



P.O. Box 6421 Auburn, CA 95604

APRIL 2024

<https://www.w6ek.org>

At The Key at SFARC:

PRESIDENT

Aaron Bond (W1ATB)

VICE PRESIDENT

Jim Zheng (W6JCZ)

SECRETARY

David McBrayer (N6OJJ)

TREASURER

Brian Fulkerson (KM6MDM)

DIRECTORS

Jim Jupin (WA8MPA)
Mark Koehler (W2MWK)
Greydon Hicks (KC6SLE)

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Smitty (WB1G)

SOCIAL MEDIA

Smitty (WB1G)

MEMBERSHIP CORDINATOR

Jeff Morgan (KM6RGO)

VE TESTING CORDINATOR

Brian Gohl (AI6US)

WEBMASTER(S)

Smitty (WB1G)
Greg Dolkas (KO6TH)

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Bob Wold (K6ZLY)

STATION TRUSTEE

Clyde Campbell (AB4CC)

GROUPS.IO ADMINISTRATOR

Dennis Gregory (WU6X)

WEEKLY CLUB NET

Thursdays, 7:30PM, W6EK/R 145.430
Net Control Operators

- Dave Jenkins (WB6RBE)
- Orion Endres (AI6JB)
- Chip Bautista (KM6MDF)
- Smitty (WB1G)

COFFEE BREAK NET

365 Days A Year 7:30AM – 10 AM,
W6EK/R 145.430

Net Control Operators

- Brian Gohl (AI6US)
- Orion Endres (AI6JB)
- Gerry Brentnall (WA6E)
- Theta Brentnall (WA6EWF)
- Tom Newman (NN6H)
- Jeff Morgan (KM6RGO)
- Smitty (WB1G)

CLUB MEETINGS

Second Friday of the month @ 7:30 PM
Crossroads Church South Campus
Gymnasium (Use Dairy Road Parking Lot)
1101 Auburn Ravine Rd, Auburn

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<https://calendar.w6ek.org>

Wednesday April 3 7:30 PM [Elmer Net](#) W6EK 2M Repeater: 145.430 - 600, PL162.2

Thursday April 4 7:30 PM SFARC Weekly Net W6EK 2M Repeater: 145.430 - 600, PL162.2 and AllStarLink: 51018

Monday April 8 6:00 PM All-Nodes Net W6EK 2M Repeater and AllStarLink Node #51018

Wednesday April 10 7:30 PM [In The Shack](#) ([Zoom](http://zoom.w6ek.org))<http://zoom.w6ek.org/>

Saturday April 20 9:00 AM Donuts & Coffee in Meadow Vista Park

Saturday April 27 7:30 AM Club Breakfast @ Mel's Diner corner of Hwy 49 & Luther Rd, Auburn CA

9:30 AM Fox Hunt in the Auburn area

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

In This Issue:

- Pres & VP
- New & Future Members
- Board/General Meeting
- Campout
- Donuts & Coffee
- Field day



We encourage members to receive Sierra Signals via email to save the club

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



By: *Aaron Bond (W1ATB)*
Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club | President

Welcome to April! Wow, what a month March was. We had a fabulous Hamfest event that was very well attended with somewhere in the 450+ number. We sold somewhere in the neighborhood of \$2400 in prize tickets and \$1400 in items at the club table. Elmer tours, presentations, test bench, and of course all the vendor tables! The parking lot was full and I'm not sure there was even any available spot left. What a great event!

And then there is The Coffee Break Net... where we hit 45,000 check-ins in March and Jim ~~KN6OON~~ I mean W6JCZ was the prize winner for his fortuitous timing. AND... we celebrated the Coffee Break Net's 4th anniversary on March 20th! Congratulations to all of those that make this net so popular and successful!

In April the SFARC board will be hosting "Donuts and Coffee in the Park" at the beautiful Meadow Vista Park on April 20th at 9:00am. Come out, have a donut and some coffee, bring your family, and play some radio with friends...

The next big club event will be of course Field Day coming up later this year. More details on this event will be published soon – see you there!

Thank you all for coming out and supporting all these events. I want to give a special thanks to all of the volunteers who helped put on the Hamfest this year... we could not of done it without you.

Aaron W1ATB

LOOKING FORWARD



By: *Jim Zheng (W6JCZ)*

Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club | Vice President

Hamfest 2024 was a great success, bringing buyers and sellers from all over the area together for a morning of gatherings and conversations! None of this would be possible without the assistance of our volunteers, so please join me in thanking them for their time and effort.

