



Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association

AUGUST 2011

SARA Club Board of Directors

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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT – Al Carpenter, KD6YWO



*SO LONG, FAREWELL, GOODNIGHT... I HATE TO GO AND LEAVE
THIS PRETTY SIGHT...*



Born September 10, 1951 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, I grew up in a little town called Harrah with a population of 300. We lived there until I was eleven years old. We moved to Southern California in 1962, Downey, where I graduated from high school and went on to junior college and worked full time at the Post office for nine years. I quit one day and went to work as a field service technician. The company sold anything that made noise in a vehicle, including CB radios. I took a liking to those because I travelled a lot and it was nice to talk to the truck drivers. In those days you had to apply for a license and take a test. Then they issued a license. The band was very tame compared to today's standards. No *Hee Hawing* your Grandma was allowed.

In 1978 I moved from Southern California to San Leandro and bought a house here in Modesto in 1987. Commuting back to the Bay area every day I dug out my old 23 channel radio and was back on the air, except the band had changed. There were a lot of people *Hee Hawing* their Grandma.

I met a few nice people on CB, one of which was Big Steve, now SK KD6YCB.

And a few others like Berry Griffin who was my first mentor. He got his Ham license and encouraged the rest of us to follow. I traded Berry an antenna for his "Now Your Talking" book. A week later I was at Turlock's testing to take my test I actually past both tests and got my No-Code license. Big Steve found me a 2Mt. hand held radio (cost me \$150.00). I carried it to work and back listening for ten weeks hoping my license would come in the mail. I listened going and coming from work every day. When I finally decided it just wasn't coming in the near future I left my HT at home. Guess what came in the mail that day?



Saturday Night Field Day (Memory of KD6YCB)

That was June of 1992 and I have enjoyed every day since as a ham operator. I have worked a few of the community events and joined ARES. That has been a lot of training and work but worth every minute of it.

Now 19 years later I am moving back to Oklahoma to where I grew up - about a quarter of a mile from the house that I grew up in. I haven't gotten very far in 50 years. I have made a lot of great friends in Ham Radio. And I am going to miss each one of them (some less than others).... Hi! Hi! Honestly I will miss all of you but look forward to meeting new friends in 5 land. I'm not changing my call from a 6. I also look forward to talking to most of you on HF.

**THE SARA CLUB WILL MISS AL AND ALL HIS
INTUITIONAL KNOWLEDGE HE TAKES WITH HIM. GOOD
LUCK TO YOU!**



**Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association
Monthly Meeting**

August 16, 2011 – 7:00 p.m.

**Modesto Police Department
Northeast Area Substation**

<http://www.bing.com/maps/?v=2&cp=37.69217610060675~-120.95821600000001&lvl=15&dir=0&sty=r&where=3705%20Oakdale%20Rd%2C%20Modesto%2C%20CA%2095357-0723&form=LMLTCC>

[120.95821600000001&lvl=15&dir=0&sty=r&where=3705%20Oakdale%20Rd%2C%20Modesto%2C%20CA%2095357-0723&form=LMLTCC](http://www.bing.com/maps/?v=2&cp=37.69217610060675~-120.95821600000001&lvl=15&dir=0&sty=r&where=3705%20Oakdale%20Rd%2C%20Modesto%2C%20CA%2095357-0723&form=LMLTCC)

**3705 Oakdale Road
Modesto**



**Thank you Boy Scouts
for all your help!**

WHAT A BLAST!

JUNE 25-26, 2011

LaGrange Modesto Kiwanis' Youth Camp





BOY SCOUTS ROCK







HISTORY GOES A LONG WAY!

LaGrange Field Day Site History from 2007 Field Day

DON THOMAS, W6LRG

The Turlock Amateur Radio Club conducted its annual Field Day Exercise the weekend of 23-24 June with a lot of help by club members from Merced, Atwater, and Winton. **The club choose a location a couple miles west of LaGrange at the Modesto Kiwanis' youth camp in the woods.**



Over fifteen club members stayed over Saturday night. About 45-50 other members arrived during the two days and made radio contacts.

Several very old and deteriorated buildings suggested the location had been used earlier for something other than a Boy

Scout Camp.

A sign at the entrance put up by the Central California LDS Boy Scouts proclaimed the following: "From 1907 to 1951 the LaGrange Gold Dredging Company operated on the Tuolumne River.

This camp was built to house dredge crews, provide offices for the company, a shop to repair and maintain dredge equipment, and a retort furnace for the gold ore."

The old Dredger is still there a few miles back towards Snelling on Highway 59 at the end of a locked-gate road. It is a "Walter Johnson No. 52 model" the size of a football field and weighs in at 2500 tons. The cost of the rig was \$543,000. The Turlock Amateur Radio Club didn't go there to dredge for gold however. They went there to dredge for radio contacts throughout the country and beyond.



