



October 2019

(www.k7id.org)

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

REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS:

Monday, Oct 13, 7:00 p.m.

Search & Rescue Bldg

10865 N Ramsey Rd.

Hayden, Idaho

Topic:

**Presenter: Mike Ritz, W7VO,
ARRL NW Division Director**

VE Testing

Monday, Oct 13, 5:30 p.m.

10865 N Ramsey Rd.

Hayden, Idaho

Monday, Nov 11, 7:00 p.m.

Search & Rescue Bldg

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Topic:

Presenters:

Refreshments:

VE Testing

Monday, Nov 11, 5:30 a.m.

Search & Rescue Bldg

10865 N Ramsey Rd.

Hayden, Idaho

Upcoming Events

Club Officer Elections

Nominations open October 1.

Nominations close Nov. 11.

“Pass It On”

Sitting on the sofa with my 2 year-old grandson Will, I opened a CW app on my phone to make another attempt to become more proficient with code. This app has a virtual key complete with audio tone oscillator and a visual display of what characters I sent...pretty cool actually!

As I tapped out my dits and dahs...Will naturally was intrigued enough to add to the “code” and create “new letters.” It was fun for both of us. He was enjoying the sounds and my approval reaction to his new toy.

He can read his letters now and as I sent the letter “H” (4 dits) he saw and read the “H” in the display. He reached over and hit the key 4 times and another “H” appeared. Squealing with excitement, we both continued with the dits-only routine for a couple of minutes before all heck broke loose and he turned his attention to the pull-around dump truck on the floor.

That incident was instructive to me in a number of ways;

Keeping it fun is the most important thing.

Not allowing the GOAL of learning code to overshadow my own ENJOYMENT of learning code.

Realizing I am not too old (or young) to learn something new.

Pass what I know along to others.

I recently heard an Extra-Class ham say there is no way he could learn CW. To that I say, “If my 2 year old grandson can learn it...why can’t HE learn it? Try not to put limits on what you can or can’t do if you really want to do it, and help encourage others along the way! Enjoy the journey!

Let me know what you think!

Frank Krug, KD7FK

president@k7id.org

Kootenai Amateur Radio Society (KARS)
September 2019 Meeting Minutes

The September 9, 2019 KARS meeting was held at the Search & Rescue Building located at 10865 N Ramsey Rd. Hayden, Idaho.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Club President Frank Krug (KD7FK). The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Frank Krug (KD7FK).

Attendance: Twenty-five (25) members and five (5) visitors were in attendance.

First time visitors introduced themselves.

VE Testing: Jerry Hart (W7KR) is now the VE Team Leader.

Three people tested this evening and the results were as follows:

Passed Technician	1
Passed General	1
Passed Technician and General	1

Frank Krug (KD7FK) reminded everyone about the Coffee & Donuts meeting from 8 to 10 AM each Thursday morning at the Silver Lake Mall. All are welcome.

Minutes: Michael Glauser (AI7MG) moved to accept the July 2019 minutes as written; Steve Murphy (KG7UWB) seconded; the motion passed by member vote.

The Treasurer's Reports for July and August were given by Rod Anderson (K7ZBE):

July 2019

Checking	\$ 2607.92
Repeater Fund	\$ 55.00
Savings	\$ 877.75
Petty Cash	\$ 76.15
TOTAL	\$3,616.82

Income: Savings interest (\$0.03), 50/50 Raffle (\$6.00), Memberships (\$103.00), Hamfest (2,179.00). Total \$2,288.03.

Expenses: Hamfest Facilities – PFSD (\$125.00), Field Day Food (\$139.21), Hamfest Prizes (\$119.81), Hamfest Food (\$237.33). Total \$621.35.

Jim Petersen (AD0AZ) moved to accept the July Treasurer's report; Michael Glauser (AI7MG) seconded; the motion passed by member vote.

August 2019

Checking	\$ 2556.38
Repeater Fund	\$ 55.00
Savings	\$ 852.73
Petty Cash	\$ 76.15
TOTAL	\$3,540.26

Income: Savings interest (\$0.03). Total (\$0.03).

Expenses: Life Member Tag – North Idaho Trophy (\$9.54), Additional Fair Tickets (\$60.00). Total \$69.54.

