



March 2021

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

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

## REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS:

**MARCH 8, 2021**

Hybrid Meeting

7:00 – 8:30PM

Program: Backup Power  
System for the Home

Presenter: Michael Glauser  
(AI7MG)

**APRIL 12, 2021**

Hybrid Meeting

7:00 – 8:30PM

Program: Digital Voice  
Modes

Presenter: Neil Powell  
(K2AMF)

**MAY 10, 2021**

Hybrid Meeting

7:00 – 8:30PM

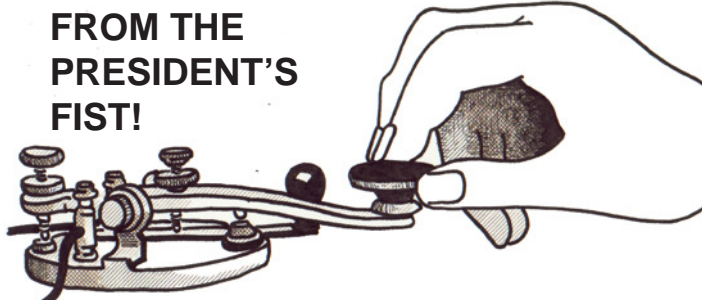
Program: Amateur Radio  
Field Day

Presenter: Ed Stuckey  
(AI7H)

A Zoom Meeting Link will  
be sent out to your email  
before the meeting.

Refreshments: You are on  
your own.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S FIST!



Dear Club Members and Friends,

Things change fast! When we presented your last KARS newsletter, we thought the February meeting would be another Zoom meeting. But on February 2 we learned that Idaho was moving to coronavirus alert Stage 3, meaning that gatherings of up to 50 people are allowed. So, we changed from Zoom to “Hybrid” meeting status, and the February Club meeting included 26 in-house and 16 Zoom attendees. Since it was the first Hybrid meeting, things didn’t quite go as hoped, but we learned a lot. That learning will be incorporated into the next Hybrid meeting.

As mentioned in the February meeting minutes, we presented a proposed KARS Activity Plan for 2021. We established a consensus to proceed with having a Club Field Day station, and to hold a KARS Hamfest / “Field Fest”. At meeting time, we were also facing the “KARS booth at the August North Idaho Fair (NIF)” situation, which is a challenge. The four-day NIF has been expanded to ten days, beginning in 2021. This challenging situation is currently under consideration by the KARS Board of Directors.

We have also learned from the Kootenai County Sheriff’s Office (“landlord” for our repeater located on Mt. Canfield) that they are now required by Their landlord (United States Forest Service) to have a licensed herbicide applicator use USFS approved chemical control around the communications enclosure. (Hope you were able to fol-

low that run-on sentence). To turn this paragraph into a short story, KCSO does not want us to do the annual weed-whack exercise, and instead will charge the cost of pesticide application to KARS, currently about \$130/year. One item off the Activity plan. Darn.

Please read through this edition of *Propagation* to find more information on the (constantly changing) Club Activity Plan for 2021!

Be Safe! And 73,  
Ed Stuckey (AI7H)  
KARS Club President



*by Larry Telles, K6SPP*

Spotlight this Month is on:  
Frank Krug, KD7FK

Frank's quest to become a Ham began back in the 20th Century, but he didn't know it then! His father had his amateur license and when he became a silent key in 1975, Frank was left with a big box of electronic stuff! He held on to the equipment until 2012. He felt maybe he could get a license. However, there was a slight roadblock in his way. It's called Morse Code. He put it off for more than 35 years.

When he and his MYL, Kris, decided to move to Idaho from California, he began selling the equipment on eBay. Frank sold all the equipment in the box except a transmitter. That's when a friend approached him to get a Ham Radio license! Frank's



answer, "why didn't you say that six months ago?" Frank's Radio and Television engineering background helped the cause. However he didn't have any experience in RF, only studio work. He studied and got his Technician license. Then decided to take on General and Extra.

