

November 2016

(www.k7id.org)

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

REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS:

Monday, Nov 14, 7:00 p.m.
Search & Rescue Bldg.
10865 N Ramsey Rd.
Hayden, Idaho
Topic: Off-Grid Hamming
Presenter: ???
Refreshments: ???

VE Testing
Monday, Nov 14, 5:30 p.m.
10865 N. Ramsey Rd.
Hayden, Idaho

Monday, Dec 12, 6:30 p.m.
Shriner's Event Center
1250 W. Lancaster Rd.
Hayden, Idaho
Topic: Christmas Potluck
Presenter: None
Refreshments: Everyone

VE Testing
Monday, Oct. 14, 5:30 p.m.
1250 W. Lancaster Rd.
Hayden, Idaho

Upcoming Events

**National Weather Service
Skywarn Recognition Day
December 2-3, 2016**
Showing appreciation for all
Skywarn volunteers nationally.

Letter from the President

December 2016

Dave Boss KF7YWR

boss@infinityusers.com

208.290.8590

What a busy summer I have had. When I retired a few years ago, I kept busy with a myriad of projects, some of which have been mentioned in the newsletter. But upon returning to work every one of those were put on hold and now that the nice weather is gone I now have time to start back up on the list as the workload no longer requires my presence full time, but just in an "as needed basis". This should allow me to devote more time to the Club and getting back on the radio. Additionally I can return to the weekly Coffee and donuts that I have missed so much.

Elections Coming Up Soon

The official list is to be published this month. Please note any additions to the ballot as rumor has it someone else has come forward.

Christmas Party

Once again we will have the annual Christmas Party at the Shriner's Building on West Lancaster. Be sure to attend our next meeting for more details and to see what Lindy has in store for us. As always, there will be loads of yummy food, fellowship and of course a short business meeting.

73,
Dave Boss, KF7YWR

Kootenai Amateur Radio Society
October 2016 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by Club President Dave Boss (KF7YWR). The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dan Croskrey (NV2Z).

Volunteer Examination Testing: 3 individuals tested with 2 achieving passing scores.

Vernon Walters, Jr. Passed the Technician
Eli Bourgard, KI7HDX Passed the General
Eric Smith, KD9EQQ Attempted the Extra

Club Treasurer's Report:

August - Checking \$4,585.37, Savings \$2,001.12, Petty Cash \$96.19, Total \$6,682.68. Monthly expenses consisted of: UHF Fusion Antenna-DX Engineering \$109.95. Motion was made by Adam Crippen (N7ISP) to approve the Treasurer's Report as read; the motion was seconded and passed by member vote.

Meeting Minutes: Due to technical difficulties the October Newsletter was delayed, Editor Gary Roth presented a digital copy at the meeting for review of the September minutes. Motion was made by Michael Harrel, KJ6HTK, to approve the September meeting minutes, seconded and passed by member vote.

Club Business:

Yaesu System Fusion Repeater – The Fusion repeater for Idaho Mica Peak is advancing along, the repeater was set to be send down to Yaesu in California for a firmware and hardware update to allow future add-ons. The decision was made not to send the repeater down to Yaesu due to the number of hoops that Yaesu wanted KARS to jump through. Arrangements will be underway to coordinate a date/time to travel to Idaho Mica Peak and install the repeater in its new home before the winter.

Christmas Party:

The KARS Christmas Party will be held at the Coeur d'Alene Shriner's Club. The party will be December 12th at 6pm. As usual the event will bring a pot-luck event, so please bring a main dish, side dish or dessert to pass. We have very had a shortage of fabulous items.

Boy Scouts of America will be having their Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) the weekend of October 15th. (This event was later canceled due to the weather event that came through.

