



P.O. Box 6421 Auburn, CA 95604

December 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

December 7th:
Club Christmas Party

December 25th: 
Christmas

December 28th:
Club Breakfast

Inside this issue

- *President's Message*
- *Photos from November meeting*
- *Board Minutes*
- *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*

New Leadership on Tap for 2020

The November General Meeting elected our new Board of Directors for 2020. Congratulations to Brian, AI6US, as our new President! I look forward to the fresh enthusiasm he will bring to our Club. It is my hope and wish that you all support him on his new role as you have done for me.

Not new to the Board, but a long time Club member Greg, KO6TH, is taking over the reins of Vice President. His devotion to filming our meetings and posting them to your You Tube site make him a natural fit to be VP and our programs director.

Going on their second year, Michele, WH7QC, and Jeff, KM6RGO, are staying on as Secretary and Treasurer. Thank you both for your hard work and dedication!

For Board Members, Gerry, WA6E, is returning to continue offering his sage advice and wisdom. We have two new members to the Board. Please help me welcome Wayne, W6DT, and Nathan, K6NDC.

Congratulations to all and we look forward to all the great things you have in store for us!

Fond Farewell

You may have noticed my name did not appear above. This Thanksgiving I am thankful for Club By-laws, as they prevent me from holding the office of president any longer! 😊

All kidding aside, my time as president has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. To be a part of such an energetic, experienced, and supportive group coming together for more than a hobby, that is what I think being a member of a Club is all about. It seems our society is losing the togetherness our Club exhibits at every meeting and event we participate in. We support each other whether it be to show a new Ham how to program a radio, offer our condolences for a silent key and those with having health issues, help a member erect or de-erect a tower, or come together to host an event.

My fondest memories will be the events our Club hosts. Whether it be the STEM Expo, Hamfest, Volunteer Events like MS Walk, Field Day, Club Picnic, Contests, Mini Maker Faire, or our annual Christmas Party. We are definitely one of the most active Clubs in our section. I know this because I hear if from the ARRL Section Leadership and from new members who are shopping around for a Club.

Of course, none of this is possible without your support and the support of key members of our Club. Some folks routinely volunteer and volunteer again and again. Others are stalwarts always being there either in a formally appointed position or being there for our members.

The one person or persons who have been on the team from the time I joined the Club is our Newsletter Editor, Barbara Anderson, W6EVA, and her able bodied assistant Bruce, K6BAA. I want to thank Barbara for always being there to remind me to write my article and producing a fun and informative newsletter every month. Thank you, Barbara!!

Another behind the scenes kind of guy, who is always there with a bright smiling face, is Richard, WA6RWS. For years he was our Repeater Trustee and continues to be our Greeter and Mr. Sunshine. You can always count on Richard to be there to greet you to our meetings or events. As Trustee, I can remember Richard at virtually all our Board meetings lending his years of experience and knowledge of our Club. Thank you, Richard for being there to offer your wisdom and being a good friend.

Al, N12U, has been there all four years and continues to provide countless hours to our Club. As a former Club President, Al supports the Club as our Volunteer Examiner, Net Control Operator, and is always there to help out at the Loomis Hamfest and Field Day. Thank you, Al!

Dennis, WU6X, is a behind the scenes kind of guy who is there to help with new hams to program their Baofengs, migrate us from Yahoo Groups to Groups.io, make sense of all the sales at our Annual White Elephant auction, promote radio sport, and keeps our Club in the Field Day standings with his CW fist. Dennis is more than willing to share his vast technical knowledge of amateur radio and computers. Thank you, Dennis for supporting the club!

Jim, WA8MPA, is our "Hey I got an idea, can I run with it?" guy. In addition to being there to help out, when Jim gets an idea, he makes it happen. He thought it would be great to show off unique ham related items, we now have a Show & Tell Table at our meetings. He thought a Club of our stature should have resources available to share with our members. Now we have a Club Library! Thank you, Jim for thinking outside of the box and making it happen!

Birton, N6UG, is our pioneer into the digital communications world of Echolink and IRLP. Beyond that, Birton has served on the Board and supported our Club on special projects. The most notable is the IT Summit. The IT Summit brought together all the players and streamlined and clarified our online presence. Thank you Birton for your hard work!

Carl, WF6J, contributes to the success of our Club in ways many may not realize. In addition to being our Elmer Net Control Operator, for years, Carl held our PIO (Public Information Officer) position. The PIO submits articles to the ARRL Sac Valley Section Newsletter and promotes our Club to the community and amateur radio. Carl's marketing is the reason why our Hamfests are so successful. Thank you Carl for making us look so good!

Mike, KK6GLP, is our Volunteer Event Coordinator and former Vice President. What makes our Club great is our willingness to get out into the community, offer support, and come together as group for a common purpose. Mike does an excellent job organizing the events. Thank you Mike for your hard work.

