

# Palouse Hill Amateur Radio Club Meeting

**22 July 2015**

**Officers Present:** Roger (W7ALA), Elizabeth (KK7VO), Hal (KC7STU)

**In attendance: 10**

Roger (W7ALA) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Hal (KC7STU) reviewed last month's meeting notes (approved) and gave the treasurers report. Closing balance on the June statement is \$3,057.91 with \$0.13 credit from the previous statement.

## OLD BUSINESS

- Eric (AE7UF) reported that 7 hams and 20 children participated in the recent Fox Hunt held at the Palouse Discovery Center in Pullman. The event was reported in the local news paper and radio. Children were taken out in small groups; some caught on quickly while others had more of a challenge. He felt that it was very successful. The event lasted about 3 hours.
- Ken (W7EKB) reported that the keys are missing for the Moscow Mountain Repeater site. Also fire restrictions are in place. Roger suggested that we should probably avoid going to the repeater sites, including Kamiak Butte. Was agreed to defer the repeater site visit until conditions improve.
- **Field Day:** Elizabeth (KK7VO) reported that she had officially submitted the report for FD. We had 2022 points of which 1250 were bonus points. There were 40 CW, 76 digital, 154 phone, 11 GOTA contacts. Roger invited general comments:
  - Need more operators. There were only two CW operators.
  - There was good shade at the site in Pullman. Trees also offered more options for antennas.
  - There was no significant interference between stations, even those on the same band.
  - Heat was a big detractor from visitors. Also Hoop-fest was that weekend.
  - Would like to look at more public facing locations for easier public interface. It was a little difficult to find the school.
  - Bathroom was a bit of a hike but not much worse than other sites.
  - Need better signs that directs people to the location and place signs earlier. Thanks to Heather taking the initiative to make signs on Saturday!
  - Don't put the GOTA station under the HF antenna.... interference.
  - There was a need for a bit more information going into the event.
  - Great food.
- Asked that we send a thank you note to the Pullman Building Supply, Lincoln Middle School, WSU ham club and Whitman County for their help with the event – assigned to Hal.
- Jim (K7LL) was asked to work on the field day committee next year. Elizabeth observed that Jim was being pulled in a lot of different directions. She suggested that we have a couple of technical people... computers, antennas etc. Jim indicated that we need a larger committee. WSU guys did a great job on network setup and a number of other things.
- Bill commented on ARES FD participation. He felt that it was seamless and the setup went smoothly. He felt that everything went well from an equipment and participation. The ARES group plans to have a workshop to finish working on the TNCs rather than the typical business

meeting next month. September may be a go-bag meeting. They also discussed an activation scenario and what to do during an emergency. Bill emphasized that the family comes first.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- There was a general discussion about upcoming meetings. Some of the topics discussed were old-time radios, go-bags, 72 hour kits, etc. Roger suggested discussing this in the September meeting. Other suggestions: digital modes, equipment show-n-tell
- Antenna build was discussed by Elizabeth for September/October time frame. The HF field antenna was suggested. Previously, J-pole and tape measure Yagi were built. She asked for suggestions for types of antennas and someone to lead the build. Roger suggested a TV to 6 meter beam conversion. End fed dipole was suggested, James (AE7JM) has the toroids for the build. Ken suggested a QRP antenna. Jim suggested an arrow 2-meter Yagi that can easily be broken down for a portable antenna. Also suggested were ways to put up the antenna (masts, slingshots, etc.).
- Boat races, "Thunder on the Snake" is the last weekend of August, so far there hasn't been a lot of publicity about it yet.
- Events were mentioned by Chris (KF7HXJ); the American Legion District Meeting will be held in March of 2016 with a displays. He is also doing the American Legion Idaho State Convention in July 2016. He asked if the club would be interested in putting up another display table, similar to the preparedness fair. Elizabeth suggested doing a packet link to send messages as a demo.

Meeting closed at 8:15