

May 2008

(www.k7id.org)

P.O. Box 5222 Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816

REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS:

Monday, May 12

Search And Rescue Building

7:00 to 9:00 P.M.

Program: Social Mixer

Refreshments: Megan Barrett

Friday, June 13

American Legion, Post Falls

Program: Potluck

Refreshments: Everyone bring something to the potluck

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Dear Club Members and Friends

In last month's newsletter I said spring was here, but as I write these comments there is snow coming down outside my window. I guarantee the temperature will be between 75 and 85 degrees and the skies will be clear in one week from now. This may not happen in North Idaho, but I am sure this will happen in Southern California where I will be visiting a relative at a birthday party.

Our club's first outing was well coordinated and successful as we set up radios and antennas at the Fairgrounds on Saturday April 19th to support the Scout-O-Rama. As usual the area was quite noisy, but maybe a little quieter than last year. We made a number of radio contacts, but just talked to a few parents who showed interest in our setup. The club will reconsider supporting this event next year as we may better help the Boy Scouts through merit badge counseling.

Our 146.980 repeater is still off the air due to the continuing snows and difficult access to the mountain site. This situation should be resolved with the electronic fix now available as soon as the mountain site can be reached.

As usual, John Hollar gave an excellent presentation at our April meeting concerning the inventor of television, Philo T. Farnsworth. John's power point skills, use of video clips and still pictures made this an informative and entertaining presentation suitable for future meetings. I for one ordered the book John referenced "The Last Lone Inventor" from our local library, which, by the way, you can do over the internet. I am considering taking John out to lunch once a month and talking him into putting together a few more presentations such as the last one for backup purposes.

Next month's meeting format will be different and referred to as our MAY MIXER. There will be testing for new and upgraded licenses as normal prior to the meeting. No presentation, business meeting, raffle or problem set prizes at the May meeting. I expect to hear a few comments from our officers at this May meeting, plus some show and tell activities from members over lots of coffee and donuts. If you want to support the May Mixer in any of these areas or just greet people and make them comfortable then contact any board member for details. Make sure you greet Verda, a long time Ham who has just celebrated her 90th birthday and review her QSL card collection which will be displayed.

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Keep your brain exercised and complete the “Monthly Problems” which will alternate from EASY to MEDIUM to HARD. Remember you will be rewarded a unique prize for your effort.

Ed Hannigan, KE7FOW
Club President



What's a KARS MAY 12th. MIXER Meeting

When I first attended an all men's college decades ago, one of the keynote social events was a social *mixer* arraigned by the upper-classmen. The custom, in addition to exacting a small fee for their effort, was to arrange to import from nearby women's colleges, several hundred freshman coeds for a party. The posters, extolling the event, indicated that if you wanted a date for the weekend you had to buy a ticket then get in line by 3:00 PM near the football stadium. We naive freshman suspected a gigantic rouse but went along with the gag anyway figuring we'd probably get *hazed* or made fun of one way or another. We couldn't have been more wrong. To our amazement, at the appointed hour, was a row of bright yellow school busses off loading a very long line of several hundred young ladies waiting to greet us. The technique was simple, two lines were formed, the men in one and the ladies in the other, moving steadily toward convergence where the two people that happened by chance to come together, became the “date” for the weekend. Remarkably the gal I was matched up with, at random, became a life long friend. And that weekend was one of the most enjoyable memories of my college days. – N7JU

Well that's not quite what's going to happen on **May 12, 2008**, at our new SAR KARS meeting facility. But it could very well be one of the most enjoyable social events of your amateur radio experience in Kootenai

County. KARS meeting chairman and V.P. **Jeff Wall, KB7TIC**, assisted by **Gabbee Perry, KD7ADN**, and others on his committee have put together a “real happening”. With the help of the **American Radio Relay League**, KARS has invited every licensed radio amateur within a 35 mile radius of Coeur D Alene to our **KARS May 2008 Mixer** meeting. That's over 300 licensed hams in our area. What on earth are we going to do if everyone shows up? Well that's where you come in as current members and associates of KARS. The purpose of this gathering is to have an ultimate *eye-ball*, and to show-off the many fine activities, programs, and interests that our club members have shared together in the last several years.

