



May 2012

(www.k7id.org)

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

REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS:

Monday, May 14, 7:00 p.m.
Search & Rescue Bldg.,
Hayden, Idaho
Topic: Hamfest, Ironman, and
Field Day
Presenters: Bonnie Patterson,
KG6QQM, Kraig Brown,
KE7SKJ, and Ed Stuckey,
AI7H
Refreshments: Lorien and
Jacob Cord

ARRL VE Testing Session at
same location 05/14/12; 5:30
pm Walk-ins welcome All exams
administered.

*****No June Meeting*****

Upcoming Events
May 19
Highway Clean-up

SEAPAC - ARRL NW Conv.
June 1-3
Seaside, Oregon

Friday, June 8
Pre-Hamfest Potluck

Saturday, June 9
Hamfest

June 23-24
Field Day

June 24
Ironman Triathlon

President's Column

June is graduation time, which is an especially busy time if you have a high school senior in the family. Many of you will be attending graduations throughout the region, but remember June is also a busy month for KARS.

As usual, our Hamfest/swap meet will be held the first weekend in June. Friday, June 8, we will hold our pre-Hamfest Potluck. It will be held at the American Legion Post in Post Falls, starting at 6:30 PM. Bring your family and a favorite dish to share with the group. Any equipment or parts that you would like to donate to the KARS table or put on consignment will be accepted that evening and put on display.

The annual Hamfest will be held on Saturday, June 9. Once again the location will be the American Legion Post in Post Falls. The doors will open at 7:00 a.m. We will be running two shifts of volunteers at the ticket tables, the KARS sales table and in the kitchen. The first shifts will run from 7:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. The second shift will run from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. If you have the time, we could certainly use the volunteers.

We will be serving breakfast from 7:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. That will be followed by lunch, served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Door prizes will be given out every half hour starting at 7:30 a.m. The Grand Prizes will be awarded at 1:30 p.m. This year, we will have three grand prizes: a HF/VHF/UHF rig, a handheld radio, and an Autek antenna analyzer.

Remember to invite all your ham friends. There might be a real treasurer hidden on one of those sales tables.

Ed Stuckey AI7H is coordinating our Field Day exercise this year. The exact location for this year's exercise will be announced at the May meeting. In the meantime, if you are interested in volunteering to support the effort, contact Ed.

Field Day is a time to test communications skills that might be needed during an emergency. Field Day locations may be in remote areas away from any source of commercial power or in a urban setting where commercial power is available. The idea is to set up operating stations in locations not normally used by amateur radio operators. It is also a time for the public to view what amateur radio operators really do and a time to let non-licensed operators work with licensed operators to make contacts nationwide (band conditions allowing).

Setup for Field Day will begin on Friday June 22nd. We will setup the antennas, layout the station and do some preliminary testing on Friday. Volunteers to help set up the antennas are always welcome. Saturday, June 23rd, is the big day. We will be operating 2 HF stations and one VHF station over a 24 hour period. Operators are always needed, especially for the early morning hours on Sunday. A potluck dinner will be held on Saturday evening at approximately 6:30 p.m. Please bring a dish to share. All family members are invited to attend. It will give them a chance to see what you have been up to for two days. It might even give some of them a chance to get on the air. That is part of the Field Day experience.

Tear down will commence immediately following the end of the 24 hour operating period. Once again, volunteers are needed so the facility can be returned to its original condition by Sunday afternoon.

Not really interested in Field Day? There is always a need for volunteers for the Ironman competition. That will be held on Sunday, June 24th, this year. We will have more on that at our May meeting.

As you can see there is plenty to do in June to support KARS. Hope you will all take part in at least one of the planned activities.

Remember there is no regular KARS meeting in June.

