



Welcome to SFARC, Auburn, CA



P.O. Box 6421 Auburn, CA 95604

January 2023

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

### At The Key of SFARC:

#### **PRESIDENT**

Jeff Morgan, KM6RGO  
[jamontrail@gmail.com](mailto:jamontrail@gmail.com)

#### **VICE PRESIDENT**

Greydon Hicks, KC6SLE  
[lisagreydon@gmail.com](mailto:lisagreydon@gmail.com)

#### **SECRETARY**

David McBrayer, N6OJJ\*  
[david.mcbrayer9@gmail.com](mailto:david.mcbrayer9@gmail.com)

#### **TREASURER**

Rob Newburn, KM6YKX  
[RobNewburn@att.net](mailto:RobNewburn@att.net)

#### **DIRECTORS**

Jon Kim, KI6RT\*  
Mike (Smitty) Smith, WB1G  
Joe Steinmetz, K6SAT\*

#### **FIELD DAY CHAIRMAN**

OPEN - TBD

#### **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](mailto:kd7g@arrrl.net)

#### **WEBMASTER(S)**

Smitty (WB1G) / Greg (KO6TH)

#### **STATION TRUSTEE**

Clyde Campbell, AB4CC

#### **VOLUNTEER EXAMINER**

Brian Gohl AI6US  
[ai6us@arrrl.net](mailto:ai6us@arrrl.net)



## Calendar of Events

### **General Club Meeting**

January 13<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30pm

### **Club Breakfast**

January 28<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30am  
@ Mel's Diner

### **RDF/Fox Hunt**

January 28<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00am

### **Clearnode Net**

Mondays @ 7pm, W6EK 2m  
repeater

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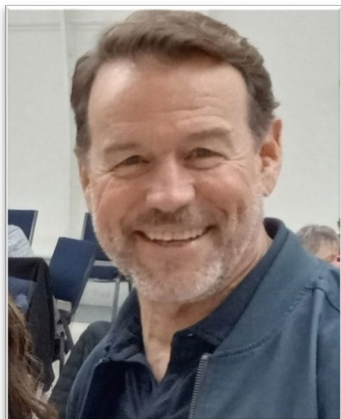
Join us every morning @ 7:30am  
for the Coffee Break Net on the  
W6EK repeater 145.43, PL 162.2

### Inside this issue

- **President's Message**
- **Party Pix**
- **Trivia Questions / Did Ya Know?**
- **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 New Year!

Boy oh boy what a fun time at the **Feliz Navidad Fiesta!** I was looking at the photos on the w6ek website, and I lost count of the smiles! And the prizes! There really was something for everyone. A great big thank you to **Gerry - WA6E** for heading up the Christmas Party and stumping us, once again with trivia for the ages! And thank you to **Jim - WA8MPA** for arranging the facility, and everyone who chipped in to help with decorations, serving, and cleanup. And of course, **Smitty - WB1G** for AV support. What a party! (We do have fun when we get together). Also, I hope you all had a great Holiday Season this year capping it

off with a wonderful New Year's Eve! The repeater was alive New Year's Eve with **Gerry's New Year's Rockin' Extravaganza Net**. How fun!

In addition to celebrating together, it is also a time to reflect on the past year how to do better in our personal lives, work, community, and our club. **Sierra Foothills ARC** is truly a wonderful club. We have opened our repeater, and therefore our club, to Hams near and far. Our repeater is alive! Turn on the radio, and you likely hear someone. If not, send out a call, and someone will answer. It is a place to socialize, a place to learn, and a place to support each other. Very special. I am very grateful to be a part of Sierra Foothills and happy to serve another term. Looking forward, we are planning on another great year full of Ham related activities, and a few, just for fun ones. Keep an eye on the calendar [w6ek.org](http://w6ek.org) for updates on **Foxhunts, Contests, HamFest, Hams in the Hills**, to name a few.

**Winter Field Day** will be weekend of **January 28** this year. It's time to get your gear into the field, or whatever that means to you. The point of Winter Field Day is to test our equipment in less-than-ideal circumstances. Take a moment to set up a station somewhere not in your comfy shack and have more contest fun than a barrel of Baofengs!

**Hamfest** is coming! Yes, it is time to get ready for **Hamfest 2023!** It takes a team of dedicated organizers to make Hamfest happen. It also takes volunteers to work the club table, manage parking, test used equipment for sale, serve coffee and doughnuts, set up and take down, show people around, etc. There is plenty to do, but, if enough members do their small part, there will also be time to browse the amazing radios, and fantastic deals! The organizing committee will be meeting regularly on the **club zoom room**, starting **Tues, Jan 10 @ 7:00pm**. Hamfest has been organized by **Orion - AI6JB** these last 4 years, and this will be his last hurrah as Hamfest Chair. Now is the time to step up and learn how he it. Come hang out with us and see how you can help!

