

# SCCARA-GRAM



## Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 47, Number 8

August 2022



## Meetings & Gatherings

Our in-person meetings have resumed, please remember to wear a mask. 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 have been canceled for the rest of this year.

The latest news on covid is: Statewide 79.8% (75.3% last month) are fully vaccinated; in Santa Clara County it's 86.6% (86.0% last month). The new variant caused a recent increase in new cases, but thanks to the vaccine hospitalizations haven't gone up too much. Average number of new cases daily in Santa Clara County is now 851 (down from 1050 last month).



The Santa Clara County Health Dept. strongly recommends masks. The FDA has authorized a **second booster** for those 50 and older or anyone with a compromised immune system, provided it's been 4 months or longer since your first booster.

## Club Station

Our club station at the Red Cross will be open on Aug 27<sup>th</sup> for members to come down and operate. Time is 10 am-4 pm. I will be on vacation in Colorado on Aug 15-24<sup>th</sup>. I will be back on the 24<sup>th</sup> in time for Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>. Gregg KF6FNA will run the Monday night nets for me on Aug 15 and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Thanks Gregg.



73, Don Village K6PBQ

## Wall Wart or Not

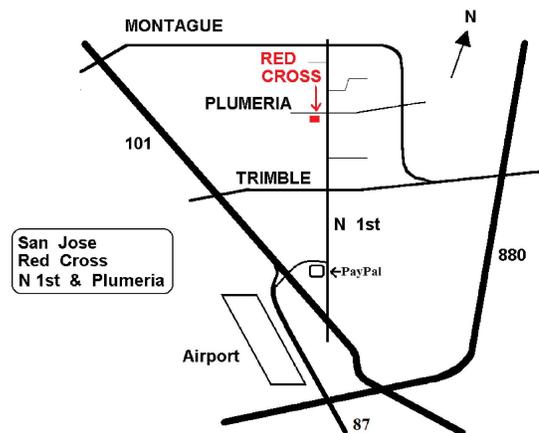
Unlike most of you reading this article, I have a problem with electric wiring. Whether it is the shack, the bedroom or the study, the mass of wiring options simply defies description. Behind the ham desk which consists of two complete stations, transceiver, outboard speakers, amplifiers with separate control

## Calendar

- 8/8 **SCCARA General Meeting**  
8/15 **SCCARA Board Meeting:** On our 2 m repeater after the net at 7:30 PM)

## General Meeting

Day: Monday, August 8  
Time: 7:30 PM  
Place: San Jose Red Cross, meeting room 3  
Featuring: {to be announced}



heads, antenna switches and 2 meter radios with power supplies, articulated desk lamps and video monitor, not mention the land line phone, the mobile phone with induction charger, all wanting power from a 10 socket power strip populated with wall warts. Oh yes, there is the backup battery and its emergency switch. Once every six months, I pull the desk out and straighten the wiring. This means unplugging everything, combing out the tangles, coiling the excess wire with tie wraps and repositioning the desk. It is still a jungle, but it has the semblance of organization. Before the next six months are over, the little people come in and undo all my work.

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](http://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
	<a href="mailto:t94nt@hotmail.com">t94nt@hotmail.com</a>	
Secretary	Barbara Britten, KD6QEI	408-293-3847
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:kd6qei@arrl.net">kd6qei@arrl.net</a>	
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	Wally Britten, KA6YMD	408-891-1105
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:ka6ymd@arrl.net">ka6ymd@arrl.net</a>	
Director	John Parks, W6JPP	
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:w6jpp@arrl.net">w6jpp@arrl.net</a>	
Director	Ben Shuford, KK6CCU	408-429-5370
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:bshu288519@aol.com">bshu288519@aol.com</a>	
Director	Lou Steirer, WA6QYS	408-241-7999
	e-mail: <a href="mailto:wa6qys@aol.com">wa6qys@aol.com</a>	
Director	(vacant)	
	e-mail:	

#### 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

So sorry, I had to get that off my chest, a battle I will never win. The real subject of this article is the USB wall wart which is the backbone of laptops and cell phones. This has been standardized and the joke is that "the good thing about standards is that you have so many choices". Not only are there three speeds, USB1, USB2 and USB3, but the actual cable terminations come in at least five different configurations. My real complaint is that I almost always have the correct USB cable, but not the wall wart.

Step in PBS's "This Old House" which offered this simple solution, namely "Snap Power USB Charger Outlet Wall Plate Cover." You simply remove the wall power outlet cover held in with a single central screw and replace it with the new cover plate which has fingers that reach in and touch the plug wiring screws. Reinstall the center screw and you are done.

Your wall outlet now has a USB power port! Strategically placed around the house and you don't need USB wall warts anymore. Check it out, you'll like it.



