



THE Readout STANISLAUS AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

August 2025

Volume 46, Number 8

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Next General Meeting:
Face-to-face:
Monday, August 18th 7:00pm

A Message from Club President John Otte, K6JRO

Welcome to another edition of *The Readout*.

I made it back from my drive to Memphis, TN on Friday afternoon 8/15. As such, I am getting the newsletter out later than normal.

We're halfway through August and while the summer is still here, every now and then we do get hints of cooler weather but, summer is not done! Please remember to stay hydrated and keep your batteries charged.

This month's Featured Article I pay tribute to the ARES organization celebrating 90 years (1935-2025). The Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) has held to the same precepts virtually since its inception in 1935, encouraging participation by licensed Amateur Radio operators with a sincere interest in Emergency and Public Service Communications. So, if you are interested in joining the ARES organization, please contact Wally, KK6CPN our Emergency Coordinator for Stanislaus County.

With this in mind, September is National Preparedness Month. This is an annual campaign to remind everyone that preparing for emergencies and disasters can keep them, their families and their communities safe. More information can be found at www.ready.gov/september.

Finally, if you like hamfests, the Pacific Division's Pacificon 2025 is around the corner! Pacificon is produced by the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club and held at the San Ramon Marriott, 2600 Bishop Drive in San Ramon on Friday, October 10-Sunday, October 12. Additional information and registration can be found at www.pacificon.org.

73 de K6JRO
John Otte
SARA Club President
Readout Editor

Minutes:

July 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 the July face-to-face meeting

Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association

P.O. Box 4601 Modesto, CA 95352

www.saraclub.net

July 15, 2025

Club Meeting Minutes

(Meeting held at 3705 Oakdale Road Modesto, CA)

Attendance (via sign in sheet)

Robin, KG6ZYQ	Scott, KN6OOV	Lucian, KF6NPG
Dick, W8AAL	Cheryl, KK6GJM	Scott, N6CIC
Richard, W6DU	Brent, KJ6MRG	Greg, KO6GIL
Scott, KN6RKY	John, K6JRO	Tim, KG6TAI(guest)
John, W6PY	Paul, W6UHF	Brendon, NK6M
James, KK6ILV	Brian, KN6QFF	Mark, KI6HOB
Bob, KN6VMS (guest)	Eva, KM6BIP	Mark, N6ARP
Terry, KJ6DXT (guest)	Vicki, KJ6RCV	Roy, KK6OQP
Jason, KA6TIO	Randy, KF6RJS	Gene, W6QFU
Don, KM6ARR (guest)	William, KN6DAM (guest)	

President John, K6JRO, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, welcomed everyone and asked Robin, KG6ZYQ, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. There were twenty-three members present according to the sign-in sheet and six guests. John asked members and guests to introduce themselves.

Reading of Minutes: Secretary Scott, N6CIC, the minutes from last month's meeting were presented to the membership in the READOUT prior to the meeting. There were no corrections or additions. Vickie, KJ6RCV, made a motion to approve the minutes, with a second by Dick, W8AAL. The club approved the minutes unanimously.

President: John, K6JRO, no report.

Vice-President Brian, KN6QFF, stated that Jason, KA6TIO, and Vicki, KJ6RCV, will give a debrief on Field Day results tonight. In August, Scott, N6CIC will give a presentation on FT8, and in September, John, K6JRO, will discuss his new antenna. Greg, KO6GIL, said he will give a presentation in November on how to interact when calling 911.

Treasurer Scott Johnson, KN6RKY, presented the monthly treasurer's report with an ending bank balance of \$11,605.05. Mark, N6ARP, made a motion to approve the report, and after a second by Randy, KF6RJS, the club approved the Treasurer's report.

Sergeant at Arms Robin, KG6ZYQ, stated there will be a split-the-pot raffle at the break. Also, we will raffle a 12-volt, 10-amp power supply donated by James, KK6ILV. Water and snacks are available at the break.

