

November 2012

(www.k7id.org)

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

## REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS:

**Monday, Nov. 12, 7:00 p.m.**

Search & Rescue Bldg.  
Hayden, Idaho

**Topic:** Ham Station for \$450 or less

**Presenter:** Jack McElroy,  
K7JMC

**Refreshments:** Bob, K7CGA,  
and Bonnie, KE7FPA, Kesson

**Monday, Nov. 12, 5:30 p.m.**

**ARRL VE Test session**  
Same location as above.

**Monday, Dec. 10, 6:30 p.m.**

**Location:** American Legion Hall  
Post Falls, Idaho

**Topic:** Christmas Party

**Refreshments:** Everyone

### Upcoming Events

Idaho QSO Party  
March 9-10

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

## President's Column

As many of you may know, Pat and I took advantage of the beautiful fall weather and went to southern Idaho for 12 days. It was nice to get away for a brief time just in front of the winter weather. We were quite surprised to run into snow on our way home. Guess that means we will be staying home until spring. While I was gone, members of the club have been quite busy on various and sundry projects.

Bob Hallock, K7TM, started the Technician classes on Saturday October 20. The class is being held at the Hayden Library and will run for four consecutive Saturdays. He is being assisted by Tom Macy, W7UAT, and Ed Hannigan, KE7FOW. The first class had three students participating, at least one more is expected to join in on October 27.

Other members have been busy working out the details for the repeater installation on Canfield Mountain. It is hoped that by the time you read this, the installation will be complete and the primary repeater will be back on the air. Jacob Cord, K7AJC, donated a sturdy shelf for the rack. John Hollar, N7JU, donated a large amount of his time and parts to mount the repeater system securely in the new rack. He has fired it up and tested it out to make sure it is functioning optimally. Dale DuRee, KE7VMN, donated a UHF antenna, lightning arrestor, and the necessary heliax. Bob Kesson, K7CGA, donated the ground wire. Kootenai County has generously allowed us to use their heliax for the VHF antenna. We are definitely appreciative of all this support. The work party is scheduled to install the rack, the VHF antenna, and the UHF antenna on Saturday October 27. Hopefully the weather is cooperative.

Gabby Perry, KE7ADN, has been recruiting net control operators to help get our new traffic net back on the air. Please see a following article for details.

I'm sure many of the rest of you have been busy with projects too. I'm just not aware of what they are or as happens with age, my retrieval system isn't working.

It would seem that Mother Nature is trying to give us a hint that outside projects should be winding down. I know that at our house we have had our first snow fall of the season. Fortunately, it melted and was gone in just a few hours. Have you taken the time to check the guy wires on your antennas? What about the connectors? I know a few of you still have antennas you want to install before the snow starts to build up, so perhaps it is time to stop procrastinating. (Keep in mind this column is written around the 25th of October.) Hopefully, this weather is an anomaly and not the portent of a cold and snowy winter.

Hope to see you all at the November meeting, where Jack McElroy, K7JMC, will show us how to identify a "good" older radio and set up a ham station for under \$450. Jack will have examples of several of the radios available for a look see at the meeting.

Let me be the first to wish you and your families a very Happy Thanksgiving. If you are traveling out of the area, be safe in your travels.

Bonnie, KG6QQM

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## Ham Radio Communications Opportunities

### KARS/NWTN

We are pleased to announce a re-vitalization of the Northwest Traffic Net (NWTN), now known as the KARS/NWTN. This net meets every evening at 6:30PM Local time, and the new Net Manager is Gabbee Perry (KE7ADN). KARS has graciously agreed to host the KARS/NWTN on the 146.98 (pl-100) repeater. NCS operators include Gabbee (KE7ADN), Gary (KE7IAT), Damian (WA7DGI), Jim (KF7TFJ), and possibly others. Gabbee is looking for some substitute NCS operators, so if you think you might be interested, please contact her. A huge thanks to all who have contributed their time to keeping the NWTN going over the years, and we hope the net builds up some steam over the next few months!

### KARS Weekly Round-Table

Also, be aware that there is a weekly round-table net that takes place each Wednesday evening at 7PM local time. This is not really a net, it's just an informal gathering of hams who are interested in talking about ... things. The host operators (not really Net Control Stations) are Jack (K7JMC) and Larry (K6SPP). And the roundtable frequency changes from week to week. See the schedule and frequency plan at <http://k7id.org/wednesday-roundtable.htm> (When checking this out, I noted that the schedule goes out through 11/14/12. This is probably not related to the end of the Mayan calendar).

