



# The Heligate Static



August 2017      Editor: Mike Leary K7MSO  
HARC P.O. Box 3811, Missoula, MT 59806-3811

## **Inside this issue:**

- June & July Meeting Minutes
- Field Day
- 4th of July
- Missoula Marathon

## **Club Officers:**

- President: K7MSO Mike Leary  
[mleary2001@yahoo.com](mailto:mleary2001@yahoo.com)
- Vice-president: NZ7S Eric Sedgwick
- Treasurer: N7GE, Jerry Ehli  
[jehli@modernmachinery.com](mailto:jehli@modernmachinery.com)
- Secretary: Donna KC5WRA

## **Standing Committees:**

- Emergency Coordinator: N7GE Jerry Ehli  
[jehli@modernmachinery.com](mailto:jehli@modernmachinery.com)
- QSLs, Awards: N7MSU, Bob Henderson  
[mailto:n7msu@q.com](mailto:mailto:n7msu@q.com)
- 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)

## **Repeater Advisory Committee**

Chair: Eric Sedgwick

- Tom K0SN
- Paul Shuey N7PAS

Newly elected or reelected:

- David K7MTD
- Tom K7QA

## **Upcoming Events**

- 14 Aug- Meeting
- 9 Sep - OGF
- 11 Sep – Meeting
- 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](http://www.w7px.org/meetings_and_events.html)

# Notes for June Meeting

**Attendance:** Donna Pecastaing KC5WRA, Jackie Harrington KC5WRA, David Herzberg K7MTD, Elaine Case KS7LDS, Gary Bruce K7OIJ, Larry Stipe K7GIS, Jason Lindsay KF7VKG, Tom McGinley K7QA, Tom Helling K0SN, Bill Ferrell W4YMA, Maggie Lough KF7KEE, Jerry Ehli N7GE, Eric Sedgwick NZ7S, Mike Leary K7MSO

**Approval of last meetings minutes:** 1<sup>st</sup> Donna KC5WRA, 2<sup>nd</sup> Maggie KF7KEE, Approved.

**Approval of Treasurers Report:** 1st Maggie KF7KEE, 2<sup>nd</sup> Larry K7GIS Approved.

**Repeater Committee Report:** 146.90 will be down while it is moved from one building to another on Point 6. The move is scheduled for August.

**Recent Events:** None.

**HF Committee** - got together to go over the club's HF equipment inventory, with the goal of eventually selling some items. They will be offered first to members at a future meeting. Summer vacations are slowing down this project.

- HF committee members also met to put connectors on the ends of cables to be used during the upcoming Field Day.
- Tom K7QA was testing the club's new Elecraft K2 and the KAT 100 broke when it broke. Need to send in for repairs. Should be back by Field Day. Motion to send in for repair by Eric NZ7S approved.

## Upcoming Events:

**Field Day** - need to move 20' cw station tower on Jerry N7GE's trailer. Gary K7OIJ brings stakes, chairs, some tables. Eric NZ7S drops off the trailer, Mike K7MSO brings the computers for logging.

**Fourth of July** - at the Fort starting at 07:30.

**Missoula Marathon:** 9 July be on station by 05:00.

## VHF Net Assignments:

14 June – Eric NZ7S

21 June – David K7MTD

28 June – Mike K7MSO

**Program** – None

**Adjournment:** 1<sup>st</sup> Eric NZ7S, 2<sup>nd</sup> Elaine KS7LDS

# Notes for July Meeting

**Attendance:** Donna Pecastaing KC5WRA, Bill Ferrell W4YMA, David Herzberg K7MTD, Rich Kingdon K7QNZ, Tom McGinley K7QA, Mark Lehmann KF5ZFF, Steve M. N7KOA, Mike Curtain W7MJC, Gary Bruce K7OIJ, Elaine Case KS7LDS, Jason Lindsay K1JAL, Dick Walton W7XT, Bryce Nordgren AF7RQ, Tom Hellem K0SN

**Approval of Minutes:** Tabled until August meeting

**Approval of Treasurer's Report:** Tabled until August Meeting

**Repeater Committee Report:** Both Eric NZ7S and Paul N7PAS not present.

## Past Events:

- **Field Day** was a success! The CW station hardly interfered at all with the Phone station due to the Dxpediton-like layout of the antennas this year. Both the CW and Phone stations were able to pleasantly work on 20, 40 and 80 meters. Even the local interference was gone – just pure hiss. We operated both stations for almost the whole 24-hour period. We did, however, get a card from an Official Observer about operating too close to the upper end of the 20m band.
- **Fourth of July Special Events Station.** Even though it was very hot lots of people visited our HF display, easily over 200 people. We are well known and well liked.
- **Missoula Marathon.** 14 Amateur radio volunteers helped over 6,000 runners safely participate in the Marathon. We used APRS tracking units and we only had one runner report feeling sick.

