

Calaveras Amateur Radio Society, Inc.
Bi-Monthly Meeting Minutes
November 13, 2014

- 1) Welcome and Opening by President Ken Sanders at 6:30 with the Pledge of Allegiance. After member introductions we went right into the agenda items. 21 members in attendance.
- 2) **CHRISTMAS PARTY:** To be held at Bill Holmes home on Sunday, December 7th, 1300-1700 hours. If you plan on attending, please let Bill know.
- 3) Program:
 - a) **“Disaster Preparedness” presentation was given by the Mark Twain Hospital emergency coordinator, Bill Wennhold, WNNY645.**
 - b) He let us know that due to the drought and high fire hazards, all CalFire stations would be manned until December.
 - c) All emergency entities are maintaining strong coordinating efforts.
 - d) As a side note AT&T will no longer be maintaining wire phone lines after 2018.
 - e) Bill spoke about the 4 phases of disaster preps at the county level, and mitigation of the effects of a disaster
 - i) What – what are the potential threats. Fire, power loss, earthquake, etc.
 - ii) How - to mitigate the effects of these threats. Self-sufficiency for 72 hour minimum is recommended. Food, water, clothes, shelter, medicine, hygiene, pet food, etc.
 - iii) When – to decide course of action and initiate. Evacuate, remain in place.
 - iv) Aftermath – post disaster actions.
- 4) **Reading of minutes by Secretary – Steve Dexter, WT6SD**
 - a) Motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the September 11th meeting as posted on the website.
- 5) **Treasurer’s Report** – Bill Holmes, K6DUY
 - a) Financial Report
 - i) Club balance is currently \$3283.41.
 - ii) Includes deductions over the past month of:
 - (1) Repeater Expenses: \$75
 - (2) Picnic: \$173
 - (3) Gateway Press, badge: \$10.75
 - (4) Gateway Press, visors: \$293.37
 - (5) Staples, office supplies: \$26.99
 - (6) Coffee: \$12.46
 - b) Financial business – Membership update
 - i) We now have 93 members
 - c) Note: This is Bills last meeting as Treasurer! He is assuming duties of CARS vice president. Many thanks to Bill for his dedicated and professional efforts during his tenure. Eileen Thomas, KK6GIX, will be the new CARS treasurer.
- 6) **Vice President’s Report** – Steve Airola, W6RXX: Need ideas for future speakers.
Note: this is Steves’ last meeting as CARS Vice President! Thank you Steve for your service to the club. Bill Holmes, K6DUY, will be taking over as Vice President
- 7) **President & Repeater Operator Report** – Ken Sanders, AE6LA
 - a) Fowler – 5.17, 4.39, 4.31. Fowler Peak repeater working well. Repeater was locked on for awhile – no cause found.
 - i) Ken recommended that all members have an alternate channel set up for the Fowler repeater with a PL of 127.

