

Calaveras Amateur Radio Society (CARS)

Minutes for Quarterly General Meeting, Sept. 12th, 2024, 18:30

Meeting Location: Round Table Pizza, Angels Camp, CA

- 1) **Meeting called to order:**
 - a) Welcome by club president, Steve, W6RXK;
 - b) Pledge of allegiance led by Mark, N6IV;
 - c) Self-introductions by all

- 2) **Reading of Minutes by Jack, W6JAK.** The minutes were approved as read with correction of the status of the WB6TOU ballon which is currently in the southern hemisphere.

- 3) **Treasurer's Report** by Ken, AE6LA (see attached report):
 - a) Ken met with Ed Allendorf to go over the required tax filings;
 - b) The banking summary showed a beginning balance of \$5301.20 and an ending balance of \$5,900.59;
 - c) There were \$210 in donations including \$200 from AI, KF6OBM;
 - d) There are 84 active members and 3 or 4 new members. There are several members who have not paid their dues. They will be taken of the active roll if no payment has been received by the time of the picnic.

- 4) **Monday Night Net Report** by Mark, N6IV.
 - a) The average number of member of check-ins for the past two months was 30 with a range of 28 to 32;
 - b) Guest check-ins averaged 7, with a range of 4 to 8.

- 5) **Repeater Report** presented by Ken, AE6LA.
 - a) Reba/Bear Valley repeater: the repeater still has sensitivity issues which should be addressed before winter;
 - b) Summit Level repeater: Ken provided a history of the repeater site: it was originally an FM station site and was upgraded by Cal Fire with solar and refurbishment of the power system. The solar inverter is noisy, causing interference with the Fowler link radio. The inverter is owned by Cal Fire and Mike, WA6ZTY, is working the issue;
 - c) Fowler Peak repeater: Ken described the site for the new members. There continues to be intermittent problems with the reception;
 - d) Ken is working with the Arnold GMRS net group which hopes to cover District 3. Ken tested GMRS repeaters at Summit and Fowler using the same frequency but with different tones. He uninstalled the GMRS repeater at Fowler due to interference issues. A general discussion on GMRS usage followed. Jack, W6JAK, suggested Ken focus his efforts on fixing issues with the current CARS repeaters before installing GMRS repeaters at our sites;
 - e) Andy, NV6V, is working on the All Star node for Fowler which will include Echolink capability. The Echolink node will not be open to the public. The All Star node should be operational within the next one or two months.

CARS QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 2024

- 6) **Breakfast Report** presented by Dee, KM6ELF. The breakfasts are now scheduled for every other month (even months). The next breakfast will be on October 5th. Dee encouraged everyone to come and to bring their spouses/significant others.
- 7) **Web Master's Report** presented by Andy, NV6V. The website continues to work well. Andy will update membership roster on the website when he receives the update from Ken.
- 8) **Public Information Officer Report.** KB6USJ was not present at the meeting, but Dave, WB6TOU provided a detailed update of the amateur radio balloons, including KB6USJ's. Dave is involving STEM student groups in Calaveras, Lodi, Stockton, and San Francisco with balloon activities which cover a broad spectrum of scientific and engineering topics.
- 9) **ARES/RACES Report.** Jack, W6JAK, read the report provided by Sam, WS6P (see attached). Ken, AE6LA, stated that the new Calaveras County Sherriff, Michelle Whiting, was at a recent SAR meeting and she is very interested in emergency services provided by volunteers.
- 10) **New Business.**
 - a) Nominations for treasurer and vice president was discussed. Current candidaters are Ed Allendorf, K16WJV, for treasurer and Dee, KM6ELF, for Vice Presdent. Nominations are open until the next meeting.
 - b) Mark, N6IP, mentioned that the Turlock amateur radio club is donating a Kenwood TM-V71A to be used for Echolink at Fowler or at Summit. Ken, AE6LA, and Andy, NV6V, prefer to continue with the All Star node for Echolink. They requested Mark to ask the Turlock club if we can use the TM-V71A as a remote base instead.
 - c) Mark, N6IV, is coordinating California QSO operations at Avery Sheep Ranch Road. Mark will be at the site at 8 AM.
- 11) **Old Business.**
 - a) No update on the club trailer;
 - b) The update to the bylaws will be discussed at the next meeting;
 - c) Chuck, W6AJW, motioned that a thank you letter be sent to Bill, K7DUY, for his donation of two antennas to the club for the Fowler site. The motion was approved with the task assigned to Jack, W6JAK.
- 12) **Round Table:**
 - a) Details on the upcoming CARS picnic were discussed. Chuck, W6AJW, motioned that \$300 for the picnic expenses be allocated. The motion was approved. Mark, N6IV, motioned that \$200 be donated to the Vine and Branch Church for the use of their facility. The motion was approved.
- 13) **Happenings:** The CARS ham license test session scheduled for November 9th was added to the list of happenings.
- 14) **Adjournment.** Nancy, KG6AWT, motioned adjournment of the meeting which was approved at 1941 hours.