You might be wondering how is it we can have so many great activities? It is because of the volunteer spirit of the ham community! There is a "roll up your sleeves" and get the job done kind of attitude that seems to be universal amongst hams. Making the world a better place while having fun along the way. **Sierra Foothills ARC** is full of talented people with something to share, and we are all better for it. I would like to thank the board and folks who went the "extra mile" so others could learn something new or have a good time. There are too many names to list. We have a wonderful tradition of teaching, learning, and leaning into problems. I thank you all.

Our 'not so small' club has a few needs. To break the administrative work up into manageable pieces and keep things properly organized, we have a few roles we would like to encourage. Please take a moment and consider how you can help. We are looking for help in the following roles: **Membership Chair and Newsletter**. If you have a talent or interest in these two areas, or if you know someone who might be good for the role, get in touch with myself or a board member. There are other areas to support, such as; **Elmer, Ham Classes, Summer Field Day, Picnic, Christmas Party**, and of course, **Hamfest!** It takes a village!

May all of you have an amazing 2023.  
73! Jeff - KM6RGO















To see **ALL** of the pictures, please go to the online Photo Gallery at;  
<https://www.w6ek.org/media/mediagallery> and then click on the button

 Photos Library

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**There are no Board of Directors Meeting Minutes & General Meeting Minutes as there were no 'official' meeting in December – instead, we had a terrific Holiday Party!!**

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### **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>

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## **Club Radiosport**

Click [here](#) to download ARRL & Non-ARRL contests for the month of JANUARY 2023.

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

How many "fixed station" antennas may an amateur radio operator simultaneously operate according to FCC rules?

A: 6 - LF, HF, VHF, UHF, SHF, MM+

B: Not more than the number of transmitters

C: Unlimited

D: Not more than twice the number of transmitters.

On what date was the FCC no-code Technician class license instituted? (License class now defunct of course)

A: January 1, 1989

B: August 7, 1971

C: March 23, 1993

D: February 14, 1991

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





## From the Newsletter Editor's Desk:

A New Year... again??? Already!!!

Well, here we are folks – 2023. I remember when Y2K came and went and suddenly the year was 2000. That number sounded SO weird when talking about it, writing it, thinking about it. I think I have finally adjusted to it. The other day I was talking with my granddaughter, Bella, and I said something about ‘the turn of the century’ and she resolutely said ‘oh, ya! Man, that was way before I was born Grandpa – that was 22 years ago’ – boy, did that make me laugh! Of course, I was talking about 1900, not 2000.

As I was thinking about Amateur Radio last month, and reading through QST magazine, I took to the ads and found that there was a huge amount of stuff offered that I had NO IDEA what they were – there is an **unlimited** array of ways to use the bands for us – so much so that it makes me feel a little small in my overall experience. It’s amazing how many ways we can find to enjoy our hobby. It makes me feel like such an amateur – wait – I am an amateur, whew! 😊 Back when I was a ‘pro’ in the Navy, I got to play with a lot of great radio gear as well as some pretty low-tech crypto gear. One particular piece of gear was the (incredibly heavy!) KW-7. It was an on-line, send/receive crypto unit installed in shore stations and aboard ships (and some aircraft like the P-3 Orion).

The KW-7 (don’t worry, it’s been declassified) used a punch card to set the encryption codes – YES, a punch card. A SPECIAL punch card, not the old IBM mainframe ones. ANYWAY, one year, I think it was 1991, I wanted to ask one of my ‘special’ friends to punch me one card that said I LOVE YOU that I could give to my wife for Valentine’s Day on **February 14, 1991** – it was a great idea, but alas my friend said no and then threatened to turn me into the NSA for even ASKING for it. Some friend! 🤦

I hope your 2023 is filled with as much ham (radio) as you can possibly handle and maybe you might endeavor into one of those many ways to enjoy your hobby!

Jim, KD7G

Oh & **be radio active!!**



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](mailto:kd7g@arrl.net) or [james@jamesmarchetti.com](mailto:james@jamesmarchetti.com) – either way, I will get your email.



You may notice that the membership form is no longer appearing in the newsletter. The club has moved to an online system now and it is available at the link below.

<https://www.w6ek.org/membership> - the page will look like this, and you simply click one of the two buttons shown here.

SIERRA Foothills ARC (W6EK)

ABOUT US

ACTIVITIES

MEMBERSHIP

CALENDAR

SIERRA Foothills

W6EK

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Proudly serving Auburn California and the Western Placer County communities since 1958.

Search

ENTER THE SFARC ZOOM ROOM

REPEATERS

145.430 MHz  
-0.6 Offset  
PL Tone 162.2  
AllStarLink  
51018  
EchoLink 4128

MEMBERSHIP

SFARC NOW USES HAM CLUB ONLINE (HCOL) TO CREATE AND MANAGE CLUB MEMBERSHIP.

HamClubOnline

Amateur Radio Club Management System

HCOL is an easy and powerful online tool with many features including online club management, membership renewal, access to the club roster, and much more.

If you're familiar with HamClub Online, click the HCOL logo above. If you need a tutorial, click one of the options below.

Need Help With HamClubOnline (HCOL)?

Apply To Become A New Member

Renew My Membership

HOT

SFA

WEL

7:30

THU


7:30

MOR

7:00

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