



P.O. Box 6421 Auburn, CA 95604

OCTOBER 2025

<https://www.w6ek.org>

At The Key at SFARC:

PRESIDENT

Aaron Bond (W1ATB)

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Jim Zheng (W6JCZ)

SECRETARY

David McBrayer (N6OJJ)

TREASURER

Ron (KA6UAL) and Laurie Holland

DIRECTORS

Jim Jupin (WA8MPA)

Mark Koehler (W2MWK)

Greydon Hicks (KC6SLE)

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MEMBERSHIP CORDINATOR

Jeff Morgan (KW6U)

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 (KW6U)

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

Potluck Picnic

October 5 @ 4 PM

Recreation Park

123 Recreation Dr, Auburn, CA

SFARC Board Meeting

October 9 @ 6 PM

[Online via Zoom](#)

SFARC Club Meeting

October 10 @ 7:30 PM

Confluence Church or [Online via Zoom](#)

1101 Auburn Ravine Rd, Auburn, CA

Breakfast Social

October 25 @ 7:30 AM

The Original Mels Diner

1730 Grass Valley Hwy, Auburn, CA

Radio Direction Finding

October 25 @ 9 AM

Location TBD

Visit our [website](#) for more information

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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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SFARC President | Aaron Bond (W1ATB)



Wow—what a jam-packed month SFARC has had!

First up, our annual campout at Stampede Reservoir's Logger Campground was a huge success. For those who couldn't make it, we had nearly sixty attendees (maybe more!), and the energy was fantastic. We enjoyed two hearty breakfasts and two delicious dinners, hosted two fox hunts (and for the first time ever—yours truly found the fox first in one of them!), and had radios set up throughout the campground. The W6EK repeater was accessible from the main camp, and HF rigs were active both there and at surrounding sites. We even had two movie nights featuring *Back to the Future* and *The Goonies*—a perfect way to wind down under the stars.

We also wrapped up our third monthly breakfast of the year at Wings! Restaurant, a summer favorite. These gatherings have grown impressively, and of course, they're followed by our signature fox hunts.

October kicked off with the California QSO Party (CQP), where several members hit the airwaves. One group reportedly made over 1,800 contacts—more on that and other teams soon!

We capped off the month with our annual club picnic at Auburn's Recreation Park. With enough food to feed an army, 30–40 members came out to eat, socialize, and check out some cool antenna setups and gear demos.



As the year winds down, we still have a few events in the works—a rumored POTA outing in November and, of course, our annual Christmas party. It's been an incredible, event-packed year, and I'm continually amazed by the talent and dedication of our members. Thank you to everyone who helps make this club thrive.

Club Business Ahead

We've got some important decisions to make in the coming months. First up: our annual budget review and vote. I'll be honest—I'm not a budget guy (if I were, I'd be the treasurer, ha!). But we need to get serious about upgrading our financial tools. Spreadsheets aren't cutting it,

and we need a more robust solution sooner rather than later.

Our proposed budget is mostly balanced, but it's built on assumptions—like income from Hamfest and donations—which can be unpredictable. For the past two years, we've discussed modest dues increases (e.g., from \$22 to \$25) or event fees to help cover costs. While I don't think a change is necessary this year (though I could be wrong), it's worth considering for the future. Let's be real—our current dues wouldn't cover a decent dinner, so please keep that in mind.

Leadership Needed

Elections are just around the corner, and we still need candidates—especially for the most important role: Club President. Many of you have incredible talents and deep experience with SFARC. I urge you to consider stepping up. It's not as daunting as you might think, and you'll have an amazing team behind you. If you're interested, please reach out—we need you!

It's been a long day, and I'm off to play some radio. Wishing you all a fantastic October. See you at the next club meeting!

73,

Aaron – W1ATB

President, SFARC

LOOKING FORWARD

SFARC Vice President | Jim Zheng (W6JCZ)

Welcome to October! First things first, our annual club potluck picnic is happening on the 5th! Come and enjoy great food and social time with club members and friends. The sign-ups look great, and I'm sure there'll be plenty of people that are going to show up unannounced with even more tasty dishes to go around!

Our next VE session will be on the 6th, and whether you're upgrading or taking the first step into your amateur radio adventures, we've got an excellent team of examiners and Elmers to guide you as you explore all that can be done with your new license.

