

#### **MAJOR ACTIVITIES:**

- FIELD DAY
- 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY PARADE
- LONG BRIDGE SWIM
- COUNTY FAIR-w/ ARES, CERT, CSG

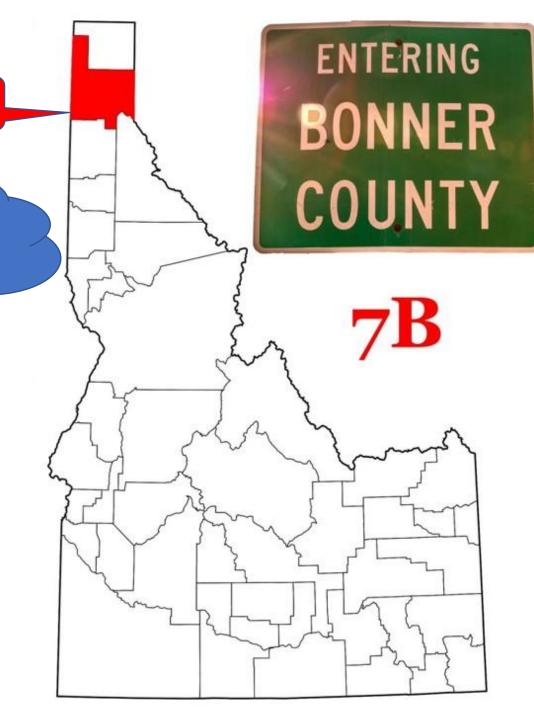
The "Famous" Line "A"

In 2023 we will do Field day adjacent to ARES. All the Ham's Together!!

#### **Consistent Monthly Schedule:**

- Monthly Meeting- 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed.
- Monthly Breakfast- 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Sat.
- Weekly Sunday Night Net on North Idaho Repeater Group.
- Weekly VHF Simplex Net Following the Regular Net.

Supported School Club Roundup at the Forrest Bird Charter School!



## Where we were (2 years ago):

- ~ 20 Members. About 6 people at a meeting.
- Had trouble getting officers.
- Website very out of date.
- People consistently late to meetings- took forever to start.
- Lots of "admin" discussion and arguments.
- No real focus and not much program.
- Hadn't done Field Day in at least a decade.
- Not doing much in the community.
- Club had an old trailer that hadn't been used in several years.

Law of Inertia (the good):
Once it gets moving, it's
hard to stop!

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# 2021-Baby steps:

- Started having better program at meetings.
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade 2021 restart.
- Started supporting the Long Bridge Swim and Bonner County Fair.
- Re-started club breakfasts.
- Found a lot of administrative "gotchas".
- Added several members who became officers in 2022.
- Started website fixes.

Law of Inertia (the bad):
It takes a lot of energy
and effort to get a
stationary object
moving!!

## Got rolling in 2022:

- Great team of officers.
- New Webmaster and a backup. Website is excellent and fully up to date.
- Club Improvement Committee.
- Refocused the club updated by-laws again.
- Elevated Program- first class presentations at meetings.
- Meetings start on time. People there for the discussion before start time.
- Made meetings fun- CW Bingo!!
- Got our admin house in order. Cleaned up more "gotcha's". Mail to PO Box.
- Board meetings to discuss "business".
- Field Day! Super fun!
- Encouraged license upgrades.
- Helped members with antennas, station building.
- Sold the trailer and most of the old equipment in it.
- Kept adding members. Up to 44 by end of 2022.
- Averaged 20 people at meetings all winter.
- Got groups.io set up for Bonner County ARC.



### 28 Feb 2023 -where we are:

- Interesting, season appropriate Ham radio topic each month.
- Almost no "business" discussion at meetings.
- Good Fun and Fellowship- Hams having fun! CW Bingo!!
- Helping Each Other designing and building antennas, etc.
- Meetings and breakfasts well attended.
- Communication with the members!!!
- Excellent, up to date website!!
- Great team of officers!
- Not tripping over admin issues.
- Staying connected with "snowbirds".

