



THE KBARA GAZETTE

Volume 3 Issue 2

The Kamiak Butte Amateur Repeater Association Newsletter

May 1996

KBARA

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Spokane, WA. 99212

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Hello again and welcome back to the world of Amateur Radio. Okay so I'm the one that should be saying that loudly. Sorry for the delay in the newsletter but we have had a few minor set-backs here on the home front. We have reached the end of the year as KBARA sees it where we elect new officers for the group and discuss what we want the next year to do for us. The system has worked well during the floods and the nasty parts of the year and now it seems that a couple of problems are up in the air. The 146.740 repeater on Kamiak Butte can't seem to hear anything at the moment which means that we don't get to hear N7IS, George with the ARRL reports (and yes George we miss you) along with others in the Colfax and Pullman areas that have been regulars on the net. We have also been having a problem with the link between the 147.28 machine and the 147.36 machine. This is on the 220 side so I don't even have a clue as to what is going on there. With luck all will be repaired before the snow falls. Most of the repeater sites that have KBARA equipment on them are very hard to access after it snows with the exception of Mica Peak which is an FAA site and the road is just as good in the winter as it is in the summer. Beleive me when I tell you that there is nothing like being on an 80 foot telephone pole above the clouds and

weather on New Years Day. It was a small problem and I didn't have to be there long but boy what a view!

It's Hamfest season! I guess I didn't really have to annoy anyone with that but hey what the heck. Hamfests

are lots of fun! People enjoy Hamfests and Swapfests for different reasons. For some it's a time when they can

check out the latest in new equipment from the dealers. Others it's when they can look over the swap tables for the bargain of a life-time. Still others go for the seminars where they can learn what is new with Packet Radio or even the Internet and what it holds for Amateur Radio or maybe even meet someone that has been on a DX-pedition someplace that they have never even heard of. Then there is always the chance that you may be able to have an 'Eye-Ball Q-So' with someone that you have only heard on the air. There's nothing like hearing a familiar voice and seeing that it has a smiling face and an out-stretched hand to go with it. What ever reasons that you might have for going to a Hamfest or Swapfest Please enjoy them to the fullest. We only have them for a few short months each year so we need to enjoy them as much as we can.



Disasters and Amateur Radio

Record Flooding in E. Washington and N. Idaho

Record breaking flooding occurred along the main stem rivers of north Idaho and eastern Washington during the week of February 5-9, 1996. Flooding of small creeks and streams also occurred during this same time. Damage to public and private property was extensive with estimates in excess of \$100 million. Thankfully, there was no loss of life. (Taken from 'Weather Watcher, a National Weather Service local publication)

Many of the rivers and streams went over their banks during the week of February 5-9 both in North Idaho and in Eastern Washington and the Hams were there to help. From the time the weather watch started till the very end of the ordeal Ham Radio played a key role in what information was gathered and who got the information when it was needed. Entire communities were totally cut off by water but the Amateurs were still on the air reporting what they could. Most of the information for Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho was moved via 2 Meter repeater systems such as the KBARA system. KBARA with both its hardware and its supporters fell into the roll of Emergency Communications for the flooding without any problems.

