

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 36, Number 3

March 2020



At Our February 2020 meeting, the club was...

99 years old! Yea!



No? OK, so maybe we don't bother with anniversaries unless they have *round numbers* for some reason. Well, that's going to happen in one year!

It's the middle of winter 2020. So this is our 99th anniversary. Give or take a little, we don't know the exact date of the first meeting.

It's not too early to start thinking about what we'd like to do at this time next year, our centennial. Probably at least have a dinner meeting. We could have a member's night. Maybe give each member a few minutes to talk about the club, reminisce a little, or talk about the past and future of amateur radio, or what you think the next 100 years will bring. Or something else? Let's start thinking about it.

73, Gary WB6YRU

The Last Frontier

Ham radio has advanced to the point where many hams have been eliminated from the field of play. Miniaturization of components in most radios now requires the use of a microscope to even see the resistors, capacitors and inductors that might need replacing. Most of us do not have the jewelers touch required to manipulate tweezers and micro tipped pencil soldering irons. Then there are those centipede like IC's that have twenty or more leads that defy de-soldering, or re-soldering. Do it yourself construction and repairs are almost a thing of the past. We used to be able to read a circuit diagram and understand the progress of a microvolt signal being amplified, heterodyned and demodulated into an audio output. Software defined radios have thrown that all out the window, direct sampling of a signal using Fourier Transforms, math most of us do not understand. Slowly we are being distanced from the equipment we loved to play with so much. Yes, there are the DIY projects, but mostly for the QRP fans.

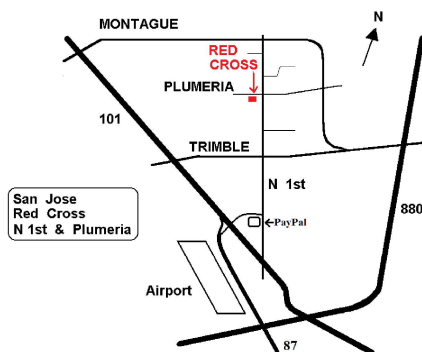
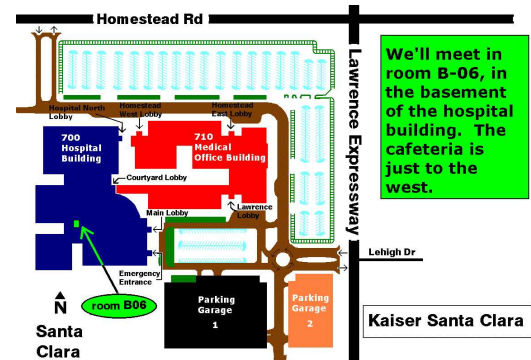
So what is left? Well, all the communicating is still there and the types of modulation have multiplied to include endless digital modes allowing contests and contact logging to continue. But when it comes to hands on hardware manipulation, most of us are down to the *last frontier*, namely antennas. The beauty is that

Calendar

- 3/9 SCCARA General Meeting
3/16 SCCARA Board Meeting--(San Jose Red Cross, 7:30p, all are welcome)

General Meeting

- Day: Monday, March 9, 2020
Time: 7:30 PM
Place: Kaiser Santa Clara, Hospital bld, B06
Featuring: Clay Cougar N5YJZ on communications support for IHS field medical teams



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	Ned Tufekcic AC6YY	408-690-7250
	94nt@hotmail.com	
Secretary	Barbara Britten, KD6QEI	408-293-3847
	e-mail: kd6qei@arrl.net	
Treasurer	Goetz Brandt, K6GKB	408-259-7287
	e-mail: goetz@ix.netcom.com	
Station Trustee	Don Village, K6PBQ	408-263-2789
	e-mail: donvillage7@yahoo.com	
Director	Janet Motha, KF6PUQ	408-252-3939
	e-mail: jmotha21@gmail.com	
Director	Lou Steirer, WA6QYS	408-241-7999
	e-mail: w6qys@aol.com	
Director	Truman Lindsey, N6TRU	408-896-1878
	e-mail: n6truhamradio@gmail.com	
Director	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	408-293-3847
	e-mail: ka6ymd@arrl.net	
Director	James Rustermier, KI6ZSK	408-972-1689
	e-mail: rustermier@gmail.com	

