

CRACKLIN' STATIC



SIERRA NEVADA Amateur Radio Society

Serving the Amateur Radio Community since April 16, 1968

<http://www.snars.org>

RENO, NEVADA

September, 2013

PRESIDENT'S VOICE:

The calendar tells us that summer is on the way out and to start thinking fall. In that regard, SNARS will conduct the "Fall Swap Meet" – The date will be October 19, 2013, and the location will be announced as soon as it is finalized. Bring your surplus stuff so that you can swap it for someone else's surplus stuff. We are accepting a \$10 donation per table, with the funds going to support the swap and the surplus going to the repeater fund.

I encourage you to go to the SNARS Facebook page, ([facebook.com/snars.w7ta](https://www.facebook.com/snars.w7ta)) and the RARI Facebook page ([facebook.com/pages/Reno-Amateur-Radio-Information/](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Reno-Amateur-Radio-Information/)) to keep up on the activities of the club and other activities in the ham community.

There is a lot being done with the upgrading and improvement to our repeater system. The current phase will be accomplished before the snow flies. Continued planning is taking place by the Tech committee and work will be accomplished in an orderly and efficient manner.

At our September 7 monthly membership meeting, (0730, Jack's Café on So. Virginia St.) we will have a great door prize – a 2013 (brand new) ARRL handbook – a \$49.00 value. We will also have a presentation and demonstration from our own Tom, K5RC about the use of remote ham radio. Tom will also talk about the final results of his long legal battle regarding his antennas.

For those of you that have been participating as radio operators in the many races that take place in our area, Thank You Very Much! Your participation and the leadership of Jim, KD7DPW are appreciated by the club and by the leadership of those events.

As a reminder to the new hams in the club, there is a "New Hams Information Net" on the air every Sunday at 1300, on 146.610 (-/123 pl). This is an excellent place to get your radio setup, to hear a net with controlled traffic, to get on the air without fear of making a mistake, and to get answers to questions you have about any part of Ham Radio. There are a number of experience hams that are part of the net and they are there to assist you with your questions, to help you get started with proper protocol and operating procedure and policy.

SNARS meeting September 7



Jack's Restaurant, 7671 South Virginia Street starting at 0730. Breakfast will be available.

Door prize: 2013 ARRL Handbook! We will have a presentation by Tom Taormina, K5RC on how to not fail with antenna legal issues, and a live demo on Remote Ham Radio. Don't miss this!



CRACKLIN' STATIC PUBLICATION

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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 2013

SIERA: Silver State Charter High School, 788 Fairview Dr.....George Uebele, WW7E ww7e@arrl.net

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

Elko Area: Third Saturday of January, April, July, October.
11:00AM, Northeast Nevada Regional Hospital
.....Joe Giraudo, N7JEH n7jeh@arrl.net

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

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

Membership: \$25 Individual, \$40 Family

OFFICERS 2013

Chairperson.....Mike Katz.....N7MSK
Co-Chairman.....Jim Rosima.....KD7DPW
Vice Chair.....Steve WoodsK7SJW
Co-Vice Chair.....Don Siebert.....N2MOO
Trea\$urer.....Tony Marcin.....N7ACM
Secretary.....Peter DeBayKE7VSR
Co-Secretary.....Becky Harvey.....KE7CKY
Director.....Don Seibert.....N2MOO
Director.....Paul Tueller.....K7PTT
Director.....Ed Sloane.....KB7ZBN
Director.....Scott Brink.....KC7STV
Director.....Richard Nehrbass.....N7TGB
Director.....Dave Miles.....KF7EGU
Director.....Richard Foreman.....KK7SL
Director.....Pat Sheehan.....W7DED

STAFF 2013

By Laws Review Committee.....KE7HLR
Call Sign Badges.....KB7GNA
Club Public Information Officer.....KF7IAW
Control Operators.....K7JN
Cracklin' Static Editor.....WB2AWQ
Digital SYSOP.....K7JN
Elmer Coordinator.....KE7HLQ
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 Chairs.....W6US & W7DED
Chief VE Examiner.....NN7K
Membership Chairman.....N2MOO
Awards Chairman.....KB7ZBN
Program Chairman.....KC7STV & KE7CKY
Web MasterN7ACM & K2DMC
FaceBook page administrator.....KC7STV & N7ACM

The Name of the Game...