This month's club meeting will take place on the 10th, and this time we've got a variety of member shack setups to talk about. From well-stocked operating areas in the house to rapid-deployment mobile stations, come see all the ways ham radio can be done and find out ways you can add to your operations, whether it be fixed or mobile, permanent or temporary.

This month, we return to Mel's for our club breakfast as the weather gets cooler and the sun rises later. After filling up with a breakfast everyone always talks about on the Coffee Break Net that follows, join us for a radio direction finding exercise and put your equipment and skills to the test! We do this every month, so consider joining up with a friend or two and have fun out there!

I'm looking forward to Pacificon, which takes place a week earlier than it usually does this year. The three-day convention runs from the 10th through the 12th, with vendors, clubs, and individuals from all around the world gathering for northern California's biggest ham radio event. Come find me at the HRO booth in the main vendor hall and stick around after bagging that deal you've been waiting for to enjoy some informative presentations by clubs and special interest groups. From building antennas to operating digital voice modes, there's something for every ham!

73 de W6JCZ



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

SFARC Membership Coordinator | Jeff Morgan (KM6RGO)

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



Jerry Kwong K06KQE

Adam Thomas K06KJJ

Jonas Clark K06KIA

Thomas Chin KJ6NPV

Nina Keplac KD6QQL

Christopher Connolly N6UCR

Christopher Bushman WB6EEQ

We have 4 new members to vote on at the next club meeting on October 10.

Carson B Haines Jr WB6GON

Mark Marshall K06ITR

Richard Clark K06JUF

Jamie Aitken K06KWT



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

SFARC Secretary | David McBrayer (N6OJJ)

09/11/2025 @ 1800 PDT

OPEN the MEETING 1805 PDT

Call to Order

Aaron - W1ATB

Approve previous month's Board Minutes
as submitted/amended:

W1ATB – No requests for discussion—
Approved as submitted.

OFFICER AND BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Vice Pres. Jim – W6JCZ

Jim will not be available for the October meetings. Stand-in required. Discussion.

Jim will send a single personal check to Ed Fong to pay for antennas ordered by club members.

Secretary Dave – N6OJJ

Not present.

Treasurer Ron – KA6UAI

What fund to credit the \$3000 donation to SFARC? Gredon KC6SLE **proposed** to General Fund, **2nd** by Mark W2MWK. Proposal passed.

Director Greydon – KC6SLE

Nothing to report

Director Jim – WA8MPA

Need to configure the Gym for an early Saturday meeting.

Director Mark – W2MWK

Nothing to report

other members present: KO6TH-Greg, Brian-AI6US

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Repeater (Station Trustee) Clyde – AB4CC

Aaron W1ATB reported he signed the Repeater license renewal.

Repeater Committee Brian – AI6US

No update

Newsletter Jim – W6JCZ

No update

Webmaster Smitty – WB1G

Not present.

Social Media Officer Smitty – WB1G

Information Officer Smitty – WB1G	name/call? Campout meeting 9/10/2025, moving forward.
Groups.io Aaron W1ATB/Smitty WB1G/ Dennis WU6X	Nothing to report
Membership: Jeff – KM6RGO	Not present. 325 currently +4 to vote in. Quorum will be 65. Will keep HamClubOn- Line electronic vote option going forward.
VE Exam Brian – AI6US	Exam session: Sept. 8. 5 exams given; 1 upgrade to Extra, 2 new Technician's.
Volunteer Events Coord Chip – KM6MDF	Not present
Contest Chair Orion – AI6JB	Not present / AI6US: Cal QSO in October; remind folks the club score is an aggregate of the submitted individual scores. Be sure to include SFARC as the sponsoring club.
Scholarship Earl – K6GPB	Not present
Drawing Chair Ray – KK6AM	Not present
Refreshments Mark – W2MWK	Nothing to add.
Secretary- Dave N6OJJ joined the meeting	
Nomination Committee Brian – AI6US	Experiencing many rejections. Office of President still open. Office of Vice President: Jim WA8MPA and Greg KO6TH will share candidacy; Secretary: Mark W2MWK; Treasurer: Ron – KA6UAI and Laurie will share the position.
BOD then discussed how to communicate the to the membership that without a viable Presidential candidate the club will not be able to function after the first of the year.	
Budget & Dues Aaron – W1ATB	
BOD agreed to meet over Zoom on Monday 15 th at 6:30PM to kick off the budget planning process.	

