

### January 2025

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Volume 46, Number 1

### A Message from Club President John Otte, K6JRO

Welcome to another edition of The Readout and to 2025!

As I pen this column, I opened my SiriusXM app to listen to Hair Nation on channel 39. The song was "Wind of Change" by the Scorpions a German rock band. This song appeared on their 1990 album (yes, I still use this phrase!) *Crazy World* and was released worldwide in January 1991. It became an instant hit because it describes the impending change the world was experiencing after the fall of the Soviet Union.

Now, I share this with you because the month of January always seems to represent change. While not as dramatic as the fall of the USSR it does underscore the change a new year brings.

So, where are you in this time of change? Take some time and reflect on this and I hope you find time to spend with Amateur Radio. Have you been busy and had to neglect this hobby we love? I know I have. It seems, at least for me, my year ebbs and flows with Ham Radio. So, I think it's time for a change.

If you have not paid your dues for 2025, please consider doing so soon. Your member dues go to upkeep of equipment and much needed projects.

Be active on the nets-there are a lot on our club repeater.

Are you looking to upgrade your license? Let us know because we can help with that!

Ever been to a Hamfest? There are several throughout the year with our local one occurring in October.

Are you new to Ham Radio and everything seem overwhelming, and you don't know how to get on the radio? Let us know! We can help with that too. We can help with equipment and provide expert advice. Let's make 2025 the best year for our club!

73 de K6JRO John Otte SARA Club President

Next General Meeting: Face-to-face: Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> 7:00pm

### Minutes:

DEC face-to-face meeting

# Minutes from the December face-to-face meeting

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

www.saraclub.net December 17, 2024 Club Meeting Minutes

(Meeting held at 3705 Oakdale Road Modesto, CA)

Attendance (via sign in sheet)Robin, KG6ZYQScott, KN6OOVRichard, W8AALPatty, W6PV

Paul, W6UHF Scott, KN6RKY Robert, KD6BMY Scott, N6CIC Lucian, KF6NPG James, KK6ILV John, W6PY Gene, W6QFU Patty, W6PV Richard, W6DU John, K6JRO Brendon, NK6M Brian, KN6QFF Eva, KM6BIP Roy, KK6OQP Jason, KA6TIO Art, KN6SSP Vicki, KJ6RCV Manuel, N6MTM Robbie, KN6VOG Cheryl, KK6GJM Ed, KF6FIR Jene, KI6DC Scott, N6SVA Randy, KF6RJS Anita, (Guest) Elias (Guest) Barbara (Guest)

**Vice-President Scott Daniels, KN6OOV,** called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, welcomed everyone and led the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 28 members, and three guests present according to the sign-in sheet. Scott 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. Randy, KF6RJS, reported he did not receive the Readout. Scott, N6CIC, will resend to Randy. There were no changes or corrections. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Dick, W8AAL, with a second by Art, KN6SSP. The club approved the minutes unanimously.

**Vice-President Scott, KN6OOV,** noted there will be no SARA Club Tuesday night net for two weeks, with the next net on Jan. 7, 2025.

**Treasurer Scott Johnson, KNGRKY,** read the current treasurer's report. A copy is attached to the minutes and will be included in the next Readout. Randy, KF6RJS, made a motion to accept the report, with a second by Lucian, KF6NPG. The club approved the treasurer's report. Scott noted that the split-the-pot funds will go 50% to the equipment fund and 50% to the general fund in 2025. He is accepting dues payments for 2025.

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, except for the 6-meter repeater. I received a report that it had not been working "for some time." It would be most helpful to let me know ASAP if something is not working so it can be corrected on the next visit to Mt. Oso. With the weather we may not be able to make it to Mt. Oso for the next couple of months.

