



December 2020    WWW.K7ID.ORG    PO Box 1765, Hayden, ID 83835-1765



## **KARS CHRISTMAS WISHES**

Even though our Christmas Potluck Dinner has been cancelled, we all wish you the most wonderful Christmas season ever!!!



## ***A Year in Review***

Wow! It has been a year...right? 2020 has been a challenge for so many of us. It's so easy to focus on the things that went **WRONG** this year.

Sure...I could drone on and on about how COVID-19 affected our club, and it certainly did! I could...but I am not going to! I choose instead to look the **OTHER** direction, towards the things that went **RIGHT!**

We added **30+ new members** this year to our membership roles at KARS! 30+ members in one year? Sheesh! You all are doing **SOMETHING** right!

**ALL 3 club repeaters** were visited, and adjusted for winter, and Canfield has a brand-new antenna and link antenna on order! Installation will happen in spring of 2021. Additionally, Jerry Hart, W7KR and Curt Hurley, KI7TFC completed the HF and VHF/UHF antenna installation on our club meeting room at the Search and Rescue Building! We even did live broadcasts there using these antennas!

Our **KARS Constitution and Bylaws**, with much labor and time, were revised, updated, and nears the vote of acceptance by the membership.

In spite of COVID-19 challenges, we had some **EXCELLENT**

**Programs** at the monthly KARS' meetings. Thanks to the dedicated hams who showed their skills and helped advance the art of radio!

Our "**Volunteer Lists**" for our activities never suffered a lack of participation! Even though we were not able to participate in some activities, the lists of helpful volunteers were fruitful and spirits were high. This is a **MAJOR** victory!

We managed a "**Field Day to remember!**" Well-attended and a ton of fun and contacts made across the United States! A VERY good public awareness event!

Our late-in-the-year "**Ham Field-Fest**" was a great success! We were the only venue for a long distance and many hams attended and enjoyed themselves. We brought in much-needed funds to keep our repeaters on the air and keep the lights on with insurances, leases, PO Box and several ongoing expenses. It was a terrific outdoor event and a lot of fun! We are excited for next year!

A new home for "**Coffee and Donuts**" was found! You may not think that is a big deal...but you are wrong. This meeting provides one of the best opportunities to just "talk ham radio" and meet those voices we know on the air. Great friendships are formed here. I have had, and know of, many unusual radio problems solved over a cup of coffee here. We try out each other's radios too! The monthly meetings do not afford the easy access to experience and understanding that happens at "C&D" meetings.

The new **Board of Directors** was elected last month and will begin serving on January 1, 2021. Their broad depth of experience and wisdom promises to guide KARS into a great year ahead. Our club is strong and under very capable leadership. It has been a pleasure helping to lead KARS through 2 years of growth, activities, relationships, technical advances, challenges and fun! I wouldn't trade that for a new Icom 7610! Well...let me think about that...hihi!

Add to this the fact that the **Solar Flux Index** is trending upwards...finally!

You hams know what THAT means...INCREASED PROPAGATION!!!  
***It's a good time to be a ham!!!***

73,

Frank Krug, KD7FK  
KARS President, 2019-2020  
president@k7id.org

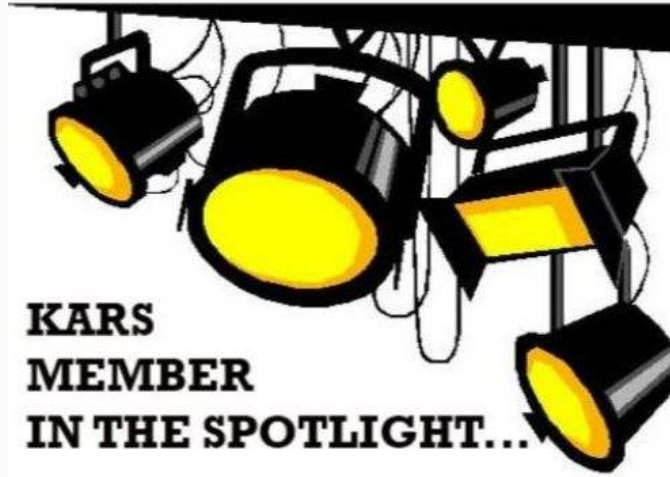
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**Hams Just LOVE to get together!  
Any way you slice it...hamming is FUN!!!**



by Larry Telles, K6SPP

Spotlight this Month is on:

## **Ken Edwards, WW5A**

**Ken, WW5A and his grandfather and Elmer, were introduced in 1958 to sideband, a “new” mode of communications. In addition he found that 2M FM repeaters were just becoming a practical reality. He got his license, finished high school, and got a full Navy ROTC scholarship and spent 22 years with the Navy. After all those years a first contact was not mentioned.**

**His interests in the ham radio tend to lean toward HF CW operation. After retirement, Ken went to work for County government in the Atlanta area as an IT Manager. In addition, he became a spokesman for Elecraft while in Georgia, functioning as their sponsored advocate at the local hamfests.**

**Ken’s biggest challenge didn’t come until he arrived in Coeur d’Alene two years ago. He lives downtown on the seventh floor of a huge condo. Ken has tried magnetic loops, Buddipoles, hamsticks, end fed wires, military style NVIS and everything in-between. Unfortunately, none of it works worth a hoot! Not giving up, his next approach is going to a dedicated HF mobile station.**

**When asked what he likes best about ham radio. “It has proven to be extraordinarily good to me, exposing me to interesting things and fascinating people. There is always some-thing new coming**

**down the pike, and the only limit is what you choose to be interested in.”**

**If you have any good ideas about condo living and ham antennas, Ken would like to hear from you!**

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**Kootenai Amateur Radio Society (KARS)  
November 2020 Meeting Minutes**

**The November 9, 2020 KARS meeting was held at the Search & Rescue Building located at 10865 N Ramsey Rd. Hayden, Idaho.**

**The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Club President Frank Krug (KD7FK). The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Frank Krug (KD7FK).**

**Attendance: Twenty-five (25) members and four (4) visitors were in attendance.**

**First time visitors introduced themselves.**

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**All veterans were asked to come to the front of the room and give their call, name, branch of service, and years served. Thank you to our veterans!**

**VE Testing: Jerry Hart (W7KR) reported that eleven people tested this evening. The results were as follows:**

**Passed Technician 6**

**Passed General 3**

**Attempted Technician 2**

**Jerry Hart (W7KR) mentioned that on-line testing is available. See the [k7id.org](http://k7id.org) website for more information.**

**The Treasurer's Report was given by Rod Anderson (K7ZBE) for October 2020.**

**General \$3,212.67**

**Repeater Fund \$ 310.00**

**Savings \$2,728.21**

**Petty Cash \$ 42.70**

**TOTAL \$6,293.58**

**Income: Savings interest (\$0.03), Memberships (\$130.00), Repeater fund donations (\$27.00), Tee-shirts (\$30.00). Total \$187.03.**

**Expenses: Christmas Party – Rathdrum Senior Center deposit (\$50.00). Total \$50.00.**

**Phil Rotella (K6PRR) moved to accept the Treasurer's report for October 2020; Larry Angel (KI4ZPE) seconded; the motion passed by member vote.**

**October 2020 Minutes**

**Martin Waller (KG7LRV) moved to accept the October 2020 minutes as printed in the newsletter; Jerry Hart (W7KR) seconded; the motion passed by member vote.**

**Old Business**

**\*Coffee/Donuts**

The new location for the weekly Coffee & Donuts meeting is at Gross Donuts in Post Falls. The meeting is on Thursday mornings 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM.

**\*KARS Christmas Party Update**

Frank Krug (KD7FK) read the names of those who have volunteered to help with the Christmas Party setup and invited any others interested to sign up. Setup will begin at 5:00 PM at the Rathdrum Senior Center. A sign-up sheet was passed around for the potluck meal items. KARS will provide beverages.

**\*Nominating Committee**

This year's Nominating Committee members are Arleta Holmes (KG7WGM), Kathy Kent (KI7OVA) and Bernie Schmitt (WA3OWP). Arleta Holmes (KG7WGM) announced the nominees for the 2021 KARS Board as follows:

President Ed Stuckey

Vice President Gabbee Perry

Executive Director Larry Telles

Treasurer Shannon Riley

Secretary Kathy Kent

New Business

**\*Board of Directors Election**

Frank Krug (KD7FK) reviewed the nominating committee and balloting procedures from the KARS Constitution. Copies of the appropriate page in the KARS Constitution was passed around. Frank Krug (KD7FK) asked for nominations from the floor for any of the Board positions. No nominations were made and the nominations were closed. Larry Angel (KI4ZPE) moved to accept the nominees for the 2021 Board of Directors by acclamation; Tom Macy (W7UAT) seconded; the motion passed by member vote. The new officers were asked to stand.