- ii) It was also recommended that that club members program a Simplex channel on 145.17 mhz. This will bypass the repeater and allow for emergency communications if needed.
 - b) Reba – 4.39, 441.0375. Reba was checked recently and is working well.
 - c) Echo Link – is becoming more used. All club members feel welcome to anyone coming thru on repeater via Echolink.
 - d) Ken received a thank you letter from Representative Tom McClintock for his support of the Amateur Radio Parity Act. Bravo Zulu to Ken.
- 8) **Breakfasts Reports** – Steve Dexter, WT6SD
- a) Breakfasts are scheduled for 9 am at the Murphys hotel on the 1st Saturday of each month.
 - b) There will be no breakfast on December 6th, due to with Christmas Party being the following day.
 - c) Next breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, January 3rd, 2015.
- 9) **Web Master** – Andy Thomas, NV6V
- a) When accessing CARS Facebook page via a cellphone, website now has a mobile mode. Website is: Calaverasars.org
- 10) **ARES/OES Committee Report** – PT Brown, KG6FEY; Sam, WS6P; Kit, WB6QVU; Ken – AE6LA
- a) Narrow Band Emergency Network (NBEMS) is Wednesday nights at 2030 hours on 3584.00. 1000 cycles up.
 - b) California State Emergency Net: After CARS net on Monday nights. 2000 hours on 3.992. Also Wednesday at 1000 hours on 7.230.
 - c) Simulated Emergency Test (SET) will be held on April 16th, 2015 for Amador & Calaveras counties. It will be a simulated emergency fire in the West Point area, with CARS having the following role.
 - i) Deploy the xca Portable backup repeater. This will be the first test of this type of use. This repeater will be the CMD1 frequency for this exercise.
 - ii) Establish a Simplex TAC channel between ARC Shelter and RACES/ARES ICP. Link between Calaveras & Amador counties. This will utilize the antennas mounted on buildings in West Point.
 - iii) Establish a Data channel for radio email and digital traffic. ACARC WILL NEED TO GET OPERATOR. Also ACARC will need to provide a digital station with WINLINK 2000 access and/or NBEMS messaging system capable.
 - d) Sam, WS6P has developed a coverage chart for West Point and surrounding areas based on frequency and power used. Please contact Sam if you would like a copy.
 - e) **ARES Communications Committee**
 - i) Sam Hernandez, WS6P; Chuck Farr, W6AJW; Michael Axiak KK6FDB
 - ii) CARS has acquired a travel trailer that could be used for an Emergency Response Rig if equipped for such use. Four actions need to transpire to make this a reality.
 - (1) Repair and modify trailer in preparation for use. Chuck would like to set up work parties to accomplish.
 - (2) Order and configure Communications Equipment
 - (3) Obtain Alternate power sources
 - (4) Integration of Trailer and Equipment
 - iii) Funding for required equipment. Sam has submitted a funding proposal to the Calaveras Citizens Corps for \$29,626.00. Proposal includes equipment, vendors, and prices.
 - (1) Note: The full Proposal as submitted to Calaveras Citizens Corp is available from Sam, WS6P.
- 11) **Monday night Net Manager & NBEMS Report** – Sam Hernandez, WS6P
- a) Good session the last several weeks. Two weeks ago 10 stations.

- 12) **Field Day for 2015**
a) 4th weekend in June, 28-29 June. Same location as this year.
b) CARS garnered 5th place in our ARRL section for total points for contacts worked, 7th in nation for our class. Congrats to all participants for an outstanding performance.
- 13) **Picnic Committee – Tim Cody, KD6NRB.**
a) Next years date for picnic: September 12, 2014. 75 people attended this years picnic on September 6th.
b) SWAP table for equipment netted \$237 for club.
- 14) Repeater Committee – No report
- 15) **VE Liaison – Suzan Flanary (formerly LaDuke) K6CDK**
a) Two recent exam sessions, West Point in August and Murphys in October.
b) Michael Axiak, KK6FDV, upgraded to Extra. Scott Jensen and Steve Shields, KK6QAV, are new technicians.
c) Next Scheduled exam is: December 13th, 0930 AM; Angels Camp Fire District, 1404 Vallecito Road (Old Highway 4), Angels Camp, CA (Across from old Angels Camp pool)
d) Recommendation was made to schedule future sessions between TCARES sessions and not to conflict with CARS breakfast day.
- 16) **Public Information Officer** - John Davenport: No report
- 17) **Old Business:**
a) Visors with club logo received and several sold at meeting. Contact Eileen Thomas, KK6GIX, if you desire one.
- 18) **New Business**
a) Treasurers Audit to be conducted before Christmas party by outgoing & incoming treasurers. Signature cards will need to be updated.
- 19) **Event Calendar:**
a) Monthly Breakfast Saturday, January 3rd, 9 AM, Murphy s Hotel;
b) VE Session: December 13th. 0900 at Angels Camp Fire Station on Hiway 4.
c) Bi-monthly business meeting January 16th, 6:30 at IOOF Hall in Angels;
d) Christmas Party Dec. 6, at Bill Holmes, K6DUY in Sheep Ranch.
- 20) **Final Comments & Adjournment**
a) Goodbys were said to Rob Sullivan, WB5FTF, who is moving to Lake County, FL
b) Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.