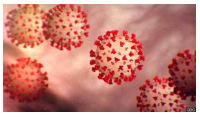
SCCARA-GRAM

Santa Clara County
Amateur Radio Association

Volume 36, Number 6 June 2020

Meetings & Activities



Again the general meeting is canceled and the board meting will be on our repeater.

Two big things were scheduled this month: Field Day and it's our turn to host the electronic flea market. In the interest of keeping everyone safe from the coronavirus, the board has decided to cancel both.

At least we can participate in Field Day as individuals. Class D is a home station operating on commercial power. But there's a catch: you can't contact another class D station for points. Class E is a home station operating on emergency power (not PG&E), and there are no restrictions. So dust off that solar panel or wind turbine or whatever, and avoid that restriction.

For those who want to get out of the house, you can setup somewhere (even just in the back yard) as class B portable. Class B is the same as class A (a club or group) except there's only one or two operators and you can't be a GOTA station. Or class B - Battery. And if you want to be mobile, there's class C.

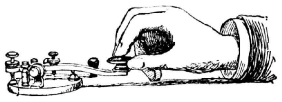
What's Good About Amateur Radio?

What Members Like About the Hobby

I got interested in high school. I first got licensed in 1955 as a Novice. Our AM radio had a shortwave band as well, so I listened to foreign stations. At that time you had to copy CW. I learned the code when I was home on summer vacation. As a Novice I didn't have any HF phone privileges. I found the code to be a lot of fun. I was on the air every morning before school. I used a hand key during my Novice year. I got a Vibroplex lightning bug for Christmas in 1956.

I like CW so much, I've never done much phone operating. I don't do contests very often, just SKN, Field Day, CA HF QSO Party, and Sweepstakes. The most fun is rag chewing on CW. Sometimes I'll do a whole page of copy at once. I also like working DX. I have certificates for RAC, WAS, WAC, and DXCC, all using CW only.

73, Don Village, K6PBQ

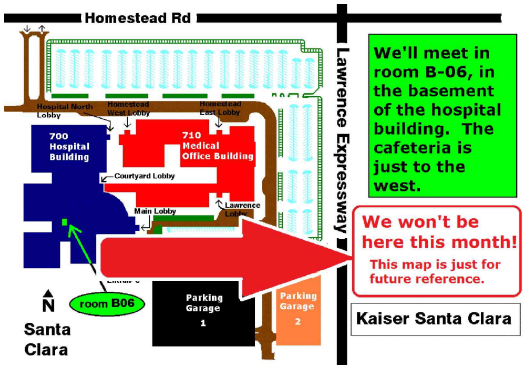


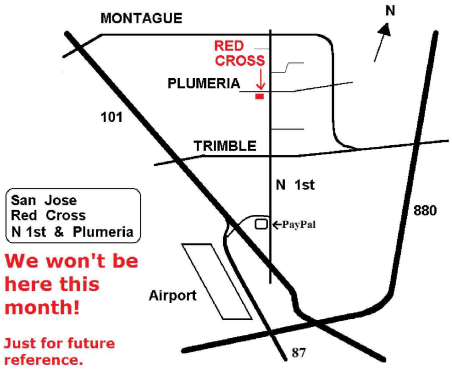
Calendar

6/8 **SCCARA General Meeting** -- CANCELED
6/13 **Electronic Flea Market** -- CANCELED
6/15 **SCCARA Board Meeting** -- held on our 2 m repeater, just after the 7:30 pm net
6/27-28 **Field Day** – participate at home

General Meeting

Day: Normally Monday, June 8, 2020,
Time: but CANCELED this month.
Place: Join our 2 m net instead, 7:30 PM





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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.

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

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(officers are also directors)

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SCCARA REPEATERS

SCCARA owns and operates two repeaters under the call W6UU:
2 meter: 146.985 - PL 114.8
70 cm: 442.425 + PL 107.2
Phone auto-dial and auto-patch is available. The two meter repeater is located at Eagle Rock near Alum Rock Park in the foothills of east San Jose. The 70 cm repeater is located at the Regional Medical Center (formerly Alexian), east of downtown San Jose, north of 280 and 101.

