

# KBARA GAZETTE

Summer 2006

The Quarterly Journal of the Kamiak Butte Amateur Repeater Association  
Please note our new mailing address: **KBARA, PO Box 30801, Spokane WA 99223-3013**

## The President's Corner

Bob Lemon, W7HFI

President's Corner

Hello Everyone,

As you now know the intertie is back up with a new echo link and new repeater. To all the owners and people involved in setting up the system, I, as well as all the KBARA users, would like to say "Thank you" for their time and support.

KBARA will be sponsoring a Field Day at Bear Lake. Our annual meeting will also be held that week-end. Dates are June 24-25. The annual meeting and picnic will be the 24th of June at 1:00 pm. Please try and attend our annual meeting if possible. We will be electing new officers. If you are interested you can put your forth at the meeting and write ins are welcome. There will be a potluck and awards and lots to do. Remember, Field Day is your chance to get H.F. For more information check out the web at <http://www.kbara.org/>.

I would like to encourage each of you to consider checking into our nets more often. Participation has been pretty small.

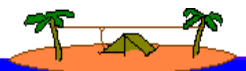
I have been asked if I have heard anything about the new FCC changes. I have not heard anything but the information about them should be coming out pretty soon.

At the current time there is discussion being held about work on the hub so there will be better reliability.

I would like to thank everyone for your support and help.

Bob Lemon, President

W7HFI



**Summer is ALMOST Here!!**



**KBARA Field Day/Annual Meeting  
June 24-25, 2006**

For the Saturday, 5PM potluck, If your suffix ends in:

A-H Entrees, Casseroles

I-P Salads, Veggies

Q-Z Desserts, Fruits

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electrical sites, rather than have some 15 Amp. The cost for RVs will still be \$20 Cdn per night but the tenters have gone up to \$10. They were suppose to be charging \$10 the previous years but we got them down to \$8. The washrooms have been renovated as well and they may have the pool in service but that has not yet been confirmed. Here is the address and phone number for the **Christina Lake Motor Inn**

**Phone: (250)447-9421.** Don't forget, if you cannot join us for the camping, come for the Huckleberry Pancake Breakfast and/or the Potluck. Don't forget to bring your lawnchairs. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

Your Northern Reps from Okanagan Falls, BC Canada 73's to all  
Roy VE7IS & Jan VE7QE  
Okanagan Falls, BC Canada



& RV Park , 19 West Lake Drive, Christina Lake, BC,



## Kamiak Butte Amateur Repeater Association Field Day & Annual Meeting/CampOut June 24 & 25, 2006

### All are welcome!

Come to the KBARA Field Day & Annual Meeting/Camp Out at Bear Lake Park on Hwy 2 near Chattaroy, WA. Swim, Hike, Fish, Paddle, Camp, Eat and Operate. KBARA will participate with radios...lots of radios & old timers can apply their skills and newcomers can try out new bands, modes and contacts. Newcomers can learn about Amateur Radio and have some fun. This is a camp out, a cookout, a summer bash and an emergency preparedness exercise, along with the KBARA annual meeting, all in one. Do not miss it.

**WHERE:** Bear Lake Spokane County Park, N 29601 Hwy 2; 15 miles north of Francis on Newport Highway, 1 mile north of Chattaroy on the west side of Hwy 2.

Our camping site is at the south end of the lake.

**Talk-in frequency:** 147.380 MHz or 147.360 MHz repeaters

**Annual Meeting time:** Saturday, June 24, 2006, 1PM

**ARRL VE License Testing Session:** Saturday, June 24, 2006, 3PM

**Potluck dinner:** Saturday, June 24, 2006, 5PM

What to bring: chairs, tables, radio gear plus extension cords, quiet generators, fuel, snacks, etc.

#### Info about Bear Lake Park:

([www.spokanecounty.org/parks/parklisting.htm](http://www.spokanecounty.org/parks/parklisting.htm)): 80 acres of park, play equipment, hiking trails, shelters, BBQ areas & swimming, rest rooms available; entry fee is \$4.00 per person per day. Lifeguards are on duty. Fishing (non-motorized boats only), boat rental, handicap access trail, and volleyball are also available.

