

KB7ARA

Kamiak Butte Amateur Repeater Association

Fall 2011 Edition

KBARA Gazette

Hamfest 2011

The 2001 Hamfest was a great success not to mention a great deal of fun as well. Our club table was very popular thanks to a joint satellite display by John, KD7AAT and Scott, KA7FVV. John made a full size replica, with a few parts missing, of the newest amateur satellite, ARISSat-1. There was a continuous audio presentation playing of the transmission from the satellite. Scott, KA7FVV did live satellite demos but satellites including ARISSat-1 were not cooperating that day. Duff, WB7BFN had a wonderful powerpoint presentation making a great presentation of the club. Thanks to Glen, KF7QLH, it was a deview of club swag. T-shirts and hats with the club logo. If you wish to order any of these items please contact Glen. A budgetary report of the hamfest proved to be great news as well. Hamfest "profit" \$4,694.95, but after return of \$2,200 in seed money, the real profit is \$2,495. This means we get our \$400 seed money back, plus \$453.90 (the return of profit is based on the amount of seed money each club puts in). Not bad for a day's work, right? The attendance was 470, raffle tickets sold \$2,399, swap tables sold 63.

Summer Campout a great time for all and new officers elected.

Our annual Campout and Meeting at Riverside State Park, Bowl and Pitcher on the weekend of July 23rd and 24th was a great success. Saturday morning breakfast cooked by Ken, WB7RED with pancakes, sausage and his special potato pancakes were delicious. If you left hungry it wasn't Ken's fault. Our annual meeting came to order at 3 p.m. Multiple items of business were completed including the election of new officers.

President: Duff, WA7BFN was promoted from Vice President.
Vice President: Scott, KA7FVV also taken over as newsletter editor.
Secretary: Glen, KF7QLH new webmaster and Facebook page author.
Treasurer: Betsy, N7WRQ remains as our wonderful treasurer.

A special thanks goes out to our departing officers, President, Bob, W7HFI and Secretary, Mark, K7HPT for their many years of service to the club. Thanks to Betsy for continuing your great work as treasurer.



Kbara is now on Facebook thanks to the great work of Glen, KF7QLH. Please search for us and  us on Facebook. This is a great addition for the club in the social media department.

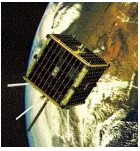


Hamfest 2011



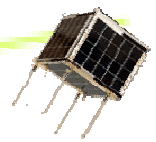
KBARA Swag

KBARA Income & Expenses			
7/01/2010 to 6/30/2011			
	KBARA	KBARA	Total KBARA
	Checking	Savings	Funds
Beginning Bank Balance	\$1,154.20	\$3,957.90	\$5,112.10
Income			
Memberships/Donations	\$1,465.00		\$1,465.00
Campout 2010	\$202.02		\$202.02
Hamfest Profit	\$291.20		\$291.20
Hamfest Seed Money	\$400.00		\$400.00
Interest Earned		\$3.50	\$3.50
Sale of Kamiak Butte	\$2.00		\$2.00
Total Income	\$2,360.22	\$3.50	\$2,363.72
Expenses			
Lookout Pass Site Rental	(\$367.68)		(\$367.68)
Pikes Peak Site Rental	(\$360.00)		(\$360.00)
Stensgar Site Rental	(\$200.00)		(\$200.00)
DSL line/Web Site	(\$318.00)		(\$318.00)
Gasoline	(\$73.01)		(\$73.01)
Keys to site	(\$3.80)		(\$3.80)
Newsletter & Postage	(\$95.92)		(\$95.92)
CampOut Reservation 2011	(\$283.91)		(\$283.91)
Post Office Box	(\$44.00)		(\$44.00)
Washington State Filing	(\$10.00)		(\$10.00)
Hamfest Seed Money	(\$400.00)		(\$400.00)
Evergreen Intertie	(\$300.00)		(\$300.00)
Total Expenses	(\$2,456.32)		(\$2,456.32)



Amateur Radio FM Satellites by Scott, KA7FVV

AO-51, AO-27, SO-50, ISS and ARISSat-1



Amateur Radio FM satellites is a facet of the hobby that is easy and fun to take part in. Most of us have dual band handhelds. Some do not lend themselves to working the satellites. The FM satellites are usually referred to as “easysats”. The current active satellite, AO-51, AO-27 and SO-50 use what is called a V/U mode. A VHF uplink (TX) and UHF downlink (RX). A directional antenna is the best to work that satellites with like a Arrow Antenna that is dual band with a duplexer built in but I have also worked AO-51 with the handheld and a extended portable antenna.



