

**CARS , INC**  
**Business Meeting**  
November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012 – 1930 hrs

After the Pledge of Allegiance and a round of introductions, Steve Airola W6RXX introduced Glenn Pitts, K6KJQ, who presented a great program about the history of KJQ radio in Stockton which was first licensed in December 1921 and lots of other interests, including 900Mhz repeater networks, Motorola commercial radios and his Motorola Micor based repeater that covers the valley around Stockton. If you missed it because of the weather rolling in or for some other reason, you can check out Glenn's web site at <http://www.kjq.us.com/>.

At 1940 hrs, the Business Meeting was called to order by CARS President Ken Sanders AE6LA.

**Secretary Report:** The minutes from the business meeting held September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012 were accepted with one correction: the minutes showed the November business meeting as upcoming on the 15<sup>th</sup>, instead of tonight (the 8<sup>th</sup>). The corrected minutes will be posted on the CARS Web Site.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Bill Holmes K6DUY was present to submit his financial report, reporting a current balance of: \$3,676.29, with no outstanding debt. We now have a new batch of hats for \$10 each – see Bill if interested.

**VP Program Report:** Vice President Steve W6RXX reported that he's working on speakers for January, March and May – see Steve if you have suggestions or leads and stay tuned in to the Monday night nets for more information.

**President's Report & Repeater Report:** Ken AE6LA. Our Fowler 145.17 MHz repeater is working fine as well as APRS & the 144.31 packet repeater. A few weeks ago we observed interference again on 17, but it went away within a day or so as we were tracking it down, and we have not heard it since. We're still not sure of the specific cause.

Ken AE6LA reminded members and friends to come again to his home in Blue Lake Springs on Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 1400 hours for an annual Christmas gathering. In the next few weeks Ken will ask for potluck signups during our Monday night net – stay tuned. Also, there will be a VE exam session before the Party begins, at 1300 hours.

**Emergency Services Training:** Ken reported on the Cal EMA (Emergency Management Agency) training he attended last weekend. One news flash: the name is going to change back to California OES – Office of Emergency Services. The class was a "lab" training to go along with the Incident Command System web based training many of us have taken. It's very clear that we need to be prepared and trained to support this ICS framework in exercises. See Ken if you're interested in a copy of the training presentations – he has them on computer CD, too.

**Late Field Day 2012 news:** The San Joaquin ARRL Section reported Field Day results – we are 5<sup>th</sup> in overall points for this year, and the Turlock club was just ahead of us. Thanks all – even in bad weather we did very well!

**Correspondence notes:** On September 26<sup>th</sup>, Ken notified the officers that our filings with the state FTB, and the IRS are up to date. October 14<sup>th</sup>, Ken got a copy of an email from Miriam Brown with kudos and thanks to Sam WS6P and all of the team of instructors and VE examiners for not only a 62% success rate but for the enthusiasm several new groups of Technician Class hams! Ken has followed up on several contacts from hams interested in relocating to our county and potential hams that are interested in our club.

**PIO Report:** John Davenport KI6ART reported our monthly breakfasts continue to be popular, and with attendance of 12 to 15 people except for last Saturday: we had 26 attendees! There was another group of 12 in the same room and chairs became limited & we had to eat in two shifts! (Usually we have the whole room.)

We got notice from the Rancheria that our grant application for this year was not approved. John will continue to resubmit and we'll see what happens.

VE committee: We continue add new hams for emergency services – and members to the club – current membership is up to 98! That is a big milestone for the Calaveras Amateur Radio Society! Our last VE Session for 2012 is coming up on 2 December at 1:00pm at Ken Sander's home (just before the Christmas party).

