



P.O. Box 6421 Auburn, CA 95604

November 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

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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@arrl.net

WEBMASTER

Herb Garcia, KM6JBI

STATION TRUSTEE

Clyde Campbell, AB4CC

VOLUNTEER EXAMINER

Brian Gohl AI6US
ai6us@arrl.net



Calendar of Events

General Club Meeting

November 11th @ 7:30pm

Hams in the Hills - Signal Peak

November 12th
7:30AM – 3:00PM

Club Breakfast

November 26th @ 7:30am
@ Mel's Diner

RDF/Fox Hunt

November 26th @ 9:30am

Clearnode Net

Mondays @ 7pm, W6EK 2m
repeater

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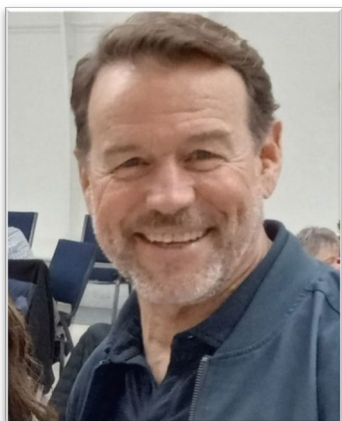
*Join us every morning @ 7:30am
for the Coffee Break Net on the
W6EK repeater 145.43, PL 162.2*

Inside this issue

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- **Board & General Meeting Minutes**
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- **From the 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

Happy Halloween! I hope everyone survived the ghouls and goblins parading our neighborhoods this week. I happen to enjoy Halloween as it is one of the surviving traditions where neighbors and families openly greet each other face to face, rather than a drive by wave we've become so accustomed to. We also get to see kids outdoors and happy! Once in a while, our little neighborhood can feel like Andy Griffith's Maybury, which is always a comforting thought.

Nov Meeting

Elections are here! We are excited to present to you the **SFARC** candidates for election for **2023**, and are as follows:

President, Jeff Morgan - KM6RGO

Vice President, Greydon Hicks - KC6SLE

Treasurer, Rob Newburn - KM6YKX

Secretary, David McBrayer - N6OJJ

Director, Mike (Smitty) Smith - WB1G (continuing 2 year and not up for election)

Director, Jonathan Kim - KI6RT

Director, Joe Steinmetz - K6SAT

We hope you will approve and support the efforts of the board to keep **Ham Radio** and our repeater in our area alive and well. Thanks to our openness to and growth of a variety of fun and educational radio related activities, such as; **Ham Class on Zoom, Radio Direction Finding, Hams in the Hills, Project Builds, Sierra Foothills ARC** has sparked the involvement of Hams and future Hams over a wide area. We sincerely hope to continue support and promote the many fun ways and a deeper understanding of how RF can be useful in our lives. A big thank you to the many contributors of these ongoing areas of interest. It takes quite a bit of work to put on events. We hope to continue to make **SFARC** an inviting place to have fun, learn and delight our fellow Hams.

IT Summit

Along with our growing club comes new challenges to organize and communicate with the membership. The IT Summit has been meeting all summer to discuss ways to address these challenges. We have made progress. At our November meeting, we will introduce you to our redesigned **www.W6EK.org** along with **HamClubOnline**, a Ham specific membership management program. Our goal is to simplify and distribute the workload related to general communication and management of memberships. It is a work in progress, but we think you will be pleased.

Veteran's Day

As it happens, our **November 11** is also **Veteran's Day**. It is not said enough how much we appreciate and value the commitment and service of Veteran's to our country. The United States is a large and incredibly diverse place. It has been our Veterans that have bridged cultural gaps, united in a single goal of protecting our country. When asked, our Veterans rose to the occasion to do the most difficult, and sometimes unspeakable tasks so that others did not need to. It is a testament to our ability, as united people, to come together in a crisis. I am truly honored to be associated with, and in the presence of, great men and women who have answered the call. Please celebrate this **Veteran's Day**, warmly and respectfully.

