



Welcome to SFARC, Auburn, CA

P.O. Box 6421 Auburn, CA 95604

August 2019

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

At The Key of SFARC:

PRESIDENT

Orion Endres, AI6JB
AI6JB@ARRL.NET

VICE PRESIDENT

Brian Gohl, AI6US
AI6US@titaniumsattelite.com

SECRETARY

Michele Bauer, WH7QC
mickeybauer2012@gmail.com

TREASURER

Jeff Morgan, KM6RGO
jamontrail@gmail.com

DIRECTORS

Greg Dolkas, KO6TH
 Gerry Brentnall, WA6E
 Dustin Yue, W6YUE

FIELD DAY CHAIRMAN

Gary Frerking, KC3PO

REPORTERS

Satellites: Greg, KO6TH
 Sunshine: Richard, WA6RWS

GROUPS io

Dennis Gregory, WU6X

PIO

Scott Vogelsang, WA6YNE

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 Garcia, KM6JBI

VOLUNTEER EXAMINER

Al Martin, NI2U

Calendar of Events

August 3rd:
National Watermelon Day

August 9th:
Club Meeting

August 17th:
TEVIS

August 31st:
Club Breakfast

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- *Can you copy at 20 words per minute by hand?*
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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*

Welcome Aboard!

As you may have heard, our valued and most respected Station Trustee, Richard, WA6RWS, has decided to retire and pursue a life of leisure RV'ing the US. Richard took over from Casey, W7IB, on 2/25/13. Richard, we thank you for your hard work and dedication. Thank you!

The Board approved our new Station Trustee, Clyde, AB4CC, and he officially took over effective 7/17/19. Thank you Clyde for stepping forward to take on this vital role!!

Tevis Cup 2019 – August 17th

On August 17th, in the wee hours of the morning, 174 riders, so far, will embark on the 64th Tevis Cup Endurance Ride. The Tevis Cup is a world class 100 mile long ride from Lake Tahoe to Auburn. Riders from the Australia, Canada, Chile, China, France, Israel, South Africa, and the US will be participating. Several members of the Sierra Foothills ARC will be staffing radio positions. Because our repeater's unique location, it will be the primary repeater for the event. You will notice testing and increased radio traffic leading up to the event. If all members would avoid the repeater of the 17th, the Tevis Cup radio crew will appreciate it.

Did You See The Birthday Celebration Announcement in QST?

Whose birthday you might ask? The co-founder of the ARRL, Hiram Percy Maxim, turns 150 years old on Sept. 2. In celebration, ARRL is hosting an operating event starting 0000 UTC August 31 and running through Sept. 8, 2019, 2359 UTC. This 9 day event is book-ended by two weeks, so there are plenty of opportunities get out and make some contacts.

The exchange is very simple, RST & your ARRL Section. All bands, except WARC (i.e. 60, 30, 17, & 12 meters), and all modes are fair game. Additional information is available at <http://www.arrl.org/hpm150-birthday-celebration>.

Added bonus, if you are an ARRL member, you may use your callsign with "/150" at the end, e.g. AI6JB/150. Being a member and using the /150 callsign you get 150 bonus points. Any station that makes contact with a /150 station will get 2 points for the QSO.

Another bonus, N3FJP is giving away for free his contest logger for this event. You can download it at <http://www.n3fjp.com/hpmaxim.html>.

Upcoming Events You Might Be Interested In

California QSO Party

Each year the Northern California Contest Club (NCCC) hosts the California QSO Party. It is perhaps the most popular State QSO Party: with about a 1,000 logs submitted and 300,000 contacts. Each year, many of our members participate. Last year Bob, K6UDA, hosted a multi-multi club station we had an absolute blast. If you would like to learn more about the CQP go to www.cqp.org for results, rules, power point presentations, records, and stats from past contests. Check out the results tab. You will find several SFARC members listed in prominent spots. W6EK was #3 in the STATE for Multi-Multi stations with a score of 57,232! Can expect a repeat!!

Mini Maker Faire, Rocklin, CA

Save the date Saturday, October, 12th, to promote amateur radio to the youth of our section. This event is being organized by Mike, KK6GLP, on behalf of the Sacramento Valley Section of the ARRL. Sierra College will once again host the site.

Several folks have expressed an interest in joining us, so this year we thought we would try something different: Run Multi-Operator/Multi-Station. Richard, WA6RWS, our club callsign trustee, has given us permission to use W6EK for the contest. We have found a site very near to our site last weekend with plenty of space to spread out and plenty of very tall trees, +120 feet. The plan is to setup two stations on Friday, Oct. 5th, and run them for the full 30 hour contest period on Sat. & Sun., Oct. 6-7. We thought we would run it very similar to Field Day, i.e. 2 stations, with a logger and operator each.

