



Welcome to SFARC, Auburn, CA

Sierra Signals



P.O. Box 6421 Auburn, CA 95604

October 2017

<http://w6ek.org>

info@w6ek.org

At The Key of SFARC:

PRESIDENT

Orion Endres, AI6JB
ojendres@outlook.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Michael Perry, KK6GLP
mrpry2@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Bruce Anderson, K6BAA
anderson51@wavecable.com

TREASURER

Sharron Griffith, KK6RGV
sharron@suddenlinkmail.com

DIRECTORS

Greg Dolkas, KO6TH
Bob Brodovsky, K6UDA
Andrew Silvester, KC6O

FIELD DAY CHAIRMAN

Al Martin, NI2U

REPORTERS

Satellites: Greg, KO6TH
Sunshine: Richard, WA6RWS

YAHOO! GROUP

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
Casey McPartland, W7IB
Bob Brodovsky, K6UDA
Al Martin, NI2U

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Barbara Anderson, W6EVA
anderson51@wavecable.com

WEBMASTER:

Herb-KM6JBI

VOLUNTEER EXAMINER

Al Martin, NI2U

Calendar of Events

October 13th:
Club Meeting

October 15th:
Cystic Fibrosis Bike Ride
from Loomis

October 21st:
Enduro

October 28th:
Club Breakfast

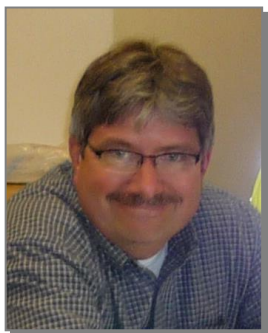
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We encourage members to receive Sierra Signals via email to save the Club the cost of reproduction and mailing

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President's Message

By Orion Endres – AI6JB, President

Unofficial Club Camp-out

By all accounts, Brian, AI6US, hosted an awesome campout. Of course behind every great man is a great woman. Be sure to thank Lynn for us. Organizing, promoting, and then treating everyone to two breakfasts is well beyond the call of duty. Thank you Brian! And Lynn!!

California QSO Party

The California QSO Party (CQP) is coming up on the weekend of October 7th & 8th. This is the one time of year every ham in the United States and Canada wants to work you. It is also one of the few contests the Club has designated as a club contest. Any score you can get will benefit the Club in the club standings category. The modes are CW and SSB on the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meter bands. Contest rules are online at www.cqp.org under the Rules tab. Dennis, WU6X, will be up north in Siskiyou County while Brian, AI6US, and I will be high up in the sierras in Alpine County. Hope to work you!!

Annual October Auction



You are not going to want to miss October's meeting on October 13th, 2017. This month's meeting is our annual Club Auction hosted by the perennial favorites Tyghe, W6TJR, and Bob, K6UDA. It is an opportunity for you to clear out those cupboards of ham gear that may be junk to you, but a hidden treasure to others! All proceeds go towards our annual Christmas Party in December. So, do some fall cleaning and bring lots of cash, or checks.

It's a true Win, Win, Win scenario! You get to clear out stuff that's taking up space for new gear, buy treasures at bargain prices, and support the Club. Win, Win, Win!!

Community Volunteer Events

This will be a busy month for our Volunteer Events Coordinator George, KG6LSB. We have two events on the calendar: Cystic Fibrosis Bike Ride on Oct. 15th, and the Enduro on Oct. 21st. Working a volunteer event is a great opportunity to give back to our local community and have fun while doing. Drop George an email and let him know you are available.

Jamboree On the Air (JOTA)

Jamboree On The Air is heating up. We have a site at no cost to us. It is Lauppe Hall on the Roseville Placer County Fairgrounds. Our first planning meeting on Tuesday, 9/26/17, was full of great ideas with enthusiastic volunteers. The second meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 10/12/17, at the fairgrounds. Time is yet to be determined, but expect it to be 5 – 6 PM 'ish. We have a webpage for the scouts at www.JamboreeOnTheAir2017.Weebly.com.

