

November 2011

(www.k7id.org)

P.O. Box 1765 Hayden, ID 83835-1765

REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS:

**Monday, November 14, 7:00
p.m.**

**Kootenai Search & Rescue
Bldg., Hayden, Idaho**

Topic:

Presenter:

**Refreshments: Gary Roth,
KE7IAT**

**ARRL VE Testing Session 10/
14/11; 5:30 PM Walk-ins**

welcome

All exams administered.

**Monday, December 12, 7:00
p.m.**

**American Legion Hall, Post
Falls, Idaho**

Topic: Holiday Potluck

Presenter: KARS

**Refreshments: Open to Every-
body**

Upcoming Social Events

December 12, 2011

**Annual Christmas Party
American Legion Hall
Post Falls, Idaho**

Notes from the Club President:

It is cold outside. And I am going out on the limb and going to say to expect the “S-N-O-W” on November 10th. Just my prediction, I haven’t consulted with a meteorologist yet.

So as it starts cooling off and we start moving indoors let’s not forget the indoor activities that are associated with Amateur Radio. There is always Packet Radio, PSK31, Pactor and other digital modes that can always be utilized.

Let’s not forget that we have officer elections at the next meeting. Please see the nominating committee report in this newsletter.

The planning has already begun on the holiday party at the American Legion in Post Falls. We have a committee hard at work planning and designing, so please stay tuned.

I will see you all at the next meeting.

73,

Thomas, KD7JUS

November Presentation: The Coeur d’Alene Fire Cache

Our speaker this month will be Justin Muhlhauser, manager of the Coeur d’Alene Fire Cache. This presentation is not about Amateur Radio, but you will hear a lot of good ideas about equipment readiness and emergency preparedness. They run a big operation at CDA Fire Cache, and everything in the house must be in good working order, either “new” or “just like new”. Please join us to hear how they manage fire equipment (including VHF and UHF radios) during fire season, and what they’re doing during the “off” season.

Nominating Committee Progress

The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce that we have found qualified candidates for a proposed slate of officers for the 2012 term. The nominees are as follows:

President – Bonnie Patterson (KG6QQM)
Vice President – Allan Campbell (KE7DFT)
Secretary – Tom Richmond (NI7W)
Treasurer – Pat Patterson (W7SGS)
Executive Director – Jacob Cord (KF7QLI)

During the November Club meeting, others who wish to serve as a Club officer may be nominated from the floor. If there are nominees from the floor, there will be a run-off election between the floor nominees and those listed above, according to rules set forth in the Club Constitution. Submitted by the nominating committee: Garry Beaudreau (KE7UQM); Tom Richmond (NI7W), and Ed Stuckey (AI7H).

KI7I TOWER/ANTENNA PARTY

NOV 19

117 OLD FOREST RD

SPIRIT LAKE

Rick, KI7I, will be having a work party to assemble two towers and mount antennas atop them at his new home in Spirit Lake.

Work will start about 9 AM and finish ????

Coffee, donuts, soft drinks, and pizza will be provided to helpers.

A tall lift will be used for the work so no tower climbing is involved. The lift has a two man basket and capacity to lift tower sections and antennas to as much as 80', more than needed to top out a pair of 70' towers.

Work depends on antennas arriving by promised date and weather. Final announcement will be on NW Traffic Net and coffee klatch the week before.

FCC, FEMA, NOAA to Conduct First Nationwide Test of Emergency Alert System

The FCC, in coordination with the Federal Emergency Management Agency ([FEMA](#)) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ([NOAA](#)), will conduct the [first nationwide test](#) of the Emergency Alert System ([EAS](#)) at 2 PM EST (1900 UTC) Wednesday, November 9. According to FEMA, EAS participants — broadcasters, satellite and digital radio and television providers, and cable and wireline video providers — “provide a critical public service to the nation as the resilient backbone of alert and warning when all other means of communication are unavailable.”