COMMITTEES

Editor	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	408-269-2924
	e-mail: wb6yru@ix.netcom.com	
Repeater	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	408-293-3847
	e-mail: ka6ymd@arrl.net	
N0ARY BBS	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	408-269-2924
	e-mail: wb6yru@ix.netcom.com	
Webmaster	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	408-293-3847
	e-mail: ka6ymd@arrl.net	

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

we can understand the principle, design a configuration, easily obtain the necessary hardware and construct a working antenna with little difficulty. What we are trying to do is convert a modulated current from our transmitter into an electromagnetic energy field so large that someone far away can reverse the process and induce that electromagnetic field into their antenna resulting in the original modulated current being delivered to their receiver. The concept of an energy field can be obscure, but if you take two refrigerator magnets and bring them close together, in the repulsing orientation you can feel the magnetic field for sure. In the attracting orientation you might pinch your fingers.

So where's the fun? If you want your radio to work it has to have an antenna, so one way or another you will be dealing with antennas! Of course you can buy one, but why pay someone else to do the work when you can do it yourself. You can go to the internet and let GOOGLE connect you with a million Elmer's who will talk you through the process. The frequency you wish to radiate begins the task, its wavelength crucial to the design. Resonance, the freewheeling exchange of two energy forms, requires a length that allows constructive interference. In our case, the collapsing field that occurs when the positive polarity of the radiating signal is reversed, will induce a voltage that is negative and in phase with the other half of our signal. The two currents will add together to provide almost twice the signal strength, the slight difference being the added energy required to sustain the resonance. All this requires that the length of the antenna conductor match the wavelength of the signal else ugliness ensues.

As a starter, everyone should build a dipole antenna, the simplest design possible. Often called a Hertzian Dipole, named for its inventor Heinrich Hertz, it is a wire one half wavelength long and fed at the center with a feed line. I won't go into details, but it can be straight, folded, V shaped up, V shaped down, boxed, sloped, and even vertically oriented. GOOGLE it, study it and build one, you will be rewarded! Can't wait to hear the results of your work on the air.

Goetz Brandt, K6GKB

What's Good About Amateur Radio?

What Members Like About the Hobby

"Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic." – Arthur C. Clarke

What I find most interesting about amateur radio, or just radio in general, is that we can communicate in the first place.

Not that long ago we discovered enough about electricity (or more specifically in this case, electromagnetism) that we could bend this fundamental force of nature to our will. It's like being Merlin or having a power of the gods. It certainly qualifies as "magic" as described by Mr. Clarke. Think about it -- what would someone from 1000 years ago make of you using your HT or cell phone? That *HAS* to be magic!

We've only been playing with it for a little over a century, yet these days it's so common place we take it for granted. But it hasn't lost its luster to me, it still seems a little bit like having magical powers.

I think that may be why I tend to gravitate toward the lowest frequencies allowed. Until recently that was the 160 m band, now it's the 2200 m band. That's like exploring the edge or boundary, the farthest of what we can play with (legally).

And transmitter hunting. It's interesting to wander around looking for a hidden transmitter, you really get a feel for what the radio waves are doing. There are reflections, hot spots, weak glows, sharply defined signals, etc. I often wonder what it would be like to see radio waves. Based on what can be detected with a hand-held yagi, 2 m isn't like visible light. People would look like vague dark blobs, dense in the middle and translucent around the edges. The hills would look like broken mirrors. The ground would be made of patches of "stuff" of varying degrees of reflectivity, depending on how damp the ground is. It would have many shiny spots after a rain! The Bay (salt water) would look like a huge undulating sheet of aluminum foil (shiny side up). As you moved around, you'd see large things like buildings reflecting the signal like giant mirrors. If the transmitter were behind something, you'd see the signal as a rough glow in that direction, not very distinct. If it were directly visible (line-of-sight), you'd see it as a very sharp star-like point of light. That's partly why "T hunting" never gets old for me!

