



THE Readout

STANISLAUS AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

June 2020

Volume 41, Number 6

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President's message,
Wally, KK6CPN

From the desk of *The Readout* editor John Otte, K6JRO

Welcome to another edition of *The Readout*!

Field Day 2020 will look a bit different this year.

On Wednesday, June 3rd the SARA board of directors decided to cancel our traditional SARA club sponsored Field Day in Dorrington. This decision was not made lightly but, done so in the interest of public safety. In fact, most area clubs had already made this difficult decision. Be that as it may, national Field Day is still on and you can participate!

The ARRL has temporarily waved certain rules (see featured article) to allow individuals to participate from home and still accumulate points for the club. If you are new to amateur radio and Field Day, please take a look at the featured article.

If you have any suggestions for articles or if you would like to publish an article, please reach out to me at k6jro@arrl.net. Stay safe! Stay healthy!

73 de John, K6JRO

A Message from the Club President Wally, KK6CPN

On June 3, 2020, I contacted the Stanislaus National Forest Service and inquired about their recent closures that came out on June 1st. I was told that Road 7N23 (the road to the site) would be closed until June 15. It was unknown if it would open at that time. I was told that non-essential travel was still in effect as was all the Stay in Place orders. I call the Calaveras Public Health Department and was told the same,

On June 3, 2020, the SARA Board met and discussed Field Day and based on the information I provided a motion was made for the club to cancel and not sanction Field Day this year.

I know this is a disappointment to everyone but, your health and safety come first. You can still participate in Field Day from your home or any place you would like to go (please see K6JRO's remarks above).

Please take care of yourself.
Wally, KK6CPN

Minutes, May Net

Next General Meeting: Zoom

Joining SARA:

We are currently taking membership applications for 2020. One-year dues are \$30.00 for individuals, or \$45.00 for a family. To join, fill out the registration form in this newsletter and bring it to any SARA meeting.

Write for The Readout.

If anyone has information that they want included in The Readout please submit to the editor k6jro@arri.net.

Please try and have the information or articles to the editor by the 30th of each month.

Minutes from the May net meeting

Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association
May 19, 2020
(conducted over ZOOM due too COVID19)
MINUTES

Attendance (the best I could do by check in on ZOOM. No roll was called) John, K6JRO; Davonna, KF6TSY; Eva, KM6BIP; Roy, KK6OQP; Scott, N6CIC; Tom, K6KQR; Walt, KI6PBL; Bambi, KI6YQL; Zach, KI6KQO; Elias, KN6GZW; Aaron, KM6JAL; Robin, KG6ZYQ; Josh, AF6AA; Byron ???; Derrill, W7LTM; Randy, KF6RJS; Mark, N6ARP; Fred, K6FVC; Jason, KA6TIO; Vicki, KJ6RCV; Paul, W6UHF; John, W6PY; Vince, KM6IRY; Brendon, NK6M; Wally, KK6CPN; Mark, KI6HOB; Mark, WB6BJN; Lindsay B, ???; Danny, W6DMC; John, N6JCS; Bill Bello, KN6DAM; Brian, KM6JAG; Richard WE6V; Bill, AE6J (late check in)

President Wally, KK6CPN called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m.

April minutes were in the READOUT. Motion to approve by John W6PY and second by Tom K6KQR. It was approved.

President Wally, KK6CPN

The 2020 Field Day is still on the schedule. However, we are still unsure if things will be opened by the dates of field day. Board met and there will be no BBQ or Raffle. Paul is working on securing the port-a-potties if needed. Board will meet on June 3, 2020 to make a final determination on club sponsored field day.

Wally advised that the Board had approved \$500.00 from the field day to fund to go towards repair of the tower on Mt. Oso. It needs new guy wires and there is only \$600.00 in the equipment fund. This amount should cover the cost. He asked for donations from members to help reimburse the field day fund.

Wally asked those who have not paid their current dues to consider continuing their membership in the club. Dues are used to pay club expenses, primarily the cost of the repeater site (which includes the equipment) on Mt. Oso.

Vice President, Mark WB6BJN

Mark said that Josh KM6AXJ said the Forest Roads are being reopened. He heard this on the morning net on Monday.

Treasurer, Vicki, KJ6RCV

She gave a report and a copy will be attached to these minutes and will be in the READOUT. Motion to approve by Mark WB6BJN and second by Scott N6CIC. It was approved.

Sergeant at Arms Danny, W6DMC. No report.

Board Members: Tom, K6KQR, Bill, AE6J, Brendon, NK6M and Paul, W6UHF

No report from Paul, Brendon or Tom. Bill said the 145.390 repeater identification notification is not working correctly and is covering

conversations. Paul referred him to Patrick KG6AZZ as this may be a controller issue. Bill said he would e mail Patrick about the problem.