73 Bonnie KG6QQM
KARS President

KARS 40th Anniversary

The constitution and by-laws for the Kootenai Amateur Radio Society were signed in April 1972. Two ham clubs had previously existed in Coeur d'Alene, but they had lost membership and were eventually disbanded. The new club was 11 members strong. The founding members were Verda Siebenthaler, K7UBC; Joan Gallagher, WA7BDD; Norm Hockrein, WA7BTA; Bob Ball, K7RPB; Jack Baker, NA7X; Neil Chamberlain, N7IQJ; Bill Stack, WA7HPB; Art Stone, (call unknown); Marj Hogeweide, (no call); Steven Hogeweide, N7AOW; and Walt Hogeweide K7ETJ. Marj was really not interested in becoming a ham, but joined to support family members that were hams. Much like some of the XYLs in the current KARS club.

The first president was Art Stone. The first secretary/

treasurer was June Lang. The meetings were held in the Washington Water and Power building on 5th and Lakeside in Coeur d'Alene.

Eventually the club moved their meeting location to the Kootenai County Fairgrounds. In exchange for free use of the meeting room, the club sold tickets at the county fair. The current ticket booth is a building constructed by KARS.

KARS put a repeater on the air in the late 70s. The repeater was located in Walt and Marj's backyard. With no duplexer, it was a challenge to get the transmitter and receiver separated enough to eliminate interference. Dan Ransom provided a great deal of labor getting the repeater up and on the air. Dan is a Life Member of KARS living in Pullman, WA.

KARS held their Field Day activities in various locations throughout Kootenai County. It was a camping weekend which included the families. Marj acted as the chief cook for the weekend. The majority of their Field Day sites were remote. They used Bob Ball's property at Hauser Lake, Art Stone's property at Wolf Lodge, Copper Mountain and a location in Post Falls on the road to Mica Peak at various times.

Today there are just two charter members remaining: Marj and Walt Hogeweide. Much of the information in this article was obtained from them.

One of Walt's brothers was a ham and tried to encourage Walt to get his novice license. Walt really wasn't too interested, but when his brother continued to get higher level licenses, Walt decided he could do that too. He attempted his first novice test in 1958. He was in Los Angeles visiting his brother and decided to take the test. For the newer hams, in the 50s, you were given the code test first. The code was provided on punched tapes. If you couldn't pass the code test, you were not allowed to take the written test. The code was Walt's downfall. Upon returning home, he continued his code practice and was able to obtain his novice license. At that time the tests were given at the college in Spokane. Like many hams, once he was licensed he continued studying and went on to pass more advanced tests.

Marj really wasn't interested in becoming a ham, but when she couldn't reach Walt during his commute home in the evening, she decided to get her license. Now she could call him on his radio and get his estimated arrival time. Marj got her first license in the early 80s. She set up the Northwest Weather Net on 2 meters. She took weather information from various hams throughout northern Idaho and forwarded it to the weather bureau each morning. It later became known as the Sunrise Net.

Soldering Workshop

April 9, 2012



Gabbie getting lots of help
from Bearpaw and Tom Macy



Joseph and Robert Gaines

Member Biography
Mark, N7MA

Hi!

I first got interested in electronics when, in grade school, my friend down the street in Tacoma, WA, got a telegraph kit. Later we both got AM broadcast band transmitter kits. If we strung enough wire for antennas in our back yards we could actually hear each other.

In high school, one of the volunteers for the school was willing to form a radio club if there was interest. Two of us were interested, which led to a novice, general and advanced class licenses. One of my first long QSOs was with Barry, K7UGA. When I got his QSL card I was amazed to see that he had top of the line stations in Washington D.C., Arizona, and California. It was then that I realized that he was Senator Barry Goldwater!

When Seattle University saw that I was a Radio Amateur, they offered me a student aid job maintaining some of the school's electronics, mainly the school's ham station on top of one of the dorms. Wow, a top of the line Collins station with a Henry 2K amp and some of the best antennas. One antenna was a full size, three element, 40 meter beam. We used it for regular schedules with KC4AAD, the Byrd Station in Antarctica. They had by far the largest antenna I've ever heard of, a 21 mile long dipole! They always gave us an RST of 5-0-9, meaning their S-meter didn't even wiggle, but they heard us just fine. The primary purpose of the college station was running phone patches for students to their families in Hawaii. I got my Extra class license while in college. Even though I was able to send and receive 20WPM for the code test in front of the FCC in Seattle, I never got active in CW. I changed my call to N7MA, a great CW call, when the vanity calls became available.

