

November 2017

(www.k7id.org)

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

REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS:

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

VE Testing
Monday, Nov 13, 5:30 p.m.
10865 N Ramsey Rd.
Hayden, Idaho

Monday, Dec 11, 6:30 p.m.
Shriner's Event Center
1250 W. Lancaster Rd
Hayden, Idaho
Topic: Elections/Christmas
Potluck
Presenter: ???
Refreshments: Everyone

VE Testing
Monday, Dec 11, 5:30 p.m.
1250 W. Lancaster Rd
Hayden, Idaho

Upcoming Events

KARS Officer Elections and
Christmas Party
December 11

Letter from the President
Dave Boss KF7YWR

It has been forty-seven months since I took office. Most of you know this since I have been on my count-down since month twenty-three. Although, this time it is different, because my prayers have been answered. There is a God!!! First my thanks to the nominating committee for the great job they did, and the members who have stepped up to run for 2018 club officers.

I had a chance to talk to the person who is running for my job, and do not believe it could be turned over to more capable hands. He has a degree of skulduggery necessary to maintain his sanity in the midst of this rag tag group of hams, and the technical skills to challenge the club for the upcoming year. At that point I don't think it was all God's work, as he does have quite liberal views, but we tolerate him anyway (you know about that love your neighbor stuff, right). This individual has a small streak of devilishness in his past. You may not see it behind his brown eyes and big smile. On the other hand I am been told that when you are a senior citizen you develop wisdom. I bring this up because I want this election to go on without a hitch.

Others might ask, how can you say this long standing member is old and wise? Perhaps the wrinkles and thinning gray and groaning as he stands may give it away. Here are two good examples to show you what he has in store for KARS in 2018. He is going to advertise KARS and amateur radio by switching his call letter license plates. Taking this off his rarely used 1993 Toyota pickup truck and transferring them to his newly purchased 1997 Boxster Porsche. Whoa! A belated midlife crisis, perhaps?

He isn't waiting for 2018 to roll his sleeves up. He is planning to give our December Christmas Party a slightly different twist and staying within our current By-Laws. After he is officially elected and is sworn in as the new president he plans to close the "official" KARS meeting. Our new president will then announce for the next hours we will have a "gathering of hams for Christmas cheer!" At which time he will open the "no-host" bar and put on music for dancing.

During our main conversation he pointed out that the women do a lot of the cooking with only some recognition. They cook the food, come to the meeting, sit and listen to ham talk in a foreign language for hours, and then they go home. He would like to see some part of the evening for the ladies. Maybe they could dance with their husbands. Could this be the first time since their wedding day oh so many years ago? The music he has recorded is what he calls, "Two-letter call music, or Moldie Oldies from a time before sideband was invented!"

Six Meters Halfway There

Monday, a work party installed the receive portion of our new 6 meter repeater system at our Mica site. Lenny, N7MOT was talking on the darned thing before we could even get off the mountain. Check out the photos on the KARS Facebook page.
73, Dave KF7YWR

Kootenai Amateur Radio Society October 2017 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:01pm by Club President Dave Boss (KF7YWR).
Pledge of Allegiance was led by: Steve Mendez (KE7TCK).

Motion to approve the Secretary's Minutes Report was made by Lenny Gemar (N7MOT), 2nd by Michael Slothower (KG7KSJ), motion passed by member vote.

Club Treasurer's Report:

September - Checking \$3,632.26, Savings \$2,301.71, Petty Cash \$90.55, Total \$6,024.52.
Monthly income consisted of: Savings Account \$0.06; 50/50 Raffle \$8.00, Membership \$45.00
Monthly expenses consisted of: Nothing
Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Rod Anderson (K7ZBE), 2nd by Lenny Gemar (N7MOT), motion passed by member vote.

