



# Lee De Forest Amateur Radio Club



March 2026 LDARC Club Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. In-Person & by Zoom  
Memorial Funeral Service, 1111 S. State St., Hemet, CA 92543

**Call to Order/Welcome:** 6:33 p.m. by President Rick Gardner (KN6RBP)

## Flag Salute / Pledge of Allegiance

### Present (Signed In):

Rick Gardner, President (KN6RBP)  
Don Pullens, Vice President (N6DMP)  
Mary Ortiz, Secretary (KO6GYP)  
Karen Stewart, Treasurer (KN6MJS)  
Larry Watson, Director (KN6PUR)  
Bart Herring, Director (KM6JWS)  
Duane Deaton, Director (KN6AUV)  
Jackie Harris, Director (KC7CBN)  
Rod McHenry (N6CG)  
Terry Smith (KO6ALP)  
Walt Campion (W6WHC)

Mike Fenn (KM6OTV)  
John Glueck (N6JYW)  
V. Brookes (KO6JVD)  
Gary Marsalone (KK6VZZ)  
Arthur Endress (WD5GIE)  
Ean Wohltman (Guest)

### Via Zoom:

Bob Brown (KE6JGM)  
Gregory Ustaszewski, Sr. (KN6PKG)  
Charles Lopez (WK3Y)

## Reports:

**Secretary's Report: Larry Watson (KN6PUR)** provided the minutes for the February 18, 2026 regular club meeting, as Mary Ortiz (KO6GYP) was absent from that meeting (sick).

**Motion to accept Minutes for February 18, 2026:** Walt Campion (W6WHC).

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Don Pullens (N6DMP)

None opposed. Passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report: Karen Stewart (KN6MJS)** presented the club financial report for the period of February 2, 2026 through February 27, 2026, as follows:

- Starting Balance: \$4579.75
- Income Added: \$452.00
- Ending Balance: \$4,831.36
- New Repeater Fund total: \$1,990.50

Bart Herring (KM6JWS) asked the status of the Club's Financial Audit for 2025. Larry Watson replied: the audit was conducted; Karen's records were very detailed; the audit was signed off.

**Motion to Accept Treasurer's Report:** Bart Herring (KM6JWS).

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Gary Marsalone (KK6VZZ)

None opposed. Passed unanimously.

### **Safety Presentation presented by Bart Herring (KM6JWS)**

- In an emergency, ensure you are safe, then check on family and report for duty, if assigned
- ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Services) is a group of amateur radio operators who provide communications during emergencies. They support the Red Cross and communities as needed
- RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service) is another group of licensed amateurs that provide emergency communications for government agencies during disasters. They support FEMA, local fire departments...etc.
- Local Amateurs are encouraged to get involved in either ARES or RACES, or other private, local, regional or national organizations
- ERC (Emergency Radio Communications) is sponsored by the LDS Church. It is world-wide, over various bands
- All hams can be part of emergency services
- Overview and discussion of emergency preparation, particularly "go bags" or "bug-out bags". Suggested supplies for 72 hours of deployment on emergencies. Bart had sample bags on display. Keep portable
- Discussion of ERC NET Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m.: discussing emergency services, needs, suggested equipment. Join the NET; the more minds, the better
- Rod explained RACES categories for deployment that were in effect years ago
- CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) training and overview. Discussion of response aspects, building assessments...etc.
- There is an upcoming CERT class on March 23, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. (possibly through Hemet Fire Department)
- Power supplies during emergency – brief discussion of power stations, solar charging, and gas generators. Anticipate needs and plan accordingly
- Don Pullens thanked Bart for the presentation, stated the ERC NET is a good source of information and encouraged all to be prepared at home. Gary will do a presentation next month on ARES

**Atta-Boy Acknowledgements:** Rick (KN6RBP) stated he has not presented "Atta-Boys" at a meeting this year so far. The following are recognized:

### **Winter Field Day**

- KO6GYP w/her son, Ean – rocked the event  
1 AttaGirl & 1 AttaBoy
- KO6JVD (operator)  
Atta Boy



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## Winter Field Day (continued)

- WD5GIE (operator)  
Atta Boy
- KO6ALP (operator)  
Atta Boy
- KI8PP (operator)  
Atta Boy
- KO6GGW (Sandwich Pickup & Beverage Prep)  
Atta Girl
- N6CG (visitor)  
Atta Boy
- KK6VZZ (visitor)  
Atta Boy
- N6DMP (visitor)  
Atta Boy
- KM6FGI (visitor)  
Atta Boy
- AI6ZW (visitor)  
Atta Boy
- W6OH (visitor)  
Atta Boy
- KE6LGF & KI6IP w/family (visitors)  
3 Atta Boy

## Special Operating Event

- KO6ALP Idea & Outline  
2 Atta Boys
- N6DMP Outline refinement & committee chair  
2 Atta Boy

## Christmas Dinner Planning

- KN6MJS committee chair  
Atta Girl
- KC7CBN research – Jackie has done an amazing job  
2 Atta Girls
- N6DMP research  
Atta Boy

## Stepping Up

- KN6AUV (membership)  
2 Atta Boy
- N6JYW WFD 2026 Video acquisition & production  
2 Atta Boys

## Stepping Up (continued)

- N6JYW SFD 2025 video  
Atta Boy
- KN6PUR Logo & QSL card  
Atta Boy
- KN6PKG APRS Station  
Atta Boy

## Helping Ham

- KO6ALP helped KI8PP w/antenna install  
Atta Boy
- KI8PP helped KO6ALP w/electrical issues  
Atta Boy
- KI8PP helped AI8ZW w/AC issue  
Atta Boy
- KE6JGM helped KM6BFE ([Echolink](#) & Droidstar including device)  
2 AttaBoys
- KN6UNL helped [KN6RBP](#) w/Pole installation  
AttaBoy
- AC6AR directed several stations to WJ7CA for contact  
AttaBoy

## Donations

- AF6YY Donated Computer Cases & DVDRs  
3 Atta Boys
- AC6AR Donated varies items  
AttaBoy

**Bart** suggested acknowledging KN6RBP for all he does. Rick did not give himself any “Atta Boys”, but did accept a verbal “Gold Star” from Terry.

## LDARC Special Commemorative Event

- Proposed dates are August 7-9, 2026
- 3 day event, making and logging HF contacts
- The club will plan some mock/trial runs. The last trial run will be summer field day
- Don, N6DMP, is refining outlines and is committee chair
- e-QSL cards will be sent
- Need stations to sign up to participate. Would like operators from different locations and around the clock (ideally)
- Will be using shared logging software to enter contacts in real time (ideally). The software (Wave Log) is available now to test (contact Terry for login credentials). It interfaces with other applications
- Can use FT8 during event
- Will use posted frequencies (unless in use, then shift 5-10 kcs)



## Lee De Forest Amateur Radio Club



**Winter Field Day Stats:** Not prepared for presentation at this meeting, but club stats have been submitted. The Club did get a certificate.

**Club Director Vacancy:** Bob Brown (KE6JGM) did step down as a Club Director. The Board can select his replacement, but would like club member input for consideration. Rick has mentioned this on the repeater and NETS.

- Rod (N6CG) nominated Brookes (KO6JVD)
- Brookes expressed surprise, thanked Rod and stated he (Brookes) would like to nominate Terry (KO6ALP). Rick stated he believes this is the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> nomination Terry has received

**BREAK - Reminder: do not bring food or drink into the sanctuary. Please enjoy refreshments outside the front door.**

**Memorial Donations to Repeater Fund:** Over the break, club members signed a sympathy card for KO6GYP, whose mother passed away on March 9<sup>th</sup>. In lieu of flowers, donations to the club's repeater fund were requested.

- KN6PUR donated \$50.00.
- A total of \$100.00 was collected and donated to the repeater fund.
- Mary and family are grateful to the club for its kindness during this difficult time.

**Christmas Dinner:** Rick requested a show of hands for those who would like another venue for the club dinner this year. It was almost unanimous.

- The Four Seasons is an option. Private and can serve us.
- Gary suggested the club vote tonight so we can reserve the date with the Four Seasons. A vote will be deferred until a later date.
- Those present agree to Sat., 12/19/26 as a potential date.
- Jackie asked if members want to pay the same as last year, less or if they are willing to pay more. Don had polled members on the NET. Most said they would pay more.
- Jackie will contact Four Seasons to tentatively reserve the date.

**FT8 Video Presentation by Ham Radio Concepts (KJ4YZI, Erik)**

- Two brief videos from 2017 on FT8 were presented to the club
- The video discussed low power operation on FT8 as well as WSJT-X software

**Meeting Adjourned: 9:00 p.m.**