The Hellgate Static
January 2021

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: Dick Walton W7XT
Secretary: Donna Pecastaing, KC5WRA

Standing Committees:

Emergency Coordinator: Jerry Ehli, N7GE
QSLs, Awards: Bob Henderson, N7MSU
Webmaster: Mike Leary, K7MSO
Radio License Exams Contact VE:
Paul Shuey, N7PAS
Static Editor: Terry Cook, KF7BQ
            Bluetooth_one@hotmail.com

Repeater Advisory Committee:

Eric Sedgwick NZ7S (Chair)
Tom Hellem, K0SN
Paul Shuey, N7PAS
Tom Mc Ginley, K7QA (Re-elected)

Upcoming Events

- To Be Announced

January Zoom Meeting

Due to the current Corona virus crisis, the HARC January meeting is scheduled to be conducted remotely via zoom teleconferencing software on January 13th.

Watch for an invitation to the meeting in your Email, it will contain the meeting ID, a password and a link to the meeting. Be sure your microphone is enabled.

If you have not received an invitation by Monday morning, January 13th, contact Mike Leary at mleary2001@yahoo.com and request an invitation.

Stay healthy and we hope to see you there.

Skywarn 2020

We made 34 contacts during the event with 33 being registered participants and were able to talk to 10 weather offices. We received the Whole Gale Wind Certificate with our 33 contacts. Thank you everyone that helped with this event.

HARC Election of Officers for 2021

Members elected a slate of officers during the December Zoom meeting. They are:

President: Mike K7MSO

Vice President: Eric NZ7S

Treasurer: Dick W7XT

Secretary: Donna KC5WRA

Repeater. Committee: Tom K7QA

2nd Repeater. Committee: TBD

ICOM Announcement

In late October, a fire broke out at the semiconductor manufacturing plant of Asahi Kasei Electronics Co., Ltd., a supplier of electronic components. As a result, there is a possibility that the production and sales of some ICOM products may be affected, so we would like to inform you as follows.

Impact on production and sales. As a result of conducting an investigation in response to a fire, we cannot deny that there is a possibility that some product supply will be hindered, although it is not expected to have a significant impact. We are urgently promoting alternative measures such as selection of alternative parts and product design changes.

ICOM has not announced any specific product names that will be affected at this stage.

FRNs Now Required at Exam Sessions

The FCC has indicated that VEC organizations and their VE teams should discontinue the practice of accepting Social Security numbers at exam sessions. examinees should register in the FCC Registration System (CORES) and receive a Federal Registration Number (FRN) before exam day.

The FCC also advised VE teams to make it clear to candidates that some information about them will be made publicly available on the FCC's website, including their name, mailing address, and felony convictions status.

Dorthy Staffemire, the Associate Division Chief of the WTB Technologies, Systems and Innovation Division, told the VECs that new license applicants should create a FCC user account and register their Social Security Number in the FCC CORES system before attending exam sessions. Registrants will be assigned an FRN which will be used in all license interactions with the FCC.

She explained that auto-registration in CORES for examinees using a Social Security Number will be going away, in addition, because no mail is being sent due to the COVID-19 pandemic, applicants will not receive their auto created password and FCC FRN information and will not be able to access their personal license record in the FCC Universal Licensing System database or their FRN record in CORES. Going forward,she said VECs should make sure the applicants have an FRN before the day of the exam.

Additionally, FCC Mobility Division (MD) Deputy Chief Tom Derenge recommended that VECs make it clear to applicants that their address will be public information when the new license is issued. He suggested advising examinees that an alternate address, such as a PO Box or work address would be acceptable. Derenge pointed out that once an address is in the FCC database. It's nearly impossible to be permanently removed.

We urge our VE teams to change procedures before the FCC turns off the Social Security Number auto-registration feature. Otherwise, this could cause a delay in processing applications to the FCC later. Examinees can be directed to this information on our website, at www.arrl.org/what-to-bring-to-an-exam-session (see item4), or directly to the FCC website, at www.arrl.org/fcc-license-privacy. To register on the FCC CORES site, visit http://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userlogin.do.