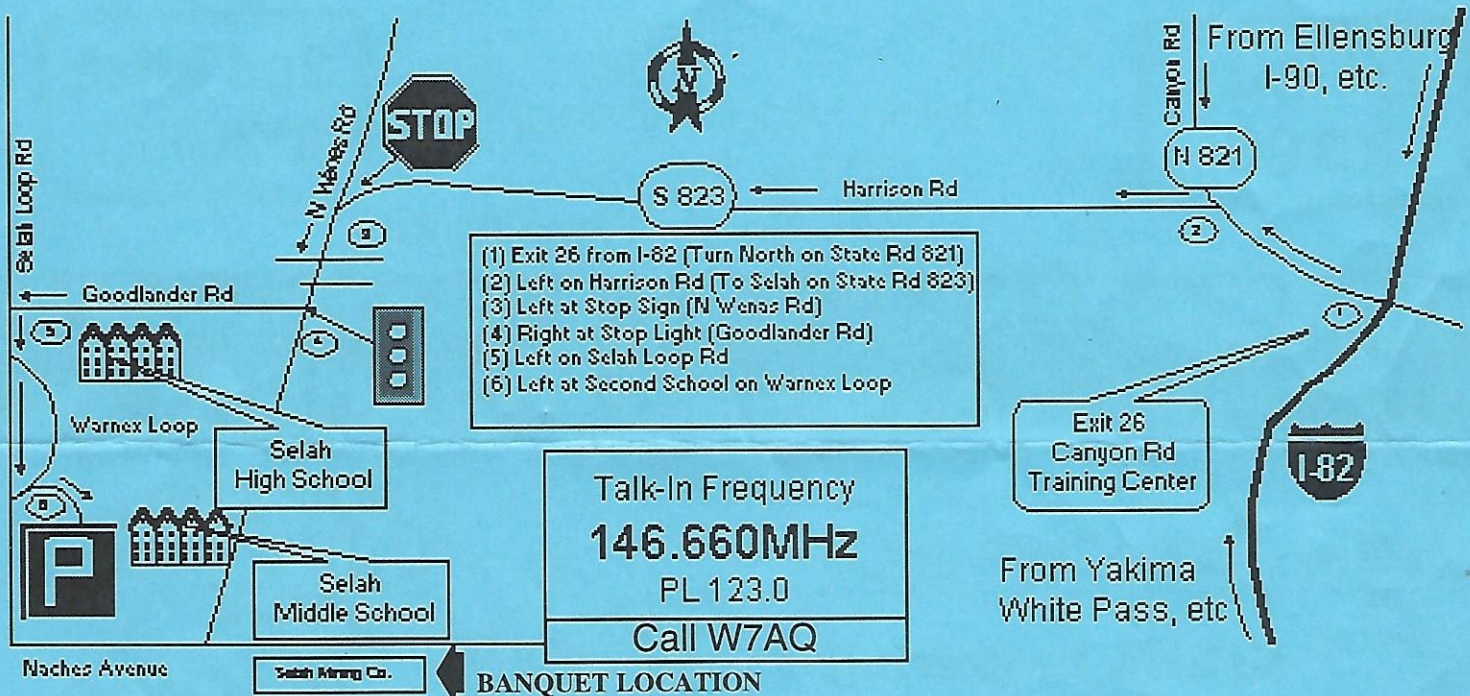
A net was set up in the Walla Walla area to help gather information and to help coordinate the efforts of the American Red Cross who were setting up shelters for victims of the flood along with providing food and blankets for those that had none due to the floods. The link between the Red Cross office in Spokane and the Walla Walla office proved to be invaluable to them as they were able to get information on what was needed in what areas very quickly. The Spokane area was effected by the flooding as well but not nearly as badly as some of the southern counties. Spokane County ARES helped to man the Red Cross station as well as sand-bag when needed. North Idaho was also hit very hard with flood waters. Not directly connected to the KBARA system they too kept in close contact with Spokane and their own Emergency Management offices with the help of volunteer radio operators. Comments have been made all over these areas in regards to the Amateur Radio Operators and the repeaters they used to help their communities and their neighbors when things did not look good. To the Repeater owners I say 'Thank You' for having the systems up and lending them to emergencies such as this one and also a big 'Thank You' to all of those that volunteered their time and equipment not to mention their energy to help your friends and neighbors. Your efforts helped to lessen the impact of flood waters in the region and may have contributed to the lack of fatalities during this event.

Annual Meeting

At the Walla Walla get-together it was announced that the Secretary has the job of setting the stage for the annual meeting. According to the By-laws it must be in June some time and with all of the events happening in June I had little choice but to schedule it for the same weekend as the KARS Hamfest in Rathdrum, Id. on June 8th. Things worked well last year having it at the Spokane Valley Library so please set your calendars for June 8th at 5:00 pm at the Spokane Valley Public Library. This is our only true Meeting that KBARA has during the year so please plan on being there. These are our elections as well as discussions on what we want to do during the next year. Last year after the meeting we all went a short distance away and had dinner which was fun as well so please plan on the meeting.

