

CRACKLIN' STATIC



SIERRA NEVADA Amateur Radio Society

Serving the Amateur Radio Community since April 16, 1968

<http://www.snars.org>

RENO, NEVADA

JULY 2016

----PRESIDENT'S VOICE----

Anthony Marcin, W7XM

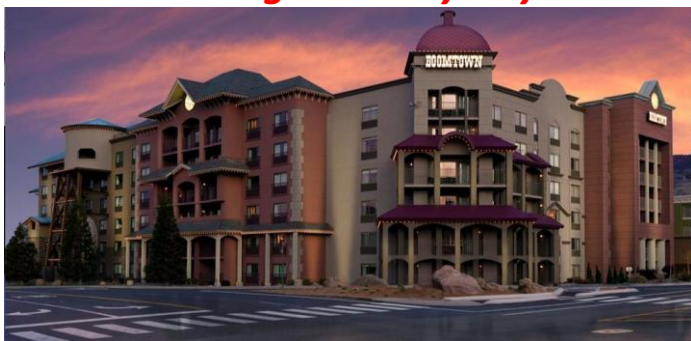
This will be a quick and short President's Voice this month due to all the summer activities. One notable accomplishment for SNARS we has 10 students for the General Upgrade Class that will wrap up June 28th with the examination night. We hope everyone will pass and will report next month on their progress.

We are looking for volunteers for two events in July. The first is the Reno Makers fair on July 9th which will be held at Idlewild Park in Downtown Reno. We need about 5 volunteers to work the booth and can be split by shifts. Please email w7xm@snars.org to sign up and will provide additional information. The second event is the Churchill Ham Swap on July 10th. Again looking for 3 to 5 people to help man the SNARS booth.

Have a Happy 4th of July, Happy Field Day (I hope everyone will attend, visit <http://snars.org/fieldday> for information on field day).

Tony, W7XM

SNARS meeting Saturday July 2



7:30 AM Boomtown Casino Hotel, I-80 exit 4, Verdi NV, in the Banquet/Conference Center.

Bob Miller, ARES Emergency Coordinator, will make a SKYWARN presentation.



CRACKLIN' STATIC PUBLICATION

E-mail..... holden7471@msn.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 2016

SNARS, Third Saturday of February, April, June, August, October and December. Testing will be at the REOC located at 5195 Spectrum Blvd., be there at 9 AM sharp! 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 w7gk_1@yahoo.com

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

Membership: \$40 Individual, \$50 Family

OFFICERS 2015

President.....Tony Marcin.....W7XM
 Vice President..... Jim Shepherd.....W6US
 Treasurer.....Bill Jones.....AE7OX
 Secretary.....Rob Dunbar.....NB6C
 Director.....Steve Johnson.....KS6A
 Director.....John Byerly.....N7ROJ
 Director.....Barry Bettman.....K6ST

STAFF 2016

By Laws Review Committee.....vacant
 Club Public Information Officer.....vacant
 Control Operators Manager.....W7DED
 Cracklin' Static Editor.....WB2AWQ
 Meeting Greeters.....AE7OX
 History Archivist.....KF7KTC
 Station Licensee for KR7ENO.....WB2AWQ
 Control Operators FOR KR7ENO.....WB2AWQ
 Station Licensee for W7TA.....KE7VSR
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 Program Chairman.....vacant
 Web MasterW7XM
 Facebook Page Administrator.....W7XM
 Events (ARES) Coordinator.....WA6MTY
 Education Team Chair.....W7XM
 Reno Ham Swap.....NB6C
 Field Day Co-chair.....KS6A
 Field Day Co-chair.....W6US
 Audit.....vacant
 Noon Net.....KS6A

SNARS Repeater System Frequencies

I-80-Mt Rose Linked System (W7TA)

Reno, Sparks, Carson City (Ophir Peak) 443.075 + 123.0 Normal Operation
 Lovelock, Black Rock Desert (Toulon Peak) 146.925 - 123.0 Normal Operation
 Winnemucca 146.670 - 123.0 Normal Operation
 Reno, Sparks (Virginia Peak) 147.030 + 123.0 Normal Operation
 Carson City, Tahoe, Truckee (Mt Rose Knob) 147.150 + 123.0 Normal Op
 Reno, Sparks, North Valleys (Peavine Peak) 147.210 + 100.0 Normal Operation
 Yerington, Wellington (Lobdelle Peak) 444.875 + 100.0 Normal Operation

IRLP/EchoLink System (W7TA)

Reno, Sparks (GSR) 147.300 + 123.0 Connected to/Status:

Standalone Systems, Ragchew Repeaters (W7TA)

Reno, Sparks 52.580 - 114.8 Normal Operation
 Reno, Sparks, Carson City, Dayton (Ophir Peak) 147.390 + 100.0 Normal Op
 Reno, Sparks 927.1125 - 114.8 Normal Operation
 Reno, Sparks, Carson City (Ophir Peak) 146.610 - 123.0 Not Linked, off air

Digital/APRS Systems (W7TA)

Reno, Sparks, Carson City (Ophir Peak) 145.050 - RNO Normal Operation
 Carson City, Tahoe, Truckee (Mt Rose Knob) 145.050 - ROSE Normal Op
 Lovelock, Black Rock Desert (Lobdelle peak) 144.390 - TOULON Normal Op

Portable Repeaters (KR7ENO)

Portable System 147.000 - 123.0 Special events only

DMR Digital Mobile Radio

Reno-Sparks 444.925 + CC1 DMR System
 Reno, Carson, Dayton 444.825 + CC1
 Lake Tahoe, Truckee 443.925 + CC1

C4FM Digital Repeater – YAESU OFF THE AIR

D-Star (N7NDS) NARRI

Reno-Sparks-Carson (Mt Davidson) 444.625 + (Module B)
 Reno-Sparks-Carson (Mt Davidson) 145.175 - (Module C)

THE NAME OF THE GAME

By Jim Shepherd W6US nviims@gmail.com

Portable operation

We have just finished the biggest portable radio event of the year, Field Day, and it may have inspired you to try some additional operations.

This year, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the National Park System, the ARRL has set up the “National Parks on the Air” program. This is an opportunity to either work or activate a unit of the National Park system. There are about 411 different units scattered around the area and they include national parks, monuments, battlefields, military parks, historical parks, historic sites, lakeshores, seashores, recreation areas, scenic rivers and trails, and the White House. Before you plan on raising an antenna on the South Lawn of the White House, there are some restrictions and some sites are not available for a ham portable operation. See <https://npota.arrl.org/index.php> for more information. Here in Nevada there are a number of different units, though surprisingly, we have had quite a few activations. The new Basin and Range National Monument doesn't even show up on their list yet. Other than the Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument, you shouldn't have any problems setting up a simple portable operation here in Nevada. As you travel around this summer, look for the opportunity to operate from a National Park unit. PS—No one has activated Devils Postpile National Monument down near Mammoth yet...

The annual camping trip is a good time to set up a portable operation. I remember dad picking camp sites with trees oriented properly and the correct distance apart to put up a 75 Meter dipole. He operated portable all over the Sierras, and on a couple of occasions was able to report lightning started fires from the backcountry. Mostly it was to keep in touch with friends on the ‘Fish

Net’ and other regular groups. A sling shot was all we needed to get a line over the trees for the antenna.

If camping is not your thing, some cruise lines allow some QRP operation from their ships. You will need to check with the individual cruise line to see what can and cannot be done. Several hams I know have escaped to distant islands and spent a couple of weeks snorkeling, enjoying exotic food and drink, and working pileups for both the ‘Islands on the Air’ program and even DXCC. Hawaii and other US possessions have no special licensing, and most other country's islands have fairly easy requirement to get a local license. More information on the ‘Islands on the Air’ program go to <http://www.usislands.org/> or <https://www.rsgbiota.org/>

For the more adventurous, the ‘Summits on the Air’ program encourages you to hike to the top of mountains and set up a portable operation. Light weight equipment and ease of setup is the key to this type of operation. The other hard part is to pay attention to the radio as the view from most mountains is spectacular. For activators, there are different scores depending on the difficulty and height of the mountain. In North America, you can get more information at <http://na-sota.org/>

VHF operation is always better from the top of the hill. With a ‘line of sight’ radio, the more you can see translates to the more you can work. The CQ VHF contest is coming up in the middle of July and a good location overlooking major metropolitan areas is a good way to rack up the points without having to worry about propagation. A mountaintop location in the Sierras overlooking the Central Valley and the Bay Area will be a good location for a portable operation.

