



THE **Readout**

STANISLAUS AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

September 2024

Volume 45, Number 9

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Next General Meeting:
Face-to-face:
Tuesday,
September 17th
7:00pm

From the desk of *The Readout* editor John Otte, K6JRO

Welcome to another edition of *The Readout*!

September is National Preparedness Month, and the purpose is to "raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time" (www.ready.gov). The focus this year is preparing older adults for disasters.

Adults can face greater risks when it comes to extreme weather events and emergencies we now face, especially if they are living alone, are low-income, have a disability, or live in rural areas.

There are simple low-cost steps that can help older adults be better prepared:

- Know what **disasters** could affect your area, which could call for an evacuation, and when to **shelter** in place, and plan what you need to do in both cases.
- Keep a **NOAA Weather Radio** tuned to your local emergency station and monitor TV and radio for warnings about severe weather in your area.
- **Download the FEMA app** and get weather alerts from the National Weather Service for up to five different locations anywhere in the United States.

If you have any suggestions for articles or if you would like to publish an article, please reach out to me at k6jro@arrl.net.

73 de John, K6JRO



A Message from Club President Mark Price, N6ARP

Greetings to the Readout followers.

September is upon us and there are only three more meeting after this month before the end of the year. Club elections are not that far off. A nominating committee will be appointed to solicit member to run for the club offices. Now is the time as President John F Kennedy said, "Ask not what your club can do for you, but what can you do for your club." We are always look for people interested in bringing new energy and ideas to the club.

The officers and the board are always looking to make the club a destination for local Hams, both at our web site and our club meetings. If you have any idea that you feel would enhance our club, please talk to one of the officers or board members.

The next big event coming up October 18th-20th is Pacificon @ the San Ramon Marriott, San Ramon, CA <https://www.pacificon.org/>

Another reminder is that Tuesday 9/17 is our face-to-face meeting at the County Office of Emergency Services. The meeting begins at 7PM but, come early and meetup with other club members for some socializing. Lastly, thanks again for being a supporting member of the Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association, and please point any Hams you know to our website <https://www.saraclub.net/> and encourage them to become a member.

Thanks

Mark – N6ARP

Minutes from the August face-to-face meeting

**Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association
P.O. Box 4601 Modesto, CA 95352**

www.saraclub.net

August 20, 2024

Club Meeting Minutes

(Meeting held at 3705 Oakdale Road Modesto, CA)

Attendance (via sign in sheet)

Robin, KG6ZYQ

Mark, N6ARP

Richard, W8AAL

Scott, KN6RKY

Robert, KD6BMY

Randy KF6RJS

Cheryl, KK6GJM

Ed, KF6FIR

Manuel, N6MTM

Elias (no call) Guest

Scott, KN6OOV

Richard, WE6V

Richard, W6DU

Jason, KA6TIO

Vicki, KJ6RCV

Scott, N6CIC

Lucian, KF6NPG

Robbie, KN6VOG

Brian, KN6QFF

Brent, KJ6MRG

Armando, WSEA790

Scott, WB3KJX

Kevin, KE6ZFY

Joel, KD6DTS

Adam, K6ALR

Paul, W6UHF

Craig, KN6TQX

John, W6PY

Write for *The Readout*:

If anyone has information that they want included in *The Readout* please submit to the editor
k6jro@arri.net.

Please try and have the information or articles to the editor by the 30th of each month.

Joining SARA:

We are taking membership applications for 2023. One-year dues are \$30.00 for individuals, or \$45.00 for a family. To join, fill out the registration form in this newsletter and bring it to any SARA meeting.

President Mark, N6ARP, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, welcomed everyone and asked Scott, KN6OOV, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 26 members and one guest present according to the sign-in sheet. Mark asked members and guests to introduce themselves.

Reading of Minutes: Secretary Scott Griffin, N6CIC, reported the Readout with the minutes that had been e-mailed out to the membership prior to the meeting. There were no changes or corrections. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Randy, KF6RJS, with a second by Richard, WE6V. The club approved the minutes unanimously.

President Mark, N6ARP, asked the club members if there are any issues they wished to ask. Please let us know if you have issues or questions.

