

RCARC Minutes for
October 8, 2013

President Larry Heddings WD0CDG called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Those in attendance:

N7KM	Ken Munford	WA7GTU	Don Blanchard	K7BTU	Bill Rankin
KB7OWE	Don Carter	NL7EL	Blaine Nay	K7NJ	Riki Kline
KG6LFU	Jim Beal	KA7QJN	Dennis Porter	AL7BX	George Gallis
N7TCE	Merline Mackay	KD7TTT	Terry Lee	KG7AHS	Travis Horton
KE6ZIM	Johnny Ellison	N7SIY	Joel Clements	KB7UMU	Sylvia Clements
WD0CDG	Larry Heddings	K7ZI	Dick Parker	K6QOG	Bill Stenger
W7KBM	Ken Oliver	KF7YWY	Cameron Abbaticchio		

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Don Blanchard WA7GTU and seconded by Jim Beal KG6LFU . The minutes were approved.

Ken Oliver W7KBM, Treasurer, reported \$773.40 after paying power bills. Don Blanchard motion to accept the Treasurer's report and seconded by Sylvia Clements. Approval was unanimous.

Sylvia Clements KB7UMU ask for a breakfast count. Sylvia mentioned that the emergency communication forms mention last month as being available on Fema's and ARRL website are **not** available.

Don Blanchard WA7GTU gave an update on the intertie. A new link was installed from Navajo Mountain to Mt. Eldon near Flagstaff, AZ. This repeater is having problems with the controller, but once fixed we will have the capability into Phoenix but most likely will not be on 24/7. Also, the VHF Society purchased a new 440MHZ repeater and was installed on Navajo Mountain that will be connected to the intertie.

Larry Heddings mention that Frontier Homestead Museum and Park celebration of their 162nd anniversary will have a special event station W7F. We will set up antennas at 8am and operation on the air from 9am to 6pm. Those interested in participating full time or part time need to let Larry know.

Larry extended a thanks to Cameron KF7YWY, Joel N7SIY, Sylvia KB7UMU, Russ N7BO, Dick K7ZI, Bill K6QOG, Bill K7BTE and George AL7BX for their time and assistance during the Equestrian Endurance Ride October 4th and 5th.

Ken Munford N7KM presented a program on the difference between digital and analog circuitry. Ken held up an old 78 RPM record and a CD disk and asked what is the difference? The record is analog and the CD is digital. The biggest problem with analog is noise. Early engineers figured that turning a circuit on and off could do the same thing as analog. They called it binary, 1 for "ON" and 0 for "OFF". Ken demonstrated on a board with some gates and a series of lights and a switch how a different number of 1s and 0s can turn on different lights. Another word for "switch" is "gate. Ken diagramed a simple circuit using AND gate and OR gate and developed a truth table for zeros and ones showing inputs and outputs. Then, there are inverters which

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change the outputs. Ken explained how these ones and zeros work in a communication radio, stereo receives and other electronics.

A side note, Ken mentioned several years ago he visited a place that manufactured slot machines. Inside the case is a micro-computer along with the mechanism to move the number on the front. He said that when you insert your coin, in a micro-second the game is over. The computer has determined the outcome before the numbers finish spinning.

Ken fielded questions during his presentation and asked questions.

Following the presentation Larry asked if there were any volunteers to bring treats for the next meeting. No one volunteered however Don Blanchard said maybe.

Ken Oliver asked if there was any interest in getting packet up and running. There seemed to be some interest.

Dick Parker said for those interested in contests, check WA7BNM website for a complete list contest dates and requirements.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Bill Stenger K6QOG
Secretary

FYI

A Public Service true story from ARRL Newsletter

Linked Ham Radio Repeater System Instrumental in Hiker Rescue

A hiker in distress in Nevada is thankful that he had his hand-held transceiver along when he found himself stranded in the hills near Henderson. Western Intertie Network ([WIN](#)) System member Jim Frederick, KF6QBW, in Arizona reports he was monitoring the system November 3 around midday when he heard, "Mayday, Mayday. Hiker in distress!" from his WIN System repeater.

"I grabbed a charged battery for my VX-5, and the call came over the radio again," Frederick said. He responded, and the hiker on the other end, Nathan Rischling, KDØHFM, of Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada, told him he'd misread the elevation on his topographical map, had ended up on a very steep and rough area, had hurt his hand on a cactus, and could find no safe way out of his situation. He had a GPS, however, and was able to provide Frederick with his precise coordinates. Rischling said he had a day's worth of food and water but needed help getting off the mountain, as he would not get back to his starting point before sundown and, he didn't think his GPS battery would last out the trip.

"KDØHFM stated that he did not take a conventional trail and was using a topographical map and GPS for guidance," Frederick explained.