Whatever approach you take to working portable, have fun and enjoy the challenges.

* * * * *

7QP RESULTS AND PARTICIPATION!

The 7QP contest on May 7 had some of the best participation here in Nevada in history! All 17 counties were activated and a number of club members got some award certificates! K6DGW took a first place in Nevada and Washoe County for low power CW. KG7QIA got a certificate for 1st place in Humboldt County for low power phone. KF7KTC took Lyon County for a 1st place with low

power phone. KG6DMI traveled to Lincoln County for a 6th place finish in the entire 7 call zone for a single county expedition. KG7SNE drove around the State in the Mobile Multi-single low power class for a 1st place certificate. K5RC had some help up at the Comstock Memorial Station to turn in the overall high score in the Multi-Multi category for a nice plaque for the wall of the hamshack!

SNARS sponsored a plaque for the High Score in Nevada and that was taken by the N7N operation which set up around the state. Here are their soapbox comments that will give you an idea of their operation:

“N7N was a three-man expedition to seven remote and sparsely populated counties in NV. We operated portable from four locations, two of which were on county lines, from W6GJB's two-station trailer, and mobile from W6GJB's pickup between those locations. A fifth county-line site was planned, but recent rain had turned the road to a sea of squishy mud. As a result, operation from NYE and LAN was mobile only. Each of the two portable stations consisted of a K3 with P3, KPA500, and KAT500, using a C3SS for 20M, a 40M dipole at about 40 ft, and an 80M inv Vee with apex at about 30 ft. The mobile rig was a KX3 with KXPA100 with 20M and 40M

Hamsticks. W6JTI and K9YC did most of the operating, W6GJB drove the truck towing the trailer, and designed and built the really nice trailer that made the trip possible.”

We had great support from club members during this contest. Thanks for these members who showed up and helped put Nevada and SNARS on the map and in lots of logs! They are **K5RC, K6DGW, KF7KTC, KG7DMI, KG7QIA, KG7QXE, KG7SNE, KG7ZSH, KK7YW, KM6CQ, W6US, W7SSB, W7VY, and WB2AWQ.**

Full results are at

<http://ws7n.net/7qp/new/Page.asp?Content=START&Page=1>

By Jim Shepherd W6US nvjims@gmail.com

MIKE'S MISSIVES CHAPTER SEVENTEEN

PART 97 - STATION LICENSEE RESPONSIBILITIES

97.103 –

(a) The station licensee is responsible for the proper operation of the station in accordance with the FCC Rules. When the control operator is a different amateur operator than the station licensee, both persons are equally responsible for proper operation of the station.

(b) The station licensee must designate the station control operator. The FCC will presume that the station licensee is also the control operator unless documentation to the contrary is in the station records.

(c) The station licensee must make the station and the station records available for inspection upon request by an FCC representative. When deemed necessary by a District Director to assure compliance with the FCC rules, the station licensee must maintain a record of station operations containing such items of information as the District Director may require in accord with 0.314(x) of the FCC Rules.

97.105 -Control Operator duties

(a) The control operator must ensure the immediate proper operation of the station, regardless of the type of control.

(b) A station may only be operated in the manner and to the extent permitted by the privileges authorized for the class of operator license held by the control operator.

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 12:00 PM)

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

THE SNARS NOON NET

The Noon Net is on 147.030 +and 147.150+, PL 123.0, and 147.210 + and 444.875+, PL 100.0 . The net is held weekly at 1200, Sunday afternoon. This 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 experience. The net is open to all hams. Questions will be answered and discussed by the more experienced hams on the Net.

* * * * *

NAME THAT RIG



(Answer on page 6)

SNARS CALENDAR

SNARS monthly meeting (breakfast!)