Vice-President Scott Daniels, KN6OOV, noted that today's presentation will be by Lucian, KF6NPG, and next month the presentation will be by Paul, W6UHF on DStar .

Treasurer Scott Johnson, KN6RKY, read the current treasurer's report. A copy is attached to the minutes and will be included in the next Readout. Ed, KF6FIR, made a motion to accept the report. After a second by Brent, KJ6MRG, the club approved the treasurer's report.

Sergeant at Arms Herb, W9CMX, was not present.

Club Trustee Lucian, KF6NPG, reported he has received no equipment complaints, and the repeater system is working as it should. Mark, N6ARP, and I went to Mt. Oso on August 3, 2024, to install the bracket on top of the VHF antenna. I located a tower climber, Michael Froehike, and he did a great job of installing the bracket. His charge was \$500, and he indicated he would give us a discount for repeat work. He is interested in becoming a ham, and he brought along his father, who is a retired tower climber, and we showed both around the site.

The electric bill was \$88.34, which is close to last month's bill. We continue to evaluate how we can implement solar charging and are working on a plan. If we install an exhaust fan on the building, we hope to have it solar powered. A computer fan is on the repeater. Lucian plans to adjust the squelch tail on the 440 repeater.

A discussion ensued on better coverage of the Arden mesh system. Richard, WE6V, suggested adding a second mesh antenna so one could be pointed towards Oakdale, and the other towards Ceres/Turlock.

Board Members: Randy, KF6RJS, Jason, KA6TIO, and Richard, W8AAL, were present: Jason gave an update on the breakdown of the Field Day club score of 1830 total points. Randy, KF6RJS, gave an update on the weather-it is going to cool down and then get hot again.

ARES: Ed, KF6FIR, reported the next meeting will be on Saturday, September 7, from 9 AM to 1 PM. This will be a simulated emergency drill with testing of Winlink and other modes.

Community Events: Lucian, KF6NPG, reported the final event of the year will be the Walk for Alzheimer's, to be held on Sept. 14 at Graceada Park in Modesto.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Break:

There was a 15-minute break. The Split-the-Pot raffle raised \$105. Scott Warner, WB3KJX, was the lucky winner \$52 and he returned it to the club. Thank you, Scott!

Presentation: Lucian, KF6NPG, gave an excellent presentation on Winlink with demonstrations of its capability. Winlink is the Global Radio Email system. It is a messaging system that can work with the internet (Telnet), and independent of the internet. So, if the internet is down and cell towers are not functioning, it can still provide emergency messaging via radio-to-radio means. It is a system that uses both amateur radio frequencies and government radio frequencies.

The recommended client software is **Winlink Express** to create an account. Winlink Express supports a variety of modes such as Pactor, packet radio, VARA HF and FM, and others. What equipment is needed: a computer, a radio (HF, VHF, UHF), and a sound card interface. Lucian showed two soundcard interfaces that can be attached to a radio-Signalink USB and Digirig. A Packet TNC can also be used for packet mode. The Digirig is very small and handy to attach to an HT. A new Digirig with cables cost about \$100.

Winlink can be used to send a text message to a cell phone. Lucian demonstrated this by sending a text message to Paul, W6UHF. For those who would like to practice Winlink, you can send messages via the internet to Ed, KF6FIR, and he will answer you. For newcomers to Winlink, Lucian recommends the instructional videos by WaveTalkers.

Meeting Adjourned: Mark, N6ARP, adjourned the meeting at 8:24 PM. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 17, 2024 (7:00pm to 8:00pm) and will be a face-to-face meeting. The location is the Stanislaus County Office of Emergency Services, 3705 Oakdale Road, Modesto, CA.

Minutes by Scott, N6CIC, Club Secretary.

Weather report from Randy, KF6RJS

The following report was filed by SARA club weather officer Randy, KF6RJS. Data was collected from his home QTH in North Modesto:

I ended with 19 days over a 100 plus. The hottest that I had was on 7/7 and it was 108.0. I don't think that we will get anymore 100 days because the days are getting shorter. We might be getting rain the first part of the week. Rain Possible on Wednesday a 30% change of rain. Bring it on. I am ready for the cooler weather and the rain.

