



The Hellgate Static



March 2012

Editor: Mike Leary K7MSO

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Club Officers:

- President: WG7P, Elmer Myers
elmerm@hughes.net
- Vice-president: N7PAS, Paul Shuey
n7pas@bresnan.net
- Treasurer: N7GE, Jerry Ehli
jehli@modernmachinery.com
- Secretary: WG7E Liz Myers
lizm@montana.com

Standing Committees:

- Emergency Coordinator: N7GE Jerry Ehli
jehli@modernmachinery.com
- Membership: WG7E, Liz Myers
lizm@montana.com
- QSLs, Awards: N7MSU, Bob Henderson
- Webmaster: K7MSO Mike Leary
mleary2001@yahoo.com
- Radio License Examinations
Contact: VE K7VK Vick,
k7vk@arrl.net
- Awards: Bob, N7MSU,
n7msu@arrl.net

Repeater Advisory Committee

- Committee Chair : N7PAS, Paul Shuey
n7pas@bresnan.net
- NN8A Byron nn8aac7oj@gmail.com
- N7PAS, Paul, n7pas@bresnan.net
- W7XY Donnie, fort@montana.com
- KE7WR Kevin, kgoffe1@msn.com



Upcoming Events

- 12 Mar – Club meeting at Firehouse #4 on Latimer Street.
- 9 Apr – Club meeting.
- 21 Apr – Grizzly Man Adventure Race
- 21 Apr Grizzly Triathlon
- 28 April Riverbank Run
- 12 May YMCA Triathlon
- 14 May – Club meeting
- 19-20 May TOSRV
- 11 Jun – Club meeting
- 23-24 Jun Field Day
- 4 Jul Independence Day Special Event
- 8 Jul Missoula Marathon
- 9 Jul – Club meeting
- 20-22 Jul Glacier/Waterton Hamfest
- 28 Jul Blackfoot River Cleanup
- 13 Aug – Club meeting
- 10 Sep – Club meeting
- 8 Oct - Club meeting
- 20-21 Oct Jamboree On The Air
- 12 Nov - Club meeting
- 7-8 Dec Skywarn Recognition Day
- 10 Dec - Club meeting and Christmas Party

MINUTES
HELLGATE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
FEBRUARY 13, 2012
FIRE HOUSE #3, MISSOULA

CALL TO ORDER—ELMER WG7P AT 7:00 pm

INTRODUCTIONS WERE MADE WITH 18 MEMBERS AND 3 GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

SECRETARIES REPORT—LIZ WG7E

APPROVAL OF MINUTES—JANUARY 9, 2012 MEETING — **MOTION: Jerry N7GE 2ND: Eric NZ7S Motion passed**

TREASURERS REPORT— JERRY N7GE—**MOTION: Walt KJ7NL 2ND: Donnie W7XY Motion passed**

REVIEW OF 2011 TREASURER'S BOOKS--BOB N7MSU REPORTED NO DISCREPANCIES-- **Motion to accept report: Donnie**

W7XY 2ND: Tom K0SN Motion passed

PROPOSED 2012 BUDGET—JERRY N7GE **Motion to accept the 2012 budget as presented: Donny W7XY 2ND: Lewis NQ7D**

Motion Passed

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP—LIZ WG7E

REPEATER—PAUL N7PAS Report of committee meeting presented by Paul

NET OPERATORS— 2/15 Eric NZ7S 2/22 Elmer WG7P 2/29 Mike K7MSO 3/7 Paul N7PAS 3/14 Jerry N7GE

OLD BUSINESS

MIKE K7MSO HELLGATE STATIC EDITOR—PLEASE FORWARD ARTICLE TO MIKE

CHRISTMAS PARTY—ELMER WG7P—CONFIRMED DECEMBER 10, 2012—EAGLES LODGE, SOUTH AVENUE

TECHNICIANS CLASS PROGRESS—BYRON NN8A Two or three participants ready to test within the next few weeks

MEMBER INFORMATION 2012—ELMER WG7P presented summary of info from January meeting and ask those who didn't previously complete the form to do so if they desired

HARC MEMBERS QUESTIONNAIRE—ELMER WG7P summarized info from questionnaires completed at the January meeting. Forms were available for those wishing to complete

PROGRAMS FOR 2012—ELMER WG7P presented list of programs confirmed and solicited suggestions for other presenters

OTHER ITEMS (none)

NEW BUSINESS

REC: PURCHASE USED 500hz FILTER (CW) FOR IC736, APPROX. \$75 **Motion: Walt KJ7NL 2ND: Donnie W7XY Passed**

OTHER ITEMS—Walt KJ7NL suggested the club consider purchasing a 5-600 watt amplifier for use during Field Days, July 4th Celebration, Skywarn, etc. Others expressed a similar interest

PROGRAM—LOGBOOK OF THE WORLD: WALT KJ7NL & TOM K0SN

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARCH MEETING AT FIRE HOUSE #4 ON LATIMER STREET

78 TH ANNUAL GLACIER-WATERTOWN HAMFEST -- JULY 20-22 REGISTRATION FORMS, OR VIA INTERNET

ARGUS HAM FEST--FEBRUARY 25, MASONIC HALL, STEVENSVILLE

TOSRV May 19-20; Bigfork motels: Timbers Motel 406-837-6200; Mountain Lake Lodge 406-837-3800

