



P.O. Box 6421 Auburn, CA 95604

FEBRUARY 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)

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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 2-Meter Repeater

Net Control Operators:

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

COFFEE BREAK NET

Everyday @ 7:30AM – 10AM

W6EK 2-Meter Repeater

Net Control Operators:

- Gerry Brentnall (WA6E)
- Theta Brenthall (WA6EWF)
- Smitty (WB1G)
- Jeff Morgan (KM6RGO)
- Tom Newman (NN6H)
- Orion Endres (AI6JB)
- Don Hay (WB6LPJ)
- Brian Gohl (AI6US)

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

Thursday, February 8 @ 6:00 PM

SFARC Board Meeting (Zoom)

Location: <http://zoom.w6ek.org/>

Thursday, February 9 @ 7:00 PM

SFARC Club Meeting

Location: Crossroads Church South Campus OR <http://zoom.w6ek.org/>

Monday, February 12 @ 7:30 PM

Repeater Committee Meeting

Location: <http://zoom.w6ek.org/>

Saturday February 24

7:30 AM: SFARC Monthly Breakfast

Location: Mel's Diner, Highway 49, Auburn

9:00 AM: SFARC Monthly Fox Hunt

More information to come on the website

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:

President's Message

Looking Forward

Membership Update

Save The Date: Loomis Hamfest

January Fox Hunt

From The 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: *Aaron Bond (W1ATB)*

Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club | President



Wow! Can you believe that not only is it 2024, but January is now over? They say time flies when you are having fun, so we must be having fun! I want to say thanks to all those that came out and participated in our January meeting, and a special thanks to all who helped set up and make my first meeting go smoothly. It was a fun meeting, and I am looking forward to the next one.

Well, being that February is here already also means that our 8th annual Loomis Hamfest is just over a month away! That's right, March 16th is the date. We are working on getting all the behind-the-scenes work done, but we still need lots of volunteers to help. Aaron Jones, K6ABJ, has agreed to chair the Hamfest committee. So, thank you to Aaron and all the volunteers, without you, this event would not be the success it is known to be. And keep an eye on the

Hamfest flyer as this year's prizes get announced!

One more thing before I wrap this up. I just saw the roster report this morning – and it looks like we just went over 300 members in our club – wow! There are a few members that have not renewed yet for 2024– so if that is you, don't forget to stop by and do "the thing".

I look forward to seeing you all at the February meeting, so until then...

73,
Aaron (W1ATB)

LOOKING FORWARD

By: *Jim Zheng (W6JCZ)*
Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club | Vice President

January 28, 2024

With the first month of the new year behind us activities are starting to pick up. As usual, we will be hosting a licensing exam session on February 5th. These have been a great success thanks to our wonderful team of Volunteer Examiners and Elmers who ensure the candidates have a superb experience.

Our next club meeting will be held at 7:30 PM on February 9th at the Auburn Crossroads Church South Campus Gym, where Tom (NN6H) who will be giving a talk

on electric vehicles.

As always, at the end of the month we have our club breakfast at The Original Mel's Diner in Auburn. Join us at 7 AM on the last Saturday of February for some great food, and stick around afterward for the monthly Radio Direction Finding (Fox Hunting) event! The first hunt of the year was put on by Jon (KI6RT), and it was quite a challenge. The next Fox will be hidden by Paul (KE6MXV), so look forward to seeing what he's got up his sleeve this time around!

Finally, we are heading full-steam toward our 8th annual Hamfest at the Historic Loomis Train Depot. With plenty of food, prizes, and of course gear new and old the first local Hamfest of the year is always a great time! Our next planning meeting will be held in the club Zoom room on February 1st at 6 PM, and we encourage anyone interested in volunteering or curious about what goes on behind the scenes to join.

I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!

73,
Jim (W6JCZ), SFARC VP

CALLING ALL MEMBERS, CALLING ALL MEMBERS

Hamfest is fast approaching, and SFARC needs your help. We're looking for volunteers. You may think we already know that you want to be a part of Hamfest, but we want you to sound off at <https://www.w6ek.org/activities/hamfest/volunteering> . We're also looking for people to make presentations at Hamfest. If you have a topic you think others might want to learn about, contact us using the volunteer link above.

