

# THE COAX NEWSLETTER



July 2023

P O Box 792, Ponderay, ID 83852-0792

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WE NEED YOU!



We are looking for help staffing both the 4th of July Parade and the Long Bridge Swim.

BCARC is once again providing communications support to the Sandpoint 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade on **Tuesday, July 4th** and the Long Bridge Swim on **Saturday, August 5th**.

Both are great opportunities to practice your radio skills and have a front row view of the action! If you are interested in participating, please contact John Ailport, K7BSV, at [john.ailport13@comcast.net](mailto:john.ailport13@comcast.net) for more information.



## JULY MEETING PRESENTATION

### Mesh Networking

Presented by *Scott Rasmus, KC3BFW*

This recent Field Day, we linked our stations together using something called a **Mesh Network**. Club member Scott Rasmus designed and constructed the network for us and our co-located group, BCARES.

Curious as to what a mesh network is and how it works? Join us as we explore the details of this essential infrastructure. It is another amateur radio tool that can be used to connect locations in disparate and hard to reach areas in our efforts to provide public service support for events such as long-distance bicycle races, long-distance runs and other such activities.

## CLUB INFORMATION

### NEXT MEETING

**July 12, 2023**

*(2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month)*

**Board Meeting**

5:00 PM

**Pre-function / Workshop**

6:00 PM

**General Meeting**

6:30 PM

**Location**

VFW HALL

1325 PINE ST.

Corner of Pine & Division

Sandpoint, ID

### **\*\* Zoom Meetings \*\***

The Club continues to experiment with so called "Hybrid Meetings" throughout the summer months. Meetings are available via both attendance at the live event and via a Zoom connection. Putting all of this together while not rocket science is not a trivial exercise either. We will be monitoring the use of the hybrid approach to gauge the utility of this effort to the membership. Please watch your groups.io email for the logon credentials for the July meeting. If you have any comments, please send them to [BonnerCountyARC@groups.io](mailto:BonnerCountyARC@groups.io) or [bcarc73@gmail.com](mailto:bcarc73@gmail.com).

## PAST PRESENTATIONS

To download presentations from prior meetings, click [here](#).

## MEMBER NEWS

### 2023 Field Day

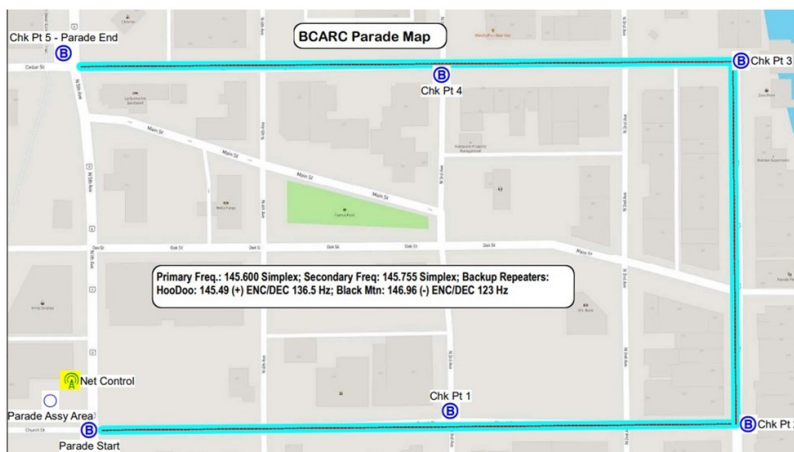
Wow, what an amazing Field Day! We had over **85** people come check us out! While we are still working to compile all of our stats and bonus point items for submittal to ARRL, so far it looks like we had a great year and surpassed last years points! We made **50 CW** contacts, **253 phone** contacts, **120 FT8** contacts and **4 satellite** contacts which together are a huge improvement over last year! Could this mean we will once again have the best score in Idaho? Stay tuned for the final results and more pics in next months COAX!

And a huge shout out goes to the BCARC Field Day Planning Team for doing such a great job organizing and getting the word out!



