

SIERA BEACON

News for the SIERA Membership, Carson Valley, NV

November 2016



Jon Hofmann, AG7BY, earned his Tech, General, and Extra licenses all during the September HAM exam. That's enough to make you a legend, Jon.

Thank you to all the HAMS in the area who helped spread vital information about the many fires that resulted from high winds coming ahead of a string of storms over the Sierra Nevada. Natalie Sherrick, N7JKM, sent out the word to anyone with stock/horse trailers to help evacuate dozens of horses from the Washoe/Little Valley wildfire south of Reno, NV. Bob Williams, K6VOC, Brad Smith, WT6B, and Daryl Haines, KE7HKD, monitored news media and other HAMS' reports to answer questions from those who couldn't receive up-to-the-minute reports. Many in the Tahoe basin relayed information about the fire near Camp Richardson and Emerald Bay. While this was not an official emergency call-out or exercise, HAMS responded and performed well.



We have been invited to the TARA Christmas Party, Dec. 4 at 5:30 p.m. at the Carson Valley Inn in Minden, \$15/person. Four-entrée dinner, door prizes and surprises. Catch-up with your old friends from South Lake Tahoe.



Bright Ideas: Greg Moore, BG7DMI, is interested in putting together a couple of foxhunts. One would cover a one-mile radius in the desert east of Johnson Lane in Minden. The second would be a wider hunt among the streets of Minden-Gardnerville. The first foxhunt may be combined with a HAM swap meet at Jeff and Sue Cauhape's house. Anyone interested can contact Greg or Jeff.

Debbie Williams, KC6RIC, is interested in starting a net for the Ladies. This was mentioned in the previous Beacon. If anyone is interested in doing this, let Debbie know.

People interested in these ideas can talk to Greg or Debbie at the next General Meeting.

Next Meeting: Saturday, November 5th, at 1 p.m., at Fire Station #12 on Sunrise Rd. Gordon Moseley will present our Tech Talk. Ben Echavarria will bring cookies.

October Meeting: Austin Cathey, KE7DZY, showed us the bug-out kit he and Jeremie Cathey, KE7IYP, put together to provide useful and needed items to sustain them should they be called out to help with disaster relief. He gave this presentation at a CERT meeting years ago, hoping it would inspire people to think about putting together a similar kit. He passed around a list of items in each container on a wheeled carrier he used. Here's the list:

Water: One gallon per person per day, two quarts for drinking, 2 for food/sanitation.

Food: Three-day supply non-perishable food for people and pets, special needs - baby/elderly.

First Aid: One kit each for home and car. Bandages/gauze pads, safety pins, soap/wipes, latex gloves, sunscreen, scissors, tweezers, needle, antiseptic, thermometer, petroleum jelly, tongue blades, non-prescription drugs - pain reliever, anti-diarrhea med, antacid, laxative, allergy med; wrist blood pressure device.

Tools: Mess kits/utensils, battery/wind-up solar radio, flashlight/candles, extra batteries, can opener, utility knife, fire extinguisher (small ABC type), tube tent, pliers, tape, compass, matches in waterproof container, aluminum foil, plastic storage containers, plastic bags, signal flare, paper/pencil, needles/thread, medicine dropper, shut-off wrench for gas and water, whistle, plastic sheeting/tarp, emergency preparedness manual/map of area to locate shelters.

Sanitation: toilet paper, Towelettes/Wet Ones, soap, feminine supplies, personal items (comb/brush, razor, etc.), plastic garbage bags/ties, plastic bucket with lid, disinfectant, chlorine bleach, tooth brushes, toothpaste, dental floss.

Clothing/Bedding: at least one complete change of clothing/footwear per person, sturdy shoes/boots, rain gear, blankets/sleeping bags, hat/gloves, thermal underwear, sunglasses.

Special Items (for infants, elderly, adult meds): heart/high blood pressure meds, insulin, prescription drugs, denture needs, contact lenses/supplies, extra eyeglasses. Games and books. Cash: \$200 in \$1's, \$5's, and \$10's.

Important Family Documents: (keep all records in waterproof/portable container) will, insurance policies, contracts, deeds, stock/bonds, passports, social security cards, immunization records, bank account numbers, credit card numbers/companies, birth/marriage/death certificates, important telephone numbers and family contacts.

This list is just a suggestion. Customize your evacuation gear according to your desires.

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HAM Breakfast and Lunch: The Tail Dragger at the Minden-Tahoe Airport always serves up a great breakfast and the 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. This is getting to be a popular weekly get-together, so come and join us.



