



The Hellgate Static



June 2016

Editor: Mike Leary K7MSO

HARC P.O. Box 3811, Missoula, MT 59806-3811

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Club Officers:

- President: K7MSO Mike Leary
mleary2001@yahoo.com
- Vice-president: Wayne Weber
KE7BPU
- Treasurer: N7GE, Jerry Ehli
jehli@modernmachinery.com
- Secretary: Maggie KF7KEE/Donna
KC5WRA

Standing Committees:

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

Repeater Advisory Committee

Chair: Wayne Weber KE7BPU

- N7DXT Gary Watson
- NZ7S Eric Sedgwick

Newly elected or reelected:

- Tom K0SN
- Paul Shuey N7PAS
N7PAS@bresnan.net

Upcoming Events

- 13 June Club Meeting
- 25 - 26 June Field Day
- 4 July W7PX Special Event
- 10 July Missoula Marathon
- 11 July Club Meeting
- 8 August Club Meeting
- 10 Sept Ride for the Symphony
- 12 Sept Club Meeting
- 10 Oct Club Meeting
- 15 - 16 Oct JOTA
- 14 Nov Club Meeting
- 2 - 3 Dec Skywarn
- 12 Dec Christmas Dinner

See club website for more:

http://www.w7px.org/meetings_and_events.html

9 May Meeting Notes

Attendance: Mike Leary K7MSO, Wayne Webber KE7BPU, Dick Walton W7XT, Tom McGinley K7QA, Byron Van-Alstein NN8A, Paul Shuey N7PAS, Eric Sedgwick NZ7S, Bryce Nordgren AF7AQ, Larry Stipe K7GIS, John Merlino N2XWS, Adam Merlino KC2JMN, Gary Bruce K7OIJ, Elaine Case KS7LDS, Lee Onishuh, Jonathan Farnsworth KK6RRP, Jerry Ehli N7GE, Tim Marchant TOSRV

The Director of the 46th Tour of the Swan River Valley spoke to the club members present and presented a donation to the club. Over 100 riders were registered for the upcoming event.

Approval of last minutes meetings. 1st Paul N7PAS, 2nd Gary K7OIJ. Passed.

Approval of Treasurer's Report. 1st Dick W7XT, 2nd Wayne KE7BPU.

Repeater Committee Report.

- 146.96 Thompson Peak is O.K.
- 146.80 Blanchard needs antenna work
- 147.04 is down, possible lightning strike
- 146.90 down, possible circuit breaker

Tower Status – Gary K7OIJ will have it reworked and ready for the club meeting on 13 June.

Upcoming events

- Ghost Towns On The Air ...no response from George Forsyth. Dick proposed the club go to Bannack or Coloma and set up in late August. Tabled for further discussion.

Renewal of Club Vanity Callsign, W7PX. In work.

VHF Net NCS assignments:

- 11 May: Eric NZ7S
- 18 May: Paul N7PAS
- 25 May: Mike K7MSO
- 1 June: Donna KC5WRA
- 8 June: Mike K7MSO

Program Dick W7XT: circuit simulation with Do Circuits, www.docircuits.com

Adjournment: 1st Dick W7XT, 2nd Wayne KE7BPU

2016 Tour of the Swan River Valley

HARC volunteers suffered a high attrition rate during the latest Tour of the Swan River Valley (TOSRV). On Saturday morning Dick W7XT, Larry K7GIS, Tom K7QA, Bryce AF7RQ, Bill W4YMA, Mike K7MSO, and Marty N7VGY started supporting the tour from Bonner School. By 0830 Marty called into the net after hitting a deer. He was OK but his car had to be towed back into Missoula. Later, in the afternoon, Bryce called into the net to report his truck had a broken drive shaft and that he was in need of a tow truck.

On a brighter note the weather was fantastic as we started up highway 200 to Clearwater, then past Seeley and up the beautiful Swan River Valley with the not-so snow-capped Mission Mountains on our left and the Swan Range Mountains on our right. We then turned west and ended up in Big Fork in time to watch a gorgeous sunset from the east side of Flathead Lake.

At one point there were four ham cars spread out over 70 miles of the course! This year the 146.80 repeater on Mt Blanchard was not working so we operated all day on simplex, at the very end of our vhf radio ability. This meant that the ham following tail-end-charlie, was out of radio contact with the rest of the group for most of Saturday morning. However, many of the riders at the back of the pack called it good at Swan Lake, allowing Mike K7MSO to catch up and regain radio contact with the next ham up the road, Larry K7GIS.

On the second day we headed south along Flathead Lake using simplex until around Polson, where we started using the Point Six repeater on 146.90. We could have used more volunteers since we had only Larry K7GIS and Mike K7MSO from Big Fork to Polson. We were very happy to hear Donna KC5WRA and Eric NZ7S as the bike ride proceeded along the dangerous parts of highway 93 through Ronan, Ravalli Hill, Arlee and Evaro Hill. Eric, always one to help, installed a brand new transceiver in Donna's van.