

## **BISHOP AMATEUR RADIO CLUB meeting minutes, January 13, 2015.**

Honorable Treasurer Terry (K6UN) was very busy processing membership renewals. Terry also circulated the latest club roster with a request to check and make corrections.

President John (AD6NR) called the **meeting to order** at 7:05 PM.

New guests were introduced as Darin (WA6EZW) and his sister Carolyn. Darin asked how many CW operators were present and did get a meager show of hands. He has very poor hearing, but can still do CW. They live in Bishop.

**Self introductions:** 11 members and one other regular guest were present.

**Treasurer's Report:** We survived 2014, with a before meeting total of \$1,585.20, split between the General fund of \$1,125.64 and the repeater fund of \$459.56. Deposits starting from October 15 were \$150 for dues and \$25 from the 50/50 drawing. Expenses for that period totaled \$1,091.68. These included \$200 to the Salvation Army for the use of their facilities, around \$100 each for electricity, Forest Service permit renewal, and more for web-site fees, County taxes, mail, and various other approved purchases. Terry has a printout of the exact figures.

**Secretary:** Minutes were approved as posted. Emails received from Walt (K6BDI), Dwaine (KG6SYA), Perry (N7YS), and Ed (AE4TM), mainly about articles in an Australian Amateur Radio newsletter forwarded by Walt.

### **Upcoming events:**

1. BARC and SARC in the Park (April).
2. T-Hunt Saturday? All of the usual hunters are committed to other things, including a 4X4 club run next Saturday. We will see what next month looks like.
3. Wild West Marathon, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, Ridgecrest.
4. BHS (Bishop High Sierra) 50 Marathon, May 15<sup>th</sup>. We need all hands for this one. Start/Finish is at the Millpond just north of Bishop. We hope to better integrate the packet radio operation with the phone by checking the packet information first, then following up using voice if needed.
5. Mule Days, May 19-24. We need to have station in view of public. Last year, except for local VHF/UHF on a table outside, the radio operations were in the "Ham Shack".
6. Field Day, June 26-28.
7. June Lake Triathlon, July 11. BARC was asked last year to help, but it was just too short of a notice to properly respond. Use of a portable repeater would really help. John has the parts to put one together.
8. Wedding of the Waters at Father Crowley Station, 4<sup>th</sup> week of October.

**Old business:** How about a BARC outreach person. Somebody to spread the word about our club and Amateur Radio. This was brought up by Ed (K6END) last month. It was decided to let Ed (K6END) be BARC's selected outreach person. Phil (K0RVD) might be another.

### **New Business:**

10 meter contest: Kurt (W6PH) reported that the 10 meter band was "wide open", the best that he had ever seen for this. Many here won't be around for the next solar cycle maximum. He ended up with over 1 million points, John about 260 thousand.

ARRL Centennial: This was lots of fun. Kurt, Hank (W6SX), John, and Terry participated. Kurt commented that our little club does very well in contests.

Orange Section ARES emergency coordinators are needed for vacant positions in Riverside, San Bernardino, Orange, and Inyo Counties.

How about some alternate frequencies or a change in time for the Thursday HF net? 7:30 was chosen as a better time than 9 PM on 80m. We could start there, then if that didn't work, pick a frequency on 40m.

Ham Cram (one day Amateur Radio license study) class locally? The ARRL does not have study material for this type of class. Other groups do. This type of study is for people that would like to have a license, but because of work commitments or travel distances have major problems attending a series of study sessions. We would need some really good publicity to make it worthwhile. There is apparently a great deal of interest in the Walker and Coleville areas.

147.77 MHz is the "Panamint Valley" simplex frequency – mainly with the four wheel drive enthusiasts. It is spreading to other rural areas. We generally just use the 146.52 simplex calling frequency in the Owens Valley, as there is seldom any other users there. Band plan guidelines are that once you make your contact on 146.52, you and the person you want to continue talking to, pick another vacant 2m frequency to move to. Suggestion to program 147.77 into your radio.

Schat's Communications would provide BARC with internet access in our Silver Peak facility if they could use our building to mount a wireless control link. It would be mounted to the outside of our building, but the power would come from us. John had done some preliminary checking by looking at our permit and talking with a representative of the Forest Service. Jeff (AA7GK), the new radio tech for local Federal services, strongly recommended that a very thorough investigation was made to make sure that such an arrangement would not jeopardize the BARC's non profit status for this radio site. Checking for possible interference with existing site users would also have to be done. Ted (AE4YM – silent key) helped Schat do some preliminary testing a few years back. Jon (NW6C) got the telephone call from Creative Wireless asking why we had a transmitter on one of their permitted link frequencies. This information was brought to Ted's attention, and he changed the frequency as soon as he could get up to the mountain top. As soon as the tests were done, Ted removed the equipment. Rich (KF6YLW) thought that we should have a proper lease agreement if we proceeded with this operation. All agreed to this. Even though this type of operation might not require a transmitter license, it is a "for profit" operation.

What would be the advantage of having internet access at the Silver Peak site? Many uses, from easy site telemetry to repeater link access. Jon is providing internet access at his house for the 440 MHz Allstar system. John has the 920 MHz system tied to his internet as well as two other connections for Red Cross repeaters on Silver Peak. Each one of these internet links adds an additional link radio repeater frequency pair with associated feed lines and antennas to the remote site. This equipment would be eliminated with wi-fi at the remote site. Maybe even a video feed could be added!

The 50/50 drawing was won by Darin.

Bob (W7WOW) would like to see Echo Link capability added to the 146.94 repeater. OK. Any volunteers to accomplish this?

A discussion was held about “Adventure Trails” action in Inyo County. This was brought up at the last joint meeting with the Eastern Sierra Four Wheel Drive club. The 4x4 club runs include State highways, so street licensed vehicles are required. There would be no real impact on the BARC. It just seems that everyone at the meeting would like to see the County give it a try. Jeff said that in some states, including Montana where he moved from, these ATVs (All Terrain Vehicles) can get regular license plates. They just have to have turn signals and rear view mirrors. Welcome to California?

Meeting Adjourned at 8:57 PM.

Jon Patzer  
NW6C  
Secretary  
Bishop Amateur Radio Club, Inc.