

The Sea Ranch Amateur Radio Auxiliary Feb 2009 Report

Purpose of our group:

The purpose of the Sea Ranch Amateur Radio Auxiliary (TSRARA) is to provide emergency communications for the Sea Ranch and surrounding communities plus communications access on the coast between Point Arena, Anchor Bay, Gualala, Stewart's Point, Timber Cove and Bodega Bay through our Sea Ranch Repeater.

Membership:

We are a volunteer organization and not an official committee of the Sea Ranch Association that currently has about 50 members, 25 of whom are licensed amateur radio operators. Group leadership is provided by Dennis Kelleher (KI6HHA) president, Bob Sears (AA6VS) vice president, Tom Ingersoll (KD6MUE) Treasurer. Anyone interested in helping support our efforts to provide emergency communications for the Sea Ranch Area is urged to become a member. Annual dues are \$25.00. Life membership is \$100.00. Email Dennis Kelleher (KI6HHA) TSRARA for more information at ki6hha@arrl.net or call (707) 785-1089 or write to: The Sea Ranch Amateur Radio Auxiliary (TSRARA), in care of Dennis Kelleher (KI6HHA), TSRARA president, PO Box 896, Gualala, CA 95445

Our group's history and Future Plans:

Long time Sea Ranch Resident Gene Rosholdt (N6OFR) formed TSRARA in 1991 in response to a serious auto accident involving a Sea Ranch resident. With the help of many concerned Sea Ranchers, equipment was purchased and installed. . TSRARA spends upwards of \$750 annually for telephone costs. Additional expenditures include maintaining batteries that provide emergency power when electricity flow from PGE is interrupted. New amateur radio operators are needed to assure adequate support during emergencies when others are not available. We hope to expand our equipment capability to be able to use the INTERNET in conjunction with HAM radios to allow world-wide communication.

Activities in 2009:

We maintain a repeater on the radio tower at the top of Moonraker road. The repeater is on a frequency of 147.945 Megahertz with a PL of 88.5 and a negative offset of 600 Kilohertz. Members of TSRARA may use the telephone auto-patch on our repeater. We work closely with the Sonoma Mountain Repeater Society which links our repeater to other repeaters at Pt. Reyes and Petaluma. TSRARA also maintains antennas for emergency use at the Knipp Stengel Barn, Del Mar Center and Sea Ranch Association. TSRARA members and equipment have been used in a variety of emergencies such as lost party searches, vehicle accidents, fires, road closures, phone and the most recent extended power outages on January 4, 2008. We replaced one of our repeater radios in May 2008 to make our system more reliable. We participated in the Silver Sentinel Emergency Drill with member of the Sea Ranch Emergency Management Team to provide back-up communication support. Our auxiliary group is an integral part of the Sea Ranch Disaster Plan and our members often participate in training activities with the Emergency Management staff and volunteers. Our licensed members of TSRARA assisted in providing training classes in March and June 2008 to persons who were interested in obtaining an Amateur Radio Operators License.

Meeting dates and times:

Informal meetings are held several times each year as the need arises for planning or our organization's participation in special events.