We still need a few more folks to pull this off. We need help on the Antenna and Setup/Tear Down Crew. Also, we need help at the HT Play, Echolink and Radiogram stations. What, radiograms? Yes, one of those great ideas, thank you Richard, WA6RWS, is to let Scouts send home a message via a radiogram sent from the site by one or two of you. Please help us make this the best JOTA ever. Email me with your availability.

Did you see Sierra Foothills ARC on page 103 in the October issue of QST? We are going to run a Special Event Callsign, K6J, or "Kilo 6 Jamboree". If you haven't had the opportunity to work a special event callsign, Here ... Is ... Your ... Chance! There are going to be tons scouts and hams looking to work you. You will not want to miss out on all the action!

We have the callsign from midnight local time on Friday, 10/20/17, to midnight Sunday, 10/22/17. Currently, most bands and modes are available. If you want to sign-up for a time slot, please email me at AI6JB@ARRL.net. Except for Saturday, between 10 AM – 5 PM, you can work from your home QTH or any location you desire. We will be using the FREE N3FJP JOTA logging software, which is the same one we use at Field Day. Check-out the Kilo 6 Jamboree QRZ page. The schedule, links to great information, and frequencies are all posted there.

Over 1.3 million scouts from all over the world participated in last year's Jamboree On The Air. This year, in particular, is special; it is the 60th year of JOTA! Scouting is pulling all the stops out for this one.

Hope to hear you on the air!

73

Orion, AI6JB





SFARC Unofficial Campout Held at Stampede Reservoir

A sneak peek at winter welcomed Sierra Foothills ARC members to the Loggers Campground September 22nd – 24th. As the early bird campers arrived on the shores of Stampede Reservoir near Truckee, CA, small snowflakes were swirling in the wind. A brief reminder that winter is coming soon to the Sierra! Fortunately, the snow didn't stick and we were left with cool nighttime temps around 30 and beautiful sunny days around 60. A cool wind occasionally came up, prompting the camp chairs to be moved into the sunshine.

The community HF 80-10m station was set-up and a few of us got in some ragchewing and net check-ins. The weekend was a fun mix of stories around the campfire, a bring your own BBQ to the grill potluck, walks along the beach and a few amazing drone demonstrations by Bob K6UDA and Birtan N6UG. Best of all it was a relaxing get-away that was shared with a fun group of new and old friends!

A few members arrived for day visits looking like popsicles from their early morning motorcycle rides over Donner Pass. We attempted to thaw them out with a hosted breakfast of hotcakes, sausages, scrambled eggs, coffee. It must have worked as they migrated back to the western slopes in the afternoon.

The weekend flew by way too fast and it is safe to say that we are looking forward to the next campout! Brian Gohl - AI6US



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HAM? HAM radio? ham radio? Amateur radio? Amateur radio!

Submitted by Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

On the ARRL PR mailing list, we've been discussing the proper way to refer to amateur radio. What brought this up was an email from one list subscriber, Richard, WB6NAH, who was (rightfully) proud of the work that his club—the Skagit Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Club—was doing. He noted that they were even featured in the police department's emergency preparedness brochure:

[[download image from <http://www.kb6nu.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/skagit-arc-768x1024.jpg>]]

As you can see, the brochure refers to "HAM radio" and "HAM radio operators."

Referring to amateur radio in this way just drives me crazy. "Ham radio" is just a nickname for amateur radio, and "HAM" is certainly not an acronym for anything. I congratulated Richard on getting his club included in the brochure, but noted, "...it's not HAM radio! It's either 'amateur radio' or 'ham radio' (ham is not an acronym). I hate to be nitpicky about this, but as a professional writer, this usage just drives me crazy." He replied, "I agree on Amateur Radio, that was the city's call."

That kicked off the discussion.

One ham replied to me privately, "Thank you...I am continually trying to explain that it is not an acronym or abbreviation."

Another replied to the list:

"The most correct term is "amateur radio" or alternatively "ham radio", both written in normal case. If using "ham radio", it is a best practice to first write "amateur (ham) radio" in the first non-header/non-title occurrence.

