



P.O. Box 6421 Auburn, CA 95604

JULY 2025

<https://www.w6ek.org>

At The Key at SFARC:

PRESIDENT

Aaron Bond (W1ATB)

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Jim Zheng (W6JCZ)

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Mark Koehler (W2MWK)

Greydon Hicks (KC6SLE)

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MEMBERSHIP CORDINATOR

Jeff Morgan (KM6RGO)

VE TESTING CORDINATOR

Brian Gohl (AI6US)

WEBMASTER(S)

Smitty (WB1G)

Greg Dolkas (KO6TH)

STATION TRUSTEE

Clyde Campbell (AB4CC)

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Jim Zheng (W6JCZ)

GROUPS.IO ADMINISTRATOR

Aaron Bond (W1ATB)

DROPBOX ADMINISTRATOR

Smitty (WB1G)

ELMER LEAD

Greydon Hicks (KC6SLE)

ADVANCEMENT / CLASSES

Chair: Orion Endres (AI6JB)

Instructor(s): Orion Endres (AI6JB), Anders Rehnvall (NR6H), and James Goldstene (AE6JG)

WEEKLY CLUB NET

Thursdays, 7:30PM

W6EK 2m Repeater @ 145.430 MHz

Primary Net Control Operators:

Dave Jenkins (WB6RBE)

Orion Endres (AI6JB)

Chip Bautista (KM6MDF)

Smitty (WB1G)

COFFEE BREAK NET

365 Days A Year 7:30AM – 10AM

W6EK 2m Repeater @ 145.430 MHz

Primary Net Control Operators:

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

Standby Net Control Operators:

- Smitty (WB1G)
- Don Hay (WB6LPJ)
- Aaron Bond (W1ATB)

CLUB MEETINGS

Second Friday of the month,

Confluence (formerly Crossroads)

Church @7:30 PM

1101 Auburn Ravine Rd, Auburn, CA

CLUB EVENTS

SFARC Board Meeting

July 10 @ 6 PM

[Online via Zoom](#)

SFARC Club Meeting

July 11 @ 7:30 PM

Confluence Church or [Online via Zoom](#)

1101 Auburn Ravine Rd, Auburn, CA

Breakfast Social

July 26 @ 7:30 AM

Wings Grill & Espresso Bar

13595 New Airport Rd, Auburn, CA

Radio Direction Finding

July 26 @ 9 AM

Location TBD

Visit our [website](#) for more information

Guest Presentation

July 30 @ 7:30 PM

[Online via Zoom](#)

REPEATERS

145.430 MHz (-0.6 MHz / CTCSS 162.2)

AllStarLink: 51018

EchoLink: 4128

Wires-X: W6EK-2M-ROOM (62545)

223.860 MHz (-1.6 MHz / CTCSS 110.9)

440.575 MHz (+5.0 MHz / CTCSS 162.2)

AMS – Fusion C4FM & Analog FM

Wires-X: NorCal Repeater GRP (43847)

YSF: US-NorCalRptGrp (06040)

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- Looking Forward
- RSVP Now for the SFARC Fall Campout!
- Membership Update
- Board Meeting Minutes
- General Meeting Minutes



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SFARC President | Aaron Bond (W1ATB)

Summertime, Field Day, New Radios, New Antennas—what a fantastic time to be a ham!

Greetings, Sierra Foothillers! I hope you're all enjoying a wonderful summer. So far, the weather's been fairly moderate—at least by Sacramento standards—and I, for one, am absolutely loving it.

As most of you know, Field Day 2025 has come and gone, and what an event it was! With approximately 130–140 attendees over the course of three days, the energy was incredible. Some folks joined us for a day or two, while others stayed the full stretch—camping in tents, trailers, or RVs. However long you were there, it was three radio-powered days of pure fun.

Reports from the Coffee Break Net estimate that we made around 1,300 contacts (final numbers coming soon), putting SFARC solidly on the map. We ran four HF stations, VHF/UHF/6m, and of course, a GOTA station. A license testing session held in KK7AIR's hangar added to the excitement, with a few upgrades earned in a truly scenic setting.

And the food—oh, the food! Breakfasts featured eggs, sausage, and pancakes; dinners included tri-tip, chicken, and all the fixin's. We even had pizza Friday night! If anyone went hungry, well... that was on them.

Can you ever have too many radios? Right? Right! Several members—myself included—welcomed new rigs this month. I finally picked up the Yaesu FTX-1 Optima and gave a short presentation on it during Field Day. It's an all-mode, all-band “shack-in-a-box” with both QRP and full-power configurations. The QRP setup fits snugly into a backpack or portable bag, making it perfect for on-the-go ops when paired with your favorite antennas. Definitely a solid “getaway” radio.

