President's Column:

We say goodbye to 2018 and ring in 2019. As the incoming president of our radio club, I am impressed about 4 areas for the future of KARS...some of my "vision" if you will...

Transition - The dreaded "Change". Sometimes we welcome it...sometimes we avoid it...sometimes we hate it, but change is going to happen in spite of us. I am in transition right now in our club, assuming duties and responsibilities I did not have last year. Thankfully I have great past-leaders around me to help when I ask. Folks who have been there and done that, cut paths for others to follow. But the "change" in me is in process.

Sharing- Our hobby is all about communicating. Sharing what we know and what we don't know. It may involve inviting a younger ham into our shack to help them learn, or go to their place, or loaning them some equipment we are not using. We have the privilege to assist in the growth of another radio enthusiast. Is it better to let them try and figure it out on their own? Did you?

Growing - How am I different than I was a year ago? How am I advancing in my hobby? Am I operating in one mode only or am I open to more in the future? A 73 year old ham buddy I regard highly was so rigid about HF that he openly criticized anything digital or "new". Well, even he is growing. He now has a Flex SDR radio and loves it! Growing can be a lot of fun!

Learning - Closely related to growing but it takes on another level of commitment. Something YOU say inside like, "I am going to do that" and then take steps to make it happen. Take CW for example. Jerry, W7KR, our new club Vice-President taught Morse Code classes for 2 consecutive meetings with more planned. We had almost a full house for both classes! I was excited to see so many interested hams doing what I am doing, learning code. It is foundational to our hobby but does take time and effort. I am nearing my first CW QSO and am excited and nervous at the same time as I continue to learn!

This from our KARS Constitution;

> "The purpose of this organization shall be to promote interest in Amateur Radio communications, to advance the radio art, to foster education in the field of electronic communications, and to share knowledge and information about the Amateur Radio Service with the general public as outlined in Section 1 of the By-Laws."

2019 is another opportunity to "advance the radio art" and have fun in the process! How can we help you? Let's change, share, grow and learn together! Will you join us?

Frank Krug, KD7FK
KD7FK@arrl.net

Kootenai Amateur Radio Society
December 10, 2018 Meeting Minutes

The December 10, 2018 meeting was held at the Rathdrum Senior Center located at 8037 W Montana, Rathdrum, ID in conjuction with the KARS annual Christmas party.

The meeting was called to order at 6:55 pm by Larry Telles (K6SPP). All present said the

Pledge of Allegiance together. The outgoing board of directors were introduced by Larry Telles and were each given an opportunity to address those present.

Larry Telles (K6SPP) introduced incoming Club President Frank Krug (KD7FK) and presented him with a gavel. Frank (KD7FK) spoke about his plans for the coming year and introduced incoming Vice President Jerry Hart (W7KR) and Executive Director Tom Macy (W7UAT). Both Jerry (W7KR) and Tom (W7UAT) spoke briefly. Frank (KD7FK) also recognized Lenny Gemar (N7MOT) for all his contributions to the KARS club.

The KARS board members for 2018 are:
President: Frank Krug, KD7FK
Vice President: Jerry Hart, W7KR
Executive Director: Tom Macy, W7UAT
Treasurer: Rod Anderson, K7ZBE
Secretary: Chad Taylor, K0KAD

Gabby Perry (KE7ADN) presented the 2018 net control operator awards for the Northwest Traffic Net and the Kootenai County ARES/RACES Net.

Activities for the KARS Christmas party followed with Lindy Bryant (KE0AZD) serving as the master of ceremonies for a white elephant gift exchange.

A motion to adjourn was made by Bob Kesson (K7CGA) and seconded by Bearpaw Galindo (KE7ADT). The motion passed by member vote and the meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm.