Rod Anderson (K7ZBE) made some verbal corrections from the printed version of the report.

Mike Slothower (KG7KSJ) moved to accept the August Treasurer's report with the verbal corrections; Axel Armbruster (N7AXL) seconded; the motion passed by member vote.

Rod Anderson (K7ZBE) gave a detailed report on Hamfest. The net gain for the KARS Club was \$1,697.76.

OLD BUSINESS

*Frank Krug (KD7FK) commented on several activities that the KARS Club has participated in over the past few weeks:

—Customer Appreciation Day at Center Target Sports on August 10

—North Idaho Fair-over 20 volunteers helped run the booth

—A T-shirt fundraiser is helping to make some extra money for the Club

—Check out the K7ID.org web page and the Club's Facebook page

*Jerry Hart (W7KR) gave information on the KARS Radio Group Forum. The Forum is set up through groups.io. Forum members can ask questions or post messages on products etc. It's a great place for new hams who are looking for an Elmer.

NEW BUSINESS

*End-Fed Antenna Installation at the Search & Rescue Building

Jerry Hart (W7KR) presented information on the antenna that has been approved for installation at the Kootenai County Search & Rescue Building. There will be an HF antenna as well as a VHF/UHF antenna, end-fed, that will cover the 10m-80m bands. The purchase of parts is necessary to support this project and estimated to be \$250.00. Michael Glauser (AI7MG) moved to allocate

\$250.00 for parts; Mike Slothower (KG7KSJ) seconded; the motion passed by member vote.

*KARS Raffle

Mike Slothower (KG7KSJ) explained how the 50/50 raffle and the membership raffle work at KARS Club meetings. The explanation was given with a view to making a decision whether to continue holding the raffle or not. Jim Petersen (AD0AZ) moved to incorporate the existing raffle funds to the general fund and stop holding the raffle; Jerry Hart (W7KR) seconded; the motion passed by member vote.

*KARS Membership Dues

Frank Krug (KD7FK) announced that the KARS Board is talking about raising the annual dues to \$20, from the current \$15. This will significantly impact Life memberships as the cost for a Life membership is 10 times the annual dues. The Board has not made a decision on raising the annual dues.

*KARS Christmas Party

Frank Krug (KD7FK) announced the formation of Christmas Party Food Committee. A sign-up sheet was passed around for volunteers. The 2019 Christmas party will be held on December 9, 2019 at the Rathdrum Senior Center.

*KARS Nominating Committee

Frank Krug (KD7FK) announced the formation of a nominating committee for the purpose of recruiting candidates for the 2020 KARS Board, as required by the KARS Constitution. A sign-up sheet was passed around to seek volunteers for the KARS at-large member of this committee. Kathy Kent (KI7OVA) was the only volunteer. Steve Murphy (KG7UWB) moved to nominate Kathy Kent (KI7OVA) to be the KARS at-large member of the nominating committee; Martin Waller (KG7LRV) seconded; the motion passed by member vote.

*Spokane Hamfest

Gary Roth (KE7IAT) announced the Spokane Hamfest is coming up on September 28.

*Unknown Ham

Frank Krug (KD7FK) encouraged members to turn in questions for the Unknown Ham. Send your questions to president@k7id.org.

*Canned Ham Video

Martin Waller (KG7LRV) and his ham shack were featured on this month's Canned Ham video.

*Evening Presentation

The evening presentation was given by Larry Telles (K6SPP) and entitled "Putting an HF or VHF Base Station on the Air for Around \$400+".

Michael Glauser (AI7MG) moved to adjourn; Jerry Hart (W7KR) seconded. The motion passed by member vote and the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.



ARRL Board of Directors. Mike Ritz, K7VO is 3rd from the left.

KARS Radio Club is excited to announce October's Special Presenter, Mike Ritz, W7VO. Mike is on the Board of Directors for ARRL and is the current ARRL Northwestern Division Director. KARS members who attended the SEAPAC Ham Radio Convention in Seaside, OR this past May met Mike, heard him speak and invited him to come to CDA and speak at one of our meetings!

Mike is more active in ham radio than we have space to write about in our newsletter. Look him up on QRZ before our meeting and, if you like, come prepared with some questions. He is truly a "hands on" guy and reading his biography while writing this introduction was fascinating! He is a lot of fun and has MUCH to share!