Under normal conditions Frank can be found on 80 and 160 meters. Frank likes 160 because it's called the Gentleman's Band, and it isn't crowded or noisy. However, since we are not operating under normal conditions these days, he likes the DX on 20 meters. "Never know who you are going to talk to."

When asked what he likes about Ham Radio, he recited the mantra he used as president over two years. "It's about People, with Radio's." He finished it off by saying, "It's the radio's that ties us together. It's the application"



# THE RECENT KARS MEETING MINUTES



## Minutes of the February 2021 Meeting

The February 8, 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 7:00 pm by Club President Ed Stuckey (AI7H). The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ed Stuckey (AI7H).

This was the first “Hybrid” meeting for the club, with both in-house and remote attendees. The “Zoom” product was used to bring remote attendees into the meeting. There was some difficulty simultaneously managing local and Zoom presentation medium, to be resolved prior to the next meeting.

Meeting attendance included 26 in-house and 16 Zoom attendees.

President Ed Stuckey Introduced new Club officers and ongoing coordinators. The names and pictures of Club officers and coordinators are available on the [www.k7id.org](http://www.k7id.org) website.

### Announcements:

Ed announced that we intend to continue with Hybrid meetings in the future. This allows folks who live out-of-area and/or have situations that prevent in-person attendance to join the KARS meetings.

The Club will offer “PayPal” as an online alter-

native for submitting membership dues, probably beginning in February 2021.

As discussed in past meetings, we are preparing to replace the Mt. Canfield UHF repeater antenna. The antenna is being built-to-order by a company in Canada. Two certified climbers have been located (as required by the repeater site owner). So we just need to wait for the antenna to be delivered and the weather to warm sufficiently for installation.

All Amateur Radio licensees are reminded that they should update their information, including email address on the FCC Universal Licensing Service (ULS) website. Lenny Gemar (N7MOT) has positioned complete information about this on the [www.k7id.org](http://www.k7id.org) website home page, scroll down to “Featured News Items...”

Local Amateur Radio Volunteer Examiner (VE) coordinator Jerry Hart (W7KR) reported that a total of ten Amateur Radio exams were administered prior to the Club meeting, with a total of 8 passing the Technician Class exam and one passing the General Class exam.

Ed Stuckey made the customary new president’s remarks before proceeding to Old Business.

The two items of Old Business to be addressed were approval of January Club Meeting Minutes, and approval of the January Club Financial Report.

The Meeting Minutes of the January meeting were included in the February newsletter. Jerry Hart (W7KR) moved to approve the Minutes as written, Bernie Schmidt (WA3OJP) seconded the motion. The Minutes were approved by voice vote.

A Club Financial report for January was presented by Treasurer Shannon Riley (K7MUA). The Club enjoyed an increase of \$814.73 in cash assets. The increase included \$708 in membership dues, \$63 in repeater support, and 0.03 in bank account interest. The beginning balance of cash assets was \$6126.85, and the ending balance was \$6897.88.



No expenses were incurred during the reporting period.

Bernie Schmidt (WA3OJP) moved to approve the Financial Report as presented, and John Allsup (KJ7PIY) seconded the motion. The Financial Report was approved by voice vote.

One item of New Business was presented from the floor by Chris Jones (KE7CJO). Chris has been assisting with disposition of an estate, and brought several books to the Club meeting, to be distributed (free) to attendees who wanted them.

After conclusion of the Business Meeting, Club members and guests enjoyed a brief break, with coffee brewed by Club Secretary Kathy Kent (KI7OVA) and cookies baked by Kris Krug (YL of Past President Frank – KD7FK).

After the break, a total of nine first time in-house attendees were recognized and welcomed.

The evening presentation was about the Club Activity Plan for 2021. The following items are at some stage of planning for 2021:

- Mt. Canfield Repeater Site cleanup
- Field Day
- Hamfest or Field Fest
- North Idaho Fair
- KARS Christmas Party
- Weekly Coffee and Donuts
- Possible daytime KARS net on KARS repeaters or by Zoom

Club officers recommended participation in Field Day and Hamfest. Club members came to a consensus favorable to operating a Field Day station and holding a Hamfest. We will begin working on those activities and have more detail available for the Club at the March meeting.

Upon conclusion of the presentation, a call was issued for motion to adjourn. Chris Jones (KE7CJO) made the motion to adjourn and it was seconded by

Phil Biggerstaff (KJ7OMG). The adjournment was approved by voice vote, and the meeting adjourned at 8:30PM.

Minutes respectfully prepared by Kathy Kent (KG7OVA) and Ed Stuckey (AI7H)

**HEADS UP!!! ALL AMATEURS SHOULD READ!**

## Changes in the FCC Universal License System (ULS)

If you have not already heard, the FCC is going paperless. They (for example) no longer send your new or renewed license in the mail. They also want ALL Amateur Radio licensees to provide their email address. You will add or update your email via the Universal License System (ULS). The ARRL has put together an excellent explanation of how this is to be accomplished on their website: <http://www.arrl.org/universal-licensing-system>

### KARS Club 2021 Activity Plan As of 02/22/21

- Club Meetings – “Hybrid Meetings” (Both In-Person and via Zoom)
- May/June – Mt. Canfield Weed Cleanup (Note 1)
- 06/25 – 06/27 – Amateur Radio Field Day
- July Date TBD – KARS Hamfest or “Field-Fest”
- 08/20 – 08/29 – North Idaho Fair?? (Note 2)
- 12/13 – KARS Christmas Party
- Every Thursday – “Thursday Coffee & Donuts” (Note 3)
- Proposed – Daytime KARS Net (VHF or Zoom or both?) (Note 4)

#### Notes:

- (1) Canfield Weed Cleanup cancelled as discussed in President’s Letter.
- (2) North Idaho Fair – Can KARS afford increased cost?
- (3) Has attracted several new Club members.
- (4) Daytime KARS Net proposed for those who can’t make it to Coffee & Donuts.

# A SNAPSHOT FROM THE PAST



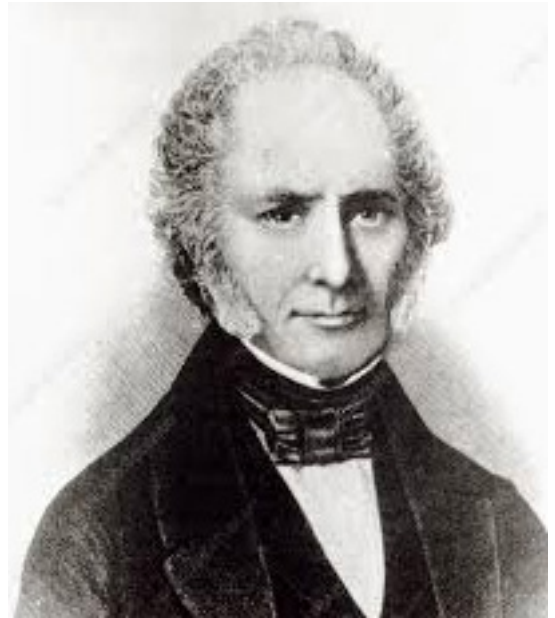
**Alessandro Giuseppe Antonio Anastasio Volta** (February 18, 1745-March 5, 1827) was an Italian physicist, chemist, and is credited as the inventor of



the electric battery and the discoverer of methane. His invention became known as the voltaic pile which consisted of pairs of zinc and copper stacked on top of each other. Each layer was separated by a layer of cardboard or cloth, soaked in brine as the electrolyte.

The battery is not directly related to the electromagnet, but it shows how early people were interested in electricity. 1825 was the first time that the electromagnet was introduced. British inventor **William Sturgeon** (1783-1850) laid out the foundation for future developments in electromagnets. His

crude device used bare wires, no insulation and the

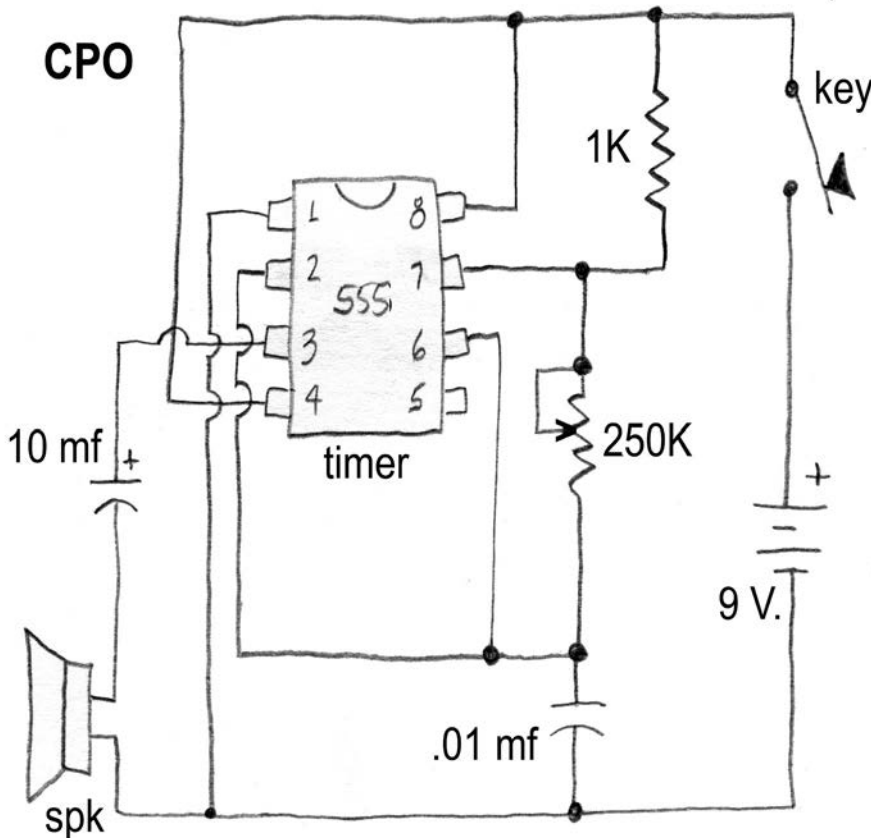


iron core was varnished and was bent into a U-shape.

**Joseph Henry** (1797-1878) took William Sturgeon's electromagnet beyond its crude design and made the device more operational and efficient. Henry used wire that he insulated by winding silk tightly coiled on the iron core. He didn't patent the device in 1828, because he believed in the dignity of science and that he shouldn't profit from it. This might be one of the reasons in 1893 why Joseph Henry's name was given to the standard electrical unit of inductive resistance, the "Henry".



# CODE PRACTICE OSCILLATOR ANYONE?



## CPO PARTS LIST

555 Timer chip  
 555 Timer socket  
 2-3 inch speaker  
 9 volt battery connector  
 .01 mfd 16 volt capacitor  
 10 mfd 16 volt capacitor  
 1K ½ watt resistor  
 150K or  
 250K variable Potentiometer  
 open circuit key jack

Perf board or bread board  
 Minibox

I have a few extra sets of these parts if anyone is interested build this Code Practice Oscillator.

I drew the diagram on this page on a scrap of paper while on a coffee break. The year 1970. It had been twelve years since I passed the Tech license. I was preparing for my general code test and trying to keep the momentum going. The five words a minute were behind me in my rear view mirror. My thoughts were on the thirteen words per minute looming ahead. I needed help in any form. One of them was this oscillator.

