



Welcome to SFARC, Auburn, CA

Sierra Signals



P.O. Box 6421 Auburn, CA 95604

June 2014

<http://w6ek.org> info@w6ek.org

At The Key of SFARC:

PRESIDENT

Tyghe Richardson, KD6MLH
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Dave Albright, NO6NO
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Richard Kuepper, WA6RWS
rkuepper@surewest.net

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Mark Graybill, W8BIT
Robert Bell, W6RBL
Jim Jupin, WA8MPA

FIELD DAY CHAIRMAN

Bob Naylor, WE6C

REPORTERS

Satellites: Greg, KO6TH
History: Gary, KQ6RT
Misc Radio: Fred, K6DGW
Sunshine: Richard, WA6RWS
rkuepper@surewest.net

REPEATERS

145.430 (-0.6 MHz/PL 141.3)
440.575 (+5.0 MHz/PL 162.2)
223.860 (-1.6 MHz/PL 162.2)

CLUB NET

Thursdays, 7:30PM, W6EK/R
145.430

CLUB MEETINGS

Second Friday of the month,
7:30PM at the Auburn City Hall,
1215 Lincoln Way, Auburn CA

CLUB BREAKFAST

Last Sat of the month at Mel's Diner
1730 Grass Valley Hwy, Auburn 7:30AM

NET CONTROL OPS

Dave Jenkins, WB6RBE
Norm Medland, W6AFR
Bob Brodovsky, K6UDA
Al Martin, NI2U

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WEBMASTER & ARRL PIO:

Carl A Schultz, WF6J

SPECIAL FIELD DAY EDITION



Calendar of Events

June 13th:
Club Meeting

June 28th & 29th:
Field Day &
WSER

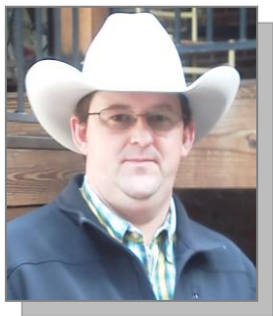
August 9th & 10th:
TEVIS

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We encourage members to receive Sierra Signals via email to save the Club the cost of reproduction and mailing

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From the Mic

By Tyghe Richardson – KD6MLH, President

My First Field Day Experience...

I attended my first field day in the mid to late 90's with Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club. It was an awesome adventure at Nyack, California.

I distinctly remember the feeling of showing up to my first Field Day, not knowing what to expect, but being filled with excitement and anticipation. I knew that there would be some great hams and friends, but other than that, it was all new to me. As my Dad and I pulled up to Nyack, in the old yellow Rabbit pick-up, I got my first glimpse of the site. With the diesel generators from the National Guard and a Humvee or two in the background, the Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club had numerous stations sprinkled all around the site. There was all sorts of wacky wire hanging from the trees and coax cable snaking into the tents. We parked and the excitement took hold. The smell of pine trees, dry dirt and a bit of diesel filled the air. There was a quiet hum of diesel generators in the background and the funny sound of CQ CQ CQ FIELD DAY emanating from every station as we strolled through the site. With each passing station the anticipation grew just a little more. I needed to get on the air.

After our tour of the sites, I eagerly anticipated my turn to play radio. I can still see the green olive tent, table with 2 chairs, radio gear and wacky wire antenna setup in my mind like it was yesterday. Filled with excitement I approached the tent and received a warm welcome from **Bob W6SUP**. He offered me a chair, handed me the microphone and headset, and I was on my way to being one of those operators making that strange CQ CQ CQ FIELD DAY noise. After what seemed like just a few minutes, but was actually closer to an hour, I had logged several contacts and my allotted time was over. My fond memories of that first Field Day were firmly set in my brain. I can't tell you what stations we worked or how far away they were, but I can tell you that the magic of HF had been revealed to me! It took me numerous years until I was able to upgrade to the general class, but I have always looked back fondly on my first HF experience.

Many times throughout my ham radio life I've thought of that day, and the wonders of playing on HF for the first time. These types of events provide experiences to new hams, young hams, and old pro hams alike that are priceless.

I encourage all hams to come to the Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club Field Day event station at Nyack, CA, on June 28th. Bring a friend, bring your family, or show up by yourself and make new friends. Come to Nyack and enjoy the experience of Field Day and build some awesome memories. Even if you don't know anything about radio come anyway and have some fun. **For all of our new technician class licensees please come to Field Day and see what the excitement is all about! You will be amazed at how far a hundred watts will get you...**

I look forward to seeing everyone there!

