



P.O. Box 6421 Auburn, CA 95604

October 2023

<https://www.w6ek.org>

At The Key at SFARC:

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GROUPS.IO ADMINISTRATOR

Dennis Gregory (WU6X)

WEEKLY 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

REPEATERS

145.430 (-0.6 MHz / PL 162.2)

- Wires-X: W6EK-2M-ROOM (62545)
- Allstar: #51018
- Echolink: #4128

223.860 (-1.6 MHz / PL 110.9)

- Allstar #56039

440.575 (+5 MHz / PL 162.2)

- AMS / Fusion
- Wires-X: NorCal Repeater GRP (#43847) – FULL TIME
- YSF: 06040 US-SierraNorCal

2023 OCTOBER						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<https://calendar.w6ek.org>

Hams in the Hills - Oct 7/8

Fox Hunt - Oct

Maker Faire - Oct 7

Calif. QSO Party - Oct 7

Christmas Party - Dec. 9

General Meeting - Oct 13

Oct 21 - Jamboree on the Air

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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)*
Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club | President

General Class

The general class has completed. Over the next few weeks, there may be a few more /AG on the air. Let's give them a warm congratulations when we hear them announce their call with additions. Congrats to the License Class Team for once again teaching a whole new group of future general class licensees. They will not rest on their laurels. A Tech Class is already scheduled to start Oct 17. If you know someone who wants to get their license, this is an excellent

way to go. The tech class will teach you the basics, give students hands on practice, and help them study for the exam. The link to sign up is on w6ek.org under about us, [Classes / Training - Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club \(W6EK\)](#).

Sat Breakfast

We had another great turnout for Sat breakfast at **Mel's on Hwy 49**. As the weather cools off, the hot coffee hot breakfast begins to take on a different meeting. But it really about getting together casually and chatting about anything under the sun. As you might guess, the subjects tend to move toward Ham things. This is the first time in a while, we did **not** have any first-time visitors! We welcome everyone, of course. Sat breakfast is not only for the regulars. It sure is a nice way to meet people in person.

Fox Hunt

I finally was able to participate in a fox hunt. Not my first one, but it had been a while. After breakfast I immediately found my way to a hilltop location to get my first bearing. Of course, I missed the early start. Got my first bearing and off I went! I was using bearings from my phone and plotting those vectors on Gia GPS. Not perfect, but was working well enough. On the second bearing, I chose a location that had buildings nearby giving me strange reflections. That sent me off in the wrong direction, of course, on the third bearing, I corrected that and off I went for the fourth giving me a better triangulation. Once I got to the area, however, is where I struggled. The fox was on high power and signals were coming from everywhere! The Dyer Clan, Paul KE6MXV and Sam KN6UXI hid the fox in a very clever place. Accessible, but, with confounding fences, garbage can, sign posts, etc. Things signals bounced around to confuse a foxhunter! I was one of the confused. Congrats to Brian AI6US for finding the fox first, followed by a demonstration of the Kraken pi by Doug W2VX, with Greg KO6TH following up in third. Afterward, we had a good talk about everyone's techniques, and how well the Kraken performed. Excellent demonstration by Doug W2VX of the Kraken. It will not be used for foxhunts other than to display its capabilities. It was impressive, to say the least.

HamClubOnline

This month, we have a special drawing with a **Grand Prize of a Yeasu FT70DR ht radio**, new in box! Rules are, you must have logged in between **Sept 1 and Oct 13th** at noon (pac time) be at the meeting (*in person or on Zoom) It's better if you are there in person, so you can take a victory lap around the room when you win! We want every member to be familiar with HamClubOnline as it is incredibly efficient for the folks who volunteer to do the club business, but also has great features for members! The roster is searchable, with great detail, you can update your skillsets, i.e. ARES, CPR, etc and even print the most current roster to keep with you. To log in go to the link at [Membership - Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club \(W6EK\)](#) where you will see the HamClubOnline logo, click on that. There is also a link to a help video. But, of course, if you need even more help, there is a form to let us know, or just contact me.

Fall is here

I went for a hike today in the canyon taking in the sights and sounds. It is a little bit early for fall color, but, you can tell it is almost here. The cool weather and dampness from the recent sprinkling, made the smells of the outdoors more apparent. I was walking with my ht listening into the repeater, and, as always, when I pass someone, people ask about my radio. Of course, it gives me a chance to rest while we chat, so I am more than happy to explain what I am listening to and why I carry a radio. They immediately check their phones to see if they have coverage and quickly realize they do not, or it is a very poor signal. I am not sure how many are inspired by these brief encounters, but for those who seem enthusiastic at the time, maybe a seed has been planted. A Ham radio seed. It's a nice thought. You never know who you will inspire to become a ham. The club has new cards that will be at the meeting with information about us. We are currently developing more information for potential hams. Pick up a card at the meeting and carry it with you, and maybe you will plant a seed.

