

# SCCARA-GRAM



## Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 46, Number 10

October 2021

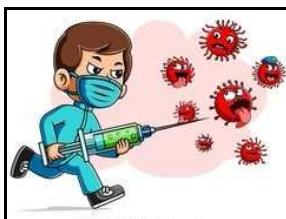


# 2021 – Our 100<sup>th</sup> Year!

## Meetings & Gatherings

Our in-person meetings are still canceled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The board meeting will be held verbally at the normal day and time on our 2 m repeater immediately following the Monday night net. The club station is open, usually the last Saturday of the month from 10 am to 4 pm. Masks and social distancing are required. Still no electronic flea markets.

Progress report: Due to the more infectious Delta strain, new case continue to climb, it's now 19 per 100,000 mainly among the unvaccinated. Statewide 69.8% are now fully vaccinated (62% last month); in Santa Clara County 83.5% are now fully vaccinated (78% last month).



## Club Elections

Nominations are in October, elections are in November. Elections will probably be via e-mail again like last year. Nominations so far:

Pres. Gregg KF6FNA  
V.P. ---  
Sec. Barbara KD6QEI  
Treas. ---  
Dir. ---  
Dir. ---

The out-going directors are Wally KA6YMD and Lou WA6QYS. Station Trustee is of an indeterminate term, Don K6PBQ said he is willing to stay on.

Our secretary, Truman N6TRU, has resigned due to the demands of college.

If you'd like to nominate someone--including yourself--please let Gregg KF6FNA know.

## ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, Sept. 2, 2021

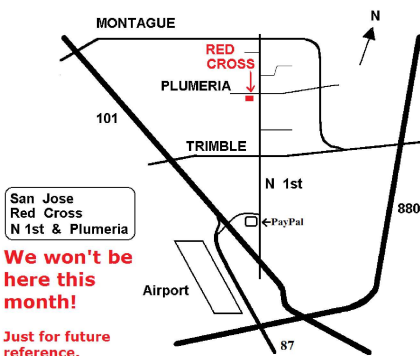
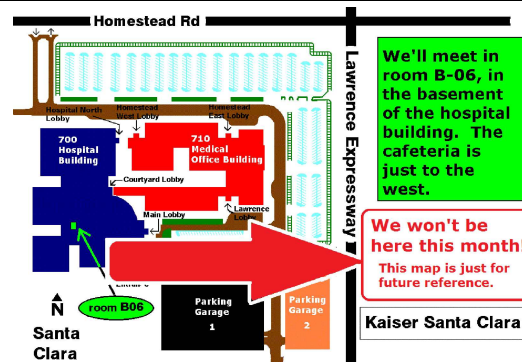
### FCC Grants 60-Day Waiver of Part 97 Data Rate Rules for Hurricane Relief Traffic

## Calendar

- 10/11 **SCCARA General Meeting** -- **canceled**
- 10/18 **SCCARA Board Meeting:** On our 2 m repeater after the net at 7:30 PM)
- 10/15-17 **Pacificon 2021**

## General Meeting

Day: Monday, Oct. 11-- **Canceled**  
Time:  
Place:



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.

SCCARA web page <https://www.qsl.net/sccara>  
club email: [w6uw@arrl.net](mailto:w6uw@arrl.net) or [w6uw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:w6uw@sbcglobal.net)

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS (officers are also directors)

President	Gregg Lane KF6FNA	408-393-5607
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:kf6fna@comcast.net">kf6fna@comcast.net</a>	
Vice President	Ned Tufekcic AC6YY	408-690-7250
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:t94nt@hotmail.com">t94nt@hotmail.com</a>	
Secretary	--	
	e-mail:	
Treasurer	Goetz Brandt, K6GKB	408-259-7287
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:goetz@ix.netcom.com">goetz@ix.netcom.com</a>	
Station Trustee	Don Village, K6PBQ	408-263-2789
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:donvillage7@yahoo.com">donvillage7@yahoo.com</a>	
Director	John Parks, W6JPP	
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:w6jpp@arrl.net">w6jpp@arrl.net</a>	
Director	Lou Steirer, WA6QYS	408-241-7999
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:wa6qys@aol.com">wa6qys@aol.com</a>	
Director	Ben Shuford, KK6CCU	408-429-5370
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:bshu288519@aol.com">bshu288519@aol.com</a>	
Director	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	408-891-1105
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:ka6ymd@arrl.net">ka6ymd@arrl.net</a>	
Director	James Rustermier, KI6ZSK	408- 972-1689
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:rustermier@gmail.com">rustermier@gmail.com</a>	