By Jim Shepherd, W6US

Contests

Practically every weekend there is some kind of contest on the ham bands. They range from the biggies like the ARRL DX Contest and the Sweepstakes to small regional or local contests like the VHF Sprints. For every ham that is overly serious about contesting, there are hundreds of us that jump in for a few contacts or to get that rare contact.

You don't need a five element beam for 80m on a 150' tower to get into the game. In fact, on the upcoming VHF contest this month, you can use a handheld! The VHF Contest on September 14 and 15 has a new class for FM only and you will be competing with just those hams operating solely on FM and if you put out some effort, you could end up winning the Nevada Section.

Each contest has different rules but there are some common elements. Obviously you need to confirm copying the callsigns, and there is usually some sort of required exchange. The ARRL website has the information on most contests. You will have to keep a log of the contacts and the exchange, and it is preferable to use a computer logging program to make it easier to send in your results. There are lots of logging programs, and one of the best of the free programs is the N1MM Logger which comes with the templates for most of the contests. These programs log the contact, check for duplicates, keep score, show needed multipliers, and can prepare your final logs for submission to the contest sponsors. Most have features that allow them to control some radios.

One thing that you will quickly notice on most contests is that the operator on the other end will usually be very happy to get a station in Nevada! It is fun to be on the receiving end of a pile-up.

Some stations run in the Multi Operator category allowing several radios to be used at the same time or allow the operators to have breaks. Helping with this type of operation is a good way to learn about serious contesting. Our recent Field Day was a good example of a Multi-Op operation. Some contests will allow Club entries, which combines the scores of all of the reporting members of a club and is a fun way to get the Club some recognition. Some contests will allow the use of spotting networks like an internet or packet cluster to see who is operating where. On all contests, you cannot use a repeater or non-ham communications to solicit contacts during the contest.

There are several contests that can be enjoyed by every licensed ham. The 10 meter contest in December has virtually all of the activity between 28.000 and 28.500 MHz and provides a lot of DX activity. The VHF contests, especially now with the new "FM only" class, can provide some good experience. The ARRL DX contest can be run as a "Single Operator, Single Band" on 10 meters and if the band is open, you can get a long ways toward your DXCC award (100 countries).

The upcoming September VHF contest runs from 1100 am on Saturday until 2000 Sunday evening. The best scoring opportunity will be for those who end up on a mountaintop that sees over into California and have VHF/UHF all mode radios and yagis. The FM Only category will be best on mountaintops that see over the majority of the urban areas. Both of these groups will benefit from everyone operating on 146.55 and 446.000 FM simplex. There will be a lot of contacts made around town, but if you operate from more than one location, you are a rover. The exchange is your Grid Zone (<http://www.arrl.org/grid-squares>). Here in the Reno area, the Grid Zone is DM09 as is everything in the 1x2 degree area from 39 to 40 degrees North and 118 to 120 degrees West. Go over to Truckee, California and you will be in CM99. The Grids are your multipliers, and contacts can be made with the same operator on different bands. If a lot of the hams in this area just get on the air on those two FM simplex frequencies, it will greatly help the serious operators who are on the mountaintops and provide a good test of your simplex capabilities. The complete rules can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/september-vhf>.

Next time you hear contest activity, join in on the fun.

AMATEUR RADIO CULTURE FLOURISHES AMONG MAKERS, HACKERS AND URBAN SURVIVALISTS

By Ashley Hennefer

ashleyh@newsreview.com

This article was published on 08.15.13. ---- Reno News and Review

Then and now: Ham operator Steve Johnson(KS6A) displays a photo of a younger himself.

