



Welcome to SFARC, Auburn, CA

P.O. Box 6421 Auburn, CA 95604

November 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
 Orion Endres, AI6JB
 Al Martin, NI2U

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Barbara Anderson, W6EVA
anderson51@wavecable.com

WEBMASTER: Herb Garcia, KM6JBI

VOLUNTEER EXAMINER

Al Martin, NI2U

Calendar of Events

November 8th:
*Club Meeting & Officer
 Elections*

November 11th:
 VETERANS DAY



November 28th:
*Happy
 Thanksgiving*



November 30th:
Club Breakfast



Inside this issue

- *President's Message*
- *Photos from October events*
- *Paul Alford, Jr., KB6NYB SK*
- *How to get "plugged in" to the amateur radio community*
- *Board & General Minutes*



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*

White Elephant Auction – Smashing Success!!

Our very own auctioneer, Tyghe, W6TJR, conducted a fabulous White Elephant Auction this year! The items for sale were clearly higher quality as compared to years past. Tyghe recognized the added value and skillfully extracted the maximum amount from all those who dared to venture a bid, including yours truly.

The highlight of the evening came when several members chipped in to make the winning bid for Nick's, KN6DAL, daughter to get a brand new HT.

Once the dust settled, Dennis, WU6X, and our Treasurer, Jeff, KM6RGO, collected and counted all the money and the kitty for this year's Christmas Party grew to \$1,275.00. Folks, it is now time to party!!

October, What a Busy Month!

The Club Contest Station setup shop near Robinson Flat Campground for the California QSO Party on the first weekend of October, Oct 5th & 6th. Numerous club members dropped by with a total of 6 taking the mic to amass 340 contacts with 53 States or Canadian Provinces in 30 hours for a score of 36,570 points. This works out to 18.9 contacts per hour! Check out the Groups.io site for pictures. Chris, KN6CCC, a McClatchy HS teacher, brought up 4 students to visit our site and show them amateur radio. Chris and all of his students made their first HF contact! Two students, after spending some time with Al, NI2U, exclaimed, 'I'm getting my license so I can do CW!' Mission accomplished ... 4 more new Hams!!

The next weekend, our very own Mike, KK6GLP, organized the Sierra College Mini Maker Faire for the ARRL Section. He was joined by SFARC members Greg (Mr. Satellite), KO6TH, and Dustin, W6YUE, along with members of the River City ARC. They enthralled visitors with all that amateur radio has to offer.

Again, the very next weekend, SFARC was at it again with the 62nd running of Jamboree On the Air (JOTA) at Gibson Ranch Park in Elverta. JOTA is a worldwide event with over 1.6 million scouts participating in 2018. This year Greg, KO6TH, drew the scouts to our table with his Tesla Roadster and Satellite antennas. Nathan, K6NDC, captured the scout's imagination with constant international contacts with Canada. Mike, KK6GLP, showed off his dexterity on 2m by always having someone for the scouts to talk to by moving to numerous local repeaters. Michael, N6MQL, from the Samuel F. Morse ARC was on hand to amaze the kids with the world of CW. Jef, N5JEF, was all setup on 40m to stupefy the scouts with NVIS, ... unfortunately, the propagation gods were not cooperating.

And, for a clean sweep, members of the Placer County ARES team held a field exercise on October 26th. Of the 14 participants, 9 were SFARC members! The event was led by Carl, N6CKV, the County Emergency Coordinator. Michele, WH7QC, and Roy, WH7DH, skillfully ran Net Control at the Veterans Hall in Auburn with Don, N6DPH. Brian, AI6US, Fred, KF7QVB, & Chip, KM6MDF, the over-achievers they are, not only setup VHF Phone & WinLink, they setup an HF WinLink station. Aaron, K6ABJ, took the reins a team lead for the Penryn Fire Station. Mike, KK6GLP, and Clyde, AB4CC, setup shop at Sutter Roseville Hospital. The PCARES ran scenarios for several hours learning much about going portable and message passing. Everyone was so excited, they vowed to do it again in 4 months.