We've got some great events lined up for the month of April, starting with a licensing exam session on the 1st (no joke!). With the conclusion of our Extra Class training session expect to hear some new /AE calls on the air!

Our next club meeting on the night of the 12th will introduce guest speaker Erik (W6ETJ), who will be giving us a presentation on his experiments with antennas, featuring not only theory but applications as he discusses an antenna hub he designed and built to utilize commonly available antennas in creative ways. Erik was licensed in 2013, and is currently the vice president of the Western Placer Amateur Radio Club. He drew the inspiration for his project from using and experimenting with several commercial solutions and found that while they did the job they set out to do, they were often limited to specific configurations which meant he had to carry several pieces of equipment as well as spend time disassembling and reassembling antennas in the field. With his hub, it is now possible to carry a single set of antennas and have the ability to use them in several configurations. Join us as he demonstrates how a pair of HT antennas can be put together to create a high-gain wide-band beam and learn some antenna theory at the same time. If you're interested in getting better performance from your equipment, reaching out further in the field, or perhaps need some guidance for that next antenna build don't miss out on this month's meeting!

Spring has finally arrived, and with that comes our annual Donuts and Coffee in the Park. Join us at 9 AM on the 20th at Meadow Vista Park and enjoy fresh donuts and hot coffee amongst fellow friends and family. Everyone is invited!

Rounding out the end of the month is our club breakfast on the 27th at The Original Mel's Diner in Auburn. Come hungry at 7:30 AM, and stick around afterward for radio direction finding, a fun and educational event for anyone interested in some good-spirited competition. An amateur radio license is not required to listen to and hunt for signals, so bring a friend or two along and introduce them to the art of fox hunting.

Hope to see you around!

73,
Jim (W6JCZ)
SFARC VP

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES



We have 8 new members that were voted on during the March general club meeting.

- Haven Courtney KN6URM
- Garritt Darling KO6BMA
- Adam Gothard KN6YSQ
- James Malley WA0HYS
- Chuck Nungester KO6CRZ
- Gregory Phelan KO6CWF
- Chris Robinson KF6NFW
- Forest "Sandy" Shoemaker K6MJ

We have 15 new members to vote on at the next club meeting on April 12



- Robert Calvo KO6DXL
- Kristoff Church KO6DLT
- Elijah Gilberg KO6DSQ
- Joe Denton KD6HON
- Robert Sanders K6ON
- James Keffer KA3VGM
- Michael Kostic KN6VWS
- Allan Breller KJ6ZH
- Randy Silverman K8TR
- Joel Miller W6ACE
- Charles Ricthie KK6PAS
- Dudley McFadden KO6DRM
- Alex Smith KO6DXO
- Kevin MacDonell KO6DQS
- Charles Peavy II KO6CVD

+



<https://facebook.w6ek.org>

<https://instagram.w6ek.org>

<https://twitter.w6ek.org>



<https://linkedin.w6ek.org>

<https://youtube.w6ek.org>

<https://groupsio.w6ek.org>

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

2024-02-08_SFARC Board Meeting on ZOOM

Called to order: 1802 PST by Aaron W1ATB

Approve February, 2024 Board minutes - approved as corrected

Present:

President: Aaron Bond W1ATB

Vice-President: Jim Zheng W6JCZ

Treasurer: Brian Fulkerson KM6MDM (correct callsign)

Secretary: Dave McBrayer N6OJJ

Director: Greydon Hicks KC6SLE (2 years)

Director: Mark Koehler W2MWK

Director: Jim Jupin WA8MPA (3 years)

also present: Brian AI6US; Greg KO6TH; Bob K6ZLY;

Gary KB7QWC; Clyde AB4CC; Smitty WB1G; Scott KM6RFB

introductions around

Quorum: minimum 1 Director + 4 Officers = MET

Officer & Board Member Reports

Jim Zheng W6JCZ - advert items at back of newsletter: motion by Smitty " Motion: The "sponsor/special" thanks section in the SFARC Newsletter be reserved for advertisements from members in good standing, limit one ad per member, free of charge.". second by Greydon KC6SLE. Motion carried by acclamation.

Dave McBrayer N6OJJ - nothing to present

Brian Fulkerson KN6BKB - bank statements uploaded to Groups.io in board files folder. annual insurance premium paid.

Directors:

Greydon KC6SLE - noting to present

Jim WA8MPA - nothing to present

Mark W2MWK - nothing to present

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Repeater (Station Trustee) - Clyde AB4CC - 220 repeater going back to vault.

Repeater Committee - Jeff KM6RGO - awaiting contractor bids.