Equipment/Mt Oso: Paul W6UHF

Paul reported on the need to have some maintenance completed on the tower on Mt. Oso. The tower needs new guy wires. Estimated cost \$1,000.00. The club has turnbuckles and guy wires. There is \$600.00 in equipment fund and Board approved transfer of \$500.00 from field day fund. This should take care of the cost. Paul will be contacting Ray's Radio for confirmed cost and to arrange for the work to be completed.

ARES: Lucian KF6NPG

The next ARES meeting is Saturday June 6, 2020 from 1000 to 1200. The meeting will be over the air on the 145.390 repeater. There will be the net check in and officer reports. A radio

Weather: Mark, WB6BJN

We had some rain and thunderstorms last weekend. Approximately .34 inches. Yearly rain total is 7 inches which is below normal. It is expected to warm up over the next week with temperatures reaching into the 100's.

Community Events: Lucian, KF6NPG

All of our events are cancelled through May. Next Event is Golden Hills Century which is in October. A list is in the READOUT.

Ham Cram: John, K6JRO

Our next Ham Cram is scheduled for Saturday August15, 2020. We are in a holding pattern to see what happens with the current COVID19 restrictions. We do have 4 preregistered for the class. The ARRL has procedures for remote testing but we are not yet looking at that option. We will reevaluate our options in July.

Un-Finished Business: None reported.

New Business: None

Presentation: None

Meeting Adjourned: Motion to adjourn by Mark WB6BJN and second by Bill AE6J. Adjourned at 8:03 P.M.

Minutes by Lucian KF6NPG, club Secretary

Treasure report from the March net meeting



STANISLAUS AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 4601, MODESTO, CA 95352-4601

www.saraclub.net

Treasury Report May 19, 2020
4-21-20 to 5-18-20

BALANCE FORWARD: \$8,350.65** (Previous Balance \$8,369.74)

Bills Paid:

Bureau of Reclamation	\$ 100.00 (Ck #1044 – Renew contract application 4-29-20)
USPS	\$ 13.00 (Debit card – postage and stamps 4-30-20)
Moeller Mt. Oso:	\$ 80.00 (Ck #1045 – May site rent 5-3-20)
Rays Radio	\$1,000.00 (Ck #1046 – Install antenna 5-6-20)
PG & E	\$ 66.09 (Ck #1047 – Mt. Oso utilities 5-18-20)

Total: \$1,259.09

INCOME:

Dues	\$ 120.00
Field Day Donation	\$ 20.00 (W6QFU)
Equip Fund Donation	\$ 100.00 (Anonymous)
Install Antenna Donation	\$1,000.00 (Anonymous)

Total: \$1,240.00

DEPOSITS:

Tri-Counties Bank	\$ 140.00 (5-1-20)
Tri-Counties Bank	\$1,100.00 (5-14-20)

BOTTOM LINE:

Total Income:	\$ 1,240.00
Total Expenses:	\$ 1,259.09

Field Day Fund:	\$ 846.88 (included in account balance)
Equipment Fund	\$ 720.00 (included in account balance)

**** TRI COUNTIES BANK BALANCE: \$8,350.65 as of 5-19-20**

Treasurer

Vicki Ratz

May 19, 2020

ARES

Pat, KG6JXZ
Stanislaus County
Emergency
Coordinator

Stanislaus County ARES Report



ARES continues to drill on HF field work. 3 months in a row we have been working on deploying and utilizing our gear from our home stations. Recently we had a multi-county exercise that we facilitated and participated in. ARES continues to work with the league to learn how to incorporate virtual ham testing. New information will be out in the coming months.

We are currently focused on equipment upgrades and exercises. Working on developing a seminar series of training in a variety of areas for our team. We anticipate returning to our regular meeting schedule in the fall provided all goes well with COVID.

Pat, KG6JXZ



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 very 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.

Due to the State-wide Stay in Place Order, ARES meetings will be conducted on the SARA repeater until further notice. Please join us on 145.390 at 10am on Saturday, May 2nd.



Ham Cram

John, K6JRO Ham
Cram coordinator

Ham Cram Information



Study for your amateur radio license or upgrade your current license. Sponsored by the SARA and Stanislaus county ARES.

When and Where?

August 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, and Call Sign if you have one.

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

ARRL EC-001 course

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.

The ARRL has updated this course. There are some content differences, however members who have used this to prepare for the challenge exam have been successful.

Here is the web site to study for the ARRL Introduction to Emergency Communications Course challenge examination (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 this 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

Featured Article

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.***

You can also access the updated ARRL EC-001 course at the ARRL website. Go to www.arrl.org. Once there click on the licensing, education and training tab. Then click on the online course catalog tab and look for the EC-001 course. It states that it takes about 45 hours to complete the course over 9 weeks. Once you complete the ARRL course you can take the exam online. From what I can see there is no charge to take the course or exam. You have to take the course before you can take the exam.