Everyone is invited. No contesting experience required. Heck, no General/Extra License required, we'll make sure you have a control operator. All you need is a willingness to have some fun. I can guarantee you it will be fun!! Please let me know.

Jamboree On The Air (JOTA)

The biggest Ham Radio event of the year is coming up on October 19th. It is Jamboree On The Air (JOTA), always the third weekend of October. JOTA is sponsored by the World Organization of Scouting. The event had over 1.5 million scouts participate last year, in 144 countries, at 27,133 locations. Over 18,561 Hams participated. SFARC hosted a JOTA site last year as part of the local Council's Scout Expo on Beale AF. Be sure to save the date! You will have the best time ever!!

Hope to hear you on the air!

73

Orion Endres, AI6JB

President

AI6JB@arrl.net



Club breakfast at Mel's Diner
Saturday July 27, 2019

SFARC Scholarship for Students

An Award was made at the July 2019 SFARC Meeting to Wendy Yang

The Club is happy and excited to encourage young Hams to advance their amateur license. Wendy is a college student and studying Mechanical Engineering and Aeronautic Engineering at Berkley. The initial use for the amateur radio is for model rocketry.

Congratulations Wendy!



The Dan Fogard W6PRL Student Award was presented by Al Martin (NI2U) to Wendy Yang (KN6CKY)

Dan Fogard W6PRL (Silent Key) was a member of the Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club. He expressed a desire to help the younger generation get involved in Amateur Radio. The sale of Dan's equipment has been converted into a scholarship for students (Recipient shall be 21 years of age or younger as of the date of the test). The scholarship is a reimbursement for the student's test fee and a study guide for the next higher level of Amateur Radio License. A certificate is presented that documents the award.

KB6NU's Ham Radio Blog

Can you copy at 20 words per minute by hand?

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

About a month ago, this email from the ARRL was send to the CWOps mailing list:

From: Fusaro, Norm W3IZ [<mailto:w3iz@arrl.org>]

Sent: Monday, July 1, 2019 4:00 PM

Subject: W1AW Code Proficiency Certificate

Greetings Morse Code Enthusiasts.

I have some exciting news that I want to share with you! The ARRL has reinvigorated the W1AW Code Proficiency Certificate program. Several things have changed beginning with our new sponsor, Vibroplex, a legend in Morse telegraphy equipment. If you see Scott Robbins W4PA and the Vibroplex team at a hamfest or convention please be sure to thank him for his support. The Vibroplex logo will appear on the newly designed certificates (see below) and in the award recipient page that will appear every month in QST.

That's right, each month in QST we will publish the most recent recipients of the W1AW Code Proficiency Certificate, beginning with all the 2019 recipients. As a bonus, we are sending all the 2019 CPC holders a new certificate at no cost to replace their older style award.

The award is available to anyone who copies one solid minute of code during the qualifying runs. Complete program details can be found on the web at <http://www.arrl.org/code-proficiency-certificate>.

And to make the award available to more people we will double the number of opportunities to copy the CW text. Beginning September 2019, the qualifying runs will increase from twice per week to four times per week.

I am sharing this advanced notice with the Morse code clubs so that you can share it with your members. I have attached PDF files of the new certificate and the announcement that will appear in August QST, available in digital format July 8. I hope you are as excited about this as I am.

In closing, I want personally thank all of you who promote the use and proficiency of Morse code on the air waves and ask that you challenge your club members to submit their copy for the W1AW Code Proficiency Certificate.

73,
Norm Fusaro, W3IZ
Director of Operations

Almost immediately after I posted this to my blog (at KB6NU.Com), my friend, Paul, KW1L, replied, "How does one copy legibly at 40 wpm?" When I replied, "Typing," he countered, "On page 98 of the July 2019 QST, it says, 'Legibly copy at least 1 minute of text by HAND...'"

