

SCCARA-GRAM



Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 47, Number 5

May 2022



Meetings & Gatherings

Our in-person meetings are still canceled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. There is some talk of starting them up again, perhaps at the Red Cross. 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 electronic flea market has resumed. It's at a new location: the Sunnyvale Library, 665 W Olive Ave. And new hours: 7 am - 12 pm. See <http://www.electronicfleamarket.com/>

The number of people fully vaccinated statewide is now 75.2% (74.4% last month), in Santa Clara County it's 85.6% (85.1% last month). The average number of new cases daily in Santa Clara County is going up, it's now 292 (144 last month).

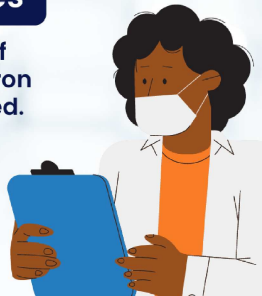
The *mandatory* mask requirement has been lifted, except for certain high-risk settings. However, masks are still strongly recommended. A **second** booster is now recommended for those over 50 or who have a compromised immune system.

COVID-19 Booster Doses

The best way to protect yourself from COVID-19, including Omicron is to get vaccinated and boosted.

Who? Everyone ages 12 and older should get a booster.

When? At least 5 months after your second Pfizer shot, 6 months after your second Moderna shot, or 2 months after Johnson & Johnson.



As of 1/5/2022

SCCARA to Host the Electronic Flea Market

SCCARA's main fund raising comes from hosting one of the electronic flea markets (asvaro.org/efm). These are normally held on the second Saturday of each month, March through September, 7:00 am - 12:00 pm.

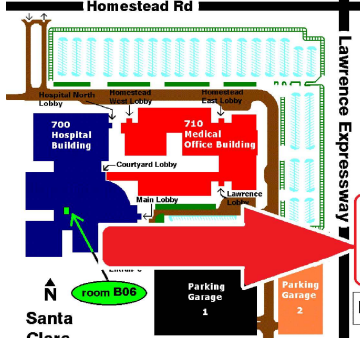
SCCARA will host the June 11, 2022 flea market. The gate opens at 6:30 am. At least 5 volunteers will be needed at 6:30 am to help register and collect money from the vendors/sellers and to set up the hospitality canopy. The hospitality tables will need at least 3 volunteers to staff the refreshment sales (soda, coffee,

Calendar

- 5/9 SCCARA General Meeting -- **canceled**
- 5/14 Electronic Flea Market: 7 AM - 12 noon
- 5/16 SCCARA Board Meeting: On our 2 m repeater after the net at 7:30 PM)
- 5/28 Club Station: open 10 AM - 4 PM

General Meeting

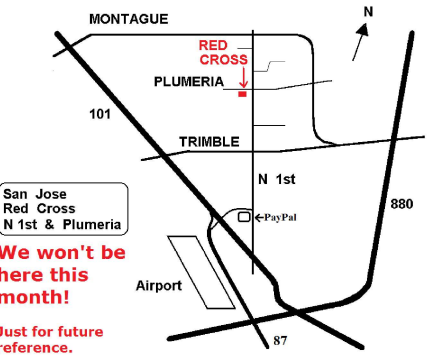
Day: Monday, May 9 -- **Canceled**
 Time:
 Place:
 Featuring:



We'll meet in room B-06, in the basement of the hospital building. The cafeteria is just to the west.

We won't be here this month!
This map is just for future reference.

Kaiser Santa Clara



We won't be here this month!

Just for future reference.

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
	t94nt@hotmail.com	
Secretary	Barbara Britten, KD6QEI	408-293-3847
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Station Trustee	Don Village, K6PBQ	408-263-2789
	e-mail: donvillage7@yahoo.com	
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	e-mail: ka6ymd@arrl.net	
Director	John Parks, W6JPP	
	e-mail: w6jpp@arrl.net	
Director	James Rustermier, K16ZSK	408- 972-1689
	e-mail: rustermier@gmail.com	
Director	Ben Shuford, KK6CCU	408-429-5370
	e-mail: bshu288519@aol.com	
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	e-mail: wa6qys@aol.com	

COMMITTEES

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	e-mail: ka6ymd@arrl.net	
N0ARY BBS	Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU	408-269-2924
	e-mail: wb6yru@ix.netcom.com	
Webmaster	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	408-891-1105
	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

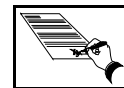
donuts) at 7:00 am. Two shifts (7:00 - 9:30 and 9:30 - 12:00) will cover the refreshment sales.

