



The Hellgate Static

September 2018



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

Inside this issue:

- Upcoming Events
- September program Red Cross Shelter Ops.
- 2018 Jamboree-on-the-Air
- Barrie Smith W7ALW Silent Key
- Missoula IRLP node Update
- NIST Proposes Eliminating WWV
- Nevada QSO Party
- ARRL Seeks Input on ARES
- US Submarine Commander is a ham
- FCC Cites Baofeng Importer
- August 2018 Meeting Minutes

Upcoming Events:

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

September Meeting Program: Red Cross Shelter Operations

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 NZ7S (Chair)

David Herzberg, K7MTD

Tom Mc Ginley, K7QA

Tom Hellem, K0SN (New / Re-elected)

Paul Shuey, N7PAS (New / Re-elected)



The program at our September 10th meeting will be “**An Introduction to Red Cross Disaster Shelter Operations,**” presented by Dallas Erickson, K7DDE.

Communications support for the American Red Cross during disasters is one of the most important services that amateur radio operators provide.

We urge all amateur radio operators to attend, this program, so please pass the word to your ham friends and we will see you there.

Coming in October - 2018 Jamboree-on-the-Air



Jamboree-on-the-Air, or JOTA, is the largest Scouting event in the world. It is held annually the third full weekend in October. JOTA uses amateur radio to link Scouts and hams around the world, around the nation, and in your own community. This jamboree requires no travel, other than to a nearby amateur radio operator's ham shack. Many times you can find the hams will come to you by setting up a station at your Scout camporee, at the park down the block, or perhaps at a ham shack already set up at your council's camp.

Tell Me More

Scouts of any age can participate, from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts and Venturers, including girls. Once at the ham radio station, the communication typically involves talking on a microphone and listening on the station speakers. However, many forms of specialized communication may also be taking place, such as video communication, digital communication (much like sending a message on your smartphone but transmitted by radio), or communication through a satellite relay or an earth-based relay (called a repeater). The exchanges include such information as name, location (called QTH in ham speak), Scout rank, age, and hobbies. The stations you'll be communicating with can be across town, across the country, or even around the world! The World Scout Bureau reported that the 2017 JOTA-JOTI had over 1.5 million Scout participants from more than 160 countries.

When Is It?

Jamboree-on-the-Air is held the third weekend in October. There are no official hours, so you have the whole weekend to make JOTA contacts. The event officially starts Friday evening during the JOTA Jump Start and runs through Sunday evening.

How Can Scouts Participate?

Contact your local Scout council and see what may already be planned in your area. You can also contact a local ham radio operator or a local amateur radio club. You can find a searchable database of clubs at www.arrl.org/find-a-club. This website is operated by the American Radio Relay League, the national association for amateur radio, which is cooperating closely with the BSA on JOTA and many other activities.

Your local club may be able to direct you to its planned JOTA activities. These can include ham stations set up at camporees or other events. Or, if there are no planned activities, you can either work with them to get something set up or arrange to visit a local radio operator's ham shack at a scheduled time to participate in JOTA.

How Can I Participate as an Amateur Radio Operator? HARC will be participating with a station set up at Fort Missoula. This is a fun event and we will operate HF, VHF and DMR this year. Contact Eric NZ7S.

Barrie Smith W7ALW Silent Key

Barrie Smith W7ALW, passed away at home from lung cancer on Aug. 3, 2018.

He was born on Sept. 30, 1936, in Regina, Saskatchewan, to Ralph and Violet Smith. He spent his early years in Victoria, British Columbia. The family moved back to the states and settled in Spokane, Washington.

Barrie compared living in Spokane to the movie American Graffiti. He began his lifelong love of Corvettes in high school and he owned Corvettes for the rest of his life. He enjoyed street racing until the end.

He was an avid Ham Radio operator. He started transmitting when he was in junior high and W7ALW was his call sign. He built much of his gear and used technology to the fullest. Barrie lived on Ben Hogan Drive and his antenna farm was impressive. Among other pursuits Barrie operated six Meter EME. Other hobbies were photography and gardening.

He took his love of technology and creative spirit and combined them for his lifelong career in photo processing. He moved to Missoula with his first wife Patti in 1967 and purchased his first business. He named it Color Processors Inc. His son Evan was born in 1968. Barrie single-highhandedly built the business to the point CPI was processing film for five states with a fleet of delivery trucks and running 24 hours a day processing thousands of rolls of film a day. He even met his wife Rhonda while she was working for him. In 1986 they opened Yellowstone Photo. For over 40 years they worked together, played together and loved each other.

He said he would never retire but due to health issues and digital photography he retired in 2013 at the age of 76.

In lieu of a formal service, have a gin and tonic, gun your motor at the stop light and live life your way.

As an expression of sympathy, memorial contributions may be made in Barrie's name to Camp Mak-a-Dream.

Missoula IRLP Node Update

The KC7TIG Missoula IRLP node # 3929 has been moved to 445.460 MHz (simplex) with 100 Hz tone. The node is located at the home QTH of Jerry, N7GE.