You **DO NOT** want to miss our October KARS meeting!!!



**KARS
MEMBER
IN THE SPOTLIGHT...**



by Larry Telles, K6SPP

Spotlight this month is on:
Brandon Vetter, KB6UMY

Brandon got into ham radio long ago, when he was 12, to be exact. His next door neighbor was active back then and still is at age 92. Brandon got his Novice license and only had a problem with spelling. But as we all know, CW operators love to abbreviate. His neighbor still lives in the same house.

Chile on ten meters was Brandon's first contact. He was running a Kenwood TS-520 barefoot into a Hustler vertical antenna. He doesn't remember too much about that first QSO and DX contact.

His band of choice isn't just one. Brandon likes 6 meters, 2 meters, and 440. He is in the process of linking 4 more repeaters for a total of 8 which will completely connect Northern Idaho.

When asked what he likes best about ham radio, Brandon smiles. "I like the commerotary and socializing, getting to know other hams in the area." Next time you see Brandon, engage him in conversation.

ARRL Thanks Official Observers, as Volunteer Monitor Program is Set to Debut

As the September 30 date for the closing of the Official Observer program nears, ARRL has expressed deep appreciation to the hundreds of volunteers who gave their time as Official Observers (OOs) to help preserve the integrity of the Amateur Radio frequencies.

The Official Observer program has served the Amateur Radio community and assisted the FCC Enforcement Bureau for more than 85 years. The OO program is giving way to the new Volunteer Monitor (VM) program, established as part of a formal partnership between ARRL and the FCC. ARRL and the FCC signed a *Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)* earlier this year that establishes the Volunteer Monitor program as a successor to the Official Observers. The first Volunteer Monitors should be in place and ready to begin their duties this fall.

"Thank you for your dedication and service," ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, said. "It was the good work of the OOs over many years that laid the foundation for the FCC to recommend this new agreement for enforcement." The FCC proposed the program following the closures of several FCC regional offices and a reduction in field staff.

Last February, Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, who once handled Amateur Radio enforcement for the FCC, was named to oversee the development and implementation phases of the Volunteer Monitor program.

Under the new VM program, volunteers trained and vetted by ARRL will monitor the airwaves and gather evidence that could be used to correct misconduct as well as to recognize exemplary on-air operation. ARRL will refer instances of flagrant violation to the FCC for action, in accordance with FCC guidelines, and the FCC will give priority to enforcement cases developed by the VM program.

Official Observers were invited to apply to become Volunteer Monitors, and many did. The requirements for being a Volunteer Monitor include:

- + Ability to utilize state-of-the-art receiving equipment and to access no-cost remote receive sites; strong writing and communication skills
- + An understanding of the importance of thorough documentation
- + Basic word processing and data entry skills
- + The ability to send such information, including recordings, to ARRL electronically.

Applicants also must be ARRL members, have no history of FCC enforcement action, hold a Technician or higher license class, and been licensed for at least 3 years.

Applicants underwent a training and certification program administered by ARRL and were vetted by ARRL through at least one oral interview and a preliminary evaluation by ARRL staff. Volunteer Monitors will serve 3-year terms at the pleasure of ARRL. (ARRL News)

Nevada ARES/RACES Members Deploy for “Storm Area 51” Event

A social media joke early this summer setting up a “Storm Area 51, they Can’t Stop Us All” group now has spiraled into emergency declarations in two Nevada counties and spurred an Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®)/Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) deployment of personnel and equipment. Some predictions say the “Storm Area 51” event will draw thousands - many possibly ill-equipped to be out in the desert environment - to the Nevada Test and Training Range, which contains the US Air Force facility known as Area 51. ARES teams plan to staff and support six incident-specific locations along the 50-mile event

corridor known as Extraterrestrial Highway, starting on September 19 and continuing until September 24. ARES/RACES personnel in Nevada began gearing up for Storm Area 51 on Monday, and Storm Area 51 visitors already have begun showing up.

Secrecy surrounding Area 51 has long fascinated and inspired conspiracy theorists, who believe alien life forms recovered by the US military following UFO sightings in the 1950s are still being kept there. The events this week prompted stern warnings from the military to stay away from the site, and the FAA is reported to have closed the airspace above the area.