The real purpose, of course, is to invite long standing hams in our area to “come on board” and join the fun. KARS is on the move. That's where YOU can really help.

We're asking that every current member and associate of KARS bring to the meeting a small project or demonstration (or at least some information) on a specific interest **you have** in amateur radio that you'd like to share with our invited guests. Photos and projects are also of interest. We plan to spend several *unstructured hours* of just *getting to know* our area licensees and encouraging them to join (or re-join) our club. We plan refreshments, our normal 50-50 drawing, and perhaps some brief oral reports by the various Board members noting our activities and current projects including our Hamfest in June. At minimum, we need a concerted effort to make our guests feel welcome and motivated to join us in our activities. Remember, the prorated dues until December 31st 2008 at the May meeting is only \$8.00 (\$12.00 per year). A reasonable expectation would be for a 30% increase in our membership, not to mention that the same solicitation going out to all of the hams in our area also included promotion (by mail for the first time) of our June 14th 2008 Hamfest. A 30% to 50 % increase in Hamfest attendance would also be very beneficial to the club as well.

We plan to distribute membership applications. All who sign up that evening will immediately receive their membership cards. **Wear your KARS name badge**, and make it a point to welcome everyone you see. Let them know we are also offering (FREE) a three month subscription to our newsletter if they sign up for it at sendnewsletter@k7id.org. Talk up our repeater system, June Hamfest, and the monthly VE testing and upgrading program. Find out what interests our guests and indicate that *we have need* for their skills as advisors as *Elmers* for the new hams that are joining us every month. It's **our party and we need everyone's help** to pull it off. This

project can achieve many of our goals as well as becoming an annual event but only with your help. Assist your Board in this outreach program and enjoy bragging about ham radio for a change. - TNX 73, *Your KARS Program Committee*, - Jeff Wall- **KB7TIC**, KARS V.P.

April VE Session Report

The KARS VE team welcomes **Jim Linden, N7JIL**, as its newest (*grasshopper*) VE volunteer. Jim worked hard learning the ropes from (*masters*) **Roy Davis, KI7EP**, and **Mitch Killebrew, KB7BYR**, some of our most experienced VE's. Jim's first official session proved him to be a fast learner and a valued asset to the team. A *walk-in* encouraged by **Bob Rosie, W7GSV**, sat for both the Technician and General class. **Todd Silk, KE7TPZ**, nailed both exams to earn his new call letters, Now what's he going to do? Hopefully the KARS application CD will get him started in any one of a wide range of amateur radio activities from VHF, to Echolink, to DXing on 20 meters. We shall see but we wish Todd good luck and welcome aboard. Finally our friend from Fairchild AFB, **Joshua Anderson**, now **K7GTA** (was KE7FKM) returned this month to take his Extra Class after passing his General last month. He was worried that he might not have made it when he turned in his answer sheet, the team was worried also because he arrived later than the normal start up time (5:30 PM) and the KARS membership was assembling for the 7:00 PM meeting. Even with a bit more commotion during his test than usual, Joshua passed the exam with plenty of room to spare and was instantly upgraded to EXTRA CLASS that evening.

Our next session will be 5:30 PM at the SAR building on May 12th. 2008. The VE team has instituted a new auto answer e-mail address vetesting@K7ID.org for setting appointments or asking questions so please feel free to use it any time. Remember the new Amateur Extra Exam question pool and exams go into effect on July 1st. 2008. At first glance the new question pool, available on the ARRL web site, appears to be a bit more challenging. With less than two months to obtain your Extra Class License under the old question pool, come on in and give it a try! Also www.ARRL.com has our monthly schedule with a slight error for June (still showing the CAP building). Hopefully that will be corrected before long or at least by the time this Newsletter is published. For appointments or questions you may also call me any time. - John Hollar, N7JU, KARS VE Team Leader, 208-765-5470

SPOKANE, WA - Register to test in Spokane this month by calling **Mary, AA7RT** at 509-991-2192 or e-mail aa7rt@arrl.net for dates, locations and times.