Club Officer Elections, November General Meeting

After the antics of October, November will seem like we are taking a break. Except November is election time. Yes, the SFARC holds officer elections each year at the November General Meeting. The Nominations Committee led by Rich, AA6RS, presented a slate of officers at September's meeting. Keep in mind, NOMINATIONS ARE NOT CLOSED. If you are interested in an officer position, please contact Rich, AA6RS. You will have one last chance to have your name nominated at the beginning of the November meeting.

Club Annual Christmas Party! December 7th, 2019

As mentioned earlier, folks it is time to party!! And party we will. All proceeds from our White Elephant Auction go towards the Christmas Party. With the resounding success, you can expect the Lady's prizes and Drawing prizes to be bountiful. Jim, WA8MPA, and Fred, WA4VXW, your hosts, have informed me as of last Saturday, we already have 48 RSVPs, and we are not even in the month of November yet. This year's party promises to be the best yet. Be sure to RSVP to Jim, WA8MPA.

The club will be providing drinks, ham, turkey, decorations, and paperware to our usual pot-luck dinner. All you need to bring is yourself, a dish to share, a food item to donate, and a fist full of cash to get in on the Drawing Prizes.

Each year we host a food drive to benefit the Auburn Interfaith Food Closet. All non-perishable food items are graciously accepted. Each food item donated gets you a drawing ticket for some fabulous prizes. So, please consider donating.

If you want to learn more about the Auburn Interfaith Food Closet, see go to their website at <http://www.auburnfoodcloset.org>. They have a 2019 Platinum Seal of Transparency issued by GuideStar. Want to learn more about their finances and their results point your browser to <https://www.guidestar.org/profile/68-0424269>.

Hope to hear you on the air!

73

Orion Endres, AI6JB

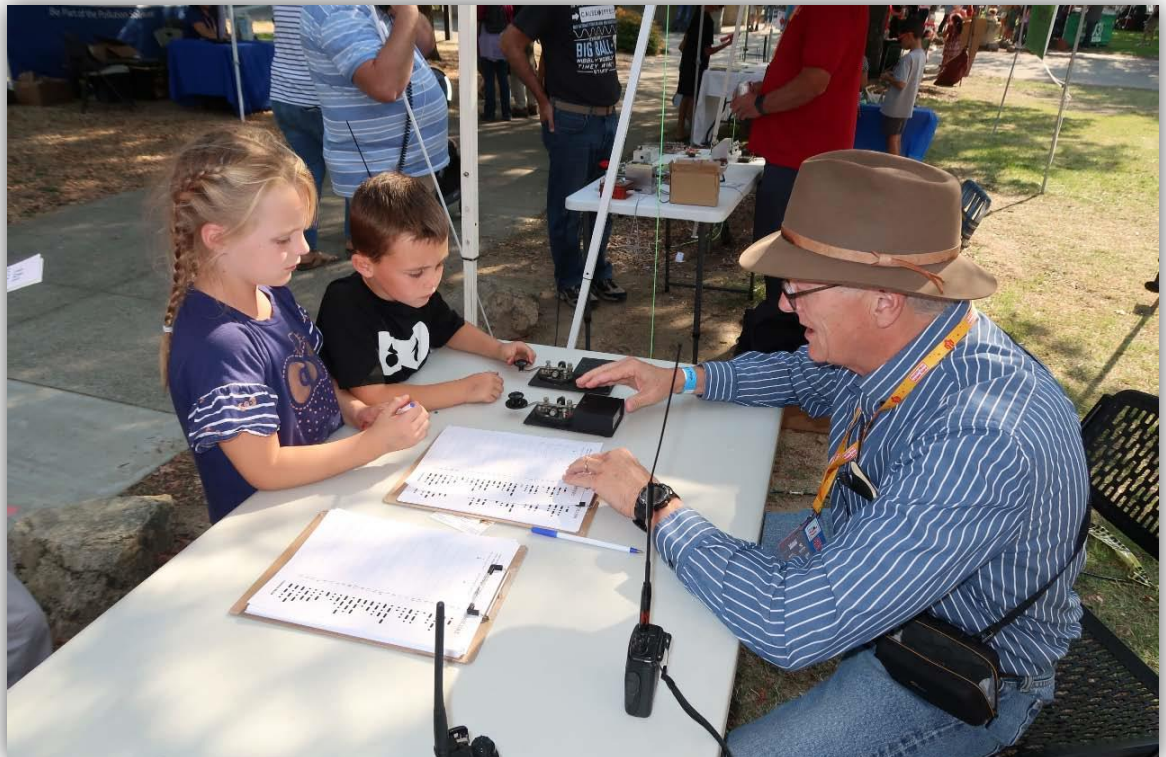
President

AI6JB@arrl.net

The Club Contest Station set up operations near Robinson Flat Campground for the California QSO Party on October 5 and 6, 2019.



