



# SIERA News



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**SIERA** supports many other radio groups and activities within our listening arena. Support varies from a very active participation to recommending direct involvement by individual **SIERA** members. One is **EMCOMMWEST2010**.

Originally initiated by the Reno area clubs, this activity has taken on a life of its own. The biggest boost came when Pacificon determined that their meeting location was no longer viable. Quickly, our local atmosphere became global with the Reno location now a focal point for “the biggest little ham radio get together in the West”. **ARRL** recognizes **Emcommwest** as a Operating Specialty Convention and you ’ll always find **ARRL** officers present. Of great interest is the fact that several major suppliers are on the scene and, to a considerable degree, offer product at a discount to participants. In fact, the vendor showroom is a real highlight. There ’s also a hamfest that sees everything from the infamous boat anchor to some pretty good

stuff. There are several breakout sessions, with excellent speakers, covering the full gambit from antenna design to Emergency Communications to **PIO** operations and in between. Take your pick and learn a lot.

**EMCOMMWEST2010** will be at the Grand Sierra Resort beginning April 30, running through May 2. Check it out at [www.emcommwest.org](http://www.emcommwest.org). Your participation is requested and desired.

Speaking of things to look at, take a peek at the “Links ” tab on the **SIERA** website. Don ( W3DRM ) has put together a wonderful array of radio sites that will interest us all. From a grouping of sites for license and upgrade requirements to the various radio gear locations. These are just a click away. Give it a looksee.

Our March 6 program is of great interest to radio operators, with Deputy Fire Chief Dave Fogerson as speaker. Dave is part of the Emergency Management team in

Douglas County. This is a very valuable **SIERA** program. Not to be missed!

## **SPEAKING OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS:**

How do we prepare ourselves for emergencies? The simple answer is practice, practice, practice. Yes, it gets old after a few exercises **BUT**, it is those exercises that keep us sharp and honed to a finely organized and smooth working organization. Whether it be **SIERA**, **TARA**, **DCART** or any other amateur radio organization, we can function smoothly and efficiently in times of emergency only when all our memberships have participated in and gained the necessary training and practice. So, how can we practice and hone our skills? By participating in the many local communication exercises that are presented to us every year. You will note in the 2010 Calendar list, shown further on in this newsletter, there are numerous activities that provide us with the opportunity to

participate in events that will help us to be better communicators. In June, we have two exercises that are not only fun but also help us to learn those communications skills.

### June 6, 2010 - AMBBR

#### AMERICA'S MOST BEAUTIFUL BIKE RIDE

This event is sponsored by the Tahoe Amateur Radio Association. All amateur radio operators are invited to participate in this event. Briefly, operators are stationed at the rest stops around Lake Tahoe to provide communications for the rest stop captains who provide food and support for the bike riders. All communications is coordinated from the TARA Communication Van located in the Horizon parking lot in South Lake Tahoe. This event is sponsored by the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. The ride is a 72-mile ride with an optional 28 mile segment to/from Truckee resulting in a total of 100 miles.

For further information go to the AMBBR website at

( <http://www.bikethewest.com/AMBBR.html> )

### June 8 - 12, 2010 - PEX

#### PONY EXPRESS RE-RIDE

This year is the 150th Anniversary of the Pony Express. With the Nevada portion of the ride kicking off on June 8th and continuing across the State of Nevada through June 12th. The Nevada segment is handled by **SIERA** and utilizes both VHF repeaters and HF communication modes to track and report the position of the Pony Express riders. **SIERA** has provided this communications service since 1989. See the **SIERA** website for further information at:

( <http://www.cvhams.com/2010-pony-express.htm> )

### July 10, 2010 - Death Ride

#### TOUR OF THE CALIFORNIA ALPS BIKE RIDE

On July 10th the Tour of the California Alps bike ride, A.K.A. the "Death Ride" is held. It is a grueling 129 mile event supported again by TARA. Amateur Radio operators are stationed at various segments of the route to provide communications and to report rider flow information and to assist in any emergency communication requirements resulting from accidents or other incident during the ride. For further information see the Death Ride web site at:

( <http://www.deathride.com> )

### September 12, 2010

#### TOUR DE TAHOE

#### BIKE BIG BLUE BIKE RIDE

The final event for 2010 is the Tour de Tahoe - Bike Big Blue. This is a bike ride similar to AMBBR but does not include the Truckee leg of the ride. For further information see the Tour de Tahoe website at:

( <http://www.bikethewest.com/tourdetahoe.html> )

### 2010 CALENDAR

Jan 23	– Social Bkfst
Feb 6 <sup>th</sup>	– Meeting 1PM
Feb 27	– Social Bkfst
Mar 6	– Meeting 1PM
Mar 27	– Social Bkfst
April 3	– Meeting 1PM
April 24	– Social Bkfst
May 1	– PEX meeting
May 22	– Social Bkfst
June 5	– PEX meeting
<b>June 6</b>	<b>– AMBBR</b>
<b>June 8–12</b>	<b>– PEX Re-Ride</b>
June 19	– ReRide Potluck
July 3	– Meeting 1PM
<b>July 10</b>	<b>– DEATH RIDE</b>
July 17	– Special Dinner
July 24	– Social Bkfst
Aug 7	– Meeting 1PM
Aug 28	– Social Bkfst
Sept 4	– Meeting 1PM
<b>Sept 12</b>	<b>– Tour de Tahoe</b>
Sept 25	– Social Bkfst