



KBARA GAZETTE

RAMBLINGS

I know I keep saying this but, I will do so again "Time really flies".

This is one of my favorite times of the year. I am so glad I live in this part of the country because of all the pretty colors. This year seems to be the best autumn ever as we are having such wonderful weather. Having grown up in the south where the leaves changed from green to brown I couldn't ask for a better season than what we are having this year.

There were lots of activities since the last newsletter. I will not remember them all but the one that I want to comment on was the 1999 Spokane Hamfest. If you did not attend, you missed the best ever Hamfest in Spokane history. So be prepared, Betsy (N7WRQ) is the chairperson for the Y2K Hamfest. I know with her great direction, the Y2K Hamfest will be even better than last this past one. Please be sure to volunteer to help. There are so many little things that people can do and not dedicate their whole lives to the Hamfest.

Another plee for articles for the newsletter. I really do need all of you to help make this newsletter the best. Your articles are very important to the success of our newsletter.

Mary Barber KC7ZZR

PRESIDENTS' CORNER

Since my last report on the state of KBARA, we've seen lots of improvements to the system: repairs to the Kamiak Butte Repeater (146.740 MHz), fine tuning of the Blue Mts. Repeater (147.280 MHz), a new tower at Lookout Pass (147.020 MHz) with maintenance to the old, interference troubleshooting at Stensgar (146.360 MHz) and Mica Peak (147.380 MHz). Additionally, the Evergreen Intertie East/West trunk is now fully functional, and we're able to once again connect to systems west of the Cascades. All of these repairs and improvements took countless hours of volunteer time, along with considerable financial contributions, and we certainly want to extend our thanks to all those involved.

Which brings me to my next topic: the annual contribution. Our fiscal year begins January 1, and we certainly hope you can include KBARA in your yearly budget. Don't forget we are a non-profit organization, and any contributions made are tax-deductible. Also, you can help the repeater support group by letting us handle your ARRL renewal or new membership. The club receives \$5 for each new member, and \$2 for a renewing member. Please contact us for more information.

Lastly, we are making a plea for additional net controls. Those few KBARA members who run our nets are in need of assistance, and would welcome and appreciate any newcomers. So hope you will consider taking the plunge to join that elite group.

73,
Betsy Ashleman
N7WRQ

PS The 1999 Spokane Hamfest was a complete success. Not only did we promote the hobby, have a grand time, but gave the club a 122% raw return on the \$500 seed money contribution. And now, Hamfest 2000, here we come!

J-POLE Antenna Design

Been having trouble hitting that distant repeater with your "rubber ducky"? Well, this Copper Pipe J-Pole Antenna is the perfect solution. It is not only efficient and economical, but it also has gain! Not bad for around \$10. **You will need to go to your favorite building supply store and pick up the following items:** (For the YL's – Even your husband can build this one. Hi Hi.)

- One 10 foot piece of 1/2" or 5/8" rigid copper tubing.
- One 90 degree elbow fitting.
- One tee fitting.
- Two copper end caps.
- Two small stainless steel adjustable hose clamps

Now that you have your supplies, lets get started building this thing.

1. Cut the copper pipe to the followings lengths (or have it cut at the same place you bought it)"

1 piece 57" (66 1/2" for the 5/8 wave)

1 piece 19"

1 piece 1" (to join the tee and elbow)

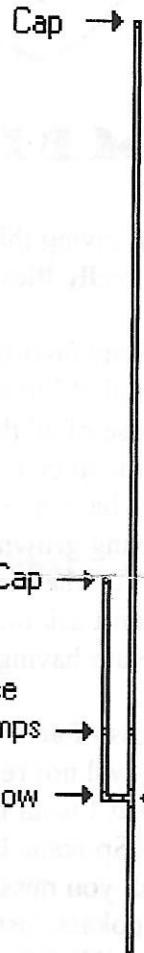
(The remaining piece will be used for the mount.

2. Using normal plumbing techniques (solder, flux, and torch) connect the tubing as shown in the illustration.

3. Solder the end caps in place.

You are now ready to tune your creation:

1. Attach the hose clamps about 3" up from the bottom of the "U" (5" for the 5/8 wave).
2. Strip the jacket from about 5" of the coax you plan to use, separate the shield and center lead forming a "Y" and strip one inch of the insulation from the center lead.
3. Attach the coax by placing the end of the center lead under the clamp on the 19" side and the end of the shield under the clamp on the 57" (66 1/2") side.
4. Mount the antenna, check and adjust the SWR by sliding the clamps with the coax up/down until a 1:1 SWR is achieved.
5. Bring up your favorite repeater and enjoy your new antenna.



If the copper color is not to your liking, you can paint the antenna any color you wish with any non-metallic spray paint. It is strongly recommended you use a good silicon compound to weatherproof the coax connections against the elements.

I will be glad to answer any questions you have on this project.

Just send e-mail to trbarber@earthling.net. Good Luck KK7PX Tom Barber

KBARA OFFICERS

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W7LKR Geroge Fitzpatrick
N7LMA Bob Phillips
N7LMD Wayne Hamilton
N7LVO Neil P. Gallup
KA5LXG Flathead Valley Repeater
KC7LYT Sam Fleming
KC7MDX John Hopkins
WA7MJB Michael Brewer
K7MM Dan Ransom
KC7MXO Eric Grenseman
KK7MYMichael Mattoon
KC7NGD Carol Heden

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JOIN KBARA/Renew Membership

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

TO SUPPORT KBARA SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

KBARA
P.O. Box 18575
SPOKANE, WA 99228-8575

NAME(S) _____ CALL SIGN(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ AMOUNT PAID _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____ ARRL MEMBER? _____

NEW SPONSOR RENEWING SPONSOR INDIVIDUAL SPONSOR FAMILY SPONSOR

Support is \$15.00 per year for individuals, \$20.00 for family sponsorship (all must be living at the same address). Dues are due January of each year. Dues paid during the last quarter (after September 1) will apply through the entire following

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KB7GJY Allen Gemmrig
KC7GKY Joseph French
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KA7GOB Jon Weers
KC7GPB Eli Yewdall
KB7HFI Eugene Smith
KC7HFI Bob Lemon
WA6HSL Eugene Christianson
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KC7WFF Patsy Glatt
KC7WLP Peggy Pettis
N7WRR James Ashleman
KB7WTO Royal Moore
KI7XK Ron F. Snider

Oliver Repeater Update - The Oliver Amateur Radio Club has removed the 220 MHZ link radio and antennae from Baldy as a result of a poor path and poor quality of audio both ways on the link. Oliver hopes to find another alternative, perhaps a better quality antennae, or move the equipment to Trail, B.C. on Granite Mtn. for testing. Unfortunately, these plans are on hold until next year, as the mountain tops up here are now snowed in. We will keep you posted on events in this regard as they take place. Thank you, Roy, VE7DTT and Jan, VE7TST