During the VHF Net 10/11, K3VO announced an ARRL DXCQ contest on October 29-30. The exchange number is 593. For more details, visit this link:

<http://www.cqww.com/>

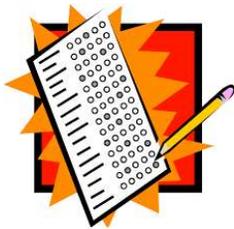
SIERA Nets:

VHF Net is every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. on NV7CV repeater 147.33MHz, PL123.0.

HF Net is every Tuesday at 8 p.m. on 3982KHz.

Brad Smith's (WT6B) **Watering Hole** is every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. on NV7CV 147.33, "*discussing questions and issues pertaining to amateur radio.*"

National Traffic Service Net is every Sunday at 6:15 p.m. on 3945KHz.

**Radio NET**[®]

Next HAM exam: The next local HAM licensing exam will be **9 a.m., Saturday, November 19**, at the Shepherd of the Sierras Church, behind Best Buy on Topsy Lane. You'll get another chance to take the test in December. Also, if you would like to take a class or join a Ham Cram to help you in your studies, please contact Jeff Cauhape, K7BCV, at j_cauhape@yahoo.com. If you plan to take the exams, please contact Dale Anderson, K7VS, at k7vs@charter.net.



SIERA General Meeting Minutes, October 1, 2016

Called to order at 1:11 p.m.

Introductions: Ray Corbin was Austin and Jeremie Cathay's guest, Stephen Poehls, KF7NOC, and Jon Hofmann, AG7BY were visitors. Jon recently earned his Tech, General, and Extra licenses all during the September HAM exam. Congratulations, Jon.

Sean McKimney - KI7GJP was welcomed as SIERA's newest member. He has joined our VHF nets as a guest for several weeks and is now officially on the roster.

Meeting minutes: read and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Ending balance from August 2016, \$8102.54; deposits from membership dues, sale of hats and patches: 61.50; interest: .07; withdrawals .00, Ending Balance for September, 2016: \$8164.11. Report was read and approved.

Announcements: We still have SIERA caps (\$15) and badges (\$5) available.

DCART: To explain why DCART needs fingerprinting and background checks on all volunteers, Jeff Cauhape, K7BCV, said that the 911 Call Center is a locked facility and only officially vetted personnel can enter. There is a HAM station set up in the facility already.

Business:

Trailer: Bob will make a list of various projects we can do for the trailer and their costs to present at the November meetings.

Nominating Committee: The Board asked the membership if present officers should remain status quo, unless someone wants to be an officer. J.D. Fowler said he didn't want to be on the Board anymore. Ed Eggert said that he would like to be added as a Director. This was approved by the membership.

State Paperwork/Bank Change: Bob researched what SNARS, TARA, and other Nevada clubs have done and found that they use their POB's instead of a physical address, as was required by the State in our case. There is no blank on the form for a separate physical address that is not a mailing address. It was approved that we would use the POB mailing address and Ben Echavarria's physical address as a backup if the State wouldn't allow us to follow other club's examples. These decisions were explained and approved by membership.

November meeting location: Because the November meetings will conflict with the Church's craft faire, Bob Williams will contact Dale Anderson about meeting in the church used for the HAM exams. If this works out, perhaps this can become our permanent meeting location because it is at a more convenient spot for SIERA members who live in Carson City, Reno, and Sparks.

Ben Echavarria will also contact the Elks Club on Kimmerling about their club room. After the next meeting's location is secured, Sue Cauhape will send out an email blast.

Ben Echavarria will bring cookies for next month's meeting.

SIERA General Meeting Minutes, October 1, 2016 – continued

Austin Cathey volunteered to arrange the Post-holiday party, perhaps using Jethro's again.

The meeting broke for an extended social time.

Austin Cathey's Tech Talk: Bug-Out Kit for responders to disaster emergencies.

Austin brought his bug-out kit, a wheeled carrier outfitted with small plastic boxes containing various assortments of items needed to survive evacuation of an affected area or in assisting first responders with radio communications. He passed around a list of what was in each box and said this is to get us started thinking about what to bring with us for a few days. (The list is attached.)

Many in the audience added suggestions. Stephen Poehls emphasized that water is the most important thing to think about. We can live longer without food, but water, even from a questionable source, is better than dying without it.

Austin suggested that we check out the following websites for more information about survival:

<https://survivalblog.com/>, the website for author/survivalist Wesley Rawls.

<http://beprepared.com/>, the website for Emergency Essentials, a commercial supply source.

<http://www.simplepump.com/>, the website for a local manufacturer of a hand pump to use with a household well.

Meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

Do you have a news item, a question, a suggestion, pictures and information about a HAM event? How about a review of that new piece of equipment you bought; or tell us about how you kludged a bunch of stuff into a workable antenna/tuner setup. Maybe you had a great radio adventure or contact that you'd like to tell everybody about. *The Beacon* would love to print it. Please send it to: scauhape2002@yahoo.com.



73s everybody