

The HELLGATE STATIC

Monthly Newsletter of the Hellgate Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 3811 Missoula, MT 59806-3811



November 2010

2011 DUES are now DUE! Please support the HARC area repeater system and club activities. Annual membership is \$25.00 (\$5.00 for additional family members).

HELLGATE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

President	WG7P Elmer	wg7p@hughes.net
Vice-President	NZ7S Eric	nz7s@msn.com
Secretary	AE7MH Michael	Ae7mh@arrl.net
Treasurer	N7GE Jerry	n7ge@bresnan.net
Repeater Committee	NZ7S, Eric (Vice-President) NN8A, Byron (Thru 2010) W7XY, Donnie & KE7WR, Kevin (Thru 2011) One Vacancy	nz7s@msn.com arl3051@wildblue.net fort@montana.com kgoffe1@msn.com
Awards	N7MSU Bob	n7msu@arrl.net
Exams VE Contacts	K7VK Vick, K7PX Steve, N7GE Jerry	k7vk@arrl.net
Membership	WG7E Liz	lizm@montana.com
Newsletter Editor	K7VK Vick this month only	Rotates Monthly
Webmaster	KE7IZG Mike	mleary2001@yahoo.com

Christmas Party / Meeting / Elections

Hi Everyone,

The annual Christmas Party/December meeting will be held at the Eagle's Lodge behind Rosauers on December 13, 2010. We will have a short meeting beginning at 6:15 PM, with dinner beginning at approximately 6:30 PM. It was decided at our October 11, 2010 meeting the menu will be your choice of an 8 oz Sirloin Steak--\$12.25, Chicken Gordon Bleu--\$10.75, and Stuffed Pork Chop--\$10.75. The price includes gratuity, tossed salad, baked potato, rolls with butter, coffee, and desert. We are going to collect the money prior to the dinner this year to save time and make it easier the evening of the party. If you make reservations and cancel after December 6th your money will not be refunded, as we will need to pay for the meals we order. You can give your meal to someone who has not already made reservations. We will have a sign up sheet at our November meeting, or you can make a check payable to HARC and forward along with your dinner choice to myself at 6696 Sun Valley Road, Florence, MT 59833 or Jerry Ehli at 2929 West Central, Missoula, MT 59804.

Our speaker for the Christmas Party will be Dr. Steven Running, Nobel Prize winner speaking on Global Warming and How Information is Obtained.

There will be a Christmas Gift Exchange after the speaker. The cost of the gift should not exceed \$10. The Gift Exchange Rules are attached.

Steve Flood KK7UV has agreed to chair the Nominating Committee and will present a slate of officer at our November meeting. We will also call for nominations from the floor at our December meeting. The two repeater committee members whose term will expire at the end of this year are Byron NN8A and Paul N7PAS. If you are interested in serving as an officer or a member of the repeater committee or would like to nominate someone, please contact Steve at kk7uv@bresnan.net. Last year after this process was completed there was a write in campaign that only a certain few were aware of until the ballots were counted. I suspect that is legal, but I would suggest that the nominations be made public so all present can consider all of the choices. I would hope the club's politics aren't conducted like those of our public candidates.

According to the HARC By-Laws, Section 1, paragraph 8 states "Full members, Life Members Honorary Life Members, Family Members and Student Members paying dues shall each be considered voting members and entitled to one vote for every motion, resolution, election or other voted action of the club.

Section 3, Paragraph B of the By-Laws state, "The regular club dues shall be payable in the first month of the calendar year. Any member paying dues after the first month of the calendar year shall be required to pay the annual dues in full. New members dues shall be prorated in increments equaling one twelfth of the dues of a Full Member per month.

Thus, if you were a member last year and have not paid your dues, and you would like to vote in the December election, you will need to pay the full \$25.

If you have any questions about any of the above, please feel free to call me at 240-4301 or 240-8685.