Club Trustee Lucian, KF6NPG, noted the Mt. Oso repeaters (145.390, 440.225, and 220.145) are working. The downtown Kenwood repeater was serviced, tested, and placed back into operation as it is working as it should. The Mortola repeater was left in the rack and can be put back into service if needed. The controller for the downtown repeater is around 27 years old

Joining SARA:

We are taking membership applications for 2025

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.

and it appears to be the problem when the repeater stopped working. Once it was cleaned it started working. The ARCOM controller has been identified as a replacement, and it would work with both the Kenwood and Mortola repeaters. Once the solar project is completed, we should consider replacing the old controller.

The solar equipment purchased on the grant has arrived at OES and we have been approved to take possession of the equipment. A trip was made to Mt. Oso to lay out the frame. We will make a list of equipment needed to complete setup of the system. This will include frame support poles, a post hole auger, wiring, miscellaneous hardware, post hole cement and other unanticipated items. These items will be purchased through the club's equipment fund with approval of the board. If all goes well, we hope to have a work crew together and have this installed over the next couple of months.

Due to dry and windy conditions on Mt. Oso, PG&E shut down the power at 0900 hours on Thursday, June 19, and restored it on Saturday, June 21, at 0900 hours. The back-up batteries did not make it through the full two days but did better than doing the last shutdown.

Scott, KN6OOV, volunteered to help supply wire for the solar installation.

ARES: Wally, KK6CPN, no report.

Board Members: Mark, N6ARP, Dick, W8AAL, Cheryl, KK6GJM, and Scott, KN6OOV were present, Dick, W8AAL, reminded everyone of the upcoming Stan-Joaquin swap meet to be held on Saturday, September 6, in Ripon. A flyer has been sent out to club members. The venue is indoors and will have tables and chairs. Mark, N6ARP, said the flyer has been posted on the Calaveras Club web site. He will keep them in the loop on the swap meet.

Community Events: Wally, KK6CPN, no report.

Weather Officer: Randy, KF6RJS, reported on the weather forecast. The outlook for the near future is expected to be nice.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None

Break: There was a 15-minute break. The evening's split-the-pot raffle winner was Brent, KJ6MRJ. Split-the pot generated \$71 for the club. Dick, W8AAL, won the power supply which raised \$20 for the club. Congratulations to Brent and Dick!

Thank you to all members and guests who continuously participated in our monthly fund-raising raffles. Your generosity is appreciated.

Presentation: Jason, KA6TIO, and Vicki, KJ6RCV, gave an excellent presentation on the results of Field Day which was held on June 28-29, 2025, at 9090 Lake McClure Road, Snelling, CA. Five stations participated as follows:

SSB

80 M-Ed KF6FIR
40 M-Paul, W6UHF
20 M-10M Mark, KI6HOB
6 M-Jason, KA6TIO

CW

Gene, W6QFU

Winlink

Ed, KF6FIR

Point totals were quite good:

CW	224
SSB	122
Power multiplier	692
Bonus points	<u>950</u>
<u>Total points</u>	1,642

Jason announced that this will be the last year that he and Vickie will coordinate Field Day. They were thanked with a hearty round of applause.

Meeting Adjournment: John, K6JRO, adjourned the meeting at 8:14 PM after a motion by James KK6ILV, and a second by Eva, KM6BIP. The next meeting will be on Monday, August 18, 2025 (7:00 pm to 8:00 pm) 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.

Weather Report, Randy, KF6RJS

Weather report from Randy, KF6RJS

The following report was filed by SARA club weather officer Randy, KF6RJS. Data was collected from his home QTH in North Modesto:

Hello to everyone.

We have had a good summer. I had my 3rd 100 day. It was on Saturday, August, 9th. It was 100.2.

The weather for Monday, August 18th thru Saturday, August 19th:
It will be 85 to 98 for the highs and 60 to 66 for the lows.