## Upcoming Events:

9 Sep – Ovando Gran Fondo with a new part of the route!

## VHF Net Assignments:

12 July – David K7MTD

19 July – Bill W4YMA

26 July – Steve N7KOA

2 August – Donna KC5WRA

**Program:** Dick W7XT and the Ovando Gran Fondo on 9 September

## Adjournment

# Field Day 2017

HARC members once again had a great time during Field Day at the old log cabin chapel at Fort Missoula. HARC members showed that they had applied lessons learned from the beating Murphy gave them the previous year.

In the months before Field Day, club members had been preparing for this day. Tom K0SN constructed an easy to assemble 20-meter beam antenna that a few members tested during the Seventh Area QSO Party in May. Also, the coax cables had connectors soldered onto them and all of the necessary coax cables and wire antennas were teste. Additionally, the club purchased an Elecraft K2 and KAT 100 tuner.

On setup day volunteers braved hot temperatures and mosquitoes to setup two towers, two 20 meters beams, and two 40/ 80 meter wire antennas. One of the wire antennas was placed up high between two trees with the help of a bow and arrow that Dick W7XT brought to the fort.

With the antennas for the phone and CW stations hundreds of feet apart there was virtually no interference at the phone station from the CW station, a prime goal of this year's Field Day team. This allowed much more pleasant use of the phone station and it was in use virtually non-stop for the duration of Field Day, in sharp contrast to last years event. Of note: we did get a post card from an Official Observer saying that our signal was observed above 14.350 mhz.

This year's Field Day could not have been done without the help of Richard KW4MB, Steve K7LGP, Elaine KS7LDS, Gary K7OIJ, Tom K7QA, Tom K0SN, David K7MTD, Bill W4YMA, Eric NZ7S, Jason KF7VKG, Rich K7QNZ, Keith KB0HY and Mike K7MSO.

**OFFICIAL OBSERVER ADVISORY NOTICE**

Radio: W7PX CLUB N9NS at 23:39 UTC.  
Date: 24 JUNE 2017 Frequency: 14.349 MHz. Mode: USB Your RST: 59

The following is noted in the interest of maintaining Amateur Radio's reputation for good operating and technical practices:  
1 [ ] FREQUENCY INSTABILITY 2 [ ] CHIRP 3 [ ] SPURIOUS 4 [ ] HARMONIC 5 [ ] HUM 6 [ ] KEY CLICKS  
7 [ ] BROAD SIGNAL 8 [ ] DISTORTED AUDIO 9 [ ] OVERDEVIATION 10  OUT OF BAND  
11 [ ] IMPROPER ID 12 [ ] LANGUAGE 13 [ ] CAUSING INTERFERENCE 15 [ ] CARRIER 20 [ ] OTHER

Remarks: YOUR SIGNAL WAS OBSERVED ABOVE 14.350 MHz, YOUR CARRIER  
& ALL MODULATION COMPONENTS MUST BE CONFINED TO THE AMATEUR BANDS

Please refer to FCC Regulation 47 CFR 97.301(d). Please take a few minutes to determine what equipment factors or operating practices might have contributed to this apparent departure from the rule or the good amateur practice standard. The intent of this notice is to alert you to the above noted operating condition. NO REPLY IS NECESSARY. The undersigned ARRL Official Observer has fulfilled this helping role by simply alerting you, and is not required to reply to any correspondence. Thank you for your attention and any cooperative efforts to enhance the high standards of the Amateur Radio Service which we all share with pride.

FSD-213(1-04) Signature: Michael J. Jones Call: K0SK

## Fourth of July 2017

Once again HARC members again helped the Missoula community celebrate Independence Day with a ham radio exhibit consisting of a working HF Radio Station.

The Chapel has proved once again to be a great location. People pass by on their way to either the Trolley Barn or the Alien Detention Center building. Overall a couple of hundred people poked their heads in or walked through the Chapel. There was almost always someone listening or asking questions, or watching HARC members as they worked the radio.

Many thanks to the following hams for their help: Elaine KS7LDS, Gary K7OIJ, Jason KF7VKG, Steve K7LGP, Tom K7QA, David K7MTD, and Mike K7MSO.

## Missoula Marathon 2017

In the early morning hours of 9 July 14 HARC volunteers (up from 9 last year) navigated around closed roads to their assigned stations, setup net control in Caras Park and conducted radio checks just before almost 6,000 runners surged onto the streets for the 6 am start of the Missoula Marathon. The 146.90 MHz repeater was primary for net control and secondary was 147.00 MHz. Those radio operators who were stationed out along the race course did an excellent job of keeping net control advised of the lead runners for both the full and half marathons. At net control Jerry N7GE, Mike K7MSO received the reports from the field.

The net concluded operations and then the team met at Pizza Hut to discuss our participation in the event, enjoy some good pizza and enjoy some camaraderie. Special thanks go to the following volunteers: Eric NZ7S, Bryce AC7RQ, Glenn KT7QA, Greg NL7WB, Larry K7GIS, Dick W7XT, David K7MTD, Donna KC5WRA, Bill W4YMA, Chris KE7MH, Bryce KI7LMV, Jason K1JAL, Jerry N7GE and Mike K7MSO.

