



KB7ARA

Kamiak Butte Amateur Repeater Association

Fall 2013

KBARA Gazette

A fond fair well to John, KD7AAT. As John moves on to California he will be missed in the local KBARA community. He has given KBARA a great deal of his time and energy since he returned to amateur radio. His efforts in keeping the streaming audio going not only for the repeater but a variety of other amateur radio related podcasts and informational shows was a great addition to the KBARA system. A great job as net manager, keeping our regular nets manned and on the air. I have known John for many years that predated his amateur radio involvement. Thank you for everything you have done for KBARA and good luck in California. Scott, KA7FVV

Spokane Hamfest 2013 Recap

The 37th annual Spokane Hamfest has come & gone, & was enjoyed by nearly 450 Hams this year. Held at University High School in the Spokane Valley on October 28, it was once again the ARRL Washington State Convention, attracting Hams from all over the Pacific Northwest. ARRL dignitaries included Jim Fenstermaker, K9JF, Jim Pace, K7CEX, & Mark Tharp, KB7HDX. In addition to the many interesting seminars, "boat anchors" were plentiful this year, as well as commercial vendors. And, as always, the "Junque Action" was a huge hit. A big "thanks" go to our countless volunteers from the eight clubs hosting this yearly gathering. For Spokane Hamfest 2014, the initial planning meeting will tentatively be November 5, 2013, 5PM at Zip's Drive-In Restaurant on Trent & Argonne in the Spokane Valley, and all are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Betsy, N7WRQ (n7wrq@aol.com). (Additional pictures on page 5)



From the Desk of our President

Members

It is an honor to be elected president of this great organization at the annual meeting/picnic on July 27th. It will be an opportunity to try and fill the shoes of the past president Duff WA7BFN. Thank you, Duff for all the good work that you accomplished as president.

The focus the next year will be on increasing membership, preventive maintenance of our current system and to embrace new technology that benefits KBARA.

The club is blessed to have a group of repeater owners who are technically on the cutting edge and talented at taking advantage of the technology that is available.

I would like to formally thank the elected officials for their contribution to KBARA, Vice President Scott KA7FVV, Secretary Glen KF7QLH, and Treasurer Betsy N7WRQ. In addition I would like to thank all of the members who are working their tails off for the club, this includes appointed officials, net control hosts, and volunteers.

The Spokane Hamfest was very successful do to the guidance of Betsy; Chair, the partner clubs and the volunteers who made this event successful. Larry AA7UE for being the Voice of the event. A big thanks to the Glen, Scott, Duff, Curtis, and others that manned the KBARA table at the Hamfest outstand job. It was a big success. A special thanks for a record auction by John, Jay, Glen and the people who donated items. Again thanks for all people who helped put on this event, supported it.

John Boy KD7AAT has been the KBARA Net Manager for a number of years. He was outstanding in this position and a very verbal person on the system. He was always there to lend a hand and to Elmer new hams. John has moved to California to take care of his mother. He will be missed, but he will still be on Echolink, IRLP and the BBQ. Mike KF7EHT has assumed the Net Manager Position.

Looking forward to a great year and meeting more of the members. Congratulations to KBARA members for their prizes at the Hamfest especially Guy VA7GV who won the ICOM -7000.

73 and again thanks for your club support in the past and future,

Roger Krug
KF7JJC

The Mk II Antenna Tower Trailer By: Jay Lopes, N7ZUF

I got the idea when I was chatting with Ray Ullery, NA7RU, about how he converted his travel trailer to a mobile ham shack. An antenna trailer! What a way to get those DX stations! I love competing in the Washington State QSO Party, a.k.a. the Salmon Run Contest and Field Day. I thought it would be perfect for activating those counties south of me that never get on the air. I already had a car trailer; why not add a tower to it? Luck would have it that Randy, W4LKS, had a collapsible tower for sale. So a quick trip up to Four Lakes Washington and after an exchange of money, I became the owner of sixty-eight foot tower.

I took the tower to my shop, cleaned it up, inspected it, primed and painted it. I used some quarter inch steel plate for the base and the tower would be lifted up into position by the car winch. After everything was done, two days till the holy holiday of Field Day, and it was time to test it out.

I hit the switch, the winch started to turn and the tower slowly started to lift but something went wrong. The high torque of the winch started to pull the whole tower back but not up. I did not have a good pivot point to pull up the tower so one of the legs of the tower started to crumple under the high torque. Murphy's Law had taken over.

Well it looked like I would not get to use the trailer for Field Day and I would have had to resort to "Plan-B" using a sling shot to shoot a rope for my dipole.