### Membership:

- 4 new members for the year
- 48 total members.
- 54.5% renewal of past members so far.
- 12 Extra (25% of membership)
- 24 General (50%)
- 12 Technician (25%)

Law of Inertia:
"Nothing succeeds
like success!"





MARCH 2023

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#### ANNOUNCEMENTS



BCARC member communication is changing! In June, we will be switching to groups.io for all member communications.

Emails will no longer be sent via Gmail or other methods and current distribution lists will be consolidated. BCARC members will need to subscribe to the Club groups.io (here) in order to receive direct email communications from the Club. Non-members can access the Club website (http://www.k7jep.org) for links to the monthly presentations and this newsletter.

#### MEETING AGENDA

The March meeting will be a little different. Little PowerPoint and lots of hands on!

We will have several stations set up where you can learn to install Power Pole connectors, install crimp PL-259 connectors on RG-8 and RG-8X size coaxial cables and get new or existing coaxial cables tested using a variant of TDR (Time Domain Reflectometry) technology. Coax and especially the connectors can go bad over time and testing them at RF frequencies can be very illuminating.

You can bring your own DC cables or coax if you have something you would like to make or be tested. Or, we will have cables and coax at the meeting if you would just like to practice. For example, maybe you need a 3' to 6' RG-8X jumper? Please measure the

#### **NEXT MEETING**

March 8, 2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month

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Board Meeting 5:00 PM

Pre-function / Workshop 6:00 PM

> General Meeting 6:30 PM



## Bonner County Amateur Radio Club - K7JEP

BCARC Website KJ7ZIZ: Webmaster

K7JEP: In memory of Neal Fredstrum

Home	About Us	All Club Updates Here	Calendar	New Ham	On The Air •	Links	Members •

## Home



	1321	C: +15*	Sandpoint Tuesday, 28 Februa See 7-Day Forecast			
Wed Dis	e Bil	Salt	Sun	Mon		
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Affiliated Club

Will Rogers, who died in a 1935 plane crash with his best friend, Willie Post, was probably the greatest political sage this country ever has known.

A few of his observations to ponder:

"There are three kinds of men: The ones that learn by reading. The few who learn by observation. The rest of them have to pee on the electric fence and find out for themselves."

"Everything is funny as long as it is happening to somebody else."

"A man only learns in two ways, one by reading, and the other by association with smarter people."

### **Members Involved In:**

- Contests- Lots of Contests
- Lots of QSOs everywhere.
- Field Day- other club events!
- ARES/ CERT.
- Idaho QSO Party.
- Winter Field Day.
- Local Nets.
- State, Regional and National Nets.
- Various Digital Modes.
- Other Events- School Roundup.

## **Eliminate Roadblocks:**

- Full slate of active officers. Can't do it by yourself!
- If your by-laws are outdated fix them.
- Update Website as needed. Nothing says "dead" these days like an outdated website.
- Get admin house in order if it isn't already.
- Be flexible; continuously improve....

## Things we've learned on the journey:

## **Encouraging Upgrades:**

- Getting Techs on HF.
- Nothing gets them "hooked" like a few QSO's.

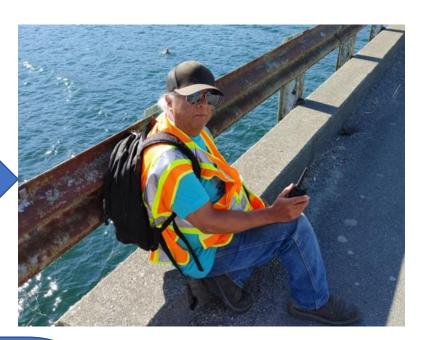
## **Increasing Membership:**

- Make meetings and events fun.
- Eliminate the "business talk".
- Help each other!
- Get out in the community.
- Excellent monthly program.
- Consistency.
- Get members involved.



## **Activities**

Long Bridge Swim



## County Fair



## Field Day 2021