### Write for *The Readout*:

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

Please try and have the information or articles to the editor by the 30<sup>th</sup> of each month. **Joining SARA:** We are taking membership applications for 2025

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. The electric bill at \$84.78 was up a little over last month, but the use was up over the last month, so the cost was consistent. Mark, N6ARP, found information that PG&E could be implementing another cost increase of \$8.00 per month. However, some older temporary rate increases are due to expire, so we will wait to see what happens. Our power usage has stabilized in the \$70 to \$80 range.

**Board Member: Jason, KA6TIO, Dick, W8AAL, and Randy, KF6RJS, were present:** Jason reported he and Vicky, KJ6RCV, will continue to head the Field Day committee. That is exceptionally good news. Randy gave a weather report-rain is expected over the weekend.

**ARES EC Ed, KF6FIR:** reported there will be no ARES nets on Christmas Day or New Years Day. The next meeting will be on Saturday, Jan. 11. ARES has adopted the ARRL Task Book.

**Community Events**: Lucian, KF6NPG, reported on the first two events for next year:

- Saturday, March 1, Snelling Road Race
- Saturday, March 29, Copperopolis Road Race

Wally, KK6CPN, will be coordinating community events next year.

**Old Business: Vice-President Scott, KN6OOV,** turned the meeting over to John, K6JRO for the nominating committee. The following are the nominations for officers and board members:

- President, John, K6JRO
- Vice-President, Brian, KN6QFF
- Secretary, Scott, N6CIC
- Treasurer, Scott, KN6RKY
- Sergeant-at-Arms, Robin, KG6ZYQ
- Board member, Cheryl, KK6GJM
- Board member, Scott, KN6OOV
- Board member, Dick, W8AAL
- Board member, Mark, N6ARP (past president)

There were no further nominations. Lucian, KF6NPG, made a motion to accept the slate of officers and board members as presented. The motion was seconded by John, W6PY. The club members unanimously approved the motion.

#### New Business: None

#### **Break:**

There was a 15-minute break. The Split-the-Pot raffle raised \$120. Paul, W6UHF, was the lucky winner and he returned his half to the club. Thank you, Paul!

**Presentation: Scott, KN6OOV,** gave an interesting presentation on fuses. He brought some fuse holders from O'Reilly and showed slides of a variety of fuses from small fuses for ham equipment to huge fuses used in commercial installations. He also showed data from *Littlefuse* on the time delay before a fuse blows depending on the current and the rating. The blade auto fuses are color coded based on their current rating. **Meeting Adjourned**: Scott, KN6OOV, adjourned the meeting at 8:06 PM after a motion by John, K6JRO, and a second by Jason, KA6TIO. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 21, 2025 (7:00 pm to 8:00 pm) 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.

### Treasure's Report, Scott, KN6RKY

### Treasure report from the December meeting

	w	TEUR RADIO A , MODESTO, CA ww.saraclub.net eport December to	95352-4601	)24
BEGINNING BALANCE:	\$8,645.41			
INCOME: Membership Dues - (cash/check) Split-The-Pot Member Donations (cash/check) Square - Auto Deposit - Dues Square - Auto Deposit - Donations	\$110.00 an \$129.88 (n \$0.00 (n	hn (W6PY) donated his nonymous, KD6BNY et of Square fees) et of Square fees) uare - Auto Deposit		29.88
TOTAL INCOME.		uare - Auto Deposit Deposit Tri-Counties Ba		78.00
EXPENSES: Moeller Mt. Oso PG&E		k #1171) - December Si =T) - Mt Oso Utilities (1		
TOTAL EXPENSES:	<b>\$164.78</b>			
** Tri-Counties Bank				
Ending Bank Balance:	<mark>\$8,988.51</mark>	as of	December 17, 2	024
Field Day Fund: Equipment Fund:		ncluded in ending b ncluded in ending b		
General Fund:	<b>\$4,773.13</b> (ir	ncluded in ending b	ank balance)	
Treasurer:	more	December 17, 2024	4	
2024 Membership - 1 Honorary / 85 Paid Membe	<u>rs</u>			
2025 Membership - 1 Honorary / 23 Paid Membe				
2026 Membership - 1 Honorary / 3 Paid Members	5			