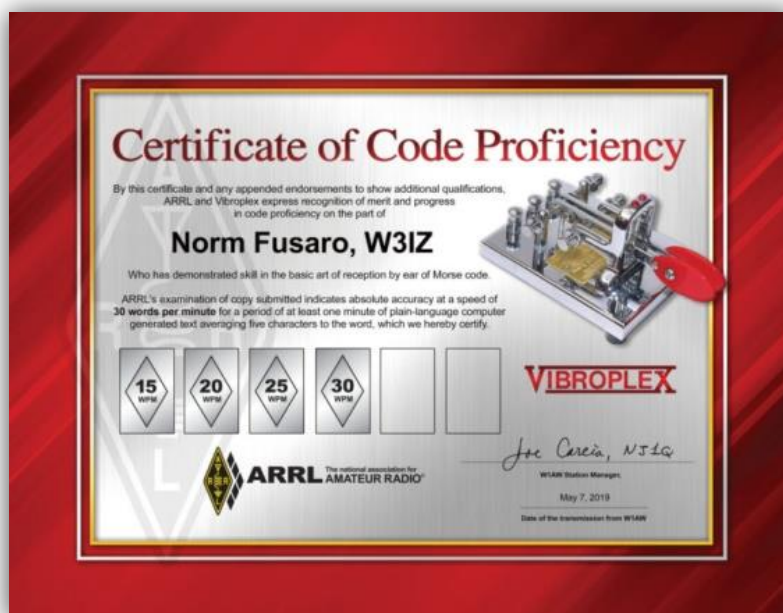
To this, I replied, "Well, I guess you and I are both screwed then. I can't copy by hand at 20 wpm, and it's really not worth it to me to practice and get that fast. I'm guessing that I'm not alone in this regard. The upshot is that the ARRL is going to be sending out a lot fewer of these Vibroplex certificates than they think."

I then emailed W3IZ for a clarification. He shot back, "By hand is to mean not using a code reading machine." I suggested that he clarify this, both on the ARRL website and in QST. Of course, they haven't yet taken my suggestion, and the website still reads, "Copy one of W1AW's qualifying runs and submit one minute of solid copy (legible)."

=====

Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, is the author of the KB6NU amateur radio blog (KB6NU.Com), the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides (KB6NU.Com/study-guides/), and is one of the presenters the ICQPodcast (ICQPodcast.Com). Feel free to reply to his CW CQs at any speed you so choose.

NOTE: You can find an image of the new certificate at <https://www.kb6nu.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/2019-Code-Proficiency-Certificate-Vibroplex-768x597.jpg>





BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

July 12, 2019

The July 2019 SFARC Board meeting was called to order by Orion at 1800 hours at Mel's Diner in Auburn.

Roll Call: All officers and Directors were present, excepting Directors, Gerry (WA6E) and Dustin (W6YUE).

OFFICER AND BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

President's Report: Orion/AI6JB submitted the agenda, which was approved, and asked for officer, director, and committee chair reports.

Vice-President's Report: Brian/AI6US announced that John, from the Rubicon Foundation will be a guest at next month's General meeting, speaking about Repeater systems.

Secretary: Michele/WH7QC had no report.

Treasurer: Jeff/KM6RGO told us about some "spear phishing" on his account—probably due to someone getting the Treasurer's email via the Club website. Fred Goode/WA4VXW knows how to set up security and to get an unpublished account.

Directors: Greg/KO6TH had no report. Gerry/WA6E was not present. Dustin/W6YUE was not present.

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Repeater (Station Trustee): A big welcome to Clyde/AB4CC who is our new Station Trustee! Many, many thanks to Richard/WA6RWS who has served us long and well!

Greeter/Sunshine: Richard/WA6RWS announced that Scott Vogelsang's/WA6YNE dad passed away. A card was sent. Gary Cunningham/KQ6RT is in chemo.

Newsletter: Barbara/W6EVA was not present

Webmaster: Herb/KM6JBI had no report

Groups io: Dennis/WU6X was not present

Social Media Officer (SMO): Bob/K67UDA was not present

Membership: Richard/WA6RWS Jeff/KM6RGO, our Treasurer is now handling the membership rosters.

VE Exam: Al/NI2U announced 3 new Techs. Clyde will teach a Tech class!

Volunteer Events: Mike/KK6GLP announced of the generous \$800 donation from Enduro!

Contest Chair: Dennis/WU6X was not present

Drawing Chair: We need a drawing chair!

Snack Bar: George/KG6LSB was not present but doing well with the refreshments. We made about \$50 last month. Perhaps in lieu of a raffle for now, more donations can be made to our snack cause.

Public Information Officer (PIO): Scott/WA6YNE was not present

Digital Repeater: Bob, K6UDA was not present

Nomination Committee: Rich/AA6RS was not present

Field Day Committee: Herb/KM6JBI, Bob/K6UDA, Al/NI2U, and Gary/KC3PO. Field Day attendees, at least 3 of them mentioned having seen the event posted on Craig's List. There were about 77 guests in attendance at the Field Day event!