ARRL Petitions FCC to Incorporate Parity Act Provisions into its Amateur Radio Rules

The ARRL has filed a *Petition for Rulemaking* (*PRM*) asking the FCC to amend its Part 97 Amateur Service rules to incorporate the provisions of the Amateur Radio Parity Act. The *Petition* has not yet been assigned a rule making (RM) number and is not yet open for public comment. In the past, the FCC has said that it would not take such action without guidance from the US Congress, but, as ARRL's *Petition* notes, the Congress "has overwhelmingly and consistently" offered bipartisan support for the Amateur Radio Parity Act.

"Private land use regulations which either prohibit or which do not accommodate the installation and maintenance of an effective outdoor antenna in residences of Amateur Service licensees are unquestionably the most significant and damaging impediments to Amateur Radio Service communications that exist now," ARRL said in its *Petition*. "They are already precluding opportunities for young people to become active in the avocation and to conduct technical self-training and participate in STEM [science, technology, engineering, and mathematics] learning activities inherent in an active, experiential learning environment. Without the relief in this *Petition*, the future of Amateur Radio is bleak indeed." The proposed amendments would have no effect on the FCC's limited preemption policy in §97.15(b), which pertains to state and municipal governing bodies, ARRL said.

Specifically, ARRL is proposing that the FCC amend Part 97 by adding a new subsection under §97.15, that prohibits and ceases the enforcement of, "Any private land use restriction, including restrictive covenants and regulations imposed by a community association," that either fails to permit a licensee to install and maintain an effective outdoor antenna capable of operation on all Amateur Radio frequency bands, on property under the exclusive use or control

of the licensee; precludes or fails to permit Amateur Service communications, or which does not constitute the minimum practicable restriction on such communications to accomplish the lawful purposes specifically articulated in the declaration of covenants of a community association seeking to enforce such restriction. ARRL's proposed rule would not affect any existing antenna approved or installed before the effective date of a *Report and Order* resulting from ARRL's petition.

The proposed provisions reflect the accommodation reached in the ultimate version of the Parity Act bill at the urging of federal lawmakers between ARRL and the Community Associations Institute (CAI), the only organization representing homeowners' associations. "That legislation was passed unanimously by the House of Representatives four separate times and has the support of the Senate Commerce Committee and the current Administration," ARRL stressed.

"Private land use regulations are not 'contracts' in the sense that there is any meeting of the minds between the buyer and seller of land," ARRL said. "Rather, they are simply restrictions on the use of owned land, imposed by the developer of a subdivision by recordation in the land records of the jurisdiction when it is first created. They bind all lots in the subdivision. If an Amateur Radio licensee wants to buy a home in a subdivision burdened by deed restrictions, that licensee has precisely two options: Buy the residence subject to the restrictions, or do not buy the residence. There is no negotiation possible because the restrictions are already in place and cannot be waived by a seller in favor of a buyer."

ARRL noted in its *Petition* that an increasing number of homes available for purchase today are already subject to restrictive covenants prohibiting outdoor antennas, and that the Community Associations Institute data show that 90% of new housing starts in the US are subject to deed restrictions and other limitation that make installation of outdoor Amateur Radio antennas ineffective or impossible.

Also, ARRL pointed out that the Telecommunications Act of 1996 gives the FCC jurisdiction "to preempt private land use regulations that conflict with federal policy and that private land use regulations are entitled to less deference than municipal regulations, because the former are premised solely on aesthetic considerations rather than safety issues, whereas municipal regulations are concerned with both."

"It is now time for actual and functional parity in the Commissions regulations in order to protect the strong federal interest in Amateur Radio communications," ARRL said. (ARRL News)

Radio Amateurs Position to Support Emergency Communication in Tsunami's Wake

Radio amateurs in Indonesia's Banten Province are in position to support emergency any necessary emergency communication in the wake of a "stealth tsunami" on December 22, that struck without warning. Indonesia's Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics Agency concluded that a volcanic eruption triggered a landslide underwater at Anak Krakatau.