When the flea market closes at 12 noon we will need 5 volunteers to take down the hospitality canopy. We need to be packed up by 1 pm.

If you can volunteer contact Gregg kf6fna@comcast.net and/or check into SCCARA's Monday night net on our 2 m repeater (146.985 +, 114.8).

Directions to Sunnyvale Public Library, 665 Olive Ave., Sunnyvale: From Matilda Ave. turn west on El Camino Real for 0.2 miles. Turn right (north) on South Pastoria Ave. for 1 1/2 blocks. The library/flea market will be on your right (east side).

Gregg KF6FNA, kf6fna@comcast.net



Club Station

Our club station at the Red Cross will be open on Saturday May 28th for our members to come down and operate. Time is 10-4 pm. Our vertical and dipole antenna's are working very well. 10 and 15 meters have had some openings. Hope to see you there.



73 Don Village K6PBQ

Super Tech

Years ago the family airplane, a 1948 Ryan NAvion, had a King Radio KX150B as its primary communication/navigation radio. It was a hybrid radio that straddled the transition to solid state printed circuit board construction and used both tubes and transistors. Being old and tired it had an annoying squeal that was brought to my attention by the tower whenever I made a transmission. Not wanting to become too well known by the FAA, I finally took it to Nystrom Aviation in Palo Alto, the nearest FAA certified radio repair station. After two weeks I got a phone call from the repair shop declaring my radio was unfixable. When I went to pick up my radio they presented me with a \$75 repair bill. That was a lot of money back then and I got in to one hell of an argument as to whether anything was repaired. We finally settled on \$35, the price of liberating my radio.

At the time I was working for Intersil semiconductor, located in Cupertino on Tantau Ave just opposite what is now the Apple space ship complex. These were the heady days of electronic startups populated with non diploma'd geniuses. One such fellow was George Cole, a super technician who was able to unglue the nastiest electronic problems that constantly presented themselves. As a side hobby, George maintained the Wurlitzer Theater Organ at Pizza and Pipes on the corner of Lawrence Expressway and Homestead road. At the time, a huge tract of farmland occupied the diagonally opposite corner, with the original farmhouse still in tact. The holdout open space is now the staggeringly huge Kaiser Hospital. So George kept the gigantic octopus like organ with all its remote instruments electronically synchronized, a thunderous imitation of a complete orchestra.

I told George about my King radio and its fatal diagnosis and he immediately wanted a chance to see what he could do. He suggested we take it into Intersil's Faraday cage, a huge 12 foot

square cube encased in heavy copper. After closing the freezer like door, we powered up the radio and were able to duplicate the annoying squeal. Can't exactly remember how we did this, but the outside world was not aware of any radiated power from our transmissions. It didn't take long for George to open up the radio and start hunting for the bad component. He used an axial lead capacitor with the leads brought close together and paralleled the capacitors in the radio. It didn't take long and George found the bad capacitor which he replaced. He also discovered that there was a bad bipolar transistor that needed replacing. The problem here was that King Radio had dipped all the transistors into black paint hiding any markings so that only they could provide replacements. At this point George suggested that what we needed was another KX-150B that worked, a radio that we could borrow this very transistor from and using a curve tracer identify it positively.