73
Randy Spindler, KF6RJS.
Weather Officer

Weather
Report,
Randy, KF6RJS

Treasure's
Report,
Scott, KN6RKY

Treasure report from the August meeting



STANISLAUS AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 4601, MODESTO, CA 95352-4601

www.saraclub.net

Treasury Report August 20, 2024

July 17, 2024

to

August 20, 2024

BEGINNING BALANCE: \$7,926.64

INCOME:

Membership Dues - (cash/check)	\$30.00	
Split-The-Pot	\$97.00	Brendon (NK6M)
Member Donations (cash/check)	\$20.00	anonymous
Square - Auto Deposit - Dues	\$86.49	(net of Square fees)
Square - Auto Deposit - Donations	\$121.07	(net of Square fees) K6JRO, K06ECF, W5EA790

TOTAL INCOME:	\$354.56	Square - Auto Deposit	\$207.56
		Deposit Tri-Counties Bank	\$147.00

EXPENSES:

Moeller Mt. Oso	\$80.00	(Ck #1166) - August 2024 Site Rent (7-31-24)
PG&E	\$88.34	(EFT) - Mt Oso Utilities (8-8-24)
Antenna Tower Climbing & Repairs	\$500.00	(Ck #1167 - Lucian Thomas (KF6NPG) reimbursement

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$668.34

**** Tri-Counties Bank**
Ending Bank Balance: \$7,612.86 as of **August 20, 2024**

Field Day Fund:	\$1,418.71	(included in ending bank balance)
Equipment Fund:	\$1,294.67	(included in ending bank balance)
General Fund:	\$4,899.48	(included in ending bank balance)

Treasurer  August 20, 2024

2024 Membership - 1 Honorary / 81 Paid Members

2025 Membership - 1 Honorary / 5 Paid Members

2026 Membership - 1 Honorary / 1 Paid Members

ARES

Ed, KF6FIR
Emergency
Coordinator,
Stanislaus County

Stanislaus County ARES Report

Hello All,



Saturday September 7th, the ARES group perform a S.E.T. (Simulated Emergency Test). The leadership staff performed a "test" call out of the participating members in order to identify areas where the process may need improvement.

The group met for a briefing and later deployed to a nearby park to perform the drill. The drill allowed members to set up their portable packet station and send practice messages via WinLink. The drill went well, and we were able to identify a few areas where we can improve.

Our next ARES meeting will be October 12th and the agenda is Great Shakeout Review.

73

Ed Hanna, KF6FIR Emergency Coordinator, Stanislaus Co.



ARES® operates under the authority of the Stanislaus County Office of Emergency Services (OES), and the Stanislaus County Assistant Director for OES. ARES® is organized under the auspices of the American Radio Relay League, the San Joaquin Valley Section Manager, and the San Joaquin Valley Section District Emergency Coordinator. Operational control is under the Stanislaus County OES.

If you are interested in joining Stanislaus ARES, go to the Stanislaus ARES website (www.stanares.org) and click on the Join ARES tab. There is formation on how to join and the membership forms to complete are available there. Please check in on the ARES voice radio net very Wednesday at 7:30 pm on the 145.390 – pl. 136.5 S.A.R.A. repeater. There is also an unproto Packet radio net during the voice net on 144.910 via the SARA node. The monthly training meeting is at 10:00am on the first Saturday of the month at 3705 Oakdale Road Modesto, CA. Meeting dates and times can change due to operational needs. Please check the web site for updates.



Ham Cram

John, K6JRO Ham
Cram coordinator

Ham Cram Information

Due to low enrollment, the ARES organization will no longer be offering ham crams. Instead, we will offer material and guidance to anyone who wants to earn or upgrade their license. Information is available on the [ARES webpage](#). Testing will be offered before the SARA club meeting at 6:00pm on the third Tuesday of the month.

If you have any questions, please email John Otte, K6JRO at k6jro@arrl.net.

ARRL EC-001 Emergency Communications Course

Update

The ARRL Emergency Communications Course (EC-001) has been recently updated. However, if you have already passed EC001 then you do not need to take these updated classes.