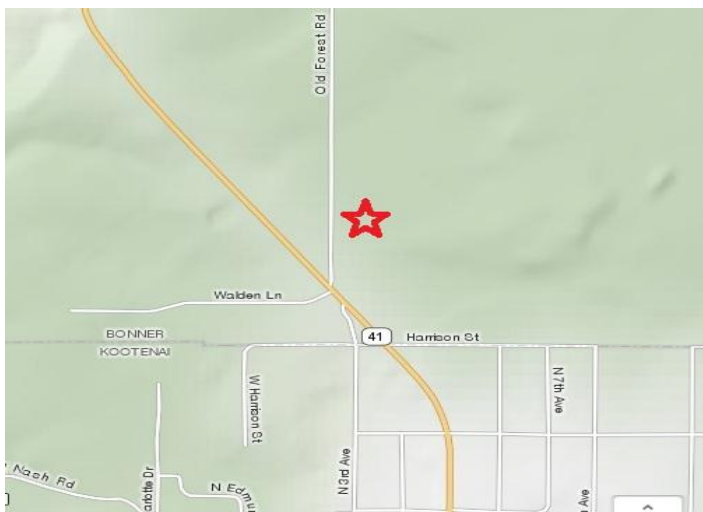
During the test — which should last approximately three minutes — listeners will hear a message indicating that “This is a test.” Although the EAS test may resemble the periodic monthly EAS tests that most Americans are already familiar with, there will be some differences in what viewers will see and hear. The audio message will be the same for all EAS participants.

“Due to limitations in the EAS, the video test message scroll may not be the same or indicate that ‘This is a test,’ FEMA advised on its [website](#). “This is due to the use of the live EAN code — the same code that would be used in an actual emergency. The text at the top of the television screen may indicate that an ‘Emergency Action Notification has been issued.’ This notification is used to disseminate a national alert and in this case, the test. In addition, the background image that appears on video screens during an alert may indicate that ‘This is a test,’ but in some instances there might not be an image at all.”

According to the FCC, the Commission and FEMA plan to reach out to organizations representing people with hearing disabilities to prepare that community for the national test. In addition, FEMA and the FCC will work with EAS participants to explore whether there are solutions to address this limitation.

The test will last for approximately three minutes; however this may vary across the country. “While state and local EAS messages are limited to two minutes, there is no time limit for national EAS alerts,” FEMA said. “To evaluate whether the system properly interprets the national message code in the national EAS test, the message duration must be longer than two minutes.”

Although local and state components of the EAS are tested on a weekly and monthly basis, there has never been an end-to-end nationwide test of the system. We need to know that the system will work as intended should public safety officials ever need to send an alert or warning



to a large region of the United States. Only a complete, top-down test of the EAS can provide an appropriate diagnosis of the system's performance.

The FCC explained that in order to minimize disruption and confusion during the EAS test, it is being conducted on November 9 "because this date is near the end of hurricane season and before the severe winter weather season begins. The 2 PM EST broadcast will minimize disruption during rush hours while ensuring that the test occurs during working hours across the country." (ARRL)

K7ID Repeater Report by Allan, KE7DFT

In case you haven't heard already, we have successfully installed the new antenna/mount on Mica, and tuned up the machine :) Our first trip on 10/22 was hampered by weather, though we gained valuable intel. Caleb, KF7MSJ, and I went up the tower, but the wind gusts were too severe-but we determined that the antenna mount would work as planned.

The weather was with us on 10/29 for our next ascent. Caleb and I spent a couple of hours "up", swapping antennas, with N7ESU helping us from the ground, and Dale, KE7VMN, tuning up the repeater. Bob and Bonnie Kesson also joined us in a supervisory role.

Everything went according to plan, and we were able to orient the antenna due north away from the tower, providing maximum coverage and minimum interference from the tower. Initial reports from the machine and the field are good. Dale indicates the RX sensitivity less than .2uV, with squelch set about .5uV, and better than 25W to the antenna. K6SPP was able to get in full-quiet from his QTH with his HT. I got very good copy with 5-10W mobile from Blanchard :) In the past, N7ESU and I have noted coverage out to Ritzville, Washington.. Jim will have occasion to test this soon; I bet it'll work.

