



December 2014

(www.k7id.org)

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

REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS:

Monday, Dec. 8, 7:00 p.m.
Shriner's Event Center
1250 W. Lancaster Road
Hayden, Idaho
Topic: Christmas Potluck
Presenter: ???
Refreshments: Everyone

Monday, Jan. 12, 7:00 p.m.
Search & Rescue Bldg.
10865 N. Ramsey Rd.
Hayden, Idaho

VE Testing
Monday, Jan. 12, 5:30 p.m.
10865 N. Ramsey Rd.
Hayden, Idaho

Upcoming Events

KARS Officer Elections
December 8, 2014
Christmas Potluck
Shriner's Event Center
1250 W Lancaster Rd
Hayden, Idaho

Dick Hassler, K7RWH
Memorial Service
December 9, 2014
St, Stanislaus Parish
812 W. 2nd St.
2nd & McCarthy
Rathdrum, Idaho

Letter from the President

December 2014

Dave Boss KF7YWR

boss@infinityusers.com

208.290.8590

Silent Key

We were saddened at the passing of Tom Richmond this past month. In the short time that I knew Tom I really liked him. His gentle spirit and different sense of humor, made him a joy to be around. His memorial was very well attended and one of the largest crowds I have seen at English's facility. Unfortunately I have been there all too many times over the years, and this was just another of those times. We will all miss Tom. 73's one last time.

Christmas Potluck and Meeting

Christmas party coming up soon! So, dust off your Sunday *goin ta meetin* clothes, cook up some of your best vittles (OK, clean jeans and a swing by the deli will do) and get ready to celebrate with some pretty neat folks. It's December 8th 6:30 pm at the Shriner's Building on Lancaster just north of Hayden (same place as last year). If you have been blessed this year, we will pass the hat for a donation for the good works that the Shriners do. This is an early warning just in case you need to go dig up another jar of cash for the donation.

Elections

So far we have been able to find candidates for four of the required five positions. Candidates are as follows:

President: Dave Boss KF7YWR

Vice President: Allan Campell KE7DFT

Secretary: Adam Crippen K7ISP

Treasurer: Rod Anderson K7ZBE

Executive Officer: Still needed

Mica Repeater

Friday afternoon after Thanksgiving Day, Dale DuRee KE7VMN and myself journeyed to the top of Mica Peak to install our battery backup system. A day not fit for man nor beast on top of the mountain, with winds in the 60-70 mph range and raining sideways to boot. Howling so loud you could barely carry on a conversation outside of the building. The installation went very well. The two Trojan T-105 batteries have enough reserve capacity for several days if not a week or two (depending on usage) of backup with the grid power down. Proof of concept was carried out just minutes after making the last connections and reprogramming the controller. The

aforementioned wind decided to take the power down for several minutes and the backup system worked flawlessly. When the lights go out up there, it is really, really dark for the moment it takes for all the little LEDs to come on and provide a smidgen of light while we scrambled for our flashlights.

At present under normal grid power the repeater is running at 35 watts and is linked to the Canfield repeater. When the grid power goes down, the repeater will function as a stand alone unit no longer linked to Canfield and it will operate at a reduced rate of 5 watts to conserve and prolong the battery life. Immediately after loosing grid power and the controller powering back up on battery power, there will be a tone that will last for several seconds signaling the transition to battery power, this tone will happen just once. Additionally there will be a slight beep every few seconds in the background of any transmission during the repeater's use while on battery power, this will help alert users that the repeater is on backup power and aid in reminding them to keep transmissions to a minimum. Upon the return of grid power the Mica repeater will again be linked with Canfield and the system will resume its normal operation. At a later date, the Canfield link radio will be added to the battery backup for normal repeater operation during a power outage. An additional power block was necessary to complete the task properly at this time, and it was not evident until we were on site. Oh, the joys of field service work , you never need what you have and you always need one thing that you don't!

As we had finished the installation just before the 6:30 net, we pulled the plug and allowed the net to operate on the newly installed battery backup. There did not appear to be any adverse affects in the quality of the transmissions or the area of operation, as we monitored the net we heard good strong signals from Smeltonville to the Spokane Valley and all points in between.

A genuine hearty thanks to Dale for sorting the process out and devoting Friday afternoon and evening to the process.

EXPLORE 30 METER DIGITAL PARTY

The European Radio Amateurs' Organization, together with the 30 Meter Digital Group, announce a new QSO party with the motto: 'Be digital, explore 30 meters.' The party will be held the weekend December 20th and 21st rom 00:00 to 24:00 UTC. This is not a contest but rather a radio meeting with a few simple recommendations to follow. You can find them at tinyurl.com/explore-30-meters. (ERAO)



Richard Walter Hassler, known as Dick to his friends, went to his heavenly rest in the early morning hours of Nov. 25, 2014, of complications from heart disease.

Dick was born in Los Angeles, Calif., on Jan. 24, 1941, and grew up in El Monte, Calif. He spent a total of 13 years in the Navy performing such jobs as recruiter, aviation maintenance, quality assurance, and was even qualified to be a flight deck flightjumper.

After leaving the Navy, Dick moved with his family to Rathdrum, Idaho, in 1981, working for Hewlett Packard, and called Idaho his home ever since. He was an avid NASCAR fan, ham radio enthusiast, and history buff.

Dick is survived by his devoted wife of 49 years, Mary; his four children: Chita (Celeste) and grandsons Erik and Scott of Los Alamitos, Calif., Richard (Michele) of Nicholasville, Ky., Cheryl Parnell and grandson Zachary of Rathdrum, and Stephanie Simpson (Jay) and granddaughters Samantha and Taya of Post Falls. He is also survived by his loving brother Roger Hassler (Angie) of El Dorado, Calif.

A memorial service for Dick will be held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 9, at St. Stanislaus Catholic Church in Rathdrum, with an Honor Ceremony and Celebration of Life immediately following in the church hall.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Rathdrum Lions Club Backpack Program.

The street address is 812 W. 2nd St., Rathdrum, Idaho, 83858. (ed.)

Kootenai Amateur Radio Society
October 2014 Meeting Minutes

The October meeting was called to order at 7:03pm by Club President Dave Boss, and Bob Schaff led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance. Due to an injury suffered at the workbench by the President the September Newsletter had been delayed, Dave presented the September minutes to the club during the meeting and Ed Stuckey made a motion to accept the minutes, the motion was seconded and passed by club vote.

HELP WANTED/NEEDED!!! The Club has some vacancies to fill and we really need some people to stand up and agree to run for election for some club offices. Positions include: Club President, Club Vice-President, Executive Officer, Treasurer, and Secretary. None of these positions require much in the way of extra effort, and in no way will you be “dropped” into a position with a “sink or swim” attitude. Dave Boss and myself (Adam Crippen) have agreed to run again for our respective office positions if needed, Pat Patterson was set to “retire” from the Treasurers position the beginning of this year with BearPaw and Gabby slated to take over, however due to BearPaw’s accident Pat agreed to remain in the position. Pat has said that he will be leaving the position at the end of the term. Please do some thinking at home and strongly consider running for election to a position. Dave has said it lots of times ‘this is our club.’ Elections will be held at the December meeting so that don’t leave us much time. An Election Committee is also needing to be formed, Ed has said that he has too much on his plate with being our ARRL Section Manger and will not be heading up the Election Committee this year as in the past and therefore we are looking for a few to join the Committee. (Ol’ Ed will not be cornering you this year to serve an office, however if needed we will release him).

The Club Christmas Party will be held on December 8th. Ted Graff (K7TED) has secured the Shriner’s Club again for us for the same price as last year. Jim Banks made a motion to accept the date and price of the Shriner’s building for \$250. Ted also said that last year the club had made a donation to the Shriner’s and that would

be appreciated, if you would like to contribute individually to help support the Shriner’s please see Ted.

Dave Boss presented a follow-up to the clean-up efforts to both the Canfield and Mica Peak Repeater sites. As many of you know, part of our agreement to allow our Club Repeaters on the sites is that we are responsible for cleaning up the weeds and undergrowth at the sites. We can report that both sites have been made free of the weeds. If you would like the opportunity to see the Spokane/Coeur d’ Alene Valley from a really cool angle and snap a couple pictures for your new QSL cards this is the place to go! If you missed out on the this opportunity this year, your sadness can me eased by the thought that the weeds will surely return next year following their nap beneath some snow and we will be looking for volunteers again soon. Reserve your seat early!

Dave also reported that the electrical wiring at Mica Peak, while not an immediate hazard does need to be dressed up a little, a verbal estimate was made of a couple hundred bucks for conduit and such. Maybe someone has some extra in their garage they would like to donate to the effort? Pictures of the site are available, please contact Dave Boss.

The presentation for the evening was a very interesting 75 year old RCA silent film on the production of Radiotrons , or more commonly known as Vacuum Tubes. Regardless of your interests, this film grabbed your attention. If you enjoy radios, it was a chance to see the hundreds of people.

Kootenai Amateur Radio Society
November 2014 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Dave Boss at 7:03 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Allan Campbell (KE7DFT).

The November Club Newsletter was delayed due to computer issues, October Meeting Minutes were read by President Boss. Mike Slothor (KG7KSJ) made a motion to accept the minutes as read, the motion was passed by vote with the stipulation that the minutes be corrected from reading “KD7ODP” to KC7ODP.”

Two deep-cycle batteries will be purchased to support the club repeater equipment on Idaho Mica, the batteries will maintain the controller programming as well as provide power to the repeater itself in the event of a loss of power. A date has not been setup yet for the installation of the batteries however we are hopeful that it can be completed before the snowfall hits Idaho Mica to hard.

Club President Dave Boss announced that he had received a letter from the IRA stating that the club's Tax-Exempt Status had been automatically revoked; Boss advised that the club had submitted all the necessary paperwork to the IRA earlier this year; however this paperwork apparently did not reach the right department. Boss stated that he would continue to work at resolving this error and getting the tax-exempt status reinstated.

Ed Stuckey announced that Charter Club Member, Walt Hogeweide (K7ETJ) has a 4c Onan Generator which has been in his care for a number of years. Ed replied that Walt would like to donate it to the club with the understanding that it be used for club events such as field day and other club activities. Ed Stuckey made a motion to accept the generator, the motion was seconded and passed by club vote.

Presentation was conducted by Larry Telles, K6SPP. Larry gave a very informative presentation on SDR or Software Defined Radio and how to get up and running with your own SDR for under \$100.

The 50/50 Raffle was again won by Pat Patterson, W7SGS, for a total of \$10 for Pat and \$10 for the club, while the membership drawing was won by Greg Bruder, W7GSB. Greg was not in attendance and therefore the \$119 pot will again be rolled over. VE Testing was conducted prior to the meeting and KARS is proud to announce that we have a new technician to the ranks, Gretchen Renning (Call Sign Pending). Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:27pm by unanimous nomination.

SIMPLY GRAPHENE

And finally this week, while only a few nanometers thick, Graphene is being touted by some in the scientific world as the new steel of the 21st century. Amateur Radio Newsline's Stephen Kinford, N9WB, reports:

Introduced to the world about a decade ago, graphene is a multi-layered material that is somewhere between 10 and 100 nanometers thick. This makes the material more like a very thin sheet of carbon. As a matter of fact, the material is so thin that it appears to be more like a sheet of paper but thinner.

But even at that extreme thinness, graphene can hold weights that are 100 times heavier than steel. And graphene is an extremely good conductor of both heat and electricity. But the most important aspect found so far is that graphene can dissipate huge amounts of energy.

Jae-Hwang Lee, of the University of Massachusetts Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering is a graphene researcher. He and his team say that the ability of graphene to dissipate energy is due to a high degree of stiffness combined with low density. This means that energy can move through it very quickly.

What might this mean to those involved in emergency response work? Many things including something as simple dropping a hand held radio onto concrete and it not even being scratched. More important is that it continues to work as if nothing at all had happened.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Stephen Kinford, N8WB.

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More about this latest scientific advance is on the web at wikipedia.org/wiki/Graphene (University of Manchester; Electronics Weekly, New Scientist, others)

COFFEE & DONUTS
EVERY THURSDAY MORNING

8:00 A.M.
To
10:00 A.M.

The Golden Spike
Community Center
Rathdrum

TALK-IN: 146.980, PL127.3
443.975, PL136.5

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

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

Kootenai Amateur Radio Society



PO Box 1765, Hayden, Idaho 83835-1765

Please complete the entire form and return with your payment

Single Year membership

New member \$15.00 Renewing \$15.00 Family \$23.00 Info Update Only

Two Year Membership

New member \$28.00 Renewing \$28.00 Family \$42.00

Call Sign _____ Class _____ Expires _____

First Name & Initial _____ Last Name _____

If renewing, only fill in information below that has changed since last application, otherwise complete.

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____ E-Mail Address _____

ARRL Member _____ May we publish Limited information _____ (Y/N)

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

Signature _____

K7ID.org Request Form

First and Last Name _____ Call Sign _____

Would you like your (call sign)@k7id.org email 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 Webmail access POP Access
(Please complete the bottom & Sign) I wish to opt-out of K7ID.org

Please select a user name _____@K7ID.org

Please select a Password _____

For forward request only

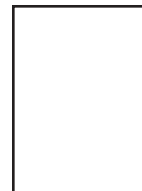
Email address _____

Signature _____

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"/>		

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.

2014 CLUB OFFICERS

President: Dave Boss, KF7YWR
president@k7id.org

Vice-President: Jim Monroe, N7ESU
vicepresident@k7id.org

Exec. Director: Scott Howard, KF7USV
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Secretary: Adam Crippen, N7ISP
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Past President: Bonnie Patterson,
KG6QQM

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 repeaters on 146.980 and 443.975, and a packet repeater on 145.510 Mhz.

Anyone interested in Amateur Radio is welcome to join. Dues are \$15.00 (individual) and \$20.00 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.