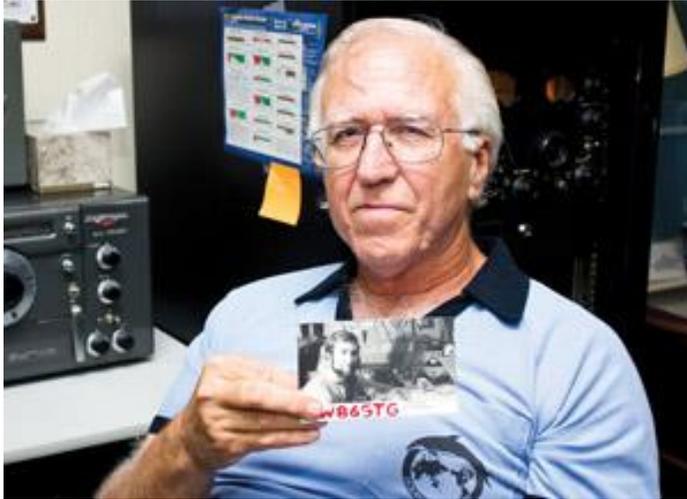


PHOTO BY ALLISON YOUNG

In the past 100 years, human communications have changed rapidly, arguably more than any other technology available. As a society we've transitioned, within a matter of decades, from handwritten letters to telegraphs to phone calls to instant messaging to tiny mobile devices that enable us to access almost anyone anywhere. Much of this is positive, especially for emergency responders who are alerted the instant an incident occurs.

But what happens when the power lines are down? When the internet can't be accessed? Our current infrastructure just can't support the lack of communication during a disaster. In this case, ham radios—devices that connect people globally using the radio frequency spectrum—have been and continue to be one of the most reliable forms of communication available. The technology has become cheaper and more accessible, and thanks largely to the communities of makers, hackers and urban survivalists, ham radio is more popular than ever.

Signal frequency

Ham radio gained prominence in the early 1900s, and the technology is attributed to several scientists, including Nikola Tesla and Alexander Popov, who all share some credit for developing the modern radio. The first amateur radio club, known as the Wireless Telegraph Club, was founded in 1908 at Columbia University.

The word "ham" began as an insult, referring to those who interfered with stations, before being picked up later by those who originally misunderstood, and later

embraced, the term. The label "amateur" is more about independence than about inexperience. It distinguishes between citizen operators and other broadcasting like emergency response stations, two-way radio and commercial radio.

Each ham is assigned a call sign that designates a station. Like license plates, hams can get "vanity" call signs. There's also an array of radios to use that offer varying frequencies, from vintage radios to hand-held transceivers. Signals are tied to repeaters, stretching frequency across locations, which is how hams can connect with others around the world. Northern Nevada has 15 repeaters throughout the area, with 10 specific to Reno and Sparks.

According to the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), more than 2 million people in the United States are licensed operators, many of whom identify as hobbyists, technicians or emergency responders. Testing for an amateur radio license is rigorous and highly technical, but there's a ton of books, tutorials and websites created to help. It's mandatory to be licensed, regulated nationally by the Federal Communications Commission. The United Nations agency International Telecommunication Union tracks international ham radio use.

"Ham radio is a license from the government that allows U.S citizens to play with electromagnetic frequency," says Steve Johnson (call sign: KS6A), a long-time amateur radio expert in Reno. "It ensures that hams don't do things with international implications. It's a license that allows people to experiment with the electromagnetic spectrum. There's a tremendous amount of uses for electromagnetic energy."

Johnson has been an operator for more than 50 years. His wife, Joan, is also an operator—a room in their house is dedicated to their hobby, fully stocked with radios, many of which are vintage. He's taught ham classes through Bridgewire Makerspace in Sparks, and heads up the University of Nevada, Reno Radio Pack.

Johnson got his ham radio license when he was in eighth grade and has been passionate about it ever since, throughout his career in the military and later as a sheriff. In his radio room—to which he refers as the "ham shack"—he keeps track of the countries he's contacted by putting small star-shaped stickers on a globe. The globe is covered with stickers.

He also keeps binders full of QSL cards—postcards that hams exchange when they've connected. The name "QSL" refers to a Q code, a three-letter code used in radiotelegraph communication. QSL cards are designed by hams and contain personal information as well as their call sign.

Amateur radio is both an independent and social activity. Much of it takes place alone, especially for technicians who enjoy building radios. But there are also plenty of events and competitions for ham communities, such as a marathon where hams have to contact as many ARRL stations as they can within 30 hours. Ham groups also hold campouts, where a group of people will take their radios to a campsite off the grid to see who they can contact. Amateur operators who are also emergency responders are often on-call constantly in the event of a community disaster.

