



The Hellgate Static



June 2014

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

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Club Officers:

- President: NQ7D, Lewis Ball
<mailto:ac7uz@q.com>
- Vice-president: W7XT Dick Walton
- Treasurer: N7GE, Jerry Ehli
jehli@modernmachinery.com
- Secretary: Maggie KF7KEE/Donna KC5WRA

Standing Committees:

- Emergency Coordinator: N7GE Jerry Ehli
jehli@modernmachinery.com
- Membership: vacant
- 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

- Committee Chair: W7XT Dick Walton

- Tom K0SN
- N7MSU Bob Henderson
n7msu@q.com

- Newly Elected or reelected:
- W7XY Donnie Fort
fort@montana.com
- Paul Shuey N7PAS
N7PAS@bresnan.net

Upcoming Events

- ?? YMCA Triathlon
- 09 Jun - Club meeting
- 28 - 29 June Field Day
- 04 Jul W7PX Special Event
- 13 Jul – Missoula Marathon
- 14 Jul - Club meeting
- 18 - 20 Jul Glacier Waterton Hamfest
- ?? July Blackfoot River Cleanup
- 11 Aug - Club meeting
- 08 Sep - Club meeting
- 20 Sep - Ride for the Symphony
- 13 Oct - Club meeting
- 18 - 19 October JOTA
- 10 Nov - Club meeting
- ?? Dec Skywarn
- 08 Dec - Club meeting

See club website for more meetings and events:

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

Hellgate Amateur Radio Club Minutes May 12 2014 at Fire Station #4

Lewis Ball NQ7D called the meeting to order. The following were in attendance:

Chris Holliday N7ANU, Wayne Weber KE7BPU, Lewis Ball NQ7D, Dean Pond N7DLP, Gary Watson N7DXT, Jerry Ehli N7GE, Sandra Pond KF7GZR, Jerri Shuey N7JGS, Maggie Lough KF7KEE, Karen Ivie KG7KPK, Kelly Foster K6LLY, Mike Leary, K7MSO, Frank Kisselbach W7PAQ, Paul Shuey N7PAS, Steve Schlang K7PX, Rich Kingdon K7QNZ, Eric Sedgwick NZ7S, Tom Hellem K0SN, Vick Applegate K7VK, Donna Pecastaing KC5WRA, Dick Walton W7XT, Bill Farrell W4YMA,
guests – Tim Marchant, Missouliams On Bicycles, Inc., Tim Phillips

Donna Pecastaing KC5WRA moved approval of Minutes from April 14 2014 Bill Farrell W4YMA 2nd. Passed.

Maggie Lough KF7KEE moved approval of the Treasurer's Report for April 2014. Paul Shuey N7PAS 2nd. Passed

Tim Marchant presented the information about TOSRV 2014 and gave a donation to the club. Bob Henderson N7MSU, who is event coordinator, has been called out of town. Mike Leary K7MSO agreed to be the alternate if Bob does not get back in time.

Jerry Ehli N7GE reported that the River Bank Run went smoothly, with 8 hams participating.

Lewis is looking for VEs for May 17 in Thompson Falls.

Net Control Operator Schedule – 5/14 Mike Leary K7MSO, 5/21 Bill Farrell W4YMA, 5/28 Bill Farrell W4YMA, 6/4 Donna Pecastaing K5WRA, 6/11 Paul Shuey N7PAS, 6/18 Jerri Shuey N7JGS

The current HARC brochure was passed out to members, for suggestions to improve it.

The following items were in a silent auction: Radio Shack HTX202, Dell Latitude Computer, MFJ CW Interface, MFJ Watt Meter

The following items are for sale: HF Mobile Antenna \$100, see Dick Walton. Palomar Amp 40 – 10 meter 300 watts \$300, see Eric Sedgwick

Dick Walton W7XT presented the Power Point Program on JT65 and variants.

Eric Sedgwick and Maggie Lough won the door prizes.

Paul Shuey N7PAS moved to adjourn. Donna Pecastaing KC5WRA 2nd. Passed.

ARRL's Northwest Division website

The ARRL NW Division website, <http://www.nwarrl.wetnet.net/node/3>, has Northwest amateur radio news, events and organizational information. Give it a look!

- from K7VK Vick

YMCA Riverbank Run for 2014

The YMCA requested HARC's help again this year with the Riverbank Run and eleven HARC members volunteered to help. Jerry N7GE and Mike K7MSO were up on top of the Wilma Building as net control while Bob K7BA, Donna KC5WRA, Maggie KF7KEE, Gary N7DXT, Lewis NQ7D, Eric NZ7S, Wyatt (NZ7S' harmonic), Dick W7XT and Rich K7QNZ were spread out along the three race courses throughout the eastern part of Missoula.

No medical emergencies or any other difficulties arose during this event and the weather, while sometimes cold and windy, did not rain and we actually got a little sunburned. This allowed us to focus on our different setups for our radio equipment and radio procedures, setting the stage for success in future races. Afterwards some of the HARC team ate at Tower Pizza to discuss how events played out and came up with new ideas for this race and others.



In yellow: Mike K7MSO and Jerry N7GE



Jerry N7GE talks as net control on top of the Wilma



The view from on top of the Wilma did not disappoint

2014 Tour of the Swan River Valley

There were plenty of flat tires and some fast riders to keep HARC volunteers busy this past weekend as they helped out with the 2-day, 226-mile bicycle ride. Just after 7:00 a.m. we started up highway 200 to Clearwater, then past Seeley and up the beautiful Swan River Valley with the 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.