SCCARA NETS

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

N0ARY PACKET BBS

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

AMATEUR LICENSE TESTING

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

Silent Key

I was eves dropping on a ham net that was in progress and realized I was listening to a celebration of life. A ham in San Francisco had died who was well known to a great number of people in the ham community. News of his death had motivated several friends to circulate emails to all hams that knew him and before long a schedule was agreed upon and the remembrances began. As I listened, I realized that the deceased was someone I would have liked to have known. His friends were recalling years of socializing over the years, his exploits as a serious bicyclist, his career, etc. The best part was the number of check ins that had not talked to each other for some years and their excitement at reconnecting over the air. Photographs of exploits from yesterday were recovered from albums and shared amongst the group. Amazingly, no one had to leave their homes to participate.

Although the wake would probably have been done over the air in any case, it seems a perfect solution to the Corona Virus stay at home order. Yet another reason to like ham radio! The sounds of the celebration are propagating to the far corners of the universe.

Goetz Brandt, K6GKB

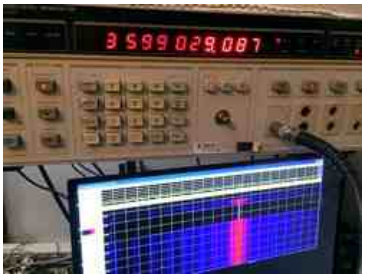
ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, April 30, 2020

Frequency Measuring Test Results Posted

The results of the spring 2020 Frequency Measuring Test (FMT), conducted on April 24, have been posted. Coming in at the top of the list for stations entering readings of both the 40-meter and 80-meter frequencies was Steve Cerwin, WA5FRF. His average error rate was 0.004902 parts per million (ppm). The Top 10 looked like this, with average error rates in ppm. Bill De Carle, VE2IQ, has posted (http://k5cm.com/rankings april 202020.txt) a ranked list of participants who submitted readings for both frequencies.

1.	WA5FRF	0.004902
2.	WA2IKL	0.005584
3.	N7WS	0.005636
4.	N9CIF	0.006999
5.	NJ0U	0.007051
6.	N8OBJ	0.007655
7.	AD5MT	0.008415
8.	KB3UMD	0.008415
9.	WB6RJH	0.008492
10.	AB4RS	0.009174



Today's FMTs are conducted completely online, with no manual log-checking or intervention. Connie Marshall, K5CM, provides Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, with the precise actual frequencies, participating individuals submit their measurements, and machines handle the rest. Ninety-eight radio amateurs took part in the April 2020 FMT. The next FMT will take place in November.

Taking part in the FMT does not require special laboratory

equipment. Modern HF transceivers can measure frequency quite accurately, and SDR-based receivers and available software can enable precise frequency measurements. Today's FMT leaders are able to accurately measure beyond the number of decimal places (out to five) that a typical transceiver will display, however.

Some information (http://www.k5cm.com/) on how to measure the frequency of a carrier is available on Marshall's website, as well as in past articles in QST. Visit the FMT-Nuts discussion group on https://groups.io/g/fmt-nuts.

Radio Amateur Finds Another "Zombie Satellite"

British Columbia radio amateur Scott Tilley, VE7TIL, has found another "zombie satellite," as he calls them. This time, he tracked and identified radio signals from the experimental UHF military communication satellite LES-5. Tilley says he found the satellite in what he called a geostationary "graveyard" orbit after noting a modulated carrier on 236.7487 MHz.

"Most zombie satellites are satellites that are no longer under human control, or have failed to some degree," Tilley told National Public Radio (NPR) earlier this month. It's not clear whether LES-5 is still capable of receiving commands. https://www.npr.org/2020/04/24/843493304/long-lost-u-s-military-satellite-found-by-amateur-radio-operator

LES-5 was built by MIT's Lincoln Laboratory and launched in 1967 as part of the military's Tactical Satellite Communication Program. It was supposed to shut down in 1972, but it continues to operate as long as its solar panels are facing the sun.

