

THE **Readout**

STANISLAUS AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

S.A.R.A.



WD6EJF
WWW.SARACLUB.NET
145.390 – PL 136.5



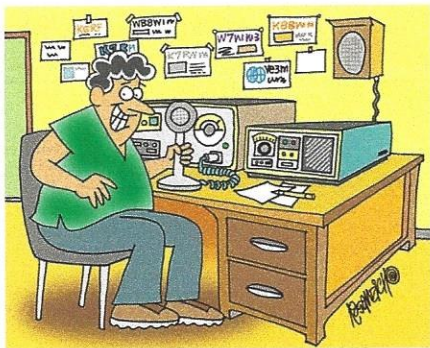
December 2019 Newsletter

Next general meeting is:

Tuesday December 17, 2019 at 3705 Oakdale Road
Modesto, CA 95357. Meeting begins at 7:00PM.

There is an informal meet and greet at Perko's
3500 Oakdale Road Modesto, CA 95357

Club members begin to arrive between 5:30pm and
6:00pm and usually sit in the back-dining room. All are
welcome to attend.



From the desk of the Readout editor:

Welcome to another edition of the SARA club READOUT.

Christmas is just around the corner and I hope you have all been good girls and boys and have put in your radio equipment requests to Santa. If members have any ideas for presentations or other club activities please contact any club officer or board member and let them know. YOUR club is only as good as ALL the **members** make it. A list of suggested training topics is included in this edition. Please take a look at them and let a club officer or board member know what you would like to see at a club meeting next year.



We will be having elections for the 2020 Club year for Officers and Board members. If you are interested in serving in one of those positions please let Club president Wally know, he is looking a someone to fill the club secretary position. After the elections we will enjoy the annual Christmas desserts provided by club members. Please bring your favorite Christmas treat to share.

If anyone has information that they want included in the Readout please submit to the editor at kf6npg@aol.com. Please try and have the information or articles to the editor by the 5th of each month.



Message from the Club President Wally KK6CPN

It is that time of the year again. We will be taking any last-minute nominations for club officers at the December meeting with the election to follow. I am looking for someone to fill the club secretary position. Please let me know if you are interested. We are taking membership dues for the 2020 year. I encourage everyone to renew their membership as this helps to support club activities and the club repeaters. If you know someone who is a regular user of the club repeaters ask them to join the club. I look forward to seeing everyone at the December meeting. I also want to take this opportunity to wish all of you and your families a very Merry Christmas



Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association

November 19, 2019

(conducted at OES 3705 Oakdale Rd)

MINUTES

President **Wally, KK6CPN** called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Sergeant at Arms **Danny, W6DMC** led the Pledge of Allegiance

President **Wally, KK6CPN** led the round of introductions

The minutes from October 15, 2019 were read minutes moved by **Bill, AE6J** and **Scott, N6CIC** seconded to accept the minutes. Minutes are also in The Readout.

President **Wally, KK6CPN** starting in January meetings will be in the back room, need to arrive to meeting before 7:00 p.m. Thanks to all being off the repeater for the Pediatric Surge Hospital Disaster drill on November 7 all went well. What presentations do we want for the upcoming year? fill out the survey on the SARA club website. Anonymous donation of \$250.

Vice President **Jason, KA6TIO** has no report

Treasurer **Vicki, KJ6RCV** gave report. As of **November 19, 2019**, our account balance is **\$7,617.80** of which **\$528.88** is the **Field Day Fund**. **Bills paid:** Mercer Insurance (General Liability renewal), PG&E (Aug/Sept prior month check not cleared), Moeller Mt Oso (October Site Rent), PG&E (Mt. Oso utilities), Danny Cortez (Sept/Oct meeting supplies) total of **\$762.35**. **Income:** Split the Pot, **\$55** collected Brent, **KJ6MRG**, won **\$28**), **Dues, \$105.00**, **Radio Raffle \$125.00** (won by **Don, KM6ARR**), **Donation (Anonymous) \$100** total of **\$357.00** **Deposits:** Tri Counties Bank, **\$357.00** report moved by **Mark, WB6BJN** and **Gary, WA6UXA** seconded to accept the treasurer's report.

