

SPECS Users Group Annual Meeting

January 30, 2010

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

0900: Meeting called to order by Jerry Haag (K6GAC) on Saturday, January 30, 2010 at the new El Camino Hospital Rooms E, F and G. There were 92 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:	Scott Overstreet (N6NXI) for Ed Jones (W7WPO)
Mt. View:	Jerry Haag (K6GAC)
Palo Alto:	Paul Lufkin (K6PML) for Rich Hyde (KD6WYK)
Sunnyvale:	Bob Gundrum (W6MOL)
NASA Radio Club:	No EC present
Stanford Radio Club:	No EC present

There was a visitor from East Palo Alto.

Larry Carr (KE6AGJ) introduced his staff. He said not to wait for an earthquake to become a DSW. He has forms with him today. The county MACs are getting background checks. He recommended people become members of the MAC Yahoo group. Bill Dale (N2RHV), ARRL Section Manager, is retiring and Larry is looking for a replacement.

President's Report: Jerry Haag (K6GAC)

SPECS has had an excellent year with no repeater problems, no problems associated with the new hospital and new training activities. SPECS is financially sound but will incur a big expense when the repeater is moved to the new hospital.

Jerry introduced the Board Members.

Attending:

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
Yes	Jim Clark	Training	N6JRC
Yes	Dru Anderson	Past President	KG6LAD
Yes	Scott Overstreet	RA Liaison	N6NXI

Introduction of the Speaker: Jim Oberhofer (KN6PE)

The speaker was Jim Oberhofer (KN6PE); EC, Cupertino; ARES District Emergency Packet Committee; and creator of Outpost Packet Message Manager.

Topic: Packet Updates in Santa Clara County

Jim has been playing with packet for years. Packet keeps the radio and computer sides together.

Jim presented several reasons for packet:

- 1) Message Store and Forward
- 2) Communication Protocol AX.25
- 3) Interoperability: ARRL said Winlink 2000 was the digital network for emergency communication
- 4) Complex messaging: lists, instructions
- 5) Reduces message handling: user enters data, less transcription
- 6) Supported by Amateur Community
- 7) Packet aligns with how we work today: Phone or email
- 8) Expectations: people expect wireless world to work

There is a packet committee in the county and County RACES operates a 3 channel BBS. The county is putting in an Enhanced County Packet System to replace the out of date packet infrastructure that used old hardware (80386-based PC) and software. Message throughput was in issue with a single BBS instance. The new system will adopt JNOS 2.0 as the Network Operating System which has a BBS Mailbox, File Server, and Telnet Gateway and supports AX25 and TCP/IP protocols. Four packet nodes in the county will each host a JNOS BBS on four different frequencies. Messages between JNOSs will use a common TCP/IP 1200 baud 440 link-433.410 MHz.

They did propagation study from Mountain View (MTV) to SCC(county) and found good results on 2 m, but not good results on 440 MHz. Therefore the 440 link will operate at 1200 baud, not 9600 baud, until they get a better antenna. Cupertino needs to move their node site to be able to see the Mountain View node and the Gilroy node needs to get on the air.

Break

Break started at 1016 and ended when Jerry started the Annual Business Meeting at 1032.

Treasurer Report: Wes Freeman (KG6POV)

SPECS started 2009 with total assets of \$17349 and ended 2009 with assets of \$19848, which was an increase of \$2499. The Flea Market net income was \$1991. Annual meeting was less expensive because SPECS is serving coffee made in Red Cross coffee makers and donuts instead of fancy coffee and bagels. There were no repeater expenses for the year. SPECS has 166 paid members. Donna Philpott (WA6SCU) and Phil Henderson (KF6ZSQ) inspected the SPECS UG financial records for 2008. The full Treasurer report is in Appendix A.

No vote to approve report.

Secretary Report: Michael Murray (KI6JDY)

Mike highlighted the minutes from January 2009 Annual Meeting.

Motion (Paul Goldstein (KJ6AMM) first, second from audience): To Approve the January 2009 Annual Meeting Minutes. Motion Passed Unanimously.

1st VP Report: Maynard Stevenson (W7MVT)

SPECS Flea Market is scheduled for second Saturday in May. The flea market is the biggest source of income for SPECS. The Walt Read (W6ASH) Estate has contributed equipment for the donation table that has really helped. Thanks for those who helped serve at Flea Market. Scott Overstreet recognized other donations from Glen Hatley (K6ONM) Estate, Ham Clark Estate, Ray Strauss (KF6EAH), Art Nilli (WA6RPI) Estate, and Peter Wexler (WA2COM)

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

Doug recognized those who helped set up the annual meeting:

Reserve room: Linda Garza, El Camino Hospital

A/V Setup: Brian Richards, El Camino Hospital

Coffee and Refreshments: June Welsh (KF6WPQ), Tom Cascone (KF6LWZ), Maynard Stevenson

ID Photos: Phil Henderson (KF6ZSQ)

Registration: Wes Freeman

Jerry Haag for site survey and Dru Anderson (KG6LAD) for leading later part of meeting

Training Report: Jim Clark (N6JRC)

During 2009, SPECS sponsored a Ham Cram class with 100 participants. SPECS developed two other classes for use by the cities and the county: Introduction to Amateur Radio and Emergency Communication Fundamentals. The Fundamentals class is a good review for everyone. We are looking for teachers.