## SANDPOINT JULY 4TH PARADE

Once again, BCARC will be supporting the annual Sandpoint Lions Club 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade on Tuesday, July 4th. As in past years, we will be staffing the parade route using HTs to communicate parade progress and any issues that may arise. Club members will meet at 8am that morning with the parade beginning at 9:30am. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact John Ailport, K7BSV, at [john.ailport13@comcast.net](mailto:john.ailport13@comcast.net).



## BCARC BREAKFAST

**July 22, 2023**

**9am – 10:30am**

### **Location**

Connie's Café  
323 Cedar St  
Sandpoint, ID

## BCARC NETS

K7JEP HooDoo Mtn VHF Repeater / North Idaho Repeater Group Net

Every **Sunday** at **7pm**

145.490MHz (-0.6 MHz offset; 136.5 tone)

### Simplex Net

Immediately following the Repeater Net

145.600MHz Simplex

## MEMBERSHIP

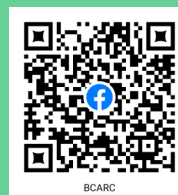
\$25 Individual

\$35 Family

To join, please remit with a membership application at the next meeting or send to:

BCARC  
PO Box 792  
Ponderay, ID 83852-0792

A membership application can be downloaded by clicking [here](#).



## CONTESTS, NETS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

### 12th Annual 13 Colonies - July 1 - 8

The annual **13 Colonies** special event will begin on July 1 at 1300 UTC and conclude on July 8 at 0400 UTC. Stations representing the original 13 British colonies, plus two bonus stations, will be on the air with 1 x 1 call signs. The event sponsor stresses that participants do not need to work all 13 colony stations to obtain a certificate and do not need to work the two bonus stations for a clean sweep. All HF bands will be in play, with the exception of 60 meters, and simplex on 2 and 6 meters is encouraged. All modes of operation may be represented. GOOD LUCK!! Check out all the event details at: <http://www.13colonies.us>

### CQ WW VHF Contest - July 15 - 16

This contest is for 6m and 2m only and is a real opportunity for those who use 6m FT8. Six meters is accessible on the IC-7300 and a number of other modern radios. Club member, K7SYS has 36 states on 6m, primarily just from contests! Please consider getting on if only to cherry pick states! [CQ VHF Contest - Home \(cqww-vhf.com\)](http://www.cqww-vhf.com)

### WW Digital DX Context - August 26 - 27

The WW Digital DX Contest (excludes RTTY) is another great opportunity to work DX using FT8 and wire antennas with low power (less than 100 watts). [WW DIGI - Home \(ww-digi.com\)](http://www.ww-digi.com)

### HF Activity Group - Daily

Hello, is anyone out there?? Have you ever struggled to determine your stations propagation? Well, here is a way to check. The HF Activity Group is open to anyone and its sole purpose is to check out your stations propagation. You merely give your call sign at the beginning and wait to be called upon, make your CQ call and then listen as to where you are being heard. And if you like, hang around and give reports back. The daily schedule is:

- 17M on 18.157.5 MHz at 1730-18:30z daily
- 15M on 21.383 MHz at 18:30z daily
- 12M on 24.970 MHz at 19:15z daily
- 10m on 28.570 MHz (when time and band allows)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

BCARC participates in and supports many local events. For more information on the events or volunteering opportunities, click on the links below:

### July 4th Parade

July 4, 2023  
Downtown Sandpoint

### Long Bridge Swim

August 5, 2023  
Sandpoint

### Bonner County Fair

August 16 - 19, 2023  
Bonner Co Fairgrounds  
Sandpoint

### Panhandle Preparedness Expo

Sept 30—Oct 1, 2023  
Bonner Co Fairgrounds  
Sandpoint

### BCARC Calendar



## CALL FOR ARTICLES

Do you fancy yourself a budding journalist? Do you have expertise in antennas, digital mode, DIY radio projects or other interesting radio topics? We would love to have you write an article for our monthly newsletter! If you are interested, please contact us via our club email: [bcarc73@gmail.com](mailto:bcarc73@gmail.com). We will follow up with you regarding the next publication opportunity.