

As always, thanks to all the contributors this month:

Frank, N6SNO, needs a few more good operators to staff the communications support of Eppie's Great Race, Saturday, July 17. Contact Frank at: [n6sno@arrrl.net](mailto:n6sno@arrrl.net) or better at: 916-529-2396. The great race is held along the American River Parkway in Rancho Cordova and Sacramento. Contestants bike, run, and swim. Safety is always an issue.

'Paying homage to one of amateur radios long practiced events, the Nevada County Amateur Radio Club gathered at the Nevada County Fair grounds for Field Day, June 26 and 27. It is a special time for the new and old licensed ham radio operators to unite and practice emergency radio communications using alternative power sources and antennas shot into the pines. As the rich history reflects, this practice has gone on since 1933 little changing since the American Radio Relay League first sponsored a Field Day event. Our club, like the majority of ham radio clubs, follows the basic tenants of Field Days long ago. The early morning gathering brings exceptional high enthusiasm directed by our fearless leader and President, Walt Hammontree. The weekend was an amazing and ongoing stream of several old timer hams that hadn't been on the air for years along with the clubs newly licensed 13 year old that camped out on the "get on the air" station. The club barbecue was just the perfect thing to enjoy under the gorgeous Nevada County blue sky and 100 foot pine trees. So as I enjoy great potato salad and a grilled burger my thought went to ARRL Field Day 77 years ago and a special reverence for those that went before us.' Thanks, Richard, KI6UOV.

Mt Shasta Amateur Radio Club is growing! Field Day was a great opportunity to attract new members, rekindle the interest of former members, and raise public awareness. We were joined by three new and returning members, put up new multiband wire antenna (15, 40 & 80 m) to replace the one brought down by the snow, and repaired the shattered plumbing that was damaged during winter storms. We had several visitors from the general public, possibly due to articles in two local papers. Members took turns giving tours of the ham shack to visitors from the general public, and answered inquiries from local residents about contacting a ham during emergencies. Thanks, Atara, K6UCS.

Assistant Section Manager Bob, N6BOB, has a lesson about the best laid plans for Field Day. "Field Day plans for N6BOB included a trip to the cool coast at Fort Bragg this year. After arriving at the hotel and securing permission to set up a FD station on the premises I hit the sack to be awakened at 3 AM with heart issues. I returned home and rested Saturday night and was able to join the Yuba Sutter ARC at their FD site Sunday morning operating 20 meters. The Club effort required team work setting up, operating and for take down. Thanks to all who made my few hours of operation possible."

The Northern California Packet Association (NCPA) has put up an on-line database for digital stations in California (not including digital repeaters).

If you are the sysop of a hilltop packet 'node', an 'APRS' station, a 'BBS', 'WinLink 2000' etc..... then you can now enter your station into the database so others can locate you.

Go to <http://www.n0ary.org/ncpa> and click on the 'STATION LISTINGS' link. That will take you to the database site. Thanks to Bill, KG6BAJ.

The MLDXCC/NCCC joint meeting will be held at The Old Spaghetti Factory in Stockton (located at March Lane & I-5) in their large banquet room on Saturday 24 July between 12:00 (noon) and 3:30 pm. This is the same venue as 2009 joint meeting. It proved to be a great central location with excellent food and service at a reasonable price. Our presentation: Paul Ewing, N6PSE, will give a presentation on the YI9PSE Kurdistan (Northern Iraq) DXpedition of 2010. Visitors are welcome...RSVP to aa6k at [roses1@prodigy.net](mailto:roses1@prodigy.net) to assure there is room for you. Thanks Dick, K6LRN.

The Amador County Amateur Radio Club started the month with a successful testing session. All applicants passed (still a success for the single applicant). Our field day exercise was held at 6400 ft at the Lumberyard Ranger Station on Hiway 88. We had over 25 members and guests in attendance with great meals done in a cooperative effort with volunteers from the Sacramento Section of Red Cross helping out. We ran three stations; digital data, VHF/UHF voice, and HF voice. With nice tall trees all around, half the fun was getting the antennas in the air; thanks to KB6PNT's tennis ball compressed air launcher. Thanks John, KI6DWP.

On Friday morning, June 25, crews from the Woodland, Davis, UC Davis, Willow Oak, West Sacramento and Yocha Dehe Fire Departments flocked to Woodland Memorial Hospital to participate in the Emergency Victims Assistance Collaboration, an exercise scenario depicting a hospital fire and calling for a large-scale patient evacuation. Red Cross was activated to send Disaster Assistance Teams (DAT) to set up a Rehabilitation tent with water and food for the fire crews. Yolo County Red Cross called up Yolo County ARES to provide communications between the staging area and the Rehabilitation sites.

Ken- K6WLS, James- W6JSC, and Greg- KG6SJT, supported Red Cross at the E.V.A.C. Exercise at Woodland Memorial Hospital. Radio communications included several ICS-213 messages requisitioning additional resources and tactical messages between Net Control, The Red Cross Rehabilitation sites, and the staging area. It was an excellent training exercise for Yolo ARES.

Photos at: <http://www.yoloares.org/news/2010/EVACExercise/> Thanks to Greg, KG6SJT.

June 26 found some Field Day sites set up and ready to go. Others were just unloading the equipment, tents, trailers, and operators as the sun began to beat down on various places in the Sacramento Valley Section. Just north of Live Oak, Yuba Sutter ARC members enjoyed a good breakfast then headed to KI6TLS, where Meg had invited the club to operate. Oroville ARS chose the Experimental Aircraft site on the west portion of Oroville Airport as their FD site. They were busy setting up various stations, including the Butte County Sheriff's Communications Reserve trailer, a huge 40 foot mast, and a six meter yagi. At Lake Minden, Field Day operation K6LQ was busy with contacts when I arrived. WB6RVR came over to say hello and showed me around the site. They had obvious preparations which included a phased array of two vertical 40 meter antennas with a raised radial field. In Lincoln, at McBean Park, Western Placer ARC was operating from several positions on most modes. In the shade of the parks trees, and under canopies raised for the occasion, operators were making contacts and giving interviews to local news organizations. River City ARCS this year set up at the Historic Dry Creek Ranch House in Rio Linda. Station N6NA made use of the Sacramento Fire CERT trailer and equipment from many members to get

their operation underway. Again canopies provided much needed shade. Well east of Sacramento, on Mormon Immigrant Trail, El Dorado County ARC set up stations using club call AG6AU to operate from shade structures and make contacts with equipment ideally suited to the day. They also had several visitors from the public and at least one elected official. Dave Bermann, W6PS, and friends from Chico and San Francisco, set up on a high ridge cleared area off highway 88, just south of where El Dorado County ARC was. When I got there, Dave was providing the Armstrong rotator for the satellite operation. Then it was on to K6ARC, but Amador County ARC was just closing up shop when I arrived. They were near a forestry helipad with at least two trailers and operating positions. They had public and elected official visits also. There was time to visit but then it was back on the road. My final planned visit was cancelled when I heard from KI6IND, Chuck, that Nevada County ARC was planning to close the operation by 8:30 p.m. Bless them, as I was a tired driver. In all, we got to visit at eight Field Day sites this year.

One of our top notch SV Official Observers wrote, "I want to make my point about band edges. During the recent field day at one point I monitored the top band edge of 20 meters. The Amateur community needs to be educated about these facts and I am sure a lot of you know this. I was shocked to hear pile-ups on the band edge at 14.348MHz. I guess a lot of hams don't understand how a HF signal isn't what the dial says (Display Frequency) during speech modulating the carrier. When you talk into the microphone the display frequency moves up during USB operation in accordance with the speech. This movement can be as much as three KHz. (according to the ARRL Handbook). This puts the dial readout actual frequency at 14.351 KHz. (97.301 out of band). All of the above applies to the side band in use. The opposite side band is a different story. Remember SSB = Single Side Band Suppressed Carrier. The carrier and unwanted sideband are still there but suppressed (97.307) but that is another topic for another day." Thanks to Bill, WV6J.