The tsunami struck in the Sunda Strait between the islands of Java and Sumatra, which connects the Java Sea to the Indian Ocean. Rescue and relief activities are under way. The death toll is expected to top 400, and many people are reported to be still missing. Fatalities occurred in the Pandeglang, South Lampung, and Serang regions of Indonesia. Some 1,500 people were reported injured.

IARU Region 3 Disaster Communications Coordinator Dani Hidayat YB2TJV, said ORARI, Indonesia's IARU member-society, would use 7.110 MHz for any relief and recover communication. An ORARI CORE emergency team is using a VHF repeater for regional communication.

ORARI reported that the LAPAN A2 satellite (IO-86) was being pressed into service for emergency communication purposes during the relief and recovery effort. IO-86 should not be used at this time for non-emergency traffic.

"ORARI Daerah Banten, immediately deployed the CORE ORARI Banten team to Cilegon and Serang where the disaster occurred to help the existing volunteer team," said a report on the ORARI website.

"The disaster management agency warned that the death toll is likely to rise further," Hidayat said. Some believe that high seas resulting from the full moon may have contributed to the force of the waves. The disaster management agency said hundreds of buildings were damaged. (ARRL News)

New Amateur Radio Packet Gear Awaits Unpacking, Installation on Space Station

New Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (**ARISS**) packet equipment awaits unpacking and installation on board the station after arriving in November as part of the cargo transported via a Russian 71P *Progress* resupply vehicle. The new packet module for NA1SS will replace the current packet gear, which has been intermittent over the past year.

"With the arrival of *Progress* complete, the crew has to find free time unpack *Progress*, uninstall the intermittent module, and then set up and test the replacement packet module," explained Dan Barstow, KA1ARD, senior education manager of the ISS National Laboratory (**CASIS**), an ARISS sponsor.

The ISS packet system was reported to have gone down in July 2017, although it unexpectedly came back to life the following summer. At the time of the failure, NASA ISS Ham Radio Project Engineer Kenneth Ransom, N5VHO, said the revived system would fill the gap until the replacement packet module was launched and installed. The packet system operates on 145.825 MHz. ARISS hardware team members on the ground were able to locate a functional duplicate of the ISS packet module that has been in use on the ISS for 17 years. ARISS said the subsequent installation will depend on the crew's busy schedule.

In an email to ARISS and other groups CASIS supports, Barstow pointed out that ARISS is an official back-up system for astronauts to talk with Mission Control in the unlikely failure of the station's primary communication systems.

Bartow said that in 2017, hams relayed nearly 89,000 packet messages via the ISS - an average of 243 every day. The statistic so intrigued and amazed Barstow that he decided to get his Amateur Radio license and gear to join in the activity.

Satellite stalwart and ARISS supporter Patrick Stoddard, WD9EWK, won the December 2018 *QST* Cover Plaque Award for his article, "Making Digital Contacts through the ISS."

Current International Space Station (ISS) crew members Serena Auñón-Chancellor, KG5TMT, Alexander Gerst, KF5ONO, and cosmonaut Sergey Prokopyev are scheduled to return to Earth on December 20 on a *Soyuz* vehicle. (ARRL News)

Radio Amateurs in Turkey Gain Access to Two Bands

Turkey's telecom regulator has released two new allocations to Amateur Radio. They are a new 60-meter secondary allocation of 5,351.5 - 5,366.5 kHz with a power limit of 15 W EIRP, all modes permitted, and a 6-meter allocation of 50 - 52 MHz, all modes allowed, with a power limit of 75 W. - *Thanks to Paul Gaskell, G4MWO, Editor,* The 5 MHz Newsletter

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Broadcasters Intruding on Exclusive Amateur Radio Frequencies

The International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 (**IARU-R1**) Monitoring System (**IARUMS**) reports that Radio Hargeisa in Somaliland has returned to 7,120 kHz after a break of several weeks, while Radio Eritrea has been reported on 7,140 and 7,180 kHz. Radio Sudan has been transmitting on 7,205 kHz with excessive splatter, IARUMS said. German telecommunications authorities have filed official complaints.

