

September 2015

([www.k7id.org](http://www.k7id.org))

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

## REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS:

**Monday, Sept. 14, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Search & Rescue Bldg.**  
**10865 N. Ramsey Rd.**  
**Hayden, Idaho**

**Topic: Positive Collaboration**  
**Presenter: Ed Stuckey, AI7H**  
**Refreshments: ???**

### VE Testing

**Monday, Sept. 14, 5:30 p.m.**  
**10865 N. Ramsey Rd.**  
**Hayden, Idaho**

**Monday, Oct. 12, 7:00 p.m.**  
**10865 N. Ramsey Rd.**  
**Hayden, Idaho**

**Topic: ???**  
**Presenter: ???**  
**Refreshments: ???**

### VE Testing

**5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**  
**Monday, Oct. 12**  
**10865 N. Ramsey Rd.**

### Upcoming Events

**Spokane Hamfest and State  
Convention**

**September 26**

**Doors open at 9:00 a.m.**

**12420 E 32d Ave**

**Spokane Valley, WA**

**Talk-in: 146.52 or 147.38**

Letter from the President

Dave Boss KF7YWR

[boss@infinityusers.com](mailto:boss@infinityusers.com)

208.290.8590

Saturday began early with a breakfast KARS Board meeting, and as we were leaving the restaurant much needed rain began to fall. A short time later on the trip home the wind became violent and I found a number of limbs scattered along the roadway and the dust was cutting visibility down substantially. The aerodynamics of the van does not do well in strong wind and the remainder of the trip was interesting to say the least. After sitting down and talking with my wife for a while, we were interrupted with a phone call from my sister in law alerting us of a fire that had started not far from her house, which was less than a mile Southeast. Normally this would be an area for concern but the 25 -35 mile per hour winds with gusts to 50 or so this became critical. The smoke was incredible and as the wind shifted it was now aimed straight for our home. The smoke was now unbearable and it was impossible to tell exactly where it was headed. KREM has a camera mounted on a roller coaster with a great view of the area west of Silverwood including my QTH with this bird's eye view we could see well enough to see we probably should start thinking about an eventual evacuation. Joyce had received several calls from my sister-in law who used to be a firefighter and EMT who was giving us a blow by blow update. Additionally those tending to the fire had put them on a warning to get out soon if things progressed any further. Joyce and I had been through several unplanned mock evacuations with our preparedness group which really paid off. The exercise with our group had names and times drawn at random. At the appropriate time you would receive your marching orders. At that time you would grab your GoBag, pack your vehicles with whatever you would need and go! Although the exercise had been some time ago the preparations had done their job. Joyce set about packing the personal items and clothing we would need, and would request additional duffel bags for packing, I was busy packing the radio gear and setting sprinklers where I thought they would be the most good. Every few minutes we would get updates via Facebook or texts noting the progress. Eventually the wind died down and the fire crews got it under control. It is amazing how much you can accomplish when adrenalin is pumping through your veins in high concentrations. Not to mention how quickly a station can be

disassembled and packed. Triage in a Ham Shack is a horrible thing. What to take when there are multiples of equipment is brutal. The Go-Kit radio was already to go and only had to be placed in the trailer, a quick initial survey brought the realization that not everyone could fit in the life raft. The decision was to take the most versatile, which happened to be the smallest and newest as well, in addition it would all fit in an empty equipment case only feet from the bench and it was all packed in a matter of minutes. Within an hour or so we had packed food, clothes, valuables, radio gear and only had to determine how to load three house dogs and three outside cats into a vehicle we would need to drive away.

Fortunately as the wind died down, and the fire crew got a handle on the fire a hectic Saturday afternoon was over. The dogs barely moved the next day, any major deviation from our normal routine sets them off. Joyce and I spent the next couple days putting everything back to its normal state and yes we too barely moved as well. The moral to this story is that the prior planning and forethought although several years back, made a huge difference in the potential chaos that would have ensued had we needed to make all the decisions and choices on the spur of the moment. There are a number of websites that have Bug-out-bag lists, including one that ARRL has in their ARES Field Book. Additionally I would be glad to make that surprise call to have you evacuate your QTH, but seriously one never knows when a freak set of circumstances may have you needing to Get-out-of-Dodge quick. Please give this some thought, it could save you some grief when minutes count.

