

BISHOP AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Minutes for meeting on June 11, 2013.

Meeting called to order by Club President John Shepherd (AD6NR) at about 7PM. It may have been a minute or to later, because John was having a rousing discussion with Bob Moss (W7WOW) about strategies for using the FCC (Federal Communications Commission) to resolve interference problems at the Silver Peak radio site. John wants to get more specific information about cause/source of the interference, then try to address it directly, before involving the FCC.

Roll call: 19 members signed in, and one guest (Bill).

Treasurer's report by Bob (N7RAP): Checking \$1,152.85 after \$115 income and \$73.72 expenses. \$46.16 for electric bill and \$27.26 for Special Event Station (W4M) support. Duplexer fund \$1,631.28 after addition of \$20 from last months 50/50. \$1,011.38 in savings.

Minutes from May meeting by Jon (NW6C): Approved as posted on BARC web site.

Upcoming events:

Amateur Radio Field Day, June 22 & 23. Special segment at end of meeting.

Club breakfast and Transmitter Hunt postponed another month due to Field Day.

New HF contest (3.935 MHz at 8AM Sundays) to start this Sunday. Logs for last contest due at Bob's residence (W7WOW) by end of this month.

50/50 drawing: Handled by Rich, (KF6YLW).

BHS 50 Ultra-marathon final report: We received thanks from Marie – our help in tracking runners and keeping in touch with aide stations makes her job much easier. Next year? Not definite on last word. Leader of packet volunteers sent out an event sheet calculating Amateur Radio labor and equipment costs similar to that used for response to fires. Result: Labor \$7,705. Equipment \$30,000. Total \$37,705.

John (AD6NR) gave a brief report on Red Cross and Amateur Radio activities during the last Los Angeles area fire. What a command center!

Keith (KJ6IXM) about the W4M Mule Days special event station: Ham shack, station, and antenna worked fine. A special thanks to Mark (W6WWA) for getting the shack back to Lone Pine. Putting the operators desk outside made a much better interface with the public. Mike ( W6HDV) would like the club to do it again next year. Could try some interesting photos on poster board next time.

Club cards? Lots of visiting Hams came by the shack that were part of Mule Days, and they requested local contact information. Mike (W6HDV) volunteered to obtain cards – starting with an order of 1000. Keith will send out the QSL cards for the W4M station.

Bob (W7WOW) noticed radio interference from his Yamaha inverter type auxiliary power generator on HF bands. Moving the plant farther away from the radio cut down the noise. He is going to try a 100 foot extension cord to see if that will eliminate the problem. It would be interesting to see what the scope on an analyzer would show. Solar powered lights can cause radio interference, and some of the new "wall warts" have also been causing interference.

Amateur Radio Class report by Phil (K0RVD): 10 signed up, and 9 attended class. Those 9 all passed the test for new license. Phil sent out an "evaluation by participant" mailer to the applicants, and all were pleased with the class. Some said that the lectures could have been a little shorter. Phil later asked about interest in a General class test. Agreed to. There will be a date selected for the class after the Field Day concludes. An Amateur Radio volunteer in the packet group at the last Ultra-marathon agreed to donate an Amateur Radio handy-talkie to be used as an incentive to perspective licensees to get their license. It would be donated to one of those passing their test. Phil is going to follow up on this.

\$25 per student was charged for the last study class, of which \$23 went to purchasing the study book. Quite a bit more money was used for support paperwork. Next time we will need to charge more to remove some of the burden from the BARC treasury.

6 meters and "sporadic E" by Kurt (W6PH): This is the time of year! Listen for beacons. Best change for contacts is from 10AM until noon, and in the evenings. Window should be from now through July.

Discussion about packet radio. Dennis (W6IY) may bring a complete setup to next meeting.

Hank Garretson (W6SX) has established an Amateur Radio Reflector site for the BARC. This is similar to a Yahoo Group. Members are encouraged to use it. Sort of like "on line" net.

Field Day: Olin, Kurt, and John have had a meeting to establish some of the preliminary organization. Noon Friday until sundown was picked as the time to set up the equipment. An N1MN (contest computer application) training class will be conducted Saturday morning.. The GOTA (Get On The Air) station can use a paper log. N6OV is to be used for the main station, W6TD for the GOTA station Field Day call. Some rigs have been selected, and the intent is to have headphones available to the participant to make operation of more than one station at a time in a small area more reasonable. Four headphone jacks per rig is the plan.

Kurt is looking at the following equipment: 40 m beam, triband, and 80 m dipole antennas. All will be connected to a patch panel, so user can select from any available antenna. Band pass filters will be used.

A Honda 2000i (inverter type) generator to be used for power. Maybe an A3S antenna.

Caution, Do Not drink from the faucets, as these are supplied directly from the creek!

The main idea is to have a good time and encourage new operators. Bring your own sleeping accommodations as there is very little room in the cabin. It will probably be in the 80s in the afternoon, and above freezing at night. Point for VHF and UHF will be tough from this location.

Olin, Bonus Points: Olin has prepared a list of bonus point categories, with people tentatively assigned

to there acquisition. Some are “Message to national traffic system”, “message to section manager”, “satellite QSO”, “alternate power other than portable generator”(needs at least 5 contacts), “W1AW bulletin copied” (this can be done Friday), a “training session”, “site presentation to officials”, a “GOTA station”, “results posted before before selected date”, and “youth participation”. Most of these categories carry 100 point bonuses.

Marilyn (W6MSO) has volunteered to coordinate the food.

Motion made for “BARC to provide food, not to exceed \$250.” Motion passed unopposed.

50/50 won by Rich (KF6YLW).

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 PM.

Jon Patzer, NW6C.

PS: A \$250 donation check from the Northern Inyo Hospital (NIH) Foundation was received on June 12, 2013 to help support the BARC.