What intrigued Tilley about LES-5 was that it might be the oldest functioning geostationary satellite in space. After British Columbia went on lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Tilley found himself with a lot of free time for such a search. He located LES-5 on March 24.

LES-5 under construction.

From his home in Roberts Creek, British Columbia, Tilley, an amateur astronomer, routinely scans the skies for radio signals from classified objects orbiting Earth. Since he started, he's located dozens of secret or unlisted satellites.

In 2018, while hunting for an undisclosed US government spacecraft lost in a launch mishap, he spotted the signature of IMAGE (Imager for Magnetopause-to-Aurora Global Exploration), a NASA spacecraft believed to have died in December 2005. The discovery delighted space scientists. NASA and another ham in the UK confirmed his finding. Launched in 2000 on a mission to monitor space weather, IMAGE mapped plasma patterns around Earth.

From *The ARRL Letter*, May 7, 2020

Russian DOSAAF-85 (RS-44) Amateur Radio Satellite Transponder Now Active

The amateur radio linear transponder (SSB/CW) on the Russian DOSAAF-85 (RS-44) has been activated. Dmitry Pashkov, R4UAB, explains that RS-85 is a small scientific satellite built by specialists at Information Satellite Systems and students at Siberian State Aerospace University (SibSAU). The satellite's name commemorates the 85th anniversary of the Voluntary Society for the Assistance to the Army, Aviation, and Navy (DOSAAF), the organization responsible for the military training of Soviet youth.

This is the third satellite created by the specialists of ISS-Reshetnev and is based on the Yubileyniy platform, which features a hexagonal prism structure with body-mounted solar cells. It was launched into orbit last December 26 from the Plesetsk Cosmodrome and is in an elliptical orbit with a perigee of 1,175 kilometers (729 miles), an apogee of 1,511 kilometers (937 miles), and an inclination of 82.5°. Transmitter power is 5 W, and the beacon is on 435.605 MHz (identifying as RS-44).

The transponder is inverting, with uplink centered at 145.965 MHz ±30 kHz, and downlink centered at 435.640 MHz ±30 kHz. Logbook of The World (LoTW) accepts DOSAAF-85 contacts under "RS-44."

From *The ARRL Letter*, May 14, 2020

ARRL Seeks Clarification of Amended Amateur Service RF Safety Rules

ARRL has filed a Petition for Clarification addressing two issues arising from amended FCC RF safety rules that go into effect on June 1 for the Amateur Service and other FCC-regulated services. (https://tinyurl.com/yad86a89) Licensees will have 2 years to determine if an RF safety evaluation is now required under the new rules and to perform an evaluation and implement any needed mitigation measures. Current rules already require amateur stations to meet RF exposure limits, but more radio amateurs will have to evaluate their stations under the new rules. The revised final rules, adopted last November, appeared in the April 1 edition of The Federal Register. https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-04-01/pdf/2020-02745.pdf

"For applicants and licensees in the Amateur Radio Service, we substitute our general exemption criteria for the specific exemption from routine evaluation based on power alone in §97.13(c)(1) and specify the use of occupational/controlled limits for amateurs where appropriate," the FCC said. While radio amateurs have always had to comply with RF exposure limits, certain stations have been exempted from having to conduct evaluations based upon power and frequency.

On May 8, ARRL asked the FCC to clarify that using maximum permissible exposure (MPE) limits be permitted in the Amateur Service for required RF safety evaluations of 2200-meter operations, just as they are elsewhere in the amateur spectrum. Removal of the exemption for amateurs resulted in a requirement to use specific absorption rate (SAR) limits for amateur frequencies between 100 and 300 kHz.

"Near-field calculation of a uniform field applied to a transmitter and antenna operating at 1 W EIRP on 2200 meters would result in a very conservative estimate of specific absorption rate (SAR) and is a valid measurement for determining safety of operation," ARRL told the FCC. "We request clarification that the rules do not intend to preclude the use of MPE as a surrogate for SAR to evaluate amateur operations in the 2200-meter band."

ARRL also wants the FCC to clarify that its amended rules permit the use of near-field regression rates, using the MPE table to compare against the maximum field strength that may occur from a handheld portable device, instead of using the SAR. In its filing, ARRL maintained that SAR data is not available for amateur equipment, as it is for equipment used in other services. Before the rules were amended, mobile and portable transmitters generally were exempt from the requirement to perform routine environmental evaluations.

Under §97.13(c)(1) as amended, effective on June 1, amateur licensees must ensure compliance with FCC RF exposure requirements spelled out in sections 1.1307(b), 2.1091, and 2.1093 of the FCC rules, where applicable. The rule directs radio amateurs to OET Bulletin 65, Supplement B for methodologies and guidance to evaluate amateur radio operation.
https://transition.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Engineering_Technology/Documents/bulletins/oet65/oet65.pdf

The FCC has provided 2 years -- until May 31, 2022 -- for licensees to determine if evaluations are now required, to perform such evaluations where necessary, and to implement any needed mitigation measures.

The FCC did not amend the actual RF exposure limits that were adopted in 1996.

The transponder on HuskySat-1 has been activated and is open for use and testing, AMSAT Vice President - Operations Drew Glasbrenner, KO4MA, reports.

"It's fairly sensitive, and 5 - 10 W is plenty most of the time. There are some fades due to satellite orientation, and some passes are definitely better than others. Strong signals may impact the beacon strength." HuskySat-1 is the first CubeSat from the Husky Satellite Lab at the University of Washington and the first mission with AMSAT's linear transponder module (LTM-1), a V/u transponder and integrated telemetry beacon and command receiver. University researchers recently completed their Part 5 (Experimental) operations and have opened up the amateur radio transponder, which is available for use in educational CubeSat missions that are willing to enable the transponder for worldwide use. The HuskySat-1 V/u transponder is inverting, with an uplink passband of 145.910 - 145.940 MHz, and a downlink passband of 435.810 - 435.840 MHz. The 1200-baud BPSK telemetry beacon is at 435.800 MHz.

Choosing FTx Transmit and Receive Frequencies in Crowded Contest Bands

Here's how to pick FT-mode transmit and receive frequencies in crowded contest bands. First, pick an audio offset frequency greater than 500 Hz, but less than the suggested frequency intervals (e.g., 2 kHz). In crowded band conditions, the "base" transmit frequencies for FT4 or FT8 are suggested to be at 2 kHz intervals. For example, some stations may set their radio's frequency to 14.130 MHz, while others are at 14.132 or 14.134 MHz. Under these conditions, it makes sense to choose a transmit frequency offset greater than 500 Hz, but less than 2 kHz.

Here's the reasoning: If the CQing station chooses 14.130.0 with an offset of 2.4 kHz, then a listening station's radio tuned to 14.132.0 will "see" that station at 400 Hz. Many radios have audio passbands of between 500 Hz and 3,000 Hz. Frequencies outside that range are not received as well. A reduced sensitivity at 400 Hz can make the difference in decoding successfully.

The station answering the CQ (radio at 14.132.0 MHz) should likely pick a frequency at or near the CQ frequency, since the operator doesn't know whether the CQing station's frequency is at 14.130 or 14.132. If the receiving station chooses, say, 1.5 kHz, this would be at 14.133.5. A CQing station set to 14.130 may not be decoding all the way to 3.5 kHz from the radio's offset frequency. -- Thanks to The ARRL Contest Update

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From *The ARRL Letter*, May 21, 2020

Planning Your ARRL Field Day 2020 Operation

For most of us, ARRL Field Day 2020 is going to look quite different than it has in past years. Considering the impact of social distancing due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many radio clubs and large groups will not be gathering in their usual Field Day locations this year. Here are some tips and suggestions to help participate in amateur radio's largest annual on-air event under these unusual circumstances.

Don't Forget 6 Meters

Field Day is a non-adjudicated operating event and not a "full speed ahead" contest. It is also not just an HF event. All amateur radio bands above 50 MHz may be used during the event too.

