



The Hellgate Static



November 2016 Editor: Mike Leary K7MSO

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

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Bryce AF7RQ and Gary K7OIJ pull apart very reluctant antenna elements.

Club Officers:

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

- 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

Minutes October, 2016 meeting

Introductions: Mike Leary K7MSO called the meeting to order. The following were in attendance: Donna Pecastaing KC5WRA, Dick Walton W7XT, Paul Shuey N7PAS, Jerri Shuey N7JGS, Gary Duncan KG7WYQ, Larry Stipe K7GIS, Elaine Case KS7LDS, Gary Bruce K7OIJ, Tom McGinley K7QA, Bill Farrell W4YMA, Eric Sedgwick NZ7S, Mike Leary K7MSO, Wayne Weber KE7BPU, Peter Wheeler KI7CPJ

Approval of last meeting minutes Peter KI7CPJ Moved, Donna KC5WRA 2nd ; Passed

Treasurer's Report - Donations from Marathon and TOSRV; .1st Donna KC5WRA; 2nd Gary K7OIJ; Passed

Repeater Committee Report by Eric Sedgwick NZ7S
146.90 Point Six – Small glitch on UHF link to Thompson Peak and Blanchard repeaters
146.96 Thompson Peak – Passed inspection by USFS

HF Committee Report– Working on 20-meter monobander. All parts in Tom K0SN's garage.

Audit Report – Dick W7XT is in contact with the Treasurer, Jerry NG7E and will have the audit done by November's meeting.

Recent Events

2 Antenna takedowns - West Hillcrest and Rimrock. Will need a bucket truck for West Hillcrest. Waiting for the ground to harden for Rimrock.

Upcoming Events

JOTA (15 October) – not much interest has been shown by Troops. Eric will have it at his house.
Skywarn (2/3 December). Communicating with Weather Service.
Christmas Dinner (12 December). Opens @ 6:00 p.m., eat at 7:00 p.m.
Nominating Committee – Tom Hellum

VHF Net NCS assignments:

Oct 12 – KG7ZNG
Oct 19 – Paul N7PAS
Oct 26 – Mike K7MSO
Nov 2 – Donna KC5WRA

*** Next Club meeting: Nov 14.

Program: None (No projector)

Good and Welfare.

Adjournment Gary KG7WYQ, moved, Bill W4YMA 2nd, Passed

A Club Station?

From time to time a conversation topic between fellow hams that has come up over a cup of coffee or a beer is that of the possibility of HARC putting together a club HF station. I think this would be a worthwhile endeavor and based upon the input of other club members there are many who would agree. To hopefully promote further discussion I would like to lay out the pro side of the issue here.

My own personal observation at events like Field Day is that there are many club members who do not have a station at their homes. A club station would give all an opportunity to practice pursuit of this great hobby and further their skills in operating. Our ability as a group to provide public service communications would be greatly enhanced.

We have the technical expertise and physical ability within the membership to accomplish this goal today. In the recent past we have received several donations of equipment from estates of silent keys and others, and we are likely to receive more. We could employ some of this equipment in putting together a club station. Additionally some of us own gear that at the present time is unused and could be contributed. Personally I have 75 feet of Rohn 45 tower with all the guy brackets, thrust bearing, etc. that could be used. I'm sure others would step forward.

A club station to start out could be very simply a heated building with electricity and a few trees to string up some wires in. We could progress from there and a valuable learning experience could be had by all in the process of refining and improving the setup. And consider the increase in DXCC numbers that many would experience!

I think we have the resources within our club today to accomplish this. The only thing lacking is a place to do it. Preferably such a place would be in the outlying areas away from power line QRN and RFI complaints, with a clear shot at the horizon in most directions. Hopefully this writing will inspire our members to be on the lookout for such a place. Maybe someone has a rich uncle with rural property who would give us a long term lease (cheap), or a generous employer with a building that has an unused space in one corner. The possibilities are many.

Let's kick it around!

Tom Hellem
K0SN

Antenna Take Down on West Hillcrest

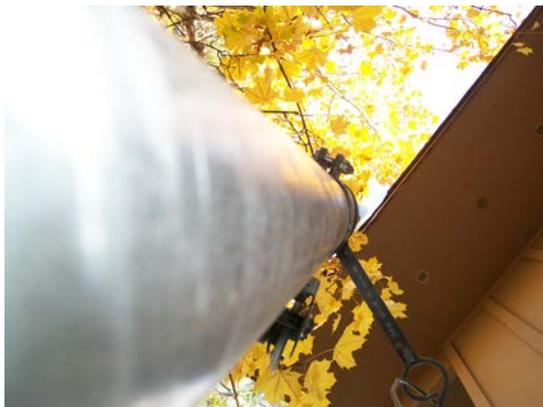
Six HARC volunteers, Bryce AF7RQ, Gary K7OIJ, Tom K7QA, Dick W7XT, Eric NZ7S and Mike K7MSO, took down a tower and antenna this October on West Hillcrest Drive. Luckily, the property owner hired a landscaping company with a bucket truck to take the beam off of the tower. The rest of the work was up to the volunteers. This is a great way to see what is required to put up a tower and antenna, if you are thinking about doing it in your yard.



Bryce AF7RQ cuts bolts between tower and base



Dick W7XT steadies a ladder while Tom K7QA wraps cable for a pulley in a tree.



The tower was very close to the roof.



Bryce AF7RQ, Dick W7XT and Tom K7QA move out of the way



Tom K7QA gives the 'heave-ho' to a post in the way as Bryce K7QA and the property owner look on.

K7PX does Summits on the Air!



What's up with Hellgater, K7PX?

From K7VK, Vick

K7PX, Steve is still actively hamming but now from his new home in Colorado. Why Colorado you ask? Steve and his wife Linder's answer: *to be next to the Grandkids of course.*

Steve is a long time active member of the Hellgate ARC. He has moved to Colorado and that's we've not seen him around HARC events, test sessions and meetings. He is ham social there hiking and hamming with mountain famous **wGOAT** of QST and YouTube fame.

Over the years in Missoula and while we were in our heated ham shacks, Steve could be heard transmitting from a cold snow cave in Montana mountains. Warm to him, the snow cave temperature would be just above freezing while the outside air would be well below freezing, Steve would be hamming with his mini-portable radio. An avid CW operator, read **CW Forever** motto, it is his primary mode. He would also be on SSB and FM, but rarely admit to it.

Steve is now very active with 'Summits on the Air', **SOTA**. Here's a YouTube video link of **K7PX** in action on Signal Butte near his home in Colorado Springs: <https://youtu.be/-wiyuBO8q7U>

You can work Steve or daily work/hear other **SOTA** stations. Common CW frequencies are around 7.032, 10.112 and 14.061MHz. USB is common around 14.345MHz and FM on the VHF simplex frequencies like 146.52MHz. For additional information, see <http://www.sotawatch.org/index.php> and click the tabs beginning with 'website' for an introduction. Daily **SOTA** operating schedules and frequencies are found at: <http://www.sotawatch.org/>