



Amateur Gazette

Paso Robles
Amateur Radio Club

W6LKF

www.pasoroblesarc.org

Meeting Date: First Monday each month (except December)
Submissions and email updates to: w6hd@arrl.net

October 2006

President: Mike Barry, AE6FL

Vice President:

Secretary: Greg Porter, N6MOQ

Treasurer: Jane Thornton, KF6QHP

Newsletter: John Thornton, W6HD

Webmaster: Ron Patterson W6FM

- **Meeting Notice**
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PRARC

Next Meeting: October 2, 2006 - Centennial Park, 600
Nickerson Drive, Paso Robles 7:30 PM

President's Corner:

1. Club members Mike AE6FL and Richard AB6TY attended the Emer. Operations Center training class presented by George Brown of SLO County Office of Emergency Services on 11 SEP 2006. Attendees included representatives from CDF, CHP, SLO Sheriffs, County and State OES, an Army Reserve Lt. Colonel from Camp SLO and others that will be called to respond if there is a radiological release at Diablo Canyon or other major disaster event in our area. The class was scheduled to prepare agency reps. for their participation in the upcoming FEMA evaluated Diablo Canyon exercise that will take place beginning at 0800 hrs on 25 OCT 2006.

For some reason, ARES/RACES operators will not be participating with any agencies to simulate loss of their normal communications during this exercise. ARES/RACES and other amateur radio operators will be conducting a parallel exercise on 25 OCT with simulated traffic to test our operations within SLO County. If you have time on 25 OCT, listen in on County amateur frequencies and check-in to the ARES/RACES exercise net.

2. Last month, your club Pres. made a short presentation on the soundcard mode MT63. You can download the free software and get more info at:
<http://xoomer.alice.it/aporcino/MT63/index.htm>

Thanks and hope to see y'all at the meeting,
Mike AE6FL

August Meeting Minutes

Mike AE6FL, opened the meeting at 1930, 13 members present.

Mike discussed his recent trip to the SLO County EOC for a preparation meeting for an upcoming FEMA exercise. If that sounds like something you want to help with, contact Mike.

The [ARRL Simulated Emergency Test \(SET\)](#) is coming up soon. Mike says that we should try to man our EOC's and check in on the HF emergency nets

The ARRL Santa Barbara Section Council of Clubs is coming up on Oct 14 in Ventura, and one or more club people should attend.

The Colony Days celebration in Atascadero is coming up on Oct 21 and ham volunteers are needed. Contact Bill K6BWJ if you want to help.

Field Day is coming.... We discussed reserving a special event call sign, and Mike volunteered to reserve the W6T call sign we have used for the last couple of years.

The Cambria CERT team recently held a simulated tsunami exercise that had significant ham support. They search and rescue activities which relied upon ham communication assets.

Marv W6UKH told us about his long standing RFI problems. He has regularly reoccurring broadband noise at 4 second intervals that basically make radio useless at his QTH. He tried calling PG&E and Charter Cable repeatedly, but they were unable to resolve the issue. He sent a complaint to the FCC, but they replied and said they didn't have the assets to come on site and help. Finally, Dave Martin WA6TYJ volunteered to come over and help and brought some directional antennas. They were able to localize the problem to a neighbor's house. After talking to the neighbor, they were allowed to go inside and found out that a Sharper Image "Ionic Breeze" model air purifier was the emitter of the interference. Marv wrote to the ARRL and the ARRL told him not only had this model of air purifier been often reported as a problem in the past, but due to the ARRL's involvement, the Sharper Image company pledged to recall these units and replace them at no charge.

The [ARRL School Club Roundup](#) is coming up October 16-20. Mary, W6ROX needs volunteers for half day shifts. Last year she reports that the logging software misbehaved and she lost some log, so she is going to test and verify that the computers are happy this year before the contest.

We took a short break at 2015. After the break Mike demonstrated digital message transmission of message traffic over HF or VHF links using the [MT63 software program](#). He demonstrated passing message traffic across the room using nothing but two computers (with sound cards), the MT63 software, and two handhelds. One great thing

about this software is that no special interface cables or hardware is required. You basically prepare the message traffic on the PC, press send, the PC speakers start making "modem" noises, and you hold the microphone nearby and press the PTT button. Easy, and it works! Mike reports that Army MARS is using this method for a lot of their message traffic.

Greg Porter, N6MOQ, Secretary

CALENDAR

Paso Robles Amateur Radio Club 2006

January

9 7:30PM Club Meeting

February

6 7:30PM Club Meeting
18 Pot Luck –Bethel Lutheran Church- Bill Sundius

March

6 7:30PM Club Meeting

April

3 7:30PM Club Meeting
9 Tailgate Breakfast – Larry and Char Miller
? Visalia DX Convention
29 Wildflower Bike Ride – Bill Palmerston

May

1 7:30PM Club Meeting
? Armed Forces Day
TBA Wine Festival bike ride – Bill Sundius
TBA BBQ – Heilmann Regional Park, Atascadero
? 7:30PM SLOECC Meeting in North County (Cambria)

June

5 7:30PM Club Meeting
23-25 Field Day

July

10 7:30PM Club Meeting

August

7 7:30PM Club Meeting
? Siren TeSt / BBQ

September

? ARRL Southwestern Division Convention in Riverside
4 7:30PM Club Meeting
Cancelled Fish Fry
30 Lighthouse Ride at Piedras Blancas

October

2 7:30PM

Club Meeting

7

Pioneer Day – Bill Sundius

21

Colony Day – Bill Palmerston

13-15

ARRL Pacific Division Conference (Pacificon) in San Ramon

28

ARRL SET

November

6 7:30PM

Club Meeting - Election of Officers for 2006

December

10

Holiday Party