Saturday, July 2nd, 8:00 AM

Boomtown Casino Hotel, I-80 exit 4, Verdi NV

QCWA Nevada Chapter

Sat, July 9, 11am – 12pm

Famous Dave's Bar-B-Que, 4925 Kietzke Ln, Reno, NV

Technical Committee Meeting - SNARS

Wednesday, July 13th, 2016 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM PDT

**Washoe County Regional Emergency Operations Center,
5195 Spectrum Blvd Reno, Nevada 89512**

Board of Director's Meeting - SNARS

Wednesday, July 20th, 2016 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

**Washoe County Regional Emergency Operations Center,
5195 Spectrum Blvd Reno, Nevada 89512**

WELCOME NEW SNARS MEMBERS!

NEW MEMBERS FOR JUNE 2016 - Active Members 325

Gary	Bechtold	KI4VLH
Frank	Christ	KG6NLW
Donna	Karam	KC5FTN
Josh	Scott	KI7BPO

FUN STUFF FOR JUNE

Looking for some excitement on the bands during the summer? There's something for everyone on the air!

7/4-7/10 Monday 0001 - Sunday 2359

10-10 Spirit of 76 QSO Party AM CW FM PSK31 RTTY USB

<http://www.ten-ten.org/Forms/Spirit.pdf>

7/9-7/10 Saturday 1200 - Sunday 1200

IARU HF World Championship CW SSB

<http://www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-championship/>

7/16-7/17 Saturday 1800 - Sunday 2100 CQ World-Wide

VHF Contest All [http://www.cqww-](http://www.cqww-vhf.com/2015_cq_ww_vhf_contest_rules.pdf)

[vhf.com/2015_cq_ww_vhf_contest_rules.pdf](http://www.cqww-vhf.com/2015_cq_ww_vhf_contest_rules.pdf)

16-17 Saturday 1800 - Sunday 0600

North American QSO Party RTTY

<http://ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf>

For this month, due to an early input deadline, I used a different source:

<http://www.sk3bg.se/contest/c2016jul.htm>

Speaking of contests, three SNARS members participated in the ARRL Ten Meter Contest, December 2015, and entered their stations as affiliated with SNARS under the ARRL Affiliated Club Gavel Competition. See <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Clubs/Club%20Gavel%20Competition-V3.pdf> The SNARS members are Jim Shepherd W6US, Jon Fox KF7KTC and Dan Baker, KM6CQ

If you're not into contests, there's always DX to chase, lots in April! Some of the better DX coming up in April:

Jul 01 to Jul 10 Seychelles **S79V**

Jul 06 to Jul 08 Palau **T88MZ**

Jul 08 to Jul 14 Vanuatu **YJ0GA**

Jul 16 to Jul 17 Ceuta & Melilla **EG9LH**

Jul 18 to Jul 25 Swaziland **3DA0AY**

Visit <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html> for current info and full lists!



For those who missed the Reno HamSwap on June 11, here's the long view. More vendors around the far corner too! A good selection of vendors, on a gorgeous morning!

LOOKING FOR WRITERS and PHOTOS

If you were at the Field Day setup this weekend and took photos and/or have an interesting take on the FD goings-on, we would like to see some of them become part of the SNARS Cracklin' Static Summer Edition! Field Day was a great exposition of Ham Radio at its finest, and you can contribute to documenting some of it. Send your photos and stories to Howie WB2AWQ, Cracklin' Static Newsletter Editor at holden7471@msn.com

NAME THAT RIG (from pg 5)

From the very early 50s through the mid 60's, the name Gonset was synonymous with Amateur Radio mobile, and Civil Defense. Their Communicator series of radios were relatively inexpensive, easy to work on, and extremely

rugged. Many thousands of them went to Civil Defense organizations, and hams loved them. While they are commonly called "transceivers", they are actually "transmitter-receivers", as the transmit and receive sections are on separate modular chassis within the radio, and share little in common. The Communicator IV series shown on page five was available for 50Mhz, 144Mhz, and 220Mhz, and is by far the most "modern" of the Communicators. The earlier versions, sentimentally called "Gooneybirds" were more a large cube, and were made for 10, 6, and 2 meters. They all ran high level plate modulated AM, and the IV series had power outputs of 10 to 20W, depending on the band, while the II and III series ran 6 to 10W. Below is an early Communicator II, 6 meters and vintage mid 50s, in the "CD" yellow.



