



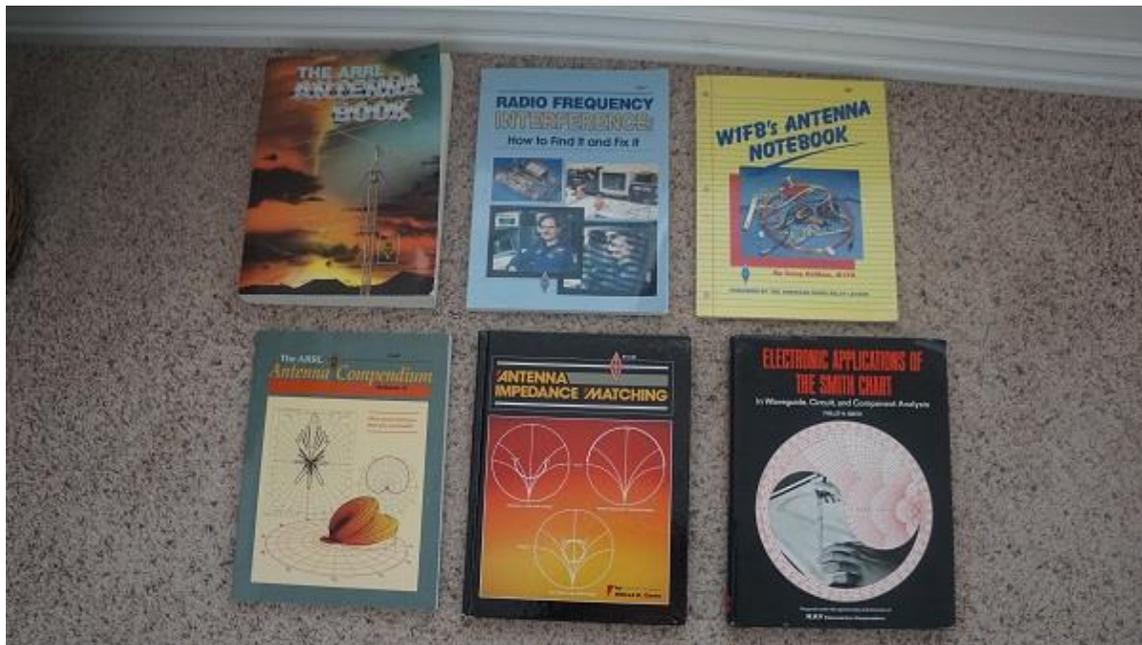
# SIERA BEACON

News for the SIERA Membership, Carson Valley, NV

May 2017

## Uebele Books Rescued from Local Library

Jim Marshall, K6LR, rescued six of the books Dorothy and George Uebele donated to the Douglas County Public Library in Minden during their recent book sale. While the library accepted them at first, the librarians decided not to allocate valuable shelf space to books they deemed out-dated. As you can see, though, these books cover subjects that are still relevant to HAMS. Jim is also trying to get new books promised by the ARRL to add to these and form a lending library for SIERA. Anyone interested in reading these books can contact Jim at: [jmarshall1945@yahoo.com](mailto:jmarshall1945@yahoo.com).



**Safety Day:** Come join SIERA and many other local safety and health organizations at Lampe Park on May 13 from 10-2. We'll be setting up a booth and showing off our trailer station. Contact Jeff Cauhape, [j\\_cauhape@yahoo.com](mailto:j_cauhape@yahoo.com) if you want to operate one of the radios. Or just come and hang out.



**Next Meeting: May 6, 1 p.m., at the United Methodist Church on Centerville Rd. in Gardnerville. Jim Marshall will present a 20-minute talk entitled "How Too Low of an SWR Can Kill you!"**

Also, Greg Moore KG7DMI will be doing a QSO Party somewhere in Nevada where four counties come together. Thus he gets 8 points per contact instead of 2. This party runs from 6 a.m. to midnight on May 6th. We (Jeff and Sue Cauhape) are thinking it would be fun to support Greg by bringing our HF radio to the meeting and contacting him from there. Anybody up for joining the fun ... either at the meeting or at other times during the day? Greg would love it. He'll be working 40m somewhere near 7.180 Mhz and 20m somewhere near 14.255 Mhz. The exchange is as simple as your county and your call.

