



P.O. Box 6421 Auburn, CA 95604

October 2022

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

At The Key of SFARC:

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Mike (Smitty) Smith, WB1G
Amir Larian, N6ADL

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Herb Garcia - KM6JBI

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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

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STATION TRUSTEE

Clyde Campbell, AB4CC

VOLUNTEER EXAMINER

Brian Gohl AI6US
ai6us@arri.net



Calendar of Events

General Club Meeting

October 14th @ 7:30pm

Club Breakfast

October 29th @ 7:30am
@ Mel's Diner

RDF/Fox Hunt

October 29th @ 9:30am

Clearnode Net

Mondays @ 7pm, W6EK 2m
repeater

~ ~ ~

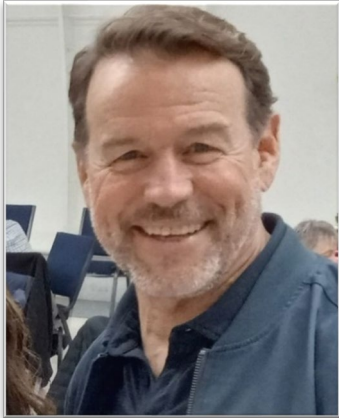
*Join us every morning @ 7:30am
for the Coffee Break Net on the
W6EK repeater 145.43, PL 162.2*

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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

SFARC Picnic

It was fantastic to see everyone at the picnic! For a bit there it seemed a bit touch and go with the **Mosquito Fire** disrupting people's lives along with normally clear skies. The day started out with the **Hamswap** for **Western Placer ARC in Lincoln**, making the day a busy one for many folks. Of course, there were bargains struck and stories shared of old equipment for sale. It was nice to have a day that felt somewhat normal with all that

is going on around us. A little home cooked potluck and togetherness was what we needed! A big thank you to all who brought a desert or side to share. Also and also a big thank you to **Tom – NN6H** for setting up his radio for us to enjoy. (We are a ham club after all)! The RF conditions at the park made it difficult to reach out for distance. But, congrats to **Earl – K6GPB** for getting a contact though the mud in southeast Texas, making it the furthest contact on that day.

RDF

The **Sat breakfast** on **Sep 24**, I hear had a nice turn out, with a little more challenging **Radio Direction Finding** activity to follow. Congrats to **Greg KO6TH** for being the first to find the fox, and thank you to **Gary K7EST** for adding a nice little challenge, upping the ante for future events! As many of you know, the **RDF** group meets on the **2nd and 4th Wed on Zoom at 7:30**. There are a lot of interesting discussions on advancing the core skills of the ham community. The RDF group seems to be evolving into a **Ham Projects** group. There may be new build projects on the agenda. The first project currently appears to be a power supply build, with other interesting builds to follow. Keep an eye out for the schedule.

General Class GOTA

I missed out on Sat Breakfast and Radio Direction Finding as I was with **Orion AI6JB** and the **General Class GOTA**. Orion and team setup a variety of antennas and stations to show the many modes and bands available to the upcoming General Class operators. They set up Orion's famous falling derrick, 40m inverted V along with a hexbeam, and a vertical HF antenna. Contact on SSB and digital modes were made along with discussing specific advantages and use cases. Thank you to **Orson - KG6UCS** for hosting the **General Class** on his property along with **Anders - K3REH** for his expertise and **Amir - N6ADL's** assistance. I know the class learned a ton and had a great time. The next class coming up will be a **Tech class** in **November**. Contact **Orion - AI6JB** if you know of someone wanting to get or upgrade their license.

IT SUMMIT

If you are wondering how the **IT summit** is coming along. We have been busy on **Zoom** and behind the scenes, furiously working to update and modernize the way information is communicated. A new website design is coming, it looks and feels familiar with better tools for members to find what they need from the club. In addition, a modern membership management and payments platform are coming. We hope to have a polished product for you soon. Hopefully, these changes will make everyone's club life, volunteers and otherwise, a bit easier to manage. We think you will be pleased with the overall package.

