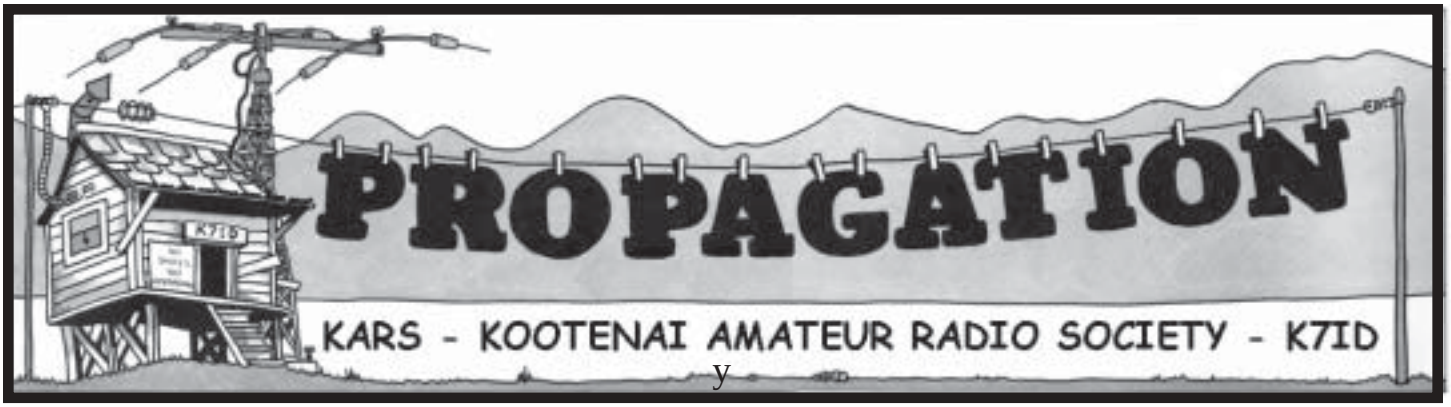

September 2017 (www.k7id.org) P.O. Box 1765 Hayden, ID 83835-1765

REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS:

Monday, Sep 11, 7:00 p.m.
Search & Rescue Bldg.
10865 N Ramsey Rd.
Hayden, Idaho
Topic: Why and How We Use CTCSS (PL) in Amateur Radio
Presenter: Lenny Gemar, N7MOT
Refreshments: ???

VE Testing
Monday, Sep 11, 5:30 p.m.
10865 N Ramsey Rd.
Hayden, Idaho

Monday, Oct 9, 7:00 p.m.
Search & Rescue Bldg.
10865 N. Ramsey Rd
Hayden, Idaho
Topic: ???
Presenter: ???
Refreshments: ???

VE Testing
Monday, Oct 9, 5:30 p.m.
10865 N. Ramsey Rd
Hayden, Idaho

Upcoming Events

Spokane Hamfest
Sept 23
University HS
12420 E 32d Ave
Spokane Valley, WA

Letter from the President

Dave Boss KF7YWR

boss@infinityusers.com

208.290.8590

Fun at the Fair

Just a few days since the North Idaho State Fair (used to be the Kootenai County Fair, but I guess we have to be fancy now, it looked the same to me) has concluded and I still have stuff to put away for the next KARS excursion. We had a stellar turnout of members to man (and woman) the booth. The weather was hot and dry, but it did beat rain and wind. I have participated in the fair when it was cold and wet and it made for really long days. Not sure how this will affect our club in terms of membership, but we did talk with a number of folks about our hobby and hopefully we will see some new members from this venue.

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

Several have asked about the location for the Community Room at the Silverlake Mall, I have lost count of how many spots we have been in, I believe this is the sixth room. The Community room is towards the Sears end of the mall. Enter from the door between Sears and JoAnn's Fabrics and then turn right, proceed 150 feet or so and look to your left, the room is just past the Mall office and has a blue sign in front of the entrance. Every Thursday morning 8:00-10:00 AM. As always bring your coffee cup, appetite, dollar and of course you opinion and conversation. Sometime we even talk about radios and stuff like that!

