



THE **Readout** STANISLAUS AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

November 2023

Volume 44, Number 11

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Next General Meeting:
Face-to-face:
Tuesday,
November 21st
7:00pm

President's message,
Zack, KI6KQO

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

Welcome to another edition of *The Readout*!

November is election season for the SARA club, and we need your help! All five officer positions are open as are all three board member spots. We are all united by our love and passion for amateur radio. So, please consider a leadership position within the club. Nominations will take place at our November meeting on Tuesday 21 and elections will be held at our December meeting on Tuesday, DEC 19th.

Also, at our NOV meeting there will be a raffle (see below) and please look at our *Featured Article* concerning Field Day 2024! It's never too early to start.

Finally, Bill, AE6J has some amazing items listed for sale in our Swap Shop section. Please check it out!

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.

73 de John, K6JRO

A Message from the Club President Zack Pelham, KI6KQO

Greetings Membership,

At the next meeting we will have nominations for Officers and Board members for 2024. Please come join us and consider giving back to the club with your time and ideas on how to improve the club.

There will be a Kenwood TM-271a 2M mobile radio that will be raffled off at the meeting. Come support the club and take home a radio. Have a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

73,
Zack, KI6KQO
SARA Club President

Minutes:

OCT face-to-face
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 October face-to-face meeting

Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association

P.O. Box 4601 Modesto, CA 95352

www.saraclub.net

October 17, 2023

Club Meeting Minutes (Meeting held at 3705 Oakdale Road Modesto, CA)

Attendance (via sign in sheet)

Robin, KG6ZYQ	Scott, KN6OOV	John, W6PY
Richard, W6DU	Mark, N6ARP	Patty, W6PV
Paul, W6UHF	Roy, KK6OQP	Brent, KJ6MRJ
Scott, KN6RKY	Jason, KA6TIO	Art, KN6SSP
Richard, WE6V	Robert, KD6BNY	Vicki, KJ6RCV
Randy, KF6RJS	Scott, N6CIC	Gene, W6QFU
Cheryl, KK6GJM	Eva, KM6BIP	Patrick, KG6AZZ
Bill, AE6J	Zack, KI6KQO	Gary, WA6UXA
Jason, KN6HAG	Robbie, KN6VOG	Bobbie, KN6SDD
Elias, KN6GZW	Skylar, KO6AZI	Herb, W9CMX
Dick, W8AAL	Charles, AA6YV	Lucian, KF6NPG
Trish, KO6BPZ Guest		

President Zack, KI6KQO called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and welcomed everyone. There were 33 members, and one guest, according to the sign-in sheet. Zack had everyone introduce themselves and then led the pledge of allegiance. It was noted that today is Roy's, KK6OQP birthday. Zack reported on the upcoming "Tulare Amateur Radio Club Rally of the Valley," Saturday, Oct. 21, from 7 AM to 5 PM. Zack recognized Skylar Brown, KO6AZI and thanked him for his work on repairing the 440 antenna. Skylar was presented with a club membership for the remainder of 2023 and all of 2024.

Zack stated that a Field Day Coordinator is still need and he emphasized the importance of this position.

Vice-President Mark, N6ARP reported that he and Scott, KN6RKY have filed for a 501©3 status for the club with the IRS. The fee of \$275 was covered by donations. The Square app for dues payments and donations is now on the club website. If a member pays in person, the cost is 2.6% plus \$0.30 per transaction, or \$0.88 per member fee. If the person pays online the cost is 2.9% plus \$0.30 per transaction, or \$1.17 per member. The costs to the club will be recovered by signing up two new members. Of course, dues and donations can still be made by check or cash.

Mark has made a link to possible presentation topics on the website. Presentations are encouraged.

Reading of Minutes: Secretary Scott, N6CIC

Secretary Scott, N6CIC reported the Readout with the minutes that had been e-mailed out to the membership prior to the meeting. It was noted by Scott, KN6OOV that the date of Pacificon in the Readout of October 13-15 is incorrect. The correct date is October 20-22. With that noted, Bill, AE6J made a motion to approve, Gary, WA6UXA seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Treasurer Scott, KN6RKY

Joining SARA:

We are taking membership applications for 2023. 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.

Scott read the current treasurer's report and a copy is attached to the minutes and will be included in the next Readout. There was no discussion. Robin, KG6ZYQ made a motion to accept the report. After a second by Art, KN6SSP the treasurer's report was approved.

Sergeant at Arms Vicki, KJ6RCV

Vicki said there were cookies and water available during the break. She said there would be a 50/50 split of the pot for tonight's meeting during the break.

