



August 2012

(www.k7id.org)

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

REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS:

Monday, August 13, 7:00 p.m.

Search & Rescue Bldg.

Hayden, Idaho

Topic: County 700 MHz System

Presenter: Bob Kesson, K7CGA

Refreshments: Pat Patterson,
W7SGS

Monday, August 13, 5:30 p.m.

ARRL VE Test session

Same location as above.

Monday, September 10, 7:00

p.m.

Search & Rescue Bldg.

Hayden, Idaho

Topic: Electro-Magnetic
Interference

Presenter: Rick Van

Landingham, KI7I

Refreshments: Dale DuRee,
KE7VMN

Upcoming Events

August - Time TBD

Follow-up Trip to Mica Peak

August 18

Ice Cream Social

Hosts: Bob and Bonnie Kesson

August 25

Bozeman Hamfest

September 22

Spokane Hamfest

President's Column:

Well, it looks like summer is here at last. Hope you have been able to get outdoors and enjoy the sunshine. There are so many things to do in Northern Idaho that it is difficult to find time for everything.

A group of 6 volunteers went to Mica Peak on Saturday, July 14. The weather looked iffy, but they were on a mission. By the time they left the mountain peak, just as the thunder and lightning were approaching, they had taken our main repeater out of the upper building along with the cabinet, coax, antennas and antenna mounts. Time was spent cleaning up the lower building, although there is still work to be done to make the building weather tight and secure. The backup repeater was installed in the lower building using our old antenna mounted on a tower at the lower building. The system was on the air and running well when the crew left. Surprisingly, the difference between the two locations doesn't seem to be that noticeable locally. We would like to hear your comments at the next meeting.

Our main repeater is now at John Hollar's QTH and will be getting some TLC before it is moved to Canfield Mountain.

Sometime in August a second trip will be taken to Mica Peak. Additional grounding and lightning protection will be installed. Work will commence on the roof repair and replacing the door. If anyone interested in helping, please let a board member know. At that time, we will also be installing our own lock on the building. That is assuming that the other two repeaters have been removed from the building.

On August 18, we will be holding our Summer Picnic. Once again Bob and Bonnie Kesson have generously offered to be our hosts. The picnic will start at 2:30 and last until we are invited to go home. We will have some barbecue and some delicious ice cream. Bring your family, chairs, beverages and something to share. It should be fun to relax in the shade and trade fabulous stories. Hope to see you there.

I am assuming that several of you have antenna projects ahead of you. This is a very versatile club and if you need help with your outdoor ham projects, let us know. If you're willing to splurge for coffee and doughnuts, you may have more help than you can use.

Have a great summer. Be safe.
Bonnie KG6QQM

**Kootenai Amateur Radio Society
Membership Meeting Minutes
July 9, 2012**

Meeting was called to order by President Bonnie Patterson.

There were no new licensees and no new members to introduce.

Our guests were Lonnie Hopkins, Donna Webb (member's wives) and Ric Dickison of Hayden who is interested in becoming a ham.

It was announced that Cheryl Banks is now a VE.

The presentation for the evening was by Quint Webb, W7CQW, about the Straight Key Society. This topic could be of interest to both old timers who want to revitalize their CW skills or to someone who just wants to learn CW. These people will adjust speed to accommodate all users of mechanical keys. Computer generated keyboard CW is not for this group. Go to www.skccgroup.com for more info.

After the break, the drawings were held. Mel Baillie, KB7BTU, missed the \$164 membership pot by not being at the meeting and purchasing a ticket, and the 50/50 was won by Gabbee Perry, KE7ADN, for \$10.50.

The Minutes of the May meeting were approved as presented in the newsletter.

Treasurer Pat Patterson, W7SGS, reported that we had a very successful hamfest raising a bit over \$1600 this year.

The Treasurer's report from Pat was: \$7601.52 in the bank including "petty cash". Treasurer's report was accepted by the membership.

Highway Cleanup was held May 19 and 7 people participated.

Ed Stuckey, AI7H, reported on *Field Day*. There were 18 participants and 22 visitors. K7ID made 518 contacts between 80 meters and 70cm. Special thanks to Quint and Donna Webb for hosting this year's event at their home.

Repeater Move: The Board decided to utilize both sites since we have 2 repeaters. Money was allocated for moving ahead with the MICA site. Canfield will be finalized when a good estimate of costs can be put together.

The KARS Board of Directors accepted the MOU from Kootenai County regarding placement of a repeater at the county facility on Canfield Mountain.