ARES NEWS

I need people to help with the Tahoe Rim Trail Run, a two day event in July 16, 17, camp out the 15th and 16th.

(Editor's note: contact Bob at www.wcares.us for this)

SKYWARN MEETING 5-12-16

Chris Smallcomb called our first SKYWARN planning meeting for 2016.

The team members present: Don N7WTR, Bob WA6MTY, Rick KF7KEM, Doug KA7FOO, Ron KE7VPY.

1. Chris reported that we all need to get ready for summer thunder storms.
2. He mentioned we may not see as heavy storms this summer as we had last year.
3. This is a La Nina winter coming up that typically has flooding capability, probably will start after labor day

4. The team voted to add Zahra W7ZMA to join the SKYWARN team
5. I proposed re-locating the BPQ system to NNMC or other location so we can use RMS Express from NWS to receive packet messages and emails.
6. Chris reviewed the Severe Weather Reporting Form and did see a need to make any changes.
7. Chris will send out the form to all SKYWARN volunteers again and Bob will make sure the EC's in our region send out the form to their members.
8. I mentioned that Zahra would like to coordinate SKYWARN recognition day so we will talk about it at our June planning meeting (Date TBD)
9. Attached is a copy of the Severe weather report so weather spotters can collect the data that National Weather Service requires.
10. We have compiled a chart of all of the counties in Nevada and California that NWS requires severe weather data from and on that list the repeaters that we believe reach that area so we will not have a net which usually remains on one repeater or linked repeaters. So be advised we will announce we will be moving to another frequency and that we will return to the frequency you are monitoring for further reports.
11. **SKYWARN TEAM** , Bob Miller WA6MTY, Doug Abramson KA6FOO , Rick Russell KF7KEM , Tony Marcin W7XM , Don Mahin N7WTR AECNWS, Vic Bausell K7VWB , Ron Hood KE7VPY, Zahra Anise W7ZMA
12. I would like to add more to our team that could be available evenings and weekends while most of us listed above can respond during the day. If you are interested please let me know.



SEVERE WEATHER REPORTING FORM DATE: _____

TIME:		Call:		Name:										Spotter #:		
Alpn	Chur	Crns	Doug	Eldor	Lasn	Lyon	Min	Modc	Mon	Nev	Prsh	Plac	Plum	Sier	Stor	Wsho
Location:															Elevation	
NOTE: The following selections require you to just check or circle the estimated parameter.																
WIND: MPH	30-44	45-57	58-74	75-89	90+	Estimated	Measured	FROM:	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW
RAIN:	Moderate (0.25-0.75"/hr)		Heavy (>0.75/hr)		Lightning Freq/Min		Flash Flooding	MOVING WATER	Depth	River Stream	Streets Underpass					
FOG and PARTICULATES		Fog	Freezing Fog	Dust Storm	Smoke	VISABILITY if impaired		>1/4 mile	< 1/4 mile	Zero						
HAIL: (measure long axis)	Pea 1/4"	Marble 1/2"	Penny 3/4"	Quarter 1"	Golf Ball 1 3/4"	Baseball 2 3/4"	Snow Fall >2"/hr	Snow Depth-in Inches:	ROAD CONDI- TIONS		Un-Plowed or Ice Rink					
DAMAGE:	Structures	Frame	Brick	Walls	Roof	Mobile Hms	Pwr Lines	Vehicles	Fences	Trees	Limbs					
NOTES:																

SEVERE WEATHER REPORTING FORM INSTRUCTIONS

This form has been developed to help with the collection of data as rapidly and consistently as possible for the reporting Weather Spotter as well as the receiving Net Control Operator and to provide the data to the Meteorologists.

NOTE: All spotters should obtain a copy of "Storm Spotting and Amateur Radio" by Michael Corey W5MPC and Victor Morris AH6WX from ARRL (\$22.95).

