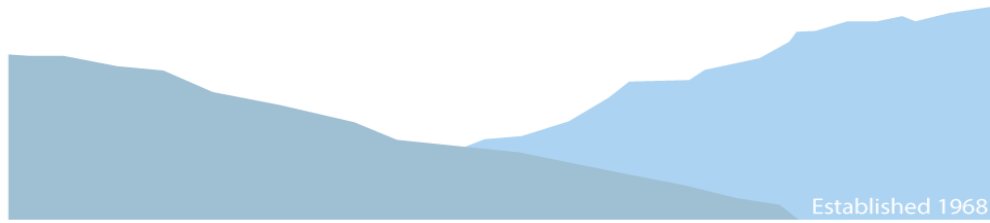


CRACKLIN' STATIC



SIERRA NEVADA Amateur Radio Society

Serving the Amateur Radio Community since April 16, 1968

<http://www.snars.org>

RENO, NEVADA

MARCH 2014

PRESIDENT'S VOICE

Here it is March – Time flies when you're having fun.

We have been fortunate in having a mild winter so far as being able to get work done on the repeater sites. If you have been reading the web site page and the Facebook page you have seen the progress made in getting repairs and upgrades done.

The tech committee is completing a prioritized list of further repairs and improvements for the BOD to budget for. Included is the establishment of the D-Star system which will be operational sometime this month. As these projects are scheduled, the committee will be asking for your help at the sites. It is not required that you have a technical background, just that you will help with moving, cleaning, pulling cable, etc. Please assist them when you can.

We have just received documentation from the State of Nevada releasing their use of a repeater site on Winnemucca Mountain. We are now awaiting the final transfer document from the BLM giving SNARS the right to occupy and use that site for our repeater system. We have the radio gear needed for the site and will install it as soon as possible. This will be a link to Elko and be part of the I-80 linked radio system.

The BOD accepted the nomination of Rob Dunbar, NB6C to the BOD, who will take the place of Jennifer, who had to resign last month. At that point I appointed Rob to take on the role of the BOD secretary. He will be a big asset to the club in that position with his experience and knowledge.

We are moving forward with the preparations for the Nevada State Conference scheduled for May 30 – 31 & June 1, 2014 in Virginia City. Venues have been firmed up, vendors are making commitments, speakers and presenters are being selected and scheduled, and all the costs have been determined.

With the above done, we will be developing the Convention registration form with the schedule of events listed, very soon. Advertising will be stepped up and another 101 details will be taken care of.

Just after the NVCON, it will be time for Field Day. Planning for that is starting. Also we will conduct our spring hams swap meet early in May - Details will follow. It is also getting close to the race season. Bob Miller will coordinate and plan for that activity. He will need a lot of help staffing those check points. Please consider participating. For newer hams it is a great way to get practice with your radio, for the veteran hams, it keeps you sharp and your expertise is valuable in keeping things moving and safe on the race course.

Have a great day, be safe out there and keep your battery charged....

SNARS meeting March 1 is cancelled

On Monday, late morning I was told by a person from Jack's Restaurant that they closed the business and would not be open for our meeting on Saturday. Members of the BOD have looked around for a place to meet and haven't been successful to this point. With the size of our group and to feed the group, our choices are somewhat limited. We will continue the search and will have a meeting place for the meeting in March. Please let others know of the cancellation.

Thanks, Mike
N7MSK



CRACKLIN' STATIC PUBLICATION

E-mail..... holden7471@msm.com

Cracklin' Static is the Newsletter of, and sponsored by the Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society. Opinions expressed herein are those of the editors and contributors and should not be considered as official expressions of the Club Officers, Staff or Club Members, or as endorsements by same.

Material for publication may be edited to enhance readability or to save space. We reserve the right to use whatever font size or line spacing may be required in order to publish this Newsletter.

Deadline for input to the newsletter is 1500 hours on the Sunday prior to the 1st Saturday of each month.

Cracklin' Static is e-published in Adobe PDF Format. It may be enjoyed at the SNARS web site.

