

Redwood Amateur Radio Club Meeting Minutes Tuesday January 24 at 1900

RARC MEETING JANUARY 24, 2017

The Redwood Amateur Radio Club meeting was called to order at 1910 in the new meeting location, the Fortuna Fire Department, 320 So. Fortuna Boulevard by President Lonnie Harvey, KJ6WDL, with 8 in attendance.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary's Report for the informal December were read.

TREASURER'S REPORT

There was no Treasurer's Report. Dan Martin, AG6JW will succeed Frank Cope, K6BMZ, as Treasurer. Thank you to Frank for his years of service!

OLD BUSINESS

January is dues month, \$30 for a family and \$25 for an individual. There are currently 8 paid members.

Equipment needs to be transferred from the old to the new trailer and the old trailer needs to be cleaned out and sold. The window from the old trailer could be moved to the new trailer. Lonnie will set a date for the work. Field Day, June 24-25, is the target to have the new trailer operational.

NEW BUSINESS

RARC received a donation from the estate of SK LB McCormack, K6TZN, a like-new HyGain Hy-tower 5-band vertical antenna.

The City of Fortuna wants insurance to use the former meeting place in Rohner Park so RARC will meet hereafter at the Fire department.

VE Testing in Fortuna for 2017 will be held at the Fire Department on the third Saturday of even numbered months at 1200.

Instructors may be needed for a Ham class in Petrolia.

The roll of coax that was in the trailer has been sold to the Humboldt Amateur Radio Club for \$0.50/foot.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Don Campbell, KE6HEC, Secretary

RARC Notes

RARC has a new meeting place – Fortuna Fire Department, 320 So. Fortuna Blvd. Come on down Tuesday night at 1900. Also, RARC is discussing changing the regular meeting night – currently the fourth Tuesday of the month. Please provide your input by replying to this email.

Southern Humboldt Amateur Radio Club Amateur Radio Instruction Class

Hi, Here is the info on the upcoming ham class. Class starts at 9am on March 11 at the Senior apartments conference room in Garberville. Those interested needs to download the study material called { Technician Ham Cram Study Guide} on the Internet. If you have problem downloading this material let me know. Jack Foster 923 3700 land line phone not working today due to storm damage.

The Southern Humboldt Amateur Radio Club is offering a class for the technician class license. There is no Morse code requirement for any ham license. It's fun, social educational and can be a lifeline during time of need. You can take your radio wherever you travel. Amateur Radio Service kept New York City agencies in touch with each other during the 911 tragedy. Ham radio also came into the rescue during Katrina and the Colorado floods in 2013. The class will be held on March 11 and 18 in Garberville. This license will allow operators to talk to local hams and throughout the county using ham repeaters. There is also a ham repeater that allows users to talk around the world. Anyone interested in this class or those that want more information on ham radio call Jack Foster at 923 3700.

Humboldt Amateur Radio Club Minutes of Meeting - February 7, 2017

Officers Present: Jim Armstrong **KW6JIM**, Pres. / Peter Esko **W6IES**, V.P / Dan Eaton **KB6DE**, Secretary / and Anthony Wiese **KG6LHW**, Events Planner and Librarian. Marcy Campbell **KE6IAU**, Treasurer and Jaye Inabnit **KE6SLS**, Newsletter Editor Pro Tem., was absent.

Jim called the meeting to order at 1902 PDT in the Eureka Municipal Auditorium (Muni) Meeting Room 401 11th St. Introductions were made and the log book was and passed. 19 members attended.

Health and Welfare: Jim Falls **K6FWT** is recovering. Jay is bouncing back from a bad case of the flu.

Secretary Report: No report.

Treasurer Report: No report. Jim reported we have received about \$400 from

sales of old traffic control boxes donated to the club by the City.

