

ALL IDAHO AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS

ARRL NEWSLETTER

October 2024

ANYTHING AMATEUR RADIO

Polly Smith KG7DPO Idaho ARRL Public Information Coordinator (PIC)



Idaho ARRL “One-stop” email address for ALL Idaho Amateur Radio Operators.

ALLIDAHOHAMS@gmail.com

Please send your news, events, activities, and pictures.

Be sure to include recent Silent Keys (SKs)

Do you have questions or comments? Send them.



Send in what you or your club did this summer. Write an article, submit photos, and we'll get them published to share.



Voice of Idaho

Technician Class

Electronic Fundamentals

A Class for Technician class amateur radio licenses or above

Goals: Understand the nature of Amateur Radio

Demystify the material behind the FCC examinations

Develop understanding for license upgrade

This is **NOT** a license preparation class.

The purpose is to gain understanding of the material behind the examinations

and to extend contact between experienced operators and new operators

Pre-requisite: Ham license, any class

Old timers welcome but preference will be given to new hams

November 9, 2024

Covid Cautions

Hubler terminal

Caldwell Executive Airport

4814 E. Linden Street

Caldwell, ID 83605-8036

No charge for current VOI members

\$10 Non VOI members

Content

Amateur Radio and Station Safety

DC versus AC, Reactance, Inductance, Capacitance,

Root Mean Square, AC and DC, Impedance, RF behavior,

Electronic waves, DB, Current and voltage flow through a circuit

Relevant Mathematics

Receivers, Transmitters, Modulation, Bandwidth, Duty cycle, transmitter tuning

Sign Up at

<https://forms.gle/drBX5mLZCKmsuGG37> or email KD7VZW@gmail.com

Course BEGINS on Saturday at 8:10 AM and concludes by 5:30 PM.

Bring your Lunch (We will be working over the lunch hour)

Sponsored by the Voice of Idaho Amateur Radio Club Marketing Team

Get On The Air Repeater Class. A Class for Technicians.

Goal: Learn how repeaters work and gain on air experience using simplex and repeaters.
November 9, 2024, 9 am to 1 pm.
No Cost.

Signup and details at <https://forms.gle/y7yMbsLRgBaEJ68v7>

Content

The Repeater and How It Works

Repeater Protocol

On Air Experience

Antenna Show and Tell

Resources for New Hams

Course starts at 9 am and concludes by 1 pm.

Bring your favorite non-alcoholic beverage and snacks.

Bring your radio. There will be radios available if you do not have one.

Optional, bring a lunch and get to know your instructors and Elmers.

Caldwell Executive Airport

Hubler terminal

4814 E. Linden Street

Caldwell, ID 83605-8036

Sponsored by the Voice of Idaho Amateur Radio Club Marketing Team

KD7VZW@ARRL.net



Here is another incredible story

Don Gardner W7PJ
Clearwater County
Emergency Management

During the evening of September 21, 2024 Greg amateur radio operator WX7Z, heard an emergency call on the VHF radio frequency that is called the 52. Ed - K7ELC was calling out to get medical help for a 51-year-old male that rolled his four wheeler. Mac -W7ENZ Found this person near his property where there is no cell coverage, but had his ham radio with him. He gave the radio to Ed - K7ELC and asked him to radio somebody to get help coming while he gave aid to the injured. Greg - WX7Z called Clearwater's 911 and informed them of the situation. The injured person was in serious condition with head injuries, broken collarbone, broken ribs, and had difficulty breathing.

Law enforcement and ambulance was dispatched to the location which was about 35 minutes away from Orofino. Life Flight was also requested. During this whole time Greg would update dispatch with what was happening on scene.

The injured was transported to the hospital via Life Flight and is recovering there.

As amateur radio operators we train to be available to help when help is needed. We have a program called the Wilderness Protocol which encourages the use of the 52 frequency for emergencies. The more that ham radio operators listen to the radio the more chance there is that someone will be listening to take your emergency call. This is something that has been used many times throughout the country and here in Idaho. This is just another incredible story to share.



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The Wilderness Protocol

National Simplex Frequency / National Calling Frequency - 146.520 MHz

The Wilderness Protocol is a dedicated effort to provide communications between hams who are hiking, backpacking, and camping in uninhabited areas. This ensures emergency communications help reaches areas beyond normal repeater coverage.