On October 12, 2019, ARRL Sacramento Valley Section had a booth promoting Amateur Radio at the **Rocklin Mini Maker Faire**. Volunteers from Sierra Foothills ARC and River City ARC participated. The Faire had many attendees and we fielded many questions. We displayed our homebrew amateur radio projects. The Morse Code keys as always were a big hit with the kids.



The Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club and Samuel F. Morse Amateur Radio Club demonstrated amateur radio to Scouts at the 2019 **Jamboree on the Air** held at Gibson Ranch Park on October 19, 2019.



Paul L. Alford, Jr, KB6NYB SK

Passed away peacefully at the age of 86
4/1/1933 - 10/1/2019



He was born in Oakland, California.

Upon graduating from Le Grand High School in 1951, he signed up for the Army (82nd Airborne) and served during the Korean War. After Korea, his career in Law Enforcement and Security continued for much of his life. He enjoyed many years as a master mason and DeMolay Advisor.

Formerly an active member of the Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club, he also served faithfully with the VFW Honor Guard and served for many years with the California State Military Reserve.

KB6NU's Ham Radio Blog



How to get “plugged in” to the amateur radio community

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

This morning, I found this email in my inbox:

Thank you for your website and great content. I passed the Tech and General tests on Saturday, and I will be taking the Extra exam in November. Your “No Nonsense” guides were very helpful. I do have a question, though. How do I stay current on what’s happening in the ham world? For example the CQ WW SSB contest was this weekend. How do newbies know this kind of thing? How do we find local or regional hamfests and other events?

This is a great question. Like any special interest, it can seem daunting to get plugged in (pun intended) to the community. Here are a few of my suggestions:

Join the ARRL (<http://arrl.org/>). The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) is really the place to start for information related to amateur radio. *QST*, the ARRL’s monthly magazine, includes news about upcoming contests and ARRL-sanctioned hamfests. It also reviews new amateur radio products and provides a wealth of technical information.

In addition to *QST*, the ARRL publishes many email newsletters that members can subscribe to. For example, *Contest Update* is a biweekly newsletter that not only lists upcoming contests, but also includes tips on operating contests. The *ARES E-Letter* is a monthly public service and emergency communications newsletters. There are also email newsletters for ham radio instructors, those interested in DX, legislative matters, and satellite operation.

Join your local club. While the ARRL will help you keep abreast of amateur radio news and events nationally and internationally, if you want to know what going on in amateur radio in your area, you should join your local club. To find clubs near you, go to <http://www.arrl.org/find-a-club>.

Visit the WA7BNM Contest Calendar (<https://www.contestcalendar.com/>). This contest calendar has become my go-to resource for any and all contest information. This site provides detailed information about amateur radio contests throughout the world, including their scheduled dates/times, rules summaries, log submission information and links to the official rules as published by the contest sponsors. Its features include an 8-Day calendar, a 12-Month calendar, and separate calendars for state QSO parties, CW contests, and QRP contests. You can also get a weekly e-mail of contests taking place in an 8-day period (Monday through Monday), as well as a list of contests scheduled for the next week and a list of log submission information for recent contests.

Ham radio blogs. Blogs are also a good way to keep up with what's going on in amateur radio. I like to think that I do a good job of covering what's going on in amateur radio, but, of course, I can't do it all. That being the case, you might also want read other blogs. Other amateur radio blogs that you might want to check out include:

- The KONR Radio Site (<http://www.k0nr.com/wordpress/>)
- QRP—When you care to send the very least (<https://w2lj.blogspot.com/>)
- Everything Ham Radio (<https://www.everythinghamradio.com/>)

There are a bunch of other good ones out there. Find the ones you like and subscribe to them, so that you get a notification when new items are posted.