The reason for writing about these two communications activities is that they are opportunities for ALL of us to get on the air, to hear two different styles of "hamming", to check out our antennas and radios, possibly to send a short message to a friend. We all need to practice "networking" via ham radio, and this is a good way to do it. Those of us who have had our tickets for a while remember how nervous it was when making the first few contacts – we hope that the KARS/NWTN and the Weekly Round-Table will make it a little less intimidating for the new folks!

73,

Ed, AI7H / ARRL Idaho Section Manager

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## KARS MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOTES

OCTOBER 8, 2012

Meeting called to order by President Bonnie Paterson.

After the flag salute newly licensed hams were introduced. These included: Dave Boss, KF7YWR, Technician and General, KARS member Bob Schaff, KF7VIH, upgrade to General and Roy Kim, KF7YWQ,

Technician. Congratulations to you all.

Visiting tonight was Doug Hudson, KD7DIS, from Post Falls.

The program for the evening was presented by Ed Stuckey, AI7H, former KARS President and now 3 term ARRL Idaho Section Manager. Ed gave a very interesting presentation on Lightning, amateur station grounding, solar storms and EMI. Ed's presentation will shortly be on the KARS WEBSITE, [k7id.org](http://k7id.org) so be sure to take a look. Of special interest is the VISALA LIGHTNING EXPLORER website, <http://thunderstorm.com/explorer.html>. You won't have to wait till you hear thunder to decide to take protective action if you check this out during thunder storm season.

Next came a brief pause for refreshments provided by Randy and Jean Carlson. The cookies, as usual, were most excellent!

After the break our KARS drawings were held. The 50-50 winner was W7SGS, Pat and the big pot of \$238 was won by Jack, K7JMC. Oh, but wait a minute, Jack the thrifty Scot that he is, didn't buy a ticket! So there is some serious moolah in there for next month. Be sure to thank Jack when you see him.

The Treasurer reported \$6,913.77 on hand.

The September meeting minutes were approved as printed in the KARS newsletter.

Tom Macy, W7UAT, was presented with his Life Membership certificate and special gold plated badge. Thanks for your support Tom.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Mica Peak Work Party consisting of Dale DuRee, Mark Avakian, and Alan Campbell were joined by Randy Carlson and Gary Holland on Sept. 15. Many repairs and maintenance items were completed. Randy and Gary were up at the site for ARES/RACES to remove their repeater for a major renovation and relocation.

While the 147.08 is down the ARES/RACES group will be using our repeater. As always, remember, emergency traffic has priority.

Bonnie reports that MOUs from Idaho State BHS and Kootenai County are finalized. Canfield could be on the air before the end of October if everything goes well.

John Grimaldi, N6NHJ, will be the Hamfest Chairman. Please let him know if you can help out.

Technician classes led by Bob Hallock, K7TM, will be held Oct. 20, 27, Nov.3 and 10, 10 am to 1 pm at Hayden City Library, 8385 N. Government Way in Hayden (near Paul Bunyan burgers for you carnivores). Help spread the word.

**New Business:** Only 1 position is open for the 2013 year. The Nominating Committee has recommended that Alan Campbell be asked to serve an additional 1 year term. Alan agreed to do another year. No one else was interested in running and no one was nominated so it was moved,

seconded and unanimously approved to have Alan serve for an additional year.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved that KARS take over the management of the old Northwest Traffic Net. It will be held on the 146.98 repeater permanently and Gabby Perry, KE7ADN, will be net manager. For starters the net will be held Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 6:30pm (18:30) and will probably be more nights as net control ops are located. Let Gabby know if you want to try your hand at Net Control.

The KARS Christmas Party will be held Dec 10 at the Legion Building in Post Falls (on Poleline-look for the Tank).

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Jack, K7JMC, will present the November program on starting a first ham station for \$450 or less. There will be some old radios from the 70s on display to show some examples.

Submitted by: Tom Richmond, N17W, KARS Secretary

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## **FCC Seeks Comments on Proposed Changes to Amateur Licensing Rules, Emission Types**

10/24/2012

Earlier this month, the FCC released a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)* — WT Docket No. 12-283 — proposing to amend the Part 97 rules governing the Amateur Radio Service. On October 24, a summary of the *NPRM* was published in the *Federal Register* and the FCC is seeking comments on it.