It is also used in events when local repeaters are off-the-air, and communications are needed during emergencies. The Wilderness Protocol is also important during times of unrest, disasters, and local emergencies.

The Wilderness Protocol recommends that amateur radio operators monitor the National Calling Frequency, at specific times of the day in case of emergency or priority calls.

Procedures for “Wilderness Protocol”

It is recommended amateur operators monitor the National Calling Frequency as the primary contact frequency, and also monitor your local simplex frequencies and local repeaters.

The National Calling Frequency should be known nation-wide. Monitoring this frequency provides support for travelers passing through your area. Adding and monitoring your local known frequencies provides support for family and friends.

MONITOR TIMING: Monitor the standard National Calling Frequency 146.520 MHz, and any local frequencies every three hours starting at 7:00 a.m., local time, on the hour and until five minutes past the hour, and repeat every three hours.

- 7:00 a.m.
- 10:00 a.m.
- 1:00 p.m.
- 4:00 p.m.
- 7:00 p.m.
- 10:00 p.m.

ALTERNATE TIMING: If you have plenty of battery power, monitor five minutes before the hour through five minutes after the hour, this allows for differences in individual time settings. You can always listen for longer if you want.

ENHANCED MONITORING: Fixed stations or portable stations with enough battery power could listen every hour.

CONTINUOUS MONITORING: Fixed stations or portable stations with fixed power could listen at all times that they are near their radio. It's recommend to use a scanner to monitor. This can be portable and move with you, saving battery power on a portable radio until you need to respond. Continuous monitoring is needed especially during local, regional, and national disasters.

MONITORING STANDARDS: Listen to the frequencies until four minutes past the hour. If there is no activity, then make a call letting others know you are monitoring and available. Remember to listen first and then call with a short transmission message.

**For the Wilderness Protocol to work, radio operators need to be listening for calls.
If no one is listening, then there will be no one to help.**

RESPONDING TO A CALL FOR HELP: When a call comes in, listen carefully.

When the caller is done broadcasting, respond and ask questions according to what has happened.

- What is the emergency?
- Is anyone hurt?
- Where are you located?
 - Home address
 - Road name with mile marker
 - Lat & Long
 - Trail name
 - Campground name
- Is there someone I can contact for you?

If needed, contact 911 to report the incident. If you unable to call 911, you may be able to relay emergency information through another amateur operator who has better access to a repeater and/or 911.

MAKING AN EMERGENCY CALL:

Immediately: program the National Calling Frequency into your radio(s) 146.520 MHz, before you need it.

Whenever you can, try calling on the hour, as listed above.

When you need help, start by listening to the frequencies you have programmed in your radio. If you hear someone using a channel, ask to break in.

If no one is talking on the radio, pick a channel based on what you know of the area; for example, a local repeater. If you don't know the area, start by using the National Calling Frequency.

When you call out, always say the name of the channel you are on. Example: This is KC7*** on the National 52 with emergency traffic.

This helps when someone is scanning frequencies and only hears your message before the signal drops and goes back to scanning. This way, they heard what channel you are using and can respond on the same channel

Repeat as needed, and try other channels you have programed in your radio

PRIORITY TONE SIGNALS: To help reach out when time is critical, this method is suggested for priority radio transmissions only.

Use the LONG TONE ZERO (LTZ). Begin calls for assistance with about 10 seconds of tone. To do this, key up and hold down the zero button to continuously transmit the zero DTMF tone. Then proceed to make your emergency call. This should help those listening to recognize that an emergency or priority call is coming through.

***Monitoring the National Calling Frequency while traveling is a good idea. Amateur radio operators have found it a good way to help others or to get help when it's needed it.**

***The protocol only becomes effective when many people use it.**

***This program is not to replace anything a club or group is doing for Emergency Communications. It is a good starting point or something to add to your group that can help across this country.**

***Finally, remind others of the protocol at your club meetings and on radio nets. It a good thing to know**

Idaho ARRL Calendar

To send an item for the Idaho ARRL Calendar on the web site...

<https://www.idahoarrl.info/eventsform.html>

To send a Silent Key announcement, the web page explains how...

<https://www.idahoarrl.info/skreport.html>

To Update a repeater in your area...