EMCOMM Report:

- a) Peter reminded us the EmComm Group would meet here on Thurs. 2-16 at 1900. The group will discuss meeting with local agencies that own FEMA funded ham band radio equipment. These units are sitting idle and we will need to schedule meetings to assess equipment readiness and make arrangements for Amateur Radio operators to have access in an emergency.
- b) There will be an EmComm exercise on Saturday Feb. 25 starting at 0900. Members will operate from their QTH. We will practice message handling. Primary Net Control: Peter and Don Campbell **KE6HEC** at the Muni 145.170 Eureka Repeater

Old Business:

Jim photos of EmComm trailers as examples of the type of rig we might acquire. Forest Shafer **KI6GRG** made a motion to buy a trailer for a maximum of \$3000 if the occasion arose, at the discretion of the board of directors (officers). Sherry Eaton **KK6MPY** seconded the motion. Discussion: Members proposed this be a used utility trailer. It should have a high ceiling (6'6"), one axel, and two rear doors and one side door. It should be a relatively light weight trailer so the majority of club member vehicles could tow it if needed with no special equipment such as an electric break controller. Surge brakes would be best. All said AYE.

New Business:

- a) Jim proposed plans for the club to install his spare hexbeam antenna on the Muni roof. The beam works at 6, 10, 12, 15, 17, and 20 meters. He will loan his wonderful directional antenna until the club builds one and will price out the parts and present the cost at the March meeting. The club needs to buy a large tripod and mast. Don C. provided a rotor and controller for the project and Dan will be giving them a test and refurbishment.
- b) Don C. reminded us his Technician training class begins on March 13 at 1900 at the Muni.
- c) Anthony put up a local map behind the radio desk indicating club member QTHs with call sign pins. Participation in this map project is voluntary.

Past Event Report:

- a) Don C. reported seven Hams provided communications at the Clam Beach Run. Forrest Schafer KI6GRG said there was one emergency traffic message; "LOMFDGB." In the clear this was, "little old man fell down go boom."
- b) Anthony and Howard Lang **KB6NN** activated Kneeland Airport on Feb. 4th. They used batteries for CW and phone on 20m and 40m. They scored 1500 points each.
- c) Jim, Steve Isherwood **KK6MPV**, Anthony and Howard and did some satellite work in the desert on the way back from Quartzfest in January. Too fun.
- d) Forest mentioned the county lost its "G" Garberville repeater capability for two days in January due to bad weather. A Sno-Cat was needed for the

repair crew to reach the site.

Future Events:

- a) HARC Meeting for March: Anthony plans to give us a presentation about his 2016 NPOTA adventures. Jim and Steve will tell us about the Jan. 2017 Hamfest in Quartzsite AZ.
- b) Peter is looking for Kinetic Sculpture Race volunteers now. The race will be May 27-29. Anthony presented examples of "swag" souvenirs he has collected while volunteering at Kinetic Sculpture races. He suggested our club Ham volunteer communicators could give out swag too, in gratitude for receiving swag. He showed off some pink pig Ham badges he and Arleta made. Very nice.
- c) Benjamin Adams **KK6SYJ** suggested we might want to put up a table at an Arts Alive event as public outreach for Ham Radio and our club. We qualify since HARC is a non-profit organization.

Break and Raffle: Great cookies and juice were brought by Don C. Raffle winners were: Gene Bass **K6PCS**, Forest, Greg Deja **AA6GD**, Sherry Eaton **KK6MPY**, and Anthony. Raffle Proceeds: \$43.

Presentation: Don Nelson **WA6NBG** shared a very interesting YouTube video; Railroad Signaling and Communication. Jim gave a live demonstration of WSPRnet beaconing using his little WSPRlite fractional watt beacon transmitter from SOTABEAMS.

Note to new or prospective Members: The club has an informal lunch every Thursday, 1130 at the Pantry Restaurant on Broadway in Eureka (next to the Motel 6). All are welcome.

Jim adjourned the meeting at 2110 PDT.
Minutes submitted by Dan Eaton **KB6DE**

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Jaye Inabnit ke6sls, ke6sls@arrl.net

For more information, please visit our website <http://www.humboldt-arc.org>
or write to:

Humboldt Amateur Radio Club
BOX 5251
Eureka, CA 95502-5251

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Ham Radio Licensing Classes Begin March 13, 2017

Don Campbell
707/834-0042
ke6hec@sbcglobal.net

The Humboldt Amateur Radio Club is offering a class to prepare students for the Federal Communication Commission's Amateur Radio Technician license examination. The Technician Class license is the entry-level license for Amateur Radio. The class is free of charge and open to all members of the community.