Newsletter - Bob, K6ZLY - Newsletter posted

Webmaster / Social media / PIO - Smitty WB1G -

social media site: FB at 500 members. fox hunt promo

PIO: hamfest promotion,

Groups.io / Dropbox - Dennis WU6X stepping down, need new chair -

Groups.io at 293 members.

Membership - Jeff KM6RGO) - 8 new applications to vote on tomorrow;

Currently enrolled: 311 members. 6 (2023) members did not renew.

meeting quorum = 62.

VE exams - Brian, AI6US - March 4: 14 elements administered.

7 new Technicians; 2 new upgrades.

next exams: April 1, 2024.

Volunteer Events Coordinator - Chip, KM6MDF - not present

Contests - Dennis, WU6X - not present. stepping down, need new chair

Scholarship Committee - Earl, K6GPB - not present.

Jeff KM6RGO: Daniel Fogart Scholarship (existing) and one more.

Drawing - Ray, KK6AM - not present

Refreshments - Mark, W2MWK - plenty of water on hand

Nominations - Gary, KB7QWC - needs 1 more committee member.

Hamfest 2024 - Aaron, K6ABJ - 3rd Sat. in March., 3-16. walk thru next Thursday, 1700.

ByLaws Committee - TBA

Field Day / Hot RF Nights 2024 - Jeff, KM6RGO / Greydon KC6SLE - time to dust off spreadsheets. First FD zoom meeting on March 28 at 1800. All welcome.

Hot RF Nights - Greydon

Picnic chair 2024 - open

Coffee & Doughnuts in Park 2024 - open

X-mas party - open. confirmed: Dec. 8, 2024.

OLD BUSINESS

Elmer/Mentoring: Pamphlet for VE and Club Meetings, QSL Card, "How to become a Ham". Smitty, WB1G, met with Greydon, KC6SLE.

Repeater Committee: 1st and 3rd Monday's on Zoom @ 1930. RFP sent out for repeater work.

Position Duties: 2023 officer input due soon.

Financial Audit: nothing to add.

Scholarship Committee: Committee has not met recently.

X-Mas Party date: Dec. 8, 2024. Confirmed with Church Pastor.

VE items: Brian AI6US, new VE handout being refreshed.

Club Asset Inventory: Jeff KM6RGO developing a spreadsheet.

Scott KM6RFB approved for his monthly net on W6EK repeater.

NEW BUSINESS

Scott KM6RFB, PCARES MOU for W6EK repeater use. discussion.

Motion of support by Greydon, 2nd by WA8MPA. passed by acclamation.

Brian AJI6US - Coffee & Donuts in Park event - April 20, 0900-1100.

Brian AI6US - Camp out 2024 - Sept. 21 at Stampede. board support for group site? carry over to next month.

By-laws Committee - begin recruiting efforts

General Meeting - Jim WA8MPA - what donations does the pantry need? paper towels, toilet tissue, kleenex, canned chicken/tuna, cereal, pasta.

Events/Upcoming

Hamfest walk-through meeting: March 14, 1700 at the Loomis Depot parking lot.

Sat. Breakfast: 30 March, 0730 at Mel's Original Diner, Grass Valley Hwy at Luther Road, Auburn.

Fox Hunt: 30 March, 0900 after breakfast.

Next Board meeting: 11 April 2024, 1800 PT. on ZOOM.

Adjourned: 1930 PST

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

General Meeting 03/08/2024

President Aaron W1ATB welcomed individuals to this monthly meeting.

The event was called to order at 1930 by President Aaron, W1ATB who opened the meeting by leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members present:
President- Aaron, W1ATB.
Vice-President- Jim, W6JCZ
Treasurer- Brian, KN6BKB
Secretary- Dave, N6OJJ.
Director- Greydon, KC6SLE
Director- Mark, W2MWK
Director- Jim, WA8MPA

Club Business

Quorum met: **YES** 50 in person + 13 on ZOOM = 63
311 members / need 62 'present' to meet quorum.

January General meeting minutes have been distributed. Accepted by acclamation as amended by members present.

New Members acceptance vote: 8 new applications:
Haven Courtney KN6URM Garritt Darling Ko6BMA
Adam Gothard KN6YSQ James Malley WA0HYS
Chuck Nungester Ko6CRZ Gregory Phelan Ko6CWF
Chris Robinson KF6NFW Forrest "Sandy" Shoemaker K6MJ
Acceptance by acclamation of those present.
revised membership count=319.

The Informational parts of the meeting continue below:
Repeater needs a new antenna pole (wood). Bid requests sent out.

