NEVADA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (www.ncarc.org)

NCARC MEETING Minutes: January 13, 2025 *Salvation Army, 10725 Alta Street, Grass Valley*

1.0 President called meeting to order at 7:02 PM
Pledge of Allegiance - see December 2025 meeting minutes for notes about the Pledge of Allegiance. During 2025, we ask a club member to lead the Pledge of Allegiance - contact Cal AI6MC before the meeting. Jim KN6NVQ led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2.0 Welcome to Guests, New Amateur Radio Operators, and Member Roll Call.
guests and/or new members introduce themselves and members introduce themselves (name/call sign). We had 27 attendees plus 3 on Zoom.

3.0 January Presentation - Martin AJ6OH presented Raspberry Pi and Ham Radio

Raspberry Pi (RPi) is a series of very small and inexpensive single board computers developed 12 years ago in the United Kingdom to encourage basic computer experimentation and tinkering with computers and software. RPi uses a Linux operating system (Raspberry Pi OS formerly known as Raspbian) and consists of the CPU and interfaces (and some memory). Display, keyboard, mouse, external memory, and power source must be added for functionality. RPi differs from a microcomputer in that it uses 5 volts instead of the 12 volts for microcomputers. KM4ACK has Build-A-Pi which is an extensive package of RPi applications for ham radio available for download. Martin demonstrated RPi use as a means to set up a WinLink mail server over packet radio with amazing capability and little hardware for emergency applications. YouTube has KM4ACK videos to add this low cost capability to your ham shack. Vara capability is coming as 3B, 4 and 5 are current versions. For example, RPi boards and kits are available on Amazon from $25 to $200.   Circuit board packaging may require heat sink for resilient operation and many ham radio applications are available: WSJT-X, weather satellite images, APRS, ham clock, SDR,, hot spots for DMR, C4FM, D-Star, etc.   Martin has extensive experience with this new capability and will be happy to help you get started.

4.0 Announcements

(1) Dues are $20. If you already paid $25, see Geoff KO6AKE for a refund. Net roll call for paid members begins in March 2025, but of course guests can always join the net after paid members are called.

(2) The 2025 budget will be discussed by the board at the February 3, 2025 zoom board meeting - all paid members are invited to participate. Board meeting minutes are on the website.

(3) January 18 is the ARRL VHF Field Day. This was discussed as a possible cub event but will not be, but individual participation is encouraged.

(4) January 25-26 is ARRL Winter Field Day. The club has permission to operate from the Salvation Army parking lot and authority to use W6DD call sign, or your own call sign. As with other club events, participation will be for fun and education and not serious contesting unless a member would like to track and submit all contacts (volunteer to Cal AI6MC). The meeting room will be open with rest rooms and initial interest suggests there may be 4 or more HF stations, satellite to make ISS contacts, and possibly a microwave demonstration. Bring your friends to see ham radio in action. The activities will begin after 8AM and go until afternoon as the band drops or members get tired.

5.0 Old Club Business

(1) The December Club Meeting Minutes were approved. Club meeting minutes are on the website.

(2) Ken (KA6SUB) presented a certificate thanking Chuck KI6CM for has past and present contributions to NCARC. Chuck was club treasurer for 12 years and is currently in charge of the VE program. We thank Chuck for his continuing support and participation.

7.0. New Club Business
- Membership, Treasurer: (entered as of this meeting)
  (38) 2025 paid members -- not 75 as reported in error
  account balance $5,449.56
- VE Report: next test February 15, 2025
- Repeater Report - no issues

- Net Report - Ken KA6SUB reports December had 75 check-ins, 863 check-ins in 2024 (January until the Christmas meeting)
- ARES Report - Peter N6ERL reports next in person meeting at the airport is 6 February, net check-ins each Thursday at 7 PM
- Media Report (website and Ham&Coffee) - contact Cal AI6MC if you are not receiving these emails
- Facebook Report - Phil W6PD no issues

8.0 Other Topics, Questions or any other discussion - none

9.0 Meeting closed at 8:04