This year we were spread out pretty thin and could have used a few more volunteers. At one point there were four ham cars spread out over 70 miles of the course! Lucky for us we had the Blanchard Mountain repeater on 146.80 providing excellent coverage all of the way until Conrad, and then simplex worked o.k. for the rest of the way into Big Fork.

On the second day we headed south along Flathead lake using simplex until around Polson, where we started using the Point Six repeater on 147.04. Again we could have used more volunteers since we had only Rich K7QNZ and Mike K7MSO for from Big Fork to Polson. We were very happy to hear Lewis NQ7D, Bill W4YMA and Donna KC5WRA as the bike ride proceeded along the dangerous parts of highway 93 through Ronan, Arlee and Evaro Hill.

Many thanks from the riders go to Dick W7XT, Rich K7QNZ, Lewis NQ7D, Bill W4YMA, Donna KC5WRA and Mike K7MSO.



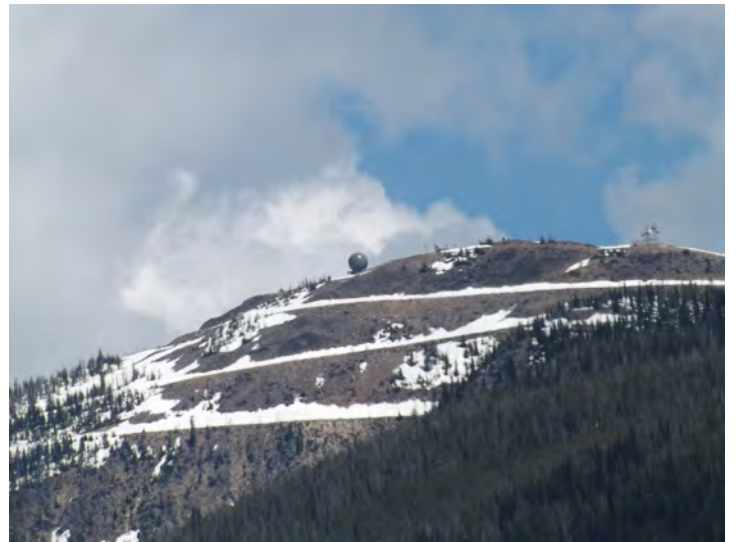
The Abbey Carpet truck driver, Rick fixes a flat near Paws Up



A moose keeps an eye on Mike K7MSO



Lots of snow is still in the mountains



It will be a while before we can get to Point Six

Fine Finisher: CW speedster K0SN

By K7VK Vick

Scanning the ARRL's *National Contest Journal* finds Hellgate ARC member **K0SN** Tom in the top Ten National finishers in the NA QSO Party CW contest, January 2014. Over the contest weekend Tom made 1297 contacts. Wow, great job Tom. Also Potomac resident, Pat N9RV placed in the top ten. If you are interested contesting, this is an interesting read with lots of operating tips, contests and results. www.ncjweb.com.

Successful General and New Technician Licensees

By K7VK Vick

The Hellgate ARC VE team administered examination to 4 candidates on May 12. All were successful. Congratulations to new General KG7KPK Karen and new Technicians: KG7LOP Doug, KG7LOQ Tim and KG7LOU Bob. Enjoy the new hobby!

That session marked the Hellgate ARC's **280th** examination session. Since 1984 when the program began with three volunteer examiners, Vick **K7VK** (WA7DEO), Dick **W7XT** (K7CHY) and Erv **W7ERV** (KY7I), VEs have seated 1227 candidates, an average of 4 candidates per examination. 741 candidates have been successful earning new or upgrading licenses. The recent mix is about 65% technicians, 25% general and 10% extra class. HARC VEs (see www.w7px.org) schedule examinations once per month just prior to the regular club meeting, excluding our Christmas dinner meeting.

Annual Reminder: Lightning!

By K7VK Vick

Spring is a great season. Everything is growing, trees, shrubs, lawns and those ominous cumulus clouds. Thunder and Lightning are up next. Any day now Missoula will have its first thunderstorm of the Spring. And it will surely be followed by many more. Of the 100,000 storms in the United States every year, Montana is in the zone of 20-40 storms per year. Play it safe. Check your antenna and radio system grounding. Here's a couple of good websites to view: National Lightning Safety Institute <http://www.lightningsafety.com/> and a fine three part article *Lightning Protection for the Amateur Radio Station*, <http://www.arrl.org/lightning-protection>. This is also an excellent source of links to other lightning protection information on that ARRL site.

Contact or Operate W1AW/7 in June!

By K7VK Vick

The ARRL Centennial Celebration is here. Montana hams will host the W1AW/7 at their stations June 18-24. You can participate by either contacting the 'on the air' stations or hosting the station. Host stations may sign up in two hour time-periods by band and operating mode. This will be like a week-long field day with huge pileups on the W1AW/p stations. Many States have been making well over 30,000 contacts during the week-long operation. A detailed description of the ARRL Centennial Celebration is at <http://www.arrl.org/centennial-qso-party>. Also see Montana participation and scheduling details at http://w1awinmontana.org/main/page_home.html.