



BARK Newsletter

BARK Board Members

Bill Gustavson	KG6GNI	Pres	10-13
Ken Wilson	K6WLS	Vice Pres, Treas, Trustee	09-12
Paul Jordan	KJ6GCP	Director	11-14
Jack Hendrick	K6JAC	Director	09-12
Sam Bledsoe	N7DTW	Director	11-14
Bob Jordan	KI6BZR	Secretary	11-12
Erika Refsland	KI6PDZ	Assoc. Dir	11-14

BARK Annual Membership meeting, October 1, 2011

Meeting called to order at 0900 by President Bill Gustavson-K6BIL.
Present: Bob-KI6BZR, Dale-KJ6HHY, Ken-K6WLS, Ione-W6ION, Jack-K6JAC, Dan-KK6DXN, Greg-KG6SJT, Bill-K6KN, AL-K6QDC, Sam-N7DTW, Bill-K6BIL

Officer reports:

Ken-K6WLS, Treasurer

Starting January 2011 balance of \$1836.24.

Starting this quarter balance of \$2677.23

Now \$2617.43

About \$120 of deposit to make.

Insurance payment has been made but has not shown up on bank statement. Payment was \$320

Expected expenditure for the remainder of this year and for next year.

No significant expenditures are anticipated.

We have had a number of donations, both manual and physical.

Bill, K6KN

Bill gave an over view of planned repeater modifications.

Working to get to the point where we can run during a significant power outage. The plan is to try to get to the point where we can run on solar during the day and then run off of the solar charged batteries at night. We are working towards being able to monitor all power status remotely. KK6DXN will join committee. (21:00)

Ken, K6WLS

We have been working to get the brush cleared a safe distance away from the building. Ken has been in touch with Cal Fire to give them the needed clearance. We still need to do more clearing. They want clear cut 30 feet around the building and 100 feet of thinning. We have also done our best to keep the mice out. We are going to change out the packet radio today after the meeting. Ken recently climbed the tower to make sure all is secure. He found no problems. (27:00)

Bob membership

We currently have a membership of 67. Over that last year, we have added 10 and lost 2. Thanks to Ken, K6WLS for adding member due to his licensing classes. He will continue to email Hams in the area. It was suggested that we also email Davis Hams.

Bill, K6BIL

The new owner of the vault is Crystal Communications out of the Bay Area. They are talking about possibly putting in a propane generator, which we might be able to piggy back on. It is just in the talking stage at this point. They are planning to continue to have us as in the current status and are happy to have us there. 33:00

Bill, K6BIL

Echolink nothing new to report. Bill has the equipment and just needs to get stuff together.

Greg

Website. All is running smoothly. Thanks to Greg.

Old and new business

Thanks to Greg, KG6SJT for EVERYTHING.

Ken, K6WLS has taken over the Trustee position.

Thanks to Ken, Greg, Bob, Jack and Bill, K6KN for their work on the repeater.

Benevolence. Bill, K6BIL suggested that we appoint someone to be in charge of sending cards to members who are sick or otherwise not up to speed. Bill suggested that perhaps

LaVonne would be willing to do this.
Bill will call her and ask. (33:00)

Directors positions
Onie's and Bob's positions are open.
Paul is on the ballot. Sam, N7DTW
offered. Bill nominated, Bob second.

Ballots were passed out, collected
and counted.

New Directors are Paul, KJ6GCP
and Sam, N7DTW. Welcome to
both.

Bill made the motion that off officers
remain in their current positions.
Onie, W6ION seconded the motion.
The motion passed. Bill, K6BIL
informed the meeting that all current
officers have talked and do not
intend to remain beyond the current
year.

Adjourned at 10:20.

FCC Examination held on July 9th.

BARK / Yolo ARES sponsored
another FCC examination on
Saturday July 9th. The test was
held at the Later Day Saint
Chapel at 850 Pioneer Ave here
in Woodland. This was an
excellent facility for the test.
Our appreciation and thanks to
Dale KJ6HHY and the Church for

letting us use this facility. Dale
was there to deal with the set
up and take down of the tables
and chairs needed. Thank You.
There were 4 applicants tested
and resulted in 2 New Technician
licenses and one up grade to
General. A good day.
Congratulations to Elisha
KJ6QBE and Randy KJ6QBD and
also to Reuben KJ6PUV who
upgraded to General.

A Special thanks to our VEs.
Testing VEs were: David W6VNO
from Arbuckle, Damian AB6WB
also from Arbuckle/Dunnigan
area and Ken K6WLS.
Results were posted on the FCC
ULS site by Tuesday evening
7/11/2011. Excellent service
from the ARRL/VEC and the FCC
licensing organization. Over the
last year, we have also
sponsored test sessions in Davis
and in Arbuckle. Thanks to Ken,
K6WLS for all of his hard work
setting up and conducting the
test sessions.