The class will be held in the **HARC Meeting Room at the Eureka Municipal Auditorium, 406 11th Street**, the corner of 11th and E Streets.

The class begins at **7:00 p.m. on Monday**, March 13, 2017. The class will meet for 10 consecutive Mondays from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

The class will introduce radio and electronic fundamentals, tips on operating station equipment, procedures for communicating with other Hams, license and operating regulations and radio safety.

Students are encouraged to purchase the textbook used for the Class. The book is The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual 3rd Edition, available from the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) for \$29.95 plus shipping. To purchase the book, visit the following web site;
<http://www.arrl.org/shop/Ham-Radio-License-Manual-3rd-Edition/>

Following the class, students will be able to become licensed Amateur Radio operators after successfully passing the FCC license test scheduled on Saturday, May 20, in the Humboldt Bay Fire Training Room on 6th Street between C and D Streets in Eureka.

For more information on the class, contact Don Campbell, (707) 834-0042.

EmComm Report March 2017

Our latest emergency communications exercise was held Saturday, February 25 on the 2 meter band. Our goal was to practice operating in a controlled net environment, with multiple nets on different frequencies calling simultaneously, directed by the main Exercise Net control station (ExNet). All hams were welcome, and all hams are welcome at our monthly meetings as well, on the third Thursday of each month, 7:00 pm at the Eureka Muni.

The drill began at 0900 PST, with an announcement on the Far West Repeater System describing the drill and inviting all hams to participate. The drill itself began at 0939 and concluded at 1021. Stations had been asked to compose messages related to a disaster scenario, and to transmit those messages when asked by net control. As stations checked in to the ExNet, they were asked if they had traffic and

the precedence, or importance, of their message. ExNet then directed stations to the appropriate subnet, where they checked in and were asked for their traffic.

The subnet operators were kept busy copying messages, and ExNet had to figure out which frequencies would work for the subnets. For example, the Health and Welfare Net set for the 146.910 repeater wouldn't work for all the stations, so ExNet reassigned the H&W net to a simplex frequency that worked from Indianola to McKinleyville and points in between. In one case we had to relay a message using. It was fun, we had to think on our feet, and it gave us a taste of what it might be like to have to operate in a real emergency.

Thanks to the following hams who participated: KA6ULG, AA6GD, KI6GRU, KM6DFQ, WA6NBG, KB6NN, KA6DUP; also to KW6JIM and AA6GD, who ran the EOC (Emergency Operations Center) and H&W nets, respectively. KE6HEC scribed the logs for ExNet, and KB6DE helped with equipment setup and coffee. Except for ExNet, who operated from the HARC station at the Eureka Muni, everyone used their home stations.

Lessons learned:

1. Don't use a flood scenario when we're in the middle of a series of rainstorms.
2. Clarify in advance that we need to use current local time (not ZULU), since the reports we submit to the County should be in local time.
3. Once again, we can do more to reach out and include more hams.

The next EmComm activation will be Wednesday morning, March 29, 2017, when we'll activate the station at the Courthouse and call a net for Tsunami Preparedness week.

Our project to collect information and assess the condition of the County-owned radio stations is moving forward. We have ham volunteers for most of the fire, police, CSD, etc. stations from Eureka north. We need more help in the Eel River Valley and southern Humboldt.

Peter Esko, W6IES

Humboldt Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of Meeting - March 7, 2017

Officers Present: Jim Armstrong **KW6JIM**, Pres. / Peter Esko **W6IES**, V.P / Marcy Campbell **KE6IAU**, Treasurer / Dan Eaton **KB6DE**, Secretary / and Anthony Wiese **KG6LHW**, Events Planner and Librarian, Jaye Inabnit **KE6SLS**, Newsletter Editor Pro Tem.

Jim called the meeting to order at 1900 PDT in the Eureka Municipal Auditorium (Muni) Meeting Room @ 401 11th St.

