

# 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  
January 7, 2009

Location: Saratoga Fire Department

The minutes were respectfully submitted by Christina Capurro Sand, Acting Secretary.

## **Attendees:**

- Fabrizio Corno, KG6UOH
- Don Steinbach, AE6PM
- Christina Sand, WO1NDR
- Rob Vance, N6ROB
- Ray Rogoway, W6RAR
- Evan Piercey, KI6UWN (Guest)
- George Williams, N6NKT (Guest Speaker)
- David Ritchie, W6DR
- Jim Yoke, KI6HKZ
- Mark Bohrer, KI6KQD
- Jim Hwong, KI6UQY (Guest)
- John Mearns, KI6GSR (Guest)

The meeting, having been duly noticed, began at 7:43 p.m. and was called to order by Donald Steinbach, Secretary. There were introductions around the room.

## **Old Business:**

### **IRS Tax Exemption Application Status**

- Christina, WO1NDR, reported that the IRS has a backlog and is currently assigning applications received in July. It will be a few more months before SARA's application is assigned to an IRS agent.

### **February 21, 2009 Amateur Radio Technician Class and Exam**

- Christina reported that the room has been reserved at the Silicon Valley Red Cross chapter.
- Christina reported that the flyer has been distributed to the San Jose RACES, American Red Cross DAT, SARA and Saratoga CERT groups.
- Don reported that the VEC group has been reserved.
- Don reported that the flyer has also been distributed to the Milpitas amateur radio club.
- Teachers need to be assigned per Yin's meticulously prepared schedule.

## **New Business:**

### **Treasurer's Report.**

- The current bank balance was given by Fabrizio.
- Refund checks for the Technician license class have been written and signed, and all but two mailed.
- The members unanimously approved a reimbursement to Dick Crouch, N6RC, in the amount of \$32.48 for the cost of renting the GOTA tent for Field Day 2008. A copy of the invoice was given to Fabrizio.
- The members unanimously approved a reimbursement to Christina Sand, WO1NDR, in the amount of \$20.00 for part of the cost of renewing SARA's k6sa.net and k6sa.org domain names. Christina indicated that the balance of the cost will be a donation to SARA. A copy of the invoice was given to Fabrizio.
- 2009 dues are due. Fabrizio collected dues from the members for the 2009 calendar year.

- The members unanimously approved giving a free membership to Ray Froess and Betty Froess for the 2009 calendar year. Although neither Betty nor Ray took SARA's May 2008 training class and exam, both of them are new hams and were instrumental in helping with the GOTA station for Field Day 2008. It was felt that this would put them on a par with the other new hams who helped with the GOTA station and who also received free memberships.

**Secretary's Report.**

- The November and December 2008 minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

**Elections**

- The following officers were elected by unanimous vote:
  - Don Steinbach, AE6PM, President
  - Rob Vance, N6ROB, Vice-President
  - Yin Shih, N9YS, Treasurer
  - Ray Rogoway, W6RAR, Secretary
  - Dave Ritchie, W6DR, Director
  - John Glass, NU6P, Director
- Don Steinbach, President; Yin Shih, Treasurer; and Ray Rogoway, Secretary are unanimously authorized by the members to sign on the Wells Fargo Bank checking account on behalf of the Saratoga Amateur Radio Association.
- Keys for P.O. Box are currently held by Don and Fabrizio and will be transferred to Yin and Ray, the new secretary and treasurer.
- The next regular board meeting will be on January 21, 2009. Fabrizio Corno offered his home for the meeting.

**Emergency Coordinator Report.**

- Rob reported that the K6SA repeater suffered a blown capacitor in late December. Rob was congratulated for getting it fixed in just a few days.
- Christina reported that there are still interference issues on the K6SA repeater.
- Don Steinbach participated in the EOC to EOC Net this morning and Saratoga was heard loud and clear.
- The quarterly drill will happen on January 24, 2009. More information will be forthcoming.
- An Advanced Emergency Communications Training Class will be held on January 10, 2009, 9am-12pm at the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office.
- There is an EC Council Meeting on January 15, 2009.

**Emergency Services Report.**

- Jim reported that there will be a joint SARA/CERT exercise on March 21, 2009. Jim requested a team of amateur radio operators to help create the exercise scenario and frequency plan.
- Three American Red Cross training classes will be held on March 10 and 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Mass Care will be held on March 10, 2009; Shelter Operations and Shelter Simulation will be held on March 12, 2009. The trainings are geared for municipal and county employees and CERT volunteers.
- Jim reported that Ray Froess was awarded the Saratoga Volunteer of the Year award. Ray has been very active with both SARA and Saratoga CERT.

**Program.**

- George Williams, N6NKT, made his presentation on the American Red Cross DST/RCM (Disaster Services Technology/Radio Communications) function.
- George reported that there is a Red Cross Communications Yahoo! Group for anyone who is interested.

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