



Flathead Valley Amateur Radio Club NEWSLETTER

MAY 1987

F V A R C is an ARRL Club
Club Radio Call--K7LYV

FVARC is a special Service Club 1247
Trustee--Harry Lovering WA7PHB

Club Address: Box 2549 Kalispell, Montana 59901

President: Harry WA7PHB
Sec. Treas. Jeanne WA7AAG

Vice President: Lonny NN7J
Editor: Dorothea KA7LTA

Board of Directors: Johnny, KE7FZ - George, W7BKB - Dick, KD7AK - Rod, W7VOS
Comittees: Repeaters-- Rod, W7VOS - Carl, W7EQB - Guy, W7INZ
Program-- Lonny, NN7J - Public Relations, Les, K7GL

FVARC meetings are held the fourth Thursday of the month at 7:30PM at the Pacific Power & Light Bldg. at 1190 N. Meridian Rd. Kalispell, except for Thanksgiving, or at any time when there is a question of conflicting dates. At that time other arrangements can be made.

Anyone interested in Amateur Radio is cordially invited to attend.

Dues are \$10.00 per year for adults, which includes spouse. \$5.00 per year for those under 18. Due the first of the year. Dues for new members will be pro-rated. New Novices-first year free.

CALENDAR

Club Meeting--May 28 7:30 PM PP&L N. Meridian

Local Nets--Mon. thru Fri. 10 Meter 28.45 9:PM W7LMW

Mon. 8:00PM Flathead Valley Info. net 146.82

Tues. 8:00PM ARES 146.76

Wed. 7:30PM QCWA 147.78

Repeaters:	Freq.	Sponsor	Call
	146.76	FVARC.	W7EQB
	146.82	K7MGX-MRF	W7INZ
	147.78 (.18)	W7ZKA	
	442.075/7.075	FVRG	KA5LXG Monitoring 146.58
	443.375/8.375	WB7BTS	" 146.55

WANTED: QST's, 73's, CQ's for FVARC library collection. Especially earlier issues-pre-1976. Also have issues to check out for club member use. Coordinate with Johnny KE7FZ for donations or check-outs. Mailing address: P.O. Box 736 Bigfork, Montana 59911

MINUTES FOR APRIL 23, 1987 MEETING OF FLATHEAD VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Called to order by WA7PHB, Harry Lovering, President at 7:40 P.M.. There were 21 club members, 3 xyl's and 1 non-member present. Fourteen members present are ARRL members as well. Minutes were approved as given in newsletter. Congratulations were given to those successful ones who passed licensing tests this month.

Glacier/Waterton ham fest was mentioned and the dates July 17-19 confirmed as in newsletter.

Project "93" with the scouts for this weekend are in need of a few more volunteers and those who are able will be there this Saturday.

Concern was mentioned for Don Nash, WA7ALO and Gene Flint, KA7MWS who have been ill. Various reports were encouraging on their condition.

Question was brought up by WA7AAG on club insurance. Tabled because of the great cost involved.

Guy Maycumber, W7INZ, and George Hanson, W7BKB are working on the incorporation papers. The By-laws will be prepared so each can have a copy and the materials present to the Board of Directors.

W7BKM, Harold Schneider, gave a report on prizes for Big Arm Picnic. All decided unanimously to have the Sec/Treas., WA7AAG, send in to order to Ross Dis. Suggestions was made by Harry to contact Lonnie Hanson, NN7J to check on tickets and he will check on this. George Hanson, W7BKB, will check with Missoula on the Big Arm Picnic fund and WA7PHB, Harry will work on prizes for xyl's and kids. Picnic to be held the second weekend of August. Harry will contact Fish and Game to confirm use of Big Arm area for the picnic.

Gary Richardson, N7CWP, distributed a report he had compiled on the Field Day survey. The information was very interesting. There are a few extra copies if someone would like one yet. It was noted that the publicity for the Field Day was very "low key" last year due to lack of insurance. Ted Mikita, SR., KA7HBK, presented some very interesting info on the need for taking Field Day serious..."be ready for emergency before emergency comes". Ralph Ulrich, K7UVK, presented info on Field Days from previous club experiences. It was unanimous that we hold a Field Day and several locations were discussed. Ollie, KA7LLI, mentioned the need of a roster for scheduled times for operators and Nick, W7HGM, seconded this. Ted Mikita will provide and take charge of the CW station. FVARC will challenge Libby Club as in the past. Field Day is the last weekend of June.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully,

Jeanne Crabb, WA 7AAG

FVARC TREASURER'S REPORT		April 1987	
Balance in checkbook	3-26-87		\$521.98
Expenses:			
Newsletter (March)	-----	\$39.98	
Trippets (Receipt book)	---	2.05	
InstyPrint (cards)	-----	9.95	
		<u>\$51.98</u>	
Income:			
3131 Deposit(dues)	----	\$85.00	
4113 Deposit(dues)	-----	20.00	
3120 Interest added	----	1.77	
		<u>\$106.77</u>	
Balance in checkbook	4-23-87		\$576.77

MINUTES FOR FVARC BOARD MEETING OF MAY 5, 1987

Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm at the Christian church meeting room, Kalispell, by President Harry Lovering, WA7PHB. Those in attendance were KA5LXG, John; KA7LLI, Ollie; K7BL, Les; W7BKB, George; W7INZ, Guy; KE7FZ, Johnny; KD7AK, Dick; W7VOS, Rod and WA7AAG, Jeanne.