Here's the QSO Party link if you want to compete:

<http://ws7n.net/7QP/new/Page.asp?Content=start>



## It's a Busy Time of Year:

America's Most Beautiful Bike Ride, 6/4/17, TARA, contact Paul McAfee, KI6OCB, paul.mcafee6243@gmail.com

Pony Express Re-Ride, 6/5/17-6/15/17, contact Jeff Cauhape, K7BCV, j\_cauhape@yahoo.com

FIELD DAY, 6/24-6/25-17, SIERA, contact Bob Williams, K7VOC, ka6voc@gmail.com

Reno 5000-2, 6/25/17, Dolan Auto Group, contact Bob Miller, WA6MTY, wa6mty@gbis.com

## WANTED: Personnel for Carson City Railroad Days

SIERA's Special Event, CARSON CITY RAILROAD DAYS, is July 2-4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. We'll have two HF stations and a VHF station on 40 meters, 80 meters and possibly 17 and 20 meters. Our goal is to log as many stations as possible and send QSL cards out to all the contacts.

So, we will need people to set up stations and antennas, operate radios, and log contacts with a laptop running N1MM logging software. And let's not forget people to supply sandwiches and drinks.

Technicians can also operate one of the HF stations if a HAM with a higher license is present. If you want to take advantage of this great learning experience and have some fun, email Jim Marshall at k6lr@arrl.net to sign up. You can work as many hours and days as you want.

Jim reports that so far, there is only one person who's signed up, so think about adding a couple of hours at the mic to your Fourth of July activities. Bring the family so you all can see the trains as well as our trailer



**One student earned his license before the class even ended. One student will take the exam after he returns to the area. The rest took advantage of the TARA HAM Cram and test on April 29. Congratulations to all of these new HAMS and to their instructor, Jeff Cauhape, K7BCV.**

## **General Class to be Offered Soon**

The Technician's class is finished and all but one student have taken the exam and passed. When the last student returns to the area, he will also take the test and then he'll join the HAM community. Later this summer, Jeff Cauhape, K7BCV, would like to follow up with a General Licensing class. If you are interested or know anyone who might be, contact him at [j\\_cauhape@yahoo.com](mailto:j_cauhape@yahoo.com)

## **Technician's Class: Breaking the Mic Fright**

Recently, Jeff Cauhape and Bob Williams helped students in the Technician's Class get their first "hand-on" experience using a radio. Jeff led them through plugging everything together on the radio to calling out to Bob, who waited patiently at his home base. When our mag mount antenna, perched in the library's window, couldn't put out a clear signal, Ed Terlau KG7ZOP and Ben Echavarría N7BBE guided us to the .24 repeater. The .33 and .24 machines were linked to accommodate Brad Smith's "Watering Hole."

Paul Gulbro, WA6EWV, unlinked the repeaters so the class could finish without interrupting the Watering Hole discussion. Within moments, though, J.D. Fowler, AD7CD, and Brad, WT6B, came over to .240 and welcomed our prospective new HAMS to the hobby.

Thanks to Bob, J.D., Brad, Paul, Ben, and Ed for their help with this classroom exercise. Our newest HAMS learned a lot during that session because of our friendly and helpful SIERA/TARA HAMS.

Paul Gulbro made it even easier for the class members to get their licenses more quickly by announcing the TARA HAM Cram followed by the licensing exams later that afternoon.

**Speaking of the growing HAM community**, here's a link to an article about how EmComm is inspiring more people to get their amateur radio licenses:

<http://www.govtech.com/em/disaster/Emergency-Communications-Driving-Increase-in-Amateur-Radio-Operators.html>

## **Station Parts Wanted**

Nate Liebespeck, KI7KBF, one of our Facebook viewers, just acquired a couple of Kenwood TK-780's and wants to buy a terminated 50' coax cable and an SO-230 connector. He put together his antenna using a 50 ohm coax from a CB radio. Also, he's looking for a power supply and a tuner to complete his station. If you have these parts and would like to sell them to Nate, email [nliebespeck@gmail.com](mailto:nliebespeck@gmail.com).



## **From ARRL:**

### **New Bands! FCC Issues Amateur Radio Service Rules for 630 Meters and 2,200 Meters**

It's been a long time coming, but the Amateur Service will get two new bands in the near future. The FCC on March 28 adopted rules that will allow secondary Amateur Radio access to 472-479 kHz (630 meters) and to 135.7-137.8 kHz (2,200 meters), with minor conditions. The FCC *Report and Order (R&O)* spells out the details. It allocates 472-479 kHz to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis and amends Part 97 to provide for Amateur Service use of that band as well as of the previously allocated 135.7-137.8 kHz band. The *R&O* also amends Part 80 rules to authorize radio buoy operations in the 1900-2000 kHz band under a ship station license. Just when the new Part 97 rules will go into effect is difficult to determine just yet; more on that below.

"It's a big win for the Amateur community and the ARRL," ARRL CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, said. "We are excited by the FCC's action to authorize Amateur Radio access for the first time on the MF and LF spectrum. As amateurs begin using these new allocations in the next few weeks, we encourage the entire Amateur Radio community, as secondary users, to be especially attentive to the rules."

Here's the link to the entire ARRL article:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/view/new-bands-fcc-issues-amateur-radio-service-rules-for-630-meters-and-2-200-meters>

## **Another ham radio store closes**

The *Mercury News* reports Silicon Valley's Sunnyvale Ham Radio Outlet has signed off after 26 years as a hub for Silicon Valley's amateur radio community. Due in part to rising rent in the city, the outlet at 510 Lawrence Expressway chose to close its doors and merge operations with its Oakland location, according to shop employees.

Read the full story at:

<http://www.mercurynews.com/2017/03/24/sunnyvale-ham-radio-outlet-closes-after-26-years/>

## Happy Birthday to:

Dorothy Uebele	May 5
Debbie Williams	May 5
Austin Cathey	May 6
Michael Hughey	May 6
Ben Echavarria	May 8
Richard Walters	May 10
LeRoy Clement	May 11
Jamie Dahl	May 14
Paul Strople	May 23
Ed Eggert	May 31



## Breakfast and Lunch Get-Togethers

- 11:15 a.m., every Wednesday at Jethro's.
- 8 a.m., every fourth Saturday at the Taildragger Café at the Minden-Tahoe Airport.



**ARRL VEC Licensing Exams:** SIERA offers these exams on the third Saturday in May, July, September, and November at 9 a.m. in the Shepherd of the Sierra Lutheran Church behind the Best Buy Store on Topsis Lane. Bring a photo ID, a copy of your license if you're upgrading, and \$15. **The next exam: May 20th**

## Nets Available in Carson Valley and Beyond:

**DCART Net**, Mondays at 6:30 p.m. on 146.655 pl 131.8

**TARA Net**, Mondays at 7:30 p.m. on 147.240.

**Plumas County Net**, Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m., on 145.470.

**SIERA VHF Net**, Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. on 147.330.

**SIERA HF Net**, Tuesdays at 8 p.m. on 3982KHz.

**State SKYWARN Net**, Wednesday at 7 p.m. on 441.650.

**NV ARES Net**, Thursdays at 7 p.m. on the EchoLink conference server, NV-GATE: 152566.

**Brad Smith's (WT6B) Watering Hole**, Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. on NV7CV 147.330, "discussing questions and issues pertaining to amateur radio."

EchoLink info is SKYWARN at 7 p.m. Wednesdays and

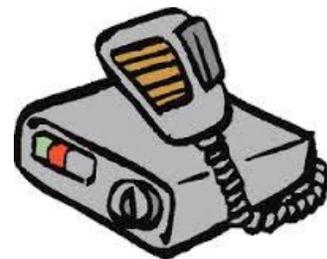
NV ARES is 7 p.m. Thursdays. Both operate on the EchoLink conference server

NV-GATE: 152566EchoLink and can go onto your smart phones, tablets and computers.

**"When all else fails: Amateur Radio,"** Fridays at 10 a.m. on 147.150.

**National Traffic Service Net**, Sundays at 6:15 p.m. on 3945KHz.

**The SNARS Noon Net** daily 147.55.



## **General Meeting, April 1, 2017:**

**Called to order:** 1:05 p.m.

**Introductions:** Jamie Dahl (our newest member), Margie and Joel Flamanbaum (Joel is a student in the Technician's Class and earned his license before the class ended).