NOTE: The net control operator should ask for the data in exactly the same order as this form.

1. Fill in the time, call, name, spotter #
2. The next row, circle the spotters county.
3. Now enter the operator's location and elevation.

NOTE: The following selections require you to just circle, check or mark X in the estimated parameter for:

4. "WIND" speed in "MPH" and circle whether it is an estimate or measured?
5. If there is a "Dust Storm" or "Smoke" estimate the visibility (1/4 mile, 1/2 mile)
6. The wind direction "FROM" N, NE, E, SE, S, SW, W, NW .
7. Now select the "RAIN" amount "Moderate or Heavy", and Lightning frequency.
8. Circle if it is or Flash Flooding record the estimated "MOVING WATER" Depth
9. Is the rain affecting the Rivers/Streams or Streets Underpasses?
10. Is there Fog or Freezing Fog, Dust Storm or Smoke? Estimate the visibility (Zero, <1/4 mile, > 1/4 mile)
11. Is there "HAIL" (measure long axis) and circle the approximate size.
12. Record the rate of snow fall and record the Depth-in Inches
13. What are the "ROAD CONDITIONS" Un-Plowed or Ice Rink?
14. Do you observe any DAMAGE? (Check or X all that apply)
15. Add any additional NOTES if necessary.

Expanded full calendar of ARES events requiring communications, including contact info

EVENT 2016	DATE	DATE END	SPONSOR/ORGANIZER	COORDINATOR	CONTACT
Death Ride	7/9/16		Tahoe Amateur Radio Assn	Paul McCaffee	paul.mcafee@att.net
Tahoe Rim Trail	7/16/16	7/17/16	WC-ARES	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mty@gbis.com
Round Valley Walk/Run	8/6/16		Plumas ARC	Larry Trotter K16YUK	dltrotter@sbcglobal.net
Running With the Bears	8/20/16		Plumas ARC	Larry Trotter K16YUK	dltrotter@sbcglobal.net
Reno 5000-3	8/28/16		Dolan Auto Group	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mty@gbis.com
Tahoe 200	9/9/2016	9/13/16	WC-ARES	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mty@gbis.com
Tour De Tahoe	9/11/16		Tahoe Amateur Radio Assn	Paul McCaffee	paul.mcafee@att.net
Reno Air-Races	9/14/16	9/18/16	WC-ARES	Rick Russell KF7KEM	wa6mty@gbis.com
Edible Pedal 100	9/18/16		Sunrise Rotary Club	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mty@gbis.com

Bob Miller WA6MTY
 Amateur Radio Emergency Service
 Emergency Coordinator
 775 843-5952
www.wcares.us
www.wcares.us

A TELEVISION INTERFERENCE FIX

When I moved to Reno and set up “shop” on HF with my low/stealthy antennas, I had considerable difficulty with TVI when running 40 and, particularly, 80 meters. The interference on 20M and up was negligible to non-existent. We have DirecTV satellite, which we had back in NJ, where I had only occasional problems. The shack and antennas, and the TV system in NJ were quite far apart. Here in Reno, however, the feedlines from the satellite dish run in parallel and closely spaced to several of my coax feedlines from the shack, for a distance of about 40 feet.

Figuring it was a case of RF getting on the outside of the satellite cable, entering the converter, and overloading it, I decided to try a common-mode choke at the DirecTV converter box. The junk-box yielded up an Amidon FT240-43 toroid core (2.4 inch diameter, #43 ferrite mix). I simply took the 8 ft length of RG6 CATV cable between the TV outlet and the converter box and wound 7 turns of it through the ferrite core right at the converter box. Voila – no more TVI. That was 6 years ago.



The filter as wound. Nothing complicated but very effective in this case! Just don't try to wind the coax too tightly around the toroid.

Recently we moved things around inside the house, moving the TV and converter box to within 15 feet of the feedpoint of my most-used antenna, an end-fed half wave inverted L with the feedpoint and a very short counterpoise at ground level. The close parallel lines situation still remained. Still no TVI, any band, any antenna, any mode (OK, for me there's only one mode....but I did try SSB, and it's still clean!)

