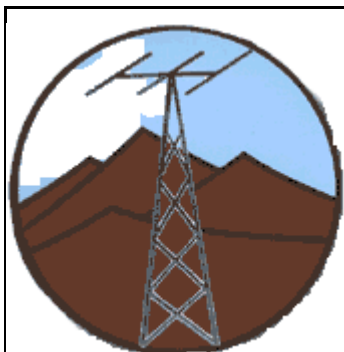


# 2008 SARC Membership Dues Are DUE!



## *THE AIRWAVES*

February 2008

**SIERRA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

An ARRL Special Service Club

RACES ARES

P O Box 1442

Ridgecrest

California

93556-1442

<b>BOARD</b>	President	Greg Roush	WA7IRW	446-4383
	First VP	John Andrus	KC6UWM	371-2190
<b>OF</b>	Second VP	Fred Moses	KG6STR	371-4034
	Secretary	Paula Herr	N6VGW	375-5324
<b>OFFICERS</b>	Treasurer	Pam Evans	KC6UUS	375-4240

### SARC OWNED AND MAINTAINED REPEATERS

Randsburg	WA6YBN 145.34 MHz (-), PL 100.0 Hz, Wide Area, Emergency Power, linked to 147.00
Ridgecrest	WA6YBN 146.64 MHz (-), Translator, No Squelch Tail, Emergency Power
Ridgecrest	WA6YBN 147.00 MHz (+), PL 107.2 Hz, Autopatch, linked to 145.34
Ridgecrest	YBNBBS:WA6YBN, 145.050 MHz, Bulletin Board, 1200 Baud
Ridgecrest	#YBNSW:WA6YBN-4, 223.580 MHz, Node, 1200 Baud
Ridgecrest	#YBNSW:WA6YBN-4, 439.025 MHz, Node, 9600 Baud

### SARC Committees

**Technical Assistance:** Greg, WA7IRW 446-4383  
**Program:** Fred, KG6STR 371-4034  
**RF Interference:** Bill, WA6QYR 375-8566

**Public Relations:** John, KC6UWM 371-2190  
**Airwaves Editor:** Mike, WA6ARA 375-5324  
**Emergency and Public Service:** Mike, W6PA 793-0541

### THE AIRWAVES CALENDAR

Every	<b>ARRL Audio News</b> 1910 (7:10 p.m.) on 146.64 MHz
	<b>IWV Emergency Net</b> <b>Visitors Welcomed!</b>
Monday	1930 hrs (7:30pm) WA6YBN Translator 146.64 MHz (-)
	<b>East Kern County Emergency Net</b> <b>Visitors Welcomed!</b>
Night	Rand repeater 145.340, pl 100 2000 hrs (8pm)
Feb 13	<b>SARC Board Meeting – Heritage</b> 7 pm
Feb 13	<b>SARC Meeting – Heritage Inn</b> 730 pm – Surface Mount Soldering

**Mar 12 SARC Meeting – Heritage In**  
730 pm – SkyWarn

**Jun 28 ARRL Field Day!**

### AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE EXAMS

Every Even Month, Second Saturday

**Feb 09 Volunteer License Exam Session**  
 Location: Guns 4 Us, basement classroom  
 417 East Ridgecrest Blvd, Ridgecrest CA  
 No handicapped access Pre-reg by 4 Feb Limited  
 to 8 applicant All must register at 9 AM  
 Contact Elvy Hopkins NØLV 760-384-3589  
 E-mail [lvrh7589@iwvisp.com](mailto:lvrh7589@iwvisp.com)

## 2008 SARC Dues Are DUE!

Yes, it's that time of the year once again. Your 2008 SARC dues are due. Your dues support numerous repeaters, some possible repeater expansion, insurance, meeting site, upcoming technician class, this newsletter and host of other items. Please use the application at the end of this newsletter and rejoin, better, bring it to the February meeting. Also, please consider using the email option for the newsletter. This save money for the club and is a heck of a lot easier on your editor.

### From the President's Shack

Two of my goals this year, as a newly minted President, are to increase participation at the SARC monthly meetings and at the public service events that SARC supports. We have hundreds of hams in the IWV, however, only perhaps 20-25 attend meetings. I consistently see the same 10 or so hams at the various events and hear about 15 regulars on the Monday night IWV emergency net.

So, I ask all the old hams (or is it long time hams?) reading this newsletter: How do we capture your interest? What meeting topics would reignite your interest and get you into a seat (or what do we do at a meeting that keeps you away)? Could you participate in just one of the 8 or so public service events each year, or be net control for one Monday (or for one month)? What activities (we currently do the weekly ARRL Audio News, occasional hidden transmitter hunting, and Field Day, not to mention ARES/RACES training, the two weekly emergency nets, and exercises) would get you out of the house or on-the-air?

How do we attract new blood, especially young people, to ham radio? We will soon be advertising a Technician License class to start near the end of February to jump-start potential new hams. A special VE session will be held at the end of the class. Look for details in *The Airwaves* or the local papers. What interest do you have in a General or Extra license class?

Call or e-mail me (or one of the other SARC officers) with your ideas.

73,  
Greg WA7IRW

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's Report as of 01 February, 2008:

Draft Account	\$ 912.68
Share Account	\$ 4,130.65
<b>BALANCE:</b>	<b>\$5,043.33</b>

submitted by Pam Evans, KC6UUS

## Audit Committee Report

Conducted on 1/16/08

Balance 12/31/06	\$5,435.54
Deposits and Interest	\$2,637.39
Drafts / Disbursements	\$3,164.11
Outstanding Drafts	\$52.53
Balance 12/31/07	\$4,961.35

Signed

Paula Herr      L.E. Brewer

### Why Join SARC?

Why join SARC? It isn't required by anyone, while the newsletter is outstanding, it is available for free on the net and membership does cost. So why join SARC? Simple, to support amateur radio in your community.

First off, SARC directly supports several repeaters. Your membership pay for these. SARC makes local amateur radio licensing exams possible. In the past SARC has supported training for amateur radio licenses and will do so again soon with a Technician class.

SARC holds monthly meetings, with fellowship and mentoring. Often the program will be of an aspect of amateur radio perhaps you hadn't thought of trying but get to hear first hand.

SARC directly supports various community activities by providing communications for horse endurance rides, long distance runs and bicycle tours. SARC is the focal point for such support.

So please, join SARC.

### Technician License Class

SARC will be offering a 15 hour Technician License class. This will take a student with no amateur radio knowledge and prepare them for passing the Technician License exam. The cost will be \$35, including the fee for the first exam. The class will be held at the Kerr-McGee Center and limited to 25. Contact Mike Herr, 375-5324 or [wa6ara@gmail.com](mailto:wa6ara@gmail.com) to register.

Classroom Sessions

28 February to 10 April

Tuesday and Thursday Nights

(excluding 25 and 27 March)

6:30pm to 8:00pm

License test date 11 April

### SARC Installation Dinner

The annual SARC Installation Dinner was held at Casey's BBQ. The crowd was good with a lot of great talk and fellowship. The food wasn't too bad as well. There were about 30 folks showing up, including a couple out of town visitors.

There were numerous door prizes handed out and I think everyone was happy with the results. One visitor from Cal City, KI6NMX, joined up on the spot. As a result, he won the MFJ 249 SWR Analyzer!



Our own Fred, KG6STR, won the Grand Prize of a band spanning new Yeasu VX-3R. Now if he can only figure out how to turn it on.



Your new SARC 2008 Officers are:

President	Greg Roush, WA7IRW
First VP	John Andrus, KC6UWM
Second VP	Fred Moses, KG6STR
Secretary	Paula Herr, N6VGW
Treasurer	Pam Evans, KC6UUS

## February Meeting Program Surface Mount Construction

Ever wonder about surface mount construction, why do it and how can you possibly solder such small components. We will have a show and tell on surface mount construction, including a live demo on a home method to inexpensively build a surface mount project.

## March Meeting Program SKYWARN

James Brotherton from NOAA, who is responsible for Skywarn training in the San Joaquin Valley, will present a Skywarn training class at the March 12<sup>th</sup> SARC meeting. He has asked that we invite the public to this class, so tell everyone you know who may be interested about it. The normal Skywarn class lasts about two hours, so this will be a full night.

### What is SKYWARN™?

The effects of severe weather are felt every year by many Americans. To obtain critical weather information, NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS), part of the U.S. Department of Commerce, established SKYWARN™ with partner organizations. SKYWARN™ is a volunteer program with nearly 280,000 trained severe weather spotters. These volunteers help keep their local communities safe by providing timely and accurate reports of severe weather to the National Weather Service.

Although SKYWARN™ spotters provide essential information for all types of weather hazards, the main responsibility of a SKYWARN™ spotter is to identify and describe severe local storms. In the average year, 10,000 severe thunderstorms, 5,000 floods and more than 1,000 tornadoes occur across the United States. These events threatened lives and property. Since the program started in the 1970s, the information provided by SKYWARN™ spotters, coupled with Doppler radar technology, improved satellite and other data, has enabled NWS to issue more timely and accurate warnings for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms and flash floods.

SKYWARN™ storm spotters are part of the ranks of citizens who form the Nation's first line of defense against severe weather. There can be no finer reward than to know that their efforts have given communities the precious gift of time--seconds and minutes that can help save lives.

### Who is Eligible?

NWS encourages anyone with an interest in public service and access to communication, such as HAM radio, to join the SKYWARN™ program. Volunteers include police and fire personnel, dispatchers, EMS workers, public utility workers and other concerned private citizens. Individuals affiliated with hospitals, schools, churches, nursing homes or who have a responsibility for protecting others are also encouraged to become a spotter. Training covers:

- Basics of thunderstorm development
- Fundamentals of storm structure
- Identifying potential severe weather features
- Information to report
- How to report information
- Basic severe weather safety

For more information follow this link.

<http://www.skywarn.org/>

## 2008 Fire Mountain 50 Horse Ride



Saturday 26 January was clear and nice for a horse ride with the sun out and the communications for it. Snow in the Sierras and local mountains provided a great backdrop for the ride with temperatures in the 30s. The Valley Riders Club provided lunches to those communicators wishing one. At the 0630 start, there were thirty-six 50-milers followed at 7am by twenty-one 30-milers and 7:30 with thirteen 15-milers. Bill, WA6QYR was the coordinator at base camp in the Valley Riders Club coral located at the corner of Springer and San Bernardino County Line Road. Fred, KG6STR soon had the 147.06/66 MHz portable repeater up along the ridgeline of the Spangler Mountains. John, AI6A was at water stop 2 and Fred, KG6STR was at water stop 1. There was some early confusion by a few riders as to which way to go in loop 1 verse 2. Bob, KA6PLU was stationed at Radio 1 on the south side of the hills to make sure the riders didn't head for the highway 395 at the old railroad crossing. Since the Valley Riders Club had had problems with others shooting holes in the water containers over night, the containers at water 2 hadn't been put out earlier and John had problems finding the real location of the water 2. Before the riders made it to water 2, the club truck delivered it to the location and assured John he was in the correct GPS location. The 50 milers made quick time in the first two loops followed by the 30 and 15 milers. Phelps, W6PTH came out to provide relief for station keepers about mid morning but found everyone OK. Alex, WD6ZUV was also kicking about the area offering relief to operators.

Late in the morning Hal, KM6JM, Lorilyn, KG6LEW and John, KC6UWM positioned themselves at water 4 along the Navy Echo Range road and the Vet3/Water5 location along the Trona Red Mountain road. It seemed a long

time before the 50 milers got out of base camp and on to the third loop of the ride. As the riders completed loop 2 John moved to water 6 in the "Rock Pile". Fred had moved from water 1 to water 3 as riders completed loop 1. And when all the riders completed loop 2 Fred moved to base camp to await the ride completion when he could take down the portable repeater. With the riders completing the southern part of loop 2 Bob, KA6PLU was done and went home. There were a few pulled riders at base camp where the veterinarians concluded the horse was not physically healthy enough to complete the last of the ride.

The first rider to complete the circuit did so by 1:30 pm. Dennis, W6DWF checked in to see if any further relief was needed. It was not so he continued to monitor the ride from home. Now it was a waiting game for riders to make it past the water stops. Some of the riders coming out of Water5/ Vet3 and back over the hills into Indian Wells Valley missed a turn into water 6 and continued down hill to base camp. Now number checking started to be in earnest to find missing riders. Checks with timers and ride folks found them. As all riders were found to have completed their parts of the third loop Hal and then John and Lorilyn were released to head for home. The last rider seemed to be having problems with his horse and was walking from Vet 3 back to camp. By now darkness had begun to settle into the valley and concern over the rider's ability to follow the trail of ribbons clothes pinned to the bushes mounted. He had not made it to water 6, when the ride leadership was contacted and they sent out a pick up truck to find him. The rider was found quickly along the road just before base camp. All ended well. John left the rock pile and drove back to town while Bill wrapped up things in base camp and then headed home himself about 6 pm.

A number of lessons learned from the ride included the "sage wisdom" from Hal about checking with other riders and officials when the Out Timer leaves base camp. The checking back into the base camp logs on who has been pulled and when. Keeping tabs on the last few riders who have been through a checkpoint. Finding out that your HT responds to electrical noises coming from your vehicles AM/FM/CD player/ security system even when it is "off" was something new.

This ride had been complete by 2 pm previous years. It was hard to figure out what made this ride take so long in 2008. Thanks to all who helped out.

Submitted by Bill, WA6QYR

Check out the SARC Web Page  
[www.qsl.net/wa6ybn/](http://www.qsl.net/wa6ybn/)

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**  
**SIERRA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB of the HIGH MOJAVE**

Please fill out this form. It is used to make the club roster and newsletter mailing list. This form must accompany all membership and badge payments. All renewals are due 31 March. Please mail this application and your payment to SARC, POB 1442, Ridgecrest, CA 93556-1442 or give them to the Secretary at a meeting.

**Membership – Please circle one**

Individual via Mail - \$20.00	Individual via Email - \$17.00
Family via Mail - \$30.00	Family via Email - \$27.00
Full time student via Mail - \$10.00	Full time student via Email - \$8.50
Active Duty Military via Mail - \$10.00	Active Duty Military via Email - \$8.50

**Individual or First Family Member**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Last \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

Novice \_\_\_ Tech \_\_\_ Gen \_\_\_ Adv \_\_\_ Ex \_\_\_ ARRL Member : Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ (Note: Email address is not shared, for newsletter only)

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Second Family Member** (For more family members please duplicate)

Name: Last \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

Novice \_\_\_ Tech \_\_\_ Gen \_\_\_ Adv \_\_\_ Ex \_\_\_ ARRL Member : Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

**DO NOT DETACH**

**BADGE ORDER**

**DO NOT DETACH**

The club badge shows your Amateur Call, your Name and Sierra Amateur Radio Club. It will identify you at club meetings and public service events. To order a badge, provide the information below and, include \$11.00, for *each* badge in Membership Application total above or with this form and mail to SARC, POB 1442, Ridgecrest, CA 93556-1442 or give it to the Treasurer at a meeting.

Name to put on my badge is \_\_\_\_\_ (What you like to be called)

Amateur call for my badge is \_\_\_\_\_

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**RACES, ARES and INDIAN WELLS VALLEY  
EMERGENCY NET MEMBERS**

**THE AIRWAVES NEWSLETTER  
February 2008**

In case of impending or current emergency, monitor the SARC translator on 146.64/04 MHz or the backup simplex frequency of 146.52 MHz. W6PM, Mike or AI6A, John, the local RACES ECs, will coordinate mobilization. An Emergency Net Control Station will direct radio communications. Check in. State your capabilities. Be prepared to go outside the IWV for at least three days. An E-Pac should contain: your RACES card, radios and accessories, batteries, charger, paper, pen, clipboard, flashlight with spare batteries, timepiece, headgear, sunglasses, spare glasses, your medications, your medical history, first aid kit, severe weather clothing, non-perishable food, 3 gal. water, sleeping bag.

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**SIERRA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
POST OFFICE BOX 1442  
RIDGECREST, CA 93556-1442**