Johnson loves using his radio skills to socialize. "One of the things that hams do best is talk."

Breaking code

Johnson says he's an "old school ham," partly because he learned about radio the traditional way. Originally, hams had to learn Morse code before getting licensed. Now it's not mandatory, but many hams think it's a good skill to have. There are two prominent schools of thought on learning Morse code: the Farnsworth Method, which gradually increases timing between each word, and the Koch method, which allows operators to learn two letters at a time, building up to an entire word. There are also dozens of apps that can help amateurs learn Morse code on the go.

Kevin Jacobsen, a UNR undergraduate student, thinks that amateur radio will continue to become more popular with people his age. Jacobsen is studying for his ham license with the intent to be a volunteer emergency response operator.

"I'm just fascinated by how timeless this technology is," he says. "I think it's a great skill to have."

Jacobsen has spent months learning about amateur radio after reading an article in Make magazine, a publication that covers all aspects of do-it-yourself culture.

"The maker movement is bringing back all of these cool skills that really have been around for a long time," he says. "People my age are realizing how cool it is to be able to do things like communicate through ham radio and have an understanding and appreciation for that."

Johnson says that ham radio enthusiasts have long been proponents of tinkering and inventing. It's an endeavor, he says, that attracts curious people.

"Hams are the original makers," says Johnson. "One thing about ham radio is that it was, is now, and will always be an experimental venue, where people who want to play, learn and experiment have a place to do it."

Hammy performance

Interested in becoming an operator? There are several local organizations that offer resources to get started.

- Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society, a prominent ham organization that hosts classes, meetups and more for Northern Nevada: www.snars.org
- Reno Amateur Radio is a supply store for ham builders and operators: www.renohams.com.
- Reno Ham Radio Club, a non-profit ham group: <http://w7rhc.webs.com>.
- Reno Amateur Radio Information, a Facebook page that tracks ham-related activity in the area: <http://on.fb.me/17IV1o8>.
- UNR Radio Pack, hosted by the Department of Electrical Engineering at the University of Nevada, Reno, meets at 7 a.m. every Monday at Carrows on E. Plumb Ln.: <http://wolfweb.unr.edu/homepage/radio>.



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 WADG/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



2013 Events / Races

Mark your calendars to help with this year's races and events, where we provide communications and support.

Edible Pedal 100 Sunday September 15th Bob Miller WC-ARES

<http://www.ediblepedal100.org/>

Sierra Valley Grand Fondo Saturday September 21st

Sierra Valley Grand Fondo has made an offer to SNARS club: \$50.00 per radio operator that volunteers for the event will be donated to the club, plus they have already put our logo on their web site, t-shirts.

Jim KD7DPW <http://svgf.org/>
Loyalton, Ca.

recently (last two months) let Ray Foster know so he can create a badge with the correct info.

Ray Foster, KB7GNA Ray.foster@arri.net

Lots of opportunities for Amateur Radio education in SNARS-land: Tech class, General class, Ham Crams, New Ham Workshops, VOIP Workshop, IRLP/Echolink class, and Repeater Usage and Etiquette class! Full details on the SNARS webpage, <http://snars.org/classes/>

Would you like to win a brand-new ARRL Handbook? Make sure you come to the SNARS Breakfast and Meeting Saturday, September 7. Everyone attending will have the chance to win!

SNARS CLUB NEWS

When you need to know the latest, go to that web site and more importantly, to the SNARS Face Book page where you will have access to daily info about club events, meetings, etc.

www.facebook.com/snars.w7ta

New club name badges: The new logo name badges are ready for distribution. They will be made available at each membership club meeting. If you have had a call sign change

NAME THAT RIG

(See pg 6 for the answer)



PACIFICON 2013

October 11, 12, 13 Santa Clara Marriot!

