

BISHOP AMATEUR RADIO CLUB minutes for meeting on March 12, 2013

Prior to the meeting, an informal Club dinner was held at Los Palmas in Bishop. There were many stories told and good cheer was much in evidence. Most of the group moved from Los Palmas to the Salvation Army Center for the monthly BARC meeting.

Meeting called to order at 1905 PDT by President John Shepard (AD6NR aka John²).

The meeting started with introductions. There were 23 members in attendance. Long distance members in attendance were Steve (N6SRI), Fried (WA6WZO) and Sandi (WA6WZN) on a ski trip to Mammoth. At the end of the meeting, Terry (KG6AU) made his presence known and elected to join the club. Welcome to BARC!

The minutes from the last meeting on February 12, 2013, were approved.

Upcoming Activities:

- The monthly Club breakfast will be at Denny's on Saturday, March 23, 2013, at 0800. Followed by the monthly hidden transmitter hunt (T-hunt). John reminded the group that you are not required to participate in the T-hunt if you attend the breakfast. This month the Fox will be a team consisting of Rich (KF6YLW) and Keith (KJ6IXM). This should be challenging.
- BARC 80 meter net on 3.990 MHz is held weekly on Sunday mornings at 0830 PDT. Last Sunday it was discovered that since Arizona does not observe Daylight Savings Time, our net conflicts with the Arizona ARES net at 0830 on the same frequency. It was agreed to move the net to 3.992 MHz and start the net at 0830 PDT as usual.
- BARC and SNARC in the Park will be held at the Lone Pine Community Park on Saturday, May 4, 2013. A time was not announced.
- M² Antennas is reported to be hosting a BBQ and open house on March 16, 2013. I could not find information about this event on their web site. M² Antenna Systems, Inc., 4402 N. Selland Ave., Fresno, CA 93722 <http://www.m2inc.com>

Treasurer's Report: Checking balance of \$1211.91. Duplexer capital fund balance of \$1543.78. Savings balance of \$1011.38.

Phil (K0RVD) reported on the status of the Technician License class. The first class date is March 21, 2013, at the Fire Training Center off of West Line Street. Class will meet at 1800 for 8 (7) weeks followed by testing for all classes of amateur radio licenses on the 9th (8th) week.

Bob (W7WOW) presented a proposal for a bi-monthly EmComm contest for club members only. The purpose of the contest would be to test our emergency power supplies and preparedness. Details of the contest will be posted to the web site. There was much discussion about the mode of operation and the definition of a home station. Len (WA6IQO) and Adrian (N6ZA) expressed their concerns about having a mobile station as a home station. It was decided that the Contest Director, as stated in the contest rules, will be the final arbitrator of disputes and definitions. A motion was made, seconded and passed to hold the contest starting at 2400 PDT on April 9,

2013. The contest will run through 2400 PDT on May 13, 2013, and start again for two months on May 14, 2013, at 2400 PDT. Please review the rules on the Club web site. Also, note that a paper log is required.

Olin (WA7YXY) made a short report on BARC EmComm. Keith (KJ6IXM) and Olin have each completed three of the FEMA courses (IS 100, IS 700, IS 800) <http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist> as required by the ARRL and Orange Section ARES <http://orange-arrrl.org/web/> for participation in ARES. Keith is working on the ARRL ARES on line course. Olin discussed some options for our participation with an organization like the Red Cross, the Salvation Army and/or a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). Keith mentioned that the Town of Mammoth Lakes had a CERT. It is unclear if it is currently active. Olin will research this and report at the next meeting. John suggested that we should hold a meeting of interested parties to discuss our role and mission in the Eastern Sierras.

Mike (W6HDV) and Rich (KF6YLW) reported on the Mule Days special event station (W4M or We're For Mules). The Club purchased a Cushcraft, R8 antenna for use with Keith's radio shack trailer. Rich described the antenna base and wench system for raising the antenna. The antenna must be at least 10 feet above the ground so that the radials will clear the shack and not cause a hazard for visitors. A critical part was lost during shipment so the antenna has not been fully assembled. A replacement part is on order from Cushcraft. The station will operate from the Bishop City Park for four days in conjunction with the Mule Days Craft Fair. Mike mentioned that station must be manned when the Craft Fair is open to the public. Sign up for manning the shack will be conducted at the April Club meeting. At least two people should be present during operating hours, one operator and one person outside the shack to greet the public. Gigi (KW6Y) suggested having some sort of children's activity to attract young people and maintain the interest of adults longer. A motion was made, seconded and passed to purchase a banner for the event station from a local vendor. The approximate cost was stated as \$120. A special QSL was mentioned but not discussed in detail.

John mentioned the BHS 50 Marathon which will be held on May 18, 2013. BARC has agreed to provide communications at the check in points. A sign up sheet was passed around. More details will be provided at the April Club meeting.

Kurt (W6PH) provided a short report on his participation in the ARRL World Wide DX Contest. Kurt operated as VP9I from luxury accommodations in Bermuda. Kurt placed second in the World on CW and number one in the one station, two operator category on SSB. Kurt used his ICOM 7000 and operated without an amplifier at 100 watts! Congratulations to Kurt and his partner in these endeavors.

Kurt (W6PH) won the 50/50 drawing and graciously donated \$20 back to the Club.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting at 2045 PDT.

Olin, WA7YXY standing in for John¹ NW6C

Note: Some comments are the sole responsibility of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the BARC Officers, Board of Directors and the general membership.