



November 2014

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

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

## **REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS:**

**Monday, Nov. 10, 7:00 p.m.**  
Search & Rescue Bldg.,  
10865 N. Ramsey Road  
Hayden, Idaho  
**Topic: Officer Elections**  
**Presenter: ???**  
**Refreshments: ???**

**Monday, Nov. 10, 5:30 p.m.**  
ARRL VE Test Session  
Search & Rescue Bldg.

**Monday, Dec. 8, 7:00 p.m.**  
Search & Rescue Bldg.,  
10865 N. Ramsey Road  
Hayden, Idaho  
**Topic: Christmas Potluck**  
**Presenter: ???**  
**Refreshments: Everyone**

### **Upcoming Events**

**KARS Officer Elections**  
**November 10, 2014**  
**Normal KARS Meeting**

**Christmas Potluck**  
**Shriner's Meeting Hall**

Nothing received as of November 9, 2014, 8:00 p.m.

## September 2014 Kootenai Amateur Radio Society Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Club President Dave Banks. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jim. VE testing was conducted prior to the club meeting and the VE's tested three individuals, all three received passing scores: Ted Sowers passed his Extra Class Examination, Tom Williams advanced to General Class and Alan Jones passed Element 2 and will be receiving his Technician Call-Sign soon.

Ed Stuckey conducted a presentation on the success of the K7ID 2014 Field Day held this year at Rathdrum City Park. The club consisted of three stations operating Digital, Voice, and CW modes along with a GOTA station designed to get new operators and anyone unlicensed on the air. The Field Day station made 193 voice, 118 digital, and 200 CW contacts resulting in a total of 2308 station points for the Field Day Contest.

On Oct 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> there will be a simulated emergency test for ham radio operators. All hams are invited to participate in the event however all participation needs to be coordinated with local county ARES organization. Please go to [www.idadoares.info](http://www.idadoares.info), click on "Idaho ARES" then "Current News," scroll down to Latah County. If you would like to take part please contact Gary, N7DHL, or Rick, KI7I.

A motion was made by Rick, KI7I, to approve the August club minutes; the motion was seconded by Adam, N7ISP. The August minutes were approved by unanimous club vote.

Canfield Mountain weed control project was knocked out, thank you to all the volunteered to help out. Idaho Mica is next on the list and the projected venture is scheduled for the weekend of September 20<sup>th</sup>.

BearPaw's Antenna Project. We are looking for folks interested in wiring up the antenna rotator. Dave Boss has been working at cleaning up the antenna since the accident. Dave stated that there will be a need for help with putting the antenna back into a vertical position for BearPaw.

The Spokane Ham Fest will be held on September 27<sup>th</sup> at University High School in Spokane Valley. Doors open up at 9am, don't be miss it.

September Presentation was on Station Grounding and Lightning Protection. Questions often arise between single point and multiple point station grounding. The best advice is to separate grounding between station equipment and antenna grounding.

The 50/50 raffle for \$18 was won by KG7CSI and the club membership pot was up to \$86.50 and was won by NI7W, however he was not present.

Club Officers are needed for Treasure and VE Coordinator. We are also in need of club program ideas or requests.

The time is approaching for the Club Christmas Party, serious interest has been expressed to hold the Christmas Party again at the Shriner's Club in Hayden. More information to follow.

The club meeting was adjourned by unanimous nomination and vote.

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## Actor Tim Allen Gets His Ham Ticket For Real

Actor and comedian Tim Allen now not only plays an Amateur Radio operator on television, he *is* one! Allen got his Technician license on September 4, but did not release the news until this week. In his weekly ABC comedy TV show "Last Man Standing," Allen's character Mike Baxter, is supposed to be KA0XTT, and the show has featured ham radio in some episodes.

"Last Man Standing" producer John Amodeo, NN6JA, told ARRL that the agreement with Allen was that "we would not publicize his license until he approved it." Allen revealed to Tom Medlin, W5KUB, for one of Medlin's webcasts that he had passed his Technician license test but did not mention his call sign, Amodeo said. "Obviously, most hams are capable of finding Tim's call sign, if they feel the need," he conceded.