The operator with the most determination and contacts was Mike Siegel KI6PR. He had over 300 C.W. contacts and wins the cigar, or perhaps a Trophy. He had slapped his Iambic paddle all through the 24-hour period with only a couple of hours break. His wife Janet KB6SBH handled the logging. He did it all with a Ten-Tech Scout running 45-50 watts into a 40-meter wire Bobtail Curtain antenna. Whoever said you need high power and a beam high in the sky to reach out never told Mike.

Outgoing Club Present Richard Burns, KE6RGB said, "I stayed at the Field Day site Saturday night. Several of us operated the TARC trailer mounted two-section tower with a mono-band 20-meter three element beam. The main operators were Cliff Kibby KF6EII, Phillip Barnhill KC6QJQ, and Carl Wheeler KE6FOA . Several others took turns at the mike during the day and added to the log. One of their contacts was with a Ham operator in England."



Scoutmaster Dave Perkins is a member of the Turlock Amateur Radio Club. He brought along his assistant scout leader and four Boy Scouts from Atwater's Troop 129 to help the Turlock radio club set up antennas, tents, and keep the area cleaned up. They camped out at the site Friday and Saturday nights.

TARC President-Elect Curtis Mcadams KG6UCW with his wife Sandy KG6ZYP was working 15-meters with some others including Curtis McCormick KI6BXO who made most of the contacts. Manuel Miguel N6MTM was there with his wife Barbara. He helped add to the log, as

did David Coughran KG6OIX.

They were using a trailer mounted two-section tower with a three-element tri-band beam built by Miguel. Fifteen meters was open mostly in the afternoon and they managed to log 100 contacts. "We are having all kinds of fun," he said. It's Curtis' fourth field day and he will certainly be out again next year, perhaps at this same location – he better be – he's the new club president.

Upcoming Events!

▶ **CANCER AWARENESS RIDE: September 2011**

[Modesto Junior College West Campus](#)

2201 Blue Gum Avenue

Modesto, CA 95358

▶ **HAM CRAM: September 10, 2011 – Stanislaus Regional Training Center - 3805 Cornucopa Way - Modesto**

▶ **Stanislaus County Bicycle Club Ride: October 9, 2011 Riverbank**

▶ **PACIFICON EXPO2011: October 14-16, 2011**

Santa Clara Marriott Hotel - Santa Clara

▶ **HAM CRAM license class and testing: November 12, 2011**



Supported by Funding From
FY10 Homeland Security Grant



Stanislaus County OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

NIMS/SEMS/ICS COURSES

October, November, December 2011

COURSE	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
ICS 200 Basic ICS	4 October	0800 - 1700	3705 Oakdale Rd (Logistics)
Advanced EOC	12 -13 October	0800 - 1700	3705 Oakdale Rd (Logistics)
IS 704 Communications and Information Mngmt	26 October	0800-1700	3705 Oakdale Rd (Logistics)
IS 704 Communications and Information Mngmt	8 November	0800 - 1700	3705 Oakdale Rd (Logistics)
ICS 300/400 Introduction to EOC	5 -9 December	0800 - 1700	3705 Oakdale Rd (Logistics)
ICS 200 Basic ICS	14 December	0800 - 1700	3705 Oakdale Rd (Logistics)

ICS 200 COURSE (Basic NIMS Compliance)

An eight hour course that meets the requirements of the Basic Incident Command System. This course is designed to go beyond the basics of NIMS/SEMS/ICS introduction courses and cover such topics as Leadership and Management, Delegation of Authority, Management by Objectives, Functional Areas and Positions, Briefings, Organizational Flexibility, and Transfer of Command.

Target Audience: First line supervisors, single resource leaders, or other emergency response/management personnel who require a higher level of NIMS/SEMS/ICS training.

Pre-requisite Completion of IS700/Introduction to NIMS and ICS 100 Introduction to ICS.

ICS 300/400/EOC

A forty hour combined Intermediate/Advanced Incident Command System course created for supervisory or management staff that would be assigned in a supervisory or leadership role in the Command or General Staff of an emergency response incident or major pre-planned event. This course introduces participants to the Emergency Operations Center, is a requirement to work in the Stanislaus Operational Area EOC, and meets NIMS/SEMS compliance.

Target Audience: First line supervisors, middle managers.

Pre-requisite: Completion of Introduction and Basic NIMS/SEMS/ICS courses.

ADVANCED EOC

A sixteen hour course designed for selected students who have completed the 40 hour Stanislaus County ICS 300/400/EOC course. This course expands upon Emergency Operation Center functions, roles and responsibilities. It is tailored specifically for EOC operations in Stanislaus County. It will involve numerous break out scenarios designed to expose participants deeper into their roles and responsibilities in managing/supporting field incidents or large scale events from the EOC. It focuses on the four phases of emergency/disaster management of mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. It emphasizes EOC primary functions of policy direction, jurisdictional management/inter-agency coordination, information gathering/sharing, and resource management.

