



Welcome to SFARC, Auburn, CA



P.O. Box 6421 Auburn, CA 95604

February 2023

<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

David McBrayer, N6OJJ*
david.mcbrayer9@gmail.com

TREASURER

Rob Newburn, KM6YKX
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@arrl.net

WEBMASTER(S)

Smitty (WB1G) / Greg (KO6TH)

STATION TRUSTEE

Clyde Campbell, AB4CC

VOLUNTEER EXAMINER

Brian Gohl AI6US
ai6us@arrl.net



Calendar of Events

General Club Meeting

February 10th @ 7:30pm

Club Breakfast

February 25th @ 7:30am
@ Mel's Diner

RDF/Fox Hunt

February 25th @ 9:00am

Clearnode Net

Mondays @ 7pm, W6EK 2m
repeater

~ ~ ~

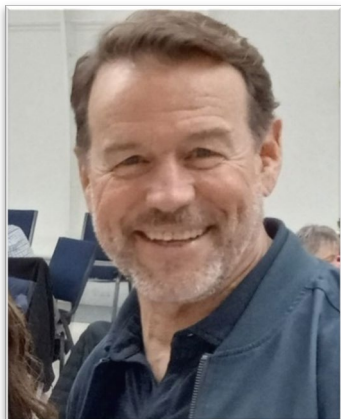
*Join us every morning @ 7:30am
for the Coffee Break Net on the
W6EK repeater 145.43, PL 162.2*

Inside this issue

- *President's Message*
- *New Members!!*
- *Board and 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 February!

Winter Field Day

What did you do for **Winter Field Day**? We've had quite a bit of rain the last month or so, leaving tons of snow in the Sierras, and mud in the lower elevations. Since the whole goal of **Winter Field Day** is to set up a station in less than ideal conditions and gain experience in case of emergency needs. A few of us were bold enough to setup last weekend and give the contest a go. **Brian - AI6US** and **Orion - AI6JB** and a few others set up a station in Georgetown for **Winter Field Day** using **W6EK** as the call sign. I haven't seen the results a yet, but, I'll bet it was pretty darned good! Myself and my son **Kenai - KN6LDN**, took a mud and snow route to distributed camping near Sugar Pine Reservoir. We had a great time with the challenges of winter (read wet and cold) operating. A great experience with many lessons learned. If you participated in Winter Field Day, where you submit your log, be sure to include **W6EK** as the affiliated club for the club score. Every contact, band and mode operated according to the rules, counts toward a club score. Hopefully, you had fun with **Winter Field Day**!

Fox Hunt

After the monthly breakfast at Mel's Diner, members of the club accepted a challenge by **Jon - KI6RT** to find a fox in the wider area of Granite Bay. Congrats to **Evan - AJ6OR** for finding the fox. It seems the crew is getting better at this! **Fox Hunting** is a fun game for hams and families, with practical uses for hams. Did you know, it was fox hunting equipment by members of the club, that chased down some of the noise in the repeater to a local PG&E pole? The video evidence of the noise from a pole near the repeater was able isolate and convince a PG&E engineer to schedule maintenance. Nice job!

Hamfest

Hamfest is coming! The best Hamswap in Northern California is coming to the **Loomis Train Depot on Sat, March 18**. This is **Sierra Foothills ARC** biggest event of the year, bringing in sellers and buyers from near and far, for a fun day of bargain hunting, equipment swapping and prizes. Of course, there is quite a bit of teamwork needed to make such an event happen. Come and join the **Hamfest** organization team on **Zoom, Tues at 6:00pm** and see how you can help. It takes a village!

Membership

It is the time of year to renew you membership. Our growing club has now uses **HamClubOnline** (HCOL) to keep memberships up to date and financially accurate. HamClubOnline is self serve membership program. Each **SFARC** member can manage their own membership dues and access the roster electronically in a secure format. It's new to the club, and not without a few growing pains. Please be sure you can login to HCOL and access your account, update your contact info, and skills. If you have any difficulties, please be sure to get in touch with us and let us know. Most importantly, don't forget to renew!

73!

