



SPECS

The Southern Peninsula Emergency Communication System – W6ASH
 (<http://www.specsnet.org>)

Serving the communities of Palo Alto, Stanford, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Mountain View, and Sunnyvale by helping to recruit, train, and maintain a crew of amateur radio operators ready to provide emergency communication services in a time of need.

SPECS Users Group Annual Meeting

January 29, 2011

0800: Membership renewals, coffee, tea, donuts, ID Photos by Phil Henderson (KF6ZSQ).

0900: Meeting called to order by Jerry Haag (K6GAC) on Saturday, January 29, 2011 at the El Camino Hospital Rooms E, F and G. There were 91 attendees.

NOTE: The Treasurer's Report, by Wes Freeman (KG6POV), is included as Appendix A in this document.

Welcome and Introductions

Jerry Haag (K6GAC) welcomed everyone to the meeting and said it was good to have support of so many people.

Each attending EC stood up and recognized the city team members present.

ECs Attending:

Los Altos:	Tom Smith (KD6SOJ)
Los Altos Hills:	Ed Jones (W7WPO)
Mt. View:	Jerry Haag (K6GAC)
Palo Alto:	Paul Lufkin (K6PML), AEC representing Rich Hyde, KD6WYK
Sunnyvale:	Bob Gundrum (W6RWG)
NASA Radio Club:	No EC present
Stanford Radio Club:	Elton Bell (K6EHB), AEC representing Ken Deuker, KB6BPM

Larry Carr (KE6AGJ) introduced his staff. He announced the one should get their 2011 DSW sticker from their city. Please update your personal information on the county web page. And he reminded the ECs to get their members to update their personal information on the county web page.

Opening Remarks: Jerry Haag (K6GAC)

Jerry thanked members for their support and help during the year with activities and the flea market. It has been a quiet year for SPECS. The repeater is stable, but there were outside threats to the 2m-band plan from NARCC (Northern Amateur Relay Council of California, www.narcc.org).

Introduction of the Speaker: Rob Goodson (N2RAG)

The speaker was Rob Goodson (N2RAG), San Mateo County American Red Cross.

Topic: The San Bruno Gas Explosion and Fire - The Initial Radio Response Lessons Learned in the First Forty Minutes

The presentation is available here: www.bay-net.org/docs/arc_first_40.pdf

Crews on ground knew it wasn't aircraft crash because there was no smell of aviation fumes. Incoming crews were told it was an aircraft crash because that was the easiest way to get them prepared.

Cell phones were unreliable and in overload. There were not enough landlines. Amateur radio was the main link between sites (Burlington Red Cross, San Bruno EOC, ICP, and Evacuation Center). Net control was in Millbrae for the first 40 minutes on WW6BAY.

Emergency Communication literature is good for the steady state response, but not for first 40 minutes. For the first 40 minutes a single operator must be able to control three radios: Bay-Net repeater, Red Cross 47 MHz radio, and San Mateo County OES. Operator works from a single location, with no headphones. Speakers are separated in space to distinguish radios. Radios are equipped with at least 4 feet of cord so they can be moved together for use by one operators and then moved apart as more operators arrive.

The first new person to arrive is the message runner. The second person to arrive is the message taker. The third person to arrive puts a situation summary on a white board.

Put carbon paper in your Go Kit to make copies of messages. Have extra pens and pencils in GO kit because everyone else takes pens. Have large paper maps (not Thomas guide) to get the large picture of the situation.

Minimize distractions by having unrelated activities and conversations outside of communication room. Army MARS, WW6BAY, S.F. NERT message handling was training that worked. The Quick Response Guide must be 10 pages or less, current, and pre-printed.

The top five lessons learned are:

- 1) Communication room must be maintained, not an obstacle course
- 2) Three radios must be within easy reach of single operators initially
- 3) Equipment must be ready to go before the incident occurs
- 4) All personnel must have training on ACTUAL Communication room equipment and procedures
- 5) First person to arrive runs three radios, second is the runner, third is the logger.

Break

Break started at 1006 and ended when Jerry started the Annual Business Meeting at 1021.

Attending Board Members:

Yes	Jerry Haag	President	K6GAC
Yes	Maynard Stevenson	1st VP	W7MVT
Yes	Doug Greig	2nd VP	KG6DSV
Yes	Wes Freeman	Treasurer	KG6POV
Yes	Michael Murray	Secretary	KI6JDY
No	Jim Clark	Training	N6JRC
Yes	Dru Anderson	Past President	KG6LAD
Yes	Scott Overstreet	RA Liaison	N6NXI
No	Mark Foster	Director-At-Large, NASA-Ames ARC and Palo Alto ARES	KI6DHU
No	Lea Roberts	Director At Large, Stanford Amateur Radio Club	WA6ITV

Secretary Report: Michael Murray (KI6JDY)

No corrections. Jerry declared the minutes approved since there were no objections.

