

SIERA BEACON

News for the SIERA Membership, Carson Valley, NV

December 2016

HAM Swap: Vendors and buyers came from as far away as Yerington. Lots of people found little treasures to add to their collections. And lots of folks just hung around the Cauhape workshop, where our HAM Swap was held, to rag chew and drink coffee. Thanks to all who dropped by with stuff to sell, money to buy, or just to talk about radios. It was a fun day, especially since the weather decided to cooperate.



Field Day Results Are In:

According to *QST Magazine*, our club, NV7CV, had 120 contacts, power multiplier of two, and 990 points over all.

So where does this put us? In Class 2A, we are 288th out of 376 in national standings. This puts us in the bottom quarter. However, if you look at just the stations in the Nevada Section, it looks a little different.

We came in first among the Nevada groups in Class 2A

Of the seventeen Nevada stations that participated in Field Day, three were in our 2A Class:

NV7CV	120 QSOs	Power=2	16 operators	990 total points
Lyon City ARES	76 QSOs	Power=2	26 operators	752 total points
Pahrump AR Rep	133 QSOs	Power=2	19 operators	744 total points

So in our class, we got the most points while using the fewest operators. We can give everyone involved our thanks and a round of applause!!

Jeff K7BCV

Next Meeting: Saturday, December 3, at 1 p.m., at the United Methodist Church on Centerville Lane in Gardnerville. Gordon Moseley will present our Tech Talk on the Vintage Radio Museum in Windsor, Conn.





Happy Thanksgiving, Everyone!

Despite all the craziness of this year, our aches and pains, ups and downs, and ins and outs, there's still a lot to be grateful for. Have a safe holiday and, for no darned good reason, just throw back your head and laugh!



DCART Earthquake Exercise: During the November 21st DCART meeting, Sheila Clement KA7AJQ led eight HAMs in a tabletop simulation of how DCART members should respond after an earthquake hits Carson Valley. It provided excellent practice in a call-out net to learn who is able to provide communications support from a home base or would be willing to deploy to the field. In the exercise, Sheila explained how to fill out the logs and message forms that the County uses during such crises. It was also a good time to ask questions about redundancies between the various agencies, such as the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), CERT, the 911 Call Center, CM11, DCART, and SIERA.

This reminded us of what we would need to do personally in the hours after a widespread disaster. In this scenario, a 6.8 earthquake damaged the Cradlebaugh Bridge that crosses the Carson River on Hwy 395, thus closing it to traffic. A landslide on Jack's Valley Rd. north of Genoa made that road impassable. Those working in Carson City must find alternate routes to return home in Carson Valley. Spouses at home need to know how to operate their radios. Neighbors need to be notified, either with signage or house-to-house visits, that HAMs can send messages to relatives outside the affected area. HAMs deployed to field would need to consider not only their power and equipment needs, but how they would keep warm in the mixed rain and snow that was reported falling during this scenario.

These are all important issues to think about. For instance, do you have stabilized fuel to power your generators? Jeff Cauhape K7BCV suggested using Pri-G stabilizer for gas and Pri-D for diesel. It lasts a lot longer than Stabil, which now lasts only about six months. Do you have a blanket, water, and food in your vehicle?

Also, Sheila said that the number of HAMs in DCART will be spread pretty thin in one of these emergencies. So, if any of you are interested in joining DCART, you'll need to be finger-printed and take a few ICT (Incident Command Training) courses online at <http://www.arrl.org/emergency-communications-training> or the 100, 200, and 700 classes from the Kentucky ICS.

We have been invited to the TARA Christmas Party, Sunday, 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.

Our own SIERA post-holiday celebration will be held Saturday, January 7 from noon to about 2 p.m. "ish" at Jethro's on Kimmerling in Gardnerville, NV. There will be good food and fun raffle prizes.

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.

The Noon Net is daily on repeater 147.55MHz PL123.



We're still going to have our monthly Saturday breakfast this weekend at the Taildragger Café at the Tahoe-Minden Airport. Happy trails to those who will be traveling during the holiday. See you when you get back.

Breakfast and Lunch Get-togethers:

HAM Breakfast: 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 those radio voices face-to-face.

HAM Lunch: 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 awe-inspiring BBQ. This is getting to be a popular weekly get-together, so come and join us. We're taking over the place.



Happy Birthday
Jeff Cauhape!

Please send your news items to: scauhape2002@yahoo.com.

73s Everybody!