I like to think of George, KG6LSB, as our Energizer Bunny. In all my years in the Club, I can't think of a time where George wasn't involved in something. If it wasn't running our Drawing, Refreshments, opening our meeting room or reserving the Vet's hall for ARES, George would be there to lend a hand or gentle reminder on what needed to be done. George thanks for being there and thanks for the countless hours!

Speaking of refreshments, Chip, KM6MDF, and his wife Pamela, are relatively new arrivals who have jumped in with both feet. We needed someone to take over Refreshments temporarily, and he said yes. Need a Christmas Party, Pamela and Chip are there. Need a cook a Picnic, guess who?? Thank you Chip and Pamela for being there to help make memories!

Speaking of new arrivals, Herb, KM6JBI, is also a relatively new member who jumped in and took over our website. In such a short time, he has revamped our website and keeps it up to date with fresh pictures. He is working on something special for 2020. Stay tuned. Thank you Herb for the hours of work so far and yet to come!

Bob, K6UDA, is our dreamer. I want to thank him for sharing them and lending his ear. As a former Club President and founder of the Loomis Hamfest, Bob's wisdom was invaluable. He has served on the Board since his retirement and continues to help out as our Social Media Officer. His enthusiasm lives on in our Club to this day. Thank you Bob!

And lastly, my partner in crime, Brian, AI6US. While our political views are from opposite sides of the spectrum 😊, it is promising to know we can still work together and get things done. He is always there to support the Club by helping where it is needed, no questions, or at least very few questions, asked. His enthusiasm for our hobby is contagious and I have definitely been affected. Thank you for being there and we look forward to seeing great things.

I am certain I missed many others who have made and will continue to make contributions to our great Club. Thank you for all your support and I am honored to have been your president.

Hope to hear you on the air!

73

Orion Endres, AI6JB

President, Retiring

AI6JB@arrl.net





November Meeting:

Don Whitaker of Ceronix in Auburn gave a talk on his company and its manufacture of touch screens and other products

<https://www.ceronix.com/>





BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

November 8, 2019

The November 2019 Board meeting was called to order at 18:00 at Mel's Diner in Auburn, California.

Officer and Board Member Reports

Vice-president, Brian/AI6US: No club meeting in December due to the Christmas party. Don Whitaker will be our guest speaker at the General meeting. There is no TECH-TEN tonight.

Secretary, Michele/WH7QC: Sent a membership application to Gary Staves/KN6AVC who radioed in on Thursday evening's check-in.

Treasurer, Jeff/KM6RGO: Brought Jan-Dec 2018 and Jan-Dec 2019 Profit/Loss Report

Directors, Greg/KO6TH and Gerry/WA6E were present; Dustin/W6YUE was absent.

Committee Chair Reports

Repeater (Station Trustee): Clyde/AB4CC was absent; however, he tested batteries after the PG&E outages and found that just water needed to be added. There were many days-worth of operation time remaining after 3 days of exclusive battery back-up operation.

The club is working with Craig/KM6YLW who is doing IRLP/EchoLink back-ups and looking for ways for EchoLink to work better.

Greeter/Sunshine: Richard/WA6RWS was absent, but Gary Cunningham/KQ6RT had his surgery, which was successful and now recovering at home. He would enjoy calls from members.

Newsletter: Barbara/W6EVA was absent.

Webmaster: Herb/KM6JBI said that the website is 99.9% done. He's looking into different hosting, plans and SSH. He will write up the choices for the board.

Groups.io.: Dennis/WU6X said that it's working fine.

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

Membership: Jeff/KM6RGO announced that there are two new members. He said that he's trying to figure out how to reach out to past members and recruit new. It was suggested that ARRL should have contact lists.

VE Exam: AI/NI2U was absent, but there is one new Extra certification.

Volunteer Events: Mike/KK6GLP made up a list of volunteer events and posted it on groups.i.o.

Contest Chair: Dennis/WU6X announced that the ARRL Sweepstakes is 16 November, 2019.

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 but is handling the General meeting's voting of officers.

Club Christmas Party Chairs: Jim/WA8MPA and Fred/WA4VXW were absent.

Calendar of Club Events

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—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 chaired by Orion/AI6JB

Old Business

SFARC Ham Class at Raley's Granite Bay—thinking of mid-month January 2020. Roy/WH7DH will send an email to the local leadership in Auburn of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to enquire about Church members getting involved with acquiring Ham Radio certification.

Reserve Vet Hall for 2020 Christmas Party, 12/12/20—Orion/AI6JB said that he hasn't received a response yet about the hall for our use.

Change Club Meeting Day & Venue? Orion brought in a tally report from his online questionnaire he sent out and the conclusion is that there were no distinctive responses to indicate making a major meeting change.