In June, 20-year-old Facebook user Matty Roberts called for crowds of people to rush Area 51 in the Nevada desert, to “see them aliens” that some believe are being held as prisoners there. Within days, more than 2 million indicated they were taking up Roberts’ rallying cry, and another 1.5 million expressed interest in doing so. At that point, Roberts declared that his initial post was just a joke. Multiple Facebook sites have opened since, promoting a huge music festival dubbed “Alienstock” in Rachel, a town of about 50 residents, and an Area 51 Basecamp in Hiko. Other UFO-inspired events are popping up along desolate Nevada Highway 375, Extraterrestrial Highway, effectively creating a venue more than 50 miles long, as no other roads exist into or out of Rachel. Reports say that hundreds of law enforcement officers and medical personnel will be posted, along with the Nevada National Guard.

Preliminary estimates of attendance have run as high as 100,000, and as low as 15,000. With virtually no local infrastructure and faced with the possibility of being overrun by visitors, officials in Lincoln and Nye counties declared states of emergency. When the events were first announced in late August, Lincoln County Sheriff Kerry Lee, assisted by the Nevada Department of Emergency Management/Homeland Security (NDEM), found little time to prepare. Surrounding counties and agencies are pitching in with equipment and 350 personnel.

Lincoln County, where Rachel sits, has just 5,000 inhabitants, and virtually all of the land is owned by the federal government. The county has just 20 law enforcement officers.

Emergency medical and fire protection services are nonexistent in Rachel. Volunteers staff a single ambulance, a fire truck, and a rescue vehicle. The nearest small hospital is 85 miles away, and the closest major hospital or trauma care is 150 miles away in Las Vegas. Telecommunication and other services are sparse to nonexistent along the highway, and Rachel has just one

business — a small bar/café/motel combination. Its proprietor told the Associated Press, “It’s happening. We already have people from all over the world.”

Given the spotty telecommunications, Amateur Radio could play an essential role in the event. Lincoln County’s 30 radio amateurs are either unable to deploy due to age or they’re already deployed in some other emergency response role, so Lincoln County ARES Emergency Coordinator Charles Reifsnnyder, AD7OY, has recruited ARES personnel from throughout the state to support operations. Back-up resources outside the area will remain on alert.- *Thanks to John Bigley, N7UR (ARRL News)*

FCC Proposes to Make All Universal Licensing System Filings Electronic

The FCC is seeking comment on a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)* that is part of an overall plan to transition completely to electronic filing, licenses, authorizations, and correspondence. The notice proposes to make all filings to the Universal Licensing System (ULS) completely electronic, expand electronic filing and correspondence elements for related systems, and require applicants to provide an email address on the FCC Forms related to these systems. Although much of the FCC’s ULS filings are already electronic, the changes suggested in the *NPRM* (in WT Docket No. 19-212) would require all Amateur Radio Service applications to be filed electronically. Under current rules, Amateur Radio applications may still be filed manually, with the exception of those filed by Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (VECs).

“Given the drastic changes that have occurred with regard to the ubiquity of the internet and increased personal computer access, we find it unlikely that electronic filing remains infeasible or cost-prohibitive for the previously exempted types of filers, or that they lack resources to file electronically,” the FCC said in the *NPRM*, which was released on September 6. “We therefore propose to eliminate Section 1.913’s exemptions to mandatory electronic filing.”

The FCC said that while the vast majority of ULS applications today are submitted electronically, some are

still manually filed, largely from exempted filers, such as radio amateurs. Last year, the FCC received some 5,000 manually filed applications out of a total of some 425,000 applications. Among other aspects, the FCC is seeking comment on whether its underlying assumptions about the ease of electronic filing for previously exempted filers are valid.

This *NPRM* also seeks comment on additional rule changes that would further expand the use of electronic filing and electronic service.

“Together, these proposals will facilitate the remaining steps to transition these systems from paper to electronic, reducing regulatory burdens and environmental waste, and making interaction with these systems more accessible and efficient for those who rely on them,” the FCC said.

Comments are due within 30 days of the *NPRM*’s release. (ARRL News)

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**COFFEE & DONUTS
EVERY THURSDAY MORNING**

9:00 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: _____

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:

