



THE **Readout** STANISLAUS AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

October 2021

Volume 42, Numbers 10

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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*!

This month, the club is focusing on the election of officers, board members, and coordinator positions for next year. Please take the time to read the Featured Article for this month and consider serving.

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

Once again it sure was nice to be able to meet in-person last month. PG&E is once again having to shut power off due to the strong winds in over 23 counties. Mt. Oso was shut down on October 11th thru the 12th and it is possible it will happen a couple of more times by the time you read this. One thing I did notice with this last shut down our main frequency went to low power in less than 24 hours. I make recommend when we go to battery power we cut back on our airtime.

As I have mentioned over the past several months, we are looking for someone to take over as Field Day Coordinator. If you might be interested, please let the board know. If this position can't be filled, we might not be able to have a Field Day.

I want to thank Lucian, KF6NPG for putting on another fine presentation for the September meeting. If you would like you like to make a presentation just let me know.

Don't forget to bring a little extra cash to this month's meeting. We will be raffling off a 10 meter Realistic radio donated to the club by Scott, N6CIC.

73 to all.
Wally, KK6CPN

Minutes: SEP face-to-face meeting

**Next General
Meeting:**
Face-to-face.
Tuesday,
September 21th
7:00pm

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.

Joining SARA:

We are currently
taking membership
applications for
2021.

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 September face-to-face meeting

Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association

P.O. Box 4601 Modesto, CA 95352

www.saraclub.net

August 21st, 2021

Club Meeting Minutes

(Conducted at 3705 Oakdale Road Modesto, CA)

Attendance (via sign in sheet)

Lucian, KF6NPG

Richard, W6DU

John, W6PY

Vicki, KJ6RCV

Mark, WB6BJN

Zack, KI6KQO

Rodney, KN6HWE

Roy, KK6OQP

Bambi, KI6YQL

Visitors:

Don, KM6ARR

Everett, KN6NQN

Cheryl, KK6GJM

Paul, W6UHF

Jason, KA6TIO

Omar, KN6QBS

Gene, W6QFU

Scott, N6CIC

Linda, W6MUT

Randy, KF6RJS

Robin, KG6ZYQ

Wally, KK6CPN

Brian, KM6JAG

Robert, KD6BNY

Richard, W8AAL

Eva, KM6BIP

Walter, KI6PBL

Marvin no call

President Wally, KK6CPN called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm and welcomed everyone. There were 25 members and 3 visitors in attendance. Wally had everyone introduce themselves and Robin, KG6ZYQ led the pledge of allegiance.

Reading of Minutes: Secretary Lucian, KF6NPG

The minutes were included in the READOUT and had been e-mailed out to the membership prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Scott, N6CIC and second by Eva, KM6BIP to accept the minutes as printed in the *READOUT*. The motion was passed without opposition.

President: Wally, KK6CPN

Wally will bring tickets next month to raffle off some donated radios. He said the money from the raffle will help to cover some of the costs to re-guy the tower and brace the VHF antenna. He said the Board had met and voted to authorize up to \$2,000.00 to do the work. Current estimate is \$1,400.00.

He reminded everyone that the club needs a new Field Day coordinator. If you are interested, please contact him at a club meeting or kk6cpn@yahoo.com. If we cannot find a field day coordinator the club may not have a sponsored Field Day.

He said that everyone should start thinking about upcoming elections for club officers and board members. He said that he would not be running for president, and he did not know if the rest of the club officers and board members would be serving another term.

Vice President: Mark, WB6BJN

Mark said that it should be warming up but, the mornings should feel "fallish" with cooler mornings. There could be a 2nd La Nina this year.

Treasurer: Vicki, KJ6RCV

Vicki, KJ6RCV read the treasurer's report and a copy will be attached to these minutes and will be included in the *READOUT*. Motion to approve by Robin, KG6ZYQ and second by Eva, KM6BIP. Motion was approved without opposition.

Sergeant at Arms: Mark, N6ARP: Mark was not present.

Board Members: Paul, W6UHF and Scott, N6CIC. Brendon, NK6M and Bill, AE6J were not present.

Paul gave an update on the tower project. He said the guy wires the club had would not work for this project. Raymond of Ray's Radio will provide the correct guy wire. Raymond is completing a big project and will give us a timeline for the work soon.

Scott, N6CIC donated a Radio Shack 10 meter mobile radio to raffle off.