Below is the web site to study for the ARRL Introduction to Emergency Communications Course challenge examination (EC-001):

<https://learn.arrl.org/courses?pathPage=%2Farrl%2Fcourses%2F67044>

Once you complete this on-line study you can arrange with Stanislaus ARES to take the ARRL test. We generally give the test at a ham cram session or before or after the monthly ARES meeting. Please e-mail Lucian, KF6NPG at kf6npg@aol.com or John, K6JRO at k6jro@arrl.net to arrange to take the test. **There is a \$15.00 test administration fee payable to ARRL.**

You can also access the updated ARRL EC-001 course at the ARRL website. Go to www.arrl.org. Once there click on the licensing, education and training tab. Then click on the online course catalog tab and



look for the EC-001 course. It states that it takes about 45 hours to complete the course over 9 weeks. Once you complete the ARRL course you can take the exam online. From what I can see there is no charge to take the course or exam. You must take the course before you can take the exam.

You cannot take the challenge exam online.

Swap Shop: Ham Radio related equipment for sale

Kenwood TS-590S 160-6-meter coverage all mode transceiver. This is a clean radio owned by Bill, AE6J. The radio is stateside in possession of Jason, KA6TIO who is Bill's sales proxy for this radio.

General features include:

(From Kenwood website)

- Best dynamic range in its class versus off-frequency interference
- 500 Hz / 2.7 kHz Roofing Filters
- 32-bit floating point DSP
- 100 W heavy-duty design
- Built-in automatic antenna tuner (6 ~ 160 meters)
- USB & Serial DB-9 ports for PC connectivity
- KENWOOD ARCP-590 Control Software
- KENWOOD ARHP-590 Radio Host Program for VOIP
- CW Auto Tune
- Beat Cancel

Display color can be changed between amber and green.

Comes with MC 60A desk microphone, power cord, manuals, schematics and packed in original box.

These particular radios command prices in excess of \$1000, plus shipping on eBay. Bill is asking \$900 cash. He's offering a special price for SARA Club members of \$700.

If you are interested, or would like more info, please contact Jason KA6TIO either at a SARA Club meeting or at ka6tio@gmail.com.



Featured Article: Did Lucille Ball Use Her Fillings to Spy?

By Alison Cooper

Lucille Ball is one of the few true Hollywood legends. Emmy-winning comedic actress, creator and star of a groundbreaking TV comedy, first female head of a major TV studio — the list goes on. She was also known for her shrewd business sense and straight-shooting honesty. But there's one weird blip in Ball's life story, and it has morphed into another sort of legend — the urban kind. If it's true, it's just a strange but charming story about an actress who made an inadvertent discovery. If it isn't true, we might have to rethink our assumptions about Lucille Ball — at least the "straight-shooting honesty" part.

Here's the story: One evening in 1942 (in the thick of World War II), Ball was driving home from a day of movie filming when she suddenly heard music — and then realized the sounds weren't emanating from the car radio but from her mouth. The next day, Buster Keaton told her that her new lead dental fillings had probably been broadcasting a radio station. A week later, also on the commute home, her mouth started emitting Morse code. This time she alerted the authorities, and the FBI eventually busted a Japanese gardener who was operating a spy ring out of a tool shed.

Sounds like the ultimate urban legend, right? But this isn't a baseless rumor started by an anonymous gossipmonger. The source is Ball herself — she told the story on "The Dick Cavett Show" in 1974 and to at least two biographers. The tale has morphed over the years (at no time, for example, did Ball ever claim she actually used her fillings to spy), but the basics remain the same, and Ball always stood by them.

The problem is, the entire tale is pretty much unverifiable — other than Ball's accounts, there seems to be no record of the case. The generally reliable Snopes.com pronounced its status "undetermined." The TV show "MythBusters" used several angles to investigate the story in 2003 and couldn't confirm any of Ball's claims. The hosts had no luck with their experiments involving vintage radio equipment and human skulls fitted with fillings. They concluded that the combination of the metals and Ball's saliva caused a galvanic reaction, which created a current in her mouth that could have resembled Morse code. The real kicker, though, was the revelation that Ball's FBI file does not mention the case.