Elections

This meeting is when the Election Committee will be established and will start the process of putting together the slate for the December elections. This year we have already had several individuals come forth for positions that will be vacated by several on the Board. This is good news, and will allow others to participate in the running of the Club. The Election Committee consists of three members, one

chosen by the President, one chosen by the Board and one chosen by the membership. Thinking caps on and be ready.

73,
Dave Boss
KF7YWR

Kootenai Amateur Radio Society
August 2017 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Club President Dave Boss (KF7YWR).

Pledge of Allegiance was led by: Quint Webb (W7CQW).

Motion to approve the Secretary's Minutes Report was made by Lenny Gemar (N7MOT), 2nd by Rod Anderson (K7ZBE), motion passed by member vote.

Club Treasurer's Report:

July - Checking $3,784.10, Savings $2,251.60, Petty Cash $90.55, Total $6,126.25.

Monthly income consisted of: Savings Account $0.06; 50/50 Raffle $7.50, Membership $195.00

Monthly expenses consisted of: North Idaho Trophy – Life Member Tags $19.08, Hamfest – battery for microphone $12.00

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Jim Peterson (AD0AZ), 2nd by Lindy Bryant (KE0AZD), motion passed by member vote.

North Idaho Fair Preparation. Volunteers were sought for working the booth at the fair. This is a great opportunity to reach out to the community and see if we can gather additional interest in the hobby and resurrect any "lost" and "un-practicing" ham radio operators in the community.

Canfield Mountaintop maintenance. Canfield Weed Patrol will take place August 19th at 8:30am. Volunteers will be meeting at the Kootenai County Sheriff's Office off North Government Way.

Meeting Presentation: DMR Ham Radio and Me was presented by Lenny Gemar (N7MOT).

September is coming soon. Members are asked to consider running for a Board Member position for the 2018 term. Board positions are a one-year term and are easier than you might think, please consider running for a position. If you have questions of the duties please review the KARS By-Laws and Constitution available on the club's website: K7ID.org and if further questions remain contact the member of the Board whose position you are interested in.

Upcoming events:

Technician License Class will be held September 14th in Oldtown, Idaho.

Raffle Results:

50/50	$9.00	Randy Porter, N7RLP (claimed)
Membership	$63.00	Jerry Hooper, K7RNX (not claimed)

Lenny Gemar (N7MOT) made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:02pm, 2nd made by Rod Anderson (K7ZBE), motion passed by member vote and meeting was adjourned.

QSL CARDS BECOME BIRTHDAY CARDS FOR AILING LITTLE BOY

NEIL/ANCHOR: A critically ill little boy in Michigan has just inspired a new reason to send QSL cards. In this case the cards don't confirm a successful contact - they hopefully can initiate one. This is a QST from Christian Cudnik K0STH, host of the 100 Watts and a Wire podcast, - and he explains why he's reaching out:

CHRISTIAN: Oakley is a 6-year-old little boy from Alma Michigan that I've never met. He was born with a rare birth defect called Prune Belly Syndrome. It's so rare his future is unknown. As a parent, it's the unthinkable.

His story surfaces in a flood of news that focuses on things that divide us.

On September 3rd, Oakley turned 7. With all of the challenges in his life, all he is asking for is birthday cards. Mom says receiving mail keeps him busy and it makes him happy.

I am asking the amateur radio community to repurpose their QSL cards. Normally, we send cards after a contact. Let's use them as birthday cards and do something that's positive for a little boy and a family that really needs it right now.

We all want a better future for our children. Maybe this simple act can help us get closer to the things that bring us together, and maybe he'll write back!

NEIL/ANCHOR: Thank you, Christian. To send a QSL card and some cheer to Oakley you can write him at Oakley Savickas, P.O. Box 201, Alma, Michigan, U.S.A. 48801. (AR Newsline)

Top-Level Domain Name ".radio" Now Available

The top-level domain (TLD) name ".radio" is now available to the radio industry and Amateur Radio enthusiasts, and is reserved for individuals and companies with active interest in the radio sector. The .radio TLD can be used for web and e-mail addresses and will be managed by the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) with support from other world broadcasting unions. Visit the .radio domains registration site to request a .radio domain.

