

KBARA Gazette

Quarterly Journal of the Kamiak Butte Amateur Repeater Association

Spring 2020

Coronavirus Pandemic Quarantine

In the compiling of the newsletter I hope that everyone is safe and healthy. I know we have many of us that are in the higher risk category due to age, me included.

Just as spring comes to the Inland Northwest we all want to get outside. Think about outdoor amateur radio activities. A group of us had a camping trip planned for the middle of April. This quickly faded away as state parks and campgrounds were soon being closed. Spring hamfests to attend. I did attend Puyallup and a week later large events started getting shut down. Puyallup was very bare. Probably only a third of the tables were filled and the attendees probably down by half.

As we all get quarantined to our homes and groups get banned as we watch the news and see the number of world wide cases of this dreaded virus skyrocket, we soon realize that the Spring of 2020 will be anything but normal. For ham radio activities I keep watching the N7CFO.com web site where I grab upcoming ham radio events for this newsletter. More and more are being marked CANCELLED. At this time who knows what Field Day will look like. Maybe we work from our backyard or we will all be EWA 1D working from our home stations. Our largest Northwest Hamfest has now been cancelled, SeaPac in Seaside, OR. This would have been a great year in the newly remodeled convention center. Better luck next year!

The items on the right I thought they fit the current situation. I have a t-shirt with the top saying minus the pandemic comment. The bottom saying has popped up during our current crisis on Twitter and other sources.

Scott, KA7FVV Newsletter Editor

**I DON'T
ALWAYS USE
HAM RADIO
... OH WAIT,
YES I DO**

**Especially during
a PANDEMIC**

**Ham Radio
Socially Distant
Before It Was Cool**



From the Ham Shack of our President

Kbara Members,

Well, greetings again, everyone. The start of this year ushered in one of the most difficult times I have seen for us in nearly 7 years with repeater breakdowns, IRLP/Echo-link failures, frequency malfunctions. All the same, we have continued functioning pretty much the same as always, most of the time anyway. I express my appreciation for all of us who continue doing the best we could while site repairs were effected just as rapidly was possible. The arrival of winter did little to expedite things, as 20-30 inches of snow at many repeater sites became commonplace. Again, just as all of us keeping a "cool" head can be of immeasurable value in weathering the storm, even if programs/activities have to be curtailed, reduced or temporarily ceased all together. Such did happen here and there, and I can do nothing but compliment the good sense and judgement shown by many of us.

In my church (Latter-day-Saints) I have periodically been assigned tasks ("callings" the church calls them) about which I had no knowledge or experience in whatever. But I've found the key to success in such a situation is to just accept the position and then get in there and just make yourself "useful and helpful" any way you can find to do so. Matter of fact, that's the best approach to take with any position offered you anywhere, being it in church, clubs, occupations, professions, etc. We all have a, perfectly understandable, horror of looking inept or stupid to the people already there, who appear to be so knowledgeable and competent anywhere and everywhere. But, trusted me, there are things, and you will find them quickly, that you can do every bit as well as they, and sometime maybe even much better.

By the way, in my president's letter which appeared in the previous issue of the KBARA Gazette (Winter, 2020), I'm not sure exactly what happened, possibly an email muddle of some sort, but the first paragraph is very confusing, and I doubt anyone was able to make sense of it. What I was trying to say was simply that, at last year's annual Hamfest at University High School in September, I did not renew (see and talk with again) very many of my old (previous) acquaintances, i.e., people I already knew. I did, however, make a number of brand new acquaintance with people I have never before even known or talked with. The event was, therefore, very fruitful and satisfying for me. There! I hope it's now very clear for everyone.

Well, let's see what other events, hamfests, meetings, gatherings, assemblies, projects, etc., are coming up just in the near future ahead? You know, there are so many of them, and so many different locations, that I have found it virtually impossible to personally become involved in any more than just the barest smattering of them. First and foremost, I always make sure to attend the yearly Spokane Hamfest gathering in September. I never want to miss that one for sure. Next, of course, I attend all KBARA meetings of elected officers and/or owners appointees, and directors. The next event I am looking forward to now is the ARRL Field Day coming up on June 27-28. In every issue of the KBARA quarterly newsletter, there is always a full page titled "Upcoming Hamfest and Events." Again, there are just too many of them to try and make, pick out the ones most convenient and suitable for you, even if it is no more than a smattering of them. I attended the Tailgate Hamfest on Park Road last year for the first time, and look forward to attending again this year.