To work a satellite you first need to know when it is visible from your QTH. There are many satellite tracking programs available but probably the best and cheapest (free) for the PC is Orbitron. Once configured for you QTH pass predictions can be run giving you a list passes showing AOS (acquisition of signal), mid pass also known as TCA (time of closed approach) and LOS (loss of signal). It also shows you a radar view of the pass across the sky from your QTH. The elevation of the pass above the horizon is another consideration. The pass predictions will show passes down to 0 degrees if set that way. 10 degrees above the horizon or more are the best. The max of 90 degrees is directly overhead. All of these satellites are in LEO or low earth orbit. It is the easiest orbit to launch into and affords the most launch opportunities.

Once setup with equipment and armed with pass predictions, it is time to try a contact. Open the squelch on your radio. The satellite signal is not strong enough to open the squelch. The first rule is do not transmit unless you hear the satellite. As the satellite comes above the horizon the noise floor will diminish as you start to hear the satellite signal and then you should start hearing QSO's. A typical satellite contact will be the exchange of call sign and grid square. Since the passes are so short, 10-15 minutes, general rag chewing is usually not heard. I have worked passes of SO-50 where there are only 2 or 3 stations on the satellite and you can have longer conversations.

The newest addition to the amateur satellite community is ARISSat-1. Launched from the ISS on August 3rd. There is no FM transponder on this satellite but on the downlink frequency of 145.950 can be heard the satellite ID “Hi this is ARISSat-1 Amateur Radio Satellite RS0IS” and friendship messages in multiple languages, SSTV, the image here is from the camera on the top of the satellite showing the earth and the tip of the VHF downlink antenna, and satellite telemetry. The satellite has been in night passes for us since just after the Hamfest or with the 15 minute timer has not activated until it has been well out of range of us on daylight passes. Look for ARISSat-1 to be back in daylight passes in the late afternoon starting around October 20th. I will once again post information on our Facebook page.



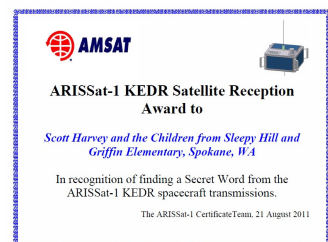
Useful Links:

KA7FVV Web Site: <http://ka7fvv.home.comcast.net>

Orbitron Satellite Tracking: <http://www.stoff.pl/>

Grid Square Calculator: http://www.levinecentral.com/ham/grid_square.php

AMSAT: <http://www.amsat.org> ARISSat-1 Info: <http://www.arissat1.org>



Get reception certificates while the satellite is still active. See the ARISSat page for info.

Helicopter Rescue Mission, Washington State (from QRZ.com)

From the Air Waves

Posted August 29th, 2011



At about 3:00pm Saturday, August 27th, 2011 KD7AAT (John) took a emergency call from K7PKT (Todd). A group of guys were camping and hiking in the Emerald Lake Washington area, when someone took a spill over the side of a ledge or cliff. The guy suffered a major compound fracture of his femur.

From what was described over the air, the bone had pierced the skin, leaving the guy with some major bleeding.

K7PKT had his 2 meter hand held radio, and summoned help over the KBARA repeaters. John (KD7AAT) was right in the middle of a QSO when he heard the "BREAK BREAK EMERGENCY" come over the air. He jumped right in, trying to calm Todd down. Once Todd calmed down, John asked for the details of the injury, and asked for the location.

Todd had a hand help GPS device on him, and got the exact coordinates. Todd also explained that there was absolutely NO WAY of getting a stretcher in the area; as they had to clear their own paths on the way in. John relayed all the information via cell phone to 911. It took some time being transferred between emergency services in different counties, and kept in constant contact with Todd about what was happening.