Persistence is one of my virtues and a new plan was drawn up: the Mk.II Antenna Tower Trailer.



This design has a pivot-arm which allows the tower to swing up and down very quickly with the winch. For some of the metal supports I had to hire a welder since my own welder did not have enough current to do the job. Here is a picture of the tower deployed at a height of over fifty feet.

I got this ready for the Salmon Run and it worked great. The location I picked for Columbia County was windy so I was able to deploy to forty feet and I worked a lot of stations. The next day I traveled to Garfield County, which was even windier. I deployed at twenty feet and I was still able to work a lot of stations for the contest.



While I was in Garfield County, a local drove up and wondered what I was doing. He thought the trailer was a drill rig but I told him about the contest and that everything was fine. The maximum height of the tower is 68 feet with guy wires. Right now I use an 80 meter inverted-v dipole and tune it for 80 through 10 meters. I do have plans to attach a Yagi antenna at the top. I am proud to say that I made over 250 contacts with this during the Salmon Run.

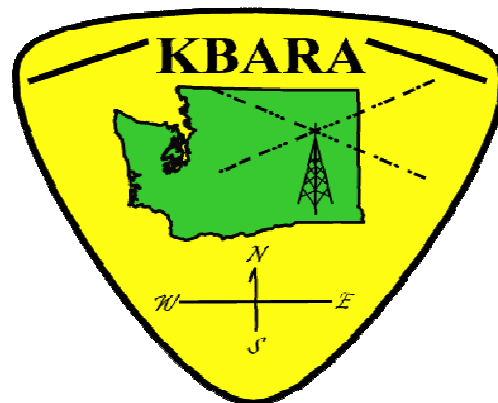
73 de N7ZUF

Echolink on a smartphone

Remember if you are away from the Inland Northwest and still want to access the KBARA system it can be done via Echolink. There is an App for that for most smartphones. Search for W4LKS-R. Place this in your favorites and you will never be out of touch with the KBARA System. Works best on WiFi. 3, 4G and LTE data works as well. Carrier Data rates may apply.



Hamfest 2013 in pictures



A little radio humor.....

Original Amateur Radio Terms by Cactus Jack, W7OE

D-Layer: A classroom of Scholarship Football players

Fresnel Zone: A form of defense played by Fresno State University

Tropo: A three horned hippopotamus

Transistor: Someone you would not want to take home from a bar

Skip Zone: Concave areas of the face missed by the razor

Anthropomorphic Peripheral: The source of most computer errors (O.K. I didn't make this one up)

Long Path: The route home from the casino to your spouse after you blew your paycheck gambling

Short Path: The route to the "good stuff" at the buffet (if you think salad bar you are mistaken)

Phase distortion: Facial tattoos

Heat Sink: What happened to General Yamomoto when he was blown out of the sky during WWII

Grounded Grid: The running game in football

DX: The former spouse that made enjoyment of the hobby difficult

DXCC: Your motorcycle that the former spouse got in the divorce settlement

Worked All States: Work source workers level of sobriety

Grounding Rod: In the old days the Vice Principal used it for discipline (AKA The Board of Education)

Gay Marriage: What occurs when both spouses enjoy ham radio

Quarter Wave: What you show the panhandler as you drive by when taunting him

LID: An Amateur Radio operator after smoking marijuana (is an oz of wacky tobaccy still called a lid?)

5 Words Per Minute: Downloading web pages using 3G

Solid State: Definitely a blue or red state and not a swing state like Ohio

Mike Gain: Michael Jordan's weight gain after retiring

Gamma Match: two fraternities competing in a football game

Legal Limit: In the State of Washington .08 or two tokes.

Exciter: jewelry

White Noise: The crowd at a NASCAR Race

Automatic Gain Control: A vegetarian diet (ugh!)

CQ Contest: What someone will say on the weekend if they don't like sports

Rag Chew: A pit bull attacking someone in Pakistan

Jerry rigging: The fake contestants on the Jerry Springer Show

Pile up: The stories DXers tell to each other

Calibration: The effect of California wines

Tower: A southerner's reference to greater height. "I tower den you"

Radio Check: A station from Prague.

RF: A bad grade. "My English grade RF"

Sine Wave: A Jerry Seinfeld greeting.