Member Paid Donations (for goods /services)

### Weather Report,

Randy, KF6RJS

### 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:

It is very dry out. The last time we had rain was on January  $3^{rd}$  we had 0.12 inches. The year rain so far is 3.83 and nothing since then. No rain in sight from January 19th - 26th of this mouth. This mouth will be the dryest January. We have 13 more days of this mouth. The weather from now to the 26th. 50's to 60's for high and 30's to 40's for lows. Clear to partly cloudy skies. Pray for the people in L.A. and pray for rain. Hope we will get some soon.

73 Randy Spindler, KF6RJS. Weather Officer

### ARES

Ed, KF6FIR Emergency Coordinator, Stanislaus County

### Stanislaus County ARES Report

Hello All,



I hope everyone had a great and safe holiday. I would like to thank all the volunteers in the ARES group for their support and willingness to stay prepared. As you know the ARES group from the member up to the Section Manager are all volunteers. They commit to time, equipment and training in order to stay prepared

in case of a call out. I appreciate all the hard work and time you give.

### 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 second 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.

### Swap Shop

### Swap Shop: Ham Radio related equipment for sale

No items for this month.

### Featured Article

## Featured Article: Having Fun with Amateur Radio and Serving Your Community

By Lucian Thomas, KF6NPG

Have you ever wondered about the purpose of the amateur radio hobby? Why are so many people interested in the hobby? Why does the government allow this valuable radio spectrum to be retained for amateur radio use? Let us look at Part 97 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This regulates the amateur radio service.

### **Excerpt Part 97 Rules of the Amateur Radio Service CFR Title 47: Telecommunication** Subpart A—General Provisions §97.1 Basis and purpose. Updated January 16, 2024

The rules and regulations in this part are designed to provide an amateur radio service having a fundamental purpose as expressed in the following principles:

(a) Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications (emphasis added).

(b) Continuation and extension of the amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art.

(c) Encouragement and improvement of the amateur service through rules which provide for advancing skills in both the communication and technical phases of the art.

(d) Expansion of the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts.

(e) Continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international goodwill.

The amateur radio hobby can be a lot of fun. You can meet others who have an interest in the hobby by joining a club like SARA (Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association) and an emergency communications group such as Stanislaus County ARES. This will help you to learn more about the hobby and meet some fellow hams, who no doubt will share many of the same interests that you have, and they can be a great resource as you learn and participate more in the exciting hobby of amateur radio.

There are many aspects of the hobby to explore. You can learn morse code (CW), participate in contests such as the California QSO party where you try to make as many contacts as possible in California that you can. There are also multistate and international contests in which you can participate. As you work the HF bands you never know when may make that far off DX contact and have a chance to promote international good will. And finally, there is the ever-popular ARRL (American Radio Relay League) Field Day held very June. Another event that is gaining popularity is the Winter Field Day in January. This is the tip of the iceberg for the many amateur radio activities in which you could participate. For more information check the ARRL web site at www.arrl.org . All of this will help you to follow the principles of the amateur radio service.

As you can see, the very first principle speaks to the use of amateur radio as a means of community service, especially in times of an emergency. Please

consider participating in one of the club's upcoming events, the Snelling Road Race, Copperopolis Road Race, Regalado Road Race, or the Walk to End Alzheimer's. Your participation in these events is a terrific way to show how amateur radio can be a resource for the community. It also helps to recruit new members to join amateur radio. If you have never worked at an event and are a little apprehensive, do not worry.



You can be assigned to work with someone to learn the ropes. Wally, KK6CPN has taken over as the coordinator for community/service events. Step up and support Wally as he asks for volunteers to help with these events. Also, you can put your amateur radio knowledge to use by joining Stanislaus ARES. There you will receive additional training in emergency communications that will prepare you to be a resource for your community in times of need. If you are interested in joining Stanislaus ARES talk to Ed,

KF6FIR, the Emergency Coordinator or Wally KK6CPN, the Assistant Emergency Coordinator for this group. You can also check out the ARES web site at www.stanares.org and the SARA club website at www.saraclub.net for additional

information.

