



P.O. Box 6421 Auburn, CA 95604

May 2016

<http://w6ek.org> [info@w6ek.org](mailto:info@w6ek.org)

**At The Key of SFARC:**

**PRESIDENT**

Orion Endres, AI6JB  
ojendres@outlook.com

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Al Martin, NI2U  
Amartin4@wavecable.com

**SECRETARY**

Bruce Anderson, K6BAA  
anderson51@wavecable.com

**TREASURER**

Sharron Griffith, KK6RGV  
sharron@usamedia.tv

**DIRECTORS**

Birton Gilbert, N6UG  
Bob Brodovsky, K6UDA  
Andrew Silvester, KC6O

**FIELD DAY CHAIRMAN**

Mark Graybill, W8BIT

**REPORTERS**

Satellites: Greg, KO6TH  
History: Gary, KQ6RT  
Sunshine: Richard, WA6RWS

**WEB/YAHOO! GROUP**

Birton Gilbert, N6UG  
Dennis Gregory, WU6X

**REPEATERS**

145.430 (-0.6 MHz/PL 162.2)  
440.575 (+5.0 MHz/PL 162.2)  
223.860 (-1.6 MHz/PL 110.9)

**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

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Barbara Anderson, W6EVA  
anderson51@wavecable.com

**ARRL PIO:**

Carl A Schultz, WF6J

**VOLUNTEER EXAMINER**

Al Martin, NI2U

**Calendar of Events**

**May 10<sup>th</sup>:**  
**Field Day Meeting**  
**(Denny's in Newcastle)**

**May 13<sup>th</sup>:**  
**Club Meeting**

**May 21<sup>st</sup>:**  
**Diabetes Tour de Cure**

**May 28<sup>th</sup>:**  
**Club Breakfast**

**May 30<sup>th</sup>:**  
**Memorial Day**

**June 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>:**  
**Field Day**



**Inside this issue:**

- ***Why You Should Get Your Extra Class License***
- ***Volunteers Still Needed***
- ***Board Minutes***
- ***General Minutes***



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## ***Why You Should Get Your Extra Class License***

***Submitted by Dan Romanchik, KB6NU***

The Amateur Extra Class license is the highest class of license in the United States, and perhaps the world. Many hams - even hams that live outside the U.S.—aspire to pass the test and be awarded one.

There wasn't always an Amateur Extra Class license. The Extra class license, as we know it today, was created as part of the 1951 license restructuring that also created the Novice and Technician Class licenses. In 1951, the Novice license was the "beginner's license." To get a Technician Class license, you had to pass the written test that General Class operators had to pass.

Although it gave an operator no additional privileges, to get an Extra Class license, one had to:

- Pass a 20 wpm code test (Generals had to pass only a 13 wpm code test)
- Pass a longer and more difficult written examination than the General Class exam
- Have at least two years of experience as a licensed radio amateur

Today, without the code test and the experience requirement, many hams upgrade to Extra Class as soon as they can. Some even pass the Technician Class, General Class, and the Amateur Extra Class exams in a single test session.

So, what's the attraction? Why should you upgrade to Extra?

One of the reasons that you should upgrade to Extra is that you get use of the entire 80 m, 40 m, 20 m, and 15 m bands. Portions of those bands, such as 3.6 – 3.7 MHz in the 75m band and 14.150 – 14.175 Mhz in the 20m phone band, are reserved exclusively for Extra Class licensees. Extra Class operators also have exclusive privileges in the CW portions of the 80 m, 40 m, 20 m, and 15 m bands. These are the frequencies where the DX stations hang out.

Another reason to get your Extra Class license is that only Extra Class licensees can administer General Class and Extra Class license exams. General Class operators can become Volunteer Examiners (VEs), but they are only allowed to administer Technician Class exams.

Another reason you might want to get an Extra Class license is to get a fancy vanity callsign. Only Extra Class operators can apply for 1×2 or 2×1 callsigns, such as W8RP or KT8K. A short, snappy callsign can help you work more DX or improve your contest scores.