This includes 6 meters, which often offers significant propagation enhancements around the time of Field Day weekend. The band is available to amateurs holding a Technician-class license or higher. If you have an HF/VHF/UHF multi-mode transceiver, try making SSB, CW, or digital contacts on 6 meters. Even a simple vertical or dipole will allow you to experience the "magic band."

Activities for Techs

One suggestion for clubs to consider in order to increase participation among their Technician-class members is to schedule specific times when these club members will monitor designated VHF and UHF simplex frequencies for Field Day activity. (Avoid published national FM simplex calling frequencies; repeaters are prohibited for Field Day contacts.) This way, members having equipment capable of VHF/UHF-only operation may be able to participate from home or a vehicle. Clubs can choose a list of frequencies and schedule times in advance.

On HF, Technician-class licensees have CW privileges on 80, 40, and 15 meters, as well as RTTY/data and SSB phone privileges on 10 meters. If you aren't a CW operator, try calling CQ on 10-meter SSB in the late afternoon and early evening on Saturday to see if conditions are favorable for long-distance communications. Try experimenting with a simple wire antenna for 10 meters. You might discover that the band can offer plenty of unexpected propagation.

Set Up for Digital Modes

You might want to explore using FT4/FT8 (or other) digital modes on 10 meters, 6 meters, or even on VHF/UHF. These modes offer

an opportunity to make weak-signal contacts when band conditions often do not support voice communication. There have been reports of some great 6-meter openings in recent weeks, and these are likely to occur more frequently as summer approaches.

Setup is relatively straightforward. You'll need a computer and a digital interface to connect the radio to the computer, and you'll need to download one of the digital mode software packages, such as the free WSJT-X suite, which incorporates FT8 and FT4. Software should support the ARRL Field Day exchange (WSJT-X version 2.0 or later, for example).
http://www.physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/K1JT/wsjtx.html

ARRL Field Day rules place a premium on "developing skills to meet the challenges of emergency preparedness as well as to acquaint the general public with the capabilities of amateur radio." Field Day 2020 is June 27 - 28.

The Excitement of Ham Satellites

Another area to explore is satellite operation. Many hams have had success making contacts via the FM satellites with just a VHF/UHF handheld radio and a small handheld directional antenna. You'll need a multi-mode VHF/UHF transceiver for the linear (SSB and CW) satellites. To determine when a satellite will be making a pass over your location, visit AMSAT's Online Satellite Pass Prediction page.
http://www.amsat.org/track/index.php

An Opportunity for Learning

ARRL Field Day 2020 may be the year you decide to participate solo, or with other members of your household. You may want to focus on expanding your knowledge base and experiment with new modes or bands that you never thought of using before. If you're a mentor to a newer ham, Field Day can be an opportunity to share some of your knowledge with them, as well as for you to expand your own operating horizons. This might be the year to leave your Field Day comfort zone and try something new!

Federal Judge Okays Retrieval of Titanic Marconi Wireless Equipment

A US federal judge in Virginia has given permission to retrieve the ill-fated RMS Titanic's Marconi wireless gear, which transmitted distress calls from the sinking ocean liner during its maiden voyage. Judge Rebecca Beach Smith of the US District Court in Norfolk ruled that the radio gear is historically and culturally important and could soon be lost within the rapidly decaying wreck. The Titanic sank in 1912 some 370 miles off the coast of Newfoundland after striking an iceberg.

"The Marconi device has significant historical, educational, scientific, and cultural value as the device used to make distress calls while the Titanic was sinking," Judge Smith wrote in her ruling. She said the company would be permitted "minimally to cut into the wreck" to access the radio room.

David Concannon, a lawyer for R.M.S Titanic Inc., which the court has recognized as the steward of the vessel's artifacts, said the company would try to avoid cutting into the ship, noting that the radio room may be reachable via a skylight that was already open. More legal wrangling may lie ahead. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) contends that the retrieval expedition is still prohibited under US law and under an international agreement between the US and the UK.

R.M.S Titanic has said the radio transmitter could unlock some of the secrets about a missed warning message and distress calls sent from the ship.

