

Calaveras Amateur Radio Society (CARS)

Minutes for Quarterly General Meeting, May 8th, 2025, 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 a motion by Chuck, W6AJW.

- 3) **Treasurer's Report** by Mark, N6ARP (see attached report):
 - a) Mark went over his most recent banking summary covering the period March 10th, 2024, through May 5th, 2025. Expenses exceeded income over the period by \$177.61, with the largest expense being the Fowler Peak site fee of \$300.00.
 - b) The banking summary starting from the beginning of the fiscal year, July 1st, 2024, showed a net loss of \$746.25. A bump of income is expected with membership dues for renewals after June 30th.

- 4) **Monday Night Net Report** by Mark, N6IV (not present):
 - a) Avg. member check-ins was 38 with a range of 32-40;
 - b) Avg. visitor check-ins was 10 with a range of 8-13.

- 5) **Repeater Report** presented by Ken, AE6LA:
 - a) Fowler Peak repeater: Mark, N6IV, and Walt, K6WGY, went to the site after the repeater went off air. They discovered the repeater was not receiving power due to a loose terminal lug on the power cable. The problem was fixed by tightening the terminal lug screw. Ken later reset the repeater controller clock which was required due to the loss of power. A battery can be installed to keep the clock alive during a power outage;
 - b) Summit Level repeater: There is an intermittent problem with the audio from the Fowler repeater is not being retransmitted when the repeaters are linked. The problem was fixed previously by reseating the packet board. However, Ken stated the last time he tried the fix it didn't work. It is desired for the root of the problem be identified and corrected in time for the Arnold Rim Trail Run;
 - c) Reba/Bear Valley repeater: The repeater is still working as of three weeks ago when Mike, WA6ZTY, was able to bring it up while within mobile range. Ebbetts Pass opened today, so the site should be accessible soon;
 - d) The Fowler and Reba repeater RC-10 controllers requires a software application and license which Ken currently has loaded on his personal computer. Whoever takes

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- over management of the repeaters either needs to have Ken's license transferred or a new license must be obtained;
- e) Lastly, Ken stated there is a new open repeater on Cedar Ridge which is owned and operated by Mark Colton, N6NEZ. The repeater frequency is 145.310, with a PL of 156.7.
- 6) **Breakfast Report** presented by Lynn, AC6CY. Fourteen people attended the breakfast at the Murphys Hotel.
- 7) **Web Master's Report** presented by Andy, NV6V:
- a) Andy has hosted the website since it was first created, but has to resign. As per the previous business meeting, Mike, KB6USJ, will be the new web master. The club will have to obtain another web hosting service and administer it.
 - b) There was a question on how the membership list will be maintained on the site. Steve, W6RXK, said a procedure needs to be documented on how to maintain the list.
- 8) **Public Information Officer Report** presented by Mike, KB6USJ:
- a) Dave, AD6AE, will be providing technical articles on a range of topics of interest to club members. The articles will be posted on the website.
 - b) The N6FRG balloon was launched from the Mountain Oaks school but only lasted three days. However, the balloon achieved an altitude of about 39,000 feet and landed in the Saskatoon area of Canada.
- 9) **ARES/RACES Report:** Jack, W6JAK, read the report provided by Sam, WS6P (see attached).
- 10) **New Business:**
- a) Walt, K6WGY, is willing to take over trusteeship of N6FRG and K6XCA from Ken, AE6LA. Ken gave a history of the K6XCA call sign and its intended use is for emergency services. He recommended the club keep the call sign. Mark, N6ARP, motioned that the club maintain the K6XCA call sign which was subsequently seconded and approved;
 - b) Chuck, W6AJW, motioned that Walt, K6WGY, be the successor trustee of the club's call signs. The motion was seconded and approved;
 - c) A discussion followed on the trustee's responsibility for the proper and legal operation of the repeater. Steve, W6RXK, requested members to report any observed inappropriate use of the repeater to Walt;
 - d) Steve, W6RXK, has set the date for the next tri-county picnic, and it will be hosted by CARS at the Angels Camp city park. He has made the reservation for September 20th and paid the \$100 reservation fee. Ken, AE6LA, moved that the club reimburse Steve for the fee. The motion was seconded and approved. Helen, KM6ELE, will be the food coordinator. Ken will contact the Vine and Branch church to inform we will

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not be needing their facility this year. Bob, KA9MDP, will announce the picnic on the Amador county repeater net.

11) **Old Business.**

- a) Al, KF6OBM, stated that the club trailer upgrades are almost completed. There is an issue with the door being sprung. Chuck, W6AJW, said he could fix the door if Al moves the trailer to his property. Steve, W6RXK, suggested that the trailer could be used for the upcoming Airport Days at the San Andreas airport. There was a discussion on using the trailer at next year's Calaveras County Fair to promote ham radio. Steve asked Mike, KB6USJ to come up with a proposal for the county fair commission to allow us to be at the fair as an educational event, where the club would not be charged for attending.
- b) The current and updated versions of the bylaws was handed out by Steve, W6RXK, to meeting attendees. The updated bylaws must be reviewed by members and approved by a majority vote. Member comments should be emailed to Steve for review by the committee.

