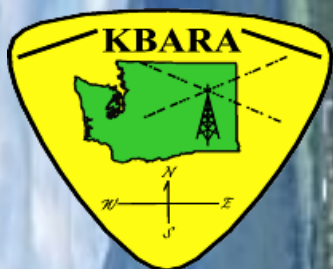


Fall 2025



Quarterly Journal of the Kamiak Butte Amateur Repeater Association

**KBARA Gazette**

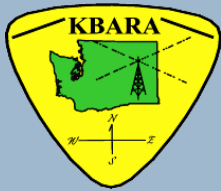
## 24th Annual Christmas No-host Luncheon

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**Please join your fellow Hams in celebrating the holiday season with a no-host luncheon:**

**December 20, 2025, Saturday, 1PM  
Longhorn Barbecue Restaurant  
2315 N Argonne Rd  
(corner of Argonne & Montgomery)  
Spokane Valley WA 99212 509-924-9600**





# Technical Update

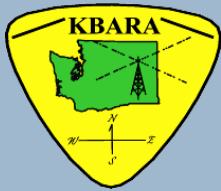
By Jim N7WRR

The entire KBARA system is working fairly well at present with all repeaters and links working; and we have a full time link with the BEARS 145.33 repeater on the westside. The BEARS have done a lot of work on their system and the Tiger Mountain repeater has great coverage throughout the Puget Sound region. Thanks to Don W7VXS, Dan AA7JP and Roger KK7SX of the BEARS for all their work on the Tiger Mountain repeater and linking us in! The KBARA RF links have all worked well other than the long tail on the 147.38 when it receives a link from the Hub. The internet links however need resetting or troubleshooting several times a month it seems.

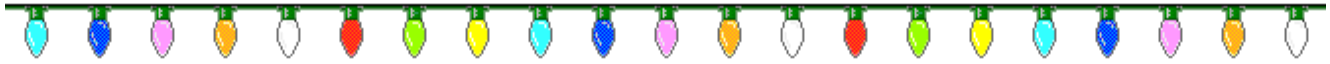
Originally our entire system was RF linked. KBARA was tied into the west side as part of the Evergreen Intertie. There were 440 MHz RF links from Mica to the 147.26 Naneum Ridge repeater, from there to Mt Baldy in the Cascades and onto Tiger Mountain and the BEARS repeater system. The Mt Baldy link was a commercial site that had a continued escalating rent. KBARA split the cost with Jack Williams, W7HNN but costs got too high and the link was abandoned. It was replaced with an IRLP link from KBARA to the BEARS 145.33 repeater, which is now an AllStar link into our system via Fred W5MGM's bridge to our IRLP. I have recently had conversations with Kerry Griffith KB7TYR, the owner of the 147.26 Naneum Ridge repeater. He is interested in linking it back into the KBARA system. When Betsy N7WRQ and I bought all new equipment for the Mica Peak 147.38 repeater in 2021 we were unable to establish the link with Naneum Ridge. We will work on it some this winter, but if the issue is at Naneum Ridge it will be next summer before we can get access to it. The repeater is located on the peak just south of the Mission Ridge Ski area above Wenatchee and has very good coverage throughout the Columbia Basin.

Remember to check into the weekly KBARA Wednesday evening nets at 7pm for more information on the status of the system and with any questions you may have regarding the system or questions in general regarding amateur radio. We will try to get you answers.





# Ham Radio Night Before Christmas



'Twas the night before Christmas,  
And all through two-meters,  
Not a signal was keying up  
Any repeaters.

The antennas reached up  
From the tower, quite high,  
To catch the weak signals  
That bounced from the sky.

The children, Technicians,  
Took their HT's to bed,  
And dreamed of the day  
They'd be Extras, instead.

Mom put on her headphones,  
I plugged in the key,  
And we tuned 40 meters  
For that rare ZK3.

When the meter was pegged  
By a signal with power.  
It smoked a small diode,  
And, I swear, shook the tower.

Mom yanked off her phones,  
And with all she could muster  
Logged a spot of the signal  
On the DX PacketCluster,

While I ran to the window  
And peered up at the sky,  
To see what could generate  
RF that high.

It was way in the distance,  
But the moon made it gleam -  
A flying sleigh,  
With an eight element beam,

And a little old driver  
Who looked slightly mean,  
So I thought for a moment  
That it might be Wayne Green.

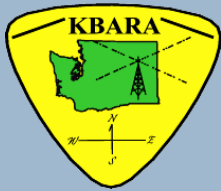
But no, it was Santa,  
The Santa of Hams,  
On a mission this Christmas  
To clean up the bands.

