

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club

Next Meeting March 5th

Due to the early publishing of the newsletter, the program data was not yet available.

Shemya Story

Story and Photos by John Reisenauer Jr., KL7JR

From one of the most remote places in the United States, history and DX come alive.

I never leave home without my ham gear when my job takes me to remote areas of Alaska. Being a history buff and avid island activator, I jumped at the opportunity for a short-term job assignment on Alaska's Aleutian Island chain. The Aleutians are steeped in WW II history--just ask any veteran who served in the North Pacific. Shemya Island, more commonly referred to as "The Rock," is out near the tail end of the Aleutian chain 100 miles from Russian waters, or about 1400 miles from Tokyo.



A view from the northwest corner of Shemya Island, overlooking the Bering Sea.

A godforsaken place like that, famous for the foulest weather imaginable, would certainly be a challenge for mobile Amateur Radio operating. I was up for the challenge of both working on Alaska's ballistic missile defense project and hamming from The Rock. And, I had some experience to draw from: a few years ago my friends John Wolfe, AA0NN, and Frank Hurlbut, KL7FH, logged many contacts from Shemya Island.

The Adventure Unfolds

Whoever first uttered, "Getting there is half the fun," surely wasn't sitting on a hard canvas-laced chair in a cramped and cold C-130H cargo plane next to crates of

equipment and supplies bound for Shemya Island. But I was ecstatic to be on board since I'd just cleared security at Elmendorf Air Force Base in Anchorage with a briefcase full of radio gear in one hand and a 5-foot long steel whip antenna in the other. All I heard was, "So, you're gonna do some fishing, huh?" Don't you just love it when some things look like other things?



Shemya Island is one of the most remote places in the United States, as is evident from this map of the Aleutian Islands showing the chain's main military islands.

We made our first stop 90 minutes later at the town of King Salmon to refuel and take on more cargo. After four more hours of flying we set down on Shemya, second to the last rock out on the chain. I'd experienced the allure of the Aleutians a decade ago from Dutch Harbor; it was awesome to be back.

My rig was my trusty old Kenwood TS-50 transceiver and AT-50 auto-tuner. The antenna is a RadioShack mobile CB whip on an old mag-mount base. Naturally, the vertical would work on 10 meters and some whips I've experimented with work well on 20 meters using a tuner--hold your laughs until the results are in! Now I only needed to borrow a vehicle and a set of jumper cables for fast temporary power hook up to complete my mobile station.

Mobile from "The Rock"

The vertical easily loaded on 10, 20, and to my amazement, 15 meters, as well. It was great to have an extra band or two to try when 10 meters would fade as it often does up in the Northland. By 2000 UTC, only weak stations were heard on 20 meters, which was a good sign the bands were improving. I was able to borrow a truck from our safety department, but I had to stay close by in case they needed the vehicle. So, I remained in the parking lot surrounded by six-story tall office buildings, dorms and flickering street lights which no doubt caused the heavy interference I was experiencing on 10 meters.

It was raining and windy. Then came freezing rain, then snow, as I watched a storm front off the Bering Sea collide with another storm front from the Pacific Ocean right in front of me. Snowy whirlwinds swirled about. Out at the confluence of these two great bodies of water, hurricane-like winds and monster waves are born. Twenty minutes later, the sky cleared and HF came alive with strong signals.



Amateur Radio station KL7JR, as set up in the temporary mobile operating position from the job office area on Shemya Island--note the jumper cables running into the cab through the window.

First in my log was my buddy Geno, AL7GQ, on a prearranged schedule. I also called my island-activating buddy Rick Kaplan, KL7AK, but to no avail. Geno said he was hearing us both just fine. Shortly afterward a ham in Papua New Guinea called and we exchanged 10 over S9 reports on 10 meters. Then I was overwhelmed by Japanese hams for about an hour--JA7OWD, JA8OKR and JG0TL to name a few--with DU1SAN, NH2PW, VE7SMP and a couple of W5 stations wedged in. When 10 meters faded I was back on 20 meters with another Japanese pileup until that band dropped out as another Bering Sea storm began to brew. I was band switching by what color the sky was!