The State is still preparing the MOU for the Mica site.

The first work party was established for July 14th at the Mica sites. Dale DuRee, KE7VMN, is in charge of putting the crew together.

Badge Replacement: The membership badges disappeared after the last meeting. It is going to be expensive, around \$100 for us to replace them. Bonnie will check on some better prices for the holders.

Summer Picnic/Ice Cream Social: Bob, K7CGA, and Bonnie Kesson, KE7FPA, have invited us back to their place again for this annual event. It will happen on August 18 at 2:30 p.m. The club will furnish ice cream, hamburgers and the condiments, including paper plates and silverware, etc. It was rumored that Bob and Bonnie would have Ribs and Salmon available also. Members are asked to bring either: a salad, ice cream toppings, or cookies. Bring your own beverages.

New Business

President Bonnie is trying to find a *better meeting place* that has more parking but nothing reasonable has come up yet. E-mail her if you have any suggestions. The Sheriff's Department has taken over the S&R function and we will be allowed to use the existing building for free again.

The location for the *Holiday Party* is tentatively set for the Post Falls Legion Hall on Poleline. The Legion has been undergoing some changes so that should hopefully be finalized shortly.

President Bonnie is looking for someone for *Hamfest Chairman for 2013*. There are some things that need to be decided before year end. If you feel that it is something you can do, please contact Bonnie.

Remember the *Spokane Hamfest* on September 22. The Spokane hams really help make our hamfest a success so we should return the favor.

Ed Stuckey has some equipment from an estate for sale. Rick, KI7I has more details on what's there.

Idaho ARES/RACES net meets every Sunday at 0230Z (7:30 pm local for some of you). Frequency is 3929 LSB. Ed, AI7H, or Randy, KB6YAV, have more details.

Next Meeting: August 13, 2012 at 7 p.m. Program will be by Bob Kesson on Northern Counties new 700mhz communications system.

There being nothing further the meeting was adjourned.

Prepared by: Tom Richmond, NI7W,
KARS Secretary

Member Biography – Larry Telles

Larry Telles, K6SPP, was first licensed on April 15, 1958 at 555 Battery Street in San Francisco as a Technician class. He went through General, Advanced, and onto Extra. Larry was born in Albany, California, and went to school in Oakland. He was hired by Pacific Telephone Company in October, 1957, and work there in the daytime and at a small television repair shop in the evening. Larry took early retirement in October 1988. The last sixteen years with Pacific Bell he was a technical instructor in

voice, data, T-1, T-3, OC-3, ISDN, Frame Relay, and Sonet, which got him a job in Silicon Valley at Network Equipment Technologies teaching the workings of a Transmission Resource Manager.

From September 1990 to July 1991, Larry and his wife Margaret spent time in Coeur d'Alene to see what life was like. It would be another eight years before they would move here permanently. During those years of waiting, Larry got a BA in English from Holy Names College in Oakland, and taught computer operating systems, networking and Project Management at ITT Tech.

Larry joined KARS in 2002, and has participated in Field Day, highway cleanup, and served as second vice-president in 2007. He has held the position of KARS webmaster since 2006. He also serves as an ARRL Volunteer Examiner. Larry likes VHF-UHF operation and helping new operators to amateur radio. He has done fast scan ATV, moon bounce, meteor scatter, and operated on 1296 Mhz.

During his years as an amateur, Larry has been an ARRL member for forty-five years. He belonged to the Hayward Radio Club from 1960 to 1980. Member of BRADS (Brother Radio Amateurs Don't Sleep), and The Royal Order of Hoot Owls. For the past two years Larry has been a guest speaker at the Boise ARRL Hamfest. When not on the air, Larry is at his computer working on his second book.

QST, QST – The Idaho Simulated Emergency Test

Attention all Idaho hams:

Mike Meier (WB7RBH), our ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator, has announced that we will conduct a Simulated Emergency Test (SET) during the first week of October, 2012.

The objective is to execute a simple communications exercise, with participation by as many Idaho hams as possible. The exercise will probably require less than an hour of your time. We want to get the word out via all possible channels, so you will probably see and hear other announcements similar to this one during the month of August. Detailed instructions will be transmitted during the month of September, in preparation for the exercise, which will conclude on Saturday, 10/06/12. We hope that you will participate!

73,
Ed Stuckey, AI7H
Idaho ARRL Section Manager

KARS SUMMER PICNIC

Sat. August 18
Starting @ 2:30 PM

Bob and Bonnie Kesson
2531 E. Hanley Avenue
Coeur d'Alene, ID.