Specifically, the Commission is proposing to modify the Amateur Radio Service rules to grant examination credit for expired and beyond-the-grace-period-for-renewal Amateur Radio operator licenses; to shorten the grace period during which an expired amateur license may be renewed; to revise the time a call sign is not available to the vanity call sign system correspondingly, and to reduce the number of volunteer examiners needed to administer an amateur license examination. The *NPRM* also asks for comment on amending the rules to permit remote test administration, and proposes to amend the Amateur Radio Service rules to allow amateur stations to transmit certain additional emission types.

Comments must be filed on or before December 24, 2012 (60 days after publication in the *Federal Register*); reply comments must be filed on or before January 22, 2013 (90 days after publication in the *Federal Register*). Instructions on how to file comments are listed beginning on page 12 of the *NPRM*.

## **2012 ARRL Field Day Results Now Online**

11/01/2012

If you can't wait for your December issue of *QST* to arrive in the mail to see how you did in the 2012 ARRL Field Day, don't worry! The results - including a copy of the *QST* article (with line scores) and a results database - are now available on the ARRL website. Be sure to also check out the 101 comments in the Field Day Soapbox. It's not too soon to start making plans for next year - the 2013 ARRL Field Day is scheduled for June 22-23, 2013.

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## **RADIO LAW: FBI AND STINGRAY VS PUBLIC RIGHT TO KNOW**

Tracking cell phones by tricking them into operating on a bogus network is a law enforcement tactic shrouded in secrecy. Now the FBI is under pressure to release information about it - but the bureau doesn't want to let go of 25,000 pages of documents on sophisticated cell surveillance technology.

In an Arizona court case last year it was made public that the FBI had used a cell-site simulator in order to track down a suspect. The portable equipment, sometimes described as either an I-M-S-I catcher or a Stingray, covertly sends out a signal that fools all phones within a specific area into connecting to a fake network. The spy tool can force targeted phones to release unique identity codes that can then be used to track a person's movements in real time.

But not everyone likes the idea of this type of law enforcement tool being used. Among them is the Electronic Privacy Information Center which is attempting to obtain internal FBI documents relating to the technology. In fact the Center is taking legal action to force the prompt disclosure of records concerning Stingray devices or other cell site simulator technologies. It alleges that the FBI has failed to comply with statutory deadlines by not handing them over quickly enough following a freedom of information request made last February.

For its part, the FBI says that it has found 25,000 pages of documents that relate to the request, about 6,000 of which are classified. Because of this the agency says that it may need up to three years to process the files before they can be released.

In light of the FCC's recent enforcement activities against cellular telephone jamming devices, it will be interesting to see if the regulatory agency can or will become involved in this controversial issue. (slate.com)

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

**COFFEE & DONUTS  
EVERY THURSDAY MORNING**

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

**The Golden Spike  
Community Center  
Rathdrum**



**TALK-IN: 146.98  
100 PL**

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

# Kootenai Amateur Radio Society

PO Box 17□5, Hayden, Idaho 83835-17□5



Please complete the entire form and return with your payment.

## Single Year Membership

New Member \$12.00    Renewing \$12.00    Family Membership \$18.00    Information Update Only

## Two Year Membership

New Member \$22.00    Renewing \$22.00    Family Membership \$33.00

Callsign \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration \_\_\_\_\_

First Name & Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL Member \_\_\_\_\_ May we publish limited Information \_\_\_\_\_

Internal Use Only

Cash	Check	Money order
Roster	Membership Card	

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

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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## K7ID.org Request Form

First and Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like your (callsign)@k7id.org email to be forwarded to an existing email account or would you like to access it through a web or post office protocol (POP) system?

Please Forward to My existing Email (Please Complete the Bottom and Sign.)    Webmail Access    POP Access  
 I wish to opt-out of K7ID.org

Please Select a username \_\_\_\_\_ @K7ID.ORG

Please Select a Password \_\_\_\_\_

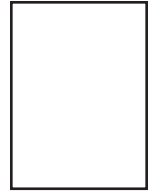
### For Forward Request Only

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



**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.

## **2012 CLUB OFFICERS**

President: Bonnie Patterson, KG6QQM  
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Past President: Thomas Barrett, KD7JUS

## **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 repeater on 146.98 and a packet repeater on 145.510 Mhz.

Anyone interested in Amateur Radio is welcome to join. Dues are \$12.00 (individual) and \$18.00 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.