

SIERRA WAVELENGTH

SIERRA WAVELENGTH

SUMMER 2008

PRESIDENT'S SUMMER THOUGHTS KEN, AE6LA

What could be better...? My 9-month old grandson is sitting at my feet playing. Three guest dogs are wanting in and out of the door. My daughter is teleworking at the next table, and I have three grand-daughters sacked out in the loft. Also, I am trying to write something sensible here, and work my radios at the same time, too. We all had a great 4th of July weekend, and I hope you did, too!

Please consider and visualize yourself in one of many roles available in our Club for the next election: President, VP, Secretary, Treasurer, PIO, Field Day Chair, Net Manager, Repeater Committee Chair, and other activity and program chairs. Don't forget, we are a friendly Club, and you will

have all the help and support you need. Nominations will be held at our Thursday night, Sept. 18, quarterly meeting at 6:00 pm.

CARS, Inc. is alive and well, and doing quite well...

FIELD DAY: Took place on Mt. Reba in Bear Valley, and was a great success. I am anxiously awaiting our score, but that really doesn't matter. We had a fine time, and shared HAM radio with several guests. I personally enjoy the "making it work" part of FD, and have a fine time setting up and operating several modes.

REPEATER- Our repeater was having problems on July 1st, which gave great concern to members and myself. I had to shut it down in the after-

noon. The next day's trip to Fowler Peak found an AC switch in the "off" position, causing the repeater to use battery backup for an undetermined period of time. Functioning telemetry circuits would have told us we were on battery backup, but were not re-installed. Recently, the telemetry circuits have been re-installed. The State radio techs provided a new equipment "rack", and we moved our equipment into it in June. The State techs were very complimentary of our installation in the racks.

PACKET- is alive! I have been using 144.390 APRS, and Keyboard to Keyboard communications. There is a Sunday 8:00 pm K-K Net on 145.050...

Cont'd on Page 3....



IRLP NEWS-ANDY THOMAS (N V6V)

June 2008

Again, our IRLP node (3428) is working just fine. We continue to offer it to CARS, Inc. members and visitors alike as an open node, and encourage people to use it. The next time you'll be our of the area, you may want to check for a node in the area you are going to,

and try to call back to home. See "[IRLP.net](http://www.irlp.net)" for nodes and locations. The latest status and features are posted on our website (www.calaverasARS.org). Look under the IRLP link in the menu. Check out the newest "special" functions: Node Status/call back: Here are several handy utilities to use when you have the re-

peater in the IRLP mode. Please remember to return the repeater to "normal" or standard mode (code 73 or 74) when you are done; Usage: **220** announces the current node status; **221** announces the last IRLP call that came in with the time.

Cont'd on Page 2....

Calaveras Amateur Radio
Society, Incorporated

Vol 44, Issue 3

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 391
Angels Camp, CA 95222

Website:

calaverasARS.org

Club Call:

N6FRG

N6FRG Repeater:

145.170 MHz
Offset = 600 kHz

PL = 100 Hz

IRLP Node:

3428

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's message	1
IRLP News & updates	1
Volunteers, Etc.	2
Autopatch use	2
New Members 2008	3
Club officers 2008	3
MINUTES- June 2008	4
Field day 2008	5
Are you fire ready ?	5
Misc./next Meetings	6

IRLP cont'd from page 1...

222 connects to the last node that called in (sort of like *69 on your phone); **223** announces the last IRLP call that went out; and **224** re-connects to the last node that was called.

CHEAT SHEET....

- IRLP mode: **4757** - Once in IRLP mode, dial 4-digit node or reflector number - Disconnect and IRLP mode off: **73 or 74**

WAIT -- KEY UP -- WAIT -- SPEAK Nodes to try: **1010** in Vancouver ...the birthplace of IRLP - Reflector **9250**: Western Reflector - Reflector **9453**: WIN System (on Dallas Reflector)

WHAT'S NEXT?**Thursday, Sept. 18th**

Quarterly Meeting
Country Cafe
Angels Camp
Order and eat at 6 PM
Meeting starts at 7 PM

Mondays

7:30 PM Local
CARS Weekly Net
145.170 mHz, PL 100
Stay informed...Tune in!

1st Saturday, monthly

CARS Breakfast
9:00 AM Local
Country Cafe
Angels Camp
Visitors Welcome !

Next VE Session....