Reminder About Hamfest Donations

The KARS Hamfest and Swap-meet is only a month away now. The Club will be running a sales table at the Hamfest where we will dispose of any member donations. If you have items that are no longer needed at your Ham station, please consider donating them to KARS. Your donation can be large or small, they are all appreciated. You may bring donations to the Club May meeting, or contact any officer if you need us to pick something up from your home. Thanks in advance! 73, Ed AI7H

Attention: Kootenai County ARES/RACES

Members! Don't forget! New meeting location for monthly KC ARES/RACES meetings, Civil Air Patrol, Sheprock Building, Coeur d'Alene Airport. The start time remains 6:30 p.m.

Refreshment Sign-Ups for the rest of the year:

04/14/08 - Megan Barrett
05/12/08 - Cheryl Richmond
06/13/08 - Pre-Hamfest Potluck
07/14/08 - Lani Hopkins
08/11/08 - Jean Carlson
09/08/08 - Leanne Carney
10/13/08 - Chris Monroe
11/10/08 - Gary Roth
12/08/08 - Christmas Potluck

Problem Set #5:

(The problem set for this month falls into the "EASY" category)

#1. Suppose you are transmitting a radio signal on 7.125 MHz. What is the wavelength of this signal ?

#2. If we connect three 100 ohm resistors in parallel, what is the total resistance ?

Submit your answers at the next meeting and win a unique prize.

Ed KE7FOW

NILUG

(North Idaho Linux Users Group)

The NILUG group would like to extend an invitation to all interested individuals to join them at their next meeting. The NILUG group is a gathering of anyone interested in the open source operating system for personal computers called Linux. Many believe it is equal, if not superior, to the operating systems offered

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by Microsoft. There are many reasons for the increased interest of Linux O/S but the biggest factor is that it is free to use and share with anyone. It comes packaged on disks or can be downloaded from many websites, along with all kinds of other application software, such as Open Office Org., which is a suite of programs that rivals Microsoft Office. Our next meeting, on Saturday May 10th, is being organized to introduce newcomers to the many variations of Linux, and as a session to help with installation of the operating system on your laptop, or personal computer for those wanting to bring them. We are hopeful that those interested will find the gathering informative and productive in promoting the use of Linux as a user friendly Operating System. Come and learn the benefits of free Linux, the open source operating system and hundreds of application software. The location for the meeting is River of Life Friends Church, corner of 12th and Cecil, just a couple of blocks west of Hwy. 41 in Post Falls. Meeting starts at 1:00 pm and lasts till the last program has been installed. For additional information call Randy, at (208) 762-0921 or email at kb6yav@gmail.com. So circle May 10 on your calendar, and get some free software.

Randy

REQUEST TO USE THE K7ID CALL SIGN

1. Function / event
2. Date of event / hours of use
3. Control operator (should be Amateur Extra Class licensee)
4. Overview on event
5. Maintain Log (users / bands) and submit copy to KARS board members after event
6. Comments about your event

Not approved []

Approved []

By _____ call sign _____ Date _____

(A copy of this form shall be kept on site at the function / event.)

Deadline for submitting articles, stories, reports, etc., is the 25th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

**COFFEE & DONUTS
EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING**

**8:00 A.M.
To
10:00 A.M.**

**Pleasant Land Books
& Espresso,**



**8052 W. Main,
Rathdrum, ID
(208) 687-3100**

Bring a writing instrument. Pleasant Land Books has the napkins for our breakfast table engineering!