NAME BADGES—ELMER WG7P—order sheet at front table

CLUB HATS AND VESTS—order sheet at front table

WORKED ALL HELLGATE AWARD

IRONMAN COEUR 'D ALENE – Sunday, June 24 (also Field Days) ; interested in helping? www.ironmaneda.com

SUGGESTIONS OR THOUGHTS FOR REVISING CONSTITUTION/BY LAWS—go to web site www.w7px.org, menu of left—select "amateur radio club—from that menu select "constitution/by laws. Send suggestions to me at elmerm@hughes.net .

BUY OR SELL—

GOOD OF THE ORDER

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Walt KJ7NL 2nd: Donnie W7XY Motion Passed

Respectfully submitted,
Liz WG7E, Secretary

CHANGES COMING FOR AIRES AND NTS

The February 15, 2012 issue of ARRL ARES E-LETTER had the following article explaining the current study being conducted dealing with ARES and NTS which will probably result in changes to credentialing, training, and how both organizations operate. Knowing that there is interest in both AREA and NTS by club members, this article might be of interest.

ECAC REPORTS PROGRESS ON ARES, NTS STUDIES

Last June, the ARRL Emergency Communications Advisory Committee (ECAC) was tasked with recommending improvements to ARES (American Radio Emergency Services) and NTS (National Traffic Systems) so that the amateur service can better serve the public in providing emergency communications. Specific topics included: ARES and NTS objectives and organizational structures; integration of ARES and NTS; training, certification, and credentialing; and relationships with served agencies. Chairman Dale Williams, WA8EFK, former Michigan Section Manager and new Vice Director of the Great Lakes Division, reported to the ARRL Board of Directors last month.

Williams reported that to "develop a solid foundation of where both the ARES and NTS stand in the minds of today's field leadership, the ECAC designed two field surveys. Included in the ARES survey were all Section Managers and Section Emergency Coordinators. The NTS survey included the NTS leadership, TCC Staff and Region Net Managers plus SMs and their Section Traffic Managers. Multiple detailed questions relating to all four of the above major tasks were included in the surveys."

ECAC members are now carefully reviewing and analyzing the results, and then will develop recommendations. Williams reported that it would be premature to offer comment about potential conclusions at this point. Williams thanked the respondents for their thoughtful and candid responses.

Several respondents' comments were included in Williams' report as a sampling. From the ARES Survey: "The best emergency communications system is the one you use everyday. ARES and NTS should be highly integrated, not independent as now!"

"NIMS/ICS compatibility is urgently needed, and should be required. ARES should work from the local level up, as NIMS/ICS does. ARRL ARES could learn a lot from NIMS/ICS."

"There needs to be a standard for type acceptance of services so that when an agency calls for a 'strike team' it is the same response regardless of location. (The name 'strike team' is just an example, there could be several layers of organization, but there needs to be a standard.)"

"We need to build credibility from the top down and bottom up with government served agencies. Need more visibility in their training materials and plans. Need national ID approved by FEMA with background check and minimum training. We also need to make sure if All Else truly fails, the system is flexible enough that non-accredited operators can be used in some capacity."

"More national help to local and regional ARES organizations around the country. Questions above could also be applied to RACES. FEMA needs to kill the program and replace with ARES or a new combined ARES/RACES organization."

From the NTS Survey: "Get the idea out that traffic is central to effective ARES action. EMCOMM is traffic. Too much distance now between interest in 'ARES' and 'Traffic'."

"NTS has a great reputation and past. I'd like to see the end to the junk messages from the few senders who do that. We've lost members due to them. In these days, it's ever more difficult to accomplish a level of participation, let alone deal with all the garbage messages. We pass them all here, but members just don't come back to the net. Also can't understand how some states can simply refuse to handle traffic from other states!"

"NTS nets and ARES/RACES are integrated in our section. More traffic of all kinds would help to exercise the system. More involvement of ARES members in day-to-day NTS operations would be very good training. Some ARES members do not understand the need for the NTS or for traffic-handling training."

Williams vacated the ECAC chairmanship on January 1 to assume the post of Great Lakes Division Vice Director. He thanked committee members for their outstanding service, and also the PSC and the Board for this opportunity to have served.

[Editor's note: We wish Dale the best of success in his new post. He served the ECAC exceptionally well during his tenure as chairman, bringing a spirit of camaraderie and a good work ethic to accomplish much, despite the sometimes diverging opinions of its members. Jim Cross, WI3N, the Section Manager of the Maryland/DC Section, has been appointed as new ECAC Chairman. -- K1CE]

2012 EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

The information below shows the events the club has approved for 2012. As you can see, many of the events focus on assisting numerous community activities. It is feasible that we could add or modify this list to accommodate members' interest or willingness to help. All of these events require a sizeable amount of manpower, thus your help will have a great deal to do with our success. As you review the list of activities below please contact those responsible for the event if you are willing to assist.