Now I need to identify yet another player in this story, namely Vaughn Lamb the owner of the airplane salvage yard on 11th street in South San Jose. Most of the world knew Vaughn as a train engineer operating steam locomotives for the Southern Pacific Railroad. But he had a second occupation as the salvager of airplane wrecks wherever they might occur. His junk yard had a huge building that contained all the recoverable parts of planes that had met violent ends. Outside were the crushed remains of who knows how many bad landings! I used to drool over a Beechcraft A36 fuselage that was sandwiched between its de-mated wings. An off runway crash landing that allowed Steve Wozniak to walk away with minor head injuries, no more. His flying days were over, sadly his wreck was worth more than I could afford to buy and restore.

We asked Vaughn if he had any examples of our radio and he immediately produced three, two badly crushed and one only moderately so. George removed our mystery transistor and back to work where the curve tracer led us to the correct spec sheet and a new replacement part. Some additional work was done and the illegal repair was reinstalled in the NAVion where it performed flawlessly for years to include a four week trip to Alaska. And what did George get for all his effort? His parents, who had been farmers all their lives, retired to Coos Bay Oregon where his father bought a small Salmon fishing trawler. We packed our bags and flew to Coos Bay where we spent a delightful weekend as guests. George had the satisfaction of knowing his repair rendered the radio squeakless.



Goetz Brandt, K6GKB

ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, April 1, 2021

New FCC Application Fee Will Not Apply to Amateur Radio License Upgrades

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) staff has clarified in response to an ARRL request that the new \$35 application fee will not apply to most license modifications, including those to upgrade an amateur radio licensee's operator class and changes to club station trustees. The FCC staff explained that the new fees will apply only to applications for a new license, renewal, rule waiver, or a new vanity call sign. As previously announced, the new fees take effect on April 19, 2022.

"We are pleased that the FCC will not charge licensees the FCC

application fee for license upgrade applications," said ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM. "While applicants for a new license will need to pay the \$35 FCC application fee, there will be no FCC charge for future upgrades and administrative updates, such as a change of mailing or email address. Most current licensees, therefore, will not be charged the new FCC application fee until they renew their license or apply for a new vanity call sign."

ARRL previously reported that the new \$35 application fee for amateur radio licenses will become effective on April 19, 2022. Further information and instructions about the FCC Application Fee are available from the ARRL VEC at www.arrl.org/fcc-application-fee.

WSPR Beacon on the Air from Antarctica

AMSAT Argentina has assembled and delivered a permanent WSPR (Weak-Signal Propagation Reporter) beacon system to the Argentine research station at Esperanza Base on the Antarctic Peninsula. Using the call sign LU1ZV, the 200 mW beacon is presently active on 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters at 7.0386, 14.0956, 21.0946, and 28.1246 MHz, respectively, and reception has been reported by stations throughout the world.

The LU1ZV WSPR beacon is on the air from Esperanza Base, a permanent Antarctic research station.

WSPR is a digital communications protocol designed for reception at very weak-signal levels. It is part of the WSJT-X software suite. You can use [WSJT-X](http://www.wsjtx.com) to receive the LU1ZV beacon directly, or you can see reports from other stations online at <http://www.wsprnet.org>.

[Thanks to the AMSAT News Service]

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting, April 11, 2022



{meeting was canceled}

Board Meeting, April 18, 2022



Meeting began at 7:35 PM by President Gregg Lane KF6FNA.

Roll call of officers:

President: Gregg Lane KF6FNA
Vice President: Ned Tufekcic AC6YY
Secretary: Barbara K. Britten KD6QEI
Treasurer: Goetz Brandt K6GKB
Station Trustee: Don Village K6PBQ
Director: Lou Steirer WA6QYS
Director: Ben Shuford KK6CCU
Director: Wally Britten KA6YMD
Director: John Parks W6JPP
Director: James Rustemier KI6ZSK

Visitors: Gary Mitchell WB6YRU, Newsletter editor; Truman Lindsey N6TRU

No QSTs at this time.

Announcements:

The club station at the Red Cross will be open on Saturday, 4/23/22, from 10:00AM to 4:00 PM.
Flea markets will begin on 4/23 at the Sunnyvale Public Library parking lot, from 0700 to noon.
SCCARA will host the flea market on June 11,2022.
SCCARA will be able to start having meetings in room #4 of the Red Cross on Plumeria and N. First as of April, 2022.

