Santa Cruz County ARES
Membership Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 1900;

In-person at the Emergency Operations Center, 5200 Soquel Avenue

Go bags and Emergency Communications Exercise John, N6QX

- Why outside in the dark? To practice our possible deployments in the coming winter storms. Bring your go kit and set up as though you were creating an emergency communications post in an area lacking power and phone coverage. Send and receive short, tactical messages.
- Don't have all this gear? Come anyway and play along. At a minimum all you need is:
  - 2M-70cm dual band radio. A hand-held is fine.
  - Clipboard, pen, and ICS-214 log sheet
  - Light source
  - Suitable clothing
- **Anticipated schedule:** (expect last minute changes):
  - 7:00 PM (or earlier): Arrive at EOC. Claim a parking spot and set up your communications post.
  - 7:15 PM: Roll call and check in on simplex **Coastal 1, 146.535 MHz**. Receive your tactical call sign for the evening.
  - 7:20 PM Receive a paper containing some messages to be transmitted to other stations.
  - Messages will be short bits of tactical information for quick, informal transmission, not word-for-word transcription.
    - Send your messages and receive any messages sent to your station. Messages may be sent by voice or Winlink.
    - Too many stations on the channel? Ask your message recipient to move temporarily to **Coastal 2, 441.000 MHz** or **Coastal 3, 147.570 MHz.**
    - Summarize all messages sent and received on your ICS-214 sheet.
  - 7:35 PM: End of message-passing exercise. Hand in your ICS-214 log sheets.
  - 7:40 PM: On-the-air hot-wash discussion and critique of exercise, on Coastal 1.
  - 7:45 PM Wander around and look at everyone else's setups. Plan improvements in your own setup. Get your radios programmed with the new ARES Version 2 Frequency List.
  - 8:15 PM Scores announced
- Congratulations to the 15 ARES members (listed below) who set up simulated communication posts in the dark EOC parking lot yesterday evening and successfully sent and received messages. 29 of 30 exercise messages were successfully passed and logged, excellent performance. All participants save one earned the maximum possible two points for having their messages successfully transcribed in the recipients' log sheets. A few HT programming errors were found and corrected -- just the kind of improvements we hope to get from these exercises.

Tactical Call	Participant
Airport	Tom, KO6BTX
Aptos Knoll	John, KN6PAD*
Cadillac	Penny, KM6JUO
Calabasas	Kathy, KD6SEI

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- Cherryvale
- CT English
- Davenport
- Fairgrounds
- Grange
- Harbor High
- Laselva Library
- Lincoln
- MCR
- Mountain Charley
- Nisene Marks

- Dan, N6RJX
- Tammy, KG6DQW
- JoMarie, KM6URE**
- Pam, KD6KDF*
- Moses, KN6TXF
- Justin, KN6TXE
- Allison, KM6RMN
- Debra, KM6HGI
- Mike, KO6CJR*
- Roger, KG6AVC*
- Jim, KN6NCG**

- Participants marked with a single asterisk above successfully recorded all messages received, but failed to indicate the source of at least one message. Keeping complete and accurate logs outside in the dark while dealing with crowded radio channels is harder than one might think, and we did a great job.
- Extra credit to those marked with a double asterisk above, who also exchanged winlink messages!
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Reporting Hours Prize Drawing – Not performed John, N6QX

Net Control Recruitment Roberta AJ6KN (AJ6KN@slvares.org)

NET Date	ARES Group	Repeater NET Controller
Thurs, Oct 17	Coastal	Rob, KM6YHC
Wed, Oct 23	SLV	Allison, KM6RMN
Thurs, Nov 7	Coastal	
Wed, Nov 13	SLV	
Thurs, Nov 21	Coastal	
Wed, Nov 27	SLV	

Next meeting November 20, 2024 at 1900 **Topic: Managing a Net when the repeater goes down.**