Amateur Radio License Testing 2014

SNARS, Third Saturday of February, April, June, August, October and December. Testing will be at the REOC located at 5195 Spectrum Blvd., Reno

..... Bill Nichols... NN7K

SIERA CLUB: Silver State Charter High School, 788 Fairview Dr, Carson City..... 3rd Saturday of January, March, May, July, September, and November

.....Dale Anderson, kv7s@charter.net

Elko Area: Third Saturday of January, April, July, October. 11:00AM, Northeast Nevada Regional Hospital, 2001 Errecart Boulevard, Elko, NV

.....Joe Giraud, N7JEH n7jeh@arrl.net

SNARS, P.O. Box 7727, Reno, NV 89510

Membership: \$25 Individual, \$40 Family

OFFICERS 2014

President.....Mike Katz.....N7MSK
Vice President.....Don Seibert..... N2MOO
Treasurer.....Tony Marcin.....N7ACM
Secretary.....Rob Dunbar.....NB6C
Director.....Scott Brink..... KC7STV
Director.....Dave Miles..... KF7EGU
Director.....Jim Shepard..... W6US

STAFF 2014

By Laws Review Committee.....KE7HLR
Call Sign Badges.....KB7GNA
Club Public Information Officer.....KF7IAW
Control Operators Manager.....N7TGB
Cracklin' Static Editor.....WB2AWQ
Digital SYSOP.....K7JN
Meeting Greeters.....AE7OX
History Archivist.....KF7KTC
SK Estate Advisors.....KB7IWT
Station Licensee for KR7ENO.....WB2AWQ
Control Operators FOR KR7ENO.....WB2AWQ
Station Licensee for W7TA.....K7JN
Control Operators for W7TA.....K7JN
Tech Committee Chair.....N7ROJ
Chief VE Examiner.....NN7K
Membership Chairman.....N2MOO
Awards Chairman.....KB7ZBN
Program Chairman.....N2MOO
Web Master.....N7ACM & KG7DLF
Facebook Page Administrator.....N7ACM & KG7DLF
Events Coordinator.....WA6MTY

SNARS Repeater System Frequencies

Linked System --- Reno, Carson Area

146.610 (-) PL 123.0

443.075 (+) PL 123.0

Lovelock & Black Rock area

146.925 (-) PL 123.0

Mt Rose Linked System

147.030 (+) PL 123.0 Virginia Peak

147.150 (+) PL 123.0 Mt Rose

147.210 (+) PL 100.0 Peavine Peak

444.925 (+) PL 100.0 Peavine Peak

444.875 (+) PL 100.0 Lobdelle Peak

GSR Linked System

147.300 (+) PL 123.0 Grand Sierra Resort

444.825 (+) PL 123.0 Mt Davidson

IRLP: 7873, Echolink:WA7DG/R (581256)

Rag Chew 147.390 (+) PL 100.0 (no link)

52.580 (-) PL 114.8 (no link or features)

Packet 145.050

APRS 144.390

D-Star 444.625 (+) N7NDS B, N7NDS G

The Name of the Game

Jim Shepherd, W6US (nvjims@gmail.com)

Wallpaper...

From the very start, you will start collecting 'wallpaper' in your ham shack.

First, and foremost, you will get a nice official certificate from Gettysburg with five letters and a number prominently displayed, your hard earned amateur radio license! Sign it, put it in a nice frame and hang it in a place of honor.

The next piece of wallpaper that most of you will get is your membership certificate for SNARS. Hopefully you will follow this up with joining the ARRL and getting their membership certificate also.

Now, you need to get on the air to start chasing more wall hangings. When you pick up your mail and find that first QSL card, be it from someone across town or from some exotic DX location, you will start a collection that will follow you through your lifetime of ham radio. There are all sorts of hanging carriers and other options for you to display and protect your collection.

