

# 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 Board of Directors Meeting of February 9, 2011

The Minutes were respectfully submitted by Yin Shih, N9YS, Secretary.

### ***Attendees:***

- Dave Ritchie, W6DR
- Yin Shih, N9YS
- Don Steinbach, AE6PM
- Rob Vance, N6ROB
- Dan Sturges, W6DIV

The meeting having been duly noticed began at 7:35 p.m. and was called to order by David Ritchie, President.

### ***Old Business***

***EOC HF Antenna.*** Don Steinbach reported that the mission is to provide HF path communications to Oakland and Sacramento (Regional and State EOCs). Need specification for antenna, need people to execute. Materials needed: 1) antenna stand (acquired), 2) antenna and coax (to be acquired). Yin will coordinate, will shoot for installation by summer.

***Field Day 2011.*** After discussion, consensus is to pursue 2A Field Day as in previous years. Will promote earlier, solicit food chair, GOTA chair, etc.

***Repeater Status.*** Rob Vance reported the status of VHF repeater at City Yard and UHF repeater at private site provided. No exceptional issues.

***Status of Emergency Response Plan for SARA.*** Rob Vance reported that we have received the Saratoga Emergency response plan (controlled circulation) from Jim Yoke. A new version should be out soon. We should start work on a SARA Emergency response plan that outlines activation guidelines, call-up process, current ARES/RACES/DSW roster, etc. Rob will update.

***Status of Website.*** Dave Ritchie reported that Christina has the 3 K6SA domains in her name and would like to transfer ownership of the domains to K6SA. SARA will designate the sara.k6sa@gmail.com email account as the holder. We need to transfer access info for the gmail account to annual slate of club officers, so these domains can be maintained as club assets.

***Status of Licensing/Training Classes.*** Don Steinbach reported that a CERT class has been scheduled for April, so he proposes to schedule a licensing class in May. Don has also reserved the fire station conference room for February 26 and March 5 to schedule “hands-on” training for newly licensed hams.

## *New Business*

***Improving the SARA Membership Experience.*** Dave Ritchie asked what SARA is doing to make the SARA experience more interesting to the membership. Dan Sturges commented that he enjoys operating activities with events/repeaters. Yin Shih observed that SARA has a number of different “niche” interests, CERT, emergency ops, operating events, Field Day, repeater activities, etc. Dave suggested that we could do more social activities, for example at an old club they visited a 688 attack sub in San Diego. Other examples: visiting Sutro Tower, Portola Valley tank museum. Rob Vance suggested that SARA visit county comm in past. Dave wondered how SARA might get families involved for picnic/BBQ type events. Yin asked whether raffles of interest to membership? The consensus was negative. Additional events were suggested: USS Pampanito, Stanford big dish, electrical power station, TRACON, TV broadcast station. It was proposed that these additional activities will be discussed at a general meeting to assess membership interest.

***Treasurer Report.*** Don Steinbach reported the bank account balance. All funds are available. We do expect more expenses for website, post office box, and HF antenna will be incurred.

***Meeting Process.*** Dave Ritchie asked whether our meetings are too structured and detailed currently? Will look to simplify and expedite business portion of meeting and emphasize talk/interchange.

Dan Sturges departed at 9:30 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM.