



Welcome to SFARC, Auburn, CA

# Sierra Signals



P.O. Box 6421 Auburn, CA 95604

November 2017

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

## At The Key of SFARC:

### **PRESIDENT**

Orion Endres, AI6JB  
[ojendres@outlook.com](mailto:ojendres@outlook.com)

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

Michael Perry, KK6GLP  
[mrpry2@gmail.com](mailto:mrpry2@gmail.com)

### **SECRETARY**

Bruce Anderson, K6BAA  
[anderson51@wavecable.com](mailto:anderson51@wavecable.com)

### **TREASURER**

Sharron Griffith, KK6RGV  
[sharron@suddenlinkmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:anderson51@wavecable.com)

### **WEBMASTER:**

Herb-KM6JBI

### **VOLUNTEER EXAMINER**

Al Martin, NI2U

## Calendar of Events

**November 8<sup>th</sup>:**  
**Hamfest Planning**  
**Committee Meeting**

**November 10<sup>th</sup>:**  
**Club Meeting**

**November 11<sup>th</sup>:**  
**Veteran's Day**

**November 23<sup>rd</sup>:**  
**Thanksgiving**

**November 25<sup>th</sup>:**  
**Club Breakfast**

## Inside this issue:

- *President's Message*
- *JOTA photos*
- *Catalogs are about possibilities*
- *Puerto Rico*
- *Board & General Meeting Minutes*



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## President's Message

*By Orion Endres – AI6JB, President*

### **Jamboree On the Air Is A Wrap!**

Jamboree On The Air turned out to be a BLAST! And I'm not talking about the transformer that blew up 15 minutes before the show was to go on, more on that later.

A great big THANK YOU goes out to the JOTA team for coming out and pulling together a phenomenal event! Bruce, K6BAA, Bob, N6EMS, Mike, KK6GLP, Jef, N5JEF, Greg, KO6TH, Jim, WA8MPA, Mike, KK6PVS, Richard, WA6RWS, Al, NI2U, Birton, N6UG, and Brian, AI6US, donated their Saturday and equipment to make special memories for the scouts and their families.

The "Save the Day" award has to go out to one of our newest members Chip, KM6MDF! When the fairground's transformer blew up just before 10 AM, yes, you read that correctly, "BLEW UP", and we lost power, he spring into action, drove home and brought back his 5kW generator. Thank you Chip, you saved the day! And me, from having a coronary!!

All in all, there were a total of 127 participants: 72 Boy/Cub scouts, 2 Girl Scouts, 12 Adult leaders, 28 visitors, and 13 staff. Of the 127, 16 were hams. We had 7 operational stations: 40m CW, 40m SSB, 20m SSB, 20/40m PSK31, 15m FT-8, DStar, and IRLP.

The scouts logged 122 contacts as: 40M CW: 13, 40M PH: 24, 20M PH: 17, 15M DIG: 7, DSTAR: 45, IRLP: 16. 84 were to the USA and 17 to Canada for a total 31 states or provinces.

We even got some DX. The Scouts logged QSOs to Portugal, England, Chile, Hong Kong, Ireland, South Africa, and St. Helena.

Kudos need to also go out to Gerry, WA6E, for allowing us to use his IRLP node and teaching Brian everything there is to know about IRLP. Bob, K6UDA, loaned us his ICOM 7100 rig and a 2m/440 antenna for the DSTAR station. Birton graciously let us use his DSTAR node to make US and international contacts. Birton even found time to make CW contacts with the scouts from his truck and snap 80 or pics.

And before the smoke could clear, Mike, KK6GLP, and Greg, KO6TH, had produced a slide/video show and posted it to YouTube.

Thank you all for making the event a success!! Mark your calendars for next year, Saturday, October 20, 2018, at Gibson Ranch.

### It's Election Time

November is election time at SF ARC. At this month's General Meeting, you get to choose the officers of the Board for next year. Nominations can still be made from the floor, so do not be bashful if you want to run for office.

### December is Christmas Party

Be sure to mark your calendars for Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>! Our Christmas Party, hosted by Sharron, KK6RVG, will be that night at the Veterans Hall across the street. Be sure to let her know what you would like to bring.