So why would Ball have invented such a story? No one has the answer to that, either. At the height of the Communist scare in the '50s, she was briefly investigated by the House Un-American Activities Committee, so some think she might have created the fillings story to seem more patriotic. But that's a pretty big stretch; there are so many easier, non-crazy ways to broadcast that message. In the

end, only Lucy knows ... and maybe that's just how it's supposed to be.

Community Events

Community Events:

September

Saturday 7th ARES Meeting 9a-1p (Simulated Emergency Drill)
Saturday 14th Walk to End Alzheimer's
Tuesday 17th SARA Meeting 7p-8p

October

Saturday 12th ARES Meeting 10-12p
Friday-Sunday (18-20) Pacificon San Ramon Marriot
Tuesday 15th SARA Meeting 7p-8p

November

Saturday 9th ARES Meeting 10a-12p
Tuesday 19th SARA Meeting 7p-8p

December

Saturday 14th ARES meeting 10a-12p
Tuesday 17th SARA meeting 7p-8p



Local Nets

Local Nets:



S.A.R.A. operates several repeaters.

These are located on Mt. Oso in Patterson, CA:

145.390 – pl 136.5
224.140 – pl 136.5
440.225 +pl 136.5
51.800 – pl 136.5

- Digital node 144.910, digipeater name "SARA".
- 145.110 – pl 136.5 is a low-level repeater located in Modesto, CA.

All SARA nets meet on the 145.390 – pl 136.5 repeater except where noted. SARA Club net is every Tuesday (except the 3rd Tuesday) at 7:30pm.

The morning traffic and information net meets Monday through Friday from 7:00am to about 8:00am.

The Geezer net (It is not about age; it is all about attitude) meets each weekday morning 9:00am to 9:30am.

The Ladies Chit Chat net every Monday at 8:00pm for YL's.

The All-Modes Net meets on the first Thursday of the month at 7PM. This net covers all aspects of Amateur Radio. All licensed amateurs are invited to check

Officers and Board Member

in and share their radio activities or other ham related items. Questions can be directed to Zack- KI6KQO, at email ZSP1919@icloud.com.

The Stanislaus County ARES net meets every Wednesday at 7:30pm. The Space net meets every Friday at 8:00pm

S.A.R.A. meets the Third Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm at 3705 Oakdale Road Modesto, CA 95357. The club website is www.saraclub.net .

The Stanislaus County ARES generally meets the First Saturday of the month at 10:00am at 3705 Oakdale Road Modesto, CA 95357. Meetings can be changed due to training requirements please check the web site for current information. The web site is www.stanares.org.

Turlock Amateur Radio Club (W6BXN) weekly club net meets every Tuesday (except the 2nd Tuesday) at 7:00pm on 147.030 + pl 100 or 447.700 + pl 94.8.

TARC meets the second Tuesday at 7:00pm at the Salvation Army 893 Lander, Turlock, CA.

Merced ARES has a weekly net on Mondays at 7:00pm on the TARC repeaters. They have a monthly meeting the third Wednesday at 6:00pm at The Pizza Factory 3146 G Street #147 Merced, CA 95340.

San Joaquin Valley Section ARES Net every Sunday at 7:00 pm on the TARC repeaters.

TARC web site is www.w6bxn.org and Merced ARES is www.mercedares.org .

2024 SARA Club Officers and Board Members

Officers:

President: Mark Price, N6ARP	mark99price@gmail.com
Vice President: Scott Daniels, KN6OOV	kn6oov@arrl.net
Secretary: Scott Griffin, N6CIC	scottandalene@msn.com
Treasurer: Scott Johnson, KN6RKY	sliefjohnson@gmail.com
Sergeant at Arms: Herb Fullerton, W9CMX	herb2114@icloud.com

Board Members:

Jason Peitz, KA6TIO	ka6tio@gmail.com
Richard Aal, W8AAL	dick_aal@comcast.net
Bobby Hale, KN6SDD	kn6sdd92@gmail.com
Randy Spindler, KF6RJS (past president),	kf6rjs@yahoo.com



