

# KBARA Gazette

Winter 2001 Vol. 6 Issue 4



The Quarterly Journal Of the Kamiak Butte Amateur Repeater Association

## Arrl Kids Day Big Success!

The second annual KBARA Kids' Net was a success thanks to all the people who checked in! We had 20 different kids talking on the airwaves on January 1st between 6PM and 7PM. Many of these kids were talking as 3rd party with their parent or friends acting as control operators. One group had 10 kids at their house waiting to check in. Everyone who participated (including myself) had a lot of fun. As net control I had a very unique location from which to run the net. Because the Walla Walla repeater was down, I set up at the KBARA Field Day site, Pioneer Park east of Dayton. We connected to the 147.360 repeater at Chewelah. I had a clear signal and a clear sky to watch the stars while I ran the net.

Thanks to all those who checked in kids and control operators. And a thank you to all the BIG KIDS who checked in lending your support. Special thanks go to the officers of KBARA for permission to do the net. I'm sure we'll be here next year.

RUTH KD7EWV

## ARRL January 14, 2001 CANADA PROPOSES REDUCED MORSE REQUIREMENT

Industry Canada--the Canadian equivalent of the FCC--has proposed to discontinue that country's 12 WPM Morse code requirement in favor of a 5 WPM requirement for full HF operating privileges. Radio Amateurs of Canada sought the action last year, urging IC to drop the 12 WPM requirement. IC says it has received "a number of petitions" from those who contend there's no longer any justification for a 12 WPM Morse requirement.

RAC President Kenneth Oelke, VE6AFO, last year wrote the IC to recommend that full HF operating privileges be granted to amateurs who have passed a 5 WPM Morse test. At the same time, he requested that the IC consider beefing up written tests and to include more questions on modern modes of communication employed by radio amateurs.

The second annual KBARA Kids' Net was a success thanks to all the people who checked in! We

## From The President

It seems, KBARA Net Controls are a "cut above" us average hams. It takes a special operator to efficiently control a net on the KBARA collection of repeaters. To acknowledge all the participating stations, and to continuously allow for emergency traffic while keeping the net running smoothly, is a tremendous challenge. We are fortunate to have a group of such operators who enjoy donating their time to this challenge. These operators bring many benefits to our hobby, to the club and to themselves. To the hobby they offer other amateurs the chance to test skills and equipment on the air, and to share experiences. To the club they bring camaraderie and continuity. And to themselves they bring a chance to hone skills in operating a multi-repeater system, along with that special satisfaction that comes from performing public service. So, from all of us, who check into the nets or who are just content to listen, thank you.

If you were listening to KBARA on New Year's Day, you would have heard many tiny voices on the air, compliments of Ruth, KD7EWV, and her ARRL Kids' Net. The participation was tremendous, and enjoyed by all. Thanks, Ruth! And we're pleased to introduce a new net to the system, which will be each Sunday at 7AM, entitled "Road Watch", and hosted by Butch, KD7DMS. Thanks Butch.

And since my last report to you, changes to the repeater system include a new vertical antenna for the hub repeater on Stensgar, the 147.360 repeater getting new finals, and the Lookout Pass site receiving a new repeater compliments of the Naneum Ridge Folks. A larger power supply is also in place there.

On a more somber note, the 147.280 was turned off due to multiple problems. We understand, help is on the way and we hope to hear all those southern folk on the air very soon.

A Happy New Year To All

Betsy, N7WRQ

# Beyond The Call

By Dennis N7UTM

Each morning during the 7:00AM KBARA net, and at other times such as the Nightcrawlers Ragchew net, if you are tuned in to a KBARA frequency you will hear about the traffic and general road conditions on I-90 in the Spokane Valley. Butch KD7DMS, lives in an apartment over looking the freeway and is tuned into what's happening on the interstate.

Butch was born Milan B. Lemmon in September, 1940 in Wallace, Idaho. The nickname "Butch" was given to him by a nurse at the hospital, at birth and it "stuck".

His parents, Baird J. Lemmon and Ruby Trewin Lemmon, are both deceased. In an unusual incident his father died as a result of a bee sting when he was young. The family also includes two younger sisters, one who is five years younger and lives in Pomeroy, WA. Another sister, 13 years younger, lives with her husband and daughter in El Paso Texas.

