



September 2014

(www.k7id.org)

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

REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS:

Monday, Sept. 8, 7:00 p.m.
Search & Rescue Bldg.,
10865 N. Ramsey Road
Hayden, Idaho
Topic: ???
Presenter: ???
Refreshments: ???

Monday, Sept. 8, 5:30 p.m.
ARRL VE Test Session
Search & Rescue Bldg.

Monday, Oct. 13, 7:00 p.m.
Search & Rescue Bldg.,
10865 N. Ramsey Road
Hayden, Idaho
Topic: ???
Presenter: ???
Refreshments: ???

Upcoming Events

Washington Salmon Run
(aka WA QSO Party)
September 20-21
www.wwdx.org/category/salmon-run/2014-salmon-run/

**Washington State Convention
& Spokane Hamfest**
Saturday, Sept. 27, 9:00 a.m.
University H.S.
32d and Pines, Spokane Valley

Letter From the President

Dave Boss KF7YWR

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208.290.8590

September, the ninth month is on our doorstep, you know, the month that ushers in the return of school kids, the first frosts of the season and towards the end, the beginning of Fall. After all the heat we have endured this year, I will say, though, I am looking forward to some frosty mornings and am ready to enjoy the warmth of the house after the early morning dog walk. As opposed to the heat that was left over from yesterday and the tinder dry pine needles under foot.

The tower is done and I have made several contacts, but with all the storms lately it seems the majority of my time has been removing and replacing cables due to the thunderstorms we have had. Don't get me wrong, I love the sound of a good T-storm and generally will sit on the front porch and enjoy the light show. But having had one strike touch down several years ago, that chased from a tree 500' from the house, across the ground about twenty feet to the horse fence, through the fence charger, into the house taking out a computer power supply (\$40) and the controls for the hot tub (\$600+). I have a great deal of respect for the energy that can be released. Although I did not have radios to worry about at that time, I do now and I am kind of fond of them. Besides they are pretty darned expensive to replace!

I have tried a new antenna configuration a 40 meter Delta Loop. This particular version is supposed to be 146 feet long according to the article, and I trimmed the wire to 148 feet for good measure. The antenna is a large vertical triangle with the apex 27 feet in the air. The base is 20 meters long and suspended just 1 meter off the ground. It is fed from one corner with a 4:1 Balun. Although the article called for a 1:1 balun the one I have, would not tune at all. Additionally it require extra wire to tune. I am still convinced antennas are part science (a small part) and the rest magic, probably Voodoo. Regardless of the wire length it is a very quiet antenna, as I can turn from the vertical I have (a HY-GAIN Patriot at 80 feet) and hear a ton more noise. The static crashes are almost done away with and voices are pretty clear. More on this later, after I put up new single piece of wire, as this one was added to incrementally from the published length. The half a dozen splices will probably not survive the winter!

Canfield Complete

Saturday A.M. August 29, Ron Phillips, KF6WKR, finished up the weed-eating while Dale DuRee, KE7VMN gave the repeater its pre winter tune up before the snow flies and access becomes difficult. And, of course, I was there manning the pitchfork, packing the yards of knapweed and other assorted flora that had taken up residence inside the perimeter fence. A really big THANKS for all that helped this year. By the way, where is Agent Orange when you need it?

Looking Ahead

We are just two months away from the Nominating Committee being resurrected and will need to have able bodied members to take part in the committee (OK, breathing will do). Please think about being part of the process and consider running for a position. The club needs participants, not just bystanders. Besides the pay is great, the benefits are top notch and the notoriety is second to none. None, of course, being first in line!

For the Funny Bone: Abbott and Costello... A couple of real HAMS

You have to be old enough to remember Abbott and Costello, and too old to REALLY understand computers, to fully appreciate this. For those of us who sometimes get flustered by our computers, please read on...