Getting Your FRN

These instructions will show you how to obtain an FRN prior to test day.

Part 1: Establish FCC Username account

1. Go to https://apps.fcc.gov/cores and click on **REGISTER** in the *Need a Username?* box.
2. Fill in the requested information:
   * Username (your email address)
   * Password (12-15 characters)
   * Name
   * Secondary email address (optional)
   * Phone number
   * Security question and answer
3. Click on **Create Account**. Watch your email for a message with the subject *FCC Account Request Verification* and click on the link in the message to validate your new account.

Part 2: Register for new FRN

1. Go to https://apps.fcc.gov/cores and fill in your username and password in the *Username Login* box and click **LOG IN.**
2. Click on **Register new FRN.**
   * Check boxes to indicate an individual with a contact address in the US, then click **CONTINUE**.
   * Check box to proceed with a CORES FRN Registration and click **CONTINUE**.
   * Fill in the requested information (including SSN) and click **SUBMIT.**
3. If successful, you will get this message: "Thank you for registering with the FCC. As of today, Feb XX 2019 XX:XXPM, you have been assigned the following FCC Registration Number (FRN): 0XXXXXXXXX. **Please print this page for your records.** "
4. Bring a copy of the page printed in the previous step to the testing session.

If you have an FRN but don't remember it:

Go to https://apps.fcc.gov/cores and click on **SEARCH**. Then in the FRN drop down menu select *Last Name* and enter your Last Name and click **SEARCH**. Use *Advanced Search* if you have a common name.

FCC Posts Email Address Reminder On ULS Landing Page

The FCC is encouraging users of the Universal Licensing Service (**ULS**) to have an email address on file with the FCC.

"Applicants are strongly encouraged to provide an email address on their license application(s), which will trigger the electronic issuance of an official copy of their license(s) to the email provided upon application grant. Per the timing specified in Rulemaking **FCC 20-126**, the FCC will no longer print, and licensees will no longer be able to request, hard copy license authorizations sent by mail."

The FCC has not yet established the date by which an email address will be required on all applications. ARRL VEC already has begun including email addresses on FCC applications for as many applicants as possible.

FCC Formally Adopts Amateur Radio License Fee Schedule

The FCC formally adopted a new fee schedule in its report and order dated December 23rd 2020. The fee schedule indicates a 35 dollar fee for amateur radio license issuance, upgrades, renewals and vanity callsign assignments. The FCC had originally proposed a 50 dollar fee, but agreed with comments submitted, stating that administration of amateur radio licenses require minimal effort by commission personnel.

Minutes – December 2020 Zoom Meeting

Attendance: Mike K7MSO, Tom K0SN, Terry KF7BQ, Paul N7PAS, Dick W7XT, Joe AG7FH, George KJ7OKW, Eric NZ7S, Tom K7QA, Lance W7GP

Presentation: None

Approval of last meeting's minutes: Passed

Approval of Treasurer's report: Passed

HF committee Report: Still selling equipment. Tom K7QA will deliver to Spokane

Repeater Committee Report: None

Officer / Committee Vote For 2021:

President: Mike K7MSO

Vice President: Eric NZ7S

Treasurer: Dick W7XT

Secretary: Donna KC5WRA

Repeater. Committee: Tom K7QA

2nd Repeater. Committee: TBD

VHF Net Control operators:

-16 Dec Mike K7MSO

-23 Dec Eric NZ7S

-30 DecPaulN7PAS

-06 JanDonnaKC5WRA

*** Next Club meeting: 13 January

Classified Amateur Radio Equipment For Sale

For sale:

Collins R-388/URR receiver .54 to 30mhz. Good condition and working order.
Price $450.00.
Argus Barker, W8QMD
406-777-5931