73'3 Elmer WG7P

CHRISTMAS GIFT EXCHANGE RULES

People who bring a gift will draw a number. Number 1 will pick the first gift. Each person thereafter when called (from lowest to highest number) will select a gift, open it and then decide if they want to keep it or trade with another person (there is no limit on the times' a gift can be exchanged, as there is typically one that is most desired). When all numbers are called and all gifts are gone, number 1 will decide if they wish to keep their gift or trade with another person, and that will be the final trade. Number 1 is the most desired number as they will have the pick of all the gifts. The higher numbers are better as you have more to select from. If someone trades with you, you are stuck with that gift unless someone else trades with you further into the exchange.

Hi Everyone,

Bob Reid, Director of Emergency Services for Missoula County gave a presentation at our meeting on October 11th and talked about the two links that he listed in his email.

73's Elmer EG7P

----- Original Message -----

Elmer,

It was good to meet with your group last night. Here are the two links I said I'd forward along.

To review and comment on Missoula County's draft Emergency Operations Plan, Basic Plan:

<http://www.co.missoula.mt.us/oes/plans/default.htm>

For ICS and other online courses from FEMA:

<http://training.fema.gov/IS/>

I also had a talk with David McGinnis this morning about ways that we can involve your organization more fully in emergency planning and response activities. It's clear to both of us that you have a lot to offer, especially in the area of staffing an emergency operations center. David will be working with you on how to build a relationship that will be beneficial to all concerned.

Thanks again for the invitation last night. I'm sure we'll be talking more in the future.

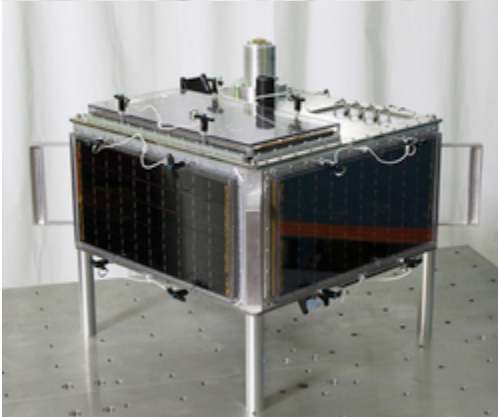
Bob

ARISSat-1 Tops Agenda at AMSAT-NA's Annual Meeting

10/20/2010



This spaceframe and payload was one of several identical units produced by the ARISSat-1 development team and was on display at the 2010 AMSAT-NA Space Symposium and Annual Meeting in Elk Grove, Illinois, October 8-10. A twin unit is scheduled to be manually released from the International Space Station in early 2011. [Brennan Price, N4QX, Photo]



ARISSat-1/RadioSkaf-V is a six-sided, cube-shaped satellite with solar panels on all six sides. A 70 cm quarter-wave whip will be mounted on the bottom and a 2 meter quarter wave whip on the top. All of the hardware and software will go inside, with the cameras on the outside. [Photo courtesy of the ARISSat Team]

The development and next year's scheduled launch of [ARISSat-1](#) were the main topics of discussion at the 2010 [AMSAT-NA](#) Space Symposium and Annual Meeting, held October 8-10, 2010, in Elk Grove, Illinois. ARISSat-1 has been delivered to NASA to undergo final preparations for delivery to the International Space Station ([ISS](#)). ARISSat-1 is scheduled to be manually released into orbit during an ISS spacewalk early next year.

The ARISSat-1 project began when [plans for SuitSat-2 had to be shelved for lack of a space suit](#). The development team undertook the task of housing the payload planned for SuitSat-2 in a more traditional housing adapted for manual deployment. A few units were developed to have on standby for future launch opportunities; one of these units was on display at the Symposium.

ARISSat-1 Project Manager Gould Smith, WA4SXM, provided a project overview and assembly details, while AMSAT-NA Vice President of Engineering Tony Monteiro, AA2TX, discussed the satellite's power system and the SDR technology incorporated into ARISSat-1. Other presenters included Phil Karn, KA9Q, developer of the BPSK1000 telemetry modulation and coding scheme (designed to counter fading problems often found with low Earth orbit satellites without attitude control), Douglas Quagliana, KA2UPW, author of a program to display ARISSat-1 telemetry and Robert Davis, KF4KSS, who discussed power budgeting and vibration testing.