Please note there are no trees at the south end of the park where we will be located, so "tip-up" antennas are suggested. Also, the Spokane

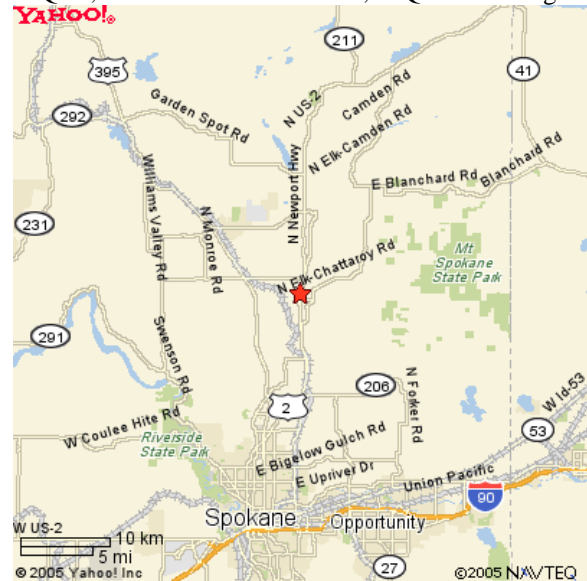
County Parks Department has kindly given KBARA special permission to use this "day-use only" park for the event. We must be on our best behavior, as always, and leave the park as we found it. Also, the gate will be locked at sunset on Saturday night.

PS. No swimming at night, when no lifeguard is present, per Parks Department.

For more information contact:

WQ7O, Dennis at 509-995-4764, [WQ7O@arrl.org](mailto:WQ7O@arrl.org)

**YAHOO!**



Please cut out and mail to: **KBARA, PO Box 30801, Spokane WA 99223-3013**

KBARA 2006 officer Ballot For absentee voters (unable to attend annual meeting)

Please select a candidate, or write in a name

President

write in \_\_\_\_\_

Vice President Ken Crosswhite, KD7DDQ

write in \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary

write in \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer Neil Gallup, N7LVO

write in \_\_\_\_\_

## Officers

### President

Robert Lemon W7HFI  
509-397-4167  
lemon @ colfax.com

### Vice President

Ken Crosswhite, KD7DDQ

### Secretary

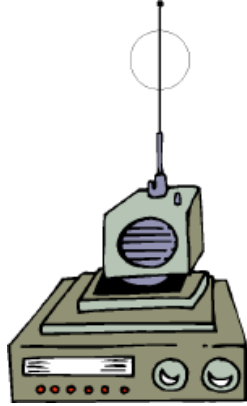
Betsy Ashleman, N7WRQ  
509-448-5821  
n7wrq @ aol.com

### Treasurer

Neil Gallup, N7LVO  
509-209-3109

### Newsletter

Wes Taylor, KD7HGG  
KD7HGG@yahoo.com



### KB7ARA REPEATERS

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>146.74 W7HFI</b>         | Kamiak Butte, near Pullman, WA, owned by Bob, W7HFI, John, W7OE & Whitman County     |
| <b>147.02 N7LVO</b>         | Lookout Pass on I-90 on the Idaho-Montana border, owned by Neil, N7LVO & John, W7OE  |
| <b>147.28 KD7DDQ</b>        | Pikes Peak in the Blue Mountains, southeast of Walla Walla, WA, owned by Ken, KD7DDQ |
| <b>147.36 KB7WTO</b>        | Stensgar (Stranger) Mountain, near Chewelah, WA, owned by Royal, KB7WTO & John, W7OE |
| <b>147.38 W7OE</b>          | Mica Peak, east of Spokane, WA, owned by John, W7OE                                  |
| <b>223.90 WA7YCP</b>        | Stensgar (Stranger) Mountain, near Chewelah, WA, owned by Karl, WA7YCP               |
| <b>IRLP Node #3957 N1NG</b> | (Internet Radio Linking Project) owned by Mike, N1NG                                 |







Dear ARRL Member in Washington,

We need your help in our ongoing fight against Broadband over Power Line (BPL) interference. As you may have heard, the ARRL was successful in obtaining language in a U.S. House of Representatives bill, HR 5252, requiring that the FCC study and report on the interference potential of BPL systems. The bill was adopted by the House Commerce Committee and will be on its way to the House floor for a vote shortly. Now we must turn our attention to the Senate, where similar language is needed. Senator Maria Cantwell is a member of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, which is now holding hearings on telecommunications legislation. We need her support of language addressing the BPL interference issue when the Senate bill is marked up in the committee on June 8.