Sergeant at Arms **Danny, W6DMC** reported has raffle tickets for Field Day fund, one ticket for a \$1 or (6) tickets for \$5. Coffee, homemade brownies and banana bread being provided.

Board Members: **Bill, AE6J, Brendon, NK6M, and Paul, W6UHF** had no report

Equipment/Mt Oso: **Paul, W6UHF** ordered VHF antenna.

ARES: **Lucian, KF6NPG** reported next meeting Dec. 14, Fusion repeater presentation.

Weather: **Mark, WB6BJN** reported broken records since October.

Community Events: **Lucian, KF6NPG** reported none at this time.

Ham Cram: **Lucian, KF6NPG, Dec. 7, 7:30-5:00 p.m. (OES/3705 Oakdale Rd), 27** have already registered.

Break/Raffle: 50/50 raffle **\$108.00** total **\$54.00** won by **Mark, WB6BJN** and donated back.

Field Day: **Bill, AE6J** reported 221 days left

Un-Finished Business: None reported.

New Business: **Nominations:** **President:** Wally, KK6CPN, **Vice President:** Mark, WB6BJN, **Treasurer:** Vicki, KJ6RCV **Sergeant at Arms:** Danny, W6DMC **Board:** Bill, AE6J, Brendon, NK6M, Paul, W6UHF. December meeting will be general elections and dessert potluck.

Presentation: None

Meeting Adjourned: 8:10 P.M.

Joining S.A.R.A.: We are currently taking membership applications for 2019 and 2020.

One-year membership dues are \$30.00 for individuals, or \$45.00 for a Family.

To join S.A.R.A., fill out this registration form and bring to any S.A.R.A. meeting or mail to: P.O. Box 4601, Modesto, Ca., 95352-4601.



STANISLAUS AMATEUR RADIO ASSOC. MEMBERSHIP FORM

Check One: New Member ___ Renewing Member ___ Family Membership ___

NAME: _____ CALLSIGN: _____

ARRL Member:(Yes) (No)

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____

ZIP: _____ PHONE: Home _____ Cell: _____

E-Mail: _____

ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBERS AT SAMEADDRESS:

NAME: _____ CALL SIGN: _____ ARRL: (Yes)
(No)

NAME: _____ CALL SIGN: _____ ARRL:(Yes) (No)

TOTAL DUES PAID: _____ Date: _____

One-year membership dues are \$30.00, Family Dues are \$45

Note: Bring membership form to SARA Meeting or Mail to: SARA Club, P.O. Box 4601, Modesto, CA 95352-4601

Ham Cram Information

Study for new amateur radio license or upgrade your current license
Sponsored by SARA and Stanislaus County ARES



When and Where?

February 15, 2020

3705 Oakdale Road, Modesto, CA

Registration opens at 7:45AM and the study session begins promptly at 8:30AM

Test begins at 4:00 PM

Please bring the following:

- A valid identification, preferably CDL (California Driver's License)
- Cash or check for \$25 for the Ham Cram study and testing session, check preferred and payable to Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association (SARA).
 - If you are attending the test only session at 4:00pm the cost is \$15.00
- If you are upgrading your license, please bring a copy of your current license as well as the ORIGINAL.

Sign Up

Please send the following information to hamcram@stanares.org

Full name, Address, Phone, Call Sign if you have one

If you're interested in the all-day Cram (study session) or Test only? Any other comments.



