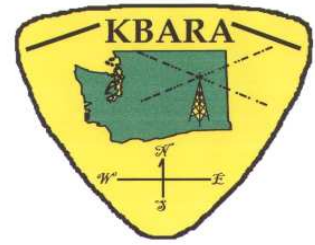




KBARA GAZETTE



Summer 2009 The Quarterly Journal of the Kamiak Butte Amateur Repeater Association
KBARA, PO Box 30801, Spokane WA 99223-3013

From the Editor, Wes, KD7HGG

Field Day is June 27-28 !!

For information and rules see:

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/forms/fd-2009-packet.pdf>.



The ARRL Field Day this year will be a multi-club sponsored event on June 27-28, 2009. Here's the scoop. Field Day set-up will be held from Friday, June 26th sometime after 12 noon, to the time we set off operating on Saturday, June 27. Some of us will be spending Friday night at the park in addition to Saturday night operations. It will be attended by at least four clubs: Lilac City ARC, Inland Empire VHF Club, Spokane County ARES/RACES and KBARA. We will be running a 5A station from Valleyford Park, WA. The station call sign will be N7LC, courtesy of the Lilac City ARC. The Lilac City group also has agreed to provide the hamburgers, hot dogs and condiments for the event. Lilac City would love to have a head count as to who will be there for lunch/dinner. Please bring a salad or dessert if you are attending. Also SPOKANE County ARES will be having their annual picnic at this event. Our main idea is to get as many amateur radio groups together as we can to have a wonderful Field Day. The 5A station, as we speak, will consist of 2 HF voice, 2 HF digital (PSK31 and RTTY) and Message/Traffic handling. Specific emphasis this year will be

teaching RTTY/PSK31 operation. In addition we will run a GOTA station, 6m/2m station and a satellite station. We also will be using battery power with generator back-up. So bring your gear (if you like), your questions, camaraderie and enthusiasm and come join us on Friday for set-up of Field Day 2009 in Valleyford Park. How to get there: The Park is located in Valleyford, Washington on the Palouse Highway, between Mica, Washington to the east and the lower South Hill area of the city of Spokane, Washington. If you're traveling west from highway 27 on the Palouse highway, you will pass Fire District 8 HQ's on the south side of the road. Once you pass the fire station, approximately 1/4 to 1 mile west you will see a reddish brown garage type barn on the south side of the road. As soon as you see it, the entrance to the park will be right there. **Watch carefully, as there aren't any permanent park entrance markings.** The talk in frequency will be 146.880 with a - 600 kHz offset and a 123.0 Hz tone. Contact cell phone at (509) 327-3188 or AC7GP @ hotmail.com. So pass the word to as many local clubs and fellow hams that you can. Last year was a big success it looks like this one may even be better. We hope to see you there.

73, Bob, AC7GP, Lilac City ARC



REMEMBER to mark your calendar!

- June 27-28. Field Day at Valleyford Park, WA.
- JULY 17, 18, and 19, 2009 **The KBARA Camp Out & Annual Meeting**, at Fort Spokane, Email Mark at k7hpt@arrl.net for reservations in the group area.
- **Sept 26, 2009 Spokane Hamfest** ARRL Washington State Convention University High School, 12420 E. 32nd Avenue, Spokane, WA

"A Musing" from John, W7OE A Dual-Band 80/160 Meter Antenna

A couple of years ago I purchased a crank-up tower that extends to 38 feet plus an additional 10 to 15 feet with a steel tubular mast. I decided to build an 80-Meter 1/4-wave vertical with this tower. A vertical works much better than a low dipole for working DX because the vertical provides a much lower angle of radiation. To get a comparable low angle of radiation, the dipole must be a half to a full wavelength above the ground. This would require a dipole to be 133 to 266 feet above the ground for 80 Meters and 260 to 520 feet above the ground for 160 Meters. My first attempt used rope guying at the 19 foot level with 1-3/16" closet rod for masting to get the antenna to 67 feet in height. I also utilized a fiberglass antenna tube at the very top to minimize



weight. I ran a 12 gauge wire through the tube and down the wooden mast to the bottom of the antenna producing a 67 foot vertical. I put string guys on the wooden masting and all worked great until a wind storm blew the antenna down. Trial and error showed that to keep the antenna upright I needed rope guys at the 19 and 38 foot levels plus ten feet of steel masting before I went to the closet-rod masting. I also discovered that when I attached the wire to the steel mast and the top of the tower section (to make all electrically connected) I had to increase the length to 71 feet. I separated the base from the ground with a thin piece of fiberglass and I also put rope guys at the very bottom of the antenna. I also put numerous ground radials on or below the ground ranging from 67 to 130 feet in length. I have a chain-link fence that surrounds the property and the radials were attached to the fence and a wire that runs the length of the fence. Does the antenna work? I have worked all continents with it on 80. I was only one of two North American stations to work ZS1JX

in South Africa in late April. The other station--W5UN--had phased verticals. I routinely work Asia, South America, and Oceania in the mornings with good signal reports. Most mornings I am the only North American station working DX on 80 Meters since many are told that 80 Meters is dead in the spring and summer. I am looking foreword to this fall and winter when the low bands get really "hot" and expect many European and African long-path contacts. I am never satisfied, so I decided to use linear loading to make this vertical usable on 160 Meters.

Please refer to <http://www.qsl.net/pa3hbb/ll.htm> for an example of a linear loaded antenna. My linear-loading element consists of 60 feet of wire that goes up 30 feet from the base of the antenna and back down 30 feet back to the base. The coax is attached to this element when I wish to operate 160 Meters. I separated the "up" wire a foot from the antenna and the "down" wire a foot from the "up" wire and two feet from the antenna. I use PVC pipe extending horizontally from the tower at the 30 foot level to support this element. Rope is used to raise it into place and to help keep it attached. So far I have only worked Japan and all over the U.S.A. with it, but copy is difficult on 160 this time of the year due to noise (QRN). The Japanese station could not even be heard with my 160-meter dipole so I suspect that the vertical also works better transmitting the signal. Winter conditions will provide the true test.

Unless you want to work a lot of DX this is NOT the antenna for you. Local contacts and nets covering regional areas are best covered with a low dipole with



a high angle of radiation. The low angle of radiation provided by the vertical tends to skip over the regional stations. I have decided to call my antenna "The Ultimate

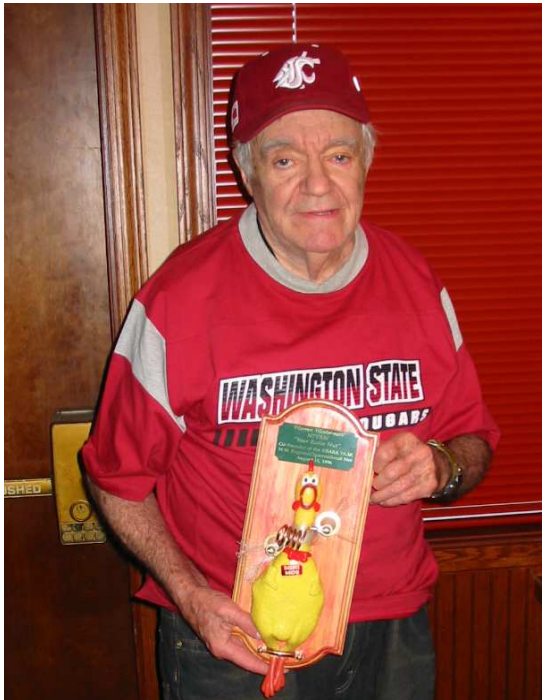
Penultimate and Top Band Antenna". The linear loading element works by itself on 40 meters if I attach the two wires together at the base making it a

single 30 foot wire. Of course the linear loading element is not attached to the tower. Perhaps I should rename the antenna "The Ultimate Antepenultimate Penultimate and Ultimate Band Antenna". The problem with this name is that there is now a 60-Meter band that no one ever uses. Therefore it is "The Ultimate Ante antepenultimate Penultimate and Ultimate Band Antenna".

John Dempster, W7OE

Silent Key

Long time KBARA member Warren, N7YRN, became a silent key on June 6, 2009. Many of you will remember Warren as a long time net control on the KBARA morning net. Warren was a co-founder of the "KBARA 7 AM NW Regional International Net" which started August 15, 1996. We thank Warren for all he did for KBARA and will miss hearing "*N7YRN, Your Radio Nut*".



Warren receiving the Mini-Moe award in honor of his service to KBARA, September 15, 2006.

Up, Up, Up in the AIR!!

At a recent Kamiak Butte work party, Dan, K7MM and others worked to install a new repeater antenna.

The photos were taken by David Kuhns, KD7MNI.



From George, W7ZVD

Got a great Ham radio/SKYWARN story that was done by Springfield, MO ABC affiliate KSPR 33. Kevin Lighty, the weather guy who reported the story, is a ham as well. His call sign is KC9BVA. His website is <http://kevinlighty.com>. To see the video go to:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a54N8AaBDiU>

For those of you who are not ham radio operators, this will explain one of the aspects of the hobby. Those of you that are hams enjoy the story and good press

.KBARA NETS (Pacific Time)

***Join us on IRLP reflector 9205**

Weekdays	7:00AM	7AM International Net
Wednesday	7:00PM	Wednesday Evening Net
Thursday	6:30PM	Whitman/Latah County ARES Net
Saturday	7:00AM	Stanley Steamer Net
Sunday	7:00AM	Roadrunners' Net
Sunday	7:30PM	Spokane Region Storehouse ERC Net

EVERGREEN INTERTIE NETS (Pacific Time)

Weekdays	5:45AM	Weather Net
	4:45PM	Weather Net
Monday	8:00PM	YL Net
Sunday	10:00PM	Astronomy Net (Portland)

KBARA Officers

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Treasurer

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Newsletter

Wes Taylor, KD7HGG
KD7HGG@yahoo.com

KBARA Annual Meeting and Camp Out

The KBARA Annual Meeting and CampOut is coming up July 17, 18 and 19, 2009 at Fort Spokane. Please see the last newsletter or the KBARA website for details and instructions on how to get there. You can also hear more about it on the Wednesday evening net or one of the KBARA morning nets. Below is a list of those signed up so far. Contact Mark, K7HPT, via email at k7hpt@arrl.net, by phone at 509-993-1388, or on the air for reservations in the group area. Some are arriving early on the 16th. It is sure to be another great event this year. If you can't make the camp out, try and come for the day Saturday and attend the annual meeting. It is scheduled for 3PM Saturday and will include election of officers for the next year and general business. Also we will start out Saturday with the annual pancake breakfast at 8 AM.

KBARA Annual Meeting & Campout JULY16-17-18-19, 2009				
K7HPT	Mark Van Winkle	1	Tent	
VE7IS	Jan & Roy McNeil	2	Camper	
W7HFI	Bob Lemon & son	2	Tent	
N7WRQ	Jim & Betsy Ashleman	2	Tent	
VA7GV	Guy Venne & Donna Mottishaw	2	Mtr Home	
KD7DDQ	Ken Crosswhite	1	Tent	
N7DXF	Bob & Carol Davis	2		2 Rivers RV
KA7CSP	Kyle & Sue Pugh	2	32' Mtr Home	
K7CTS	Bill Nadwornick & Lucia Ciupa	2	31' Mtr Home	
KE7PG	Mike & Linda Grounds	2	30' 5th Wheel	
KG8ZK	Charles Greeson & Janet Bales	3	Tent	
K7WET	Ken Davis & YTZ, Richard & CHN, Tim	3	Tent	
KE7WOE	Ray Ulery & Family	4		B&B Davenport
KE7QZE	Ray & Cathie Kuh	2		Day Only
KE7AGN	Dwane & Pam Makinson	2		Day Only
W7OE	John Dempster	1		Day Only
W7IFO	Dick & Bee Noble	2		2 Rivers RV
AC7MV	Dave & Mary Snyder (KC7QGV)	2	Tent Trailer	
KE7RAP	Bob Peterson	1		Day Only

SPOKANE HAMFEST

and

American Radio Relay League Washington State Convention



September 26, 2009
University High School
12420 E 32nd Ave, Spokane Valley WA 99216

Hosted by 8 Amateur Radio Clubs:



Kamiak Butte
Amateur
Repeater Assoc.
Panoramaland
ARC



NW Tri-State
ARO



Inland Empire
VHF Radio
Amateurs



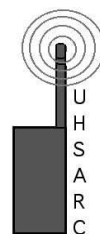
Palouse Hills
ARC



Spokane DX
Association



University High
School ARC



And Lilac City ARC

Raffle prizes: 1st prize, a Kenwood TS-2000 HF/6M/2M/UHF radio, 2nd prize an ICOM IC-718 compact HF radio, 3rd prize an ICOM IC-2200H 65W 2M mobile radio, along with many door prizes

Seminars & displays: "HF Contesting/QRP" by Dan, K7MM ~ "All About PSK31 & a Little About RTTY" by Bob, AC7GP ~ "Building a 2 Meter Quad Antenna" by Pete, W7OW ~ "IRLP" by Roy & Jan, VE7IS & VE7QE ~ "Junque" Auction by Wilse & Gimmie, WX7P & AL7LB ~ "Doug, KR2Q's 'When Giants Walked the Bands'" by LaMar, WA7LT ~ "Radio Test Gear" Table with Jack, AD7FO License Exam ~ ARRL NW Division Director Jim, K9JF ~ Commercial & non-commercial vendors Non-stop food ~ and much, much more

Admission \$5
Age 18 and under FREE

Commercial tables \$15
\$12 if paid before September 5th

Swap tables \$7.50
\$5.00 if paid before September 5th
Admission not included in the price of table space

Free off-street parking for cars & RV's

Friday, September 25th
Vendor Setup: 7-9 PM

Saturday, September 26th
Vendor Setup: 8 AM
Open to Public: 9 AM – 5 PM
License Exam: 11:00AM
"Junque" Auction: 3:00PM
Raffle: 4:30 PM
Post Hamfest Dinner: 5PM
Timber Creek Grill Buffet
9211 E Montgomery Dr.
Spokane Valley
Program advertising available: 1/4 page for \$40 to full page ad for \$120
License exam info: Mary, AA7RT at (509)991-2192 or aa7rt@arrl.net

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. The repeaters' frequencies, call signs, locations and owners are as follows:

KB7ARA REPEATERS

146.74 W7HFI	Kamiak Butte, near Pullman, WA, owned by Bob, W7HFI, Dan, K7MM, & John, W7OE
147.02 K7HPT	Lookout Pass on I-90 on the Idaho-Montana border, owned by Mark, K7HPT, & John, W7OE
147.28 KD7DDQ	Pikes Peak in the Blue Mountains, southeast of Walla Walla, WA, owned by Ken, KD7DDQ
147.36 N1NG	Stensgar (Stranger) Mountain, near Chewelah, WA, owned by Mike, N1NG, & John, W7OE
147.38 W7OE	Mica Peak, east of Spokane, WA, owned by John, W7OE
223.90 AK2O	Stensgar (Stranger) Mountain, near Chewelah, WA, owned by Karl, AK2O
444.35 N1NG	Mica Peak, east of Spokane, WA, with a 192.8 Hz tone, owned by Mike, N1NG
IRLP Node #3957 N1NG	South Hill of Spokane, WA, owned by Mike, N1NG

All licensed Amateur Radio operators are welcome to use this open repeater system. Your support would also be greatly appreciated. Please visit these websites for more information: <http://www.kbara.org> and visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/evergreenintertie>

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.

KBARA

KAMIAK BUTTE AMATEUR REPEATER ASSOCIATION

PO Box 30801

Spokane WA 99223-3013