

**Minutes for SARA Meeting of September 7th, 2016
Saratoga Fire Department**

Attendees:

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:30 PM by John Glass NU6P, President. Attendees introduced themselves and the attendance roster was circulated. There were 6 SARA members and 3 guests present.

Minutes Approval:

June minutes have been sent to the email list.

Walter needs to send Don copies of Feb, Apr, May, and June 2015 minutes.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

SARA has been asked to provide comm support for the Saratoga 60th anniversary parade on Sept 17 AM. Can we get at least 5 people? Don is going to place a note on the email list.

A ham class is coming up. More details next month.

Treasurers Report:

Bank balance:: \$4,752.55

Cash on hand: 0

Paid members: 27

Bills outstanding: None known

Net Checkin Report:

June 2016: 17, 17, 16, 15

July 2016: 15, 15, 15, 14, 19

August 2016: 21, 19, 14, 14

Axel reported that there has been an improvement in 2m performance on our repeater. Rob had retuned the duplexer. However it has been noted that 70cm can experience some fade, especially on windy days.

Emergency Services Report:

We participated in the June 18th Saratoga Disaster exercise. Roger was net control. IRLP issues were discussed. Repeater users get priority over IRLP users on doubles. So net control ops need to be aware of it. Echolink and IRLP block each other.

Walter gave a short description of his Field Day activities with the K6MI “Chews Ridge Gang” group. The same group has been doing FD on Chews Ridge for just over 50 years. Chews Ridge is in the mountains south-east of Carmel Valley.

No update on the new emergency “cheat sheet”. Morris Jones AD6ZH is working on it.

Calendar Items:

Tim Maguire would like to speak at the October 2016 meeting on changes to the county auxiliary communications service.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, October 5th.

Program:

Terry Cummings and Rod Pharis on SCAPA – the Loma Prieta airlift group that was formed to allow general aviation pilots and their aircraft a means to participate in disasters. It is run out of the South County Airport. They originally started by ferrying supplies to Watsonville Airport after the Loma Prieta earthquake. They currently have about 100 pilots and about 50 aircraft in the program. Communications-wise, they use both air band, amateur, and FRS radio equipment.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at about 9 PM.