

June 2012

(www.k7id.org)

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

REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS:

Friday, June 8, 6:30 p.m.

American Legion Hall

Post Falls

Topic: Potluck

Presenters: Club Members

Refreshments: Potluck

Monday, July 9, 7:00 p.m.

Search & Rescue Bldg.

Hayden, Idaho

Topic: Straight Key Society

Presenter: Quint Webb,

W7CQW

Refreshments: Lee Hopkins

AA7AF

Upcoming Events

SEAPAC - ARRL NW Conv.

June 1-3

Seaside, Oregon

Friday, June 8

Pre-Hamfest Potluck

Saturday, June 9

Hamfest

June 16

Highway Clean-up

June 23-24

Field Day

President's Column

I would like to thank all of you who participated in the discussion regarding the relocation of the KARS repeater, during our May meeting. Your comments and vote of confidence have been quite helpful to your Board of Directors. We are moving forward with the evaluation of both sites. We are working on cost estimates for each location. If costs can be held below \$3000 we may be able to utilize both sites. A final decision will be made in June. The removal of the repeater from its current location will occur in early to mid July. The amount of down time to expect will be determined by the location chosen to house the repeater.

Our busy month is about to commence. Our hamfest is scheduled for June 9. It is to be held at the American Legion Post in Post Falls, from 7:00 AM until 1:30 PM. Many people have volunteered to help with the day's events, but we could still use a few more helpful people. During the lunch portion of the day (10:45 AM - 1:00 PM,) we could use someone to take the orders in the kitchen, someone to help Allan, KF7DFT, cooking burgers and someone to deliver the burgers. The breakfast crew could use another person either cooking or delivering the breakfasts.

The KARS sales table could use all that slightly used equipment you would like donate or put on consignment. If you have a lot of equipment that could use a new home consider buying your own table and selling direct. For those of you looking for that something special be sure to visit the sales tables.

Remember that we will be having a potluck the evening of June 8. It will be held at the American Legion in Post Falls also. Doors open at 6 with food ready to eat at 6:30. Bring your favorite dish to share and something to drink if coffee or water don't appeal to you. It would be a good time to bring your equipment and set up your table.

The following weekend, June 16, we will be doing highway cleanup on I90 at mile post 17. See the article on this event in this newsletter for details or check out the web page K7ID.org.

Then the next weekend, June 22-24, we will be setting up for Field Day. This year Quint Webb, W7CQW, has offered to let us use his QTH on Blossom Mountain for our operation. We will set up the stations on Friday, fine tune Saturday morning and operate from 1100 Saturday morning until 1100 Sunday

morning. Anyone who would like to help with setup, operate or help with tear down is encouraged to contact Ed Stuckey AI7H or Quint Webb W7CQW. Non hams are welcome at this event. With the assist from a licensed ham they may even operate one of the stations.

As you can see, June is a busy month for KARS. As with most clubs only a small percentage of the membership actually participates in working these events. With that in mind, I suggest that we look at a different month to hold our Hamfest next year. It is true that Spokane has their hamfest in September, but that leaves July, August, October or even May as a better choice for us. Any suggestions, comments, or complaints can be sent to me, either at www.President@k7id.org or www.kg6qqm@arrl.net or in person at the next meeting.

Hope to see you all in attendance at this year's Hamfest. We have great Grand Prizes this year. Who couldn't use a Yaesu FT-897D all band rig (160m thru 70cm). We even have some nice door prizes. A \$50 gift certificate for ARRL could be put to good use. Bring your money with you and a hearty appetite so you can partake of either breakfast or lunch or both.

73, Bonnie KG6QQM
KARS President

General Meeting Minutes

May 14, 2012

The May meeting was called to order by President Bonnie Patterson. After the flag salute, newly licensed hams from the testing session were introduced.

David Caldwell	KF7OAE	Extra
Charles Ratliff	KF7VYA	New Tech
Kevin Korsund	KF7VYB	New Tech
Michael Russell	KF7VYC	New Tech

New club members KF7LF, John Johnson, and KF7UIH, Bob Schaff, were introduced. Thanks go to them for their support.

We had two guests. Jacob Cord brought Rick Nungester, WA6NDR, of Liberty Lake, WA, a co-worker of Jacob's. Our other guest deserves a special welcome. SSG Mike Shaw of the Idaho National Guard recently returned from Iraq. Hope to see more of both of you.