Jeff - KM6RGO

Guess what SFARC members? Yep – we’re growing, again – we have seven, YES 7, new members and we want to be sure you know your fellow members. Please give a hearty welcome to the following Amateur Radio Operators...

<u>Name</u>	<u>Callsign</u>
James W Nessen III	K6JWN
Jakob T Mensing	KN6YFK
Gregory E Paul	KK6TBO
Stephen E Sparks	KC6MHT
Nhan T Nguyen	K6TIN
Vincent M Nunez	KN6VYD
Patrick J Calderone	KN6YCG

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

2023-01-12 SFARC Board meeting

held on ZOOM

called to order at 18:03

present:

President- Jeff Morgan, KM6RGO

Vice-President- Greydon Hicks, KC6SLE

Secretary- Dave McBrayer, N6OJJ

Treasurer- Rob Newburn, KM6YKX

PIO- Mike (Smitty) Smith, WB1G

Director- Jonathan Kim, KI6RT

introductions around

Reports:

November, 2022 Board meeting minutes as submitted - approved by acclamation.

Rob reported:

273 current members, since the Nov. 2022 meeting.

16 new members to be voted on at the General Meeting on 2023-01-13.

New Business:

Discussed 2023 budget for the rest of this meeting. Proposed budget for 2023 must be presented at the General Meeting on 2023-01-13. Revised proposed budget will be emailed to Board members at 0600 PST. Board members must vote by return email to President, Jeff Morgan, KM6RGO on the revised proposed budget by 1400 on 20230113.

meeting adjourned at 1930.

20230113

revised proposed budget was accepted by unanimous email vote of the Board.

Respectfully submitted by Dave McBrayer, N6OJJ, Secretary.

General Meeting Minutes

President Jeff KM6RGO welcomed individuals to the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 7:33pm by President Jeff KM6RGO who opened the meeting by leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members present: President, Vice-President, Treasurer. Dave N6OJJ acting Secretary.

November meeting minutes were accepted as submitted.

Announcements:

New membership management tool, HamClub Online, will be presented at this meeting.

Rob, KM6YKX, Eight new members accepted; adding to the 273 current members; 78 yet to renew.

Motion made and seconded to accept 18 new members; all voted in.

SFARC budget for 2023 presented by Jeff KM6RGO, with Board's recommendation to accept as presented. Motion made to accept, motion seconded. Motion carried by voice vote acclamation.

SFARC is looking for the following: Membership Chair, Field Day Chair, and Picnic Chair.

Presentation by Greydon, KC6 SLE, interviewing Doug, W2VX and Brian, AI6US, re the W6EK repeater vault electrical upgrades for safety, reliability and serviceability.

BREAK

Dennis, WU6X, presented HF operating tips with slide show demonstrating VOACAP propagation computer program. The slide show will be added to the website.

REPORTS

Brian, AI6US, announced 7 new Technician licensees and 2 General class upgrades at the February test session.

Orion, AI6JB, see website for the next exam class.

Chip, KM6MDF, events - Western States is accepting volunteers for the run in June.

Smitty, WB1G, reported on PIO and social media. Scott Read, KM6RFB, is the new ARES Liaison for Placer County.

Dennis, WU6X, reported more than 200 members of the W6EK groups.io.

Library - Jim, WA8MPA, announced the Touch-it/Take-it table and the club lending library.

RDF- John, KI6RDF, Yagi antenna builds planned.

Hamfest- Orion, AI6JB, March 18 at the old Loomis depot parking lot.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Dave, N6OJJ.

All The SFARC 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>

Club Radiosport (contests)

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

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

How many US callsign districts border the Great Lakes?

- A: 2
- B: 3
- C: 4
- D: 5

How many choices may be listed on a vanity callsign application preference list?

- A: 25
- B: 3
- C: 2
- D: 12

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



January Fox Hunt Results

This month the fox was hidden in Granite Bay. Figured the chances of rain or muddy terrain was reasonably high therefore Jon (KI6RT) did the next best thing – hid the fox in town with many reflecting surfaces.