<https://www.idahoarrl.info/RepeaterForm.html>

To make a suggestion to the Idaho ARRL team...

<https://www.idahoarrl.info/suggestions.html>

-- Kelly Klaas

Ham Radio Operator K7SU

Woodworker

Voice Over for ads and audio books



RATPAC live sessions are back on
Wednesday evenings

Come join us!

[Finding Hams & Amateur Radio Clubs Near You ~ 09/04/2024
\(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=00175906)

Finding Other Hams in Your Area



Anthony Luscre, K8ZT



In the meantime, you can watch
almost 400 recorded videos
at <http://tiny.cc/ratpac-list>.



[https://us02web.zoom.us/
j/2128884758?
pwd=RG94eEY2L3FiMEg0U3ZiW
mhXaEdwdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2128884758?pwd=RG94eEY2L3FiMEg0U3ZiWmhXaEdwdz09)

Meeting ID: 212 888 4758

Passcode: RATPAC

Watch previous sessions on
YouTube: [www.youtube.com/c/
RATPAC](https://www.youtube.com/c/RATPAC)

Check out the list of upcoming
and past sessions at

[Tiny.cc/ratpac_list](https://tiny.cc/ratpac_list)

Or view just EmComm-related
sessions at

[Tiny.cc/rpem](https://tiny.cc/rpem)

**RATPAC offers free online
presentations via Zoom for clubs
upon request. Submit request,
date & time to**

Ratpac.plan@gmail.com



RATPAC Committee Recruitment Announcement

The RATPAC committee is actively seeking additional members to join our dynamic and dedicated team. This is an excellent opportunity to contribute to our mission and work alongside a group of passionate individuals committed to making a meaningful impact.

If you are interested in becoming a committee member, please contact us at ratpac.plan@gmail.com. We welcome all inquiries and look forward to expanding our team with individuals who share our vision and enthusiasm.

Thank you for your consideration.
Sincerely,

The RATPAC Committee

Radio Amateur Training Planning and Activities Committee (RATPAC)

Enhancing Amateur Radio Knowledge Across the Globe

The Radio Amateur Training Planning and Activities Committee (RATPAC) is an esteemed collective of Amateur Radio Operators hailing from diverse backgrounds and experiences. This unique amalgamation of expertise and passion fuels RATPAC's mission: to advance the knowledge and skills of amateur radio enthusiasts worldwide.

Weekly Nationwide Zoom Presentations. Every Wednesday, RATPAC hosts informative and engaging nationwide Zoom presentations. These sessions are meticulously curated to address a broad spectrum of topics relevant to amateur radio operators, ensuring that both novices and seasoned operators find value in the content presented.

Global Audience Engagement. The presentations attract a global audience, consisting of thousands of amateur radio operators. Participants join the Zoom sessions from various corners of the world, bringing a wealth of perspectives and experiences to the table. This international participation enriches the discussions and fosters a sense of global camaraderie among radio enthusiasts.

Post-Session Accessibility. Understanding the varied schedules and commitments of our audience, RATPAC ensures that the knowledge shared during the presentations is accessible beyond the live sessions. Video links of the presentations, along with related documentation, are disseminated after each session. This approach allows operators who could not attend the live event to benefit from the insights and discussions at their convenience.

Commitment to Continuous Learning. RATPAC's dedication to continuous learning and

professional development is evident in the quality and consistency of its weekly presentations. The committee's efforts have established a robust platform for amateur radio operators to expand their knowledge, refine their skills, and stay abreast of the latest developments in the field.

In conclusion, RATPAC stands as a beacon of knowledge and community for amateur radio operators worldwide. Through its weekly Zoom presentations and extensive post-session resources, the committee not only disseminates valuable information but also fosters a global network of passionate and knowledgeable radio enthusiasts.

Youtube: <https://tinyurl.com/y8sc3jyy>

Website link: <https://www.ratpac.us>

FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/ratapacfb>



Do you have an Idaho based Net?
Drop an email to
ALLIDAHOHAMS@gmail.com
with the day, time, and time zone,
please.
Idaho has two time zones!



