



Nevada County Amateur Radio Club

Nuggets

Nevada County Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

ncarc.org

March, 2017

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submissions: ncarc.news@gmail.com

Officers and Ranch Hands

President	K6LRL	Larry Latta
Vice-Pres.	N6HNS	Walt Hammontree
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	KD6GVO	John Yarber
	W6AI	Dan Patterson
ARES	K6TM	Richard Vizcarra
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 March 13, 2017
doors open 6:30pm, meeting at 7pm

FEBRUARY MEETING NOTES

Since the club is still without an official Secretary, the following is an entirely unofficial account of the events of February's meeting. Which is OK, because, to the knowledge of your intrepid reporter, no official business occurred at that meeting. Hopefully we will have an officially elected Secretary soon.

KEN WO6H CELEBRATES 30 YEARS IN NCARC

Ken, official keeper of Shaggy Dog stories, announced that he has now been in the club for 30 years. He was originally licensed in April of 1942, just in time to get shut down in amateur operations for WWII.

FEBRUARY MEETING ATTENDANCE STRAINS BUILDING WALLS

The attendance at the February meeting was at least 48 by the potentially erroneous count of your newsletter editor, including 6 prospective licensees. The room was able to contain us, but only barely so.

WINLINK PRESENTATION

Cal, AI6MC, kicked off the evening's presentations with one on WINLINK, a ham-

radio linked email system. It takes advantage of both the internet and over the air amateur radio connectivity to provide reliable communications no matter the circumstances.

More information available at:
<http://www.winlink.org/>

GO-PACK PRESENTATIONS

Following the WINLINK presentation, we had very informative presentations on Go-packs, that is, portable station setups that allow easy operation in the event of emergencies or other conditions where a normal base station or mobile station will not serve.

Grover, K7TP, showed us compact "magnetic loop" antennas that he uses, as well as a 1/2 wave end fed wire antenna. He had a "Rack Pack", that is, a rucksack with a built-in equipment rack suitable for mounting radios, power supplies, antenna tuners, etc. for easy packing along off-road. He presented a bluetooth dongle for a cellphone to radio connection, and a number of Android applications including DroidPSK for digital comms via an Android device. For a wideband receiver, he showed us a Nooelec SDR receiver dongle, which fits into a USB port, is smaller than a key fob and can pick up practically everything from 25 to 1700 MHz, all for about \$20 online.

<http://nooelec.com/>

Jeffrey, W6JP, then gave us a presentation of his packable radio gear that he uses for SOTA operations (Summits on the Air, where operators activate mountain summits, see more at <http://w6-sota.org/>) and satellite operations. It was a very interesting presentation with lots of equipment and options that he uses for his work, from a pair of FT-817s for satellite work to a KX-3 with options for CW work from mountain tops, including portable antennas, with many tips and tricks learned from his extensive experience (including putting a sock over the microphone to cut wind noise during voice communications.)

He clearly demonstrated the maxim of getting out and doing portable operations to

know what you need to know before the time comes that you're forced into that position by circumstances.

NEVADA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MINUTES

There were no minutes submitted for the last meeting.

FARADAY'S IGNORANCE, THE VIEW OF ELECTRICITY FROM 1861

The following excerpted from *Wells's Natural Philosophy*, David A. Wells, A.M., 1861:

"The terms 'electric fluid' and 'electric current' which are frequently employed in describing electrical phenomena, are calculated to mislead the student into the supposition that electricity is known to be a fluid, and that it flows in a rapid stream along the wires. Such terms, it should be understood, are founded merely on an assumed analogy of the electric force to fluid bodies. The nature of that force is unknown, and whether its transmission be in the form of a current, or by vibration, or by any other means, is undetermined.

In a discussion which took place some years since at a meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, respecting the nature of electricity, Professor Faraday expressed his opinion as follows:—"**There was a time when I thought I knew something about the matter; but the longer I live, and the more carefully I study the subject, the more convinced I am of my total ignorance of the nature of electricity.**"

'After such an avowal as this,' says Mr. Bakewell, 'from the most eminent electrician of the age, it is useless to say that any terms which seem to designate the form of electricity are merely to be considered as convenient conversational expressions.'"

(Boldface mine. -W8BIT)

Have fun till next month, and send any snippets and bits to ncarc.news@gmail.com

Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club presents:

Hamfest 2017

Saturday, March 18, 2017

Historic Loomis Train Depot

First swap of the Year!



Drawings, Free Parking, Great Seller Spots, Food & Drink available. Last 2 years were fantastic, 2017 should be even better!

Come on out and have some fun, talk with buddies and enjoy the swap more info at: w6ek.org



California (Loomis) — Mar 18 **D F H R T V**
7:30 – 11 AM. *Spr:* Sierra Foothills ARC. Historic Loomis Train Depot Plaza, 3640 Taylor Rd. *Tl:* 145.43, 223.86 (both 162.2 Hz). *Adm:* Free. www.w6ek.org.



Directions:

Located Northeast of Sacramento or Southeast of Auburn, off Interstate 80.

Loomis Exit off I80 - Horseshoe Bar Road
Go NNW to the Taylor Road stoplight.

Follow Signs to Buyer's parking.

Seller's go straight at the stoplight, then turn into the Seller's parking area.

Talk in on W6EK/r 145.430 pl 162.2Hz

CQ Hamfest - CQ Hamfest - CQ Hamfest - CQ Hamfest - CQ Hamfest - CQ Hamfest