



P.O. Box 6421 Auburn, CA 95604

December 2020

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

At The Key of SFARC:

PRESIDENT

Brian Gohl, AI6US
AI6US@titaniumsattelite.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Greg Dolkas, KO6TH
ko6th.greg@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Michele Bauer, WH7QC
mickeybauer2012@gmail.com

TREASURER

Jeff Morgan, KM6RGO
jamontrail@gmail.com

DIRECTORS

Gerry Brentnall, WA6E
Nathan Chilton, K6NDC
Wayne Stilwell, W6DT

FIELD DAY CHAIRMAN

To be filled

REPORTERS

Satellites: Greg, KO6TH
Sunshine: *To be filled*

GROUPS io

Dennis Gregory, WU6X

PIO

Scott Vogelsang, WA6YNE

REPEATERS

145.430 (-0.6 MHz/PL 162.2)
440.575 (+5.0 MHz/FUSION)
223.860 (-1.6 MHz/PL 110.9)

CLUB NET

Thursdays, 7:30PM, W6EK/R 145.430

CLUB MEETINGS

Second Friday of the month,
Online Zoom starts @7:30pm
Meeting ID: 962 6167 5605

CLUB BREAKFAST

On hold until further notice

NET CONTROL OPS

Dave Jenkins, WB6RBE
Orion Endres, AI6JB
Chip Bautista, KM6MDF

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Barbara Anderson, W6EVA
anderson51@wavecable.com

WEBMASTER

Herb Garcia, KM6JBI

STATION TRUSTEE

Clyde Campbell, AB4CC

VOLUNTEER EXAMINER

Andrew Silvester, K6OP

Calendar of Events

December 5th:

Christmas Party
Zoom event at 7 pm

December 25th:

Christmas Day



Join us every morning starting
at 7:30am for the Coffee Break
Net on the W6EK repeater
145.43, PL 162.2

Inside this issue

- *President's Message*
- *Board Meeting Minutes*
- *General Meeting Minutes*

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

Sierra Signals is published monthly by the Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club for the information of its members and friends, and is distributed via E-mail and USPS mail. Opinions expressed are those of the authors. Newsletter exchanges with other clubs via E-mail are welcomed. Contact the editor to be placed on the E-mailing list. The contents of Sierra Signals are copyrighted by the Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club, and all rights are reserved. That said, we will gladly permit republications for non-profit uses of all text material. Photos require the consent of all persons pictured in them, and some of our material is copyrighted by others and published by permission. You'll need to contact them for permission.



President's Message

*By Brian Gohl – AI6US,
President*

Election Results

Please join with me in welcoming a new member to the 2021 Board of Directors, Chip, KM6MDF. Chip has been very active in club events and helps out whenever there is a need. Chip fills the Director position held by Nathan, KM6NDC, who has recently relocated to Texas. All other Board members have been re-elected in our November elections and will return for another term. Gerry, WA6E received the majority of votes for Director and will serve a two year term. Thank you to Herb, KM6JBI for leading the club through our first online elections with the assistance of Carl, N6CKV and Orion, AI6JB.

By-Laws Revision Accepted

The by-laws revision has been unanimously approved by voice vote during the November online meeting. Thank you to all who participated in the document review, submission of input for revisions and wordsmithing the document. Many hours were spent creating a major revision to the document, which now accurately reflects our club's mission and facilitates the evolution in the way we meet, vote and manage the club.

Greeter and Sunshine Position Filled

Welcome and thank you to Roy, WH7DH and his assistant Jacob for filling the most important roles in our club, Sunshine and Greeter. We often hear that our group's friendliness and welcoming atmosphere makes Sierra Foothills ARC stand out in the radio community and is one of the reasons that folks love our club. While the shoes of retiring member Richard, WA6RWS are going to be a challenge to fill, Roy and Jacob will make the perfect team in welcoming visitors, greeting members and reaching out with a call or card to let folks know that we are here for them during life's challenges. Thank you to both!!!

If you have an interest in helping with one of the open volunteer positions within the club, please let me know! We certainly would appreciate and value your time and efforts to make the club even better!

Christmas Party, December 5, 7pm

Have you emailed a recent photo yet? We need your photo for our holiday party slide show. Submit your photo(s) by December 2nd to ai6us@arrl.net and be entered in a drawing for a \$50 HRO gift certificate.

Join your friends for a fun night of giving, gifting and trivia. Jim, WA8MPA has planned a fantastic Zoom event for all SFARC club members and your immediate family. Gerry, WA6E has put together an exceptional trivia contest and Dennis, WU6X will be spinning the prize wheel so many times that you will likely become dizzy even without partaking of the eggnog!

The prize wheel gifts will include: Dutch Brothers \$20 coffee cards, Lazmin noise generator, \$50 HRO gift certificates, NanoVNA-F with demo kit, Yaesu FTM-7250 mobile FM/C4FM dual band and the grand prize - \$350 HRO gift certificate! Please note that only SFARC club members are eligible to win.

Sierra Foothills ARC is once again partnering with the **Auburn Interfaith Food Closet** to support their outreach to those in need within our community. This year, instead of collecting non-perishables, we are asking you to instead consider donating a gift in honor of our club. Your donation, made by December 4th, will automatically place your name into a drawing for a \$50 Ham Radio Supply gift card. Please follow this link: [Auburn Food Closet Donation](https://auburnfoodcloset.org/in-honor-of/) . <https://auburnfoodcloset.org/in-honor-of/> Be sure to make your donation In Honor of: "Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club".

Looking forward to seeing you, Dec 5th at 7pm on Zoom from your computer, tablet or smartphone:
<https://zoom.us/j/96261675605>

Meeting ID: 962 6167 5605

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

Until then, 73
 Brian Gohl – AI6US
 SFARC President





BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Video Conference Zoom Meeting

November 13, 2020 @ 1800

The SFARC Board meeting was called to order by President Brian/AI6US at 6:00 pm.
All board members were present except for Nathan/K6NDC who recently moved to Texas. Thank you so much Nathan for your great service to the SFARC! We wish you well!
It is wonderful to have Dennis/WU6X here tonight after his illness.

Vice-president, Greg/KO6TH announced the program for the General meeting.
Secretary, Michele/WH7QC had no report.
Treasurer, Jeff/KM6RGO had no report; however, he emailed the financial report to the board members.
Directors, Gerry/WA6E and Wayne/W6DT had no reports.
Repeater (Station Trustee), Clyde/AB4CC reported that the repeater is ok.

Committee Reports

Greeter/Sunshine: The position has not yet been filled since the retirement of Richard/WA6RWS.

Webmaster, Herb/KM6JBI reported that the system is going fine.

Membership, Jeff/KM6RGO was not present for his report, but arrived a bit later due to work responsibilities. Brian/AI6US announced that the club is now up to 142 members on the roster!
VE: Next week Thursday, November 20 will be our first SFARC online exams!

Volunteer, Mike/N6MRP is “retiring” and so we need a volunteer for the volunteer events.
Contest, Dennis/WU6X reported that there are no contests at present due to Covid-19.

Nomination Committee, Herb/KM6JBI reported that the nomination committee is ready to go for this evening’s 2021 Board member elections and also that one could write in a candidate as long as that candidate knows about it and is agreeable to the offer of running for office. 😊

Christmas Party, Jim/WA8MPA announced that the annual SFARC Christmas Party is being held on December 5 from 7-8:30 pm via Zoom. Dennis/WU6X will be spinning the “Wheel of Prizes”. The party is for SFARC members only; however, if there is anyone out there desiring to join the club, you are most certainly welcome! Everyone, please submit a picture of yourself, including with your family if you desire and submit it for a slide show of everyone’s picture that evening. Please get your pictures to Brian by Dec. 2nd at: ai6us@arrl.net. It was suggested that a remembrance slide for Casey McPartland/W7IB (recent silent key) also be included in our slideshow. Also, please make a donation to the Auburn Faith food Closet in the name of the Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club. There are many people in need, especially during this pandemic. <https://auburnfoodcloset.org/in-honor-of/>

Club Business

The October Board meeting minutes were accepted as submitted.

Tonight's General meeting will have a "Wheel of Prizes", under the direction of Joe/K6SAT/ There is a 15" Brenthaven laptop bag, A Ferrite Toroid 240 mix43, and a Dutch Bros. \$25 gift certificate. Woohoo!

This coming Thursday, November 20 will be our first SFARC online exams!