After college I got involved in 2 meter FM starting with old commercial gear that I converted. Being married with 4 kids left little time for ham radio except for the commutes back and forth to work. I did build up a 2 meter repeater then using old ICOM and Motorola boards. I'm pretty sure 22-82 was the first all solid-state mountain-top amateur repeater in the area. The Mike and Key Club now owns and operates it.

As the kids grew into adulthood, I started to get increasing active in ham radio again. After my wife (K7GMA) became an SK a few years ago, I move to Rose Lake to be closer to grandkids. I'm now mainly active on HF SSB and PSK, both from home and my motor home when traveling and I like building things. My 10 meter beacon sends continuously on 28.2165MHz. My tower is presently laying horizontal in the yard. Hopefully, with the help of some club members, it will be vertical sometime soon.

73, Mark N7MA

Field Day 2012

As in past years, KARS plans to "field" a station which will participate in the largest Amateur Radio Event "ever", called "Amateur Radio Field Day". Field Day has been going on since 1935, always the fourth full weekend in June, when hams come together to set up stations which will talk to ... everyone ... who is participating. We still have plenty of room for volunteers, if you have not already signed up, please contact me – Ed, AI7H (ai7h@arrl.net).

Idaho ARRL Convention Report

The Idaho ARRL Convention took place in Boise, on the weekend of 04/21-04/22. Local attendees included Bob (K7TM), Larry (K6SPP), and yrs trooly Ed (AI7H). The theme this year was "Prepared for Anything".

Attendance was down from previous years, and there were fewer vendors (not sure if this was from the economy, or "what?"). K6SPP (who had submitted extensive Convention coverage for each of the four Conventions) was recognized as the "official Convention photographer". None of the North Idaho attendees won anything this year.

Ed, AI7H

Idaho QSO Party – It's "Over"

You will recall that there were several "warm-up" articles about the IDQP in this newsletter. Well, the event took place as scheduled, on 03/10-03/11, but with an unexpected twist – the earth was in the midst of a magnetic storm, caused by a "Coronal Mass Ejection" (CME) from the sun. A well-known effect of magnetic storms is the "Northern Lights", but a less known effect is that radio propagation can just be terrible until things settle down.

Participants unanimously agreed that conditions were awful (it's quite rare that a large number of hams would agree on anything!), but kept at it until quitting time. And they submitted logs to prove it. So, we have 66 logs in hand as of press time, with the most distant participant located in YV (Venezuela).

The log evaluation committee (KARS members: KG6QQM, NI7W, N7MA, W7SGS, KI7I, KF7OPR, and AI7H) held their first meeting on 03/22, trying to decipher what all the participants had submitted. Results are posted to the IDQP website, and all who sent in their logs will receive certificates of participation.

There is more to this story, to be reported at a later time.

73,

Ed, AI7H

KARS Hamfest – Any Donations?

You have heard announcements about the KARS Hamfest, which will take place on 06/09, at the American

Legion Hall in Post Falls. Now, (when you are busy with Spring Cleaning in your Shack) consider donating any pre-loved radio gear (that you'll never use again) to the Club, for purposes of re-sale at the KARS Club Table. Please make your donation early, so we have some time to test and polish up your items. (In the past, we have found that clean, "works great" used equipment generates a lot more interest and commands a higher price). The Hamfest is a principal source of funds for Club operations, and donations to the Club are hugely appreciated!

73, Ed AI7H

Highway Cleanup

KARS members will be performing highway cleanup on Saturday May 19. We will meet at the parking lot in the rear of Michael D's at 203 Coeur d'Alene Lake Drive in Coeur d'Alene at 9:00 a.m. We will carpool to exit 17 since parking at that location is quite limited.

