

Minutes of the December 10, 2006 CARS Meeting

We had 22 people attending the event and all seemed to have a great time. After a lot of socializing for about the first hour Ken, AE6LA, CARS President, called the meeting to order at a little after 15:00. The last meeting's minutes were read by your Secretary. Then Lynn, AC6CY, club treasurer, presented his report stating we have about \$1153 in the checking account. We now have 43 members of whom 7 need badges. Jim, KO6HV, our VP, was not able to attend, but sent in the comment that he has not been able to make a successful contact with the county RACES people.

Andy, NV6V, gave a report on the repeater controller. He stated that he needed to pursue "a different route" for the UHF link between the IRLP node at his QTH and the repeater site. As stated in the "Wavelength", he has a GE MVP radio that he will try to use for this link.

It was mentioned that a new repeater in Sonora on 440.850 would be coming on the air soon. It will be a primary machine for the Red Cross.

AE6LA asked for someone to be in charge of Field Day, but no one volunteered. Ken stated the last year's total score was 1748. He called for nominations for any of the officer positions, but none was submitted. All four existing officers indicated that they would be willing to serve for one more year. Ken stated that this would be his final year.

There was a brief discussion of how to attract new members. Many felt that the Monday evening net was important for people being introduced to CARS. Bill, K6DUY, suggested that sending postcards to hams listed in our area on the "QRZ.com" website might be worthwhile. John, KI6ART, said that he believed we needed to emphasize the technology aspects of ham radio for it to be attractive to new people. Someone stated that they had left ham information at some schools, but had not gotten any responses.

Ken then called for new business. Arturo, N6PGH, stated that there was a bicycle ride on June 2nd that would be going through the county and that they had used ham radio for communications during previous events. The route is about 100 miles and some 2K riders are expected. Arturo has been contacted by the event organizer and he is interested in having participation of Calaveras county hams. Arturo said that he would be willing to coordinate CARS activity for the event. Fred, WB6QVI, said that he took part in a similar event several years ago and was thanked by a number of people during the event. Ken said that the meeting schedule and place would be the same as this year. Ken volunteered to host the 2007 CARS Christmas event at his place on December 2nd.

Andy, NV6V, as the group joined hands, led us in prayer. Ken adjourned the meeting and everyone went to enjoy another great potluck.

Submitted by WB6QVU, CARS Secretary