Participating in a community or public service event is not difficult. You will have fun and will be serving the community in the true spirit of amateur radio.





2024 Copperopolis Road Race



2024 Snelling Road Race



2024 Alzheimer's Walk



2024 Alzheimer's Walk

### Community Events

### **Community Events:**

#### January

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> ARES Meeting 10a-12p Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> SARA meeting 7p-8p Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> Winter Field Day www.winterfieldday.com

#### February

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> ARES Meeting 10a-12p Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> Sara Meeting 7p-8p

#### March

Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> Snelling Road Race 7a-3p (depending on assignment) Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> ARES Meeting 10a-12p. Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> SARA Meeting 7p-8p Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> Copperopolis Road Race 7a-3p (depending on assignment)

#### April

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> ARES Meeting 10a-12pm. Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> SARA Meeting 7p-8p

#### May

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> ARES Meeting 10a-12p Tuesday 20<sup>st</sup> SARA Meeting 7p-8p

#### June

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> ARES Meeting 10a-12p Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> SARA Meeting 7p-8p Friday through Sunday (28<sup>th -</sup> 29<sup>th</sup>) Field Day www.arrl.org/field-day

#### July

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> ARES Meeting 10a-12p Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> SARA Meeting 7p-8p

#### August

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> ARES Meeting 10a-12p Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> SARA Meeting 7p-8p

#### September

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> ARES Meeting 10a-12p Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> SARA Meeting 7p-8p

### October

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> ARES Meeting 10-12p Friday-Sunday (17-19) Pacificon San Ramon Marriot Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> SARA Meeting 7p-8p

#### November

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> ARES Meeting 10a-12p Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> SARA Meeting 7p-8p

#### December

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> ARES meeting 10a-12p Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

### Officers and Board Member

### 2025 SARA Club Officers and Board Members Officers:

President John Otte, K6JRO Vice President: Brian Esser, KN6QFF Secretary Scott Griffin, N6CIC Treasurer Scott Johnson, KN6RKY Sergeant at Arms Robin Axton, KG6ZYQ axtonr@hotmail.com

jrottejr@yahoo.com sixtyeight426@gmail.com scottandalene@msn.com sliefjohnson@gmail.com

### **Board Members:**

Richard Aal, W8AAL Cheryl Niles, KK6GJM Scott Daniels, KN600V Mark Price, N6ARP (past president)

dick aal@comcast.net kk6qjm@samobil.net kn6oov@arrl.net n6arp@arrl.net

kf6npg@aol.com

**Club Trustee:** Lucian Thomas, KF6NPG

#### **Committees/Workgroups:**

Club Technician: Patrick Dunbar, KG6AZZ Readout Editor: John Otte, K6JRO Community Events: Lucian Thomas, KF6NPG Stanislaus County ARES:

patd@kq6azz.net k6jro@arrl.net kf6npg@aol.com

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







ANZIS	NOI		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	<ul> <li>(negative)</li> </ul>	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 On	e: New Member ]	Renewing Member Family Membership	-
NAME:	ember:(Yes) (No)		
		CITY:	
ZIP:	PHONE: Home_	Cell:	
E-Mail: ADDITIC	DNAL FAMILY MEM	IBERS AT SAME ADDRESS:	
NAME:		CALL SIGN:A	ARRL: (Yes) (No)
e-1	mail		
NAME: _		CALL SIGN:A	ARRL: (Yes) (No)
e-1	mail		
NAME:		CALL SIGN:	ARRL: (Yes) (No)
e-1	mail		
NAME: _		CALL SIGN:A	ARRL: (Yes) (No)
e-1	mail		

TOTAL DUES PAID: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Dete: \_\_\_\_\_ 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