Board Members: Bobby, KN6SDD, Randy, KF6RJS, Richard, W8AAL, and Jason, KA6TIO were present: They had no reports.

Equipment/Mt Oso: Club Trustee Leroy, NV6S has resigned pending approval of a new trustee (see New Business below). Club Technician Patrick, KG6AZZ was present.

Lucian, KF6NPG reported the repeater equipment is working well. He spent last Saturday (Oct. 14) at the Mt. Oso site with Elias, KN6GZW, his dad Jason, KN6HAG, and a group of Boy Scouts and friends working on the repeater shack. The budget was \$500 and actual costs were \$607, which has been covered by the club through donations.

The next project will be the back-up solar installation.

ARES: Paul, W6UHF: no report.

Community Events: **Lucian, KF6NPG** reported on the California Great Shakeout scheduled for Oct. 19 at 10:19 Pacific Time. There will be a voice net for check-ins and reports, or you can report via Winlink by first contacting Lucian.

Further Reports: Mark, N6ARP proposed a general Question and Answer session as part of the meeting agenda. This would enable members to ask questions that could be answered by experts in the club. He also mentioned that the ARES website has an "Ask Elmer" section for members to get answers to questions.

Richard, WE6V asked if we need to keep the FCC mandated RF exposure report. There is a link on the SARA website with more information.

Break:

There was a 15-minute break. The Split-the-Pot raffle raised \$120. Brent, KJ6MRJ was the lucky winner, and he took home \$60. Eva, KM6BIP served birthday cake in honor of Roy, KK6OQP.

Presentation: Lucian, KF6NPG gave a presentation on the upgrade of the repeater shack foundation by Elias, KN6GZW and the Boy Scouts. Lucian showed step-by-step slides of the project. He noted that the new posts were pressure treated wood on piers. Structural plywood was then added to cover the bottom structure to increase its strength. Elias, KN6GZW then presented his own slides of the project.

The presentation was very well received by club members, and in appreciation, Lucian presented a ham station to Elias and Jason donated by the family of Russ Richards, N6JTA silent key. Russ was the retired Fire Warden for Stanislaus County and a long-time member of SARA and Stanislaus ARES. Details of the Icom ham station are attached.

**Treasure's
Report,**
Scott, KN6RKY

Old Business: None.

New Business: Zack, KI6KQO requested nominations for the position of Club Trustee following the resignation of Leroy, NV6S. Scott, N6CIC nominated Lucian, KF6NPG. There were no other nominations and Lucian received a unanimous vote of approval. Zack then read the requirements of the Trustee from the Club By-Laws including holding of all FCC licenses for Club Stations and chairmanship of the Repeater Committee.

Zack thanked Leroy, NV6S for all his dedicated efforts as Club Trustee over the years.

General: Scott, KN6OOV brought a large amount of coax to give away to anyone interested including ¼ inch hardline. Jason, KA6TIO has two large, sealed batteries to give away.

Meeting Adjourned: Eva, KM6BIP made a motion to adjourn, and John, W6PY seconded. Zack adjourned the meeting at 8:05 PM. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 21, 2023 (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.

Minutes by Scott (N6CIC) Club Secretary.

Treasure report from the October meeting



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

www.saraclub.net

Treasury Report October 17, 2023

September 20, 2023 to October 17, 2023

BEGINNING BALANCE: \$8,475.47

INCOME:

Membership Dues - (rec'd at meeting)	\$120.00	
Split-The-Pot	\$173.00	Jason (KA6TIO) donated his half back to club
Square - Auto Deposit - Dues	\$0.00	
Square - Auto Deposit - Donations	\$0.67	Square payment - test deposit
Donations	\$82.00	"Stan Joaquin" Picnic/Swap Meet
Member Donations	\$200.00	501(c) filing fees (N6ARP, KN6RKY)
Member Donations	\$430.00	(N6SVA, KF6NPG, W8AAL, KN6YHY)
TOTAL INCOME:	\$1,005.67	
		Square - Auto Deposit \$0.67
		Deposit Tri-Counties Bank \$1,005.00

EXPENSES:

Moeller Mt. Oso	\$80.00	(Ck #1148) - October Site Rent (10-2-23)
PG&E	\$37.67	(EFT) - Mt Oso Utilities (10-11-23)
Skylar Brown (K06AZI)	\$440.00	(Ck #1147) - 440 antenna repairs (9-27-23)
Zack Pelham (K16KQO)	\$233.81	(Ck #1149) - reimbursement "Stan Joaquin" Exp.(10-14-23)
IRS 501 (c) Application Filing Fee	\$275.00	(EFT) - 501(c) application filing fee (10-11-23)
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$1,066.48	