IARUMS has also reported digital signals attributed to the Israeli Navy on 7,107 and 7,150 kHz. In addition, a Russian military F1B signal was observed in mid-November on 7,179 kHz. A Russian over-the-horizon radar has returned to 20 meters on 14,335 - 14,348 kHz. It was monitored on November 22. Earlier this fall, IARUMS reported digital signals from the Polish military daily on 7,001.8 kHz where Amateur Radio has a worldwide primary allocation. Telecommunications officials in Germany filed a complaint.

IARUMS has received reports of short "beeps" exactly 1 second apart, as well as frequency hopping between 10,108 and 10,115 kHz and 18,834 and 18,899 kHz. The signals are believed to emanate from a site near Chicago associated with an FCC-licensed Experimental operation involved with low-latency exchange trading on HF (see "**Experiments Look to Leverage Low-Latency HF to Shave Microseconds off Trade Times**"). Although Amateur Radio is secondary on 30 and 17 meters, Experimental licenses may not interfere with Amateur Radio operations. (ARRL News)

2018 ARRL International Grid Chase Certificates Page Now Live

The ARRL International Grid Chase Certificates page is now live. As IGC competitions are monthly, people can start generating monthly certificates to display. At year's end, IGC will have the option to generate a certificate based on year-end tallies. For now, participants can select a month, then select up to 16 band/mode certificates they'd like to create. Participants with more than 16 band/mode activities can choose to generate two certificates to encompass the excess (i.e., more than 16 lines), or can just generate certain band certificates, or just certain mode certificates - even just one band/mode if desired. This is a work in progress, but give it a try! Feedback is welcome. (ARRL News)

GOOD NEWS FOR GERMAN AMATEURS USING 4 METER BAND

JIM/ANCHOR: Hams in Germany received some good news recently regarding their permission to use the 4m band, as Ed Durrant DD5LP tells us.

ED: Hams in Germany who received access to part of the 4 meter band between May until the end of August in 2018 have received an extended section from 70.15MHz through 70.2MHz effective from the 19th of December 2018 with authorization through to the end of 2019.

Operation is permitted on all modes with a bandwidth less than 12kHz and a maximum of 25 watts ERP horizontally polarized signals from home stations only. Hams have been permitted to use 4 meters for experimental purposes in previous years. The German Federal Network Agency (BNetzA) granted access most recently during the Sporadic E season of 2018 but Hams in Germany first had access to 69.950 MHz in 2007 through 2010 under a special experimental licence and then full licensees have had access to 70.15 through 70.18MHz between May and August in 2014, 15, 17 and 18.

In a similar way to 6 meters, 4 meters will now require annual renewal by BNetZa if it is to become a semi-permanent band allocation in Germany.

For Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Ed Durrant DD5LP. (Amateur Radio Newsline)

WORKED ALL BRITAIN GROUP NOW WORKS A HALF-CENTURY CELEBRATION

JIM/ANCHOR: How do you mark 50 years of giving out awards? By giving out more awards! Jeremy Boot G4NJH explains.

JEREMY: When you make it to the half-century mark, that's cause for celebration and that's why the Worked All Britain Awards Group is introducing three new awards that will be available only in 2019. They are known as the Golden Squares Award, the 50th Anniversary Award and the Fifty Squares Awards.

The celebration will commence on the 1st of January with special event station GB50WAB. The station will begin a year-long operation with a two-week activation from Square C62 in Northern Ireland. Meanwhile, GB9WAB will operate for the month of January from Square SK51 in Leicestershire. GB50WAB will continue its operation until the end of the year from various locations and there will be other regional special event stations. Designations of C62 and SK51 represent "Worked All Britain" squares, which are 10 kilometers by 10 kilometers in size. QSL cards are not required for awards.