The Stanislaus ARES Report

www.stanares.org

The Stanislaus County Amateur Radio Emergency Service is composed of FCC licensed Amateur Radio operators who have voluntarily registered their capabilities and equipment for public service communications duty under Federal regulations, Amateur Radio public service communications are furnished without any compensation of any kind. ARES® personnel are prepared to respond during emergencies by a continual training program, and by maintaining their radio equipment and other response items in excellent condition. The team consists only of those who want to help, and who are dedicated to staying prepared to render radio-communications assistance during emergency conditions.

ARES® operates under the authority of the Stanislaus County Office of Emergency Services (OES), and the Stanislaus County Assistant Director for OES. ARES® is organized under the auspices of the American Radio Relay League, the San Joaquin Valley Section Manager, and the San Joaquin Valley Section District Emergency Coordinator. Operational control is under the Stanislaus county OES.

If you are interested in joining Stanislaus ARES go to the Stanislaus ARES website (www.stanares.org) and click on the Join ARES tab. There is formation on how to join and the membership forms to complete are available there. Please check in on the ARES voice radio net every Wednesday at 7:30 pm on the 145.390 – pl. 136.5 S.A.R.A. repeater. There is also an unproto Packet radio net during the voice net on 144.910 via the SARA node. The monthly training meeting is at 10:00am on the first Saturday of the month at 3705 Oakdale Road Modesto, CA. Meeting dates and times can change due to operational needs. Please check the web site for updates.

The next Stanislaus County ARES meeting will be **January 4, 2020** at 3705 Oakdale Road Modesto, CA. There will be ARES officer reports and a review of prior training of digital modes, APRS, Unproto Packet and Winlink Email systems. Please make sure that you have checked your winlink program to make sure it is the latest version of the program and forms.

ARRL EC-001 Emergency Communications Course

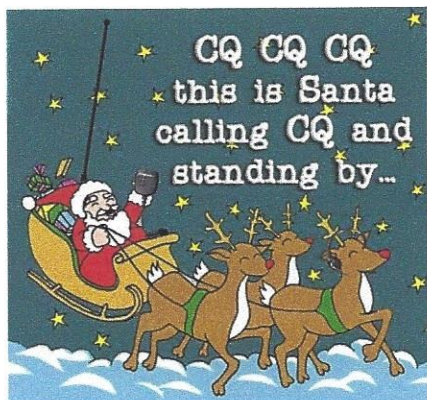
If you need to take the ARRL Emergency Communications Course (EC-001) Stanislaus ARES can help. The EC-001 workbook is out of print, however The Indian River County ARES has all of the study information (including test and answers) posted on their web site. Recent amateurs who have taken the test have printed out the test questions and answers and have studied like they would for a ham cram. Pass rate has been about 100 percent.

Here is the web site for the ARRL Introduction to Emergency Communications Course (EC-001):

Go to www.ircares.org This is the web site for the Indian River County ARES. Once you are on the web site click on the training and reference tab. Then click on the ARRL Introduction to Emergency Communications (EC-001) tab. That will take you to the course information.

Once you complete the on-line study you can arrange with Stanislaus ARES to take the ARRL test. We generally give the test at a ham cram session or before or after the monthly ARES meeting. Please e-mail Pat KG6JXZ at kg6jxz@charter.net, or Lucian KF6NPG at kf6npg@aol.com or John K6JRO at k6jro@arrl.net to arrange to take the test. *There is a \$15.00 test administration fee payable to ARRL.*

A Ham Radio Operators Night Before Christmas Created by Gary Pearce KN4AQ 2008-12-14



T'was the night before Christmas and all through the two-meters, not a signal was keying up any repeaters. The antenna reached up from the tower, quite high, to catch the weak signals that bounced from the sky. The children, tech-pluses, took their HT's to bed, and dreamed of the day they'd be extras instead.

Mom put on her headphones, I plugged in the key, and we tuned 40 meters for that rare ZK3. When the meter was pegged by a signal with power, it smoked a small diode and I swear shook the tower. Mom yanked off her phones, and with all she could muster logged a spot of the signal on the DX packet cluster. While I ran to the window and peered up at the sky, to see what could generate RF that high.