73!

Jeff – KM6RGO

LOOKING FORWARD

By: *Greydon Hicks (KC6SLE)*

Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club | Vice President

September 10, 2023

The next SFARC meeting will be October 13, 2023, at 7:30 PM in the Crossroads Church Campus Gym, 1101 Auburn Ravine Road, Auburn.

For October we are planning on another Mystery Shack, and we will hear from our 2024 SFARC officer candidates who will be up for elections in November.

For November James Hutchings, N6OZH, will be sharing with us his experiences establishing and handling emergency communications during the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake. And Earl, K6GPB, will be continuing our series of presentations on electronic components with a discussion on the use of Crystals in Amateur Radio electronics. Thank you, James and Earl!

And December will be the annual SFARC holiday celebration which once again is being coordinated by Gerry, WA6E. Thank you, Gerry.

Hard to believe this year has passed so quickly. We are already planning for the holidays...yikes!

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

WELCOME

**NEW
MEMBERS**



We have 11 new members that were voted on during the Sept 2003 general club meeting.

- Jacob McBlane KO6AVB
 - Jennifer Garland KI1TTY
 - David A Lateano KO6ATW
 - Emiliano Rodriguez KO6AJO
 - Paul Zenk K6PMZ
 - Edward S Sherlock K6ESS
 - Robert B Fields KD6QVD
 - Steven R Dyer W1SRD
 - Doris Won KOBEE
 - Gregory R Glacken KN6DUN
 - Michael Orcutt K3CRA
-

We have 7 new members to vote on at the next club meeting.



New Member Vote October

Allen Mason KO6AGW

Michael McCrum KN6ZCF

Kenneth Moon KK6QMP

David Malicoat KD6PDG

Ben Weiss WB5QAL

Bryce Moyer KN6QIX

Robert Jackson WN6AMS

SFARC ONLINE



<https://facebook.w6ek.org>

<https://instagram.w6ek.org>

<https://twitter.w6ek.org>



<https://linkedin.w6ek.org>

<https://youtube.w6ek.org>

<https://groupsio.w6ek.org>

2023-09-07 SFARC Board Meeting on ZOOM

Called to order: 1800 PDT

Approve August Board minutes - accepted as amended.

canyons donated \$350 for repeater fund. need to send thank you letter. same for Western States Endurance Run.

Present:

President- Jeff Morgan, KM6RGO.

Vice-President- Greydon Hicks, KC6SLE

led **Hot August Nights**, great event.

Secretary- Dave McBrayer, N6OJJ - nothing to present

Treasurer- Rob Newburn, KM6YKX - nothing for meeting

Director- Joe, K6SAT received a donation to repeater fund from Western States, will present at October meeting.

Director- Jon, KI6RT.

Director- Smitty, WB1G nothing to present.

also present: Clyde, AB4CC; Brian, AI6US; Jim, WA8MPA; Greg, KO6TH;

Robert Wold, K6ZLY; Earl K6GPB; Mark W2MWK; Steve, W1VUE; Charlie W6SOM, Jim W6JCZ.

introductions around

Quorum: minimum 1 Director + 4 Officers = **MET**

DIRECTOR REPORTS

Greydon KC6SLE - Nothing to report

Rob KM6YKX - nothing to report

Smitty W1BIG - nothing to report

Jon KI6RT - nothing to report

Joe K6SAT - still on vacation. Canyons Endurance Run has \$350 donation to SFARC Repeater Fund.

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Repeater (Station Trustee) - Clyde AB4CC -

meeting August 14. will be on alternate Monday's. On main Club event calendar.

Greeter/Sunshine – Pam, KN6GTK - not present did send out card for Michelle, .

Newsletter - Bob, K6ZLY - **new editor**.

Webmaster / Social media / PIO - Smitty WB1G -

no recent RCP or 500 errors. site going really well.

social media sites at 450 members.

PIO: has posted Lincoln hamfest on our website.

Groups.io - Dennis, WU6X - not present. last count: 291 members.

Membership - **chair position open** (by Jeff KM6RGO) - 6 new applications, 267 members

VE exams - Brian, AI6US - exams: Sept. 4. poor turnout for the holiday.

1 exam / passed for Tech; Tom KO6BDI.

Volunteer Events Coordinator - Chip, KM6MDF - not present

Contests - Dennis, WU6X - not present. California QSO Party, Oct. 7/8.

Drawing - **chair position open.**

Hamfest 2024 - **chair position open**

Refreshments - Mark Koehler, W2MWK - plenty of water on hand.