New Business

Proposed 2020 Club Budget—Jeff/KM6RGO will work on it a bit more.

The meeting was adjourned at 18:55. Submitted by Michele/WH7QC.



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

November 8, 2019

The SFARC General meeting was officially opened in the Rose Room at the Auburn City Hall by President Orion/AI6JB with our welcome and then Pledge of Allegiance. Officer introductions were done with all present except for Dustin/W6YUE.

Special guests were introduced, including Joe Steinmetz/K6SAT from the Endurance Run, Don Whitaker from CERONIX. Also, in attendance was Jim Pocock/KN6CEF and his wife Carol. Jim is planning on joining SFARC. There were 39 signed in with 6 visitors.

All Military Veterans in attendance were asked to please stand up for recognition. We are all very grateful for those who have sacrificed so much so that we may enjoy the vast freedoms we have been blessed with—and must not take for granted.

Business and Board and Officers Reports

Corrections from last month's Board meeting to state AI/NI2U as being present to the Board meeting, rather than absent; and it being scratched about a motion having been carried and passed. Peter/K2LRC moved and AI/NI2U 2nd the motion to approve the October 2019 minutes.

Joe Steinmetz/K6SAT presented a donation to the club for \$600 on behalf of the Western States Endurance Run!

It was announced that the Board approved for the club to test a Fusion Repeater for 6 months on the Club's 70cm pair. Scott/KK7AIR is loaning the Yaesu DR-2X Fusion Repeater with internet interface. It should be running by December 1st. We need a Fusion "room name" so are looking for ideas.

Jeff/KM6RGO announced that we have two new members, including a Meadow Vista resident, who, after many years has rekindled her membership.

Jim/WA8MPA announced that non-perishable food donations will be collected at the Club Christmas party for the Food Closet. There will be one free drawing ticket for each item donated. Also, at the party there will be lots of prizes, especially for the ladies. 😊

Due to the Christmas party, there will be no December club meetings.

VE, AI/NI2U announced that Gary Cunningham's surgery was successful and is at home recovering. He would appreciate a call!

On the Satellite, Greg/KO6TH announced a new satellite launched by the University of Washington. There are several "fox in a box" satellites out there.

Chip/KM6MDF and his two sons worked on another cubesat satellite and launched it recently on the same mission.

ARES, Carl/K6CKV reported on the recent ARES exercise on Saturday, October 26. Orion/AI6JB did a lot of work, including writing the script. It was a fun and enlightening event for all those who participated.

Mike/KK6GLP thanked everyone for their participation in the Mini Maker Faire in Rocklin on 12th October. There were three SFACRC members who attended: Mike/KK6GLP, Greg/KO6TH and Dustin/W6YUE. There were several members from the River City Amateur Radio Communications Society, along with the Sacramento Valley ARRL Section Manager, Dr. Carol Milazzo/KP4MD.

2019 Club elections were held with Brian/AI6US being voted in as our new president, Greg/KO6TH is vice-president, Jeff/KM6RGO, treasurer, Michele/WH7QC secretary, Gerry/WA6E, director, Nathan/K6NDC, a new director, and Wayne/W6D, also a new director and elected for a two-year term. Congratulations to all our SFARC Officers!

Calendar of Club Events

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

12/7/19 Club Christmas Party, chaired by Jim/WA8MPA and Fred/WA4VXW

1/25/20 Winter Field Day in Georgetown, CA, chaired by Brian/AI6US and Orion/AI6JB

Announcements

Club Nets-Every Thursday at 7:30 pm [145.430, PL=16.2]

Elmer Net-Every 1st & 3rd Wednesday at 7:30 pm [145.430, PL=162.2]

Club Board Meeting-2nd Friday at Mel's in Auburn

QSTs from the following:

George/KG6LSB announced that Sizzler is offering free meals for Veterans on Veterans Day.

Bill/KM6LNR announced that there will be a breakfast for all Veterans in Lincoln from 8-10 am in the bank parking lot.

During intermission, attendees bought drawing tickets from Aaron/K6ABJ, our new drawing chair. One of the prizes was a tee-shirt with saying, "It's ok if you don't like HAM Radio. It's kind of a smart people hobby anyway" 😊

The refreshment table is run by George/KG6LSB. Proceeds go towards our Christmas party.

Program

Our guest speaker for the evening was Don Whitaker, of CERONIX, a display and touch screen developer and manufacturing company based in Auburn. Don provided an overview of the company, products, current technology and what is in store for the future. CERONIX even has a bird sanctuary! It was indeed an interesting presentation.

The meeting was adjourned around 21:15. Submitted by Michele/WH7QC.

A VERY MERRY **CHRISTMAS** and Happy New Year!



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: _____

Rev. 11-13-2018





Dennis H. Gregory
Instructor/Technician

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