"We arranged for Tom Medlin to do a 'surprise' interview with the [ARRL VEC] VE team that administered Tim's test," Amodeo said. "They are Rob, AA6RA; Tim, N6QJ, and Julian, N3JF. ARRL VEC Staffer, Amanda Grimaldi, KB1VUV, helped us arrange the test."

More than 2 dozen members of the "Last Man Standing" crew - and now Allen, its star - have been inspired by the show's Amateur Radio component to get licensed. On September 28, the K6H "Hollywood Hamnado" special event station was on the air, with "Last Man Standing" crew members at the helm. The Southern California-based PAPA Repeater System, in association with the Broadcast Employees Amateur

Radio Society (BEARS) and Disney Emergency Amateur Radio Service (DEARS) sponsored the special event.

Amodeo said K6H went very well. "We had about 35 operators and guests on Stage 9 here at CBS Studio Center" he told ARRL. "All enjoyed being on the set of 'Last Man Standing.' Naturally, we brought in breakfast (bagels and donuts), lunch (sandwiches), and, at wrap, pizza. The feeling was like a Field Day and a mini Hamvention." Amodeo said that all six K6H stations had "continuous contacts from start to finish."

Most of the K6H event and several interview segments have been posted on [Medlin's website](#). (ARRL)

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### ARRL Executive Committee Adopts Mobile Amateur Radio Operation Policy

The ARRL Executive Committee adopted an updated Policy Statement (<http://www.arrl.org/mobile-amateur-radio-policy>) on Amateur Radio mobile operation during its October 4 meeting in Memphis. While agreeing that driver inattention is a leading cause of auto accidents and that concern over driver distraction "is not unreasonable," the policy cites Amateur Radio's 70-year history of two-way mobile operation as evidence that such radio use does not contribute to driver inattention. The policy points out that Amateur Radio operation differs from cell phone communication, in part because the device need not be held to the face to listen, no text messaging is involved, and mobile ham operators only need to pick up a microphone to make "brief and infrequent" transmissions.

Prompting the policy update is the 2012 federal law "Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century" or MAP-21, which requires states to enact and enforce statutes that prohibit "texting through a personal wireless communications device while driving" in order to qualify for federal grants to support a state's program. The League "encourages the use of the language in MAP-21 in state statutes and municipal ordinances dealing with mobile telephone and mobile text-messaging limitations," the updated policy states.

Many states already have statutes in place that restrict the use of cell phones and other communication devices to a greater or lesser degree, and several exempt Amateur Radio. A lot of these laws predate MAP-21, however, and because MAP-21 permits no specific exception for Amateur Radio operation, some may need to be revised in order to comply with its requirements. The ARRL is urging states or localities to adopt motor vehicle codes that narrowly define the class of regulated devices, in order to exclude Amateur Radio specifically.

"Given the necessity of unrestricted mobile Amateur Radio communications in order for the benefits of Amateur Radio to the public to continue to be realized, ARRL urges state and municipal legislators considering restrictions on mobile cellular telephone operation and mobile text messaging to narrowly define the class of devices included in the regulation, so that the class includes only full-duplex wireless telephones and related hand-held or portable equipment," the League policy recommends.

The ARRL policy suggests statutory language for state and local motor vehicle codes that defines a "personal wireless communications device" as one through which "commercial mobile services, unlicensed wireless services, and common carrier wireless exchange access services are transmitted." This would include such devices as cell phones and anything used for text messaging or paging, but the suggested wording specifically excludes "two-way radio communications equipment, such as that used in the Amateur Radio Service."

For states or localities considering banning all but hands-free cell phone use, the ARRL recommended wording that would prohibit the use of a personal wireless communications device "in any manner" while driving, unless the motorist is using hands-free capability. The suggested statutory language would not apply to anyone using the device while the vehicle is parked or "to contact or receive calls from an emergency response vehicle or agency."

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, addressed the issue in his November 2013 *QST* "It Seems to Us" editorial, "Distracted Driving Legislation: Proceed with Caution." In the editorial, Sumner wrote, "For decades, radio amateurs have been operating while driving without being perceived as a threat to highway safety. In the face of legislation to ban unsafe practices such as texting while driving it is natural to want clear exemptions for Amateur Radio — but beware of unintended consequences."

