



# The Hellgate Static

## February 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)

### **February Zoom Meeting**

Due to the current Corona virus crisis, the HARC February meeting is scheduled to be conducted remotely via zoom teleconferencing software on February 8th.

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, February 8th, contact Mike Leary at [mleary2001@yahoo.com](mailto:mleary2001@yahoo.com) and request an invitation.

Stay healthy and we hope to see you there.

This issue is rather sparse of local news. If you have anything you think would be of interest to local amateur radio operators, please forward it to your Static editor.

## **FCC Reminds Amateur Radio Operators That Crime is Illegal**

The FCC issued a rather bizarre warning to amateur radio operators and operators in other personal radio services. It is posted below.

### **WARNING: AMATEUR AND PERSONAL RADIO SERVICES LICENSEES AND OPERATORS MAY NOT USE RADIO EQUIPMENT TO COMMIT OR FACILITATE CRIMINAL ACTS**

The Enforcement Bureau (Bureau) of the Federal Communications Commission issues this Enforcement Advisory to remind licensees in the Amateur Radio Service, as well as licensees and operators in the Personal Radio Services, that the Commission prohibits the use of radios in those services to commit or facilitate criminal acts.

The Bureau has become aware of discussions on social media platforms suggesting that certain radio services regulated by the Commission may be an alternative to social media platforms for groups to communicate and coordinate future activities. The Bureau recognizes that these services can be used for a wide range of permitted purposes, including speech that is protected under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. **Amateur and Personal Radio Services, however, may not be used to commit or facilitate crimes.**

Specifically, the Bureau reminds amateur licensees that they are prohibited from transmitting “communications intended to facilitate a criminal act” or “messages encoded for the purpose of obscuring their meaning.” Likewise, individuals operating radios in the Personal Radio Services, a category that includes Citizens Band radios, Family Radio Service walkie-talkies, and General Mobile Radio Service, are prohibited from using those radios “in connection with any activity which is against Federal, State or local law.” Individuals using radios in the Amateur or Personal Radio Services in this manner may be subject to severe penalties, including significant fines, seizure of the offending equipment, and, in some cases, criminal prosecution.

Media inquiries should be directed to 202-418-0500 or [MediaRelations@fcc.gov](mailto:MediaRelations@fcc.gov).

To file a complaint with the FCC, visit <https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov> or call 1-888-CALL-FCC. To report a crime, contact your local law enforcement office or the FBI.

To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to [fcc504@fcc.gov](mailto:fcc504@fcc.gov) or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice), (202) 418-0432 (TTY).

Issued by: Chief, Enforcement Bureau

## **ARISS is Seeking Hosts for Ham Radio Contacts with the Space Station**

02/03/2021 ARRL News

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station ([ARISS](#)) is seeking formal and informal educational institutions and organizations, individually or working together, to host amateur radio contacts with an International Space Station (ISS) crew member. Contacts would likely be scheduled between January 1 and June 30, 2022.

These voice radio contacts are approximately 10 minutes long and in a question-and-answer format. ARISS contacts afford participants the opportunity to learn firsthand what it's like to live and work in space, and about space research conducted on the ISS. Students will also have an opportunity to learn about satellite communication, wireless technology, and radio science.

Crew scheduling and ISS orbits will determine the exact dates. ARISS is looking for organizations that can draw large numbers of participants and integrate the contact into a well-developed education plan. Organizations must demonstrate flexibility to accommodate changes in dates and times of the radio contact. The deadline for proposals is March 31, 2021.

Visit the [ARISS website](#) for more details and a proposal form. ARISS has operated amateur radio from the ISS for 20 years, and scheduled ham radio contacts between ISS crew members and schools and student groups around the world are a hallmark of the ARISS program. The ham radio stations onboard also are available for crew members to use and serve as back-up communications capability. In the US, ARISS is sponsored by NASA, the ISS National Laboratory, ARRL, and AMSAT.

An ARISS introductory webinar will be held on February 25, 2021 at 8 PM EST (0100 UTC on February 26). Participants must [register](#).

## Minutes – January 2020 Zoom Meeting

Attendance: Mike K7MSO, Tom K0SN, Tom K7QA, Dick W7XT, Dan KI7HLW, Eric NZ7S, Rich K7QNZ, Paul N7PAS

Presentation: None

Approval of last meeting's minutes. Passed

Approval of Treasurer's report.

Motion to reimburse K0SN \$45.00 for gas to deliver sold transceiver to Spokane. Passed.

Motion to let new member Jerry KF7AO join in late 2020 with dues reimbursed due to Treasurer error. Passed with 1 opposed.

Repeater Committee Report:

HF Committee:

Motion - Dick W7XT will generously trade power supply RS-35 M and K1EL Winkeyer for club's Yaesu external speaker. Passed

Events: TBD

VHF Net Control operators

- 13 Jan Mike K7MSO

- 20 Jan Eric NZ7S

- 27 Jan Rich K7QNZ

- 03 Jan Donna KC5WRA

\*\*\* Next Club meeting: 8 Feb