**Minutes:** March Minutes read and approved. Bob Williams moved to approve and Ben Echavarria seconded.

**Treasurer:** Ending balance for March 2017: 7744.86; Withdrawals = \$.00. Deposits: Membership dues 174.00; Exams - 21.00, total = \$254.00; Interest Earned: .06; Ending Balance for April, 2017: \$7998.92. See attached for details. Parker McCarty moved for approval and Ben Echavarria seconded.

### **Announcements:**

Jeff Cauhape announced that SIERA hats (\$15) and patches (\$5) are still available.

Cookies for meetings: Please make a note on the Sign-In sheet if are interested in bringing cookies for the next meeting.

### **Business:**

**Technician's Class:** Jeff Cauhape said that nine people have attended the class and it should be finished by May. He asked if anyone was interested in taking a General License class afterward and four stated their interest.

**Safety Day:** Jeff asked for volunteers to participate in Safety Day in Lampe Park, May 13 from 10-2.

**ARISS Project:** Sheila Clement asked for volunteers to help setup a rather complex program to prepare students from Carson Valley Jr. High to talk to the astronauts. She said it would take two years to develop the program. If the students at Carson Valley aren't chosen to speak to the astronauts, they can listen in on the conversation. Meanwhile, it's an opportunity to introduce kids to amateur radio. Anyone interested in helping can contact Sheila.

**Radio Loaners:** Ben Echavarria will research various radios that can be purchased to loan to new HAMs who join SIERA so they can practice before buying their own equipment.

**Pony Express Re-Ride and Field Day:** Jeff Cauhape told members involved with the Pony to indicate on the list on the table which position they would like to fill: relay station or following the Pony. Base stations are well covered. He also said that Field Day is nine days after the Pony, which will give everyone a rest before participating in that. Participants in Field Day can sign up for a block of time to operate a radio and/or help set up and take down the antennas, radios, etc.

**Book Donations:** Jim Marshall asked the librarian at the Minden Public Library if he could purchase the books SIERA donated if the library wasn't interested in putting them on the shelf. (We learned previously that the library put them in their sale area instead.) At the last meeting, John Bigley of ARRL wanted to donate \$150 worth of books for our donation to a library. Jim estimated this would be about three or four

books, including licensing manuals, etc.; so it wouldn't require the library to use much of their precious shelf space. Jeff Cauhape suggested that we consider donating to the Carson City Library as they have been very cooperative in letting us use one of their conference rooms for the Technician's Class. Also, Jeff said the library is setting up a Maker Space next to the classroom as a way of encouraging people to learn about technologies and assembling various things. The library is more vocationally oriented and probably a better fit for our donations. Jim will pursue the \$150 ARRL donation package and will also ask the Minden Library if we can have our books back.

**Safety Day:** Operators are needed to demonstrate radio work. Jeff Cauhape, J.D. Fowler, Jim Marshall, and Ben Echavarría volunteered.

Sign-up sheets are also available for Field Day and the SIERA 4th of July Railroad Day special event.

**Trailer:** Bob Williams reported that he obtained an email approval of Board members for him to set up one radio station with power and lighting in the trailer based upon the budget he proposed at the last Board meeting.

**SIERA's Emergency Response Protocol:** Ed Eggert repeated his concerns about how SIERA members could assist in emergency response from the Board meeting. Sheila Clement then told members to check in on the CV7NV repeater 147.330 and tell the Net Control, the first HAM to arrive on the air, that they are available from their home bases. DCART will ping the repeater if assistance is needed and will advise the HAMS on what they can do. Sometimes this will involve field operations or reporting to the 911 Call Center to assist DCART there. Or they will be advised to remain home, monitor and report changing conditions.

After a short break, Gordon Moseley presented a power-point of his visit to the Vintage Radio Museum in Windsor, CN. He clarified the mythology that tells us that Marconi invented the radio. It was actually Nikola Tesla who invented the radio. Marconi invented the means to amplify the signal with antennas, etc.

The museum displays electronic artifacts collected by local HAMS in that area. Technologies range from the earliest radios to televisions and home computers.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 2:30 p.m.



## **GOT STORIES?**

**Tell everyone about your HAM radio experiences or technical interest. It's easy. Just send your news and photos to the Beacon: [scauhape2002@yahoo.com](mailto:scauhape2002@yahoo.com)**