Japanese Amateurs Receive More Privileges on 75/80 Meters: Japan's Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) announced that Japan's Table of Frequency Allocations and the Japanese Amateur Bandplan <http://www.jarl.or.jp/English/6_Band_Plan/JAbandplan.pdf> have been amended, giving amateurs in that country more privileges on certain frequency blocks in the 75/80 meter band. Japanese amateurs are now allowed to operate the following additional frequencies on the 75/80 meters: 3.599-3.612 MHz, 3.680 to 3.687 MHz, 3.702-3.716 MHz, 3.745-3.747 MHz and 3.754-3.770 MHz. As of April 28, 2008, Japanese amateurs will have privileges on the following frequencies in the 75/80 meter band: 3.500-3.520 MHz (CW only), 3.520-3.525 MHz (Digital Mode and CW), 3.525-3.575 MHz (CW and Phone), 3.599-3.612 MHz (CW and Phone), 3.680-3.687 MHz (CW and Phone), 3.702-3.716 MHz (CW and Phone), 3.745-3.770 MHz (CW and Phone) and 3.791-3.805 MHz (CW and Phone). "This makes it a bit easier for US amateurs to make contacts with Japanese amateurs, especially in contests, since Japan does not have phone privileges on the 160 meter band," said ARRL Membership Services Manager Dave Patton, NN1N. "These new privileges will also make it easier for DXpeditions to work Japan." — Information provided by JARL <<http://www.jarl.or.jp/English/>>

Remote Tuners

For those who don't have access to HF and still want to listen, here's an email I got recently.

Kelly Lindman has handed over the DxTuners system to Mr Ivo Smits in The Netherlands some time ago. Ivo has developed it further under a new name, GlobalTuners, you can find it on <http://www.globaltuners.com>.

Kelly's new project is called HamSphere. HamSphere is an artificial shortwave radio based on the natural laws of radio propagation. Talk with both ham operators and unlicensed users around the world with a virtual transceiver. You can find the project on <http://www.hamsphere.com>.

Kootenai Amateur Radio Society (KARS) YEAR 2008 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

{ } New Member: \$12.00 { } Renewal: \$12.00 { } Family Membership: \$18.00

{ } Information Update Only

New! Two year membership Rates:

{ } New Member: \$22.00 { } Renewal: \$22.00 { } Family Membership: \$33.00

ARE YOU AN ARRL MEMBER? YES NO (Please Circle One)

CALLSIGN: _____ CLASS: _____ EXPIRATION: _____

FIRST NAME: _____ M.I. _____ LAST NAME: _____

ADDRESS1: _____

ADDRESS2: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ - _____

PHONE NUMBER: (____) _____ OK TO PUBLISH? YES/NO (CIRCLE ONE)

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ @ _____

OK TO PUBLISH EMAIL ADDRESS? YES NO (CIRCLE ONE, PLEASE)

**NOTE: IF THIS IS A FAMILY MEMBERSHIP, (All members with the same address),
PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SECTION FOR YOUR FAMILY.**

NAME: _____ CALL: _____ CLASS: _____

NAME: _____ CALL: _____ CLASS: _____

NAME: _____ CALL: _____ CLASS: _____

NAME: _____ CALL: _____ CLASS: _____

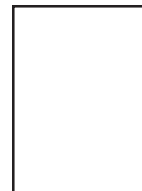
NAME: _____ CALL: _____ CLASS: _____

*RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR DUES, (CASH OR CHECK), TO THE KARS TREASURER OR, MAIL TO:
KARS TREASURER, P.O. BOX 5222, Coeur D'Alene, ID. 83816.*

(Office use only.) CK: __ CSH: __ Mbr Spreadsheet: __

PASS THIS ON TO A FRIEND!!!

KOOTENAI AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
P.O. Box 5222
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816



DIRECTIONS TO KARS MEETING:

Take U.S. Highway 95 to Miles Avenue (Miles is about 1 mile North of Hayden Avenue). Instead of proceeding west from the corner of Miles and Ramsey, go north about ¼ mile, to the first building on the left (West) side of the road.

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Notice

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

All opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual contributors and not the radio club as a whole.

KARS operates a voice repeater on 146.98 and a packet repeater on 145.510 Mhz.

Anyone interested in Amateur Radio is welcome to join. Dues are \$12.00 (individual) and \$18.00 for a family membership. Contact the Treasurer if you wish to join.

If you know of anyone interested in joining KARS, you can notify the newsletter editor as to that parties email address. A copy of this newsletter will be sent with no obligation to join.

Material can be submitted for publication in Propagation. The deadline for articles, etc., is the 25th of each month for the following month's issue.