He circled the tower,  
Then stopped in his track,  
And he slid down the coax  
Right into the shack.

While Mom and I hid  
Behind stacks of CQ,  
This Santa of hamming  
Knew just what to do.

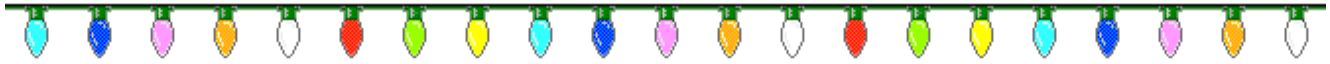
He cleared off the shack desk  
Of paper and parts,  
And filled out all my late  
QSLs, for a start.

He ran copper braid,  
Took a steel rod and pounded  
It into the earth  
Till the station was grounded.



# Ham Radio Night Before Christmas

continued...



He tightened loose fittings,  
Resoldered connections,  
Cranked down modulation,  
Installed lightning protection.

He neutralized tubes  
In my linear amp...  
(Never worked right before –  
Now it works like a champ).

A new low-pass filter  
Cleaned up the TV.  
He corrected the settings  
In my TNC.

He repaired the computer  
That wouldn't compute,  
And he backed up the hard drive  
And got it to boot.

Then, he reached really deep  
In the bag that he brought,  
And he pulled out a big box.  
"A new rig?" I thought!

"A new Kenwood? An Icom?  
A Yaesu, for me?  
An Elecraft, TEN-TEC  
Or Flex, could it be!"  
(If he thought I'd been bad  
It might be QRP!)

Yes! The Ultimate station!  
How could I deserve this?  
Could it be all those weekends  
I worked Public Service?

He hooked it all up  
And in record time, quickly  
Worked 100 countries,  
All down on 160.

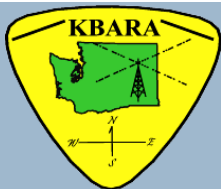
I should have been happy.  
It was *my* call he sent.  
But the cards and the postage  
Will cost a month's rent!

He made final adjustments,  
And left a card by the key:  
"To Gary, from Santa Claus.  
Seventy-Three."

Then he grabbed his HT,  
Looked me straight in the eye,  
Punched a code on the pad,  
And was gone - no good bye.

I ran back to the station,  
And the pile up was big.  
But a card from St. Nick  
Would be worth my new rig.

Oh, too late, for his final  
Came over the air.  
It was copied all over.  
It was heard everywhere.



# Ham Radio Night Before Christmas

continued...

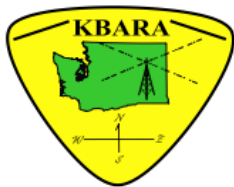
The Ham's Santa exclaimed  
What an old ham expects:  
"Merry Christmas to all,  
And to all, good DX."



## It's almost time!

Check ins start every night, between Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve, at 6:30PM Central Time. Check back then to get on Santa's List.





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



KBARA is a support group for several club and privately 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, IRLP, EchoLink KB7ARA-R, and AllStar node 53587. The repeaters' frequencies, call signs and locations are as follows:

147.380 MHz N7WRQ on Mica Peak near Spokane, WA, owned by Betsy N7WRQ & Jim N7WRR  
147.360 MHz N7WRR on Stensgar (Stranger) Mt. near Chewelah, WA, owned by Jim N7WRR & Betsy N7WRQ  
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 KB7ARA hub repeater on Stensgar (Stranger) Mt. near Chewelah, WA, owned by KBARA  
444.350 MHz N1NG (192.8 tone) on Mica Peak near Spokane, WA, owned by Mike N1NG  
IRLP Node #3638 in Spokane WA owned by Glen, K1RR

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](http://www.kbara.org). See us on Facebook.



# Upcoming Hamfests and Events

Courtesy of N7CFO.com

## 2026

February 21. Salem Hamfair. Rickreall, OR. T <http://www.w7sra.com/> . [Flyer in PDF.](#)

March 7. Mike & Key Swapmeet. <https://mikeandkey.org/flea.php>

June 5-7. SEA-PAC Hamfest and ARRL Northwestern Division Convention. Seaside Convention Center, Seaside, Oregon. [www.seapac.org/](http://www.seapac.org/) .

June 12-14. Wenatchee Apple City ARC Hamfest, Dryden, WA. <https://www.applecityarc.com/>

June. Port Ludlow ARC Tail Gate Swapmeet. <https://www.n7pl.org/>

June. Inland Empire VHF Radio Amateurs Annual Swapmeet, Spokane, WA.