#### COMMITTEES

Editor	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	408-269-2924
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:wb6yru@ix.netcom.com">wb6yru@ix.netcom.com</a>	
Repeater	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	408-891-1105
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:ka6ymd@arrl.net">ka6ymd@arrl.net</a>	
NØARY BBS	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	408-269-2924
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:wb6yru@ix.netcom.com">wb6yru@ix.netcom.com</a>	
Webmaster	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	408-891-1105
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:ka6ymd@arrl.net">ka6ymd@arrl.net</a>	

#### SCCARA REPEATERS

SCCARA owns and operates two repeaters under the call W6UU:  
2 meter: 146.985 - PL 114.8  
70 cm: 442.425 + PL 107.2

Phone auto-dial and auto-patch is available. The two meter repeater is located at Eagle Rock near Alum Rock Park in the foothills of east San Jose. The 70 cm repeater is located at the Regional Medical Center (formerly Alexian), east of downtown San Jose, north of 280 and 101.

#### SCCARA NETS

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

#### NØARY PACKET BBS

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

#### AMATEUR LICENSE TESTING

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

In an August 30 Order, the FCC granted a temporary waiver sought by ARRL to facilitate relief communications related to Hurricane Ida. The waiver also applies to relief communications directly related to any future hurricane within the next 60 days. The waiver permits radio amateurs handling hurricane relief communications on HF to use any protocol that would comply with the FCC's rules but for the symbol rate limits.

In its request, ARRL said that Section 97.307(f) of the FCC's Amateur Service rules prevents the use on HF of certain protocols capable of higher data rate emissions that many amateur stations are capable of using while active in emergency communications preparedness. ARRL asserted that higher data rates can be critical to timely transmission of relief communications, such as lists of needed and distributed supplies. ARRL noted that radio amateurs are working with federal, state, and local emergency management officials to assist in the communications efforts.

On August 28, the FCC orally granted ARRL's request to immediately facilitate relief communications related to Hurricane Ida. The FCC has granted temporary waivers in the past to allow faster protocols to be used for disaster relief communications, including Hurricane Laura, Hurricane Maria, typhoon relief communications in Hawaii, and Hurricane Dorian.

The Commission noted that the waivers are necessary because Section 97.307(f) limits the symbol rate at which the carrier waveform amplitude, frequency, and/or phase is varied to transmit information for HF amateur radioteletype (RTTY)/data transmissions to 300 baud for frequencies below 28 MHz (except on 60 meters), and 1,200 baud on 10 meters: "The digital code used to encode the signal being transmitted must be one of the codes specified in section 97.309(a) of the FCC's rules, but an amateur station transmitting a RTTY or data emission using one of the specified digital codes may use any technique whose technical characteristics have been publicly documented, such as CLOVER, G-TOR, or PACTOR."

"We conclude that granting the requested waiver is in the public interest," the FCC said. "Hurricane Ida has caused significant damage, including disruption to electricity and communications services. Thus, to accommodate amateur radio operators assisting in the recovery efforts, we grant ARRL's waiver request for the period of 60 days from the date of this Order. The waiver is limited to amateur radio operators in the US and its territories using publicly documented data protocols that are compatible with FCC rules, with the exception of the data rate limit waived here, for those directly involved with HF hurricane relief communications."

### **ARRL Board Establishes Program to Cover Initial FCC License Fee for Young Applicants**

The ARRL Board of Directors has formally endorsed a proposed program calling on ARRL to cover the \$35 application fee for license candidates younger than 18 years old. The FCC is not expected to implement the \$35 application fee schedule until sometime in 2022. The Board approved the "Youth Licensing Grant Program" at its July meeting in Windsor, Connecticut. The program concept, first raised at the Board's annual meeting in January, was reviewed by an ad-hoc committee, which expanded the scope of the original motion by ARRL Southeastern Division Director Mickey Baker, N4MB.

Goals of the program include expanding the reservoir of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts within the amateur radio community, and removing a financial obstacle to young

people who wish to acquire an amateur radio license, as a means of encouraging potential careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Under the program, ARRL would cover a one-time \$35 application fee for each qualified candidate who passes one or more amateur radio exams taken on the same day at a single examination session. Tests would have to be administered by a Volunteer Examiner (VE) team working under the auspices of the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC). Qualified candidates would also pay a reduced exam session fee of \$5 to the ARRL VEC.