Two other people we have not seen much of for a while, our 2 charter members Marge and Walt Hogeweide, WB7WUE and K7ETJ were recognized. Bonnie presented them with special Charter Member name badges.

HAMFEST - Hamfest/Swapmeet is our main source of funds for operating the club and the repeater. (see " Repeater"). We need every club member to participate,

Location: American Legion, Post Falls, ID; June 9, 2012. See the www.k7id.org web page for a flyer with all the details. Just click on "Hamfest" for info.

VE testing at hamfest starts at 9am in the bingo room.

We need donations for the KARS "pre-loved, used but not abused" sales tables. Good time to get rid of some of that stuff you don't use so somebody else can have it for 10 years and then sell it at hamfest. Contact Ed, AI7H, ai7h@arrl.net or Quint Webb, W7CQW, quintweb@cox.net, for more info on donations. Your donations are tax deductible. Donations may also be brought Friday night to the potluck.

We would like to have a consignment sales table where you can pay a non-refundable fee and the sales team will sell your items for you. If the item sells you will owe a 5% commission, but your initial fee will be credited toward the commission. Our Treasurer Pat has the info on that. Contact him at: treasurer@k7id.org

Contact Bonnie @ president@k7id.org if you are willing to work at hamfest and she will find you some interesting and challenging assignment. Guaranteed that you will have fun.

Our June meeting will be June 8 at the Legion. It is traditionally the night before hamfest and is a potluck dinner. We open at 6pm and eat at 6:30. Bring whatever dish you like: meat dish, salad or desert. There is always plenty for everyone. Guests are welcome as long as they bring something to contribute. The KARS club provides paper products, plastic ware, water and coffee.

Field Day - June 22-24: Operating from 1100 hours on Saturday until 1100 hours on Sunday. Location this year is the Webb Ranch, 3850 S. Schilling Loop, Post Falls.

Sign-up sheets are being completed for different assignments now. Contact Ed, AI7H, or Quint, W7CQW, for more info or to signup. There is a potluck for participants on Saturday night. We are using a new logging software package, N3FJP. Jacob, K7AJC, is our IT guy for FD.

KARS 40th Anniversary Bonnie talked about the history of our club and recognized past club presidents for their service: Jim Monroe, 1985-86; Jerry Hooper, 1991, 1992 and 1996; Bob Pittsley, 1999-2002; Randy Carlson, 2003-

2004; Bob Kesson, 2005; Ed Stuckey, 2006-2007; Ed Hannigan, 2008-2009; John Hollar, 2010; Thomas Barrett, 2011; and, of course, Bonnie Patterson –current president. We had a cake celebrating the 40th birthday of the club but no singing broke out.

50-50 –Won by KF6WKR, Ron Phillips. **Big Kitty** – KE7LIX not here, prize was \$140. It pays to come to meetings and participate. Remember, you have to buy a ticket and you have to be current on dues to win.

Minutes of previous meeting approved as submitted.

Treasurer Report - We have \$5765.07 in the bank and petty cash.

K6SPP Tech Moment - Larry passed out Card #5 – Farad and Henry conversion table.

Highway Cleanup - Changed to June 16 because of admin problems with the State of Idaho. Signup sheet is out. Check with Jerry Blythe, KE6RVZ for details.

Club Jackets – Looks like jackets are going to be about \$45. Check with Bonnie for details.

Repeater The State of Idaho has notified us that we must move our repeater equipment out of their building by August 1, 2012. We have the following options:

Lower Mica – The state has offered the use of the old building just down the hill from the present site. Kootenai ARES/RACES is currently using this site for the 147.08 machine. Good coverage, but building is in poor condition with no access in winter/spring. We would have to pay our own power bill here.

Canfield Mountain – Kootenai County has offered this location. This is a new building but could be expensive to relocate here. We would have to make sure weeds are knocked down during summer.

During open discussion time, a third option was presented from the floor that we try to do both sites.

(For more information on all this see the Board Meeting Minutes of May 19, 2012 elsewhere in this newsletter.)

Motion made by John Hollar, Seconded by Larry Telles : “ I move that the Tech Report made at the 5/14/2012 meeting be accepted and the membership give the KARS Board of Directors authority to move forward as they see fit taking into account the options presented in order to meet the deadline.” Motion Carried.

