

Calaveras Amateur Radio Society (CARS)

Minutes for Bi-Monthly General Meeting, March 12th, 2026, 1830 Hrs

Meeting Location: Round Table Pizza, Angels Camp, CA

- 1) **Meeting called to order:**
 - a) Welcome by club Treasurer, Mark, N6ARP;
 - b) Pledge of allegiance led by Mark, N6IV;
 - c) Self-introductions by all.

- 2) **Reading of the Minutes by Jack, W6JAK.** Marlin, N6MIV, motioned that the minutes be approved as read. The motion passed.

- 3) **Treasurer's Report** by Mark, N6ARP (see attached report):
 - a) For the reporting period January 1st through February 28th, 2026, total revenues were \$58.91 and total expenses were \$422.32, for a net loss of \$363.41;
 - b) The bank balance at the end of the reporting period was \$5269.17;
 - c) Net income to date from the beginning of the fiscal year (July 1st) is \$231.17;
 - d) Eighty-four members have paid their dues;
 - e) Mike, WA6ZTY, will be providing Mark with a bill for the Reba repeater antenna.

- 4) **Monday Night Net Report** by Mark, N6IV:
 - a) For January and February, the average number of member check-ins was 38 with a range between 32 and 43;
 - b) The average for visitor check-ins was 12 with a range of 3-16;
 - c) Forty-one percent of club members check-in weekly.

- 5) **Repeater Report** by Walt, K6WGY:
 - a) The transfer of the trustee for the club's callsign, K6XCA, from Ken, AE6LA, to Barry, KO6FOB, has been completed;
 - b) Fowler Peak repeater: The repeater interference issue was discussed and, Mike, WA6ZTY, said it is likely caused by stronger signals breaking through the repeater input since there is no interference until the repeater transmits. During transmissions, birdies are produced due to mixing of the repeater signal with another strong local signal. An investigation is required to isolate and fix the problem. The repeater is still operating on the APRS antenna, and Walt desires Knox LaRue to install a good antenna at a better location on the tower. Mark, N6IV, stated earlier in the meeting that the two antennas donated by a former club member which were stored in the repeater vault are no longer there. Steve, W6RXK, has an open action item to determine the location of the antennas.
 - c) Summit Level repeater: The Summit-Fowler link is not working at this time, according to Mike, WA6ZTY.
 - d) Mount Reba repeater: No change in status since the last meeting;
 - e) Ken, AE6LA, is no longer coordinating the Arnold Rim Trail event for the club. Walt, K6WGY, will be the coordinator and has people signed up for the event.

CARS BI-MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES FOR MARCH 2026

- 6) **General Mobile Radio Service - GMRS** was presented by Mark, N6ARP. Mark gave brief presentation on GMRS groups and activities in the area. Details are included in the meeting agenda.
- 7) **Breakfast Report.** Dee, KM6ELF, was not present at the meeting but it was reported that seven people attended the recent breakfast.
- 8) **Web Master's Report.** No change in status on finding a new web master. At the last meeting Steve, W6RXX, said he would try to arrange a meeting with Andy, NV6V, the former web host, to get a better understanding on how to transfer web hosting responsibility.
- 9) **Public Information Officer Report** by Barry, KO6FOB. Barry has obtained an account from Andy, NV6V, enabling him to post information on the club's website. Barry will be asking for help from Mike, KB6USJ, on how to make the posts, including upcoming special events which he described.
- 10) **ARES/RACES Report:** Jack, W6JAK, read the report provided by Sam, WS6P (see attached). Jack then gave an overview of the California Emergency Services Net and answered questions from the members. Mark, N6ARP, also provided information on the CESN and Winlink.
- 11) **New Business:**
 - a) Steve, W6RXX, investigated options for a better meeting location since it was agreed that the smaller meeting room at Round Table is inadequate. He looked into the Oddfellows Hall in Angels Camp but it is only available on Monday nights and there would be a \$45 per meeting charge. The hall is also in an undesirable location. He also looked into the Veterans Hall and Bret Hart High School facilities in Angels Camp but he has not received any responses. Donna, K6LKU, suggested the VFW facility in San Andreas, which has a large meeting room with a large television. Barry, KO6FOB, said he will look into his HOA's meeting room.
 - b) ARRL Year of the Club was presented by Mark, N6ARP. The thrust of the ARRL program is to increase the membership of ARRL affiliated clubs across the country. Ideas and suggestions were discussed on how to increase CARS membership, including reducing the amount of time spent on business topics during meetings and recruiting young people to become hams. Barry, KO6FOB, offered to host a summer Field Day event at a publicly visible location to generate interest. Lastly, it was mentioned that the ARRL is promoting America 250, where the ARRL call-sign is available to be used by ARRL divisions for special events celebrating America's 250th anniversary. The Pacific Division will be able to use the call-sign starting April 1st.
- 12) **Old Business.**
 - a) None was discussed
- 13) **Round Table:**
 - a) Barry, KO6FOV, may have a radio for sale.
- 14) **Adjournment.** Nancy, KG6AWT, motioned adjournment of the meeting which was approved at 2006 hours.