6 Meter Repeater Project

Lenny Gemar (N7MOT) and Brandon Vetter (KB6UMY)

Brandon would like to install a 6 meter repeater on the Blossom Mountain site (just south of Coeur d'Alene and Post Falls). The duplexer for a 6 meter repeater is quite large. To negate the duplexer, many 6 meter repeaters separate the transmitter and receiver sites. Brandon would like to donate the 6 meter receiver equipment and link radio to KARS so the equipment can be installed in the KARS Mica Peak Site.

Lenny Gemar (N7MOT) made a motion to approve the donation and install the equipment in the Mica Peak site, 2nd by Mitch Killebrew (KB7BYR), motion passed by member vote.

Club President Dave Boss has asked that those interested in serving on a repeater committee make their names known. Some opportunities have arisen to expand the

current KARS coverage to the north and an additional site and how to link the new repeater into the existing repeaters would need to be addressed, as well as additional things that may arise.

Lindy Bryant & Larry Telles have volunteered the 2017 Christmas Party. Additional details to follow.

Presentation: IRLP and Echolink by Brandon Vetter (KB6UMY)

KARS Nomination Committee will report the 2018 Board Member Nominees at the November meeting, those interested in serving on the Board are asked to contact the Nomination Committee or attend the November meeting and nominate themselves. If two candidates are running for the same Board Position voting will occur at the Christmas Party.

Boy Scouts of America JOTA (Jamboree On The Air) will occur October 20th to 21st.

Raffle Results:

50/50 \$10.50 Larry Telles, K6SPP (claimed)
Membership \$91.00 Gene Story, K7TXO (not claimed)

It has been several years since the KARS By-Laws have been reviewed and a few corrections have been suggested, i.e. the By-Laws say "K7ID.COM" website when the website is an .ORG; as well as the Club Echolink equipment which is not in operation. Club President would like to form a Committee to review the By-Laws and suggest changes to be approved by the Club Board and Membership for approval. Michael Slothower (KG7KSJ) made a motion to form a Committee to review the By-Laws and suggest needed corrections/edits, 2nd by Lindy Bryant (KE0AZD), motion passed by member vote.

Michael Slothower (KG7KSJ) made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35pm, 2nd made by Jim Peterson (AD7AZ), motion passed by member vote and meeting was adjourned.

—NOTHING FOLLOWS—

Club Nominations

President – Larry Telles
Vice-President – Jim Petersen
Executive Director – Lindy Bryant
Secretary – Sheila Waller
Treasurer – Rod Anderson

Communications Interoperability Training with Amateur Radio Community Set

Elements of the US Department of Defense (DOD) will conduct a “communications interoperability” training exercise November 4-6, once again simulating a “very bad day” scenario. Amateur Radio and MARS organizations will take part.

“This exercise will begin with a national massive coronal mass ejection event which will impact the national power grid as well as all forms of traditional communication, including landline telephone, cellphone, satellite, and Internet connectivity,” Army MARS Program Manager Paul English, WD8DBY, explained in an announcement.

During the exercise, a designated DOD Headquarters entity will request county-by-county status reports for the 3,143 US counties and county equivalents, in order to gain situational awareness and to determine the extent of impact of the scenario. Army and Air Force MARS organizations will work in conjunction with the Amateur Radio community, primarily on the 60-meter interoperability channels as well as on HF NVIS frequencies and local VHF and UHF, non-Internet linked Amateur Radio repeaters.

Again this year, a military station on the east coast and the Fort Huachuca, Arizona, HF station will conduct a high-power broadcast on 60-meter channel 1 (5330.5 kHz) on Saturday from 0300 to 0315 UTC. New this year will be an informational broadcast on Sunday, on 13,483.5 kHz USB from 1600 to 1615 UTC. Amateur Radio operators should monitor these broadcasts for more information about the exercise and how they can participate in this communications exercise, English said.

“We want to continue building on the outstanding cooperative working relationship with the ARRL and the Amateur Radio community,” English said. “We want to expand the use of the 60-meter interop channels between the military and amateur community for emergency communications, and we hope the Amateur Radio community will give us some good feedback on the use of both the 5-MHz interop and the new 13-MHz broadcast

channels as a means of information dissemination during a very bad day scenario.