2017 KARS Board Nominations:

The time has come consider yourselves and your service to the club as a Board Member. The Nomination Committee had made an extensive effort to contact members of the club in an effort to enlist their service for the coming 2017 year. There were a few interested individuals who said they could be interested in serving; however they needed to think about it. Executive Director, Lenny Gemar, N7MOT; Treasurer, Rod Anderson, K7ZBE; and Adam Crippen, N7ISP stated that they would be willing to serve in their current positions again for the 2017. Vice-President, Allan Campbell, KE7DFT, stated that he was not going to be available to serve. Lindy Bryant, KE0AZD, agreed to put her name in for nomination as Vice-President. Dave Boss, KE7YWR, stated that he would need to speak to his wife about prior to anything being official.

Our 2017 Board Member Nominations:

President	Dave Boss, KF7YWR
Vice-President	Lindy Bryant, KE0AZD
Executive Director	Lenny Gemar, N7MOT
Treasurer	Rod Anderson, K7ZBE
Secretary	Adam Crippen, N7ISP *

* Quint Webb, W7CQW, has expressed an interest in the Secretary position. He would need to be nominated, seconded, and approved at the November meeting.

Special Member Vote: Gary Roth, KE7IAT, made a motion to set aside the term limits for the Board Members until December 31st, 2017. This motion would be needed in order to allow the current Board Members to serve again as the Bylaws limit terms to two years. The motion was seconded by Gary Holland, N7DHL. The motion was passed by member vote. Abstention: Michael Harrel, KJ6HTJ.

Raffle Results:

50/50	\$8.50	KE7DFT Allan Campbell (claimed)
Member	\$145	KE0AZD Lindy Bryant (claimed)

Allan Campbell (KE7DFT) made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:47pm, the motion was seconded and passed by member vote and meeting was adjourned.



IARU General Assembly Adopts Revisions to Region 2 Band Plan

Delegates to the 19th International Amateur Radio Union Region 2 (IARU-R2) General Assembly in mid-October adopted ARRL-proposed changes to the Region 2 (the Americas) band plan as well as other recommended revisions. Representatives of 24 IARU member societies took part in the General Assembly, held in Viña del Mar, Chile, either in person or by proxy. ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, headed the League contingent. Alternate head of delegation and ARRL Second Vice President Brian Mileschosky, N5ZGT, chaired the IARU Region 2 B/C Committee, which handled LF/MF/HF and VHF+ band-planning matters and proposals and made recommendations to the full assembly - or plenary.

“The IARU Region 2 has established this [band plan](#) as the way to better organize the use of our bands efficiently,” the introduction to the updated document states. “To the extent possible, this band plan is harmonized with those of the other regions. It is suggested that member societies, in coordination with the authorities, incorporate it in their regulations and promote it widely with their radio amateur communities.”

General Assembly delegates approved minor modifications to band segments and modes of operation within 160, 80, and 15 meters, to align the Region 2 band plan with the Region 1 and 3 band plans, where appropriate. Changes also acknowledged AM operation within band plans where it commonly occurs (e.g., 160 meters), and added narrowband (i.e., 200 Hz bandwidth or less) digital operation to accommodate such modes as WSPR.

The revisions adopted also called for changing references to 660 meters to 630 meters, to more accurately describe the wavelength of the spectrum actually allocated to Amateur Radio; adding 60 meters to the Region 2 band plan, and making minor modifications to bands at 13 centimeters and above, with respect to Amateur-Satellite operation - again, to bring the Region 2 band plan into alignment, as appropriate, with the Region 1 and 3 band plans. The General Assembly also approved various editorial changes to improve readability, and clarified various footnotes and definitions.

The General Assembly unanimously approved the formation of a region-level working group that will interact with Region 2 member societies in order to become better informed of and to track band planning issues, challenges, and opportunities. The working group will report its findings and recommendations to the Region 2 Executive Committee as well as to future General Assembly band-planning committees, and it would interact with corresponding Region 1 and 3 groups toward developing a more global approach to band planning. Driving formation of the working group was a desire to transition Region 2 band planning to an ongoing process, rather than addressing it every 3 years - especially given the rapid pace of technological development within Amateur Radio.

Mileschosky stressed that while the FCC provides more explicit direction regarding the use of Amateur Radio allocations in the US, other countries prefer not to regulate allocations by mode and to allow amateurs to adopt voluntary band plans. The Region 2 band plan was last revised in 2013.