Frederick said he knew from experience that a call to the Las Vegas search and rescue would expedite the process, so he put out a call on the WIN System for any Las Vegas station that could make the call. James Freeman, KG7EWP, promptly came back, and Frederick handed off the emergency traffic. Freeman called 911

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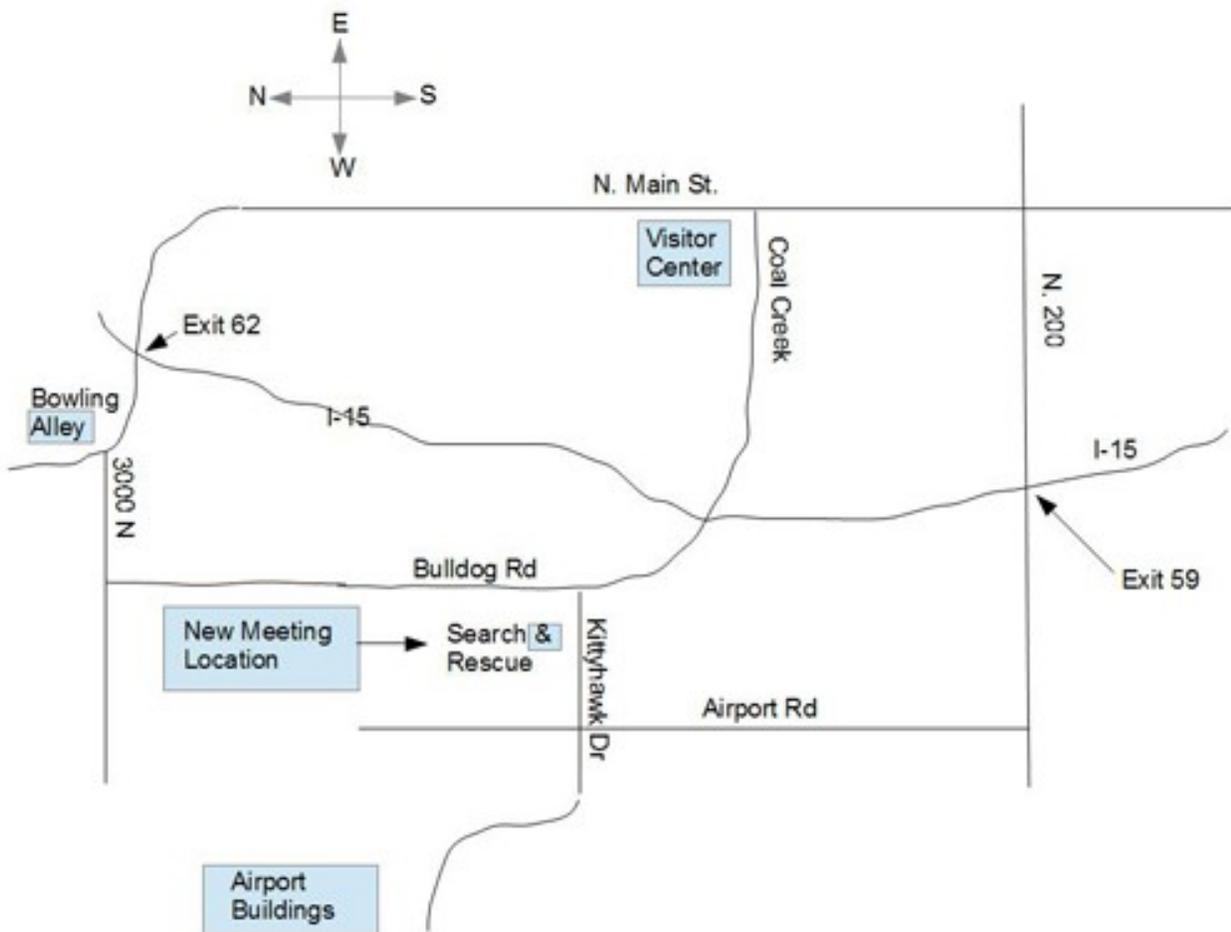
and spoke with search and rescue, and stood by until the situation was resolved. Within 15 minutes a rescue helicopter was on the way.

Frederick kept his ear to the radio until the event was resolved, in case someone needed more information from him, and a few hours later, he overheard Rischling thank KG7EWP for helping "and everyone else on the WIN System for standing by."

The WIN System is a series of 90 linked, or inter-tied, repeaters -- most on UHF (70 centimeters) -- that cover a substantial portion of California, 16 other states, and four countries around the world. It is owned and operated by Shorty Stouffer, K6JSI. KF6QBW is an affiliated repeater station with the WIN System.

"Without Shorty, K6JSI (my Elmer), and the WIN System and its members, I would not have known what to do, let alone been able to help, as I was just a link in this chain of events," Frederick said. -- *Thanks to Chuck Baer, W4ROA; Jim Frederick, KF6QBW; Shorty Stouffer, K6JSI, and Sean Kutzko, KX9X*

Map to our meeting place



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