

## **Calaveras Amateur Radio Society (CARS)**

### **Minutes for Bi-Monthly General Meeting, March 12, 2020, 18:30**

**Meeting Location: Round Table Pizza, Angels Camp, CA**

1. Meeting called to order
  - a. Welcome by club president, Chuck, W6AJW
  - b. Pledge of allegiance by all
  - c. Self-Introductions by all
2. Reading of Minutes from Last Mtg by Jack, W6JAK. Approved as read.
3. Treasurers Report by Ken, AE6LA. (see attached)
  - a. Report presented on screen
  - b. Funds received from Amazon Smile. Members encouraged to use Amazon Smile with Ken showing how to select Calaveras Amateur Radio Society on Amazon for receiving donations.
  - c. Automatic withdrawals from CARS account discussed.
  - d. Bank statement and Quicken balances agree.
  - e. There are currently 89 active members. Chuck encouraged club members to join the ARRL. There are benefits to being an ARRL affiliated club including liability insurance eligibility. We need to have 50% of the club members to belong to the ARRL in order to be an affiliated club. Club members would also benefit from ARRL membership by the many resources available to them.
4. Old Business
  - a. The motion for the continuing resolution to pay bills was approved.
5. Net Report was presented by Mike, N6AXQ. Summary as follows:
  - a. January 2020

Members Roll Call at 89 Members:

Highest Call-in for Month - 29 (13 Jan) at 33 percent of Members.

Average Call-in for Month - 27 at 30 percent of Members.

Visitor Roll Call:

Highest Call-in for Month - 12 (27 Jan).

Average Call-in for Month - 10.

Average Members and Visitors for January - 37.

b. February 2020

Members Roll Call at 89 Members.

Highest Call-in for Month - 30 (10 Feb) at 34 percent of Members.

Average Call-in for Month - 28 at 31 percent of Members.

Visitor Roll Call:

Highest Call-in for Month - 15 (24 Feb)

Average Call-in for Month - 13.

Average Members and Visitors for February - 40.

Remarks: It was a Good 2 Months for Call-ins - Members and Visitors. N6IV, Mark, conducted the Net on 10 February 2020 - thanks Mark.

6. Breakfast report was presented by Chuck. Chuck encouraged everyone to attend the breakfasts at the Murphys Hotel.

a. Approximately 6 to 10 attendees at the February breakfast.

b. Eight attendees at the March breakfast.

7. ARES/RACES Report presented by Chuck, W6AJW (see attached memo from SAM, W6SP, Calaveras County Emergency Coordinator).

a. There are only 3 RACES members in the county. CARS members are encouraged to join RACES to serve the needs of the county.

b. A ham-cram is scheduled for 18 April at the West Point fire station.

c. WiRES node in Copperopolis is down due to failures of the power supply and laptop caused by a power outage. The WiRES system allows tie-in of West Point and Fowler repeaters. Chuck purchased a refurbished laptop for \$150 and requested reimbursement by the club. The laptop will become club property. Ken requested that an O&M manual be obtained for the laptop along with part number and serial number information. A motion was proposed and approved to reimburse Chuck for the laptop purchase.

8. Repeater Report by Ken, AE6LA

a. The antenna is now installed on top of the Fowler Peak tower but the feed line is not connected.

b. The Summit Level site (near Cottage Springs) was tested with a J-pole antenna using a simplex frequency. Ken projected a Google Earth graphic showing what is seen from the site.

c. Photos were shown of the Sierra Vista site on Quiggs Mountain, which was considered as an alternate location for the Fowler repeater. It has electricity but needs a tower and the location is subject to vandalism. Steve, W6RXK, said the site is unworkable for the club repeater.

- d. There was a discussion of increasing the power of the Fowler Peak repeater to improve coverage. It was concluded that the power should not be increased due to the issue of receiver de-sense.

9. Upcoming Club Events Calendar by Mike, KB6USJ (not present)

- a. Ken stated that the Ride for Art is fully staffed while Mr. Frog's Wild Ride is in need of additional staffing. Ken showed how the SARTopo program can be used for tracking event participants using cell phones.
- b. With regards to the club Christmas party, Ken asked Chief Wilkes if the club can use the Murphys Fire Station facility. The tentative date for the party is December ~~7<sup>th</sup>~~5<sup>th</sup>, from 4 to 7 pm. Chief Wilkes said he has to get approval from Brian.
- c. The status of the chile cookoff in Copperopolis is unknown. Mike must be contacted for details.
- d. Ken invited club members to join him and Lynn for Field Day at the Silvertip Campground near Bear Valley. They will be camping there and members are welcome to spend the day with them.