I built the CPO on a Radio Shack perf board (xxxx), and put it a small minibox. I drilled holes forming a circle for the speaker. My key had a quarter inch plug so I used a jack, normally open. I had to put a dab of rubber cement on the battery to keep it from rattling around inside the box.

I decided to put in a 250K pot for the pitch control. The original schematic just used a single 150K resistor. But then I couldn't change the pitch. Back in

2008 I had decided to put this article in this newsletter. That's when the dropped the code requirement. Other than that, Morse Code or CW (Continuous Wave) is fun to learn and a valuable asset. Good luck. K6SPP

**THIS NEWSLETTER BELONGS TO THE MEMBERSHIP. IT IS ALWAYS LOOKING FOR MATERIAL TO SHARE WITH THE MEMBERS OF KARS.**

**MATERIAL CAN BE SUBMITTED FOR PUBLICATION, AND THE DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES IS THE 25TH OF EACH MONTH FOR THE FOLLOWING MONTH. PLEASE CONTACT THE EDITOR...**

**Do you have a simple project that you would like to share? If, let the editor know!!!**

**GOT SOMETHING TO SELL? LET YOUR EDITOR KNOW!!!**

# 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: \_\_\_\_\_

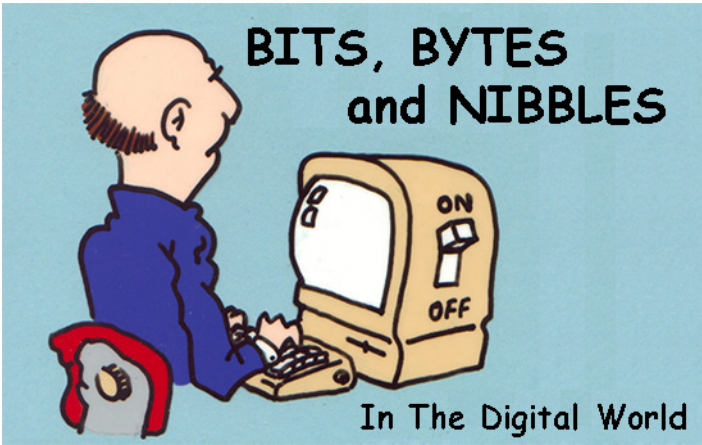
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

*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:	





**KARS IS YOUR LOCAL  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
HERE IN NORTHERN  
IDAHO.**

**WHEN YOU SUPPORT THE CLUB  
YOU ARE SUPPORTING OUR  
REPEATERS!!!**

PROPAGATION is looking for stories, articles, etc., pertaining to Amateur radio. You don't need to write the material only produce the story (article) content!

PROPAGATION is looking for photographs of ham shacks, antennas, etc.

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**2021 CLUB OFFICERS**

- |                                                          |        |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| President: Ed Stuckey,<br>president@k7id.org             | AI7H   |
| Vice-President: Gabbee Galino,<br>vicepresident@k7id.org | KE7ADN |
| Executive Director: Larry Telles,<br>execdir@k7id.org    | K6SPP  |
| Secretary: Kathy Kent,<br>secretary@k7id.org             | KI7OVA |
| Treasurer: Shannon Riley,<br>treasurer@k7id.org          | K7MUA  |
| Past President: Frank Krug<br>pastpresident@k7id.org     | KD7FK  |
| Newsletter Editor:                                       | K6SPP  |
| Repeater Tech: Dale DuRee,                               | KE7VMN |
| Webmaster: Lenny Gemar,<br>webmaster@k7id.org            | N7MOT  |
| Repeater Trustee:<br>trustee@k7id.org                    | K6SPP  |

Propagation is published monthly, by the Kootenai Amateur Radio Society (KARS). The club is located in Hayden, 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 Butte), and a packet repeater on 145.510.

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 party's 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.

**PROPAGATION**

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

Organization: 501(c)3 - Donations are tax deductible.

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