ARISSat-1 will feature an inverting linear transponder with uplink at 435.742-435.758 MHz and downlink at 145.922-145.938 MHz. FM voice announcements, SSTV and telemetry will be downlinked at 145.95 MHz; BPSK1000 data will be sent at 145.920 MHz. A CW beacon -- identifying as RS01S -- will transmit at 145.921 MHz. The satellite's lifespan before reentry is uncertain, but likely to be around nine months, lasting through most of 2011, assuming it is released as scheduled.

Symposium proceedings also included a discussion of the ongoing development of the AMSAT-FOX FM CubeSat by Monteiro and a discussion of AMSAT's adaptation to restrictions on international cooperation imposed by the export control rules of the International Traffic and Arms Regulations (ITAR). A Sunday tour of Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory concluded the Symposium.

ARRL Central Division Vice Director Kermit Carlson, W9XA, served as Master of Ceremonies for the host committee. [Symposium proceedings are available at the AMSAT-NA store.](#)

W7PX from 1969!!

By Bob N7MSU

Once in while, a really happy surprise comes with the mail. In mid October the club received a QSL card from Tom W9KBT/4, located in Georgia. When Bob K7BA and Bob N7MSU opened the envelope, they expected the QSL to be a recent one from W9KTB. But, surprise! It was from W7PX to W9KTB confirming their QSO on Field Day in June 1969 and signed by Phil Coulter! (Note the scanned images.)

Many club members know that Phil Coulter was one of the early and beloved leaders of the Hellgate Amateur Radio Club. He was first licensed in 1923 as 7PT. In 1969 he held the W7PX call, which, following his death, became the club's call in the late 1980's. Bob K7BA is the trustee of the callsign, and the club's QSL card honors Phil today. (Check the club's website for more history.)

The old card that Phil sent to W9KBT is interesting in many ways. First, it was for Field Day (June 28, 1969), and the club still exchanges several QSLs annual from its Field Day operations. We can't be sure, but from one Phil's notes, it appears that the Club may have used W7PX, as its call for that Field Day. Second, the design is similar to our current W7PX card. Phil's card displayed a hand drawn image of Mount Jumbo viewed from the lower Rattlesnake Valley. Mountains still dominate the design. Today's card is a photograph of Mount Sentinel seen from Waterworks Hill, just west of Rattlesnake Creek, very close to Phil's home in those years. Phil promptly responded to the QSL request on July 7, wishing Tom good luck on attaining WAS (Worked All States) status. Today, we often receive QSLs requesting Montana to complete their WAS. Finally, the postcard has a 5 Cent postal stamp. Don't we wish postal rates had stayed steady over the last 41 years?

The letter that Tom sent was just as interesting in its own way. He printed an old photograph of himself on the envelope. We assume that the photo of him in his shack was taken sometime around 1969, and it reminds us of how much has happened in the past 41 years. Second, he states a real truism of ham radio. "There are only 2 hams to whom a QSL is important. The one who sent it, and the one who received it. I can only imagine your surprise when you opened this envelope and found a very old treasure inside." Yes, indeed.

Tom was first licensed in 1953 at the age of 12, so he was 28 when he worked W7PX. He went on to a distinguished career in electrical engineering. Now retired, Tom is still an active ham. Go to the QRZ.com website and look up his call. His biography makes good reading.

Tom's surprise was surely a good one for us. It captured a bit of club history. It also exemplified the best traditions of ham radio and reminds us that our hobby is a fraternity of mutual support and interest.

