



Amateur Gazette

The Newsletter of The
Paso Robles Amateur Radio Club

W6LKF

Meeting Date: First Monday each month (except December)
Submissions and email updates to: jjt@tcsn.net

March 2004

Volume III, No.3

President: Roland Hinkle, WB6EZH
Vice President: Mike Barry, AE6FL
Secretary: Evan Mason, N6BXL
Treasurer: Jane Thornton, KF6QHP
Newsletter: John Thornton, WM6R

- **Meeting Notice**
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Next Meeting: March 1, 2004 - Centennial Park, 600
Nickerson Drive, Paso Robles 7:30 PM

Editor's Note:

I want to thank Mike Kelly K6AJ for his contribution to the club as newsletter editor, and also thank him for "passing the baton". Mike has relocated to San Lucas (only 40 minutes north) and when he stopped by the Radio Ranch this afternoon, told me that he will remain active with the club.

I've noticed a lot of changes in email addresses. When you change email addresses, please send me a note at jjt@tcsn.net so I can keep our records straight.

We are looking for submissions for the newsletter of anything of general interest to the club community. I'd like to hear the "ham radio story" from our club members and think that this would make for interesting reading, as well as help us get to know our membership better. Any volunteers for the first "Ham of the Month" column???

73, John WM6R

Presidential Ramblings:

For anyone who hasn't heard, amateur radio played a big public service role following the December earthquake. Not unexpectedly, landline and cellular telephone services were down from the quake. (Actually, all carriers at Radio Ranch remained in operation following the 'quake, but they were overloaded with traffic. -ed.) SLOECC activated several Emergency Communications Centers (ECC) including the relatively new facility at the Public Safety Center. Traffic handled by hams was instrumental in coordinating the Red Cross Shelters and feeding the troops who responded from around the State. Communications over the grade to the ECC at Red Cross Headquarters in San Luis was accomplished through the Tassajara Peak VHF repeater. Too many PRARC hams participated to adequately recognize them here. Hopefully, stories of their contributions will unfold throughout the year.

The Paso ECC operation was noticed by Sheriff Pat Hedges N6SSG and George Brown KF6PBL of County OES who stuck their heads when things calmed down. The ARRL webpage had the story within days of the event and I suspect a QST article will appear before too long.

We did finally get through election of club officers at the February meeting and need to recognize the contributions of our outgoing President Bill McFarlen WA5VGI, Vice President Tim Haueter W6NS and Newsletter Editor Mike Kelley K6AJ. Bill will be around, but Tim is now retired and will be splitting his time with us in SLO County. Mike has relocated out of the area and will surely be missed for his contributions to the newsletter and Field Day. Please remember to thank them personally if you get the chance

Thanks in advance to Jane Thornton KF6QHP and Evan Mason N6BXL who have agreed to continue as our Treasurer and Secretary, respectively.

New for 2004 are Vice President Mike Barry AE6FL, Newsletter Editor John Thornton WM6R and myself Roland Hinkle WB6EZH as your President.

Not to make excuses, but events have put us behind schedule on planning for the year. The 2004 club calendar will be the top order of business at the March meeting. A preliminary look at the year is enclosed for your review. We have an outstanding lineup of activities from previous years to build from. Please come prepared to finalize the calendar.

See you on March !!

73 de Roland WB6EZH

Ladies Luncheon for March
Saturday, March 27th at noon
at Berna Dallons 1260 Pacific Ave, Cayucos
Please bring a salad.
RSVP 995-3052

Meeting Minutes February 2, 2004

The meeting was called to order by President Bill McFarlen WA5VGI at 7:32 P.M. with New Year greetings for all in attendance.

Introductions were made of all 26 folks in attendance, those not in attendance were not allowed to introduce themselves.

Sort of New Business

Elections of New Officers

Yes folks it was time to steam-up the old boiler and get the train rolling for another exciting annual officer election. Beads of perspiration broke out on many a grizzled poll. The silence was broken with the nomination of Roland Hinkle for President. A lightening second followed by a rapid collective "I" and the deed was done. The next victim, who was not a member, Mike Barry was nominated for Vice President and was quickly asked to pony up the \$16 to make his election legal. The club has such a warm welcome for visitors....brings a tear to the eye. The slate was finally filled out with Jane Thornton agreeing to continue as Treasurer, Evan Mason as Secretary and John Thornton and Joan

Palmerston handling the newsletter. Larry Miller, now drenched in perspiration for fear of being elected, moved that the slate be elected as presented. Sharon George made the second and this was unanimously done. The train pulled into the station for another year.