Field Day 2014 GOTA Station

By Bob Brodovsky, K6UDA

The Big Plan

This year, I'm looking to place GOTA as the centerpiece of our operation. I'd like to place it in a cluster of at least three tents. Inside of those tents, I'd like to see the GOTA station operating HF, the UHF/VHF station, 6 meter and Satellite operations in a cluster. That lends itself to more show & tell and lots of people crowding into or around the station cluster just like the main circus tent.

Tents, Chairs and Tables

I'm estimating we'll need Six Popup Tents in a cluster. I'll need volunteers to bring some popup tents for us to use. Chairs and a few work tables would be helpful also.

PR & Signage

I've done a little market research and found folks at first glance read this as "Amateur "Ham" Radio Week". I propose Centering "Amateur "Ham" Radio" and either tilting the W6EK on either side or moving it to the left side.



1. Adding some balloons or something that says "Hey, you. Yeah you in purple shirt. Come over here and check this out"
2. This is a great opportunity to drive membership. Bring some club materials out with us.
3. Old copies of QST to give out.
4. Think about doing survival food tasting up at the front. It doesn't have to be as big as last year, maybe cook up one or two dishes at various times and put them out.
5. Maybe show off the Baofeng radios. Show how inexpensive and versatile they are. Make up a poster on the advantages over FRS/CB and the ability to do Emmcom.



Antennas

Last year, our major stumbling block at GOTA seemed to be lack of signal. This year I'd like to remedy that. Bob2 has volunteered his vertical, and I've got an 80 - 6 meter Windom and if we could work a small tower / beam into the mix I really believe we can kick ass. Also, if we can get a tower for GOTA, we can stick a 2 meter stick on the tower and roast that band too.

Radios

I'm thinking I'll bring out the KX3 with 100Watt amp for GOTA operations this year. Nice little radio with great ears. It would be nice to get another "Backup" HF rig to play with.

Emergency Operations, Public Relations

1. This is a perfect opportunity to show off solar / battery station operations.
2. Possibility to show off emergency food, bug out bags, etc...
3. We can setup a trade show type display with a look into the different facets of ham radio. Maybe have a TV with a loop of Randy K7AGE's youtube videos or even produce our own.
4. I'm planning on assigning Club Ambassadors to visitors who stop by. Ambassadors will be able to give brief explanations of ham radio operations, introduce visitors around to club members, tour the site, and provide security.

The "Points" Breakdown

Seeing as this year we're looking to scoop up a bunch of points and get on top of the leader board, I wanted to get GOTA as competitive as we can. Here's how it can break down. If we're crowded:

Full Time "GOTA Coach" Bob K6UDA {20 bonus Points X 2 for each 20 QSO player.}

7.3.13.2. If a GOTA station is supervised full-time by a GOTA Coach, the bonus points earned for each 20 QSOs completed under Rule 7.3.13.1. will be doubled.

A quick Calculation from the current roster shows at least 12 club members who as best I can tell, are not yet or have been licensed since last field day. {240 QSO points + 40 bonus Points each player = 720 QSO points just in club members.}

4.1.1.2. The GOTA station may be operated by any person licensed since the previous year's Field Day, regardless of license class. It may also be operated by a generally inactive licensee. Non-licensed persons may participate under the direct supervision of an appropriate control operator. A list of operators and participants must be included on the required summary sheet to ARRL HQ.

Our GOTA operators are eligible to make up to 100 contacts with 100 bonus points. {12 x [100 + 140] bonus points } up to the Maximum 500 Bonus QSO points + the Maximum 500 QSO points if we just get our own folks to work 42 QSOs each.

7.3.13.1. When a GOTA operator successfully completes 20 QSOs, they receive 20 bonus points. Upon reaching an additional 20 QSOs the same operator receives a second 20 bonus points, up to a maximum of 100 Bonus points per GOTA operator. An operator may make more than 100 QSOs but the QSOs over 100 do not qualify for an additional bonus.

I am Joe Ramirez, KN6FH, and I am Captain of Logistics for our June Field Day

I have made a list of equipment, supplies, and food that we will need to make this field day a success. I will try to reach each member and ask them to volunteer as many items as possible. Most of the food needed can be prepared at home by the member. We will need a good amount of food for our main dinner on Friday.

