

BISHOP AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MINUTES for meeting of January 8, 2013 by Jon (NW6C).

Meeting called to order by new president John Shepherd (AD6NR) at about 7:06 PM.

18 members announced their presence at the start of the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. BARC annual dues are “due”.
2. BARC breakfast scheduled for 8AM on February 19, followed by Transmitter hunt at 10 AM. Jon (NW6C) is the fox, as last month's hunt was replaced by a repair run to the Mazouka Peak radio site. Tentative breakfast site is Village Cafe in Bishop.
3. Encouragement to join the 3.990 MHz Sunday morning net. John Husband (K6MWK) was a recent addition to the net check-ins.
4. BARC's club library is at the meeting.
5. Classifieds can be handled at the BARC website.

MINUTES: Approved as submitted.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Expenses: Two SCE power bills, \$48.90 and \$44.59.

Checking balance: \$1,644.84.

Savings: \$1,011.38.

Equipment fund: \$1462.78.

Other: Donation of \$20 for support of the Bishop repeater from listeners in the Benton area.

NEW BUSINESS:

Contests: QSO party on the 13th. Single sideband contest on the 19th and 20th -- simple log exchange of State or Province makes an easy way of getting credit for “Worked All States (WAS)” credit. 160 meter contest from the 25 to the 27 – 36 hours maximum. Winter Field Day is the 26th and 27th. See “Third party calendar” at ARRL site for non-league contest rules.

Presentation: Keith (KJ6IXM) presented Adrian (N6ZA) a gift of a waterproof pouch for his years of service to BARC. Adrian and Gigi (KW6Y) are planning an extensive bicycle tour in the near future.

Raffle tickets sold for the 50/50 drawing. Olin (WA7YXY) was the winner.

Board of Directors meeting: Meeting needed to select one “new” director was postponed due to only one director being available before the club meeting. Situation should be resolved before next month's meeting.

Olin has volunteered as EMCOM (EMergency COMmunications) coordinator for BARC. He is going see about club member opportunities in programs like ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) and CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) programs. Results of his research about such programs will be presented at future meetings. There will also be a form to list current radio capabilities of operators, and equipment that could be made available in an emergency. Olin stated that he would continue with this assignment until his retirement from the Forrest Service, at which time he intended to leave the Owens Valley. He hoped that by then another member to keep the position going. Olin gave a phone number of (559) 920-8766 to contact him for more information.

Mule Days Special Event Station? Mike (W6HDV) thought that this would be beneficial to BARC and Amateur Radio. He had already started looking into requirements for participation at the fairgrounds. Ideas were suggested such as piggybacking on other booths (Salvation Army has invited us in the past) and possibly having something with the Arts and Crafts presentations at the park. Electricity? Antennas? Mike will meet with Mule Days/Fairgrounds staff and try to get more information to present at the next club meeting – as well as a sign up list. W4M (We for Mules) suggested as the Special Event call. Minimum 90 day notice of event participation is required by the ARRL.

2013 Field Day: Kurt has again volunteered to host it at his cabin near Lone Pine. BARC could put up some money for food. As this activity isn't until this summer, discussion will continue at future meetings.

Ham Class: Phil (K0RVD) is willing to help on future Amateur Radio license classes, including tutoring for more advanced license classes. Phil would like to see more advertising for such classes, and Gigi was pointed out as the person to see about public announcements. Last year's Technician class had announcements deliberately limited so that it would not be overwhelmed on the first attempt.

BHS 50: The Bishop High Sierra Ultra-Marathon is scheduled for May 18. This should be a major commitment for the club. Methods of tracking runners and the application of Packet Radio (digital text) should be reviewed. Better coordination of the 4x4 club with the BARC should be considered, because many Amateur radio operators are in the 4x4 club and many BARC members are also in the 4x4 club.

EMP? Rich (KF6YLW) was asked about how well his amateur radios would work after an ElectroMagnetic Pulse. Interesting discussion ensued. Best chance of communicating after a major EMP would be with old vacuum tube gear. Another option would be to have some backup equipment in a shielded enclosure.

John (AD6NR) asked for opinions about how well we were accomplishing BARC's stated corporate "The Primary Purposes of the Bishop Amateur Radio Club Incorporated" decree. He had made a list of accomplishment that the Club had made last year, and asked for additions or corrections. Some history of the Club's incorporation was discussed.

Some concern over proper operation within the radio bands and band plans was discussed. Adrian addressed this as a major problem with SOTA (Summits On The Air) operation. "Considerate Operations Guide" is available from the ARRL.

MOTION to ADJORNE: Meeting adjourned a 8:17 PM.

Post meeting subjects, including a photo history of telephone company microwave sites presented by Everett (KD6IXK), made for interesting discussions going into the night.