Highlights of some of the events:

Antenna Seminar

Every year Paul Howes (WA6GYY) puts together an outstanding lineup of speakers who provide informative and state-of-the-art presentations on the science of antennas. The Antenna Seminar will take place on Friday, October 11th. Topics range from the basics to more complex antenna concepts. This seminar sells out each year so get your ticket early if you don't want to miss this outstanding ham radio event. Antenna Seminar tickets must be purchased in advance. There is a \$15 charge for this all-day Seminar, and a printed book can be pre-ordered for an additional \$10. Cost of the Antenna Seminar includes a USB memory stick with all course material in electronic format. You must purchase a Pacificon General Admission ticket to attend the Antenna Seminar.

Coffee with Gordon West

Seating for this personal gathering with famed author and speaker Gordon West (WB6NOA) is limited. Coffee will be provided free, food items will be available for purchase separately.

One-Day Amateur Radio License Class

Interested in obtaining your amateur radio license, but not sure how to get started? Why not attend Pacificon's One-Day License Class? The class covers the material needed to pass the Technician Class test in just a few hours! The class concludes with a license exam - and most people pass the test on their first try!

On-site License Examinations

For those of you who have been studying and are looking to take the Technician, General, or Extra Class examinations - VEs will be on-site at Pacificon administering licensing tests.

Youth Activities

Kids love radios! Get your young folks started in our Youth Activities area.

Legal Seminar

Bart Lee (K6VK), an ARRL Volunteer Counsel and ARRL San Francisco Section Government Liaison, will once again host the ARRL Legal Seminar on Saturday October 12th. Topics will include antenna regulations, interference issues, etc. Attorneys wishing to attend and receive 3 hours of Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) credit should contact Bart Lee via email.

Wouff Hong Initiation

Attend the Midnight Meeting of the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong on Saturday night 12:00 am in the Sedona Ballroom. To attend you must be an ARRL Member, and you must be able to provide proof of your Amateur Radio Service callsign.

Saturday Night Banquet

An annual tradition, this year's Saturday Night Banquet will start with cocktails at 6:30pm in the Grand Ballroom Foyer, follow by dinner in the Grand Ballroom at 7:00pm. Seating is limited. Meal choice (Beef, Chicken, or Vegetarian) can be made during registration.

For more info go to the PACIFICON home page:

<http://www.pacificon.org/2013/#home>

SNARS HAMSHACK OF THE MONTH



Ron Feldstein, N7ZM of Carson City is the proud owner of this terrific setup: Yaesu FTdx-5000D, Alpha ETO-91B, Palstar AT1500DT tuner, Heil PR-781 Mic, Signalink USB.

Antennas: Homebrew DX-CC 10-80, and Alpha Gulf 10-20 Loop.

Name That Rig – Gonset G-76, circa 1963. The only medium power Amateur HF tube-type transceiver with high level plate modulation. It covered 80 through 6 meters, 65 to 75 watts output, AM and CW.

ARES NEWS SEPTEMBER

As many of you know we recently lost a good friend and the Nevada Section Emergency Coordinator of ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) Don responsible for coordinating the Emergency Coordinators for the Nevada Northwest District is John Collis W7JDC.

I hold my ARES training on the first Saturday of every month at our Regional Emergency Operations Center unless it is a holiday weekend then I move the training to the next weekend.

This month's training will be this Saturday the 7th starting at 0900 and John will be giving a presentation on the latest version of the Packet Message software that now has the ICS213 message form. John will also be discussing the improvements we are making to our packet infrastructure in the Northwest District.

Also John will be demonstrating how to send Packet messages without a radio and TNC (terminal node controller).

Everyone is welcome to see the latest in data communications.

73

Bob Miller WA6MTY Washoe County Emergency Coordinator.

The SNARS Ladies

will meet on Wed., Sept 11th, 11:30 am at the Eldorado Buffet. Ed Sloane KB7ZBN will so a presentation on how to set up a home based radio, and answer questions that aren't too technical.

FALL HAMS SWAP MEET

The swap meet will be held October 19, 2013 in the South parking lot of the Tamarack Junction Restaurant & Casino (same place as the May Swap meet) on South Virginia St., Just south of the Wal-Mart shopping center.

STARTING at 0700 – ending around 11:30

THE TAMARACK RESTAURANT is open at 0600 where you can get a full breakfast if you desire --- Coffee and donuts can be had in the parking lot.

