



# Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club

<http://www.sf-arc.org/>

APRIL 2010

PO BOX 1005. NEWCASTLE. CA



## At the key of SFARC

### OFFICERS

#### PRESIDENT

Al Martin, NI2U  
amartin4@wavecable.com

#### VICE PRESIDENT

Charles Baker, AE6LR  
ae6lr@yahoo.com

#### SECRETARY

Bill Mahl, W6WEM  
wemahl@wildblue.net

#### TREASURER

Bob Balthrope, KD6WTY  
kd6wty@yahoo.com

#### DIRECTORS

George Simmons, KG6LSB  
grsim@mindspring.com  
Gary Cunningham, KQ6RT  
kq6rt@sbcglobal.net  
Frank Sharit, N6GP  
n6gp4900@sbcglobal.net

#### REPORTERS

Satellites: Greg, KO6TH  
History: Gary, KQ6RT  
Misc Radio: Fred, K6DGW  
Sunshine: Richard WA6RWS  
rkuepper@ymail.com  
916-482-5027

### RESOURCES

#### REPEATERS

145.430 (-0.6 MHz/PL 162.2)  
440.575 (+5.0 MHz/PL 94.8)

223.860 (-1.6 MHz/PL 100.0)

#### CLUB NET

Thursdays, 7:30PM, W6EK/R  
145.430

#### CLUB MEETINGS

Second Friday of the month,  
7:30PM at the Library, 350

Nevada St, Auburn CA

#### CLUB BREAKFAST

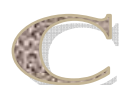
Last Sat of the month at  
Susie's Café, Cirby at Riversix  
Roseville - 8:00 AM

#### NET CONTROL OPS

Dave Jenkins, WB6RBE  
Gary Cunningham, KQ6RT  
Norm Medland, W6AFR  
Casey McPartland, W7IB

#### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Matthew Diridoni, KC6RUO  
916-749-3032  
matteod@comcast.net



## Calendar of Events

April 17<sup>th</sup> **MS Walk, Rocklin, CA**  
**Operators Needed!**  
See page 6

April 30-May 2 **EMCOMMWEST**  
**Reno, Nevada**  
<http://www.emcommwest.org/>

May 23 **Sacramento Hamfest NHRC,**  
**Natomas High School, off**  
**Truxel Rd.**  
<http://svhamfest.org/>

**June 26 & 27 ARRL Field Days**

For more information and rules on the ARRL  
activities listed above, go to:  
<http://www.arrl.org/contests/calendar.html?year=2010>

**SFARC CLUB MEETING**  
**"Broadcast Transmitting**  
**Towers" by Bob Hess, W1RW**

**"Tech Ten" Presentation**  
**"ARRL Propagation Report" and**  
**Solar Storms**

**Don't miss this interesting presentation!**  
**Bring a friend See you there!**

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## From the Presidents Shack

Al Martin, N12U

### President's Thoughts

AE6LR will be conducting the Board and Club Meetings for April. My wife and I will be enjoying the skies of upstate New York.

The Picnic team is organized but we still need to select a date and location. Cooks are WA6RWS, Richard and W6WEM, Bill. Clean up is KD6WTY, Bob; KQ6RT Gary and George, KG6LSB. Food will be picked up by N12U, Al. The meeting date needs to be selected at the next meeting. The proposal is July or August. Please propose locations for the picnic so the facility can be obtained.

### Process for Election to Life Membership

#### Secret process parts

The member proposed for a Life Membership shall be submitted to the Board by a letter from a sponsor.

The letter shall contain a description of the services provided to the SFARC by the proposed Life Member.

The Board shall review the recommendation and approve it by a two-thirds vote.

#### Public process parts

After approval, all secrecy shall be lifted and the nomination be brought to the membership. Final approval shall be by simple majority of the membership.

### Comments from February 2010 Meeting

The Life Member shall not be automatic based on Age.

The Life Member shall have demonstrated sustained contributions to the Club. This could be ten or twenty years.

### Wrap UP

Unless the club proposes more changes, I would like to finalize this with ten years and change the By-Laws.