"Some will write "Amateur Radio" in proper noun format (first letters in caps) and while this may be acceptable to many and in certain venues, anyone using a style handbook will say it is incorrect. Less correct is to write "Ham Radio" in proper noun format as this is a slang term, albeit a popular one. Of course either term may be written as proper nouns when part of a title or name of an organization.

"Least correct is to write "HAM" in all caps; as stated by others, ham is not an abbreviation or acronym. Writing it as "HAM" is completely wrong, will drive many people bonkers, and should be avoided at all costs."

Ward, NOAX, offered this explanation:

"To clarify where the capitalization originated, there is a long-standing ARRL Board Directive, decades old, stipulating that the words "Amateur Radio" be capitalized in ARRL publications and documents. Most non-amateur publications return it to the lower-case style that is used for non-proper nouns."

One guy got a little miffed that we were wasting our time discussing this at all:

"You know, I've been reading this thread and I think people are getting too hung up on very minor details. The bottom line they got PR. So something wasn't spelled right or capitalized, so what. The message got out and IMHO that's the bottom line. Let's not waste any more bandwidth on this."

I agreed that it was great that they were included in the brochure, and that we were probably beating this topic to death, but I don't think these are minor details. I said that PR professionals pride themselves on getting the details right. So should amateur radio PR people.

I'll give the final word to Dan, AI4GK. He wrote:

"I don't think that standardizing what we call ourselves qualifies as getting hung up on minor details. If we don't have a standardized way of referring to us, how can we expect a public, who already is confused, to understand who we are?"

I don't think that you can argue with this. Let's avoid confusion by using "amateur radio" when writing about our hobby/service. I'd even urge the ARRL to rethink their use of "Amateur Radio." Sometimes, it may be OK to use "ham radio," but it's just not correct to use "HAM radio" or just "HAM."

Dan, KB6NU, is the author of the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides and blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com. When he's not picking nits about the name of our hobby, he teaches ham radio classes and operates CW on the HF bands. You can email him at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

September 8, 2017

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

Roll Call: All officers and directors were present except Vice-President Mike-KK6GLP and Director Bob-K6UDA. Guests included AI-NI2U, Birton-N6UG and Richard-WA6RWS.

REPORTS and DISCUSSIONS

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

Secretary's Report: Bruce-K6BAA had nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report: Sharron-KK6RGV presented the budget to board members.

Directors:

Andrew-KC6O is working on nominations, advised he has candidates for each position except president and invites club members to run for office.

Greg-KO6TH will be filming tonight's presentation.

OTHER DISCUSSIONS

Repeater: Birton-N6UG updated the board on the repeaters status.

Membership: 114.

VE: Al-NI2U reported there were 14 candidates resulting in 7 Technicians, 3 Generals and 2 Extras.

Refreshments: George-KG6LSB will provide tonight's refreshments.

Field Day: Al-NI2U, Chairman; advised he needs the bonus points from Orion.

JOTA: Jamboree on The Air to take place October 21st, 2017. Orion advised he has special event call sign: K6J. The event will take place at the Roseville fairgrounds. An onsite planning meeting is scheduled at the fairgrounds, October 12th.

Old Business:

Bi-Laws: Sharon-KK6RGV completed all revisions. The document will be posted on SFARC web and Yahoo sites.

Repeater Fund: Dennis-WU6X will be removed from the Wells Fargo account and Secretary Bruce-K6BAA to be added.

Club Inventory: All club members in possession of club property need to email a list or item description to the club secretary.

Club Officer Duty List: Orion requested all officers submit a duties list.

New Business:

JOTA Budget: Orion-AI6JB submitted to the board a budget for the special event. Greg-KO6TH made a motion to approve, Sharron-KK6RGV seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 1855. Submitted by *Bruce Anderson, SFARC Secretary*

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES September 8, 2017



The SFARC General meeting for September commenced at 1930 hours at the Auburn City Hall Rose Room, President Orion-AI6JB presiding. All Officers and Directors were present with the exception of Bob-K6UDA. 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.