June. Southern Oregon Amateur Radio Club Summer Swap Meet. <https://www.soarc.org/>.

July 11-12. Salmoncon, the annual gathering of low power (QRP) ham radio operators. Valley Camp, North Bend, WA. <https://www.pnwqrp.org/salmoncon>

July. Glacier Waterton Hamfest. East Glacier, Montana. <https://www.gwhamfest.org/>

July. Chehalis Valley ARC Swapmeet. Lewis County Fairgrounds 1909 S. Gold Street, Centralia, WA

July. KBARA Ham Radio Swap Meet. La Pine, OR. Contact: Mike McCarter KK7NBQ, 9503) 339-5654. [vp@coarect.com](mailto:vp@coarect.com).

August. Pacific Northwest DX Convention, Clackamas, OR. <https://pnwdxconvention.com/>

August. Puget Sound Antique Radio Association Annual Swapmeet. <https://psararadio.com/>

August 14-17 Washington SOTA Campout. Curlew Lake State Park. Contact: Corrinne, KK7ULL, [corrinnehenderson@hotmail.com](mailto:corrinnehenderson@hotmail.com)

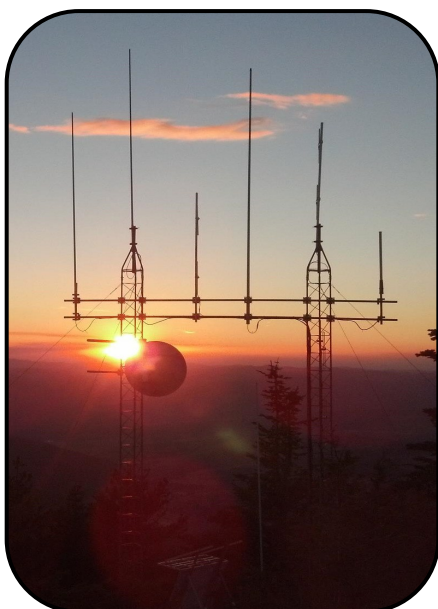
October 10. Kitsap County Amateur Radio Club Hamfest. <https://kcarc.org/hamfest/>

October 17. Swaptoberfest. Rickreall, OR. [www.swaptoberfest.com](http://www.swaptoberfest.com) .



# KBARA Repeaters and Echolink/IRLP Nodes

| Frequency         | CTCSS Tone | Location          | Call sign | RF Link                     |
|-------------------|------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Repeaters</b>  |            |                   |           |                             |
| 223.90 MHz        | None       | Stensgar Mtn      | KB7ARA    | Hub                         |
| 147.38 MHz        | 100.00     | Mica Peak         | N7WRQ     | KB7ARA—223.90               |
| 147.36 MHz        | None       | Stensgar Mtn      | N7WRR     | Hard wired Hub              |
| 147.02 MHz        | None       | Lookout Pass      | KB7ARA    | N7WRQ—147.38                |
| 147.28 MHz        | None       | Pikes Peak        | KB7ARA    | KB7ARA—223.90               |
| 147.32 MHz        | 103.5      | West Twin, Moscow | KA7FVV    | IRLP                        |
| 444.350 MHz       | 192.8      | Mica Peak         | N1NG      | Stand Alone                 |
| <b>Links</b>      |            |                   |           |                             |
| Echolink KB7ARA-R | N/A        | Spokane, WA       | KB7ARA-R  | KB7ARA - 223.90             |
| IRLP Node 3638    | None       | Spokane, WA       | K1RR      | KB7ARA—223.90<br>& Ref 9075 |



**KBARA Membership / Support Information:** The KBARA repeater system consists of several club & 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> for more information about the club and repeaters.

## KBARA Officials

### Directors

Jim Ashleman, N7WRR  
Scott Harvey, KA7FVV  
Glen Ahlborn K1RR

### Officers

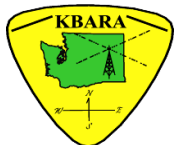
President: Jim Gladden, KK7EW  
Vice President: James Rowe, W7JJR  
Secretary: Tim Timm, N6JXN  
Treasurer: Betsy Ashleman, N7WRQ

Testing is held the 3rd Wednesday of every month. Brought to you by Glen, K1RR. If you have any questions please contact Glen at [glen@k1rr.com](mailto:glen@k1rr.com) or 509.216.0666.

**Contact Glen for updates on testing.**



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](http://www.kbara.org).

## KAMIAK BUTTE AMATEUR REPEATER ASSOCIATION

PO Box 30801

Spokane WA 99223-3013