



The Hellgate Static

August 2018



Hellgate Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 3811, Missoula, MT 59806-3811

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Upcoming Events:

- 13 August – Meeting
- 10 September – Meeting
- 15 September – Gallatin Ham/Prepper Fest
- 8 October – Meeting
- 19 / 21 October - JOTA
- 12 November – Meeting
- 1 / 2 December – Skywarn
- 10 December – Meeting / Christmas Party

Officers:

President: Mike Leary, K7MSO
Vice-President: Eric Sedgwick, NZ7S
Treasurer: David Herzberg, K7MTD
Secretary: Donna Pecastaing, KC5WRA

Standing Committees:

Emergency Coordinator: Jerry Ehli, N7GE
QSLs, Awards: Bob Henderson, N7MSU
Webmaster: Mike Leary, K7MSO
Static Editor: Terry Cook, KF7BQ
Radio License Exams Contact VE:
Paul Shuey, N7PAS

Repeater Advisory Committee:

Eric Sedgwick N7ZS (Chair)
David Herzberg, K7MTD
Tom Mc Ginley, K7QA
Tom Hellem, K0SN (New / Re-elected)
Paul Shuey, N7PAS (New / Re-elected)

Missoula Marathon 2018

On July 15th, HARC provided communications and tracking assistance for the 2018 Missoula Marathon. We used Eric's NZ7S repeater which performed flawlessly.

APRS trackers were installed on eight bikes to allow race officials to follow the progress of the race. The tracker pouches that the club purchased were a distinct improvement from the previous method, and installations went smoothly.

Mike, K7MSO and Jerry, N7GE, operated the net control station and provided information to race officials. Bryce AF7RQ, David K7MTD, Eric N7ZS, Dick W7XT, Dan KI7HLW, Chris KE7MH, Rick K7QNZ, Donna KC5WRA, Bill, W4WMA and Terry KF7BQ were assigned to aid stations along the course.

This year's Marathon was a great success. Thanks to all that participated.

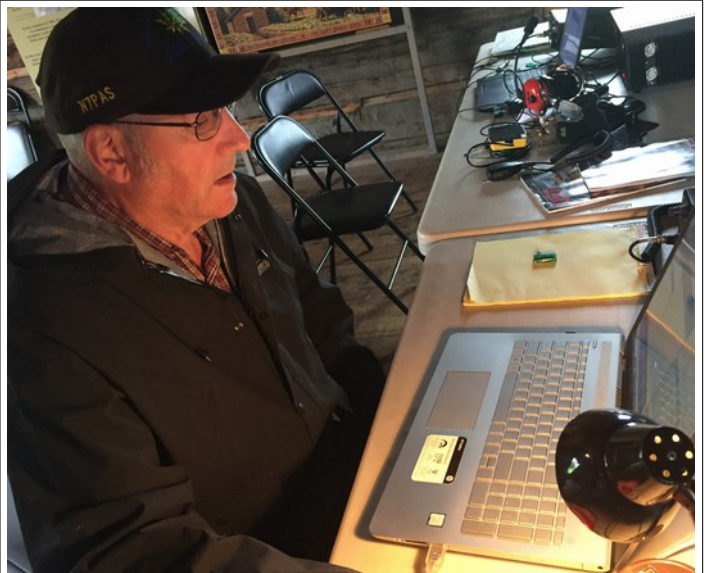
2018 Field Day

HARC members once again had a great time during Field Day at the old log cabin chapel at Fort Missoula. Two stations were set up, one for voice/cw and another for digital. Two stations were set up, one for voice / cw and the other for digital. Very few HARC members showed up to operate, however, some out of town visitors did show up to see how HARC runs Field Day. Paul N7PAS became a convert to the digital modes of operating HF.

Setup was mostly done in the warm sun Friday afternoon, then wrapped up in the downpour of Saturday morning. Dick W7XT did not let an arm in a sling from surgery stop him from helping out. Teardown went smoothly in the Sunday afternoon sun.

Many thanks go to those who made the Field Day happen: Bryce KI7LMV, Jerry N7GE, David K7MTD, Dan KI7HLW, Dick W7XT, Paul N7PAS, Donna KC5WRA, Tom K7QA and Mike K7MSO.

Here are a few photos from Field Day 2018.



Thompson Peak (146.96) Repeater Inspection / Work Party

Hi All,

On Jul 20th the Forest service called an inspection/work party at Thompson Peak for the 31st of July at 9:00 AM.

Bryce Rowe KI7LMV, Jerry Ehli N7GE, Eric Sedgwick NZ7S, and myself Paul Shuey N7PAS made the trip. We arrived at the site at 8:30 AM with the Forest Service rep right on our tail.

Others that showed up for the get together were the Mineral Co. Sheriff, Mineral Co. Radio Tech, Montana Highway Patrol Tech, and Montana Electronics Tech.

We discussed things that needed to be done in and around the building, and then the 4 of us set to work on the grounding for our repeater.