TABLES will be \$10.00 each with all proceeds going to offset the cost of the swap meet, with any balance going into the SNARS Repeater Fund.

MORE INFO and the address of the Swap meet web page will be sent out just as soon as the web page is completed.

Mark your calendars!!

73 -- Mike, N7MSK

Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society Board of Directors Meeting

AGENDA

Thursday, Aug. 15, 2013

6:30 PM, REOC Conference room

Welcome (Chair) Steve Woods

Sign -In Sheet

I. Call to Order (Chair) -- Time: 1836L

1. Board Members Present: K7SJW, N7ACM, KE7VSR, K7PTT, N2MOO
2. Additional Present: W6US, W7DED, W7SRN

II. Adoption of Agenda

1. Additions/Deletions: none
2. Approval: by N2MOO - second – K7PTT, unanimous

III. Reports

1. Chair – directed to other reports.
2. Secretary
 - a. Current Club Membership: 178
 - b. Other business: none
3. Treasurer
 - a. Bank Balances:
 - Checking: \$6412.61
 - Savings: \$3234.57
 - Checking WADG \$3758.06

Total: \$13405.24

b. Other business:

Transfer of funds to the repeater fund.

Tony explained the layout of the financial report and the designation of the General fund, Repeater fund and Education fund.

IV. Committee/Appointment Reports

1. W7TA: K7JN: no change on the 3 violators on the repeater still prohibited from using the repeaters.

2. Tech Committee: W6US & W7DED

W6US: Ophir & Tulon repeaters are working, the Ophir repeater is talking to the controller and that is being addressed.

W7DED: The microwave dish on Davidson is installed, the Ethernet cable needs to be pulled through and a telcom rack is needed (Pat may have one). The antenna for Davidson to Ophir is in place in Dave Metz's building waiting to up a tower, waiting for the raydome to arrive (some comments on the mounting of the antenna, but not a problem). The club needs a 900 omni antenna. K7JN is to get the 900 frequency; this is in progress (status unknown). Installed grounding kits at Mt. Rose and Peavine sites. Ordered a replacement antenna for Virginia Peak (\$1662.00); ordered 4 more grounding kits. Fiber between Davidson and Ophir is not pulled yet. The D-Star station will be ready for delivery to us in a month or so: being shipped to W7DED's home. John (ROJ) volunteered to retrieve the 6M station and get it working. The packet station on Mt. Rose is not working again; Otto is working on it, suspect the TNC is the problem and was not sure of a spare.

3. Website: N7ACM & K2DMC

N7ACM advised the website is up and running.

4. Facebook page: KC7STV & N7ACM

N7ACM advised that KC7STV is constantly updating the page.

5. Awards Committee: KB7ZBN

Not present and no update.

A discussion of recognizing 3 people who have contributed to the amateur community were suggested for an award/recognition of some kind. Unconcluded.

V. New Business:

1. Review of proposed updates to the SNARS By-Laws -- Action Item

The only change was the renewal date changed back to end of June.

Moved to send to the membership by N2MOO seconded by K7PTT, unanimous

2. Discussion of conducting a fall Swap Meet. (Oct. 19, 2013)

It was agreed to have one; Tamarack Junction works but other possible sites are being looked at.

3. Discussion of a swap meet in May, 2014 --- With or without an EMCOMM event.

It was agreed to have one.

4. Raising money for the Repeater Fund

N7ACM showed off some club annotated stuff (coffee mug, calculator & pen) as a source of earning funds. Approved changing the logo on the club shirts etc so Sharon can move forward with it. Grant funding was raised and decided that we need a Grant Writer, a request is to be put in the newsletter.

5. Preliminary calendar of future SNARS events and activities

New Ham's Workshop scheduled 4 Sep 2013.

The next Technician Class to start 2 Oct 2013.

6. Appointment of the Control Operator Manager – Richard, N7TGB

Was approved unanimously. The Board needs a list of who are all the control operators, what radio they are responsible for and a written policy for when they need to take action; N7TGB & K7JN need to do this.

VI. Old Business:

1. Additional info regarding an unwelcomed Ham operator.

None given

Call for Adjournment: Moved – N7ACM, Seconded – KE7VSR, unanimous

Time: 1946L