LV Mesh Group 2nd Quarter 2026 Breakfast Minutes

The breakfast was held at Winchell's Pub & Grill, 199 E Warm Springs Rd, Las Vegas, NV 89119 on April 4, 2026.

The following amateur radio operators were present: Rick Lautenbach (K7FYI), Charlie Kunz (AA5QJ), Frank Kostelac (N7ZEV), Bob Nelson (WA3PAD), Gene Heiter (N7WDZ), Tom Davis (KB7HTA), Don Hill (KE6BXT), Ken Crocker (W3AVV) and Robert Ambrose (N7GET); a new record for attendance!

First, a big thank you to everyone for attending today's breakfast! Here goes…

Rick reported that the network is generally OK, except for a few problem areas. The mesh nodes on Mount Potosi are not currently performing as expected. The group decided a trip to Potosi is needed soon to improve the situation. Frank volunteered to lead the team. Rick suggested we replace the 90° sector antenna with a 45° sector antenna, exchange the radio from a Rocket M5 to a Rocket 5ac Lite and leave the node on channel 175. The other 90° sector antenna would be left on channel 172, but its radio would also be replaced with a Rocket 5ac Lite. The network switch is acting up and will be replaced with a Netgear GS-108e that Tom said he would provide. Frank plans to replace the current fisheye camera with a PTZ camera.

The last visit to Red Mountain found high levels of noise, which became more evident after the 90° sector antenna on channel 172 had its radio replaced by a Rocket 5ac Lite. Rick later did some link calculations and found that a good solution might be to move some of the nodes on Red Mountain to Scott's (K7RSW) radio tower in Henderson near the American Legion Post 40 building. The tower would host an Air Grid/radio pointed to Red Mountain, an Ubiquiti dish pointed to Rick in Northwest Las Vegas, an Ubiquiti dish pointed to Frank in the Southwest part of town and a 90° sector to service Las Vegas. Scott has indicated that he is open to the possibility. Rick and Richard have agreed to lead the team to try and make this happen.

There were also discussions about Angel Peak and Blue Diamond. It was decided to shelve these two until late Fall.

Don reports, it was discovered that the MikroTik on the Anthem EOC was installed upside down and failed after a rainstorm. The dish has been replaced with the correct orientation and is now working.

Moapa Valley Amateur Radio Club (MVARC) news: Dieter reports problems with his tunnel connected to Tom's QTH. The problem/solution has not been verified. Work continues.

Robert reports that the Pinnacle site is working well. Bob is connected to the site with a dish and has a good connection.

There was also discussion about FCC canceling certification for most routers; and Paul (K3PGM) has developed firmware for older mesh nodes with only 32 MBs of memory.

Tom has a new Raspberry Pi 4 Team Talk Server kb7hta-teamtalk for Sunday night NETs. Frank has a backup server n7zev-teamtalk.

Site Information

Site	Current Equipment	Future Equipment	Planning
Potosi	2 x 90° Sector RM5 1 x Network Switch 1 x Fisheye Camera 1 x Camera	1 x 45° Sector 5AC Lite 1 x 90° Sector 5AC Lite 1 x Switch GS108e 2 x Camera	Frank, Bob & Paul A trip will be planned soon
Red Mountain	2 x 90° Sector RM5 2 x Dish RM5 1 x Switch GS108e 1 x Sercom Camera 1 x PTZ Camera	2 x 90° Sector 5AC Lite 1 x Switch GS108e 1 x Sercom Camera 1 x PTZ Camera	Rick, Richard & Steve A trip will be planned soon
Scott Werber K7RSW Tower	1 x Grid Dish 1 x Nanostation? 1 x Switch GS108e	1 x 90° Sector 5AC Lite 2 x Dish 5AC Lite 1 x Switch GS108e 1 x Camera	Rick, Richard & Steve A trip will be planned soon
Angel Peak	1 x 90° Sector RM5 1 x Omni RM5 1 x Dish RM5 1 x Switch GS108e 1 x Sercom Camera 1 x PTZ Camera	1 x 90° Sector 5AC Lite 1 x Omni 5AC Lite 1 x Dish 5AC Lite 1 x Switch GS108e 1 x Sercom Camera 1 x PTZ Camera	Tom & Charlie A trip will be planned for late Fall
Blue Diamond	1 x 90° Sector RM5 ?	1 x 90° Sector 5AC Lite 1 x Dish 5AC Lite or PB 1 x Network Switch	Wayne & Eric

Note1: The airMAX Rocket AC Lite (R5AC-LITE) is significantly newer and faster than the Rocket M5, offering 802.11ac (Wi-Fi 5) technology with lower overhead, better processors, and higher modulation (256QAM) for much higher real-world speeds (500+ Mbps) compared to the M5's older 802.11n (MIMO) tech (150+ Mbps), making the AC Lite superior for modern, high-throughput Point-to-Point (PtMP) or Point-to-Multipoint (PtMP) links, especially in noisy environments.