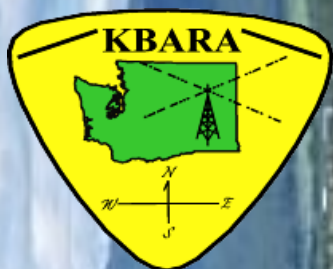


Fall 2024



Quarterly Journal of the Kamiak Butte Amateur Repeater Association

KBARA Gazette

KBARA 46th Annual Meeting



Officers for the next year

President: Jim, KM7H

Vice President: Ed, KK7SAB

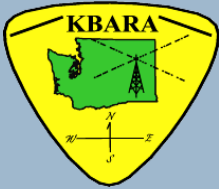
Secretary: Tim, N6JXN

Treasurer: Betsy, N7WRQ

Directors: Jim, N7WRR

Scott, KA7FVV

Glen, K1RR



Minutes of 46th Annual Meeting

18 Aug 2024

Minutes of the 46th annual meeting of KBARA

V.: 3.2

13:20 **Meeting called to order** by Jim Ashleman (N7WRR) followed by the KBARA member and associates in attendance. There was a mix of **17 members and non-members** present.

13:28 **Last year's minutes** read to all in attendance by Tim (N6JXN)

13:29 Last year's **minutes were voted on and accepted** by the members of KBARA

13:29 **Treasurers report** was read by Betsy (N7WRQ) from 1 July 2023 thru 30 June 24 and was as followed:

The club's membership was **85** members;

With a bank balance of **\$8,427.65**;

There was a revenue totaling **\$2,420.00**;

With expenses **\$1,822.69**;

Membership was **\$845.00** with extra donations of **\$1,575.00**.

13:32 **The Treasurers' report** voted on and approved by the members present.

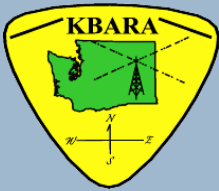
13:33 An **informal remembrance** for both Harry (W7HEE) and Guy (VA7GV) was presented by Jim (N7WRR) .

13:35 **Old Business**

Spokane Ham Fest: 2022 was the last time the Spokane Ham Fest was put on.

Last year's event was cancelled due to conflict needs by University High School overlapping 2022 Ham Fest date. The school multipurpose room needed to be reserved during the early part of June 2024 but there was a failure of communication leading a loose in the reservation for the room. The cost to the club would have been for cleaning fees and not necessarily for the room itself. This made that economically advantageous compared to other commercial venues that would have cost much more. Seed money of \$500 USD used to initiate the Ham Fest would potential be recovered by using the High School site. However, the philosophy of the Ham Fest is not to make additional funds off the event but to bring the Ham community together in celebration of the hobby.

Sec op Note: A further round table brain storm about future Ham Fest sites were discussed such as exploring the use of either Clayton and/or Rockford fairground sites for next years event. Rob (KK7NND) offered to help Betsy (N7WRQ) locating a future



Minutes of 46th Annual Meeting continued...

13:42 **New Business**

Jim (N7WRR) presented a report on his activities pertaining to Lookout Pass repeater. He stated that he swapped out repeaters at Lookout Pass. However, this repeater/duplexer combination still requires tweaking for proper operations. He also noted that the Look Out site duplexer is out tune. The transmitter put out 30 watts into the duplexer but the duplexer show only 13 watts output. The duplexer model is a TKR-750 designate.

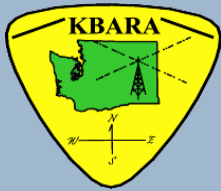
13:43 Mica Repeater - A 6 port controller that was recently purchased and on hand is being worked on at present (25 pin connect require patients to correctly make the solder connections). Moreover, the controller will requires programing. The 4-port controller, presently located at Mica, will be used for Stensgar (147.360mhz) as a 3-port system due to port 4 not functioning.

Sec op note: A discussion by Jim N7WRR was held about the people who use to help out with various repeaters in the south region of the KBARA system. The discussion ranged from Pikes Peak repeater to the coverage of West Winds repeater. West Winds repeater over deviates the incoming signal requiring participants to back away from their microphones to reduce over deviation during signal processing. Attention was turned on to the northern repeat - Stensgar. It was noted that Stensgar is in a bad 'RF' environment requiring filtering of signals to avoid intermod interference.

