



Lee De Forest Amateur Radio Club



August 2026 LDARC Club Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 19, 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: 6:34 p.m.

Call to Order/Welcome: 6:38 p.m. by President Rick Gardner (KN6RBP)

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

Present (Signed In):

Rick Gardner, President (KN6RBP)
Don Pullens, Vice President (N6DMP)
Mary Ortiz, Secretary (KO6GYF)
Karen Stewart, Treasurer (KN6MJS)
Larry Watson, Director (KN6PUR)
Bart Herring, Director (KM6JWS)
Terry Smith, Director (KO6ALP)
Jackie Harris, Director (KC7CBN)
Duane Deaton, Director (KN6AUV)

Rod McHenry (N6CG)
Walt Campion (W6WHC)
Marcos Montes (KN6UNL)
Tom Friend (KG6IKE)
John Glueck (N6JYW)
Gary Marsalone (KK6VZZ)
V. Brookes (KO6JVD)
Gregg Tyler (KO6JKX)
Ed Watts (KI6DCB)

Attended by Zoom:

Charlie Lopez (WK3Y)

Announcements:

Welcome to former club member and treasurer (from approximately 2013), **Ed Watts** (KI6DCB, Extra) by Rick Gardner. Ed introduced himself, stated he has been in New Mexico off and on for a while. He has quite a radio collection and likes CW.

The Club will have a 50/50 drawing tonight. All are encouraged to buy tickets. There are two extra prizes: one is a code coin.

Reports:

Secretary's Report: Mary Ortiz (KO6GYF) read the minutes for the July 15, 2026 regular club meeting.

Motion to approve the Secretary's Report for July 15, 2026: Walt Campion.

2nd: Don Pullens. None opposed. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Karen Stewart (KN6MJS) provided the club financial report for the period of July 1, 2026 through July 31, 2026.

July 1, 2026 through July 31, 2026	
Beginning Balance	\$4,644.21
Income	\$0
Expenses	\$231.00
Ending Balance (combined)	\$4,413.21
Ending General Fund Balance	\$2,587.21
Ending Repeater Fund Balance	\$1,826.00

Karen noted there is one more club coffee cup available for a \$20.00 donation. See Don.

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report for July 2026: Gary Marsalone.

2nd: Don Pullens.

None opposed. Passed unanimously.

Atta Boys: Rick Gardner read a list of **Atta Boys for 2026** from various club events and activities in 2026, to date. The list will be posted on the club website and is incorporated herein by reference.

Duane Deaton gave an "Atta Boy" to Rick Gardner for utilizing AI and putting together the Special Event page.

Bart Herring gave an "Atta Boy" to Rick Gardner for setting up Wave Log for the special event.

Raffle Tickets: are available and being sold. We are behind on sales. There is still one coffee cup as well. If interested in a cup, see Don Pullens to get on the waiting list.

50/50 Tickets: Available now; two prizes (CW training device and special coin) in addition to the cash amount.

Use of Space for Meetings (Memorial Funeral Services): Donations in the "Tip Jar" to go toward amount paid to the facility to offset utility costs for the club using the space are encouraged and appreciated.

LDARC Special Event Review: Don Pullens stated there will be two awards to give. Don will be sending an email to the Board Members / Directors to select a regular club member for a special award. The club is also establishing an award for innovation. Spoiler: Rick Gardner will receive it.

Don Pullens gave the floor to Terry Smith to reflect on how the Special Event went.



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LDARC Special Event (continued): Terry stated the event went well, though he would have liked more club member participation over the three day event.

- HF was "the bomb". Terry could hear Brookes on 20 meters with a pile up.
- Wavelog Program was easy to use. Rick went above and beyond by providing *live updates* on the website. Stats are still available to view on the website.
- The event brought 1200 visitors to the club website!
- 1200 QSL cards went out.
- Larry Watson stated he saw a post from a participant on a social media network about the event and a contact that person made.
- There are certificates to give out to participants.
- Terry would like to do a bi-monthly contest, with prizes, using Wavelog. He feels it will be exciting and competitive.
- Don was impressed with the Wavelog software.
- Rod noted that, unlike during Field Day, special event stations can refer contacts to club members on other frequencies.
- Rick stated 70 cm (UHF/VHF) won the day. Rick continues to encourage hams to go digital. Rick made 15 contacts on digital.
- Don said, "Thank goodness for FT8". FT8 did really well for the club.
- **Contests:**
 - Top Digital (FT8): Rick Gardner (KN6RPB) made 594 (593 digital; 1 voice)
 - Top Voice: V. Brookes (KO6JVD) made 65 of the 95 voice QSOs.
 - Both Gregg Ustaszewski (KN6PKG) and Art (WD5GIE) get \$25.00 each, from Don's own pocket, for their participation. Both had 132 contacts.
- Participation Certificates were presented to:
 - KM6JWS – Bart
 - KO6JVD – Brookes – 65 contacts (all phone)
 - KN6UNL – Marcos -27 contacts (all phone)
 - KO6ALP – Terry - 8 phone contacts; 296 digital
 - KN6PUR – Larry Watson – 30 contacts
 - KN6PKG – Gregg – 150 contacts
 - WK3Y – Charlie – 56 contacts (1 phone; 55 digital)
 - KN6AUV – Duane – 27 contacts
 - WD5GIE – Art – 132 digital contacts
 - N6DMP – Don – 9 phone contacts
 - KN6RBP – Rick
 - KN6SVA - Asa
- See the club website for a breakdown of statistics, such as countries contacted

Emergency Preparedness Fair: Bart Herring thanked all those who participated in the Community Emergency Preparedness Fair last year at the LDS Church on Kirby.

- The event will be happening again this year: October 10, 2026, 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the LDS Church on Park Hill St. (cross street: Cornell) in San Jacinto and will be indoors.
- There will be a scavenger hunt – participants will receive a card to fill with stickers or stamps from participant booths.
- Bart asked for a show of hands of those who would be interested in participating again this year – there were several.
- The Community Emergency Response Training (“CERT”) trailer will be there and CERT is available (fills up fast)
- ARES and RACES will be encouraged to participate.

Rick stated there will be an LDARC Board Meeting on Sat., 08/22/26 at 10:00 a.m. at J&M Restaurant, following breakfast.

Break: 7:42 p.m. – 8:07 p.m.

50/50 Drawing: Bart (KM6JWS) was the winner of \$42.50, a CW training tool and commemorative coin.

Karen Stewart stated her birthday celebration will be Sat., August 29th from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at Valley Wide Park.

Bart stated that Gregg (KO6JKX) is going to bring flyers to the next meeting regarding the CERT training

- When: Fri., Sat., & Sun. August 25, 26, 27 from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.
- Where: Hemet Fire Station # 4, 1055 S. Cawston Ave. (Cross Street: Waldon Weaver), Hemet, CA
- Participants bring their own lunches, water and snacks.
- Ricky Stewart will be there.

Club Christmas Dinner: Sat., Dec. 19, 2026 at Four Seasons. Tickets will be \$45.00 each. There will be a raffle, awards and prizes.

Marcos shared that Charlie had an issue with his A/C. He was able to use a meter he got from the club Christmas raffle last year to determine the starter capacitor was out. He was then able to go to Home Depot to get a replacement part for \$25.00 and repair his A/C.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:26 p.m.