The Board will convene shortly to deal with these issues.

The Junw program will be by Quint Webb on Straight Key Society.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Tom Richmond,
KARS Treasurer

KARS Board Meeting

Board Meeting called to order at 9:00 am by President Bonnie Patterson.

Attending were: Jacob Cord, Tom Richmond, Jerry Hooper, Mitch Killebrew, Allan Campbell and Pat Patterson.

Pursuant to the motion passed at the May 14th general meeting, where the Board of Directors (Board) was given the authority to deal with the loss of our repeater site and selection of a new site as they see fit, this meeting was held to discuss the repeater situation.

The current landlord, State of Idaho, has requested we vacate our present site on Mica Mountain. They need the space for some other users. We must be out by August 1, 2012.

At this time there appear to be 3 options for our repeater location.

1. **Mica Peak Option:** (New Mica) The State has offered for us to take over the building just down the hill from our present location. This location would be an easy move and there would be limited downtime. On the other hand, we may have to do a lot of repairs to the building, there is no battery back-up that we know of, we would be responsible for the monthly electric bill, there is no heat or air conditioning, access is limited to just a few months in the summer, and it is not clear what we would use for an antenna mount since one of the towers up there is leaning and is probably not useable without major repairs. We don't know for sure who owns this site.
2. **Canfield Mountain Site:** (Canfield) New building, backup power available, ease of access spring thru fall, we don't have to pay for power, and security is better. The downside of this is that we will have to use certified tower climbers (expensive), possible longer downtime, only 2 or 3 people will be authorized to be at the site and will have to have background checks by the county. Set up costs are unknown but could approach \$2000 or more depending upon what equipment we have to buy

(we might have to by some expensive equipment to go from the county's 48 volt power to our 12 volt equipment, and we will have to meet all current Reg. 56 standards. We will be required to keep the exterior area weed free during the summer. This could require 2 work parties each year. This site offers slightly lesser coverage than the present location and the proposed Mica Site.

3. **Maintain Both Locations**: We would have a backup site in case we lose one site, we could expect better coverage with the two sites, and if one repeater dies, we still can be on the air. On the other hand, we may not have sufficient resources (money and people) to do both sites. We would have to have another good antenna.

After much discussion the Board decided that the Canfield Site is too good to pass up so we will make that our #1 priority. It was also decided that having a backup site like the Mica building is desirable if it is possible to do from a financial and manpower standpoint.

The board was very clear that an installation that did not meet good engineering practices would not be funded. We will heavily rely on Dale DuRee's recommendations in this area. The Board of Directors is mindful that we must keep our cash reserves at a certain minimum level in order to fund our operations and to have enough money on hand to put on the hamfest each year.

President Bonnie is going to start the "due diligence" process with the Canfield site by letting the county know we are interested in that site and having the county get started drafting the MOU (Memo of Understanding) regarding our occupancy. Bonnie will work with Dale DuRee towards a final cost estimate so we can see how much money Canfield is going to take. One thing that is needed is some way to convert the building's 48 volt power to 12 volts. Since we are hooking into a common power supply it will be necessary to meet all the standards that entails. Some of the commercial power equipment can be fairly expensive. Allan will work with Dale to see what the specs are for this equipment and get a price.

Allan Campbell, assisted by Jacob Cord, will be in charge of investigating the particulars of the proposed Mica Site and preparing a cost estimate for that project. Bonnie is going to determine who we are dealing with on Mica before we get too far down the road. There was some talk that the Forest Service may own the building but no one at the meeting had any firm knowledge of that subject. Bonnie will let the owner of this site know that we are interested in their offer and will begin doing our fact finding to make our final decision.

Allan will be in charge of a "recon" trip to the Mica site to see what we are dealing with as far as physical condition

of the building is concerned. We are pretty sure we will need a new steel entrance door and some repairs to the roof. He will take this trip to the site just as soon as the weather allows. Site security is important due to thefts of copper, etc. It may be determined the building is just not worth fixing. Allan is going to evaluate the antenna tower that is leaning to see what needs to be done. We also need to determine who owns what as far as antennas go.

Once we are sure we have the final all-inclusive costs for Canfield, the board will meet to commit the funding needed or decide we can't do it. If we do go ahead with Canfield and there are sufficient funds remaining we will consider adding the Mica option. If we can't do the Canfield site, then we will have to see if the new Mica site is going to work.

