

Bishop Amateur Radio Club

Meeting Minutes August 14, 2012

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by BARC President Adrian van der Riet (N6ZA)

Introductions around the room (12 members) (see attached sign-in sheet)

Treasurer's report: Checking account \$1,860.68; Savings Account \$1,011.36; Repeater Capital Fund \$1,147.78

July Meeting minutes: Motion to accept as amended by Adrian (N6ZA) Second by Gigi (N6GIG)

Upcoming activities in the next month:

EMComm Simplex Net on 146.94: Thursday Aug 17 at 7:30 PM - everyone please join in and participate and try to run your station on emergency power.

T-hunt: Saturday August 25 at 10AM: Details on the BARC Website: Marilyn (W6MSO) is this month's Fox.

Monthly Breakfast Meeting: Saturday at 8:00 before the T-Hunt at Carl's Jr. on Main St. Bishop

Sunday Morning 80M Net Next Sunday at 08:30 Local time on 3990 KHz.

ARRL 10 GHz Contest: August 18/19th

ARRL Rookie Roundup RTTY: August 19th

ARRL VHF QSO Party: September 8/10th.

Old Business

Satellite QSO: After last month's meeting Adrian (N6ZA), Jon (NW6C) and John (AD6NR) made a satellite contact from the parking lot of the Salvation Army facility with W6YX in San Francisco.

Tape Measure Yagi Build: Postponed to next month.

Mazourka to Silver Link: Dennis (W6IY) will be working on the Mazourka to Little Lake link rather than the Mazourka to Silver Link. The M/LL linking equipment has been taken down to be reworked and to create documentation. No estimate to complete: "many months" will be required.

Mammoth to Silver Control System: John (AD6NR) reports the link is up and running with control capability from both sides. The control codes are: 0* for link up - 0# for link down.

USFS Inspection: John (AD6NR) reported that the inspection was without incident and BARC has only one action item: put a BARC property tag on our pole to the N/W of the building. Dennis (W6IY) has that action.

Noisy Antenna on SBC building on Silver Pk: Jon (NW6C) reports the bad antenna has been replaced as well as the feedline and duplexer. The "crunching" noise is gone!

Noisy PS on CAP repeater in Federal building: Dennis (W6IY) reports the noise from the CAP repeater is greatly reduced and may now be below the site noise floor.

Other noise issues on Silver: Greg (KJ6KO), Jon (NW6C), Dennis, (W6IY) and John (AD6NR) conducted a noise survey on Silver Pk today. The building just to the north of the BARC facility is causing very significant increase in the noise floor at our building (up to 15DBm). The building is owned by "Inspirational Broadcasting Inc" By happenstance a broadcast engineer came up to work at the building and acknowledged he was aware of the noise source. He has alerted the owner of the transmitter (KMMT) that may be the source. Apparently the owner is aware of the problem. BARC will provide a letter documenting the fact it is interfering with our activities (AD6NR action). Greg will provide screen shots from his spectrum analyzer showing the noise for submittal with the letter
Note: more details of the results of the visit will be documented separately.

T-Hunt Rules: Revisions to the T-Hunt rules were approved last month and will be posted on the BARC website shortly.

BARC has joins Northern Amateur Relay Council of California (NARCC): Jon (NW6C) confirmed that he has submitted the paperwork and fee for BARC to join NARCC. NARCC is the frequency coordinator for the BARC Mammoth repeater and one of several frequency coordinators used in the Owens Valley.

BARC Member Capability Assessment: Bob (W7WOW) will make a form available at the next meeting

New Business

New PS for BARC repeater (continued from last meeting): It was agreed to postpone further discussion until the batteries are re-wired and the level of noise on the DC buss can be measured.

Line Noise Filter: Bob (W7WOW) brought up the idea of BARC buying a line noise filter to load out to members so they determine if adding one to their power system would reduce RF noise. After some discussion no action was taken.

Low Voltage Cut-Off Switch for BARC repeater Batteries: All three back-up batteries will isolated from the building DC buss and be connected to the BARC 34/94 repeater in the near future. These are very expensive batteries and can have their service life and capacity seriously reduced if they are deeply discharged. John (AD6NR) made a motion that he be authorized to purchase a high quality low voltage cut-off switch (NTE \$200) to protect the batteries in the event of a prolonged power outage on Silver Pk. After some discussion the motion passed by hand vote.

Note: During the site visit mentioned above the hang-time on the repeater was reduced to 200ms from 500ms and the power was increased from 25 to 50 watts out (~25 watts out of the duplexer).

Show and Tell

Greg (KJ6KO) gave a very interested demonstration of his 10 GHz equipment. He commented that it is a rather easy band to access and a lot of 10GHz equipment is becoming available to hams because of changed in the commercial use of the spectrum. He also showed some slides of participants in the 10GHz contest

Submitted 8/15/2012 John Shepherd BARC Secretary.