Club Trustee: Lucian Thomas, KF6NPG kf6npg@aol.com

Committees/Workgroups:

Club Technician: Patrick Dunbar, KG6AZZ	patd@kg6azz.net
Readout Editor: John Otte, K6JRO	k6jro@arrl.net
Community Events: Lucian Thomas, KF6NPG	kf6npg@aol.com

Stanislaus County ARES:

Emergency Coordinator: Ed Hanna, KF6FIR ed@kf6fir.net

***Nominations are held every November with elections in December**



Local Area Frequencies

Name	Frequency	Off set	Tx Tone	Description
VHF Call	146.520	none	none	VHF Simplex
VHF Local	147.540	none	none	Local VHF Simplex
SARA Hi	145.390	- (negative)	136.5	SARA VHF Mt. Oso
SARA Lo	145.110	- (negative)	136.5	SARA VHF Downtown Modesto
MMC	146.355	+ (positive)	156.7	Memorial Hospital Modesto
TARC	147.030	+ (positive)	100.0	Turlock Amateur Radio Club Mt. Bullion
TARC	147.000	+ (positive)	100.0	Turlock Amateur Radio Club Turtle Dome Yosemite National Park
CARS	145.170	- (negative)	100.0	Calaveras Amateur Radio Society Fowler Peak
Stockton	147.165	+ (positive)	107.2	Stockton Delta ARC Sierra Nevada Mountains
Lodi	147.090	+ (positive)	114.8	Lodi Amateur Radio Club
Manteca	146.985	- (negative)	100.0	Manteca Amateur Radio Club Manteca Water Tower
TCARES	145.290	- (negative)	100.0	Tuolumne County Amateur Radio and Electronics Society Moccasin
UHF Call	446.000	No offset	No tone	UHF simplex
SARA	440.225	+ (positive)	136.5	SARA UHF Mt. Oso
TARC	444.700	+ (positive)	94.8	Turlock Amateur Radio Club Mt. Bullion
TARC	440.300	+ (positive)	94.8	Turlock Amateur Radio Club Kings Canyon Sequoia
CARS	441.0375	+ (positive)	151.4	Calaveras Amateur Radio Society Bear Valley (Mt. Reba)
CARS	441.875	+ (positive)	100.0	CARS Summit level Arnold linked to 145.170
Stockton	442.250	+ (positive)	107.2	Stockton Delta ARC Sierra Nevada Mountains
SARA	224.140	- (negative)	136.5	SARA 220 Mt. Oso
TARC	224.960	- (negative)	156.7	Turlock Amateur Radio Club 220 Mt. Bullion

As of January 27, 2023

CARS vhf frequency corrected, and Lodi added January 27, 2023

For further information please refer to each radio club's web site:

SARA www.saraclub.net

TARC www.w6bxn.org

CARS www.calaverasars.org

Stockton www.w6sf.org

Manteca www.facebook.com/groups/k6man

TCARES www.tcares.net

Lodi www.lodiarc.net

STANISLAUS AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION (SARA) MEMBERSHIP FORM



Check One: New Member ___ Renewing Member ___ Family Membership ___

NAME: _____ CALLSIGN: _____

ARRL Member:(Yes) (No)

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____

ZIP: _____ PHONE: Home _____ Cell: _____

E-Mail: _____

ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBERS AT SAME ADDRESS:

NAME: _____ CALL SIGN: _____ ARRL: (Yes) (No)

e-mail _____

NAME: _____ CALL SIGN: _____ ARRL: (Yes) (No)

e-mail _____

NAME: _____ CALL SIGN: _____ ARRL: (Yes) (No)

e-mail _____

NAME: _____ CALL SIGN: _____ ARRL: (Yes) (No)

e-mail _____

TOTAL DUES PAID: _____ Date: _____

One-year membership dues are \$30.00 (if paid by cash, check, or money order). Family Dues are \$45 and is the same for all methods of payment.

Note: Bring membership form to SARA Meeting or Mail to: SARA Club, P.O. Box 4601, Modesto, CA 95352-4601

April 3, 2021