73, Dave

#### Canfield Weeds

Special Thanks to those who helped out with the chores at the repeater site and to those who loaned equipment as well. Done for another year!

#### Coffee and Donuts

I have forgotten to put the new location in the newsletter, so here we go. Thursday morning 8:00-10:00 AM in the Community Meeting Room at the Silverlake Mall. The room is located across from the food court, the first room to the right as you come into the Mall. Bring your coffee cup, appetite, dollar and of course your opinion and conversation.

#### Christmas Party

Our own Christmas Elf, Gabbee has requested that you start giving some thought to the \$10.00 gift that you will be bringing to the Christmas Party for the gift exchange. We know how hard it can be to pick out the perfect gift, so we are giving you plenty of time. I purposely did not mention that there may be some slow thinkers among us that would need this extra time, so listen to voices in your head for a little guidance to find that perfect gift.

Cheers, Dave

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#### Kootenai Amateur Radio Society August 2015 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7pm by Club President Dave Boss (KF7YWR). The Pledge of Allegiance was introduced by a video of Comedian Red Skelton, who explained the meaning; Dave Boss led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance. License testing was conducted prior to the club meeting, four individuals made attempts to which two joined the Technician ranks: Jennifer Jensen and Paul Williams.

#### Old Business:

Treasurer's Report.

July 2015 Report. Checking \$3,592.55; Savings \$1,650.48; Petty Cash \$96.78 for a total of \$5,339.81. Expenses consisted of: Walmart of Hayden for Coffee Carafes for the Thursday Coffee Club \$63.54.

#### Lost & Found.

Left at various events over the summer, we have a blue handled pie spatula and a circle baking sheet. If you know the owners, or if you are the owners please contact Club President Dave Boss to recover your property.

#### Meeting Minutes.

The July Meeting Minutes were approved as posted, following a nomination by Gary Holland (N7DHL), second and member vote.

#### Tax Exempt Status.

Club Treasurer Rod Anderson (K7ZBE) has acquired the services of a mentor who specializes in assisting organizations resolving non-profit issues like ours. Rod stated that it could be possible that the club would have to pay approximately \$400 to the IRS to refile. Adam Crippen (N7ISP) made the motion to approve the

payment of \$400 to the IRS, if needed. The motion was seconded by Jerry Hooper (KA7RNX) and passed by member vote.

#### Club Website Update.

Lenny Gemar (N5IEX) is now working on the transition process for implementing the new club website to the host groups. While there is not an official unveiling date we should all see the new layout online soon.

#### Canfield Weed Day.

On August 8th, a work crew of 2 ascended Canfield to battle the weeds. The crew was successful in completing about 3/4 of the weeds and another trip is needed. A Motion was made to look into the cost of sourcing the work to an outside business. The motion was originally passed however after some discussion and a call for a revote the motion was defeated by member vote.

Crews are scheduled to re-ascend the mountain on August 15<sup>th</sup> in hopes of completing the project.

#### Monthly Presentation.

The presentation this month was scheduled to be Avista's "Light Show" on transmission line safety. Due to scheduling conflicts the event has been postponed, we will work to reschedule to a later meeting if possible.

#### New Business:

##### Club Christmas Party.

Gabbee Perry (KE7ADN) announced a planned \$10 gift exchange for those who wish to participate. Open to anyone, the rules are simple: if you are a boy please bring a gift for a boy, if you are a girl please bring a gift for a girl, if you are confused please see your doctor.

Ed Stuckey (AI7H) made a motion that the club look into the Shiner's Club in Hayden to hold the Christmas Party at again this year, he then sweetened the deal by volunteering to do the investigating as well. The motion was seconded and passed by member vote.

#### NEW VHF Digital Net.

Mike Register (KG7GPM) has expressed an interest to starting a local 2 Meter PSK31 Net. At this point Mike is looking for those interested in the idea. The theme is to give local hams a chance to get on PSK31 and build interest and skill for all. If you are interested, please contact Mike.

Club's Club House/Ham Shack. The idea of the Club's Ham Shack was brought to discussion. Dave (with XYL Approval) has volunteered his property as an option to host the shack. While no motions have been made on the idea some good discussion was made on the topic.

#### August Raffle Drawings:

50/50 Raffle Winner: Dan Smith (N6HRT) \$10, which he donated to the Club Treasury.

Membership Raffle Winner: Ted Sowers (KC7BS) \$253, however they were not present at the time of the drawing and therefore the pot will roll over to next month. Rick VanLandingham (KI7I) made the motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:30pm, the motion was seconded and passed by member vote.

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#### Kootenai Amateur Radio Society

#### 2015 Second Quarter Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order by Club President Dave Boss. All Board Members present for 2015Q2 Board Meeting.

#### Topics of discussion included:

K7ID Website Improvements – Updates needed to club website

K7ID.COM

K7ID.ORG

Mica Site Improvements to Building needed – Building is in need of repairs

K7ID System Expansion Options – Club should choose a location and digital options which offer the greatest benefit to the club members, serves the community the best and also if a digital option is chosen then we should choose a mode that offers the best manufacture support, best product costs, and digital quality to users,

Silver Valley Possibility – Club Members in area, improve coverage to region

Hoodoo Mountain Possibility – Increase overlapping coverage for North Kootenai County region/Priest River region

Black Mountain, Bonners Ferry – Club Members in the area, improve coverage to region

Digital Options: Dstar, C4FM, Echolink, WinLink, P25

### Meeting Presentation Ideas

Intro to Technician/New Tech 101 – discussion for presentation for new techs to show what ham radio has to offer and various things that can be done in ham radio/also basic ham radio practical knowledge, i.e., How to make a contact in a contest, basic station setup, station grounding, and general coax knowledge.

Rod Anderson made motion to adjourn meeting, motion seconded by Alan Campbell. Meeting adjourned by member vote.

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### Kootenai Amateur Radio Society 2015 Third Quarter Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order by Club President Dave Boss. All Board Members present for 2015Q3 Board Meeting.

Topics of discussion included:

501 (c)3 tax status update – Rod has met with advisor and working on filing paperwork.

Club donated equipment – Club has received a lot of equipment in recent years and equipment is currently spread out at various members residence, option has been brought up by Dave Boss to build a moveable club house on the back lot of his residence near Athol, club members could come and use equipment or test/use their equipment. Many club members live in restricted areas and are unable to put up antennas or cannot afford a radio and being able to have a place to use radios would increase their knowledge base or their desire to improve knowledge of ham radio.

Equipment should either be used, sold, or could be raffled off at Hamfest.

K7ID Website Improvements – Updates needed to club website  
Locating and changing DNS over to new website

K7ID.COM - Conversations with Pal-Web on web hosting to reinstate DotCom website  
K7ID.ORG

Idaho Mica Site Improvements to Building needed – Repairs are needed to electrical system, main off breaker needed, panel cover, most likely should just rewire building, could be done for a few hundred dollars, donated equipment and parts could be gathered over winter and start project in spring.

Abandoned building and tower just down from KARS building, Tower is much taller than current tower and would increase range of 146.98 repeater. Adam will look into who owns the building and to further find out what is going on with the building and tower.

### K7ID System Digital Options - Echolink

Echolink would be the easiest digital mode to get setup for users. New Techs without radios would be able to get on the air. Could be linked to NW Traffic Net allowing them to check in.

Concerns about leaving Echolink connected to 146.98/443.975 all the time.

Could build a prototype over winter and install in spring when building improvements.

Could use donated 2-meter mobile, Alan also has VHF mobile that could be used.

### Meeting Presentation Ideas

Now What? – Presentation targeting new operators/close to testing operators. Would consist of a bunch of mini courses on various aspects of ham radio. Including various avenues including PC digital options, digital voice options, station grounding, basic station setup, basic contesting/how to make a contest contact, checking into a net, basics of programming a radio, setting up a mobile station.

Rod Anderson made motion to adjourn meeting, motion seconded by Lenny Gemar. Meeting adjourned by member vote.

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### September Presentation: Positive Collaboration in Amateur Radio

Most of the time Amateur Radio operators think about the important stuff – their rig, their antennas, who they will talk with, what they are building, buying or selling. Hopefully all ends well, but sometimes help is needed, possibly from an “Elmer”, a Club, or someone else. This month’s presentation will talk about the “someone elses”, including the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), and their Field Organization (which includes “Idaho ARRL”). The

presenter will discuss “how things work”, as seen from the ARRL Field Organization point of view, and how we attempt – through “Positive Collaboration” to create a Happy Hams environment.

73, Ed Stuckey (AI7H), your ARRL Idaho Section Manager

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Another September ARRL Event

You are cordially invited to a no-host Pizza Party!

Date and Time: Thursday 09/24, 5 to 7PM

Location: The Pizza Factory, 503 W Appleway, CDA

Who you will meet: Jim Pace (K7CEX), ARRL

Northwestern Division Director

Bonnie Altus (AB7ZQ), ARRL

Northwestern Division Vice Director

Jim and Bonnie have both served as ARRL officers in various categories for some time, and now focus their attention on providing “Strategic Direction” to the organization. Jim and Bonnie are both very down-to-earth people, and they are always interested in hearing your concerns and questions about Amateur Radio and how we will approach the challenges of the future.

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### ARRL Supports Maximum Flexibility for Amateur Use of New 2200 and 630 Meter Bands

The ARRL has told the FCC that Amateur Radio operation in the new 135.7-137.8 kHz (2200 meters) and 472-479 kHz (630 meters) bands should be as unfettered as possible from a regulatory standpoint. The League spelled out its case August 31 in detailed comments that argue in favor of flexible FCC Part 97 regulations in light of the exceptionally low interference potential to unlicensed power line carrier (PLC) systems that utilities use to manage the power grid. In its April Report and Order, Order, and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (R&O/NPRM) in ET Docket 15-99, the FCC had raised several questions regarding how Amateur Radio and PLC systems might coexist. The ARRL said, in its view, there is little to no evidence that Amateur Radio operation would be incompatible on the LF spectrum, where the great majority of PLC systems are deployed, and that few, if any, PLCs operate in the MF band.

“The allocation of the 2200 meter band, together with the proposal to adopt flexible rules for the use of that first LF allocation, and the proposal to allocate the 630 meter band for amateur use, when implemented, will complete at

least a basic complement of Amateur Radio allocations in all portions of the radio spectrum domestically,” the ARRL told the FCC. “It is readily apparent from the record...that there can most assuredly be compatible operation by amateur stations in both the 2200 and 630 meter bands without adverse interaction with PLCs.”

The League asserted that “well-established notification procedures conducted entirely in the private sector” as well as the sharing of available database information should facilitate compatible operation. “Notification procedures will be necessary only in those predictably few instances in which geographic proximity and co-channel or overlapping channel operation occurs,” the ARRL added.

The League requested that the FCC finalize service rules for 2200 meters that the ARRL outlined, and that it create the proposed 630 meter allocation. Operation on 2200 meters would be limited to 1 W EIRP, and operation on 630 meters held to 5 W EIRP, in both cases with an absolute EIRP transmitter output limit of 1500 W PEP and a 200 foot maximum antenna height. Assuming continued PLC compliance with Part 15 rules, the ARRL argued, “there is no significant interference potential to PLC systems operated on an unlicensed basis in that very small segment of the 9-490 kHz band that is available for PLC operation, even at separation distances of less than 1 kilometer from the transmission line. At distances of 1 kilometer or more, there is no chance of interference to a PLC line whatsoever, and no restrictions on Amateur operation outside of that distance need be imposed.”

The ARRL said PLCs that might be operating in the two bands should be frequency agile enough to relocate to frequencies falling outside the proposed allocations, making additional regulations unnecessary. The League has conducted a lengthy and ongoing experimental operation (WD2XSH) on 630 meters. It pointed out that it was “unaware of any reports of interference to PLC systems arising from that operation conducted pursuant to numerous Part 5 experimental licenses...in the large band utilized by PLCs.”

The League agreed with the FCC’s proposal to make both 2200 and 630 meters available to Amateur Extra, Advanced, and General licensees. The ARRL also said the FCC should provide “maximum flexibility with emission types” emissions throughout the 630 and 2200 meters, including CW, RTTY, data, and even phone and image, the last “especially at 630 meters.”

The ARRL also commented on the FCC’s proposal to amend its Part 80 rules to permanently authorize radio buoy operations on the “open sea” under a ship station license in the 1900-2000 kHz band, which the

Commission recently elevated to primary for Amateur Radio. The League said there is “no evidence of compatibility” between Amateur Radio operation in the band and the “heretofore illegal” ocean buoy operations there.

“[S]hould the Commission proceed with its proposal...to make the 1900-2000 kHz band available to commercial fishing vessels for use by radio buoys on the open sea and to include them in the equipment authorized as part of a ship station license, it should not do so by means of a primary allocation for these devices in ITU Regions 2 and 3 as proposed,” the League said. “The entitlement to utilize radio buoys should be on a secondary basis to the Amateur Service (and other radio services operating in the 1900-2000 kHz band), and the buoys should be prohibited from causing harmful interference to Amateur stations without qualification.”

In a footnote, the ARRL said, “The record is silent heretofore as to the need to use radio buoys in this frequency range. There is no information as to the necessary path distances for these devices and why a band with very long distance propagation is necessary for these buoys rather than VHF or some other suitable alternative.”

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**Amateur Repeaters Fall Victim to Washington Wildfire**  
Two Central Washington repeaters, owned and operated by the Lake Chelan Amateur Radio Club, have been destroyed by one of the wildfires raging in that state. The co-located machines, one on 2 meters and one on 6 meters, were sited on Slide Ridge near Manson, Washington, in Chelan County. On August 27, the First Creek Fire completely leveled the building housing the repeaters. Scorched antennas and support structures are still standing but are likely beyond repair. The club’s Roger Odorizzi, W7CH, said the repeaters had been offline for several days.

“We knew the fire had wiped out the power going to our site, but we hoped for the best, that our mountaintop building was possibly spared,” he said. “Now we have confirmation this was not the outcome.” Odorizzi said the area remains closed, and the club likely will not have access to it “for a long time.”

The club’s Ken Rau, K7YR, said the loss, in addition to the building, included the two repeaters, duplexers and antennas. The repeaters provided coverage in North Central Washington. Rau told ARRL that it’s unlikely that the building housing the repeaters would be replaced. It once housed radio and TV broadcast translators, most no longer in use. Topography is also a

factor. “This is a mountain site - 4900 feet above mean sea level - with power lines that were installed on a very steep slope.”

Rau said a lot of fire remains in the area and predicted that access to the repeater site probably would be limited for several weeks and that the site could remain off limits until first snowfall.

The First Creek Fire covers more than 6000 acres and has been threatening hundreds of homes, destroying a dozen houses along with seven “other structures,” according to the National Interagency Fire Center. It is only 25 percent contained. (ARRL)



**COFFEE & DONUTS  
EVERY THURSDAY MORNING**

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



**Community Mtg Rm  
Silver Lake Mall  
Coeur d'Alene**

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

Bring a Writing Instrument **Community Mtg Rm**  
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

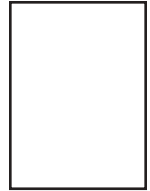
Email address \_\_\_\_\_

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.

## **2015 CLUB OFFICERS**

President: Dave Boss, KF7YWR  
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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 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.