Ham nets have to be handled the same way. There are just too many of them to try and participate in them all. Just select a few (several maybe) and don't over-extend yourself.

Since becoming vice-president and then president of KBARA, I have watched with interest the mechanics of how things work in a corporation, the interactions between the elected/appointed officers and the board of directors, appointments, terminations, conflicts, changes and a host of other things. I studied all this in my collage BZ courses. But never in my life have I had the opportunity to personally view and experience how a corporate entity works and functions until I joined KBARA.

You see KBARA is a corporation, a non-profit one, but a corporation all the same, and markedly similar to any for-profit corporation in terms of organization and structure. Every corporation has as its starting place a board of directors, from which all goals, methods, activities, changes, revisions, decisions, policies, etc., are ultimately determined and come from.



From the Ham Shack of our President continued...

Corporate officers, be they elected or appointed, i.e., president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, etc., are the ones who, under general compliance/obedience to the board of directors, actually run the corporation on a day-to-day basis. Obviously, it is clear that there must always be close contact/cooperation between the officers and directors. Officers must never become so independent that they begin working in disregard of precepts laid down by board of directors. By the same token, directors must never become so sure of themselves that the rules/guidelines they formulate become so unreasonable that the officers are unable to stay within them. Conflict between officers and directors has been the road to total ruination and failure for many a corporation.

A close and amiable relationship between officers and directors is absolutely essential to a healthy, efficient, and successful corporation.

73, Dennis, KF7UTH President KBARA



Field Day this year is the weekend of June 27-28. It is still unclear if social distancing requirements will still be in place when June comes around. We all certainly hope that all of our lives can get back to normal when summer comes. Since we have split the Annual Meeting apart from Field Day I think we still have Valleyford Park reserved for this weekend. Updates will be announced on the Wednesday Evening Net as more information becomes available in the weeks ahead.

Repeaters for Lookout and West Twin

As discussed during the Wednesday Night Net I have on my workbench our repeaters that will be on Lookout and West Twin. I have the Icom FR-5000 already programmed for West Twin. I am waiting for some programming information from one of our Montana contacts for the Kenwood. I have commercially made interface cables for RLC1 controllers for both repeaters.

Our problem is of course our current Coronavirus quarantine and social distancing. A month ago there was 6 feet of snow on West Twin as reported to me by Del at Advanced Communications who assisted in getting the Icom repeater repaired. He had to service one of his repeaters on the site and it took him two days to get into the site due to a major snow drift across one part of the road. A snow cat did not work first and they had to make several tries with snowmobiles. Hopefully with the warmer weather this will improve quickly but it will still be late May most likely. Of course we are unsure what is happening with our stay at home orders and the advisement to avoid unnecessary travel.



KBARA Update from Jim, N7WRR

A lot has happened in KBARA during the first quarter of this year, with lots of pending work to be done, so I will review what we have covered during the Wednesday evening nets. We started the year with the Stensgar 147.36 repeater and the Stensgar 1.25m link down, leaving the Mica 147.38 repeater stand-alone. The Walla Walla 147.28 repeater went down soon after. West Twin, 147.32, and Lookout 147.02 were still down as well. In February we lost the 70 cm link on Mica to the Naneum Ridge repeater. However, all is not doom and gloom. We have gotten much of the system back up and going and have plans for the rest. Mica, Stensgar, Pikes Peak and the links connecting them are all working well now.

Early in the year, KBARA picked up liability insurance through ARRL which covers all KBARA sites. This was a requirement of Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for the Stensgar site. We then renewed the lease with DNR, with KBARA as lessee, for DNR's Stensgar site. On January 14, Betsy, N7WRQ and I bought the Stensgar repeater, 147.36, from Glen, K1RR and John, W7OE. They both wanted out due to potential liability and other concerns. On January 24th KBARA rented a mini snow cat, and Jeremiah, KD7DMP and I went to the site. Karl, AK2O stayed at the staging area and supported us on the radio. After several times getting stuck and digging out, we made it to the top. The problem was a defective power supply, which we replaced, and the 147.36 and 1.25m link radio were up and running again.