Word has it that Bob Kesson was pleased with our installation, though some minor improvements should be made. More on that later, but it (confidentially) helps our security on this site, and possibly others.

Club kudos to those who made this possible; N7ESU for guidance, ground help, vehicle access; KF7MSJ, who was a real trooper with climbing and transportation; KE7VMN for his skill in optimizing the repeater; and N7JU for getting the ball rolling.

Thanks, spread the word.

Allan KE7DFT

WD2XSH Experimental Stations to Be Active on November 3

A number of the [WD2XSH](#) experimental stations will be on the air on Thursday, November 3 to mark the 105th anniversary of the [Berlin International Radiotelegraphic Convention](#). According to ARRL WD2XSH Coordinator Fritz Raab, W1FR, stations operating in the band from 495-510 kHz will call CQ on 500 kHz and then QSY to complete the QSO. Stations operating in the band from 461-478 kHz will call CQ on 474.5 kHz and then QSY. Other stations may operate beacons with special messages in the bands from 508-510 kHz and 476-478 kHz. For a complete list of stations participating in the WD2XSH experiment, as well as information on how to send your reports, please see the [WD2XSH website](#) (www.500kc.com).

The latest from flooded Thailand

The severe flooding that has claimed the lives of over 370 lives in less than three months, is now closing in on the capital Bangkok, as the authorities struggle to divert as much water as possible around the city and reinforce barriers to keep remaining areas dry.

But according to Tony Waltham, HS0ZDX, for many areas to the north of the capital it is too late and hundreds of communities there are uninhabitable with flood water more than two or three meters deep in some areas.

Under water is agricultural land reducing the crop yield, factories causing suspensions or disruptions, and housing. The economic cost is put at \$3 billion. The heavy monsoon rain hit Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos and the Philippines earlier.

Amateur radio has been playing an ongoing role in this disaster with operators helping to co-ordinate relief and rescue work using VHF two-way communications and repeaters, HF communications in the 40 meter band (7060-7063 KHz).

As well there are several Echolink conference rooms, including the "Bangkok", "Thailand" and "HS0AC" conferences. (A list of VHF frequencies and repeaters can be found at the RAST website <http://www.qsl.net/rast>).

Tony HS0ZDX reports a special centre for amateur radio communications has been established by Thailand's regulator, the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC) using the callsign HS0AB at Bangkok's second airport, Don Mueang, which is now besieged by flooding itself.

Among the areas inundated by more than a meter of water is the campus of the Asian Institute of Technology, where the Radio Amateur Society of Thailand's HF club and contest station HS0AC is located.

Sadly, all the transceivers and equipment at desktop level or higher, are now submerged under flood water.

Another victim of the flooding was a RAST-sponsored FCC Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) exam session that had been scheduled for October 22 and had to be cancelled, despite 35 candidates having registered.

The amount of rainfall in Thailand since July has been unprecedented.

Based on government figures the total runoff from a series of tropical storms is now estimated to comprise around 20,000 million cubic meters of water.

More than half this volume still to make its way through rivers, canals and pumping stations past Bangkok to reach the Gulf of Thailand.

It has been estimated that between 400 and 500 million cubic meters can be drained each day, which means that the ongoing crisis is likely to last at least another 20 days, if there is no more heavy rainfall — however, the rainy season has not yet ended.

Adding to the threat level for the remaining dry areas in the capital city over the next few days are a series of peak sea tides forecast for October 30 and October 31 that should cause river levels to rise even higher than their record levels at present.

More than 10 million people have been directly affected by flooding so far, while the Thai Government has been encouraging residents of Bangkok, which has a population of some 12 million, to evacuate if possible and to move their valuables upstairs as a precaution, while a public holiday has been declared for 21 provinces from October 27-31.

Many industrial parks north of Bangkok have been inundated despite all attempts to keep flood water at bay and this has seriously disrupted Thailand's manufacturing sector and has also caused supply chain shortages for in several industries.

Most of Bangkok is low-lying, being just one meter or less above sea level, while Thailand's Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra has predicted that the floods will take from four to six weeks to recede.

