

Propagation

Kootenai Amateur Radio Society (KARS) Newsletter

JUNE 2005

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

KARS president Bob Kesson (K7CGA) has been busy with Kootenai County Emergency Ops--his column will resume next month.

IGLOO TECHNOLOGY

As nearly everyone knows, an igloo is a temporary shelter used by Inuit hunters of the Arctic and sub-arctic regions of North America. It is typically constructed as a dome using blocks of snow. Igloos play an important role in protecting Inuit hunters from fierce storms that affect their range. Why is this significant to the radio amateur? An important question is what is the ratio of the circumference of an igloo to its diameter--see page 6 for further information.

BITS & PIECES de K7JMC

Two-meter Basic Load

As the headline implies, we're going to talk a bit about two-meter base and mobile operations, specifically repeater selection. In the 2-1/2 years I've been in Northern Idaho, I've come to realize that there are about five repeaters that provide coverage for all of the Idaho Panhandle area! That, along with the "Memory Channel" feature on two-meter radios, means that with a slight flick of the memory channel selector knob you can QSY to any one of the five repeaters as well as a couple simplex frequencies too. This is REAL handy when in mobile operation. You don't have to take your eyes off the road, just count the "clicks."

(continued in column 3)



11 JUNE 2005:

KARS

HAMFEST and flea-market

With potluck dinner preceding evening.

(See page 5 for details)

IN THIS ISSUE

- Honoring Harvey Zion
(see page 3)
- KARS Potluck Dinner
and Hamfest 2005
(see page 5)

(from column 1)

I will list the five repeaters in, what I feel, is their order of importance,, and a couple simplex frequencies too:

- 1) 147.08+ Kootenai RACES/ARES
- 2) 146.98- KARS
- 3) 146.78- (w/100hz tone) Sandpoint
- 4) 145.23- Bonner RACES
- 5) 147.12+ Blanchard/Newport
- 6) 146.50 Simplex
- 7) 146.52 Natl Simplex Calling Freq

I have not ignored the machine in Bonners Ferry. The last info I had on it was that it had been taken down from it's mountain site and is more like a local machine. If this has changed the Bonner's Ferry machine can be added to our list. Other repeaters that would be good to have programmed would be the KBARA System in Spokane. The KBARA System can be linked to provide coverage all the way to Seattle!

So, plan to make your two-meter rig more versatile and user friendly. Use some thought and select your memory channels so that you can QSY without looking at the rig. It will make 2 meter mobile operating a pleasure, and safer to boot!

Regards, Jack/K7JMC

Propagation is published monthly by the KOOTENAI Amateur Radio Society (KARS). The club is located in Coeur d' Alene, Idaho and serves the North Northern Idaho and the Spokane, Washington areas

KARS operates voice repeaters on 146.980 and 444.775 MHz and a packet repeater on 145.510 MHz. KARS normally holds meeting at 1900 hrs, on the second Monday of each month in the Shep Rock Building at the Coeur d' Alene Airport.

Anyone interested in Amateur Radio is welcome to join. Dues are \$12.00 (individual) and \$18.00 for a family membership. Contact the Treasurer (see page 6) to join KARS.

KARS e-mail Directory

Anderson, Avon W7WBZ w7wbz@yahoo.com
 Austin, Bert N7KKI bert@dawghaus.net
 Austin, Joyce KD7DIT bert@dawghaus.net
 Bak, Victor K3SHD k3shd@arrl.net
 Carlson, Randy KB6YAV kb6yav@cet.com
 (also for Eric [KD7RVZ] & Jean [KD7RVY] Carlson)
 Chamberlain, L. N7UTK lindafc@adelphia.net
 Churchill, Rick KD7DIJ churchill@icehouse.net
 Conklin, Warren WB7EBU wb7ecu@verizon.net
 Cothorn, Bill N7VVK & Glo KC7EUJ globile@aol.com
 Cowan, Art W7COZ w7coz@earthlink.net
 Frost, Mel KD7DCR bgsalesmel@cs.com
 Hall, Dennis KK7X kk7x@countyhunter.com
 Hogeweide, W. K7ETJ k7etj@icehouse.net
 Hogeweide, M. WB7WUB k7etj@icehouse.net
 Hollar, John N7JU n7ju@arrl.net
 Hooper, Jerry KA7RNX ka7rnx@netzero.com
 Hopkins, John KC7MDX kc7mdx@msn.com
 Hopkins, Lee K7OOJ k7ooj@thunderbolt.net
 Kasper, Brad KA5PER ka5per@icehouse.net
 Kesson, Robert K7CGA k7cga@arrl.net
 Kliiger, Frank K9ALF k9alf@arrl.net
 Kuenzinger, Pete N0ENC p.kuenzinger@verizon.net
 Larson, Hal N7DOI n7doi@aol.com

