



## Minutes of Meeting of March 2, 2011 Saratoga Fire Department

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

### ***Attendees:***

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|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Yin Shih, N9YS           | • Rob Vance, N6ROB       |
| • John Glass, NU6P         | • Don Steinbach, AE6PM   |
| • Ray Froess, W6ZF         | • George Gadd, KG6PHK    |
| • Nancy Williamson, KJ6MNC | • John Lampe, KJ6JPS     |
| • Ron Keene, KJ6MNB        | • Sanjay Gidwani, N6VNB  |
| • Henry DeKruyff, KE6HOU   | • Axel Scheffler, KJ6EPH |
| • Herman DeKruyff, KI6ETZ  | • Dan Sturges, W6DIV     |
| • Fabrizio Cornu, KG6HOU   | • Gary Gordon, K6KV      |
| • Don North, AK6DN         | • Tony Loeb, AB6Q        |

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

### ***Old Business***

***HT Training Class.*** Don Steinbach reported a total of 21 attendees plus trainers (AE6PM, N9YS, N6ROB). There is also interest in licensing and training classes by other parties in the near future.

***EOC HF Antenna Project.*** Yin Shih summarized system requirements for the EOC antenna (NVIS 40/80M contact). There are conflicts with typical antenna design objectives as well as building/facility requirements/conditions. The fire district has constraints on rooftop mounting.

***Trail Run.*** Dan Sturges gave a summary of the Rancho Canada del Oro event on April 23 and communications requirements for event. There was also a preliminary discussion of the Almaden area event on May 7. Four SARA hams have signed up to participate. Dan is looking for two or more additional.

***Field Day 2011.*** Yin Shih gave a summary of the Field Day location and activities for new members. He requested volunteer for food chair.

## ***New Business***

***Minutes.*** The January minutes were approved.

***Treasurer's Report.*** Don Steinbach reported the bank account balance.

***SARA Net.*** Don Steinbach reported that we had 18 check-ins last Sunday night net.

***Speakers.*** John Glass reported that Jim Tiemstra K6JAT (Vice Director) will provide ARRL update and virtual ARRL HQ tour.

***EC Report.*** Rob Vance reported on NARCC's proposed move to reallocate simplex channels to D-Star use. This is highly controversial, as many are concerned about loss of tactical or fallback frequencies in Emcomm incidents.

***Program.*** HF Triband Yagi Triplexer (Gary Gordon, K6KV) – original idea arose due to a FD site that had limited antenna space but wanted more operational stations. Gary has created a design for a triplexer composed of custom 3-input port box combined with individual bandpass filters for 10/15/20M. High isolation between ports (demonstrated 55 dB down for a 1 watt 10M signal in another band) and low insertion loss (0.75 dB). Fears of destroying radios appear unfounded, large number of first users in 2010, after article appeared in QST, with great success (and enthusiasm).

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.