Recommendations of Committee A, which addressed administrative issues, were also adopted. The panel recommended that the Region 2 Executive Committee ask the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) to request uniform technical treatment under International Telecommunication Union (ITU) rules.

The committee specifically pointed to problems in Mexico, where Amateur Radio is not considered an internationally permitted activity, and rules and regulations

constrain licensing and activity by operators visiting from other countries.

The committee recommended voluntary coordination of operating and technical requirements between Region 1 and 2 member societies for automatic reciprocal operation, in accordance with European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) [Recommendation T/R 61-01](#); countries accepting the CEPT reciprocal standard would permit operation by any CEPT-country radio amateur meeting its standards, and vice versa.

The committee also called for promoting the use of Logbook of The World (LoTW) and for the IARU Administrative Council to retain current QSL bureau oversight.

In the plenary, the General Assembly elected members of the IARU Region 2 Executive Committee. Elected for new 3-year terms were Reinaldo Leandro, YV5AM, president; Ramon Santoyo, XE1KK, vice president; Jose Arturo Molina, YS1MS, secretary and Area D director; Jay Bellows, K0QB, treasurer and Area B director; George Gorsline, VE3YV, Area A director; Noel Donawa, Area E director; Gustavo de Faria Franco, PT2ADM, Area F director, and Ernesto Syriani, LU8AE, Area G director. President Leandro encouraged member societies to participate more actively in the organization and thanked the coordinators and volunteers who cooperated in making the 19th IARU Region 2 General Assembly a success.

The proposal of Radio Club Peruano for Lima, Peru, to be the venue of the 20th General Assembly in 2019 was adopted unanimously. (ARRL News)

Welcome Mat Out for New Amateur Radio Licensees in Lebanon

The Ministry of Communications in Beirut, Lebanon, conducted the first Amateur Radio licensing exams in 13 years on October 16 at the offices of OGERO, a telecoms provider. Some 50 applicants sat for the exams; it's not yet known how many passed. Ghassan Afif Chammas, AC2RA, who posted the news to [QRZ.com](#), credited OGERO Director General Abdul M. Youssef; engineer Toni Aoun; Hani Raad, OD5TE/AA3EI; Michel Homs,

OD5TX, and Elie el Kadi, OD5KU, for facilitating the test session.

“The ham community should expect a boost in ham activities from OD5 very soon,” AC2RA said.

OD5TE once was very active in the Washington, DC area as N3IWM, and he served as the District's Emergency Coordinator. - *Thanks to Ken Claerbout, K4ZW* (ARRL News)

Rule Making Petition to FCC Calls for Vanity Call Sign Rule Changes

The FCC is inviting comments on a *Petition for Rule Making (RM-11775)* from a Nevada radio amateur that seeks changes to the rules governing the Amateur Radio Vanity Call Sign Program. Christopher LaRue, W4ADL, of North Las Vegas, is proposing that any licensee obtaining a vanity call sign be required to keep it for the full license term. LaRue contends in his petition that excessive and frequent vanity call sign filings are hampering the ability of other qualified licensees to obtain vanity call signs in one of the more desirable 1 × 2 or 2 × 1 formats. LaRue said that since the FCC dropped the fee to file for a vanity call sign, some applicants are taking advantage by regularly obtaining new call signs, thereby keeping them out of circulation.

“Some are changing call signs almost monthly, just to keep the newer code-free Extra class operators from obtaining a shorter call sign,” he said in his petition. “I even saw an older operator that said he does it all the time and has not even owned a radio in over 6 years. When I looked him up, he has had 16 different [call signs] in 18 months.”

LaRue said his proposed minor rule change would require any licensee applying for and obtaining an Amateur Radio vanity call sign “be required to keep it for the duration of the license, which is currently 10 years.”

He said this would “alleviate a lot of the stress on the ULS system and manpower requirements” at the FCC. “It will also keep inactive amateurs from changing call signs

regularly, thereby tying up call signs for 2 years after dismissal of said call.”