Club Picnic Chair: The annual Club picnic is cancelled due to no chair-person.

Club Christmas Party Chair: We have none for this event but perhaps a "reach out" to prospective party organizers would reap some volunteers. Brian/AI6US volunteered along with Al/NI2U to go through the membership roster to contact prospective chairpersons.

CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS

July 20 is the NAQP RTTY; August 3 is the NAQP CW; August 17 is the NAQP SSB. All three events are chaired by Dennis/WU6X.

September 13: Club Officer Nominations and is chaired by Richard/AA6RS.

October 5: California QSO Party and chaired by Dennis/WU6X.

October 11: Annual White Elephant Auction chaired by Tyghe/W6TJS and Bob/K6UDA.

October 12: Mini Maker Faire, Rocklin, CA chaired by Mike/KK6GLP

October 19: 62nd "Jamboree On the Air" 2019 chaired by Orion/AI6J B

October 26: CQ Worldwide SSB Contest chaired by Dennis/WU6X

November 8: Club Officer Elections chaired by Richard/AA6RS

November 16: ARRL Sweepstakes chaired by Dennis/WU6X

November 22: CQ Worldwide CW Contest chaired by Dennis/WU6X

December 7: Club Christmas Party chaired hopefully by someone soon!

January 25, 2020: Winter Field Day chaired by Brian/AI6US and Orion/AI6JB

OLD BUSINESS

Club Meeting Camera Lighting Proposal: Actual cost comes to \$230, rather than the original amount of \$200. Jeff/KM6RGO motioned and Greg/KO6TH 2nd for the Club to pay the extra \$30 to Brian/AI6US who is acquiring the equipment for the Club.

Orion/AI6JB--The Establish Repeater Committee is to address the Repeater issues: Repeater lease expiration of 6/2018, Repeater upgrades proposal, and the new Repeater site.

SFARC Ham Class: Al/NI2U announced again about a Tech class that will be taught by Clyde/AB4CC.

W6EK Log Book of the World (LoTW): is now up and running! This is handled by Dennis/WU6X.

Station Trustee: Again, many thanks to Clyde/AB4CC for taking on this responsibility!

Reserve Vet Hall for 2020 Christmas Party which is to be held on December 7.

Change Club meeting day and venue? Dustin/W6YUE had requested a meeting day change. It was suggested to bring up the matter to the Club members via a "blast" letter.

NEW BUSINESS

Cancel the Club picnic? SOTA Saturday instead? Orion/AI6JB announced that the Club picnic will be cancelled due to having no chair for the event.

Add TEVIS Cup to the Club Volunteer events? Brian/AI6US reported that the TEVIS Cup is a very exciting event and he suggested that it should be added to our Club events.

The SFARC Board Meeting was adjourned at 1840. Submitted by Michele/WH7QC

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

July 12, 2019



The SFARC General meeting for July 2019 commenced at 1930 hours at the Auburn City Hall Rose Room, with President Orion Endres/AI6JB presiding. We did our usual Pledge of Allegiance. Officers present were Orion/AI6JB, Vice-president Brian Gohl/AI6US, Secretary Michele Bauer/WH7QC, and Jeffrey Morgan/KM6RGO. Directors present were Greg Dolkas/KO6TH with Dustin Yue/W6YUE coming into the meeting a bit later.

Introductions were made and visitors welcomed. New members are able to get an Elmer through Brian/AI6US.

There were 39 in attendance, including 5 visitors. Wendy Yang/KN6CKY, was announced as a new Ham and member of the Club. Also announced was Bob Wold/K6ZLY and Mike Forgensi/KE6UXV, a new member.

CLUB BUSINESS

Special Student Award Presentation: AI/NI2U presented a “scholarship” to Wendy Yang who completed her Tech in June 2019 and who is a student of Mechanical Engineering and Aeronautics. She received her Certificate, the General License book and \$15 to take the exam.

The May meeting minutes were approved.

Board Meeting updates: Clyde/AB4CC is now our new Club Station Trustee. We will have a Repeater Committee. Gary, Greg, and Peter volunteered.

Needs: We need a drawing chair. The Club picnic was cancelled due to having no chair this year. Brian/AI6US will set up a SOTA activity as a possible alternate. A request has been made to having our meetings on a different evening than Fridays.

OFFICER AND BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Vice-president: Brian/AI6US announced that John Arenz, director of Rubicon Foundation will be a guest speaker for our August meeting, speaking about Repeater systems. Secretary: Michele/WH7QC had no report excepting to remind attendees to please sign the roster. Treasurer: Jeff/KM6RGO announced that there are still are a few name badges needing collected. Directors: There were no reports by Greg/KO6TH, Gerry/WA6E (not present), or Dustin/W6YUE.