The warm, dry weather in February melted enough snow off so that Betsy and I were able to get up to Pikes Peak out of Walla Walla to repair the KBARA owned 147.28 repeater. We just needed to do a controller reset and some minor grounding repairs and the repeater was up and running.

A new 70cm link radio was given to John, W7OE by Betsy and me to get the Mica-Naneum link going again. However, with the COVID19 problems, we are having difficulty arranging a trip to Mica. Scott, KA7FVV has a repeater ready to go to West Twin, 147.32, as well, but has been waiting for the snow to clear enough to give access, along with facing the COVID19 logistic issues.

I made a trip to Kalispel, Montana to pick up the rest of KBARA's equipment that had been at the Lookout 147.02 repeater. The Montana group had tuned up our duplexers, but were unable to repair the 30+ year old controller. KBARA will need to purchase a new 4 port controller, 70cm link radio, hard line and various parts to get Lookout back up and going again at our new site there. We do have a Kenwood 2m repeater and antenna ready to go in addition to the duplexers. Snow will not be off the site until late May or June so that work is on hold for now.

I am optimistic that the KBARA system will be up and going better than ever. Most of the 30 year old equipment has been replaced at all the sites, or soon will be (Lookout), just leaving an upgrade for Mica. It will need a new 70cm link radio to connect with Lookout and a new 4 port controller to replace the one put there in 1986.

Also over the last few weeks people on the west side have been working on the Evergreen Intertie north south links. Work was being done to link in the Capitol Peak repeater out of Olympia and the Kalama repeater near the Portland area. It would be great to have the full Evergreen Intertie system up and going again.

And that's the news!

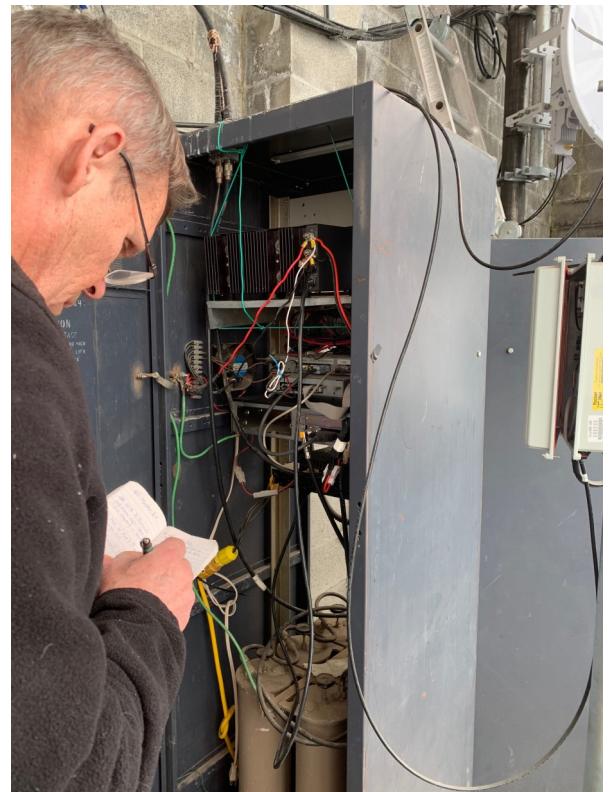


Pictures from Stensgar and Pikes Peak Repeater Sites

Stensgar Repeater Site



Pikes Peak Repeater Site





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



KBARA is a support group for several privately and club 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 and IRLP. The repeaters' frequencies, call signs and locations are as follows:

147.380 MHz W7OE on Mica Peak near Spokane, WA, owned by John, W7OE
147.360 MHz N7WRR on Stensgar (Stranger) Mt. near Chewelah, WA, owned by Jim, N7WRR
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 AK2O hub repeater on Stensgar (Stranger) Mt. near Chewelah, WA, owned by Karl, AK2O
IRLP Node #3638 in Spokane WA owned by Glen, K1RR
IRLP Node #3636 on East Tiger Mt, near Issaquah, WA owned by KBARA
EchoLink KB7ARA-R (947272) in Spokane Valley, WA owned KBARA

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.