The rescue service decided that they would send a ambulance to the area, to see how close they could get to the injured party. Once the medics got close to the scene, they soon realized that Todd was not joking about the distance from the nearest roads, and it would be about a two and a half mile hike through some seriously dangerous conditions. At about this time, a Air Force medic who happened to be in the same area came upon the group, and helped in securing the injured party, while they were still waiting for help. A short time later, first responders also arrived on scene on foot. They wanted to make sure the patient was stabilized, and also find an area, and clear it for the helicopter landing.

After some more questions from 911 regarding what the patient would need, a helicopter was launched from Spokane, Washington for the 175 (approx) nautical mile flight.

The patient was transported to the hospital, and is recovering from his injuries. We are supposed to get a detailed letter today from Todd K7PKT on how the flight went, and how the injured party is doing today. We will update you when that information becomes available.

-KF7QLH "Glen"

The Spokesman Review also had a story on the rescue where amateur radio was mentioned as a contributor. See article here.

<http://www.spokesman.com/stories/2011/aug/30/copters-come-to-hikers-aid/>

Greetings! So glad that KE7AAT and WW7DD were available to help and contact 9-1-1 on our behalf. You can add the south east corner of Emerald Lake in Colville National Forest to the coverage map of Stranger Mountain's repeater! There was only about 5 square feet of space where I could be heard clearly, leading me to believe that it was due to lucky reflection off the canyon wall that got it about 30 miles south to Stranger.

I was using a 5W Kenwood TH-F6A and a Comet SMA-24 antenna. The antenna came in handy as the EMT Emergency Commander was able to use it on his own radio to get out of the canyon to his repeater up at the trailhead.

More details to follow, but I can tell you regardless of how it happened, my friend was safely back in Spokane at Sacred Heart that same evening. I know there was a bit of concern regarding multiple calls to 9-1-1 on our behalf, but I appreciate all that helped. You most likely helped me to save his life.

6 emergency service groups assisted with the rescue. Very amazing.

I would like to know when you have a meeting or net that I can come on to thank everyone.

Thanks so much, 73, Todd Cady, K7PKT **This was also featured on Amateur Radio Newsline and Ham Nation.**

KBARA Social Media and Web Exposure



KBARA on Facebook

After taking on the secretary position for the KBARA club, I was asking around for some kind of "project" other than just mailing off the usual welcome letter and club business cards. It was suggested by a couple of different people that maybe doing a "Facebook" page for the club would be neat idea. I thought about it, and decided to do some research on it. It seems that quite a few other clubs had Facebook pages, and had generated a lot of interest and posts. With a few clicks of the mouse, soon KBARA was on Facebook too! We now have 36 "Friends of KBARA", and there is lots of information posted almost daily. If you get a chance come see us on Facebook. You can search for either "K.B.A.R.A." or "KBARA" from the Facebook search box. Glen, KF7QLH



KBARA Webpage Facelift

Another project that happened to be of interest was giving the website a little bit of a new look. We get a bunch of visitors daily on the website, and decided that maybe it would be nice to refresh our kbara.org website. I decided that a lot of good information was already on kbara.org, and it just seemed a little hard to navigate. So my main idea was to make a color coordinated page that was really simple to use. I basically took all the great information from the old site, and implemented it to the new site. Mike Maxon (N1NG) was our old webmaster, and he did a lot of work over the years on adding all the great information and keeping everything up to date. I know first hand that it's a lot of work doing that. I would like to thank Mike for everything he's done for the club, and the website.

Plans for the near future of the website include "streaming" of our morning nets on KBARA. Duff and I have been working on getting some software set up and tested to play our hour long nets from 7am-8am live over the internet right off of our website. Whether you are stuck in traffic, or across the world without access to a radio, you will still be able to hear all of us check in via streaming audio over the kbara.org website!

And if you have any other suggestions or ideas for the site, please don't hesitate to drop us a line at contact@kbara.org. Glen, KF7QLH



(From QRZ.com posted by Glen, KF7QLH)

KBARA Repeaters (Washington State) go live, streaming audio 24/7!

