

Saratoga Amateur Radio Association

146.655 Mhz, -, 114.8 Hz

assisting the City of Saratoga
affiliated with the Amateur Radio Relay League
part of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service
and the Silicon Valley Emergency Communication System



Minutes of Meeting of
September 3, 2008

Location: Saratoga Fire Department

The minutes were respectfully submitted by Don Steinbach, Secretary.

Attendees:

- Ray Rogoway, W6RAR
- Fabrizio Corno, KG6UOH
- Jim Yoke, KI6HKZ
- John Glass, NU6P
- Kelly Johnson, N6KJ
- Don Steinbach, AE6PM
- Bill Parsons, AF6AE (Guest from Los Gatos)
- Mark Bohrer, KI6KQD
- David Ritchie, W6DR
- Tom Carney, K6EU (Guest Speaker)

The meeting, having been duly noticed, began at approximately 7:40 p.m. and was called to order by Kelly Johnson, President. There were introductions around the table.

Old Business:

- It was reported at the May meeting that Downey Savings has informed us that they will begin charging a fee for us to have a checking account with them. That account has been closed and a new no-fee checking account opened at Wells Fargo Bank in Saratoga.

New Business:

- John Glass reminded the group that we have been patrolling the schools on Halloween evening for the past 15 or so years. He volunteered to act as net control if we decide to do it again this year. The general consensus was that we would support the Sheriff in that role again this year.
- Ray Rogoway will take care of the Sunday night 2M net for the rest of the year. It was discussed that Sunday night is not a good time because most people forget since it's the weekend. The possibility of moving it to Monday at 8:30 or 9:30 (but not 9:00) was addressed with no final resolution.

Treasurer's Report.

- The License Manuals purchased for the class cost less than anticipated. The membership voted to reimburse the students for the excess at the last meeting. The refunds will total \$128. Don Steinbach will provide a list to Fabrizio.

Secretary's Report.

- The June minutes have been posted on the website.
 - The minutes were approved.

Emergency Coordinator Report.

- Rob Vance and Don Steinbach replaced the 220 MHz magnetic mount antenna at the Saratoga corporate yard with a J-pole this morning. It's hoped this will eliminate some multipath problems.

Emergency Services Report.

- Jim Yoke pointed out that the county ARES/RACES website is a good resource.

EOC Support.

- Don Steinbach checked into the EOC-to-EOC net this morning. Saratoga was heard "loud and clear."

Program.

- Tom Carney, K6EU, made a presentation on VHF contesting.
 - There are four scheduled contests and four-hour Spring and Fall sprints.
 - The line between grid squares CM97 and CM87 is about one block West of Lawrence Expressway/Quito Road.
 - Most QSOs are on SSB.
 - Avoid 50.100 to 50.125 for US QSOs. The calling frequency is 50.125.
 - 144.200 is the most active frequency here.
 - The most-used FM frequencies are 146.55 and 147.54. Cannot use 146.52 or repeaters for contest activity.
 - SSB on 222.100. FM on 223.500.
 - SSB on 432.100. FM on 446.00.
 - See the N6NV website for information on Rovers.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.