



Amateur Gazette

Paso Robles  
Amateur Radio Club

**Special Interest  
Dates:**

• December 2nd  
FEMA Drill  
Camp Roberts

• Christmas Party  
December 5th

**Ham Fests &  
Swap Meets**

# Paso Robles ARC

## W6LKF

### November 2nd, 2009 Minutes

**Call to Order** The meeting was called to order by President Mike Kelley K6AJ at 1905 hours. There were 11 members in attendance and introductions were completed

**Treasurers Report** Ron Patterson W6FM reports there is \$3322.40 in the checking account and \$42.05 in petty cash.

**Chris Arndt, KD6DSI has made a \$50 donation to the PRARC.  
Thank You Chris!!!**

### New Business

John Foster gave a report on The School Club Roundup. They had very poor Band Conditions.

Bill Palmertson K6BWJ gave a report on the SLOECC Meeting. Bill expressed concern about some of the decisions made by the current SLOECC officers and the impact those decisions might have on North County Emergency Services. Bill also mentioned that Avery, our ARES North County Emergency Coordinator is doing a great job.

Larry Miller W7CB gave a report on band conditions. 17 meters has been good. 40 meters is great at night.

### Old Business

Bill Sundius gave a report on the Pioneer Day Parade in Paso Robles. The parade was very well organized and ham radio traffic was minimal.

The Colony Days parade went O.K.

### ARES Weekly Check-In

Just a reminder the weekly check-in is on Tuesday nights at 7:00 PM. As usual on 146.980 / 146.880. The County wide net starts at 7:45 PM on 146.670 and the PL is 127.3. If you are available and can run the Net Control, let Avery know and a schedule can be set up. Thanks to everyone that has been checking in lately. You don't have to be a member to check-in either.



## Merry Christmas

Christmas Party 2009 will be held at the Paso Robles Country Club on December 5, 2009. RSVPs with payment must be mailed to Ron Patterson by Thanksgiving. Tom Schiller will MC the event. Bob Miller will be contacted to see if he will do the white elephant gift exchange. Another notice will be sent out to the group.



### President's Report

#### The Prez Sez:

November is here again and hopefully some great conditions for DX. Maybe the sunspots will show up. 40 meters has been great especially since the short wave broadcasters have finally vacated the band.

I just received word that Lou Graeber, a new member of the club this year, just passed his amateur radio license test and is eagerly awaiting his new ticket. Congratulations Lou!

Running my own business has really limited my time spent playing radio. I finally decided to take some time out and install a VHF rig in my work truck, as I spend a lot of time on the road. I sold my mobile HF rig last spring thinking I would upgrade, but that never happened so VHF will have to suffice in the mean time. I was very surprised to find how quiet the local repeaters are. I travel from Paso Robles to King City and scan repeaters from San Luis Obispo to the San Joaquin Valley to the upper Salinas Valley. The other thing I realized, after being away from mobile hamming for a while, was how I was more apt to grab the cell phone than the radio MIC.

On my way home I heard another mobile station check in to a repeater. I forced myself to answer and was glad I did. The fellow on the other end had just installed a new VHF in his vehicle for his commute between Soledad and Coalinga. I had made a new friend in Ham Radio and, at the same time, made the commute a little more exciting. I can't believe how much the cell phone has taken over our lives!

Make the effort and dust off that radio and get back on the air. Even if it is for a quick commute. It is a great way to meet new people and it's free! Oh, and don't forget, the hands free laws don't apply to amateur radio.

As always, if you need some help with an antenna project or station set up; don't be afraid to ask for help. The club membership includes a wide variety of expertise to draw from. Keep the bands alive, get on the air!

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Christmas Party on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

73,

Your Prez, Mike Kelley, K6AJ

## **Evening Presentation**

John Foster N6FVY gave a great presentation of his military service as a U.S Navy Communications Tech in the 1960's.

John was first licensed as WV6UZR

In 1965 he joined the Navy hoping to be a Radioman but ended up as a Communications Tech on a communications ship. These ships were tasked with monitoring wide ranges of RF communications.

Among some of the projects he was involved with included experiments in moon bounce communications. As this was the pre satellite era, the Navy tried to use moon bounce communications to keep the enemy from locating the origins of the transmissions.

John also went into great detail about many of the communication ships in the fleet including the USS Liberty which was attacked by the Israelis in the 6 day war and the USS Pueblo that was captured by, and still resides in, North Korea.

Thanks John for a great account of our nation's use of radio during the cold war!

Meeting Adjourned at 2100 hrs.

Respectively Submitted,  
Mike Kelley, K6AJ  
President.

Jeff Joynt N6BST