Officer Reports:

Vice President-Ned AC6YY: Nothing new to report.

Secretary-Barbara KD6QEI: Room #4 at the Red Cross will be open at the beginning of May, and asked if there were any corrections to the secretary notes published in the SCCARA-Gram. Gary WB6YRU stated that he did not get the minutes of last month, so they were not printed in the newsletter. Barb KD6QEI said she would check on that. Gregg KF6FNA, said that there is still time to get the minutes into Gary WB6YRU to be published in April's newsletter.

Treasurer Goetz K6GKB: (checking) \$11,158.07; (cash) \$256.04; Total \$11,414.11. The expected package from a friend, has not arrived yet. Gregg KF6FNA asked if the club insurance has been paid for this year. Goetz replied in the affirmative.

Station Trustee Don K6PBQ: The club station will be open at the American Red Cross, on Saturday, April 23, from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Don K6PBQ reported that he will be sending an article each month with details on when the club station will be open.

Standing Committees:

Newsletter Gary WB6YRU: Minutes of last month were not published in the newsletter because Gary WB6YRU never got them from the secretary, Barbara KD6QEI. Barbara reported that she would check on why Gary WB6YRU didn't get them. (Comment) Don K6PBQ reported that Gary WB6YRU is doing a great job with the newsletter. Gary WB6YRU requested that more articles should come from club members, like details on the flea markets, field day, club station, up coming meetings, etc, and asked if there was anything he could do to help these processes. Gregg K6FNA reported that he would send in an article to Gary WB6YRU for this months newsletter.

BBS Gary WB6YRU: No news to report. Things are all working normally.

Repeater Goetz K6GKB: Things are working the neighborhood.

Webmaster Wally KA6YMD: Things are kept up to date.

Membership Ben KK6CCU: Nothing new to report. Ben has something regarding ham radio. He asked if we could be send an informational on ham radio to Willow Glen High school and Middle school. Truman N6TRU, has a friend at Willow Glen HS, whom he will contact for some help. Ben KK6CCU will send an email to the newsletter with information to get a meeting and draft something to the newsletter regarding ham radio. Don K6PBQ reported that the Children's History Museum will have a Morse Code station and the Boy Scouts, and will be having classes for volunteers. No dates were given.

Gregg KF6FNA: He will have a meeting with the American Red Cross (ARC) regarding Field Day. If the ARC will not allow FD to be held there, then do it on the air, reporting the info on behalf of the club by participants, to ARRL as during COVID restrictions. (Comment) John W6JPP: We could contact the science departments at schools and then do a demo with the teacher and students talking on Hts. Then he asked Barbara KD6QEI, if she was recording the minutes. She replied, yes. John W6JPP reported that we could do demo's at the schools. Ben KK6CCU

asked Barbara KD6QEI if she was recording the minutes to fill in the gaps later when she writes up the minutes, and if there were other schools where we could do demo's. Truman N6TRU, will send an email to assistant principal, Mr. Rudolph of Willow Glen HS asking for his help, and will then send an email to SCCARA with a report.

Old Business:

Antenna work at the ARC: This work needs to be done, but it is a work in progress.

The antenna trailer needs to be done, too. The antenna needs to be put up and tested for efficacy, plus, it needs to be cleaned up. John is chairing that committee. John W6JPP reported that he feeling well and is free of cancer. He is still doing physical therapy on his throat.

Room #4 at the ARC: We may be available to have a general meeting in Rm #4 starting in May or June. A mask will have to be worn to attend the meeting, plus all will have to have been vaccinated. Don K6PBQ: stated that Rm #4 was twice the size of the room at KSC, so there is plenty of room to maintain social distancing. The only working antennas on the ARC roof are a vertical and dipole.

Gregg KF6FNA: Goetz K6GKB, wants to step down as treasurer. Is there anyone interested in being treasurer, please call Gregg KF6FNA.