Mailing lists. Mailing lists are kind of old school, but if you have a special interest, chances are that there is a mailing list for it. For example, I own an Elecraft KX-3, so I subscribe to the Elecraft KX User Group mailing list (<https://groups.io/g/Elecraft-KX/>). Many amateur radio mailing lists are migrating to the Groups.io. To find a list, just click on the “Find or Create a Group” link at the top of the page. I just did a search for “amateur radio” and found 910 different amateur radio mailing lists.

Podcasts and videocasts. Podcasts are also another great way to stay up with amateur radio. I'm partial to the ICQPodcast (<http://icqpodcast.com/>) because I am on the panel once a month. The podcast not only includes a discussion of what's new in amateur radio, but also a feature, which digs a little deeper into a particular topic. Other great podcasts are Ham Radio Workbench (<https://www.hamradioworkbench.com/>), and Linux in the Ham Shack (<https://lhspodcast.info/>). Internet video shows that are worth checking out are Ham Radio 2.0 (<https://www.livefromthehamshack.tv/>), Ham Radio Now (<https://www.hamradionow.tv/home>), and Ham Nation (<https://twit.tv/shows/ham-nation>).

This is by no means an exhaustive list. If you have an amateur radio information resource that you find particular helpful, please let me know.

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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 often appears on the ICQPodcast (icqpodcast.com). When he's not trying to keep up with ham radio, he likes to build stuff and operate CW on the HF bands.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

October 11, 2019

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

OFFICER AND BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Vice-President: Brian/AI6US reported that next month's meeting on November 8th, Don Whitaker, founder of Ceronix Inc. will be our guest speaker. Brian also mentioned having told Richard/WA6RWS that Gary Cunningham (KQ6RT) will be having surgery on October 25th.

Secretary: Michele/WH7QC had no report.

Treasurer: Jeff/KM6RGO said that an entire year of reports can be found on groups i.o.

Director: Greg/KO6TH had no report.

Director: Gerry/WA6E had no report.

Director: Dustin/W6YUE had no report.

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Repeater (Station Trustee): Clyde/AB4CC said, "It worked!" ATT is the only phone line that totally worked during the power outage. If we integrate the 440 digital, we will need an additional controller interface. For the Fusion test, we may need \$29.95 for the cost of a voice interface for a DR-2x-if we don't have a compatible controller radio for Clyde/AB4CC. Greg/KO6TH made a motion and Gerry/WA6E 2nd the motion that the club purchase the interface if necessary. The motion was carried and passed.

Greeter/Sunshine: Richard/WA6RWS was absent at the meeting. Richard, your sunshine is always appreciated!

Newsletter: Barbara/W6EVA was absent. She always does such a tremendous job with the newsletter! We love the holiday jokes!

Webmaster: Herb/KM6JBI announced that our site was hacked! There were two scripts on the site, which he removed. There are no credit card numbers or other or personal information on the site. He suggests a multi-year plan as it is cheaper. The site will inform members as to how much is owed for membership dues.

Groups.io: Dennis/WU6X was absent.

Social Media Officer (SMO), Bob/K6UDA was absent.

Membership: Jeff/KM6RGO announced that there is a new membership in the mail-a HAM who just moved here.

VE Exam: Al/NI2U was absent, but there are 2 new Techs and 1 new Extra.

Volunteer Events: Mike/KK6GLP was absent.

Contest Chair: Dennis/WU6X was absent. At the 2019 California QSO Party, we had 200 less contacts than the 2018 Party Contest.

Drawing Chair: Aaron/K6JBI was absent.

Snack Bar: George/KG6LSB was absent.

Public Information Officer (PIO): Scott/WA6YNE was absent.

Digital Repeater: Bob/K6UDA was absent.

Nomination Committee: Rich/AA6RS was absent.

Club Christmas Party Co-chairs: Jim/WA8MPA and Fred/WA4VXW were absent.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Annual White Elephant Auction hosted by Tyghe/W6TJR is tonight!!

10/12/19: Mini Maker Faire, Rocklin, CA, chaired by Mike/KK6GLP

10/19/19: 62nd "Jamboree on the Air" (JOTA) 2019, chaired by Orion/AI6JB is from 8-12noon at Gibson Ranch. The Jamboree is an annual Scout event with flag raising, retiring, merit badge, HAM radio and other activities.