Sumner described one of those "unintended consequences" relating to Connecticut's distracted driving statute, which the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) advised was not in compliance with MAP-21, because its Amateur Radio exception was not one of the three permitted under the law. Connecticut revised its law in 2013 to limit the use of a hand-held radio by an Amateur Radio operator to emergencies only — "exactly what we were hoping to avoid," Sumner wrote.

As further evidence of Amateur Radio's mobile safety record, the policy points to a 2009 letter to the ARRL from the National Safety Council. In the letter, the Council

said it neither had nor was aware of evidence that using Amateur Radio or two-way radio while driving posed significant crash risks. "Until such time as compelling, peer-reviewed scientific research is presented that denotes significant risks associated with the use of amateur radios, two-way radios or other communication devices, the NSC does not support legislative bans or prohibition on their use," the Council said.

A 1994 joint congressional resolution expressed support for Amateur Radio as national policy and declared that "reasonable accommodation be made" for effective Amateur Radio operation "from residences, private vehicles, and public areas," and that laws should "facilitate and encourage Amateur Radio operation as a public benefit." (ARRL)

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### THREE RESEARCHER AWARDED NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSICS FOR DEVELOPING BLUE LED

Three researchers, one from the United States and two from Japan, have been awarded the 2014 Nobel Prize in Physics. This for their roles in developing light emitting diodes that produce a blue glow.

Isamu Akasaki, with Meijo University and Nagoya University, Hiroshi Amano, of Nagoya University, and Shuji Nakamura, with the University of California at Santa Barbara California are the 2014 recipients. They will be sharing the \$1.1 million prize for choosing materials and developing the techniques that have made possible the blue toned Light Emitting Diode.

The trio's collective breakthrough have led to lamps that last for decades and consume far less power than either incandescent or fluorescent bulbs to provide the same amount of light. The blue LEDs have made possible today's flat-panel, full-color computer monitors and TV screens, and are used in lasers for Blu-ray DVD players and higher density data storage using Blu-Ray DVD units.

It was also noted that Blue-emitting LED's combined with storage batteries and solar charging panels could eventually allow more than 1 billion people worldwide to move from no lighting at all to electric lighting without using local gas or diesel generators or regional power plants to provide it.

The three researchers will receive their award at a ceremony in Stockholm, Sweden, on December 10th. (Nobelprize.org, other published news reports) (ARN)

### FREE GRAY LINE SOFTWARE

Simon Brown, G4ELI has released a simple Windows program which displays Gray-line, Geomagnetic Indices, Solar Data as well as Sunrise and Sunset times. The program is free of cost and can be downloaded at [tinyurl.com/G4ELI-gray-line](http://tinyurl.com/G4ELI-gray-line) (G4ELI, Southgate)

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### 80M HAM RADIO BAND USED FOR 2012 WIDEBAND VIDEO AND DATA STUDY

A report on 2012 trials in the United Kingdom that used 3.613 MHz for 24 kHz bandwidth high-speed data and video transmissions is now available to the public. It notes that by using modern modulation techniques an SSB channel can support a raw data rate of 12,800 bits per second and wider transmissions can support proportionally faster data rates.

In recent years there has been increasing military interest in high-speed data transmissions on the High Frequency bands. Experiments have shown that color video at 15 frames per second can be streamed on HF in a bandwidth of just 18 kHz. That is the type of bandwidth that may possibly be accommodated in the 29 MHz amateur radio band.

More information on this experimentation can be found in a very fascinating article with the long title of "Wide Band High Frequency Communications 2012 UK Trials Summary" prepared by James Alexander of Rockwell Collins Corporation. You can find it in cyberspace at [tinyurl.com/hf-video-testing](http://tinyurl.com/hf-video-testing) (KCODGY, Southgate, others)

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**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

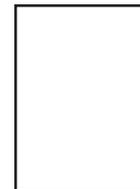
Email address \_\_\_\_\_

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.

## **2014 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.