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Repeater (Station Trustee): Clyde, AB4CC announced that the static on during Thursday evening’s radio call-in was caused by Alabama sign-in.

Greeter/Sunshine: Richard/WA6RWS announced that Scott's/WA6YNE father passed away recently. A card was sent. Gary Cunningham/KQ6RT is going through chemo. A card was sent.

VE Exams: Al/N12U announced 3 new Techs. A Tech class is in the works.

Volunteer Events: Mike/KK6GLP announced about Enduro's generous donation check of \$800. This will go to the Repeater. TEVIS will be added to our volunteer events. TEVIS will be August 17.

Satellite: Greg/KO6TH-PSAT

Public Information Officer (PIO): Scott/WA6YNE-not present as his father recently passed away.

Website: Herb/KM6JBI-not present as was ill this evening

Groups.io Site: Dennis/WU6X not present Contest chair: Dennis/WU6X not present

Social Media Officer (SMO): Bob/K6UDA not present

Membership: Richard/WA6RWS no report

ARES: Carl/N6CKV reminded ARES members about Sunday evening check-in

Digital Repeater Implementation: Bob/K6UDA not present

Snack Bar: George/KG6LSB has a variety of snacks for the evening.

Drawing Chair: We are in dire need of one

Nomination Committee: Rich/AA6RS not present

CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS

July 20: NAQP RTTY chaired by Dennis/WU6X August 3: NAQP CW chaired by Dennis/WU6X
 August 17: NAQP SSB chaired by Dennis/WU6X September 13: Club Officer Nominations chaired by Rich/AA6RS October 2019: Mini Maker Faire, Rocklin, CA chaired by Mike/KK6GLP October 5: California QSO Party chaired by Dennis/WU6X October 11: Annual White Elephant Auction chaired by Tyghe/W6TJR & Bob/K6UDA

October 19: 62nd "Jamboree On the Air" 2019 chaired by Orion/AI6JB November 8: Club Elections chaired by Rich/AA6RS November 16: ARRL Sweepstakes chaired by Dennis/WU6X December 7: Club Christmas Party chaired TBD

TEN TEC Presentation, Brian/AI6US: Al/N12U gave a presentation on Propagation Prediction-How did the band predictions compare to reality at Field Day. VOCAP is a free professional high-frequency propagation prediction software from NTIA/TIS developed for the Voice of America (2MHz to 30MHz). Activity tracked from 80 metres, 40 metres, 20 metres, and 15 metres.

“SFARC 2019-Fly in Field Day”: Chris Campbell, wife of Clyde/AB4CC gave a wonderful video replay of Field Day, including Set Up, HEXX Beam Assembly, Drone, Plane fly-in by Scott/KK7AIR, and members and youngsters, including Talia/KM6UMY and Willie/KN6BXV speaking over the radios.

Field Day Evaluation: by Gary/KC3PO Challenges: Primary 3-element beam went MIA so a 2-element beam was used as a back-up. There was initial “friction” with astronomer(s), but things got worked out. We were unable to deploy 160 m EFHW. We were unable to make Satellite QSO. Dust! The Porta-potty was maxed out. There was overgrown spring brush.

Some highlights: Great overnight participation! Very interesting educational activity! The food was great! DX contacts to Liberia, United Arab Emirates and Puerto Rico! 135 miles, 2m contact with a Baofeng! Great participation! 28 people made Qs!

How’d we do? Dennis/WU6X got 205 QSOs. 3 youth got QSOs--one receiving about 20. Total points for 2019 was 5060, the highest since 2012! Did we have fun? Yes! Did we learn? Yes! Were we competitive? Overall, it was a huge success. Next year: Stay at Blue Canyon? Go back to Nyack? Find another place? The consensus seems to be we remain at Blue Canyon for this event.

The SFARC General Meeting adjourned at 2105. Submitted by Michele Bauer/WH7QC

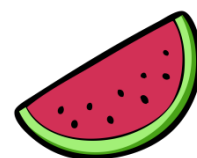
National Watermelon Day on August 3rd recognizes the refreshing summertime treat enjoyed at picnics and fairs. Watermelon is 92% water, which is why it is so satisfying in the summer heat.



Ingredients (for one drink)

All fresh ingredients are used in this recipe for the most refreshing cocktail

- 1/2 cup Watermelon, juice
- 1/4 cup Lime juice, sweetened
- 2 oz Tequila
- 1 oz Triple sec



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: _____

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