Ground Wave: A Minnie Me greeting

Dipole: A Polish Funeral Home

Wave Guide: A WWII era chaperon

CW: A George W. Bush sighting

Band Switch: Changing music preference

Vertical: A dizziness; a Hitchcock Movie

Center Conductor: A quarterback audible regarding the snap count

Newsletter Editor: someone who has to read a bunch of crap written at 3 AM

Keep your day job: W7OE the comedy writer

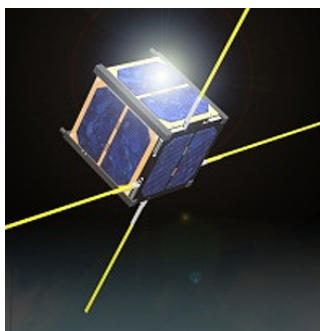
Upcoming Amateur Radio Satellite Launch

Funcube-1

Satellite will have a linear transponder, in other words SSB/CW communications like the current FO-29 and VO-52 satellites.

Due to be launched from Russia on November 21, 2013.

The Funcube website can be seen at <http://funcube.org.uk>



Inverting linear transponder:

Uplink 435.150 – 435.130 MHz

Downlink 145.950 – 145.970 MHz

Telemetry: 145.935 MHz BPSK

SO-50—Our only operational FM Satellite

Uplink: 145.850 Tone: 67.0

Downlink: 436.795

Downlink Doppler Shift Correction:

436.815—AOS

436.810

436.805

436.800

436.795—MID

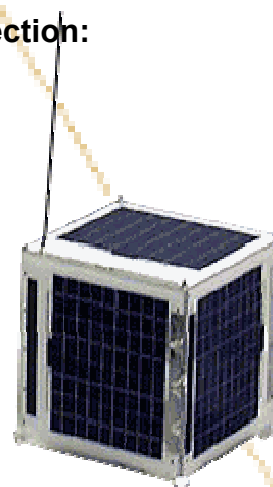
436.790

436.785

436.780—LOS



No new FM satellites are being launched until November of 2014. That is when Amsat-NA's Fox-1 will be launched.



Amateur Radio License Test Sessions



Chewelah, WA, ARRL VEC

Contact: Karl Miller, WX7DX: (509)258-8922 email: wx7dx@msn.com

Coeur d'Alene (Hayden), ID, ARRL VEC

November 11, 2013; second Monday of every month starting at 5:30PM at the Search & Rescue Building, 10865 N. Ramsey, Hayden, ID 83835 near the South end of CDA Airport

Contact John Hollar, Jr., N7JU, (208) 968-0703 email: n7ju@roadrunner.net

College Place, WA, ARRL VEC

November 17, 2013, 2PM, Walla Walla University, 100 SW 4th 1st Door Bldg, Chan Shun Pavilion, Lecture Hall RM 154, College Place WA 99324-9999

Contact Mable Babbitt WB5AVH, (509)525-7003, email: wb5avh@msn.com

Colville, WA, ARRL VEC

Contact Tommy L Howe, (509)684-5565; email: thowe@hotmail.com

Kennewick, WA, ARRL VEC

November 17, 2013; 2PM; Boy Scout Office, 8478 W Gage Blvd, Kennewick WA 99336-1075

Contact: Michael Tesky, KC7CCK (509)783-6236; email: kc7cck@frontier.com

Pullman/Moscow, WA, ARRL VEC

Contact: Tom Storer, KI6DER, (509)334-6979; email: KI6DER@AmSat.org

Spokane, WA, ARRL VEC

Outpost (behind Conley's Restaurant) 12624 E Sprague Ave, Spokane Valley WA 99216

Contact: Mary Qualtieri, AA7RT, (509) 991-2192; email: aa7rt@me.com

Spokane, WA, W5YI VEC

December 17, 2013; 7PM, Tuesday; 2nd Look Books, 2829 E 29th Ave Ste C, Spokane WA 99223, 509-535-6464 (at 29th Ave & Regal in Lincoln Heights Shopping Center)

Contact: Betsy Ashleman, (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 "W5YI" (\$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

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:

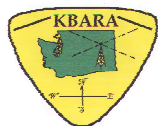
KB7ARA REPEATERS and IRLP Nodes

- 146.74 W7HFI** Kamiak Butte, near Pullman, WA, owned by Bob, W7HFI, John, W7OE, & Jay, N7ZUF
- 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, K7HPT
- 147.36 KF7QLH** Stensgar (Stranger) Mountain, near Chewelah, WA, owned by Glen, KF7QLH, & 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
- 443.125 B KB7ARA** Sacred Heart, South Hill of Spokane. Digital Voice D-Star DV A 1293.300 -20, DD A 1249.00 RPS
- IRLP Node #3638 KF7QLH** South Hill of Spokane, WA, owned by Glen, KF7QLH
- IRLP Node #3282 KF7QLH** West Spokane, WA on 147.400 simplex, 100.0 Hz tone
- Echolink** courtesy of Randy, KF7RVY. Look for KF7RVY-R.

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