10. New Business. The topic of new business was combined with upcoming events discussion (see previous section). Chuck may not be at the next meeting due to knee replacement surgery.

11. Adjournment by Chuck, W6AJW, at 20:06.

Prepared by Ken Sanders 3/7/2020

Calaveras Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

Banking Summary

1/7/2020 through 3/7/2020

Category	1/7/2020- 3/7/2020
INCOME	
Amazon Smile Income	7.66
TOTAL INCOME	7.66
EXPENSES	
Post Office Box Fee	56.00
Repeater Expenses	9.94
TOTAL EXPENSES	65.94
OVERALL TOTAL	58.28

Transactions

1/7/2020 through 3/7/2020

Date	Num	Description	Memo	Category	Amount
BALANCE 1/6/2020					3,669.27
1/9/2020	EFT	Ooma		Repeater Expenses	4.92
2/10/2020	EFT	Ooma		Repeater Expenses	5.02
2/15/2020	EFT	US Postal Service- PO Box Rent, Angel:	2020	Post Office Box Fee	56.00
2/21/2020	DEP	Amazon Smile Payment		Amazon Smile Income	7.66
1/7/2020 - 3/7/2020					58.28
BALANCE 3/7/2020					3,610.99
TOTAL INFLOWS					7.66
TOTAL OUTFLOWS					65.94
NET TOTAL					58.28

Total Active Members: 89  
ARRL Membership: 48  
Club ARRL Percentage: 54%  
Paid through 6/30/2020 or beyond: 87

## **ARES / RACES:**

### **RACES**

As the part of looking at our RACES resources for 2020 I did a quick summary using the information I inherited from PT. Currently we have 11 RACES members, out of those; 3 moved out of the area, one lives in Amador County, one resigned, 3 have unknown status, leaving 3 RACES members for the county. I do not think we can effectively service our County or help with a statewide emergency with only three operators. I will be reaching out to the 3 with unknown status as well as asking CARS, Inc members to consider signing up for RACES. I will also reach out to the other Amateur radio operators in the County as ask for their help as well. Other than a willingness to help, a Calaveras County Employment Application is needed. I have those and will send it to those that are interested in joining RACES.

### **ARES**

It is the season for Ham Crams, Calaveras ARES in conjunction with West Point Fire C.E.R.T is holding one on April 18 in West Point. This Ham Cram is cooperation between Laurel VEC, Calaveras ARES and West Point Fire C.E.R.T. These Ham Crams and VE sessions are vital because of the PGE PSPS being the norm going forward. Using Ham radio is a great way to receive and pass on information during a PSPS. During a PSPS please monitor the N6FRG and/or the W6WPT repeater; this can be the best way to get info. Also please keep your radio go bag ready, as we may be needed to deploy very quickly.

Lastly; the WiRES node in Copperopolis is down, a power outage in the area caused the power supply to fail. Once a replacement power supply was installed, a more critical failure was discovered. The Laptop failed as well. I have passed this information on to Chuck, to see if another laptop can be found to replace the failed one. If someone has a laptop that they are not using and can part with it, please contact me to see if it will meet the requirements for the WiRES node.

73,

Sam – WS6P

Calaveras County Emergency Coordinator – ARES

Calaveras County RACES Radio Officer



# Calaveras Amateur Radio Society

Bi-Monthly General Meeting  
Round Table Pizza, Angels Camp

Date: 3/12/2020

CALL	Name	Member?	QTH
WG5AK	SAEK LUOMA	✓	MOUNTAIN RANCH
AE6LA	Ken Sanders	✓	Arnold
KK6XW	Patty	✓	Arnold
KD6HV	Jim	✓	Arnold
KM6YMA	Cindi Hester	✓	Arnold
KM6AXS	Joshua Hollae	✓	Arnold
WABZTY	Mike FARMIE	✓	ARNOLD
NGAXR	MICHAEL A. AXIAX	✓	COPPEROPOLIS
KM6PFF	Dave Rickina	✓	Angels Camp
N6IV	MARY GODDARD	✓	MOKI Hill
W6ASW	Chuck Farr	✓	San Andreas
XL-W6ASW	Donna Farr	✓	"
KE6DPM	AL LAMORE	✓	SAN ANDREAS
KG6AWT	NANCY LAMORE	✓	SAN ANDREAS
AC6CY	LYNN Bartsch	✓	VALLECITO
KN6HAM	Tyke Woden	✓	San Andreas
AK6RXK	STEVE AIROLA	✓	SAN ANDREAS