List of Action Items

Action Item	Date	Assigned To	Status	Date Closed	Comments
Determine the location of the two antennas previously donated to the club	1/8/26	Steve, W6RXK	Open		

List of Attendees

Calaveras Amateur Radio Society

Bi-Monthly General Meeting Attendance

Round Table Pizza, Angels Camp, CA

Date: 3/12/24

Call Sign	Name	QTH	Member?
WGJAK	SAEK LUOMA	MOUNTAIN RANCH	Y
NGIV	MARK GADBOULT	MOORE HILL	Y
AGLKKU	DORNA FARR	SAN ANDREAS	Y
ADLAE	DAVE AARICH	MURPHYS	Y
WGBAJW	CHUCK FARR	SAN ANDREAS	Y
KGLGK	WALT GYGER	ANGELS CAMP	Y
-	KARA GYGER	"	N
KF6BPM	AL LAMORE	SAN ANDREAS	Y
KGBAWT	NANCY LAMORE	SAN ANDREAS	Y
K0BFOU	Barry Streets	Copperopolis	Y
	Sheryl Streets	"	N
K6PWG	PASCAL GYGER	Angels Camp	Y
AL6CY	Lynn Bartschi	Angels Camp	Y
N6MEU	Marlin Bates	West Point	Y
WNEZTY	MIKE FISHBE	ARVISO	Y

Treasurer's Reports

Treasure's Report for March 12, 2026 Club Meeting

1. First chart is Income and Expenses since the January Meeting
2. Next chart is income and Expenses since the start of the fiscal year in July 2025.

Calaveras Amateur Radio Society Income Statement For Period Covering 01/01/2026 to 02/28/2026

Revenues

Membership Dues \$58.91

Total Revenue \$58.91

Expenses

Ham Repeater Service Fee \$300.00

Post Office Box Fee \$88.00

Repeater Expenses \$34.32

Total Expenses \$422.32

Net loss for Period \$363.41

Bank Funds as of 12/31/2025 == \$5583.67

Bank Funds as of 02/28/2026 == \$5269.17

Paid Membership 2026 = = 84 members

**Calaveras Amateur Radio Society Income Statement For
Period Covering 07/01/2025 to 02/28/2026**

Revenues

EQUIPMENT SALE (Donated) \$0.00
Event Sponsor Donations \$0.00
Member Donations \$350.00
Membership Dues \$1,276.40
Returned From CommTrailer \$0.00
Total Revenue \$1,626.40

Expenses

Christmas Party \$0.00
Communications Trailer \$0.00
Registration (Non-taxable) \$139.00
Field Day \$0.00
Filing Fees \$0.00
HAM Equipment - Not Repeater \$0.00
Ham Repeater Service Fee \$900.00
Liability Insurance \$0.00
Meeting Speaker Dinner \$0.00
Post Office Box Fee \$88.00
Reba Repeater \$0.00
Repeater Expenses \$77.14
TriCounty BBQ \$191.09
Total Expenses \$1,395.23

Net income for Period \$231.17

ARES/RACES Report



ARES / RACES:



RACES

There has been a change at Calaveras County OES. Eric Holt has left OES, and his replacement has not yet been announced. I have sent an inquiry to determine who we should contact in the event of an emergency requiring RACES activation. Once I receive a response, I will pass the information on to all RACES members.

ARES

The next ARES meeting will be held on Saturday, March 14, at the Mt. Ranch Community Hall, beginning at 9:30 a.m. We will update your task books and review the two upcoming exercises. The 10-meter ARES net was held on the first Saturday of the month at 2000. Information was sent to ARES members, and the net will continue to be held on the first Saturday of each month at 2000. Attendance for the March net was low due to poor band conditions.

As many of you know, the Winter Storm Warning turned into a full Winter Storm. Power was out in several locations throughout the county. I was contacted by West Point Fire to assist by plowing the driveway at the Fire Station. The USPS area Postmaster also reached out for help clearing the West Point, Glencoe, Rail Road Flat, and Wilseyville post offices to ensure mail delivery. In addition, the only fuel station in West Point requested that their driveway be cleared so residents could access gasoline for their generators. Power outages lasted from February 17 to February 26. PG&E opened a Customer Resource Center in West Point with assistance from a Bay Area CERT team, providing gas and solar generators to those in need.

The Northern Calaveras Emergency Radio Operators met on February 28 at the Timber Trail Mercantile in West Point. They will be establishing several Ham Watch stations in the area to support Winter Storm response and other emergencies. They have also started a Ham Watch Net, held on the first day of each month at 12:00 noon. I offered to cross-band connect the W6WPT repeater to 146.565 simplex for this net. Several participants were joining their first net and expressed appreciation for having a reliable source of local information.

Please keep your HT and spare batteries charged, ensure your Go Box battery is topped off, and keep your go bag ready and accessible.

73,

Sam – WS6P

Calaveras County Emergency Coordinator – ARES

Calaveras County RACES Radio Officer

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