Contributing

I would like to say a couple of things about contributing to our club. Our club is special in many ways. We have a large depth and reach of hams who contribute to the club. For example, a donation of ham equipment, from the family of **Jose - KB6LP**, was brought to the **Lincoln Hamswap** netting the club a generous donation. It is **Jose's** hope to further Ham Radio and he felt **SFARC** was the place to donate to. Also, a recent donation came in from **Sherry Martin** in support of **AI – N12U's** passion for educating new hams. These contributions are a vote of confidence **SFARC** will continue providing an environment of growth and advancement of people interested Ham Radio. There are unsung heroes in our midst with **Sierra Foothill ARC** seeming to have that special blend of educators and doers in a welcoming community, which, ultimately fosters our personal growth. Our local heroes will not always be there. To keep this community vibrant, we must step up and do our part. Small or large commitments go a long way. If you would like to have a discussion about what you can do, reach out to one of the officers and ask. It's really that simple.

Thank you for all that you do and have a wonderful October!

73!

Jeff - KM6RGO

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

September 09, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff KM6RGO at 6:00pm

In attendance in addition to Jeff were Vice-President Greydon KC6SLE, Secretary KG6UCS Orson, Directors Gerry and Amir, Smitty WB1G. Also Denis WU6X, Clyde AB4CC, Brain AI6US, Herb KM6JBI and Jim WA8MPA. Treasurer Rob KM6YKX not present

The August minutes were accepted as submitted.

Asking for volunteers for Drawing Chairman and Picnic Chairman.

Repeater is running on low power till the wiring in the building can be brought up to date. Also the lease for the repeater building needs resolved ASAP

September 17th, 4pm Club picnic

RDF group and club breakfast 9/24/22

Website work is going well. Accessibility reader for ADA compliance still under investigation and the old FB page needs merged or shut down. Membership database may be able to be updated automatically using HamClub Online feature.

Graydon proposed Projects group will be self supporting but also be a club event.

Christmas party proposal to be renamed and food option changed to a taco night.

Motion for \$1000.00 to repair AC panel at repeater site by Gary WA6E seconded by Amit N6ADL

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05PM.

General Meeting Minutes Video Conference Zoom Meeting September 09, 2022

President Jeff KM6RGO welcomed individuals to the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30PM by President Jeff KM6RGO who opened the meeting by leading The Pledge of Allegiance.

All Board Members were present, except Orson, KG6UCS and Amir N6ADL and reports given.

Two board Members confirmed a Quorum in person and on Zoom

August meeting minutes were accepted as submitted.

New Members:

The following hams were recommended and introduced to the club: Troy Malaspino KN6GLG, Patrick Atkinson WB6BHK, Ric Nepal N6PIL, Mitch Martin WU1Q, Roger Carroll W6TVY. Alan KB4GOJ motioned to accept into membership and Earl K6GPB 2nd, with vote by membership passing. New members were welcomed into the club.

Items of the Thurs evening Board meeting on Zoom:

IT Summit updates, Smitty WB1G identifying specific software tools to create and manage new website. Repeater in need of electrical power panel repair and fix internal wiring and grounding in the repeater vault. The board voted on and recommended to the membership for approval of not more than \$1000.00 from the repeater fund to make repairs. Motioned by Smitty WB1G and 2nd by Stuart W1SLC. Discussion and whether permits were required for work. Determined to be a repair without permit required. General Membership Vote passed.

Presentations:

“Show us your Shack” Doug W2VX “Never Never Land”

Main Presentation:

Jim – KN6OON “Embedded Computers and Amateur Radio”

General Announcements by President Jeff KM6RGO

Chair Reports:

Clyde AB4CC Repeater is on low power for the time being until repairs.

Leslie K7NYE Greeter. Thoughts and prayers going out to members affected by Mosquito fire.

Brian AI6US VE Report general practice

Orion AI6JB for info on upcoming license classes. 17 students in current General Class

Satellite ISS is on occasionally. Hams making contacts.

Calendar of event discussed

CAQP sideband contest, Oct 1-2

Next meeting Oct 14

Sat Breakfast Oct 29 7:30

RDF Oct 29 following breakfast

Prize Drawing:

Rob – KM6YKX won Two Rotary Club BBQ Tickets (donated by Earl – K6GPB)

Steve – K1VUE hat

Aaron W1ABT Burgers and Cream

The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 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

Another good turnout both in-person and via Zoom for our September club meeting. Thanks to all those who made the effort to attend. It's very much appreciated by our presenters who put a lot of time and passion into preparing and presenting. And speaking of presenters, a big thank you to Jim KN6OON for Friday night's presentation on the use of embedded micro-computers within modern HAM equipment.

If you were not able to see our September presentations, or other past months' presentations, they are available on the club's YouTube page. Check them out.

Our next club meeting will be on Friday, October 14, at the Crossroads church in Auburn, 7:30 PM.