"It tells an important story," Concannon said. "It tells of the heroism of the operators that saved the lives of 705 people. They worked until water was lapping at their feet."

Recreation of the Titanic Radio Room

In an April court filing, NOAA argued against the salvage effort, saying that any benefit to be realized from cutting into the vessel to recover the Marconi equipment would not be "worth the cost to the resource and not in the public interest."

RMS Titanic sought permission to carry out what it called a "surgical removal and retrieval" of the Marconi radio equipment. 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. The wreck sits on the ocean floor some 2 1/2 miles beneath the surface, and remained undiscovered until 1985. R.M.S. Titanic said it plans to use a manned submarine to reach the wreck and then deploy a remotely controlled sub to retrieve the radio equipment.

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, May 11 2020

{This meeting was cancelled}

Board Meeting, May 18, 2020

Held on our 2 m repeater W6UU due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Meeting called to order by President Gregg Lane KF6FNA at 7:45 PM

Attendance:
President Gregg Lane KF6FNA; VP Ned Tufekcic AC6YY; Secretary Barbara Britten KD6QEI; Treasurer Goetz Brandt K6GKB; Station Trustee Don Village K6PBQ; Directors: Lou

Steirer WA6QYS, Wally Britten KA6YMD, James Rustermier KI6ZSK, Truman Lindsey N6TRU.
Absent: Janet Motha KF6PUQ.
Visitors: Editor Gary Mitchell WB6YRU, KK6CCU Ben Shuford

Announcements:
Ben KK6CCU: I was a member years ago. I'm back now and am interested in being a Director.

President's Report, Gregg KF6FNA: Nothing new to report.

Vice President's Report: Ned AC6YY: Nothing new to report.

Secretary's Report, Barbara KD6QEI: The April Board meeting minutes were published in the SCCARA-GRAM.
Gary WB6YRU: We now have 42 members, 14 dropped out, 1 new member joined. We ended 2019 with 55 members.

Treasurer's Report, Goetz K6GKB:
Checking = $11,226.07
Savings = $00.00
Cash = $196.04
Total = $11,422.11
Balance includes the recent purchase of a large tarp to cover the antenna trailer.

Trustee's Report, Don Village K6PBQ: The QSL cards were finally received from Goertz. Five cards: Chile, Netherlands Antilles, Japan, Taiwan, Canada.

Standing Committees
Repeater chairman's report, Wally KA6YMD: Nothing new to report.
Goetz K6GKB: The 2 m repeater has 4 car batteries. They're being kept charged by a small wind generator.
John W6JPP: Some people have reported trouble with the 70 cm repeater lately.

Webmaster's report, Wally KA6YMD: I'm keeping the web site updated as usual.

Editor's report: Gary WB6YRU: The printer has been acting up, the colors are not registering right. We're printing five SCCARA-GRAMs monthly now, done commercially at Office Max.
John Parks, KB6JPP: We may get a donated commercial printer. I'll keep you posted.

BBS Sysop's report: Gary WB6YRU: Nothing new to report

Old Business:
Field Day at the Red Cross:
Gregg Lane, KF6FNA: George Williams of the Red Cross asked if we can do Field Day while maintaining a 6 foot distance.
Don Village, K6PBQ: Read a comment downloaded from the ARRL website: "All groups participating in Field Day this year should consult with their county health directors regarding the rules to be followed before proceeding with plans." We could have three antennas to operate three separate stations in three separate rooms to maintain the 6 foot distancing.
Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU: Should we even have Field Day this year? That information needs to be in the next SCCARA-GRAM, the June edition.
Truman Lindsey N6TRU: We could possibly operate remotely via Zoom.
Don Village, K6PBQ: SCCARA should cancel Field Day for this year, and we each operate D or E class as individuals at home.
Ned Tufekcic, AC6YY: I need a week before Field Day to get the computers ready. Gregg KF6FNA volunteered to help.

Motion by Don Village K6PBQ: SCCARA should cancel Field Day for this year.
Seconded by Goertz Brandt, K6GKB.
Motion carried unanimously.