I hope you all had a great Independence Day. We are truly blessed to live where we do. She may not be perfect, but she's still the best place on earth to call home. Remember, freedom isn't free—but it's worth fighting for. And with every contact we make, we as hams bring our country—and the world—a little closer together.

73,
Aaron – W1ATB

LOOKING FORWARD

SFARC Vice President | Jim Zheng (W6JCZ)

Wow. It's already July. With half of 2025 behind us, it's time to take a look at what the latter part of the year has for us. After two VE sessions last month, the SFARC VE team will be taking a break this month, scheduling the next club examination session for August 4th. Our July club meeting is on the 11th, and we've got two great speakers with topics that are sure to generate some excellent conversations. Jeff (AK6OK) will show the club how to make use of lab-grade test instrumentation to help with antenna design, complete with live demonstrations and hands-on experimentation. Scott (KM6RFB) has made some major upgrades to the Placer County ARES website, and he'll present to us all the new features and information that can be found there.



As many club members know, the 2-meter repeater comes alive with the Elmer Net on the first and third Wednesdays, and we gather together on Zoom for In the Shack on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. Once in a while we have a month where there's a fifth Wednesday, so rather than break up the energy we do something special. Sometimes we'll meet up to have a dinner social, other times we'll host a guest speaker. July's fifth Wednesday will feature Dr. Ed Fong (WB6IQN), with a presentation on how you can build a tri-band 144/220/430 MHz antenna for your VHF and UHF operations. Come join us on Zoom at 7:30 PM on the 30th with plenty of questions and get inspired!

SFARC will resume its monthly fox hunt right after breakfast on the morning of the 27th. Come join us at 7:30 AM for breakfast at Wings by the Auburn Airport, and stick around once you're all filled up and ready for a walk around town looking for the hidden transmitter. Remember, you don't need to have an amateur radio license to participate in radio direction finding, all you need is a receiver, antenna, and your competitive spirit!

I'm really looking forward to the fall campout in September. Though it might seem far away, I'm already preparing for it and considering what I need to pack. I'm sure many of you are doing the same, so get a head start on it and have a wonderful time up there!

73 and stay cool as the weather warms up,

Jim W6JCZ

RSVP NOW FOR THE SFARC FALL CAMPOUT!



Each year, SFARC members get together for some fun in the Sierras. This year we're headed back up to Stampede Reservoir's Logger Campground. All members and guests are welcome to come for the whole weekend or just a day trip. The weekend includes a movie night, at least one fox hunt, corn hole, horseshoes, board games, more s'mores than you could ever imagine, some great meals, and tons more fun activities; all back for 2025!

This is a family-friendly event for all ages, so bring your kids or grandkids.
You don't need to be a ham or even be interested in amateur radio to attend.

RSVP NOW @ <https://www.w6ek.org/activities/campout/rsvp>

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

SFARC Membership Coordinator | Jeff Morgan (KM6RGO)

Congratulations to the newest members of SFARC who were voted in at June's general club meeting!

Hello
my name is

**WELCOME NEW
SFARC MEMBERS**



Paul Owen W6UHF

Miller Greenfield KF6VHG

Sean Finders KG6CYG

Gunner Champion K06JNF

Luis Larcina K06JCN

We have 7 new members to vote on at the next club meeting on June 13.

John Schulman KB0RB

Matthew Elyash K06IMP

Cory Vuelta AK6NT

Michael Kryss K06JQW

Robert Lerman K6IRK

Randy Falls KJ6QBD

Lane Albright K06JQR

Hello
my name is

UP FOR VOTE

SFARC ON SOCIAL MEDIA

X (TWITTER) <https://x.w6ek.com>

FACEBOOK <https://facebook.w6ek.com>

INSTAGRAM <https://instagram.w6ek.com>

YOUTUBE <https://youtube.w6ek.org>

LINKEDIN <https://linkedin.w6ek.org>

GROUPS.IO <https://w6ek.groups.io>



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

06/12/2025 @ 1800 PDT

OPEN the MEETING 1801 PDT

Call to Order

Aaron - W1ATB

Approve previous month's Board Minutes

as submitted/presented:

W1ATB – No requests for discussion—Approved.

OFFICER AND BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Vice Pres. Jim – W6JCZ

Newsletter: adding Elmer coordinator content.