Individuals or entities in these categories will be accepted for the use of a .radio domain:

Radio broadcasting stations

Unions of Broadcasters

Internet radios

Radio Amateurs

Radio professionals (journalists, radio hosts, DJs, etc.

Radio-related companies selling radio goods and services

Radio products and services

One or more .radio domain name(s) can be requested during the launch period, which ends on October 31, 2017. The cost for individual radio amateurs is about $30, including tax.

"The EBU believes radio stations should be the focus of this new space on the internet, and considers them our highest priority," the announcement said. "However, other categories of applications from the radio sector will also be considered during this phase."

EBU's .radio TLD Manager Alain Artero suggested that those in the radio community may want to consider securing the integrity of their web presence by requesting appropriate .radio domains "for defensive reasons, initially."

"The TLD will be focused on content and matters specific to radio, and we want to prevent speculation and cybersquatting in this TLD; therefore, this extension will rapidly become a high-value internet space for websites, mail systems, and other internet applications," he continued.

The launch process will not be first come, first serve. "The .radio team will seek to optimize domain name allocation to solve contentious issues and prioritize existing radio services," the EBU announcement said.

Starting in November, first come, first serve rules will apply, although eligibility requirements remain the same.

For more information, visit www.nic.radio. (ARRL News)

FCC's Updated Rules Governing Personal Radio Services Become Effective on September 28

The FCC recently adopted a comprehensive reorganization of and update (https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/08/29/2017-17395/personal-radio-service-reform) to the rules governing the Personal Radio Services (PRS). These include a wide variety of wireless devices used by the general public for personal communication, including hand-held Family Radio Service (FRS) transceivers, radio-controlled models, Personal Locator Beacons (PLBs), medical implant devices, and others.

In addition to the updated rule changes, the FCC enhanced the General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) to allow new digital applications, allot additional interstitial channels, and extend license terms from 5 to 10 years. It also allotted additional channels to the FRS and increased allowable power on certain FRS channels from 0.5 W to 2 W. It also updated the Citizens Radio Service (CB) rules to allow hands-free headsets, eliminate a restriction on DX communication, and remove other outdated requirements.

"These changes and others will update PRS rules to be more in line with current public demands for the services and will make the rules easier to read and find information, while also removing outdated requirements and removing unnecessary rules," the FCC said. (ARRL News)

Canada Proposes Implementing a 60-Meter Band While Retaining Discrete Channels

An Industry Canada (IC) regulatory consultation (proceeding) aimed at implementing the changes from the

2015 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-15) could lead to the allocation of a 60-meter band in Canada in addition to the five discrete channels that are congruent with those in the US. IC is seeking comments on this and other revisions that take WRC-15 into account.

"The consultation is the first step in the process for regulatory changes," International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 2 Area A Director George Gorsline, VE3YV, explained. "After the 60-day period, responses are tabulated, made public and the regulator then determines how to proceed." Gorsline said there is no fixed schedule before any allocation changes would be made. Even then, he added, Canada's Amateur Radio regulations would have to be updated to incorporate them before the new allocation would became available for amateur use.

As the Consultation notes, a number of countries have authorized, subject to various restrictions, operation by Amateur radio licensees within the 5,250-5,450 kHz frequency range. "To date, no interference has been reported," IC said in the consultation. "Ultimately, a world-wide, secondary allocation of 15 kHz in the frequency band 5,351.5-5,366.5 kHz was made to the Amateur Service with an effective isotropic radiated power (EIRP) limit of 15 W" in most of Region 2. "The proposed changes to the Canadian Table [of Allocations] will allow Canadian Amateur Radio operators to assist in domestic and international emergency or disaster relief situations," IC said.