IRLP, or the Internet Radio Linking Project is a VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol) service that allows repeaters and simplex nodes to link via the Internet. Unlike Echolink, which uses a software and web based interface to utilize the connected repeaters, the IRLP interface is purely radio to radio. The Internet is only used to make the connections between the repeaters.

IRLP is surprisingly easy to use, to connect to an IRLP enabled repeater you use the key pad on your radio to transmit the DTMF tones of the node or reflector number you wish to connect to. You'll receive an audible announcement when connection is made. To drop or disconnect from a node, you press '73' on your radio's keypad.

Dave, K7MTD uses the node frequently and can answer questions about its operation.

2019 NIST Budget Eliminates WWV and WWVH

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) FY 2019 budget request includes shutting down “NIST radio stations in Colorado and Hawaii” — in other words, WWV and WWVH. Radio amateurs, HF listeners, and others around the world routinely make use of the time and frequency standard signals, which also include propagation information. NIST said eliminating funding currently “supporting fundamental measurement dissemination” would include putting WWV and WWVH off the air for a saving of \$6.3 million. The NIST FY 2019 budget request for efforts related to Fundamental Measurement, Quantum Science and Measurement Dissemination is \$127 million, which, the agency said, is a net decrease of \$49 million from FY 2018 levels. The Administration's overall NIST budget request is more than \$629 million.

Petition Drive to Save WWV/WWVH – Sept. 15 Deadline

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has eliminated funding for the continued operation of time/frequency standard stations WWV and WWVH in its Fiscal Year 2019 budget.

Tens of thousands of radio amateurs and other users of the shortwave spectrum rely on these stations as sources of accurate time and precise frequency measurement, as well as a wealth of propagation data. (WWVB, on 60 kHz, which provides time data for so-called "atomic clocks," would continue to be funded.)

Two petitions have been started on the White House's "We the People" petition site calling for restoration of funding for these two essential radio stations. **Each needs at least 100,000 electronic signatures by mid-September** to generate a response from the White House.

The petitions can be found at:

<<https://petitions.whitehouse.gov/petition/maintain-funding-nist-stations-wwv-wwvh>>

(As of now, needs just over 90,000 more signatures by September 15)

<<https://petitions.whitehouse.gov/petition/maintain-funding-nist-stations-wwv-wwvh>>

(As of now, needs over 98,000 more signatures by September 17)

CQ urges its readers and friends – and anyone else who finds value in the continued operation of WWV and WWVH – to sign one or both petitions and to contact your representatives in Congress to explain the need for these stations to continue to operate. Congress has the last word on the federal budget and can modify department proposals as it sees fit.

From CQ Ham Radio.

Nevada QSO Party

The New Improved Nevada QSO Party in October!

The Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society is proud to present the Nevada QSO Party which will be an annual event on the second full weekend in October. This year it will start at 2000 hours Nevada time (PDST) on Friday, October 12 (0300z 10/13/2018) and run until 1400 on Sunday, October 14 (2100z 10/14/2017)

The objective of this contest is to activate and work all 17 of the counties in Nevada. Nevada stations will work anyone, anywhere, and out of state stations will work Nevada Stations. All stations may be worked on the three different modes for up to three times on each HF band and only once on the VHF+ frequencies. Rovers in Nevada can be worked again when they change counties.

The state of Nevada is one of the rarest U.S. States on the air. Be sure to work Nevada in the upcoming Nevada QSO Party; it will be helpful you when going for ARRL WAS (Worked All States award) and other awards like grid zones and counties.

The VHF+ band will consist of all legal frequencies from 50 MHz up to 1300 MHz. In order to bring a lot of new hams into contesting, we are allowing the use of repeaters on these frequencies. There are linked systems which will allow out of state contacts. All modes will be allowed with the exception of the WSJT modes.

On the HF side, Phone, CW, and Digital modes will add multipliers to the QSO points. All conversational digital text modes are allowed with all counting the same. Currently, the WSJT modes do not have a contest exchange message that is handled as a valid regular message, so those modes are not allowed. (This may be changed if this is added to the WSJT program in the future)

Logging software from N1MM will have the ability to work on this contest. For those that are using paper and pencil or some other logging method that does not produce a Cabrillo file, we also have the WA7BNM Cabrillo log maker which will allow you to build a Cabrillo file. All entries over 10 contacts must submit an electronic Cabrillo log.

We also have a sign-up form to allow stations to sign up for the counties which they will activate and what modes they will be using. We are going to try and get operators out in all counties and have all modes covered. Please use this form if you are going to be operating in Nevada.

The Nevada QSO Party website is <http://nvqso.com/> Complete rules are listed under the “Rules” tab and please read the FAQs for additional information. Information is subject to change on the website so be sure to check back regularly. Please visit this site often and pass the word onto your friends!

ARRL Board of Directors’ Committee Seeks Input for Proposed ARES Strategic Plan

Following up on an ARRL Board of Directors directive at its July meeting, the Public Service Enhancement Working Group (PSEWG) has contacted all ARRL Section Managers (SMs) and Section Emergency Coordinators (SECs) seeking comments and suggestions regarding the proposed [*ARES Strategic Plan*](#) (attached link), via an online form. The deadline is October 31, in order to give the PSEWG sufficient time to review the comments and suggestions, formulate any necessary revisions, and submit the revised document to the Board for consideration at its January meeting.