The fox was hidden & powered on at 9:30 AM. At about that time Paul Dyer (KE6MXV) and his sons Sam (KN6UXI) & Max (KN6UWO) exited Bill's Donuts and I assumed they saw me hide the fox. Just in case I drove off and parked North-East of them and watched. After taking several bearings Sam pretty much walked up to the fox but never looked up! After taking several bearings they drove off.

At 9:45 AM the Dyer crew returned this time parking near Ace Hardware. Again they took bearings, walked around and under the fox. Again they drove off.

At 10:00 AM Michelle (KI6JTF) drove up and using her Yagi pretty much walked straight to the fox but like the Dyer's walked past the transmitter. Evan (AJ6OR) drove into the parking lot, circled briefly then using an HT and a thumb as an antenna parked right next to the fox. Evan then located the fox at 10:08 AM followed by Michelle (she was standing 2-3 ft from Evan).

I hailed Evan & Michelle and the three of us took up a position in Bill's Donuts and settled in for donuts and coffee. Warm, comfortable, with a front seat view of the parking lot!

The Dyer's returned at 10:45 AM – drove in one end of the lot and out the other. Doug (W2VX) arrived at 10:50 AM, parked and using his Yagi and Tiny SA walked directly to the fox and started looking around on the ground. Doug knowing something about Jon's methods looked up and voila le fox! Paul & sons saw the fox soon thereafter. Sam walked under the fox giving me a déjà vu moment!



January Fox Hunt Results

- 1st place → Evan
- 2nd place → Michelle
- 3rd place → Doug
- Coulda Been 1st → The Dyers

State of the Art

All fox hunters have converged onto the tape measure yagi and an attenuator. All are getting very proficient with RDF techniques so may need raise the difficulty level!

Next month Brian (AI6US) will be the Fox Tender planning to hide the fox somewhere in Auburn.



From the Newsletter Editor's Desk:

Good grief Jim, *why so late?* Well, it was not 'good' grief that caused my embarrassing delay in getting this newsletter out to all of you.

I am reminded of the importance of Amateur Radio in a disaster – the earthquakes in Turkey AND Syria are possibly the most devastating earthquake that I can recall in my lifetime. I'm not going to pontificate about how Amateur Radio always plays a role in disasters, and I bet they did out there as well.

But, what I found interesting is that earthquakes like that there travelling ionospheric shock waves (lamb waves) that emanate from the event. Yes, you read that right – IONOSPHERIC – as in THE ionosphere that we know quite well. Apparently, there is an RF-Seismograph located in the Pacific Northwest, with plans for at least two more in the near future. Here's a link to an article on QRZ.COM that discusses it and has a few graphs showing exactly when that RF-Seismograph detected the first couple of big hits. <https://forums.qrz.com/index.php?threads/lamb-shockwaves-travel-around-the-world-at-speeds-of-mach-10-after-the-quake-in-turkey.850569/>

My personal earthquake experience includes **five** significant earthquakes including the Loma Prieta earthquake and a few in the Philippines, but the biggest one was 8.0 on May 7, 1986 in Adak, Alaska. It resulted in a tsunami that was observed in Hawaii, Japan, Washington state and even Chile. I won't tell the whole story, but suffice it to say that I never knew that the Lockheed P-3C Orion could dance, but I saw 5 of them dancing around the ramp where they were parked (dry weight is 127,000 pounds). Tiedown chains snapped, yellow support gear rolled around like HotWheels zinged across mom's kitchen floor by a 5 year old. It is one of the largest earthquakes in the US – check it out - <https://earthquake.usgs.gov/learn/today/index.php?month=5&day=7>

Twenty-five years later the Tōhoku earthquake hit Japan, and *I was nowhere near it.* (I had to figure out a way to slip in the second trivia answer...)

I hope your 2023 has been good so far and that you each take some time to call someone you haven't called in a long time – they may not be there tomorrow. I'm thinking of the 1,000s of lives taken in Turkey and Syria as well as a couple closer to home that I didn't call or visit often enough.

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you in March at the HamFest!

Jim, KD7G

Oh & ***be radio active!!***



147,000 lbs (wet) of submarine hunting power and prowess.

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.

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



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

Search


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

WED
7:30

THU
7:30

MON
7:00

TUE
7:00



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