

THE COAX NEWSLETTER



April 2025

P O Box 792, Ponderay, ID 83852-0792

www.K7JEP.org

BCARC73@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/bcarck7jep/

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Club Badges

Do you need a Club Badge? If so, another batch order will be placed by the end of the month. Let [Daryl](#) know by **March 31st** with your **full name and call sign**. Each badge is \$6.



Meeting Feedback Wanted!

We really like to make sure that we are providing content at our meetings that you are interested in. Please make sure to fill out the [groups.io](#) survey after each meeting to let us know how we did.



APRIL MEETING PRESENTATION

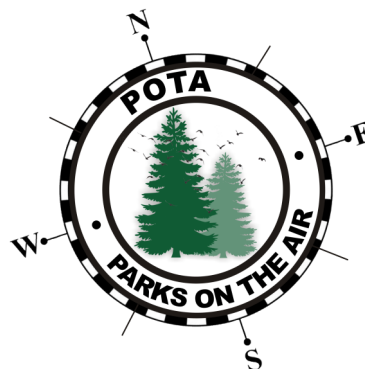
Interested in Becoming a POTA Activator?

Presented by **Dave Guinee, K7ZDP**

Within the club, there is a high level of interest in Parks On The Air (POTA). Many of us are POTA Hunters. That is straight forward. Look for them on the your favorite mode be it CW, SSB or FT8/FT4. Once found, work them. Log them with or without park number and you are done. The heavy lifting lies with the Activator.

Activators or those individuals who find a park to put on the air, make the actual contacts and then turn in the logs for those contacts so the Hunters get credit. Being an activator is a little more complicated than taking your Go Box to a park and getting on the air. While we may spend a little time on radios and antennas, our primary objective is to teach you how to be a successful activator. How do I find a park, especially one that has never been activated before? How do I put up an antenna and not run afoul of the park ranger? That in itself can generate a number of entertaining and sometimes frustrating "war stories." How do I get my park advertised and where do I advertise it? How many contacts do I need for an activation to be valid? How do I log may contacts and where do I send them once everything is complete?

Please join us as Dave Guinee, K7ZDP, and friends walk us through the nuts and bolts of a POTA Activation. We hope to see you at our meeting as we discuss this popular topic.



NEXT MEETING

April 9, 2025

(2nd Wednesday of the Month)

Eyeball QSOs

5:30 PM

General Meeting

6:30 PM

Location

VFW HALL

1325 Pine Street

Corner of Pine &

Division

Sandpoint, ID

~

Board Meeting

April 7, 2025

11:00 AM

Evans Brothers Coffee

524 Church Street

Sandpoint, ID

MEMBER NEWS

March Meeting

Last months club meeting had a record turn out including guests from area clubs including Boundary Amateur Radio Club and Pend Orielle County Radio Club. Following the 3rd Annual BCARC Swap Meeting (*did you find what you were looking for?*), attendees listened to presentation on HTs and the many different things you can do with them.



Several members received recognition for their assistance with Forrest Bird Charter School's School Club Roundup and participation in the IDQSOP Spud Run in February.



This SPUDs for you!



Rounding out the fun was Tic-Tac-Code with the winner donating the money (\$58!) to our next Pico Balloon launch!

Welcome New Members!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest club members!

- ◆ Mike Banks, *KK7KK3*, Technician
- ◆ Mike Bugbee, Studying
- ◆ Lilynne Davis, *KJ7YMP*, General
- ◆ Jack Davis, *KJ7YMO*, Technician
- ◆ Edward Foy, *K7VJP*, Extra
- ◆ John G Hulbert, *AE5PZ*, Extra



- ◆ Dale Johnson, *AJ7DD*, Extra
- ◆ Sean Morgan, *KF6GRO*, Extra
- ◆ Dan O'Conner, *KG7ITW*, Extra

PAID MEMBERSHIP

March 2025

TOTAL	63
EXTRA	25
GENERAL	28
TECH	9
Studying	1



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





Congratulations to those who have recently upgraded their licenses!

- ◆ **Judy Baird, KK7VJV**, Technician to General
- ◆ **Ken Conradi, KF7FDN**, General to Extra
- ◆ **Joe Mauk, K7KMJ**, General to Extra
- ◆ **Ivan Patterson, KK7FQN**, Technician to General
- ◆ **Scott Youngren, KK7OWE**, Technician to General

Are You Interested in Learning Morse Code?



BCARC CodeClub

The BCARC CodeClub has been started for those BCARC members who are interested in learning Morse Code and those interested in helping members learn it. The *club-within-a-club* started in late February. It is in its early stages but six members have already joined and all are welcome. A sub-group in

BCARC's groups.io mail service has been set up so CodeClub members can get in touch for practicing and gaining more familiarity with code-learning tools that are available. For more information contact Daryl *K6KRG* via email at bcarc73@gmail.com.