Everybody have a great week. 73's. God Bless.

73 Randy Spindler, KF6RJS.
Weather Officer

Treasure's Report, Scott, KN6RKY

Treasure report from the July meeting



STANISLAUS AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

P.O.BOX 4601, MODESTO, CA 95352-4601

www.saraclub.net

Treasury Report July 14, 2025

June 17, 2025

to

July 14, 2025

BEGINNING BALANCE: \$11,922.81

INCOME:

Membership Dues - (cash/check)	\$30.00	
Member Donations (cash/check)	\$0.00	
Split-The-Pot	\$135.00	Dick W8AAL (gave his winnings back to club)
Radio/Equipment Raffle	\$0.00	
Square - Auto Deposit - Dues	\$115.32	(net of Square fees)
Square - Auto Deposit - Donations	\$0.00	(net of Square fees)
ARES Donation	\$49.00	
ARRL Testing Fee (cash)	\$15.00	
TOTAL INCOME:	\$344.32	
		Square - Auto Deposit \$115.32
		Deposit Tri-Counties Bank \$229.00

EXPENSES:

Moeller Mt. Oso	\$80.00	(Ck #1182) - July Site Rent (7-1-2025)
PG&E	\$77.60	(Ck #1185) - Mt Oso Utilities-30 days (7-14-2025)
ARRL Testing Fee	\$15.00	(Ck #1181)
Field Day Reimbursement	\$431.68	(Ck #1184) Jason KA6TIO and Vicki KJ6RCV
Meeting Supplies Reimbursement	\$12.80	(Ck #1183) Robin KG6ZYQ
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$617.08	

** Tri-Counties Bank

Ending Bank Balance: **\$11,650.05** as of July 14, 2025

Field Day Fund:	\$1,459.03	(included in ending bank balance)
Equipment Fund:	\$4,918.82	(included in ending bank balance)
General Fund:	\$5,272.20	(included in ending bank balance)

Treasurer:

July 14, 2025

2025 Membership - 1 Honorary / 79 Paid Members

2026 Membership - 1 Honorary / 3 Paid Members

Member Paid Donations (for goods / services)

Paul (W6UHF) \$90 Field Day Group Campsite

ARES

Wally, KK6CPN
Emergency
Coordinator,
Stanislaus County

Stanislaus County ARES Report

Hello everyone



Well, I am glad to be back in California from my trip to Tennessee and Alabama spending time with my Grandkids. I'm glad to announce I appointed Gregory Bernardi as our PIO on August 11, 2025. I look forward to seeing a Facebook page for StanARES and more in the coming months. We are getting close to the

Emergency Preparedness Fair on September 20 at Ensen Park. I will provide further information as I get it. Again, I would like to remind all SARA members you are welcome to come out to the second Saturday of the month ARES meeting and trainings.

For now, that is all, 73

Jim (Wally) Walsh, KK6CPN, Emergency Coordinator, Stanislaus Co.



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 second 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.

Swap Shop: Ham Radio related equipment for sale

Butternut HF-6V antenna with radials. This antenna covers 80, 40, 30, 20, 15, and 10m. I also have the components to add 17 and 12m. \$250.00. If interested please contact Mark Carter, KI6HOB at carter1956@att.net

Featured Article: *When All Else Fails. ARES: Celebrating 90 years 1935-2025.*

By John Otte, K6JRO

Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) traces its roots to the early days of organized amateur radio, when operators began volunteering to provide communications in the aftermath of disasters and during civil defense activities. As communities faced floods, fires, storms, and other emergencies, amateur radio enthusiasts demonstrated that skilled operators and reliable equipment could keep critical lines of communication open when other systems failed.

The modern formalization of emergency services among amateurs grew through the mid-20th century. In the United States, the need for coordinated, official emergency communications led to closer ties between the amateur community and public authorities. The FCC established the framework for civil emergency communications with programs such as RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service), created to organize amateur radio for government and public safety use during declared emergencies. At the same time, amateur groups and the ARRL (American Radio Relay League) began developing structured emergency response programs for public service and disaster relief.