(See Jim & Patsy Clark)

Using the 145.17 repeater autopatch and autodial...

The repeater has autopatch and autodial capabilities. Club members are encouraged to use these assets whenever necessary. The autodial is a code-activated process where the repeater makes a phone call to a pre-determined number located in a slot assigned to each club member. The autopatch is just a way to connect your radio to the phone system, and make a call from your radio.

Autodial and Autopatch-

Everyone in the club has been given an autodial slot number, which contains their local phone number. The current CARS website Roster, which requires a "password" for access, has the slot numbers listed for each member's name. To use the autodial or autopatch to call another member's home, or a local 7-digit telephone number, see CARS website for instructions.

Remember all conversations go "over the air" like a radio-to-radio contact, so radio protocol is appropriate. Inform your call recipient they are "on the air." If you forget to "down" the autopatch, the repeater will down it in a minute or two.

**Newsletter Editor****Write C/O:**

Sierra Wavelength
P.O. Box 553
Arnold, CA 95223
(209) 795-7507

wavelength@calaverasars.org

Volunteers, etc.**CARS, Inc. Calaveras County OES Communication Volunteers...(as of 6/30/08)**

Ken (**AE6LA**) & Lynn Sanders, John Davenport (**KI6ART**), Tim Cody (**KD6NRB**), Chuck Farr (**W6AJW**), Arturo Salazar (**N6PGH**), Kit Brown (**WB6QVU**), PT Brown (**KG6FEY**), Miriam Brown (**K6MAB**), Jim Clark (**KO6HV**), Patsy Clark (**KN6XW**), Fred Soderer (**WB6QVI**), Steve Cantine (**KF6HJB**), Bill Holmes (**K6DUY**), Andy Thomas (**NV6V**), George Campbell (**KG6OJV**), **Sam Hernandez (WS6P)**, and Rob Sullivan (**WB5FTF**).

Also, **Congrats to John Davenport (KI6ART)...**

John was recently appointed as a *Public Information Officer (PIO)* for the ARRL Field Organization in the San Joaquin Valley Section. John was appointed by Charles McConnell, SJV Section Manager on June 24th, 2008, with confirmation from Allan Pitts, W1AGP, Media & Public Relations Manager for the ARRL.

Editor...

Cont'd from Page 1....President's Summer Thoughts

if you would like to join in. Digipeaters for both are on Telegraph Hill near Columbia. Also, I have been approached by the State ACS (Auxiliary Communications Services) with a request to put a 144.910 Digipeater on Fowler Peak, which could happen this summer. This would provide a packet link for OES in Sacto to Mt. Bullion and on South. It also would give us a great hub for emergency traffic with Calaveras County!

Lynn and I are taking our 22-foot "RoadTrek" over Ebbetts Pass to the Silver Mountain area next week, and plan on watching the annual "Death Ride" bicycle event. I also will monitor the HAM radio support for that event.

Please check the Club calendar on the website, and plan on joining in on the Monday night Nets, monthly breakfasts, and quarterly meetings. Our membership is now at 62, and growing.

Thank you for being members, and contributing so much to the Club....

73, Ken AE6LA

NEW CARS, Inc. MEMBERS ADDED IN 2008

Sam Hernandez, KI6NWA, West Point

Kathleen Hernandez, KI6OBE, West Point

Steve Airola, W6RXK, San Andreas

Helen Olla, KI6ARS, Murphys

Robert Olla, KC6VAG, Murphys

Derrill Coffman, W7LTM, Coulterville

Charlotte Farr, K6NML, San Andreas

Helen Holt, KA6RNO, Stockton

Michael O'Keefe, KI6PRM, Mt. Ranch

Thomas Farr, W6IJ, Denair

Glenn Wharregard, KG6CGE, Rail Road Flat

**** Please be sure to say "hello" to the new members when you hear them on the air! ****

CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2008

AE6LA, Ken Sanders, President- AE6LA@aol.com

KO6HV, Jim Clark, Vice President- JimnPat@sbcglobal.net

N6IV, Mark Godbout, Secretary- N6IV@arrrl.net

AC6CY, Lynn Bartschi, Treasurer- AC6CY@pocketmail.com

WB6QVI, Fred Soderer, Net Manager- WB6QVI@eudoraimail.com

KI6ART, John Davenport, PIO- KI6ART@arrrl.net

ANSWER to "scrambled" word in last issue.... "CALLSIGN"