12) **Round Table:** Steve, W6RXK, stated there is a Hygain vertical antenna system for sale at a very reasonable price by ham in Lodi. If anyone is interested, they can go the the Lodi club's website for more information.

13) **Happenings:** See list in the Agenda. No additional events were mentioned.

14) **Adjournment.** Barry, KO6FOV, motioned adjournment of the meeting which was approved at 2014 hours.

List of Action Items

Action Item	Date	Assigned To	Status	Date Closed	Comments
The club will have to obtain another web hosting service and administer it	5/8/2025	Steve, W6RXK	Open		
Whoever takes over management of the repeaters either needs to have Ken's RC-10 license transferred or a new license must be obtained	5/8/2025	TBD	Open		
Document a procedure on how to maintain the member list on the website	5/8/2025	TBD	Open		
Contact the Vine and Branch church to inform we will not be needing their facility this year.	5/8/2025	Ken, AE6LA,	Open		
Develop a proposal for exhibiting the club trailer at the county fair.	5/8/2025	Mike, KB6USJ	Open		

List of Attendees

Calaveras Amateur Radio Society

Bi-Monthly General Meeting Attendance

Round Table Pizza, Angels Camp, CA

Date: 5/8/25

Call Sign	Name	QTH	Member?
W6JAK	JACK LUOMA	MTN. RANCA	Y
K6AWT	Nancy Lamore	SA	Y
K6OBM	ALVIN LAMORE	S.A	Y
W6AJW	CHUCK FARR	SA	Y Y
K6LKU	DONNA FARR	SA	Y
N6IV	MARK GODBOUT	MOKE Hill	Y
K6JGY	Walt Gyges	Vallecito	Y
	Maya Gyges	"	Y
N6MIV	Marlin BATES	West Point	Y
K6RKY	Scott Johnson	Modesto	Y
N6ARP	MARK Price	modesto / camp Connell	Y
K6GUSJ	MICHAEL GREENICH	Copperopolis	Y
W6YH	LARRY TUSON	ANGELS CAMP	Y
A6ULA	Ka Sanders	Arnold	Yes
K6QDP	Bob Kehr	Sutter Creek	Yes
N6BV	ANDY THOMAS	VALLEY SPRINGS	YES
K6FOV	Barry Streets	Copperopolis	Yes
K6ELE	Helen Jost	Vallecito	Yes
W6ZTY	MIKE FARMER	ARNOLD	Y
A6CCT	Lynn Bartschi	Angels Camp	Y
W6RXK	Steve Airolo	San Anacle	Y

Treasurer's Reports

Banking Summary
3/10/2025 through 5/5/2025

Category	3/10/2025- 5/5/2025
INCOME	
Badge Income	15.00
Membership Dues	121.73
TOTAL INCOME	136.73
EXPENSES	
Ham Repeater Service Fee	300.00
Repeater Expenses	14.34
TOTAL EXPENSES	314.34
OVERALL TOTAL	-177.61

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Banking Summary Fical Year 2024-25 Calaveras Amateur Radio Society 7/1/2024 through 5/4/2025

Category	7/1/2024-	5/4/2025
INCOME		
Badge Income		15.00
HAT SALES		19.31
Member Donations		225.00
Membership Dues		1,364.77
TOTAL INCOME		1,624.08
EXPENSES		
Communications Trailer	141.71	
Ham Repeater Service Fee	1,200.00	
Liability Insurance	200.00	
Meeting Speaker Dinner	46.74	
Member Badges	118.28	
Post Office Box Fee	84.00	
Reba Repeater	130.70	
Repeater Expenses	91.04	
TriCounty BBQ	357.86	
TOTAL EXPENSES	2,370.33	
TRANSFERS		
FROM Cash Account	129.31	
TO Checking	-129.31	
TOTAL TRANSFERS	0.00	
OVERALL TOTAL	-746.25	

BANKING BALANCES

June 28, 2024 = \$5213.39
May 4, 2025 = \$4467.14
Difference = (\$746.25)

MEMBERSHIP TOTALS

85 Members
71 Paid thru 2025
9 Paid thru 2026
2 Paid thru 2027
3 Honorary (Life Time)

ARES/RACES Report

ARES / RACES:

RACES

Everything is calm regarding the Calaveras RACES. Operators should stick to the assigned login schedule to avoid any doubling during check-ins.

ARES

We conducted a Ham Cram in West Point on April 19. We now have two new General classes, one from Murphys and another from Pioneer. Additionally, we have four new Technician classes: three from Pioneer and one from Modesto.

I have an Elmer Class scheduled to begin on May 17 and end on Field Day weekend, but the class may be canceled due to situations beyond my control.

June 14 is the Blue Mountain Emergency Preparedness Committee, wildfire safety event starting at 9 AM in West Point.

The XCA ARES will have an information table set up throughout the event to share valuable insights. The committee would like XCA ARES to set up a station for show and tell. I'm working on that, but I may need to use the Mt. Zion repeater as the Folwer Peak repeater is extremely marginal from West Point.

The grass is still green, but it is getting tall, so be prepared. Fire season will be upon us quicker than we think!

73,

Sam – WS6P

Calaveras County Emergency Coordinator – ARES

Calaveras County RACES Radio Officer

