



The Hellgate Static

October 2019



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

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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

Paul Shuey, N7PAS

Upcoming Events

- 13 - 14 October Bitterroot Musher Dirt Derby
- 17 October The Great Montana ShakeOut
- 18 - 19 October – Boy Scout Jamboree on the Air
- 6 - 7 December – Skywarn Recognition Day
- 9 December – Christmas Dinner

October Meeting Program



Missoula County CERT Program Coordinator, Tim Jacobs will present a program about the new Missoula County CERT program.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program educates volunteers about disaster preparedness for the hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. CERT offers a consistent, nationwide approach to volunteer training and organization that professional responders can rely on during disaster situations, which allows them to focus on more complex tasks. Through CERT, the capabilities to prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters is built and enhanced.



On October 17th, Montana will participate in the Great ShakeOut. [The Great Montana ShakeOut](#) is an annual opportunity to practice how to be safer during big earthquakes: "Drop, Cover and Hold On." The ShakeOut has also been organized to encourage you, your community, your school, or your organization to review and update emergency preparedness plans and supplies, and to secure your space in order to prevent damage and injuries.

Montana amateur radio operators, along with amateur radio operators across the country will have an opportunity to exercise their skills and readiness to provide communications assistance after an earthquake.

The Great Montana ShakeOut 2019 will be October 17th at 10:17 AM local time. After performing your [Drop, Cover and Hold On](#) drill, amateur radio operators in the Missoula area should check in to the emergency drill net on the 147.040 repeater, if the repeater is not operational, the net will move to 146.90 repeater. If local repeaters are down, we will rally on 146.520 simplex.

Net control will be requesting locations and information from stations checking in to the net. Net control will aggregate reports and forward them to the statewide emergency net on 80 meters.

Hams with HF capability may also Rally at 3880 Khz for the statewide emergency net. The 80 meter Montana emergency net control station will aggregate reports to forward through ARMY MARS on a 60 meter Interoperability channel to our FEMA region headquarters.

146.90 Repeater Status



On 10 Sept., Paul N7PAS spent a good portion of the day out at Eric's shop removing the 90 equipment from the old cabinet and installing the repeater's components, duplexers and a power distribution panel in a 19 inch rack.

Early on September 28th Eric and Paul made a trip to Point 6, to re-install the repeater in it's rack back in Missoula County's legacy repeater building. They left at 6:30 am and got back to town about 3:30 pm. There was about ¼ inch of snow up on top and the wind was blowing about 40 mph. The temperature was about 15 degrees with a wind chill of about -10.

The good news is that **the 146.900 Mhz. repeater is back on the air.**

Thank you Eric and Paul.

146.90 repeater in its new rack

New ARRL Montana Section Appointments

Paul Stiles, the new ARRL Montana Section Manager, is currently appointing his staff. His appointment so far include:

Jim Fuller N7VR Section Emergency Coordinator as well as Assistant Section Manager as such he will appoint all Emergency Coordinators at his discretion.

Jim Halfpenny K9YNP PIO Public Information Officer.

Bruce Clark KA2OPD Technical Specialist.

Donald Heide W7MRI Technical Specialist. He is also Montana Repeater coordinator.

Dick Walton W7XT Official Relay Station. **Congratulations Dick**

Terry Whiteside W7WWW State Government Liaison.

Stephanie Kraai Social Media Director

Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) Registration is “On Track”

10/04/2019

With just a couple of weeks to go before Scouting’s Jamboree on the Air ([JOTA](#)) event on October 18 – 20, JOTA Coordinator Jim Wilson, K5ND, reports that [nearly 200 US stations](#) have registered their intentions to participate.

“Over the last few years, we’ve typically had around 300 stations registered before the weekend,” Wilson told ARRL. “So, we’re on track.” Wilson noted that Icom America is providing an ID-51A Plus2 VHF/UHF D-STAR portable to encourage stations to submit after-event reports. A drawing will select the recipient.

“Band conditions aren’t expected to be any better than they’ve been for the past year, but the enthusiasm will be there,” Wilson predicted, “and local VHF-UHF can work as well as the D-STAR and [VoIP modes].” US participants who have not yet registered [may do so online](#). — *Thanks to Jim Wilson, K5ND*

ARRL Montana Section Now Has a New Facebook page.

