

## **BISHOP AMATEUR RADIO CLUB meeting minutes for meeting on May 12, 2015.**

**Meeting called to order** by President John (AD6NR) at 7 pm.

**Attendance:** 14 members and one guest.

**Bulletin:** Terry's (K6UN) home mortgage closed today!

**Treasurer's Report:** \$60 in income, \$40 from dues and \$20 from donation from Len (WA6IQO). \$98.19 in expenses, \$48.19 for power bill and \$50 for a video projector. The video projector bargain was from SARC (Sierra Amateur Radio Club) at the swap meet in Lone Pine. Duplexer fund is at \$551.86 after adding \$46 from last months 50/50 drawing. Total bank balance \$2,222.95.

**Minutes:** Approved after correction of Field Day food purchase limit. Changed from \$200 to \$250.

**Activities:** T-hunt looks like it will be postponed again. Far too many other activities on the coming weekends. The 80 m nets, 8 am Sunday on 3950 kHz, and 7:30 pm Thursday on 3947 kHz, are doing OK.

### **Upcoming Events:**

1. Field Day, June 26-28, is still on at Kurt's cabin above Lone Pine. Current plan is to have 3 stations operating (3A category) with no digital modes (except CW). It was nice to be able to check out the new digital modes last year, but the QRM made for harsh operating conditions at the other stations, with little contest benefit. Terry, Kurt, and John will be doing some final planning. There will be training for Club members on radio operations and use of the logging program prior to the start of Field Day.
2. Mule Days, May 21 – 24. Volunteers will be needed for our BARC site. Terry is prepared to stay there with his motor-home for the duration, and will be the coordinator. Terry has paid \$120 for an exhibitor spot, and said he would appreciate a \$60 donation from BARC to help with expenses. Club members voted to reimburse Terry for the whole \$120. \$85 was required for insurance. Having at least two people at the site should be our goal, one as a radio operator and the other for public contact. How about a map with pins to show locations W4M had worked? We are committed to keep our display operational from 9 am to 5 pm.
3. June Lake Triathlon (July 11), Wedding of the Waters / Father Crowley station (4<sup>th</sup> weekend of October), and the Tioga Pass run (September 13), have asked us for help with communications.
4. Manzanar Time Trials: Keith was planning to have the “shack” there May 16-17.

### **Continuing Items:**

1. Mazourka Peak work party: Kurt did a reconnaissance run, with the observation that antennas and wiring need to be cleaned up, the batteries need to be serviced, and the packet system restored. Lots of other things could be improved, such as identifying and removing dead solar panels, less noisy battery voltage regulators, and better anchoring of the old radio vault to eliminate the “temporary” guy wires.
2. Volunteer Exams: Of the 7 that showed up at the last session, 1 that hadn't studied didn't quite make it, 4 passed for their tech licenses, 1 upgraded from Tech to General, and 1 with a too long expired license did the route from nothing to extra. A suggestion from the floor was to consider developing a plan for following up with the new licensees, maybe even offering an elmer to help them get on the air. They are already eligible for free BARC membership for the year they pass their test. Phil (K0RVD) seemed to be taking notes. A special exam date of May 17<sup>th</sup> was

selected in response to Paul's (KK6BAF) request. This was to satisfy applicants, including Paul's wife, that could not attend Saturday sessions. A time of 1:30 pm and a location at the usual Salvation Army Church building was selected, although it was pointed out that this would have to be OKed by the Salvation Army. They do have Sunday services here.

3. BARC and SARC in the Park: There was a good turnout, probably over 20 people. BARC received \$84.60 from the sale of items donated to our club. Kurt observed that everyone had a good time and that the date (April) seemed to work very well. A lot of equipment transferred to new homes. For example, some several generations obsolete microwave exotics and plenty of power supplies, mostly 5 and 15 volt, were up for grabs. Several oscilloscopes and transceivers changed hands. We should do this again next year. Some unwanted leftovers were later hauled to Neil's Scrap Metal where another \$15 was turned over to BARC.
4. Nevada Communications Conference (NVCon) near Reno was attended by John and Terry. The highlight here was that an official Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was approved between the Eastern Sierra and the Nevada ARES sections. Two more signatures will be needed before it will take effect. Inyo County has been in the ARRL ARES Orange Section. Emphasis for this change was from the Inyo County Health Officer, Dr. Johnson, who is also the Health Officer for Mono and Alpine Counties. Mono County, previously in the San Joaquin Valley Section, is also part of this MOU. Alpine is also interested. A major concern for Dr. Johnson is communication between hospitals during an emergency. An HF station has already been set up at the Mammoth hospital. Nevada is set up to use packet radio on 145.05 MHz for text communication between their hospitals, so some major improvements in our packet systems are in the works. Dale (KJ6IX), ex-patriot of Owens Valley, now in Nevada, set up a packet terminal at Keith's (W6KRF) home to help get us up to date on Packet. This new system can also connect to the internet. A Kantronics KPC 3+ controller is recommended by Dale. He has offered to help with the set up, and also volunteered to provide training at one of our club meetings – probably July. Kurt has three packet terminals available to those that could put them to use. A motion was made to have BARC purchase one of the Kantronics KPC 3+ terminals to be configured as a packet node on Silver Peak. Anticipated cost was \$199.99. Motion passed.

#### **New Topics:**

1. New England QSO Party: Kurt joined with friend Bob in New England and did the contest mobile. They ended up with over 1,400 contacts, worked all but two states (Delaware and Wyoming), mainly on CW, in the two days. They also put over 850 miles on the car, driving through 22 counties. Kurt also put on another 3,000 miles, dodging a tornado by about 10 minutes, driving a mini-van back to Lone Pine from New Hampshire. They used a Hustler vertical for the antenna. Kurt's buddy Bob (WA1Z) may participate in the World Team radio championships held every fourth year. They worked California on 80 m.
2. Kurt brought back to California quite a bit of aluminum antenna tubing. Let him know if you need some.
3. Donation to Salvation Army for the use of their facilities? \$100 approved.

**Meeting adjourned** at 8:50 pm.