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## Miscellaneous Radio

By Fred Jensen, K6DGW

### Who Is Alan S. Hart?

(And why are we driving on his freeway?)

It's been a slow radio month, T32MI has been active and easily workable on both CW and SSB from Kiribati, but there's not much other fodder for the column. Consequently, we'll turn to a little local geography trivia and maybe cram a little radio in at the end.

It's easy to miss some of the smaller signs along the Interstate but I'll bet at least some of you have noticed that I-80 is the "Alan S. Hart Freeway." Eastbound, the marking sign is at the Auburn Blvd/Riverside overcrossing, and westbound, it is just west of the state line at Nevada [which my Nevada granddaughter reminds every one, is pronounced "Neh-vaaa-dah," and definitely NOT "Neh-vah-dah"].

The original transcontinental highway was the Lincoln Highway although the term "highway" was probably a stretch ... "road" would have been closer. It traversed through Auburn on Lincoln Way [you're surprised?], and you can even find some of the original pavement if you drive east from Loomis on Taylor Rd. At English Colony Road, there will be a marker, and just a bit down ECR, which was part of it, you will be driving on patches of mainly original pavement from about 1915. It originally ran almost 3,400 miles from Lincoln Park in San Francisco to Times Square in NYC. Most historical accounts of it start in NYC and come west, but we're Westerners so we start in SF.

That was it for awhile, until US40 came along in the 20's. You can drive on it's original pavement too, it's the concrete pavement on Taylor Road east of Penryn [look for the Valencia Club, the neon olive in the martini glass on its art deco sign has been inoperative for decades]. In California, it pretty much replaced the Lincoln Highway, there not being all that many ways to surmount the summit of the Sierra Nevada. It too ran right through Auburn, again on Lincoln Way, and there are a number of commemorative markers along the way.

I-80 supplanted US40 in the mid 50's. There is a [possibly urban legend] story that the section from SF to Tahoe was built on the schedule it was to provide an easy path for folks to get to the 1960 Winter Olympics at Squaw Valley 50 years ago. Unlike the Lincoln Highway and US40, I-80 does not end in NYC, it ends in Teaneck NJ. While working at Bell Labs at Murry Hill, I drove over there just to say I've been at each end of the second longest interstate highway in the US. Either I-10 or I-90 is the longest, I'm not sure. The western end is a bit of a letdown, it is where I-80 meets US101 in the City – no sign or marker. I've also been to both ends of US50 – West Sacramento and

Ocean City MD. In West Sac, just after I-80 exits to go over the north end of town, there's a sign with the mileage to Ocean City, something like 3,059 or so. I don't remember a similar sign at the east end.

So how did I-80 in California become Alan's highway? Alan was born in 1907, graduated in Civil Engineering from UC Berkeley, and worked for his entire career at Caltrans. He retired in 1974 and died 20 years later. According to Caltrans, he headed several field divisions over the years, and was primarily in charge of the section of I-80 from SF to the NV state line. He was also instrumental in the design of I-280 in the Bay Area which is noted and has won awards for how well it fits into the rolling hills landscape. I-280 is named after Fr. Junipero Serra, and I-80 from the Placer County line to the Nevada State line is Alan's. I don't know who got the part from SF to Placer County.

And to get just a little radio in, I was recently asked if maritime CW was really CW or MCW ... a keyed carrier that was AM modulated with a tone. The answer is both, but mainly MCW, especially at the coastal stations [the power ripple on the ships gave most of them a sometimes raucous note by themselves]. The reason might surprise you. Most all ship and some shore operating positions at the time included an emergency receiver which was a crystal set [didn't require any power]. You can see an example in the photo of an RCA 4U shipboard console at [radiomarine.org/4U-8.html](http://radiomarine.org/4U-8.html) – the crystal set is to the right of the main receiver and a close-up is in the second photo. The little arm sticking out holds the “catwhisker” that was planted on a “sweet spot” on the crystal of galena. Without a BFO, a crystal receiver would be silent unless there was some form of modulation on the signal. It is surprising but this stuff was still on the air and being used into the late 60's and early 70's.