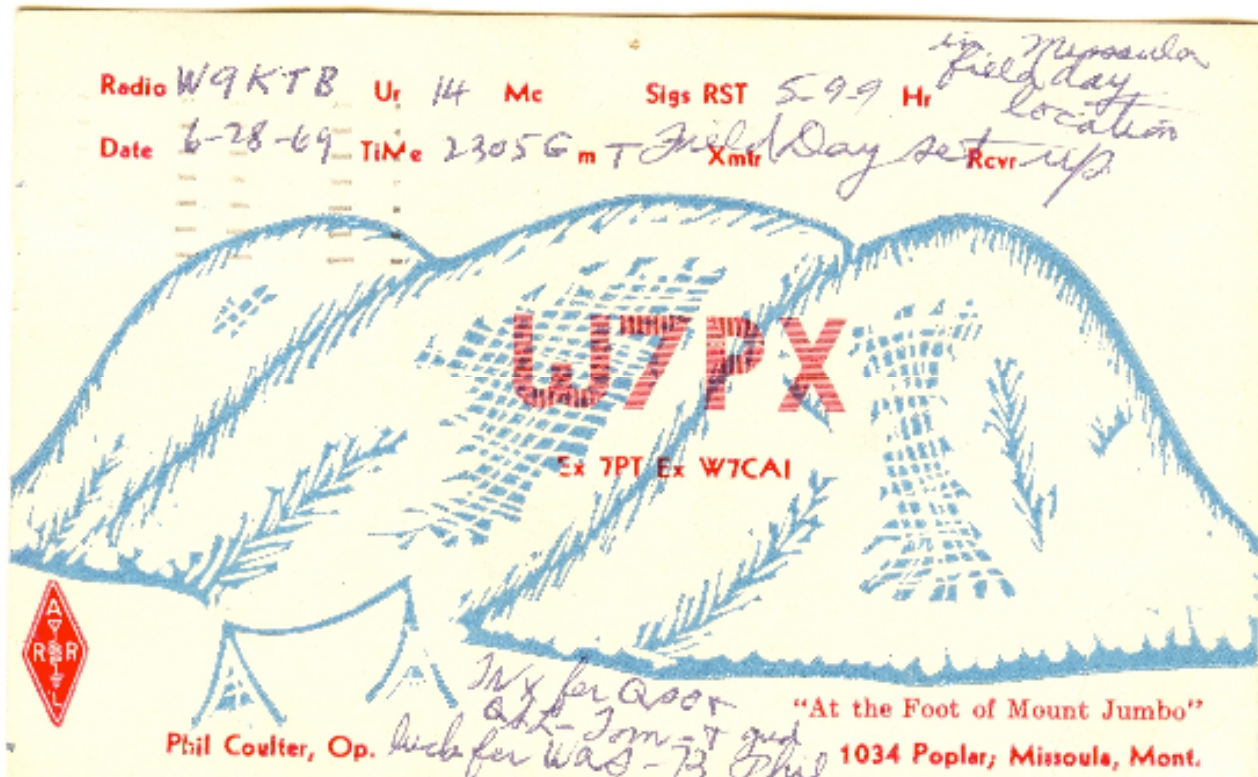


Figure 1 Front of W7PX QSL in 1969

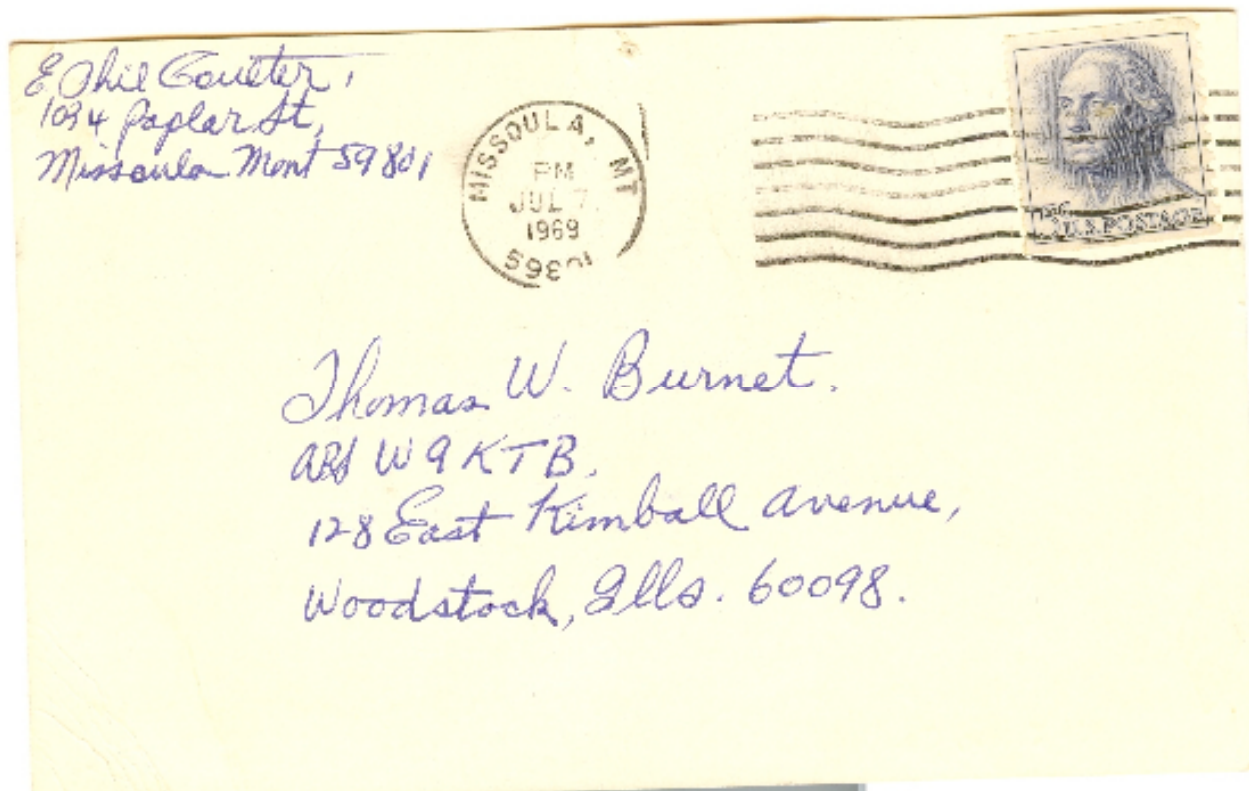


Figure 2 Back of W7PX QSL

HELLGATE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meeting Minutes for October 11, 2010
Fire House #4, Missoula

Meeting Called to order by Elmer, WG7P at 7pm

Introductions were made with 17 attendees

Secretaries Report—Elmer WG7P **Motion Jerry N7GE, 2nd Betsy KF7ECS** to approve minutes of the September 13, 2010, meeting as published.. **Motion passed**

Treasurers Report— Jerry, N7GE **Motion Donnie W7XY, 2nd Donna KC5WRA** to approve Treasurers Report as presented. **Motion passed**

Program—Bob Reid, Director of Emergency Services for Missoula County described how emergency services are provided and advised those who would be interested in providing input for the new County Emergency Plan to get on the Missoula County Web site and offer whatever suggestions one might have.

Committee Reports

Membership — Liz, WG7E – Liz advised that new club brochures are available.

Repeater — Eric, NZ7S - The new antenna has been installed along with a new hard line coax. Eric and committee members continue to fine tune the antenna and repeater in order to maximize its performance.

Net Operators — 10/13 Larry, K7GIS, 10/20 Bill W4YMA, 10/27 Eric NZ7S, 11/03 Donna KC5WRA

Old Business

Static — Monthly Editor, October—No Volunteers, Thanks Mike, AE7MH for September

Boy Scout Jamboree, Oct 16 & 17 (100th anniversary) –Lewis NQ7D—reported that additional help is needed to make this event successful.