Big Arm Picnic was discussed. Dorothea discovered that the State wants \$50.00 rental plus \$100 deposit for the use of the picnic area this year. Alternate sites were discussed and will be checked on, i.e., Polson, Swan Lake and any other place you can think of! The picnic fund still needs to be transferred from Missoula and Lonnie and Les are seeing to that.

A vote was taken on the renewal needed for K7LYY. George made a motion and Les 2nd it that Harry renew for the next 10 year term. The vote was unanimous. An agreeable bunch of hams!

Discussion was made on the need to write F.C.C. on licensing procedures. Several agreed to write in relation to this matter.

Then we all turned to the business at hand....incorporation... to be or not to be. It was determined that the purpose for incorporation would be purely to gain a non-profit basis with the State but not a tax-exempt basis. This would be to protect club members for any liabilities which might come our way some day. The By-Laws were given to George and Guy who will revamp them in accordance with State incorporation law and then give to Les for an attorney's scrutiny. It was noted from minutes of FVARC on 4-26-84 that a quorum of members have voted to incorporate.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Crabb, WA7AAG

INFORMATION:

A "reverse" autopatch (752-5048) on KA5LXG/R, 442.075, is available for anyone to use. Call the number if you want to contact a 440 user on air; or, if you need to contact a 2M station, a 440 user would be glad to try and pass a message to that station for you. After dialing you will hear a voice synthesized message, then your "ring" will go out on the air. Allow 6 to 8 rings to assure a user, if available, time to bring up the patch. Nobody likes to answer and hear a dial tone or someone hanging up. For that reason, please use your discretion by not giving this number to those who would abuse it (kids seem to get hold of such numbers to listen to the recorded voices!).

TNX to JOHN KA5LXG

BIG ARM PICNIC - AUGUST 9, 1987

Reservations have been made for the center Pavilion for Sunday, August 9th. Cost for same is \$50.00 - with a clean-up deposit of \$100.00, which we expect to get back. Dorothea, KA7LTA, was informed that we have the dubious honor of being the first group to have a reservation at the Big Arm State Park for the 1987 season. Remember now, camping at this Campground is great. Come one - come all - make a full week-end of it and do some visiting with those other hams.

Project "93" Highway Clean-up was a great success and we had a good turn-out for communication for the Scouts. There were 15 Hams who helped on this project. The Scout Leaders were very pleased with communication that we made available to them. We seem to gain a ham or two each year. I wish to thank all of you for helping. - W7FDI, Ron--- N7GUP, Wally--- NN7J, Lonny--- NI70, Rick--- W7BKM, Harold--- KA7LLI, Olli--- NV7K, Harry--- N7ISX, Joyce--- K7GL, Les--- KA7KLH, Willie--- K7JZO, Harold--- W7LMW, Don--- K7OIR, Jack--- KA7OLV, Rich.

WA7PHB, Harry

Sorry to hear that Gene, KA7MWS had to spend several days in the Intensive Care Unit of the hospital at Billings. This was an unscheduled appearance, as he and his XYL, Marie, KA7OOK, were in Billings for a D.A.V. meeting - of which Gene is the local Commander. Welcome back home, Gene.

SILENT KEY

K7DCH, Clair Badley, died April 27th. Clair and Polly came to Kalispell about 1955. Clair worked at the Parkway Truck Stop for several years, and then went to work at Manions as a truck mechanic. Later he had his own shop. Clair helped many Amateurs get their first ticket (including me). He was the co-ordinator of the last Glacier-Waterton HamFest that was held at the Apgar Campground in Glacier Park. Clair will be missed by many.

WA7PHB

AMATEUR RADIO NOT AFFECTED BY TARIFFS

The new tariff's against certain Japanese products do not affect Amateur Radio. On April 17, the US Government retaliated against what it called unfair trade practices by adding a 100% tariff on "18-20" color TV sets, power tools, and certain desk and laptop computers.

According to the US Government, Japan has sold microchips below cost in US and foreign markets undercutting US microchip manufacturers. This violates a trade agreement between the US and Japan.

It is anticipated that the tariffs will be discontinued once the administration believes that these unfair trade practices have stopped.