If Bud Abbott and Lou Costello were alive today, their infamous sketch,

‘Who’s on First?’ might have turned out something like this:

COSTELLO CALLS TO BUY A COMPUTER FROM ABBOTT

ABBOTT: *Super Duper computer store. Can I help you?*

COSTELLO: *Thanks I’m setting up an office in my den and I’m thinking about buying a computer.*

ABBOTT: *Mac?*

COSTELLO: *No, the name’s Lou.*

ABBOTT: *Your computer?*

COSTELLO: *I don’t own a computer. I want to buy one.*

ABBOTT: *Mac?*

COSTELLO: *I told you, my name’s Lou.*

ABBOTT: *What about Windows?*

COSTELLO: *Why? Will it get stuffy in here?*

ABBOTT: *Do you want a computer with Windows?*

COSTELLO: *I don’t know. What will I see when I look at the windows?*

ABBOTT: *Wallpaper.*

COSTELLO: *Never mind the windows ... I need a computer and software.*

ABBOTT: *Software for Windows?*

COSTELLO: *No. On the computer! I need something I can use to write proposals, track expenses and run my business. What do you have?*

ABBOTT: *Office.*

COSTELLO: *Yeah, for my office. Can you recommend anything?*

ABBOTT: *I just did.*

COSTELLO: *You just did what?*

ABBOTT: *Recommend something.*

COSTELLO: *You recommended something?*

ABBOTT: *Yes.*

COSTELLO: *For my office?*

ABBOTT: *Yes.*

COSTELLO: *OK, what did you recommend for my office?*

ABBOTT: *Office.*

COSTELLO: *Yes, for my office!*

ABBOTT: *I recommend Office with Windows..*

COSTELLO: *I already have an office with windows! OK, let’s just say I’m sitting at my*

computer and I want to type a proposal. What do I need?

ABBOTT: Word.

COSTELLO: What word?

ABBOTT: Word in Office.

COSTELLO: The only word in office is office.

ABBOTT: The Word in Office for Windows.

COSTELLO: Which word in office for windows?

ABBOTT: The Word you get when you click the blue 'W'.

COSTELLO: I'm going to click your blue 'w' if you don't start with some straight answers. What about financial bookkeeping? You have anything I can track my money with?

ABBOTT: Money.

COSTELLO: That's right. What do you have?

ABBOTT: Money.

COSTELLO: I need money to track my money?

ABBOTT: It comes bundled with your computer.

COSTELLO: What's bundled with my computer?

ABBOTT: Money.

COSTELLO: Money comes with my computer?

ABBOTT: Yes. No extra charge.

COSTELLO: I get a bundle of money with my computer? How much?

ABBOTT: One copy.

COSTELLO: Isn't it illegal to copy money?

ABBOTT: Microsoft gave us a license to copy Money.

COSTELLO: They can give you a license to copy money?

ABBOTT: Why not? THEY OWN IT!

(A few days later)

ABBOTT: Super Duper computer store. Can I help you?

COSTELLO: How do I turn my computer off?

ABBOTT: Click on 'START'.....

(Author unknown)

Kootenai Amateur Radio Society
August 2014 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7pm by Club President Dave Boss. License testing was conducted with only one participant who was unsuccessful at his attempt. We encouraged the participant to continue to study and try again at the September Meeting. We had two visitors in attendance: KD7MSN and N5IEX, we welcome any and all visitors so bring a buddy along next month!

The May Club minutes were motioned for approval by Ed, AI7H, seconded by Pat, W7SGS. The motion was passed by member vote. Club Treasurer, Pat Patterson, W7SGS, reported there to be a total of \$6,080.23 total in all accounts. He also reported the Hamfest profits to be \$256 in admission tickets, \$7 from the raffle, \$235 from the kitchen and \$225 from the club table. Pat also reported that upcoming known expenses are \$300 from our Mica Peak repeater rent and an estimated \$500 for the Club Christmas Party.

During the Club Field Day held this year at Rathdrum City Park, Club Secretary Adam Crippen, N7ISP, ran the GOTA Station. GOTA stands for Get-On-The-Air which targets newly licensed operators and those who are unlicensed in an effort to spark some interest. While there was some interest from some folks passing through, my two youngest children: Brian-10 and Rebecca-7 spent much of the weekend at the mic, Brian worked most of Saturday (with myself at his side) calling CQ and sparked contacts from both sides of the coast, into Alaska and Hawaii and a few international stations as well. Rebecca gave it a try Sunday morning and logged a couple handfuls of contacts herself. Currently all three of my kids are studying for the technician licenses.