Brian announced that the position for Greeter/Sunshine has not yet been filled. Let's plan on it being on the agenda for January 2021. We need someone who is familiar with the members.

By-Laws: We will vote by voice. All future votes can be via electronic.

There are now SFARC stickers available for club members. The first one is free, and then \$2 for any additional. Pick up from Herb/KM6JBI, Clyde/AB4CC, or Brian/AI6US.

The room where our meetings are normally held remains on hold due to the current Covid-19 restrictions.

Auction items of the month-to bid, chat regarding the item and price: Jim/WA8MPA is in charge.

Sister ARC Proposal:

Ken/K6KEC gave the Board a brief presentation on a Sister ARC Proposal. Ken is a Vietnam veteran and he learned of a Vietnam amateur radio club. Ken suggested that SFARC could donate items/equipment to poorer clubs where resources are limited. What is our purpose? What are we trying to foster? One purpose is to extend fellowship and goodwill to other clubs.

W6PRL Daniel Fogard Scholarship: Gerry/WA6E motioned and Clyde/AB4CC seconded that the SFARC board approve the names of prospective recipients of the W6PRL Daniel Fogard Scholarship. It was a unanimous vote for this action. This scholarship pays for the VE exam and manual for the next level. The winners will be invited to attend the January 2021 General meeting.

Jeff/KM6RGO motioned and Gerry/WA6E seconded that the board award the scholarship to two youth: Charles Gaisson/KN6LDK and Brian Catacata/KN6LDG. The board voting was again unanimous.

Gerry/WA6E mentioned to the club of his coming across a wonderful "Welcome to the Club" video with helpful information with basic radio use, and "here are some of the guys", etc. Something like this could prove very useful for new members.

- Mike/N6MRP is "retiring" from his club position as Volunteer Coordinator. Mike has done a terrific job and Brian/AI6US thanked Mike for his great service to the club. Many thanks Mike for all your diligent service!

The meeting adjourned at 19:06. Submitted by Michele Bauer/WH7QC



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Video Conference Zoom Meeting

November 13, 2020 @ 1930

President Brian/AI6US greeted and welcomed everyone as they zoomed in on the meeting. Brian announced for everyone to please be sure to sign in with your first name and call sign. He encouraged new members or new licensees to be sure to get an Elmer. The meeting was called to order at 19:52. We all participated in the Pledge of Allegiance and then got to business.

Introductions of Officers and Board member and reports:

President, Brian/AI6US

Vice-president, Greg/KO6TH announced that Dennis/WU6X has contest for tonight!

Secretary, Michele/WH7QC had no report, but acknowledged the presence of Dennis/WU6X at our meeting and back in commission after his harrowing illness. Welcome back Dennis!

Treasurer, Jeff/KM6RGO had no report.

Directors, Gerry/WA6E, Nathan/K6NDC, and Wayne/W6DT all had no reports.

Brian reminded us that we need a quorum of 29 members at the meeting for the voting to be done. Gerry announced that his machine said 40 at least were present, and so we had a quorum.

Club Business

The October 2020 minutes were accepted as submitted.

Board Business Update: Ken/K6KEC made a proposal for a Sister City Club (Sister ARC).

The club voted on awarding the W6PRL Daniel Fogard Scholarship recipients: Charles Gaisson/KN6LDK and Brian Catacata/KN6LDG. Congratulations young men! This scholarship pays for the VE exam fee and a manual for the next level to study for. Both young men will be invited to attend our January, 2021 meeting where they will be presented with the awards.

Brian then acknowledged and thanked Mike/N6MRP for his wonderful service as the club's Volunteer Events Coordinator. Mike is "retiring" from this position. Thank you, Mike for your selfless service to the club and so many others!

Christmas Party: Jim/WA8MPA announced the party details. It is going to be via Virtual/Zoom on Saturday, December 5 from 7-8:30 pm. There will be a slide show of club members, so please send a picture to Brian at: ai6us@arrl.net by December 2nd. The first 20 pictures submitted will be up for an additional random drawing, the prize being a \$50 HRO gift certificate!