Linden, Jennifer K7WBB k7wbb@arrl.net
 Linden, Jim N7JIL n7jil@arrl.net
 Longtin, Kenneth KE7BDA kenlongtin@juno.com
 McElroy, Jack K7JMC k7jmc@yahoo.com
 McFarland, Bob K7QS kc7vag@aol.com
 (also for Barbara [KD7BGG].Ross [KD7CDA] & Vic [N7VX])
 McQuiston, Steve WO6LF slmcquiston@earthlink.net
 Miller, Jim N8BNI n8bni@adelphia.net
 Monroe, Chris N7ZUJ ckay@my180.net
 Monroe, Jim N7ESU n7esu@arrl.net
 Newell, Dale N7FPJ sndnewell@yahoo.com
 Pittsley, Bob KC7RNT kc7rnt@icehouse.net
 Richmond, Tom K7PEJ k7pej@arrl.net
 Rosie, Bob W7GSV rrosie@icehouse.net
 Sausser, Brad KB7FUN brad@acm.org
 Siebenthal, Verda K7UBC verda_k7ubc@msn.com
 Stuckey, Edward AI7H ai7h@arrl.net
 Telles, Larry K6SPP ltelles@icehouse.net
 Thomas, Shaun, (K7SLT) dodgerecker@yahoo.com
 Ward, Chris K7CBW chris@k7cbw.com
 Weir, John AE4CU ae4cu7@yahoo.com
 Welle, Annie KE7ADK wellerose@yahoo.com
 White, Darrel N7ZUI n7zui@icehouse.net
 Williams, Ken W7LQT w7lqt@yahoo.com
 Zion, Harvey K7VZ k7vz@earthlink.net

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
10 June at 6 p.m. (Friday) (special Hamfest potluck)	KARS monthly meeting	Lion's Club in Rathdrum
25 June at 6 p.m. (Friday) (special pre-Ironman meeting)	RACES/ARES meeting	Kootenai Co. Sheriff's Department Basement
Every Wednesday at 8 a.m.	Donut Day	Rathdrum Super 1 store (on Highway 53)
Second Saturday each Month, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.	NW Traffic Net Coffee Klatch	Old European Breakfast House in Post Falls

Next KARS Meeting:

**Friday, 10 June 2005 (special
pre-hamfest potluck dinner and
business meeting)
at 6:00 p.m. at the
Lion's club in Rathdrum.**

Directions to the KARS meeting:

This month only: Take Hwy 53 West from US Hwy 95 to Meyer Road in Rathdrum, or if coming from the south, take Hwy 41 north to Hwy 53 in Rathdrum, continue east to Meyer Road--Lion's Club is at Hwy 53 and Meyer Road intersection (cater-corner to the Perfection Tire store, and next to the cemetery).

Public service from and to the amateur radio community:

HARVEY ZION (K7VZ)

INTRODUCTION

This month, KARS recognizes and honors Harvey Zion for a decade of service as the leader of the KARS-sponsored ARRL VEC Volunteer Examiners (VE) group. As most of you know, the VEC/VE program is responsible for overseeing amateur radio license testing, and Harvey has been leading our local group since 1995. Beginning this month, Harvey will turn-over his leadership position to John Hollar (N7JU), but will continue to serve the group as an examiner. The group, in addition to Harvey and John, consists of four worthy hams from our area--they are Frank Breit (KB7RNV), Phil Corlis (KI7ZY), Roy Davis (KI7EP), and Jerry Hooper (KA7RNX).

OUR MESSAGE TO HARVEY:

Thank you, Harvey, for your years of service to your community as VE group leader--your activities have been vital to local hams, to KARS, to the Kootenai County RACES/ARES organization, and to the community at large because of the emcomm and special event support local hams provide. Thank you for the way in which you managed the restructuring of the KARS-sponsored VE group, and thank you for continuing to operate with that group after the transition.

