



THE **Readout** STANISLAUS AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

MAR 2021

Volume 42, Numbers 3

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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*!

It's hard to believe that we have reached the one-year mark of the COVID-19 shelter-in-place. And, while there is light at the end of the tunnel, you can expect that behavioral elements will remain for some time. In fact, researchers and historians maintain that after the Spanish Flu epidemic of 1918 it took five years for the U.S. population to recover and get back to "normal". Be that as it may, there are glimpses of normalcy on the horizon. We will be hosting an actual ham cram on Saturday, April 13th. Also, the Turlock Road Race is still being planned. The one thing about ham radio: no need to social distance. Spring is upon us so take this opportunity to learn a new skill on ham radio or plan an excursion. Build and antenna or learn CW. There is much to do in this hobby and "social distancing" is generally self-prescribed.

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

Well, we survived another month of stay in shelter. If you missed February's Zoom meeting here is a short brief. Mark N6ARP has been hard at work getting us a PayPal account so we can make it easy to get dues and donations to the club while we are still on this stay in shelter.

I want to remind everyone that you must be a member in good standing to be a voting member as long as you have a valid amateur radio license whose dues have been paid for at least twenty-eight days per our by-laws. At this time, we have about 50 plus members, and I hope we can get 100 this year.

I would again like to thank Mark, N6ARP for all his work on getting PayPal up and running.

73 to all.
Wally, KK6CPN

Minutes: JAN Zoom meeting

**Next General
Meeting:**
Zoom Tuesday,
MAR 16th

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.*

Minutes from the FEB Zoom meeting

Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association

P.O. Box 4601 Modesto, CA 95352

www.saraclub.net

February 16, 2021

Club Meeting Minutes

(conducted over ZOOM due to COVID19)

Attendance (President did a roll call)

Lucian, KF6NPG

Richard, W6DU

Scott, N6CIC

Robert, KD6BNY

Simon, KF6FBA

Mark, N6ARP

Jason, KA6TIO

Cheryl, KK6GJM

Tom, K6KQR

Fred, K6FVC

Brendon, NK6M

Bill, AE6J

Mel, W7EOV

John, N6JCS

Paul, W6UHF

Patty, W6PV

Derrill, W7LTM

Vicki, KF6RCV

Rick, KF6TEZ

Penny, KN6LKO

Danny, W6DMC

Zack, KI6KQO

Bill, KN6DAM

Davona, KF6TSY

Wally, KK6CPN

Linda, W6MUT

Patrick, KG6AZZ

John, W6PY

Robin, KG6ZYQ

Randy, KF6RJS

Bob, WA6ZLO

Tim, KJ6EWD

Dan, WL7COO

John, NZ6Q

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

January minutes were sent out to the membership prior to the meeting via e mail with the meeting Zoom link. Motion to approve by Scott, N6CIC and second by Zack, KI6KQO. Motion was approved.

President: Wally, KK6CPN:

Wally reported that he has been very busy. He reported that Mark, N6ARP had completed his research on creating a club PayPal account. PayPal charges approximately \$1.17 per transaction based on our single member dues charge. There was much discussion on this issue. A motion was made by Derrill, W7LTM with second by Bill AE6J that when using PayPal, the charge for a single membership will be increased by \$1.00 for a total of \$31.00. Family membership will remain the same at \$45.00. When paying by cash or check cash the cost will remain at \$30.00 per year for single membership and \$45.00 for family membership. The motion was passed. Mark, N6ARP; Vicki, KF6RCV and Patrick, KG6AZZ will work together to set up the account and have PayPal accessible on the club web site. The PayPal account will be available for payment of ham cram fees as well.

Vice President: Mark, WB6BJN:

Mark was not present.

Treasurer: Vicki, KJ6RCV:

Vicki gave a treasurer's report, and a copy will be attached to these minutes and will be included in the READOUT. We have 56 paid members to date. Motion to approve by Robin, KG6ZYQ and second by Scott John, N6CIC. Motion was approved.

