



Welcome to SFARC, Auburn, CA

P.O. Box 6421 Auburn, CA 95604

February 2022

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

**At The Key of SFARC:**

**PRESIDENT**  
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jamontrail@gmail.com

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
Greydon Hicks, KC6SLE  
lisagreydon@gmail.com

**SECRETARY**  
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**TREASURER**  
Rob Newburn, KM6YKX  
RobNewburn@att.net

**DIRECTORS**  
Gerry Brentnall, WA6E  
Mike Smith, K9CCO  
Amir Larian, N6ADL

**FIELD DAY CHAIRMAN**  
*To be filled*

**REPORTERS**  
Satellites: Greg, KO6TH  
Sunshine: Roy, WH7DH

**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,  
Crossroads Church @7:30pm  
1101 Auburn Ravine Rd, Auburn

**CLUB BREAKFAST**  
Last Sat of the month at Mel's Diner  
1730 Grass Valley Hwy, Auburn 7:30AM

**NET CONTROL OPS**  
Dave Jenkins, WB6RBE  
Orion Endres, AI6JB  
Chip Bautista, KM6MDF  
Mike Smith, K9CCO

**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**

February 11<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30pm  
*Club Meeting*

February 26<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30am  
*Club Breakfast  
@ Mel's Diner*

March 16 - 17<sup>th</sup>  
Hamtrak to Reno

March 19<sup>th</sup>  
*Loomis Hamfest*

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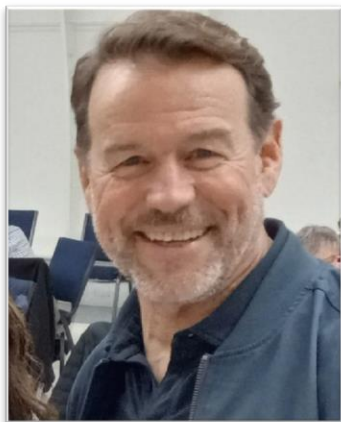
*Join us every morning @ 7:30am  
for the Coffee Break Net on the  
W6EK repeater 145.43, PL 162.2*

**Inside this issue**

- *President's Message*
- *Gerry and Theta at Quartzsite*
- *Joe Ramirez - KN6FH, SK*
- *Photos from Winter Field Day*
- *Board & General Meeting 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 Jeff Morgan – KM6RGO,  
President*

### Hello!

I hope everyone had a fun **Winter Field Day!** As I write this, Winter Field Day will have already passed. I look forward to participating in my own way, and I hope as many of you did the same. For me, Winter Field Day is about testing your set-up, preferably in less than hospitable environments. Or, perhaps for you, it is sitting in the comfort of your home enjoying the airwaves on as many bands modes as possible. In either case, expect the airwaves to come alive! At least, get on the air, even if to give points to others. The **W6EK** call sign is being used by **Orion AI6JB** and **Brian AI6US** at the **Georgetown Airport** camping area with what sounds like a fantastic setup. Other clubs will be out in the field as well. So, lots of activity!

### Upcoming Events

Our Monthly meeting will be held on **FEB 11** only on **Zoom** this month in our club Zoom room. Check out W6EK.org under our meetings tab for the link to join. The **Board Meeting** will be at **6:00pm** with the **General Meeting** at **7:30**. **Greydon KC6SLE** has a great program lined up head lined by our own **Smitty K9CCO** with a talk on **All Things Audio**. I look forward to it! Unfortunately, Covid hospitalizations have stayed high enough to be a concern for many of our members. Good news is on the horizon. By March, the peak should have passed and lowered enough to meet in person, where we hope to continue our **hybrid In-Person and Zoom** meeting. I look forward to seeing many faces!

### Quarterly Workshop

Our first quarterly workshop will be held on February 26. After the monthly club breakfast at Mel's Diner on 49, at 10am, we will meet at the **Crossroads Church Gymnasium** for the workshop. This workshop will continue the **Radio Direction Finding (RDF)** program with **Doug W2VX** and **Greydon KC6SLE**, among others, to show us how to build you own **Radio Direction Finding antenna system**. This is a great way to introduce new people to one of the uses of ham radio. Anyone can have fun with this, so invite your non-ham friends to participate. There is a \$20 donation to pay for the materials. Any additional contributions are gladly accepted. I am really looking forward to this.