KBARA Members for 2020

Call	Name	Call	Name	Call	Name
KD7AAT	John P. Myers Jr.	W7LKR	Patrick Brandt	KC7ZNA	Randy Filion
W7ADG	Steven Palmer	WA7LOV	Cyril T Wolff		
K7AKE	Gary A Peterson	K7LRG	Leonard Gross		
KD2AN	Dan Latuseck	KR7LRJ	Larry Jenks		
W3AS	A Douglas Brede	KL7M	David Cloyd		
WB7AUK	Art Gemmrig	K7MM	Dan Ransom		
N7AWD	Ronald K Hess	W7MN	W Jeremie Dunlap		
KB7AZZ	Phillip Coffman	K7MTD	David Herzberg		
KI7BXW	Kellee Gibbs	AG7NA	Gerry O'Brien		
WA7CBX	Bernie Frazier	KJ7NBZ	Douglas Smith		
K7CPO	Glen Day	N1NG	Michael Maxson		
W7CQW	C. Q. (Quint) Webb	KE7NUB	Duane Statler		
KJ7DBP	Betty Stein	AK2O	Karl Shoemaker		
KD7DDQ	Ken Crosswhite	WZ7O	Darryl D Hirst		
K7DFL	K Dale Landreth	W7OE	John P. Dempster		
K7DSR	David Carleton	WR7ON	Ronald E Standley		
WX7DX	Karl M. Miller	KG7OWU	Thomas W. Rogers		
K7EHT	Michael J. Sirott	KG7OWV	Laurie H. Rogers		
KI7EPL	Richard A Wright	KG7OWX	Valaire Poler		
KE7EQP	Bruce McNett	KG7OWY	Murray Poler		
KG7FOF	Jeff Person	AA7P	Richard J. Hebel		
N9FOX	Barbara J. Moore	K7PBA	Raph E Wilfong		
KI7FSG	Brandon Wagner	K7PDZ	Jim Long		
KA7FVV	Scott P. Harvey	N7PGJ	Judy West		
KD7FYE	Kenneth L. Lindahl Jr.	K7PHM	Richard M Flynn		
N7GEG	Jake McCarty	KD7QLT	Wilber H. Earl		
KB7GJY	Allen Gemmrig	WA7ROS	Anna M. Reeves		
N7GTB	Vernon VanZandt	KG7RQN	Robert Walker		
KJ7GYB	Stephen Morgan	K1RR	Glen Ahlborn		
KI7HEA	W Cameron Dunlap	KG7SD	Richard Thorton		
W7HEE	Harry E Estep Jr	KE7SH	Allan A Bonney		
KB7HJM	Roy E. Ferrell	K3SHD	C. Victor Bak		
KJ7HNC	Bennet Wille	KK7SJM	Shane Moscatelli		
K7HPT	Mark Van Winkle	KG7SJR	William S Coyle		
AG7IG	Michael G Uber	KF7SYS	Michael Blackmon		
KJ7IQH	Charles Pollok	KG7TMI	Michael Towan		
KG7IQP	Duane A DePoe	KC7TTM	Cleo C. Miller		
KB7JGP	Gregory M. Zeiler	KF7UTH	Dennis P Roberts		
KF7JJC	Roger Krug	N6WCN	Gregory Preuss		
W7JJL	John J. Lally	WA7WKX	Stephen Lalonde		
KG7JKK	Richard E Crowder	N7WRQ	Elizabeth Ashleman		
KG7JKL	Judy Crowder	N7WRR	James Ashleman		
KD7JNS	Kenneth W. Pike	W7WTO	Royal Moore		
KD7JUL	Julie Carleton	KI7WVO	Richard M Benson		
KI7JVT	Dennis Paradis	AD7XH	Richard L Schultz		
KG7JWD	Robert Allen	AF7YF	Carl B Branton		
KI7KEU	Brian Schaeffer	KC4YTZ	Richard D Fleetwood Jr		
W7KLL	Kenneth L. Lindahl	KG7ZCW	Daniel Carter		
K7LCM	Calvin Edwards	KC7ZMB	Marie Kenyon		

KBARA REPEATER FUND CONTRIBUTIONS 2020

We wish to thank the following contributors for their very generous donations to this year's Repeater Fund. For the year 2020 to date, \$1,560 has been donated.