As interest and participation spread, ARES emerged as the primary ARRL program focused on volunteer emergency communications at the local and regional level. Volunteers organized into local chapters, training regularly, maintaining nets, and becoming the volunteer backbone for disaster response in many communities. ARES teams trained to handle a range of scenarios, from natural disasters to large public events, where reliable communications are essential.

Over the decades, the relationship between ARES and RACES evolved. In the 1990s and 2000s, efforts were made to improve coordination between the two programs and with public safety agencies. This culminated in more integrated operating procedures and joint exercises in many areas, with ARES/RACES working side by side to ensure interoperable communications. The goal has been to reduce duplication, leverage trained volunteers, and provide a flexible, scalable communications resource that can operate with minimal infrastructure when conventional networks are compromised.

The 21st century has reinforced the value of ARES through numerous disasters and public service events. Amateur operators assisted during hurricanes, wildfires, floods, earthquakes, and pandemics, providing vital messages, casualty and resource reporting, and situational awareness when

Community Events

cell towers and other networks were damaged or overloaded. Beyond disaster response, ARES volunteers participate in drills, training exercises, and community events—marathons, parades, and search-and-rescue missions—where preparedness and professional communication practices are essential.

Today, ARES remains a cornerstone of organized amateur radio emergency communications. Its members train in radio fundamentals, net operations, incident command protocols, and emergency procedures; they maintain equipment and licenses, and they work with local emergency management, public safety, hospitals, and CERT programs. The enduring ethos of ARES is readiness: a trained, equipped, and networked cadre of volunteers ready to deploy quickly, establish reliable communications, and support communities when every other line of communication may be unavailable.

Community Events:

August

Saturday 9th ARES Meeting 10a-12p

Monday 18th SARA Meeting 7p-8p

September

Saturday 6th ARES Meeting 10a-12p

Monday 15th SARA Meeting 7p-8p

October

Saturday 18th ARES Meeting 10-12p

Friday-Sunday (17-19) Pacificon San Ramon
Marriot

Monday 20th SARA Meeting 7p-8p

November

Saturday 8th ARES Meeting 10a-12p

Tuesday 18th SARA Meeting 7p-8p

December

Saturday 13th ARES meeting 10a-12p

Tuesday 16th 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 Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings 9:00am to 9:30am.

The Ladies Chit Chat net has moved to every Thursday 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 (temporarily) the third Monday (except July where it will be the second Monday) 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) 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

Officers and Board Member

2025 SARA Club Officers and Board Members

Officers:

President John Otte, K6JRO	jrottejr@yahoo.com
Vice President: Brian Esser, KN6QFF	sixtyeight426@gmail.com
Secretary Scott Griffin, N6CIC	scottandalene@msn.com
Treasurer Scott Johnson, KN6RKY	sliefjohnson@gmail.com
Sergeant at Arms Robin Axton, KG6ZYQ	axtonrbn@hotmail.com

Board Members:

Richard Aal, W8AAL	dick_aal@comcast.net
Cheryl Niles, KK6GJM	kk6gjm@samobil.net
Scott Daniels, KN6OOV	kn6oov@arrl.net
Mark Price, N6ARP (past-president)	n6arp@arrl.net

Club Trustee: Lucian Thomas, KF6NPG kf6npg@aol.com

Committees/Workgroups:

Club Technician: Patrick Dunbar, KG6AZZ	patd@kg6azz.net
Readout Editor: John Otte, K6JRO	jrottejr@yahoo.com
Community Events: Jim (Wally) Walsh, KK6CPN	kk6cpn@yahoo.com
Stanislaus County ARES:	
Emergency Coordinator: Jim (Wally) Walsh, KK6CPN	kk6cpn@yahoo.com



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