For our next meeting we are truly blessed and honored to have Steve R. Dyer W1SRD presenting from his vast experience in helping to organize, conduct and participating in many, many DX expeditions worldwide. And we are talking some very remote, exotic, and hard to access places. Most recently, April 16-29, 2022, Steve traveled to and participated in the DX expedition in the Ralvauee, Austral Islands, French Polynesia OC-114. Two years prior to that, 2022, he traveled to and participated in the DX Expedition to South Orkney Island AN-008. These are truly some epic travels and adventures. We are most fortunate that Steve will share his experiences with us.

These are just a small example of the HAM adventures Steve has participated in. For more on his exploits check out his QRZ page.

It is good reading and fascinating.

So, mark your calendars for the next club meeting. You do not want to miss this!

73s, be safe, and enjoy!

Greydon, KC6SLE
SFARC Vice President

Club Radiosport

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

Events

Radio Direction Finding (RDF)

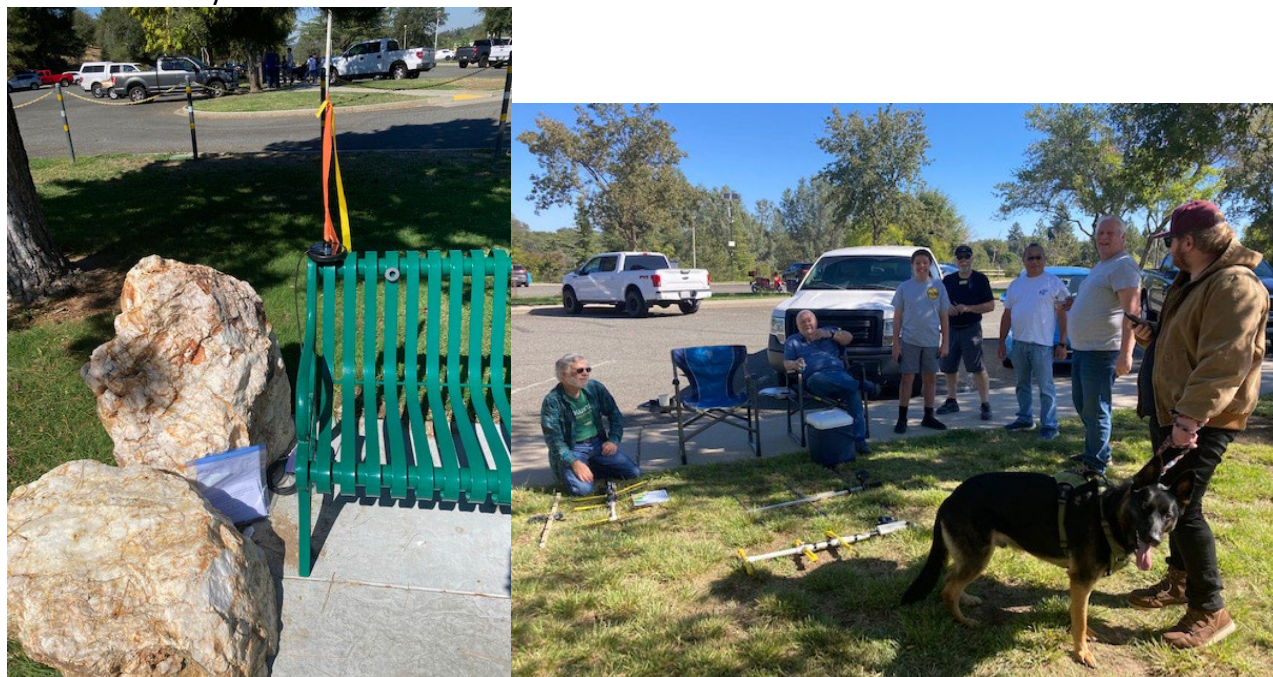


The next SFARC RDF event will be held on **October 29TH** from 9:30 to 12:00.

And, here's a few pictures and a ***brief recap of the September Fox Hunt*** activity.

Contributor: Gary K7EST

It was a wonderful day for the fox hunt, weather was great, and all the participants had fun. 1st place was Greg (KO6TH) finding the fox in 26 minutes. 2nd place was Sam Dyer (KN6UXI), Brian Gohl (AI6US) and Paul Dyer (KE6MXV), and 3rd place was Doug (W2VX). The October fox hunt will be hosted Paul and Sam Dyer.