Sergeant at Arms: Mark, N6ARP:

Mark asked that everyone enjoy the virtual Girl Scout thin min cookies.

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.

Board Members: Paul, W6UHF, Scott, N6CIC, Brendon, NK6M, Bill, AE6J

No report from Paul. Scott reported there were 0 sunspots in the last 12 days. This is a rough start for sunspot cycle 25. No report from Bill, AE6J or Brendon, NK6M.

Equipment/Mt Oso: Patrick, KG6AZZ and Paul, W6UHF

Patrick said nothing has changed except that the 440 fusion repeater was only working in analog mode. Will need to check on this next time a trip to Mt. Oso is made. Paul is working on scheduling the guy wire replacement on the Mt. Oso tower. Paul reported that the leaning antenna for the 145.110 repeater has been repaired and seems to be working fine.

ARES: Lucian, KF6NPG

The February ARES meeting was Saturday February 6, 2021 (10:00am to Noon). The meeting was held over ZOOM. Pat went over the ARES web site and Dan, WL7COO talked about the changes for ARES Connect. The next meeting is March 5, 2021 and the link will be sent out a couple of days before the meeting. There will be officer's reports and general discussion. The training will be on the ARDEN mesh network. Richard, W6ABJ from Merced ARES will be the presenter.

Community Events: Lucian, KF6NPG

The Turlock Lake Road Race may happen on Saturday April 10, 2021. Details are being worked out. We will continue to monitor with the event coordinators and let everyone know of any updates. The next SARA Club meeting is Tuesday March 16, 2021 (7:00pm to 8:00pm) and will be conducted over ZOOM. A link will be sent out before the meeting.

Ham Cram: John, K6JRO

John was not present for a report.

Section Emergency Coordinator: Dan, WL7COO. Dan was not present.

Un-Finished Business:

Refer to Wally's president report.

New Business:

No new business.

Presentation:

There was no presentation.

Meeting Adjourned:

Motion to adjourn by Scott, N6CIC and second by Bill, AE6J. Adjourned at 7:48 P.M.

Minutes by Lucian, KF6NPG; Club Secretary

Treasure's
Report,
Vicki, KJ6RCV

Treasure report from the FEB Zoom meeting



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

www.saraclub.net

Treasury Report February 16, 2021
1-19-21 to 2-15-21

BALANCE FORWARD: \$8,374.95** (Previous Balance \$7,721.28)

Bills Paid:

Moeller Mt. Oso:	\$ 80.00 (Ck #1069 – February site rent 2-1-21)
PG & E	\$ 56.24 (Ck #1070 – Mt. Oso utilities 2-15-21)
Total:	\$ 136.24

INCOME:

Dues:	\$ 670.00
Donation – W7LTM ☺	\$ 80.00
Insurance Refund	\$ 39.91
Total:	\$ 789.91

DEPOSITS:

Tri-Counties Bank	\$ 254.91 (1-20-21)
Tri-Counties Bank	\$ 335.00 (2-1-21)
Tri-Counties Bank	\$ 200.00 (2-8-21)

BOTTOM LINE:

Total Income:	\$ 789.91
Total Expenses:	\$ 136.24

Field Day Fund:	\$ 846.88 (included in account balance)
Equipment Fund	\$ 820.00 (included in account balance)

**** TRI COUNTIES BANK BALANCE: \$8,374.95 as of 2-15-21**

Treasurer

Vicki Pertz

February 15, 2021

2021 Memberships – 56 Paid to date

K6FVC, KA6BYR, KA6GJN, KA6TIO, KC6KSN, KD5QWC, KD6BNY, KE6QMS,
KE6ULQ, KF6NPG, KF6RJS, KF6TEZ, KF6TSY, KF6UTB, KG6AZZ, KG6ZYQ, KI6HOB,
KI6KQO, KI6PBL, KI6YQL, KJ6CHN, KJ6EWD, KJ6HHA, KJ6LJN, KJ6MRG, KJ6RCV,
KK6CPN, KK6GJM, KK6GJN, KK6ILV, KM6JAG, KM6NEZ, KM6SIO, KM6VLJ, KN6GJL,
KN6LKO, KO6KL, N5QC, N6ARP, N6CIC, N6JCS, W5NH, W6DU, W6MUT, W6PV,
W6PY, W6QFU, W6UHF, W6WEZ, W7EOV, W7LTM, WA6BFG, WA6KEC, WB6BJN,
WE6V, WL7COO