Sec op note: Ed (KK7SAB) asked about emergency communication across the repeater system. His information request included whether KBARA had an Emcomm Liaison between ARES/RACES or any other emergency groups and whether he can serve as an Emcomm Liaison on behalf of KBARA. Jim (N7WRR) who is most familiar with this topic gave a thumb nail sketched on the KBARA system linkage. KBARA repeater system plays host to several groups that practice emergency voice skills: One on Sunday evening and the other on Monday evening. However, the club does not have a formal committee for Emcomm activity. If the club enacts an Emcomm Liaison, then according to the KBARA By-Laws an officer of the club needs to appointed that person to that committee. This matter was left un-resolved.

14:03 **Nomination for Directors and Officers**

Prior to nominating or voting - Jim (N7WRR) extolled the virtues why we need to rotate club members through the various positions of club's leader ship roles.



Minutes of 46th Annual Meeting continued...

Scott (KF7VV) agreed to remain in his present position as Director for another 3 year term.

Jim Gladden (KK7EW) and Edward Parry (KK7SAB) were nominated for the office of Vice President (V.P.).

Jim Gladen (KK7EW) backed out of the nomination for V.P.

In Memoriam

We were saddened to hear the news of our friend Ann Reeves WA7ROS becoming a silent key. She and her husband Jim WA7RVV, also a silent key, were strong supporters of the Spokane Hamfest, NW Tri-State ARO & KBARA. Several years ago they moved to Battleground WA but continued to stay in touch with the group. They are pictured here at the 2009 Longhorn holiday luncheon, which they always attended.



Also we learned the terrible news about Jim Rogers VE7JER of Genelle, BC becoming a silent key on October 20, 2024. He had fallen and hit his head. He was only 68 years old. Jim and his wife Sue VA7SGR were regular check-ins on the KBARA morning net. We enjoyed hearing about their garden, camping and many other activities. Jim will certainly be missed.



Winter Field Day 2025

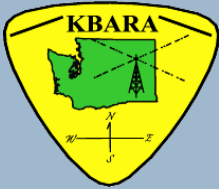
January 25th & 26th

Starts 1600 UTC Saturday, January 25th
Ends 2159 UTC Saturday January 26th

To register your station or club go to

<https://winterfieldday.org/>





Dennis, KF7UTH SK

Dennis Roberts KF7UTH became a silent key September 29th 2024 at 81 years old. He is known to many as the long time Thursday morning net control operator who was always there! He was a great supporter of KBARA and was the President of KBARA for several years at one time. His church requested he obtain a ham radio license for emergency communications. He did and shortly after started as a net control for KBARA. He had a great radio voice, and was a good and dedicated net control for over 10 years. Many will remember his descriptions of growing up in the Ballard district of Seattle, his parents' relocation to Spokane, his military service in Korea, working undercover in the Silver Valley for Pinkerton, and his work as a tax auditor for the State of Washington. He was a very straight forward and honest person and we miss hearing and seeing him.



Jim N7WRR and Betsy N7WRQ

A full obituary which we believe he wrote was in the September 25th edition of the Spokesmen Review. A graveside memorial service will be held November 23, 2024, 12:30 PM at Riverside Memorial Park, 508 N. Government Way, Spokane per the Church of Jesus Christ Latter-Day Saints.

Many people have made comments and recalled Dennis on the nets since his passing. Included here as some sent in comments.

He was a ham radio operator (KF7UTH) and used his radio skills to be able to assist in emergency situations through his affiliation with the LDS Church. He also was a Net Control on an informal ham radio check in network. He had the gift of gab and always had something interesting to report. I used to kid him about investing in gold in which I'm involved and he disagreed with it as an investment. It was always good natured. He was a straight up guy with no pretenses. He will be missed by many.

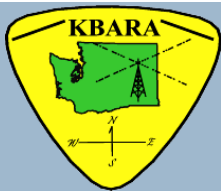
John W7OE

Dennis was a kind person and always had a story to tell. He was a man of strong faith and active in his religious community. He will be missed on the air by his friends in the radio community. I am glad to have known him just a little.

Rob KK7NND

Our almost 10 years of net controlling, now silent key. Mike K7EHT offered me the net control job just after Murray and I got our tickets in November 2014. I declined and so he asked Dennis KF7UTH if he would take it. HE DID!

Valaire KG7OWX



Technical Update

by Jim, N7WRR

Most of the system is working fairly well at this time but work remains to be done. We still have the long tail on the 147.38 repeater at Mica caused by traffic coming in from the hub at Stensgar.