Girl Scouts Believe in Girls Expo – October 16th, Missoula Fairgrounds – Bill, W4YMA: Bill will be setting up his inverted “U” antenna, with the assistance of Betsy KF7ECS, Donna KC5WRA. Additional volunteers would be appreciated!

Why Wednesday Night Net Begins at 9 PM—Lewis NQ7D—information seemed to indicate that other nets occur on Wednesday night and the 9 PM slot was available. It was also stated that other times had been tried in the past but it always ended up back at 9 PM. **Motion Betsy KF7ECS, 2nd Lewis NQ7D** to change the HARC Wednesday Night Net to 7 PM, **Motion Failed**

Christmas Party – Elmer WG7P – The Christmas party will be held on Monday, December 13th at the Eagles Lodge. A form was distributed asking members to select their three choices from the menu selections available. As a result of this processes the choices available will be an 8 oz. Sirloin \$12.25, Chicken Gordon Bleu \$10.75, and Stuffed Pork Chop \$10.75. The gratuity is included in the cost of the meal. This year when you make reservations you will be asked to pay for your meal. If you cancel your reservation after December 6th, refunds will not be available, although you may transfer your meal to another person who has not already made reservations. The normal white elephant gift exchange will also take place with the rules being published in an upcoming newsletter. Dr. Steven Running Nobel Prize Winner from the University of Montana will present the program on Global Warming.

Use of Club Call W7PX—Elmer WG7P—**Motion Wilmajeon KD7HP, 2nd Lewis NQ7D** to recommend “The HARC call sign W7PX can only be used for approved club events and with club approval.” **Motion Passed**

Other Items - None

New Business

Nominating Committee—Elmer WG7P—Steve Flood KK7UV will chair the nominating committee. Those interested in running for any of the club offices or for the two open spots on the repeater committee, or if you have recommendations please contact Steve. A slate of officers and repeater committee members will be presented at the November meeting.

Tuesday Coffee—Elmer WG7P—Considering that no one attends these any more is there interest in changing location, day, time, or discontinuing? Will be placed on the November agenda.

Ham License Class—Elmer—Any interest in starting another class? Will be placed on the November agenda.

Other items—Bill W4YMA passed around information on the inverted U antenna that he put together. Wilmajeon KD7HP advised that individuals with invalid call signs were using the 146.140 (K7KDR) repeater.

Announcements – None

Buy or Sell? - None

Good of the Order - Nothing

Door Prize Drawing – pack of 3 electrical tape, six foot coax with connectors, and a compass—Lucky Bill W4YMA won the door prize.

Motion to Adjourn –**Motion Donnie W7XY, 2nd Paul N7PAS** to adjourn the meeting—**Motion Passed**

Meetings and Events

Events of the Hellgate Amateur Radio Club

Date	Event	Contact
Daily	ARRL Montana Section HF Information Net 3.910 mhz 00:30 GMT	
Saturdays @ 7:00 a.m.	Breakfast at Paradise Falls	None
Saturdays @ 8:30 a.m.	Montana QCWA net 3.935 mhz	
Sundays @ 8:00 a.m.	ARRL Montana Section HF Information Net 3.880 mhz	
1st and 3rd Sundays of each month @ 8:00 a.m.	Montana Races Net 3.947 mhz	
2nd Monday of Month @ 7:00 p.m.	Club Meeting	WG7P
Tuesdays @ 2:00 p.m.	Coffee @ Arby's South	147.04 Mhz
Wednesdays 9:00 p.m.	HARC VHF Net 147.04	
TBA	Ham License Classes	W7PAQ
3 - 4 December 2010	Sky Warn Recognition Day	N7GE
13 December 2010	Christmas Dinner	WG7P
31 December 2010	First Night	KC7RBC
Periodically Announced	Emergency Service and Training	N7GE



Is amateur radio important to you?

Do you know the threats to our hobby?

JOIN and SUPPORT THE ARRL, our greatest advocate
for amateur radio.

Become a member. <http://www.arrl.org/>