

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

MEETING MINUTES: 7 pm, July 8, 2024 *Salvation Army, 10725 Alta Street, Grass Valley*
doors opened at 6:30pm - Zoom for this meeting started just before 7 - thanks to Peter N6ERL

The August Club meeting on August 12 is cancelled due to conflict with the Nevada County Fair

An Ice Cream Social with KA6SUB is providing Ice Cream and Board Members bringing the toppings was held following the July Club meeting!

1.0 President calls meeting to order at 7:02 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

2.0 Welcome to Guests, & New Amateur Radio Operators - 11 members, 1 new member/guest, 2 on Zoom

3.0 Attendees Roll call - Name and Call

4.0 Membership, Treasurer, & VE Report -Geoff Richards KO6AKE, as appointed by the Board, will complete the Treasurer and Membership Role for 2024. **Thank you Chuck KI6CM for all the work you provided the club as Treasurer, Membership Chairman, and VE Coordinator for many years. God speed with your medical treatments and we look forward to your quick return.**

Jeff KO6AKE is coming up to speed and will provide treasurer and membership reports in September. The club membership is thought to be 60 and the previous bank balance will decrease for minor expenditures for Field Day and the Nevada County Fair. The Fair entry fee was paid by the Salvation Army for 2024 and will be a discussion topic for future Board meetings.

The club needs a coordinator for VE - the ARRL certification process has specific requirements but if you are interested or already have a certification, please contact a Board member to indicate your interest.

5.0 July Presentation - Bryan Watson K06BZK, DEFCON 2024. DEFCON is a black hat, white hat, no hat hacker convention held annually in Las Vegas, Nevada. The first DEFCON took place in June 1993 and today many attendees at DEFCON include computer security professionals, journalists, lawyers, federal government employees, security researchers, students, and hackers with a general interest in software, computer architecture, hardware modification, conference badges, and anything else that can be "hacked". The event consists of several tracks of speakers about computer- and hacking-related subjects, as well as cyber-security challenges and competitions (known as hacking war games).

Bryan explained how the Information Technology Disaster Resource Center (ITDRC) supports emergency communications and how the hacker and disaster support volunteers are similar in thinking out of the box and responding to undefined conditions. Fortunately, the white hat hackers are helping reduce information technology risk while even black hat hackers inadvertently expose weaknesses in information technology systems. Attendance in Las Vegas during DEFCON days is **NOT RECOMMENDED** as all digital devices are placed at risk, including the credit cards in your wallet. DEFCON takes participants to the fault and anomaly technology edge with regards to risk, with computer devices, radio devices, and even physical security. Participants learn from greybeards and practice basic skills and complex techniques under simulated conditions.

Is DEFCON good or bad?? Depends on you viewpoint, but the USA is not alone with hackers and hacking is a worldwide reality in this century. As an aside, DEFCON is not unnoticed by US Government Agencies and has provided access to the arrest of wanted persons normally hiding in the woodwork.

6.0 Old Club Business

June 10, 2024 Club Meeting Minutes were approved.

7.0. Club Business

- Repeater Report - John AB6LI or Dan W6AI - repeaters working well
- Net Report - Ken KA6SUB - a backup net operator is still needed - contact Ken KA6SUB
- ARES Report - Peter N6ERL - the next meeting will test out the airport antenna on 70 cm -- Peter N6ERL will provide more details to ARES members
- Media Report (website and Ham&Coffee) - Cal AI6MC - keep up to date with the Ham&Coffee email
- Facebook Report - Phil W6PD - Ken KA6SUB has posted new material on the website

- June 22-23 ARRL Field Day - Cal AI6MC - Cal reports a fun event with 4 stations, 3 members made their first HF contact, the ISS was contacted, FT-8 contacts were made on 10 meters, and Cal flew a drone. Bear sightings were as frequent as UFOs.
- Aug 7-11 Nevada County Fair - Ken KA6SUB. Ken has slots open on the signup sheet. The entry fee was paid by the Salvation Army (THANK YOU SALVATION ARMY). Volunteer's parking and entry will be paid by the club. John KE6FIQ will pickup the trailer and assist during setup - See John if you can assist as the trailer must be unpacked at the church before taken to the fairgrounds and more hands are needed for this task on Monday before the fair. The repacking of the trailer will be required after the fair so yet another opportunity to support the club is available.

8.0 Other Topics, Questions or any other discussion

Ken KA6SUB is interested in setting up Special Interest Groups (SIG) to Elmer various topics such as CW, FT-8, etc. See Ken KA6SUB for more information.

9.0 Close of the Meeting 8:36 --- Ice Cream followed - thanks Ken and topping providers!

Note:

a. Room will be open for 15 or 20 minutes for one-on-one discussions

b. Members with Events or other notes for future Agendas, please email wa6nrg@yahoo.com