Nomination Committee - Jeff, KM6RGO - started the committee. Nominees to present their statements at Oct. meeting.

Picnic (potluck)-2023 - cancelled owing to many schedule conflicts.

Hot RF Nites (Aug 11) - Greydon KC6SLE led. Went very well.

OLD BUSINESS

Elmer/Mentoring: Smitty, WB1G, will meet with Greydon, KC6SLE, to develop first of several Amateur radio flyers. bus. card, smiity motion second by Km6yqx/n6ojj vote unanimous.

Scholarship Committee: Earl, K6GPB; Jim, WA8MPA; Jeff, KM6RGO; Greydon, K6SLE met to layout program.

Freq Plan: SFARC club usage frequencies only.

NEW BUSINESS

Scholarship Committee - discussion. have a few volunteers to set up the committee: Jim WA8MPA, have at least 1 board member, Jon KI6RT, Earl K6GPB, have agreed to be on committee. these three to organize themselves, set rules & guidelines and schedule meetings.

Jamboree On The Air (JOTA)

Events/Upcoming

Hot RF Nights - Aug. 11, 1830

Monthly Breakfast - Aug. 26, 0730. Wings Cafe at Auburn Airport,

RDF - Aug. 26, 0900; Brian, AI6US leading

Picnic - Sept 16, 1600, Recreation Park

Maker Faire - Oct 7/8, Sierra College

Hams in the Hills - Sept 9, Oct 7/8

Fox Hunt - Sept

Maker Faire - Oct 7

Calif. QSO Party - Oct 7

Christmas Party - Dec. 9

Adjourn: 1929 PDT

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

General Meeting - 2023-09-08

President Jeff KM6RGO welcomed individuals to this monthly meeting.

The event was called to order at 1930 by President Jeff, KM6RGO, who opened the meeting by leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members present:

President- Jeff, KM6RGO.

Vice-President- Greydon, KC6SLE.

Treasurer- Rob, KM6YKX.

Secretary- Dave, N6OJJ.

Director- Smitty, WB1G.

Director- Joe, K6SAT (not present)

Director- Jon, KI6RT.

Club Business

Quorum met: YES. 43 in person + 17 on ZOOM

July meeting minutes been distributed. Accepted as distributed.

members are requested

Board meeting updates:

Repeater Comm.:

HamClubOnLine for elections:

Club picnic: CANCELLED

Business Card update: Smitty WB1G has designed a card. cost for 600 trial cards \$73.
Motion to accept by KK6AM, 2nd by NN6H. passed by acclamation.

New Members acceptance vote:

Jacob McBlane KO6AVB

Jennifer Garland KI1TTY

David A Lateano KO6ATW

Emiliano Rodriguez KO6AJO

Robert B Fields KD6QVD

Steven R Dyer W1SRD

Doris Won K0BEE

Gregory R Glacken KN6DUN

Paul Zenk K6PMZ

Michael J Orcutt K3CRA

Edward S Sherlock K6ESS

Motion to ACCEPT by Brian AI6US. 2nd by Chip KM6MDF

The Informational parts of the meeting continue below:

Prize Drawing and rules overview.

Program 1: "Capacitors", Jim WA8MPA

BREAK

Program 2: "Battery Build", Don WB6LPJ (LiFeSO₄) for RV

Committee Chair Reports:

Repeater - Clyde, AB4CC. Committee formed.

Greeter - Pam, KN6GTK. sent out a few Get Well cards.

VE Exams - Brian, AI6US exam on Sept. 4 had 1 candidates, 1 exam, 1 new Technician;
Next exams: Oct. 2, 2023.

Exam classes - Orion AI6JB: General GOTA tomorrow;

Technician: Oct. 17.

Volunteer Events - Chip, KM6MDF- no events in near term.

Newsletter - Bob, K6ZLY, new editor

Satellite - Greg, KO6TH- space station is working.

PIO - Smitty, WB1G -

Website - Smitty, WB1G -

Social Media - Smitty, WB1G - Facebook group almost 400 members.

Groups.io site - Dennis, WU6X - 290 members

Contests - Orion, Ai6JB / Dennis, WU6X - ARRL, VHF Sept 9/10; Cal QSO: Oct. 7/8.

Membership - **need new chair** 278 members.

Nomination Committee- Gary 6WQC leading.

ARES - Scott, KM6RFB- not present.

Refreshments - Mark Koehler, W2MWK

Drawing - **need new chair (any volunteer?)**

Equipment Donations / Library - Jim, WA8MPA etc.

Scholarship Committee- organization just beginning.