Equipment/Mt Oso: Paul, W6UHF, and Lucian, KF6NPG

Refer to Paul's board report.

ARES: Lucian, KF6NPG

The September meeting was Saturday September 10, 2021 (10:00am to Noon). We had a presentation on the ARDEN Mesh by Ken, KF6IDK from Merced ARES. It was very informative. The next meeting is Saturday November 6, 2021, and will be a face-to-face meeting at 3705 Oakdale Road Modesto, CA.

Community Events: Lucian, KF6NPG

No Community events are scheduled at this time.

Ham Cram: John, K6JRO (was not present)

The next Ham Cram is set for February 12, 2022.

Un-Finished Business:

None

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

Presentation: There was a presentation on the Great California Shake Out. This is about earthquake preparedness. There will be an earthquake preparedness net on the 145.390 repeater on October 21, 2021, at 10:21 hours. We will take check ins and give out earthquake preparedness tips. A handout was sent out via e-mail to all club members. If you did not receive it, please contact Lucian, KF6NPG at kf6npg@aol.com.

Meeting Adjourned: The next SARA Club meeting is Tuesday October 19, 2021 (7:00pm to 8:00pm) and will be a face-to-face meeting. The location is the Stanislaus County Office of Emergency Services, 3705 Oakdale Road Modesto, CA.

Motion to adjourn by Mark, WB6BJN and second by Randy, KJ6RJS.
Adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

Minutes by Lucian KF6NPG, Club Secretary

Treasure's
Report,
Vicki, KJ6RCV

Treasure report from the August meeting



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

www.saraclub.net

Treasury Report September 21, 2021
8-17-21 to 9-20-21

BALANCE FORWARD: \$8,247.09** (Previous Balance \$8,555.78)

Bills Paid:

ARRL	\$ 75.00 (Ck #1084 – Ham Cram fees 8-17-21)
Moeller Mt. Oso	\$ 80.00 (Ck #1085 – Sept. site rent 9-1-21)
PG & E	\$ 74.85 (Ck #1086 – Mt. Oso utilities 9-14-21)
Mercer Insurance	\$ 479.75 (Ck #1087 – Liability Insurance renewal 9-20-21)
Total:	\$ 709.60

INCOME:

Dues	\$ 29.61 (\$31 less \$1.39 Pay Pal fees)
Ham Cram	\$ 30.00
Donations-2 Anonymous,	\$ 341.30 (\$350 less \$8.70 Pay Pal fees)
N6CIC, K6JRO	Total: \$ 400.91

DEPOSITS:

Tri-Counties Bank	\$ 130.00 (8-20-21)
Tri-Counties Bank	\$ 270.91 (Pay Pal transfer posted 8-27-21)

Field Day Fund:	\$ 946.88 (included in account balance)
Equipment Fund	\$1,661.30 (included in account balance. \$500 from GF)

**** TRI COUNTIES BANK BALANCE: \$8,247.09 as of 9-20-21**

Treasurer Vicki Rutz September 21, 2021

2021 Memberships – 88 Paid to date

AE6J, AF6AA, K6FVC, K6JRO, K6KQR, K6SBO, K6UWU, K7RKU, KA6BYR, KA6GJN, KA6TIO, KC6KSN, KD5QWC, KD6BNY, KE6QMS, KE6ULQ, KF6FBA, KF6FIR, KF6NPG, KF6RJS, KF6TEZ, KF6TSY, KF6UTB, KG6AZZ, KG6JXZ, KG6ZYQ, KI6HOB, KI6KQO, KI6PBL, KI6YQL, KJ6CHN, KJ6EWD, KJ6F, KJ6HHA, KJ6LJN, KJ6MRG, KJ6RCV, KK6CPN, KK6GJM, KK6GJN, KK6ILV, KK6OQP, KK6SFI, KM6ARU, KM6BIP, KM6IRY, KM6JAG, KM6KMT, KM6NEZ, KM6SIO, KM6VLJ, KN6GJL, KN6HWE, KN6KOD+1, KN6MOK, KN6MOL, KN6NQN, KN6OOR, KN6OQW, KN6QBS, KO6KL, N5QC, N6ARP, N6CIC, N6JCS, NK6M, NV6S, W5NH, W6DMC, W6DU, W6KZZ, W6MUT, W6PV, W6PY, W6QFU, W6UHF, W6WEZ, WA6UXA, W7EOV, W7LTM, W8AAL, WA6BFG, WA6KEC, WA6ZLO, WB6BJN, WE6V, WL7COO

