

# RAMS Meeting Minutes

P O Box 2951

Orangevale, CA 95662

Date 12 January, 2017

Present: 15 in attendance

1900 Hrs. (7:00 p.m.) p.s.t. Meeting called to order by President Steve Bickford, N6AE welcoming everyone.

Secretary's Report: Minutes of the December 8, 2016 meeting were read and approved as read.

Treasurer's Report: Approved as of this date

Balance as of	12/8/2016		\$1,053.34
	<b>Deposits</b>		
	Raffle	\$9.00	
		\$15.00	
	Total Deposits =		\$24.00
	<b>Expenses</b>		
	PG&E 11/16-12/14	(\$27.07)	
	Joe Cardoza NARRC	(\$20.00)	
	Total Expenses =		(\$47.07)
Balance as of	1/12/2017		\$1,030.27

Discussion on PG&E billing as the 220 repeater is still down due to lack of incoming power.

2-Meter net-repeaters have had a good showing the past few weeks with 9 check ins this past week.

RAMS next meeting will be 9 February.

Coming VE tests are during odd numbered months starting 21 January and are listed on the web.

ARRL rejected the petitions to merge Novice to Technician and Advanced to the Amateur Extra class.

Field Day is scheduled for June 24/25.

A Winter Field Day is being proposed for January! Many commented, "let me know how THAT works out for YOU!"

Noted that Sac County ARES was asked by OES to help report weather related issues do to the expected HEAVY rain and flooding Sunday 1/8/2017.

The main portion of this meeting was a "show and tell" of interesting subjects:

A "flame proof" cw key as used by the U.S.N onboard ship. The "spark" is enclosed so as to NOT detonate a combustible atmosphere. Steve noted that when he received the key its contacts were corroded so he immersed the key in a *Simple Green* solution in an ultra-sonic cleaner with the result of cleaning the contacts AND removing ALL the exterior black paint!

A workable 40 M wire dipole antenna was shown made from two sets of speaker wire connected with wire nuts to a TV 300 Ohm lead. This antenna was connected to an antenna tuner which was hooked to an IC-751 radio. Tom reported this combination worked fine on 40 M.

Next month it is hoped Joe Cardoza will teach about APRS what it is and how it works.

There was no NEW business.

Meeting adjourned: 1942hs (8:42 p.m.) p.s.t.