Treasurer Report: Wes Freeman (KG6POV)

SPECS started 2010 with total assets of \$19,848 and ended 2010 with assets of \$23,568, which was an increase of \$3,720. The Flea Market net income was \$1,764. ROCHE Corporation donated various Ham Radio items to SPECS which were sold for \$1,919. SPECS has 140 paid members. Janie Taylor (KI6SER), and Andy Rose (KI6SEP) inspected the SPECS UG financial records for 2010. The full Treasurer report is in Appendix A.

1st VP Report: Maynard Stevenson (W7MVT)

Read about the Flea Market in the Newsletter. Concession stand brought in paltry a \$400. Next year SPECS hosts the June Flea Market. Scott Overstreet (N6NXI) added that SPECS now has storage and can take donations earlier than just before the flea market. Donations of ham and test equipment are desirable, but not computer stuff.

Recognition of Annual Meeting Helpers: Doug Greig (KG6DSV), 2nd VP

Doug thanked El Camino Hospital and its AV contact; Rod Goodson, the presenter; June Welsh (KF6WPQ) for providing the food and drink, and Phil Henderson for taking pictures.

Training Report: Jerry for Jim Clark (N6JRC)

Jerry reported that many training efforts were made, but there were lots of obstacles. See Newsletter for details.

Repeater Association Report: Peter Griffith (WA6VAQ)

Peter Griffith is the trustee of the Repeater Association. There is \$5,000 in the SPECS RA account. Their only expense has been \$20/month for the phone bill. Scott Overstreet reported that there has been no news on the repeater move. Dave Platt (AE6EO) encourages people to use the repeater and he will go over the repeater control codes at end of meeting. To get information about the 2m band replan, Dave encourages one to go to NARCC web site.

Past President Report: Dru Anderson (KG6LAD)

Dru reported her interest, as past president, in increasing new youth and adult ham radio operators. She noted that many people get interested in ham license through CERT activities in their communities. She wears two hats – as a CERT Supervisor in the city of Los Altos Hills, and as a member/past chair of the LAH Emergency Communication Committee. She suggested one way to encourage new hams net skills would be an informal net activity on a non-Monday for to discuss net protocol, troubleshoot equipment or antenna problems, and similar FAQs.

Elections:

David Platt led the election portion of the meeting. The slate of officers for 2011 from nomination committee is:

President:	Jerry Haag	K6GAC
1st VP:	Doug Greig	KG6DSV
2nd VP:	Wes Freeman	KG6POV
Secretary:	Michael Murray	KI6JDY
Treasurer:	Dru Anderson	KG6LAD
Training:	Mike Prince	KJ6DAK

There were no nominations from the floor.

Motion (Michael first, Tom Smith second): Move to close nominations. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Bob Gundrum moved to accept nomination by acclamation.

Announcements:

Michael Fox (N6MEF) talked about the county packet system. The city packet frequencies are shifting around and a new packet site has been added at Crystal Peak with another soon to follow at Frazier peak.

SPECS is sponsoring a ham cram class on April 23 at Bridges Church in Los Altos Hills.

Meeting Adjourned by Jerry: 1112. Ron Green made the motion

Respectfully submitted, Michael Murray, SPECS Secretary 2011



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SPECS Treasurer's Report for 2010

January 29, 2011

Our checkbook balance on January 1, 2010 was **\$4,848.30**. We had **\$15,000.00** invested in CDs, so our total assets were **\$19,848.30**.

Our checkbook balance on December 31, 2010 was **\$8,200.84**. The total value of our two CDs was **\$15,367.42**. Adding the CDs to the Checkbook balance, our cash assets are **\$23,568.26**. Our total income for 2010 was therefore **\$3,719.96**.

Income from member dues in 2010 was **\$750.00**.

Income from bank interest in 2010 was **\$71.69**. Our CDs now pay interest monthly, unlike 'traditional' CDs which have prepayment penalties. I will therefore begin to report the interest as it accrues. The accrued interest from 2009 was **\$295.73**, which is included in the **\$15,367.42** amount above.

