



The Heligate Static



May 2017

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Club Officers:

- President: K7MSO Mike Leary
mleary2001@yahoo.com
- Vice-president: NZ7S Eric Sedgwick
- 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: Eric Sedgwick

- Tom K0SN
- Paul Shuey N7PAS

Newly elected or reelected:

- David K7MTD
- Tom K7QA

HARC Needs You !



We need volunteers for the following events:

Upcoming Events

- 8 May – Meeting
- 3 - 4 Jun - TOSRV
- 12 Jun – Meeting
- 24 – 25 June Field Day
- 4 Jul – W7PX Special Event
- 9 Jul – Missoula Marathon
- 10 Jul – Meeting
- 14 Aug- Meeting
- 11 Sep – Meeting
- 9 Sep - OGF
- 9 Oct – Meeting
- 14 Oct - JOTA
- 13 Nov – Meeting
- ?? Dec - Skywarn
- 11 Dec - Meeting

See club website for more:

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

Notes for April Meeting

Attendance: Donna Pecastaing KC5WRA, Greg Lee NL7WB, Bill Ferrell W4YMA, Dan Somerlott KI7HLW, Elaine Case KS7LDS, Gary Bruce K7OIJ, Bryce Nordgren AF7RQ, Larry Stipe K7GIS, Tom McGinley K7QA, Tom Hellem K0SN, Dick Walton W7XT, Mike Leary K7MSO, Eric Sedgwick NZ7S, Gary Duncan KG7WYQ, Paul Shuey N7PAS, Sandra Pond KF7GZR, Dean Pond N7DLP, Kevin Kerr W1KGK, David Herzberg K7MTD, Bryce Rowe KI7LMV, Kevin Garner KI7KWG, Jerry Nelson K7IMZ

Approval of last meetings minutes: Donna KC5WRA 1st, Jerry K7IMZ 2nd, Passed.

Treasurer's Report: Jerry N7GE was not present, so Mike K7MSO read it. Donna KC5WRA 1st, Paul 2nd. Passed.

Repeater Committee Report – Eric NZ7S had nothing to report.

HF Committee Report – Tom talks about setting up antenna at the Fort. Take trailer early to figure it out. New 20-meter antenna is ready to test. Get the trailer to Tom K0SN.

7QP Contest May 5, 6, 7 – need some expertise. Got some expert advice from Dxpedition leaders for an antenna arrangement that minimizes interference between CW and DX stations. Eric NZ7S volunteered his tent for the second operating position. They have lots of ladder line and will put up a 40-meter antenna.

1st Tom makes motion 7QP for 5, 6, 7 May at the Chapel at the Fort. Approved.

Upcoming Events

- a. 23 April Grizzly Triathlon
- b. 29 April YMCA Riverbank Run
- c. 7QP Contest 5, 6, 7 May

VHF Net

12 Apr Eric
19 Apr Mike
26 Apr Frank
3 May Donna

Next Meeting 8 May

Program: HT / mobile setup and testing for Grizzly Triathlon and YMCA Riverbank run.

Adjournment

Grizzly Triathlon 2017

HARC members were once again invited to help with the Riverbank Run at locations scattered across Hellgate Canyon, from the University area to almost near the Bonner Truck Stop. There were 322 participants in the first of twelve heats. Heat one started swimming in the Grizzly Pool at 8:00 a.m. and the last runner finished around 1:30 p.m.

At one point in the triathlon Donna KC5WRA received word from bicycle racers that another rider needed assistance near Marshall road. She drove down to check and reported to net control that this rider had a flat tire and an inoperative tire pump. Mike K7MSO hunted through hundreds of participants and spectators to find the event director, Giles Thelen. Giles and Mike then went to the bicycle repair station to arrange for people to drive out to Donna with a new tube and pump.

The Race Director later asked Mike K7MSO to relay to Triathlon volunteers on at the North side of the Van Buren street foot bridge that race flags and road candles needed to be redeployed to block car traffic from entering Campus Drive, the same street that race bicyclists were using. Bryce KI7LMV and Bryce AF7RQ relayed this information to other volunteers and the safety issue was quickly fixed.

A sufficient number of HARC members (10) volunteered to cover the run, even with two cancellations. Afterwards HARC volunteers got together at Five Guys for hamburgers, fries, lots of conversations and laughter. We finished around 3:00 p.m. Many thanks go to Bryce KI7LMV, Bryce AF7RQ, David K7MTD, Larry K7GIS, Bill W4YMA, Greg NL7WB, KC5WRA Donna, and Mike K7MSO.



YMCA Riverbank Run 2017

HARC volunteers were also invited to help with the 45th Annual YMCA Riverbank Run. The 10k started at 9:00 a.m., and the last event, the 1 mile Fun Run, finished around 1:30 p.m. Despite two cancellations and two no-shows ham volunteers adequately covered almost the entire course. Dick W7XT and Bryce AF7RQ attached trackers to the Ski Patrol bikes and the Tail-End-Charlie elliptical bike so that net control could get a better picture of the event. David K7MTD provided an invaluable service by driving to each ham that needed a safety vest or car sign.

One wrinkle occurred as the much-advertised Tail-End-Charlie did not follow the end of the 5K run, but was tasked to stay near the start line to be at the end of both the 1-mile Trifecta and 1-mile fun runs. The APRS tracker on her bike was the only indication net control had of this issue. Later communications between YMCA volunteers confirmed what Tail-End-Charlie was up to. A Poteet Construction pickup truck with a trailer became the end of the 5k.

No safety issues were reported to net control and most of the ham volunteers met afterwards at Pizza Hut on South Brooks for some eyeball QSOs and much deserved pizza! Many thanks to Vick K7VK, Jerry N7GE, Bryce KI7LMV, Gary KG7WYQ, Paul N7PAS, Rich K7QNZ, Dick W7XT, Larry K7GIS, Elaine KS7LDS, Gary K7OIJ, David K7MTD, Bill W4YMA, Donna KC5WRA and Mike K7MSO.



Gary KG7WYQ was all smiles at Bonner Park. Photo by Vick K7VK

The 7th Area QSO Party

HARC volunteers participated in the 7th Area QSO party this last weekend. In this contest the stations in the 7th area (WA, ID, OR, NV, MT, WY, UT, AZ) are the 'DX', and county hunters from across the country and globe try to work as many 7th area participants as they can in the 18 hours that the contest runs.

Antenna and station setup occurred on Friday afternoon and evening with a dinner break mandated by a passing rainstorm. The club's brand new 20 m antenna, provided by Tom KOSN and K7OIJ had an almost perfect SWR across the band and performed quite well. The 40 m antenna also did fine.

The club's Heath Kit amplifier caused a 9db loss on receive. This was quickly remedied by Tom KOSN with some electrical gunk remover that he sprayed on the contacts inside of the amp. This maintenance made for a pleasurable Saturday night. The original plan of setting up two stations with two sets of antennas had to be scraped due to lack of participation, parts, and a change in plans due to Museum events.

This event was also a dry run for our upcoming Field Day operation, so below is a list of parts to buy, recommended by the 7QP operators.

Electrical tape - multiple colors

Server's tape – multiple colors

40m balun Ask Tom if you have a question.

Lube/grease for trailer pins

Tube for trailer 16" end caps & metal straps to secure the 3 tubes together

Fix or replace hammer

Cable reels for guide ropes

Grommet for cable hole of trailer box