I will ask each member to sign up for contributions. I will need your name, phone number, call sign, and email address. I will remind each person who signs up that they have committed to donate. Items that we will need include the following:

Equipment: Radios and equipment to operate with. Extra coax never hurts. Watt meters, volt meters, a soldering iron, and supplies.

Foods: Prepared salads, canned foods, potatoes, desserts, coffee, soft drinks, beer, bags of ice, and cooler chests. I am sure we can buy ice at the service station in Nyack. **Most important - BOTTLED WATER.** Also needed are sugar, salt/pepper, and salad dressings.

Paper products, toilet paper, paper towels, plastic spoons, forks and knives. Some tools for our kitchen such as can openers, knives, large forks, and a good spatula for pancakes?? Dish washing liquid and scouring pads, old style coffee pots, frying pans, tongs etc. Hand soap and HAND SANITIZER.

Tools: Cordless tools, hand tools, rope, tapes, tape measures, flashlights, wire cutters, pliers, and screwdrivers.

We will need tables and chairs for at least 50 plus people, and a few tents.

We will need people traveling in pickup truck to help transport some of this equipment.

Don't forget a first aid kit, and be sure that everyone carries a handy talkie!

Wishing each and every club member a very memorable 2014 Field Day,
Joe 916-765-3799

Highlights from the Tour de Cure

By Richard Kuepper, WA6RWS

On May 3rd, SFARC provided communications for the 2014 American Diabetes Association Tour de Cure that had the start/finish at Johnson-Springview Park in Rocklin. There were three routes for the bike riders; 32 mile, 63 mile, and a 99 mile ride.

We had twenty-one ham operators work the event. At net control there was **Bruce K6BAA**, **Jim WA8MPA** and **Richard WA6RWS**. SAG vehicle #1 was **Dennis WU6X** and **Joe KN6FH**. SAG #2 was **Robert W6RBL**. SAG #3 was **Nelson KI6UCC**. SAG #4 was **Jeremiah W6DLO**. SAG #5 was **Richard (2) KI6UOV**. SAG #6 was **Justin N6FWD** first shift and **Birton N6UG** second shift. At various rest stops were **Chuck AE6LR**, **Mike (2) K5CWV**, **Frank KB6KYK**, **Les KG6NME**, **Scott KG6SVW** and **Laura KG6LVW**, **Mike KK6GLP** and **Carl WF6J**. Riding bicycle mobile was **Steli AE6OR**.

Net control had some difficulty hearing even with headphones as the disc jockey wanted everyone in Fresno to hear his music. Next year we will have net control as far away as we can get from him.

The event had some minor incidents, but for the most part was done safely. Thanks to all those that helped with the event.



Sunshine Report

With Deep Sympathy, Robert Bell W6RBL recently lost his father.

Please keep Robert in your prayers, Richard WA6RWS



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES May 9, 2014

The SFARC Board meeting for May commenced at 1802 hours at Round Table Pizza in Elm Avenue shopping center in Auburn.

Roll Call: All officers and Directors were present. Guests present were Al-NI2U, Bob-K6UDA, Amaryllis-KK6TFT, Toni-KK6JPJ and Randy-K7AGE.

REPORTS and DISCUSSIONS

President's Report: Tyghe-KD6MLH, nothing to report.

Secretary's Report: Dennis-WU6X, nothing to report.

VP/VE Report: Dave-NO6NO had nothing to report as VP. He reported VE testing results of: (23) candidates took (36) exams with (16) Techs, (1) General and (1) Extras passing ... 17 new hams!

Treasurer's Report: Richard-WA6RWS reported finances in the black with no issues, and net cash on hand, expenses, income and balance of un-allocated funds at the beginning of April.

Repeater: Richard – WA6RWS reported a PL change on the 2m repeater to 141.3 temporarily to assist in tracking down the inter-mod problem.

Directors: Mark-W8BIT reported that a Field Day-2014 meeting was scheduled for May 14. Robert-W6RBL expressed thanks for the thoughts and prayers for his Father. Jim-WA8MPA reported that one of the school staff, located next to the repeater site, has ham gear from a deceased family member and asked for assistance from the Club with sale or donations. Jim was going to check back with the individual and report back to the Board.

OTHER DISCUSSIONS

Guests: Al-NI2U asked if anyone knew of a good source for antenna wire for FD; short discussion followed. Meeting adjourned at 1816.