Maybe you can't help on the day of, but believe it or not, you can still help by making a QST on other nets you participate in. We have a QST script below and on our website @ <https://www.w6ek.org/activities/hamfest/qstscript>

QST Script:

The Loomis Hamfest is back for 2024, sponsored by the Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club. Get your gear, grab your wallet, and prepare for a super swap at the Historic Loomis Train Station on March 16th. Admission is free, with doors opening at 7 AM for buyers. If you want to sell some gear, \$10 gets you a spot, first come, first served, with setup at 6 AM. We'll have coffee and donuts, Elmer tours, a test table for buyers, some cool prizes, and much more!

Want more information? Check out all the details at hamfest.w6ek.org.



THE FIRST HAM SWAP OF THE YEAR IS COMING!



8TH ANNUAL LOOMIS HAMFEST



Join the Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club on March 16th, 2024!

Get your gear, grab your wallet, and get ready for a super swap.
We'll have coffee and donuts, awesome prizes,
Elmer tours, a test table, presentations, and so much more.

More information can be found @ hamfest.w6ek.org

Sellers need to bring their own tables, chairs, pop-ups, generators (no shore power available)
No equipment will be provided.

SELLERS \$10
Setup at 0600

**FREE ADMISSION
AND PARKING**

**TALK IN FREQUENCY
146.535**

When

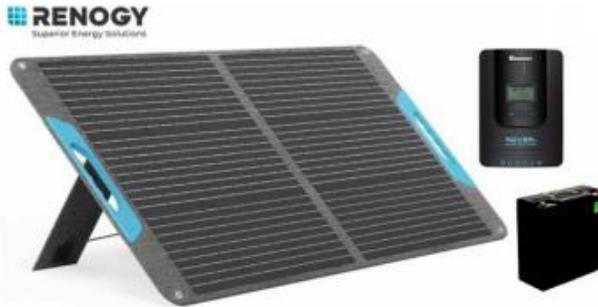
Saturday, March 16, 2024
0700 to 1100 Hours

PRIZES

More Coming!!!

Where

Historic Loomis Train Depot
5775 Horseshoe Bar Rd, Loomis



Renogy Foldable Solar Panel, Charge Controller,
and 30ah Battery



Yaesu FT-70DR & FT-65
w/ RTSystems Software

2024 SUPPORTERS



SPECIAL THANKS TO

Aaron Bond (W1ATB), Aaron Jones (K6ABJ),
Brian Gohl (AI6US), Gary (N6UWQ),
Jeff Morgan (KM6RGO), Smitty (WB1G),
and Tom (NN6H) for your donations.



JANUARY 2024 FOX HUNT

By Jon Kim – KI6RT

SFARC club members have developed excellent Fox Hunting proficiencies. Within minutes of the fox transmitter being power on most hunters arrived at the Granite Bay Community Park. Christina & Thomas pulled up first. Paul was on his way to coffee when he noticed he was moving away from the fox so turned around and parked. Evan showed up minutes later. Doug & Greydon pretty much drove straight to the park and stopped close to fox – they were using the Kraken.

Evan using his HT and body blocking technique was able to find the fox after 30 minutes. Christina & Thomas, Paul & Gary were close by and found the fox minutes after Evan. Doug, Ryan, Todd, & Greydon located the fox 30 minutes after Evan. The last group were within inches of the fox and were able to declare success around 10:30.



The fox was hidden inside a dried out plant (highlighted by the RED line & circle). Most fox hunters stepped on & in several cases actually moved the fox. The fox was not visible to the casual hunter!





In the end all fox hunters were successful with the final finishing order as follows:

1. Evan AK6OK
2. Christina AK6DU & Thomas KN6MJB
3. Paul KE6MXV
4. Gary K7EST
5. Doug W2VX
6. Ryan WU6H
7. Todd KN6TUH
8. Greydon KC6SLE
9. Chris N6CKV
10. Jim W6JCZ & Mike
11. Frank W6PAC

For February, Paul Dyer KE6MXV will be the Fox Tender. Check the SFARC website for a flyer detailing where in Roseville the fox will be hidden!

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES



We have 10 new members that were voted on during the Jan 12th general club meeting.