The amateur radio club at Los Altos High is running, but it has been difficult trying to get a time slot from the students to attend. The students are going to participate in HF contact contest on February 8-12 and can use help.

Repeater Association Report: Dave Platt (AE6EO)

W6ASH repeater has been working for 18 months. It will need to be relocated to the new hospital, but we don't know when. Dave encouraged people to use 220. When the repeater is moved to the new hospital, the antennas and feed lines will be replaced with commercial antenna at a substantial cost. The repeater can be linked to county and serves as a resource travel net. There will have training for SPECS members after meeting on the repeater control codes.

Bylaw Amendments: Dru Anderson (KG6LAD)

Jerry turned meeting over to Dru to lead Bylaws discussion. Dru presented the Directors at Large amendment: Article 4 Section 1 and Article 4 Section 7

Motion (Bob Gundrum first, Frank Weiss (K6FCW) second): To approve the Director at Large Bylaw amendment.

Discussion: There was a comment that NASA AMES seems to be a subset of SPECS. Jerry responded that NASA is a recognized entity of SPECS. It was suggested that NASA and Stanford should be called a radio club, just like they are in the Monday Night Net.

Motion (Bob Gundrum (W6MOL) first, Frank Weiss second) To Amend motion to change Cities to Entities and add Radio Club in 4.7

Motion to amend: 46 yes 1, against. Motion Passed

Motion to approve: 49 yes, 0 against. Motion Passed

Dru presented the Article 7, Section 2 Bylaw amendment which reduces the required check signatures from two to one.

Motion (Ron Green (KG6RLG) first, Dona Kerns (KI6DAR) second): To approve Article 7, Section 2 Bylaw amendment. 47 yes, 9 no. Motion Passed

During the discussion, some thought that two signatures protected the board.

The approved amendments are:

Article 4 Section 1. The Board of Directors shall be the governing body of the organization and shall consist of the elected officers, the Directors-at-Large, the Immediate Past President and the Repeater Liaison. All members of the Board shall have full voting privileges.

Article 4 Section 7. A Director-at-Large may be appointed by each Emergency Coordinator of those entities not otherwise represented on the Board and may serve for a term of one year. Entities to be represented on the Board are Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Mountain View, NASA Ames Radio Club, Palo Alto, Stanford Radio Club and Sunnyvale.

Article 7 Section 2. The account shall be in the name of the organization and the President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President and the Treasurer shall be authorized signatories.

Elections

Dru lead elections. The slate of officers for 2010 is:

President:	Jerry Haag	K6GAC
1st VP:	Maynard Stevenson	W7MVT
2nd VP:	Doug Greig	KG6DSV
Secretary:	Michael Murray	KI6JDY
Treasurer:	George "Wes" Freeman	KG6POV
Training:	Jim Clark	N6JRC

There were no nominations from the floor.

Motion (Bob Gundrum first and Frank Weiss second): To close nominations and have the Secretary cast a white ballot for slate as presented. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Dru mentioned that her brother, Roger, who was a speaker at the 2008 Annual Meeting, now has lung cancer.

Dru turned the meeting back to Jerry.

Motion (Frank Weiss first and Doug Greig second): Dru to speak on the behalf of SPECS to her brother.

Meeting Adjourned by Jerry: 1146. Bob Gundrum made the motion

Respectfully submitted, Michael Murray, SPECS Secretary 2010



SPECS

The Southern Peninsula Emergency Communication System – K6SPX

(<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 Treasurer's Report for 2009

January 30, 2009

Our checkbook balance on January 1, 2009 was **\$10,348.98**. We had a \$7,000.00 CD, so our total assets were **\$17,348.98**.

Our checkbook balance on December 31, 2009 was **\$4,848.30**. In March we purchased Certificates of Deposit in the amount of **\$15,000.00** with an interest rate of 2.47% and a term of seven months. Adding the CDs to the Checkbook balance, our cash assets are **\$19,848.30**. Our total income for 2009 was therefore **\$2499.32**.

Income from member dues in 2009 was **\$845.00**.

Income from bank interest in 2009 was **\$166.80**.

The Introduction to Emergency Communications classes produced a profit of **\$52.22**

The Electronics Flea Market resulted in a net income to SPECS of **\$1,991.45**. (Receipts were \$6,207.90 (gate = \$2,800, donation table = \$2,334.75 and food = \$1,073.15) and expenses were \$2,225. Expenses include a payment of \$1,625 to ASVARO and \$1991.45 transferred to the Repeater Association.)

Meeting and newsletter expenses were only **\$114.15**, thanks to Tom Smith (KD6SOJ) and Jerry Haag (K6GAC) who mailed out the newsletter. The mailbox fee was **\$228.00**, and liability insurance was **\$355.00**.