Calendar of club events:

Sept. 16 - Picnic/BBQ. CANCELLED

Sept. 16 - Hams in the Hills, Strawberry Pass led by K6PSY, true 4-wheel drive required.

Sept. 30 - Club breakfast at Mel's, CA-49 at Luther Road

Sept. 30 - Foxhunt to follow - Dyer Clan

Oct. 10 - Club Board Meeting (ZOOM), 1800

Oct 21 - Jamboree on the Air

Dec. 9 - Club Meeting/Christmas Party

Nets:

Daily: Coffee Break Net on W6EK repeater, 0730-1000

Monday: All-Node Net, 1800

Wednesday: 1st/3rd, Elmer/Mentoring Net, 1930-2030

2nd / 4th, In the Shack (ZOOM), 1930

Thursday: SFARC Weekly Net, 1930-2030

2nd Friday/month: SFARC monthly meeting, 1930-2100

QST's from members: SilverNode prototype having hardware difficulty. Build project on hold until corrected.

Jeff AI6OK opening his shop to hams to repair equipment 0900-1200.

Adjourned at: 2125

QST

QST QST QST – Ryan D Anderson WU6H

Pacificon 2023 is here!

The annual ARRL Pacific Division Ham Radio Convention, Pacificon 2023, is meeting at the San Ramon Marriott this October 20-22, 2023.

The weekend's activities include all day antenna seminars, a vendor expo, an outdoor swap meet, license cram sessions and testing, electronics kit building and soldering break-out sessions, and guest speakers for a full weekend of ham radio providing a chance to interact and share information with lots of other amateur radio enthusiasts to further (or begin) your own knowledge and to advance the hobby.

Special guests include Gordon West WB6NOA author and ambassador of the hobby, Dave Cassler KE0OG of QST's "Ask Dave", and a keynote address by ARRL's Steve Goodgame K5ATA just to name a few.

Details about registration, venue, and schedule of events available at www.pacificon.org directly or linked off arrl.org.

Submitted by Ryan D Anderson | WU6H

Antenna Lengths

AMATEUR RADIO ANTENNA LENGTH CHART					
	FREQUENCY (Mhz)	1/4 λ (Feet)	1/2 λ (Feet)	1 λ (Feet)	1/2 λ Inv Vee 90° (Feet)
160 METERS	1.800	130' 0"	260' 0"	558' 4"	257' 5"
	1.850	126' 6"	253' 0"	543' 3"	250' 5"
	1.900	123' 2"	246' 4"	528' 11"	243' 10"
	2.000	117' 0"	234' 0"	502' 6"	231' 8"
80 METERS	3.500	66' 10"	133' 9"	287' 2"	132' 5"
	3.750	62' 5"	124' 10"	268' 0"	123' 7"
	3.900	60' 0"	120' 0"	257' 8"	118' 10"
	4.000	58' 6"	117' 0"	251' 3"	115' 10"
40 METERS	7.000	33' 5"	66' 10"	143' 7"	66' 2"
	7.150	32' 9"	65' 5"	140' 7"	64' 10"
	7.300	32' 1"	64' 1"	137' 8"	63' 6"
30 METERS	10.100	23' 2"	46' 4"	99' 6"	45' 10"
	10.150	23' 1"	46' 1"	99' 0"	45' 8"
20 METERS	14.000	16' 9"	33' 5"	71' 9"	33' 1"
	14.150	16' 6"	33' 1"	71' 0"	32' 9"
	14.300	16' 4"	32' 9"	70' 3"	32' 5"
	14.350	16' 4"	32' 7"	70' 0"	32' 3"
17 METERS	18.068	12' 11"	25' 11"	55' 7"	25' 8"
	18.168	12' 11"	25' 9"	55' 4"	25' 6"
15 METERS	21.000	11' 2"	22' 3"	47' 10"	22' 1"
	21.200	11' 0"	22' 1"	47' 5"	21' 10"
	21.450	10' 11"	21' 10"	46' 10"	21' 7"
12 METERS	24.890	9' 5"	18' 10"	40' 5"	18' 7"
	24.990	9' 4"	18' 9"	40' 3"	18' 6"
10 METERS	28.000	8' 4"	16' 9"	35' 11"	16' 7"
	28.500	8' 3"	16' 5"	35' 3"	16' 3"
	29.700	7' 11"	15' 9"	33' 10"	15' 7"
6 METERS	50.000	4' 8"	9' 4"	20' 1"	9' 3"
	54.000	4' 4"	8' 8"	18' 7"	8' 7"
2 METERS	144.000	1' 8"	3' 3"	7' 0"	3' 3"
	148.000	1' 7"	3' 2"	6' 9"	3' 2"

SPECIAL THANKS



Dennis H. Gregory
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