If you could see short wave frequencies, the sky itself would be spectacular! "Color" is just another way of saying "wave length" or "frequency." So at different times the sky would be highly reflective to different colors. Light (RF signals) would appear to reflect off these wobbly mirror-like layers in the sky. Different colors would come and go at different times. Some colors would reflect brightly from far away places, then they'd fade away as other colors began reflecting.

We say "the band is open" or "closed" when the sky becomes reflective to those frequencies (colors). The best we can do is pay attention to what frequencies or band our radio is tuned to, and when a band "opens," just mentally translating that into color. Low frequencies would be red, high frequencies would be violet. And when a band is completely closed, you'd be able to make out faint little glowing spots in the sky, glowing in the colors of that band. Those are astronomical radio sources.

Or using an audio analogy, 160 m would be low tones, 10 m would be high tones. As the skip fluctuates, as the bands open and closed, you could call it "the music of the sky," something like a grand wind chime. And when a band (range of tones) is "closed," you'd be able to make out faint little sounds in those tones coming from points here and there in the sky, (the astronomical radio sources).

And we can easily communicate using this force...
abracadabra! I won't get tired of this any time soon! 😊

73, Gary WB6YRU

ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, Feb. 6, 2020

Undersea Expedition Planned to Retrieve Titanic's Radio Gear

The company with sole rights to salvage artifacts from the RMS Titanic has gone to court to gain permission to carry out a "surgical removal and retrieval" of the Marconi radio equipment on the ship, a Washington Post article reports. The Titanic sank in 1912 on its maiden voyage after striking an iceberg in the North Atlantic. As the radio room filled with water, radio operator Jack Phillips transmitted, "Come at once. We have struck a berg. It's a CQD, old man," and other frantic messages for help, using the spark transmitter on board. CQD was ultimately replaced with SOS -- which Phillips also used -- as the universal distress call. The passenger liner RMS Carpathia responded and rescued 705 of the

passengers.



A recreation of the Titanic radio room.

As might be expected, the deteriorating Marconi equipment is in poor shape after more than a century under water. The undersea retrieval would mark the first time an artifact was collected from within the Titanic, which many believe should remain undisturbed as the final resting place of some 1,500 victims of the maritime disaster, including Phillips. The wreck sits on the ocean floor some 2 1/2 miles beneath the surface, remaining undiscovered until 1985.

A just-signed treaty between the UK and the US grants both countries authority to allow or deny access to the wreck and to remove items found outside the vessel. "This momentous agreement with the United States to preserve the wreck means it will be treated with the sensitivity and respect owed to the final resting place of more than 1,500 lives," British Transport and Maritime Minister Nusrat Ghani said in a statement.

The request to enter the rapidly disintegrating wreck was filed in US District Court in Eastern Virginia by RMS Titanic, Inc. of Atlanta, Georgia, which said that it hopes to restore the Titanic radio transmitter to operating condition, if it is allowed to go forward.

The company plans to use a manned submarine to reach the wreck and then deploy a remotely controlled sub that would perforate the hull and retrieve the radio equipment.

President Signs PIRATE Act to Combat Illegal Broadcasting

On January 24, President Donald Trump signed into law the "Preventing Illegal Radio Abuse Through Enforcement Act," or the PIRATE Act. The measure, which amends the Communications Act of 1934, authorizes enhanced penalties for violators. Under the new law, pirate radio broadcasters would be subject to a fine of not more than \$2 million, and violators could be fined up to \$100,000 for each day during which an offense occurs. The new law stipulates that the FCC "shall not decrease or diminish the regular enforcement efforts targeted to pirate radio broadcast stations for other times of the year."

The FCC is to submit to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation a report summarizing the implementation of this section and associated enforcement activities for the previous fiscal

year. The new law also requires “annual sweeps,” during which FCC personnel will be assigned to “focus specific and sustained attention on the elimination of pirate radio broadcasting within the top five radio markets identified as prevalent for such broadcasts.” The Commission also “shall conduct monitoring sweeps to ascertain whether the pirate radio broadcasting identified by enforcement sweeps is continuing and whether additional pirate radio broadcasting is occurring.”