Sheila Clement, KA7AJQ, ARES EC, Douglas, Alpine, Carson City Counties reports on their June activities. "DCART members, along with many other area hams, supported several major events. The first of these events was America's Most Beautiful Bike Ride around Lake Tahoe that took place June 6. "June 7-12 was the annual Pony Express ReRide for Nevada ham radio supporters. This year the ReRide started in Sacramento, California, on the way to St. Joseph, Missouri. Hams, under the leadership and sponsorship organization, Sierra Intermountain Emergency Radio Association (SIERA), supported communications in tracking the progress of the rider and mochilla across some 400 miles across Nevada. We used VHF, HF and when propagation was not good, cell phone. "June 12, DCART members supported the Alta Alpine bicycle organization on its Challenge ride in Alpine County by staffing the Douglas County 911 Dispatch ham station. Several bike riders have received their ham tickets so under the leadership of Tahoe Amateur, Paul Gulbro, WA6EWV, they staged the Net Control at Turtle Rock Park. Ride officials and hams monitored the frequency for potential emergency medical traffic. Medical support was thoroughly planned and provided. If any medical traffic had not been covered, it could be relayed into the Amateur Radio station at Douglas County 911 Dispatch system for response. DC 911 has the dispatch responsibility for Alpine County on weekends anyway. This same weekend, was also Carson Valley Days with the annual parade and events. The event combination had the potential to be a very busy time for the 911 center. "Douglas County Search

and Rescue is making available to DCART their previously owned command bus for renovation as a communications support vehicle. We are in discussions regarding joint training and emergency communications support as well as how to equip the bus."

Terry, K6ME, reports, 'I wish to thank all the locals that took the time to give me a contact in the recent ARRL VHF QSO Party contest from my location near the Thompson Peak Lookout on June 12/13, 2010. I ran a very modest portable station using an ICOM 706M11G and an ADI 220 mobile putting out at most 100 Watts on 6 Meters, 50 Watts on 2 Meters, 25 Watts on 1.25 Meters and 20 Watts on 70 Cm. Into the small yagi's seen in these pictures. I operated for 18 of the 33 Contest hours. My total of non-dupe contacts was 129. I contacted 28 different States including both North and South Dakota, Virginia, Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Minnesota, etc. With Maryland being my furthest contact. I also worked several Canadian stations and one Mexican station. I heard most of the Eastern States, Hawaii, Alaska, Russia, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Costa Rica, Virgin Islands and Panama but could not work them through the flutter, noise and pileup of the other calling stations. I ended up with 85 different Grid Squares with each counting as a Multiplier in this type of event as a low-power-single operator, non assisted station on battery power My estimated score is 11,645 points but I believe I did quite well considering my physical and medical restraints and the conditions but above all I had great time giving out one of the rarer Grids in California plus the much requested Plumas County on those VHF frequencies.'

Glenn County has a new Emergency Coordinator and a new ARES unit. They will meet the 3rd Wednesdays at 7PM/1900 hours at the Willows Fire Department located at 455 S. Butte St. in Willows. According to EC John, N8GNV, net times will occur on Mondays at 7:30 pm on the 147.105 MHz repeater. The 1st ARES Meeting will be 21st of July. Please note this time reflects a recent change.

Steve, KT6Z, reports: 'The Western Placer ARC repeater, K6PAC, is now on the air for testing at 147.36 [+] with a PL of 100.0. An IRLP node will soon be added.'

The XP, or 150th commemoration and re-ride of the Pony Express postal service between Sacramento and St. Joseph, MO, got the support of Alison, KS6Q, and Shelley, KS6Z. They were stationed at the Newark Lakes Valley 35 miles northeast of Eureka, NV. The rider came through late in the evening (2230 L on June 11.) The event began on Sunday June 6 from San Francisco to Old Sacramento. Then on the 7th, Monday, the event continued from Old Sacramento.

Each year the ARRL Board of Directors has the opportunity to select recipients for a number of awards in various categories that honor Amateur Radio operators. The nomination period is now open for the ARRL awards that are designed to recognize educational and technological pursuits in Amateur Radio. There is also an award to honor a young Amateur Radio operator. Please log onto [www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/edunom.html](http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/edunom.html) for specific award details and information on how to nominate or submit supporting endorsements. If you know of someone in our section who deserves recognition by one of these awards please contact me with the details. I would like to see an SV member recognized in this way. Not one supported nomination has reached me.

Go here and get a real neat copy of your Ham License in color suitable for framing:

<http://www.ae7q.net/Generate.php> Thanks to Dick Miller, KJ6W.

Our section net this month is on Wednesday, July 14, 2010, and we will resume the net on 146.085 MHz (plus offset, 127.3 Hz tone) at 1900L, and later at 1930L, we will meet on or about 3987 kHz. We can talk over the latest news.

AN UPDATED LIST OF SV NETS IS HERE: <http://www.k6is.org/nets.html>

Thanks to Assistant Section Manager, Les, W6TEE.

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