**Hamtrak** is coming up on **March 16-17**. **Hamtrak** is an informal trip on Amtrak to Reno, with what hopefully will be a beautiful winter train ride through the mountains. Look for a link on W6EK.org on the main page for more information. **All hams** are invited, not only club members.

### Hamfest

After a two-year absence, **Hamfest** will return to the **Loomis Train Depot** on **March 19**. All hamfests are fun, but the **Sierra Foothills ARC** is the best! It is the first one the year with lots of pent up demand looking for deals. The **W6EK.org** website has a new link for more information. It also takes a lot of

volunteers to pull this off. It's not a lot of work and quite fun to be a part of this. Orion A16JB would gladly I hope to see you there!

### Newsletter

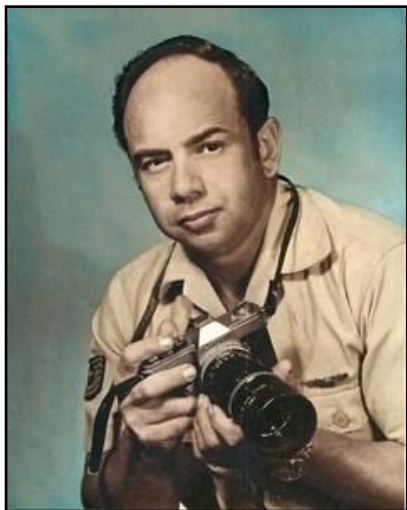
**Barbara Anderson**, after 10 years of producing the **Newsletter**, is retiring from this project. Barbara has been such a consistent force behind the club and it's hard to imagine a newsletter without her special touch. We have been fortunate to have her do this important task for so long. As we all know, it couldn't last forever. Barbara deserves a break from this monthly duty freeing her mind and time for much more fun things to come. A heart felt thank you, Barbara, for your persistence, consistency, and beautiful work all these many years. We hope to see you out and about and worry free from this monthly chore. Of course, the Newsletter must go on. If anyone would like to help out with this, please feel free to contact me.

### 73!

Jeff Morgan - KM6RGO  
SFARC President







Joe Ramirez - KN6FH, SK

Joe passed away on December 20, 2021. He was a Marine Corps and Air Force veteran, working in Combat Camera. He was an official photographer of the SR-71 at Beale Air Force Base, CA. He served in Vietnam, earning the Bronze Star and Air Medal.

Joe had various occupations after the military, in Newspaper Photography, Delivery Services, and a retirement career with the National Park Services, at both Yellowstone Park and Everglades National Park.

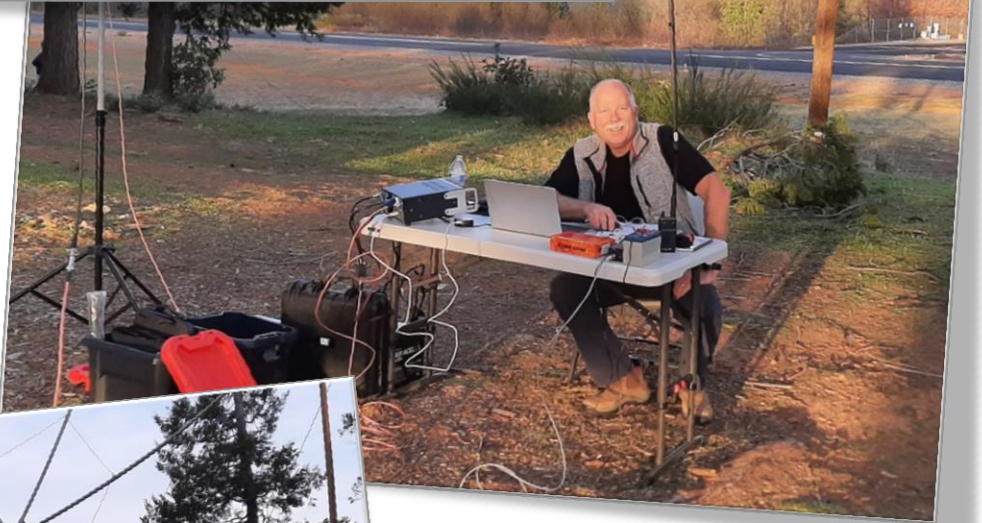
He began his interest in Amateur Radio while stationed in Nicaragua in 1958. He held the Advanced Class license. He was a long time member of the Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club, volunteering for many public service events. He will be greatly missed.







**WINTER**



**DAY**



**FIELD**





## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

### Video Conference Zoom Meeting

January 14, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff KM6RGO at 6:05 PM. In attendance in addition to Jeff, were Vice-President Greydon KC6SLE, Treasurer Rob KM6YKX and Directors Gerry/WA6E, Amir N6ADL and Smitty K9CCO. Also present was Secretary KG6UCS Orson

The November minutes were accepted as submitted.

WA6E Gerry's Ham track event is still happening and some people have confirmed they are going. February 26<sup>th</sup> Radio Dir Finding workshop \$20 donation min required.

Asking for volunteers for Drawing Chairman, Public info Officer and Picnic Chairman. Smitty volunteered for Social Media officer and BrianA16US volunteered to be our VEC

Dennis reported that we now have 228 members on Groups IO. 5 new club members  
Gerry WA6E volunteered to be Winter Field Day chairman. The Loomis Hamfest to be held March 19<sup>th</sup>.

Greg KO6TH motioned that BrianA16US be reimbursed \$1300.00 for purchasing our new 220MHz repeater and all it's cabling. Amir N6ADL seconded, motion passed. The 220 antenna still needs replaced as well as the pole the antennas are on. Repeater lease is still up in the air.

Rob KM6YKX motioned that BrianA16US be reimbursed \$848.52 for the Zoom equipment. Smitty K9CCO seconds, motion passed. The 2022 budget was presented. The radio direction finding \$200.00 was added to budget from last meeting the budget was motioned to be accepted by GreydonKC6SLE, seconded by Amir N6ADL, motion passed.

Website development is underway an update will be given by Amir and Herb at a later date.

Looking for a new location for VE testing

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 PM.



MONDAY FEBRUARY 14<sup>th</sup>







## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

### Video Conference Zoom Meeting

### January 14, 2022

President Jeff KM6RGO welcomed individuals to the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM by President Jeff KM6RGO who opened the meeting by leading The Pledge of Allegiance. All Board Members were present.

Last month's meeting minutes were accepted as submitted.

Introduced the new Board. New budget was approved by board and submitted to membership, motioned by Gary KB7QWC, seconded by Rob KM6YKX to accept budget. Motion passed

Need volunteers for the audit of the 2021 books

Meeting dates for the new Crossroads Church location have been approved

Radio Direction Finding club build event February 26<sup>th</sup> Sign up now to reserve your spot. \$20.00 donation required to cover component cost

Winter Field day to be held at Georgetown Airport January 28-29

Ham Swap Loomis March 19 2022 volunteers needed

The new members are:

AI6W Jon Nall

KI6MLH Scott McCullough

WB6UBK John Geyer

WA9QJR Frank Kavenik

KN6SFO Jennifer Hartmann

KG6PHI Anthony Gadd

Amir N6ADL motioned and Gary KB7QWC seconded. Motion passed Welcome new members

Tech-Ten

Orion AI6JB gave a presentation about how to operate and score Winter Field Day

This month's Show Us Your Shack was one shared by Josh KK6VHH

Presentation by Dough W2VX all about batteries part 2

Repeater update. \$1314.00 was voted on for the 220 repeater and antenna. Motioned by Rob KM6YKX  
Seconded by Amir N6ADL motion passes.

Satellite report given by Greg KO6TH

Groups IO report given by Dennis WU6X

General Announcements by President Jeff KM6RG

The club is looking for a new in person testing venue, public info officer, picnic Chairman and Drawings Chairman.