I have no idea if the particular toroid I used is the optimum for this purpose, nor do I much care, being a proponent of “If it ain't broke, don't fix it!” Ferrite toroids are available from a number of sources besides Amidon. Distributors, to name just a few: Digikey, Mouser, RFParts, Allied Electronics. Cores are made by a number of manufacturers including Amidon, Micro-Metals, and Palomar Engineering. A quick google will reveal lots of sources.

For ease of winding the coax through the core, the 2.4 inch diameter core is highly recommended! Smaller cores would be tough to wind.

It may not be your cure for TVI, but it's quick, inexpensive, and worth a try!



Board of Directors Meeting

June 15, 2016 - 6:00 PM

Washoe County Regional Emergency Operations Center
Board Room
5195 Spectrum Blvd, Reno

DRAFT MINUTES - To Be Approved on July 20, 2016

1. Call to order at 6:02 PM

Anthony Marcin, W7XM	Yes	Barry Bettman, K6ST	No	Rob Dunbar, NB6C	Yes
Bill Jones, AE7OX	Yes	John Byerly, N7ROJ	Yes	Steve Johnson, KS6A	Yes
Jim Shepherd, W6US	Yes				

Visitors
None

2. Approval of Minutes

- A. K6ST moved to approve the minutes from the May 18th Board of Directors meeting. The motion was seconded by W6US and the motion passed.
- B. The agenda was approved as presented.

3. Reports

A. President's Report -

1. Nothing to report.

B. Secretary Report

- a. Status Report, nothing to report at this time.
- b. No update on changing club from Chapter 81 to Chapter 82. Clubs charter expires in 2018. W7XM has started and will hand off to Secretary.
- c. Banking documents need signature updates.

C. Membership Coordinator

- a. Membership Status Report – There are currently 320 Members and membership will fluctuate as members renew.

D. Treasurer

- a. Balances as of May 31: Checking: \$6343 Savings: \$3,243.16 PayPal: \$1771 Trust Fund: \$10,203 for a total of \$23,396 Bank statements were handed out for everyone to review and confirm.
- b. The Ham Swap brought in \$609
- c. The clubs debit card had fraud occur. Bank has reimbursed club for unauthorized withdrawal.

E. Technical Committee - Report

- a. Power amplifiers are expected to arrive this Friday. The 2 meter PA's will be going to Rose and the other one will go to Peavine. The UHF PA purchase is on hold. Potential to receive 2 high split UHF machines, which can be used to replace Peavine and spare.
- b. N7ROJ has been trying to repair Kent's repeater that was damaged by the lightning strike.
- c. Winnemucca is asking when the link will be back up. The Tech committee is will get to it after all the repairs are complete on Ophir.
- d. Virginia Peak repeater is ready to be installed.

F. Control Operators / Trustee - Report

- a. No report was submitted by Peter DeBay or Pat Sheehan.

G. Events

- a. Field Day – Food lists have been prepared and will be purchased Friday before event. Park says we can have signs we just need to pickup after event. Everything seems to running smooth. W7XM has letters ready to go out to news outlets and public officials. Dave Mills will be running the GOTA station.

- b. Swap Meet – This swap went well. We had many sellers but not enough buyers. We will go back to having the event in May.
- c. Reno Mini Maker Faire – The club will have a booth at the Faire. Location is Idlewild park and will be held July 9th. We need volunteers to run the booth.

H. Education Team

- a. General Class going on and will end in a week.

I. Noon Net

- a. Wes is the new Net Manager and is running well. However, they are actively looking for more net control operators.

J. HF Team

- a. Initial meeting is schedule to occur in July.

4. New Business

- A. Blind membership – N7ROJ moved that the club should only charge \$10 for blind members. W6US seconded the motion, motion carried.
- B. W7XM would like to offer door prizes for field day. Grand prize will be Yaesu FT-60R. You will get a ticket when you show up and additional ticket for making contacts.

4. Next Meeting

- A. July 20 2016 - Wednesday at 6:00PM - Washoe Regional Emergency Operations Center

6. Public Comments

- A. Open for Comments - No Public Comments

7. Adjournment at 7:30 PM NB6C, N7ROJ