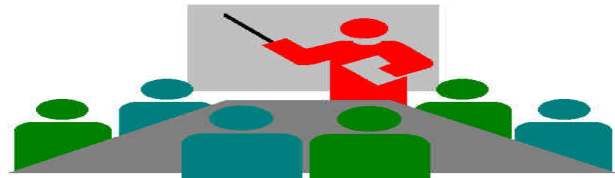
We've had a steady stream of sunspots, it looks like Cycle 24 is really going to happen ... finally.

73, Fred K6DGW

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## BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR MARCH 12, 2010

Meeting started at 1730 hours at Round Table Pizza in the Town Center on Elm Ave, Auburn.

Present were President Al Martin NI2U, Secretary Bill Mahl W6WEM, Treasury Bob Balthrope KD6WTY, Board members, George Simmons KG6LSB and Gary Cunningham KQ6RT. Also present were Richard Kuepper WA6RWS, Birton Gilbert N6UG, and Mary Anne Balthorpe KE6EST. Absent were Chuck Baker AE6LR and Frank Sharit N6GP.

Al NI2U had made ready for release By-Law spelling corrections and added a page describing all changes. Raffle wording was changed to drawing.

Life membership definition and the process for election were discussed. Suggestions were made and will be brought forward to the club meeting for further discussion and suggestions.

Birton N6UG is helping with repeater equipment and offered storage for some equipment. Will be working on getting 220 band back on line.

Richard WA6RWS will explain repeater operations at the April club meeting.

Meeting ending @1830 hours



**11846 Atwood Road  
Auburn, CA 95603  
(right next door to Midas)  
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dave@radiosupplyco.com**

# SFARC CLUB MEETING MINUTES

## MARCH 12, 2010

Meeting called to order at 1930 hours by al N12U followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, Officer, Board, club members and visitor introductions.

Secretary Report - Bill W6WEM – reviewed Board meeting agenda

Treasurer Report -Bob KD6WTY – reported \$1864.94 in the bank

VE Report – Gary KQ6RT- 6VE's, 2 applicants – 1 Tech, 1 applicant that took and passed Tech. General. And Extra classes.

Satellite Report – Greg KO6TH – Reported a Dx expedition on Dry Toruga KTY using all the Oscar satellites. Also a moon bounce will happen on April 18 using the Arecibo dish in Puerto Rico.

Sunshine Report – Richard WA6RWS – reported Dave Hund N6HSD was in and out of the hospital and doing better.

Repeater Report – Richard WA6RWS – Reported they are working on getting someone to inspect the soundness of the pole. Is working with Birton N6UG to get the 220 band up and running, upgrading back-up power, and bracing the equipment racks. Richard will give a presentation on control codes at next month's club meeting.

Old Business – Life Membership was discussed. Suggestions and comments were voiced and noted. Further discussions will follow. We also received a thank you card from Joe KF6OQY and Dottie K6DMS for their recent Life Memberships.

New Business – Leslie K7NYE presented a cake to Don W6LPJ who will be leaving for Alaska soon to drive a tour bus for Princess Cruises. He will be gone for 6 months. Have fun Don.

Guest Speaker – Randy Hall K7AGE gave a presentation on PSK31. Randy showed a video on how to easily get on PSK31 using Digipan 2.0 free software. Randy has almost 50 informative videos on UTUBE.