Whatever your reason, studying for the Extra Class exam will open your eyes to many aspects of the hobby that you may not be familiar with. And, as you work your way through the material, you'll learn things that make you a better amateur radio operator and enable you to enjoy the hobby more. It's not easy, but in the end, an Extra Class license will help you have more fun with amateur radio.

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Dan, KB6NU is the author of the "No Nonsense" line of amateur radio license study guides, a prolific blogger ([www.kb6nu.com](http://www.kb6nu.com)), and an active CW operator in the Extra Class portion of the HF bands. If you have any comments, questions, compliments, or complaints, email him at [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).

## VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED 2016

Saturday May 21, 2016 - Tour de Cure (Diabetes)

in Rocklin

Starts 0630 and ends by 1700

Saturday October 8, 2016 Cystic Fibrosis bike ride

in Newcastle

Starts about 0700 and is over by 1300

If you have a question about volunteering for specific events, please contact me by email, phone, or see me at a club meeting.

George KG6LSB  
[kg6lsb@arrl.net](mailto:kg6lsb@arrl.net)  
 (530) 888-0860




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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

### April 8, 2016

The SFARC Board meeting for April commenced at 1800 hours at the Sizzler restaurant in Auburn.

**Roll Call:** All officers and Directors were present. Also present were guests Dennis-WU6X, Richard-WA6RWS and Tyghe-W6TJR.

#### REPORTS and DISCUSSIONS

**President's Report:** Orion-AI6JB submitted the agenda and asked for officer, board and committee chair reports.

**Vice President's Report:** Al-NI2U reviewed with the board future club meeting presentations.

**Secretary's Report:** Bruce-K6BAA advised the certificate of insurance and a letter confirming our use of the Nyack picnic area for field day were mailed with a follow up telephone call.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sharron-KK6RGT reported net cash on hand at the beginning of March of \$10,696.31; deposits of \$1037.15, expenditures of \$0 with an ending balance of \$12,805.85. Ham Swap deposits of \$2,999.50, expenditures of \$929.50 with an ending balance of \$2,070.00. Sharron advised the club roster is being updated.

**Repeaters:** Richard-WA6RWS advised the 2 meter/440 repeaters are operating properly but the 220 repeater is down.

**Sunshine:** Richard-WA6RWS reported Burton-N6UG is recovering from recent surgery and is expected to make a full recovery.

#### **Directors:**

Birton-N6UG had nothing to report.

Bob-K6UDA had nothing to report.

Andrew-KC6O (Formerly N6REW) had nothing to report.

**Newsletter:** The editor will now email the newsletter to members on the current roster.

**Memberships:** Richard-WA6RWS to receive the roster with a list of delinquent members.

**VE:** Andrew-KC6O reported during the last session, 8 candidates/examinees resulted in 5 Technicians, 1 General and 2 Extras.

**Field Day:** Tyghe-W6TJR advised the next field day meeting will be on 4/26 and another on May 10<sup>th</sup>, both at the Newcastle Denny's. Additionally, field day will be operated QRP-5 watts on battery power to increase scoring and develop low power operating skills. Tyghe also requested an additional \$300 to purchase coffee and donuts for Saturday morning, hotdogs and hamburgers for Saturday afternoon. Burton made a motion, seconded by Andrew to approve the \$300. The motion passed unanimously. Tyghe and Dennis made an additional request to purchase a \$150 wireless hot spot router for the field day site. Burton made a motion, Al seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Burton also made a motion, seconded by Bob to arrange the sale of field day t-shirts through an online vender. The motion passed unanimously. Burton made an additional motion, seconded by Al to give club members a choice between two t-shirt designs, the motion passed with Sharron opposed, as she desired a third design. Field day t-shirts will be offered for sale via a SFARC web site link.

**Old Business:** A suggestion from Carl-W6FJ, was discussed about making the third weekend of march, the new date for the ham swap.