Introductions were made and the log book was and passed. 23 members attended.

Health and Welfare: Jim Falls **K6FWT** is here tonight. Welcome back, Jim.

Secretary Report: Members reviewed the minutes for our January and February meetings. Colleen Ridlon **KM6DUP** made a motion to approve and accept the January minutes, seconded by Bob Rocha **WB6QPG**. Don Nelson made a motion to accept the February minutes, seconded by Peter. Members all voted

AYE.

Treasurer Report: Marcy told us our March 7th balances were \$2634 in savings and \$2000 in checking. The current total balance is \$4634. Our liability insurance and equipment loss insurance (\$809) has all been paid for the year. Peter's motion to accept the report was seconded by Don N. Members all voted AYE.

EMCOMM Report:

- a) Peter reported the EmComm exercise of Feb. 25th went well. Peter headed the Controlled Net from our Muni station. Jim was at the EOC. Greg Deja **AA6GD** manned the Health and Welfare position from McKinleyville.
- b) Peter told us the inventory of amateur radio equipment owned by the county at various locations is continuing our plan. He noted the County's "Plan" to include Amateur Radio is minimal and needs to be improved. Our club is offering to help write Amateur Radio into the County's emergency plan. So far, Jack Ridlon **KM6DFQ** and Greg have surveyed the Arcata Fire Department station in McKinleyville. Don Campbell **KE6HEC** volunteered to compile the results of the survey when completed.
- c) Peter reminded us the EmComm Group would meet here on Thurs. 3-16-17 at 1900.

Old Business:

- a) The club needs folding chairs. Jim suggested padded chairs such as those available at Costco. Donations to the club in the form of chairs will be gratefully accepted.
- b) The "fan dipole" antenna on the roof still needs to be tuned.
- c) We have nothing new to report about the EmComm trailer we are looking for.

New Business: As discussed in February, Jim will loan his spare HexBeam to the club until the club can assemble and mount its own HexBeam on the roof. Jim explained the club needs to purchase antenna associated parts. We will need a tripod mount (\$70), parts for the new club HexBeam (\$240), and co-ax cable (\$50). Harry Majors **KJ6SYF** made a motion to approve \$400 for the project and Bob Colburn **KA6ULG** seconded the motion. Without further discussion all members voted AYE.

Past Event Report: None

Future Events:

- d) Don C. told us the Foggy Bottoms Milk Run will happen on Sunday March 12th. Communicators will meet before the race at the Ridge Top Café at 0900.
- e) Peter is looking for volunteers for the Kinetic Sculpture Race on May 27, 28, and 29.
- f) Ben Adams **KK6SYJ** said the next Arts Alive Arcata event is on Friday, April 14th. The deadline for an application to participate is April 5th. As a Non-Profit

organization we may participate in this public outreach event for a fee of \$25.

- g) Tomas Vargas suggested we could provide a Ham Radio Emergency Preparedness outreach at the Rhodie Parade on April 29th.
- h) On April 4th we will have a brief business meeting followed by a SWAP MEET! Bring your stuff.

Break and Raffle: Great cookies and juice were provided by Don C. Raffle winners were: Joyce Isherwood **KJØYCE**, Jim, Harry, and Bob R.

Presentation:

Anthony Wiese **KG6LHW** and Aleda Cloud **KK6YJB** told us about their year-long NPOTA adventures. This inspiring audio-visual presentation was as good as you would see at any ham convention!
Next time Jim and Steve **KK6MPV** will tell us about the January Hamfest at Quartzsite. It sounds like too much fun.

Note to new or prospective Members:

The club has an informal lunch every Thursday, 1130 at the Pantry Restaurant on Broadway in Eureka (next to the Motel 6). All are welcome.

Jim adjourned the meeting at 2140 PDT.
Minutes submitted by Dan Eaton **KB6DE**

ARRL Weighs In on New California "Driving While Wireless" Statute

ARRL is recommending that Amateur Radio be specifically excluded from a California statute prohibiting the use of "wireless communication devices" while driving. ARRL Southwestern Division Vice Director Marty Woll, N6VI, is taking point on the effort to revise the statute, known by its legislative bill number [AB 1785](#). It was signed into law last September, and it took effect on January 1, amending §23123.5 of the state's Vehicle Code.