Mica Peak 147.38 repeater. The link to the hub from Mica was cutting out. I went to site on July 23rd and changed the 220 MHz radio that links to the hub. The SWR was good at 1.1:1 for the antenna system. Also did some programming of the controller. The link has been working fine since, but we still have the long tail at Mica. In July a new controller was ordered for Mica. It has been received and I have made up new cables for it and have been programming it. It is more difficult to program than the old one. I will try to get it installed over the next month. We designed an ice shield for the 220 MHz antenna and Glen K1RR is near completion building it and we will install it to try to prevent the winter outages we have had from damage to the antenna by falling ice. The photo shows the pole with the 5 element 220 MHz hub antenna; the ice shield will go just above it.



Lookout Pass, MT 147.02 repeater. In late August received reports that the Lookout repeater was down. I went to site August 25th and found the Kenwood repeater had blown finals; it was putting out much less than 1 watt. I replaced it with an ICOM FR-5000 repeater I had on hand and it is working, but I need to go back to adjust the controller; the local audio is a little over driven and not good quality. The antenna system is fine, with a 1:1 SWR, however found that we have 26.6 watts out of the radio, but only 17.4 watts out of the duplexer, this is a 1.8db loss and a little high, but considered acceptable. Will try to get someone with a service monitor to site next summer to see if we can do a little better and set the audio levels.

West Twin, ID 147.32 repeater. Scott KA7FVV and Glen K1RR are working on a new IRLP interface for West Twin. Currently it needs resetting daily and the audio going out over the link is too "hot" and distorted. We would like to get the new IRLP interface to site before it gets snowed in, but that is dependent on scheduling with the site owner and others. When we do get to site we will check propagation to the hub and if good, measure for coax and antenna and try to get permission for having a link radio in addition to the IRLP link at site for future use. We can use the old Mica controller for it.

Remember to check into the weekly KBARA Wednesday evening nets at 7pm for more information on the status of the system and with any questions you may have regarding the system or questions in general regarding amateur radio. We will try to get you answers.



Kamiak Butte Amateur Repeater Association
KB7ARA
PO Box 30801
Spokane WA 99223-3013



KBARA is a support group for several club and privately owned linked Amateur Radio repeaters. The system covers an area from NE Washington to NE 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, IRLP, EchoLink KB7ARA-R, and AllStar node 53587. The repeaters' frequencies, call signs and locations are as follows:

147.380 MHz N7WRQ on Mica Peak near Spokane, WA, owned by Betsy N7WRQ & Jim N7WRR
147.360 MHz N7WRR on Stensgar (Stranger) Mt. near Chewelah, WA, owned by Jim N7WRR & Betsy N7WRQ
147.320 MHz (103.5 Hz tone) KA7FVV on West Twin near Moscow ID, owned by Scott KA7FVV & KBARA
147.280 MHz KB7ARA on Pikes Peak in the Blue Mountains near Walla Walla, WA, owned by KBARA
147.020 MHz KB7ARA on Lookout Pass on the Idaho-Montana border, owned by KBARA
223.900 MHz KB7ARA hub repeater on Stensgar (Stranger) Mt. near Chewelah, WA, owned by KBARA
444.350 MHz N1NG (192.8 tone) on Mica Peak near Spokane, WA, owned by Mike N1NG
IRLP Node #3638 in Spokane WA owned by Glen, K1RR

All licensed Amateur Radio operators are welcome to use this open repeater system.

To support KBARA, please send your contributions to: KBARA, P.O. Box 30801, Spokane, WA 99223-3013

Name _____ Call Sign _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Amount Paid _____

Email Address _____ ARRL Member? _____

Dues are \$15.00 per year for individuals and \$20.00 for a family (all must be living at the same address), but any amount will be greatly appreciated. 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. Also, any contribution to the Repeater Fund will be gladly accepted. For more info, please visit our website at www.kbara.org. See us on Facebook.



