

THE COAX NEWSLETTER



January 2025

P O Box 792, Ponderay, ID 83852-0792

www.K7JEP.org

BCARC73@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/bcarck7jep/

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reminder to submit your 2025 dues



2025 annual membership dues are now being collected. Dues will remain the same as this year at **\$25** for Individual membership and **\$35** for Family membership. Please remember to fill out a [membership form](#) along with payment and remit either by mail or at the next monthly meeting. Remember this helps fund all of our exciting activities!

JANUARY MEETING PRESENTATION

BCARC 2025 Annual Business Meeting

The January meeting will serve as the Clubs annual business meeting with the following agenda:

- ◆ Introduction and call to order with declaration of quorum
- ◆ Review of Clubs major accomplishments & events in 2024
- ◆ Review of Club Financials
- ◆ Presentation and Vote for 2025 Board members
 - ◆ President: Daryl Baird, *K6KRG*
 - ◆ Vice President: John Kludt, *K7SYS*
 - ◆ Secretary: Ken Conradi, *KF7FDN*
 - ◆ Treasurer: Vern Walters, *A17WS*
- ◆ Official Changing of the Board
- ◆ Business Meeting Adjourned

The second half of the meeting will include a more in-depth discussion on the direction for Field Day this year along with a look at other upcoming events in 2025.

We look forward to seeing you there!

NEXT MEETING

January 8, 2025

(2nd Wednesday of the Month)

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Board Meeting

5:00 PM

Eyeball QSOs

6:00 PM

General Meeting

6:30 PM

~

Location

VFW HALL

1325 Pine Street

Corner of Pine &

Division

Sandpoint, ID

MEMBER NEWS

2024 Year End Celebration!

On December 11th, BCARC members and their families came out to celebrate the end of a banner year of activities and accomplishments! As



holiday music played in the background, a slideshow of pictures from the many events displayed on the big screen. Attendees were treated to pizza, salad and many yummy desserts while catching up with each other. Door prizes were

awarded and several members received awards including **Jim Morford** for 2024 Field Day Leadership & Encouragement, **Mike Olsen & Jessi Henderson** for Delicious Culinary Support, **Keith and Alden Bansemer**, Outstanding Father & Son Field Day Team, and **Colleen**

Conradi for Steadfast Service as COAX Editor.

Everyone had a great time and are looking forward to another fun year!



Thank you to everyone who helped plan and execute the party!

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

December 2024

TOTAL	69*
EXTRA	20
GENERAL	33
TECH	15

* one member studying



CLUB MEMBERSHIP

\$25 Individual
\$35 Family *

* includes all licensed family members living in the same household

To join, please remit with a [membership form](#) at the next meeting or send to:

BCARC
PO Box 792
Ponderay, ID
83852-0792

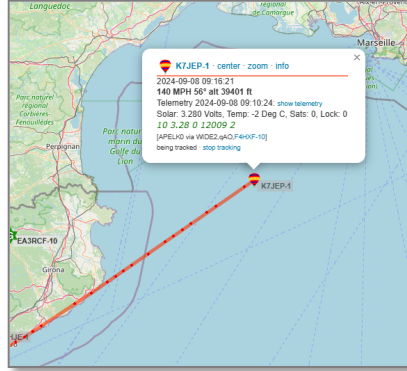


2024 - A Year In Review

By **John Kludt**, K7SYS, BCARC Activities Manager

As we move into 2025, it is worth reflecting on the accomplishments of BCARC in 2024. As the song says, "It was a very good year" for the BCARC family. In addition to some significant achievements, we continued to learn and grow as amateur radio operators, and we had some fun in the process. We ended the year with 69 members, demonstrating the continued growth of our organization. If you have paid your dues for 2025, thank you! If not, now is the time to make that annual due payment of \$25 for an individual or \$35 for an individual.

We launched a couple of Pico balloons during the year. Our most successful balloon, Betty, was up for 98 days and last seen headed for Marseille over the Mediterranean Sea. Maybe a thunderstorm brought her down – we will never really know.



The program series continued to cover a variety of topics. We talked about HF operating techniques as we worked through the UTC day. The Maritime Net and its operations were discussed. The Blanchard Area Radio Group was introduced to the group as we talked about the role of GMRS and Amateur Radio in emergency settings. We reviewed some antenna basics and talked the theory behind our balloon launches.

