

Nevada County Amateur Radio Club Newsletter ncarc.org June 2017

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### **Officers and Ranch Hands**

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Webmaster AI6MC Cal McKitrick

Newsletter W8BIT Mark Graybill

#### **Club Net**

Tuesdays at 7:00pm 147.285 + offset PL 151.4 or 136.5 Members / Guests are encouraged to check in. After 2m Net: Informal 10m Net@ 28.453 USB

### Coffee Chat (Ham n' Coffee)

Thursdays, 8am at Valentina's Bistro 841 Sutton Way, Grass Valley

#### **License Exams**

At the Salvation Army Meeting Room 10725 Alta Street - Grass Valley Contact John Morris W6EXX jf-morris@usa.net

## Next Meeting Monday June 12, 2017

doors open 6:30pm, meeting at 7pm

#### NCARC SUPPORT OF BIG BROTHERS / BIG SISTERS BIKE RIDE

The Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Nevada County held their annual fund raising bike ride on Saturday, May 13. To support this bike ride, the NCARC provided radio communications for a couple of the more remote stations along the route. This was the 13th year the NCARC has supported this event and the organizers of the event have come to count on us to provide the communications which would be needed in the event of an injury or mechanical failure along the route. They also greatly appreciate the ability to track the progress of the riders and account for any of the riders who decide to change routes or even drop out of the ride.

This year the route was changed hoping to bring in more riders. In past years the most difficult portion of the 50 mile route was through the South Yuba River Canyon, following a single track hiking/bike trail for about 14 miles between the trail head off of Relief Hill Rd, up by the town of Washington, and the South Yuba Campground down by Edwards Crossing. This year the route had riders staying on Relief Hill Rd until they reached N. Bloomfield Rd at the old town of N.

Bloomfield and followed the road back to Nevada City.

We had three stations manned: the lunch stop at the trailhead on Relief Hill Rd, manned by Chuck, KI6CM; the South Yuba Campground, manned by Alan, KZ6B and Louis, KK6GJS; and Pioneer Park, manned by Walt, N6HNS, and Antonio, KK6YFS. We also had Dennis, W7BOK, monitoring our communications and relaying messages to the stations.

There were a couple of "situations" which came up, primarily due to the fact that there were some new volunteers from BB/BS manning some stations, and some confusion on the part of riders on the routes. The most worrisome situation involved two riders who were not familiar with the area and had wanted to return to Nevada City from the Alpha Rd waypoint rather than complete the route. There were given some incorrect information on how to return and then nobody knew where they had gone. They were finally tracked them down on the 50 mile route and they did complete the route.

Overall, the ride went well for everybody and the NCARC did a great job supporting the event.

Walt, N6HNS

# NEVADA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MINUTES

No minutes submitted for the last meeting.

#### **SHORT WAVES**

The wave-length used by H. Hertz in his original experiments was about 3 metres. The engineers who developed Hertz's discovery found that longer wave-lengths gave greater ranges, and from 1895 onwards it was considered that long waves were more suitable for long distance communication than short waves.

Both during and after the World War of 1914-1918, however, more attention was paid to short wave-lengths. The evolution of the **thermionic valve** had provided the radioengineer with new tools for both transmission and

reception—with it the generation of continuous waves down to wave-lengths of a few metres was a simple matter, while, at the same time its inclusion is wireless receiving sets as amplifier and detector had increased the sensitivity of such receivers a thousandfold.

About the same time wireless amateurs both in England and America began to explore the use of short waves for long distance communication. Three main conclusions were drawn: The first that short waves travelled exceedingly long distances with very small attenuation, so that comparatively low power stations were required to produce readable signals at the Antipodes. This characteristic could not have been predicted from the Austin formula and our previous knowledge of the behaviour of long waves.

Excerpt from "Wireless Telegraphy", Encyclopedia Britannica, 1939, edited by W8BIT

> Don't Forget: Field Day, June 24th-25th!

*Upcoming Hamswaps:* 

## Northern Nevada 12th Annual Swap Meet 17 June 2017, 7:30am to ???

Brad Hollander Ranch Minden, NV

http://www.w6thw.com/n7rca/main\_page.html From Sacramento area (about 2 hours) Go East on US 50 through South Lake Tahoe Past Casinosto highway 207 (Kingsbury Grade) Go north on 88 (left) to 395. Turn right (South) to Buckeye (traffic light) turn right, turn left on Bobcat look for Fire Truck with ladder and flag.

#### Western Placer Amateur Radio Club Hamfest 16 September, 2017

McBean Park 65 McBean Park (Highway 193) Lincoln, CA 95648 http://www.wparc.us

Talk-In: 147.300+ (PL 179.9) Contact: Kathryn Miller KJ6YCP