Contact English (mars.exercises@gmail.com) for more information or questions about this exercise. (ARRL News)

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Contact English (mars.exercises@gmail.com) for more information or questions about this exercise. (ARRL News)

November 2017 Frequency Measuring Test Set

Frequency Measuring Test (FMT) manager Connie Marshall, K5CM, promised something “a little different” for the fall FMT, which begins on November 3 at 0200 UTC. Instead of measuring a single frequency, this test will measure a pair of frequencies - a “two-tone” test. Although the two frequencies will not jump back and forth at the rate of an actual FSK signal, participants will measure both signals *and* the shift between them.

The test will be conducted on 80 and 40 meters. Following the call up, the test signals will begin on the announced frequency. This is the lower of the two test signal frequencies. Approximately 1 minute later, the test signal will stop and resume on the second, somewhat higher frequency.

The shift between the frequencies will be approximately the same as a standard 170 Hz shift RTTY signal. Your job is to measure the frequency of the initial, lower frequency RF signal, and the audio frequency (AF) shift between the two test signals.

[Details](#) are on the Frequency Measuring Tests page. (ARRL News)

Tiny LF Signal Makes the Hop from Newfoundland to the UK

For Joe Craig, VO1NA, in Torbay, Newfoundland, things have been pretty exciting lately on VLF (very low frequency). He’s among the early MF, LF, and VLF experimenters in North America — active even before Canada allocated Amateur Radio bands in that part of the spectrum. He believes he accomplished a “first” for a Canadian radio amateur on October 22, when his *very* VLF, *very* QRP signal on 8.27 kHz (that would be the 36-kilometer band) was copied in the UK.

“After much effort on both sides of the pond, SWL Paul Nicholson in Todmorden finally copied a three-letter message,” he told ARRL. “It’s the lowest-frequency transatlantic message, made possible because of Paul’s *EbNaut* coherent BPSK mode and DL4YHF’s [Spectrum](#)

[Lab](#) spectrum analyzer.” Even more amazing: The power was 10 μ W ERP. Craig is permitted to run 10 mW by regulator ISED Canada (formerly Industry Canada). The transmission path was more than 3,500 kilometers (approximately 2,170 miles).

VLF signals have been copied across the Atlantic in the past. In March 2014, a very slow-speed (QRSS) CW signal on 29.499 kHz, transmitted by Bob Raide, W2ZM, a New York Experimental licensee, initially was detected in the UK by Nicholson. In June 2014, Dex McIntyre, W4DEX, in North Carolina, transmitted an *EbNaut* signal on 8.971 kHz, while running on the order of 150 μ W effective radiated power. Nicholson detected that signal too. McIntyre needed no FCC license to transmit on 8.971 kHz, because the Commission has not designated any allocations below 9 kHz, dubbed “the Dreamers’ Band.”

Craig’s transmission from Newfoundland began at 2300 UTC on October 22 and ended 7 hours later. “Paul replied by e-mail the following day with the correct message,” Craig said, “and there was much rejoicing across the pond and in the Marconi Radio Club of Newfoundland!”

Craig said that Nicholson had detected a carrier from VO1NA this past spring, but it was not stable enough to send a message.

DL4YHF’s *Spectrum Lab*, with a GPS module output signal used to calibrate the computer and help from DF6NM and DK7FC, worked much better, Craig said. “Paul measured the phase for a few days before the message was sent. With the new high-stability carrier, Paul got me on the first call.”

The final stage of his VLF transmitter is what Craig described as “the very Canadian Traynor Group One/SC stage amplifier” from the 1970s. He says his is “the only known VLF transmitter in Newfoundland and Labrador.” His antenna, by the way, is approximately 100 meters (approximately 328 feet) of #12 copper wire, about 12 meters high on average.

Craig's blog offers more information. (ARRL News)

COMMERCIAL STATION GOES BAREFOOT AFTER THE STORM

PAUL/ANCHOR: Finally, here's one more storm story as hurricane season starts to wind down. This story, however, isn't about rescue by amateur radio - rather, it's about a commercial radio station that stayed alive as a Florida hurricane raged, as we hear from Don Wilbanks AE5DW.

