crowd presented him with a plaque inscribed with his new Indian name - Walking Eagle.

A very chuffed Tony then departed in his motorcade, waving to the crowds.

A news reporter later asked one of the Indians how they came to select the new name given to Tony Blair. They explained that Walking Eagle is the name given to a bird so full of sh*t that it can no longer fly.

Robbers entered a bank in a small town. One of them shouted: "Don't move! The money belongs to the bank. Your lives belong to you."

Immediately all the people in the bank laid on the floor quietly and without panic.

This is an example of how the correct wording of a sentence can make everyone change their view of the

world.

One woman laid on the floor in a provocative manner. The robber approached her saying, "Ma'am, this is a robbery not a rape. Please behave accordingly."

This is an example of how to behave professionally, and focus on the goal.

While running from the bank the youngest robber (who had a college degree) said to the oldest robber (who had barely finished elementary school): "Hey, maybe we should count how much we stole." The older man replied: "Don't be stupid. It's a lot of money so let's wait for the news on TV to find out how much money was taken from the bank."

This is an example of how life experience is more important than a degree.

After the robbery, the manager of the bank said to his accountant: "Let's call the cops and tell them how much has been stolen." "Wait," said the Accountant, "before we do that, let's add the \$800,000 we took for ourselves a few months ago and just say that it was stolen as part of today's robbery."

This is an example of taking advantage of an opportunity.

The following day it was reported in the news that the bank was robbed of \$3 million. The robbers then counted the money, but they found only \$1 million so they started to grumble. "We risked our lives for \$1 million, while the bank's management robbed two million dollars without blinking? Maybe it's better to learn how to work the system, instead of being a simple robber."

This is an example of how knowledge can be more useful than power.

Moral: Give a person a gun, and he can rob a bank. Give a person a bank, and he can rob everyone.

I met chap at lodge recently who was drinking whiskey and I mentioned to him that it's nice to have an odd whiskey. He agreed and then explained to me why he had a glass from every other bottle on the shelf. Apart from liking whiskey of all types, it didn't matter how drunk he got, he could always face his wife when he got home and honestly say he just had an odd whiskey.

Terrorism High Alert Causing Me Problems:

When I was at the checkout and ready to pay for my groceries, the checkout chic said, "Strip down, facing me."

Making a mental note so I could complain to my local MP about this security rubbish, I did just as she had instructed.

After the shrieking and hysterical remarks finally subsided, I found out that she was referring to how I should position my credit card.

Nonetheless, I've been asked to shop elsewhere in the future.

They need to make their instructions a little clearer for seniors. I hate this getting older stuff.

Somewhere in Ireland a teacher asks her class: "Can anyone tell me the name of Robin Hood's girlfriend?"

Young Paddy raises his hand and says "Trudy Glenn, Miss."

"No Paddy," says the teacher. "The answer is Maid Marion."

"But Miss, what about that song we used to sing: 'Robin Hood, Robin Hood riding Trudy Glenn'."

One Monday morning the postman is walking through the neighbourhood on his usual route, delivering the mail. As he approaches one of the homes he noticed that both cars were still in the driveway. His wonder was cut short by David, the homeowner, coming out with a load of empty beer, wine and spirit bottles for the recycling bin. "Wow David, looks like you guys had one hell of a party last night," the Postman comments. David, in obvious pain, replies "Actually we had it Saturday night. This is the first I felt like moving since 4:00 am Sunday morning.

We had about 15 couples from around the neighbourhood over for some weekend fun and it got a bit wild. We all got so drunk around midnight that we started playing 'WHO AM I.' The Postman thinks a moment and says, "How do you play WHO AM I?" "Well, all the guys go in the bedroom and come out one at a time covered with a sheet with only the 'family jewels' showing through a hole in the sheet. Then the women try to guess who it is."

The postman laughs and says, "Sounds like fun, I'm sorry I missed it." "Probably a good thing you did," David responded. "Your name came up 7 times."

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 (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

Did you find Goetz' article on SDR interesting? I did. Radio technology is indeed advancing, but so is the internet. And therein lies the rub. SDR by itself is all well and good, but what about doing this on line? We do things on line now that wasn't possible just a few years ago, and it shows no sign of slowing.

These online remote SDRs are a case in point. You're sitting there at the computer connected to the internet. There's nothing in sight that even remotely resembles radio, except perhaps your WiFi router. You connect to one of these sites. Lo and behold, you're playing with what appears to be a real radio, listening to actual RF signals! And that radio could be next door or half way around the world, it doesn't matter. Amazing! Fantastic! Right?

OK, well, not so fast... This is all very wonderful, I don't deny that. But what's to become of actual **radio**? You know, like in the old days -- two people with transceivers, antennas, and nothing between except the ether. Come hell or high waters, they're chatting as long as they've got power to their radios.

The thing is, if you can operate any of a number of radios on the internet, why bother having an actual radio? You've got a large collection to choose from on line. Why not save a boat load of money and trouble on radio equipment, antennas, etc. and simply connect to one of these?

I believe the thing to watch is how we transmit. If we also start "transmitting" on line, or whatever passes for it, then we'll start sliding down a slippery slope.

If that catches on, what's to become of our frequencies? What's to become of amateur radio? What's to become of RADIO? Will RF equipment become quaint antiques, like vacuum tubes? Is someone who operates on line really a radio operator?

Now, you might be thinking mobile operation needs radios and antennas, that will keep us on the air. Well, don't be too certain... What can you do with your smart phone these days? Yes, technically that's a radio link, but you wouldn't know it. No license or knowledge of radio is required. Ask the next person you see using a smart phone what kind of antenna is he/she using. They'll probably look at you like this 

So, where are we really headed? Let's hear your view! Is this just the latest and greatest in radio evolution, or is it the start of RF's gentle slide into oblivion?

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor



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 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.