Antennas on the Red Cross roof:
Gregg Lane KF6FNA: I need two volunteers to help work on the club station's antennas. Volunteers: John Parks W6JPP, and Wally Britten KA6YMD.

Tarp for the antenna trailer: A tarp to cover the antenna trailer was purchased for $441.61, and is now at Goertz's house. A trailer-covering party must be scheduled to take place at the American Legion Post (where the trailer is stored). Volunteers: John Parks W6JPP, who will pick up the tarp from Goertz, Ben Schuford KK6CCU, James Rustermier KI6ZSK, Truman Lindsey N6TRU, and Gregg Lane KF6FNA. No day and time were decided yet.

New Business:
Flea Market (we host it in June):
Gary Mitchell WB6YRU: We should cancel the June flea market because of the covid-19 pandemic. Paul Gorny KK6HWN: The July flea market is un-hosted, if SCCARA chooses to switch months.

Motion by Don Village K6PBQ: SCCARA should cancel the June Flea Market.
Seconded by Barbara K. Britten KD6QEI.
Motion carried unanimously.

Don K6PBQ: The ARRL web site has a listing of clubs, SCCARA's entry needs updating.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Barbara Britten KD6QEI, Secretary

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the BBS packet network:

==========
Date: 27 Nov 2012 23:56
From: GM3YEW@GB7YEW
To: HUMOUR@WW
Subject: Jokes 25/11

"Bob why don't you play golf with John anymore?" asked a friend.

"Would you play golf with a guy who moved the ball with his foot when you weren't watching?" Bob asked.

"Well no" admitted the friend.

"Neither will John" replied Bob.

A man takes his seat in the theater but he is too far from the stage. He whispers to the usher "This is a mystery and I have to watch a mystery close up. Get me a better seat and I'll give you a handsome tip."

The usher moves him into the second row and the man rewards him with 50 cents. The usher looks at his tip for a second and then leans over to whisper to the man "The wife did it."

I was working in a scrap yard in Southern England during summer vacation at an engineering university. I used to work repairing construction equipment. One afternoon I was taking a piling hammer apart that had some very large bolts holding it together. One of the nuts had corroded onto the bolt. To free it I started heating the nut with an oxy-acetylene torch.

As I was doing this, one of the dimmest apprentices I have ever known came along. He asked me what I was doing. I patiently explained that if I heated the nut it would grow larger and release its grip on the bolt, so I could then remove it.

"So things get larger when they get hot do they?" he asked.

Suddenly an idea flashed into my mind. "Yes" I said "that's why days are longer in summer and shorter in winter."

There was a long pause, then he said "You know I always wondered about that."

A man boarded an airplane in Anchorage with a box of frozen crabs and asked a blonde female crew member to take care of the box for him. She took the box and promised to put it in the crew's refrigerator.

He pointedly advised her that he was holding her personally responsible for the crabs staying frozen. He mentioned that he was a lawyer and proceeded to rant at her about what would happen if she let them thaw out.

Needless to say she was annoyed by his behavior.

Shortly before landing in Seattle she used the intercom to announce to the entire cabin: "Would the gentleman who gave me the crabs in Anchorage please raise your hand?"

Not one hand went up. She took them home and ate them.

The lesson: Blondes aren't as dumb as most men think.

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Date: 10 Apr 2011 07:41
From: W1GMF@W1GMF
To: HUMOR@USA
Subject: Checking for Leaks

At a naval barracks the enlisted men were being given their shots prior to going overseas. One lad, having received his series of injections, asked for a glass of water.

"What's the matter, Mate?" asked the medic. "Do you feel sick?"

"No, just checking to see if I'm still watertight."

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
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

Thanks to Don for his "What's Good About Amateur Radio" article, and to Goetz for his observations along those same lines.

But is that it? Since SCCARA won't be doing Field Day as a club this year, I was surprised no one wrote anything on doing Field Day as individuals from home. And the covid-19 pandemic is causing other issues, what novel things have you come with on that? Tell us about it!

73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

SCCARA
Santa **C**lara **C**ounty **A**mateur **R**adio **A**ssociation
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.

Rev. 11/25/2019