

# Bishop Amateur Radio Club

## Meeting Minutes January 14, 2012

Meeting called to order at 7:05PM by BARC President Adrian van der Riet (N6ZA)

Introductions around the room (19 members - 1 visitor) (see attached sign-in sheet)

Treasurer's report: Checking account \$1,913.14; Savings Account \$1,011.36. See Website for details.

December Meeting minutes: Motion to accept as amended by John (AD6NR) Second by Adrian (N6ZA) accepted by unanimous hand vote.

### Upcoming activities in the next month:

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

**T-hunt:** Saturday January 14th at 10AM: Details are on the BARC Website: John (AD6NR) is this month's fox.

**Desert Rats Ham-fest :** Jan 28 in Palm Springs

**ARRL Southwestern Division Convention:** Feb 17, 2012 in Yuma AZ. Website: <http://www.yumahamfest.org>

### Old Business

- 1) BARC Meeting dates: Mike (W6HDV) has made contact with Salvation Army to check on availability
- 2) Club Project: Off-set attenuator - Adrian (N6ZA) will have components list at the next BARC meeting - if you want to build the attenuator sign up then.
- 3) Forest Service Letter: Report by Dennis (W6IY): Four questions were addressed to the Forest Service concerning permitting non-ham equipment / operations in the BARC facility on Silver Pk (To see original letter and response contact Dennis (W6IY) or Adrian (N6ZA)). Summary: Q1 = Impact on renewal? A = No; Q2 = Sublease jeopardize current no fee status of facility? A = No - if no fee associated with sublease Q3 = Would lease cause change from "owner" to manager? A = No Q4 = Additional permit required? A = No, as long as tenant is compatible
- 4) Club T Shirts: Should we pursue getting BARC T-Shirts? Show of hands indicated a strong majority to proceed. Keith (KJ6ISM) will be the champion. Pockets are preferred by most. Show of hands also indicated Keith should look into the possibility of getting BARC patches.

### New Business

**BARC accomplishments in 2011:** Adrian read a list of accomplishments by BARC in 2011 that were reviewed and endorsed by the Board of Directors:

1. Initiated a Monthly T-Hunt
2. Provided major support "BHS 50 Ultra Marathon" hospice benefit
3. Upgraded 34/94 repeater to be in compliance with current FCC regs (ID timer and control functions)
4. Substantially reworked and up-graded the BARC Website: BARC Minutes & Treasurer report, local repeater status, T-Hunt rules, classified ads, etc
5. Designed and installed a new antenna support structure on Silver Peak Facility which provided significant expansion and improvement to the Silver Peak Facility
6. Purchased and installed a new commercial grade antenna (Sinclair SD212) on 34/94 repeater including new Andrew 1/2" Heliac, connectors and supports (Donations by Mark (W6WWA) and John (AD6NR))
7. Completed an inventory of all equipment associated with the Silver Peak facility
8. Provided support to "Best in the West off road race" by several club members
9. N6OV Participated in ARRL Field Day (6th in Class 2E)
10. Expanded "Owens Valley Net" Sunday mornings on 75 Meters (3990KHz)
11. Initiated "EMComm net" on 146.94 simplex Thursdays following the BARC Meeting
12. Provided new name tags for current BARC Members (donation by Keith (KJ6IXM))
13. Initiated (re-initiated?) a raffle at the monthly BARC meeting
14. Installed new batteries for 34/94 repeater (batteries donated by Greg KJ6KO)
15. Installed a link between 34/94 repeater on Silver Peak and 13/73 repeater on Mammoth Mountain (link radio donated by KJ6KO)
16. Created a BARC "library" of amateur related publications available for loan to BARC members (donations by Fried, ARRL, and others)
17. Acquired a new bell for the end of the nightly net donated by( Fried (WA6WZO))
18. Separated 34/94 repeater from 31/91 repeater
19. Held 4 VC sessions - XX successful candidates
20. Published 3 newsletters
21. Programmed the Mammoth repeater with the N6OV call sign, proper control codes, and to interface with the Silver Pk 34/94 repeater
22. Built the "Backpacker" ultralite 3el 2M beam antenna as a club project
23. Made several technical presentations at club meetings (2M base station antennas, SWR, old radio technology, etc)

**BARC "Scorecard" of accomplishments against BARC Corporate Charter:**

1. The primary purposes (*of the Bishop Amateur Radio Club*) are to operate a non-profit corporation for educational and scientific purposes as follows:
  - A. To educate and increase the proficiency of its members in the science of radio communication:  
Grade = A (1,2,8,9,10,11,15,21)
  - B. To provide for the dissemination of information among its members concerning scientific advancement and progress in the field of radio communication.  
Grade = C- (16,20, NN)
  - C. To organize and train units of licensed radio amateurs capable of maintaining radio communication as a public service during periods of emergency.  
Grade = B (2,8,9,10,11,NN)
  - D. To encourage and sponsor experimental activities in radio communication and electronics, to the end that the skills and experience gained in amateur radio will further the application of electronics to the benefit of the public at large.  
Grade = C (11,22,23)
  - E. To promote the elevation of standards of practice and ethics in the conduct of amateur radio communications.  
Grade = ? (NN?)C

**\* Based on activities in 2011 - numbers correspond to 2011 list of accomplishments**

**NN = Nightly Net**

Kurt (W6PH) felt we were being a little harsh by giving ourselves a "D" grade in section B. The key seemed to be communicating scientific "advancement" in radio communication. Suggestions were to have some presentations on the more current developments in Amateur radio (aka DSTAR). It was agreed we were harsh and perhaps a "D+" was warranted but not a "C"

There was discussion about what was intended in section E: Mike (W6HDV) suggested publishing some guidelines about good operations practices (e.g. - wait a bit before talking on the repeater so your first word is not cut off) and perhaps from protocols on club communication and representation.

**Potential focus areas for 2012:** Adrian read some possible focus areas for 2012

More radio related construction projects: e.g. "Backpacker beam" & off-set attenuator

Additional "social activities": e.g. Pot luck lunch, antenna building party, morning breakfast ham-chat

Balance and upgrade 34/94 repeater: Fix the "alligator" /add a 16-76 link / remote 34 receiver / new or refurbished duplexer / etc.

Build and deploy a Portable repeater

Develop technical standards for Silver Peak Facility

Increase funding to support club activities and objectives

Expand "Owens Valley Net" on HF utilizing NVIS

Outreach to local hams to increase BARC membership

Have a booth / special event station at Mule Days

**Suggestion:** Members wear BARC badges to club meeting

**New Books for Library:** Chuck Spencer (N7EW) donated several books for the BARC Library

**Ham Class:** 4x4 club as members interested in a Technician class to get ham ticket.

**Disclaimer on Website:** From unnamed USFS staff person via Dennis (W6IY): We need a non-discrimination disclaimer on our website. No immediate action taken - Dennis will contact ARRL concerning the issue

#### **Technical Questions**

None:

Meeting adjourned at 7:45

#### **Show and Tell**

**Old Radios And Equipment (and some old operators as well!)**

Submitted by John Shepherd AD6NR BARC Secretary - *Amended 2/14/2012*

