



Nevada County Amateur Radio Club

# Nuggets

Nevada County Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

[ncarc.org](http://ncarc.org)

February 2018

Join us on Facebook, search for W6DD

submissions: [ncarc.news@gmail.com](mailto:ncarc.news@gmail.com)

## Officers and Ranch Hands

President	AI6MC	Cal McKittrick
Vice-Pres.	N6ERL	Peter Mason
Secretary	W8BIT	Mark Graybill
Treasurer	KE6FIQ	John Hart
Director	KI6CM	Chuck Murphey
Director	AA7C	Al Helberg
Past-Pres.	N6HNS	Walt Hammontree
Repeater	AB6LI	John Everson
	KD6GVO	John Yarber
	W6AI	Dan Patterson
ARES	K6TM	Richard Vizcarra
Webmaster	AI6MC	Cal McKittrick

**Next Meeting:**  
**Monday Feb 12, 2018**  
**doors open 6:30pm, meeting at 7pm**

## **PRESENTATION ON QUARTZFEST BY CAL AI6MC and JOHN KE6FIQ**

Cal and John took the trek down to Quartzite to take part in one of the biggest ham radio events in the nation. Other attendees include Randy K7AGE, Jeri Ellsworth AI6TK, And Bob Brodovsky K6UDA. Come hear what fun and activities there were among hams and celebrity hams in one of the biggest catboxes in the United States!

## **2018 DUES DUE**

If you haven't had a chance to renew your membership for 2018, now is the time. Contact club treasurer John Hart, KE6FIQ to arrange payment.

## **NEVADA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MINUTES**

The January meeting of the Nevada County Amateur Radio Club was opened at 7:02pm by Cal, AI6MC. The new club officers and the board were introduced to the 26 attendees of the meeting, including our back-up board member Ray, who has graciously agreed to take a hand in our planning for the club.

## **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  
28.453MHz, USB, This is in the Tech sub-band.

## **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](mailto:jf-morris@usa.net)

Cal presented a new banner that he had made for the club, which is very large and striking and should draw attention well at several events where we represent ourselves each year.

Bert KE6GRM, Dennis W7BOK, Jeremiah W6DLO, Jon WA6TNC, and Walt N6HNS received special recognition from the club for their service. Walt was recognized for his long term service as a fill-in club officer and resource to the working officers of the club in maintaining the club, recognizing its traditions, and maintaining its operation through times of low volunteerism and membership in the past. The others were recognized for their work in hosting the club's nets, acting as net controllers for our regular nets and maintaining that on the air lifeline of communications for us all. We sincerely appreciate their past and ongoing service.

Cal suggested a club-sponsored 2m QSO party with check-ins to be performed on the club's repeater frequencies of 147.015 and 147.285. The idea was taken on for further discussion of details and the setting of a date.

Additional discussion of the project to record a program on the 30th anniversary of the 49er Fire with those who were directly involved, the impact of the fire itself and the impact of amateur radio during that emergency were discussed.

At this point, attendees introduced themselves.

A new repeater, KI6FEO/R at 146.925-PL71.9, was announced by its operator. He said it is an open repeater, and is working on adding Echolink, IRLP, and WIRES-X protocols to it for remote connectivity. He welcomes all to give it a try and let him know how it is working for them.

The main program of the meeting was a presentation on the local repeater system by John, AB6LI.

John reminded us to get right up and speak into the mic when we address the repeater. This gets us the best possible audio, which encourages others to join in the conversation. He also recommended that when you put your call sign out on the repeater when looking for a contact, that you hang around for a bit to give the other party a chance to come back to you. They may be monitoring the repeater while doing something else, and if they don't come back immediately, it doesn't mean they're not there and ready to talk to you, if you give them a chance to disentangle themselves from whatever they're doing on their end and get to the mic.

If anyone finds problems with the repeaters, John can be reached at [AB6LI@yahoo.com](mailto:AB6LI@yahoo.com).

He talked about the layout of our local repeaters, with inputs at Litton and Osborne Hill locally. There are two PL tones used, with PL 151 used at Osborne Hill, and PL136 used at Litton. Also, 147.015 is located on Osborne Hill. If you are not coming in strong on the repeater, or otherwise seem to have problems, you may try changing PLs to get the other input to the repeater.

(ed.-I have two memories for each, with each of the PLs in side by side memory locations programmed into my radio, so a one-step twist of the knob will take me from one PL to the other.)

John also reminded us to be wary of inexpensive electronics such as USB chargers, LED lights, and Wi-Fi devices that can introduce interference into our homes. He gave a demonstration of an LED light bulb saturating the input of a radio. When the light was off, the HT was able to receive normally.

When the LED light was on, the HT was deaf. Take care of the electronics you bring into your home to avoid this problem.

The meeting was closed at 9pm.

Respectfully submitted by NCARC Secretary Mark Graybill, W8BIT

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### VISIT THE NCARC WEBSITE FOR OUR EVENT CALENDAR

The NCARC website now has an event calendar you can easily check to keep yourself in sync with club events. It can be found at URL: <http://www.ncarc.org/event-calendar.html>

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### Nevada County Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES)

Nevada County ARES welcomes all amateurs to the weekly net on the W6DD repeater:

**Thurs at 7:30pm, 147.285 + offset PL 136.5 or 151.4**

As a member of ARES, you will make a difference in our community. To find out more about becoming a member of ARES, contact Cal AI6MC, or visit the Nevada County ARES website:

<https://ares387.wordpress.com/>

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### Hamswap!

The SFARC Hamswap in Loomis will be on Saturday March 18th, 7am to noon. Free to buyers, this hamswap is the first of the year and includes a donut and coffee sale table on sight. There will be a drawing, a special lunch deal at Taylor's, famous for their shakes and burgers, and the SFARC club table with Elmer Tours and radio demonstrations.

Talk in on W6EK/R 2m, 146.530- PL 162.2

More information at <http://w6ek.org/>

#### GOOD NEIGHBORS



Want some? I can hook you up!