List of Action Items

Action Item	Date	Assigned To	Status	Date Closed	Comments
Write a thank you letter to Bill Holmes, K7DUY	9/12/24	Jack, W6JAK	Open		

List of Attendees

Calaveras Amateur Radio Society

Bi-Monthly General Meeting Attendance

Round Table Pizza, Angels Camp, CA

Date: 9/12/24

Call Sign	Name	QTH	Member?
WGJAK	JACK LUOMA	MOUNTAIN RANCH	Y
WB6IOW	David Vart	Local	Y
NV6V	ANDY THOMAS	VALLEY SPRINGS	Y
KF6ODM	AL TAMOK	SAN ANDREAS	Y
K6GAT	NEWY TAMOK	" "	Y
AD6AE	David Arrich	MURPHYS	Y
AE6NA	Ken Sanders	Arnold	✓
W6RXK	Steven Airola	San Andreas	←
NG6V	MARK GILBERT	MOKE HILL	Y
K6WGY	Walt Gyges	Vallecito	Y
KM6RF	Don Rickina	Copperopolis	Y
NG6XG	MICHAEL A. AXIAL	"	Y
KM6ELZ	Helen Yost	Vallecito	yes
K6GLO	Jerry Bitner	Murphys	yes
W6AJW	Charles Farr	San Andreas	yes
KN6LKV	Donna Farr	San Andreas	yes
KA9MDP	Bob Kehr	Sutter Creek	yes
KN6RKY	Scott Johnson	Marasto	yes
N6ARP	Mark Price	Camp Connell/turlock	yes

Treasurer's Reports

Calaveras Amateur Radio Society, Inc. - July 8 to September 7, 2024

Banking Summary

7/8/2024 through 9/7/2024

Category	7/8/2024- 9/7/2024
INCOME	
Member Donations	210.00
Membership Dues	538.16
TOTAL INCOME	748.16
EXPENSES	
Communications Trailer	141.71
Repeater Expenses	7.06
TOTAL EXPENSES	148.77
OVERALL TOTAL	599.39

Transaction

7/8/2024 through 9/7/2024

Date	Account	Description	Memo	Category	Amount
BALANCE 7/7/2024					5,301.20
7/9/2024	Checking	Ooma		Repeater Expenses	7.06
7/23/2024	Checking	Carolyn Stinemates- W6CLS		Membership Dues	30.00
7/23/2024	Checking	Daniel Bernstein N6ZEN		Membership Dues	30.00
7/23/2024	Checking	John Stettler - K16DWP		Membership Dues	30.00
7/23/2024	Checking	Don Stump - KM6VLK		Membership Dues	30.00
7/23/2024	Checking	DMV		2025 Communications Trailer	141.71
7/23/2024	Checking	Ed ALLENDORF - K16WJV	ALLENDORF - K16WJV	Membership Dues	30.00
7/24/2024	Checking	Mike And Teri Fahmie - WA6ZTY & KJ6EFN		Membership Dues	33.81
7/24/2024	Checking	KG6ZAJ-Tim HILDABRAND	Paid through June 30,2014	Membership Dues	28.91
7/24/2024	Checking	Jeff Tatum KN6UUF		Membership Dues	28.91
7/24/2024	Checking	Thomas Bradshaw & Kelly - KN6TQY KN6TQZ		Membership Dues	33.81
7/24/2024	Checking	Gary Gagliano KN6SKY		Membership Dues	33.81
7/24/2024	Checking	Eugene Nesterenko - W6EEN		Membership Dues	28.91
8/3/2024	Checking	Alvin Lamore - KF6OBM		Member Donations	200.00
8/21/2024	Checking	Chris Wangsgard K16LZG		Membership Dues	30.00
8/21/2024	Checking	Richard Hurkman -KJ6LJK		-Split-	40.00
9/7/2024	Checking	W7LTM & WA6KEC - Derrill & Kar 3Yrs Paid to 6/2027		Membership Dues	105.00
8/3/2024	Cash Account	Tim CODY - KD6NRB		Membership Dues	35.00
7/8/2024 - 9/7/2024					599.39
BALANCE 9/7/2024					5,900.59
TOTAL INFLOWS					748.16
TOTAL OUTFLOWS					148.77
NET TOTAL					599.39

Paid through 6/30/2025 or beyond: 73

Unpaid for 2024-2025: 11

Total Active Members: 84

ARRL Membership: 50

Club ARRL Percentage: 60%

ARES/RACES Report

ARES / RACES:

RACES

All is quiet on the RACES front. We are still active on the California Emergency Service net which is on Monday evenings and Wednesday midmorning.

ARES

Meteorological Fall arrived on Sept 1, but summer is still hanging on. The lower HF bands will change for the better soon, I am looking forward to this.

The Ham Cram and VE exam will be on October 19 in West Point. So, if you are looking to upgrade here is an opportunity to do so. I attached a flyer for the Ham Cram to the end of this report.

September is Preparedness Month, so make sure that you have updated/refreshed your go-bags. I attached an Emergency Kit Prep Checklist Flyer and an ARES Checklist both from the ARRL for your information.

As I mentioned in my last report, I met with the North Calaveras Emergency Preparedness committee and some of them will be attending the Ham Cram. They are also looking at GMRS for their main communications, but that repeater infrastructure is not established in this area, I explained to them that the Amateur radio infrastructure is in place and is more cost effective than building a GRMS infrastructure from the ground up.

Lastly, be sure to have your HT charged, and your updated Go Bag ready.

73,

Sam – WS6P

Calaveras County Emergency Coordinator – ARES

Calaveras County RACES Radio Officer



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