Mark - although he was a proponent of increasing Dues back in the April/June time frame events of the last few months (Donations and income from the Club Store) would make it hard to propose an increase at this time. There seems to be agreement that this discussion would be better had next year unless the 2026 budget indicates otherwise. an increase at this time. There seems to be agreement that this discussion would be better had next year unless the 2026 budget indicates otherwise.

Campout –	no update
Picnic Chair Aaron – W1ATB	Date – October 5 Location: TBD more info after the Campout
Dues Investigatory Committee	see above

OLD BUSINESS

General Meeting Jim – WA8MPA	pasta (spaghetti, mac & cheese), pasta sauce, canned chicken, jams, jellies.
PCARES Scott – KM6RFB	Nothing to present BOD wanted to acknowledge Scott's outstanding role in getting the donation of the two trailers across the goal. Thank you Scott.

Scholarship Fund	Laurie has a real concern the historical treasury logs in previous years have not been as complete as they should be re donations to the club. Ron and her are putting better accounting practices in place going forward.
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NEW BUSINESS

Trailer Update Greydon – KC6SLE	Jim WA8MPA has \$75-80 invested in items in one trailer plus several donated items. Mark W2MWK has about \$50 invested in the other trailer and several donated items. Greydon KC6SLE and Brian AI6US have also donated item to the cause.
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Greydon KC6SLE indicated the tires on both trailers and the spares need replacing. Mark checked with America's Tire, they can provide a correctly spec'd pair of tires for each trailer for \$198 out the door. A spare would add \$99 to each trailer. Greydon made a motion, 2nd by Dave N6OJJ, for the club

to authorize up to \$900 for new tires for each trailer. The Board voted in favor. A final vote will be held at the member meeting or, if there is no quorum, by e-vote of the membership.

Further discussion re licensing and insurance: Both trailers must be re-registered at California's DMV, transferring ownership to Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club. SFARC must obtain vehicle insurance for both trailers.

EVENTS UPCOMING

Club Mtg	Sept. 12 1930 Confluence Church gym
Sat. Breakfast	Sept. 27, 0730 at Wings Grill & Espresso Bar, 13595 New Airport Road, Auburn, CA.
	July-Sept.: at Wings Grill
Campout 2025	Sept. 18-21 @ Stampede Reservoir

ADJORN

1929 PDT

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

SFARC Secretary | David McBrayer (N6OJJ)

09/12/2025 @ 1930 PDT

OPEN the MEETING 1930 PDT

Call to Order

Aaron – W1ATB

Pledge of Allegiance

OFFICER AND BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Vice Pres. Jim – W6JCZ

Welcome all

Secretary Dave – N6OJJ

Nothing to report at this time.

Treasurer Ron – KA6UAI

Not present

Director Greydon – KC6SLE

Intro of new-to-SFARC trailers

Director Jim – WA8MPA

Nothing to report

Director Mark – W2MWK

Nothing to report

Welcome Guests/New Members/New Licensees

Guests: James KM6PHO, Mary Fischer,

Prospective Members: Jerry Kwong KO6KQE, Adam Thomas KO6KJJ.

Quorum: Current membership = 336

Need 67 members “present” (20%)

NOT MET (45 in the room,

12 on ZOOM = 57)

All Member votes at this meeting will be taken as e-votes sent to all current members as of the day before this meeting by “HamClubOnline” after this meeting closes as it is more likely to result in the 20% member participation threshold being met.

CLUB BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes for August 8, 2025 meeting

VOTE: Move to e-vote.

Mystery Presentation

Greydon KC6SLE: transfer of 2 new-to-SFARC trailers from a California agency with support from **Scott KM6RFB, Brian AI6US, Jim WA8MPA, Mark W2MWK. Enclosed Single axle Trailers rated 2990 lbs GVW.**

MOTION: To allocate \$800 of club funds to purchase 3 new, mounted & balanced tires for each trailer.

2Nd: by Tom NN6H

VOTE: move to e-vote

New member introductions; Jeff KW6U (New callsign)

Motion by Brian AI6US / Second by Mark W2MWK to hold an E-vote to:

Accept the membership applications of:

Jerry Kwong KO6KQE, Adam Thomas KO6KJJ

Jonas Clark KO6KIA, Thomas Chin KJ6NPV

Nina Keplac KD6QQL.