**ARES:** Sam WS6P noted that he gave Kit WB6QVM two Arrow dual-band J-poles for installation in Mountain Ranch: one at the Jesus Maria Main Fire Station, and the other will go on the Mountain Ranch Community Hall (across from the Post Office), as it is a Red Cross designated shelter. Next Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, there will be a statewide exercise for CERT people and Mutual Aid on medical and health topics – they may need to use the Fowler repeater. Sam also reported that Dennis Lewis, KJ6KXQ was deployed to the East Coast to help in Red Cross shelters – he reported in last Thursday. He'll be there for 14-21 days.

**Net Manager:** Sam WS6P noted that this month Ken AE6LA will be the net control for our Monday Night net, and Sam WS6P will be net control for December. Maybe we'll get XYL's signed up for net control responsibilities in 2013 – lets all encourage their full participation.

Sam reminded members to check in to the Monday night net to get the weekly NBEMS update & plans for the week. Last night the 75 meter band shifted during our NBEMS net, and propagation changed – we had to pull the plug as we could not hear each other but Pennsylvania was coming in very well. We're looking at FLAMP (FL Automatic Messaging Protocol) software, which allows sending broadcast messages to everyone at once – it seems to be working pretty well. Next year (2013) we'll go back to the mainstream (non-experimental) version of the software to be fully ready & compatible in event of a real incident. Thanks to all for your participation!

**Picnic Committee:** Tim Cody reports that the picnic went well – a great time was enjoyed by all! Thanks Tim! John KI6DWP noted that the price of food has gone up year to year. If we hadn't had drinks left over from Field Day, the whole event would have cost \$400 instead of the approximately \$300 we spent this year. Also, we won't need to have the Picnic Committee on the agenda for the next six months or so – it's wrapped up for this year.

**Old Business:** Bill KD6DUY and Steve W6RXX were nominated in our last meeting to continue their respective positions of CARS Treasurer and Vice President for another term, and no new nominations were received or given in the meeting tonight. By a floor motion, second, and a voice vote, the motion carried – Bill and Steve are elected to another term. Thanks to everyone for the great job they're doing.

**New Business:** Bill KD6DUY noted that in the past it has been customary to give new ham licensees, obtained through our CARS VE sessions, badges and complimentary membership through the end of the current fiscal year. It has gotten pretty expensive to buy the badges since we've changed vendors. From now on, the revised policy will be that CARS will grant free membership for the current year, and issue badges when they either; a) pay \$10 for a badge, or b) become paid members.

At his request, a motion to pay Bill KD6DUY \$20 to reimburse postage and mailing expenses was seconded and approved by a voice vote.

John KI6ART suggested that we might want to donate some money to help with Hurricane Sandy relief efforts. Discussion followed & several members noted that they've sent money personally. It was also noted that we have a lot of need and poverty right here in Calaveras County. It was noted that the Tuolumne club passes the hat at their regular breakfasts for a donation to a local food bank.

**A motion to have a collection basket at our upcoming Christmas party (at the Sanders') to collect money for a local food bank (specific recipient to be determined and named at the party) was seconded and approved by a voice vote. The funds received will be deposited in the CARS treasury (so donation checks can be made out to CARS, a non-profit, & are tax deductible), and will then be then given immediately as a donation from the Calaveras Amateur Radio Society. Perhaps we'll want to promote this to the general membership by email and in our weekly net.**

#### **Upcoming Calendar / Events:**

Christmas Party at Ken & Lynn Sanders' home: December 2<sup>nd</sup> 2-5pm

Breakfasts: The next one is Saturday January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013, 9am at the Murphys Hotel

VE Session: December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1pm at Ken Sanders' home, open to any who wish to attend.

Our next bi-monthly Business Meeting: will be January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 6:30 pm at the IOOF Hall in Angels Camp. Many members bring a sandwich or take-out and gather in the IOOF Hall when Ken unlocks it at 5:15pm, and the program generally begins at 6:30pm, so please plan to come early!

The meeting was adjourned by Ken at 2035 hrs.

Respectfully submitted by Rob Sullivan, WB5FTF  
Secretary - Calaveras Amateur Radio Society