The new program would also “enhance ARRL’s position as the leader in volunteer testing,” the Board motion said. “The Board believes that the recruitment and training of young amateur radio operators is a necessary mission of ARRL, and that subsidization of the \$35 fee will reduce the number of new amateurs that otherwise would be lost from these groups,” the Board said.

The Board said ARRL Headquarters staff would determine the method of qualifying applicants and instruct VE teams, giving the teams flexibility to determine that a candidate is eligible for reimbursement in the absence of documented proof. The Board envisioned that the VEC would pay the FCC directly. The new program would initially serve up to 1,000 new license applicants younger than 18 years old.

The motion gave ARRL staff “complete latitude” to determine how payment is delivered to the FCC or to reimburse eligible applicants. This program length is indefinite; it may be renewed or terminated by the Administration and Finance Committee or by the Board of Directors. The motion carried with applause from Board members.

---

From *The ARRL Letter*, Sept. 9, 2021

## GENESIS Satellites among Payloads Lost in Launch Failure

The GENESIS-L and GENESIS-N ham radio satellites were among several carrying amateur radio payloads lost following the failure of the Firefly Alpha rocket during its first launch on September 2 from the Vandenberg Space Force Base in California. This was sad news for AMSAT-EA (Spain), as GENESIS-L and GENESIS-N were the first satellites they had built themselves.



According to the AMSAT-EA website, the GENESIS satellites were destroyed after the Firefly Alpha vehicle presented an anomaly as it hit a velocity of Mach 1 and reached Max Q, a point of maximum aerodynamic pressure on the vehicle. The launch had been halted a few seconds before takeoff, but the countdown was subsequently resumed.

GENESIS-L and GENESIS-N were to conduct a series of telecommunications-related experiments, while a ground-station analysis of the received signals would try to attain Doppler variations in order to perform orbit determination and satellite identification from radio amateur stations around the world.

## California Club Assists Animal Rescue Group with Communication Support

The El Dorado County Amateur Radio Club (EDCARC) has been providing radio communication support for small and large animal

rescue efforts during the Caldor Fire. Members of the South County Large Animal Rescue (SCLAR) group, El Dorado County Animal Services, and other volunteers have been addressing the need. Many of the EDCARC volunteers are also members of the Club’s Neighborhood Radio Watch program.



Caldor Fire: Horses being fed by Folsom Police [Jordan Heichman, WC6J, photo]

As the California Caldor Fire destroyed the community of Grizzly Flats, threatened Lake Tahoe, and caused evacuations in dozens of communities throughout the county, thousands of area residents were forced to flee their homes without having time to round up their pets and livestock.

“We desperately love our animal companions, whether big or small, and being separated and unable to care for them in the midst of a disaster is truly heart-wrenching,” said Alan Thompson, W6WN, the club’s Public Information Officer. “Because of the mountainous terrain, many of our neighborhoods already had little or no cell or internet communication, and the fire only made things worse.”

Thompson said the club quickly deployed its Mobile ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES®) Communications Center, maintained by Jay Harmor, KE6GLA, which is in service as central net operations. Several members stepped up, including Dale Dennis, KJ6HHY, from Yolo ARES, and Tom Newman, NN6H, from Alameda County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES®) and part of the Alameda County Sheriff’s Communications Team. They volunteered their time and radios to accompany the animal rescue teams dispatched into impacted areas.



Joel Wiley, WB6GUY (left), and Cara Kulas, Senior Humane Officer with the Hayward Police Department, feed goats. [Jason Heichman, WC6J, photo]

Teams of SCLAR members, Animal Services personnel, public employees, and radio communications staff have been conducting daily animal rescue missions and welfare checks throughout the impacted areas. Until residents are permitted to return, these teams are providing food, water, and care to abandoned animals.

Thompson said those seeking an animal evacuation or welfare check should contact El Dorado County Animal Services -- western slope, (530) 621-5795 or the shelter at (530) 621-7631. In the South Tahoe area, call (530) 573-7925.

SCLAR will respond as directed by El Dorado County Animal Services. They cannot self-deploy or respond directly to phone calls for assistance, Thompson said.