**\*Canfield Antenna**

**Frank Krug (KD7FK) announced that the Repeater Committee has recommended that both the main and link antennas be replaced at the Canfield repeater site. Because the Canfield site is a government installation, a certified tower climber is required to perform the installation. The cost estimate provided was as follows:**

**Main Antenna \$650.00  
Link Antenna \$150.00  
Tower Climber \$150.00**

**Ed Stuckey (AI7H) moved to allocate \$1500.00 to replace the two antennas and cover installation costs; Larry Angel (KI4ZPE) seconded; the motion passed by member vote.**

**Evening Presentation: Ed Stuckey (AI7H) gave a presentation on the history of CW.**

**The meeting ended at 8:47 PM.**

**JOIN THE K7ID GANG EVERY  
THURSDAY MORNING!**

**COFFEE**

**QSOs**

**GROSS DONUTS  
1603 E. SELTICE  
POST FALLS**



**8 till 10**

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***Like Projects? Want to build something?***

Are you "Project Oriented"? Do you enjoy building or helping to build radio projects, use radio technology in a new or different way or just being together on a project with other like-minded hams? We are "fishing" for a group of hams who not only USE their radio but reach out to new and *different ways* of using radio. This is a pioneering group, kind of hard to describe but if you think you might be interested in a project-oriented application of our hobby or have more questions, please contact our KARS Executive Director Tom Macy, W7UAT, [execdir@k7id.org](mailto:execdir@k7id.org) for more information.

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***YOU NEED THE K7ID REPEATER  
The K7ID REPEATER NEEDS YOU!!!***



**ANOTHER** huge **THANK YOU** to Dale Duree, KE7VMN, KARS' Repeater Technician for his continued support of our repeater system. Dale called me Saturday night to report he went to the Little Blacktail repeater and retuned the duplexer. The repeater is now in "Tip-Top" shape for the winter and beyond! These trips always provide an unknown challenge until you arrive. Saturday's challenge was the **BRAND NEW WEATHERPROOF LOCK** we installed last visit had leaked, water entered the mechanism and it froze up tight! The key would not even go in! Dale had to leave the site to borrow a grinder and return to cut the lock off just so he could enter the building! Be sure to thank Dale for his tenacity and dedication when you get the opportunity!

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## **NEW KARS BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2021**

**Introducing your new KARS Board Members for 2021**

**Ed Stuckey, AI7H President**  
**Gabbee Galino, KE7ADN Vice President**  
**Larry Telles, K6SPP Executive Director**  
**Shannon Riley, KJ7MUA Treasurer**  
**Kathy Kent, KI7OVA Secretary**

Thank you **retiring board members** for making the past two years such a great time for our club!!! Your tireless efforts are rarely noticed in the fast pace of our club, but it could not have been done without you!!! Frank, KD7FK







## **Winter snow and winds are not the friend of antennas...are yours ready?**

Send your pictures of "antenna challenges" to our newsletter editor to share your experiences!

<b>2020 CLUB OFFICERS</b>	<b>President:</b> Frank Krug, KD7FK president@k7id.org	<b>Repeater Trustee:</b> Larry Telles, K6SPP trustee@k7id.org
	<b>Vice-President:</b> Jerry Hart, W7KR vicepresident@k7id.org	<b>Repeater Tech:</b> Dale DuRee, KE7VMN
	<b>Exec. Director:</b> Tom Macy, W7UAT execdir@k7id.org	<b>Webmaster:</b> Lenny Gemar, N7MOT 208 691-4735 webmaster@k7id.org
	<b>Secretary:</b> Sheila Waller, KG7SAA secretary@k7id.org	<b>Past President:</b> Larry Telles, K6SPP pastpresident@k7id.org
	<b>Treasurer:</b> Rod Anderson, K7ZBE treasurer@k7id.org	

### **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.

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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 voice repeaters on 146.780 (Little Blacktail), 146.980 (Idaho Mica Peak) and 443.975 (Canfield Mountain), 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.

## *Join us!*

Visit us online at

**k7id.org**

or on

Facebook at

**facebook.com/kootenaiamateurradiosociety**

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