**** Tri-Counties Bank**
Ending Bank Balance: \$8,414.66 as of October 17, 2023

Field Day Fund: \$974.32 (included in ending bank balance)
Equipment Fund: \$2,631.01 (included in ending bank balance) *
* includes \$565 earmarked for Elias (KN6GZW) Eagle Scout Project - Mt. Oso
* includes \$100 earmarked for a second LifePo battery on Mt. Oso
General Fund: \$4,809.33 (included in ending bank balance)

Treasurer  October 17, 2023

2023 Membership - 1 honorary / 76 Paid Members

2024 Membership - 1 Honorary / 6 Paid Members

ARES

John, K6JRO
Emergency
Coordinator,
Stanislaus County

Stanislaus County ARES Report



ARES met on Saturday November 4th at the Stanislaus County Office of Emergency Services (OES). Officer reports were given. Our training was given by Mike Rafatti, KM6MHT on the US Coast Guard Auxiliary Communication. Thank you, Mike. It was truly fascinating!

Our next ARES meeting is scheduled for Saturday, DEC 2nd and will be out annual All Hands On Deck meeting. We will set the agenda for 2024 and discuss changes in ARES leadership.

As always, if you have packet capability, please consider checking into the ARES WinLink Wednesday net on the 4th Wednesday of the month. This consist of sending in a WinLink forms to Lucian, KF6NPG. If you are new to packet and would like to start checking into the WinLink Wednesday Net, please contact Lucian. We also have a VHF simplex net on the first Wednesday of the month immediately following the ARES net.

John Otte, K6JRO Emergency Coordinator, Stanislaus Co.
K6JRO@arrrl.net



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

Ham Cram Information

Due to low enrollment, the ARES organization will no longer be offering ham crams. Instead, we will offer material and guidance to anyone who wants to earn or upgrade their license. Information is available on the [ARES webpage](#). Testing will be offered before the SARA club meeting at 6:00pm on the third Tuesday of the month.

If you have any questions, please email John Otte, K6JRO at k6jro@arrrl.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.

Raffle Item

Swap Shop

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 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 must take the course before you can take the exam.



You cannot take the challenge exam online.

Raffle Item:

There will be a raffle item for next week's meeting.

Kenwood TM-271a. 2M mobile radio with mounting bracket and new mic cord.

Thanks,
Zack, KI6KQO

Swap Shop: Ham Radio related equipment for sale

The following items are for sale from Jason, KA6TIO:

1. Alinco DR 635 T dual band 2M/440 FM mobile. 50/20/5 watts on VHF. This radio will cross-band repeat too. Included in the sale:

Mounting bracket

DTMF hand mic

Power cord

Remote head separation kit

Featured Article

EJ-50U TNC board and appropriate connectors (I paid \$150 for this board and can't be returned. I couldn't get it to fly. Maybe someone else can.)
RT Systems DR 635 programming software and USB 29 cable for radio (You don't need the TNC board to program the radio). \$50 value
Manuals for the radio and the EJ-50U.
I'm asking \$250 for all this.

I can be contacted at the meetings or call me at 209-606-8441.

The following items are for sale from Bill, AE6J:

Buddipole deluxe - \$300 (Includes guying kit and "Buddipole in the field" book)
Icom 706mkIIG (Includes AT-180 tuner)- \$750
Kenwood TS-590S - \$900

Contact Bill (AE6J) at ki6hmv@gmail.com if you are interested in any of the above.

Featured Article: Field Day 2024!



Did we get your attention?

2024 ARRL Field Day will be the weekend of June 22-23, 2024. Now is the time to start planning for a weekend of food, beverages, fun, camaraderie, and making as many contacts as we possibly can.

Last year we had our Field Day at Barrett Cove-Lake McClure. We had to find a new location different from Black Springs Road site due to a number of things:

- A very heavy snowfall that kept the road closed until nearly the last minute.
- Heavy logging and clearing of trees and brush in the area. Sierra Pacific has leased a portion of the area, so no entry in part of the site.
- What little has been left for camping and setting up gear is relatively small compared to what it was just 2 years ago. It's suited now for a small group, say 2-3 RV's and a few tents, but nothing like the group we have.
- Last but not least, US Forest Service allowed an OHV trail to cut through the main camp area. This has been going on for about 5 years now.

Plans for next year's Field Day are in the works. Everything is still in the preliminary stages, but it's never too early to get ready! Time sneaks by us pretty fast sometimes. We're already looking at Thanksgiving and Christmas now!

Community Events

Vicki and I will be your Field Day coordinators for 2024. We'll do our best to put together a great weekend. More information will be coming in the following months.