It was way in the distance, but the moon made it gleam. A flying sleigh, with an eight-element beam. And a little old driver who looked slightly squashed so I thought for a moment it might be Wally Walsh.

But no, it was Santa, the Santa of Hams. On a mission, this Christmas to clean up the bands. He circled the tower, then stopped in his track, and he slid down the coax right into the shack. While mom and I hid behind stacks of CQ this Santa of hamming knew just what to do. He cleared off the shack desk of paper and parts and filled out my late QSLs for a start.

He ran copper braid and took a steel rod and pounded it into the earth, till the station was grounded. He tightened loose fittings, re soldered connections and installed lightening protection. He neutralized tubes in my linear amp (it never worked before---now it works like a champ). A new low-pass filter cleaned up the TV, he corrected the settings in my old TNC.

He repaired the computer that would not compute and he backed up the hard drive and got it to boot. Then he reached really deep in the bag that he brought and he pulled out a big box, "A new rig?" I thought! A new Kenwood? An Icom? An Anytone? A Yaesu, for me?! (If he thought I'd been bad it might be QRP). Yes! The ultimate station! How could I deserve this? Could it be all those hours that I worked public service?

He hooked it all up and in record time quickly worked 100 countries, all down on 160. I should have been happy it was my call he sent, but the cards and the postage will cost two month's rent!

He made final adjustments and left a card by the key: "To Randy, from Santa Claus, Seventy-Three."

Then he grabbed his HT, looked me straight in the eye punched a code on the pad and was gone – no good bye. I ran back to the station, and the pile-up was big, but a card from St. Nick would be worth my new rig.

Oh, too late, for his final came over the air. It was copied all over, it was heard everywhere. The Ham's Santa exclaimed what a ham might expect, "MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL, AND TO ALL GOOD DX."

COMMUNITY EVENTS



January

Saturday 4th ARES meeting 10a-12p
Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th Winter Field Day

February

Saturday 1st ARES meeting 10a-12p
Saturday 15th Ham Cram 7:30a to 5p
Saturday 22nd Snelling road Race Henderson park Snelling, CA 7a-4p (depending on assignment).

March

Saturday 7th ARES meeting 10a-12p





Snow on Mt. Oso. November 27, 2019. Thanks to Jason KA6TIO.



LOCAL NETS

S.A.R.A. operates several repeaters.

These are located on Mt. Oso in Patterson, CA:

145.390 – pl 136.5

51.800 – pl 136.5

224.240 – pl 136.5

440.225 +pl 136.5

Digital node 144.910, digipeater name “SARA”.

145.110 – pl 136.5 is a low-level repeater located in Modesto, CA.

All SARA nets meet on the 145.390 – pl 136.5 repeater except where noted.

SARA Club net is every Tuesday (except the 3rd Tuesday) at 7:30pm.

The morning traffic and information net meets Monday through Friday from 7:00am to about 8:00am.

The geezer net (It is not about age; it is all about attitude) meets each weekday morning 9:00am to 9:30am.

The Stanislaus County ARES net meets every Wednesday at 7:30pm.

The Space net meets every Friday at 8:00pm

S.A.R.A. meets the Third Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm at 3705 Oakdale Road Modesto, CA 95357. The club website is www.saraclub.net .

The Stanislaus County ARES generally meets the First Saturday of the month at 10:00am at 3705 Oakdale Road Modesto, CA 95357. Meetings can be changed due to training requirements please check the web site for current information. The web site is www.stanares.org .

Turlock Amateur Radio Club (W6BXN) has several nets as well:

Morning commute and Beer and Pizza Net Monday through Friday 6:30am to 7:00am 147.030 + pl 100 or 447.700 + pl 94.8.