Also, another very important aspect of our gathering is the need for contributions to the Auburn Faith Food Closet. Please make a cash donation online to them, in the name of the Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club (SFARC). Since the Corona Virus hit, sadly, there are even more people suffering from malnutrition and insufficient diet. <https://auburnfoodcloset.org/in-honor-of/>

Gerry/WA6E will host a trivia questions game for the party and \$50 HRO gift certificate for the winner. Other gifts throughout the game.

Dennis/WU6X will be having a “Wheel of Prizes” with a \$350 gift certificate for Ham Radio Outlet (HRO)-Woohoo! There is also a prize of a FTM7250-mobile radio, a Nano VNA-F, coffee cards, \$50 HRO gift certificates, etc. One caveat—you *must* be present to win!

We have several new members: Allan Fuss/KN6JNU, Jonathan Kim/KI6RT, Stephen Karkos/K1VUE, Karen Clay/KN6KRE, Lin Gohl/KN6KRD, Ralph Stocki/KJ6PIK, Rick Utley/NQ6O, Michael Ganschow/K6YMM, Raymond Abbitt/KK6AM, Adam Sanders/KM6MPU, Ray Torella/KF6OJE.

Clyde/AB4CC motioned and Carl/N6CKV seconded to accept all new members.

By Laws Revision (#8): Many thanks to all involved in the revisions of the By Laws. Carl/N6CKV motioned and Gary/KB7QWC seconded to approve the By Laws Revision. The voting was unanimous.

Joe/K6SAT announced his “Wheel of 3 Prizes” for the evening. There is a 15” Brenthaven laptop bag, a Dutch Bros. \$25 gift card, and a Ferrite Toroid 240 mix 43. Pretty sweet! The spinning will take place at the end of the meeting and winners must be present at the meeting to win.

Jim/WA8MPA has the “auction items of the month”—to bid chat about the item and price. Tonight’s big-ticket items are: Frequency Counter, 6 Position Antenna Switch, and a SWR Power Meter.

Board Member and Officers Elections

Herb/KM6JBI hosted the elections and assister by Carl/N6CKV and Orion/AI6US.

Brian/AI6US announced that any more nomination for this evening, those nominated must be in agreeance. 😊

Those up for election are: President-Brian/AI6US, Vice-president-Greg/KO6TH, Secretary-Michele/WH7QC, Treasurer-Jeff/KM6RGO, Directors-Gerry/WA6E, Roy/WH7DH, Chip/KM6MDF, and Aaron/K6ABJ.

The voting was done electronically which was very cool! The results came very quickly: President-Brian/AI6US, Vice-president-Greg/KO6TH, Secretary-Michele/WH7QC, Treasurer-Jeff/KM6RGO, Directors-Gerry/WA6E, Chip/KM6MDF, and Aaron/K6ABJ.

Congratulations all!

Show Us Your Shack

Orion/AI6JB did a presentation on a portable contest station from the CA QSO Party in Blue Canyon held in October 2020. It included a shack with HF Hex beam about 37’ high! Orion said it is important to set up the antennas first then your shack.

Brian announced that the Club has SFARC stickers for club members-1 free one plus \$2.00 for any extras. Members can order through Herb/KM6JBI, Clyde/AB4CC, or Brian/AI6US.

Ham Contests

Dennis/WU6X gave a presentation on Ham contests.

- What is contesting?
- Why should I consider it?
- How can I do it?
- Ham contests have different meanings to different hams.
- Pile-ups, modes, bands, multipliers, sequence numbers
- Are you a contest fanatic? (never miss one, operate start to finish, forsake family/friends, fanatic or casual?)
- Maybe it's another opportunity?
- Play with friends-events
 - How should I prepare?
- Getting ready (read the rules, plan your strategy, study propagation predictions)
 - Just do it!
 - Upload your log
- Questions? QSTs?
Check out contestcalendar.com
- References
- Propagation predictions
- Calendar
- Software <http://www.rufzxp.net/> and <http://www.dxatlas.com>

Thank you, Dennis, for a very interesting and well-planned presentation!

Auction

Jim/WA8MPA announced the winners of the silent auction:

Frequency Counter-Don/WB6LPJ

Antenna Switch-Josh/KK6VHH

SWR Power Meter-Aaron/K6ABJ

"Wheel of Prizes"

Joe/K6SAT

Ferrite Toroid 240 mix 43-Wayne/W6DT

\$25 Dutch Bros. gift certificate-Dennis/WU6X

Brenthaven 15" laptop case-Dustin/W6YUE

Congratulations winners and enjoy your prizes!