Bring gloves and mechanical "picker uppers" if you have them. Plastic bags for collection will be provided. Dress appropriate for the weather conditions.

When we have finished our pickup, we will proceed to lunch at a location selected by the work party. KARS will reimburse each participant with \$7.50 towards their lunch. Please be prepared to pay for your own meal and then submit a voucher to our treasurer Pat Patterson, W7SGS, for reimbursement.

Hope to see many of you there.

KOOTENAI AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

CLUB MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 9, 2012

The meeting was called to order by President Bonnie, KG6QQM at 7pm.

After the flag salute, new hams Jack Robertson, KF7VII, (Tech); Robert Schaff, KF7VIH, (Tech); and Aaron Morrill, KF7TJT (upgrade to General), were congratulated.

New Life Member is John Grimaldi, N6NHJ. Thanks to John for his support.

Pat Patterson, W7SGS, gave a brief presentation on Soldering.

Before finishing the Soldering with a practical application, a brief business meeting was conducted.

- Minutes of the last meeting were approved as distributed in the Newsletter.
- The Treasurer's report of \$ 5702.13 on hand was accepted.
- Larry, K6SPP, passed out the tech card of the month called The Wheel of Formulas. The card is an Ohm's and Joule's law learning aid.
- **Hamfest/Swapmeet** : Tom, NI7W, reported that the same slate of prizes as last year will cost us about \$200 more this year due to price increases. It was moved, seconded and approved to increase the allowance for prizes to cover the same merchandise as last year.
- The KARS Equipment Table needs a couple of more people to work a shift.
- Setup/Cleanup committee needs a few more people.
- Food Committee needs 2 more people for breakfast and 3 more for lunch.
- If you have an idea for a seminar contact Larry, K6SPP.
- The field trip to the Sheriff's Office and 9-1-1 Center was scheduled for April 14.
- Some members have inquired about Club Jackets. Jacob, K7AJC, is looking into that for the club.
- It was announced that we will have to pay \$20 per month for use of the SARS building for our meetings. It was moved, seconded and approved to pay the rent.
- There are 2 newly affiliated ARRL clubs in our area: Boundary Amateur Radio Club (www.bfi.com) from Bonners Ferry, and Idaho DX Association (www.idxa.org) from Lewiston.
- Lee, AA7AF, has a tube tester that belongs to the club so if you have need to use it, Lee will be glad to help you out.
- IDAHO State Ham Convention in Boise April 20-22
- ARRL NW Division convention in Seaside, OR is coming up June 1-3.
- No further business, the meeting was adjourned.
- A Soldering Practice session was held after the business meeting with pretty good participation. Several people learned some good techniques.

tower and as it enters the comms building from the outside. Doughnuts are used to keep the coax from actually touching the tower. Upon entry into the building the coax is grounded yet a third time. The comms building has a halo ground around the ceiling. The radios are rack mounted and attached to the racks. The racks are attached to both the floor and the ceiling. The most fascinating feature is the 250 pound extension cord that connects the comms with an outside generator in case of prolonged power failure.

Bob Kesson, K7CGA, was our tour guide. There were 14 KARS members in attendance. After completing our tour at the Sheriff's office, we went to the 9-1-1 facility on Julia Avenue in Coeur d'Alene. We should all feel very secure with our 9-1-1 operation. All features of the system are redundant having in most cases 2 backup systems for each electronic box. The 9-1-1 office has numerous operator stations. Each station has 6 monitors and its own computer. Also available in the facility is the video feed from the various Coeur d'Alene intersections having cameras. Much of the current equipment is being upgraded. What used to take up several rooms will be condensed into several racks. Much of this efficiency is due to the conversion of county wide communications to 700 MHz.

Thank you Bob for arranging this visit for KARS.