We will be doing the canned food drive again. Start collecting those food items for the Auburn Interfaith Food Closet.

### Hamfest 2018

November is also the time to start looking ahead to Hamfest 2018. Hamfest is scheduled for Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018, at the Historic Train Depot in Loomis, CA. This will be our 4<sup>th</sup> annual!!

Our first planning meeting is scheduled for 7:00 PM, Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> in the Denny's restaurant in Newcastle. Anyone who wants to get involved or who just wants to be in the "know" is highly encouraged and welcome to come. Many of us arrive early and grab a bit to eat.

Hope to hear you on the air!

73

Orion, AI6JB

President

[AI6JB@ARRL.net](mailto:AI6JB@ARRL.net)





Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) Saturday October 21, 2017



## Catalogs are about possibilities

**Submitted by Dan Romanchik, KB6NU**

*By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU*

*When I was a kid, I used to regularly get catalogs, such as the Allied Radio and Lafayette Radio catalogs shown below, and pore over them for hours. Even if I couldn't afford to buy the latest Knight-Kit or Lafayette shortwave radio, I could imagine what it would be like. These catalogs were chock full of possibilities.*

*I spent many hours poring over the Allied and Lafayette catalogs as a kid. These two are from 1968, when I was 13 years old.*

*So, you can imagine how I felt when, last Thursday, I found both the Autumn/Winter 2017 DX Engineering catalog and the 2018-2019 Newark Electronics/element14 catalog in my mailbox.*

*DX Engineering has really taken the amateur radio world by storm over the last ten years or so. I probably don't have to tell you about that. If you're an active amateur radio operator, I'm sure that you have heard about—and probably ordered from—DX Engineering.*

*I think that DX Engineering did a very smart thing by investing the money in a print catalog. There's something about browsing a print catalog that is just more satisfying than browsing online.*

*DX Engineering has just about everything you need to have fun with amateur radio. The one glaring omission? They still don't carry my study guides!*

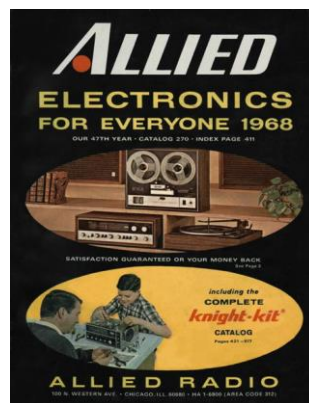
*The Newark/element14 2018-2019 catalog is a completely different beast. Amateur radio operators are only a small part of Newark/element14's market, but one nonetheless. They have, for example, attended the Dayton Hamvention for many years.*

*As such, the catalog is not a "ham radio" catalog, but if you build stuff at all you'll find something of interest in its 1,799 pages. It includes nearly any kind of electronic part that you might need.*

*The section that might you might want to start with is the "makerspace" section. In this section, you'll find Raspberry Pis, BeagleBones, and even micro:bits. They really have everything, though, including passive and active components, connectors, cable, and enclosures.*

*Like I say, these catalogs are all about possibilities. You can search each company's website and find the parts they carry quickly and easily, but that experience is just not the same as browsing a print catalog and daydreaming about what you might find there.*

*So, get your own copies—they're free—and page through them. I'd be surprised if you didn't run across something that you didn't know about before, and it gave you some ideas about your next amateur radio project.*




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*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 browsing through catalogs, he teaches ham radio classes and operates CW on the HF bands. You can email him at [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).*

## Puerto Rico

The first two weeks in October I was deployed through the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) to Puerto Rico to assist with whatever needed to be done. I got to drive a big truck to deliver medical supplies from the airport to the hospitals, distribute food and water, and assist in the communications center which was set up in the Convention Center in San Juan. I operated the G2 satellite radio and monitored incoming calls from mobile hospitals setup in various cities on the island.

I did get a chance to have a QSO on 2 meter simplex with another member of my team that brought his radio too. We spent the day exploring the area around a damaged building and cleaning up grave markers in the adjacent cemetery. (See photo below).

The hurricane tore through the island leaving so much damage and destruction. The road to recovery will be a long one for the people of Puerto Rico.

