

January 25, 2023

Fiddletown Neighborhood Radio Watch (FNRW) Annual Report for 2022 to:
Fiddletown Community Center (FCC) Fiscal Sponsor 501c3.

The FNRW began in July 2020 where 50+ Kenwood TK 380 radios were sold to residents of Fiddletown. The Red Mule Repeater served the community for emergency communication, however coverage was spotty in some areas of town. Bob Kleinbrahm has served as Net Control since the inception, and continues to hold weekly radio check-ins on Wednesdays, at 7:00 pm.

Starting in February 2022 a core group of FNRW members emerged which evolved into a Board. Those Members are:

- Bob Kleinbrahm –Chairperson
- Barb Reilly- Treasurer
- Kate Dougherty – Secretary
- Sue Wilson – At Large Member
- Kent Oster – At Large Member & Repeater Support
- Steve Allred – At Large Member & Repeater Support

In the spring of 2022 a fundraiser was held to pay for a second repeater on Cobble Ridge to improve coverage. Also, several grants were awarded to the FNRW for this project. Adequate funds were raised to erect a second repeater, which is tied into the Red Mule Repeater, and provides improved coverage for the Fiddletown Community. All radios were re-programmed to add channels for: Cobble Ridge, Consumes, and Lockwood repeaters. (See attached P&L created by Barb Reilly)

Sue Wilson created a FNRW Brochure. This brochure was made available at public events. See website for electronic version. Paper brochures were also printed.

On May 21 and 22 of 2022 there was a countywide “Smoke Chasers” event, at the Amador Fair Grounds to raise awareness and educate the public on Wild Fire Safety. The 2-day weekend event attracted over 2,000 visitors. FNRW, in collaboration with the Consumes River Neighborhood Watch, staffed a booth with GMRS information and brochures. FNRW was featured on KOVR TV News.

On July 23, 2022 at the Fiddletown Community Center, FNRW hosted a Town Hall to promote and educate the local community on the GRMS equipment as a resource for fire safety. Attendance was 50+ residents, and there were sign-ups for more radios needed and other volunteer positions.

Bob Kleinbrahm followed-up with radio requests, and helped secure call signs and sold radios as needed. By the end of 2022 the total network consisted of 61 users, all of whom are called on during the weekly radio check roster, on Wednesday nights at 7:00 pm. Those call sheets are available for review upon FCC request.

A FNRW website was created by Bob Kleinbrahm in August of 2022, as part of the FCC website, which offers information on how to get a call sign, how to order a radio, and how to use the radio, including a 30 minute video. See:
Fiddletowncc.org/Radio.

The Ledger Dispatch featured FNRW in two newspaper articles written by Sue Wilson, on May 18, 2022 and August 27, 2022.

FNRW hosted a booth at the annual Fiddletown Fiddler’s Jam on September 19, 2022. Several gift baskets were raffled off as a fundraiser. Also, brochures and GRMS demonstrations were available.

Board Meetings are held and documented on a regular basis and minutes are posted on the FCC website. Also, Bob Kleinbrahm monitors “contact us” on website.