The Lemmon family moved around the Inland Northwest quite a bit so Butch went to schools in N. Idaho, N.E. Washington and Southeast Idaho. The family was living near Cocolala Lake when Butch graduated from Sandpoint, ID High School in 1961.

Butch enlisted in the U.S. Army in September of 1963 after receiving a draft notice. He felt the trade off of an extra one year obligation was worth the promise of specialized training rather than several years of infantry. Before his military career ended in April of 1987, Butch had

made is 20 and retired as Staff Sergeant E-6. For several years early in his career Butch served as a medic and ambulance driver, however most of his service was in medical and general supply. As is the case with most career servicemen, Butch was stationed in numerous posts in different regions of the US as well as 3 different assignments in Germany and one year in Vietnam during the war. While in Vietnam, Butch came under small arms fire numerous times but managed to complete his tour unscathed. There were some breaks in active duty service and some duty in the active Army Reserve which accounts for a timespan of 24 years. Butch is proud of his service and says "I would do it again in a heartbeat" If he had the chance.

Butch has always been a "confirmed bachelor" and never married. He now shares his residence with his "lady", an attractive and friendly setter mix dog and 2 cats who make themselves scarce when a stranger is around.

Butch spend quite a bit of time volunteering (since 1987) to help run the Aviation Heritage Museum at Fairchild AFB. Although he has never taken flight training, his love of aircraft is evident in the many models and pictures of airplanes in his apartment.

Of course he also loves and uses a variety of electroinic gear. Shortwave Scanners, CB, Ham Radio, Audio Recording and listening. He also enjoys TV / VCR, minidisc and Web-TV. Butch started in CB in 1978 and like most of us this led to a Ham Radio Technician License (12/10/98).

In addition to keeping everybody advised as to the conditions on I-90, Butch brings up the link to the "westside" at appropriate times and hosts the Nightcrawlers Net several nights each week and is also hosting the new ROAD WATCH net on Sundays at 7:00AM

So Butch, for your service to your country through peace and war and the KBARA Amateur Radio Group, we owe you a great big thanks.

## Life Begins At 80

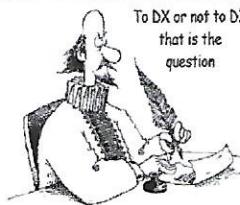
From Chuck VE7AGT

*I HAVE GOOD NEWS FOR YOU! The first 80 years are the hardest! The second 80, as far as experience goes, is a series of birthday parties.*

*Everyone wants to carry your baggage and help you up the steps. If you forget your name or anybody else, you need only to explain you are 80!*

*If you put things away then forget where you put them and have to search for hours to find them or forgot what you went to the store to buy, it's all right because you are 80. If you repeat a story two or three times in one evening, everyone expects it, for you are 80. If you act silly it's your second childhood, everyone is looking for symptoms of softening of the brain. AT 65 or 70 they expect you to retire to a little house in Colorado and become a discontented, grumbling, limping has been. BUT if you survive until you are 80, everyone is surprised that you are alive. Surprised that you can walk. Surprised that you can drive a car. Surprised that there are lucid intervals.*

*At 70, people are mad at you for everything. At 80 they forgive you for everything. If you ask me, Life begins at 80.*



## Amateur Radio

**Talk It UP!**

### Announcing The 20th Annual Mike & Key ARC Electronics Show and Fleamarket

**MARCH 10, 2001 @9AM**  
**Pavilion Exhibition Hall**  
**Western Washington Fairgrounds**  
**Puyallup WA**  
**TALK IN 146.82/22**  
**146.58 Simplex**

# Power and Frequency



By John Dempster  
W7OE



Let's arbitrarily decide that 1,000,000 watts will be received as S9 +30 dB on our calibrated S-meter.



## Road Watch

A new  
KBARA  
NET.  
Sundays  
7AM

Your Host:  
Butch  
KD7DMS

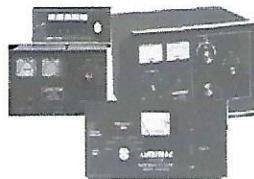
Suppose that you have just upgraded and wish to put together a station to accomodate your new privileges. Do you want to run high power, low power, fixed, mobile, low band, high bands, or certain combinations? Your friends tell you that they work the world on 10 meters from their automobiles with only 5 watts. Then you wonder why all the Dx'ers on the low bands use amplifiers and why all the broadcast stations run so much power. You also wonder why your friends don't seem to work any DX on the low bands from their automobiles.