Jeff - KM6RGO

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff KM6RGO at 6:03pm In attendance in addition to Jeff were Vice-President Greydon KC6SLE, Secretary KG6UCS Orson, Treasurer Rob KM6YKX Directors Gerry WA6E and Smitty WB1G. Also Denis WU6X, Clyde AB4CC, Brain AI6US, Herb KM6JBI.

The September minutes were accepted as submitted.

Asking for volunteers for Drawing Chairman and Picnic Chairman..

Repeater building lease needs resolved ASAP. Electical work is proceeding well in vault.

Website work is going well. Accessibility reader for ADA compliance still under investigation and the old FB page needs merged or shut down. Membership data base being tested. Shooting for a November start up for HamClub online.

VE exam slated for November.

Square added to Club for card payments. We now have 267 members and the club calendar was updated with special events.

New location and date needed for HamFest as well as new chairman.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:??PM. Ran past 7:28pm

General Meeting Minutes Video Conference Zoom Meeting October 13, 2022

President Jeff KM6RGO welcomed individuals to the meeting.

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

All Board Members were present.

Last months meeting minutes were accepted as submitted.

Announcements;

Jamboree on the Air 10/15/22

new website should be up and running in November

Ham Club Online should be available November

7 new members

VE testing November

Picnic Chairman and Drawings Chairman still needed

Tech-Ten

Expedition to the Austal Islands. A riveting tale of what it takes to go on a Dxpedition given by Steve W1SRD accompanied by Doris K0BEE

Motion to spend \$3500.00 on holiday party passed. Motioned by K6ZOI seconded K6ZOC party is 12/10/22 5pm

Prizes \$25 gift card to HRO x2 Greg KO6TH and W2VX. Tshirt goes to N8ESF

Contact Orion AI6JB for info on upcoming license classes

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM. Submitted by Orson KG6UCS

All The Social Links in ONE SPOT!

- | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ 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 |
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WATTS NEW

Thank you to all those who turned out in person and via Zoom for our October club meeting. And what a great meeting it was. I cannot give enough praise and appreciation to Steve and Doris Dyer for joining us and for their excellent presentation on DX Expeditions. It was simply wonderful and thoroughly educational and entertaining. Our next club meeting will be on Friday, November 11, at the Crossroads Church in Auburn, at 7:30 PM. For our next meeting, Greg KO6TH is working on another great mystery "Show Us Your Shack" and we are going to ask the IT Summit group to provide us with an overview of the great changes coming to the club's website and other IT infrastructure. So, mark your calendars for the next club meeting. Please plan to be there in person if you can. Our presenters really appreciate the in-person interaction with an audience.

73s, be safe, and enjoy!

Greydon, KC6SLE

SFARC Vice President

Club Radiosport

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

Events

Radio Direction Finding (RDF)



The next SFARC RDF event will be held on **November 26TH** from 9:30 to 12:00.

How About **ANOTHER** Trivia TWO-FER?

When did the FCC stop giving amateur license tests and pass the duty over to the VEC program?

A: 1980 - B: 1984 - C: 1988 - D: 1990

Before WW2 What call area was the state of Nevada?

A: 7 - B: 5 - C: 6

*Answers can be found in "From the Newsletter Editor's Desk" – look for the **orange** text*

October Power Supply Build

Jon Kim, KI6RT

Twelve members met up at the Granite Bay Library to assemble power supply circuits. We are happy to report that nobody was injured with a soldering iron nor was there any purple smoke when power was applied.

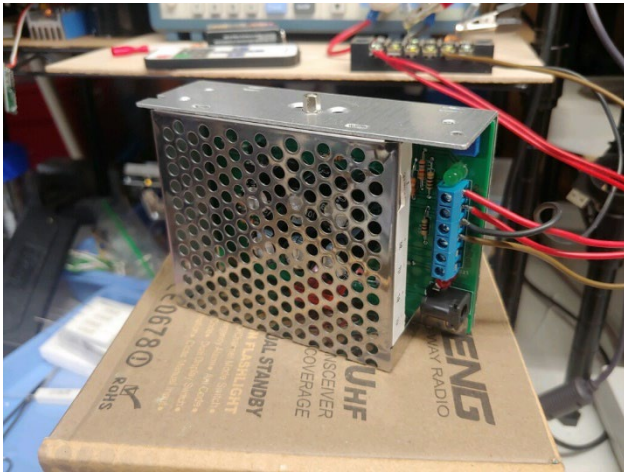


In spite of documentation discrepancies and missing components (who put the kits together?) Jon Nall, AI6W, was able to assemble and power up his unit in record time!