If going north on Highway 95, turn right on W. Hanley Avenue;

If going south on Highway 95, turn left on W. Hanley Avenue (Silver Lake Mall on left);

Proceed 1.8 miles, house on left.

Join us for a little food, some relaxation and a lot of chatter. Club will provide: Hamburgers and fixin's, paper products, silverware, and ice cream.

Club Members attending should bring:

- family
- chairs
- beverage
- picnic fare to share (salad, toppings for ice cream, chips, snacks, beans, fruit, or cookies)

The Kessons will provide: ribs, ice, and lovely setting.

Heathkit Declares Bankruptcy, Closes for Good (Again) 07/24/2012

The July 19 edition of *The Herald-Palladium* — a newspaper serving the communities of Benton Harbor and St Joseph, Michigan — is reporting that Heathkit Education Company has declared bankruptcy and has officially closed its doors after defaulting on its lease. According to the paper, Heathkit employed more than 1800 people in its heyday after World War II; when it finally closed, its workforce totaled fewer than six people. This is the second time since 1992 that Heathkit Educational Services has shuttered its doors. In August 2011, Heathkit announced it was returning to the kit building business, and in September, that it would once again be manufacturing Amateur Radio kits.

Heathkit owner Don Desrochers told the newspaper that he has filed for bankruptcy and a bank now owns what's left of Heathkit; the bank is disposing of some items via online auctions. "The situation was purely one of the economy," he explained in the article. "Heathkit was primarily dependent upon federal and state funding for schools. Spending in education continued to drop down, and it was economically unfeasible to continue operating. When we got back into the kit business, we were losing the education business faster than we were growing the kit business. It was not sustainable."

According to the newspaper, Heathkit abandoned its lease around March, and in May, Phil Maki said he received notice that Desrochers had declared bankruptcy and that Heathkit would be closed. Maki is treasurer of Southshore Companies, the company that owns the building that Heathkit had leased a portion of. "It's a sad thing for the community," Maki said. "A lot of us grew up using Heathkit products, and it's sad they ended the way they did."

In May 2012, the ARRL reported there were rumors of the company's demise, but nothing was certain. Tom Ferriter, of Technical Education Products in Hampden, Massachusetts, told the ARRL at that time that "Heathkit is telling us [outside sales representatives] that they have temporarily closed, but that they are hopeful that they will be able to reorganize. While they're not telling us too much, they did say that they were having poor sales for a myriad of reasons and are hopeful that they will be able to refinance the company and negotiate with the bank to refinance some of the debt."

Desrochers — who served as Heathkit's President and Chief Executive Officer from 1995-2000 before purchasing the company in 2005 — told *The Herald-Palladium* that closing Heathkit was hard for him: "It was a tough decision, but you can't operate and lose money. Hopefully the employees will find other employment. They were great, loyal employees for a long time." — *Thanks to The Herald-Palladium for the information and to Lee Lull, WR8R, for bringing this to our attention.* (ARRL Newslines)

Ham Radio Growing In The Age Of Twitter by Matt Sepic

Only a few years ago, blogs listed ham radio alongside 35 mm film and VHS tape as technologies slated to disappear.

They were wrong.

Nearly 700,000 Americans have ham radio licenses — up 60 percent from 1981, a generation ago. And the number is growing.

Ham radio will never have the sex appeal of the iPhone, but it does have a certain nerd appeal, says Allen Weiner, an analyst at the technology research firm Gartner.

"If it creates its own experience, that's really what's key here," he says. "If it just emulates an experience that you can get online, it's not going to grow."

Newcomers to ham radio include Helen Schlarman, 89, who has a compact, two-way radio in her home in suburban St. Louis. She looks up a friend across town by pushing the talk button, announcing the letters and numbers of his call sign (W-0-S-J-S), and then announcing her own (W-0-A-K-I). Steve Schmitz's voice crackles through Schlarman's radio.

"Hi Helen, how you doing, W-0-S-J-S?" he says, ending his response with his own call letters.

Many "hams," as they're known, hang postcards from global contacts on their walls, the way hunters show off deer antlers, but Schlarman's chats are mostly local. She says this hobby is perfect for an outgoing person who spends a lot of time inside.

"It's a different community," she says. "There [are] no stereotypes of age; it's just talking and sharing and enjoying."

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

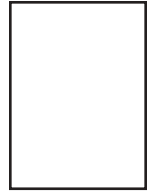
Please Select a Password _____

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.

2012 CLUB OFFICERS

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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.