DON'S REPORT: As the Atlantic hurricane season enters its final weeks, we celebrate a special victory: the power of nature versus the power of 100 watts. Hurricane Irma may have slammed Florida on September 10 but it was no match for the largest commercial shortwave radio transmission facility in the United States. Radio Miami International, WRMI, survived even though its 100,000-watt operation and its impressive array of 68 towers and 23 antenna systems got knocked off the air.

That's not the end of the story, though. Ham radio operators who work barefoot will appreciate what happened next. According to a report in RadioWorld, general manager Jeff White said the station wasn't silent for long. Operating around the clock from inside a reinforced concrete building, WRMI was able to stay on the air with the use of a 25-kilowatt diesel generator, a 100-watt transmitter and a dipole. Yes, one heroic dipole.

Equally impressive was the much-lower-power station's continued capacity for international reception with reports from as far away as parts of California and Canada. Well things are back to normal now, and we wish our 100,000-watt friends at WRMI good fortune and of course, good DX.

For Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Don Wilbanks AE5DW.

Puerto Rico Volunteer Aids Burn Victim, Contacts Family via Ham Radio

"We had a stressful night on the island!" That's how Puerto Rico volunteer Jeremy Dougherty, NS0S, described a medical emergency on the island of Culebra in which Amateur Radio played a major role. Dougherty, a Force of 50 American Red Cross volunteer who is supporting communication at Culebra Hospital, said fumes from a gasoline fuel container ignited last evening (October 12), seriously injuring a woman who needed immediate help. Dougherty was unable to raise any of the other volunteers in San Juan - likely because of the late hour - but the only doctor at the hospital at the time called Centro de Medico (Medical Central) on a satellite phone to

coordinate transportation for the patient. The only other after-hours staff was a nurse.

"This patient was far from being within our scope to treat at this facility," Dougherty said. "The patient had burns to at least 30% of her body. I had to do a lot of medical work here. The nurse knew the patient - this is a small community - and she left to get belongings from the [burn victim's] house." That left Dougherty - a medic who works for the Kansas City (Missouri) Fire Department - to administer first aid.

"I carried out all of the orders the doctor gave me. We cut off a lot of skin. We wrapped her burns," he recounted. "We got an IV and started IV antibiotics and fluids. I also checked the vitals pretty constantly."

Helicopter transport to San Juan was arranged for the patient, who was in critical condition, in shock, and shivering; Dougherty said he donated his blanket. He then was tasked with contacting the patient's family.

At around 0200 UTC, Dougherty got on 40 meters, interrupting a pileup of stations trying to work special event station N4F, which was being run at the time by Kevin Young, KC7FPF, in Bronson, Florida.

"I did not get into specifics. But, I did give him the first name of the patient, the first name of the relative with the phone number, and the facility she was being taken to," Dougherty said. "I explained my location and our limited resources. No phones, no internet, no power." He told Young that the victim had suffered burns from a gasoline explosion and was in critical condition.

"We had complete radio silence while we were passing traffic," Dougherty said. "We were literally passing traffic as the helicopter flew overhead." KC7FPF told ARRL he was able to contact the family and relay the news.

"I heard a station calling asking for a break among the pileup," Young said. "I could tell this was different than the rest. . . I instructed all stations to stand by and let me reply."

Young said copy was poor with an increasing noise level, but he was able to pull out NS0S, get the message, and pass along the news to the family in Connecticut. He said he'd remain available if any further help was needed.

The woman was transferred from Culebra to the burn unit at Centro de Medico. Using *WinLink2* e-mail, Dougherty asked the American Red Cross Amateur Radio volunteers in San Juan to reach out to a friend of the victim to explain the situation and her status.