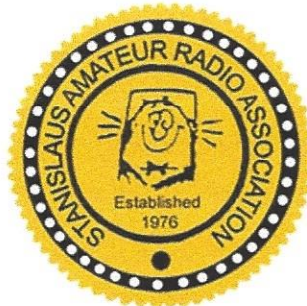
Weekly club net every Tuesday (except the 2nd Tuesday) at 7:00pm on the above repeaters.

DMR round table net every Monday at 7:00pm on the TARC regional talk group. Brandmeister TG 310658 which is linked to the W6BXN DMR repeaters.

TARC meets the second Tuesday at 7:00pm at the Salvation Army 893 Lander, Turlock, CA.

Merced ARES has a weekly net on Mondays at 8:00pm on the TARC repeaters. They have a monthly meeting the third Wednesday at 6:00pm at the Merced County Health Department, 260 East 15th Street Merced, CA.

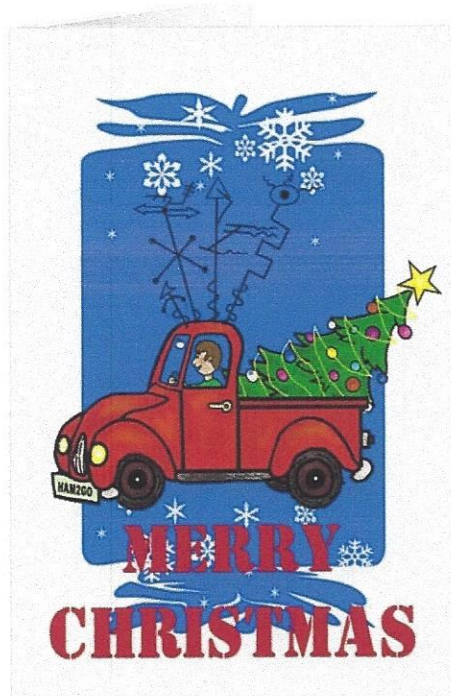
TARC web site is www.w6bxn.org and Merced ARES is www.mercedares.org .



2019 SARA Club Officers and Board members:

President	Jim Walsh KK6CPN	kk6cpn@yahoo.com
Vice President	Jason Peitz KA6TIO	ka6tio@gmail.com
Secretary:	Robin Axton KG6ZYQ	axtonr@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Vicki Peitz KJ6RCV	vptigger@gmail.com

Sergeant at Arms	Danny Cortez W6DMC	cortezdanny51@gmail.com
Board Member	Paul Owen W6UHF	w6uhf@aol.com
Board Member	Tom Brawley K6KQR	ki6kqr@sbcglobal.net
Board Member	Brendon Church NK6M	brendonchurch@me.com
Board Member	Bill Danforth AE6J	ki6hmv@gmail.com
Committees/Workgroups:		
Club Technician	Patrick Dunbar KG6AZZ	patd@kg6azz.net
Readout Editor	Lucian Thomas KF6NPG	kf6npg@aol.com
Community Events	Lucian Thomas KF6NPG	kf6npg@aol.com
Stanislaus County ARES Emergency Coordinator	Pat Mandas KG6JXZ	kg6jxz@charter.net



2020 SARA CLUB PRESENTATION SURVEY

We would like to start having a program presentation as part of the SARA club monthly meeting. To begin the planning process, we would like to survey the club members as to possible topics of interest. Below are a few ideas to get your mind thinking of possibilities. Please add any other topics that you might also be interested in. We're also looking for presenters. If there is a topic that you might be interested in speaking about, please let me or any of the club officers know.

We're interested in any and all input you can give us. N6ARP@ARRL.NET

TOPIC	TOPIC
HF - DX	Club repeater System
HF – Sunspot cycle	SSB Nets
Valley linked repeaters	Batteries – best for hams
Go box ideas	DMR - repeaters
DSTAR – what is it?	What is MESH / ARDEN
FT-8 What is it? How to use it	Programming Raspberry Pi
Solar Power for field deployment	
Winlink	
Log book of the world	

COMMENTS: