



Lee De Forest Amateur Radio Club



May 2026 LDARC Club Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 20, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. In-Person & by Zoom
Memorial Funeral Service, 1111 S. State St., Hemet, CA 92543

America the Beautiful – Ray Charles: 6:31 p.m.

Call to Order/Welcome: 6:35 p.m. by President Rick Gardner (KN6RBP)

Flag Salute / Pledge of Allegiance led by Walt Campion (W6WHC)

Present (Signed In):

Rick Gardner, President (KN6RBP)

Mary Ortiz, Secretary (KO6GYF)

Karen Stewart, Treasurer (KN6MJS)

Larry Watson, Director (KN6PUR)

Bart Herring, Director (KM6JWS)

Duane Deaton, Director (KN6AUV)

Jackie Harris, Director (KC7CBN)

Terry Smith, Director (KO6ALP)

Rod McHenry (N6CG)

Walt Campion (W6WHC)

Arthur Endress (WD5GIE)

John Glueck (N6JYW)

Gregg Tyler (KO6JKX)

Alan Yates (KI8PP)

Tom Friend (KG6IKE)

Andy Hailey (AF6YY)

Gary Marsalone (KK6VZZ)

Richard Shimko (W6YKG)

Mike Fenn (KM6OTV)

V. Brookes (KO6JVD)

Ean Wohltman (Guest/Unlicensed)

Attended Via Zoom:

Don Pullens, Vice President (KN6DMP)

Greg Ustaszewski (KN6PKG)

Unidentified User

Announcements:

Rod McHenry (N6CG) announced that in an effort to promote more interest and participation in the 50/50 Drawing, he is donating a special coin with case/stand.

- The coin has a Morse Code alphabet training tool embossed on it. He is asking members to “dig a little deeper”. Also, at this meeting, and this meeting only, the winner will also receive an engraved pen with Rodney “Elmer” McHenry. This is winner take all.

Karen Stewart (KN6MJS) announced:

- There is one club coffee cup still available for a \$20.00 donation.
- Don Pullens (KN6DMP) has donated two tickets to the club breakfast fundraiser to the 50/50 pot.

Reports:

Secretary’s Report: Mary Ortiz (KO6GYF) provided the minutes for the April 15, 2026 regular club meeting.

Motion to accept Minutes for February 18, 2026: Mike Fenn (KM6OTV).
2nd: Walt Campion (W6WHC) and Terry Smith (KO6ALP)
None opposed. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report: Karen Stewart (KN6MJS) provided the club financial report for the period of March 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026, and April 1, 2026 through April 30, 2026.

March 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026	
Beginning Balance	\$4,831.36
Income	\$169.00
Expenses	\$266.60
Ending Balance (combined)	\$4,743.76
Ending General Fund Balance	\$3,743.76
Ending Repeater Fund Balance	\$1,700.00, approx

Motion to accept Treasurer’s Report for March 2026: Andy Hailey.
2nd: Mike Fenn.
None opposed. Passed unanimously.

April 1, 2026 through April 30, 2026	
Beginning Balance	\$4,743.76
Income	\$883.00
Expenses	\$298.93
Ending Balance (combined)	\$5,327.83
Ending General Fund Balance	\$3,629.53
Ending Repeater Fund Balance	\$1,698.50

Motion to accept Treasurer’s Report for April 2026: Bart Herring.
2nd: Gregg Tyler.
None opposed. Passed unanimously.

Atta Boy/Girl Acknowledgements from Rick Gardner:

- Larry Watson (KN6PUR) for design of the QSL Card and event logo for special event
- Larry Watson (KN6PUR) for design of the Summer Field Day log – posted on the club website
 - Let Rick know if anyone is interested in T-Shirts with that logo on the back and the club logo on the front.
- KN6PKG for the outstanding APRS station he is running