There has been some discussion at our recent meetings about attempting to organize a Fox Hunt. If you would like to know more about what this is and what it entails, the following web site would be a good place to start-- <http://www.homingin.com/>. If you would be willing to assist or chair this activity please contact Elmer WG7P (info below). If you would like to chair or co-chair this or other event you must be a member in good standing.

HARC 2012 EVENTS

EVENT	DATE	CHAIRPERSON	PHONE	EMAIL
GRIZZLY TRIATHLON	Apr 21	JERRY N7GE	239-2223	jehli@modernmachinery.com
GRIZ MAN ADVEN	Apr 21	BILL W4YMA	207-1764	billfarrell@hotmail.com
RIVERBANK RUN	Apr 28	JERRY N7GE	239-2223	jehli@modernmachinery.com
YMCA TRIATHLON	MAY 12	LIZ WG7E	240-4315	lizm@montana.com
TOSRV	May 19,20	BOB N7MSU	251-4148	n7msu@q.com
FIELD DAY	Jun 23,24	ELMER WG7P	240-4301	elmerm@hughes.net
W7PX SP EVT STA	July 4	BOB N7MSU	251-4148	n7msu@q.com
MSL MARATHON	July 8	ELMER WG7P &	240-4301	elmerm@hughes.net
GLACIER/WATER	July 20-22	NO CHAIR NEED		
BLACKFOOT CLEAN	July 28	BILL W4YMA	207-1764	billfarrell@hotmail.com
BOY SCOUT JAMB	Oct 20	MIKE K7MSO	239-2447	mleary2001@yahoo.com
SKY WARN RECOG-	Dec 7, 8	JERRY N7GE	239-2223	jehli@modernmachinery.com
CHRISTMAS PARTY	Dec 10	ELMER WG7P	240-8685	elmerm@hughes.net

MEETING PROGRAMS FOR 2012

There are some interesting programs arranged for the remainder of the year that will be interesting and provide much useful information to our members. A survey was distributed at our January meeting asking those in attendance to identify programs that interested them, from a list presented. Individuals also had an opportunity to list topics or suggestions for programs they felt would be of interest. Programs were arranged based on members' input

HELLGATE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB PROGRAMS 2012

MONTH	PROGRAM	PRESENTER
FEB, 13	Logbook of World/Digital QSLing	Walt KJ7NL & Tom KOSN
MARCH, 12	Building Quick Response Emerg Kit	Wilmajean KD7HP
APRIL, 9	Tour of Swan River Valley	Bob/N7MSU & Tim Marchant
MAY, 14	HARC Portable Repeater/use/how to	Eric NZ7S
JUNE, 11	HARC Portable Tower/Antenna/Radio	Eric NZ7S
JULY, 9	Display/Discussion Homebrewed Equip	Steve KK7UV, Paul N7PAS, others
AUGUST, 13	Basics Mobile Installations	Eric NZ7S, Mike K7MSO, Dean F7CQC
SEPT,, 10	Coax, Connectors, Getting Ready Winter	Tom KOSN
OCTOBER, 8	Battery Operations Home/Field	Vick K7VK

NOV, 12
DEC, 10

Event Contesting, Software, Hints
Dxpedition/Aurora-Meteor Commun

Bob N7MSU
Lance W7GJ

ALL HELLGATE AWARD

This is a good time to start planning on how you can win the Club's All Hellgate Award. This award requires serious commitment and considerable effort for the calendar year. Only three hams have achieved the prestigious award, so far. You can be the next. A complete list of rules is posted on the Club's website, <http://www.w7px.org/awards.html>

As written by the ol' Gatekeeper himself.

MEMBERS SURVEY PROVIDES INTERESTING INFORMATION

A survey has been circulated at our January and February meetings asking those in attendance to complete, so as to compile information about our members. During the past two months 27 members (66% of 41 total members) completed the survey, and the information below summarizes the results.

This information will be helpful when making club decisions or if we have special needs such as mobile or portable communications, we would know whom to contact. This will be helpful, as well, as we plan our events and perhaps want to know who has CW skills that could be used during Field Days or Skywarn, we would know whom to ask.

RESPONSE TO MEMBERS' SURVEY

27 RESPONSES

INFORMATION	NUMBER	PERCENT	INFORMATION	NUMBER	PERCENT
LICENSE CLASS			SET UP TOWER	11	41%
Tech	4	15%	SET UP REPEATER	6	22%
Gen	7	26%	MOBILE OPERATIONS		
Advance	2	7%	HF	9	33%
Extra	14	56%	2 meters	13	48%
ARMY MARS	6	22%	440	9	33%
NAVY MARS	1	4%	PORTABLE OPERATIONS		
ARES	7	26%	HF	8	30%
RACES	3	11%	2 meters	15	56%
FEMA 100	12	44%	440	8	30%
FEMA 200	9	33%	CW PROFICIENT	7	26%
FEMA 230	5	19%	ARRL	20	74%
FEMA 700	9	33%	VE/VEC	9	33%
FEMA 800	6	22%	ERC	6	22%
SPC TRAINING	3-cpr	1 emt	PACKET	6	22%
			APRS	8	30%