People are also being asked to boil tap water as flood water briefly breached the canal that provides the city with its drinking water and bottled water is now in short supply in shops and department stores around Bangkok.

Tony HS0ZDX describes it as a time of uncertainty for most residents of Bangkok, although he remains protected for the moment.

Jim Linton VK3PC, Chairman
IARU Region 3 Disaster Communications Committee, and
Tony Waltham, HS0ZDX
RAST International and IARU Liaison

The International Radio Emergency Support Coalition (IRESC International) has established radio and Echolink operations in regards to the earthquake that occurred in the country of Turkey.

IRESC Turkey and other International Emergency Radio Operations are under way with search and rescue at this time.

The IRESC Echolink node 257246 has an active link into Turkey at time. Please do not transmit and interfere with emergency operations unless part of Turkey or IRESC operations.

Please go to www.irescintl.com and for further information.

Save the Date – KARS Holiday Party

The KARS Holiday Party will be held at the American Legion Hall, 1138 E Poleline Road, Post Falls, on Monday evening, 12/12/11. This will be a "Pot-Luck" style event, as in past years. Please plan to bring your favorite dish, "main" dishes are always appreciated. Everyone is invited to arrive between 5:30 and 6:15PM, and we plan to begin serving at 6:30PM. VE testing will take place beginning at 5PM, (in a separate room of the Legion Hall). Additional details will be included in the December newsletter.

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

COFFEE & DONUTS
EVERY THURSDAY MORNING
8:00 A.M.
To
10:00 A.M.
The Golden Spike
Community Center
Rathdrum



TALK-IN: 146.98
100 PL

Bring a writing instrument. The Golden Spike has the napkins for our breakfast table engineering!

Kootenai Amateur Radio Society

PO Box 17□5, Hayden, Idaho 83835-17□5



Please complete the entire form and return with your payment.

Single Year Membership

New Member \$12.00 Renewing \$12.00 Family Membership \$18.00 Information Update Only

Two Year Membership

New Member \$22.00 Renewing \$22.00 Family Membership \$33.00

Callsign _____ Class _____ Expiration _____

First Name & Middle Initial _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____ E-Mail Address _____

ARRL Member _____ May we publish limited information _____

Internal Use Only

Cash	<input type="checkbox"/>	Check	<input type="checkbox"/>	Money order	<input type="checkbox"/>
Roster	<input type="checkbox"/>	Membership Card	<input type="checkbox"/>		

For Family Membership, Please complete an application and staple together.

Signature _____

K7ID.org Request Form

First and Last Name _____ Callsign _____

Would you like your (callsign)@k7id.org email to be forwarded to an existing email account or would you like to access it through a web or post office protocol (POP) system?

Please Forward to My existing Email (Please Complete the Bottom and Sign.) Webmail Access POP Access
 I wish to opt-out of K7ID.org

Please Select a username _____ @K7ID.ORG

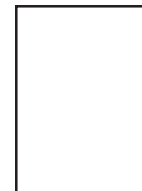
Please Select a Password _____

For Forward Request Only

Email Address _____

Signature _____

KOOTENAI AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
P.O. Box 1765
Hayden, ID 83835-1765



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.

2011 CLUB OFFICERS

President: Thomas Barrett, KD7JUS
208 773-3135 president@k7id.org

Vice-President: Allan Campbell KE7DFT
vicepresident@k7id.org

Exec. Director: Bonnie Patterson, KG6QQM
excdirector@k7id.org

Secretary: Megan Barrett, KE7RCD
208 773-3135 secretary@k7id.org

Treasurer: Tom Richmond, NI7W
208 772-0907 treasurer@k7id.org

Newsletter Editor: Gary Roth, KE7IAT
509 993-8468 ke7iat@comcast.net

Repeater Trustee: Jerry Hooper, KA7RNX
ka7rnx@arrl.net

Repeater Tech: Jim Monroe, N7ESU
208 687-2251 n7esu@arrl.net

Webmaster: Larry Telles, K6SPP
208 762-2548 ltelles@icehouse.net

Past President: John Hollar, N7JU
877 877-0040 n7ju@jarrl.net

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.