Interested parties may comment using the FCC Electronic Comment Filing System ([ECFS](#)). Comments are due within 30 days of the October 26 posting date. (ARRL News)

Amateur Radio Keeps “Phantom” in Touch with the Outside World from the Skull Cave

The venerable comic strip “[The Phantom](#),” originally inked by Lee Falk starting in the 1930s, has recently resurrected Amateur Radio as a plot device. “The Ghost Who Walks” has resorted to ham radio in the past, dating to the early days of the strip, when the Phantom needed to get a vital message through — on one occasion using a phone patch.

In the current story thread, the Phantom goes into a rather retro-looking ham shack in the ancient Skull Cave, the jungle hideaway he shares with his wife, Diana Palmer. They’re now empty nesters, and the Phantom wants to assuage his wife’s fears that their now college-age son, Kit, indeed has arrived at his monastic school in an unspecified Himalayan country (a daughter, Heloise, is away at college in the US).

His son’s teacher breaks away from tutoring Kit to quietly keep an on-the-air schedule with the Phantom, in order to let him know that the young man got there safely. Their conversation in Morse code is displayed, in a fashion, across the panels of the strip. Only some of it actually seems to make sense.

“Darling, Morse code!? Isn’t that obsolete?” asks Mrs. Phantom, as the masked crime fighter sits at a hand key (with no apparent lead wires running from it) in front of what looks like a National NC-300-series receiver and assorted other boat anchors.

“Not at all,” the Phantom replies. “And certainly not in the Himalayas.”

Apparently not in the fictional African country of Bangalla either, which the Phantom Family calls home. A

past strip once showed the Phantom setting up a microwave dish with a handheld connected to a solar panel.

Appearing in more than 500 newspapers around the world, “The Phantom” now is penned by Mike Manley, written by Tony DePaul, and distributed by King Features. (ARRL News)

Current Rules Holding Hams Back from Adopting State-of-the-Art Technology, ARRL Says

In [comments](#) filed on October 12 with the FCC, ARRL reiterated its case that the FCC should change the Part 97 rules both to delete the symbol rate limits in Section 97.307(f) and replace them with a maximum bandwidth for data emissions of 2.8 kHz on amateur frequencies below 29.7 MHz. In a July *Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM)* in WT Docket 16-239, the FCC proposed to eliminate the current baud rate limitations for data emissions, consistent with ARRL’s *Petition*, but it declined to propose a *bandwidth* limitation for data emissions in the MF and HF bands to replace the baud rate limitations.

ARRL told the FCC in its comments that the current HF symbol rate “speed limit” reflects 1980s technology and has no place in an experimental radio service in which modern protocols could be efficiently deployed in crowded RTTY/data subbands.

“The symbol rate limit was created in order to maximize the efficient use and reuse of that crowded, shared spectrum, but the assumptions made at the time are no longer valid,” ARRL said, “and the rules now prohibit radio amateurs from utilizing state-of-the-art technology, thus precluding or substantially inhibiting any meaningful contribution to the advancement of the radio art in this area.” ARRL said earlier assumptions are no longer valid mainly because there is no correlation between the data rate and the occupied bandwidth in the rules now.

The League said present rules in the HF data subbands promote inefficiency, allowing data transmissions of unlimited bandwidth as long as the symbol rate is

sufficiently low, and it stressed that there must be *some* limit on occupied bandwidth for HF data emissions.

“Eliminating the symbol rate limitations for data emissions *and substituting a maximum authorized bandwidth* would permit the utilization of all HF data transmission protocols presently legal in the Amateur Radio Service, as well as state-of-the-art protocols that fall within the authorized bandwidth,” the League said.

ARRL said that it could be “fairly debated” whether or not 2.8 kHz is the proper maximum bandwidth for data emissions. “Greater bandwidth for data emissions would permit a wider array of data emissions now and in the future,” the League said in its comments. “However, even 2.8 kHz could arguably permit usurpation of the subbands to the detriment of CW and other narrow-bandwidth emissions. ARRL views the 2.8 kHz maximum bandwidth proposal for data emissions at HF to be a necessary component of the [FCC’s proposal], and it fairly balances the objectives of facilitating use of new and future data emissions and protecting against usurpation of the band by a few data stations.

