

October 2008

(www.k7id.org)

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

## REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS:

### Monday, October 13

Search and Rescue Building  
Program: KHQ TV-6 D-TV RV  
Refreshments: Chris Monroe

### Monday, November 10

Search and Rescue Building  
Program: Vic, K3SHD, and Brad,  
KA5PER, on GPS/APRS and GIS  
Mapping on a computer  
Refreshments: Gary Roth

## SOCIAL EVENTS:

October - Date to be announced.  
I-90 Highway Clean-up

December 8 - Christmas Party  
with ARES/RACES

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Dear Club Members,

This month's comments from the president will be short and to the point. We had another great meeting with seven people upgrading their license and a few joining the club. I counted about 35 people and we ran out of coffee at the break so I will bring a 40 cup pot next time.

The election committee has been selected and will contact possible candidates prior to next month's meeting. Current officers have been doing an outstanding job and have agreed to serve another year unless the election committee identifies members that the general membership would prefer.

Kerry Jones from the National Weather Service in Spokane was our September speaker and educated a number of us on lighting strikes using web sites with lots of statistical data. Good Stuff. Thanks Jeff for coordinating this speaker. Since I will be out of town for quite awhile, Jeff has agreed to run the October meeting even though I may be back in town and attend the meeting. This will be good experience for Jeff so please give him your full attention. If I can run the meeting, then nearly anyone can since you do not need to be a rocket scientist. Actually I was a rocket scientist working on Saturn II boosters and Sidewinder missiles for about half of my working career, but Jeff will do fine.

Larry Telles will finalize our new banner layout and may have us a new banner by next meeting.

Next month's speaker from KHQ TV-6 will enlighten us as to what we need to do to receive digital TV after the February change over.

We drew names from a bucket of correct puzzle answers and Todd Silk won the unique prize, but had to leave early and probably is unaware that he has won. When Todd finds out he has won I know he will be anxious to get his hands on the UK built Singer sewing machine, but he will just have to wait till the next meeting.

Be prepared to volunteer to pick up trash on I-90 in October after our next meeting on a Saturday yet to be announced. Hopefully, Jeff can pick a Saturday and let the membership know before the next meeting so you can plan to support this club activity. The reward for your support is a great lunch at Moon Time paid for by the club.

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My daughter has signed Marilyn and I up for a baking class in Northern Italy during our visit so I am sure I will add a few pounds, but maybe discover a new career.

Ed Hannigan, KE7FOW  
Club President

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I want to thank **Kerry Jones** of the NWS office in Spokane for his fine presentation at our September meeting!

The **KHQ D-TV RV** will be at our October meeting. More info on this mobile classroom may be found at [KHQ About the KHQ DTV Mobile Classroom](#).

I would like to hear from club members what **you** would like to have for presentations in 2009!! E-mail your thoughts and ideas to: [vicepresident@k7id.org](mailto:vicepresident@k7id.org), thanks.

*See ya'll there- 73 KB7TIC Jeff*

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## The Five "Pillars" of ARRL

Last month I made a trivial comparison: the ARRL is something for Amateur Radio like the Auto Club is for drivers. A few people came around and asked about more detail, so here it is.

The ARRL first introduced the concept of what we stand for as the "Four Pillars", back in 2005. The four pillars and their descriptions are as follows:

1. Public service - includes the ARES/RACES organization, and the National Traffic System
2. Advocacy – the ARRL takes a position on matters like band plans, other services intruding in ham bands, etc. An example of this is where the ARRL recently took the FCC to court regarding the "Broadband over Power

**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!

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If you would like to use the club callsign, K7ID, contact Jerry Hooper, KA7RNX, or any of the KARS Board members. They have the approval forms available.

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- Line" (BPL) service causing harmful interference to Amateur Radio operators.
3. Membership – The ARRL must have members to demonstrate their breadth of influence (and to raise money!)
  4. Education – The ARRL has been involved in books for some time. (You may have used an ARRL publication to study for your ham test). Recently they introduced online study courses, particularly in emergency response.

The Fifth Pillar was just introduced this year, and it is "Technology". The ARRL feels that we need to use all the influence we can to get people (especially young people) interested in science and technology.

Remember the "five pillars". This could come up in a surprise test sometime!

73,  
Ed, AI7H  
ARRL Idaho Section Manager

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**IARU-Endorsed Booklet Promoting Ethics, Operating Issues, Now Available** (Sep 30, 2008) — A 67-page booklet, "[Ethics and Operating Procedures for the Radio Amateur](#)" by John Devoldere, ON4UN, and Mark Demeuleneere, ON4WW, is available for free download from the ARRL Web site. The booklet is an "Americanized" version of the booklet that the authors wrote for an international audience. An [international version](#) is also available. At its June 2008 meeting, the IARU Administrative Council endorsed and recommended the principles set out in the booklet as a means of encouraging all radio amateurs "to operate to the highest levels of proficiency, with proper consideration for others using the amateur radio bands" and as a tool "to teach newcomers and others correct operating behavior." The

**SPOKANE, WA** - Register to test in Spokane by calling **Mary, AA7RT** at 509-991-2192 or e-mail [aa7rt@arrl.net](mailto:aa7rt@arrl.net) for dates, locations and times.

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**Attention: Kootenai County ARES/RACES**

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

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**Refreshment Sign-Ups for the rest of the year:**

- 10/13/08 - Chris Monroe
- 11/10/08 - Gary Roth
- 12/08/08 - Christmas Potluck

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booklet mainly addresses HF operating issues, but the principles are also applicable to VHF and higher bands. ARRL Chief Executive Officer and IARU Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ, expressed appreciation for Devoldere's and Demeuleneere's efforts: "The authors are well known, experienced HF operators who are concerned about on-the-air operating standards and who decided that 'It's better to light a candle than curse the darkness.' Anyone who reads their booklet will learn something, no matter how experienced they may be." (ARRL Website)

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**SIMULATED EMERGENCY TESTS SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 4-5**

When emergency or natural disaster strikes, Amateur Radio is often called into the limelight of public service to establish a line of communication to and from the stricken areas. Amateur Radio networks, once established, sustain communication during the emergency efforts by helping the disaster relief workers and public with point-to-point communications or health and welfare messages. During weather related threats or during the actual occurrence of severe weather, Amateur Radio networks are commonly on standby to gather information and report this data to the National Weather Service or other pertinent authorities.

You've read about and/or have heard about these important stages of Amateur Radio public service in QST or on the Web or elsewhere. Make this the year that you take a role to learn more and become ready to serve in public service and emergency communications.

The ARRL sponsors a nationwide trial for Amateur Radio operators for a role in the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service, the National Traffic System, the National Weather Service's SKYWARN, the Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) or other groups as well. It's the ARRL's annual Simulated Emergency Test (SET), and you're invited to join on October 4-5, 2008, or whenever it is held in your area.

To participate in this year's emergency test, contact your local ARRL Emergency Coordinator or Net Manager to find out the details. Although October 4-5 is the focal point weekend, ARRL Sections, ARES teams and nets may conduct their exercises anytime during September through December. If you don't know who to call, please touch base with your ARRL Section Manager for assistance (see page 16 in any QST for contact information or consult the ARRL Web page <http://www.arrl.org/sections>). Whether you're a new licensee or an experienced radio amateur, the SET is a golden opportunity to learn or practice useful skills in traffic handling, net operation and emergency communications protocols and management. (ARRL Website)

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**RADIO SCIENCE: MORE INFO ON SOLAR CYCLE DELAY**

If you are still waiting for all the D-X that was promised last year, you are not alone. Jim Linton, VK3PC, of the WIA News reports:

The false start announced last year for the new Solar Cycle 24 has been followed up with speculation of things like 'double dip' minima and even a new ice age for sunspots. But let's try to stay positive and not subscribe to thoughts of another minimum of 70 years, as occurred from 1645 to 1715, the only flat-lining in sunspot cycles since records.

Looking back at the onset of previous cycles that followed prolonged periods without sunspots, gives indication that Cycle 24 may have a much greater start-up intensity. Should it behave like Cycles 11 to 14 in the 19th century there will be more years rising and a shorter period in decline.

The latest prediction is that Cycle 24 will be begin in mid -2009. Stay tuned.

The prolonged solar minimum is also occurring at a time of reports in the northern hemisphere of continued sporadic-E enhancement on both the ten and six metre bands. For the amateur Radio Newline, I'm Jim Linton, VK3PC.

VK3PC adds that Greyline propagation on the High Frequencies is also experiencing a lack of geomagnetic disturbance. That, he says, is a good thing. (WIA News)

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## Canadian and American Hams Provide “Textbook Example” of Amateur Radio’s EmComm Role

On Sunday, September 27, the [VoIP Hurricane Net](#) formally activated at 5 PM EDT to provide surface reports as Hurricane Kyle affected portions of extreme Northeastern Maine, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, Canada. The activation was in coordination with [WX4NHC](#), the Amateur Radio Station at the National Hurricane Center ([NHC](#)), to support their operations for Hurricane Kyle.

“The Canadian Maritimes rarely get hurricanes, but we received some of our highest quality reports that included measured wind data every 15-20 minutes, as well as damage reports from radio amateurs in the area. They did a fantastic job,” said Director of Operations for the VoIP Hurricane Net Rob Macedo, KD1CY. “We reached out to many of the [IRLP](#) and [EchoLink](#) stations in this area and the response rate from those amateurs connecting to our Net was extremely high. This was truly an international effort, as the VoIP Hurricane Net also had volunteer hams from Australia and Germany assisting in Net Control activities.”

Assistant WX4NHC Coordinator Julio Ripoll, WD4R, agreed: “The Canadian amateurs provided critical surface reports to the National Hurricane Center that we wouldn’t have received otherwise. I was very impressed with the level and detail of the reports we received.” The National Hurricane Center in Miami works closely together with the [Canadian Hurricane Centre](#) when tropical events impact this area of the world.

The storm downed trees and wires, prompting power outages over portions of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, Canada. A measured wind gust to near 95 MPH was reported in Lockeport, Nova Scotia by a ham radio operator with a weather station within a couple hundred feet of the coast of the Atlantic Ocean.

ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager Dennis Dura, K2DCD, acted as Net Control for most of the Net’s activation; Dura also serves as Assistant Director of the VoIP Hurricane Net Operations. “I, too, was extremely impressed with the level of support from the Canadian amateurs in providing situational awareness and disaster intelligence for Hurricane Kyle,” he said. “The work these hams performed was a textbook example of the role Amateur Radio plays in events like this. Many lessons were re-learned tonight, lessons that need to be re-taught in areas impacted by tropical events.”

On Saturday, prior to Kyle’s arrive in the Canadian Maritimes, Dura began providing information to the

Radio Amateurs of Canada ([RAC](#)) through their ARES e-mail reflector. Sunday’s information sharing was escalated with direct contact with RAC Vice President for Field Services Bob Cooke, VE3BDB. “This event provides an opportunity for cross border support, as it’s certainly not every day that a tropical event is aimed at a Canadian Province without first hitting the States”, Dura said. Cooke echoed this in his message to the RAC Section Emergency Coordinators, District Emergency Coordinators and local Emergency Coordinators, urging “every Radio Amateur to participate to the best of his or her ability.”

Elsewhere in the Tropics, Sub-Tropical Storm Laura has formed in the open Atlantic, but is currently only a threat to marine or shipping interests. Laura may briefly obtain hurricane strength before weakening over the colder waters of the Northern Atlantic. (ARRL News)

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## RESTRUCTURING: VK HAMS TO GET LF ALLOCATION

Australia is set to join the 30-odd countries whose radio amateurs have been already given the new low frequency amateur band of 135.7 to 137.8 kHz.

The Australian Communications and Media Authority has released its draft Australia Radio Frequency Spectrum Plan that is to come into force on the 1st of January 2009. It includes 135.7 to 137.8 kHz for the Amateur Service on a secondary basis. This means that VK radio amateurs cannot cause harmful interference to radio-navigation service stations that continue to operate in a number of countries.

The permitted maximum radiated power is one watt effective isotropic radiated power. The New Year should see the Australian Advanced License, gain this band as a new operating privilege. (WIA News)

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Again, congratulations go to Ed Stuckey for his election as the Idaho Section Manager for the October 1, 2008-September 30, 2010 term.

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

# 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: \_\_\_\_\_

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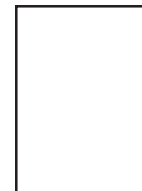
NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CALL: \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS: \_\_\_\_\_

*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.

## **2008 CLUB OFFICERS**

President: Ed Hannigan, KE7FOW  
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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.