The regulator proposed retaining the five discrete channels already available to radio amateurs - 5,332, 5,348, 5,358.5, 5,373, and 5,405 kHz. ARRL has petitioned the FCC to allocate the same contiguous band - 5,351.5-5,366.5 kHz - to US radio amateurs with a 100 W PEP power limit, while also retaining the five discrete 60-meter channels that have been available for several years.

"I hope this may be helpful to us to use as an example to other IARU Region 2 countries to convince them to both keep any existing 60-meter domestic allocation and add the ITU allocation as well," Gorsline said in a Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) bulletin, released on August 19. Gorsline is RAC's International Affairs Officer. (ARRL News)

Solar Eclipse QSO Party a Hit, Science Conclusions Await Additional Analysis

The 2017 Solar Eclipse QSO Party (SEQP) is history, and, while logs are still coming in, the preliminary participation numbers look good, according to Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF, of HamSCI.

"Although the final numbers are not yet in, preliminary reports show that over 670,000 spots were detected by the Reverse Beacon Network (RBN), and over 542,000 spots were reported to PSKReporter [PSK Automatic Propagation Reporter] during the SEQP," Frissell told ARRL on August 22. "These numbers will increase as data is processed. The PSKReporter statistics page shows that today [August 21] had the highest amount of activity of any day currently available on the website."

Frissell said overall, the event went well, and he heard a lot of on-the-air activity during the 8 hours the SEQP was running.

"It will take some time to get a more scientific analysis of this, but we should have some results by the middle of this semester," said Frissell, who is an associate research professor at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. Frissell and others are investigating whether the sudden absence of sunlight during the eclipse - and especially of solar ultra-violet and x-rays - would briefly change the properties of the upper atmosphere.

Despite more than 60 years of research, "open questions remain regarding eclipse-induced ionospheric impacts," Frissell explained in a paper, "HamSCI and the 2017 Total Solar Eclipse," that he'll deliver this year at the ARRL-TAPR Digital Communications Conference (DCC).

He is encouraging anyone who took part in the SEQP to submit a log by September 30. Once their logs are submitted, SEQP participants will get a PDF Certificate of Participation. Frissell, who was in Gilbertsville, Kentucky to observe the eclipse, said, "Totality was beautiful."

At Maxim Memorial Station W1AW, the focus was more on keeping on top of any emergency situations that could arise from the thousands of visitors converging along the narrow strip of totality. ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, KI1U, and his assistant Ken Bailey, K1FUG, checked into and monitored the SATERN Net on 20 meters. They also monitored the interoperability channel 1 on 60 meters for coordination with federal partners. W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, checked into *WL2K* nodes on 40 meters for any possible traffic. "Also, during this time, we went outside to look at the eclipse!" Carcia added.

Many Amateur Radio special event stations were also on the air along the path of totality on August 21.

Veteran Broadcast Listener (BCL) Bill Feidt, NG3K, in Maryland, conducted an informal propagation experiment on the AM Broadcast Band, listening on 1070 kHz, which, he reported, "came alive with many signals," at about 1830 UTC. "It was pretty much a jumble," he told ARRL. "But just before 1900 UTC, I was able to identify WNCT in Greenville, North Carolina, which became quite strong and dominant for a few minutes." WNCT's 50-kW daytime signal is aimed away from Maryland.

Elsewhere, using the S meter on his Panasonic RF-4900 receiver, 88-year-old John S. Erickson of Schenectady, New York, the father of ionospheric researcher Phil Erickson, W1PJE, recorded the signal strength of WWV time signals on 10 and 15 MHz every 10 minutes. His results show that nighttime conditions, where WWV got stronger on 10 MHz and weaker at 15 MHz, occurred before local eclipse passage on long paths. His data are being passed on to HamSCI for analysis.

"RF Seismograph" Sees Little Effect

An initial analysis of solar eclipse RF Seismograph measurements by Alex Schwarz, VE7DXW, and his Modulation-Demodulation Software Radio (MDSR) group has suggested that the effect of the brief interruption in solar radiation within an approximately 70-mile-wide strip had minimal overall effect on radio propagation. The Scanning RF Seismograph is a real-time HF propagation monitoring tool.

