



Welcome to SFARC, Auburn, CA



P.O. Box 6421 Auburn, CA 95604

August 2022

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

At The Key of SFARC:

PRESIDENT

Jeff Morgan, KM6RGO
jamontrail@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Greydon Hicks, KC6SLE
lisagreydon@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Orson Fackrell, KG6UCS
ofackrell@gmail.com

TREASURER

Rob Newburn, KM6YKX
RobNewburn@att.net

DIRECTORS

Gerry Brentnall, WA6E
Mike (Smitty) Smith, WB1G
Amir Larian, N6ADL

FIELD DAY CHAIRMAN

Herb Garcia - KM6JBI

REPORTERS

Satellites: Greg, KO6TH
Sunshine: Pam, KN6GTK

GROUPS io

Dennis Gregory, WU6X

PIO/Social Media Officer

Mike (Smitty) Smith, WB1G

REPEATERS

145.430 (-0.6 MHz/PL 162.2)
Wires-X, Allstar, Echolink
440.575 (+5.0 MHz/FUSION)
223.860 (-1.6 MHz/PL 110.9) Allstar

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 (Smitty) Smith - WB1G

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Jim Marchetti, KD7G
kd7g@arrrl.net

WEBMASTER

Herb Garcia, KM6JBI

STATION TRUSTEE

Clyde Campbell, AB4CC

VOLUNTEER EXAMINER

Brian Gohl AI6US
ai6us@arrrl.net



Calendar of Events

General Club Meeting

August 12th @ 7:30pm

Hams in the Hills

August 20th

Fox Hunt

August 30th

Club Breakfast

August 27th @ 7:30am
@ Mel's Diner

Clearnode Net

Mondays @ 7pm, W6EK 2m
repeater

~ ~ ~

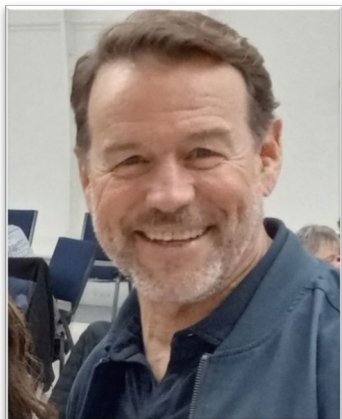
*Join us every morning @ 7:30am
for the Coffee Break Net on the
W6EK repeater 145.43, PL 162.2*

Inside this issue

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- *From the (new) Newsletter Editor's Desk*

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

Greetings!

August is upon us! You might have noticed there has been a slowing of the pace of activities by the club lately. Although, we did have a few interesting things this last month. Of course, as always, when things get quiet, hams find a way to get together and have fun using radio as a tool to enhance the day and possibly make it safer. Communications, in all its form is such a natural part of our daily lives. **Ham radio**, in particular, gives us extra tools to expand and enjoy our activities and keep our minds active along the way. We can now chat with our friends on the repeater on long drives to vacation destinations using Clear Node, Allstar, EchoLink, and Fusion, to name a few. Time passes more easily, and hopefully, the drive less boring. There are also groups getting together for outdoor fun. Activities, such as **SOTA, Fox Hunting, 4WD** adventures to name a few. It can be fun to hear about the stories and adventures of our community having fun together. In that way, the **Sierra Foothills ARC** repeater is alive! It's a great place for those who could not participate on a given outing, to share in the joy and even participate from a distance. What a great place to tune in to.

Tevis Cup

July 16 was an exciting time for the Auburn area with the **Tevis Cup 100** mile race on horseback! Any 100 mile race seems quite the challenge, and this year was no different. Congrats to all the participants who successfully completed this incredible event on challenging terrain., and our condolences to those who could not finish. Also, a big thank you to those hams who assisted in the communications of this glorious event! In its own way, communications during big events like there has its own challenges. Ham radio has proven to be critical to the safety and management of these large events, and will likely remain so in the future. Great job!

IT SUMMIT

Although it has been quiet, behind the scenes, we have been getting together on Zoom for the IT Summit. A group of us have been going over our club needs with regards to our webpage, social media, business processes, and are working through the details on what the future may entail to meet the needs of our very active club. It may be no surprise that technology is always changing. Once in a while, a good hard look at what we have and what we might like to improve going forward needs to happen. Our group includes those responsible for different technology areas of the club, such as; our **website, groups.io, treasurer, newsletter, VE exams, and repeater**. A great big thank you to **Orion - AI6JB** who is facilitating this, as well as all of the participants who are working to make our club better. As we look at our future needs, we are open to your ideas on where we can make things better for you. If you have a thought, please reach out to me and let me know.

Activities

After the Sat breakfast, on July 30, we had another great **Radio Direction Finding Foxhunt!** I missed out this time, but I know we will hear more about this. I can only guess that it was both challenging and fun. And I heard there were prizes! I can't wait to hear more.