- Ramon Nuguit KO6KW
- John Mangels III KO6CGN
- David Lichtenhan K6DCL
- Chrisatina Spring AK6DU
- Christopher Cotter KO6CGP
- Michael Mithcell KN6WYK
- Earl Gray KD7SJT
- Richard Manies N6DT
- Corey Wilson KG6PUN
- Bradley Rice KO6BYP

We have 6 new members to vote on at the next club meeting on Feb 9th.



- Martin Lewis K06CRY
- Roy Bradshaw N6WYZ
- Harold Jones KD6WTV
- John Fischer KO6COW
- David Lust KO6CVI
- Simone Rosconi K6DXN

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>

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Minutes - 2024-01-11

SFARC Board Meeting on ZOOM DRAFT

Called to order: 1801 PST by Jeff KM6RGO

Approve November, 2023 Board minutes - accepted as submitted.
motion to approve by MPA, 2nd by RT, approved by acclamation.

Present: 2023 officers/new officers for 2024

President: Jeff. KM6RGO / Aaron Bond W1ATB

Vice-President: Jim Zheng W6JCZ

Treasurer: Brian Fulkerson KN6BKB

Secretary: Dave McBrayer N6OJJ

Director: Greydon Hicks KC6SLE

Director: Mark Koehler W2NWK

Director: Jim Jupin WA8MPA (3 years)

also present: Brian AI6US; Jim WA8MPA;

Greg KO6TH; Jon KI6RT; Bob K6ZLY; Gary KB7QWC;

Clyde AB4CC; Earl K6GPB; Mark W2MWK; Brian KM6MDM;

Dennis WU6X.

introductions around

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

OFFICER REPORTS

Greydon KC6SLE - nothing to report

Jim Zheng W6JCZ - nothing to report

Dave McBrayer N6OJJ - nothing to report

Rob KM6YKX / Brian Fulkerson KN6BKB - will meet for handoff this weekend.

Directors: Jon KI6RT / Greydon KC6SLE (2year)

Smitty WB1G / Jim WA8MPA

/ Mark W2MWK

Canyons Endurance Run has \$350 donation to SFARC Repeater Fund.

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Repeater (Station Trustee) - Clyde AB4CC - Repeater coord renewed.

220 rpttr offline due to Internet outage. trouble ticket opened.

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

Greeter/Sunshine – Pam, KN6GTK - not present.

Newsletter - Bob, K6ZLY - nothing to report

Webmaster / Social media / PIO - Smitty WB1G -

social media sites (FB) at ___ 448 members. xmas party promo posted, fox hunt promo

PIO:

Groups.io - Dennis, WU6X - present count: ___ 290 participants.

Membership - Jeff KM6RGO) - ___ new applications; Currently active: ___ 280 members.
VE exams - Brian, AI6US - Dec 4; 10 exams administered / ___ passed;
1 for Tech; General: ___; upgrade ___.
VE exams: Jan. 8; 7 exams administered / ___ passed; ___ for Tech, ___ for General/upgrade.
next exams: Feb 5, 2024.

Scholarship Committee - Earl, Jim Jupin, + board member. could use 1 more member.

Volunteer Events Coordinator - Chip, KM6MDF - not present

Contests - Dennis, WU6X -

upcoming Contests in Nov: CQWW DX CW, ARRL Sweepstakes SSB, 160m, 10m

Drawing - Ray, KK6AM

Hamfest 2024 - **chair position open. 3rd Sat. in March., 3-16.** Orion has a written manual including "Roles & Responsibilities" to hand off to the new chair. **Aaron Jones interested**

Field Day - Jeff rgo interested

Picnic chair - open

X-mas party - Church can't reply until mid-Feb.

Refreshments - Mark Koehler, W2MWK:

OLD BUSINESS

Elmer/Mentoring: Smitty, WB1G, met with Greydon, KC6SLE;

developed first "Business Card" of several Amateur radio flyers. Sample cards were reviewed at General Meeting, received well by members.

Scholarship Committee: Earl, K6GPB; Jim, WA8MPA; Jeff, KM6RGO; Greydon, KC6SLE met to layout program.

Repeater Committee: RFP sent out for repeater work. Responses due by date?

Budget: Jeff KM6RGO led: Jon KI6RT offered Motion to APPROVE Budget, Greydon KC6SLE Seconded, PASSED by Acclamation of members present/on-line.

NEW BUSINESS

Scholarship Committee - nothing presented.