Vice President's Report: Mike-KK6GLP advised this evening's presenter was not available.

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-KK6RGV reported the club budget is available for members to view.

Director: Andrew-KC6O is working on nominations, advised he has candidates for each position except president and invites club members to run for office.

Repeater Report: Richard-WA6RWS reviewed the repeaters status.

VE's Report: Al-NI2U reported there were 14 candidates resulting in 7 Technicians, 3 Generals and 2 Extras.

Activities: George-KG6LSB reviewed upcoming events: Cystic fibrosis October 15th and the Enduro October 21st. George asked for members to sign up.

Satellite Report: Greg-KO6TH briefed members on current satellite activity.

Library: Jim-WA8MPA briefed members on the library and invited members to contribute materials.

Refreshments: George-KG6LSB provided tonight's refreshments.

Facebook: Mark-W8BIT updated members on the club Facebook page.

ARES: Carl-WF6J updated members on Placer County ARES activities.

Unofficial Club Campout: Brian-AI6US briefed members on the unofficial club campout at Stampede Reservoir September 22-24th, 2017.

White Elephant Sale: Tyghe-W6TJR briefed members on the white elephant sale to take place at next month's club meeting October 13th.

Tech-Ten: Gary-KC6PO gave an informative and enthusiastically received presentation on Arduino.

New Business:

JOTA: Jamboree on The Air to take place October 21st, 2017. Orion advised he has special event call sign: K6J. The event will take place at the Roseville fairgrounds. An onsite planning meeting is scheduled at the fairgrounds, October 12th. Orion submitted to the membership a budget request of \$ 440. Jerry-WA6E made a motion to approve, Richard-WA6RWS seconded and Tyghe-W6TJR, requested an amendment instructing Orion pursue a free site. Motion passed unanimously.

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** for more information.

The meeting adjourned at 2130. Submitted by Bruce-K6BAA, Club Secretary

PACIFICON 2017

ARRL Pacific Division Ham Radio Convention
Produced by the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club



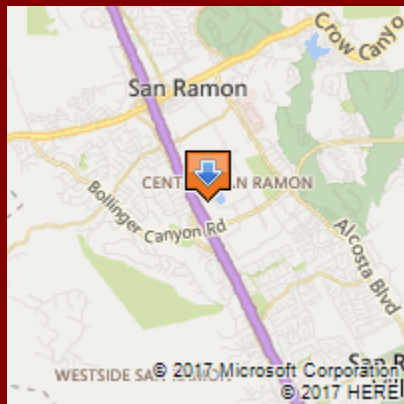
REGISTER TO ATTEND PACIFICON 2017

When

Friday through Sunday
October 20 - 22, 2017
[Add to Calendar](#)

Where

**San Ramon Marriott -
San Ramon, California**
2600 Bishop Drive
San Ramon, CA 94583



[Driving Directions](#)

Please join us again this year for Pacificon 2017! It's just 6 weeks away! By pre-registering before October 8th you'll save \$5 and save time by avoiding the registration lines at Pacificon!

To see what Pacificon 2017 is all about, and to see what you don't want to miss, please see the video produced by Randy Hall, K7AGE: [PACIFICON Video](#)

Pacificon - the Great West Coast Ham Radio Convention!

- Outstanding Technical Forums
- Saturday 1-day Technician License Class with Rich Harrington, KN6FW
- Saturday Dinner Banquet with two keynote speakers: Carole Perry & ARRL President Rick Roderick
- Sunday Swap Meet
- Friday to Sunday - one of the largest West Coast Amateur Radio Vendor Shows
- There are too many things going on to mention them all here. See the Pacificon.org website for more information

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

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P.O. Box 6421, Auburn, CA 95604

2017 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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)**

OFFICE USE ONLY:

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

Date: _____ Treasurer: _____ Secretary: _____ Roster: _____

Payment: _____ Check Number: _____ Cash: _____ PayPal: _____