Jim W6JCZ introduces:

Program 1: "Vacuum Tubes", Greg Ko6TH

BREAK

Program 2: "Loomis Hamfest overview", Aaron K6ABJ

Committee Chair Reports:

Repeater - Clyde, AB4CC- not present. AI6US- 220 repeater installed this weekend.

Greeter/Sunshine - Pam, KN6GTK.

VE Exams - Brian, AI6US exam on March 4. 14 elements administered.

7 new Technicians; 2 new upgrades to General.

Next exam session: April 1, 2024.

Volunteer Events - Chip, KM6MDF- nothing on the volunteer events list until Spring. None pending.

Exam classes - Orion AI6JB: Extra Class session 4, 11 students.

Next Technician class: April 23.

Newsletter - Bob, K6ZLY - newsletter distributed by email & on homepage.

Satellite - Greg, KO6TH - nothing to report.

PIO - Smitty, WB1G -

Website - Smitty, WB1G -

Social Media - Smitty, WB1G - FB members now at 500.

Groups.io / Dropbox sites - Dennis, WU6X stepping down - currently:

293 participants. Smitty WB1G taking role in short term. Need new chair/admin.

Contests - Dennis, WU6X - CQWW WPX RTTY this weekend,

ARRL International DX on Feb. 16.

Membership - Jeff KM6RGO - Currently 311 members + 8 new tonight.

Nomination Committee - Gary KB7QWC, need 2 more members.

By-laws Committee - vacant, will be recruiting

ARES - Scott KM6RFB. Effective 1 March, will be ARES EC for Placer County.

Refreshments - Mark W2MWK - nothing to add.

Drawing - Ray, KK6AN - nothing to add.

Hot RF Nights - Greydon KC6SLE

Hamfest - Aaron K6ABJ - need Presentation, Test Bench, Logistics,

Sanitation, Parking coordinators.

Field Day - Jeff KM6RGO / Greydon KC6SLE

1st meeting 1800, March 28 on ZOOM.

Scholarship Committee - Earl, K6GPB -

Equipment Donations / Library - Jim, WA8MPA - thank you to all for tonight's donations.

Calendar of club events:

Mar. 14 - 1700, Hamfest team meeting (Historic Loomis Depot)

Mar. 16 - 0700-1100, Hamfest opens at Historic Loomis Depot parking

lot

Mar. 30 - 0730, Club breakfast at Mel's, CA-49 at Luther Road

Mar. 30 - 0900, Foxhunt. Meet at Mel's Diner

April 11 - 1800, next SFARC Board Meeting, on ZOOM

April 12 - 1930, next Club Meeting

April 20 - 0900-1100, Coffee & Donuts in Meadow Vista park

June 22-23, ARRL Field Day, Georgetown Airport Campground

Dec. 08 - SFARC X-Mas party

Nets (on W6EK repeater, 145.430, PL=162.2):

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

1st Sunday/month: 1930, Placer County ARES Net on W6EK repeater

Monday's: 1800, All-Node Net

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

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

Thursday's: 1930-2030, SFARC Weekly Net

Adjourned at: 2118 PST

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

THE SFARC CAMPOUT @ STAMPEDE RESERVOIR IS BACK FOR 2024



When: September 19-22, 2024

Where: Logger Campground @ Stampede Reservoir

Join your SFARC friends for the entire weekend or stop by and visit for the day. We will have a HF 80 - 10 meter POTA

station, Starlink Internet, pancake breakfasts, potluck dinners, movie night and plenty of time to relax, hike, off-road, or

activate a nearby SOTA peak! The main event activities will be in the Logger Campground at site 227 with camp hosts Brian

(A16US) and Lin (KN6KRD)

The event is BYOC (Book Your Own Campsite). It may be several months away, but space is limited so reserve your spot

ASAP @ <https://www.recreation.gov/camping/campgrounds/232858>

Coming Saturday April 20th, 2024

Donuts & Coffee
IN THE MEADOW VISTA PARK



SATURDAY, APRIL 20TH, 2024
9:00 AM



Field Day is quickly approaching. Here are some pictures from 2023.





MUNCHIES

What would Field Day, Contests, and other activities be without cookies?
My favorite is oatmeal-raisin. I am looking for a good recipe. Bob-K6ZLY



Call For Articles

We are *always* looking for articles to publish in the newsletter. Topics should apply to Amateur Radio, or other closely-related topics. Submissions may be edited for grammar, content, or length; however, that is usually pretty rare. The deadline for submissions is generally the 25th of each month; however, submissions received after the deadline will be considered. If a late entry doesn't make it in the current month, it may be used in the following month.

Email Bob-K6ZLY r.wold@comcast.net with "SFARC News Article" in the subject line.