10/26/19: CQ Worldwide SSB Contest, chaired by Dennis/WU6X

11/8/19: Club Officer Elections, chaired by Rich/AA6RS and Carl/N6CKV.

11/16/19: ARRL Sweepstakes, chaired by Dennis/WU6X.

11/22/19: CQ Worldwide CW Contest, chaired by Dennis/WU6X.

12/7/19: SFARC Annual Club Christmas Party, chaired by Jim/WA8MPA and Fred/WA4VXW.

1/25/20: Winter Field Day, chaired by Brian/AI6US and Orion/AI6JB.

3/21/20: HAMFEST 2020, Co-chaired by Orion/AI6JB and ??

OLD BUSINESS

SFARC Ham Class at Raley's Granite Bay: Chaired by AI/NI2U and Clyde/AB4CC. Date to be determined; however, probably in January 2020. This will be a Tech-level class.

Reserve Vet Hall for 2020 Christmas Party to be held on December 12, 2020, chaired by Orion/AI6JB.

Change Club Meeting Day and Venue? In charge of this proposal, Dustin/W6YUE.

Fusion Proposal: Recommendation of the Repeater Committee who sent the proposal and the response was to do a 6-month trial for Digital. Remove 440 and the 2-meter stay. Greg/KO6TH moved the club exercise a 6-month trial for the Fusion system. Dustin/W6YUE 2nd the motion--the motion carried and passed.

Clyde/AB4CC will need a Fusion radio to do this. Should we purchase one? Orion/AI6JB thinks we can borrow one. If it becomes a formal thing, then we will consider purchasing our own. Let us use our own controller and call sign-W6EK.

The Board Meeting adjourned at 18:52. Submitted by Michele J. Bauer/WH7QC



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES **October 11, 2019**



The SFARC General meeting for October 2019 commenced at 1930 hours at the Auburn City Hall Rose Room, with President Orion Endres/AI6JB presiding. Officers present: Orion/AI6JB, Vice-president, Brian Gohl/AI6US, Secretary, Michele Bauer/WH7QC, Treasurer, Jeff Morgan/KM6RGO, Directors, Greg Dolkas/KO6TH, Gerry Brentnall/WA6F, and Dustin Yue/W6YUE.

Orion led the members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag, then was the introduction of officers, directors, members and guests. There were 39 attendees signed up with 33 members and 6 visitors.

CLUB BUSINESS

The August 2019 minutes were approved.

The California QSO Party was great! A lot of new people talked into the radios, including five visitors from Chris Taylor's High School class who made first-time contacts.

Greeter/Sunshine Richard/WA6RWS asked us all to pray for Gary Cunningham/KQ6RT whose cancer is requiring surgery which is scheduled for October 25th. He then announced a "Hoedown for Heroes" dinner coming up.

AUCTION

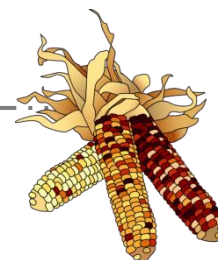
Dennis Gregory/WU6X gave direction for the evening's auction: Please give your name and callsign for items, and payment will be accepted at the end of the auction.

The Annual White Elephant Auction was a great success and a lot of fun! There were some great items (and some interesting ones) and Brian/AI6US and Jim/WA8MPA did a tremendous job in displaying and explaining what's what. Dennis/WU6X and Jeff/KM6RGO did a tremendous job in recording all the information regarding the buyers and monies accrued. Tyghe Richardson/W6TJR was our illustrious auctioneer for the evening and he did an outstanding job. Everybody contributed in some fashion or other to the cause, with some contributing much. The club pitched in to purchase a handheld radio set for our darling young lady visitor who attended the meeting and had had her eye on the sets. She went home a happy camper that evening!

Jeff/KM6RGO later announced the evening's proceeds as \$1,266.00!!

*Thank you everyone for all your contributions of time and money to the Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club!! We appreciate all of you!

The meeting adjourned at 21:40 hours. Submitted by Michele J. Bauer/WH7QC



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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