Pre-requisite: Completion of Stanislaus County's ICS 300/400/EOC course.

IS 704 COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT COURSE

An eight hour course designed to introduce participants to the Communications and Information Management component of the National Incident Management System. This course: Identifies components of NIMS Communications and Information Management; Identifies capabilities required to achieve effective communications and information management; Assesses the communication and information management capability of your jurisdiction or agency; Describes processes and forms for managing incident information flow, and; Identifies strategies for continually improving communications and information management systems and maintaining their readiness.

Target Audience: County OES Staff, Department Managers, EOC management teams, Incident Commanders/Managers; Section Chiefs/coordinators in Planning or Logistics; Leaders of Situation or Communication Units (including I.T.); P.I.O.'s, Advanced Planning Unit Leaders; MAC Coordinators; All City Emergency Managers and City Managers that would serve in the above positions.

Pre-requisite: IS-700a. Introduction to NIMS.



NETS AND MORE NETS.....

Traffic and Information Net

Monday through Friday starting at 7:00 AM on the S.A.R.A. two-meter repeater 145.390 MHz.
Traffic updates along with the weather conditions, Hosted by Mark WB6BJN.

S.A.R.A Weekly Net

Every first, second and fourth Tuesday at 7:30 PM on our club two-meter repeater 145.390 MHz.
Covers the latest information on club activities.

Stanislaus County ARES® Weekly Net

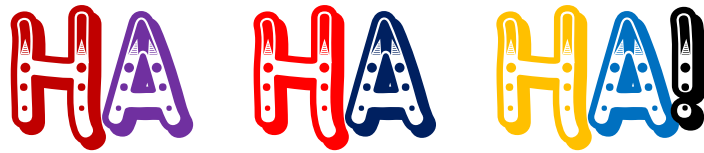
Every Wednesday at 8:00 PM on our club two-meter repeater 145.390 MHz.
Training and information for those interested in amateur radio emergency communications. The only requirements are being a licensed amateur radio operator and have an interest in emergency operations. Visitors to the net are always welcome to check in, after the membership roll-call. On the air training is provided and people of all license classes are welcome to join.

Tech Net

Thursday nights at 7:00 PM on our club two-meter repeater 145.390 MHz.
Dedicated to helping all hams increase their skills, an ideal forum for all hams to share their knowledge. Topics may include simple construction projects, answering your questions, training for license upgrades, and general skills needed by any ham.

SpaceNet

Friday nights at 8:00 PM on our club two-meter repeater 145.390 MHz.
Those interested in the very latest news and information related to air and space are invited to join us on SARA SpaceNet. This is an open net held on SARA's 145.390 repeater and can be reached throughout the Central Valley of California. Topics include the latest news in the worlds manned and unmanned space programs, aeronautics, astronomy events and new discoveries. We also cover Amateur Astronomy, Model, Mid and High Powered Rocketry, as well as Amateur Radio activities related to space such as monitoring meteor activity, contacting the International Space Station, using Amateur Radio Satellites, EME (Moonbounce) and how to use Orbital Plotting software.



Why do we press harder on a remote control when we know the batteries are almost dead?

Why do banks charge a fee on 'insufficient funds' when they already know there is not enough money?

Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars; but have to check when you say the paint is still wet?

Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?

Why does Superman stop bullets with his chest, but ducks when someone throws a punch at him?

Whose idea was it to put an 'S' in the word 'lisp'?

Why is it that no matter what color bubble bath you use the bubbles are always white?

Is there ever a day that mattresses are not on sale?

Why do people constantly return to the refrigerator with hopes that something new to eat will have materialized?



Why do people keep running over a string a dozen times with their vacuum cleaner, then reach down, pick it up, examine it, then put it down to give the vacuum one more chance?

Why is it that no plastic bag will open from the end on your first try?

How do those dead bugs get into those enclosed light fixtures?

When we are in the supermarket and someone rams our ankle with a shopping cart then apologizes for doing so, why do we say, 'It's all right?' Well, it isn't all right, so why don't we say, 'That really hurt, why don't you watch where you're going?'

Why is it that whenever you attempt to catch something that's falling off the table you always manage to knock something else over?

In winter why do we try to keep the house as warm as it was in summer when we complained about the heat?

How come you never hear father-in-law jokes?

The statistics on sanity is that one out of every four persons is suffering from some sort of mental illness. Think of your three best friends -- if they're okay, then it's you.

And my FAVORITE ...when people send you email jokes about politicians, why are they sending only jokes about the party they personally do not like?