ARES

Pat, KG6JXZ
Stanislaus County
Emergency
Coordinator

Stanislaus County ARES Report



We continue to deal with the challenges of the COVID 19 health issues. As people receive their vaccinations hopefully there will be a chance to achieve some normalcy in our lives. In the meantime, we will continue to have our ARES meetings over the air or via ZOOM. This will probably be going on through the summer and/or early fall. As soon as we can go back to face-to-face meetings, we will let you know.

The Turlock Lake Road Race may take place on Saturday April 10, 2021. We will keep everyone updated on the event. Several members have volunteered to work the event.

We had a very informative March meeting. Richard, W6ABJ, the EC from Merced ARES, gave a presentation on the ARDEN Mesh network.

Pat, KG6JXZ is working on this year's training activities. If you have any training ideas or activities that the group can participate in, please let Pat know.

The next ARES meeting will be April 3, 2021 and Pat is working on a SET (Simulated emergency Test).

Please keep yourselves and your families safe.

Lucian Thomas, KF6NPG Assistant Emergency Coordinator, Stanislaus Co.
KF6NPG@aol.com



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 information 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 via Zoom. Access will be emailed a few days prior to the Saturday meeting. Please make sure Lucian, KF6NPG has your email address on file. The next Zoom meeting will be 10am on Saturday, APR 3rd.



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?

April 17, 2021
Office of Emergency Services
3705 Oakdale Road, Modesto, CA

COVID-19 Restrictions

Due to COVID-19 the all-day cram will be limited to 15 people. All individuals in the building will have to wear a mask. All registered individuals will need to bring the following:

- A valid identification, preferably CDL (California Driver's License)
- Cash or check for \$15 for the testing session, check preferred and payable to the American Radio Relay League (ARRL).
- 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 have any questions please email John Otte, K6JRO at k6jro@arrl.net.

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):

Featured Article

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 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.



Spacewalk Could Return ARISS Ham Station in ISS Columbus Module to the Air

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (**ARISS**) reports that efforts to determine what's keeping the ham station in the ISS Columbus module off the air have been unsuccessful thus far. The radio equipment works, but no signal appears to be reaching the external ARISS antenna. The station, typically operated as NA1SS, has not been usable since new RF cables were installed during a January 27 spacewalk extravehicular activity (EVA) to support the commissioning of the **Bartolomeo** payload hosting platform installed last spring. During the January EVA, the coax feed line installed 11 years ago was replaced with another built by the European Space Agency (ESA) and Airbus.

ARISS has scheduled a March 10 news conference to discuss efforts to restore operational capability to the Columbus module ham station. The news conference will provide insights into some of the cable troubleshooting already conducted, ARISS said. During a March 13 spacewalk (EVA), astronauts Mike Hopkins, KF5LJG, and Victor Glover, KI5BKC, plan to return the ARISS antenna feed line cabling to its configuration prior to the January 27 spacewalk.

ARISS International Chair Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, said the ARISS team has been working closely with NASA and the ESA to identify what may have caused the "radio anomaly" keeping the ISS Columbus module ham station off the air.

This past week, astronauts on the ISS performed troubleshooting tests on all

Community Events

four new feed lines installed on the Columbus module. One cable was earmarked for the ARISS station, while the other three are for Bartolomeo. ARISS reported over the weekend, however, that it was unable to establish communication using any of the feed line cables connected to the ARISS radio system, which was tested in Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS) mode.

The plan to return the ARISS cabling to its original configuration was a "contingency task" for a March 5 spacewalk, but the astronauts ran out of time. On March 5, astronauts Kate Rubins, KG5FYJ, and Soichi Noguchi, KD5TVP, worked on some other Bartolomeo cable/connector troubleshooting. If all goes well, the March 13 spacewalk will complete that work.

