



# The Hellgate Static



Hellgate Amateur Radio Club

Missoula, Montana

September 2011

Editor: K7MSO Mike Leary

## **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

August Meeting Notes

Blackfoot River Cleanup

Henry Butzel Moves On

Point 6 Working Party



**We need volunteers for the following events:**

## **Club Officers:**

- President: KD7HP, Wilmajeane [billiejean\\_mt@yahoo.com](mailto:billiejean_mt@yahoo.com)
- Vice-president: NZ7S, Eric Sedgwick
- Treasurer: N7GE, Jerry Ehli
- Secretary: AE7MH Mike Henry

## **Standing Committees:**

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

## **Repeater Advisory Committee**

- NZ7S, Eric [nz7s@msn.com](mailto:nz7s@msn.com), Committee Chair
- Vacant
- N7PAS, Paul, [n7pas@bresnan.net](mailto:n7pas@bresnan.net)
- W7XY Donnie, [fort@montana.com](mailto:fort@montana.com)
- KE7WR Kevin, [kgoffe1@msn.com](mailto:kgoffe1@msn.com)

## **Upcoming Event**

15-16 October Jamboree on the Air

## August Club Meeting Notes

Guest speaker - Don Latham - Where Lightning Comes from

Minutes of last meeting approved

- Paul N7PAS moved to approve
- Donny W7XY 2nd

Treasurer's report

- Balance \$1,686.53
- Donny motion to approve
- Elmer 2nd

Repeater committee

- Donnie W7XY read notes from Eric about installing new 04 antenna
- Repeater is working well
- We will go back to using 04 for net

Old business

- Todd K2GCN (as per Lewis NQ7D) - wants club to plan ahead for any event.

Bill Farrell W4YMA brought up the idea about the weather balloon

- Sentinel HS teacher was at meeting to discuss balloon
- Bill made motion to contact UM Physics Department and explore weather balloon
- Lewis seconded the motion
- After a brief discussion
- Bill withdrew the motion
- Motion tabled until next meeting
- Bill will chair balloon committee to explore the balloon project and bring a report to the next meeting.
- Elmer WG7P discussed the contact info on the web and asked it to be edited to show the current officers and contact info. Mike N7MSO will make the changes.

New Business

- Repeater Committee requests a maximum of \$350 for to replace the receiver on the 04 repeater.
- They also will need to put in a newer transmission lead at Blanchard
  
- Phase 1- tune cavity duplexers (cabling on duplexers). \$150 for that portion.
- Phase 2 - move packet antenna to 1 of 2 wooden posts. Eric O.K.d this.
  - \$760.00 total for this project which includes;
    - \$330.00 for 1/2 " helix
    - \$100.00 for connectors
    - \$180.00 for conduit
    - \$150.00 for miscellaneous items.
  
  - Aug 20,21 or Sept 3,4 or Sept 17-18 are weekends for work parties
- Phase 3 - move antenna from mountain next year
  
- Lewis 2nd this motion
- Jerry has question about 146.010 packet. Donny gets weather reports on this on this.
- Motion #3 passed

## August Club Meeting Notes continued

- Motion #1 from Byron NN8A to spend \$350 for a used GE Master II for 147.04 repeater.
- Bill W4YMA 2nd motion
- Motion #1 passed
  
- Motion # 2 by Byron to spend \$910.00 for phase one and two to fix the digital system (Packet and APRS)
- Motion #2 passed
  
- Motion #3 - to take \$720 out of General Fund and put into Digital Repeater Fund to make up the difference from the \$190.00 in the budget for the digital upgrade to the \$910.00 necessary to fund the two previous motions.

Signup list for repeater teams for the work weekends went around the room.

Bill W4YMA thanked the Blackfoot River cleanup volunteers

Net control operators:

10 Aug Bill W4YMA  
17 Aug Donna KC5WRA  
24 Aug Lewis NQ7D  
31 Aug Mike K7MSO  
07 Sep Paul N7PAS

Elmer makes motion that an agenda be prepared by the club President and distributed to each member and guest at each regular meeting and that it be sent to each member who has provided the club their email address by no later than Sunday prior to the meeting.

- Jerry 2nd
- motion passed

Other business

Donation from Chuck Teague of a Kenwood TS440S, an Astron power supply, a mobile whip antenna and a box of miscellaneous items.