I was just glad to help.

73,  
Barbara W6EVA





## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

### October 13, 2017

The SFARC Board meeting for October 2017 commenced at 1800 hours at the Sizzler restaurant in Auburn.

**Roll Call:** All officers and directors were present except Bruce - K6BAA (Secretary) and Bob - K6UDA (Director). Mike - KK6GLP took the minutes in place of Bruce. Al - NI2U, Richard - WA6RWS, and Dennis - WU6X attended as guests.

#### REPORTS and DISCUSSIONS

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

**Vice President's Report:** Mike - KK6GLP advised he was starting to work on securing presentations for 2018.

**Secretary's Report:** Bruce - N6BAA was not present.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sharron - KK6RGV presented the September Recon Report and the proposed 2018 Budget. She advised the new Repeater bank account had been opened with a \$100 transfer. A \$98 transaction had not been put on the September report and will be added in the October report. The Board discussed the 2018 proposed budget, which will be finalized for the November meeting.

#### **Director's Reports:**

Bob - K6UDA was not present.

Greg - KO6TH had nothing to report.

Andrew - KC6O had nothing to report.

#### OTHER DISCUSSIONS

**Repeater:** Richard - WA6RWS advised no issues with the repeater.

**Newsletter:** Orion - AI6JB stated that the October 2017 Newsletter was published and distributed.

**Webmaster:** Richard - WA6RWS recommended that upcoming events be shown on a flashing notice on the main page of the Club website. Sharron - KK6RGV asked if a sign-up sheet for events could be placed on the website. Orion - AI6JB said both were possible, and he would discuss these with Webmaster Herb - KM6JBI.

**Yahoo Groups:** Dennis - WU6X stated that he could create an area on Yahoo Groups for Club members to post items for sale.

**Social Media Officer:** Mark - W8BIT was not present.

**Membership:** Orion - AI6JB stated one new member joined since the last meeting.

**VE Exam:** AI - NI2U stated that 10 people took tests at the exam session the previous Saturday, and all passed. He will check on room availability for the exam for November.

**Nominations:** Andrew - KC6O presented the Candidate Pool for 2018 Officer Elections:

- President - Orion Endres AI6JB
- Vice President - Mike Perry KK6GLP
- Secretary - Bruce Anderson K6BAA
- Treasurer - Sharron Griffith KK6RGV
- Directors - Mark Graybill W8BIT; Brian Gould AI6US; Gary Willett KB7QWC; Earl Wilson K6GPB

**Volunteer Events:** Orion - AI6JB advised of the October 15 Cystic Fibrosis ride and October 21 Enduro being handled by George - KG6LSB.

**Drawings:** Sharron - KK6RGV stated that recent ticket sales have not reached the \$75 monthly budget for drawing items. The Board discussed changing the mix of items offered to generate more ticket sales. Orion - AI6JB said he would discuss this with Aaron - KG6TVT.

**Refreshments:** No input.

**Calendar of Club Events:** Orion - AI6JB reviewed the Club calendar, and will add the October 21 JOTA event to it.

## OLD BUSINESS

**By-Laws Review - Publish Final Version:** Orion - AI6JB advised that the By-Laws were posted to the Yahoo site on October 13, 2017. This item is closed.

**Repeater Fund:** Sharron - KK6RGV reported that the Repeater fund is opened. This item is closed.

**Club Inventory List:** Orion - AI6JB stated he is awaiting information from Bruce - K6BAA.

**Club Officer Duties:** Richard - WA6RWS stated that he will submit a list of duties to the Board.

**Officer Nominations:** Nominations submitted at this meeting. This item is closed.

**Jamboree on the Air (JOTA):** Sharron - KK6RGV asked about a Certificate of Insurance for the event. Orion - AI6JB said he would look into same.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Club Calendar:** Mike - KK6GLP noted that some events did not show on the Club calendar, and asked about a protocol for posting events. Dennis - WU6X said that he will post events from the monthly Board Minutes. Item closed.

Meeting adjourned at 1850. Submitted by Mike Perry, SFARC Vice President.

# GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

October 13, 2017



The SFARC General meeting for October commenced at 1930 hours at the Auburn City Hall Rose Room, with President Orion - AI6JB presiding. All officers and directors were present except Bruce - K6BAA (Secretary) and Bob - K6UDA (Director). Mike - KK6GLP (Vice President) took the minutes in the absence of Bruce. The sign-up sheet reflected 27 members and 3 guests, a total of 30 attendees. Orion led the members and guests in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Then followed an introduction of officers, directors, members, and guests.

## CLUB BUSINESS

**September Minutes:** Carl - WF6J made a motion to approve the September 2017 minutes. Gary - KB7QWC seconded the motion. The Club members voted to approve.

**Board Meeting Updates, Old Business:** Orion - AI6JB reported the following: 1) A draft 2018 Club budget has been submitted; and, 2) A classified ads section will be set up on the Club website.

Andrew - KC6O presented the Candidate Pool for 2018 Officer Elections:

- President - Orion Endres AI6JB
- Vice President - Mike Perry KK6GLP
- Secretary - Bruce Anderson K6BAA
- Treasurer - Sharron Griffith KK6RGV
- Directors - Mark Graybill W8BIT; Brian Gould AI6US; Gary Willett KB7QWC; Earl Wilson K6GPB

## REPORTS

**President's Report:** Orion - AI6JB discussed the agenda and reviewed this evening's Board meeting.

**Vice President's Report:** Mike - KK6GLP advised that the January speaker will be an Army veteran who will discuss his experiences as a radio operator in the Korean War. He asked any Club members who have military radio gear from that era to bring it to the meeting.

**Secretary's Report:** Bruce - K6BAA was not present.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sharron - KK6RGV reported that the Club budget is available for members to review.

**Directors:** Attending directors had nothing to report.

**Repeater (Station Trustee) / Greeter / Sunshine:** Richard - WA6RWS said the repeater was working well.

**Christmas Party:** Sharron - KK6RGV stated she had a sign-up sheet for the Christmas Party.

**VE Exam:** Al - NI2U reported that 10 people had tested, and all passed - 7 Tech, 3 General.

**Volunteer Events:** George - KG6LSB discussed the October 15 Cystic Fibrosis ride and the October 21

Enduro. Gary KB7QWC asked for two volunteers for an October 28 event at Sugar Pine Lake. Orion - AI6JB discussed the October 21 Jamboree on the Air event.

**Satellite:** Greg - KO6TH gave a satellite report.

**ARES:** Carl - N6CKV said that ARES groups in nearby counties are involved with the recent wildfires.

**Refreshments:** George - KG6LSB discussed what was available.

**Other:** Bob - N6EMS gave an account of his 11-day deployment with FEMA to Houston, for the recent hurricane.

**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.

**PROGRAM:** Tyghe - W6TJR conducted the annual White Elephant event, assisted by Orion - AI6JB and Bob - N6EMS, with Dennis - WU6X tracking purchases.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2130. Submitted by Mike Perry, Vice President.



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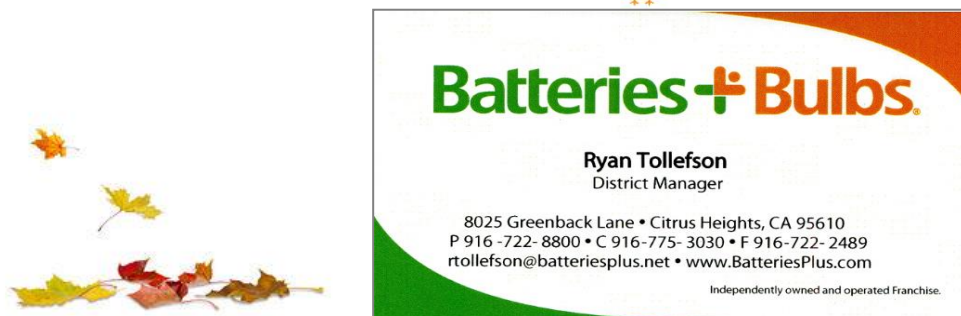
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**2017 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

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)**

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Payment: \_\_\_\_\_ Check Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash: \_\_\_\_\_ PayPal: \_\_\_\_\_