Please write to her today. A sample letter follows. Please personalize it as much as you can and send it, preferably by FAX to the number shown. Please also send a copy to the ARRL's Government Relations firm:

SAMPLE LETTER TO SENATOR CANTWELL  
[DATE]

Honorable Maria Cantwell  
United States Senate  
717 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Via FAX 202-228-0514

Dear Senator Cantwell,

I am writing as one of the more than 25,000 federally licensed radio amateurs of Washington to request your help with legislation in the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee. During the June 8th markup of S. 2686, the Communications, Consumer's Choice, and Broadband Deployment Act of 2006, please support an amendment directing the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to conduct a comprehensive study of the potential of "broadband over power line" (BPL) systems to interfere with public safety and other licensed radio services. Appropriate language drafted by the ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio, reads: "Within 90 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Federal Communications Commission shall conduct, and submit to the House Energy and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, a study of the interference potential of broadband over power line systems leading to improved rules to prevent the deployment of systems having a potential to cause destructive interference to radio communication systems."

A similar requirement that the FCC study and report on the interference potential of BPL systems is included in HR 5252 as reported out of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

BPL utilizes electric power lines to serve as the conductors of the broadband signals. Unfortunately, because the power lines are not shielded, they also act as antennas and radiate the signals into the air. These radiated signals will interfere

Attention: Eric Heis, KI4NFC  
Chwat & Company, Inc.  
625 Slaters Lane, Suite 103  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
Fax (703) 684-7594  
eric.heis@chwatco.com

If you can't send it by FAX, use regular mail - but please BE SURE to mail a copy to Eric Heis so he can hand carry it to the Hill. Regular mail to members of Congress is seriously delayed. Email is not recommended for this particular project.

Thank you for your assistance and support. If you want to email me in reply to this message, please use the email address shown below.

73,

Jim Fenstermaker, K9JF  
Director, Northwestern Division  
ARRL - The National Association for Amateur Radio  
k9jf@arrl.org



with radio receivers tuned to the same frequency range. BPL has only been deployed to a very limited extent, but Amateur Radio already is experiencing severe BPL interference that the FCC has been unable or unwilling to correct. Unlike BPL, other methods of providing broadband Internet services to consumers, such as cable, DSL, wireless, satellite and Fiber to the Home, do not pollute the radio spectrum.

Not all BPL systems cause widespread interference to radio. The problem is that the FCC rules do not distinguish between BPL systems with a high potential for interference and those that are more benign. The FCC allows both kinds of systems to be deployed. This places an unreasonable burden on radio users, who must deal with the consequences of the interference. It is also unfair to the responsible BPL companies that have addressed the interference issue effectively but must compete with the spectrum polluters.

The reason we need your help is that the FCC continues to resist growing evidence that its rules are inadequate to protect radiocommunication systems, including those relied upon by First Responders, from radio spectrum pollution caused by BPL systems. The FCC needs to objectively and carefully review this evidence and adopt rules that will keep interference from BPL within reasonable bounds. Unfortunately, not only has the FCC shown no inclination to do that, the agency so far has failed even to enforce its existing rules in specific, well documented instances of harmful interference.

Because we need no infrastructure in order to communicate, the Amateur Radio Service is the only 100-percent fail-safe emergency communications resource in the world. The importance of this capability is documented on page 177 of the recent report of the Select Bipartisan Committee of the House of Representatives, "A Failure of Initiative," on Hurricane Katrina. Amateur Radio is included in the list of "What Went Right" in the White House report, "The Federal Response to Katrina: Lessons Learned." Amateur Radio is one of the few communications services that succeeded in Katrina's aftermath. Interference from BPL emissions will significantly disrupt this unique capability.

Please require the FCC to protect radio services from BPL interference.

Thousands of radio amateurs will be grateful for your support.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_ [NAME]

\_\_\_\_\_ [ADDRESS]

\_\_\_\_\_ [CITY, STATE, ZIP]

\_\_\_\_\_ [TELEPHONE AND EMAIL -- OPTIONAL]