We ran 2 #8 insulated copper wires from the building ground on floor 1 up through the floor to floor 2 and around the room to a ground bus bar that we installed behind the repeater.

After connecting to the building ground we carefully dressed the cables up and around the room to the bus bar.

We then installed lightening protection units on the 2 coax's and ran # 10 stranded wire to the bus bar. This took about 2 ½ hours.

We then helped the others with some cleanup of old coax's from floor 1 to the FS Tower. We removed 9 unused coax's from inside the building and cut them off outside.

We also helped with redoing/tightening the building ground cable system which was loose on all connections around the outside of the building.

The FS needs to dig a new trench and replace there broken conduit to their tower and remove all the unused cable on the tower.

I'm not taking any bets on how long that will take. If all the agencies push for completion it any get done and the noise floor level at the building will drop some.

We left the site at around 12:30 PM and headed home. Thanks to all that helped. Good job.

Paul Shuey N7PAS W5YI VEC

Missoula, MT pshuey@bresnan.net

Paul sent along some photos from the repeater site:

Thompson Peak Work Party Photos



Two New DMR Repeaters On The Air

The Mac Pass Repeater Group's Lookout Pass DMR repeater is now operating and is linked to the worldwide Brandmeister digital network. The Hytera repeater is capable of mixed mode operation. The analog side has had the PL tone changed to 100 Hz and will be linked to the Echolink network sometime in the fall.

The Lone Mountain site near Big Sky is on the air! From 11,000+ feet above sea level, coverage is expected to be spectacular. This is a DMR only repeater. **Repeater particulars:**

Lookout Pass WR7HLN
444.200 MHz, plus 5 MHz offset
DMR admission: Color Code 2
DMR Radio ID: 313009
Analog FM access: PL encode/decode 100.0 Hz

Lone Mountain (near Big Sky) KL7JGS
447.000 MHz, minus 5 MHz offset
DMR admission: Color Code 1
DMR Radio ID: 313017

New Two Meter, 70cm and Six Meter FM Repeaters

Don, WR7DW, has installed a six meter on Pinkham Mountain in Lincoln County, Northwest of Kalispell. Transmitting on 53.010 MHz and receiving on 51.310 MHz (-1.7 MHz offset) PL tone: 114.8 Hz. At an elevation of 6,322 feet. It should provide substantial coverage of Northwest Montana..

Don, WR7DW, has also installed two meter and 70cm repeaters at the Werner Mountain site 15 miles NW of Whitefish at an elevation of 6970 feet. Coverage may extend to Missoula with a directional antenna pointed in the right direction.

Two Meter Werner Mtn.
147.260 MHz + 100 Hz PL tone

70 cm Werner Mtn.
444.650 MHz + 100 Hz PL tone

Call For Meeting Programs

We are in need of programs for the monthly meetings. Do you have a favorite radio activity that would be of interest to other hams? Amateur radio has so many facets – satellites, slow scan and fast scan TV, MARS, radio direction finding, IRLP, Echolink, D-Star and HF digital modes to name a few. Maybe you have a radio or antenna related project that other members might be interested in?

Please consider putting on a short program to enlighten other club members and make our meetings more interesting. Contact Mike, K7MSO or Eric, NZ7S to schedule your program.

July 2018 Attendance and Meeting minutes:

Present were: Donna Pecastaing KC5WRA, Jackie Harrington KC7RBC, Terry Cook KF7BQ, Rich Kingdon K7QNZ, Paul Shuey N7PAS, Jerry Ehli N7GE, Larry Stipe K7GIS, Bryce Nordgren AF7RQ, Tom McGinley K7QA, Dick Walton W7XT, Dan Somerlott KI7HLW, Jerri Shuey N7JGS, David Herzberg K7MTD, Hayden, Eric Sedgwick NZ7S, Mark Lehmann KF5ZFF, Bryce Rowe KI7LMV, Mike Leary K7MSO.

Approval of June meeting minutes: Approved

Approval of Treasurer's Report: Approved

Repeater Committee: Eric NZ7S heard from Missoula County 146.90 repeater might not move, yet.

July meeting minutes continued

H.F. Committee: Field Day and Fourth of July Special Event went well. All equipment worked fantastic. Tower went up and down very quickly, compared to previous events. Hardly any club members showed up to operate, though.

Upcoming Events: Missoula Marathon July 15. Dave K7MTD has vests and trackers. Eric NZ7S and Dick W7XT will be at River Pines. Dick W7XT will also be Tail End Charlie. Primary: 147.00, secondary 147.04.

New Static Editor: Terry Cook KF7BQ

Wed night VHF Net Control:

11 July David K7MTD

18 July Eric NZ7S

25 July Eric NZ7S

1 Aug Donna KC5WRA

8 Aug Paul N7PAS

Program: Cisco Emergency Volunteers By Mark Lehmann KF5ZFF

Meeting Adjourned.