Under the new law, the FCC will change its rules so that it proceeds directly to issuance of a Notice of Apparent Liability (NAL) without first issuing a Notice of Unlicensed Operation (NOUO).

The FCC will develop and publish a database of all licensed AM and FM broadcasters, accessible directly from the FCC home page. The FCC is also required to publish a list of “all entities that have received a Notice of Unlicensed Operation, Notice of Apparent Liability, or forfeiture order,” as well as “each entity...operating without a Commission license or authorization.”

The law defines pirate radio broadcasting as transmitting within the AM and FM bands without an FCC license, but excluding unlicensed operations in compliance with Part 15.

From *The ARRL Letter*, Feb. 13, 2020

ARRL Creates New HF Band Planning Discussion Group

ARRL has created a new HF Band Planning Discussion Group, (<https://groups.arrl.org/g/ARRL-HF-Band-Planning>). HF Band Planning Committee Chair Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF, will moderate the group, which will focus on the ARRL HF Band Planning Committee's recommendations and other band-planning activities. Earlier this month, the ARRL HF Band Planning Committee invited comments and suggestions from the amateur radio community on its report to the ARRL Board.

At the Board's January meeting, the committee presented its specific recommendations in graphical form for each HF band and US license class, with the goal of increasing harmony on the HF bands, particularly between CW and digital users. [http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Bandplanning/25_Appendix_BP_Committee_recs_FINAL\(h\).pdf](http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Bandplanning/25_Appendix_BP_Committee_recs_FINAL(h).pdf)

Those responding to the initial call for comments and suggestions are encouraged to cross-post their remarks to the new HF Band Planning Discussion Group.

ARRL Podcasts Schedule

The second episode of ARRL's “On the Air” podcast is now available. Topics focus on building the ground-plane antenna featured in the first issue of *On the Air* magazine, a discussion of open-wire feed lines, and an interview with a relatively new public service volunteer. New “On the Air” podcast episodes are available each month.

The inaugural episode of ARRL's new “Eclectic Tech” podcast is now available. The first episode includes a discussion of amateur radio activity on the Qatar-OSCAR 100 satellite, an interview with Assistant ARRL Lab Manager Bob Allison, WB1GCM, about handheld transceiver testing at Dayton Hamvention and other conventions, and an interview with Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, about propagation conditions.

Both podcasts are available on iTunes (iOS) and Stitcher (Android) as well as on Blubrry (<https://blubrry.com/arrlontheair/>) On the Air and Eclectic Tech (<https://blubrry.com/eclectictech/>).

FCC Solicits Comments on 5.9 GHz band

The FCC has invited comments on a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in WT Docket 19-138, which said the FCC would take “a fresh and comprehensive look” at the rules for the 5.9 GHz band. The FCC proposes to make 5.850 - 5.895 GHz available for unlicensed operations and to authorize transportation-related communication technologies to use 5.895 - 5.925 GHz. The FCC is not proposing to delete or otherwise amend the 5-centimeter secondary amateur radio allocation at 5.650 - 5.925 GHz, part of which includes the 75 megahertz under consideration. Comments are due by March 6, and reply comments are due by April 6. ARRL will be filing comments supporting no change to 5.850 - 5.925 GHz for amateurs, as included in the FCC proposal.

From *The ARRL Letter*, Feb. 20, 2020

KX9X Offers Five Tips on Satellite Operating Etiquette

Former ARRL Contest Branch Manager and Media and Public Relations Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, shared “Five Tips on Etiquette and Good Manners on the FM Ham Radio Satellites” on the DX Engineering blog, *On All Bands*. Kutzko said the transient nature of satellite availability can lead to “a natural sense of urgency” among operators trying to operate through it.

