

# KBARA Gazette

Spring 2001

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The Quarterly Journal Of the Kamiak Butte Amateur Repeater Association

## Fun Time For All at KBARA Dinner



On Friday April 5th, KBARA hosted a dinner at Matthews Restaurant on Pines and I- 90. This was held to welcome Charlene and Walt to the Spokane area. Charlene was presented with a can of KBARA Squirrel soup, and she gave out cans of Bozo Gang Stew, among other things. A great time was had by all, and we plan to do this again on other occasions. Remember, we still have Field day, Campout, and Hamfest to go. Still time to think up more craziness.

At this years campout, we will have a contest to find out who can cook the best hamburger, and also a contest for the best entry for the potluck dinner after the KBARA meeting. I will be looking for volunteers for judges. Anybody brave enough to serve as a judge can contact me at [KD7DDQ@icehouse.net](mailto:KD7DDQ@icehouse.net). The Canadians have won the last two years, so lets show them that we can cook good meals too!! Win prizes. Get recognition. Enter the contests.

Ken "THE BURGERMEISTER"



Win A Yaesu FT-847  
AT The Original Spokane HAMFEST

The social season is upon us and already KBARA has attended two Hamfests, with another one within the week. Thanks to all those folks helping the Club put its best foot forward. Plans are also underway for our second annual Field Day at Pioneer Park near Dayton. Closely following that event is our annual meeting at Riverside State Park. And of course, KBARA is again participating in the August Spokane Hamfest.

Special thanks go to Mike, N1NG, our "Number 1 Nice Guy". Not only has Mike "volunteered" for the annual meeting/camp out preparations, he has dedicated a portion of his website to the Club (<http://www.maxsonlab.com/kbara.htm>). Between our official site (<http://www.kbara.cjb.net>), so generously hosted by Isaiah, KD7CDE, and Mike's, KBARA is well represented on the Web.

On a sad note, two of our members are now silent keys. Our dear friends Bob Mackie, KC7IE, and Joe Gates, K7LHV both passed away recently. They will be sadly missed, and we send our condolences to their families.

And now for our plea, on bended knees: the Club desperately needs volunteers. First, the Night Crawlers' Ragchew Net needs net controls. Second, club officer candidates must come forward at the annual meeting/election if the financial support group is to continue. Please give both these requests serious thought, and then let me know of your interest.

Last, your chance to support KBARA and the Spokane Hamfest, along with a chance to win the Yaesu FT-847 "Earth Station" are all combined with the purchase of a \$1 raffle ticket. It just doesn't get any better than that. Tickets will be available at Field Day, the annual meeting, and of course at the Spokane Hamfest. The drawing will be held August 5, 2001, 11AM, and you need not be present to win.

73,  
Betsy Ashleman, N7WRQ

# FCC Turns Away Restructuring Petitions For Reconsideration

ARRL April 13, 2001

The FCC has declined to make any significant changes to the way it implemented Amateur Radio "restructuring" last April. The Commission has turned down several requests for changes in the Amateur Service rules contained in five petitions for partial reconsideration of its Report and Order WT Docket 98-143, released December 30, 1999. The ARRL was among the petitioners. In a Memorandum Opinion and Order released April 6, the FCC by and large denied all petitions for changes to its restructuring Order--although it did claim to grant one ARRL request--and it made some minor housekeeping changes to the amateur rules. Among the issues was a request from the ARRL and other petitioners that the FCC continue to maintain records that indicate whether a Technician licensee has Morse code element credit. The FCC noted that its current Universal Licensing System software was modified to display a "P" (for Plus) in the field that indicates former license class when a Technician Plus class license is renewed. "This capability results in the amateur service database being able to provide a de facto Technician Plus licensee database," the FCC asserted in its MO&O. The FCC did not address how its database will distinguish current Technician licensees who subsequently earn Morse code (Element 1) credit. Those licensees have only a Certificate of Completion of Examination (CSCE), which will never be reflected in the database, even upon license renewal. The FCC also decided to not extend Element 1 credit to all past licensees who had ever earned it--something else the ARRL had asked for. Under current rules, the holder of an expired Novice or a pre-February 14, 1991, Technician license can get Element 1 credit. The FCC said that "most examinees" who ever held a General, Advanced or Amateur Extra ticket also once held a Novice or a pre-February 14, 1991, Technician ticket that grants Element 1 credit. Left out in the cold by the FCC's decision is anyone who went directly to Conditional or General class without ever holding a Novice ticket. The FCC also declined to extend permanent credit to Element 1 CSCEs held by Technicians to obtain HF privileges. These CSCEs are good for 365 days for upgrading purposes but confer only additional operating privileges for Technicians beyond that time. The FCC refused to reinstate the 20 WPM Morse code exam for Extra. The FCC said that since restructuring went into effect nearly a year ago, "there does not appear to be any decline in the proper operation of amateur stations." The FCC also declined to ban the practice of allowing applicants to retake a failed examination element at a single test session simply by paying a second fee to the VE team. And the Commission did not go along with requests to set the total number of questions at 50 for the Technician and General class test and at 100 for the Amateur Extra test. The FCC also declined to make any changes--at least for now--in the arrangement of mode-related Amateur Radio subbands, as some petitioners had requested. The FCC said it believed it should let the amateur community "reach a consensus regarding a comprehensive restructuring of operating privileges for all licensees" before making any changes. Also denied were requests to: institute a new entry-level Communicator license class in the Amateur Service; elevate former "Class A" operators licensed prior to 1951 to Amateur Extra, instead of leaving them at Advanced class; give Element 4 exam credit to examinees who'd held a Conditional, General or Advanced ticket before November 22, 1968--when "incentive licensing" became effective.