Platinum Contribution

Contributions \$100 and over

Dennis, KF7UTH

Bill, KG7SJR

Richard, K7PHM

Wilber, KD7QLT

Gold Contribution

Contributions from \$50-\$99

Jim, K7PDZ

Dale, K7DFL

Silver Contribution

Contributions from \$21-\$49

Gerry, AG7NA

Bruce, KE7EQP

Darryl, WZ7O

Bronze Contribution

Contributions from \$1-\$20

Richard, KC4YTZ

Gary, K7AKE

Mike, K7EHT

Richard, KI7WVO

Cameron, KI7HEA

Duane, KE7NUB

Cyril, WA7LOV

Jeremie, W7MN

Michael, KG7TMI

Leonard, K7LRG

Carl, AF7YF

Douglas, KJ7NBZ

Ken, W7KLL

Brian, KI7KEU

Dan, AD2AN

Ken, KD7FYE

Ron, N7AWD

Kellee, KI7BXW

Quint, W7CQW

Allan, KE7SH

Dave, K7MTD

Randy, KC7ZNA

Robert, KG7JWD

Charles, KJ7IQH





Tidbits and Information

Wednesday Night Net Control Operators

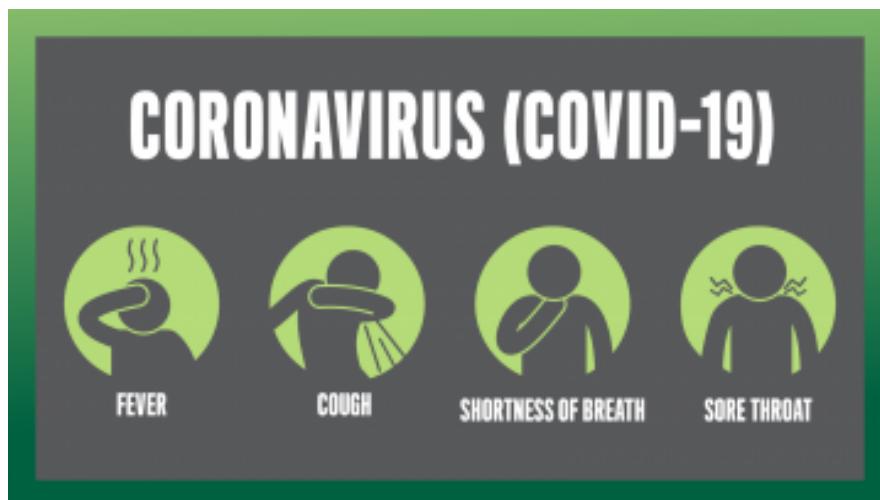
We would like to expand our roster of net control operators for our Wednesday night net. We have a short list who rotate net control duties. It is a short net, usually about 15-20 minutes depending on comments and the number of check ins. The preamble and a software program to assist in identifying call signs and names is available on the On Air Nets page on the KBARA website. Come join the fun and get a little practice running the show for KBARA on Wednesday Nights.

KBARA 2020 Annual Meeting

The KBARA annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, August 9, 2020, 1:00PM at Deer Lake, WA, north of Spokane. This meeting date could be changed due to the Covid-19 situation. We will have more information in the next newsletter and on the Wednesday evening net. Any KBARA member willing to offer their time in serving as an officer, please contact the current officers.

Act of Kindness in this difficult time, Valaire, KG7OWX

On a morning net on March 25th, I heard an encouraging interaction between a net control operator and a Canadian truck driver (VE3LT) from Ontario. He was driving through Spokane and picked up the frequency and shared with net control what he had just observed. He was driving along I-90 and a pretty little girl riding in the car beside him held up a sign for him to see. It had colorful letters written in crayon that said "Thank You". The father that was driving gave him a "thumbs up". It was heart warming to hear this fellow ham sharing the appreciation and encouragement that he was shown out there on his journey. During this Covid-19 shut down we are thankful for the radio communication that still allows for those near and far to be of support to each other. 73 fellow hams!





SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2020

St. Paschals Church

2523 N Park Rd

7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

If you would like to sell just bring your goodies and pick a spot. There will be limited tables available. There is no fee to sellers.