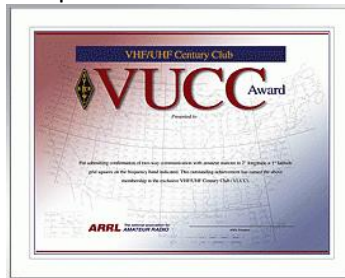
There are hundreds of awards and certificates out there waiting for you to qualify by your on-the-air activities. One of the easiest to get is the ARRL Worked All States (WAS) award. All you have to do is to work and get a QSL card from a ham in every state using ham radio. You can use any of the ham bands except 60 meters to make the contacts, and, for your initial award, it can be done using a mix of modes. There are endorsements to this award for all on a single band, different modes, and even the use of ham satellites. There is also the super award, 5 band WAS for working every state on 10, 15, 20, 40, and 80 meters. It is quite possible to get contacts in all 50 states in a weekend, but it may take time to get all the conformations via QSL cards or electronically on Logbook of the World. More information is at

<http://www.arrl.org/was>

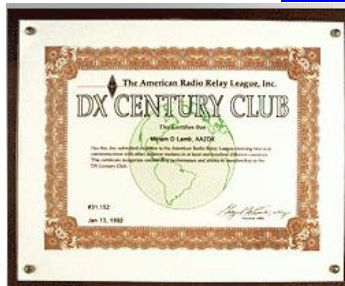


On VHF, the premier award is VUCC (VHF/UHF Century Club). You need to work 100 different grid squares on 6 meters or 2 meters or using ham satellites. On the higher

bands, the number of contacts gets smaller, but it's hard to have 5 grid zones within your range on 10 GHz. Most awards are for 6 meters as it is easier to get the more distant grid zones. See <http://www.arrl.org/vucc> for the complete rules



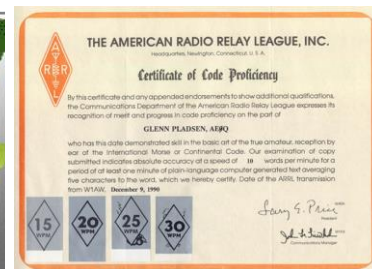
DX chasers have the DXCC (DX Century Club) to recognize their skill in contacting the rare ones out of the country. The initial award is for 100 countries, and, like the WAS, there are endorsements for additional contacts, modes and bands. If you have confirmed entries of 331 or more, of the current 340 eligible DX entities, you will be listed in the Honor Roll and can get a very nice wall plaque. There is more information at <http://www.arrl.org/dxcc-rules>



There are scores of small contests and special event stations that send out certificates for participation. Some of the foreign ones have them in their native language and the only thing readable is your call sign! With the advent of inexpensive quality color printing, some of these are photos of the operation and make a nice addition to your brag wall.



Worked All Continents Award (ARRL)



Code Proficiency Award (ARRL)

THE NEW HAMS & INFORMATION NET

The New Hams Q&A Net on 146.610. The net is held weekly at 1300, every Sunday afternoon.

The purpose of this net is a Q&A and information net for newly licensed hams and all hams wishing to ask question about different aspects of Ham Radio. It will give new hams in particular a venue for getting on the air in a controlled net moderated by a ham with more experience. The net will be open to any interested ham. Questions will be answered and discussed by the more experienced hams listening on the Net.

For those in the North Valleys who may be out of the range of the 146.610 try using the 443.075 (+/123). It works from Lemmon Valley.

Weekly nets on the SNARS repeater systems

Western Nevada Noon net (daily, 12:00 PM)

147.150 + 123.0, 147.210 + 100.0, 147.030 + 123.0, 444.875 + 100.0

The Morning Net (Monday – Friday at 10:00 AM)

147.300 + 123.0

Bishops Storehouse Net (Monday nights at 9:15 PM)

147.150 + 123.0, 147.210 + 100.0, 147.030 + 123.0, 444.875 + 100.0

North Western Nevada ARES Net (Tuesday nights at 7:00 PM)

147.150 + 123.0, 147.210 + 100.0, 147.030 + 123.0, 444.875 + 100.0

State SATERN Net (Tuesday nights at 8:00 PM)

147.300 + 123.0

State SKYWARN Net (Wednesday nights at 7:00 PM)