Committee Chair Reports

Repeater (Trustee): Clyde/AB4CC reported that things are overall ok.

VE exams: Carl/N6CKV It was reported that there are lots of online training happening. The first session for SFARC General class is going on and the online exam is scheduled for Thursday, November 19th.

Volunteer Events: Mike/N6MRP is "retiring" after several years of diligent service regarding volunteer events for the club. Thank you, Mike for your great service!

Satellite: Greg/KO6TH reported that November 13 is the 20th anniversary of continuous air.

Contests: Dennis/WU6X reported that November 20 is the SSB contest and information can be found on groups.io.

Membership: Jeff/KM6RGO reported that the club has a great influx of new members.

Again they are:

Allan Fuss/KN6JNU, Stephen Karkos/K1VUE, Jonathan Kim/KI6RT,
Karen Clay/KN6KRE, Rodeline Gohl/KN6KRD, Ralph Stocki/KJ6PIK,
Rick Utley/NQ6O, Michael Ganschow/K6YMM, Raymond Abbitt/KK6AM,
Adam Sanders/KM6MPU, and Ray Torell/KF6OJE

ARES: Carl/N6CKV reported that the ARES net is every Sunday on the W6EK repeater at 7:30 pm. There will be no net on Sunday, November 29 due to the Thanksgiving weekend.

Calendar Events

SFARC Christmas Party: Our party chair is Jim/WA8MPA. The party is scheduled for Saturday, December 5 from 7-8:30 pm. It will be held virtually via Zoom. There will be a slide show of pictures of our SFARC members. Only members are invited; however, if you wish to attend you may join the club in advance of the date. It will be a great evening of fun, including some wonderful prizes for those in attendance!

Announcements

Club Nets-Every Thursday at 7:30 pm [145.430, PL=162.2]

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

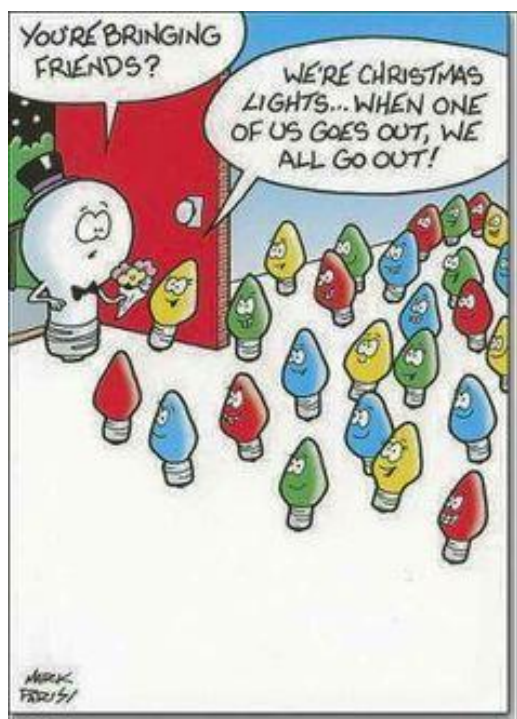
Coffee Break Net-Every morning at 7:30 am [145.430, PL=162.2]

Monthly club breakfast at Mel's Diner is cancelled until further notice due to Covid-19.

Club Board Meeting-2nd Friday of the month. Next one is January 8, 2021 at 6 pm, via Zoom.

Club General Meeting-2nd Fridays of the month. Next one is January 8, 2021 at 6 pm, via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 20:03. Submitted by Michele/WH7QC



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

2020 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	New - - New - New - Multi-year DISCOUNT Membership *\$20 per year for 2 or more years (new or renewal)
August	\$ 18/5	November	\$ 12/2+ following year	
September	\$ 16/4	December	\$ 10/1 + following year	

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Date: _____ Treasurer: _____ Secretary: _____ Roster: _____
Payment: _____ Check Number: _____ Cash: _____ PayPal: _____

Rev. 5-11-2018



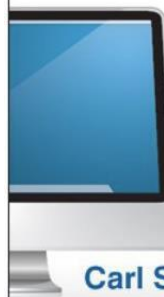
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