Paul Stiles, the new Montana Section Manager has set up the new page. ARRL Montana Section FB page is all about Amateur Radio. You are not required to be in the ARRL or be in the Montana Section to visit or join our site, just have an interest in what goes on here in the great state of Montana. Please post pictures of your station and anything related to HAM (Amateur) radio is welcome and highly encouraged. Feel free to ask questions ! Mentorship (find a mentor or become a mentor) Look in the Mentorship tab. We encourage clubs to post newsletters and events.

You can find the new page here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/914121562272731/>

FCC Official Observer Program Replaced By ARRL Volunteer Monitors

The Official Observer program has served the Amateur Radio community and assisted the FCC Enforcement Bureau for more than 85 years. The OO program is giving way to the new Volunteer Monitor (VM) program, established as part of a formal partnership between ARRL and the FCC. ARRL and the FCC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) earlier this year that establishes the Volunteer Monitor program as a successor to the Official Observers. The first Volunteer Monitors should be in place and ready to begin their duties this fall.

Last February, Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, who once handled Amateur Radio enforcement for the FCC, was named to oversee the development and implementation phases of the Volunteer Monitor program.

Under the new VM program, volunteers trained and vetted by ARRL will monitor the airwaves and gather evidence that could be used to correct misconduct as well as to recognize exemplary on-air operation. ARRL will refer instances of flagrant violation to the FCC for action, in accordance with FCC guidelines, and the FCC will give priority to enforcement cases developed by the VM program.

Official Observers were invited to apply to become Volunteer Monitors, and many did. The requirements for being a Volunteer Monitor include:

- + Ability to utilize state-of-the-art receiving equipment and to access no-cost remote receive sites; strong writing and communication skills
- + An understanding of the importance of thorough documentation
- + Basic word processing and data entry skills
- + The ability to send such information, including recordings, to ARRL electronically.

Applicants also must be ARRL members, have no history of FCC enforcement action, hold a Technician or higher license class, and been licensed for at least 3 years.

Applicants underwent a training and certification program administered by ARRL and were vetted by ARRL through at least one oral interview and a preliminary evaluation by ARRL staff. Volunteer Monitors will serve 3-year terms at the pleasure of ARRL.

Request for Assistance

A fello Ham, Larry Brooker, KE7NJK is at Village Heath Care Facility and could use some help programming his **Icom IC208**. If you are familiar with that radio contact David K7MTD or Terry KF7BQ and we will get you together.

Items for Sale

Eric has some items that he will bring to the October meeting. These are being offered for sale.

Heathkit IM-4190 watt meter	Kenwood ps kps-7
sm power supply	Heathkit ps IP-28
Dentron JR. antenna tuner	Radio Shack 2m HTX-252
MFJ keyer cmos-8043	Dentron 160-10 AT transmatch
Royce 2-100 swr meter	Kenwood MC-80
WRL swr-fs2 swr meter	MFJ portable tuner
coax switch	Icom IC 245
Frequency counter	Kenwood tm 201A
FM deviation meter	Kenwood tm 201B
Icom ps ic-3PA	Kenwood tm 2550A

September 2019 Tentative Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Jackie Harrington KC7RBC, David Herzberg K7MTD, Terry Cook KF7BQ, Rich Kingdon K7QNZ, Bryce Nordgren AF7RQ, Tom McGinley K7QA, Tom Hellem K0SN, Dick Walton W7XT, Eric Sedgwick NZ7S, Mike Leary K7MSO, Jim Hofmann N5CY, Larry Stipe K7GIS, and Paul Shuey N7PAS.

Note: Our treasurer, Donna, was in the hospital having surgery, so these notes were done from recall and may not be complete,

Test results: Two tests administered, both were successful.

Approval of March meeting minutes: Approved.

Treasurer's Report: By David. Approved

Repeater Report: By Paul and Eric, The 146.90 repeater is still out of service. It will remain in the old Missoula County building but will need to be moved from the current cabinet to a 19 inch rack. We are hoping that work can be completed before the snow flies.

HF Committee Report: Inventory being done to put club's excess inventory for sale on the internet. Looking for a good deal on a replacement generator

Additional discussions: Larry Brooker, KE7NJK is at Village Heath Care Facility and could use some help programming his Icom IC208. If you are familiar with that radio contact David or Terry and we will get you together.

Wednesday night VHF net control assignments:

Sept. 1 Eric NZ7S
18 Mike K7MSO
25 David K7 MTD
Oct. 2 Donna KC5WRA

Next Meeting: Monday Oct 14th.