WASHINGTON STATE HAMFEST

May 18 & 19, 1996
IN YAKIMA



REGISTRATION

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ for **YAKIMA HAMFEST '96**

NOTE!

All Amateurs, Visitors, Swap
& Shop and Commercial
Participants **MUST** Register

FOR COMMERCIAL SPACE:
PLEASE CONTACT
MARK J. THARP
965-3379

_____ \$5.00 before MAY 1ST & receive an extra
door prize ticket - Children under 12 FREE

_____ \$10.00 Swap & Shop Tables (2 Days)

Power is available on Wall Booths only on a First Come basis.
(Commercial Vendors have priority.)

NAMES _____
PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

CALL(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

Make checks payable to: Yakima ARC - W7AQ

Mail to: YAKIMA HAMFEST -W7AQ

P. O. Box 9211, Yakima, Wa 98909

INFO: Dick Umberger, N7HHU

H-(509) 248-3580

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PRE-REGISTRATION TICKETS AT DOOR OR SASE REGISTER EARLY.
Postmarked on or before MAY 1st and receive an extra door prize ticket for each registrant.

WASHINGTON STATE HAMFEST



May 18 & 19, 1996

IN
YAKIMA



1st Prize
IC706

at the
Selah Middle School
411 N. 1st
Selah, Washington

2nd Prize
IC2GXAT

DOORS OPEN: 9 - 4 SATURDAY
9 - 1 SUNDAY

VENDORS:

Amateur Radio Team of Spokane

Keith's Engraving

ANTENNAS NORTHWEST

ICOM



**AMATEUR
RADIO
SUPPLY**



JF MICRO

And Many More!

Alternate Activities Available
Exhibitor & Set-up Friday AFTER 6 p.m. ONLY

Overnight RV Parking - Self Contained Only
Fund Raising by Prior Approval Only



W7AQ Concession on site
cooking for Breakfast & Lunch
Breakfast starts at 7:00

Banquet 6:30 p.m. Saturday
Selah Mining Co.

- Prize Drawing Sunday 12:00 pm
- QCWA Breakfast - Sunday, 7:00 am
- Talk in Frequency 146.66/06 (PL 123Hz)
- Seminars
- ARRL Bookstore
- Commercial Dealers
- VE Testing Saturday, 12:30 on site-contact:
C. Jo Whitney KA7LJQ at 965-3379
- 5th Annual NW Packet Radio Forum
- Swap & Shop only \$10.00 per table for 2 days
(Tables sold out last year so register early)

KBARA AUTOPATCH INFO



To Access the Autopatch

- 1. Identify Your Station**
- 2. Key your mic and push the * and 123 to bring up the patch**
- 3. Wait for a dial tone**
- 4. Dial the number (or Speed Dial Number)**
- 5. When finished with the call, key your mic, push # and 123 to turn the patch off**
- 6. Identify your station and that you are 'Clear of the Patch'**

HAMFEST & EVENTS CALENDER

Yakima Hamfest	May 18 & 19
Wenatchee Hamfest	June 8 & 9
KARS Hamfest (Rathdrum)	June 8
Field Day	June 22 & 23
Waterton-Glacier	July 19-20-21
Spokane Hamfest	August 3 & 4
Walla Walla Convention	Sept. 28 & 29

IT'S ELECTION TIME

Yes it is that time of the year once again and Elections are upon us. This year at the Walla Walla Swapfest during a small impromptu get-together during the Swapfest a few things were discussed such as having a Nominating committee. AB7PI, Garry Heden volunteered to head up just such a committee and has come up with a hand full of people willing to run for offices with KBARA. They are as follows;

President KB7WTO Royal Moore
N7WRQ Betsy Ashleman

Vice-Pres KC7DXY Mary Heino
KC7EYJ Keith Morden
AB7PI Garry Heden

Secretary N7VBW Glenn Moore

Treasurer KB7WTN Barbara Moore
KC7NGD Carol Heden

These people are those that have been nominated so far and have accepted the nominations. According to the By-laws of the club we can still take nominations from the floor on the day of the elections but please make sure that those that you will nominate are willing to be elected to the office for which they are being nominated for! Most people don't like that sort of surprise!

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