HELP WANTED!!! Our Club is in need of a volunteer; Pat Patterson has served as our club treasurer for much longer than he previously volunteered and needs to step down. Pat will help the new treasurer with the ins and outs of the job. The job is not hard, if you know how to write a check or two and such your hired! Our club functions on the use of our members to keep things running for everyone. If you feel the calling, please contact Club President Dave Boss or Pat Patterson.

Also in need are some volunteers to help out for a few hours on Canfield Mountain to complete the rest of the yard work. It has been reported and confirmed that the road to Canfield has been

smoothed out and is a much more pleasant ride to the top. If interested in helping out contact Dave Boss.

August Meeting Presentation

Very often the topics of club meetings are rather relaxed and jovial with topics such as building your own power supply, test equipment, or how to wire up your rain gutters for 80 meters in time to catch the next rag chew net. This month's presentation was of a very serious and home-hitting topic of Tower Safety. Club President, Dave Boss conducted the presentation and did an exceptional job of keeping the audience interested and informed. The most important things to remember is that safety equipment will never work if you do not wear it, always check over your gear, talk over your plans with a friend for insight and review, and always have a buddy around to help with getting you that forgotten wrench after you climb up the top and of course to help in an emergency. Every year we read in QST of another ham radio operator who erected an antenna into an overhead power line, or had a mishap while working on a tower. While our love of ham radio runs deep in us all we all must remember is safety first. We must remember to slow down, think through our plans, check our gear and equipment and always have someone else there to help. While we would all love to make the fantastic contact with that super rare DX station it is never worth the loss of a life or someone getting hurt. As the summer draws to a close and we start preparing for snow, we need to keep safety in mind. We have a lot of smart and knowledgeable people in our club for advice, and we have a bunch who love to help out just for the learning knowledge or doing it and we need to capitalize on each other's strengths. What happened earlier this year to one of our close friends needs to NEVER happen again.

The 50/50 drawing for \$10 was won by: Larry K6SPP, who had left the meeting just prior. Sorry Larry. And Tom Macy, W7UAT, won the Membership drawing for \$71.50 and he had also left the meeting just prior.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46pm. We look forward to seeing you all at the September meeting.

ARRL VEC Conducts Remote Exam Session with Applicants in Antarctica

The ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) administered several Amateur Radio examination elements to applicants at Amundsen-South Pole Station in Antarctica — the home of KC4AAA. The examination was administered under new FCC rules which became effective on July 21, permitting VECs to administer Amateur Radio examinations remotely.

“All six candidates earned a new or upgrade license,” said ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM. There were three new Technicians, two upgrades to Amateur Extra, and one candidate who went from unlicensed to Amateur Extra.”

Joe Musachia, W5FJG, served as the volunteer examiner at the South Pole, while Penny Harts, N1NAG,

and Rose-Anne Lawrence, KB1DMW, were the VEs at ARRL Headquarters.

“Chet Waggoner and Bartley Davis are the first at the South Pole and possibly on continent to pass the General exam,” Musachia said, naming a couple of the candidates in a posting on the ARRL Facebook page. He said two previous exam sessions were held at the South Pole, but they had to get special permission from the FCC to conduct them.

The logistics were somewhat daunting, since the video link required a satellite connection and clearance from NASA, and it was subject to possible last-minute changes, should the International Space Station require additional Satcom time. Musachia, who is the satellite engineer at the station, said NASA was aware that the VEs had requested a large block of time to perform the exam session, and they did not change it.

Somma said the video exam session went ahead as scheduled on July 22 at 8 AM EDT, which was 8 PM in Antarctica. “The summer day was a pleasant 80° here at Headquarters in Newington, while in Antarctica it was 80 below!” she pointed out.

“All of us here at the South Pole want to extend our thanks to you and the VEC team at the ARRL for making this license exam session happen,” Musachia said in an e-mail to ARRL Headquarters. “We all just finished a bottle of champagne to celebrate the newly licensed and upgraded Amateur Radio operators. We wish you all could have joined us.”

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

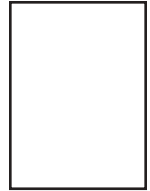
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KOOTENAI AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
P.O. Box 1765
Hayden, ID 83835-1765



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

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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.