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- KN6PUR for chairing and planning the breakfast fundraiser
- AI6ZW for obtaining a food handler's card for the breakfast fundraiser
- KM6MJI for obtaining a food handler's card for the breakfast fundraiser
- KI8PP for obtaining a food handler's card for the breakfast fundraiser
- N6PPL for obtaining a food handler's card for the breakfast fundraiser
- KN6UNL Marcos for obtaining a food handler's card for the breakfast fundraiser
- KN6MJS Karen for obtaining a food handler's card for the breakfast fundraiser
 - Note: The County of Riverside requires Food Handler's Cards for this type of fundraiser event as of the 1st of this year.
 - Karen Stewart stated she brought the club check book if anyone who obtained their Food Handler's Card wants to be reimbursed for the cost. Several have covered the cost as a donation.
- N6DMP for taking Larry's logo and having club cups made. He (Don) paid for them outright. Any money received for the cups went into the general fund.
- AC6AR for donating hand-made wood boards to demonstrate the difference between parallel and in-series circuits.
- AF6YY for campsite donations for Summer Field Day
 - The club is looking for 7 donations of \$25.00 each to cover camp site costs
- K6PUR for donations to the breakfast fundraiser (eggs, Amazon supplies)
- KO6JVV for donations to the breakfast fundraiser and camp site donation
- N6CG for the 50/50 drawing prize donations
- KN6DMP for the two fundraiser breakfast tickets donated as a 50/50 drawing prize
- KO6GYF for the memorial donation to the club's repeater fund (club members donated approx. \$100.00 in total).
- KE6JGM, Bob Brown, for assisting another club member with radio programming.
- N6JYW, John, for work on beacon event with Riverside County.

Breakfast Fundraiser: Sat., May 23, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. Volunteers to arrive at 7:30 a.m. for preparation and set-up. Tickets on sale: \$12.00 for Adults; \$5.00 for children.

Gary Marsalone (KK6VZZ) – Youth Outreach Program Update:

- Seeking to involve local schools.
- Decided to pursue Scouts of America and contacted a scout leader in Redlands, CA, who was very receptive
 - Discussed Scouts Radio Merit Badge – would be open to the club assisting at their facility I Redlands to help scouts get their badges.
 - Rick and Gary **will schedule a committee meeting** (all welcome) to set badge exercise day.
 - Looking at June or July
 - More details about a video series coming from the Scouts.

- The Scout leader invited us to “Adventure Weekend” the last weekend in September, put on by the Scouts.
- We would like to invite the Scouts to Field Day in June.
- Rick stated there are benefits to the club to go forward with a Youth Program, including potential grant opportunities.
- Rod noted past efforts to coordinate with local high schools were shut down without explanation.
- Karen noted that as of this past Saturday, May 16, 2025, our youngest club member / licensed amateur is 10 years old. Two of his family members passed their Extra exams.

Next Fox Hunt: Rick stated the next Fox Hunt will be held on Field Day at Lake Perris.

Q & A Session:

- Brooks asked Terry if there are any updates on the Special Event. No updates.
- Mike asked Field Day organizers to make sure there are no sprinklers that are going to go off in the middle of operations. There are none.
- Karen asked for ideas to prevent theft of club property during the event by the general public.
- For Field Day, the club has 4 campsites on a hill top. Free passes for entry may be available at local libraries (check other locations, like Banning).
 - Andy is going up Friday & Sat., June 26th & 27th to set up.
 - Camp Sites are: 84, 85, 47 and 88.
 - Will have sign-up sheets for frequency time blocks and band pass filters.
- Jackie stated that Larry mentioned Live Scan as a requirement for working with school sites – is there a fee?
 - Yes, approximately \$35.00.
- Rod noted that past club president, Ron Baker, has been very involved with the Scouts. We participated in Jamboree on the Air every year during his tenure. We provided activities and participated at the Boy Scout Camp in Idyllwild (not part of the Riverside County Park System). When Ron passed, Rod offered the Scouts his contact information. They never contacted him. He suggests contacting the Riverside Council.
- Bart stated we should let Gary coordinate with his contact in Redlands.
- Rick began discussion regarding how “73” became a thing in amateur radio. Is there a logic behind it?
 - Believes it goes back to CW, as 7 is 3 dashes and 2 dots; 3 is 3 dots and 2 dashes (the reverse of 7)
 - Rod noted that a question mark is the letters I, M, and I all together.
- Rick – 2026 Hamvention – not a single club member attended this year.

Rick noted that Don (N6DMP)’s mother passed away last weekend. Larry brought a card, which is available to sign during break.

Break: 7:35 p.m.



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Called to Order: 7:53 p.m.

Video Presentation Viewing: 2026 Dayton, OH Hamvention Tour with Jason, KM4ACK. 2026 Hamvention floor walk with the two Jason's from Youtube.

50/50 Drawing (winner does not need to be present): Congratulation to Brooks (KO6JVD)! He wins \$28.50, two tickets to the fundraiser breakfast, a CW Coin with stand and special engraved pen.

Meeting Adjourned at approx.: 8:37 p.m.