Treasurer's Report

Dues are Due! \$16 for individuals and \$26 for family. The treasurer now has the club finances on Quicken and requests that all future events include a budget.

The Xmas dinner grossed \$1676 and netted \$850. The raffle contributed \$283 and the silent auction contributed \$293 (\$70 of which is yet to be collected).

The club is beginning the year with about \$2500

Field Day has been set-up with the Fair but not paid.

New Hams Needed, UPDATE!

W7CB, newly appointed Templeton School District Board Member Larry Miller, reports that he has a schedule conflict for Thursdays and is in the process of ironing out the problem with the school district. He is hopeful to start the last week in February. He is still in need of 2000 Ohm head phones for the class project.

Field Day 2004

Field Day is scheduled for June 25th, 26th, and 27th. We will start set-up on Friday at noon. The club needs a **new Field Day Chairman** this is critical to the success of the event.

World Radio Newspaper

If the club wants the meeting information included in the publication "World Radio" it will cost \$65. The fee includes 8 free subscriptions to World Radio. The decision was made to go ahead with the publication of the Club information and to sell the 8 subscriptions to club members to offset the cost.

Club Pot Luck Dinner

The dinner will be held on Saturday, February 21st at the Lutheran Church in Templeton. The discussion to charge members a nominal fee for the event was met with heavy resistance and was subsequently shot down in flames.

Making Connections

Jerry brought several samples of poor installations of the lowly PL259 connector. He led a discussion on the proper method for installing the PL259, including tinning the shield and using a tubing cutter to cut the insulation, now tinned braid and insulator. Thanks Jerry.

Christmas Party 2004

The Christmas Party is scheduled for the Paso Golf Club on December 19th.

The Terminator Demonstration (No this was not a political demonstration and discussion)

Tom brought a nifty “puter” program called DX Atlas from dxatlas.com. This program shows the world and you can project the Terminator (the change from day to night) around the globe and hence predict when the best time is to work all those difficult DX stations. He also discussed short and long path. This was very interesting....you really had to be there to see it. Thanks Tom for bringing all the necessary equipment to share this.

Mike Kelly has moved to the Lockwood area and is changing his employment situation. The club owes Mike a hardy “Thank you” for all his work on the bulletin and his work at field day. Thanks Mike! Hope to continue seeing you at the meetings.

President McFarlen in his last minutes in office pardoned a slew of white-collar criminals and gaveled the meeting (beat into submission?) to a close at 9:10 p.m.

Next Meeting is March 1st, 2004

Respectfully submitted, N6BXL

Treasurer’s Report submitted by Jane Thornton:

Actual 2003

INCOME

Membership Dues	800
Donations	350
PG&E Donation	650

TOTAL Donations	1,000

Events

BBQ Net Deposit	175
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Field Day Net Deposit	315
Tailgate Receipts	295
X-mas Dinners	801
X-Mas Raffle	283
X-mas Silent Auction	293

TOTAL X-mas Party Net Receipts	1,377
Total EVENTS	2,162

TOTAL INCOME	3,962

EXPENSES

BBQ Expense	299
Field Day Expense	1,392
Insurance	245
Potluck Expense	110
Reimbursed Expense	75
X-mas party expense	1,180

TOTAL EXPENSES	3,301

OVERALL TOTAL	660

Calendar of Events

Paso Robles Amateur Radio Club
2004

January

5 7:30PM Club Meeting (cancelled)

February

2 7:30PM Club Meeting

21 5:00PM Pot Luck –Bethel Lutheran Church

March

1 7:30PM Club Meeting

27 Ladies Luncheon – Berna Dallons

April

5 7:30PM Club Meeting

(13)* Tailgate

(26)* Wildflower bike ride

23-25 Visalia DX Convention

May

3 7:30PM Club Meeting

(18)* BBQ

(17)* Wine Festival bike ride

26 7:30PM SLOECC Meeting in North County

June

7 7:30PM Club Meeting

25-27 Field Day

July

12 7:30PM Club Meeting

August

2 7:30PM Club Meeting

(23)* Siren TeSt / BBQ

27-28 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention in Phoenix

September

6 7:30PM Club Meeting

TBD Fish Fry

October

4 7:30PM Club Meeting

11 Pioneer Day

18 Colony Day

15-17 ARRL Pacific Division Conference (Pacificon) in San Ramon

November

1 7:30PM Club Meeting - Election of Officers for 2005

December

(14)* Holiday Party

TBD Ladies Luncheon – Joan Palmerston

* Dates in () are from 2003.

Revised 2/21/04