The e-vote will be conducted via HamclubOnline to all current members of the Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club as of September 11, 2025. Results of September e-vote are at the end of this Minutes document.

Prize drawing with rules overview

Jim W6JCZ – Presenter introductions

Program 1 John KO6COW and Jayden W6EFM – SOTA Operations

Break

Program 2 Jimmy N6FMD – POTA operations

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Repeater (Station Trustee) Clyde – AB4CC

Repeater license renewal completed

Repeater Committee Brian – AI6US

Nothing to report.

Newsletter Jim – W6JCZ

Nothing to report.

Webmaster Smitty – WB1G	Not present
Social Media Officer – WB1G	
Public Information Officer – WB1G	
Groups.io Aaron W1ATB/Smitty WB1G/ Dennis WU6X	W1ATB – Nothing to report
Membership Jeff – KW6U	Currently: 336 members (7 new from last month) E-vote for accepting 4 new members will be sent to all current members by HamClubOnline this weekend.
VE Exams Brian – AI6US	September 1 session: 3 exams; upgrades to Extra: 1, New Technician's: 2. Had a POTA & SOTA stations in courtyard. Next Exam session: October 6.
Volunteer Events Coord Chip – KM6MDF	Nothing to present
Contest Chair Orion – AI6JB	California QSO Party, Oct. 4/5.
Scholarship Earl – K6GPB	Nothing to report
Drawing Chair Ray – KK6AM	Nothing to report
Refreshments Mark – W2MWK	Nothing to report
Nomination Committee Brian – AI6US / Ray KK6AM	Need people to step up for President. Co-Vice-President: Jim WA8MPA + Greg KO6TH
Christmas Party – Don WB6LPJ	Nothing to present
Picnic Chair Aaron – W1ATB	Date – October 5 Location: Recreation Park, Auburn, 1600.
PC-ARES – Scott KM6RFB	Nothing to report
Satellite Report – Greg KO6TH	ISS stations off air Sept. 13.

EVENTS UPCOMING

Campout 2025 Sept. 18-21 @ Stampede Reservoir with 2 Fox Hunts

Sat. Breakfast Sept 27, 0730 at Wings Grill & Espresso Bar, 13595 New Airport Road, Auburn, CA

Fox Hunt Sept 27, w/Frank; greater Auburn area

Club Mtg Oct 10, 1930 Confluence Church Gymnasium

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Elmer Net – Every 1st & 3rd Wednesday @ 1800 (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)

Any QST's from members? – None

ADJORN

2150 PDT

Results of New Member and Club Business - vote conducted via HamClubOnline

beginning 2025-09-14 at 0802 PDT through 2025-09-21 1000 PDT.

#1: September 2025 Minutes Approval

Shall the August 2025 General club meeting minutes that were presented at the September meeting be approved as presented?

1. YES - Approve the minutes as presented (104 votes, 92.0%)
 2. No - Do NOT approve the minutes as presented (1 vote, 0.9%)
 0. Abstain (8 votes, 7.1%)
-

#2: New Member Vote

This is a vote to approve the following applicants into the Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club:

Jerry Kwong KO6KQE
Adam Thomas W3AGT
Jonas Clark KO6KIA
Thomas Chin KJ6NPV
Nina Keplac KD6QQL

1. Yes - Accept these new applicants into the club (111 votes, 98.2%)
 2. No - Do not accept these applicants into the club (0 votes, 0.0%)
 0. Abstain (2 votes, 1.8%)
-

#3: Motion to approve club expense

At the September meeting there was a presentation on the gifting of two 12' x 6' trailers into the club, free of charge. These trailers need some maintenance, including new tires as the current one are 10+ years old. A motion was made to allocate \$800 from the general fund to pay these expenses.

Do you approve of the allocation of \$800 of club funds to pay for maintenance on the new club trailers?

1. YES - I approve of allocating \$800 of club general funds for the maintenance of the new trailers (110 votes, 97.3%)
 2. NO - I DO NOT approve of the allocation of funds for the new trailers. (1 vote, 0.9%)
 0. Abstain (2 votes, 1.8%)
-

Election Statistics:

113 ballots cast, 329 ballots sent = 34% voted

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