ARISS became aware of the station problem after a contact with a school in Wyoming, between ON4ISS on Earth and Hopkins at NA1SS, had to abort when no downlink signal was heard. For the time being, ARISS school and group contacts with crew members have been conducted using the ham station in the ISS Service Module.

Reprinted from ARRL with permission

Community Events:

March

Saturday 6th ARES Meeting 10a-12p. (Zoom Meeting)

Tuesday 16th SARA Meeting 7p-8p (Zoom Meeting)

April

Saturday 3rd ARES Meeting 10a-12pm. (Zoom Meeting)

Saturday 10th Turlock Road Race 7a-3p (depending on assignment) Turlock Lake 22600 Lake Rd. La Grange need 15 operators.

Tuesday 20th SARA Meeting 7p-8p (Zoom Meeting)

TBD Copperopolis Road Race 7a-3p (depending on assignment) Hunt Road and Milton Road need 8-9 operators.

TBD MS Walk 8a-12p Beyer Park need 4 operators.

May

Saturday 1st ARES Meeting 10a-12p (Zoom Meeting)

Saturday 8th (Tentative) Ride for Mom 7a-4p (depending on assignment) Downtown Modesto. Further information to follow.

Tuesday 18th SARA Meeting 7p-8p (Zoom Meeting)

TBD March of Dimes Walk 8a-12p Beyer Park 4 operators

TBD Modesto Criterium 7a-3p 4-6 operators needed

TBD Modesto Road Race Salida area 7a-12p 6-8 operators needed

TBD Regalado Road Race need 8 operators

June

Saturday 5th ARES Meeting **TBD** if face to face or Zoom 10a-12p

Tuesday 15th SARA Meeting **TBD** if face to face or Zoom 7p-8p

Friday through Sunday (25th, 26th, 27th) Field Day

July

Saturday 10th ARES Meeting **TBD** if face to face or Zoom 10a-12p

Tuesday 20th SARA Meeting **TBD** if face to face or Zoom 7p-8p

August

Saturday 7th ARES Meeting **TBD** if face to face or Zoom 10a-12p

Saturday 14th Ham Testing/Cram **TBD** if class or test only
Tuesday 17th SARA Meeting **TBD** if face to face or Zoom 7p-8p

September

Saturday 4th ARES Meeting **TBD** if face to face or Zoom 10a-12p
Tuesday 21st SARA Meeting **TBD** if face to face or Zoom 7p-8p

October

Saturday 2nd ARES Meeting **TBD** if face to face or Zoom 10-12p
TBD 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**

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

Friday-Sunday (15th, 16th, 17th) Pacificon San Ramon Marriot (**tentative**)

Tuesday 19th SARA Meeting **TBD** if face to face or Zoom 7p-8p

November

Saturday 6th ARES Meeting **TBD** if face to face or Zoom 10a-12p
Tuesday 16th SARA Meeting **TBD** if face to face or Zoom 7p-8p

December

Saturday 4th ARES meeting **TBD** if face to face or Zoom 10a-12p
Tuesday 21st SARA meeting **TBD** if face to face or Zoom 7p-8p



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.

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 .

2021 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: Mark Price, N6ARP	mark99price@gmail.com

Board Members:

Paul Owen, W6UHF	w6uhf@aol.com
Brendon Church, NK6M	brendonchurch@me.com
Tom Griffin, N6CIC	scottandalene@msn.com
Bill Danforth, AE6J	ki6hmv@gmail.com

Committees/Workgroups:

Club Technician: Patrick Dunbar KG6AZZ
patd@kg6azz.net

Readout Editor: John Otte, K6JRO

Community Events: Lucian Thomas, KF6NPG

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



STANISLAUS AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION (SARA) 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)

e-mail _____

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

e-mail _____

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

e-mail _____

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

e-mail _____

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

January 20, 2021