Thanks to Duff, WA7BFN and John, KD7AAT our dreams of streaming KBARA's frequencies live over the internet have come true!

From www.kbara.org you can click on "Streaming Audio", you can now listen live 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to our huge network of repeaters! And if you want to hear yourself live over the internet, feel free to connect to us via IRLP. Our node number is 3957! Give it a try! We also hold a net every morning, at 7am - 8am local time (14:00 UTC) and you are welcome to dial us up, check-in, or just listen to the net via 'Streaming Audio'!

The KBARA repeater system consists of several privately owned linked Amateur Radio repeaters. It covers an area from northeastern Washington to northeastern Oregon, and from western Montana to central Washington. The KBARA system is also part of the Evergreen Intertie, an interconnected group of repeaters located around the Pacific Northwest.

Most KBARA FM repeaters operate in the VHF bands and are linked by UHF radios. The repeaters' frequencies, call signs and locations are as follows: (a list of our repeaters was posted in the article. Deleted here for space)

Amateur Radio License Testing Sessions provided by Betsy, N7WRQ

Chewelah, WA, ARRL VEC

American West Bank basement. The bank is on King Street
Contact: Karl Miller, WX7DX: (509)258-8922 email: wx7dx@msn.com



Coeur d'Alene, ID, ARRL VEC

November 14, 2011; Second Monday of every month starting at 5:30PM (prior to the Kootenai Amateur Radio Society -KARS general meeting starting at 7:00PM) at the Search & Rescue Building, 10865 N. Ramsey, Hayden, ID 83835. near the South end of CDA Airport; contact John Hollar, Jr., N7JU, phone: 877-877-0040 email: vetesting@k7id.org

College Place, WA

November 20, 2011 2PM; Industrial Tech Building, 100 SW 4th St 1st Door Bldg., Walla Walla College, College Place WA 99324-9999, contact Mable Babbitt WB5AVH, phone 509-525-7003, email wb5avh@msn.com

Colville, WA, ARRL VEC

December 3, 2011 10AM: American Legion, 103 E 6th, Colville, WA 99114; contact Tommy L Howe, 509-684-5565, thowe@hotmail.com

Kennewick, WA, ARRL VEC

November 13, 2011 2PM; sponsor: TCHAMS/TRI-CITIES ARC; Time: 2:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed); contact: Andrew E. Rakowski phone: (509)528-9814 Email: W7UNX@ARRL.NET; location: American Red Cross Bldg, 7202 W Deschutes Ave, Kennewick, W 99336; pre-registration preferred, doors open at 1:30PM

Lewiston, ID, ARRL VEC

November 1, 2011, 7PM; December 6, 2011, 7PM; Lewis-Clark ARC conducts testing the first Tuesday of every month at 6:00 PM at the EAA Chapter 328 Hanger at the Lewiston-Nez Perce County Airport, Building N-14, Lewiston, ID 83501. Please note the testing time is 1 hour prior to the meeting. For more information, please visit: <http://www.lewisclarkarc.org/testing.aspx> or email at w7vjd@lewisclarkarc.org. VE Contact: Emmett McCormick, NA7EM, Phone: 208-798-3279, Email: na7em@arrl.net

Pullman/Moscow Area, WA, ARRL VEC

454 Old Moscow Rd, Pullman, WA 99163; sponsor Palouse Hills ARC; contact: Tom Storer, KI6DER, phone: (509)334-6979 email: KI6DER@AmSat.org; see PHARC Web page for additional information: www.palousehillsarc.org

Republic, WA, ARRL VEC

Ferry CARES ARC (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: Cm Sam Jenkins (509) 775-2923 Email: samhbi@aol.com Location: LDS Chapel, 10 15th Street West, Republic WA 99166-9999

Spokane, WA, ARRL VEC

Contact: Mary Qualtieri, AA7RT, phone: (509)723-2503 or (509)991-2192 email: aa7rt@arrl.net