July had another successful **Hams in the Hills** drive along Soda Springs road. As always, the stories are fun to hear. There other meetups coming up, so keep an eye on [group.io](https://groups.io) for fun outside of the club.

You may also hear about other kinds of activities that fuse Ham radio into the day. We have such a diverse group, it's interesting to see what we come up with!

SFARC Picnic

Mark your calendars for **Sep 17** for our club picnic at **Recreation Park**. Last year we had fun with cornhole, watermelon seeds spitting contest and ice cream floats. But, mostly, getting together for some good old-fashioned fun. I look forward to seeing you!

Fire Season

Fire season is here. This is a great time to assess your needs and check your go bags to be sure you are ready to leave an area. Along with go bags, think of alternate routes, where you will go, and what other needs you may have in the unfortunate need to evacuate. Remember, the repeater is available, if you need it to relay information.

Have fun the rest of summer and be safe out there!

73!

Jeff - KM6RGO

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

August 8, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff KM6RGO at 6:11 PM. In attendance in addition to Jeff were Vice-President Greydon KC6SLE, Treasurer Rob KM6YKX and Secretary KG6UCS Orson

The June minutes were accepted as submitted.

Asking for volunteers for Drawing Chairman and Picnic Chairman..

Hot RF Night July 8 short outdoor meeting

September 17th 4pm Club picnic

Club camp out discussed for September of October

No new news on the website work. Accessibility reader for ADA compliance still under investigation

Looking for a new location for VE testing

Need volunteers for Field Day to be worker bee's. Field Day shirts ordered and awaiting shipping. VE testers are ready for Field Day and are looking for a place to test in Auburn area on a monthly basis.

Leslie K7NYE is moving so will no longer fill greater position

Looking for insurance clarification for Hams In the Hills

Field Day numbers are allmost done, some info is available now, was a success.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:53PM.

General Meeting Minutes Video Conference Zoom Meeting

August 8, 2022

President Jeff KM6RGO welcomed individuals to the meeting.
The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM by President Jeff KM6RGO who opened the meeting by leading The Pledge of Allegiance.
All Board Members were present. Except WA6E and WB1G
Last month's meeting minutes were accepted as submitted.

Club picnic September 17th FOX Hunt August 30

NEW MEMBERS:

Mike Erickson K7GFM, Carolyn Gillette KN6PAF, Kurt Henderson KN6UWU, Michael Krebs KN6USH, Charles Moody KD6EGD, Jim Zheng KN6OON
Gary KB7QWC motioned and Allen KB4GOJ seconded. Motion passed *Welcome new members*

Welcome to HOT RF NIGHTS

General Announcements by President Jeff KM6RG
the club is looking for a new in person testing venue, Picnic Chairman and Drawings Chairman.

Contact Orion AI6JB for info on upcoming license classes

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 PM. Submitted by Orson KG6UCS

All The Social Links in ONE SPOT!

- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/sfarcw6ek/>
- <https://www.instagram.com/sfarcw6ek/>
- <https://www.twitter.com/sfarcw6ek/>
- <https://www.linkedin.com/company/sfarcw6ek/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/user/w6ek>
- And, Groups.IO - <https://w6ek.groups.io/g/sfarc>

Upcoming Club Presentation

Thanks to all those who attended our July SFARC meeting/Hot RF Nights either in person or via Zoom. We had a good turnout for the club meeting, which was outdoors in very nice park like setting at the church, and 19 vehicles on the show field. And thank you to the Hot RF Nights Team which did an outstanding planning and executing another great club outing and event.

Our next club meeting will be on Friday August 12 at the Crossroads church in Auburn. For this August we have Herb, KM6JBI, and Dennis, WU6X, providing us the final results and wrap up of the Club's Field Day at Georgetown Airport in June. And Mike, K6YMM, will provide us a technical presentation on Direction Vectoring as it relates to radio direction finding (RDF).

Wow, this year is flying by so quickly and opportunities for presenting HAM related at upcoming meetings are as quickly disappearing. But there are spots still available in September, October, and November. If you have a topic you would like to suggest, or even better present, please contact me at lisagreydon@gmail.com or call me at 925-768-0830.

73s, be safe, and enjoy!

Greydon, KC6SLE

SFARC Vice President

Western States Endurance Run – June 2022 – in a few pictures



Devils Thumb Aid Station



Orion, AI6JB at the Western States Aid Station



Devils Thumb - KK6YMJ, KN6JNR, KM6YVW at your service!



The view from the Aid Station

There are SO many more pictures available online. Please visit the W6EK Photo Gallery page for more. Click [here](#) to view photos.

Club Radiosport

Click [here](#) to download ARRL & Non-ARRL contests for the month of August.

Events

Hams in the Hills

When: Saturday, August 20, 2022

Where: Wentworth Springs Campground/McKinstry Lake/Bugle Lake/McKinstry Peak

Organizer: Paul (W2OHV)

FOX Hunt - August 30

How About A Little [more] Trivia?