The Flea Market: The first one was in April. SCCARA will host the one on June 11,2022. There are 100 spaces for vendors and 100 spaces for parking. The hours for the flea markets are from 7 AM to noon. Set up is at 0700, and it begins at 0800. We need to send in a check for \$1300.00 within 60 days before we host the flea market. We need to find a chairman before the 6/11 flea market so we can vote at the next board mtg. John W6JPP said that too many people are coming in with big trucks selling junk. They turned away 50 vehicles due to lack of space. There are 46 double and 16 single spaces for vendors. Gary WB6YRU: We have stuff to sell. We have sponsors to do the selling. Don K6PBQ: Do visitors have to park on the street? Gregg KF6FNA reported no, they will have to walk about half a block. Gary/John: Need to send in a check for \$1300.00 after May board meeting. Wally KA6YMD, we can have a table next to the concession stand. We are waiting for a written statement from West Valley Radio Club. Greg to send an email to Wally KA6YMD after the meeting. John W6JPP Is there another parking area that can be used? we need 20-30 spaces. Don K6PBQ suggested a map to show how to get to the library. Gary WB6YRU Need more info of how to get to the site.

Field Day: We will operate at the ARC or at home. We need to interact with George Williams N6NKT. We also need a Field Day chairman.

Gary KF6FNA asked if there was any more old or new business. None heard.

Meeting closed at 8:30PM.
Barbara K. Britten KD6QEI, Secretary

{Note: these minutes have not been corrected. -- Ed.}

Packet Pieces

Downloaded from the BBS packet network:

=====
Date: 13 Mar 2020 03:05
From: LU9DCE@LU9DCE
To: HUMOR@WW
Subject: quotes 13 03

For every credibility gap, there is a gullibility fill.
-- R. Clopton

Politics is almost as exciting as war, and quite as dangerous.
In war, you can only be killed once.
-- Winston Churchill

"I have recently been examining all the known superstitions
of the world, and do not find in our particular superstition
one redeeming feature. They are all alike founded on fables
and mythology."
-- Thomas Jefferson

"Love is an ideal thing, marriage a real thing; a confusion of
the real with the ideal never goes unpunished."
-- Goethe

It's so beautifully arranged on the plate -- you know
someone's fingers have been all over it.
-- Julia Child on nouvelle cuisine.

What you don't know can hurt you, only you won't know it.

It is easier to fight for one's principles than to live up to
them.
-- Alfred Adler

We Americans live in a nation where the medical-care
system is second to none in the world, unless you count
maybe 25 or 30 little scuzzball countries like Scotland that
we could vaporize in seconds if we felt like it.
-- Dave Barry, "Stay Fit & Healthy Until You're Dead"

Your reasoning is excellent -- it's only your basic
assumptions that are wrong.

Why should we subsidize intellectual curiosity?
-- Ronald Reagan

In the Halls of Justice, the only justice is in the halls.
-- Lenny Bruce

A prisoner of war is a man who tries to kill you and fails,
and then asks you not to kill him.
-- Sir Winston Churchill, 1952

The UNIX philosophy basically involves giving you enough
rope to hang yourself, and then a couple of feet more just
to be sure.

Don't worry about people stealing your ideas. If they're any
good, you'll have to ram them down people's throats.
-- Howard Aiken

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

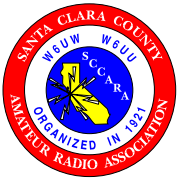
Thanks to Goetz for an entertaining article. And at last
something from our president (about the flea market).

The June electronic flea market will be hosted by
SCCARA. We'll need volunteers! Can you help out? If so
contact our president Gregg KF6FNA. Although it's outside,
masks are still a good idea since we'll be close to each other. No
word yet on whether we'll have a club table. In the past we had a
table for club stuff and for members to sell 2 or 3 items of their
own. We still have some things to sell. However, since there's
less room at the new location, I suspect we won't have a table.
Hopefully we'll have more details in the next edition.

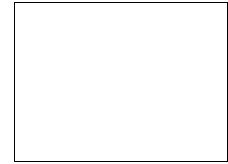
There's talk about staring up our general meetings again,
perhaps at the Red Cross. Nothing definitive yet. Stay tuned.



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 2022

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.