147.150 + 123.0, 147.210 + 100.0, 147.030 + 123.0, 444.875 + 100.0

Northern Nevada Preppers Group Net (Wednesday nights at 8:00 PM)

147.150 + 123.0, 147.210 + 100.0, 147.030 + 123.0, 444.875 + 100.0

State ARES Net (Thursday nights at 7:00 PM)

147.300 + 123.0

SNARS New Ham Net (Sunday afternoons at 1:00 PM)

146.610 - 123.0, 443.075 + 123.0, 146.925 – 123.0



FIELD DAY 2014 HELP

Field Day this year will be headed up by myself WB2AWQ and Ken KB2SFS. Peter DeBay KE7VSR is unable to continue with it. Peter has been working on a computer network to use for it, however, and will continue with that. In the interim, we are still looking a suitable venue (vehicle accessible, close, trees, decent size for our group with room for campers and RVs, etc.), band captains, operators, setup, foodies, kibitzers, etc. Please e-mail either Ken or me with your Field Day intentions and what help you can offer. At this point all bands and modes are open. There's something in Field Day for everybody, lots of opportunities whether you are an old salty dog or a newbie. Howie: holden7471@msn.com or 787-8205, or Ken djdoublexl189@gmail.com

SANDY'S ELECTRONICS

According to the Radio_Pack ListServe, Sandy's Electronics in south Reno has closed. Bummer! Thanks to Erv KB7IWT



W1AW/7 operation from Nevada This is an invitation to all Nevada Hams (and those that wish they were)

The Comstock Memorial Station Will Host W1AW/7 Nevada

Tuesday, April 29 2014 - 5PM to Tuesday May 6 4PM PDST

Tuesday October 21 - 5PM to Tuesday October 27 4PM PDST

The Comstock Memorial Station, W7RN, 370 Panamint Rd, VC Highlands NV 89521

775-847-7929 FAX 775-847-7930 146.865 PL 100.0

In celebration of the ARRL Centennial year, ARRL has authorized the use of W1AW portable in all 50 states. The schedule has each State with volunteer sponsors twice during 2014. There are many events this year. See the arrl.org web site for complete details

The Comstock Memorial Station has been selected for both Nevada Operations. This is an honor and a privilege and is open to all hams in Nevada who wish to participate.

The Station has three operating positions, one for Phone, one for CW and one for all digital modes. It is our intent to keep these three stations operational for the entire 168 hours of potential airtime. That totals 504 hours of operating time for which we will need volunteers for each week.

During the hours of 7AM to 10PM each day, we plan to have control operators on duty who will train operators in the use of the equipment and the operating protocol. Even if you have never been on the air before, we will coach you until you become proficient.

As you can see from the photo album, the station is very well equipped from 160 through 6 meters. We are currently looking for a viable station in Nevada with VHF and UHF capabilities that might want to partner with us for these operating events..

To apply for an operating slot, please send an email to tom@k5rc.com with the following information:

Name, Call Sign, License Class, Address, Phone Number

The days, times, bands and modes you would prefer to operate

Any special skills you have (digital modes, high speed CW, etc.)

Requests will be booked on a first come-first served basis. Both weekends are contest weekends (7QP and CW WW DX Phone). Preference will be given to the Comstock Memorial Station Crew for the contest slots, but please indicate if you want to operate one or both of the contests.

We have no accommodations for overnight guests, except for limited room for Dry RV space. We recommend the Silverland Inn and Suites in Virginia City, NV for the closest accommodations.

**AGAIN, THIS IS AN INVITATION TO ALL NEVADA HAMS!
PLEASE DISSEMINATE THIS ANNOUNCEMENT TO ALL
CLUBS AND ACTIVE HAMS IN YOUR AREA.**

Tom Taormina, K5RC

The Comstock Memorial Station, W7RN

Storey County ARES, KS7AA

Virginia City, Nevada On the Comstock

www.W7RN.com

(Editor's note, W1AW/X is running from all 50 states over the year as part of that celebration.)

So What is the Centennial QSO Party?