From The ARRL Letter May 5, 1987

Johnny came home from school with a note from the teacher, stating he had been a bad boy. He had stuffed some dirt in a little girl's mouth. "Why would you do something like that?" his mother asked, frowning.

"Well, for one thing," Johnny replied, "her mouth was open!"

Little Mary's father had denied her a pleasure that she had confidently expected. That night, when she said her prayers, she concluded with ...

"And please don't give my papa any more children. He don't know how to treat the one he's got now."

THE ARRL Letter

Volume 6, No. 9

May 5, 1987

FCC REVERSES HILDEBRAND RULING

In 1982 there was an FCC action revoking the license of David Hildebrand, N6BHU, for violation of FCC rule 97.119 which prohibits obscene, indecent or profane language. The Commission said that although it can't censor or interfere with the rights of free speech through radio communications, it can impose sanctions on licensees who violate its rules.

However, a few months later, an FCC Review Board overturned the original ruling. The Board said that Amateur Radio only involves private transmissions and is not a form of broadcasting; since legal cases defining indecent matter were narrowly limited to broadcasting, the legal principles involved could not be extended to Amateur Radio.

This ruling was strongly opposed by the Private Radio Bureau of the FCC, which oversees Amateur Radio. The Bureau appealed to the FCC Commissioners to reverse the decision. The ARRL also filed a brief with the Commission arguing for a reversal. In its brief, the ARRL said: "The utterances of Hildebrand in this case were blatantly outrageous to the amateur community. For the Commission to sanction such language would undermine the integrity of the Amateur Radio Service in the United States more than any other single action the Commission could take."

On April 16, the Commissioners reversed the Review Board decision. The Commissioners said that Amateur Radio is "sufficiently like broadcasting" in that its frequencies are shared by many amateurs and there is a risk of children listening to the transmissions. The Commissioners also noted that Section 97.119 of the amateur rules specifically governs indecent transmissions and that amateurs should presume that the Commission's rules will be enforced.

The Commission did not fine Hildebrand or revoke his license, but limited its actions to a declaratory ruling and admonished Hildebrand against future violations. The Commission clearly indicated that similar violations occurring after

April 16 by amateurs "would be subject to more severe sanctions."

220 UPDATE

Comments continue to be filed by amateurs against Docket 87-14, the FCC proposal to reallocate the bottom 2 MHz of the 220-MHz band to the Land Mobile Service. At last count, approximately 1500 comments had been received by the Commission in opposition to the proposal, with only a handful of comments filed in favor of it. The FCC will continue to accept comments filed through May 21.

We had reported earlier that the FCC had denied the Association of Radio Reading Services (ARRS) petition for 500 kHz of the 220-MHz band. The ARRS has now filed a Petition for Reconsideration with the Commission. The petition notes that one week prior to denying the original petition, the Commission proposed, in Docket 87-14, to reallocate part of the band to the Land Mobile Service and that the FCC could have easily incorporated the ARRS petition in it.

Two of the major reasons the FCC denied the petition were, according to the FCC, that the ARRS had not taken into account the costs of establishing and maintaining its own stations, and the ARRS claim that receivers could be built for the 220-MHz band for \$25. In its Petition for Reconsideration the ARRS sheds no new light on these claims, stating that the original petition addressed these items in detail, and that the Commission should explain why it "remains unpersuaded" by the ARRS claims.

In other 220-MHz news, the ARRL petitioned the FCC on April 30 to issue a cease and desist order against Aerotron, a company which has advertised the availability of Land Mobile Service equipment in the 216-222 MHz range. Of course, the Land Mobile Service has no frequency allocations in this area so it would be impossible for Aerotron to have been granted type acceptance for its equipment on these frequencies.

In its petition, the ARRL states that FCC rules prohibit the advertising, display, sale or lease of equipment which cannot be legally operated under the FCC rules, and requests that FCC issue an Order prohibiting Aerotron from marketing such equipment.

Aerotron is a strong supporter of the FCC proposal to give 2 MHz of the 220-MHz band to the Land Mobile Service. At recent industry shows, Aerotron distributed literature urging comments be sent to FCC in favor of the proposal.

At the Dayton HamVention's FCC Forum, Ray Kowalski, Chief of the Special Services Division of the FCC, commented that few amateurs had addressed the question of "narrowband technology" in the Land Mobile Service when commenting on Docket 87-14.

Kowalski reminded amateurs that the Docket stated that the two megahertz were proposed to be used by the Land Mobile Service primarily for narrowband use (in the Land Mobile Service, "narrowband" mode means Amplitude Modulated SSB (ACSSB) which has about 25% of the bandwidth of FM).

Kowalski said that the question that should be addressed by amateurs is whether this new technology, incompatible with FM and untried in any other Land Mobile band, should be given a band of its own, or should it be integrated with present Land Mobile channels. He urged amateurs to continue to submit comments to the FCC, saying that all comments will be read and given due consideration.

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