

Vice President Mike (HDV) called the meeting to order promptly at 7PM.

Announcements: President John (AD6NR) was looking after wife Marilyn (MSO) who was having her knees replaced. The operation was scheduled for this morning, but it was postponed apparently because her doctor was needed in the emergency room.

Jeff stated on his way home from work that he would not attend the meeting because of a broken tooth. He will be hunting for a dentist tomorrow morning.

Bob (W7WOW) apologized by email for not being able to come to the meeting. He was hoping to meet his friend Eric at the meeting.

SELF INTRODUCTIONS: 15 members and two guests showed up.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Income of \$20 for dues and another \$20 donation, then a \$250 donation from the Northern Inyo Hospital Foundation helped our accounts. The \$250 was for BARC's help with the Ultramarathon. \$24 was added to the duplexer fund from the 50/50 drawing last month. Expenses were \$50.94 to pay the Silver Peak Edison bill. This site now has a high tech meter that provides power information by the day and hour. Terry could see when the .94 repeater locked on. It amounted to an additional \$7 in the electric bill. Totals are \$458.56 in the duplexer fund and \$2,130.17 in the general fund.

MINUTES: Minutes approved as submitted. Several printed copies were available at the meeting.

T-shirts: Club T-shirts now available. Kurt (W6PH) brought them to the meeting.

Guest and Program: Eric (K6EJC), Manager of the Burbank HRO (Ham Radio Outlet) store brought some of his favorite Amateur Radio items to for the presentation. He had spent the day exploring the Valley and nearby mountain areas. A brief description of HRO was given, including the newest location and why it had moved from the prior locations. It is now on Magnolia Blvd., next to the gun store. Each selection of Amateur gear was then explained with its features and use, then each was passed to the attendees to handle. Some new features for radios were USB ports and externally accessible memory cards. A D-Star digital model was in the selection. Hand held radio, mobile radio, power monitor, antenna analyzer, DC power monitor, antenna, and software were among his selections. A most favorite item seemed to be the RT Systems radio programming software. This one software program could program most of the programmable radios, although he cautioned that model specific programming cables would still be needed. This software allows data from one radio to be shared with other models and brands, meaning for a given coverage area, you wouldn't have to re enter all the frequency, offset, PL, etc. settings when programming an additional radio. For the antennas, a popular new one was a Comet model that works on both Amateur and Public Service frequencies. Eric handed out cards to the attendees. They don't carry Baofeng.

Ham Radio Outlet, 1525 Magnolia Blvd., Burbank CA 91506 or burbank@hamradio.com. (818) 842-1786.

Events:

Members were polled for T-hunt interest. Quite a few hands were raised. Timing of the transmitter hunts has been moved back to the Saturday after the Club meeting, instead of the second Saturday. Hunts have been discontinued this summer due to the hunters doing other activities in the summer.

BARC breakfast: Same date as T-hunt, about 8 AM, Denny's or maybe McDonalds. Participation in hunt is not part of breakfast attendance, although those in the hunt need to finish breakfast in time to get to the hunt starting location.

HF nets are doing well.

Tioga Pass run on Sunday September 7. We used two meters and 80 meters last year. This is a 12.5 mile race from Lee Vining to the Yosemite Park gate.

Tri County Fair: Northern Inyo Hospital Foundation has invited us to share a booth at the Fair, August 28-31. They plan to have a table for use inside one of the buildings. John is rounding up literature to provide at the table. Radio operations could be difficult. Eric said that HRO might provide frequency charts, and that three versions of Amateur Radio exam study guides are available.

State wide health exercise: According to Paul (KK6BAF), this is planned for some time in November. They will ask for Amateur Radio participation again this year. Regional hospitals and several shelters will be activated and will need auxiliary communications. John Nielsen is planning to turn on several of Mono County's 2 m radio repeaters for the exercise. Finding more about the radio coverage from these sites should be interesting. Some in the hospital staff are interested in getting Amateur Radio licenses. Paul has already purchased some study guides for those wishing a license. Are there Hams in Tecopa? Maybe. Jim (K6JNX) advised that Mammoth Hospital had allocated funds for Amateur Radio equipment. Jim did the estimate, with the help of Eric, and is set to do the installation. Hospitals have special rules for wiring. They are looking at a procedure for guest operators. It would be nice to have permanent antennas at the shelters.

50/50 raffle: Tickets handled by Keith (W6KRF). Eric was the winner, then donated the winnings to the Club.

Repeater report: Jon (NW6C) gave an update on the repeaters. There has been progress on Silver Peak to better arrange the equipment. Latest work has been to move the coax feeds to supports on the walls below the ceiling. Two open racks have been ordered to complement the one that the Club's repeater is in. That one is now bolted to the floor. After at least three unsuccessful tries at wiring up two link radios to the Silver Peak Kenwood, John bought a CAT 400 model repeater and link controller. Lots of instructions to wade through and connections to make. He was hoping to be able to install it on Silver before Marilyn's operation. After a lot of troubleshooting, a major problem was found with the selected Motorola link radio, mainly the receiver carrier detection indicator line was not working. With that malfunction solved, the link controller is now operational on John's workbench. He would like to get this in place on the Peak long before winter comes, just in case of problems. Success of this controller will open up many other possibilities to improve the coverage and operation of our 2 m system, including getting the Mammoth repeater back in the links, and maybe a route to the Goldfield repeater.

Support for HR4969: Terry advised the members that the ARRL is trying to muster support for this bill that will extend the Amateur Radio outdoor antenna installation provisions to local housing jurisdictions. It is becoming a common practice for private residential developments to prohibit outside antennas, to the point where in some areas the only affordable housing has these restrictions. HR4969 would extend the right of Amateur Radio operators to install a limited outside antenna, particularly a tower, to areas with these restrictions. Paul was the first one in Mono County to get a permit for a tower installation. He also stated that they were very cooperative and helpful.

Jon, NW6C, Secretary.