To make it clear, **nothing is approved for funding at this point** until we have our detailed cost estimates done and make our final decisions.

Allan will be in charge of securing a team to remove our equipment from the current site and getting it safely stored until it is ready to use. As mentioned previously, the deadline for this is August 1, 2012.

Minutes Prepared by:

Tom Richmond, NI7W
KARS Secretary

KARS Member Biography

Hi, I'm KI7I, Rick VanLandingham. I was first licensed in 1963 as WN6UEU in Barstow, California. 1969 was a busy year for me which included earning a Technician license as WB6MPN while at Keesler AFB. It was just in time for hurricane Camille. I got my first emergency communication experience traveling to Salvation Army Aid Distribution Centers to relay material needs back to the central command post.

Then it was on to Altus AFB in southwest Oklahoma where emergency communications continued with weather watch work in the precursor to Skywarn. I designed and built the first 2M repeater for the area (surplus Motorola G strips and electromechanical control system). I formed the first radio club in the area, Navajo Mountain Amateur Radio Club.

From the USAF in 1973, I went on to Texas Instruments (TI) Consumer Products in Dallas, Texas. Soon, I discovered the Magic Band (50 MHz) and VHF contesting yielding several North Texas and West Gulf contest awards as WB5NCN. I completed a BSEE at Southern Methodist University and transferred to TI Industrial Controls in Johnson City, TN in 1979.

The 1980's were very busy including an MBA from ETSU, beginning of international work for TI, Advanced Class license as KF4FL, Century Club awards on 6m, 2m,

& 70cm and 6 Meter WAS. I commenced a long history of extra-curricular work on national and international standards including PLC operation, safety, and EMC (Electro-Magnetic Compatibility; IEC 801 series, later EN 61000) which affect almost every piece of electrical and electronic equipment you have.

The next 20 years saw a move back to Dallas and responsibility for Safety, EMC, and Environmental characteristics of TI Consumer Products including Toys and Calculators. Standards work expanded to include USA and international product safety and environmental characteristics of electronic products (yep, that blasted lead-free requirement). In 2000, I assumed responsibility for Quality and Reliability Assurance of the Consumer Products group which meant massive travel and stress leading to health problems & disability in 2009.

That accelerated retirement plans including the move to North Idaho. With less work & family demands, there was time to review current regulations and get the Extra Class license and the current call KI7I.

Without 18 hour work days or months of travel, I am working on assembling a retirement station with good skyhooks from 1.9 – 432 MHz. The free time also lead to joining KARS in 2010. The YL and I are part of the Kootenai County OEM teams continuing our 40 + years of emergency communications. Other activities waiting attention are contests on HF – VHF, hunting for new wall paper, and Thursday morning tale swaps.

The KARS Hamfest

The KARS Hamfest has traditionally been held the second Saturday of June. (That's 06/09 this year). The Hamfest is the principal source of funds for Club operations, and we should all support that objective. Please support the event by ATTENDING; by spending a few bucks on breakfast (or lunch), and on prize tickets.

We will have two commercial vendors this year: one is an engraver and one is a small parts dealer. We urge you to patronize the vendors!

The KARS Resale table will be well stocked. We have a lot of small parts for do-it-yourself types, also some large "computer desks" (perfect for a ham station setup) and some two-drawer file cabinets available. As of press time, six hams had already reserved sales tables. So it looks like a lot of inventory will be available for inspection.

If you know someone who needs to take a Ham test, the KARS VE group will administer tests beginning at 9AM. No reservations required, but if you have questions about testing, please contact John Hollar (N7JU), n7ju@arrl.net

Jay Townsend (WS7I) is an ARRL "Card Checker", and if you need QSL cards checked for ARRL Awards (like WAS, WAC, DXCC), he will on hand to help you. No reservation required.

More information is available on the KARS website: k7id.org/2012-hamfest-flyer.htm

Location: American Legion Hall, 1138 E Poleline Ave, Post Falls.

Date/Time: 06/09/11, 7AM – 2PM

Admission: \$5, Kids 16 and under – Free.