There are several things that work against the low band Dx'er. Aside from ionosphere absorption, the low bands require larger antennas for optimum efficiency and the low bands are affected by much more atmospheric noise. The table below shows the relationships among power, decibels, and S-Units.

Power	dB vs		
	1,000,000 Watts	S-Units	What Service
1,000,000 Watts	0	S9 +30dB	Voice of America
100,000 Watts	-10	S9 +20dB	KGA 1510 kHz 50KW
10,000 Watts	-20	S9 +10dB	Brdest. Stations, WWV
1,000 Watts	-30	S9	Hams W/Amps on HF
100 Watts	-40	S7.5	Most Hams on HF
10 Watts	-50	S6	Low Power & QRP'ers
1 Watt	-60	S3	An avid QRP'er

Suppose you have a tabletop receiver with an internal antenna. This antenna may lose 30 dB compared to a good outdoor antenna. Just to overcome this problem, a broadcast station must increase its power by a factor of 1000. The sensitivity of such receivers is not usually very good either. Broadcast stations must run a lot of power to overcome these types of problems. These types of receivers receive broadcast stations just fine but are useless on the Amateur Bands.

Let's examine another system. You your automobile and use 8 foot long well on 20 meters and above, but have state on 80 meters (or 75 meters to be more above your hamstick performs comparably to your automobile is sufficiently large to protect the case with your 80 meter hamstick. Also the band noise is much higher on the lower frequencies.



put a 100 watt HF transceiver into "hamstick" antennas. You get out extreme difficulty talking across the precise). Why? On 20 meters and bly to a 1/4 wavelength vertical and vide an adequate ground plane. Not

Suppose your kilowatt at home is received as S9 +10dB in Japan on 10 meters. The band noise is a realistic S1. Your 100-watt mobile station would be received as S9 or eight S-units above the noise. One watt would be S6 and armchair copy over the S1 noise level. Lets try 80 meters. Let's assume that the band noise is a realistic S8. Your uncle in Seattle receives your kilowatt base station with a full sized dipole as S9 +10dB. You say "wait a minute, I'll jump into the car and finish our conversation on the way to the store". Your signal disappears and you have to call your uncle on your cell phone. What happened? A much smaller antenna (-15db) and lower power (1kw to 100w= -10db) just put you below the noise level. Instead of S9 +10db from the shack you became S6.5 from the mobile, which is 1.5 S-units below the noise level of S8.

Generally speaking, the lower the frequency the greater the noise level and the greater the difficulty constructing and optimum antenna system. Many contact on the low bands require high power and very large antennas (often with special receiving antennas). Many DX stations on the low bands run over 1kw and are barely copyable above the noise. On the other hand, on 20 meters and above I have heard an worked stations from all over the world which were running as little as 1 watt into simple antennas. Keep this in mind when constructing your station.

# Blue Mountain Blues

**O**n those cold winter days when you're sitting around the warm shack, enjoying another FB QSO or checking into another great KBARA net, take a couple of seconds to thank the Owners, Operators Technicians, and members who give it there all to keep our systems up and running. From John W7OE trekking through the mud and the yuk to get to a repeater site, Charlene and Walt darn near sliding off the mountain in their quest to keep the "28" going and Karl WA7YCP lending his expertise for link repairs and varmit tracking. It takes a lot of dedication to keep our systems up and running and making it one of the best in the country.

As you can see and hear the 28 "hit the dirt" Charlene KC7RQF reports that apparently some pretty strong winds relocated the antenna quite effectively. Walt and his son Dale, fought the elements and took a snow mobile up the to the repeater site after he and Charlene practiced tobogganing trying to get up there the fist time. This via an out of control 4 wheel drive truck with chains.

Charlene said "it was quite exciting". I guess! Walt said he was quite scared when the darn truck started going down the hill back



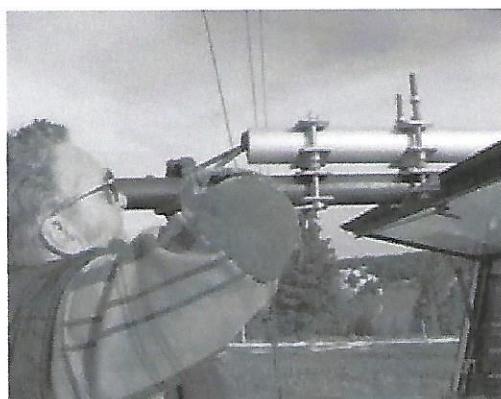
wards! Chains and all. Whoa!