“Satellite operating comes with several challenges, not the least of which is that it is one of the ultimate shared resources in the hobby,” Kutzko wrote. “While there are now several satellites to choose from, a given satellite is only above the horizon for a maximum of 15 minutes or so. Lots of people trying to access a satellite during a short window of opportunity can create problems, and that can bring out some undesirable behavior.”



Sean Kutzko, KX9X

In terms of operating etiquette for satellites, Kutzko advised that the “**big one**,” is “**Don't transmit if you can't hear the satellite first.**” He notes that whistling or saying such things as “hello” and “check one-two” are bad form.

“If you don't hear other activity, you're probably not going to hear yourself, either,” Kutzko explained. “Blindly calling or whistling may cause unintentional interference to other stations that can properly hear the satellite.”

Next on the list is to **wait your turn**. “Given the rapid nature of satellite contacts, you shouldn't have to wait very long for your chance during a pass,” Kutzko wrote.

Kutzko also advised to **always use phonetics** when operating on the FM satellites. “Phonetics help ensure your call [sign] is copied

correctly the first time and can save a lot of precious moments during a short pass," he said.

Also, **avoid making repeat contacts with a station you've worked previously and resist the temptation to greet an old friend.** "[E]ach contact you make with a person you've already had several contacts with prevents another person from making a contact," Kutzko pointed out.

Finally, he said, **"It may be best to let the rare station have the pass and try to work as many stations as they can.** In some cases, the rare station may only be audible for a portion of the pass you're on, with the station moving out of the satellite's footprint before it moves out of range for you," Kutzko recommended.

"Satellite activity is at an all-time high, with new sats being launched on a regular basis and more operators discovering how much fun there is to be had," he concluded. "By being mindful of others trying to make contacts and thinking of others on the pass, we can all contribute to a better satellite environment for everyone."

Kutzko won the June 2018 QST Cover Plaque Award for his article, "Get on the Satellites for ARRL Field Day." He steered satellite newcomers to his earlier blog posts to help them get started.

New World Distance Record Claimed on 122 GHz

A new world distance record of 139 kilometers (86.2 miles) is being claimed by radio amateurs in northern California. This tops the record of 114 kilometers set in 2005 by WA1ZMS and W4WWQ, according to the Distance Records on the ARRL website.



Mike Lavelle, K6ML

The February 17, 2020, contact was between Mike Lavelle, K6ML, on Mount Vaca (CM88WJ75ON) at 835 meters (2,739.5 feet) above sea level, and Oliver Barrett, KB6BA (at 1225 UTC), and Jim Moss, N9JIM (at 1250 UTC), who were both on Mount Umunhum (CM97BD18VJ) at 1,016 meters (3333.3 feet) above sea level.

Lavelle reports the dew point was -11 °C, the air temperature was 15 °C, the path loss was about 225 dB, and atmospheric loss was approximately 0.35 dB/kilometer.

"CW was used, 122 GHz signals were very weak (7 dB above the noise in 22 Hz; -13 in 2500 Hz equivalent) with [fading] down to the noise floor," Lavelle told ARRL. "Dishes were aligned on 24 GHz (71 dB above the noise) prior to [moving] to 122 GHz; we heard signals right away on 122 GHz." The stations employed 60-centimeter satellite TV dishes and ran "somewhat less than half a milliwatt" on 122 GHz, Lavelle said.

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, Feb. 10, 2020



Kaiser Santa Clara, Homestead and Lawrence Expressway, Santa Clara, CA

Self introductions. 19 people present, one visitor: Mike Pogue, KN6GHI

Announcements

President: Gregg Lane KF6FNA: An antenna party was held at the American Red Cross building. John Parks, W6JPP; Wally Britten, KA6YMD; Fred Townsend, AE6QL; Gregg Lane, KF6FNA; George Williams, WN6NKT. They removed antennas from the roof of the building for now due to roof work being done. There are still 2 antennas present for the Club station. On 02/29/2020, they will check the net/web site for more info. Thank you to Rich for providing the cookies.

Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU: This is the 99th Anniversary of SCCARA, next year will be our 100th. SCCARA had its first meeting in February of 1921. Next year we could have a dinner meeting or members night, with a review of the 1st and 2nd decades of SCCARA. It was suggested that the Club station could be open every Saturday in February 2021, and a special anniversary QSL card be provided for each contact made during the year.

Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU: There's an upcoming hamfest in Loomis, near Sacramento. Flyers are available for anyone interested.

John Parks W6JPP: The antenna trailer will not have to be moved since SCCARA's insurance policy satisfied the American Legion Post's requirements.

Our speaker for the evening was John Noter, KM6TUX, on the subject of "Random Wire Antennas"

Adjourned 8:30 PM.

Barbara Britten KD6QEI, Secretary

Board Meeting, Feb. 17, 2020



American Red Cross, Plumeria at N. First St., San Jose, CA

Absences: James Rustermier, KI6ZSK
Visitors: Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU, Editor

Announcements

Youth net on NFI is on Tuesday's at 7:00 PM

There is a historical radio museum in Alameda that would make a nice club visit.

Clay Cougar, N5YJZ, will be the March speaker. His topic will be IHS/Honduras

Goertz Brandt, K6GKB, will talk to David Graybar, KK6US on satellite communications to be a speaker for the Club.

Minutes: The January regular meeting and Board minutes are printed in the SCCARA-GRAM. Motion by Wally Britten, KA6YMD to accept the minutes as published in the SCCARA-GRAM. Seconded by Lou Stierer. Motion carried.

Treasurer: Checking = \$13,143.89, Savings = \$0.00, Cash = \$196.04, Total \$13,339.93

Trustee, Don Village, K6PBQ: The Club station will be open at the American Red Cross building, Plumeria at N. First St. on Feb 29, from 10 AM to 4:00 PM

Repeater, Wally Britten KA6YMD: It is working well. PL tone doesn't ID every time. Goertz Brandt, K6GKB, will bring his computer to the next Board meeting, to reset the tones.

Web Site, Wally Britten KA6YMD: He is getting data to the website as soon as he gets it.

Newsletter, Gary Mitchell WB6YRU: There is a new column, "What do you like about amateur radio?" Anyone can send an article about this to Gary, WB6YRU.

Club archives, Gary Mitchell WB6YRU: He wants to know how people would like to see the archives presented in the web site, pdf files vs images.

BBS, Gary Mitchell WB6YRU: Nothing is new. It is still running with an ancient computer.

Old Business

SCCARA's 100 year birthday: James Rustermier (Rusty) KI6ZSK and Truman Lindsey N6TRU volunteered to come up with ideas for a special QSL card, Gary Mitchell WB6YRU reported still not hearing or receiving anything. Gary wanted to know if we would do anything special just for one day, a whole month, or the whole year. The club was started in Feb. 1921. We could use the current call sign for QSL cards and at the club station, or see about a special call sign, maybe the first one the club had (6SV). It was suggested that the club station be open every Saturday in February 2021, with special QSL cards available all year long.

Flea Market 2020: SCCARA and ASVARO signed up for 2020. The Flea market will continue on the property of Fry's parking lot.

Field Day: George Williams has had no response to his request to hold Field Day at the American Red Cross building.

New Business

The roof of the Red Cross building is being redone. Antennas have been taken down that have guy wires. The vertical antenna and the 20/40 dipoles are still there to run the station. George Williams will keep us apprised of events.

Adjourned 8:30 PM

Barbara Britten KD6QEI, Secretary

Getting it Right

In the Feb. 2020 *SCCARA-GRAM*...

The General meeting minutes of January 13 had the year 2019, it should have been 2020.

The Board meeting minutes of January 20 also had the year 2019, it should have been 2020. Under New Business, the report from

John Parks showed his call as K6JPP, it should have been W6JPP.

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the BBS packet network:

=====
Date: 4 Dec 2012 11:59
From: GM3YEW@GB7YEW
To: HUMOUR@WW
Subject: Jokes 4/12

A white horse walked into a bar. The bartender goes over to him and said, "There's a drink named after you!"

