

THE COAX NEWSLETTER



September 2023

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

September is Transmitter Hunting Month!

Did you know you can build a 2m Yagi antenna out of just PVC pipe, a tape measure and some wire? On September 16th, after the BCARC breakfast, we will be offering a **Build Your Own Yagi Antenna workshop** to do just that! As displayed at the Bonner County Fair, this 3 element 2m antenna has many uses and for only \$20 (for club members), we will supply you with all of the necessary components and assistance with the build. Now that's a good deal!

If you are interested, please contact Ken Conradi, KF7FDN, at kkconradi@hotmail.com by the end of the day on September 1st, so that we know how many kits to bring.

In addition, we will be hosting a T-Hunt /Fox Hunt soon, so you can use your new Yagi.....stay tuned!



SEPTEMBER MEETING PRESENTATION

Transmitter Hunting and Directional Antennas

Presented by **John Kludt, K7SYS**

The program for the September meeting of the Bonner County Amateur Radio Club will focus on the basics of hidden transmitter hunting. Besides being just plain fun, hidden transmitter hunting is a skill with practical applications. Maybe you want to find the station stuck "key down" on the input of a local repeater. Perhaps a friend is lost in the woods but has an HT and can make a transmission from time to time. It sure would be nice to know how to locate that individual using transmitter hunting skills. We will cover the basics focusing primarily on "walking T-hunting." The alternative is T-hunting from a car and we will talk a little bit about that as well.

To successfully locate a hidden transmitter a directional antenna is needed. We will be going over two factors that make a direction antenna important for transmitter hunting – antenna patterns and the concept of gain. Pattern and gain make a directional antenna useful in many other circumstances and we will cover some of them as part of the discussion.

See you at the meeting at 18:00 for informal chat and at 18:30 for the formal meeting and discussion.

Past Club presentations can be downloaded [here](#).

NEXT MEETING

September 13, 2023

(2nd Wednesday of the Month)

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Board Meeting

5:00 PM

Pre-function / Workshop

6:00 PM

General Meeting

6:30 PM

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Location

VFW HALL

1325 PINE ST.

Corner of Pine & Division

Sandpoint, ID

MEMBER NEWS

Long Bridge Swim

BCARC members, once again, helped with the annual Long Bridge Swim on August 5th. Members acted as Bridge Spotter's and were positioned at regular intervals along the bridge to help identify swimmers that needed assistance from kayakers and other boats in the water. Club members received a pre-swim briefing before heading out....some of our team even won gift certificates donated by local businesses as a thank you! Way to go team!



Bonner County Fair

BCARC was out in full force promoting the club and our many activities during the Bonner County Fair on August 16—19th. Members took shifts over the four days in the very hot, smoky weather to help answer questions from Fair attendees about amateur radio and discuss upcoming activities such as the Pico Balloon build & launch and the Build Your Own Yagi Antenna workshop!



BCARC BREAKFAST

September 16, 2023

9am – 10:30am

Location

Connie's Café
323 Cedar St
Sandpoint, ID

BCARC NETS

Every **Sunday** at 7pm

K7JEP HooDoo Mtn
VHF Repeater /
North Idaho Repeater
Group Net

145.490MHz
(-0.6 MHz offset; 136.5 tone)

Simplex Net

(Immediately following the Repeater Net)

145.600MHz Simplex

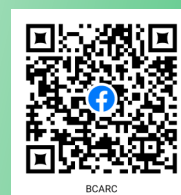
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

\$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](#).



August Club Presentation

During our August club meeting, attendees were treated to a Zoom presentation from esteemed Pico Balloonist, Joanne Cozen Michael, KM6BWB. With over 50 Pico balloon launches under her belt, Joanne was able to impart valuable knowledge to club members in advance of their own Pico balloon launch this coming Spring.

Her presentation can be found on our Club website [here](#).



If you are interested in more information about our Pico balloon launch, please contact Ken Conradi, KF7FDN, at kkconradi@hotmail.com.

CONTESTS, NETS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

ARRL September VHF Contest – September 9-10

Runs from 11:00am on September 9th to 8:00pm on September 10th.

[September VHF \(arrl.org\)](http://September VHF (arrl.org))

Spokane Hamfest - September 23

Runs from 9am—4pm.

[Spok23.pdf \(n7cfo.com\)](http://Spok23.pdf (n7cfo.com))

Panhandle Preparedness Expo—September 30—Oct 1

Runs from 9am—5pm on Saturday and 9am—3pm on Sunday. Bonner Co ARES will have a booth present.

Panhandle Preparedness Expo – Two days of preparedness presentations, demonstrations and vendor exhibits in Sandpoint Idaho • Sept 30 & Oct 1, 2023 at the Bonner County Fairgrounds

VE Testing – October 14

This is your next local opportunity to sit for the Technician, General or Amateur Extra license exam. Provided

free of charge by our local BCARES group. Testing begins at 10:00am at The Library – Sandpoint Branch.

[License Exams - Bonner County ARES/RACES \(K7BNR\) K7BNR \(bonnerares.org\)](http://License Exams - Bonner County ARES/RACES (K7BNR) K7BNR (bonnerares.org))

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;

15M on 21.383 MHz at 18:30z;

12M on 24.970 MHz at 19:15z;

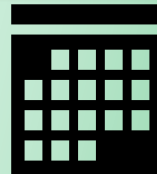
10M on 28.570 MHz (when time and band allows)

UPCOMING EVENTS

BCARC participates in and supports many local events.

Check out the BCARC Calendar on our website for more information by clicking on the icon below.

BCARC Calendar



UPCOMING MONTHLY MEETING PROGRAMS:

October 11

Parks On The Air
Jeff Banke, NZZS

November 8

Solar/Battery Power for Radios and Computers
John Ailport, K7BSV

December 13

Year End Celebration & Pizza Social
For Members and Families

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. We will follow up with you regarding the next publication opportunity.