As you are reading this the "28" may be up and runing once again due to the efforts of Walt, Charlene, Karl, Dave and a host of others, to trek back up there get the antenna mounted. Can you say DEDICATION?! That's what makes the KBARA group fun and yes,

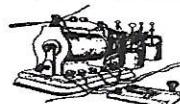
exciting! Checking into those "late night nets", helping out at the KBARA Table, lending a hand or running a net, this kind of dedication will continue to grow our wonderful hobby, and keep us together for years to come. Happy New Year everybody and 73s.

Duff WA7BFN

Newsletter ED.



Charlene & Walt on the way up...uh...down from the "28" site!



## Ham Triva From Butch KD7DMS

What part of the early Model T-Ford car was used by hams as their CW transmitter?

What is the name of the International Space Station?

ALPHA-1

Answers:  
coil.  
The increased ignition

## Swap/Fest Net!

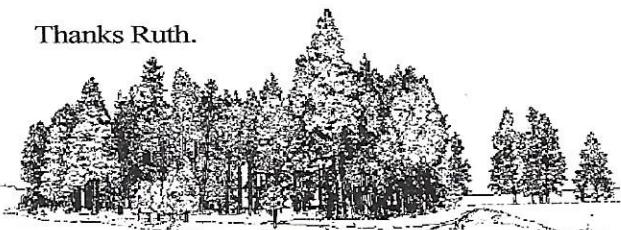
*Lilac City Amateur Radio Club  
Swap Net / Sundays 7PM 147.080  
no tone. Also on 28.425 usb. 8PM  
Sundays*

*Mark Those Calendars...  
April 7th, 2001 The LCAR  
Swapfest at St Anns Church  
2100 E. 1st. Spokane. Contact Bill AA7YJ - More  
Details Coming.*

## Here &amp; There

Ruth KD7EWV sent along a letter from Vernon Marll, the man who owns Pioneer Park east of Dayton where KBARA held its field day event. Ruth drew the picture of the park had it matted and framed for Vernon. What a nice present! Such Talent! Ruth also wanted to remind everybody that Field Day 2001 will be June 23rd, same place, same time with more friends from KBARA. MARK THOSE CALENDARS!

Thanks Ruth.



Dayton Washington  
November 21, 2000

Dear Friends:

A long overdue note of thanks for the remembrances you gave me. The Artwork has been on the wall in my living room ever since I received it. I get a lot of good comments on it and I always tell them who drew it.

The Photo is excellent also. I enjoyed visiting with you two, the children and all the fine people who were at the park that day. I hope your group will be back next year.

Sincerely,  
Vernon Marll  
Dayton Washington

Kamiak Butte Amateur Repeater Association  
Annual Meeting Minutes  
July 1, 2000, 3:00PM  
Farragut State Park, ID

The meeting began with the call to order, a welcome to members and guests, and the introduction of officers, appointed officials, owners, and representatives of the Oliver Amateur Radio Club.

Under "Old Business", the minutes of the June 19, 1999 annual meeting, published in the July, 1999 KBARA newsletter, were approved by the Members. Neil, N7LVO presented the Treasurer's report, and a full report would be published in the next KBARA newsletter. A recap of the year's progress was presented by Betsy, N7WRQ: the Mica Peak Packet BBS changed hands from Art, WB7AUK to Denise, KC7ORO; KBARA was the lead club of five for the 1999 Spokane Hamfest & was active with Spokane Hamfest 2000; the club was present at several Hamfests; and KB7ARA hosted its first Field Day at Pioneer Park near Dayton, WA. John, W7OE, Royal KB7WTO, Neil, N7LVO & Bob, KC7HFI gave reports on the status of the repeater system, mentioning work on Stensgar, Mica Peak, and Lookout Pass. The North Country Representatives, Roy, VE7DTT & Jan, VE7TST, reviewed the Oliver Amateur Radio Club's Mt. Baldi repeater link to KBARA. Jeremiah, KD7DMP, presented a report on the NW Elmer Net, followed by a report on Field Day by Ruth, KD7EWV. The Members approved having Field

## The Marriage Of Cecil & Marie



By KC7RQF (The Mom!)

