

Butte Amateur Radio Club Meeting 1 Oct 2015



In attendance:

N7ATM - Cliff
N7TRG - Rodney
KB7PSJ - Richard
N7SKI - John
N7TIM - Larry
N7ARO - Gene

The meeting was called to order at 7:13 PM by the President, Cliff (N7ATM).

Treasurers Report:

Balance in checking - \$479.27
\$320.00 is due for insurance to Mercer Consumer by 1 December.

Old business:

KB7PSJ (Richard) inquired about the status of installing a repeater in the Deer Lodge area that would give coverage from Butte into Missoula. Cliff Gade indicated that he had a VHF repeater radio and duplexers to go with it. It was decided that we would research crystals to install in the radio for the desired frequencies and talk to Harley (K17XF) and Pat (AE7NZ) about tuning the duplexer cavities when the time comes. Other equipment needed would be a power source and an antenna. This item will be addressed in the future when a source for the crystals can be located.

The NAIA Pow Wow Fun Run was a success. Gregg, Gene, John, Rodney, Ed and James took up positions along the course and guided the participants. After the run, a group went to Red Mountain to get work on the Fusion repeaters completed before the snow flies. While on site, Harley (K17XF) noted a signal on his spectrum analyzer that looked and sounded like the intermod we have been experiencing from time to time on the repeater. He said the signal was about 10Mhz wide. The signal went away quickly and it did not return to be able to do more analysis. While the signal was present, raised the noise floor by about 20db across that 10Mhz wide swath.

New business:

John (N7SKI) stated that he had a box of parts and pieces left over from Gary's (WA7MUU) estate and that he will bring the box either to coffee or a future meeting to allow club members to pick through the items.

A Fox Hunt is scheduled for 24 October 2015. Harley (K17XF) is going to bring three transmitters to hunt. A brief orientation and gear check will be accomplished prior to the hunt and will more than likely occur at either Father Sheehan or Stodden park. Cliff (N7ATM), Rod (N7TRG), John (N7SKI) and Gene (N7ARO) all agreed to participate in the hunt. Ed (W7ARO) had also indicated earlier in the day that he will probably participate as well. QSTs will be made during the coming nets to drum up support for the hunt.

A discussion was held about club equipment that is stored in both the Butte Care & Rehabilitation Center and in the 15-90 storage area at the airport. Cliff (N7ATM) and Gene (N7ARO) agreed to meet and take some of the excess gear to a swap meet that is occurring in Stevensville on 17 October 2015. Proceeds will go to the club.

A short discussion was had about planning to hold Field Day in June of 2016 at the Justice Center where the Clubs ham gear will be installed. A discussion was also had about a tower at the Justice Center. Rodney (N7TRG) stated that a tower was planned to be installed on site in the spring. It was also discussed that we could install Arlen (Bud) Morrel's (WA7YSH-SK) old tower on the site if need be.

John (N7SKI) put out some the DTMF codes for the 34/94 machine:
To link the VHF and UHF repeaters, enter 24. To unlink enter 42
Time - 123
Parrot - 321
DTMF - 14

Current repeater status: Both the VHF and UHF fusion repeaters are on line, but not linked. There is a firmware problem that hopefully will be resolved by Yaesu and next spring the repeaters can be linked after the firmware is installed.

No items discussed required a vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Gene Bodenberger
N7ARO
Secretary, BARC



A recent picture of the Red Mountain Lookout from up on the new Forest Service tower.