April 14 Tour Kootenai County Sheriff's Center and 9-1-1 Facility

The weather cooperated and our tour of the Sheriff's communication facility and the 9-1-1 facility was quite informative. At the Sheriff's facility, we were able to see the 100 foot tower and the antennas mounted on it. The lead is grounded at the base of the

North Texas Hams Respond When Tornadoes Strike 04/12/2012 (ARRL)

On April 3, 2012, perfect conditions conducive to tornado activity converged on North Texas. A slow moving front, combined with abnormally warm temperatures and moist air coming in from the south, produced large hail, numerous funnel clouds, and tornadoes. As the weather worsened, hams in North Texas

activated ARES® and RACES nets. Spotters reported their observations to their local Emergency Operations Center, which acted on that information in a timely manner to inform the public of the approaching storms, giving them time to get to safety. A total of 21 confirmed tornados — including one EF3 and two EF2 twisters — swept through the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex during the seven hour storm.

According to ARRL North Texas Section Public Information Coordinator Jim Pope, N5JCP, the region suffered extensive damage, but thanks to the assistance of radio amateurs and trained weather spotters who tracked the storm's path and passed the information on to local officials who in turn passed the information to the public, there were no fatalities and very few injuries.

“In Rowlett — a city of about 56,000 people in the northwest corner of Dallas County — hams at the Rowlett Fire and Police dispatch unit received information on an approaching tornado from weather spotters,” Pope told the ARRL. “Because of this advance warning, Rowlett officials activated the sirens, warning its citizens of the imminent storm nine minutes before the National Weather Service issued a tornado warning for the area.”

Pope told the ARRL that radio amateurs from across the region provided communications support to the National Weather Service and their local Emergency Operations Centers. In Fort Worth, local ARES® members activated a net 45 minutes before the National Weather Service requested assistance. “We notified our spotters and went into RACES mode per our SOP with the City of Fort Worth,” said ARRL North Texas District Emergency Coordinator (District 4) Gerry Dalton, W5MAY. “We stayed in RACES mode until approximately 4:30 PM. Garry Cooper K5TXC, served as primary net control on 146.940 MHz, coordinating spotter reports to the National Weather service in Fort Worth. The City of Arlington requested an operator come to their Emergency Operations Center about 1:15 PM when the first reports of a touch down had been reported in Burleson. Linda McMillen, W5LMC, reported to the Arlington EOC and started monitoring the 146.940 RACES frequency, along with the 147.140 Arlington Amateur Radio Club repeater where spotters were sent to give damage reports or request city services. The 147.140 net stayed in ARES mode until approx 5:00 that evening.

According to Dalton, most of the senior members of the various cities and counties that were impacted by the storm were at the Texas Department of Emergency Management Homeland Security Conference in San

Antonio. “The State Operations Center normally would have been activated in Austin, but since so many members of the TDEM staff and County Emergency Management were at the conference, the State of Texas stood up the State Operations Center on the floor of the convention,” he told the ARRL. “Vendors used their demonstration equipment to bring up WebEOC, which provides situational awareness for the State Emergency Management officials. Tables were setup up and the Incident Command Staff worked from those tables for the next four hours. [Live television feeds](#) were available from the Dallas-Fort Worth area so that officials were able to watch much of the destruction in real time.”

In Mesquite — a city of about 139,000 people located on the western side of Dallas County and overlapping into Kaufman County — local officials relied on reports from Dallas SKYWARN radio amateurs to make decisions regarding local disaster plans. “Reports from hams in Forney — the site of the EF3 tornado — as well as municipal communications between cities resulted in street and cleaning logistics vehicles and personnel being sent from Mesquite to Forney,” Pope explained. “Mesquite also sent about seven police officers to Forney to assist during the first few hours of response.”

In Carrollton — a city of about 119,000 people located on the northeast side of Dallas County and overlapping into Collin and Denton Counties — a high school principal requested weather information from ARRL Carrollton Emergency Coordinator Mike Hennifer, KD5ZCF. “We sent him an operator, Hennifer told the ARRL. “He was then able to get information directly from the net that was current and up-to-date from the Emergency Operations Center and from the field.”

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



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ARRL Member _____ May we publish limited information _____

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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
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