Idaho State ARES Nets
Thursdays - Spring/Summer
Phone: MDT 0830/2030 - PDT 0730/1930
Digital: MDT 2100 - PDT 2000

Clearwater Valley Amateur Radio Club

Sundays

PDT 7:00 PM 146.7600 Tone 1318

PDT 7:30 PM 145.4900 (no tone)

3 Rivers Amateur Radio Club

Tuesdays

PDT 6:30 PM 146.62 88.5

Followed by Simplex Net 145.54

Info3riversarc@gmail.com

Magic Valley/Twin Falls Amateur Radio Club

Tuesdays

CST 7 PM 146.76 Mhz Tone 88.5

Questions—Lee at lee@leeandjeanne.com



iHeartCraftyThings.com

Camas Prairie Amateur Radio Club

Tuesdays

7:30 PM 145.68 100 MHz

For the Month of August 2024

Congratulations to **Ken Burton** **KB7WHO** and **John Ailport K7BSV** for reaching the Idaho Winlink Wednesday Net Century Club by checking in 100 times. We now have 11 who have reached this level. We have others who will soon be able to join this club. Keep checking in and you too can reach 100.

Don Gardner W7PJ

Global Radio Email

Idaho Winlink Net for 2023

–Don Gardner W7PJ, Idaho SEC

We began taking Winlink seriously in December 2022. Two years later, by the end of 2023, we had 112 participants who checked in 2,062 times throughout the year.

Each month, we assign different tasks to the participants, such as using various ICS and Winlink forms.

For the latest on Winlink net go to <https://winlinkofidaho.blogspot.com/>

Soon we will have Idaho-specific ICS forms to use.

To make this activity more engaging and enjoyable, we have a special event called **Winlink Wednesdays of Idaho Net Century Club** for participants who have checked in 100 times are awarded a certificate of achievement.



WINLINK

GLOBAL RADIO EMAIL

[Winlink Express | Winlink
Global Radio Email](#)

Join the Net

[Winlinkofidaho.blogspot.com](https://winlinkofidaho.blogspot.com)

Is Your Club Wanting To Become an ARRL Sanctioned Hamfest or Convention?

Check out these links!

Please refer your club to this on-line guide:

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Hamfest/ARRL%20Hamfest%20and%20Convention%20Guidelines.pdf>

The ARRL Convention and Hamfest Planner is the most comprehensive guide that I know of, and a link to this pdf document can be found on the ARRL Web's site at the bottom of the page that discusses how to "Become an ARRL Sanctioned Hamfest or Convention."

<http://www.arrl.org/arrl-sanctioned-events>

It's very good to know that KARS is already approved to host the ARRL Idaho State Convention on August 3. <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/2024-kars-arrl-idaho-state-convention>

If there are questions or clarifications that are needed about the information in this booklet or elsewhere about hosting a convention, please let me know. I will be happy to try to provide answers and updates.

Best wishes to KARS and to you as you prepare for a great ARRL Idaho State Convention.

73,

Steve Ewald, WV1X
Field Organization Supervisor

ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio®
860-594-0265
sewald@arrl.org

ARRL Library Book Set

The ARRL Library Book Set includes the most popular ARRL publications, and is intended for ARRL Affiliated Clubs and members who wish to gift or donate a set to a local library, school, or classroom. The set is available at a special price of \$250 (includes US ground shipping).

The Set Includes These Books (subject to availability when ordering):

- The ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications (softcover)
- The ARRL Antenna Book for Radio Communications (softcover)
- The ARRL Operating Manual for Radio Amateurs
- The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual
- The ARRL General Class License Manual
- The ARRL Extra Class License Manual
- Understanding Basic Electronics
- Basic Antennas – Understanding Practical Antennas and Designs
- Your First Amateur Radio HF Station
- Get On the Air with HF Digital
- FCC Rules & Regulations for the Amateur Radio Service

DONATE BOOKS FOR...

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form rev. 2/2024

<http://www.arrl.org/amateur-radio-grants>



From the desk of Kelly Klaas K7SU

Need help getting your Club organized. Here is the information on the Ham Club Online web site. This is a site where you can get your club organized.

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



Final Comment

Finally, as with any newsletter, we need your contributions, your Idaho related articles, your photographs.

Please submit your Idaho news to ALLIDAHOHAMS@gmail.com

The next page is contact information for the Idaho ARRL Leadership



To read past newsletters:

<https://www.idahoarrl.info/Newsletter.html>

Idaho ARRL website [Idaho ARRL](#)

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