There were no Repeater Association expenses in 2009, other than the transfer of Flea Market funds.

There were no outstanding bills at the end on 2009.

I would like to express my appreciation to Donna Philpott (WA6SCU) and Phil Henderson (KF6ZSQ) for inspecting the SPECS UG financial records for 2008. No Discrepancies were found.

We had a total of 166 dues paying members in 2009.

Ninety members (54%) indicated that they are ARRL members.

Respectfully submitted,

Wes Freeman, SPECS Treasurer

SPECS Accounts for 2009

Date	Check	Item Description	Received	Payments	Balance	Category
1/1/2009		2009 Initial Balance			\$10,348.98	
1/8/2009	102	Maynard Stevenson, food for Annual meeting		\$100.00	\$10,248.98	3
1/17/2009	103	Bay Area Educational ARS: Kjerstie Olson class		\$0.00	\$10,248.98	7
1/20/2009		Returned funds from Maynard, check 102	\$9.01		\$10,257.99	3
1/20/2009	104	June Welsh, supplies for Annual Mtg		\$23.16	\$10,234.83	3
1/26/2009		Depositdues	\$520.00		\$10,754.83	1
1/28/2009	105	Jim Clark, copy fliers for specs & 'new ham' class		\$20.57	\$10,734.26	7
1/29/2009		Los Altos Hills for leftover soda, 2007 Flea Market	\$41.00		\$10,775.26	9
1/30/2009		Depositdues	\$15.00		\$10,790.26	1
2/2/2009	106	Village Mail Center		\$228.00	\$10,562.26	6
2/2/2009	107	Seabury&Smith, Liability Insurance		\$355.00	\$10,207.26	10
2/10/2009		Elaine Gibbons/Carla Satra: Youth Initiative donation	\$100.00		\$10,307.26	9
2/18/2009		Purchase 9 mo, \$10,000 CD from Bof A		\$10,000.00	\$307.26	na
2/27/2009	108	Jim Clark, donuts for class on 2/21/2009		\$44.18	\$263.08	7
2/27/2009		Depositdues	\$35.00		\$298.08	1
3/2/2009		EmComm class, 31 students @\$5.00	\$155.00		\$453.08	7
3/2/2009		Depositdues, 7 members from EmComm class	\$35.00		\$488.08	1
3/7/2009		\$7,000 CD matures	\$7,166.80		\$7,654.88	na
3/9/2009		Purchase 9 mo, \$5,000 @ 2.47% from Bof A		\$5,000.00	\$2,654.88	na
3/9/2009		Cash in \$10,000 CD, purchased on 2/18/2009	\$10,009.00		\$12,663.88	na
3/9/2009		Purchase 9 mo, \$10,000 @ 2.47% from Bof A		\$10,009.00	\$2,654.88	na
3/9/2009	109	ASVARO for Flea Market		\$1,625.00	\$1,029.88	4
3/9/2009	110	Maynard Stevenson, advance for Flea Market		\$600.00	\$429.88	4
4/17/2009		Flea market Donation table	\$1,764.75		\$2,194.63	5
4/17/2009		Depositdues	\$40.00		\$2,234.63	1
4/23/2009		Flea Market, Gate Receipts	\$2,800.00		\$5,034.63	5
4/28/2009		Flea Market, Concessions	\$997.27		\$6,031.90	5
5/6/2009		Flea Market, Donation Table	\$570.00		\$6,601.90	5
5/8/2009		Depositdues	\$25.00		\$6,626.90	1
5/9/2009		FARS for Flea Market leftover soda	\$75.88		\$6,702.78	4
5/21/2009		Depositdues	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$6,712.78	1
5/21/2009	126	SPECS RA		\$1,991.45	\$4,721.33	8
8/25/2009		Depositdues	\$5.00		\$4,726.33	1
9/14/2009	112	June Welsh, coffee for Intro to EmComm class		\$13.58	\$4,712.75	7
9/14/2009	113	Michael Fox, printing for Intro to EmComm class		\$109.81	\$4,602.94	7
9/14/2009	114	P Gerald Haag, supplies for Intro to EmComm class		\$32.64	\$4,570.30	7
9/14/2009	115	James Clark, donuts for Intro to EmComm class		\$42.00	\$4,528.30	7
9/15/2009		Dues	\$160.00		\$4,688.30	1
9/15/2009		EmComm class, 32 students @\$5.00	\$160.00		\$4,848.30	7

Totals by category:	Income	Expense	Category
Dues	\$845.00		1
Interest	\$166.80		2
Meeting and new sletter expenses	\$9.01	\$123.16	3
Flea Market expenses		\$2,225.00	4
Flea Market receipts	\$6,207.90		5
Mailbox		\$228.00	6
Classes	\$315.00	\$262.78	7
SPECS RA, one half of flea market profit		\$1,991.45	8
Donations and miscellaneous	\$141.00	\$0.00	9
Liability Insurance		\$355.00	10
Totals:	\$7,684.71	\$5,185.39	

Calendar Year 2009 Profit	\$2,499.32
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