You cannot take the challenge exam online.



Featured Article: Field Day, by John Otte, K6JRO

Field Day is an annual amateur radio event held on the fourth full weekend of June, beginning at 18:00 UTC Saturday and running through 20:59 UTC Sunday. The focus is to encourage emergency communications preparedness among amateur radio operators. It is typically the largest single emergency preparedness exercise in the country, with over 40,000 operators participating each year.

Hams are encouraged to set up temporary transmitting stations in public places to demonstrate ham radio's science, skill and service to our communities and our nation.

Field Day combines public service, emergency preparedness, community outreach, and technical skills all in a single event. Field Day has been an annual event since 1933, and remains the most popular event in ham radio.

The objective is to contact as many stations as possible on the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 Meter HF bands, as well as all bands 50 MHz and above, and to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions. While the spirit of Field Day is emergency preparedness, it is also a contest and, as such, there are rules and guidelines.

As a result of COVID-19 and to accommodate stations in the wake of social distancing, two of the rules have been suspended. Below are the changes as outlined by the League:

1) For Field Day 2020 only, Class D stations may work all other Field Day stations, including other Class D stations, for points.

Field Day rule 4.6 defines Class D stations as "Home stations," including stations operating from permanent or licensed station locations using commercial power. Class D stations ordinarily may only count contacts made with Class A, B, C, E, and F Field Day stations, but the temporary rule waiver for 2020 allows Class D stations to count contacts with other Class D stations for QSO credit.

2) In addition, for 2020 only, an aggregate club score will be published, which will be the sum of all individual entries indicating a specific club (similar to the aggregate score totals used in ARRL affiliated club competitions).

Ordinarily, club names are only published in the results for Class A and Class F entries, but the temporary rule waiver for 2020 allows participants from any Class to optionally include a single club name with their submitted results following Field Day.

For example, if Podunk Hollow Radio Club members Becky, W1BXY, and Hiram, W1AW, both participate in 2020 Field Day — Hiram from his Class D home station, and Becky from her Class C mobile station — both can include the radio club's name when reporting their individual results. The published results listing will include individual scores for Hiram and Becky, plus a combined score for all entries identified as Podunk Hollow Radio Club.

So, if you plan on participating in Field Day this year, please contact me at k6jro@arrl.org to let me know.

Community Events:

June

Saturday 6th ARES meeting 10a-12p.

Friday through Sunday (26, 27, 28) Field Day.

July

Saturday 11th ARES meeting 10a-12p.

August

Saturday 1st ARES meeting 10a-1p.

Saturday 15th Ham Cram 8a-5p.

September

Saturday 5th ARES meeting 10a-12p

Saturday TBA Rally in the Valley 7:30am- 3:00pm

October

Saturday 3rd ARES meeting 10-12p

Saturday ??? 6a-6p (depending on assignment) Assist LARK with Cycling 4 Veterans Bike Ride additional details to follow need 7 operators. **Web site for the ride is cycling4veterans.com**

Saturday 10th Stanislaus County Bike Club Golden Hills Century Knights Ferry 7a-4p need 5-6

Friday-Sunday (16, 17, 18) Pacificon San Ramon Marriot

November

Saturday 7th ARES meeting 10a-12p

December

Saturday 5th ARES meeting 10a-12p



Local Nets

Local Nets:



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

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

145.390 – pl 136.5

224.240 – pl 136.5

440.225 +pl 136.5

51.800 – 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.

Officers and Board Members

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.

2020 SARA Club Officers and Board Members

Officers:

President: Jim Walsh, KK6CPN	kk6cpn@yahoo.com
Vice President: Mark Lemmons, WB6BJN	wb6bjn@samobile.net
Secretary: Lucian Thomas, KF6NPG	kf6npg@aol.com
Treasurer: Vicki Peitz, KJ6RCV	vptigger@gmail.com
Sergeant at Arms: Danny Cortez, W6DMC	cortezdanny51@gmail.com

Board Members:

Paul Owen, W6UHF	w6uhf@aol.com
Tom Brawley, K6KQR	ki6kqr@sbcglobal.net
Brendon Church, NK6M	brendonchurch@me.com
Bill Danforth, AE6J	ki6hmv@gmail.com



Committees/Workgroups:

Club Technician: Patrick Dunbar KG6AZZ	patd@kg6azz.net
Readout Editor: John Otte, K6JRO	k6jro@arrl.net
Community Events: Lucian Thomas, KF6NPG	kf6npg@aol.com

Stanislaus County ARES

Emergency Coordinator: Pat Mandas, KG6JXZ kg6jxz@charter.net

Nominations are held every November with elections in December

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 SAME ADDRESS:

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

