A future when donation is the standard
and everyone is willing to be a hero
to someone in need

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A Job Well Done - Iditarod 2004

Dan O'Barr, KL7DR
Comms Coordinator

It is with the deepest of heart felt gratitude and satisfaction that I report on the communications support that the Matanuska Amateur Radio Association gave to the Re-start of The Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. In any great endeavor great sacrifices are made and The Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race is no exception. It's been said that the Mushers and their teams run the race, but the volunteers make the race happen. My best estimate of the time volunteered by the 29 communicators, for the Re-start of this great event is 334 hours. 26 of these volunteers are licensed Amateur Radio Operators. I hope I did not forget anyone, if I did please let me know ASAP.

The amount of effort that it takes to make this event happen is staggering.
I don't think the 334 hours given by the Communication Volunteers tells much more than a fraction of the story. This year it was exacerbated by the fact that the decision to move to Willow from Wasilla was made less than a week before. We had some communicators that had volunteered earlier on, that could not make it, and some that showed up at the last minute. All in all, I think it came together rather well.

One of the greatest assets we had this year was the **Communications and Command Vehicle (CCV)** provided by The **Anchorage Amateur Radio Club (AARC)** and Anchorage's **Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES**). I can't even guess the value of this wonderful resource or the two other extremely valuable resources that these two organizations provided. The other two resources we used for communications are the wide area voice repeater (WL7CVG) located on Mt. Susitna and the digital repeater (Eagle Node) located on Site Summit. Then there are the two dozen or so personal hand held and mobile radios and 4 or 5 computers used by this group.

Attached is a photo of only 17 members of this team in front of the CCV. That's all we could find afterwards.

Thank You, 2004 Iditarod Re-start Comms Volunteers, A Job Well Done,

Dan O'Barr, KL7DR
Comms Coordinator

Mike Sanders, KL1HO
Jackie Sanders, KL1KB
Shadow Net Control

Bruce McCormick, KL7BM
Security & Traffic Net Control

Woody Duncan, KL0TS
Packet Data Net Control

Gretchen O'Barr, KL7GO
Road Crossing and Trail Net Control

Molly O'Barr
FRS Radio Coordinator

Ola Williams
Willow Hostess

Mark Kelliher, KL7TQ
Packet Data Report to HQ Computer room
At the Millennium Hotel

Members of the Team

-

Melissa Sanders, KL1HZ
Deby Trosper's Shadow
Re-start Coordinator

Ray Hollenbeck, KL1IL
Bill McCormick's Shadow
Head Security

Chris Brookhart, KE6IIR
Janel Betlej's Shadow before at Main Gate
Start Line during

Jim Bruton, KL7HJ
Grayson Bruton
Shelly Betlej's Shadow
Musher Staging

Wayne Groomer, KL7HHO
Pam Beach's Shadow
Staging Team

Gregg Hayford, KD7HXF
Joan Patterson's Shadow

Chute Coordinator

Dakota Stuart, KL1ES
Richard Schwab's Shadow
Trail Security by Snow Mobile

Tom Stuart, KL0QQ
Head Veterinarian's Shadow

Jim Wardman, N9RNL
49th Military Police Brigade's Shadow
Airport South Parking

George Wilkinson, KL1JJ
Communications and Command Vehicle (CCV)
Driver and Maintainer

Keneth Collings, N0UEP
Wendy Walters' Shadow
Staging Team

Steve Jensen KL0VZ
Race Marshall's Shadow

Brian (N0UEP's friend)
Janel Betlej's Shadow
FRS at Main Gate, during and after

Charles Brazil, KL7LS
Road Crossing #1

Dan Kelly, KL1JD
Road Crossing #2A

Paul Williams, KC2BYX
Road Crossing #2B

George Strother, KL7GS
Fran Strother, KL7EG
Road Crossing #3

Ken Allen, WL7XK
Road Crossing #4

Tim Comfort, NL7SK
Packet Data as teams left the road system
Road Crossing #5

Thanks for ALL YOU DID!
Dan O'Barr, KL7DR

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http://obarr.net
http://gahleos.obarr.net

Alaska QRP Club meets the Third Friday of every month – 7:00 PM (Some show for dinner at 6PM): Hams with QRP (low power under 5 watts) and Homebrewing interests meet for a social meeting monthly. Meet at Dennys (in the back room) on DeBarr near Bragaw. Contact is Jim Larsen, AL7FS, JimLarsen2002@alaska.net or 345-3190.

Random Mutterings about QRP --Contests --

by Lynn Hammond, KL7IKV.

Contests

I dabble in contests. Just a bit, not much. After all, trying to make a QRP signal heard in the bedlam of a contest is a little like trying to get attention by blowing a peanut whistle in a boiler factory. So I usually try to work a few and call it good.

Since I prefer to chase DX, the ARRL DX Contest does not usually get much attention from me. Someone up here called it the “WAS contest!!” The CW section of the ARRL DX Contest was different, as I was sitting in a fifth floor hotel room in Chelmsford, MA. After setting up my FT817 and tuner on the desk in my room (see picture), I dangled the long wire out the window, and while wondering if someone would think I was a spy, fired up and went at it for a few hours.

I did not expect much, since the bedlam was unreal, and my antenna was alongside a steel building. I used a search and pounce technique, called the big signals, and managed to put 11 contacts in the log in the few hours I worked before jet lag overcame my old body. Four continents – Africa, Europe, South and North America – and I was quite happy with what this compromise set up could do. I suspect results would have differed if the antenna had been in the clear.

I called OH0R (Aland Island) several times on his frequency with no luck, but when I moved 10Hz higher, I got him right

away. Somewhere I had heard that was a good trick, and it worked this time. Your signal gets just enough differentiation from the crowd to stand out, even if it is QRP.

I listened for Alaskans, but heard none; I understand conditions here were not good.

When the SSB section of the DX contest occurred a few weeks later, I decided to give it a bigger effort from my home QTH. My goal was to make a couple thousand points. I used my 2 element yagi (mounted on a porch railing – not high enough) and 20 meter vertical and dipole to put 107 contacts in the log over a 15 (hour?) time span. As before, the search and pounce technique seemed the best way to go, since calling CQ would be an obvious waste of time. In any event, my score was about 15,000 points, so I was quite satisfied.

A number of stations commented on how good my signal was for QRP. But one guy said "QRP? No wonder I had so much trouble getting your call!" Now there was an honest report!

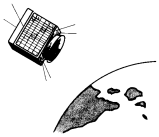
What is the point of contesting with QRP? No way will you beat the big guns (although a better antenna would have paid real dividends), but that is not the point. To me you are competing with yourself – meeting and beating my own goal is what is fun for me – playing a credible game and maybe picking up something new on the way. Besides which, I may just put my trusty 817 in my coat pocket, go to someone else's QTH, hook it to a huge antenna and see what that thing will really do!

KL7IKV – Yaesu FT-817 & MFJ Antenna Tuner

Low Earth Orbit (LEO) Net

The **9 AM LEO Road and Weather Group** has moved to the **147.27/87 WL7CVG Mt. Susitna repeater** with a + split and **103.5 Hz tone**. Remember to check your tone encode and make sure it is set to 103.5 Hz as that is the only tone the 147.27 WL7CVG repeater will now accept.

Thank you,
The Gahleo Group Moderator
Dan O'Barr, KL7DR



Wasilla, AK
KL7DR@ARRL.net

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N2CQ QRP CONTEST CALENDAR
April 2004

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N2CQ QRP CONTEST CALENDAR
April 2004

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ARS Spartan Sprint (CW) ... QRP Contest!!
Apr 6, 0100z to 0300z (Monday evening US/Canada)
Rules: http://www.arsqrp.com/

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QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party (CW) .....QRP Contest!!!
Apr 10, 1200z to Apr 11, 2400z
Rules: http://2hams.net/ARCI/index.htm

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10th EA-QRP Contest (CW) ... QRP Contest!
Apr 17, 1700z to 2000z (10, 15 & 20 Mtrs)
Apr 17, 2000z to 2300z (80 Mtrs)
Apr 18, 0700z to 1000z (40 Mtrs)
Apr 18, 1000z to 1300z (10, 15 & 20 Mtrs)
Rules: http://www.dansandcompany.com/eaqrp/concurso-CW_en.htm

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Run For The Bacon (CW) ...QRP Contest!!
Apr 19, 0100z to 0300z
http://fpqrp.com

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QRP To The Field (CW) ...QRP Contest!!
Apr 24, 1500z to 2400z (Pick any 6 hours)
Rules: http://www.zianet.com/na5n

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Ken Newman - N2CQ
N2CQ@ARRL.NET

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VHF Report
Doug Dickinson, KL7IKX

This month I'd like to discuss proper use of set aside frequencies. There are those who will claim that ANY amateur frequency can be used by ANY licensed amateur. However, there are certain set aside frequencies for a particular type of operation. For example the 2 meter band 144-148, is broken down into a number of sub-bands. Some are for repeater input and outputs. Some are for SSB operation, some are set aside for earth to space, or space to earth communications, some are set aside for EME (earth moon earth), some are agreed upon to be national calling frequencies.

144.200 for example is the SSB/CW calling frequency, this is a frequency you would call a cq on, and then move off to another frequency to carry on the qso.
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146.52 is the calling frequency for FM.

144.90 -> 145.10 is a set aside for weak signal and FM simplex, within this set aside

144.39 - APRS, 145.01 - packet, 145.03 - packet 145.05 - packet, 145.07 - packet and 145.09 - packet.

145.80 -> 146.00 - is set aside for OSCAR (space operations).

Imagine what would happen to general operations on a satellite downlink, if someone on earth decided to use those frequencies for a remote base, IRLP or simplex operations.

The reason for this article is to remind our friends out there that 145.01 for example is a gentleman's agreed set aside for packet (data) operations. Lately in the evenings we've had several unrecognized operators running voice on this frequency. While this does indeed tear holes in packet operations, I can't understand how they can stand to listen to packet bursts of data. Apparently they either don't hear the packet bursts or are ignoring it. If anyone has any idea who these people might be, everyone who runs packet on 145.01 would certainly appreciate letting the Official Observers know. It's true for the most part that the packet stations are synthesized and could move to another frequency easily. The digipeaters and Nodes located on high elevation points are for the most part not easily moved to another frequency.

The VHF and UHF repeaters continue to perform as they should. Snow avalanche danger makes access to the 146.94/224.94/444.70 site a bit touchy right now. The access road is cut into a bank below a fairly large and very steep slope. Site visits are being held off except in the case of emergency until more snow has slid off the slope and avalanche conditions abate.

Look for a new packet Node soon from the Mat Valley.

73 Doug KL7IKX

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Supporting the Iditarod with the CCV

George Wilkinson, KL1JJ

Earlier this month, the AARC Command and Control Vehicle was used to support Iditarod. Many may wonder what that is like. This report style article by George tells of his life with the CCV while supporting the Matanuska Amateur Radio Association(MARA) and the Iditarod hams. It is long but a good read. <al7fs>

A policy for the Command Communication Vehicle (CCV) is that when it is loaned out a knowledgeable member of ARES or AARC must remain with the vehicle during its use. I wrote the following as the person driving and staying with the CCV during the events, not as a radio operator, so the article is not so much about the events as it is about the function of the CCV, some aspects of how it is used, and its performance. Yeah, right. If you can get all that out of this article you're smarter than I.

The CCV is a converted 1989, thirty-four foot, Pace Arrow motorhome with a Chevy chassis and a 454 hemi. We are constantly making improvements both to the rig and its mission oriented equipment. Like the retired gentleman's log cabin, it may actually get finished one of these days. Then we'll start over on a new one.

By the way, I'd be glad to give the cook's tour to anyone wanting to check out the CCV and the power & tower trailer hands on. The CCV will be at the next club meeting.

George Wilkinson / KL1JJ

Jr. Iditarod

0555 Pulled from the garage and got stuck on the ice. The roof drain glaciates across the garage door and at the bottom of the 'V' of the drive way. I had to maneuver back and forth between the dumpster and a pick-up truck that was partially blocking my exit, but hey, after a disaster it may be harder than that to get out, right? So this is good driving practice, right? Yeah, right. I'm glad we installed the rear- view camera.

0605 Under way. Stopped on the north side of Wasilla at Pittman Road Tesoro to meet the MARA crew and refuel. I wanted to have as much fuel on board as possible when reporting on station because I didn't know what conditions we would be working under. After conversing with Rich Plack, KL7DY, the Comms Coordinator for this effort, we got under way again.

0810 Arrived Susitna Landing turn-off, mile 82.5. This was a one lane road so it was a good thing if no one wanted to come the other way. Stray off the pack and slough off into never-never land. The parking spot was good from a set-up point of view. Shore power was available and the fifth-wheel next to us provided a phone line and packet antenna support. There was also the trailer a MARA member brought for a bunk house and kitchen. From a PR point of view we were invisible.

I set the dual band antenna on the extensible mast as designed by Steve, KL0VZ, connected the coax to the HF2 station's Alinco 605, and set the frequency to 147.27 for trail comms. The HF1 station's 605 was set to 146.43 for the local net.

Woody Duncan, KL0TS, set up his cool portable packet kit at the HF1 station and cabled to his MFJ j-pole tied to the fifth-wheel. This antenna was too close but there wasn't much option. The only annoyance was the packet static, but that only lasted as long as it took to transmit a packet. Tim Comfort, NL7SK, helped with packet and radio during the day and took over packet when Woody cashed out. Each of the check-points had packet so it was a busy utility.

Ola set up the local net control station at the table using the overhead 605. A non-ham, she used the radio with supervision; she didn't have her license but she knew everyone, hams and racers and race. A phone line was run through a window and a phone set up for her use. She primarily fielded calls from parents like moma Buser who kept asking, "Are they there yet?"

As for the important things. Yes, there were plenty of pitch-black, ice-cold, unventilated out-houses available. On the down-side, I was forced to take advantage of the coffee bar in the store. Yeah. I admit it.

2230 Radio activity stopped as the last racers made Yentna and we crashed. I slept on the sofa, Ola slept at the table/bed with the phone under her, and Tim remained slumped in a chair at the packet station. One dedicated dude.

During the night the temperature dropped to near twenty below. I remember being half awake and wandering what was up with the cold air blowing on my arm. Then the propane detector went off. I had to get up with that thing several times.

0300 (that's 3AM!!!) KTUU called to ask when they would be able to get info on the return starts. If you want the exact wording of Ola's reply you'll have to ask her directly.

0330 First packet came in with team-out data.

0515 We gave up trying to nap between calls and packets and got up. Ola said she thought the furnace hadn't worked during the night. One of the times I'd played with it during the night must have started it working again. I guess I need to look into that.

The second day went as smoothly as the first. Everyone was in place and did their thing. Badda bing.

1745 Pulled from the landing. Plenty of help with wrapping up and the pull. The trip back to Anchorage was non-stop and uneventful. I really wanted to stop at Espresso Exit for a raspberry truffle mocha but I was going to be late as it was. Mike O'Keefe, KL7MD, used the .27 machine to offer to meet me at the garage, then did so. Good thing, too. I was tired, ill-fed, under-coffeed, and had that buzzing-vibrating thing going on. I asked Mike to park the CCV. He did with ease, and helped me get my gear off the rig. Life is easier with help. I've even been known to stop and ask for directions.

2230 Locked up the garage and went home.

Iditarod Re-start

1730 Pulled the CCV out of the garage and set the furnace to seventy degrees. I loaded my gear, moved my car into the garage, and locked up. The furnace time was important for gauging consumption. The furnace hadn't been working right at the Jr. Iditarod so I had TLC look at it. The old single-try control board was faulty and this would be the first opportunity to test the new three-try board. A problem with a rig of this age is parts.

1800 Passed Merrill Field. Makin' some kinda progress now, you betcha.

1845 Met up and had dinner with Bruce McCormick, KL7MD, at the Windbreak Cafe just this side of Wasilla. Dan, KL7DR, the Comms Coordinator, showed up to hand off material to take north. Dan was supposed to go up with us but was having fun fighting his plumbing. No, not that plumbing, his HOUSE plumbing. He'd get to Willow in the morning.

1945 Pulled from the Windbreak for an uneventful drive north.

2130 Arrived at the Willow Community Center. Dan said we would be met by a fellow from California who would be helping with comms. Sure enough he walked over when I stopped to look over the parking spot.

Walking back to the CCV I realized I'd locked myself out. Bruce soon joined me in my lack of bliss. After several attempts by several means Bruce pulled out his lock picking set. Unfortunately his ability and the make of the lock didn't match. I mentioned calling a Wasilla locksmith but Bruce treated that suggestion with distain, moved back to his camper, returned with a slim-jim and went to work. If you really must get in trouble I suggest you have Bruce around when you do. I just stood by the front tire where warm air was pushed out by the radiator fans because, yeah, that's right, my coat was locked in the CCV - with the spare keys in the pocket.

Jim Bruton, KL7HJ, walked over from the old community hall and said that we needed to attend the staff meeting he was already attending. Bruce told me to go represent the group. What group? Oh, yeah, that group. I didn't know what I was going to do since I was just the driver, but considering the current situation I decided to go represent the group. Any group. I found I could walk faster if I kept my tail tucked between my legs. At the meeting I stood in the back of the building where I could see the CCV lights. Lots of talk about port-a-potties and blah blah blah.

The CCV lights moved and then disappeared. I contemplated going out to see what was happening but decided against it. Bruce came in a few minutes later and said he'd parked the CCV. I contemplated saying he should have come and got me - but decided against it.

After listening to the blah blah blah we decided we didn't need to be there and left Jim to represent the group. Poor Jim. Back at the CCV I put a copy of the entry key in my wallet with copies of the other keys I tend to forget.

The spot made for the CCV was carved out by the front-end loader against the library wall. The grade too was severe for the leveling jacks. The steps had malfunctioned in Anchorage but I got them working again. Non-the-less, they couldn't be used because they came out part way and hit the frozen grade. There was little room for accessing the door even after shoveling. I thought about an unauthorized move but decided that in a disaster there's no telling what kind of spot would be

available so this would make the exercise realistic. The parking slot did have the advantage of an outlet for shore power. Cool.

I made sure to set the frequencies on the Alinco 605s and get them into memory. I do this so the various operators didn't get frustrated trying to set freqs on an unfamiliar radio. They're supposed to use them, not bang on them.

2330 Hit the sack. Chris used the table/bed, I the couch, and Bruce his camper. Chris and I talked briefly and I got his story. It's a lot like mine. Chris is into fire/rescue. His captain told him to get his ham ticket so he could be the liaison to the hams, then realized that in an emergency, let alone a disaster, Chris wouldn't be around a ham radio. So ended the liaison job, but Chris now had a ham ticket and didn't know what to do with it. This would be his first tactical event, the first time to put his radio to use.

0400 (that's 4AM!!!) Deby Trosper, the re-start coordinator, knocked on Bruce's door to ask when the rest of the crew would arrive. If you want to know the exact wording of Bruce's reply you'll have to ask him directly. In moving from Wasilla to Willow the ITC lost the services of the Wasilla police and fire departments so other folks were needed to fill the gap in security, traffic control, and other positions. We weren't there to take on the liability of traffic control or security, and the rest of the crew wasn't supposed arrive until hours later.

0430 Reveille for Chris and me. Felt good to sleep in. Kinda wish I'd gotten more than five hours sleep Friday night. Heather (KL7SP) and I reported to the CCV downtown at 0430 Saturday to relieve O'Keefe and set up antennae and operating stations. Glad this gig only lasts two days. Chris volunteered to shadow TRAFFIC at the highway intersection at 0500. What a guy. More power to him.

0530 Wayne Groomer, KL7HHO, and I walked to the school for the PTA all-you-can-eat breakfast. Good chow. We talked to a couple other hams and harassed the kids pouring coffee. Poor Chris. Oh well. Hey, hide the snacks, folks, Wayne can pound down the chow.

0600 Returned to the CCV. Mike & Jackie Sanders, KL1HO & KL1KB, set up as Shadow Net Control at the table. Their daughter Melissa, KL1HZ, shadowed Deby. I mention Melissa because she is the youngster who ran the Not Yet Net. She'll be starting it back up this spring. We need more like her. Lots more.

Bruce set up as Security & Traffic Net Control using the 605 at the satellite station. Gretchen O'Barr, KL7GO, set up as Road Crossing and Trail Net Control in the rear at the HF2 station. Gretchen is a good match for Dan, leading one to believe they might have been married for a while.

Woody Duncan, KL0TS, set up his portable packet station in the back at the HF1 station and operated as Packet Data Net Control . Woody gathered data from local stations and Tim Comfort, NL7SK, who had his portable packet out at road crossing #5, the last one.

From the CCV the data went to Mark Kelliher, KL7TQ, in Eagle River, who relayed it to race headquarters at the Millennium Hotel in Anchorage. They used the Eagle Node digipeater on Site Summit.

As the racers passed Tim at the final road crossing the crew started showing up at the CCV. The furnace was freaking out with the door going open and closed so often. Bruce and I stayed tucked safely out of the way up in the driver and satellite station seats. After the group picture in front of the CCV people grabbed their gear and went on home.

1430 Bruce and I pulled from the Willow Community Center. South of Wasilla I had to make a hard down-hill stop to avoid a mess that went from the stop light half-way up the hill and the satellite radios shifted forward. Oops. Additionally, as on previous trips, the wind pushed the starboard mirror down so I had a good view of the rear bumper. I needed to stop somewhere. Approaching the Richardson I told Bruce I'd be hitting the coffee stand just past the tracks.

As I pull into Espresso Exit I found myself drawn to the window for a raspberry truffle mocha. Some kind of combination tractor beam/mind control ray, or something. Later, off the side of the parking lot, I pushed the radios back in place and adjusted the mirror. Back out on the road the radios stayed put but the mirror didn't. I probably ought to look into that. Something needs torque.

On Muldoon Rd. Bruce peeled off to get cleaned up and try to make dinner at his daughter's. No problem here with that decision.

Family is an a priori priority, a cardinal cool, an - okay, I'll stop.

1620 Arrived Garrett's Tesoro - furnace off at 1624. The propane pump showed that it passed 3.1 gallons. Not bad, all things considered. The temperature fell to minus five overnight, the door was open a lot, and I only put one of the electric heaters by the door.

The main tank took twenty-four and a half gallons. My GPS unit said the drive time was a little over three hours for nigh onto a hundred fifty miles - not a good consumption rate. I probably ought to look into that, too.

1646 Arrived garage. While getting ready to pull my car out I watched the CCV slide backward down the slope of the lot. Mixed emotions. I unloaded my gear and tried to get the CCV in. The ice on the slope in front of the door didn't help. The third try was a charm.

1705 Wrapped up the garage in time to shower and get to church. Great place to grab a nap.

George Wilkinson, KL1JJ

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Emergency Response Communicators (ERC) Net

Dan O'Barr, KL7DR reports that there is are some new nets on Sunday nights. The ERC Net is designed to help hams get on the air more often, stay familiar with their equipment, and get to know their fellow hams in the area so that they can work together better in an emergency. Check it out.

Sunday, 7:30PM on 147.27 Repeater (103.5 tone)

Sunday, 8:30PM on 3.880 MHz HF SSB

Notes from ARES SEC

(Amateur Radio Emergency Service Section Emergency Coordinator)

National Traffic System

Many amateurs think the NTS system is old-fashioned and of little use. The NTS is alive and well! It is a system where traffic is formal and handled in a systematic order all over the world by amateurs who volunteer their time to send, pickup, and deliver messages from priority to general greetings.

Alaska is one of the few places where we do not have a Section wide traffic net to handle formal traffic. Alaskans by and large are unfamiliar with NTS procedures and the guidelines for using it.

In an emergency situation, we need a way to handle traffic so that it doesn't end up like messages do in the game of "Telephone." The radiogram used by NTS has checks built in as well as methods of determining the authenticity of a message, all done in a simple format and amateurs all over the world recognize and work with.

Alaska emergency managers work under the Incident Command System. ICS also has a message format and the good news is that it is very similar to the NTS format so it is easy to translate between the two.

In a declared emergency, traffic going to EOC's, agencies, and other official places must be in formal written format, i.e., the radiogram. Traffic can not be passed by "word of mouth" or informal means. Nets become controlled, formal nets with the Net Control managing the net and all calls going thru the NC.

March 14, we started working on what a radiogram consists of, on the Interior Net. I will repeat what I said here and we will also continue with the other parts of the radiogram on the Sunday Net.

A radiogram consists of 4 parts: the Preamble, the address, the test, and the signature.

The PREAMBLE is the housekeeping part of the message. With the information there you can trace the message, send it back if needed, authenticate it, and make sure the message sent is the one received.

It consists of :

1: message number this is the number that the amateur who first sends it assigns to the message. Each amateur has their own numbering system. I start at "1" Jan 1 of each year. Some do more complicated systems but I like the "KISS" method.

2: Precedence how critical the message is, can be EMERGENCY [always spelled out] PRIORITY [P] WELFARE [W] and ROUTINE [R]

3: Handling instructions only necessary if there are special needs in handling the message

4.: Station of Origin The station that first wrote the message

5: Check This is very important! It is the number of words in the message. When an operator receives a message, the first thing to do is count the words in the message and make sure it agrees with the check, if not then you get a re-send from the sending operator to see what is wrong.

6: Place of Origin This is the actual place where the message started from.

7: Time Filled not usually used unless it is important to know as in an emergency situation

8: Date the date the message was written

A preamble at the top of a radiogram looks like:

347 R G K7ABT 25 Phoenix, AZ 2300 Nov 6

It is read like that, there is no need to say Number 347 Precedence Routine Handling HXG Station of origin K7ABT etc. Any operator familiar with the radiogram knows what each of the items is in the radiogram and writes it just as it is above. You have all the housekeeping, routing, information in one short sentence.

ADDRESS This is the address where the radiogram is going. It needs to be as complete as possible with Name Street, City, State, Zip and the telephone number. The more complete the address, the easier to deliver it when it gets to its destination.

MESSAGE This is the actual message. Keep as short as possible. Generally no punctuation is used but there are 2 kinds that can be used. One is the "X" which signifies the "." It is never used at the end of the message. The other is "QUERY" for the "?". Practice writing each word on a line of 5 words to make counting easier. The number of words in the message goes in the "Check" "X" counts one word. CANNOT BE OF A COMMERCIAL NATURE!

SIGNATURE is not part of the word count. It is the signature of the person sending the message – NOT THE OPERATOR. In emergency service the signature should include the full name, the title of the person and the phone number. Even is the phones are not working, it is a way to authenticate the message. Very important when you are handling messages that are requesting material support form EOC or agency.

That is pretty much all there is to it. Not hard to do, just takes some practice. If you have any questions please get in touch with me at: ad4bl@arrl.net

Linda Mullen, AD4BL
ALASKA SEC STM

ARES Contact Information

District Emergency Coordinator:
Phil Mannie, KL0QW
Contact via Pager: 268-7609
Email via kl0qw@alaska.net

Additional information on ARES can be found at the following URL:

http://www.qsl.net/aresalaska/

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Anchorage Amateur Radio Club Board Meeting

(Unapproved)
March 16, 2004

The AARC Board met Tuesday, March 16, 2004 at Hope Community Resources Administrative Building, 540 West International Airport Road. In attendance were President Jim Larsen, AL7FS, Secretary Philip Mannie, KL0QW and Treasurer Steve Jensen, KL0VZ. Also in attendance were Directors Richard Block, KL7RLB, Mike O'Keefe, KL7MD, George Wilkinson, KL1JJ, Judi Ramage, WL7DX and Jim Tvrdy, KL7CDG. John Lynn, KL7CY, Heather Hasper, KL7SP, Keith Clark, WL7CSR and TJ Sheffield, KL7TS were also present.

A quorum being present, President Jim Larsen called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Reports
Secretary
The minutes from the February 17, 2004 Board meeting were accepted.

Treasurer
Steve Jensen submitted a written report and noted that $8,400 had been paid to date on remote testing software development.

Gaming
John Lynn reported that gaming revenue was down a bit and that the Gaming Board was considering a pool hall for tenancy in the unoccupied space in the bingo hall.

Club House
Mike O'Keefe reported on a Board tour of the Dowling and New Seward facility March 13. A floor plan of the facility was provided to Directors.

ARES
Philip Mannie briefly reported on upcoming ARES events including the First Aid training session March 20 and the Walk for Hope, May 1. Richard Block commended George Wilkinson's work on CCV maintenance.

VEC
Jim Wiley submitted a written report.

Membership
There was no formal report.

VHF
There was no formal report.

CCV and Portable Equipment
George Wilkinson reported that the CCV worked well during February and March events and provided particulars on a recent quote for trailer and CCV improvements. These include $1480 for an additional propane tank and quick connect, trailer fuel tank and storage combination and antenna rack, along with $650 to replace the CCV steering damper. The Board approved a recommendation for funding these improvements to the membership at the April 2, 2004 General Meeting. George and Philip Mannie are to make a presentation to the membership explaining the proposed expenditures.

Old Business
Corporate Documents Revision
Jim Larsen reported that a legal review of the amended documents recommended returning Articles II and IX to their unamended form. A motion to approve the documents, subject to counsel's recommendations and submit them for Membership approval passed.

Field Day
TJ Sheffield submitted a list of equipment needed for Field Day satellite and HF operation totaling $4275. The Board approved a recommendation for funding these acquisitions to be submitted to the membership on April 2, 2004. A presentation will be made to the membership explaining the proposed expenditures.

ARRL Convention
Jim Larsen reported that volunteers are being sought as organizers for the event.

State Fair
George Wilkinson reported that the tent had arrived and would be provided with a 100A electrical service.

Technical Committee
Philip Mannie reported that no progress had been made.

ALMR
John Lynn reported no progress in getting the ALMR radios and proposed that one ALMR radio be acquired at Club expense for approximately $3500. John will get bids.

Board Member
No nominations have been made to fill the Directorship vacated by Kyle Sandel.

New Business
Warehouse Facility
Jim Larsen proposed that he, Steve Jensen and Richard Block contact legal counsel, the property owner and Jim Wiley to explore the possibility of leasing the Dowling and New Seward facility and any legal problems that might result from subletting a portion of the property to a for profit business. The motion passed with Jim Tvrdy opposed.

MARA Reimbursement for Jr. Iditarod CCV Expenses
A motion to decline MARA reimbursement for CCV expenses was approved.

Electrical Distribution Boxes
John Lynn proposed that two 50A 120/240VAC power distribution boxes be acquired to distribute tower trailer power at a cost of $2400. The Board voted to recommend the expenditure to the membership at the April 2, 2004 General meeting.

Club Equipment Loans to Other Amateur Radio Groups
A motion to make AARC equipment available to other amateur radio groups was approved.

Directors' and Officers' Insurance
The Board discussed acquiring Directors' and Officers' insurance. No action was taken.

Other Old Business
Carried over until the April Board meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Philip Mannie, Secretary.

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American Red Cross - Fast Scan TV

The Alaskan American Red Cross Headquarters in Anchorage is looking into Fast Scan TV availability. John Ramsey who is the Emergency Services Coordinator for the American Red Cross has used it extensively in Orange County California with great success. The system they setup was totally portable and could be mounted in either a helicopter or airplane. It would be a great asset to have in place in case a natural disaster. **So if you are interested in helping the American Red Cross in Anchorage develop a system like Fast Scan TV** please contact me at my home. The phone number is 243-4675.

73s, Mike O'Keefe - KL7MD

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Call for Hamfest Volunteers

The window is beginning to close on our opportunity to have the September ARRL Convention and Hamfest. The club needs two volunteers to Co-chair the event very soon if we are to hope to have the Convention this year. There are lists of action items available from previous years and the officers of the club will help you get started and be there to help, too. Call Jim Larsen, AL7FS at 345-3190 to discuss this further.

CQ FIELD DAY, CQ FIELD DAY, THIS IS KL7AA, FIELD DAY!

Field Day - what's he talking about?! Field Day happens in the summertime – and we still have piles of snow on the ground!

Well it's not to early to start thinking about Field Day. The Board of Directors of the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club (AARC) have asked Alaska District 7 Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) volunteers to take on Field Day and we're well into the planning phase. We wanted to bring you up to speed on what's new.

Field Day is the premier emergency communications training exercise for amateur radio operators and always occurs the last full weekend in June. This year Field Day begins on Saturday, June 26th at 1000 hrs (local Alaska time) and concludes on Sunday, June 27th at 1300 hrs (local Alaska time).

Field Day is open to all amateurs in countries within IARU Region 2. This means the USA and Canada, plus Central and South America. DX stations residing in other regions may be contacted for credit, but are not eligible to submit entries.

We will be operating in a "new" category this year, Class 3F. Class F was established for groups who operate in conjunction with a Served Agency at an established Emergency Operations Center (EOC). We will deploy with the Alaska Chapter of the American Red Cross and take our Communications Command Vehicle (CCV) and their Emergency Response Vehicle (ERV) to a yet to-be-determined location and operate in a joint communications training exercise.

GENTLEMEN, START YOUR ENGINES

This year we will implement a "rolling start". In years past, we've set up on Friday night and began operation at 1000 hrs on Saturday. This year we will roll out on Saturday morning and begin setting up at exactly 1000 hrs (per the FD rules) and will be able to operate until 1300 hrs on Sunday. We'll have a friendly competition as to which of our stations gets the first QSO – with a possible prize for that honor!

We believe this more closely resembles an actual emergency where we get called out and have to set up quickly. We should be able to establish a benchmark for our various Station Captains as to how long it takes their crew to actually get a signal out on the air.

SIX FOR THE PRICE OF THREE

Operating in Class 3F this year, we'll be able to put up three high-powered transmitters and still get three additional stations on the air "for free".

Our high-power stations will be the traditional SSB and CW effort, but this year Phil Mannie, KLØQW, will Captain a digital station that will earn us two points for every QSO – just like the CW station. Phil will be running a variety of digital modes and is looking for interested operators for this new effort. We believe digital modes will be critical to our success in a real emergency and feel our experience and expertise in this area could use a boost. Field Day will be an excellent opportunity to improve our skill set in this important aspect of emergency communications.

In addition to our high-power stations, we will operate an amateur satellite station this year. TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, will Captain the satellite station and anticipates using a portable ground station with computer control of the antennas for AZ-EL, operator switchable antenna polarization and full-doppler tuning for the radio. If his crew can make just one QSO with the satellite station we'll earn a full 100 bonus points and additional QSO's will count as well.

Keith Clark, WL7CSR recently upgraded to Amateur Extra and he'll Captain a new station category called "GET ON THE AIR" (GOTA). The "gotta" station is tailor-made for new hams or for generally inactive hams who want to get re-acquainted with HF operations.

This station is limited to 150 watts and must operate under a separate callsign. If anyone in the South Central Amateur Radio Club is listening, we'd like to request the use of the KL7G callsign for this effort. Kind of has a nice ring to it, doesn't it – "Kilo Lima Seven Gotta". . . . ?

Keith plans to operate the GOTA station with members of the American Red Cross for part of the event, using their HF equipment on board the ERV. Unlicensed personnel may operate in the amateur bands under the direction of a licensed Control Operator, just be sure and observe any Third Party limitations when working stations outside the US or Canada (DX stations or Central and South America).

In addition, the GOTA station will support a 6m, VHF and UHF effort on simplex (no repeaters) to work as many stations as possible in the local and regional area. If the GOTA station can make just 100 QSO's, the Mother Ship can claim an additional 100 bonus points!

And don't forget our Infrared Station, where station Captain Edie Lynn, KL7EL, will be cooking up a storm with the help of her husband John Lynn, KL7CY. If we go hungry on Field Day it's probably our fault!

IT'S BOGUS, DUDE

Did you know that only three Alaska stations submitted a Field Day log last year – and we weren't one of them?! Did you know that the Juneau Amateur Radio Club won the Alaska Section with just 1,286 points?!

Hey, there are over 1,700 BONUS POINTS available on Field Day – we could have beaten them by not making a single QSO! This year we're taking a run at bringing the Alaska Section title back up north. Bonus points for Field Day include:

100% Emergency Power: 100 points per transmitter – that's 300 points for our high power stations and we've got emergency power to burn using the 12.5kw diesel generators on the "tower and power" trailers.

Media Publicity: 100 bonus points may be earned for attempting to obtain publicity from the local media. Phil Mannie, KLØQW works for KTUU, Channel 2 – maybe he can stir something up?

Public Location: 100 bonus points for physically locating the Field Day operation in a public place (shopping center, community park, school campus, etc). The intent is for amateur radio to be on display to the public. We're still working on a site location and are keeping these bonus points in mind.

Public Information Table: 100 bonus points for a Public Information Table at the Field Day site. The purpose is to make appropriate handouts and information available to the visiting public at the site. Anyone want to organize this one?

Message Origination to Section Manager: 100 bonus points for origination of a National Traffic System (NTS) style formal message to the ARRL Section Manager or Section Emergency Coordinator by your group from its site – are there any traffic handlers out there?

Message Handling: 10 points for each formal NTS style message originated, relayed or received and delivered during the Field Day period, up to a maximum of 100 points (ten messages). Properly serviced copies of each message must be included with the Field Day report – are there any traffic handlers out there?

Satellite QSO: 100 bonus points for successfully completing at least one QSO via an amateur radio satellite during the Field Day period. TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, is all over this one.

Alternate Power: 100 bonus points for Field Day groups making a minimum of five QSOs without using power from commercial mains or a petroleum driven generator. This means an "alternate" energy source of power, such as solar, wind, methane or water, and includes batteries charged by natural means (not dry cells). TJ Sheffield, KL7TS is organizing this one.

W1AW Bulletin: 100 bonus points for copying the special Field Day bulletin transmitted by W1AW during its operating

schedule. All station Captains (for digital, SSB and CW) will be asked to copy this bulletin and we'll see who gets it correct.

Non-Traditional Mode Demonstrations: A maximum of 300 bonus points (100 points for each demonstration up to three) for setting up a demonstration of a non-traditional mode of amateur radio communications. This includes modes such as APRS, ATV, and SSTV. Phil Mannie, KLØQW is working on this one but he needs your help!

Site Visitation by an elected governmental official: A 100-point bonus may be claimed if your Field Day site is visited by an elected government official as the result of an invitation issued by your group. Does anybody know the Mayor, an Assembly Member or someone on the School Board?

Site Visitation by a representative of an agency: A 100-point bonus may be claimed if your Field Day site is visited by a representative of an agency served by ARES in your local community (Red Cross, Salvation Army, local Emergency Management, law enforcement, etc) as the result of an invitation issued by your group. We'll be formally inviting John Ramsey, KD6YKS (Emergency Response Manager with the American Red Cross) but we can certainly invite others – any ideas?

GOTA maximum achieved. A 100-point bonus may be claimed by a group whose GOTA station completes a minimum of 100 QSOs. Keith Clark, WL7CSR and the gang will be working hard on this one.

So there you have it – at least 1,700 bonus points are available and we can pick them up with a little effort, but we sure need your help to make it happen! This year's Field Day chairman are:

Keith Clark – WL7CSR: aksunlite@aol.com
HM: 243-0706
WK: 277-3545

TJ Sheffield – KL7TS: kl7ts@arrl.net
HM: 248-3864
WK: 265-2409

And we're looking forward to your support!

TJ Sheffield – KL7TS

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NCVEC and ARRL License Petitions

Jim Wiley, KL7CC

The NCVEC and ARRL petitions concerning Novice restructuring and the creation of a new entry level license have been accepted by the FCC and are available for comment. There is also another petition by a group calling themselves "The Radio Amateur Foundation" (AG4RQ) on these same issues. To view the petitions, go to :

http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/prod/ecfs/comsrch_v2.cgi

and enter the complete petition number, including the "RM" and the hyphen, like so:

RM-10867

in the upper left corner of the search form. Press the return (Enter) key, and you will see the original petition and any comments. The original petition is always the oldest item (the last item on the list) , and comments are "younger". You may file comments for up to 30 days after the petitions appear. Comments may be brief (there is a space on the 2nd page of the form to type them in directly) or formal (in the same form as the petition), and uploaded as MS Word or Corel Word Perfect files, or as Adobe PDF documents - and I think straight text is also acceptable.

The petitions are:

RM-10867 ARRL (American Radio Relay League)
RM-10870 NCVEC (National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators)
RM-10868 AG4RQ (The Radio Amateur Foundation)

It is not known if any other petitions have been filed or not. When the original group of petitions concerning removal of Morse code testing were filed last July and August, first 6 petitions were filed, then about 10 days or 2 weeks later, another group appeared, from groups like NCI (No Code International), FISTS, and QCWA.

There has been no action on any of the previous petitions, although the "conventional wisdom" says the FCC will lump them in with this new batch and act on (or decline to act on) everything at the same time.

If you intend to file comments, I urge you to read each petition carefully, perhaps even printing a copy to examine in detail. I would also suggest that you wait a day or two before filing your own comments. Each of these petitions took weeks to prepare, and the items deserve careful thought before expressing your opinion. In any case, make sure your comments are germane to the issues at hand, or your submission may not get the attention it deserves. If you agree with some points but disagree with others, be sure and say so.

You will note that the ARRL and NCVEC petitions are similar in many details, and differ only in detail on some points. Each was submitted only after being reviewed by many persons other than those who prepared the documents. Not everyone (from either organization) is in favor of every point in the petitions that were presented, but in each case, the majority of those representing the individual members did approve the submission. In the case of the NCVEC petition, for example, the vote was 8 to 4 in favor of the petition.

Don't expect any action soon. The normal "life" of this sort of thing is about 2 years, so it would be a tremendous surprise if much of anything happened before late 2005 or early 2006. In other words, tell people that is isn't a good idea to wait for a "free upgrade" (from Tech to General, for example), because even if these ideas are adopted (and there is no guarantee that

it will happen) there is at least 2 years to go. They might as well study the code (a good idea in any case), learn the theory, and take the present exams. They will be a long leg up on those who wait. – Jim Wiley, KL7CC

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Frequently Asked Questions About Amateur Radio and Broadband Over Powerline (BPL / PLT)

An excellent resource for understanding BPL can be found at:
http://www.qrpis.org/~k3ng/bpl.html
and also at:
http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/

The Alaska DX Club

When I heard from Corliss about the Alaska DX Club, I just had to obtain just a bit more information for the AARC members. If you have questions about it, please contact Corliss at al1g_ak@yahoo.com . <al7fs>

The Alaska DX Club was formed by Corliss Kimmel, AL1G and Frank Hurlbut, KL7FH to promote contesting from Alaska as a club. The club has two callsigns, KL7CQ and the recently acquired KL7DX.

We acquired KL7CQ first and have used it in a few contests so far. It was great to work Wilse Morgan, the former holder of KL7CQ when he called us!

The family of Robert Rapuzzi of Skagway, the former KL7DX, graciously granted us permission to get his callsign upon his becoming a silent key in March of 2003.

Our first major contesting effort as KL7DX was a great success. We operated Multi-Op, Two Radios, High Power in the ARRL International DX phone contest: 3086 Q's, 1,833,084 points. The ops were KL7FH, AL1G and KL1MX.

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Alaska CW Net (ACWN)

Alaska CW Net (ACWN) still maintains a daily traffic watch on 3534 7042 and 14050 Khz....from Fairbanks. ACWN is a registered ARRL Section Net in Alaska.

Starting at about 0230Z every evening, AL7N in Fairbanks **maintains traffic watch** simultaneously and as continuously as possible on all three frequencies, until the following morning about 1700Z. Also guards 2 meters 144.100 Mhz (CW mode) in Fairbanks area.

Weekends, monitor continuously whenever in the house where can hear the speakers, day and night.

Saturday schedules with K6KPH on 14050 at or after 1800Z,whenever we can get thru depending on 20 meter band condx and contest QRM. K6KPH is relay to lower 48 NTS; closes down about 0100Z.

ACWN badly needs other operators around the state of Alaska to participate...will gladly exchange WX and signal reports if nothing else...just to keep the pipe open. Will handle legal 3rd party written traffic to anywhere, even to e-mail addresses if specified. Working CW speed is regulated to suit the operator receiving...

If other nets have traffic they can't move, send 'em down to ACWN! **"Listeners" on the ACWN watch frequencies probably won't hear anything unless they call with traffic or just call for a signal check/report which will be gladly supplied t**o anyone if we can hear 'em at all.

Ed Trump, AL7N ACWN Net Manager

Ham Data You Can Use:

Officers

President	Jim Larsen, AL7FS
Vice President	Randy Vallee, KL7Z
Secretary	Phil Mannie, KLØQW
Treasurer	Steve Jensen, KLØVZ
Trustee	Jim Feaster, KL7KB
Activities Chairman	Craig Bledsoe, KL4E
News Letter Editor	Jim Larsen, AL7FS
Membership Chairman	Fred Erickson KL7FE
Past-President	-

Three Year Board Members

Jim Wiley, KL7CC
Richard Block, KL7RLB
Lil Marvin, NL7DL

One Year Board Members

Pat Wilke, WL7JA
Jimmy Tvrdy, KL7CDG
Judi Ramage, WL7DX
Kyle Sandel, AL7J
George Wilkinson, KL1JJ
Mike O'Keefe, KL7MD

AARC web page & Email contact addresses:

Homepage:	**http://www.KL7AA.org/**
Email Reflector:	KL7AA@QTH.NET
Webmaster:	AL1G_ak@yahoo.com
President:	JimLarsen2002@alaska.net
Membership:	frederickson@iname.com
Newsletter:	JimLarsen2002@alaska.net

News Letter Submissions, Information or corrections:

Submissions must be received 2 weeks before meeting
Email: JimLarsen2002@alaska.net
Mail: 3445 Spinnaker Drive, Anchorage 99516

KL7G CODE PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Schedule: 7:00am, 10:00am, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm AK time, every day on 145.35 MHz @ 7 wpm

NOT ACTIVE AT THIS TIME

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Nets in Alaska:

The following nets are active in South-central Alaska:
Alaska Sniper's Net 3.920 MHz 6:00 PM daily
Alaska Bush Net 7.093 MHz 8:00 PM daily
Alaska Motley Net 3.933 MHz 9:00 PM daily
Alaska Pacific Net 14.292 MHz 8:00 AM M-F
ACWN (Alaska CW Net) 3534, 7042 Daily @ 0700 – 1000, and 1900 - 2400 Alaska Time - AL7N or KL5T monitoring.
Net Purpose: Formal NTS traffic via CW.
No Name Net 146.85/.25 repeater Sundays 8:00 PM
Grandson of SSB Net 144.20 USB Mondays 8:00 PM local
Big City Simplex Net 146.520, 446.0, & 52.525 FM
With Packet 145.01 Tuesdays 8:00 PM local
ARES net 147.27/87 103.5Hz - Thursdays at 8:00 PM local
PARKA net 147.30/.90 Thursdays at 7:00 PM local
ERC VHF Net 147.27/87 103.5Hz – Sunday 7:30 PM local
ERC HF Net 3.880 MHz – Sunday 8:30PM local

Anchorage & Mat Valley Area Repeaters

KL7AA systems at Flattop Mt., 2,200 ft
146.94/34 MHz, 80 watts, autopatch, 141.3 Hz PL
224.94/223.34, 25 watts, no patch, no PL
444.70/449.70, 25 watts, autopatch, 141.3 PL
****147.27/87 MHz, no patch, Mount Susitna 103.5 Hz**
KL7CC, Anchorage Hillside, SCRC & QCWA
146.97/.37 MHz, 30 watts, autopatch, 103.5 Hz PL
KL7M Anchorage Hillside
147.21/.81 MHz, on IRLP, 97.4 Hz PL
KL7ION at Mt. Gordon Lyon, PARKA 3,940 ft
147.30/90, MHz - 80 watts, no patch, 141.3 Hz PL
KL7AIR Elmendorf AFB, EARS
146.67/.07, 107.2 Hz PL
KL7JFU, KGB road, MARA club
146.85/.25, autopatch, no PL
KL7DOB, Alcantra (Wasilla Armory)
146.64/.04, simplex patch, no PL
KL7DJE at Grubstake Peak, 4,500 ft. <down >
147.09/.69 MHz, 25 watts, no patch, 100 Hz PL
444.925/449.925, 10 watts, no patch, 141.3 Hz PL
KL3K, Girdwood
146.76/16 MHz, 25 watts, no patch, 97.4 Hz PL

South Central Area Simplex Frequencies

146.52 MHz Calling and Emergency frequency
147.57 / 447.57 (crossband linked) HF spotters & chat, 103.5 HZ PL
146.49 MHz Anchorage area simplex chat
146.43 MHz Mat Valley simplex chat
147.42MHz Peninsula simplex chat

Internet Links, the favorites from our readers:

QRP and Hombrew Links http://www.qsl.net/al7fs
AARC http://www.KL7AA.org/
SCRC http://www.KL7G.org
EARS http://www.qsl.net/kl7air
MARA http://www.kl7jfu.com/
Moose Horn ARC http://www.alaksa.net/~kl7fg
ARES http://www.qsl.net/aresalaska
KL7J http://www.alaska.net/~buchholz
Fairbanks AARC: http://www.kl7kc.com/
Yukon Amateur Radio Association:
http://www.klondike.com/yara/index.html
HAARP Project:
Amateur Radio Reference Library
http://www.area-ham.org/library/libindex.html
Hamradio: http://www.hamrad.com/
Solar Terrestrial Activity http://209.130.27.95/solar/
ARRL http://www.arrl.org/
Propagation Report Recording 566-1819

Please let us know if there are other clubs pages or good starting points that should appear here. Report dead links or bad info to JimLarsen2002@alaska.net.

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NEWSLETTER ARTICLES; All articles from members and interested persons are very welcome. If you wish to submit any articles, jokes, cartoons, please have it typed or neatly handwritten. It can be submitted by mail, computer disk or E-mail to the newsletter editor at the address listed above. Submissions must be in the hands of the editor **no later than the 14 days prior** to the meeting or it may not be included. If you want articles other than QRP, please submit them. If no submissions, I use what I am interested in, naturally.

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Regular HAM Gatherings:

Alaska QRP Club, Third Friday - 7:00 PM: Hams with QRP (low power under 5 watts) and Homebrewing interests meet for a social meeting monthly. Meet at Denny's on DeBarr & Bragaw in the back room. Hungry QRPers start showing up about 6PM. Info contact Jim Larsen, AL7FS, JimLarsen2002@alaska.net or 345-3190.

Tuesdays Lunch, 11:30 AM: Join the gang for lunch and an eyeball QSO at the Royal Fork, "South, on Old Seward Highway. Attendance varies from 8 to 24 each week.

Thursdays Brunch, 10:30 AM: Brunch at Lily's on Tudor Road just East of Tony Romas. A great bunch of folks attend this one.

Saturdays Breakfast, 7:30 AM: Here is a good way to get started on the weekend. Come and meet with some of the locals and have a great breakfast at Phillips Restaurant, at the corner of Arctic and International. Great Fun.

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THIS MONTH'S EVENTS

1st Friday each month - AARC general meeting - 7:00 PM in the Carr-Gottstein Building, on the APU Campus. Talk in will be on 147.30+ repeater.

1st Tuesday each month: VE License Exam 6:30 PM, at the Hope Cottage offices, 540 W International. Bring photo ID, copy of license (if any) and any certificates of completion.

1st Tuesday each month: EARS general meeting - 6:30PM in the club house/shack in the basement of Denali Hall (building 31-270) on Elmendorf AFB. Talk in on 147.67- repeater.

2nd Friday each month: SCRC general meeting at 7:00 PM at Denny's on Debarr & Bragaw. Talk in on 147.57 simplex.

2nd Saturday each month: VE License Exams at 2:00 PM. at Hope Cottage 540 W. International. Be sure to bring photo ID, copy of license (if any) and any certificates of completion.

2nd Saturday each month: PARKA Meeting at 11:00 AM. at Peggy's, across from Merrill Field.

3rd Tuesday each month: AARC Board meeting at 7:00 PM at Hope Cottage 540 W. International. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

3rd Friday each month: Alaska QRP Club. 7:00PM at Denny's on DeBarr in the back room. Info: Jim Larsen, 345-3190. Bring projects to share with the group. Some show up at 6:00PM to eat.

3rd Saturday each month: ARES General meeting 9:30AM to 12:00 PM. Call Phil Mannie (kl0qw@alaska.net) at 762-9590 for additional information. Also check for ARES Info at: http://www.qsl.net/aresalaska/

The last Friday each month: MARA meeting at 7PM Fire Station 61, located two blocks up Lucille Drive, from the Parks hwy. Talk-in help for the meeting can be acquired on either the 146.640 or 146.850 repeaters. Further details can be found by contacting Len Betts, KL7LB, lelbak@yahoo.com .

The last Saturday each month at 11:00 AM: Quarter Century Wireless Assoc - QCWA at the Royal Fork, South of Dimond on Old Seward Highway. You need not be a QCWA member to attend.

Who Do I Contact to Join AARC?

Fred Erickson KL7FE -
frederickson@iname.com

Phone number: 345-2181

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club
Membership Application/Renewal

Membership Chairman: Fred Erickson KL7FE
email: frederickson@iname.com
Phone number: 345-2181

Please, check your mailing label for your expiration date.

Mail-in Membership Application

___ New ___Renewal

Name: _____ **Callsign:** _____

Address 1: _____

Address 2: _____

City _____ **State:** _____

Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____

eMail address: _____

Dues for a calendar year are as follows: • Individual membership $20.00 • Individual and Spouse $25.00 • Student $10.00* • Life $250.00 *"Student" is defined as any individual who is enrolled full-time at any educational institution, using the criteria for full-time enrollment of that institution.

I am enclosing payment for:

Subscription/Renewal for_____ year(s).

Total USD Enclosed:_____

Please Mail your Payment and this Completed Application to:

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club
c/o Fred Erickson, Membership Chairman
12531 Alpine Dr
Anchorage, AK 99516-3121

The Anchorage Amateur Radio Club News
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Anchorage Amateur Radio Club, Inc
Post Office Box 101987
Anchorage, Alaska 99510-1987

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Permit No. 223

Return Service Requested

AARC Command and Control Vehicle – CCV - on deployment in winter time.

April 2004

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club

Next Meeting April 2nd

Program: Erin Hall Meade from Life Alaska

April Program – Life Alaska

Erin Hall Meade, Life Alaska Community Development Coordinator, will be the guest speaker for the April AARC meeting (Friday, April 2nd). Life Alaska Donor Services is the tissue and organ donation organization serving the state of Alaska, offering the option of organ and tissue donation to families who have suffered a death in Alaska. As a two-time tissue recipient, she has much to share with us. You and your family members are all invited. See you there.

Mission Statement

Life Alaska is dedicated to increasing organ and tissue donation through professional transplant services, compassionate support of families, and community education.

Vision Statement