Doug Chandler, W2VX, provided instruction to those needing refresher on color codes, identifying Pin 1 on DIP devices, identifying which end of the diode is the Cathode, looking up transistor pinouts, etc. Experience builders were great mentors. One example was organizing the parts to match the BOM. Given Smitty, WB1G, was unavailable to provide instruction on soldering Jon Kim, KI6RT, stepped in as the substitute

instructor. Instructions included 1) do not touch “business end” or the iron to one’s forehead, 2) clean the soldering iron tip and “wet it” with solder, 3) apply heat to the pad & the component lead, 4) apply solder (not too little, not too right), etc. Perhaps a future build lab should include soldering: conventional, lead free, SMT techniques?





Shown in the picture is a Single Output Power Supply packaged in the chassis supplied for the build outputting 13.8V DC at 3.75 Amps (note Doug is using an adequate heatsink to deliver this power level otherwise one should expect purple smoke!).

This configuration is limited to 2-3 Amps at 12-14 volts. Limitations on power are a function of the capacity of the AC/DC module, pass transistors and of course thermal management (i.e. heat sinks). Jon Kim, KI6RT, showed the group a 10 Amp version of the Single Output Power Supply for those interested in a higher current version.

What's Next?

Those who have not completed the project should attend the RDF/Technology Zoom (2nd & 4th Wednesday at 7:30PM) where Doug, Greydon & Jon will continue to answer questions and help participants complete their builds.

Once a critical mass of builds are working, we will work through adjusting Current Limit and adding the OVP (Over Voltage Protection).

Given the design flexibility we will consult on how what is an appropriate output Current given the AC/DC design used (module or transformer supplied with the kits are limited to 40 VA – yeah you need to do the math), pass transistors & heatsink, chassis options, etc.

Finally

Some were not able to make the build due to calendar conflicts (wouldn't a club calendar be nice?).

Those who have paid can pickup their kits at the next club meeting – Nov 11 at Crossroads Church. All others contact Jon Kim, KI6RT, to arrange logistics (will ship using USPS Flat Rate Box – this time only) or pickup at a club event.

Questions?

If there are questions please send email to kits@kimresidence.com (will forward to W2VX, K6SLE and KI6RT).



From the Newsletter Editor's Desk:

Stop the world, I want to get off! NOVEMBER – the 11th month... whew

In last month's newsletter email there was a picture of a guy on a huge tower. That was not me, though it would have been cool to be up there! It was hard to tell in that tiny picture, but the person up there was secured to the tower in the event of a fall.

This issue brings us a great member contribution on the recent power supply build. Looks like it was filled with good times and a little power as well.

My Little Project - UPDATE

While I continue to pretend to ignore the lack of progress on the antenna tower here at my QTH, I did make a tiny bit of progress on the kayak. But, nothing picture worthy at this time. As soon as I get out on the water, I promise to have pictures.

The first time I ever paddled in a kayak was in **1984**, in Millington, TN while I was in the Navy and going to their Advanced First Term Avionics [AFTA] course. This was an intensive electronics course similar to the Nuclear Power Electronics Technician course, but without the nuclear power components – all of the same math and circuitry though! I was in Millington for 1 year 4 months, and the AFTA course was **6** months long. Everything else prior to that was in preparation for AFTA. And, AFTA that (get it, after that...), I got orders to Moffett Field, CA for another 7 months of school.

HAVE YOU SEEN THE WEB SITE LATELY??

Let me tell you something – **YOU NEED TO CHECK IT OUT!** Go take a look – <https://www.w6ek.org>

ENJOY!!

Wishing you all a wonderful Thanksgiving!

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)**

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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