Created in 1935, ARES has undergone very few changes over the years, while the agencies ARES serves have undergone many. The PSEWG evaluated the ARES program for 2 years and drafted several proposed enhancements aimed at updating the program.

New US Submarine Forces Commander is Radio Amateur

US Navy Vice Admiral Charles A. "Chas" Richard, W4HFZ, assumed command of US submarine forces during a change-of-command ceremony on August 4, held aboard the submarine USS *Washington* (SSN-787). He assumed command from Vice Admiral Joseph Tofalo. An ARRL Life Member, Richard, 58, is well-known in the AMSAT and APRS communities. He had been serving as the deputy commander of US Strategic Command at Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska.

A radio amateur since 1974, Richard said on his profile that he is active on 6 and 2 meters, as well as on HF when the VHF bands are closed. He also enjoys digital satellite operations. Richard has been on active US Navy duty since 1982.

FCC Cites Baofeng Importer for Illegally Marketing Unauthorized RF Devices

The FCC has issued a Citation and Order (Citation) to Amcrest Industries, LLC (formerly Foscam Digital Technologies, LLC), an importer and marketer of popular and inexpensive Baofeng handheld transceivers, alleging that the company violated FCC rules and the Communications Act by illegally marketing unauthorized RF devices. The FCC asserts that Amcrest marketed Baofeng model UV-5R-series FM handheld radios capable of transmitting on "restricted frequencies." The Baofeng models UV-5R and UV-5R V2+ were granted an FCC equipment authorization in 2012 to operate under Part 90 Private Land Mobile Radio Service (Land Mobile) rules.

"Under § 2.803 of the Commission's rules, an entity may not market a device that is capable of operating outside the scope of its equipment authorization," the FCC Citation said. "RF devices that have been authorized under Part 90 rules, such as the model as issue, must operate within the technical parameters established in those rules."

New Brandmeister (DMR) Talk Group Policy

Over time we have received requests for people wanting talkgroups and never using them. Some last 30 days and no more use. From this point on if you want a talkgroup you need to use your personal dmr id as a talkgroup. It must show activity over a 60 day period. After that time you may request a talkgroup and the bmusa team will review your request and get back to you.

If you need a place to run a net, don't forget about talkgroups 31001 and 31002.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/BrandmeisterNets/>

By Corey Dean, N3FE, Brandmeister Master Server Sysop.

HARC Membership and Attendance Drive

We have lined up programs for the upcoming meetings, and hope that as many members and visitor as possible attend them. Please make plans to attend, and invite your amateur radio friends.

Let Mike K7MSO, or Eric NZ7S what you would like to see at our meetings. Programs, classes or workshops that could make meetings more interesting and attract new members.

August 2018 Attendance and Tentative Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Donna Picastaing KC5WRA, Rich Kingdon K7QNZ, Jerry Ehli N7GE, Paul Shuey N7PAS, Dick Walton W7XT, Tom McGinley K7QA, Bryce Rowe KI7LMV, Jackie Harrington KC7RBC, Kevin Grussling W7DQL, Terry Cook KF7BQ, David Herzberg K7MTD, Mike Leary K7MSO.

Approval of last months meeting minutes. Moved by Donna KC5WRA, Second by Dick W7XT. Approved

Approval of Treasurers Report. Moved by Paul N7PAS, second by Tom K7QA. Approved

Repeater Committee Report. Paul N7PAS reported on trip to Thompson Peak repeater. Discussion about repeater needing to be tuned. at some future time.

HF Committee Report. Tom K7QA, informed members that Barrie Smith W7ALM who recently became a Silent Key, had several towers, antennas and equipment. Tom says that Barrie's Wife, Rhonda will likely appreciate some assistance in selling Barrie's gear. Tom will do some checking to see if we can help her to value the equipment.

Recent Events. Mike K7MSO reported that the Missoula Marathon communications and tracking went amazingly well.

Upcoming Events. None. Next meeting will be September 10th.

Suggestions / Discussion.

- 1.) Dick W7XT would like to see a “classified – for sale / wanted” section in *The Hellgate Static*. Persons wishing to place items there should Email Terry KF7BQ (Static Editor) at: bluetooth_one@hotmail.com (Note: there is an underscore between bluetooth and one.)
- 2.) Rich K7QNZ suggested that club members consider an antenna raising party at Donna KC5WRA's home to assist her in getting on HF. Tom K7QA will evaluate antenna options and several members committed to attending the antenna raising.
- 3.) David K7MTD got a call from Mark Matheson, down the Bitterroot, who had a damaged KLM tri-band antenna that he wants to dispose of and he offered to the club. David, has the antenna and Tom K7QA suggested that the parts needed to repair it might be available.

VHF net control schedule.

- 15 August – David K7MTD
- 22 August – Eric Sedgwick NZ7S
- 29 August – Bryce KI7LMV
- 5 September – Donna KC5WRA

Adjournment. Moved by David K7MTD, second by Rich K7QNZ. Approved.