A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF HARVEY ZION (contributed by John Hollar--N7JU)

Harvey Zion was born in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The family moved to San Francisco when Harvey was age nine. He graduated from the Tamal Pais High School, and joined the United States Navy in 1946. He served in the Pacific as a Petty Officer Third Class and then joined the Signal Corps. After active duty in the Navy, he returned to California joining the U.S. Marine Reserves and taking a job at the U.S. Postal Service, and also joined the United States Marine Corps reserves. It was not long before he was once again called to active duty in Korea. In 1950 he attained the rank of Marine Corps Staff Sergeant.

After the Korean war, Harvey Zion found an a new career in law enforcement in South Lake Tahoe while raising a daughter and two sons. He was also active in several Masonic Orders and other social activities until his retirement in 1979 whereupon he discovered Kootenai County. In retirement, Harvey drove a school bus for a number of years, and even owned a donut shop for a time, but it was an article in the local newspaper describing the activities of the Kootenai Amateur Radio Society (KARS) that peaked his interest in amateur radio.

After visiting a KARS meeting, he hooked up with his "Elmer" Roger Harris (W6PFI) who walked Harvey through the Novice, Technician, and General amateur radio licenses in 1991, then, on his own Harvey moved to Advanced Class in 1992 and finally Extra in 1993. Not only did Harvey join the Kootenai Amateur Radio Society, he served its president in both 1994 and 1995. He joined the Volunteer Examination Program in 1995 when he was certified by the American Radio Relay League as a volunteer examiner and has been serving as a local Idaho coordinator ever since.

Harvey is a very personable guy and dedicated to helping others become amateur radio enthusiasts. Look for him on the June 11th at the KARS amateur radio license testing session (Rathdrum Fire Department at 11 a.m.) doing what he likes best.

Upcoming VEC/VE Licensing Exams for Our Area

- 09 June 2005 (Thursday), 5:00 p.m.; Tidyman's Grocery, 13014 E. Sprague Avenue, Spokane Valley, WA; Contact Mary Qualiteri (AA7RT), phone 509.991.2192 or aa7rt@arrl.net.
- 11 June 2005 (Saturday), 11:00 a.m.; Rathdrum Fire Station, 14000 W. Hwy 53, Rathdrum, ID
Contact John Hollar, Jr (N7JU), 208.765.5470 or n7ju@arrl.net.
Walk-ins welcome, but advance notice would be appreciated.
- 09 July 2005 (Saturday), 10:00 a.m.; Nine Mile Resort, 14925 N. Hedin Road, Nine Mile Falls, WA
Contact: Betsy Ashleman (N7WRQ), 509.448.5821 or n7wrq@aol.com

Guidelines for Taking Your Amateur Radio License Test

(What to bring to the testing session, what to expect at the session (*contributed by John Hollar--N7JU*))

- There is a \$12 fee for the exam (one or more elements). Please bring cash, check, or money order.
- Proper picture identification is required--driver's license or student identification accepted.
- Social Security Number or Tax Payer Number must be entered on the FCC paperwork.
- If upgrading, bring your ORIGINAL FCC license and one photocopy of it to the exam session--no exceptions.
- If you previously passed any amateur radio license test elements, and want credit, bring the CSCE and one photocopy of the CSCE to the exam session--no exceptions.
- Bring at least one black ink pen and at least one number 2 pencil for your own use.
- You may bring an electronic calculator to the exam session as long as the memory and any programmed functions (if any) are cleared before the exam begins.

Beginner's Guide to Amateur Radio Theory--Part 1 of X:

It is important that every radio amateur have a working knowledge of measurements and units-of-measure for properties and characteristics used in radio and computer electronics. Part of that understanding is an understanding of "multipliers" used with root word units-of-measure. For instance, the prefix "kilo" is often used as a "times 1000" multiplier in electronics--let us, therefore, have a discussion of units-of-measure and such multipliers in the context of radio theory...

A fundamental aspect of amateur radio is the transmission and receipt of radio waves. A primary characteristic of a radio wave is its frequency or wavelength. Today, frequency is measured in "Hertz," where one Hertz is equal to one cycle per second. In the days before adoption of the International System of weights and measures, frequency was measured simply in cycles per second, or in short language, just "cycles." 1,000 cycles is known as one kilocycle, and 1,000,000 cycles is known as one megacycle; therefore, one million bicycles is equal to two megacycles.