Scrambled word for this issue... EDFYIALD

CARS OFFICERS**President****Ken Sanders, AE6LA**

795-5947

ae6la@aol.com**Vice President****Jim Clark, KO6HV**

795-5652

jimnpat1@sbcglobal.net**Secretary****Mark Godbout, N6IV**

286-1083

n6iv@arrrl.net**Treasurer****Lynn Bartschi, AC6CY**

736-4337

ac6cy@pocketmail.com**Net Manager****Fred Soderer, WB6QVI**

728-9868

wb6qvi@eudoramail.com**Public Info Officer****J. Davenport, KI6ART**

795-7507

ki6art@arrrl.net

Don't forget to use
"Repeater Etiquette"
 when using the CARS
 repeater !90

73s

**MINUTES– MARK, N6IV****Minutes of the June 19, 2008 CARS, Inc. Meeting-**

This was our second meeting this year in Angels Camp, CA. Attended by 22 members and 1 guest, our President Elect, Ken, welcomed the group and we started at 6:51 pm after a nice dinner.

Ken, AE6LA, began with an update regarding Andy, NV6V, which we were all anxious to hear about. A moment of prayer was given in our support for his speedy recovery.

Minutes from the last meeting were read by myself, N6IV, and Lynn, AC6CY, gave his Treasurer's report. Lynn declared the club has \$1,002.27 dues collected and asked the club members to please pay the annual dues coming up June 30. Both reports were accepted into record by the members.

N6IV reported that the members recent vote on the Bylaws resulted in its unanimous passing with no objections. The Bylaws are now in place and are functioning rules.

Ken stated that the Repeater Committee had a good meeting in Mt. Ranch, and decided that a second repeater site for emergency and non-emergency use is still needed. "Sierra Vista "(Quiggs Mtn) between Mt. Ranch and San Andreas was mentioned as a possible site for better coverage in the Valley Springs and Northern county areas.

145.170 now has a new location in the recently refurbished vault on Fowler Peak. AE6LA, K6DUY, and KD6NRB spent many hours moving our repeater equipment to its new rack. The solar panel is is now fully functioning. George, KG6OJV, offered to take the old steel equipment enclosure. Done!

IRPL has been working fine, and Ken mentioned that a Digipeater site in Colombia on Telegraph Hill is up and running at 145.050 MHz .

Tim, KD6NRB, proposed that the club donate \$50.00 to the "Amateur Radio Newsline". This motion was passed by the members present.

John, KI6ART, reports that the newsletter will be soon published, and to please give him any items of interest for this issue. With new our Bylaws now in place, John is finalizing the IRS #1023 for submittal to Jim Grinnell for a final review, before we submit it to the IRS for non-profit status. Last year's grant proposal to the CCF was not accepted, due in part to CARS not being a non-profit. We are updating and will resubmit the proposal in Sept. 2008, as our IRS status will now change.

Arturo, N6PGH, reporting for the Events Committee, stated that the Sierra Century Bike ride went very well this June, as did the previous "Party Pardee" ride. We received a nice thank you letter from David Storm of the Sacramento Wheelmen Bike club, and we also received good publicity in the Union Democrat newspaper featuring Miriam, K6MAB and PT, KG6FEY. The repeater systems and coordination by Ham radio operators help make these events safer and successful. Thank you Arturo, and all participants for your hard work!

Bill, K6DUY, Field Day Chairman, reported 21 members had signed up, and a coordinated effort by K6DUY, WA6AJW, WS6P, and others created "professional" looking signage to direct the public to the Field Day site. Everyone was invited to the potluck at the FD site on Sat. the 26th.

Net Manager Fred Soderer, WB6QVI, is still in need of Net Control Operators. He says being Net Control is an easy introduction to handling emergency traffic, and is also fun to do. Please volunteer. Fred suggested we add the "Incorporation" term to our NET preamble, and this was in general agreement.

WA6AJW, proposed activating the Club's various emergency sites during the net which are located throughout the county. This led to discussion of mapping and documenting the readiness of these sites.

Patsy, KN6XW, VE coordinator, reports a very successful VE test session this June resulting in 2 new generals, 1 tech, and 2 extras. Thanks go to Miriam, K6MAB, Jack, K6TTT, and Jim, KO6HV, acting as VE's. More VE's are needed and accreditation is a simple process. At this time Patsy requested permission to notify the new hams that they will be given a complimentary CARS, Inc. membership for one year. We hope this will encourage club enrollment.