2022 Memberships – 6 Paid to date

AE6J, KI6HOB, KK6ILV, KM6SIO, W6PV, W6PY

2023 Membership – 1 Paid

AE6J

ARES

Lucian, KF6NPG
Assistant
Emergency
Coordinator,
Stanislaus County

Stanislaus County ARES Report



We now have a Winlink RMS gateway located in the ARES room at 3705 Oakdale Road Modesto, CA. This gateway will work on both packet and VARA FM. The call sign is KG6DGZ-10. We have had it up and running for about 3 weeks. Stations in the Salida, Modesto and Turlock areas have been able to connect direct without using a digi hop. This will improve Winlink messaging in our area. Thanks to Mark N6ARP and Lucian, KF6NPG for gathering equipment and programming to get this station up and running.

We did have our presentation on the ARDEN/mesh network at the September meeting. A big thank you to Ken KF6IDK (Merced ARES) for attending the meeting and presenting the material.

The next ARES meeting will be Saturday November 6, 2021. We plan to have additional training on sound card programs and VARA fm. Bring your questions and stations and we will work to set them up.

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 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.



Ham Cram

John, K6JRO Ham
Cram coordinator

ARRL EC-001 course

Ham Cram Information

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



Next Ham Cram

February 12, 2022
Office of Emergency Services
3705 Oakdale Road, Modesto, CA

The COVID restrictions have been greatly reduced and will be following the California Department of Public Health and the Federal Center for Disease Control guidelines.

Therefore, for meetings of this size there is no social distancing required. Those who are vaccinated do not need to wear a mask. For those who are not vaccinated you should wear a mask. Anyone who feels the need to wear a mask for personal, medical, or safety reasons is free to do so.

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 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.

Featured Article

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.



Featured Article: An Open Letter to The SARA Club Members. Jason Peitz, KA6TIO

Observation and Opinion

Dear SARA Club Members,

Nomination time is coming up for Club Officers and Board Members. This occurs at our November meeting with elections held in December. October is the month when we explore who we should nominate for positions.

Every year, ALL the positions are open for nominations. This coming year especially, Mark, WB6BJN, our current Vice President, will be moving out of the area for greener territory in Tennessee. Congratulations to you Mark, we will miss seeing you at our meetings! I will not speak directly for others, but there are other folks who would like to step aside and let new folks take a leadership role. Another position, which is an appointed, or volunteer position, is the Field Day Coordinator. John, K6JRO, has stepped down from that position after several years. Thank you, John, for an outstanding job putting our past Field Day activities together.

For several years now, (barring our COVID time) it seems like it's been easier to just nominate the current sitting officers and vote them in to another term. Most have willingly accepted the roles term after term. Granted, stability is a good thing. You know your officers, and that they will execute their duties professionally.

But stagnation is not. Having the same people year after year can be difficult on not only the officers, and their families, but on the club in general too. It's a good thing to have fresh ideas and people from time to time.

In my opinion, I think many are hesitant to step up because of a lack of interest for volunteers to replace them in the future. I personally have served three years as the Sergeant-at-Arms, and Vice President for two.

Community Events

Others have served in other positions for many years more than that. If anyone is worried about accepting a nomination and being elected for a position and not knowing what to do, there are many former officers that are willing to help ease them through the transition. The Club By-Laws list the general duties of the officers.

Please consider stepping up and taking an active part in the leadership of our Club.

The Club is what you make it.

Respectfully,
Jason Peitz, KA6TIO

Community Events:

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

Friday-Sunday (15th, 16th, 17th) Pacificon San Ramon Marriot. This event is a go. Check the web site for more information. www.pacificon.org
Tuesday 19th SARA Meeting IN PERSON 7p-8p

November

Saturday 6th ARES Meeting IN PERSON 10a-12p
Tuesday 16th SARA Meeting IN PERSON 7p-8p

December

Saturday 4th ARES meeting IN PERSON 10a-12p
Tuesday 21st SARA meeting IN PERSON 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.

Officers and Board Member

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	k6jro@arri.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 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(if paid by cash, check, or money order) \$31.00 if paid through PayPal. Family Dues are \$45 and is the same for all methods of payment. You can access the PayPal payment by going to the club web site www.saraclub.net

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

April 3, 2021