Spokane, WA, W5YI VEC

October 29, 2011; December 17, 2011; all at 10AM; St. Mark's Lutheran Church Library, 316 E 24th Ave, Spokane WA 99203; July 23, 2011, 12PM, Bowl & Pitcher Campground, Riverside State Park, WA, site of KBARA Annual Meeting/Campout; contact: Betsy Ashleman, phone: (509)448-5821 email: n7wrq@aol.com

Please bring two pieces of identification, one having a photo, radio license, if any, plus a photocopy, & any outstanding Certificates of Completion, plus a photocopy, & Social Security number or FCC Registration Number (FRN), and cash or check made out to the "ARRL" (\$15) or "W5YT" (\$14). If you pass a lower class license, you may sit for the next highest class on the same exam fee. You may retake any failed exam for an additional fee at the same testing session

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Please remember to renew your membership for 2012

Name: _____

Call Sign: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Amount Paid: _____

E-Mail: _____ ARRL Member #: _____

Would you rather receive the newsletter via computer, instead of receiving it in the mail? ____ YES ____ NO

Dues are a minimum of \$15.00 per year for individuals and \$20.00 for a family (all must be living at the same address). Dues are due January of each year. If they are paid between September 1 - December 31, they will be applied through the entire following year. And any additional amount going toward the Repeater Fund will be graciously accepted. To support KBARA, please send your contributions to:

KBARA, PO Box 30801, Spokane WA 99223-3013 Please visit our KBARA website for more information: [http: www.kbara.org](http://www.kbara.org)



HF Bands very active

HF bands have been hopping with activity with the recent solar activity. 10 meters with stations in Spain and Argentina heard recently to Japanese contacts on 15 and 20 meters. Even Japanese station have been heard on 15 meters after sunset.



KBARA Membership / Support Information: The KBARA repeater system consists of several privately owned linked Amateur Radio repeaters. It covers an area from northeastern Washington to northeastern Oregon, and from western Montana to central Washington. The KBARA system is also part of the Evergreen Intertie, an interconnected group of repeaters located in western Washington and Oregon. The primary purpose of the KBARA repeaters is to provide a means for emergency communications within the above areas, and secondarily for routine radio traffic. It makes possible a single system of mobile communications coverage, extending the limited range provided by any single repeater operation. The KBARA FM repeaters operate in the VHF bands and are linked by UHF radios. The repeaters' frequencies, call signs, locations and owners are as follows:

KB7ARA REPEATERS

- 146.74 W7HFI** Kamiak Butte, near Pullman, WA, owned by Bob, W7HFI, John, W7OE, & Mark, K7HPT
147.02 K7HPT Lookout Pass on I-90 on the Idaho-Montana border, owned by Mark, K7HPT, & John, W7OE
147.28 KD7DDQ Pikes Peak in the Blue Mountains, SE of Walla Walla, WA, owned by Ken, KD7DDQ & Mark K7HTP
147.36 N1NG Stensgar (Stranger) Mountain, near Chewelah, WA, owned by Mike, N1NG, & John, W7OE
147.38 W7OE Mica Peak, east of Spokane, WA, owned by John, W7OE
223.90 AK2O Stensgar (Stranger) Mountain, near Chewelah, WA, owned by Karl, AK2O
444.35 N1NG Mica Peak, east of Spokane, WA, with a 192.8 Hz tone, owned by Mike, N1NG
53.750 N7ZUF Kamiak Butte, near Pullman, WA, owned by Jay, N7ZUF

IRLP Node #3957 N1NG South Hill of Spokane, WA, owned by Mike, N1NG

All licensed Amateur Radio operators are welcome to use this open repeater system. Your support would also be greatly appreciated.

Please visit these sites for more information: <http://www.kbara.org> and visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/evergreenintertie>

To support KBARA, please send your contributions to:



KBARA
PO Box 30801
Spokane WA 99223-3013

Annual support is \$15 per calendar year for a single membership and \$20 for a family membership. Dues are due in January of each year and if paid between September 1 and December 31, they will be applied through the entire following year. Also, any contribution will be gladly accepted to the Repeater Fund.

KAMIAK BUTTE AMATEUR REPEATER ASSOCIATION

PO Box 30801

Spokane WA 99223-3013