## AO-7 Satellite

The venerable AO-7 satellite entered a period of full illumination on September 9 that will last until April 11, 2022. While in full illumination, the satellite's 24-hour timer will automatically switch between Mode A (145 MHz up, 29 MHz down) and Mode B (432 MHz up/145 MHz down). The Mode A transponder (145.850 - 145.950 MHz/29.400 - 29.500 MHz down) is non-inverting; the Mode B transponder is inverting.

-- Thanks to AMSAT News Service



From *The ARRL Letter*, Sept. 16, 2021

## 2021 ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET)

The weekend of October 2 - 3 is designated for holding the annual ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET), although local and Section-level exercises may take place throughout the fall.

The SET is ARRL's primary national emergency exercise and is designed to assess the skills and preparedness of Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®) volunteers, as well as those affiliated with other organizations involved in emergency and disaster response. It encourages maximum participation by all radio amateurs, partner organizations, and national, state, and local officials who typically engage in emergency or disaster response.



In addition to ARES volunteers, those active in the National Traffic System (NTS), Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), National Weather Service (NWS) SKYWARN®, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), and a variety of other allied groups and public service-oriented radio amateurs are needed to fulfill important roles in this nationwide exercise.

The SET offers volunteers an opportunity to test equipment, modes, and skills under simulated emergency conditions and scenarios. Individuals can use the time to update a go-kit for use during deployments and to ensure their home station's operational capability in an emergency or disaster.

To get involved, contact your local ARRL Emergency Coordinator or Net Manager.

## RTTY Service Station K6KPH Back On The Air

RTTY Service Station K6KPH, operating from the Maritime Radio Historical Society (MRHS), is officially back on the air. K6KPH also transmits W1AW Qualifying Run texts and the W1AW Field Day Bulletin. The station was off the air due to COVID-19 restrictions and



antenna damage. Repairs to the transmitter site in Bolinas, California, were performed under a US National Park Service grant and support from the MRHS. Years of damage from decaying poles, failing crossarms, and falling trees necessitated the repairs, MRHS said. The next West Coast Qualifying Run to be transmitted from K6KPH is scheduled for Saturday, September 25, 2021, at 2100 UTC on 3581.5, 7047.5, 14047.5, 18097.5, and 21067.5 kHz.

From *The ARRL Letter*, Sept. 23, 2021

## ARRL, RSGB Announce Joint Events to Celebrate Centenary of Ham Radio Transatlantic Success

ARRL and the Radio Society of Great Britain will jointly sponsor events to celebrate the achievement of transatlantic communications by radio amateurs 100 years ago.

In December 1921, ARRL sent Paul F. Godley, 2ZE, as its representative to listen for amateur signals from North America during the Second Transatlantic Tests. Setting up his listening station in Ardrossan, on the west coast of Scotland, Godley received the signals of more than 2 dozen US amateur radio stations, the first on December 12 (UTC) from IBCG in Connecticut, operated by members of the Radio Club of America. The message read: "Nr 1 NY ck 12 to Paul Godley, Ardrossan, Scotland. Hearty Congratulations. (Signed) Burghard Inman Grinan Armstrong Amy Cronkhite." Paul Godley, 2ZE



These successful transatlantic tests and the ones that followed spurred technological advances and new global wireless distance records. Several amateur radio operating events this year and next will commemorate the centenary of these significant milestones that heralded the dawn of two-way international amateur radio communication.

ARRL and RSGB will activate special event stations for 6 hours (0200 - 0800 UTC) on December 12 for the 160-meter Transatlantic Centenary QSO Party. RSGB will activate GB2ZE from Scotland, with a team of stations from the GMDX Group sharing operating duties. ARRL will activate W1AW. The stations will operate only on CW. If transatlantic propagation holds up, the stations may continue to operate beyond 0800 UTC.

The GMDX Group of Scotland will award a quaich -- a traditional Scottish drinking cup representing friendship -- to the first stations in North America and the UK to complete contacts with both W1AW and GB2ZE during the QSO party. A commemorative certificate will be available for download.

RSGB and ARRL are also organizing an international amateur radio marathon on the HF bands to commemorate transatlantic tests held between 1921 and 1923. The Transatlantic Centenary Marathon will take place in December 2022. The objective will be to mark these historic events by encouraging all radio amateurs to get on the air. Event details are pending.

ARRL and RSGB have assembled a list of stations and groups that are also organizing events and activities to celebrate 100 years of amateur radio transatlantic communication. For more information, visit [arrl.org/transatlantic](http://arrl.org/transatlantic) and [rsgb.org/transatlantic-tests](http://rsgb.org/transatlantic-tests). The sites also include links to many previously published articles and presentations covering the historic tests.

<http://arrl.org/transatlantic>  
<https://rsgb.org/transatlantic-tests>

## Special Events:

- W1AW Commemorative Transatlantic QSL Card. Stations making contact with the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station, W1AW, between December 11, 2021, and December 31, 2022, qualify to receive a commemorative W1AW QSL card. US stations should QSL with a self-addressed, stamped envelope; international stations should QSL via the Bureau.

- The 2021 [ARRL 160-Meter Contest](#), 2200 UTC on December 3 - 1559 UTC on December 5. This 42-hour, CW-only contest is most similar to the original Transatlantic Tests of the early 1920s. Stations in the US and Canada work each other as well as DXCC entities. RSGB is planning to activate one of the original call signs used in the Transatlantic Tests, with up to seven different prefixes from the UK and Crown Dependencies. Look for G6XX (England); GD6XX (Isle of Man); GI6XX (Northern Ireland); GJ6XX (Jersey); GM6XX (Scotland); GU6XX (Guernsey), and GW6XX (Wales).

<http://www.arrl.org/160-meter>

## Open-Source Amateur Satellite Work Not Subject to Export Administration Regulation

CEO Michelle Thompson, W5NYV, reports that Open Research Institute (ORI) received an advisory opinion from the US Commerce Department Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) on September 2, confirming that public internet posts regarding open-source amateur satellite communications work are not subject to the Export Administration Regulation (EAR). ORI was founded in March 2018 by Bruce Perens, K6BP, in order to provide a formal structure for open-source satellite work. Prior work by ORI established that open-source amateur satellite communications work was free of International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR).



<https://www.openresearch.institute/>

“This is a significant regulatory success for open-source amateur satellite work and open source in general,” Thompson said. In a later post on the ORI site, Thompson said ITAR and EAR have had a dramatic effect on both commercial and amateur satellite work since the 1990s. “The regulations are blamed for a significant decline in US market share for satellite systems and halted highly successful international amateur collaborations,” she wrote.



ORI CEO Michelle Thompson, W5NYV.

Open-source work that is published as it is created and is freely available to the general public at no cost is not subject to ITAR or EAR, Thompson said.

ORI's work was funded by ARDC, with legal assistance provided by Thomsen and Burke LLP. [All documents and links to](#)

[presentations about the work are available.](#)  
<https://github.com/phase4ground/documents/tree/master/Regulatory>

“Thank you to those who have supported and assisted ORI during the many stages of this successful regulatory endeavor,” Thompson said. “ORI will build upon this work to advance the aims and purposes of open-source amateur satellites.”

[Visit the ORI website's "Getting Started" page to get involved.](#)  
<https://www.openresearch.institute/getting-started/>

## IARU Region 3 Considers Significant Expansion of HF Digital Segments

The IARU Region 3 (Asia) online conference hosted by Thailand's IARU member-society RAST wraps up on September 23. One topic discussed was a proposed HF band plan. Among the problems the planners seek to address is the use of bandwidth as a defining transmission characteristic. Following the revision of the tools used to describe HF amateur band plans, a joint tri-region IARU committee developed a proposal for revision of the data segments of the HF amateur band plans.



The changes proposed include a significant expansion of digital mode segments. These revisions address several areas, including global HF amateur band plan segment harmonization.

Other factors include:

- separation of “conversational” and time-synchronized digital activity
- band plan segment expansions in support of time-synchronized transmission mode capacity demands (mostly trading with now lesser used RTTY subbands)
- more effective separation of voice and data modes on 40 meters
- relocation of the IARU Region 3 EmComm SSB frequency from 3600 to 3680 kHz
- relocation of the global 20-meter slow-scan TV (SSTV) frequency from 14,230 kHz to 14,330 kHz
- relocation of Japan's domestic 40-meter FT8 frequency from 7041 to 7037 kHz (dial) to provide for a global narrowband conversational modes (e.g., PSK) segment between 7040 and 7044 kHz in alignment with existing Region 1 arrangements to replace the 7070 - 7074 kHz segment in Region 2, and recognition of 7040 - 7060 plus 7065 - 7080 kHz as the new 40-meter data segment with voice operation, reduced to secondary status between 7060 and 7070 kHz.

[Documents](#) are available from the Region 1 Conference website.  
<http://www.iarur3conf2021.org/documents/>

## PACIFICON 2021

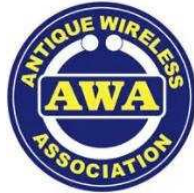
[PACIFICON](#) 2021, which will host the ARRL Pacific Division Convention, is set for October 15 -17, sponsored by Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club. The event will take place at the San Ramon Marriott Hotel, 2600 Bishop Drive, San Ramon, California.  
<http://www.pacificon.org/>

## AWA Video: SSB was Slow to Catch On as a Ham Radio Mode

Hams are often early adopters of new technology, such as FT8, but this was not the case with single sideband (SSB) amplitude modulation. First referenced in Major General George Squier's

1911 patent that had nothing to do with RF applications, SSB didn't really catch on as a popular ham radio phone mode until the 1960s.

Antique Wireless Association (AWA) museum curator Ed Gable, K2MP, recounted [“The History of Single Sideband”](#) (youtube video) as part of the inaugural “AWA Shares” program, presented on August 19. Gable described Squier as an “early idea man” in the history of SSB at a time when hams had hardly adopted AM in any form.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BBRntPJTr5Y>

As Gable explained, John Renshaw Carson built on Squier's patents to define the principles of SSB radio transmission theory, using a balanced modulator and filters. AT&T went all in with SSB, basing its first long-haul telephone system on the technology. Its SSB voice service to Europe, which kicked off in 1923, lasted for more than 3 decades. A receiving site in Scotland took advantage of Beverage antennas put in place for the ARRL transatlantic tests.

Gable credited Robert M. Moore, W6DEI, with introducing SSB to the ham radio community, through an article in R9 Magazine in the early 1930s. The technology remained more of a curiosity, however, in part because of the Great Depression, cost, and technical difficulty. Besides, hams of that era saw no real advantage to narrowband modes, since bands were not that crowded.

The mood began to change after World War II, though. In 1948, Oswald Villard, W6QIT, engineered the airing of SSB signals via Stanford University's W6YX, re-introducing the mode to a burgeoning and more technically savvy post-war ham community that included a lot of veterans. A 1950 GE Ham News article by Don Norgaard, W2KUJ, described plans for a 5 W, three-tube SSB transmitter he dubbed “The SSB Jr.”

**SSB, Jr.**  
Presenting a 3-Tube 5-Watt SSB Transmitter with Superior Performance



Expanding on this, Central Electronics' Wes Schum, W9DYV, built the first SSB exciter, the 10A, in 1952, and it became the company's first product, spawning a series of successor products that included a VFO based on a modified BC-458 military surplus transmitter, an “SSB slicer” for receiving, and even a linear. SSB equipment was neither inexpensive nor accessible, however.



The Central Electronics Model 20A.

“Cheap and Easy S.S.B.” by Anthony Vitale, W2EWL, which appeared in QST in 1956, spoke to hams' attitudes, helping to advance the adoption of SSB among radio amateurs. Byron Goodman, W1DX, addressed receiver improvements with his QST article, “The Product Detector.”

In the same decade, General Curtis LeMay, K3JUY/K4RFA, promoted the advantages of SSB to the military, heralding a phase-out of AM as the dominant voice technology. Many hams were not convinced of SSB's advantages, deriding the signals as sounding like Donald Duck. Adoption didn't really take off until the Collins KWM-1 came along in 1957. It was the first SSB transceiver to share receiver and transmitter circuitry. Heathkit, Viking, and B&W produced SSB adapters for use with current AM gear.

The Collins KWM-1 is considered the first “true” transceiver, sharing receive and transmit circuitry.



Other manufacturers including National and Swan came along to further boost adoption of the mode, and it wasn't that many years before SSB eclipsed AM as the predominant voice mode on the HF bands.

## Greetings from Colorado



I was in Colorado from August 2 through the 11<sup>th</sup>. I was visiting my twin brother Rod and Cathy. Weather was very smoky, most of the time you couldn't see the mountains at all. I spent some time helping Rod with some repair projects. Rod's heart is not too good at the moment. We visited the family and had a great time.