Meanwhile, the Worked All Britain Christmas Party, which began on the 26th of December, will conclude on the 6th of January. The party is taking place on the HF and VHF bands.

For more details about either event visit the Worked All Britain website at worked dash all dash Britain dot org dot uk (worked-all-britain.org.uk)

For Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Jeremy Boot G4NJH. (Amateur Radio Newsline)

Ham radio exam success in Cuba

The FRC report a 96.95% pass rate in the amateur radio exams held in Cuba on December 22, 2018.

The exams were taken by 263 people of whom 255 passed.

The results show 137 passed Category 3, 60 Category 2 and 58 the highest Category 1 license exam.

The FRC website provides a breakdown of exam results by branch and license class
https://www.frcuba.cu/filiales-grup...do-examen-ministerial-a-radioaficionados.html
http://www.southgatearc.org/news/2018/december/ham-radio-exam-success-in-cuba.htm
(Southgate Amateur Radio News)

IN NEW ZEALAND, MORE TIME TO OPERATE ON 60 METERS

NEIL/ANCHOR: The 60 meter trial operation in New Zealand has been given an extension, and Jim Meachen ZL2BHF has more details.

JIM M: Hams in New Zealand who've become accustomed to operating on 60m are getting an additional six months' time on the band. Radio Spectrum Management announced recently it was extending the one-year trial operations which would have otherwise ended next month. Hams may now have access to parts of 60m until July 24th 2019. As before, any ham wanting to operate on that band must obtain a sub-licence from the NZART. Hams who already possess one do not need to do any additional paperwork. Amateurs received access to the band last year as a result of negotiations between the national society, the NZ regulator and the NZ Defence Force which is the primary user of the band.

The extended time is designed to allow for the gathering of more information. The trial was established to allow for a study of whether ham radio operators' presence on the frequencies on a secondary basis causes any interference to primary users. The trial operation occurs for SSB on spot frequencies of 5353kHz and 5362 kHz. CW operates between 5362.05 kHz and 5364.75 kHz with digital overlapping on 5362.4 through 5364.75 kHz.

The maximum allowable output is 10dBW or the equivalent of 10 watts EIRP.

For Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Jim Meachen ZL2BHF. (Amateur Radio Newsline)

KICKER: 'THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS,' HAM RADIO STYLE

NEIL/ANCHOR: We end this newscast with a Newsline holiday tradition - a ham log instead of a yule log. We again offer this much-loved adaptation of the Clement Clarke Moore classic as read by Jim Damron N8TMW.

JIM: Twas the night before Christmas and all through the shack
The rig was turned off and the mic cord lay slack
The antenna rotor had made its last turn, the tubes in the linear had long ceased to burn.
I sat there relaxing and took off my specs, preparing to daydream of
Armchair DX-- When suddenly outside I heard such a sound, I dashed out the door to see what was around.
The moon shone down brightly and lighted the night. For sure
propagation for the low bands was right.
I peered toward the roof where I heard all the racket and there was some guy in a red, fur-trimmed jacket!

I stood there perplexed in a manner quite giddy: Just who WAS this stranger? di di dah dah di dit?
He looked very much like an FCC guy who'd come to check up on some bad TVI.
I shouted to him: "Old man...QR-Zed?"
"Hey you by the chimney all dressed up in red!"
I suddenly knew when I heard sleigh bells jingle
The guy on the rooftop was Jolly Kris Kringle
He had a big sack full of amateur gear which was a big load
for his prancing reindeer.
Transmitters, receivers, for cabinets and racks
Some meters and scopes and a lot of co-ax.
He said not a word 'cause he'd finished his work.
He picked up his sack and he turned with a jerk.
As he leaped to his sleigh, he shouted with glee
And I knew in a moment he'd be QRT.
I heard him transmit as he flew o'er the trees
"Merry Christmas to all, and to all seventy-three."
"Ho Ho Ho"
For Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Jim Damron, N8TMW. (Amateur Radio Newsline)

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