Budget: Financial audit completed by end of January.

Greydon KC6SLE, motion to combine general and repeater accounts to provide membership oversight.

second by. Rob, KM6YKX, Votes AYE unanimous, Votes NAY - none. Presented final output to Club in Nov.

Greydon: Question of any Support for Placer County ARES by SFARC beyond repeater access. None found.

Maker Faire: nothing presented.

Hams in the Hills: nothing presented.

Next Board meeting: January 11, 2024. / February

Events/Upcoming

Hamfest Committee - Jan 18

Monthly Breakfast - Jan. 27, 0730. "The Original Mel's", 1730 Grass Valley Hwy, at Luther Road.

Fox Hunt - Jan. 27, 0900; Doug W2VX & Jon KI6RT leading

Adjourned: 1910 PST

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Minutes 2023-01-12 General Meeting

President Aaron, W1ATB welcomed individuals to this monthly meeting.

The event was called to order at 1931 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, KM6MDM.
Secretary- Dave, N6OJJ.
Director- Jim, WA8MPA
Director- Greydon, KC6SLE
Director- Mark W2MWK.

Club Business

Quorum met: **YES**. 48 in person + 12 on ZOOM = 60.

289 members/need 58 to meet quorum.

November General meeting minutes have been distributed. Accepted by members present as distributed.

Board meeting updates:

Passing of the Gavel, Final reports from previous board, welcoming new board members, Scholarship Committee presentation, Christmas Party discussing Dec 7 as possible date, Repeater discussion. Financial audit to be conducted by Rich, K6NYC and Gary KB7QWC. Inventory of "Club Owned Assets" to be inventoried.

New Members acceptance vote: 10 new applications;

Ramon Nuguit KO6KW, John Mangels III KO6CGN, David Lichtenhan K6DCL, Chrisatina Spring AK6DU, Christopher Cotter KO6CGP, Michael Mithcell KN6WYK, Earl Gray KD7SJT, Richard Manies N6DT, Corey Wilson KG6PUN, Bradley Rice KO6BYP

Motion to ACCEPT by Gerry WA6E. **2nd** by Bill KM6LMR

The Informational parts of the meeting continue below:

Prize Drawing and rules overview.

Program 1: "Introducing Crystals" by Earl K6GPB

BREAK 8:09 return from break 8:20

Program 2: "Placer County OES and Placer County ARES part II" Scott Read KM6RFB / NNA9KL (FEMA SHARES)

Committee Chair Reports:

Repeater - Clyde, AB4CC. No Report

Greeter - Pam, KN6GTK. No Report

*VE Exams - Brian, AI6US Technician – 5 ,General -1, Extra - 0

Exam classes - Orion AI6JB: Extra Class Class Starts Jan 23

Volunteer Events - Chip, KM6MDF- nothing on the volunteer events list for now.

Newsletter - Bob, K6ZLY - nothing to report

Satellite - Greg, KO6TH -

PIO - Smitty, WB1G Hamfest Promotions are beginning. Next Hamfest Meeting Jan 18

Website - Smitty, WB1G – Hamfest to be updated

Social Media - Smitty, WB1G – Hamfest to be updated

Groups.io site - Dennis, WU6X - currently: 291 members

Contests - Dennis, WU6X - upcoming in Jan:

- North American CW QSO Party Jan 13-14
- Winter Field Day Jan 27-28

Membership – Jeff, KM6RGO 289 **members**

ARES- Scott, KM6RFB- AEC Placer County

Refreshments - Mark Koehler, W2MWK

Drawing – Ray KK6AM

Scholarship Committee - Earl K6GPB

Equipment Donations / Library - Jim WA8MPA

Calendar of club events:

Hamfest Swap Meet March 16

Nets (on W6EK repeater):

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: none

Prize Drawing:

\$20 IN/OUT Gift Card – Todd KN6TUH

\$20 IN/OUT Gift Card – Thomas KM6MJB

\$25 HRO Gift Card – Marvin KO6COI

Pi Zero – Irene WB6RAF

Adjourned at: 2106

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

I have nothing to report other than I could use some mentoring and ideas of what you would like to see in your Newsletter.

Oh, what drew you into Ham Radio? Text me 916-705-6334

72 / 73 / 88 Bob K6ZLY

SPECIAL THANKS



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