Back on 10 meters I worked RA0LGH, NH2PW and others needing Shemya Island, AK-019S for the US Islands Award and NA-037 for Islands on the Air. By then, most of the reports I received were 5-by-9. The other operators would often chuckle when I explained my operating position sitting in a pickup truck on a tiny Alaskan island! I moved up to 15 meters to work JM1KYY and a string of W6s and W7s. Then another JA station broke in to say 10 meters had reopened and there was a bunch of hams calling for me! I hated to leave 15 meters because it was so quiet and I was enjoying a bit of ragchewing, but back to 10 meters I went. Often I was asked what I was doing "out in the middle of nowhere." I just didn't feel comfortable answering some questions. My vague replies of "for your protection" quickly got the stateside ops to say "Roger" and change the subject.

I was surprised when VK6PP called me at 2330 UTC and BA4DW next, both of whom said they needed Shemya Island. Relentless gusts of snow-turned-ice pelted the vehicle as I worked DS5ACV, WH6LU, AY3HR and RA0LDA. Unfortunately, I had to pull the plug because the safety guys needed their truck, leaving

a big pileup with, "I've gotta go and will be back on in a few days." In five hours of operating I made over 300 contacts with 12 countries--almost half on 15 and 20 meters--using a CB antenna. Not bad considering the first two hours I was merely talking to myself while the storms played out, the constant band switching and the fact that I ragchewed a bit.

Bering's Discovery

The Aleutians are the tops of submerged mountains belonging to a range stretching more than 1200 miles into the Pacific Ocean from Alaska's mainland. A partially submerged continuation of the Aleutian Range separates the Bering Sea from the Pacific Ocean. The Aleutian Islands are comprised of four island groups: the Fox, Andreanof, Rat and Near Islands. Shemya is part of the Near Islands group. About 200 islands containing more than 25 active volcanoes--13 over 5000 feet high--several glaciers and fish-rich rivers make up the whole Aleutian chain. In 1741 Vitus Bering, a Danish explorer sailing for Russia, discovered Shemya Island. Nizki, Alaid and Hammerhead Islands, stepping stones off Shemya, are dwarfed by large Attu Island some 30 miles distant. On a clear day, Attu, the end island, can be seen from Shemya and World War II debris remains scattered about the island. On Agattu Island, snow-capped peaks tower a few miles out on the Pacific Ocean side adjacent to Shemya's main runway.



One of dozens of concrete pillboxes, relics of WW II, that litter Shemya Island.

Shemya Island is 2 miles wide by 4 miles long and has had soldiers stationed here since World War II. At its peak, Shemya Station housed over 1100 American personnel. By 1980, the workforce had been reduced to 600 and in 1993 Shemya Air Force Base was renamed Eareckson Air Station. The base was closed in 1995, only to reopen a couple of years later staffed by approximately 200 personnel.

Several abandoned three-story-high dormitories and other derelict buildings remain as silent vigils of a once bustling military post. Supplies and personnel are air lifted from Anchorage via C-130 Hercules cargo planes,

while bulkier equipment is barged 3000 miles from Seattle. Weather permitting, a cargo plane comes in twice a week and there's one unscheduled Military Airlift Command transport flight. It's a real treat getting newspapers that are only three days old, a major link to the outside world. The word "remote" takes on a whole new meaning on Shemya.

The average daily temperature is around 40°F, with extremes of 30°F in January and 50°F in August. Most days are breezy, but every now and then a calm sunny day with blue sky is enjoyed. The International Date Line is bent around us, and on a clear day we can see "tomorrow"! Daylight in December is from 11 AM to about 5 PM, plus or minus storms. There are no trees, but wildflowers, grasses and sedges are abundant. Arctic foxes, introduced by the Russians over 200 years ago, proliferate on Shemya. The island is now a strategic refueling stop for military aircraft as well as a link in the United States' long-range early warning radar system.

Back to the Mic

Two days later I was able to slip away from work again. I parked the truck near our mess hall overlooking the Bering Sea's Shemya Pass. Twenty meters was full of weak signals so I moved down to a wide-open 10 meter band to work JH1RFZ, DU6BG, LU9HZM, WA6GFE, UA0FPL, DU1MEF and several more Japanese hams. Soon, I saw another weather front brewing. Like a giant curtain closing in front of me, the blue sky gave way to an ominous greyness that hurled snow and rain sideways. Clearly, it was time to head back to work. The blips, beeps and pops often heard on 10 meters are more pronounced out in the Arctic just before and shortly after a storm subsides.

A few days later I was back at it again, but from a much better location closer to the water, with four more new countries worked and another 300 contacts made, mostly on 10 meters. Amateur Radioing doesn't get much better than this for a "little gun" station. My operating position was near a concrete pillbox, a relic of World War II that reminded me of the freedom I was now enjoying, made possible by soldiers who fought out in the Aleutians. Unexploded weapons are scattered about the island and you have to be careful where you trek. Not far away rests a fuel barge that came to its demise in 1958 when it broke loose from its tug boat...another rusting monument adding to the island's history. Shemya has hundreds of tall towers--mostly rusted relics--various antennas of all sizes and shapes and acres of radar buildings. While the bands were dead I enjoyed the great photo opportunities. I even spotted a brand new log periodic antenna atop a 50 foot hydraulic mast on a big trailer.

Later, I found out this was a Navy listening post and here's where Murphy gets involved: the Navy demanded I stop operating as they did not recognize a previous agreement made by the Air Force for Amateur Radio operating. Shemya Island is used by the Air Force, but

shared with the Army and Navy. But thanks to John Wolfe, who is a member of the US Air Force, we cut through the military red tape and I was cleared to operate again.

In whiteout conditions December 15, during the ARRL 10 Meter Contest, I worked LT5H, LU1HF, DU1MTZ, VE4MM, HL2DBP, JA3BKP, JA6XFT, JH3LSS and many others while parked near Shemya's cargo dock.

I was enjoying a terrific opening on 10 meters during and after the contest. Later, I worked my Alaskan buddies KL7D, KL1V, and Frank, KL7FH, who last operated from this island. Frank and I chatted about the best spots in the island for operating and our jobs. By now I had already experienced two different weather fronts with 10 foot swells and high winds off the Bering Sea. What a wild afternoon of DX and weather! Battered by wind-driven waves and blowing snow, an icy-white mantle encased the high cliffs of Alaid Island across the bay from me. Last in the log were VE7SMP, HL5BLI, LU7DWF, DS1PCF, WA7TRC and AA7CQ.

Closing up Shop

Years ago, Shemya AFB ARC station KL7FBI was quite active out here on The Rock. John is the trustee for KL7FBI and I even have their QSL from a 1994 contact. I also have Frank's KL7FH QSL from out here in 1997. I was honored to add KL7JR to the operator list at Shemya. With my month-long tour up, I was both happy and sad to leave. Stepping back in time on Shemya Island allowed me a rare opportunity to experience World War II history, further strengthening my American pride.

I thoroughly enjoyed operating Amateur Radio from such a historic place. By sharing my adventure, it is my hope to give something back to our servicemen and servicewomen, past and present, who protect our freedom. Thank you for the privileges we all enjoy as Americans! I also dedicate this story to my departed friends Dan, KL7Y and John, KL7GNP.



One of the many rusting tower farms on Shemya Island. The sky bears witness to Bering Sea and Pacific Ocean storm fronts moving in.

John Reisenauer Jr., KL7JR



The sun rises in the southeast sky. Shemya enjoys as little as six hours of sunlight in the depths of winter.

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ARRL TO PROPOSE NEW ENTRY-LEVEL LICENSE, CODE-FREE HF ACCESS

The ARRL will ask the FCC to create a new entry-level Amateur Radio license that would grant HF phone privileges without a Morse code test. The League also will propose consolidating all current licensees into

three classes, retaining the Element 1 Morse requirement--now 5 WPM-only for the highest class. The ARRL Board of Directors overwhelmingly approved the plan January 16 during its Annual Meeting in Windsor, Connecticut. The proposals, put forth by the ARRL Executive Committee, were in response to changes made in Article 25 of the international Radio Regulations at World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03).

"Change in the Amateur Radio Service in the US, especially license requirements and even more so when Morse is involved, has always been emotional," said ARRL First Vice President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, in presenting the Executive Committee's recommendations. "In fact, without a doubt, Morse is Amateur Radio's 'religious debate.'" Harrison said the League's proposal would provide "a true entry-level license with HF privileges" to promote growth in the Amateur Service.

The League says its proposal would continue a process of streamlining the amateur licensing structure that the FCC began more than five years ago but left unfinished in its Amateur Service license restructuring Report and Order (WT 98-143) that went into effect April 15, 2000.

A new entry-level license class--being called "Novice" for now--would require a 25-question written exam. It would offer limited HF CW/data and phone/image privileges on 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters as well as VHF and UHF privileges on 6 and 2 meters and on 222-225 and 430-450 MHz. Power output would be restricted to 100 W on 80, 40, and 15 meters and to

50 W on 10 meters and up.

"The Board sought to achieve balance in giving new Novice licensees the opportunity to sample a wider range of Amateur Radio activity than is available to current Technicians while retaining a motivation to upgrade," said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ. The ARRL plan would grandfather current Novice licensees into the new entry-level class without further testing.

The middle group of licensees--Technician, Tech Plus (Technician with Element 1 credit) and General--would be merged into a new General license that also would not require a Morse examination. Current Technician and Tech Plus license holders automatically would gain current General class privileges without additional testing. The current Element 3 General examination would remain in place for new applicants.

The Board indicated that it saw no compelling reason to change the Amateur Extra class license requirements. The ARRL plan calls on the FCC to combine the current Advanced and Amateur Extra class licensees into Amateur Extra, because the technical level of the exams passed by these licensees is very similar. New applicants for Extra would have to pass a 5 WPM Morse code examination, and the written exam would stay the same. Sumner said the Board felt that the highest level of accomplishment should include basic Morse capability. Current Novice, Tech Plus and General licensees would receive lifetime 5 WPM Morse credit.

Among other advantages, Sumner said the plan would allow new Novices to participate in HF SSB emergency nets on 75 and 40 meters as well as on the top 100 kHz of 15 meters. The new license also could get another name, Sumner said. "We're trying to recapture the magic of the old Novice license, but in a manner that's appropriate for the 21st century."

The overall proposed ARRL license restructuring plan would more smoothly integrate HF spectrum privileges across the three license classes and would incorporate the "Novice reformatting" plan the League put forth nearly two years ago in a Petition for Rule Making (RM-10413). The FCC has not yet acted on the ARRL plan, which would alter current HF subbands.

The ARRL license restructuring design calls for no changes in privileges for Extra and General class licensees on 160, 60, 30, 20, 17 or 12 meters. Novice licensees would have no access to those bands.

See "ARRL to Propose New Entry-Level License, Code-Free HF Access" on the ARRL Web site, <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2004/01/19/1/>, for the specific subband allocations ARRL is proposing for each class.

The amateur community and other interested parties will have an opportunity to comment on the ARRL proposal once the League formally files a Petition for Rule Making and the FCC puts it on public notice.

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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.

QRP Notes

by Lynn Hammond, KL7IKV.

A Different Approach

Since the first of the year I have chiefly been operating with the Elecraft K1. I would certainly commend this little gem to anyone who wants to really experience QRP with minimal outlay in bucks, and/or is not too sure of his/her construction skills. This CW rig comes in two and four band versions and goes together quite easily, thanks to its unbelievably clear instructions. Crystal filters, a solid receiver, a menu that is mostly "set and forget", very low receive current drain, RIT, XIT and built in keyer all combine to make this CW rig a lot of fun.

How does the K1 fit in the picture for me? Well, I like very small rigs! I built the K1 in 2001 just after I got an FT817. How do they compare? I would say the receivers are quite comparable. The energy efficiency of the K1 makes it a good choice if you plan to operate away from the AC mains for any length of time. The 817 will go for about four hours of casual operating on eight good internal AA cells. The K1 purportedly will go for twice that or more. On the other hand the 817's DC to light, all mode versatility and somewhat smaller size makes it ideal for road trips. The K2, of course, makes a superb station rig.

Conditions have been poor for what seems to be months. In spite of that, I have put DX in the log just about every time it could be heard; most was in the South Pacific, but I did work into Europe.

I also played in the "Freeze your buns off" (FYBO) contest in February using the K1 This QRP event emphasizes outdoor operation; the lower the temperature at your operating position, the more multiplier points you get! However this event is sponsored by some guys in Arizona who must have a perverse sense of humor; it was in the 50's at their sites. Maybe they should call it "Freeze Everyone Else"!!! I operated indoors - at a temperature considerably closer to their outdoor temp.

For the most part I operated the contest intermittently, and used "search and pounce" strategy, moving around within three kilohertz of the QRP frequencies on 20 and 15. Conditions, as usual, seemed poor, but I could work most everyone I heard. Ten stations in the log seemed good enough for me, especially given the Chugach Mountains 20db attenuator to the east! Near the end of the contest, JR0BAQ called me; at first I lost him, but we "connected" for my last QSO of the contest; that was a nice surprise.

The bottom line? This rig might be an ideal rig for those who wish to give QRP a real try. Less is more.

AFTERWORD

This past weekend, I was back on the K2 trolling around on 17 meter SSB. I stumbled on a couple of guys toting FT817's in backpacks, hiking in the San Francisco Bay area. They were basically using whip antennas. It was an easy QSO with one, but the other was rough. Apparently one guy was in a good spot, and the other was not, since the first kept saying "location, location, location". But they were obviously having a blast working stations around the country. Try that with a Mark V! Another thing to do with QRP!

KL7IKV

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Letter to the Editor

by Dan O'Barr, KL7DR

Repeaters seem to be the hot topic right now in this area. I wish I could write down all that I'd like to say about Amateur Radio Repeaters; I just don't have the time right now. However, I must respond to two articles that were in the February 2004 issue of the AARC newsletter on the subject and once again I find that my opinions are extremely different than those of the good folks of Los Anchorage. What I am going to address here are mostly the opinions I have that may be a little different than theirs, not necessarily opposite.

Before I go any farther, let me state yet another philosophy of mine. It's one that the Founding Fathers of this great nation believed to be very important. It is attributed to Voltaire, "I may disagree with what you have to say, but I shall defend to the death your right to say it." Well all right, I may not be quite that valiant, but I do value and respect the opinions of others, and expect that same respect be given back to me. So please remember, "This is just my opinion, and you are welcome to disagree."

There is one thing in Ham Radio that has really disappointed me, and that is Anchorage's Thought Police. There is a real effort by some there to push their opinions on others. They come across as though their opinions are law, and then proceed to severely chastise you over the air or at a public meeting-bullying and belittling you if you disagree with them. Come on folks, this is a hobby. It's supposed to be fun, and we should encourage and help one another. Let's act like intelligent, informative, and nice adults, not schoolyard bullies.

I want to publicly state: "Any repeater, with or without an auto-patch, or any stand alone radio-to-phone-patch that I have anything to do with on an amateur frequency, will always be open to all licensed amateur radio operators in the area who are authorized to operate on the frequencies that these machines are on." You will always be welcome to talk about politics, religion, or anything else that is legal, that you are interested in, and are willing to share with others. Please be adult about it and don't get upset about someone

else's opinion, and please no preaching, condemning, chastising, belittling, or threatening over the air. Use the telephone if you want to engage in these types of activities, OK! So go ahead and use our Valley auto-patches to order pizza, call a tow truck, call the phone company to find out why your phone isn't working, or call the garage to see if your car is ready to be picked up; it's legal and accepted out here.

I hope you understand that you and I, as licensed radio amateurs, users of amateur frequencies and repeaters, have tremendous freedoms in the USA as to what we can transmit over the air. There are only a few things the FCC wants us to keep off the air, and they are: profanity, playing music and broadcasting for entertainment, and conducting business where you make money for yourself or your boss.

For a more **in depth version of my opinions** about Amateur Radio Repeaters and answers to these questions; What is a squelch tail? Why do we have them? Do I have to wait for the squelch tail to quit before I transmit? When is a link to a repeater not a link? Why do I have to have a tone on my transmitter? And much more go to:

<http://gahleos.obarr.net/messages/opinion.html>

Take care & 73,
Dan O'Barr, KL7DR
President of MARA inc. <http://www.KL7JFU.com>

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Basic Electrical Theory (British Version) "A Treatise on the Importance of Smoke" by Joseph Lucas

All electrical components and wiring harnesses depend on proper circuit functioning, which is the transmission of charged ions by retention of the visible spectral manifestation known as "smoke." Smoke is the thing that makes electrical circuits work. Don't be fooled by scientists and engineers talking about excited electrons and the like. Smoke is the key to all things electrical.

We know this to be true because every time one lets the smoke out of an electrical circuit, it stops working. This can be verified repeatedly through empirical testing. For example, if one places a large copper bar across the terminals of a battery, prodigious quantities of smoke are liberated and the battery shortly ceases to function. In addition, if one observes smoke escaping from an electrical component such as a Lucas voltage regulator, it will also be observed that the component no longer functions.

The logic is elementary and inescapable! The function of the wiring harness is to conduct the smoke from one device to another. When the wiring harness springs a leak and lets all the smoke out of the system, nothing works right afterward.

Starter motors were considered unsuitable for British motorcycles for some time largely because they regularly released large quantities of smoke from the electrical system.

It has been reported that Lucas electrical components are possibly more prone to electrical leakage than their Bosch, Japanese or American counterparts. Experts point out that this is because Lucas is British, and all things British leak. British engines leak oil, British shock absorbers, hydraulic forks, and disk brake systems leak fluid, British tires leak air and British Intelligence leaks national defense secrets.

Therefore, it follows that British electrical systems must leak smoke. Once again, the logic is clear and inescapable.

Sometimes you may miss the component releasing the smoke that makes your electrical system function correctly, but if you sniff around you can often find the faulty component by the undeniable and telltale smoke smell. Sometimes this is a better indicator than standard electrical tests performed with a volt-ohm meter.

In conclusion, the basic concept of transmission of electrical energy in the form of smoke provides a clear and logical explanation of the mysteries of electrical components and why they fail.

"A gentleman does not motor about after dark."
- Joseph Lucas, 1842 - 1903

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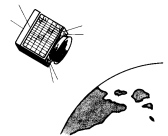
Low Earth Orbit (LEO) Net

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.

If you hear someone on the 90/30 machine, on weekdays between 9 and 10am, looking for the ole gang that likes to solve all your problems, (It's a MAN thing) kindly inform them the 9 AM LEO Road and Weather Group is now hanging out on the 147.27.

Thank you,
The Gahleo Group Moderator
Dan O'Barr, KL7DR
Wasilla, AK
KL7DR@ARRL.net



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Rules for KL7ION – 147.30 Repeater

(Polar Amateur Radio Klub of Alaska)

Lillian Marvin NL7DL

Trustee, KL7ION repeater

For the second time within the last several months, the KL7ION repeater has been linked to other repeaters outside the Anchorage bowl. The first time was during a Thursday evening PARKA net, when the KL7ION repeater was linked to a repeater in Kodiak. The second time was a few weeks ago, when the KL7ION repeater was linked to a repeater in southern Arizona.

The PARKA (Polar Amateur Radio Klub of Alaska) club callsign identifies the KL7ION repeater. This is the cw signal IDer that you hear on the repeater every ten minutes, and which allows the repeater to be legally on the air. The PARKAs are the control operators of this repeater and I am the FCC-licensed trustee of this repeater.

The FCC requires that, for a repeater to be in operation, somebody must be responsible for all communications that pass through that repeater. This includes all communications passing through that repeater that are the result of being linked to other repeaters. If a person in southern California decides to use foul language on their repeater, and their repeater is linked to the KL7ION repeater, PARKAs and the trustee of the KL7ION repeater could be held responsible for the foul-language communications, even though they originated from another repeater in an area outside of the Anchorage area.

Because of the responsibility involved, the FCC allows the control operators and the trustee of a repeater to have a final say on what they will and will not allow on their repeaters, as long as they are in compliance with FCC rules and regulations. This means that they can be more strict than the FCC regulations, as long as they are not looser than the FCC regulations. The control operators and trustee also get to decide if they will allow such things as linkage to other repeaters, packet operations, etc.