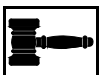
We took one side trip up to Cheyenne WY to the Terry Bison Ranch. A great place to visit. They have a train ride that goes out in the back country. so you can visit and feed the bison. Weather was also smokey and windy up there.

I also got to visit some HAM operators again this trip. I visited Howard K5WF and his wife Sheila N0GAL. They live about 3-4 blocks up the hill from Rod. Rod and I also visited Chris WD1W for coffee. A great vacation.

73, Don K6PBQ

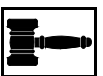
## Meeting Minutes

**General Meeting, Sept. 13, 2021**



*{meeting was canceled}*

**Board Meeting, Sept. 20, 2021**



Held verbally on our 2 m repeater W6UW/R

Meeting called to order by President Gregg Lane KF6FNA at 7:37 PM PDT

## Attendance:

President Gregg Lane KF6FNA; VP Ned Tufekcic AC6YY; Treasurer Goetz Brandt K6GKB; Station Trustee Don Village K6PBQ; Director Lou Steirer WA6QYS; Director Wally Britten KA6YMD; Director Ben Shuford, KK6CCU; Director James Rustemier KI6ZSK.

Unexcused Absence: Secretary Truman Lindsey N6TRU

Excused absence: Director John Parks W6JPP

Visitors: Editor Gary Mitchell WB6YRU, Christine KN6ELY, Paul KK6HWN.

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

Vice President's Report, Ned AC6YY: Nothing to report

Secretary's Report, Gregg KF6FNA: Truman is busy at college and may have to resign. The previous board meeting minutes were published in the SCCARA-GRAM. Any corrections?

Wally KA6YMD: regarding the report on club property: I have a duplicate of a pair of Kenwood speakers. I have nothing for the flea market.

Gregg KF6FNA: Hearing no other corrections or comments, the minutes are approved as corrected by acclamation.

Treasurer's Report, Goetz K6GKB:

Relayed by Gregg KF6FNA: checking = \$ 11178.50, cash = \$ 216.04, Total = \$ 11394.54 (no change since last month).

Trustee's Report, Don K6PBQ: The club station will be open this Saturday, 10 AM to 4 PM. We'll need masks and maintain social distancing (Red Cross rules).

Standing Committees

Editor's report: Gary WB6YRU: Nothing new to report.

BBS Sysop's report: Gary WB6YRU: Nothing new, the BBS is running normally.

Repeater chairman's report, Wally KA6YMD: both repeaters are working normally.

Webmaster's report, Wally KA6YMD: Just one correction was made, nothing much else happening with the web site.

Old Business:

Gregg KF6FNA: At the Red Cross (club station) - two antennas are waiting to be put up. Special event station: 2 m or HF, keep track of your contacts, report them to Don K6PBQ. Antenna trailer party: John W6JPP needs to put that on hold for a future time. Picnic: With the pandemic, nothing scheduled. Announcements on that are pending.

New Business:

Gregg KF6FNA:

Club nominations happen in October, elections in November. Barbara KD6QEI said she will run for secretary. I'm up for re-election unless someone else would like to run. Two existing director seats are up for election or re-election: Wally KA6YMD and Lou WA6QYS.

Don K6PBQ: I'm willing to stay on as Trustee.

We may try to have a holiday dinner at a restaurant this December. Some restaurants are open even with the pandemic. We're still thinking about this.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM PST

Gary Mitchell WB6YRU, recording for the Secretary

## 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](mailto:goetz@ix.netcom.com)

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

W6JPP, John Parks  
e-mail: [w6jpp@arrl.net](mailto:w6jpp@arrl.net)

K6PBQ, Don Village, 408-263-2789  
e-mail: [donvillage7@yahoo.com](mailto:donvillage7@yahoo.com)

WA6QYS, Lou Steirer, 408-241-7999  
e-mail: [wa6qys@arrl.net](mailto:wa6qys@arrl.net)

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

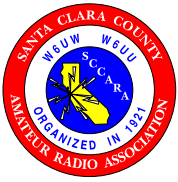
---

## Newsletter Notes

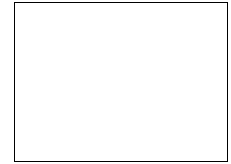
Regarding the ARRL Letter article on the history of SSB... Don't miss the youtube video, it's a non-technical look at how we got SSB and the people behind it.

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 2021**

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: \_\_\_\_\_

on ly 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.