CLASS – ya, this club has *lots of class*, and this time, it's GENERAL

GENERAL LICENSE CLASS STARTS NEXT WEEK

Tuesdays @ 7PM | Online (Zoom)

Interested in upgrading to a General? The SFARC General License class started September 6th. It's open to ALL amateur radio operators, not just club members. The cost is \$40 for SFARC members, \$65 for non-members and when you're ready, you can take the test with the club on one of our new VE tablets. Interested? Send email to Orion @ upgrade@w6ek.org.

How About ANOTHER Trivia TWO-FER?

The conductivity of aluminum is 92% that of:

A: Copper - B: Titanium - C: Silver - D: Gold

What is the usual prefix for a Hawaiian amateur radio station?

A: KH, NH, AH, or WH - B: WA3 or KA3 - C: WW1 or WR2 - D: HK5 or HK3

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

Upcoming Project Build Event

MEMBER CONTRIBUTION from Doug – W2VX, Greydon – KC6SLE and Jon – KI6RT

Last month the concept of SFARC projects to learn basic circuit concepts was introduced with the initial focus on Linear Power Supplies. The objectives are to provide a teaching platform while providing participants with something useful when done (i.e. run your radio, lab power supply to test new circuits).

Build Options

The basic project is a single output power supply that can be enhanced for higher current (user supplied transformer, filter capacitors, pass transistors, etc) and or bells & whistles (panel meter, voltage adjustment knob, output banana plugs). Participants may optionally elect to build a dual or triple output laboratory power supply used to power up digital or mixed signal circuits.

PROJECT	BASIC SPECS	COST
Single Output Power Supply	12 V nominal, adj 10 V – 15 V 3 A with 130% current limit Over voltage protection	\$8
Dual Output Power Supply	#1: Positive 0 to 20 V output #2: Negative 0 to 20 V output 1 A with 130% current limit	\$10
Triple Output Power Supply	#1: Positive 0 to 20 V output #2: Negative 0 to 20 V output #3: Positive 0 to 10 V output 1 A with 130% current limit	\$12

To Participate

To participate in the SFARC Power Supply project build you must signup by sending PayPal to jon@kimresidence.com by 9/30/2022. After the end of September (when parts for the build will be ordered) participation will depend upon whether or not any extra kits are available.

On Wednesday 9/28/2022 (during the RDF/Technical Zoom Meeting @ 7PM) a theory of operation will be presented.

The initial build/assembly/test will take place on Saturday 10/8/2022 from 10AM – Noon at the Quonset building, Crossroads Church.

Future Projects

Many future projects are being considered. What is next will depend on feedback and areas of interest for Doug, Greydon & Jon who are known to have ADHD and often easily bored 😊. Regardless projects on the roadmap include:

1. Emergency Power Unit to recharge devices using any available power sources such as car/golf cart/EV batteries, off line solar panels, other (e.g. wind generator, hand crank generator).
2. HF Transceiver using a Tayloe I/Q mixer
 - a. One working with a PC Sound Card & off the shelf SDR software
 - b. Another using an embedded processor for standalone portable operation
3. HF Power Amplifier – 10 Watt Linear, 100 Watt Linear
4. Other?



Figure 1. Example of a basic HF CW/SSB Transceiver

Questions?

If you are interested but still have questions, please send email to kits@kimresidence.com (emails will forward to Doug, Greydon and Jon).

Who Do I Contact For More Information

If you have addition questions please send email to kits@kimresidence.com that will route the message to Doug, Greydon & Jon.



From the Newsletter Editor's Desk:

Welcome to... WAIT!!!??? OCTOBER, really?

YIKES... well, hello all of you passionate 'radio active' Amateur Radio Operators!

This issue brings us TWO member contributions, which is fantastic. I will reiterate how wonderful it is to have people put together an article or write a blurb about the next fox hunt. Seriously, I love to write, and that is what makes this newsletter a joy to write and put together. THANK YOU! (again)

My Little Project

I'm pretending to ignore the lack of progress on the antenna tower here at my QTH. Instead, I bought a kayak. Huh?? Why Jim? Well, duh... BOATS ON THE AIR of course.



YES I DID



OK, maybe that antenna tower is a bit of overkill. A guy can dream, right? I want to paddle to Hawaii and then I can change my callsign (again) to **KH6JIM**, right? (see trivia question). I mean, wouldn't that just be a **GOLDen** idea? (see other trivia question).

OK, enough with the corny way to give you the trivia question answers. 😊

Wishing you all a wonderful Fall/Autumn season!

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

73,

Jim – KD7G



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.

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)**

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

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