The ARRL Centennial QSO Party is a year-long operating event that celebrates hams making contacts. In the end you will have accumulated points, worked new stations and made new friends all over the world.

The Centennial QSO Party is made-up of two main activities: (1) W1AW operating portable in each state and most territories; and (2) The Centennial Points Challenge which is the accumulation of points from qualifying contacts made throughout 2014. To have a score listed online in the Points

Challenge competition, logs must be submitted through the [Logbook of the World \(LoTW\)](http://www.arrl.org/logbook-of-the-world) system.

W1AW will be on the air from every state and most territories, and it will be easy to work WAS working only [W1AW portable operations](http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-portable-operations). This is the first ARRL-sponsored operating event where every member is worth at least one point, so work as many points as you can during 2014! Earn awards based upon points, working all states or working W1AW portable in every state and territory. This is an on-the-air event like no other.

Full details at: <http://www.arrl.org/centennial-qso-party>

On that page, go to #11 in the table of contents for a complete list of stations participating in this event.

NAME THAT RIG



(answer on page 6)

Nevada State Convention May 30 - June 1 - Virginia City, Nevada



May 30 - June 1, 2014

Nevada State Convention in Virginia City!

We have been working hard over the last few months on the first ARRL Nevada Section State Convention to be held in Virginia City, Nevada. The event is scheduled

for May 30th through June 1st, 2014 in one of Nevada's greatest historical mining towns. This event promises to be a very unique celebration of amateur radio in Nevada.

We are still working on a few details and will be announcing soon the opening of the registration. We will send out a notice when registration is open.

Please visit our website at <http://nvcon.org> for updates as we get closer to opening registration and the event.

73,
2014 Nevada State Convention Planning Committee

Nevada State Convention

PO BOX 7727

Reno, NV 89510

<http://nvcon.org>

ARES NEWS

I met with the directors of the Reno5000 race (www.reno5000.org) that takes place April 13th. If you are interested in participating please let me know because I am now developing the schedule. Also if you own a QUAD, I may need ATV operators.

I continue to attend the planning meetings for the Reno Tahoe International Airport's Triennial emergency exercise that takes place on May 29th. If anyone would like to participate just let me know. I am developing assignments now.

BOB MILLER WA6MTY

Washoe County Emergency Coordinator
Amateur Radio emergency Service (ARES)

www.wcares.us

wa6mty@wcares.us

wa6mty@gbis.com

The SNARS Ladies

We had 11 ladies come to the luncheon this past month. We brought our HT's with us and had fun practicing how to use them. Next month we will be meeting at the King's Buffet on Kietzke; this will be on Wed, March 12th at 11:30 am.

Thank you,
Yvonne W7YMM

HOW NOT TO DO IT.....



"Here is Carl Young, K5HK, exercising his fundamental primate climbing skills. He is demonstrating those famous safety words from the ARRL - "Two feet on the tower at all times!" At least I think that's what they said. To all you young hams, do not try this at home. Carl is a professional amateur. Submitted by Steve Johnson KS6A" (with permission from Carl...)

SHACK PHOTOS

Still looking for more shack photos to post here. A few loose wires, or stuff out of place is OK! Send to:

WB2AWQ@arrl.net

Name That Rig: WRL Globe King 500C transmitter; Late 1950s. Price \$795.00 wired; 540 watts AM, 540 watts CW, 540 watts SSB (external exciter); 160 thru 10 meters; bandswitching. 4-400A final, push-pull 811A modulators, VFO. shipping weight 300 lbs. This was one of the bigger Amateur transmitters of its day, and still commands big money.