The PARKAs have therefore set forth the following rules for the operation of the KL7ION repeater:

- PARKAs does not allow any linking of the KL7ION repeater to any other repeaters.
- There will be no packet operations allowed on the KL7ION repeater. Save your packet operations for frequencies generally allotted for packet operations.
- PARKAs will allow communications for special events operations provided that the trustee is notified in writing at least 4 or 5 days in advance of the event. The written notification must include the following:
 1. The name of the event.
 2. Date/s and time/s of the event.
 3. Name and title of the person in charge of communications for the event.
 4. Phone number and/or frequency where said person can be reached before and during the event.

We ask this so that no two events try to use the repeater on the same day at the same time. Regular station-to-station communications on the repeater (no links, etc.) are allowed, but all stations using the KL7ION repeater will be expected to obey all FCC rules and regulations when using the repeater.

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N2CQ QRP CONTEST CALENDAR

March 2004

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40 METER FOXHUNT - Wednesday 0200z to 0400z (Tue eve USA) Info: <http://www.cqc.org> (Ends Mar 10)

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Truffle Hunt - 30 min before Fox Hunt

Info: http://fpqrp.com/pig_hunt.html

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Adventure Radio Society - Spartan Sprint (CW) ... QRP Contest!

Mar 2, 0200z to 0400z (Monday evening in US/Canada)

Rules: <http://www.arsqrp.com/>

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ARRL International DX Contest (SSB) ... QRP Category

Mar 6, 0000z to Mar 7, 2400z

Rules: <http://www.arrl.org/contests/calendar.html?year=2004>

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Pesky Texan Armadillo Chase (cw) ... QRP Contest!

Mar 11, 0200z to 0400z

Rules: <http://www.w5nc.org/ptac/default.htm>

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AGCW QRP Contest (CW) ... QRP/QRPP Category

Mar 13, 1400z to 2000z

Rules: <http://www.agcw.de>

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Elecrafft QSO Party (CW/SSB) ...QRP Category

Mar 13, 1500z to Mar 14, 1500z

Rules: <http://www.elecrafft.com>

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Second Class Operator's Club Marathon Sprint (CW) .. QRP Contest! Mar 13, 1800z to 2400z

Rules: <http://www.qsl.net/soc/contests.htm>

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Spring QRP Homebrewer Sprint (CW/PSK31) ... QRP Contest!!!!

Mar 22, 0000z to 0400z (Sunday evening in US/Canada)

Rules: <http://www.njqrp.org/data/qrp-homebrewers-sprint.html>

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Run For The Bacon (CW) *** QRP Contest ***

Mar 22, 0100z to 0300z

Rules: <http://fpqrp.com>

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CQ World-Wide WPX Contest (SSB) ... QRP Category

Mar 27, 0000z to Mar 28, 2400z

Rules: <http://home.woh.rr.com/wpx/>

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Oklahoma QSO Party (CW/Digital/Phone) ... QRP Category

Mar 27, 1300z to Mar 28, 1300z

Rules: <http://www.qsl.net/okdxa/OKQP.htm>

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72 de

Ken Newman - N2CQ

[N2CQ@ARRL.NET](mailto:N2CQ@ARRL.NET)

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# I LOVE MY LOOP

by John Reisenauer, Jr., KL7JR

Much has been printed in QST over the years on loop antennas. Experimenting with wire antennas is a favorite pastime for me. I recently had great results with a delta loop on 10 meters and a rectangular loop on 20 meters (50+ countries in 3 weeks of casual operating!) that I decided to take the plunge and put up a 80 meter full-wave horizontal loop which would allow operation on all HF bands. After gleaning all the info in the articles referenced below, and adding my own twist, the antenna would either work or be a "cloud-burner". I am happy to say this simple antenna far exceeded my expectations! What I found to be so appealing about this antenna was that it was fairly economical and easy to build and install, works on all HF bands and requires no special feed networks, only a transmatch, coax and some space!