Submitted by *Dennis Gregory-WU6X, SFARC Secretary*



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

May 9, 2014

The SFARC General meeting for May commenced at 1930 hours at the Auburn City Hall Rose Room, President Tyghe-KD6MLH presiding. All Officers and Directors were present except for Robert-W6RBL. Tyghe led approximately 50 members and guests in a Pledge of Allegiance to the flag followed by an introduction of Officers, members and guests.

REPORTS:

President's Report: No report.

VP's Report: No report

Secretary's Report: Dennis-WU6X reminded the Membership of the Yahoo! Groups calendar, and information for new members and guests, and to sign the attendance sheet. He also reported he will again be programming Boefeng HT's at the break.

Treasurer's Report: Richard-WA6RWS reported finances "in the black" with no issues

Repeater: Richard-WA6RWS reported a temporary change in the 2m repeater PL tone to 141.3 while chasing down inter-mod issues, and asked the Membership to change their radio settings accordingly.

Satellite Report: No report.

VE Report: Dave-NO6NO, reported VE testing results of: (23) candidates took (36) exams with (16) Techs, (1) General and (1) Extra passing ... producing 17 new hams.

Sunshine Report: No report

Refreshments/Drawing: George-KG6LSB reviewed items for the drawing, while Jim-WA8MPA reported on the planned refreshments for the break.

Membership: No report

Committees Reports: Dick-WB6EDR gave an update for Field Day-2014 and the plans for a complete update at next meeting. Bob-K6UDA reported on GOTA pins to be available at FD2014 this year, and passed a sign-up sheet for those to donate to the cost of the pins. Pins to be given any GOTA participant who make 20 contacts or more.

White Elephant Auction: Tyghe reported there should be some nice items available at the upcoming auction scheduled in place of the October meeting, and reminded members to put it on their calendar.

OLD BUSINESS:

Hats and Patches: Dave-NO6NO reported T-shirts and hats with Club patches now available. Contact Dave for pricing and availability.

Events: George-KG6LSB reported on the (3) events we successfully supported; the Diabetes Tour de Cure bike ride and Folsom MS Walk on May 3rd and 4th, respectively, plus the annual Motorcycle Enduro event.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

General Announcements: The Club Net meets every Thursday's at 7:30; Board and General meetings occur on the 2nd Friday; Board is held at Round Table Pizza at 6pm, and General meetings at 7:30. Club breakfast (last Saturday), the Elmer Net is held every other Wednesday night at 7:30pm. See W6EK.org for more information or date changes.

Tech-10 & Presentation: Dave-NO6NO presented a Tech-10 on an easy-to-construct, \$12.50 yagi antenna,

parts available from MCM Electronics (www.mcmelectronics.com).

Presentation by Randy (K7AGE) of the "K7AGE Amateur Radio Channel" of YouTube fame (www.youtube.com/watch?v=j-ZB26bgpOE), gave a very interesting presentation and the history and current state of amateur slow-scan television. During the demonstration, Randy took a picture of the Membership in the room with his iPhone and quickly transmitted it to the overhead projector via slow scan link to his laptop. Randy noted that if you are setup to do any digital mode (e.g. PSK, RTTY, etc.), it is likely that you can copy SSTV using a software download available at www.kc1cs.com. Other references included:

- MMSSTV (free for Windows)
- DM780/Ham Radio Delux (\$)
- iPhone app from Black Cat Software for \$2.99

An opportunity to copy SSTV occurs after the 2m River City ARC net on Wednesday evenings at approximately 8:30 on 145.510.

The meeting adjourned at 2108. Submitted by Dennis—WU6X, Club Secretary



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2014 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ e-mail: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Associate Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ email: _____

Phone: _____ Cellphone: _____ Application is: (Circle) New Renewal

Dues / Donations:

Membership: yearly*	\$ 22.00	Name Badge:	\$ 7.00	Yes (special name)_____
Associate: yearly*	\$ 7.00	Repeater Donation:	\$ _____	
Auto Patch Donation:	\$ _____	Newsletter Booster:	\$ _____	
Misc. Donation:	\$ _____	Christmas Donation:	\$ _____	ARRL member? (circle) Yes No

TOTAL: \$ _____ **Please add \$1 if paying via PayPal**

*Prorated dues for NEW Members/Associates Only

July	\$ 20 /6	October	\$ 14/3 + following year
August	\$ 18/5	November	\$ 12/2+ following year
September	\$ 16/4	December	\$ 10/1 + following year

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DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

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