Idaho QSO Party Preliminary Results by John Kludt, K7SYS, VP and Activities Manager

While the final results are not in as of yet, Kelly Klaas, *K7SU*, has released some preliminary scores for the recently concluded Idaho QSO Party. So far only 28 in state logs have been turned in which is way down from the 64 logs in 2024. If you did work anyone during the contest period, I hope you turned in your log. I have turned in logs with as few as 4 or 5 Q's and in one case came in 1st out of 3 in the state in the 10m single band category!



The Special Event station scores are final. So how did we do?



1. K7S – 203,684
2. K7P – 139,900
3. K7U – 166,908
4. **K7D – 147,141**

A special thanks to **John K7BSV**, **Dan W7BID**, **Keith K7NEB**, **Dave KE4EW**, **Daryl K6KRG** and **Dave K7ZDP** for making this happen for the Bonner County Amateur Radio Club. We hope to see them back next year joined by even more club members as we support the Idaho QSO Party.

BCARC BREAKFAST

April 26, 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



Field Day 2025 Update - June 28 - 29

Looks like we have a theme and logo! ARRL has selected **Radio Connects** as the theme for 2025 and the BCARC Field Day planning team is already hard at work for this years event. We will be back at the



Edgemere Grange and have, once again, full use of the facilities which means camping out with bathrooms! But we are still looking for a couple more adventurous folks to complete our team.



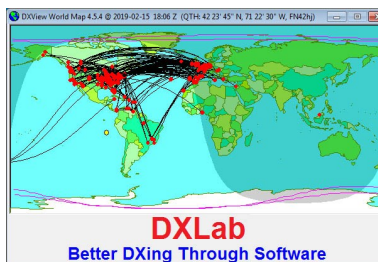
If you would like to help out with site survey, equipment selection, antenna location planning and more, please contact **Daryl B K6KRG, John K K7SYS or Dave G K7ZDP.**

Software Logging - My Story by John Kludt, K7SYS, VP and Activities Manager

There has been a fair amount of discussion on logging software and platforms. Having been at this for six decades I have seen a lot of changes. Time was when everything was on paper and per the FCC every time a signal was placed on the air for any reason it had to be logged My paper logs contain time on time off with notes like "test" or "CQ". In 1982 the FCC stopped requiring the keeping of accurate logs of all transmissions. Now we keep logs for many other reasons. Logs can be general logs. They can be contest logs. They can be special event logs like POTA. They can be logs especially oriented to DX or award chasing.

And then there is the question of platform. Most machines in my home are Mac's. I have some things running on RPi's under some variant of Linux. But my shack has evolved to Windows. Why? Because the vast majority of amateur radio software is Windows based. I know and have been involved in all of the of the OS discussions. Each OS has it upside and its downside. Logging software for me is key utility. I don't want to have to mess around with it. And given all of the special logging programs, I just want to be able to "grab and go." I think I have tried just about most everything, free and paid, over time.

So, where did I end up? DxLab Suite for general logging/DXing and N1MMLogger+ for contesting. Both run only on Windows and seemingly very important both are free. N1MM in particular has most of the contesting market. I do use N3FJP contesting software at times because so many other BCARC folks use it and it is simple to setup and use. As I have said before \$60 for everything they have or will add in the future seems like pretty good deal!



Maybe the point is, in my experience Windows for better or worse has the largest variety of free Amateur Radio software. I chose after a lot of experimenting to just go with the flow and use Windows in the shack. It has worked out well for me. Your mileage may vary.

FOR THE LATEST
CLUB INFO, CHECK
US OUT
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AND
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CONTESTS, NETS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

VE Testing - May 10 - 10am

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/>

Rookie Roundup - Phone - April 13

Rookies exchange information with as many other stations as possible on the 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meter HF bands.

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

WA State ARRL Convention (Spokane Hamfest) - April 26

9am - 4pm, Horizon Middle School, 3915 Pines Rd, Spokane Valley, WA 99206
Vendors, Tables, VE Testing, Forums
<http://spokanehamfest.org/>

Boundary Amateur Radio Club

Monday Night Net - 7:30pm

W7BFI - Part of the North Idaho Repeater Group

Output 146.960 MHz

Input 146.360 MHz

CTCSS 123.0 Hz

<https://www.w7bfi.com/>

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/>.

Pend Orielle County Radio Group

Wednesday Social Net - 7:30pm

W7POC - Cooks Mountain Repeater

145.470- PL 100.0

<https://pocrg.org/>

Wanting to get more involved with the Club? BCARC is looking for some additional help in several areas. If you are interested, please contact Daryl Baird, daryl.baird@gmail.com



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