On the operating side, we supported the 4th of July Parade and the Long Bridge Swim. As K7D we were active as a bonus station in the Idaho QSO party. By the way, we will be doing this again in March of 2025, so please mark your calendars. Operating a one-by-one call is always a real treat and it is especially fun to have people looking for you! In February, we supported the School Club Roundup with the students and radio club at Forest M. Bird Charter School. That was quite a positive adventure as the students really got into making those contacts. The school came in third in the W/VE Senior High division with 63,580 points. Well done, students!

And then there was Field Day 2024. This go 'round we were at the House of the Lord Church in Old Town. There was the usual Saturday picnic and lots of time for visiting as well as operating as K7B. We again ran a 2A but this year we added a GOTA (Get On The Air) station. This was our third year of Field Day participation, and we did the best we have every done in the current era.

As Board of Directors, we look forward to an energetic 2025 for the Bonner County Amateur Radio Club. Thank you for your active support and participation. If there are things you would like the club to support or if you have ideas for programs, please contact us at bcarc73@gmail.com.

BCARC BREAKFAST

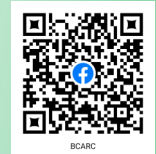
January 25, 2025
9-10:30am

Location

Connies Café
323 Cedar St
Sandpoint, ID



FOR THE LATEST
CLUB INFO, CHECK
US OUT
ON FACEBOOK



[www.facebook.com/
bcarck7jep/](https://www.facebook.com/bcarck7jep/)

AND
ON OUR CLUB
WEBSITE

www.K7JEP.org



CONTESTS, NETS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

VE Testing - January 11

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.

<https://bonnerares.org/wp/license-exams/>

Straight Key Night - January 1st

This 24-hour event is not a contest; rather it is a day dedicated to celebrating our CW heritage. Participants are encouraged to get on the air and simply make enjoyable, conversational CW QSOs. The use of straight keys or bugs to send CW is preferred. There are no points scored and all who participate are winners.

<https://www.arrl.org/straight-key-night>

RTTY Roundup - January 4-5

Amateurs worldwide contact and exchange QSO information with other amateurs using only the Radioteletype (RTTY) mode on the 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meter bands.

<https://www.arrl.org/rtty-roundup>

January VHF - January 18-20

For amateurs in the US and Canada (and their possessions) to work as many amateur stations in as many different 2 degrees x 1 degree Maidenhead grid squares as possible using authorized frequencies above 50 MHz.

<https://www.arrl.org/january-vhf>

HF Activity Group - Daily

Have you ever struggled to determine your stations propagation? The HF Activity Group is open to anyone and its sole purpose is to check out your stations propagation. Simply 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.

Daily Schedule:

17M on 18.157.5 MHz at 1730 -1830z

15M on 21.383 MHz at 1830z

12M on 24.970 MHz at 1915z

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

More information on contesting can be found on <http://arrl.org/contest-calendar> and <https://contestcalendar.com/>.

Wanting to get more involved with the Club? BCARC is looking for some additional help in several areas. If you are interested, please contact John Ailport, john.ailport13@comcast.net.



COAX Writers & Contributors

Do you have a goal or achievement you'd like to share? Do you have special expertise in a particular area like Antennas, DIY projects, operating off-grid, working Digital or other Radio topics? Or do you just have a fun and interesting Radio story you'd like to share with the group? Likewise, if you're a reporter type, maybe you'd like to cover one of the Club events like the July 4th parade, Bridge Swim or Prep Expo. If the answer is yes to any of the above, please let Colleen, **KK7KNL**, know and she will work with you on getting your topic in our Club newsletter.

BCARC NETS



K7JEP HooDoo Mtn VHF Repeater / North Idaho Repeater Group Net

145.490 MHz
(-0.6 MHz offset,
136.5 tone)
Sunday at 7pm



Simplex Net 145.600MHz Simplex

Sunday -
immediately
following the
Repeater Net



X-X Panhandlers - 10M Net

28.360 MHz
Sunday at 5pm



*The COAX is edited and
published by
[Colleen Conradi, KK7KNL](#)*