Meeting adjourned at 1858. Submitted by Bruce-K6BAA, Club Secretary

# GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

April 8, 2016



The SFARC General meeting for April commenced at 1930 hours at the Auburn City Hall Rose Room, President Orion-AI6JB presiding. All Officers and Directors were present. Orion led approximately 39 members and guests in a Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. An introduction of Officers, members and guests followed.

## **REPORTS:**

**President's Report:** Orion briefly discussed the agenda and reviewed this evening's board meeting. Last month's minutes as published in the newsletter, were approved. Due to time restraints, the evening presentation began immediately.

**Presentation:** Ms. Sonja Vargas-Conklin of Cal Star, an air medivac service, gave an informative presentation of the services of her non-profit organization. She reported that 21 members of SFARC are actively enrolled in their service. She provided membership applications after the presentation.

**Vice President's Report:** AI-NI2U had nothing to report.

**Secretary's Report:** Bruce-K6BAA requested input for the club newsletter; advised a welcome letter was available for new members and guests, and a reminder to the membership to sign the attendance sheet.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sharron-KK6RGT reviewed the clubs March 2016 finances to members.

**VE's Report:** Andrew-KC6O reported during the last session, 8 candidates/examinees resulted in 5 Technicians, 1 General and 2 Extras.

**Repeater Report:** Richard-WA6RWS reviewed the repeaters status. 220 currently down.

**Sunshine:** Richard-WA6RWS reported Burton-N6UG is recovering from recent surgery and is expected to make a full recovery.

**Refreshments/Drawing:** Jason-KK6RXT reviewed items planned for the drawing. Scott-K6SVW reported on refreshments for the break.

**Ham Fest:** Orion-AI6JB briefed members, advising all 1000 raffle tickets were sold. \$558 of items for sale at the club table was sold resulting in club profits of \$2,071.00. Next year, the Ham Fest will be on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

**Activities:** George-KG6LSB asked for volunteers for the MS Walk April 24<sup>th</sup>, Tour the Cure May 21<sup>nd</sup> and the Enduro May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Yahoo:** Dennis-WU6X advised the membership on the Yahoo group status and was programing radios.

**Christmas Party/Club Picnic:** December 10<sup>th</sup> at the Auburn VFW. Picnic, August 20<sup>th</sup> at Applegate Park. 10 – 3 PM.

**Field Day:** Tyghe-W6TJR and Bob-K6UDA advised the next field day meeting will be on April 26<sup>th</sup> and another on May 10<sup>th</sup>, both at the Newcastle Denny's. Additionally, field day will be operated QRP-5 watts on battery power to increase scoring and develop low power operating skills.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

**None**

**General Announcements:** The Club Net meets every Thursday at 7:30pm; Board and General Meetings occur on the 2nd Friday, Board meeting is held at **Sizzler Restaurant** in Auburn, and General meetings at 7:30pm at **Auburn City Hall**. The Club breakfast is held on the last Saturday at **Mel's Diner** in Auburn; an Elmer Net is held the first and third Wednesday night at 7:30pm on the 2m repeater. See [www.w6ek.org](http://www.w6ek.org) for more information.

The meeting adjourned at 2110. Submitted by Bruce-K6BAA, Club Secretary

SIERRA FOOTHILLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
P.O. Box 6421, Auburn, CA 95604

2016 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

SIERRA FOOTHILLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
P.O. Box 6421, Auburn, CA 95604

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Associate Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cellphone: \_\_\_\_\_ Application is: (New / Renewal)

**Dues / Donations:**

Membership: yearly\* \$22.00 or 20x \_\_\_\_\_ Name Badge: \$ 10.00/15.00 Yes (special name) \_\_\_\_\_  
Associate: yearly\* \$ 7.00 Repeater Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Auto Patch Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter Booster: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Misc. Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Christmas Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL member? (Yes/No/Life) \_\_\_\_\_

**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

**New---New---New---**  
**Multi-year DISCOUNT Membership**  
**\*\*\$20 per year for 2 or more years (new or renewal)**

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