



Affiliate Club

IDAHO SOCIETY OF RADIO AMATEURS

Boise Chapter

February 15, 2011

Web Site: www.israboise.com VHF NET 146.94, 8:30 pm Sundays

President: KE7GKM

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February Meeting ===== 6:30 pm Start Time =====

The Club meeting time and place for *February only* is **6:30 pm at the Reuseum store located at 108 West 33rd Street Garden City, ID.** Dave, the proprietor, will give the program consisting of the Reuseum's sponsorship of DIY construction and operation of robots. In addition he will give some view into the operation of the Reuseum. Briefly, the Reuseum is a business selling recycled technology to hobbyists, artists, and engineer types, and to anyone who likes old, cool, relatively rare, relics. His schedule necessitates the earlier starting time for our meeting. This should be a 'FUN' time for all concerned.

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2011 Dues: Yep, it's that time of year again. Ten dollars. Not quite a bank breaker, but in this economy it's getting closer. You can give directly to Bob, N7ZF, or you can mail to: Idaho Society of Radio Amateurs, PO BOX 8903, Boise ID 83707.

The Officers for 2011

At our January meeting we held our annual principal business meeting at which the following officers and directors were elected: **President:** Bob Sulanke, KE7GKM; **Vice President:** John Davis, KE7RL; **Sec/Treas** Bob Willis, N7ZF; **Directors** Bill Barrus, W7PKL and Jim Hall, W4TVI. Bill, W7PKL, will continue, temporarily, to serve as the club's point man concerning 2-meter repeater issues. Jim, W4TVI, will be the coordinator for Field day, while Gerald Kroenke, KD7ULT, will be in charge of the club's arrangements for the December dinner with QCWA.

Unresolved issues — First, the club needs a newsletter editor, or at least a coordinating editor. Regardless of who is the editor, we need volunteers to be guest editors through out the year. Pres. Bob, KE7GKM, is waiting to hear from you soon. Second, the club needs a program director.

Idaho QSO Party

We are pleased to announce that this year's Idaho QSO Party will take place from 1900 GMT on 03/12/11 thru 1859GMT on 03/13/11. Please note that this is also the date when the change to Daylight Savings Time takes place, so you may need to disconnect your logging program from the automatic computer clock.

We encourage you to consider mobile operations in "hard to find" counties, including Benewah, Butte, Clark, Clearwater, Custer, Elmore, Fremont, Owyhee, Valley (and others, I'm sure). If you are planning a mini-DXpedition to one of the counties, let us know in advance and we will post your call sign, planned county or counties, and planned frequency on the website(s) so that others will have a chance to land some rare DX. (Remember, less than one percent of US Amateurs live in Idaho, so we are ALL rare DX for most)!

IDQP information is available on two websites ("mirror websites") this year: Idaho ARRL Website - http://idahoarrl.info/QSO_Party/iqp.htm NX7TT Website - <http://nx7tt.com/idqp/iqp.htm>

If you have questions or comments, kindly contact Ed Campbell (NX7TT), nx7tt@msn.com or Ed Stuckey

(AI7H), ai7h@arrrl.org

Idaho QSO Party is sponsored by the following: Ed Campbell (NX7TT) – modern IDQP founder Kootenai Amateur Radio Society (KARS)
Idaho ARRL Section manager Ed Stuckey, AI7H 73

Boise Convention: The Idaho ARRL State Convention will take place from April 22 through 24. Sounds like they have plans for another great event. For more information or to register early online see: <http://www.idahostateconvention.com/index.html>

Also, for a look at all the various hamfests and conventions taking place in the Northwest, go to this nice site: <http://www.n7cfo.com/amradio/hf/hf.htm>

This year's ARRL Field Day will be held on June 25 and 26. The club has tentatively reserved the usual location at Eagle Island State Park for Saturday June 25. If you have another location that you feel the club should check out for FD, please relay that suggestion to a club officer.

Up coming programs

In March Don Clower KA7T, who has QSLs for over 330 countries will be speaking to the club. He will be sharing many interesting stories and DX information.

In April we have tentatively scheduled Ken Malgren, K7MAL, from ARES to speak. Ken is the Idaho District 3 Emergency Coordinator. Recently Ken became a member of the club.

How about a “WEST”? One member has suggested that, as part of a future meeting, we hold a random equipment swap. A “White Elephant swap thing” is where each member of the club brings some radio related item which is no longer needed to the meeting. Items are supplied to those who forget or who have yet to get the spirit. The items are randomly redistributed so that each member receives one "prize". Mad trading may then be in order. The club president wishes to pass this idea past the membership as we should have strong majority support for it to work.

Another topic for part or all of a future meeting is to prepare the operational and the antenna set up, etc, for field day.

A Note on the 3.200 repeater from Gaylan KB7SYE .

A 443.200 repeater is now located in west Boise with the call of KB7SYE/R. It is a very low level machine, but it is a fully remote base, located currently at my house. We have Echolink on this machine. Our normal mode of operation is the Echolink system which is always on receive mode. So, in order to transmit into the echolink system you need to be able to turn the push-to-talk on. In other words, just because you hear it, does not mean you can transmit thru it.