- Lewis makes motion that prices be set at not less than value as presented by a list from Tom K0SN. Tom went to the internet to gather approximate costs for like items for sale on the internet.
- Byron NN8A 2<sup>nd</sup> it.
- Motion passed
  
- Byron makes motion that if not sold tonight, then postpone until next meeting.
- Bid process open until next meeting
- If not old then, put on internet
- Lewis 2<sup>nd</sup>

## August Club Meeting Notes continued

- Motion passed.

Elmer WG7P said bid individually.

- TS 440S 100w and Astron12v power supply
- TS 440S sold to Paul N7PAS for \$475.00
- Bid for RS35M power supply
- Elmer WG7P got it for \$115.00
- Connectors and antenna, etc sold to Paul N7PAS for \$35.00
- Total for all the sold items was \$625.00

Donnie W7XY worked 21 hrs for weather service

- Tour de Cure at Three Forks was discussed by Bill W4YMA

Gallatin Radio Club Ham-fest Saturday 24 September

- Jerry announced that Wildland Fires is looking for a radio dispatcher as per information provided by Eric NZ7S. More info later after Eric has contact from the organization.

## Blackfoot River Cleanup

The Blackfoot River Clean-up was headquartered at Johnsrud Park instead of the Pfister's on Rainbow bend, There were four of us who covered the River from Johnsrud to The weigh Station near Bonner. N7VK(Vick), NC5WRA(Conna), KF7ECS(Betsy), and W4YMA(Bill).

The river was running high and swift which called for a reduced number of people working the event due to less than favorable conditions. FWP(Fish & Wildlife) had boats in at Whittaker Bridge and there were a couple of floaters launched from Johnsrud to Wisher Bridge.

No divers were put in this year due to swift current.

The even lasted from 6:00 AM to 3:00 PM and the Potomac Women's group put on a great lunch spread. They spoke well of our efforts and coverage, thanking us and hoping to see us again next year when it will again be from Johnsrud as the Pfister's have transferred control over to them now.

73's,  
Bill



The Blackfoot River Command Post

## Blackfoot River Cleanup continued



The Blackfoot River Command Post

## Henry "Hank" Butzel Moves On

I need to let you know so you can pass on to the other HARC members that Hank Butzel died in a landing accident in Moore, ID while landing his glider. Hank belonged to more than one group in Missoula, including HARC. I don't know why I spaced this out about notifying Club members? I guess that I fixated on two other groups that Hank & I are a part of: the Experimental Aircraft Assoc. and a glider group that Hank & I were a part of.

As it happened I was able to visit with Hank's mother Miriam, and sister Marcia while they were in Missoula, while they were staying at Hank's house. They would very much appreciate any club members correspondence.

From Gary Matson:

Please join us in the Museum of Mountain Flying at the Missoula Airport on Saturday September 17 at 6 PM to remember and to celebrate Hank Butzel's life. We'll also share in Hank's love of good food with friends. If you'd like, bring a dish or a beverage to share, or some stories and thoughts, or just come! To locate the Museum, take the regular Airport entrance, take the first left turn onto Aviation Way. Proceed on Aviation Way, turn right just before the security gate into the Museum parking lot.

Thanks for passing the message on to the club members,

Greg N17WB

## Sept 5 Point 6 Work Party

Eight hams, Eric NZ7S, Paul N7PAS, Wilma Jean KD7HP, Byron NN8A, Mike K7MSO, Phil KJ7Z, Jim N0XPO, and Rich K7QNZ made the journey up to Point 6 on a fantastic Labor Day morning to work on the packet and APRS repeater systems at the National Weather Service radar site on top of Point 6. Both the APRS and Packet Antennas were relocated. Additionally, both the packet and APRS equipment racks were moved. This movement required digging about 100 feet of trench that was accomplished by a tag team.



Eric NZ7S and Paul N7PAS size up the packet antenna base and hardline.

**Sept 5 Point 6 Work Party continued**



Phil KJ7Z, Eric NZ7S, Byron NN8A and Paul N7PAS work on the packet repeater.



Rich K7QNZ, Eric NZ7S, and Jim N0XPO work on the APRS antenna