Upcoming Hamfests and Events

Courtesy of N7CFO.com

~~~~~2025~~~~~

February 15. Salem Hamfair. Rickreall, OR. <http://www.w7sra.com/> .

March 8. Mike & Key Swapmeet. Puyallup, WA. [Flyer in PDF](#).

April 12. N7YRC Tailgate Party, Union Gap, WA. Yakima Valley Emergency Management, 2403 S. 18th St., Union Gap, WA. [Map in PDF](#).

April. Kamiah Hamfest. American Legion Hall 618 Main St. Kamiah, ID. <https://www.3riversarc.club>

May 10. Stanwood Camano ARC 32nd Annual Electronic Flea Market and Hamfest. Stanwood, WA. [https://scarcwa.org/ham\\_fest.shtm](https://scarcwa.org/ham_fest.shtm) .

May. SWIARC Spring 2025 Spring HamFest, Peace Valley Charter School, 1845 S. Federal Way, Boise, ID 83701 <http://www.dosomethingradio.com>

May 30, 31 and June 1. SEA-PAC Hamfest and ARRL Northwestern Division Convention. Seaside Convention Center, Seaside, Oregon. [info@seapac.org](mailto:info@seapac.org) . [www.seapac.org/](http://www.seapac.org/) .

June 6, 7, & 8. Wenatchee Apple City ARC Hamfest, Dryden, WA. <https://www.applecityarc.com/>

June. Port Ludlow ARC Tail Gate Swapmeet. <https://www.n7pl.org>

August. Puget Sound Antique Radio Association Annual Swapmeet. <https://antiqueradios.com/>

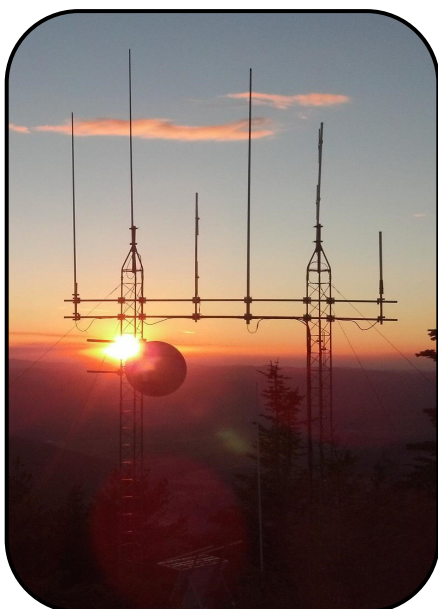
September. High Desert Amateur Radio Group 3rd Annual High Desert Ham Fest, Redmond, Oregon. [www.hidarg.org](http://www.hidarg.org) . contact [kf7max@arrl.net](mailto:kf7max@arrl.net)

October. Pacific Northwest VHF Society Conference. <http://www.pnwvhfs.org/>



# KBARA Repeaters and Echolink/IRLP Nodes

| Frequency         | CTCSS Tone | Location          | Call sign | RF Link         |
|-------------------|------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| <b>Repeaters</b>  |            |                   |           |                 |
| 223.90 MHz        | None       | Stensgar Mtn      | KB7ARA    | Hub             |
| 147.38 MHz        | 100.00     | Mica Peak         | N7WRQ     | KB7ARA—223.90   |
| 147.36 MHz        | None       | Stensgar Mtn      | N7WRR     | Hard wired Hub  |
| 147.02 MHz        | None       | Lookout Pass      | KB7ARA    | N7WRQ—147.38    |
| 147.28 MHz        | None       | Pikes Peak        | KB7ARA    | KB7ARA—223.90   |
| 147.32 MHz        | 103.5      | West Twin, Moscow | KA7FVV    | IRLP            |
| 444.350 MHz       | 192.8      | Mica Peak         | N1NG      | Stand Alone     |
| <b>Links</b>      |            |                   |           |                 |
| Echolink KB7ARA-R | N/A        | Spokane, WA       | KB7ARA-R  | KB7ARA - 223.90 |
| IRLP Node 3638    | None       | Spokane, WA       | K1RR      | KB7ARA—223.90   |



**KBARA Membership / Support Information:** The KBARA repeater system consists of several club & 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. All licensed Amateur Radio operators are welcome to use this open repeater system. Your support would also be greatly appreciated. Please visit this site for more information:

<http://www.kbara.org> for more information about the club and repeaters.

## KBARA Officials

### Directors

Jim Ashleman, N7WRR  
Scott Harvey, KA7FVV  
Glen Ahlborn K1RR

### Officers

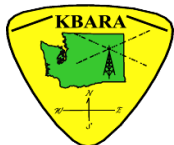
President: Jim Johnson, KM7H  
Vice President: Ed Parry, KK7SAB  
Secretary: Tim, N6JXN  
Treasurer: Betsy Ashleman, N7WRQ

Testing is held the 3rd Wednesday of every month. Brought to you by Glen, K1RR. If you have any questions please contact Glen at [glen@k1rr.com](mailto:glen@k1rr.com) or 509.216.0666.

**Contact Glen for updates on testing.**



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. This can also be done via PayPal on our webpage at [www.kbara.org](http://www.kbara.org).

## KAMIAK BUTTE AMATEUR REPEATER ASSOCIATION

PO Box 30801

Spokane WA 99223-3013