The repeater can be use to talk locally even though you hear echolink, as it mutes out the echolink while talking locally. We do have plans, time permitting, of adding IRLP to the system, as I have all the hardware in place. We do have a control operator Bryant KA7SXV on the system. For those interested in checking in, at 7 pm mst, Saturdays, we connect to an echolink conference. We are not a closed repeater, so feel free to use it. We do control to whom we are connected. The pl is 100.



John Davis

A Bios – In our last NL John KE7RL initiated a fresh feature for the NL, namely, that of running biographical sketches of local hams. This month we have his Auto Bio.

Here is another scientifically selected biography of one of our club members, one that was easy for me to contact without radio, telephone, or email – myself.

Back in the dark ages in high school, I was interested in amateur radio, and even had a close friend who had his license, but I did not get very far at that time. Then about 1974, while living up near Kellogg, Idaho and working in the mining industry, I got the bug again, but other things got in the way, and nothing happened. Finally in 1984, still in Northern Idaho, I saw that the local school district was having various community education classes, one of which was ham radio. This time I attended the class, and got my novice ticket – KA7UHA. Oddly enough, I happened to be reading the local classifieds about that time and saw that an ex-ham had some HF gear for sale. So I bought it, and got on the air. Later, I took the Technician test in Coeur d'Alene and passed that. In 1985 we moved to Boise, and shortly after that I took the General test, which was held at (I think)

Boise and Other Northwest Hamfests

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Refreshments -- When it comes to refreshments, the club has no problem finding volunteers for RD (refreshment duty). Here are the volunteers for the next five meetings: Feb: Bill B, Mar: Al, Apr: Jim, May:

the Meridian Library. I bet Al Hale N7AL does not remember, but he was the one who gave me the test. I passed that test – N7HTJ, so he said, “long as you are here, why don’t you go ahead and take the Advanced test?” I had not studied for that test, but what the heck, I took it anyway, and flunked it. Later I took it again and passed that time – KE7RL. About 2002 or 2003 I passed the Extra class test – still KE7RL.

I am sort of a dabbler in several areas of ham radio, and not very good at any of them. About 12 years ago I was president of the Voice of Idaho club for two years. I was that club’s secretary-treasurer for two years too, but I can’t remember if it was before or after being president.

I have been married 49 years, and we have five kids, thirteen grandchildren, and even two great grandchildren. I will have to tell you how my wife, Anna-Marie – N7YUB got her ticket. She wanted me to take square dancing lessons, so I told her if she would study and get her Technician license, I would take square dancing lessons, thinking she would forget the whole thing. But she didn’t, so I took square dancing lessons, which I HATED. So now she does not do much ham radio, and I don’t do any square dancing.

Anna-Marie and I lived in Santiago Chile from August 2008 until February 2010, serving a mission as mental health advisors for our church. We got to travel the whole length of Chile, part of Argentina, and Peru. I did not do any ham radio while in South America. I kept an eagle eye out in Santiago for ham radio antennas, and did see several beam antennas on some upper class looking houses. I did make friends with one ham down there, Sergio Bustamante CE3EBK. We got back to Boise 12 days before the big earthquake in Chile. 73 John, KE7RL

John D, Sept: Gerald. Volunteer for the October and November slots with the president. Tnx.

A Thought for the Day – A good story, found by W4TVI, that hams should be able to apply –

A blonde walks into a bank in New York City and asks for the loan officer. She says she's going to Europe on business for two weeks and needs to borrow \$5,000. The bank officer says the bank will need some kind of security for the loan, so the blonde hands over the keys to a new Rolls Royce. The car is parked on the street in front of the bank; she has the title, and everything checks out. The bank agrees to accept the car as collateral for the loan. The bank's president and its officers all enjoy a good laugh at the blonde for using a \$250,000 Rolls as collateral against a \$5,000 loan. An employee of the bank then drives the Rolls into the bank's underground garage and parks it there.

Two weeks later, the blonde returns and repays the \$5,000 and the interest, which comes to \$15.41. The loan officer says, "Miss, we are very happy to have had your business, and this transaction has worked out very nicely; but we are a little puzzled. We checked you out and found that you are a multimillionaire. What puzzles us is - why would you bother to borrow \$5,000?" The blond replies..... "Where else in New York City can I park my car for two weeks for only \$15.41 and expect it to be there when I return?"

PSK31 Experience: If you or someone you know has expertise with Signallink USB or have general experience with PSK31, please let bob.sulanke@gmail.com know as one of our members needs some assistance with a new device tnx.

From the President's corner:

At the January meeting, the club got off to a good start for the year with its election of the board of directors. Hopefully, you will communicate your ideas on how to improve the club with members of the BOD.

Regarding the NL, I hope that each member, if willing, will pick a month to be the guest editor . Bill W7PKL has agreed to remain, for the time being, as the formatting editor, while KE7GKM (great king maxwell) will continue its printing and mailing.



The gang at the January meeting.

KE7GKM has his back to the camera.