Meeting adjourned @ 2115 hours

Respectfully Submitted by,  
Secretary Bill Mahl W6WEM



Local ARRL Exam Sessions  
Courtesy of the ARRL

03-Apr-2010

**Sponsor:** UNSPONSORED

**Time:** 8:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** LARRY R HODGE

(916)361-2476

**Email:** [LARRYHODGE2000@COMCAST.NET](mailto:LARRYHODGE2000@COMCAST.NET)

**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](http://ARRL/VEC)

**Location:** RALEY'S COMMUNITY EVENT CENTER

6845 DOUGLAS BLVD

GRANITE BAY, CA 95746

17-Apr-2010

**Sponsor:** RIVER CITY ARCS

**Time:** 7:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** KENNETH M HALL

(916)492-6115

**Email:** [WO6J@ARRL.NET](mailto:WO6J@ARRL.NET)

**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](http://ARRL/VEC)

**Location:** CARMICHAEL ELKS LODGE-USE EAST ENTRANCE

5631 CYPRESS AVE

CARMICHAEL, CA 95608

01-May-2010

**Sponsor:** UNSPONSORED

**Time:** 8:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** LARRY R HODGE

(916)361-2476 (916)361-2476

**Email:** [LARRYHODGE2000@COMCAST.NET](mailto:LARRYHODGE2000@COMCAST.NET)

**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](http://ARRL/VEC)

**Location:** RALEY'S COMMUNITY EVENT CENTER

6845 DOUGLAS BLVD

GRANITE BAY, CA 95746

15-May-2010

**Sponsor:** RIVER CITY ARCS

**Time:** 7:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** KENNETH M HALL

(916)492-6115 **Email:** [WO6J@ARRL.NET](mailto:WO6J@ARRL.NET)

**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](http://ARRL/VEC)

**Location:** CARMICHAEL ELKS LODGE-USE EAST ENTRANCE

5631 CYPRESS AVE

CARMICHAEL, CA 95608

**RADIO OPERATORS NEEDED FOR  
2010 MS WALK IN ROCKLIN, CA  
APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup> 2010.**

Sierra Foothills ARC has been asked to support the annual MS walk in Rocklin on Saturday April 17 2010 2010.

I'm looking for volunteers for about 4 and 1/2 hours that day. We need a total of 6 people all with handhelds. The walk is held in Rocklin at the Sunrise Adventure Church on Stanford Ranch Rd and we need to be there about 0830 and stay until about 1200.

Contact me at [grsim@mindspring.com](mailto:grsim@mindspring.com) with any questions and to volunteer.

George KG6LSB

**Fifty Years Ago at SFARC  
By Gary Cunningham, KQ6RT  
April 6, 1960**

The regular stated meeting of April 6, 1960 was called to order at 2005 by President Jim Carman. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Visitors at this meeting were Jack Schrawder, Paul Traub and Otto Draper, who before the meeting was over had paid his dues and became a member of the club. His call letters are K6ASU and QTH is Rt. 2 box 1918 Grass Valley. There were 10 members present before we finally left the building.

Sage Otow presented a gavel he had made to the club, which Pres. Carman immediately used. Bob Davis reported Sheriff Scott would present a Civil Defense meeting so the Sheriff could present it at his convenience. Frank Carman made a motion that light refreshments be made

available for this meeting. Bob Davis seconded the motion and it was approved.

Sage suggested we have a Pot Luck, so he was appointed to help Activity Manager Bob Davis make arrangements. A tentative date is to be presented at the next meeting.

Secretary Dick Lund will see that all members have a copy of the clubs constitution.

Bob Davis Brought up Field Day possibilities and a discussion followed. More will be presented later.

Lynn Hunter won the \$5 gift certificate presented by Ted Pantages of the California Radio and TV supply in Sac.

Frank Carman gave an interesting talk on Amateur Nets and how to originate and handle traffic.

The treasurer reported \$81.10 in the treasury. Dues collected were as follows: Frank Carman \$1, Howard Davis .50, Otto Draper \$1, Walt Dowdy \$1, and Jim Carman \$2. The balance now is \$86.60.

The meeting adjourned at 2145  
Respectfully Submitted,  
Richard Lund, Secretary

**DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT OUR WEB PAGE**

<http://www.sf-arc.org/>



Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club

Home Meetings Breakfast Repeaters Nets Officers Newsletters Member Application

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2010 Membership Application

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Associate Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Application: (Circle One) New Renewal

Member Dues: Circle Amounts That Apply. Applications (for new members only) received in the middle of the year will be pro rated. Contact the President or Treasurer for exact rate.

Membership: (P)	\$22.00	Name Badge: (R)	\$7.00
Associate: (Q)	\$ 7.00	Repeater Donation: (S)	\$ _____
Auto Patch Donation: (T)	\$ _____	Newsletter Booster: (V)	\$ _____
Misc. Donation: (X)	\$ _____	Christmas Donation: (W)	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL: (Y)</b>		<b>\$ _____</b>	

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