

# SIERA BEACON

News for the SIERA Membership, Carson Valley, NV

July 2016

**July Meeting**, Saturday, July 2, at 1 p.m., at the United Methodist Church, 1375 Centerville Lane, Gardnerville. We'll have a post-mortem of The Pony, Field Day, and the Alta Alpina Bicycle Marathon. We discovered a lot about propagation across Nevada. Also, our collapsing antenna disaster at Field Day taught important lessons about delegation of tasks as well as getting over the shock and moving on to solving the problem. This meeting is going to be a humdinger, so bring your ideas so we can do it better next year.

## ***FIELD DAY 2016 Minden Airport Carson Valley***



Greg Moore in the trailer



Tom Tabacco and guest



Bob Williams and guests

Photos by Billie Jo McAfee, KI6ZHM

**Speaking of Field Day, Carol and Bill Massey** NV7YL/K7NHP came all the way from Dayton to run the GOTA station with **Greg Moore** KG7DMI. Afterward, Bill regaled us with stories from his years as a HAM. Here he is in Greg's trailer, relaxing with visitors in Greg's trailer.



**Alta Alpina Bicycle Marathon:** Sheila Clement, KA7AJQ, announced on the VHF Net last Tuesday that Alta Alpina Bicycle Marathon organizers were very happy to use SIERA's 147.330 repeater. Many Alta Alpina members have gotten their radio licenses in order to help with communications. Also, DCART members camped out at the bottom of Kingsbury to help evacuate injured or sick cyclists.

**MANY THANKS ARE IN ORDER:**

... to **Greg Moore** for the dozens of tasks, ideas, and gear he brought to this year's Field Day. Full of energy and positive attitude, Greg made the event so much more than it has been for many years.

... to the crew (**J.D. Fowler AD7CD, Tom Tabacco KE7NCJ, Jeff Cauhape K7BCV, Greg Moore**) who met several times at **Bob and Debbie Williams'** K7VOC/KC6RIC to outfit the trailer, which worked beautifully, and the beam antenna, which met a bad end at Field Day. Come to the meeting to learn the details.

... to the many volunteers who helped at Field Day by either setting up, breaking down, or making contacts. Again, come to the meeting to find out how we did against HAMS across the country.

...to **Jeff Brown** and the **Churchill Amateur Radio Society** for the use of their 147.345 (PL123) repeater during The Pony. This repeater makes it possible to eliminate relays in this area.

... to SIERA Webmaster **Don McRoberts, W3DRM**, for posting all of our newsletters, past and present, to <http://www.cvhams.com/>. A HAM in Reno recently contacted our President about something he read in The Beacon, *which was posted on the website!*

... and to **Jeff Cauhape K7BCV** for resizing the photos so that the The Beacon could come to you all via a very fnoocky Yahoo mail system.

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: **HAM Breakfast and Lunch:** The Tail Dragger at the Minden-Tahoe Airport always :  
: serves up the best breakfast and friendliest hospitality in Carson Valley. Come join us :  
: every fourth Saturday 8 a.m. It's another chance to meet some HAMS. :  
: .....

: And if once a month isn't enough for you, come to Jethro's on Kimmerling every :  
: Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. Again, friendly waitresses and HAMS, and awe-inspiring BBQ. :  
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**June Meeting:** Christy Ramsey gave an enthusiastic talk about **ComputerCorps, located at 550 Mallory Way #175 in Carson City.** The organization takes donated technical hardware and teaches volunteer workers how to refurbish computers. These are then sold at rock-bottom prices to the public. Volunteers earn their own computers after 48 hours of labor. They get credits for upgrades, repairs, and parts; and letters of recommendation to add to their resumes. So if you have any unused technical equipment, take it to ComputerCorps.

**Next HAM exam:** There's still time to study for the next local HAM VEC exam, **Saturday, July 21, at 9 a.m.** at the Shepherd of the Sierras Church, behind Best Buy on Topsy Lane. If you can't make this date, aim for September 17th or November 19th.

**Here's a complete index of all ARRL Newsletters:** <http://www.arrl.org/ares-el?issue>  
**and a link to ARRL contest updates:**  
<http://www.arrl.org/contests/update/?issue=2016-06-15>

## **Happy Birthday:**

**June Bennett N7OWV** celebrated her 93rd birthday while following the Pony Express Re-Ride. According to Carroll Massey, June says this might be her final year following the rider. She may work a home base station from now on.



## **From the Archives:**



Linda Smith W1FE found this great action shot from June 24th 1982, showing Bob Moore mounting a horse during the Pony Express Re-ride. Ed Atencio is on the right. Linda also learned that Bob Moore rode in last year's Pony and is well into his 90s. You know, if riding in the Pony Express Re-Ride across Nevada won't kill a person, what in the heck will?

**The NV7CV Repeater is Phenomenal:** Jeff and Sue Cauhape K7BCV/KI7CTT drove out to Simpson Pass to check it out for The Pony. Jeff threw the mag mount antenna on the Jeep and prepared to check signals from nearby repeaters. Sue looked across the mountains to the west and wondered if she could reach NV7CV on Leviathan Peak. The radio was already tuned to it, so she grabbed the mike. NV7CV's 'voice' rang out loud and clear. Then Brad Smith WT6B answered. Jeff was astonished. Sue shrugged. "Well yeah! I can practically see it from here."

Well, that's life in the fast lane. Please send The Beacon your news and photos to [scauhape2002@yahoo.com](mailto:scauhape2002@yahoo.com).

73s everybody!