Goetz Brandt, K6GKB

## ARRL News

From *The ARRL Letter*, June 30, 2022

### Field Day 2022: 500,000 Contacts Already Reported

2022 ARRL [Field Day](#) wrapped up nearly a week ago, and ARRL Headquarters has already received over 2,400 entries submitted via the online [Field Day Entry web application](#). Early analysis reveals that most of the entrants participated as Class D -- home stations, and Class E -- home stations using emergency power.

<http://www.arrl.org/field-day>  
<https://field-day.arrl.org/fdentry.php>

As of June 29, the breakdown of Field Day entries by Class showed 2,723 total entries, with 272 in Class A, 361 in Class B, 32 in Class C (mobile), 1,524 in Class D, 484 in Class E, and 50 in Class F.

So far, a total of over 517,000 contacts were reported for the event and those numbers are changing daily. In 2021, there were 1.5 million contacts made during Field Day activities.

Many participants were keeping their hopes up for better propagation, as early forecasts were looking promising. ARRL Contest Program Manager Paul Bourque, N1SFE, said that propagation aside, there was substantial activity. "While band conditions might not have been the greatest, there was a good amount of activity on the bands this past weekend. Many participants seemed to agree that the recent rule changes, capping transmitter power output to 100 W, were a good idea," he said.

Kristi Milluzzi has made a commemorative Field Day cake for each of the last three years, featuring the event's logo. She recently married Andy Milluzzi, KK4LWR, of Clermont, Florida. Andy is a member of the ARRL Public Relations Committee, and co-advisor to the ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Program.

Dustin Lomax, KF7FK, reported in his Soapbox comments that it was his first Field Day in which he used CW, adding that “CW was a fun change of pace that really helped make the most of marginal band conditions in WWA [Western Washington].”

There is still plenty of time to submit your 2022 Field Day entry. Participants who submit their entries using [ARRL's Online Submission Form](#) can earn 50 bonus points and will receive an email confirmation of their completed entry. Be sure to check the [Entries Received web page](#) to verify your entry's status. If it indicates “Pending documents,” the required dupe sheet (or in lieu of that, a Cabrillo log file) or other supporting documentation of claimed bonus points is missing.  
<http://field-day.arrl.org/fdentry.php>  
<http://field-day.arrl.org/fdentriescvcd.php>

Participants can edit or add documentation to their online submissions by using the link provided in the confirmation email. Field Day entries must be submitted online or postmarked no later than 2059 UTC on July 26, 2022.

2022 Field Day was highly promoted thanks to the efforts of many ARRL Division and Section volunteers, amateur radio clubs, and their members. Many states and counties obtained special proclamations from local governments designating the weekend (in some cases the whole week) as Field Day and Amateur Radio Week, recognizing the many contributions of amateur radio operators during emergencies and with serving their communities.

ARRL treated participants with a live video stream from W1AW, its Headquarters' station, throughout Field Day. Life Member Karl Schwab, KO8S, of Warren, Michigan, was delighted with making contact with W1AW during Field Day. “I heard W1AW calling CQ Field Day on 20 m SSB,” wrote Schwab. “I responded and then heard, 'Kilo Oscar Eight Sierra, you're 5 Foxtrot Connecticut.' I responded with my report, and got in their log. ... After Field Day, and uploading my log, I went to the ARRL website and there I found a 4-hour video was available on YouTube, showing W1AW during their Field Day activities. While watching this video, at hour 2, minute 55, I heard and saw my live contact with them! [This] was a special moment for me. One I will never forget.” A recording of the W1AW live stream is on [ARRL's YouTube channel](#) (<https://youtu.be/RN8mc3NVdwg>).

## Southern California Exercise Tests Winlink Global Radio Email

For 2 days in mid-June, over 100 amateur radio operators were joined by the United States Geological Survey (USGS), local and county law enforcement agencies, and the EmComm Training Organization (ETO) for participation in a functional earthquake exercise in southern California, known as SoCal Shifting 2022.

The goal of the exercise, which took place June 18 - 19, was to test the operational capability and readiness of the Winlink Global Radio Email® system using amateur radio frequencies.

Oliver Dully, K6OLI, District Emergency Coordinator of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) Los Angeles Northeast District, said the exercise came together quickly over 5 days, with the help of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Disaster Communications Service (DCS), the San Diego ARES, and the Ventura County ARES.

Dully said, “Amateur operators routinely hold weekly tests but need to be network-aware and used to the battle rhythm during emergencies to move traffic in [a] more timely manner.”

The exercise scenario included a cluster of earthquakes occurring on June 18 at 10:18 AM Pacific Standard Time, and amateur radio operators were asked to send a series of messages ranging from a Did You Feel It (DYFI) report to a Field Station Report (FSR).