Thanks,
Jason, KA6TIO and Vicki, KJ6RCV

Community Events:

November

Saturday 4th ARES Meeting 10a-12p

Tuesday 21st SARA Meeting 7p-8p

December

Saturday 2nd ARES meeting 10a-12p

Tuesday 19th SARA meeting 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

224.140 – 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 Ladies Chit Chat net every Monday at 8:00pm for YL's.

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.

Officers and Board Member

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) weekly club net meets every Tuesday (except the 2nd Tuesday) at 7:00pm on 147.030 + pl 100 or 447.700 + pl 94.8.

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 7:00pm on the TARC repeaters. They have a monthly meeting the third Wednesday at 6:00pm at The Pizza Factory 3146 G Street #147 Merced, CA 95340.

San Joaquin Valley Section ARES Net every Sunday at 7:00 pm on the TARC repeaters.

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

2023 SARA Club Officers and Board Members

Officers:

President: Zach Pelham, KI6KQO
Vice President: Mark Price, N6ARP
Secretary: Scott Griffin, N6CIC
Treasurer: Scott Johnson, KN6RKY
Sergeant at Arms: Vicki Peitz, KJ6RCV

zsp1919@icloud.com
mark99price@gmail.com
scottandalene@msn.com
sliefjohnson@gmail.com
vptigger@gmail.com

Board Members:

Jason Peitz, KA6TIO
Richard Aal, W8AAL
Bobby Hale, KN6SDD
Randy Spindler, KF6RJS (past president),

ka6tio@gmail.com
dick_aal@comcast.net
kn6sdd92@gmail.com
kf6rjs@yahoo.com

Club Trustee: Lucian Thomas, KF6NPG

kf6npg@aol.com

Committees/Workgroups:

Club Technician: Patrick Dunbar, KG6AZZ
Readout Editor: John Otte, K6JRO
Community Events: Lucian Thomas, KF6NPG
Stanislaus County ARES:

Emergency Coordinator: John Otte, K6JRO

patd@kg6azz.net
k6jro@arrl.net
kf6npg@aol.com

k6jro@arrl.net



Nominations are held every November with elections in December



Local Area Frequencies

Name	Frequency	Off set	Tx Tone	Description
VHF Call	146.520	none	none	VHF Simplex
VHF Local	147.540	none	none	Local VHF Simplex
SARA Hi	145.390	- (negative)	136.5	SARA VHF Mt. Oso
SARA Lo	145.110	- (negative)	136.5	SARA VHF Downtown Modesto
MMC	146.355	+ (positive)	156.7	Memorial Hospital Modesto
TARC	147.030	+ (positive)	100.0	Turlock Amateur Radio Club Mt. Bullion
TARC	147.000	+ (positive)	100.0	Turlock Amateur Radio Club Turtle Dome Yosemite National Park
CARS	145.170	- (negative)	100.0	Calaveras Amateur Radio Society Fowler Peak
Stockton	147.165	+ (positive)	107.2	Stockton Delta ARC Sierra Nevada Mountains
Lodi	147.090	+ (positive)	114.8	Lodi Amateur Radio Club
Manteca	146.985	- (negative)	100.0	Manteca Amateur Radio Club Manteca Water Tower
TCARES	145.290	- (negative)	100.0	Tuolumne County Amateur Radio and Electronics Society Moccasin
UHF Call	446.000	No offset	No tone	UHF simplex
SARA	440.225	+ (positive)	136.5	SARA UHF Mt. Oso
TARC	444.700	+ (positive)	94.8	Turlock Amateur Radio Club Mt. Bullion

TARC	440.300	+ (positive)	94.8	Turlock Amateur Radio Club Kings Canyon Sequoia
CARS	441.0375	+ (positive)	151.4	Calaveras Amateur Radio Society Bear Valley (Mt. Reba)
CARS	441.875	+ (positive)	100.0	CARS Summit level Arnold linked to 145.170
Stockton	442.250	+ (positive)	107.2	Stockton Delta ARC Sierra Nevada Mountains
SARA	224.140	- (negative)	136.5	SARA 220 Mt. Oso
TARC	224.960	- (negative)	156.7	Turlock Amateur Radio Club 220 Mt. Bullion

As of January 27, 2023

CARS vhf frequency corrected, and Lodi added January 27, 2023

For further information please refer to each radio club's web site:

SARA www.saraclub.net

TARC www.w6bxn.org

CARS www.calaverasars.org

Stockton www.w6sf.org

Manteca www.facebook.com/groups/k6man

TCARES www.tcares.net

Lodi www.lodiarc.net

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). Family Dues are \$45 and is the same for all methods of payment.

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

April 3, 2021

