



February 2013

(www.k7id.org)

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

REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS:

Monday, Feb. 11, 7:00 p.m.

Location: Search & Rescue Bldg., Hayden, Idaho

Topic: Those Digital Modes

Presenter: Larry Telles, K6SPP

Refreshments: Jim/Cheryl Banks

ARRL VE Testing

Monday, Dec. 11, 5:30 p.m.

Same location as above.

Monday, Mar. 11, 7:00 p.m.

Location: Search & Rescue Bldg., Hayden, Idaho

Topic: Satellites

Presenter: Rick Nungester, WA6NDR

Refreshments: Jacob/Lorien Cord

Upcoming Events

Idaho QSO Party
March 9-10

Mike & Key Hamfest
March 9, 2013
Puyallup Fairgrounds
Puyallup, Washington

Idaho State Convention
April 2013
Boise, Idaho

President's Column

The first "calendar" month of winter has passed. As we all know, though, winter in Northern Idaho can last up to 6 months. There have been some pretty cold temperatures with some very icy roads. The evening of the January meeting we all experienced some bad road conditions. We need to look forward to the coming of spring and our Hamfest.

Our annual Hamfest is coming up in June, or is it? We are having some problems this year finding an affordable location with cooking facilities. We need to do some creative thinking and do it quickly.

Given our current options, it would appear that it is going to be necessary to raise our prices for admissions, sales tables and food. It is something we must agree on as a club. There is also the possibility that we will not be able to offer a full breakfast as we have done in the past. It is really a significant problem that needs creative input from all of you.

At the January meeting it was suggested we might hold the Hamfest at a local park and do the cooking at the barbecue sites available. There are many logistic problems that will have to be solved if this is to be a workable option. Not to mention our ever surprising weather conditions if we hold the event outside. This needs to be investigated further and determine if it is a viable option.

Any suggestions on location, food, prices, etc. would be greatly appreciated. Then comes the inevitable question, should we forego the Hamfest for this year? It is our one money making event for the year. Can we survive as a club, and accomplish our goals for the year on the funds currently in our treasury?

The board will be meeting on Sat. February 2, 2013 to discuss this matter as well as several other pressing matters. The board will present their recommendations on the Hamfest at the February meeting. Please give this some thought and be prepared to discuss it further at the February meeting. We will need to make our decision then.

In the mean time, don't forget that the Idaho QSO party is being held on Saturday March 9. As always, the change to Daylight Savings Time occurs that weekend, just to add some fun to the mix. It is the one day of the year, when hams are focused upon making QSOs with hams in Idaho. There are some Idaho counties that are very rare. There are 3077 counties in the US and 44 of them are in Idaho. Come up with a mobile station and transmit from these rare counties, you could be swamped with contacts.

Speaking of working counties there is a whole group of hams called "County Hunters". Their website is www.countyhunter.com. There is a certificate for working all counties in the US. There are also individual state awards for working all counties within the state. One state missing from this list is Idaho. Don't you think we should come up with a way to offer a worked all counties certificate for Idaho? Something else to think about.

See you at the next meeting.

Bonnie, KG6QQM

What kind of member are you?

Are you an active member, the kind who could be missed?

Or are you just contented that your name is on the list?

Do you take an active part to help the work along?

Or are you satisfied to simply just belong?

Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the flock?

Or do you stay at home to criticize and knock?

Are you a member booster or just one with a kick, Who leaves the work to a few ,then talks about the clique?

Think about this, you know right from wrong;

Are you an active member or do you just belong?

Heard On The Air

Gabbee, KE7ADN, finally had some time to breath this past Wednesday evening and checked in to the KARS Northwest Traffic Net. Details were not given out over the air, but Bearpaw, KE7ADT, is back in Kootenai Medical Center following back surgery.

* * *

Feb. 1 - Bearpaw is back home and slowly recovering.

Things to Do and Places to Go in 2013

The BC QSO Party (02/02 – 02/03) Complete details at <http://www.orcadxcc.org/bcqp.html>

The Idaho QSO Party (03/09 – 03/10)

Details at <http://www.idahoarrrl.info/qsoparty/index.html>

The QSO Parties are “Operating Events” (not “Contests”) – Folks are encouraged to get on the air and make contact with BC hams in February – and BE the DX in March.

Western Washington Hamfest (Puyallup, WA 03/09)

Details at <http://www.mikeandkey.org/flea.htm>

Desert 100 – April 6-7; Motorcycle Motorcross in Odessa, Washington.

Two days of fast-paced action in an area of limited communications coverage. Amateur radio is used to fill in the gaps. “It is the closest thing to a disaster happening without a disaster.” “Stump Jumpers” come from the west side of the state for family fun on Saturday and a sanctioned race on Sunday. Contact: Glen Day, K7CPO@yahoo.com

Idaho State ARRL Convention (Boise, ID 04/26-28)

<http://www.idahostateconvention.com/index.html>

Bloomsday (Spokane, WA 05/05)

<http://www.bloomsday.org/> Details from KA7CSP, Kyle. Calls for assistance start beginning in April.

Spokane Lilac Festival and Armed Forces Torchlight Parade (Spokane, WA 05/18)

More details at www.spokanelilacfestival.org Calls for assistance start toward the end of April.

The Northwest ARRL Division Hamfest (aka “Sea-Pac”, Seaside OR, 05/31-06/01)

<http://www.seapac.org/>

The KARS Hamfest (Location TBA – 06/08)

Time to polish up that stuff you’d like to sell – or donate it to the Club, proceeds from donations go to the KARS treasury.

Field Day 2013 (06/22 – 06/23) (Club Location TBA)

Yes it’s already time to be thinking about the biggest operating event of the year. We hope to bring together a fine group of operators again this year.

<u>NOW DUE</u>	
KARS 2013 DUES	
Delinquent April 1, 2013	
Individual	1 Year \$12 2 years \$22
Family	1 year \$18 2 years \$33
Life Member	\$120

Getting ready for Echolink

by N7JU

KARS members and friends who would like to experiment and enjoy a fully operational Echolink repeater in North Idaho (K7ID-R) will need to obtain a Single Operator *NODE Number* from the Echolink System. It's easy and FREE: EchoLink[®] software allows licensed Amateur Radio stations to communicate with one another over the Internet, using streaming-audio technology. The program allows worldwide connections to be made between portables and base stations, or from computer to computer; or smart-phones to smart phones (no rigs required), greatly enhancing Amateur Radio's communications capabilities.

There are more than 200,000 validated users worldwide - in 162 of the world's 193 nations - with about 5,000 online at any given time. Each new user of EchoLink must provide proof of a radio amateur license before access is granted. This is to ensure that only licensed Amateurs have access to the system, and to ensure that each user is using a valid callsign that he or she is authorized to use.

There are several different ways you can provide proof of a license. First, go to the site below, download, install and run the **EchoLink program**. Then register your callsign and email address within the system. Go to http://www.echolink.org/register_data.jsp. A *Single Operator Node* number will be returned to you by e-mail. Once received . . .you are ready to go. Using Echolink on a computer (without a portable or UHF radio) requires that you have a microphone and an Internet connection attached to your computer.

You will be able to *see everyone who is on* the system from your computer, but you may not be able to connect to anyone until you perform a *PORT Forwarding* adjustment on your router. This, too, is easy and will be the subject of our next discussion.

In the meantime, all you really need to do is to program your (dual band portable) UHF radio to receive on **443.975 MHz.** and transmit on **448.975MHz.** (with a 100Hz. PL Tone). When you can bring up the K7ID repeater, enter the touch tone code * (**star**). The repeater is not yet on the mountain but Spring is on the way. If you are within 8-10 miles of Coeur D Alene you should be able to bring up the repeater and connect your unit to the

KARS Echolink system. Next time, how to load and use the Echolink APP into your smart-phone, iPad, iPod or Android; how to use the K7ID Canfield 98 Repeater to test your ham rig's Touch Tone pad for proper modulation and encoding. And a bunch of codes you'll be needing to make Echolink operating fun and easy. If you can't wait, send me an e-mail at: Echolink@K7ID.org and I'll send you the details. - N7JU

THE 21ST CENTURY PHONE BOOTH EMERGES IN NYC

And finally this week, in the wake of Superstorm Sandy, the humble phone booth took on renewed importance in the Metro New York area. This as cut-off residents used pay phones to try to connect with one another during and after the emergency. Now, this old but reliable form of public communications is getting a major facelift as we hear from Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK.

New York City has officially launched a plan to transform pay phones into giant touch screens that provide city information, emergency broadcasts and local business deals. Located in the same places as existing phone booths, the new platforms are to be operated as a partnership between New York City, Cisco Corporation and City 24/7.

These smart screens were tested in a pilot project but now are live across the city and appear to be very reliable. Soon, there will be 250 of the new devices in all five New York City boroughs. This means that a person strolling through a given area would only have to pause a moment to tap on the public screen to find information about the closest subway or a city park. While there, he or she might also tap on the "deals" icon to bring up a list of coupons for nearby shops and restaurants that could instantly be transferred to a smartphone or other wireless device.

But maps and coupons are only one dimension of the new platforms role. Like traditional phone booths they will also serve as a communication tool during emergencies but in a far more sophisticated way. For instance, in the event of another disaster like Hurricane Sandy, the screens will become two-way distress devices that let citizens call for help or receive instructions about how to find safety.

Welcome to the phone booth of the 21st century.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Cheryl, Lasek, K9BIK.

BSA to Offer Amateur Radio Operator Rating Strip
01/18/2013

The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) has approved an Amateur Radio Operator rating strip for Scouts and Scouters to wear on their uniforms. According to BSA Communication Services Director Jim Wilson, K5ND, the

strip recognizes the Scout or Scouter's availability as an Amateur Radio operator for communication services for events and activities, as well as emergencies. All registered youth members and adult leaders who also hold a valid FCC-issued Amateur Radio license of any class are eligible to wear the rating strip.

"Last year, the BSA Awards and Insignia Committee introduced the Morse Code Interpreter Strip upon the recommendation of the BSA's National Radio Scouting Committee," Wilson told the ARRL. "We are always looking for ways to promote Amateur Radio, both within Scouting and to the world. The National Radio Scouting Committee thought this new Amateur Radio rating strip was a wonderful way to do exactly that, as it readily identifies to everyone that the wearer is a licensed radio amateur, prepared to be useful and to help others."

Wilson, who heads up the National Radio Scouting Committee, said that the Amateur Radio Operator rating strip is similar to the Amateur Radio Operator badge offered as a proficiency badge by Scouts Australia, as well as the badge recently introduced by Scouting Netherlands. It follows in the footsteps of the Scout Radioman personal interest badge for Senior Scouts and Explorer Scouts that was offered by the Boy Scouts of America in the 1940s. The strip is worn on the right sleeve. (ARRL Newsline)

RESCUE RADIO: WICEN HAMS RESPOND TO FLOODING DOWN UNDER

Flooding has hit the Australian state of Queensland. This as ex-tropical cyclone Oswald that had already caused record flooding has moved south.

Jim Linton, VK3PC, is the Chairman IARU Region 3 Disaster Communications Committee. He tells Amateur Radio Newsline that as this disaster unfolds that a picture of emergency communications provided by radio amateurs is starting to emerge. According to Linton, several High Frequency links have been requested to be set up by the ham radio emergency response group WICEN by the Queensland Water Police. These links are to connect the city of Brisbane to Cairns. WICEN's role is expected to expand in the coming days.

As this newscast is being prepared, four people are reported to have died and others are reported missing. Many thousands have been left homeless and taking shelter in relief centers as the widespread flooding, which included tornados, is continuing. (VK3PC) (AR Newsline)

RESCUE RADIO: WICEN TASMANIAN BUSH FIRES OPERATIONS END

Meantime, ham radio assistance by WICEN in the Tasmanian brush fires has now come to an end as we hear in this report from the Wireless Institute of Australia's ham radio news service:

WICEN in Tasmania was finally stood down after 20 continuous days of operation at the Incident Management Centre at Cambridge, near Hobart airport. Operations have now been wound back.

WICEN was posted by the Tasmania Fire Services to mainly control the busy 80MHz radio traffic during massive fires.

Although those the major fires, which started on the 3rd of January on the Tasman Peninsula and in the Derwent Valley, are still active, one being classified as contained and the other controlled.

The days serviced by WICEN and other southern Tasmanian radio amateurs varied between 12 and 24 hours.

WICEN Tasmania (South) Operations Coordinator Rod Finlayson VK7TRF reports that 24 radio amateurs contributed to the effort, totalling 666 hours at the radio desk, plus time in logistical support keeping up the supply of operators to the task.

Seven operators did in excess of 45 hours each, including three more than 60 hours and one working a total of almost 80 hours. Initially there were two operators on each of the two networks, but this was wound back to one after ten days.

For those who may not be aware, WICEN is an acronym for the Wireless Institute Civil Emergency Network. It is described as a group of Australian amateur radio operators trained to assist in emergency situations. Their job is to provide emergency and safety communications when normal communications do not exist or are inadequate. (WIA News, VK3PC)

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	Check	Money order
Roster	Membership Card	

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 _____