"ARRL has received a huge volume of inquiries and complaints about this statute in particular, since its enactment," ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, wrote in a letter to Woll to provide guidance in amending the California statute. "I would urge that you present this letter at any meetings you have with California State legislators on this topic, thus to bring the issues contained herein to their attention."

Imlay pointed out that that the prior statute excluded Amateur Radio by definition. The new law, which completely replaced the earlier statute, never mentions Amateur Radio, but instead contains an open-

ended definition of an "electronic wireless communications device," the operation of which while driving is prohibited. According to the statute, this "includes, but is not limited to, a broadband personal communication device, a specialized mobile radio device, a handheld device or laptop computer with mobile data access, a pager, or a two-way messaging device."

"Because of the 'not limited to' language, such a device is whatever a law enforcement officer thinks might be included, and an Amateur Radio operator is not at all protected," Imlay wrote. Such a broad definition could stymie "even the most diligent law enforcement officers," who might interpret the new Vehicle Code language more broadly than intended.

"Radio amateurs have regularly used mobile two-way radio systems for the past 70 years," Imlay said. "ARRL is aware of no evidence that such operation contributes to driver inattention," he stressed. "Quite the contrary: Radio amateurs are public service-minded individuals who utilize their radio-equipped motor vehicles to assist others, and they are focused on driving in the execution of that function."

Imlay also cited a 2009 letter to ARRL from the National Safety Council stating that there was no evidence using Amateur Radio while driving is a significant risk.

"Given the necessity of unrestricted mobile Amateur Radio communications in order for the benefits of Amateur Radio to the public to continue to be realized, ARRL urges California legislators to reconsider and amend AB 1785, to more narrowly define the class of devices included in the prohibition," or to include a specific exemption for Amateur Radio, Imlay wrote.



Editors Note

I want to thank the secretaries for getting the minutes of the club meetings to me. Getting RAIN ready each month can be a huge chore for this old ham! Also, thank you to the members for sending me their notes and reports. This is how we keep our clubs united and informed!

Happy SPRING to all. I am SURE we are all ready for a little break from the other RAIN! :)

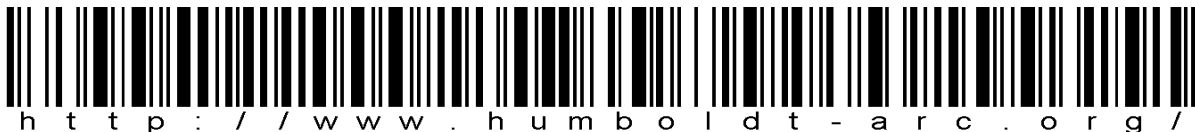
73

Jaye, ke6sls

RAIN
Box 5251
Eureka, California, 95502-5251

North Coast Nets

Sunday	0800	North coast emergency net	3.855 MHz SSB
Monday	1900	Arcata Emergency simplex net	146.430 MHz
Monday	1900	Eel River Emergency net	147.090 PL103.5
Monday	1900	Eureka Emergency simplex net	146.460 MHz
Monday	1900	Southern Humboldt Emergency net	146.790 PL 103.5
Monday	1915	Eureka & north UHF Emergency net	444.400 +5000 PL103.5
Monday	1930	Humboldt county Emergency net (nearest FWRA repeater to you)	146.700 PL1031.5 147.000 PL1031.5 146.760 PL1031.5 146.610 PL1031.5
Monday	1945	Humboldt County HF emergency net	3.955 MHz SSB
Monday	2000	California State net	3.992 MHz SSB
Monday	2005	Humboldt HF Digital emergency net	3.582 USB
Tuesday	1930	ORCA digital operations net	3.581 MHz USB
Tuesday	1930	California-Mendocino net	3.915 MHz SSB
Wednesday	1000	California State net	7.230 MHz SSB
Wednesday	1930	FWRA net	146.760 PL103.5



[humboldt-arc.org](http://www.humboldt-arc.org)