The Electronics Flea Market resulted in a net income to SPECS of **\$1,764.73**. (Receipts were \$5,817.41 (gate = \$3,060, donation table = \$1,648.40 and food = \$1,109.01) and expenses were \$4,052.68. Expenses include a payment of \$1,625.00 to ASVARO and \$1,764.72 transferred to the Repeater Association.

The Roche Corporation donated various Ham Radio items to SPECS. Jerry Haag handled the sale of these items, which produced a net income of **\$1,919.00**.

Meeting and newsletter expenses were **\$244.18**, the mailbox fee was **\$228.00**, and liability insurance was **\$589.00**.

There were no Repeater Association expenses in 2010, other than the transfer of Flea Market funds.

There were no outstanding bills at the end on 2010.

We had a total of 140 dues paying members in 2010. One hundred members (71%) indicated that they are ARRL members.

Janie Taylor, KI6SER, and Andy Rose, KI6SEP, examined the Treasurer's report, expense receipts, written checks, deposits and bank statements, and found that all records were in order.

Respectfully submitted,

Wes Freeman, SPECS Treasurer

SPECS Accounts for 2010

Date	Check	Item Description	Received	Payments	Balance	Category
1/1/2010		2010 Initial Balance			\$4,848.30	
1/23/2010	116	Maynard Stevenson, donuts for Annual Mtg		\$100.00	\$4,748.30	3
1/29/2010		Deposit dues	\$305.00		\$5,053.30	1
1/30/2010	117	Void			\$5,053.30	na
2/16/2010		Deposit dues	\$150.00		\$5,203.30	1
2/20/2010		Deposit dues	\$185.00		\$5,388.30	1
2/20/2010	118	Village Mail Center		\$228.00	\$5,160.30	6
3/11/2010		Returned funds from Maynard, check 116	\$10.00		\$5,170.30	3
	121	Marsh Affinity Group, Liability Insurance		\$589.00	\$4,581.30	7
		Dues	\$5.00		\$4,586.30	1
4/5/2010	122	P Gerald Haag, supplies for Annual Meeting		\$138.55	\$4,447.75	3
2/26/2010	119	ASVARO for Flea Market		\$1,625.00	\$2,822.75	4
2/22/2010		Dues	\$15.00		\$2,837.75	1
3/4/2010	120	Secretary of State, biannual corporate filing fee		\$20.00	\$2,817.75	10
4/8/2010		Dues	\$10.00		\$2,827.75	1
4/27/2010		Dues	\$5.00		\$2,832.75	1
4/27/2010	123	Lou Steirer, Left over soda for Flea market		\$50.00	\$2,782.75	4
4/27/2010	124	Maynard Stevenson, cash for flea market		\$600.00	\$2,182.75	4
5/10/2010		Flea Market gate receipts	\$3,060.00		\$5,242.75	5
		Flea market concessions	\$1,030.50		\$6,273.25	5
		Flea market Donation table	\$1,648.40		\$7,921.65	5
5/20/2010	125	Jerry Haag for flea market supplies		\$12.96	\$7,908.69	4
6/21/2010		Dues	\$50.00		\$7,958.69	1
6/22/2010		Dues	\$10.00		\$7,968.69	1
7/5/2010	127	June Welsh, supplies for Annual Mtg		\$15.63	\$7,953.06	3
7/30/2010		Deposit dues	\$15.00		\$7,968.06	1
8/16/2010		FARS for Flea Market leftover soda	\$78.51		\$8,046.57	5
8/29/2010	128	Void			\$8,046.57	na
	129	SPECS RA		\$1,764.73	\$6,281.84	8
9/27/2010		Donated equipment sales	\$837.00		\$7,118.84	9
11/17/2010		Donated equipment sales	\$1,260.00		\$8,378.84	9
11/26/2010	130	Board of Equalization, sales tax on equipment sales		\$178.00	\$8,200.84	10

Totals by category:	Income	Expense	Category
Dues	\$750.00		1
Interest (since March, 2009: compounding in CDs)	\$367.42		2
Meeting and newsletter expenses	\$10.00	\$254.18	3
Flea Market expenses		\$2,287.96	4
Flea Market receipts	\$5,817.41		5
Mailbox		\$228.00	6
Liability Insurance		\$589.00	7
SPECS RA, one half of flea market profit		\$1,764.73	8
Donations and miscellaneous	\$2,097.00		9
Sales tax and Corporation Fee		\$198.00	10
Totals:	\$9,041.83	\$5,321.87	

Calendar Year 2010 Profit	\$3,719.96
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