ARRL said it would be impossible to reduce the permitted maximum bandwidth for data emissions at HF much below 2.8 kHz without prohibiting data modes that are now legal. “At the same time, it would not be desirable to have a few data stations using large swaths of spectrum to the detriment of other modes,” the League said.

The deadline to file reply comments in the proceeding - i.e., comments on comments already filed - is November 10, (ARRL News)

Hurricane Watch Net Honors Bermuda Radio Amateur

The Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) has recognized one of its long-time members, Antony “Tony” Siese, VP9HK. HWN Manager Bobby Graves, KB5HAV, announced on October 20 that the net would confer upon Siese the title of “Honorary Member,” in recognition of his 31 years of service. Graves said Siese is the first non-manager to be named an Honorary Member.

VP9HK joined the HWN in 1985, although, he said, he took a “sabbatical” last year. In 2003, his reports during Hurricane Fabian gave forecasters at the National Hurricane Center valuable ground-truth information and insight as to what the storm was doing in Bermuda, Graves said, earning Siese the Message in a Bottle Award from W4EHW (now WX4NHC) for the 2003 Hurricane Season.

“It is very rare for any individual to be so dedicated to an organization, especially as a volunteer,” Graves said. “Tony, on behalf of the Hurricane Watch Net, thank you for all you have done and continue to do.” Siese was first licensed in the UK as G4CIL in the 1970s. He’s lived in Bermuda for more than 52 years. — *Thanks to the Hurricane Watch Net*

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**COFFEE & DONUTS
EVERY THURSDAY MORNING**

0:00 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 (KARS) MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

One year membership Rates:

New Member: \$15.00 Renewal: \$15.00 Family Membership: \$23.00

Two year membership Rates:

New Member: \$28.00 Renewal: \$28.00 Family Membership: \$42.00

Lifetime membership:

Member: \$150.00

Information Update Only

Are You An ARRL Member? Yes / No (Please Circle One)

Callsign: _____ Class: _____ Expiration: _____

First Name: _____ M.I. _____ Last Name: _____

Nickname: _____

Address1: _____

Address2: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ - _____

PHONE NUMBER: (____) _____

OK to publish phone number? Yes / No (Please Circle One)

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

OK to publish Email address? Yes / No (Please Circle One)

Do you want to receive the emailed Newsletter? Yes / No (Please Circle One)

Note: If this is a family membership, (all members with the same address), please complete the following section for your family.

Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____

Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____

Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____

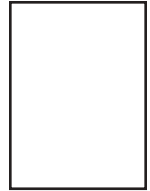
Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____

*RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR DUES, (CASH OR CHECK), TO THE KARS TREASURER,
OR, MAIL TO: KARS MEMBERSHIP, P.O. BOX 1765, Hayden, ID. 83835-1765.*

(Office use only.)

Cash:		Check #:		Money Order:	
Membership Card:		Roster:		Newsletter:	

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.

2016 CLUB OFFICERS

President: Dave Boss, KF7YWR
president@k7id.org

Vice-President: Alan Campbell, KE7DFT
vicepresident@k7id.org

Exec. Director: Lenny Gemar, N7MOT
N7MOT@gemar.org

Secretary: Adam Crippen, N7ISP
secretary@k7id.org

Treasurer: Rod Anderson, K7ZBE
treasurer@k7id.org

Newsletter Editor: Gary Roth, KE7IAT
509 993-8468 ke7iat@comcast.net

Repeater Trustee: Rick Van Landingham, KI7I
ki7i@arrl.net

Repeater Tech: Dale DuRee, KE7VMN

Webmaster: Lenny Gemar, N7MOT
208 691-4735 N7MOT@gemar.org

Past President: Dave Boss, KF7YWR

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 \$23.00 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.