As you remember, Neil N7LVO kidnapped Cecil. (They were bonded) Actually Cecil and Neil made a plan to hide Cecil so he could stay with Neil. Then last summer at KBARA Campout, a beautiful señorita named Marie went with KC7RQF, she was looking for Cecil. He had promised to marry Marie when they were children. Well Cecil hid in Neil's rig, but a little Canadian Princess named Daryl found him and re-kidnapped Cecil and brought him to his Mom and Marie. Well when Cecil saw Marie, who had grown up to be a beautiful woman, he fell in love instantly! Right there among the pine trees at the KBARA campout, the Burgermeister (Ken KD7DDQ) performed the ceremony. Cecil and Marie were married, with about 25 hams and other honored guests looking on. THEN Neil discovered the caper! He didn't know what to do! Had he lost his best friend? Finally, Cecil could bring Marie to live with them so they moved in with Neil to live happily ever after in KBARALAND, The Land Of Love.

PS

Daryl is Ray and Jan's granddaughter. She kidnapped Cecil and brought him to the wedding. What Fun!

Day 2001 again at Pioneer Park near Dayton, WA, and Ruth graciously agreed to again head up that committee. The Members next approved KBARA's \$500 seed money donation to the Spokane Hamfest 2000. Last was a brief discussion regarding radio interference.

Under "New Business", the Members approved KBARA's donation of \$300 to the Evergreen Intertie, to be applied toward site rental of Mt. Baldy, the link between Naneum Ridge and Tiger Mountain. A contribution to ARRL was briefly discussed, but not approved. Mike, N1NG, on behalf of Isaiah, KD7CDE, proposed the KBARA Website acquire a domain name and increase features on the site, for a fee. The Members voted to keep the site unchanged. Next, the Standing Rules were amended to allow the annual meeting to take place in June or July to give more flexibility: section IV of the Standing Rules were amended to read, "A major business meeting shall be held once a year, in June or July, to be known as the KBARA Campout or KBARA Picnic." The elections followed: elected as President was Betsy, N7WRQ; Vice President, Bob, KC7HFI; Secretary Jerry, KD7ADH; and Treasurer, Neil, N7LVO. Charlene, KC7RQF, and John, W7OE then presented special awards to various members who had volunteered their time to the club. The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Betsy Ashleman, N7WRQ  
President  
Kamiak Butte Amateur Repeater Association

# KBARA Membership/Support Information

The KBARA system consists of several amateur radio repeaters that are linked together to cover an area from southeastern British Columbia to northeastern Oregon, and from western Montana to central Washington. The KBARA system can also be connected to the Evergreen Intertie, an interconnected group of repeaters located in the northwestern United States and Western Canada.

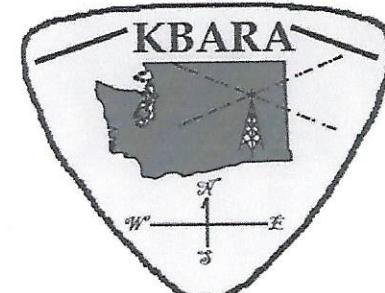
The primary purpose of the KBARA system is to function as a linked system that provides communications to and within the above area. It makes possible a single system of mobile communications coverage extending beyond the limited range of provided by any single repeater operation.

FM repeaters operating in the VHF and UHF bands are linked by full duplex UHF radios. The repeaters frequencies and locations are as follows:

- 147.380 W7OE, Mica Peak, East of Spokane, WA
- 147.360 KB7WTO, Stensgar (Stranger) Mountain, N of Spokane
- 147.280 KB7WRT, Pikes Peak, southeast of Walla Walla, WA
- 147.020 N7LVO, Lookout Pass, on the Idaho Montana border
- 146.740 KC7HFI, Kamiak Butte, near Colfax and Pullman WA
- 223.900 WA7YCP, Stensgar (Stranger) Mountain N. of Spokane

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  
PO Box 18575  
Spokane, WA 99228-8575

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 1st) will apply through the entire following year.

**KBARA**  
The Kamiak Butte Amateur Repeater Association  
PO Box 18575  
Spokane, WA 99228-8575