For more information

Duane, KE7NUB at 509-435-7718



Upcoming Hamfests and Events

Courtesy of N7CFO.com

Check this page for other cancellation

~~April 18. Yakima Hamfest. Selah Community Center, Selah, Washington. CAN-CELED.~~ <http://yakimaamateurradioclub.com/hamfest-cancellation/>

~~April 25 & 26. Communications Academy. CANCELED.~~ South Seattle Community College, Seattle, WA. <http://commacademy.org/>

~~April 25. Idaho Ham Radio STEM-Fest. CANCELED.~~ Mountain Home Junior High School, Mountain Home, ID 83647 <https://www.idahohamradiostemfest.com/>

~~May 2. Kennewick Tailgate Swap Meet, Kennewick, WA. CANCELED~~

~~May 3. Maple Ridge Swapmeet. Pitt Meadows, BC. CANCELED~~

~~May 9. Stanwood Camano Amateur Radio Club Flea Market and Hamfest. CAN-CELED~~ Stanwood Middle School, Stanwood, WA. *This is an ARRL sanctioned event.* <http://www.scarewa.org/ham-fest.shtm> [Flyer in PDF](#) (264K) Contact: Fred Laun, w7pig@arrl.net

~~May 9. Matanuska Amateur Radio Association Hamfest. Wasilla, Alaska. This is an ARRL sanctioned event.~~ <http://kl7jfu.com/>

~~May 9. MicroHams (Virtual) Digital Conference. This is an ARRL sanctioned event.~~ <https://www.microhams.com>

~~May 16 & 17. River Radio Campout.~~ Pateros WA. Sponsored by the Okanogan County Amateur Radio Club. Free "dry" camping along the Methow River at Pateros. Always the weekend prior to Memorial Day Weekend. w7orc1@gmail.com . <http://www.w7orc.com/> . Contact Mike W7MCM, skippermike53@gmail.com . (509)689-3164.

~~June 5-7. SEA-PAC Hamfest and ARRL Northwestern Division Convention. CAN-CELED~~ Seaside Convention Center, Seaside, Oregon. *This is an ARRL sanctioned event.* info@seapac.org . www.seapac.org/

~~June 12-14. 52nd Annual Apple City ARC Hamfest.~~ Apple City ARC. Dryden, WA. (Five miles east of Leavenworth on Hiway 2). *This is an ARRL sanctioned event.* <https://www.applecityarc.com/> [Flyer in PDF](#) (1.6MB) <https://leavenworth.org/organizer/leavenworth-chamber-of-commerce/>