Secretary Dave – N6OJJ

Nothing to report at this time.

Treasurer Ron – KA6UAI

HotRFNights – net profit: \$894.76.

Director Greydon – KC6SLE

Elmering services are for all, even non-SFARC persons.

Director Jim – WA8MPA

Church has VBS going on. Furniture must be placed as intended at end of meeting.

Director Mark – W2MWK

Nothing to report

others present: Jeff-KM6RGO, KO6TH-Greg, Brian-AI6US, KM6RMB-Scott.

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Repeater (Station Trustee) Clyde – AB4CC Not present

Repeater Committee Brian – AI6US

220 antenna back on tower. Power out now 35 watts, up from 18 watts.

Removed All-Star for lack of use.

Western States Run on 6/28, 0430–6/29, 1130.
Repeater will be fixed in Analog mode with 440 linked full-time.

Newsletter Jim – W6JCZ

Nothing to report.

Webmaster Smitty – WB1G

Discussion of Merchandise Store “profits”.

Social Media Officer Smitty – WB1G
tion Officer Smitty – WB1G

MOTION: by Greydon KC6SLE, to Public Informa-
specifically authorize the Merchandise Store

on the SFARC website and accept a small profit directed to the SFARC General Fund.

SECOND: by Mark W2MWK.

VOTE: Passed unanimously by the Board.

MOTION: by Mark W2MWK, Committee teams (i.e., ARES, VE, Elmer, etc.) can control ordering of named items. Commissions would be directed to the SFARC General Fund.

SECOND: by Greydon KC6SLE.

VOTE: Passed unanimously by the Board.

Groups.io Aaron W1ATB/Smitty WB1G/Dennis WU6X

W1ATB - Nothing to report

Membership Jeff – KM6RGO

Currently: 313 members.

Quorum for June membership meeting will be 63.

5 new members to vote in.

VE Exam Brian – AI6US

June 2 session:

8 new Technicians, 1 upgrade to General,

No Exam Session in July.

Next Exam session: August 4.

Volunteer Events Coord Chip – KM6MDF Not present

Contest Chair Orion – AI6JB

Not present

Scholarship Earl – K6GPB

Not present

Drawing Chair Ray – KK6AM

Not present

Refreshments Mark – W2MWK

Nothing to add.

Nomination Committee Brian – AI6US

assisted by Ray KK6AM and ?

Christmas Party

Chair: **Don WB6LPJ.**

HOT RF Nites Greydon – KC6SLE

Nothing more to add.

Field Day Chair Jeff - KM6RGO

On budget. Resource pages updated on website; RSVP's will be cut off on 6/21 at 1200.

Scott KM6RFB will bring 6 cases water.

Picnic Chair Aaron – W1ATB

Next meeting **June 24**, ZOOM, 1800.

Date – October 5 Location: TBD

OLD BUSINESS

General Meeting Jim – WA8MPA

Cereal, canned chicken, tuna, paper goods,
kid snacks, pasta, PB, no candy.

PCARES Scott – KM6RFB

Link to homepage on SFARC website:
sites.google.com/view/placercountyares/home

Will give away HF vertical antenna at Field
Day Saturday dinner.

Hot RF Nights Greydon-- KC6SLE

Nothing more to add/Budget updates

NEW BUSINESS

Merch Store - profit

Smitty—WB1G: see Webmaster Report above.

June Meeting

Jim—W6JCZ will lead

EVENTS UPCOMING

Club Mtg June 13, 1930 Confluence Church - paper products, kid snacks, pasta, PB, no candy.

Sat. Breakfast June 28, 0730 at Mel's Original Diner, Grass Valley Hwy at Luther Road.

July-Sept.: at Wings Grill & Espresso Bar, 13595 New Airport Road, Auburn, CA

Fox Hunt June 28, cancelled. Next in July.

Field Day June 27-29, Georgetown Airport Campground

Club Picnic Oct. 5, Time/Location - **TBD**

Campout 2025 Oct 18-21 @ Stampede Reservoir

ADJORN

1922 PDT

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

2025-06-13 @ 1930 PDT

OPEN THE MEETING

1935 PST

Welcome

W6JCZ – Vice-President

Pledge of Allegiance

INTRODUCTIONS - OFFICER AND BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Vice Pres.

Jim – W6JCZ

July, 5th
Wednesday: Ed
Fong; 3-band
vertical antenna

Secretary

Dave - N6OJJ

nothing to report

Treasurer

Ron - KA6UAI

On ZOOM; nothing to add

Director

Greydon - KC6SLE

HotRF Nights exceeded expectations: 581 drawing tickets sold, donations: \$539.74, total income: \$2536.34, NET: \$894.76.