In what year was the ASCII computer code first allowed for use by US amateurs on the air?

Answers can be found in "From the Newsletter Editor's Desk"

Handy Links For Your ~~Addiction~~ Hobby On The Club's Website

Did you know that the SFARC web site has a page full of links? Well, we do, and it's quite handy – you should check out the links page [HERE](#)

<https://w6ek.org/links.html>

Have You Visited the SFARC YouTube channel lately?

There's a video of the recent Hot RF Nights event that Greg [KO6TH] filmed and I gotta say, I now have antenna envy – check out the video, right around 12 minutes and 20 seconds into it... [right here](#)

<https://youtu.be/LeaGW80HqY8?t=742> But, I encourage you to watch the whole video – there is a lot more Hot RF content in there!

Do You go camping? Do you bring a radio? Here is an article for you.

[Enjoying 2 Meter Ham Radio on Your Truck Camper Adventures](#)

https://www.truckcamperadventure.com/enjoying-2-meter-ham-radio-on-your-truck-camper-adventures/?utm_source=mailpoet&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=truck-camper-news_129

Calendar, Photos and Files – OH MY!!! (Think Dorothy, red ruby shoes...)

But seriously, you can find the SFARC calendar, piles of photos and files on the club's Groups.io site. It's a very useful site, and, it's just for club members, so please visit, or register. Details below.

To Access SFARC Calendar, Photos and Files. Please register with [Groups.io](#)

SFARC members can log on to Groups.io click [here](#).

Are you listening? You should be!

MEMBER CONTRIBUTION from Matthew Diridoni - KC6RUO

Good news for public safety radio listeners in California.

Over the last year or two, I have been hearing Ham Radio Operators and public safety radio listeners (scanner listeners) voicing concern that most law enforcement agencies are switching to encrypted radio communications that would make some very expensive radio scanners completely worthless.

Good news for us listeners!

2022 California Senate Bill 1000 states that radio communications shall be accessible to the public using common radio scanning equipment. California agencies are only required to switch to an encrypted channel only to pass criminal record information or for confidential tactical purposes.

What is encryption? Encryption is the process of encoding information (in this case audio signals) in such a way that scanner listeners cannot understand it, but authorized parties can access it. In two-way radios, encryption modifies a voice signal using a coding algorithm. This algorithm is controlled by an encryption key. The encryption key is used by the transmit and receive radios to enable the voice signal to be coded and decoded for both radios. All radios on a system must have matching encryption keys to receive the transmissions. A digital P25 radio scanner will not intercept an encrypted channel.

How things work in Placer and Sacramento County:

Sacramento County and incorporated cities therein use an 800 MHz P25 digital radio system known as the Sacramento Regional Radio Communications System (SRRCS). Main dispatch channels can be monitored with a digital P25 scanner. Sacramento also has encrypted channels for confidential communications.

Placer County Sheriff is using a VHF digital P25 system, known as the Placer Interoperable Radio Communications System (PIRCS). Placer also provides a hard patch to analog VHF on 160.545 MHz for those that do not have a digital P25 scanner. Placer County also has encrypted channels for confidential communications.

Roseville Police is using a stand-alone 800 MHz P25 digital radio system. Roseville also has encrypted channels for confidential communications.

Soon the Cities of Lincoln, Auburn and Rocklin Police will migrate off analog VHF and switch to P25 by joining the Placer Interoperable Radio Communications System (PIRCS).

To read Senate Bill 1000, click [HERE](https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB1000).

[https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB1000]

73's!

Matthew Diridoni - KC6RUO - Roseville, CA



From the Newsletter Editor's Desk:

Welcome to August you beautiful radiating Amateur Radio Operators!

Thank you all for your continued support and 'thank you' emails. Those simple, short emails thanking me for the newsletter are incredibly encouraging, so I say THANK YOU for those emails.

How about that trivia question? The year would be 1980 when ASCII characters were authorized for use on amateur radio. I was a 16 year old human version of the Tazmanian Devil at the time and the only radio I cared about was KEEN radio, 1370 in San Jose, but I digress...

On a personal note, I acquired a used 57 foot Rohn 25G antenna tower and it is stationed in a horizontal position on my side yard while I slowly chip away at digging the 4' x 4' x 4' hole where the concrete will be poured in the near future, whatever that means.

Short and sweet this month – have a great amateur radio month of August and please be safe.

If you have any information for the newsletters, ideas, recommendations, events you've heard about, etc., please don't hesitate to send it to me. Even if you 'think' someone else has probably sent it to me, send it anyway – assume they haven't. 😊 Email: kd7g@arrl.net or james@jamesmarchetti.com – either way, I will get your email.

Thank you & **be radio active!!**

73,

Jim – KD7G



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
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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