"The Solar Eclipse RF Seismograph exclusively showed that propagation changes, but not to the extent that folk tales report," Schwarz and the MDSR team said in a news release. "During the eclipse we measured in three locations, and two did not show any changes in the way propagation behaves. On the third station, at an elevation of 900 meters, the 40-meter band came up, but that is not any different from regular 40-meter behavior."

The team believes that increased absorption on the low bands from high solar activity may have been a factor in the measurement's not yielding expected results. "The small band of darkness could not compensate for the thicker D Layer," the MDSR news release said.

Frissell told Schwarz that he'd be "very hesitant to make these conclusions so quickly and based on observations from a single point of reference."

"We know from past experiments that there are significant ionospheric changes resulting from the eclipse. Even from a citizen-science standpoint, many of these changes have been documented. We are hoping to see these effects on a larger scale."

Frissell pointed to observations made during the 1999 eclipse in the UK by Ruth Bamford at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory.

"I think more work needs to be done before any firm conclusions can be made," he told ARRL. "I believe we will be able to see an effect in our observations." (ARRL News)

High-Speed Telegraphy Competition Set for September 8-12 in Hungary

The 14th High-Speed Telegraphy (HST) World Championship will take place September 8-12 in Esztergom, Hungary. The event's date was shifted this year to avoid conflicting with the International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 (IARU-R1) General Conference.

The Hungarian Radio Amateur Society (MRASZ) is organizing the 2017 HST, which is sponsored by IARU. Hungary was the site of the first HST in 1995.

Rules for the HST are available on the IARU Region 1 website. There are nine competition categories, based on age and sex. In general, competitors must be radio amateurs or "licensed SWLs (or SWL members of their national societies)," the rules state. Competitors will be judged on their ability to receive and transmit five-letter/figure/mixed groups for 1 minute and on their skill with *RufZ XP* call sign recognition and *Morse Runner* pile-up simulation software. (ARRL News)

Interview: ARRL Public Information Officer Describes the Situation in Harris County, Texas

In an August 29 interview with Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, news-talk radio station WGMD, ARRL South Texas Section Public Information Officer Mike Urich, KA5CVH, described the situation in Harris County, Texas, as the flood emergency continues there. Urich also took time to explain how the public service that Amateur Radio is able to provide during emergencies and disasters.

Urich noted that Harris County and the Houston area are some distance from where Hurricane Harvey came ashore, but said the rain bands the storm generated extended over a considerable area. "The rain just kept coming and coming and coming," he told WGMD host Mike Bradley.

For his part, Urich spent more than 40 hours alternating shifts at the Harris County Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Urich said the area's extensive system of repeaters makes it possible for local radio amateurs to serve as "another set of eyes and ears" in spotting and reporting problems that require official attention.

He said he was concerned on Sunday when the emergency power supporting the county's 800-MHz trunked radio system was in danger of being flooded out. He told WGMD that he was involved in planning for contingency communications via Amateur Radio.

ARRL thanks WGMD for its permission to redistribute the interview. The interview will be available in this week's ARRL Audio News podcast. (ARRL News)

ARRL goes mobile

Our last story is about the ARRL. Well, no, not THAT ARRL. This is an ARRL that operates mobile in Ontario Canada where it really gets around. It's an ARRL that is properly licensed but not to get on the air. What we're talking about is a license plate seen recently on the back of a Kia compact car registered to a motorist in Canada. Two members of the North Shore Amateur Radio club in Ontario noticed a fellow driver nearby not too long ago with the license plate tags that had those familiar initials - ARRL - followed by "365." The two hams Alex VE3ZSH and Sabrina VA3AXU even posted a photo of the car on the club's blog. They noted that the person behind the wheel was a YL. Unfortunately, she did not appear to be a fellow ham. There was not even an antenna in sight. Just plenty of traffic - on the street, that is, not on the bands. (NORTH SHORE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB)

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.

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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 contributers 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.