

Minutes of the Sept.18, 2008 C.A.R.S. Meeting

Due to the abrupt closure of the Country Cafe in Angels Camp our third quarterly meeting of C.A.R.S. was held at the Round Table Pizza in Arnold. Ken, AE6LA, opened the meeting at 6:45pm and gave thanks for Andy's speedy recovery.

All 20 members attending immediately received "pink slips" from Bill, K6DUY, for a free raffle to be held at the end of the evening for a collectable 2m rig.

Mark, N6IV, read the last meeting's minutes and Lynn (back from Niagara Falls) announced \$1696.93 in the kitty. Both reports were approved and accepted into record.

Ken handed out copies of a new spreadsheet for the club's financial records displaying the expenses and incoming funds for the past 5 years. This will help clarify our monetary transactions and better predict future expenses. The spreadsheet was accepted into record.

Vice president, K06HV, reports nothing new with ARES or RACES but last weekend's emergency preparedness event in Murphys was well attended. The fire dept, OES, sheriff's office, CARS and other groups displayed their expertise. Jim and Patsy started a signup sheet for learning about ham radio and have proposed ham radio training classes with members of CARS acting as instructors. About 6-7 members volunteered. A meeting at Patsy's house for Nov 15, at 1pm is scheduled to work out further details.

Ken's Presidential report started with K6DUY telling us about a 100watt transceiver (GE Master II) as a possible replacement for the one now on Fowler Peak. This unit is being worked on.

Sam, WS6P, has borrowed the Amador clubs old repeater which we can use to test various sites for better repeater coverage in the county. Ken has proposed a repeater committee meeting to discuss the future direction of our repeater. All club members are invited.

Andy, NV6V, stated that our IRLP node is functioning properly and to check the web site for IRLP operating details. He hopes that we can get internet access up the hill to the repeater which would allow moving the node to Fowler Peak. This would improve reliability and audio quality. To accomplish this Andy said a line-of-site shot to the lower deck of the tower is needed encompassed with a radio link carrying broadband.

John, KI6ART, states we reduced the amount of our new grant request to the county for money to improve the equipment on the repeater site. John is keeping in touch with several county contacts regarding the importance of a solid radio communication service. He is also looking for reporters to help gather information for the newsletter.

Arturo, N6PGH, announced that radio support for Mr. Frog's Wild Ride bike event is manned and ready to go. Volunteers are still needed. The Century ride, because of low turn out, will not be coming back next year. Perhaps Amador will need our help if the ride occurs there. Arturo is resigning as chairman of the events committee.

Field Day 2008 score was 1218 and participated by 21 members says Bill, K6DUY. We had great food and fellowship. Where do we want to hold Field Day next year ?

Fred, WB6QVI, thanked the net control volunteers for a great sounding and inviting net. He is looking for other members to man the upcoming slots. The term "incorporated" is now in the net preamble.

Ken started the nominating process for the up coming club elections and agreed to remain as president for another year. The positions open are vice president, secretary, and treasurer. So far, Patsy has volunteered for secretary and both K6DUY and AC6CY are running for treasurer. No one has been nominated for VP. Via the newsletter and/or e-mail the rest of the club is being asked for nominations to these vacancies. Deadline for nominations will be Oct. 15, 2008 and then elections will closed Nov. 15, 2008.

Ken and his wife Lynn have invited the Club membership back to their house in Arnold for the annual Christmas party to be held on Sunday, December 7, 2008.

The subject of where the CARS group will get together for monthly breakfasts and quarterly meetings was also discussed. Fred, WB6QVI, Lynn, AC6CY and Tim, KD6NRB are looking for locations in Angels Camp. Your input will help. The next quarterly CARS meeting will be on Thursday, Dec 11, 2008. Location to be determined.

Miriam, K6MAB, made several suggestions to help facilitate the clubs activities including, club meeting times, newsletter/website additions, guest speakers, and social activities. Due to time restraints these topics were only briefly discussed so will be taken up again at the next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:31pm

Submitted by N6IV, CARS Secretary