KBARA's senior amateur makes his usual appearance at the Lilac City Hamfest.



Charlene & Reg  
Beauty and the Best

Here and There

## Your Opinion Please

With the rising costs of duplicating and mailing the KBARA Gazette, (over \$500 annually) an alternative form of distribution is being considered.

Most of the KBARA membership is "on-line" with e-mail capability. We would appreciate your input as to whether an electronic distribution of the newsletter to be appropriate. Of course we would continue to mail to those who do not have e-mail capability. The electronic form would feature full color and be in an easily opened file, of high quality, that could be printed locally on your printer or maintained on your computer.

Please address yourself via e-mail to Betsy, N7WRQ@AOL.COM or by mail or on air.

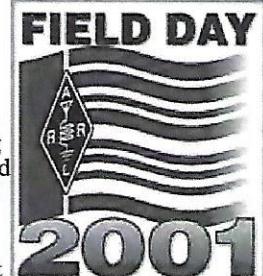
Thanks  
Duff WA7BFN editor

## Field Day Pins & T-Shirts

Many of you ordered a Field Day pin last year. This year ARRL is offering a Field Day T-Shirt with the 2001 Field Day emblem shown in red, white and blue and the "2001" in gold lettering. I will be placing orders no later than May 25th for pins and T-shirts so that we can have them by the time Field Day rolls around on the 23rd and 24th of June. The pins are still \$5 (shipping included) and the T-shirts are \$9.95 plus shipping and handling. If we place an order of \$75 or more for the shirts, the shipping and handling will be \$10 for the entire order. In other words, if we place an order for 20 T-shirts shipping will come to \$.50 per shirt. That number will be less if we order even more. The shirts come in sizes of M to XXL.

To order, please send a list of what you want (including sizes) plus your check including \$.50 per shirt to:

Ruth Younce KD7EWV  
KBARA Field Day Chair  
1030 NE Alfred Lane  
Pullman, WA 99163



# Come One Come All...

It's time once again for the 2nd annual KB7ARA sponsored Field Day and potluck dinner at Pioneer Park east of Dayton WA June 23rd and 24th. Get ready, mark the calendars and plan on lots of fun.

You don't even have to be a licensed ham or a member of KBARA to enjoy all the fun. The "on the air" fun begins a 11AM June 23rd, The picnic will begin on at 4pm on the 23rd. Stay for part of all. Those that attended last year experienced the beauty of the park and the great radio reception. From 3,545 ft you can imagine the view. Lots of trees to set up antennas plenty of wildlife and no ticks! However.. there is no water available so plan on bringing your own supply. Other necessary facilities will be provided by KBARA.



We expect a lot of fun again this year. As last year contacting stations all over the US and of course the potluck dinner. We even got a photo of three young ladies two of whom have their licenses already, into the field day edition of QST! There will be plenty of photo-ops and we may get another published this year.

Call in duplex frequencies will be any of the repeaters in the KBARA system. The Walla Walla repeater, 147.280 MHz will be the closest to the park. Simplex call in will be on 146.540 MHz.

It's a campout/picnic so bring along eating utensils, paper plates, your own meat if you want. (We hope to have a number of campfires and BBQ grills for use) DON'T FORGET water, or your beverage of choice (no alcohol please) and anything else you think people would like to eat. For those of you planning on staying over, in the event of rain bring tents, tarps for covering yourself and the equipment. Generators and lights if you'll be supplying a station. Remember the field day goes through the night so it will get cold, bring warm clothes, a sense of adventure and fun too!



If you have technical questions regarding rigs, antennas, generators and the like, contact John Dempster W7OE. For any direction questions, sight information, contact Ruth Younce KD7EWV (flyounce@turbanet.com) Questions about fun contact Charlene Davis, KD7RQF (@oregontrail.net).

This is an ARRL Event and for those of you who plan to operate, check out the May 2001 QST or ARRL website ([www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)) for all the rules. Look for directions elsewhere in the newsletter.

We hope to see you at Pioneer Park.  
73s Ruth KD7EWV



# Beyond The Call by Dennis N7UTM

**KC7LYT-SAM:** You can't help but notice that Sam is always friendly and happy when he checks into the nets or at other times he is on the KBARA system. I was sure he had some interesting stories to tell.