Director

Jim - WA8MPA

alternate months will have "Touch it, Take it" table.

Director

Mark - W2MWK

nothing to add

Welcome Guests/New Members/New Licensees

Guests present:

Gunner –
KO6JNF

New members present:

--

New Licensees present: --

QUORUM? MET with "63" after Break. 63 needed

On-site: "29" On-line: 34 total: 63

Program introductions: Jim – W6JCZ

PROGRAM #1	1. Tin Cup swag-awards for 'Coffee-Break Net' Control operators	Brian – AI6US
	2. Field Day-2025	Jeff – KM6RGO

BREAK 14 minutes

PROGRAM #2	1. Hot RF Nites survey results (25 sub-missions)	Smitty – WB1G
	2. Data Management & Backup	

CLUB BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes for Membership Meeting, May 9, 2025	W6JCZ – Vice-President
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Motion to Accept:	
2nd by:	W6JCZ – Vice-President
Vote: Accepted by acclamation of those "present"	

New Members - Introduction	(see list below, page 3)	W6JCZ – Vice-President
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Quorum met.	Motion to accept all 5: Brian, AI6US	
New Members vote (5) -	2nd: Rik, WO0KI	W6JCZ – Vice-President
	Accepted by acclamation of those "present".	

HotRFNights - Update/Budget	HotRFNights at William Jessup University parking lot.	Greydon - KC6SLE
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Prize Drawing and rules Overview		W6JCZ – Vice-President
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COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Repeater (Station Trustee)	Clyde - AB4CC	not present
Repeater Committee	Brian - AI6US	On 3 voters, 4th to be installed as a backup. Arcom controller for 220 repaired, to be re-installed.
Newsletter	Jim - W6JCZ	adding sections on "Tech Talk", "Elmers"
Webmaster	Smitty - WB1G	see 'Program 2' above
Social Media Officer	Smitty - WB1G	
Public Information Officer	Smitty - WB1G	
Groups.io	Aaron - W1ATB/Smitty WB1G/Dennis WU6X	things are good'
Membership	Jeff - KM6RGO	now at 313+5 new tonight. At least 318 at next meeting; June quorum ~ 63
VE Exam	Brian - AI6US	8 Tech + 1 Gen'l upgrades. Next exams: Field Day June 28. See w6ek.org website
Volunteer Events Coordinator	Chip - KM6MDF	KC6PPF needs help for "Bad Luck Run" in

		Downieville, July 26.
Contest Chair	Orion - AI6JB	not present
Scholarship	Earl - K6GPB	not present
Drawing Chair	Ray - KK6AM	nothing to add
Refreshments	Mark - W2MWK	nothing to add
Nomination Committee	Brian, AI6US w/ Ray, KK6AM	nothing to add
Christmas Party	New Chair: Don, WB6LPJ	not present
Field Day Chair	Jeff - KM6RGO	Planning meeting: ZOOM room, June 24, 1900 PDT
ARES report	Scott – KM6RMB	June 21: Wild Fire Expo.
Picnic Chair	Aaron – W1ATB	Sunday, October 5th
Satellite	Greg – KO6TH	OSCAR 7 not working now. OSCAR 125 now reporting out.

CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS

Sat Breakfast	June 28; 0730 @ Mel's Original Diner, Grass Valley Hwy @ Luther Road	May switch to Wings (at Auburn airport) July-Aug.
Fox Hunt	June 28, cancelled. Next Fox Hunt: July 26.	
Field Day Planning	June 24, 1900 in club ZOOM room	

Field Day	June 27-29 @ Georgetown Airport Campground	
5th Wednesday	July 30, 1930 in club ZOOM room	
Campout 2025	Oct 17-20 @ Stampede Reservoir	same sites as 2024

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Club Net – Every Thursday @ 1930 (145.430, PL=162.2)

Elmer Net – Every 1st & 3rd Wednesday @ 1930 (145.430, PL=162.2)

All Node Net – Every Monday @ 1800 (145.430, PL=162.2)

In the Shack – Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday @ 1930 on Zoom

Coffee Break Net – Every Morning @ 0730, (145.430, PL=162.2)

Club Board Meeting – 2nd Thurs of the month, July 10th @ 1800, Zoom

Club Meeting – 2nd Friday of the month, July 11th @ 1930, Confluence Church Gymnasium

Any QSTs from Members? ---

Prize Drawing

ADJORN

2129 PST

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