* * * * *

Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

REOC, Wednesday, February 19th, 2014

A. Call to Order (N7MSK)

Time: 1800L

1. Board Members Present:

SNARS: N7MSK, N7ACM, N2MOO, KC7STV, W6US, KF7EGU, NB6C

2. Guests Present: KG7BOG, N7TOC, K7JN

B. Chair: (N7MSK) Announced Jennifer Martin, KG7DLF submitted her resignation from SNARS BOD.

C. Moved to Accept Resignation: By: W6US Seconded: N2MOO Motion Carried:

D. Moved to Accept Rob Dunbar NB6C as the new board member: By N2MOO Seconded: W6US Motion Carried

E. Adoption of Agenda

1. Vote to adopt: By N7ACM: Second N2MOO: Motion Carried:

D. Reports

1. Chair: (N7MSK) – directed to other reports.

2. Secretary: (N7ACM): a. Current membership – 211

3. Treasurer: (N7ACM):

a. Bank Balances: Total \$11,244 + \$25

b. Will close the WADG banking account

c. Proposed budget presented and discussed. Moved to accept the budget: By: NB6C Seconded: W6US Motion Carried:

d. Tech committee waiting to get final pricing from vendors to before they present requests to board

E. Committee Report

1. Trustee (K7JN)

a. Jim Newel K7JN stated he may be moving to Pennsylvania and we should look to finding another trustee

b. K7JN recommended the board nominate KE7VSR

c. Motion to accept Jim Newell's resignation and acceptance of KE7VSR as trustee to be effective upon K7JN departure

2. Tech Committee (N7ROJ)

a. Reported on electrical issues at the lower Peavine repeater

b. Discussion of ownership of equipment and use by others sharing the repeater at lower Peavine

c. D-Star is coming out of Jim's garage (KD7DPW) and will moving to Mt Davidson very soon. There is no internet yet at Mt. Davidson

d. Possibly another D-Star repeater on Peavine – This will be a club owned repeater. (The other radio is owned by NARRI).

e. D-Star is on its way. Dave Mets is providing the club Internet and once it is ready then D-Star can be turned on

f. Equipment being donated by Avant Wireless so we can push internet to other sites

g. N7ROJ working with State Depart of Health to allow club to use their D-Star repeater if we supply then with Internet.

- h. Peavine had some power issues causing the controller not to work temporarily. Tech committee recommends getting Peavine on battery backup.
- i. Some repeater changed done on the 61 machine
- j. Look at the 61 antennas and controller repairs

3. Secretary (N7MSK)

- a. N7MSK offered the position of Secretary to NB6C.
NB6C accepted the position of Secretary.

4. Education

- a. Technician class to start April 2, 2014 at the Washoe County REOC. Information is on the club's website
- b. New Hams workshop is scheduled for Wednesday February 26, 2014. Another workshop will be scheduled later this Spring
- c. Discussion of Spring Ham Swap at the Tamarack during the first weekend in May

5. Events

- a. Discussion if there is a need for a portable repeater events.
- b. Nevada Convention
 - i. NV Convention is on schedule. Venue is locked up and people are starting to be scheduled. Possibly a ham cram to follow by VE testing. There will be a trolley bus made available for people at the convention. There will be goodie bags provided by Virginia City. Updated flyer will be coming soon with pricing.
- c. Special Event Station
 - i. The club is going to put together a special event station to coincide with Nevada 150th and radio's 100th anniversaries. Idea is to retransmit the Preamble to Washington DC and someone will take it up to Congress.
 - ii. Also have a special event station in Carson City of Nevada Day

F. Other/New Business

- 1. Recognition Plack for people
 - a. N7ACM is working on creating a standard plack to be given out.

G. Motion to Adjourn: By: W6US Second: N7ACM Motion Carried: Meeting adjourned. Time: 1903L

Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

REOC, Wednesday, February 19, 2014

A. Call to Order (N7MSK)

Time: 1752L

- 1. Board Members Present:
SNARS: N7MSK, N7ACM, N2MOO, KC7STV, W6US, KF7EGU, NB6C
- 2. Guests Present: KG7BOG, N7TOC

B. Purpose: To fill position of resigned Board Member, Jennifer Martin, KG7DLF.

- 1. N7MSK nominated Rob Dunbar NB6C Director
- 2. Jay Parker N7TOC Nominated himself for Board of Director
- 3. Rob Dunbar NB6C was voted in to the Board by the Active Directors.

Meeting Adjourned time: 1757L