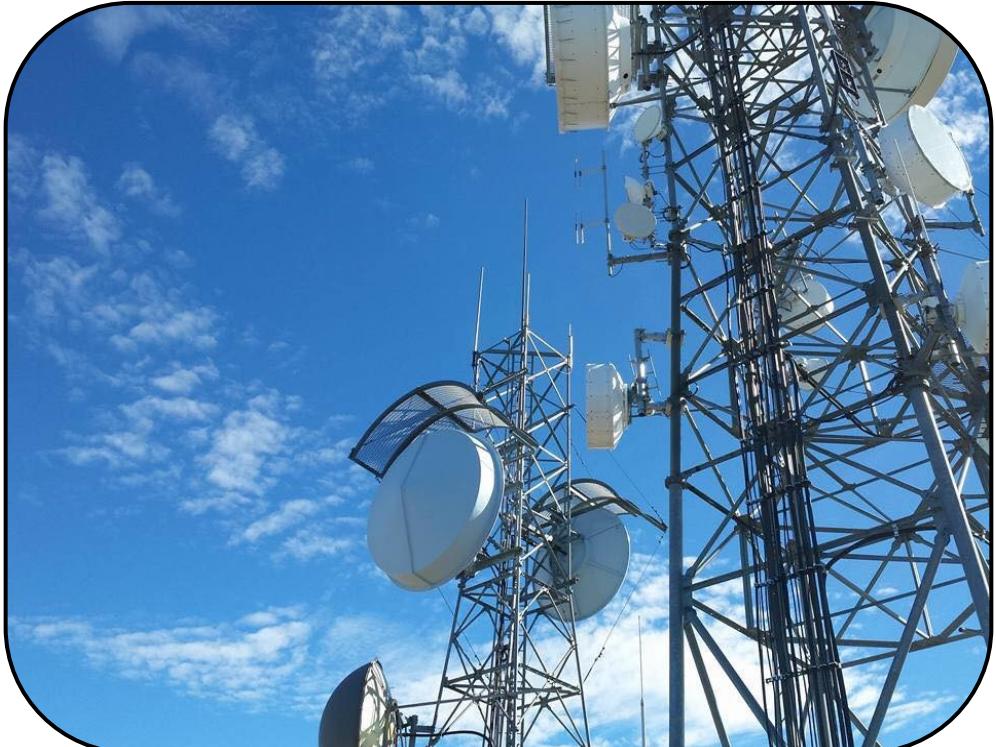
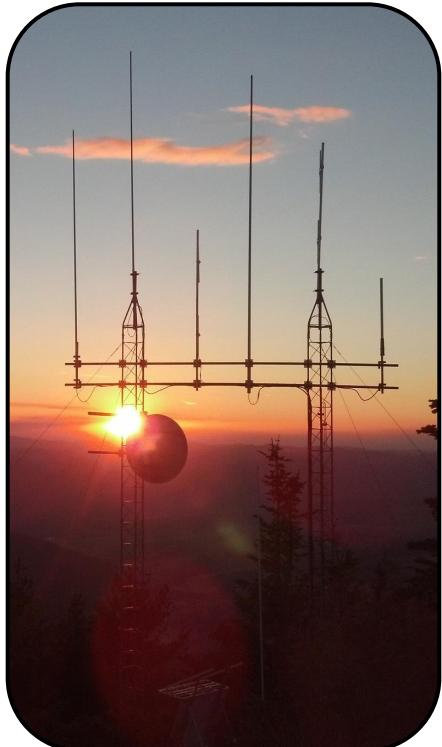
~~June 13. Third Annual Tailgate/swap.~~ Spokane, Washington. St. Paschals Church 2523 N. Park Rd. Spokane, WA. 7 am to 3 pm. Contact Duane, KE7NUB, (509)435-7718

~~June 13. Port Ludlow ARC Annual Tail-gater.~~ **CANCELED** Grace Christian Center, 200 Olympic Pl, Port Ludlow, WA. Setup starts at 7:30 am. Event Begins at 8am and it is all gone at Noon!! <https://www.n7pl.org/index.html>

Area Repeaters

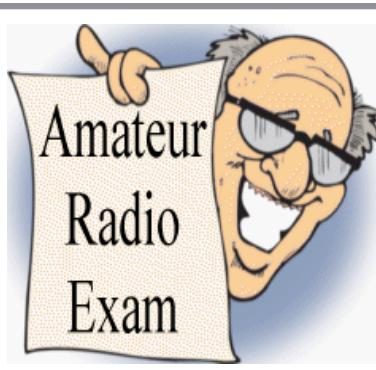
KBARA Repeaters and Echolink/IRLP Nodes

Frequency	CTCSS Tone	Location	Call sign	RF Link
Repeaters				
223.90 MHz	None	Stensgar Mtn	AK2O	Hub
147.38 MHz	None	Mica Peak	W7OE	AK2O—223.90
147.36 MHz	None	Stensgar Mtn	N7WRR	Hard wired Hub
147.02 MHz	None	Lookout Pass	KB7ARA	W7OE—147.38
147.28 MHz	None	Pikes Peak	KB7ARA	AK2O—223.90
147.32 MHz	103.5	West Twin, Moscow	KA7FVV	IRLP
Links				
Echolink KB7ARA-R	N/A	Spokane, WA	KB7ARA-R	AK2O - 223.90
IRLP Node 3636	None	East Tiger Mt	KB7ARA	145.33 & Ref 9075
IRLP Node 3638	None	Spokane, WA	K1RR	AK2O—223.90 & Ref 9075



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. 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> and visit http://groups.yahoo.com/group/evergreen_intertie



Testing is held the 3rd Wednesday of every month at Spokane Fire Station No. 4 at 1515 W 1st Avenue, Spokane. Brought to you by Glen, K1RR. If you have any questions please contact Glen at glen@k1rr.com or 509.216.0666.

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.

KAMIAK BUTTE AMATEUR REPEATER ASSOCIATION

PO Box 30801

Spokane WA 99223-3013