Prizes tonight were Telescoping Antenna won by Smitty K9CCO, Multi Meter won by Jerry W6GU and a VPN Portable Router won by Chip KM6MDF

Ham Track will be March 16 and 17, 2022. Buy your train tickets to Reno, making sure that you specify Train and not Bus, for the trip over the, hopefully, snow covered summit, spend the night, your choice of hotels and return the next day. Not an official club event so you need to make and pay for your own train tickets and hotel room. **SEE BELOW INFORMATION**

Contact Orion AI6JB for info on upcoming license classes

The meeting was adjourned at 10:11 PM.

Submitted by Orson KG6UCS

**PRESS RELEASE - Train Trip to Reno** on the Zephyr Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club, Auburn We are going on a train trip up to and back from Reno, NV and you're invited to join us. You do NOT have to be a member of the Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club to join us - this invitation is for ALL hams. Here are the details.. The subject of trains often comes up for discussion on the repeater. There seem to be a number of train aficionados (don't call them "foamers") in our midst as those train discussions attract numerous and protracted stories of memorable trips and other train trivia. One item mentioned frequently is the train trip from Sacramento to Reno. It travels through some of the most beautiful scenery in the United States if not the world. The most common comments about that trip: "That's on my bucket list" or "I want to do that someday." And it remains on the bucket list forever or until the day you decide to just DO IT! Well that day is near. SFARC, as part of its undeclared and previously unknown "Let's do things together" program, has decided to sponsor just such a trip. We are calling it "Hamtrak 2022." (Thanks to Josh, KK6VHH for coming up with the name) Here are the details: 16 March 2022 - Wednesday - Sacramento to Reno 17 March 2022 - Thursday - Reno to Sacramento Why those dates? Many reasons. First, we wanted to do this while there was still snow on the ground and March usually qualifies for this. Second, because it is mid-week the hotel rooms in Reno are cheaper. Third, it may be easier to get seats on the train in mid-week. And fourth it is the week after our Club meeting so we will have time to make plans. We will be riding to Reno on the California Zephyr, Amtrak train #6 and back also on the California Zephyr, Amtrak train #5. Amtrak #6 leaves Roseville at 11:35 am (if it is on time) and arrives Reno at 3:56 pm. You can also catch the same train at Sacramento or Colfax (different times, of course). Amtrak #5 leaves Reno at 8:36 am and arrives Roseville at 12:55 pm. The westbound train starts in Chicago and is often late getting to Reno. It's up to you to buy your own tickets - it's between you and Amtrak. There are non-refundable tickets and refundable tickets - you decide which is best for you. You also decide when you want to buy the tickets but our experience has been these trains often sell out to Reno so the earlier you buy your tickets the better. If you use the Amtrak web site be sure to book the train to Reno and not accidentally book the bus. As for the hotel there are three hotels that are connected together the closest of which is about 2 blocks from the train station. The hotels are: El Dorado, Silver Legacy and Circus Circus. You decide which hotel you want and make your own reservations. We can take our radios on the train. The train seats are not reserved so we should be able to find seating near each other. Gerry will bring his ClearNode. As long as we can get wifi we'll be able to check in to the W6EK repeater and regale those not on the trip of our minute-to-minute progress as they will undoubtedly be anxious to hear us talk about our trip all day long. At the hotel we will have happy hour and dinner together (the Silver Legacy has a nice buffet). The Club's role in this trip is that of organizer not benefactor. The responsibility to buy your tickets, make reservations and the like is all yours. Gerry, WA6E gjbrent@gmail.com will be the point of contact and trainmeister for this excursion. You can direct questions to him. So it's a shared responsibility. The Club initiated and coordinates the idea but you implement it. If you want to come along go ahead and buy your tickets and make your reservations. Not only is this a beautiful trip it will be a lot of fun shared with the other Ham Radio friends.



**SIERRA FOOTHILLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

P.O. Box 6421, Auburn, CA 95604

**2022 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	<b>New - - New - New -</b>
August	\$ 18/5	November	\$ 12/2+ following year	<b>Multi-year DISCOUNT Membership</b>
September	\$ 16/4	December	\$ 10/1 + following year	<b>*\$20 per year for 2 or more years (new or renewal)</b>

**OFFICE USE ONLY: DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Treasurer: \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_ Roster: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Payment: \_\_\_\_\_ Check Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash: \_\_\_\_\_ PayPal: \_\_\_\_\_

Rev. 12-31-2021



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