

BARC Meeting Minutes, May 14, 2014.

Meeting officially called to order at 7:15 PM by President John (AD6NR).

Roll, self introductions: 18 members and one non-member present.

Treasurer's Report: Income of \$40. Expenses \$434, consisting of two Edison bills and enough Centennial T-shirts to supply the whole club. Shirts now available from Terry (K6UN) at \$13 each. \$1,641 in checking, \$405.56 in duplexer fund.

April Minutes: Approved as published on BARC website.

Activities:

T-hunt: There will be some date changes proposed next month.

Nightly 2 m net: 146.94, 146.76 and 147.21 at 8 pm most nights.

HF nets: Sunday mornings on 3.95 MHz, gather starting at 7:30, official check in at 8. EMCOMM net on 3.985 MHz, 6:30 pm Thursday.

Ultra-marathon, starts 6 am this Saturday.

Mule Days special event station, May 22 to 25.

Field Day, June 28 and 29, Kurt's cabin above Lone Pine.

Marathon: It is a go! A tentative assignment spread sheet has been sent out by e-mail. Some copies were brought to the meeting. A dinner is planned for participants, 5 pm Friday at the Bishop Park. Runners are on the course at 6 am Saturday. Final stragglers should be at the finish line by 1:30 am Sunday. The runners entry list is to be sent to John sometime Thursday. He will then forward it to the volunteers, and copies will be available at the Millpond Start/Finish. For communications stations, you should be self contained. Bring what you need for comfort – chairs, table, shade, food, light, water, etc. A quite comprehensive list was mailed out. Needs will vary with station location. We are to provide radio communications and runner tracking. Regular Aide Station crews will provide food and other assistance to the runners. We are there to help the runners. Most locations have a good path to the Bishop repeater, with Bishop Creek Lodge being an exception. Millpond can also be a challenge.

Mule Days special event station: We have a great site with plenty of room for antennas. It is at the northwest corner of the main structure area (adjacent to the food court). The “shack” is to be set up with an awning and table for the visitors. We need more volunteers for set up and operation. Terry (K6UN) has a sign up list. Set up is planned for Thursday the 22nd at 4 pm. Operation is to be Friday and Saturday from 9a to 5p, Sunday from 9a to 1p. Special Event call is W4M (We Four Mules).

Field Day 2014: Kurt is planning on some pre-Field Day training at our next meeting. He suggested some practice using standard phonetic alphabet clarifiers. International (ICAO) is preferred, but as this is essentially a national contest, regular dispatch terms should be fine. Terry has been checking on bonus point possibilities. GOTA, satellite, solar power, public notice, public access, public official attendance, are just a few of the scoring bonuses. We did really well last year and intend to make improvement this year. Discussion about the merits of 2A classification vs 3A.

Future Club meeting: Marty (N6VI, our ARRL Vice Director) is planing on a visit. A suggested topic for a discussion with him would be his view of current League issues.

Scholarship Fund:

Club members were asked to read the scholarship proposal. Printed copies were handed out at the meeting. Phil (K0RVD) had gathered up comments from the previous meetings and e-mails, then incorporated them into the latest proposal. Phil stated that his main reason for proposing these scholarships was a means of improving our Amateur Radio ranks. Current members are getting older. We need to get information about Amateur Radio to a younger age group. Kurt: Funding? Energy for fund raising? Who is going to do the fund raising? Adrian (N6ZA): Is this going to be an annual commitment? Answer: It is not going to be an annual commitment. How is its presence going to be communicated? Phil: The schools compile a list of scholarships. Gordon (KK6JOD): How about a partnership with other organizations? A club garage sale or raffle to raise money? Terry (K6UN): Regarding effort to handle the paperwork, what if we have hundreds of applicants? In his past experience this has been the case. We would also need about \$1000 set aside each year we would offer one of these scholarships. Adrian, Paul (KK6BAF), Terry: Number of applicants can be reduced by degree of stringency – ie, grade point average. Mike (W6HDV): There are other ways to reach out to our youth. How making a presentation to Scout troupes at one of our meetings? Learning Morse code gives credit for merit award as a foreign language. There are many other areas of science and electronics that count toward award points. Paul and Terry: Gun raffles seem to be one of the most successful means of raising money locally. \$1,200 dollars was spent to purchase a shotgun and a 270 at a recent raffle. Everett (KI6AIK): This hobby can show kids what is beyond this valley. So many don't really know. John: I don't really see how the objective of adding more Hams to the Club will be accomplished by this Scholarship, although it does seem like a worthy cause. We would really need to be committed to analyzing the submissions, in fairness to the effort that the applicants who sincerely filled out the applications. I don't think we can pull this off. Rich (KF6YLW): Tuition now runs about \$40,000 to \$80,000. Terry: Usually, all of the local scholarship money goes to about ten kids. Books are now \$100 to \$300 each. Kurt: How about restricting the grant to someone who has already put in several years committed to an electrical or science degree? Rich: How about using some of our resources to encourage reformatory youths? John: How are we going to go forward on this proposal? Mike: Can we table it for about a year while we practice fund raising? John: Phil has spent a lot of time on this proposal, and action on it has been delayed many times. In fairness to him, we should try to get some opinion from the Club as to its position on this subject. Phil: I will be fine with whatever the Club wishes. Mike: Should we poll the entire membership, rather than just the current quorum? John and others: The work to be carried out by this proposal will most likely be done by active members present at this Club meeting, therefore it seems fair that they should be the major determiner of its implementation. This also follows our Club rules. John: Vote on sense of the Club – on the BARC based scholarship fund.

Not in favor of proposal: 9

In favor of proposal: 3

Abstained: 6.

John: Subject will be called closed for now. We can focus some of the other ideas put on the floor tonight. Objections?

None.

New Business:

Phil: Can we set up a booth to promote Amateur Radio at affairs like the Home Show? Other ways to get more involved in our community. Terry: I have helped do this for the Masons. It is about \$300 for a booth. Mike: There are many craft shows in the Bishop area that could offer opportunities to reach the community. We, actually ED (N7SSP) and Keith (W6KRF), recently set up a display in Lone Pine. John: We can get some practice at Mule Days.

Kurt: Move to adjourn meeting. **Meeting adjourned** at 9 pm.