Dully said the exercise was a great success, stating: “Participants were only given a short 3 days' notice, so the great success of the SoCal Shifting 2022 functional exercise again demonstrates the value of regular, mission-focused training and collaboration.”

Dully said the numbers from the final after-action report were outstanding:

The ARES Los Angeles Northeast District tactical call sign received 372 messages from 101 participating stations during this exercise. Seventy-six of those stations sent all four messages, 16 sent three, the remainder sent two or fewer. The Winlink check-out was most often overlooked.

Over 95% of stations correctly located themselves in North and Central America. Three stations missed a (-) sign in their longitudes in some (but not all) of their form submissions. Two stations elected not to send latitude and longitude.

Over 95% entered the correct exercise name in the DYFI form. That was of special importance, as it helps USGS aggregate and analyze exercise data.

The exercise scenario and a [brief after-action review are available](#) ([https://bit.ly/SoCal\\_Shifting\\_2022\\_Web](https://bit.ly/SoCal_Shifting_2022_Web)).

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From *The ARRL Letter*, July 7, 2022

## FCC Legacy CORES System Has Been Retired

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) retired the Legacy version of its COmmission REgistration System (CORES) on July 15, 2022. CORES is the FCC's public-facing database that enables and tracks certain types of FCC and FCC applicant actions, including amateur radio applications and licenses. Its implementation has enabled routine amateur applications and licenses to be issued overnight instead of over weeks, as was the case with earlier methods. The [updated version of CORES](#) is now available. (<https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.do>)

In essence, CORES is designed to identify those who hold certain types of FCC licenses and FCC authorizations, including amateur licenses, and organize them in an easily accessible manner under a common FCC Registration Number (FRN) regardless of whether one holds a single such authority or thousands. The new CORES, in addition to assigning individual FRNs, allows holders of multiple FRNs to aggregate them under a single account where the licenses and authorizations, fees and payments, and related actions can be administered from within the same account.

In effect, new CORES can be conceptualized as an electronic interactive file folder. The updated version of CORES has been available since 2016, and its use is now mandatory for all amateur licensees when submitting amateur-related applications.

The Legacy CORES website now re-directs users to the Commission's updated CORES site. Although some functionalities in the old system will continue to work for a short time, the FCC has urged all users to transition to the updated CORES system to take advantage of its enhanced security and functionality.

Register with the FCC

Licenses that do not already have an FCC CORES Username Account must create one with a unique username (a valid email address) and password. After creating the account, when logged in, users should associate their existing FRN or FRNs with this account. Instructions for doing so are on the [FCC Registration Help web page](#). One's FRN is printed on all current amateur applications and licenses, and will not change. FRNs can also be found by looking up one's call sign in the Commission's ULS (<https://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsApp/UlsSearch/searchLicense.jsp>) or by using the FCC's [Advanced Search web page](#). (<https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/publicHome.do?help=true>) (<https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/advancedSearch.do?csrfToken=>)

The FCC has posted [tutorial videos](#) to assist with the transition. ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, recommends viewing "Getting Started With the New CORES," which explains how to register for a CORES Username Account, and "Associating an FRN to a Username," which instructs Legacy CORES users on how to link one or more existing FRNs to a username. [FCC CORES Registration Instructions](#) can also be found on the ARRL website. (<https://www.arrl.org/fcc-cores-registration-instructions>) (<https://www.fcc.gov/licensing-databases/fcc-registration-system-cores/commission-registration-system-video-tutorials>)

Additional information is available on the [FCC website](#) or by calling the FCC Licensing Support Center at 877-480-3201, Option 4, and on the [FCC's e-support web page](#). <https://www.fcc.gov/licensing-databases/commission-registration-system-fcc> <https://www.fcc.gov/wireless/available-support-services>

## Meeting Minutes

*{By request of our president, Gregg KF6FNA, minutes will be published at a future date.}*