Sam C. Fleming Jr. was born on September 25th 1924 in Nashville, Tennessee. The only child of his father who was an embalmer at the Vanderbilt University Hospital and his mother who had her own food catering business, Sam graduated from high school in Nashville in 1942. A year later he was drafted into the U.S. Army, became a vehicle mechanic and served in North Africa and India through WWII. After the war Sam remained in the Army and also served in Korea during that conflict in the early 1950s. Sam saw some combat action in both wars but was never wounded. He say "I just always ducked at the right time".

Sam's duties around mechanics evolved from wheeled vehicles to tanks and on to aircraft bot fixed wing and helicopters. After serving in the Army on active duty for over 21 years he retired as a Warrant Officer and went to work the next day for the Army doing the same job. This was as a supervisor of mechanics and maintenance in Japan. He spent over 30 years total in Japan finally retiring from federal civil service 4 years ago.

Sam got his first radio call (WN5IWS) in 1951 at Fort Hood, Texas. W5IWS soon followed when he upgraded to General Class. Due to several moves during his service as a soldier and a civilian his call was changed a number of times (perhaps as many as six) till his current call when he moved to Spokane several years ago from Tulsa, Oklahoma to accommodate his wife's wishes to return to her home town and be available to help out her mother. Sam has done quite a bit of HF operating in the past a particularly a lot of service in MARS while in Japan. More recently most of his operating has been on VHF. Perhaps Sam's main hobby or passion is flying his own private airplane, a Beech T-34A "Mentor" a 3000 lb all metal, single engine, low wing, 2 passenger craft which has a cruise of over 170 m.p.h.. There is quite a story as to how Sam got his plane to Spokane. He originally obtained it several years ago as a surplus U.S. Navy Trainer auctioned off in Japan. He had it disassembled, crated, and shipped to the US where he reassembled it and put it into its current flyable condition. This process took about 4 years. Over time Sam has been able to become an FAA certified Airframe Powerplant mechanic and more recently got his FAA Inspection Authorization License. By doing his own mechanical work his operation costs are similar to a moderate used car with a value of the aircraft that of a moderate home! He could write a book on how to own and operate a plane without being rich!

Sam has been married several times and has two grown children. His daughter is also a pilot and a flight instructor in California. His wife, Sue, is a computer system trouble shooter for the city of Spokane. She is also a ham - KB7BKS.

I asked Sam about any "close calls". He told me of flying around Mt. Fuji in Japan and coming in to unexpected severe turbulence which provided a real scare for a few moments. A couple of times he ran short of fuel and had to make an unscheduled landing at a small strip, with the engine quitting as he rolled up to the pump. From what he tells me I believe he watches the fuel gauge more closely these days.

We look forward to contacting Sam on the Radio, seeing him from time to time, and hearing of his flight over and around the Spokane area. Please no new scary stories Sam!

## FOR SALE

Simpson Model 479 TV-FM Sig Generator, 250 Mhz; Eico Model 377 Audio Generator, Sold as Set

\$25.00. Contact Frank KD7EWW (flyounce@turbanet.com) Pullman.



## How to get there.

Coming into Dayton from Walla Walla/Waitsburg: Drive up Main Street until just before it goes up the hill past the Green Giant Plant. At the base of the hill, turn right on to fourth street.

Coming from Dayton on Highway 12 from Spokane/Colfax: Drive down Main Street past the Green Giant plant to the bottom of the hill where Main Street flattens out. At the bottom of the hill turn left onto 4th street.

Via Skyline Drive: (Best for RVs)

Miles

- 0.0 From HWY 12 turn east on to 4th St.
- 0.5 Go 1/2 mile to the cemetery turn off. It's the fourth left hand turn. (7th block counting on the right)  
On the right it's marked Mustard Street, On the left it's marked Eckler Mt./Skyline Drive by a yellow house.
- 3.3 The paved Road ends after about 2.8 miles
- 4.7 After another 1.4 miles, there is a fork in the road, KEEP LEFT!
- 6.1 1.4 miles past the fork is the Davis Cut-Off, Keep LEFT Again.
- 7.2 It's another 1.1 miles (at the top of the ridge) to a big above ground storage tank. Keep Left again .9.7 You'll pass Hatley Gulch after another 2.5 miles.  
Almost There!
- 10.5 Just another 0.9 miles to the park, it's on the right.

Via Hatley Gulch Rd. (Most Direct) Easier to find, not many curves but steep in places.

- 0.0 From Hwy 12 turn east on to 4th street. Go all the way through town.
- 5.1 The Hatley gulch turn-off is 5.1 miles form Hwy 12, turn left.
- 9.3 Stay on Hatley until the road ends, about 4.2 miles. Turn right. Almost There
- 10.2 Another 0.9 miles to the park. It's on the right hand side.

## KBARA

The Kamiak Butte Amateur Repeater Association

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