Ham Radio Friends "Get Together" at Damian and Doreen Appert's home.

On July 16, 2011, there was a
"get together for BARK members
at the home of Damian, AB6WB

and Doreen, KE6ROR. They live about 5 miles NW of Dunnigan and a secluded ranch on the edge of the Dunnigan hills. It was a potluck with more great food that we were able to consume. Attendees included hosts Damian and Doreen, Jack and Onie Hendrick - K6JAC and W6ION, Hal - WB6KXV and his wife Linda, Ken Wilson - K6WLS, Bob - KI6BZR and his wife Wendy and daughter Kathy. We had a fun evening visiting with friends, enjoying great food and also going on a tour of the ranch. All had a memorable evening. Damian and Doreen have done so much for the club over the years, and to invite all of us up to their home was just another example of the warmth they bring to the club. Thank you Damian and Doreen for inviting us to your home!!

Tower down next to the BARK repeater.

In November 2010, a tower on the other side of the BARK vault came down during a storm. There was no significant damage to BARK equipment, but the tower took out AC power, taking the repeater off the air. If the tower had fallen 10 feet to the left, it would have taken out the BARK tower. We got lucky on

this one!! Ken-K6WLS, Jack-K6JAC, Paul-KJ6GCP and Bob-KI6BZR went up to the repeater site and got the repeater back on the air.

Brush Cleanup at the repeater

Ken, K6WLS, has continued to lead the effort to get and maintain a fire safe perimeter around the repeater building. Of the last few years, Ken and his trusty chainsaw have made a number of trips "up the hill" to clear brush away from the building to give CDF a fighting chance should there be a fire. This past year, Ken's helpers have included LaVonne - K6LAV, Bob - KI6BZR, Bob's daughter Kathy. If you are interested on helping on future trips, please contact Ken or Bob. Major thanks to Ken for this as well as the many other things he does to keep BARK running smoothly. Thanks Ken.

Membership Involvement

We would like to encourage members to become more involved in BARK. We are most appreciative of all dues paying members of BARK. Without

your dues, we wouldn't be one the air. Besides financial needs, the operation of the repeater also requires work by members. The tasks done include repair and maintenance at the repeater site, evaluation and planning for current and future needs on the repeater, serving on the Board of Directors and many others. In general, most of these tasks are done by a handful of members. If you are interested in helping with any of the above mentioned items or are able to help in any manner, please contact any Board member. All help is appreciated.

Silent Key's.

Robert Kawahara, K6USS

Born October 19, 1929 and passed away March 13, 2011. He was an active member of the amateur community and helped bring a number of new people into the ranks of "Hams". He was a longtime friend of Bill Rogers, N6YWZ. Robert and Bill worked together for many years at IBM in San Jose, and Robert served as Bill's "Elmer".

Become a VE.

When you first tested for your license, you know doubt remember the people who ran the test session. I remember driving up to the test session, noticing all of the "call sign" personalized license plates, and wondering what lay ahead. The people administering the exam were kind and helpful, clearly hoping we were able to succeed in passing the exam. Well, you too can help administer the FCC exams. About four times a year, we sponsor an FCC testing session. It is great fun to see the expression on the face of one who has just found out that they are now able to join the ranks of the rest of us "Hams". For more information about becoming a VE, go to:

<http://www.arrl.org/become-an-arrl-ve>

Or contact Ken, K6WLS for more information.

BARK Sunday night net.

The BARK weekly net is held each Sunday evening at 7:30PM local time. Since switching to Sunday night, the turnout has been good. It is a great way to stay current on the "going on's" of the BARK repeater and also to meet other BARK

members. Tune into the BARK repeater at 146.970 MHz, minus offset and a PL of 123.0. If you are a regular participant, thank you. If not, we would encourage you to join us. Also, if you are interested in serving as Net Control, please contact Bob, KI6BZR at Hamguy530@aol.com

Membership.

The current BARK membership is 67. Much thanks to Ken-K6WLS for bringing new members into the club via his test sessions.

Technical Work by Bill, K6KN

Bill Ragsdale - K6KN has been busy putting together a schematic of the current installation at the repeater site. Along with that, he has spent much time studying possible upgrades and changes that will help keep BARK up and running reliably for years to come. We will keep you updated on the progress of his work. We all owe Bill a big "Thank you" for all of the time and work he has put into keeping BARK a great repeater. Thanks Bill.

PAV/PAWS

There is nothing new to report regarding the shutting and/or powering down of repeaters on the 440 band. As you may recall, the DOD was receiving a great deal of interference from local hams, probably more mobile units rather than repeaters as there were only a few fixed repeater sites that were specifically targeted. There is no change of operation planned by the DOD so, for the foreseeable future, there will be very limited 440 operation on the fringe areas of the PAVE-PAWS operational area surrounding the Beale Air Force Base facility.