## Packet Pieces

**Downloaded from the BBS packet network:**

```
=====
Date: 15 Nov 2012 05:21
From: GM3YEW@GB7YEW
To: HUMOUR@WW
Subject: Jokes 13/11
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```

Apparently, 1 in 5 people in the world are Chinese. There are 5 people in my family, so it must be one of them. It's either my mum or my Dad, or my older Brother Colin, or my younger Brother Ho-Cha-Chu. But I think it's Colin.

-----  
I would like to share an experience with you about drinking and driving.

As you well know, some of us have been known to have had brushes with the authorities on our way home from the odd social session over the years.

Well, I have done something about it: A couple of nights ago I was out for a few drinks with some mates and had a

few too many whiskies as well as beers and some rather nice claret; but knowing full well I may have been slightly over the limit, I did something I've never done before - I took a bus home.

I arrived back safely and without incident, which was a real surprise since I had never driven a bus before.

-----  
Here are the top nine comments made by NBC sports commentators during the Summer Olympics:

1. Weightlifting commentator: 'This is Gregoriava from Bulgaria. I saw her snatch this morning during her warm up and it was amazing.'
2. Dressage commentator: 'This is really a lovely horse and I speak from personal experience since I once mounted her mother.'
3. Paul Hamm Gymnast: 'I owe a lot to my parents especially my mother and father.'
4. Boxing Analyst: 'Sure there have been injuries and even some deaths in boxing but none of them really that serious.'
5. Softball announcer: 'If history repeats itself I should think we can expect the same thing again.'
6. Basketball analyst: 'He dribbles a lot and the opposition doesn't like it. In fact you can see it all over their faces.'
7. At the rowing medal ceremony: 'Ah isn't that nice the wife of the IOC president is hugging the cox of the British crew.'
8. Soccer commentator: 'Julian Dicks is every where. It's like they've got eleven Dicks on the field.'
9. Tennis commentator: 'One of the reasons Andy is playing so well is that before the final round his wife takes out his balls and kisses them... Oh my God what have I just said?'

```
=====
Date: 14 Nov 2012 21:23
From: GM3YEW@GB7YEW
To: HUMOUR@WW
Subject: Jokes 24/10
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```

At one Army base, the annual trip to the rifle range had been canceled for the second year in a row, but the semi-annual physical fitness test was still on as planned.

One soldier mused, "Does it bother anyone else that the Army doesn't seem to care how well we can shoot, but they are extremely Interested in how fast we can run?"

-----  
My daughter-in-law Alma and grandson Eddy were digging for fishing bait in my garden. Uncovering a many-legged creature, Eddy proudly dangled it before his mother.

"No, honey, he won't do for bait," his mother said. "He's not an earthworm."

"He's not?" Eddy asked, his eyes wide. "What planet is he from?"

-----  
"I thought I told you to keep an eye on your cousin," the mother said. "Where is he?"

"Well," her son replied thoughtfully, "if he knows as much about canoeing as he thinks he does, he's out canoeing. If he knows as little as I think he does, he's out swimming"

-----  
A very devout man who was very over weight decided to go on a diet. One of his main problems with eating was that he would stop for doughnuts every morning on the way to work. So to make things easier for himself, he changed his route to work to avoid the temptation of stopping. As the weeks went by he started losing a lot of weight and was receiving compliments from his friends and co-workers.

Then one morning without thinking, he accidentally turned onto the road which would take him by the doughnut shop. At first he was going to turn around but then he thought to himself, "maybe the Lord is rewarding me for my efforts". So, he said a short prayer telling the Lord that if this was His true intention let there be an open parking place directly in front of the shop.

And sure enough, on the fifth time around the block there was an open spot right up front.

-----  
A dietitian was once addressing a large audience in Chicago. "There is one most dangerous food of all that we all have or will have eaten. Can anyone here tell me what food it is that causes the most grief and suffering for years after eating it?"

A 75-year-old man in the front row stood up and said, "wedding cake."

-----  
Police in Los Angeles, California had good luck with a robbery suspect who just couldn't control himself during a lineup. When detectives asked each man in the lineup to repeat the words: "Give me all your money or I'll shoot," one man shouted, "that's not what I said!"

-----  
Linda: "What's that you're reading?"

Jill: "A diary."

Linda: What's in it?

Jill: "I can't tell you that. A diary is a highly personal and confidential affair, it has important secret dreams and secret yearnings. It's private. It's not meant to be shared lightly with other people. And besides, this diary belongs to Margaret."

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## 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)

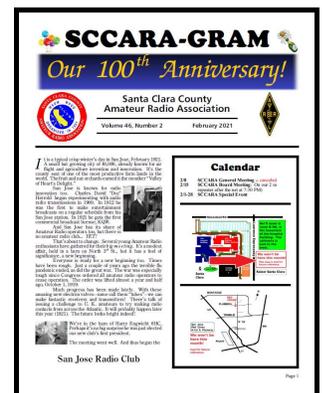
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## Newsletter Notes

We're having in-person meetings again. Printed copies of our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary SCCARA-GRAM are available there free for anyone who would like one as a keepsake. If you can't make it to a meeting, we can mail you one.

As you all know, the pandemic put a damper on in-person celebrations. So this is pretty much all we have to show for it.

If you have something you would liked to have added, you can still send it in for a future edition. We'd still like to see it.



73, Gary WB6YRU, editor

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**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.