Field Day 2012

Amateur Radio "Field Day" is an exercise that has been taking place on the fourth full weekend of June, each year since the early 1930's. The objective of the event is to set up a station away from the normal operating position ("in the field"), possibly working with multiple transmitters; and then talking with as many other Field Day Stations as possible during the event period. Field Day has traditionally been an event that generates interest in Amateur Radio from people who visit a Field Day station. We still have plenty of room to accommodate more Club members who would like to be involved in the activity! This year we (KARS members) have been invited to utilize the home of Quint Webb (W7CQW) for our Field Day Site. At press time it looks like we will operate a three-transmitter station (two HF plus one VHF), using commercial power. The station will be open to the public, and visitors make take a tour of the station, and they might be invited to sit at one of the operating positions for a while. A HUGE THANK YOU to Quint (W7CQW) and YL Donna for opening their home on Mt. Blossom (near Post Falls) to the Club for this event.

Location: 3850 S. Schilling Loop, Post Falls. (See directions below)

Setup: 06/22, 10AM until "done"

Event Date/Time: 06/23, 11AM through 06/24, 11AM (a 24-hour operating period)

Pot-Luck picnic: Saturday, 06/23 – 5PM

Wrap-up: 06/24, 11AM until "done"

Admission: Free! (Bring a child or grandchild, or borrow one for the visit).

Talk-In: 146.52 Mhz

More Information: W7CQW: (208) 277-6992 /

w7cqw@arrl.net, AI7H: (208) 699-7743 /

ai7h@arrl.net

Directions to the W7CQW QTH: From the I-90 Freeway in Post Falls, exit at Spokane Street (Idaho Exit #5), then proceed south on Spokane Street

(toward the Spokane River and Mt. Blossom). After crossing the Spokane River, continue for about 1/2 mile, then turn left on Schilling Loop (just past Penny Lane). Proceed straight on Schilling Loop to the site, which will be marked with a FIELD DAY sign.

SSG MIKE SHAW

SSG Mike Shaw was a visitor at our April meeting. We would like to get in touch with him. If any of you know SSG Shaw or know how to reach him, would you please contact our President or Secretary? President@k7id.org or Secretary@k7id.org.

COMMEMORATIVE — TEXAS NAVY CERTIFICATE

(I received this as an E-mail this week and thought it might be of interest to some of our club members. Bonnie, KG6QQM)

Houston, TX, May 23-2012:

Houston area based Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club will celebrate its fifth year of participation in the annual Museum Ships Weekend Event, June 2-3, 2012 by offering a special commemorative certificate to amateur stations who contact all five Texas Based Museum ships during the event. The five museum ships and their call signs include the Submarine USS Cavalla and Destroyer Escort USS Stewart (KK5W) in Galveston, Texas, The Battleship USS Texas (NA5DV), in La Porte Texas, The Tall Ship Elissa (N5E) also in Galveston and the Aircraft Carrier USS Lexington (W5LEX) in Corpus Christi, Texas.

To earn the Texas Navy Certificate, amateur stations must submit proof of contact with all five Texas Museum ships to QSL Manager, KK5W along with a #10 SASE. The address is in QRZ.com.

Museum Ships Weekend is an annual operating event sponsored worldwide by the Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station with more than 90 ships participating this year. "We decided to put in a special Texas twist to the event to commemorate our five years of taking part", said Ron Litt, K5HM, one of the Event Coordinators.

The Texas Navy Certificate is a cooperative effort between four different area clubs, In addition to the

Brazos Valley club, members of the Battleship Texas Amateur Radio Station, The Tidelands Amateur Radio Society and the South Texas Amateur Radio Club are participating as well.

For more information contact:

Ron Litt, K5HM
K5HM@arrl.net

Highway Cleanup

The highway cleanup scheduled for May 19, had to be cancelled because the highway department did not have the necessary supplies available for our use. The event has been rescheduled for Saturday June 16.

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 AM. We will carpool to exit 17 since parking at that location is quite limited.

Bring gloves, good shoes, hat, sunscreen, and mechanical "picker uppers" if you have them. Dress appropriate for the weather conditions. Plastic bags for collection and orange vests for safety will be provided by the highway department.

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.

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 _____

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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

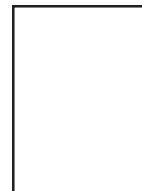
Please Select a Password _____

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.

2012 CLUB OFFICERS

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Past President: Thomas Barrett, KD7JUS

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.