Charlotte, N6NML, has now been adopted as the official CARS historian/archivist and John, KI6ART, has assumed the position of Public Information Officer, in addition to his many other roles.

In closing, Ken mentioned that elections will be coming up soon and we need a good pool of nominees for the 5-officer positions. Members should consider their role in supporting our newly incorporated club as there is place for everyone.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Submitted by N6IV, CARS Secretary

FIELD DAY 2008 - Mount Reba, Bear Valley

Field Day this year was a great success!! We officially had 7-stations (7A SJV) on the air using the club call sign, N6FRG, operating on HF digital, SSB, CW, as well as VHF Packet. All bands of 160m, 80m, 40m, 20m, 15m, 10m, and 2m were in use at various times during the 24-hour operating period. Thanks to Jim (KO6HV), and Patsy (KN6XW) for a great job coordinating band/mode usage, which resulted in very few problems for the operators. Thanks Jim & Patsy!

Sam (WS6P) operated the GOTA station, and had many visitors including a Boy Scout who operated this station.

The CARS participants were: Tom (W6IJ), Chuck (W6AJW), Bill (K6DUY), Sam (WS6P), Kathy (KI6OBE), Ken (AE6LA), John (KI6ART), Mark (N6IV), Fred (WB6QVI), Lynn (AC6CY), George (KG6OJV), Jim (KO6HV), Patsy (KN6XW), Andy (NV6V), and Rob (WB5FTF)...(hope I didn't miss anyone!)

Also, George's (KG6OJV) young niece worked a contact, and Sam (WS6P) had a Boy Scout work the GOTA station. Many visitors stopped by including a County Rep, and a Sheriff's deputy...a great big thanks to Bill (K6DUY), and Chuck (W6AJW) for the fantastic signage they made that can be used every year! These signs were posted along Highway 4 from the Bear Valley Lodge, and up to the FD location...super job, guys!!!



Check-in at Jim & Patsy's station



Andy (NV6V) working PSK31
(in Ken (AE6LA's station)



Operators getting band assignments
(from Patsy— KN6XW)

ARE YOU READY FOR A FIRE ?

Here's what you can do to prepare your home...(Red Cross excerpt)

- If people sleep with bedroom doors closed, install smoke alarms inside sleeping areas.
- Use the "test" button to check alarms, monthly. Replace batteries immediately if weak.
- Vacuum away cobwebs and dust from your smoke alarms, monthly.
- Replace smoke alarms every 10-years.
- Consider having one or more fire extinguishers in your home...know how to use them!
- Consider installing an automatic sprinkler system in your home.
- Plan escape routes..... In case of fire, call fire department, and *once you are out, stay out!!!*



))) — Rrrribit

Thanks to all who sent in articles and information for this issue of the Wavelength....unfortunately, space was not available to include everything. I plan on adding more pages in future issues....Editor

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

CARS, Inc. VE Testing— The June testing had 5 take the tests, and all pass their exams. One Extra, two General, one the passed the Tech and General exams on this day, and one new technician. The next testing date is October 18th, 2008. An earlier date is possible. Contact Jim & Patsy Clark at 209-795-5652 for further information. Both are Volunteer Examiners for the ARRL.

Field Day Interviews— Several CARS, Inc. members were interviewed on Field Day by Sean Jenssen of the Union Democrat. You can obtain a copy of his lengthy article about CARS FD, called “Hams Show Emergency Capabilities”, by sending me your email address or fax #, and I will be happy send you a copy. (the Union Democrat website no longer has this story posted online)

The Calaveras Amateur Radio Society has been receiving excellent cooperation and postings of events and activities in the Union Democrat, Calaveras Californian, Calaveras Enterprise, Mountain Times, The PineTree.net, West Point News, and others. Thanks to all who assisted in making this happen!

Editor...

Johndav@ix.netcom.com

Fax: 209-795-7561

Next Quarterly Meeting

Thursday, Sept. 18th, 2008

Country Cafe, Angels Camp

Eat: 6:00 PM Meeting: 7:00 PM

Breakfast Meetings

First Saturday of Each Month

Country Cafe, Angels Camp

9:00 AM

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.
This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.