Dougherty said he successfully passed the information to notify the patient's family, noting Young's extreme patience as they attempted to send call signs and messages hampered by poor conditions. "He definitely stepped up

to the challenge of the unexpected emergency and handled it quite well,” Dougherty said. “Someone needs to pin a medal on his chest.”

Dougherty said he was able to get the hospital’s HF antenna back up the previous evening, with help from local firefighters.

On October 15, Dougherty and Matthew Gonter, AC4MG, made it possible for physicians in Culebra and in Fajardo, respectively, to communicate directly in an effort to evacuate a patient who is an amputee. “The chief doctor and the administrator at the Fajardo hospital were all smiles; as the doctor told AC4MG, ‘You guys saved a life today,’” Force of 50 volunteer Val Hotzfeld, NV9L related. (ARRL News)

JIM/ANCHOR: Time to saddle up for our final story which combines ham radio and.....horse rescue! For that tale, we turn to Mike Askins KE5CXP.

MIKE’S REPORT: It’s no secret that hams are good at finding things. There are the hidden transmitters deployed in fox hunts. There are missing persons at massive public gatherings. And then there is the story of Melody the horse. The mare went missing last month from an Arizona campground near Sedona where a group of horse owners from Phoenix had been staying.

This called for a very special kind of roundup - one horse and a team of amateur radio operators including those from the Verde Valley Amateur Radio Association. The hams learned of the missing equine during their regular 7 a.m. meetup on the Knobby Knee Net. Net control op Bill Burkett KE7IXS took the radio call from one of the campers, Greg LaCrosse K1GRL, and that set the search in motion - not just on the ground, but in the air and yes, even in the saddle.

Jeff Upshaw KC7UYY, a local horseman, rode out to the trailhead with other mounted searchers. Mike Mladejovsky WA7ARK flew in with his Cessna Skylane aircraft and took Melody’s owner Marcy aboard. The team’s search had gone into its 10th fruitless hour when finally Marcy spotted her horse down below the plane and pilot Mike radioed the searchers on the ground.

Kenny Westmoreland KG7YVM and Jeff hiked to a flat-topped mountain where they caught up with Melody and led her to safety. As in all westerns with happy endings, they headed off together into the sunset.

For Amateur Radio Newsline, I’m Mike Askins KE5CXP.
(VERDE VALLEY NEWSPAPERS)

CW Gets the Message Through in Wake of Hurricane Irma

Any CW operator worth his or her salt will tell you that CW is the mode that gets through when all others fall short of the mark. CW certainly did the job for Chet Hogue, N3BK, who handled dozens of messages for residents of Florida’s Lower Keys in the days following Hurricane Irma in September.

“A message from a Big Pine Key man to his girlfriend, who evacuated with their young daughter and was waiting to hear how he weathered the storm, was one of about 80 sent out over the airwaves by ham radio enthusiast Chet Hogue in the days following Irma’s destruction,” reporter Katie Atkins wrote in *The Keynoter* in [describing](#) Hogue’s activity.

Hogue told ARRL that he “escaped” to the Keys in 2010 after recovering from an injury suffered in a vehicle accident. “I haven’t been active in some time, but have kept my ‘bug-out bag’ ready for just this situation,” he said. “[This] was my first emergency, as it was for many who passed traffic for me.”

“This is a good reason for all of us to learn CW and use it on the bands, and become skilled at sending and receiving CW,” remarked Whitey Doherty, K1VV, a CW stalwart who shared the news story with ARRL Headquarters. — *Thanks to “Captain Chester” Hogue, N3BK, The Keynoter, and Whitey Doherty, K1VV* (ARRL News)

**COFFEE & DONUTS
EVERY THURSDAY MORNING**

8:00 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: _____

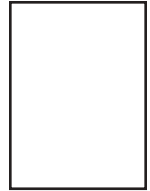
Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____

*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.

2017 CLUB OFFICERS

President: Dave Boss, KF7YWR
president@k7id.org

Vice-President: Lindy Bryant, KE0AZD
vicepresident@k7id.org

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N7MOT@gemar.org

Secretary: Adam Crippen, N7ISP
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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.