The time between successive peaks of a radio wave is called its period--the period of a radio wave with a frequency of 10 megacycles is 100 nanoseconds. Similarly, the time between slipping on a peel, and smacking rump-end-first onto the pavement is known as one bananosecond.

If an amateur radio operator talks too long into the microphone, he or she might develop laryngitis--the basic unit of measure for laryngitis is known as the hoarsepower. Similarly, if a Morse code enthusiast operates too long with a telegraph key, he or she might develop a sore hand and fingers, with perhaps, 1000 aches, also known as one kilohurts. Returning to "voice" or phone modes, it pays to remember that one trillion microphones is equal to one megaphone. And, getting back to the "multipliers" spoken of in the first paragraph...if you have a pair of needle-nose pliers, and a pair of lineman's pliers, and a pair of hog-nose-ring pliers, and a pair of Channellocks, and so on, you have...multipliers. More next month...

KARS Potluck Dinner and Hamfest

- 10 June (Friday) 6 p.m.: Potluck dinner for kars members and guests
(Don't forget to bring a prepared food dish to the potluck dinner)
- 11 June (Saturday) : 2005 hamfest--Everyone invited--see details below

••• KARS HAMFEST 2005 ••• Computer and Electronics Flea-market

When: Saturday, 11 June, 2005 Where: Lion's Club in Rathdrum (Hwy 53 at Meyer Rd.)

What a deal!!!

- *Free admission*
- *Free flea-market exhibit tables*
(first come, first served)
- *RV parking (no hook-ups)*
- *Tailgaters welcome*

Talk-In
Frequency:
146.98MHz-

Saturday's Program

- *Breakfast (6:30 am to 11:00 am)*
- *Lunch (11:00 am to ???)*
- *Ham license testing (11:00 am)*
(all license classes)
- *Grand Prize Drawing (2:00 pm)*
- *Prize drawings every hour*

***** GRAND PRIZE: YAESU FT-857D HF RADIO *****

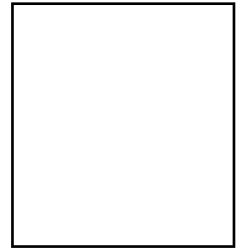
Hamfest Information: 208.667.4915 or n7esu@arrl.net

To get there:

Lion's Club for the Potluck Dinner and the Hamfest: Take Hwy 53 West from US Hwy 95 to Meyer Road in Rathdrum, or if coming from the south, take Hwy 41 north to Hwy 53 in Rathdrum, continue east to Meyer Road--Lion's Club is at Hwy 53 and Meyer Road intersection (cater-corner to the Perfection Tire store, and next to the cemetery).

Rathdrum Fire Station (for the license testing session): Once in Rathdrum (see above) go to 14000 W. Hwy 53, which is on the west side of the railroad tracks that bisect Rathdrum--from the Lion's Club, head west towards Spokane on Hwy 53--the Fire Station is across the street, and a bit down Hwy 53 from the Rathdrum post office.

KOOTENAI AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
PO BOX 5222
Coeur d' Alene, ID 83816



Deliver to:

This is the June 2005 Issue.

KARS Hamfest this month--See details on page 5.

Current KARS officers

President:	Bob Kesson 772-6745	K7CGA
1st Vice President:	Jack McElroy 687-3293	K7JMC
2nd Vice President:	Warren Conklin 772-6484	WB7ECU
Secretary:	Linda Chamberlain 765-3144	N7UTK
Treasurer:	Chris Monroe 687-2251	N7ZUJ
Newsletter Editor:	Steve McQuiston 772-4095	WO6LF
Repeater Tech:	Jim Monroe 687-2251	N7ESU

**BIG LOSER IN
WINNER-TAKE-ALL DRAWING**

(Again!)

The "winner" of the winner-take-all drawing at the May KARS meeting became the loser of \$166 because that "winner" did not attend the meeting--as discussed previously, all KARS members are in the draw, but to actually take the pot, the rules state that the winner must be present at the meeting, and must have contributed to the pot that night. May's big loser was Sharyn Brown (KC7POV). KARS members need to attend membership meetings to avoid big loses--it is that simple.

IGLOO TECHNOLOGY

Ratio of the Igloo's circumference to its diameter : Eskimo Pi.