The white horse said, "What, there's a drink called Eric?"

One day God was looking down at Earth and saw all of the rascally behavior that was going on. He sent one of his angels to Earth to investigate. The angel returned and said "It's true, 95% are misbehaving and only 5% are not."

God was not pleased. He decided to email the 5% who were behaving, he wanted to encourage them and give them a little something to help them keep going.

Do you know what the email said?

No?

OK, just wondering. I didn't get one either.

A Blonde arrived in Heaven. A concerned St Peter met her at the Pearly Gates.

"I'm sorry" St Peter said "but Heaven is suffering from an overload of goodly souls and we have been forced to put up an Entrance Exam for new arrivals."

"That's cool" said the blonde "What does the Entrance Exam consist of?"

"Just three questions" said St Peter.

"The first is: Which two days of the week start with the letter 'T'? The second is: How many seconds are there in a year? And the third is: What was the name of the swagman in Waltzing Matilda?"

"Now" said St Peter "Go think about it, and when I call upon you I shall expect you to have the answers for me."

So the blonde went away and gave those three questions some considerable thought (I expect you to do the same).

The following morning St Peter called upon the blonde and asked if she had considered the questions to which she replied "I have."

"Well then" said St Peter "which two days of the week start with the letter T?"

Need Help?

The blonde said "Today and Tomorrow."

St Peter pondered this answer for some time and decided that indeed the answer can be applied to the question.

"Well then could I have your answer to the second of the three questions?" St Peter went on, "How many seconds in a year?"

The Blonde thought for a time, counting to herself. Then finally replied "Twelve!"

"Only twelve?" exclaimed St Peter How did you arrive at that figure?"

"Easy" said the blonde "There's the second of January, second of February and so on through to the second of December giving a total of twelve seconds."

St Peter looked at the blonde and said "I need some time to consider your answer before I can give you a decision." And he walked away shaking his head.

A short time later St Peter returned to the Blonde. "I'll have to allow the answer to stand but you need to get the third and final question absolutely correct to be allowed into Heaven. Now can you tell me the answer to the name of the swagman in Waltzing Matilda?"

The blonde replied: "Of the three questions I found this the easiest to answer."

"Really!" exclaimed St Peter "And what is the answer?"

"It's Andy."

"Andy??"

"Yes, Andy" said the blonde.

This floored St Peter, he paced this way and that deliberating the answer. Finally he turned to the blonde and asked "How in God's name did you arrive at THAT answer?"

"Easy" said the blonde "Andy sat, Andy watched, Andy waited til his billy boiled."

St Peter rolled his eyes, but... the blonde entered Heaven.

=====
Date: 10 May 2011 01:20
From: W1GMF@W1GMF
To: HUMOR@USA
Subject: WORKING ROYALTY

The following was related to me by a fellow HAM, W6---. He prefers to remain anonymous, but swears it is true!

JY1, this is W6---. How did you get such a fancy call sign? You must have some political pull.
W6---, JY1 here. It helps if you're King.

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
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

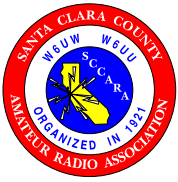
WB6YRU, Gary Mitchell, 408-269-2924
packet: home BBS N0ARY
e-mail: wb6yru@ix.netcom.com

Newsletter Notes

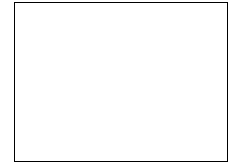
The new column *What's Good About Amateur Radio* has hit a slow spot. I had my story held in reserve, I was hoping it wouldn't be needed so soon. There must be many stories out there. Don't be bashful, we're all HAMs here. Let's hear your story.

On another note... What do you think about our 100th anniversary coming up? It'll be here before you know it. We should at least have a dinner meeting in February 2021. What type of restaurant would be good, maybe one that has been in business since 1921 or earlier?

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 2020

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% For 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 \$15 per year

(Prorated, \$1.25 per month. That's \$13.75 if starting in February, \$12.50 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.