## 80 METER HORIZONTAL SQUARE LOOP

Length of a full-wave 80-meter loop is about 270 feet long (1005 divided by frequency in MHz) or about 67 feet per side. I use "about" because exact numbers are not that critical according to my results. In my opinion, when constructing antennas, not only is the old saying "the higher the better" true, but also "the longer the wire the better" may also fit some loops. Since I live on 10 acres in the country, I decided to make my horizontal loop longer to start with to better fit my backyard. So, my "longer" loop is about 1.25 wavelengths on 80 meters (2.5 on 40m, 5 on 20m and 10 on 10m) and is installed between 30 to 40 feet in the air. Scaled-down versions, say 75% of a wavelength may also work fine if you don't have the room for a full-wave or longer antenna. According to antenna experts, a circular loop is "ideal", but impractical for most hams. I found a square or even a rectangular loop is easier on the pocketbook and muscles to put up and would provide about the same results. To support my loop made from salvaged telegraph line wire from the Yukon Territory (just think about the stories this wire has already told!) I used my 50-foot tall tower and three masts, each 35 to 40 feet long, made from 2 inch galvanized water pipe. Each support is "supported" by one 1/4 inch diameter steel guy wire attached by a u-bolt in the opposite direction of the wires "pull" and a small pulley with 3/8-inch diameter rope for hoisting up the wire to the top of masts (Figure A).

The telegraph wire is #6 AWG copper-clad steel and not all that easy to work with, but the price was right. For the feedpoint connection I used a 1-1/2" PVC pipe T terminating the antenna wires to a 1/4" eye bolt as used on some commercially made baluns. RG 213 coax (chosen for strength, durability and because I may use an amp) terminates on the eyebolt nuts with two flat washers. The coax is taped to a ten-inch long bottom extension of the PVC T to remove strain on the hanging coax. Silicon caulk was then applied to the connections for weatherproofing.



Figure A: Detail of a Mast Support

For antenna insulators, I used porcelain electric fence insulators. Once the support masts complete with guy wires and pulleys are installed, raising the wire becomes a one-man operation. On my tower I installed a six-foot long 4x4 painted wood post hanging off near the top of tower for one of the four required supports (Figure B). On the post end that is further away from the tower I used an electric service entrance insulator fastened by u-bolt to "float" (ref. ARRL Antenna Book page 5-17) the antenna wire as with the other three supports. I wasn't sure if all "floaters" would actually allow the wire to float, but they did quite easily. The wire antenna and feedline connections were made up on the ground then hoisted up each mast one-by-one with the rope and pulley. Once the wire was in the air and about a foot or two away from the masts, I merely tied off the rope to whatever was handy (i.e.- nearby barn roof, tree etc.). I only had to take up a bit more slack from one pulley (the wire pulls through all the pulleys) for final wire sag adjustments. Since my wire was very heavy duty, I could pull it tight. Your sag will depend on the type and size of wire used. Smaller gauge wires will break if pulled too tight or used on long spans- just ask me! My loop is fed about mid-span and the coax drops 30 feet straight down in to my shack.



Figure B: Detail of the Tower Support

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

During the first 3 months of use (October through December) 75% of my QSOs on 10 and 20 meters were either 5x7 or 5x9 reports "both ways". About 75% of them being with stations outside North America \*(about 10% were 5x9 +20!), and about 20% of the total Qs were 5x5 to 5x1 quality "both ways". For those doing the math, call the remaining 5% split equally either 3x3 signals or simply "no contact at all" (you can't work them all!). Also, my log indicates "sent" report was the same as "received" most of the time. I even broke several big pileups on the first or second call. Directivity? Well, the loop seemed to work just fine equally in all directions (I'm still scratching my head!). That's what I really like about this loop! Gain, you ask? Well, some depending on your choice of feedline and how high you install your antenna. L.B. Cebik W4RNL goes in to a lot of detail on gain (see #4) in his article so I won't get in to that here. Although I have mostly tried this antenna on 10 and 20 meters, I was also pleased with a weekend of experimenting on 15 and 17 meters. DX worked on 15 meters: KL7, HL5, JR1, KH0, RV9 and BD4. DX worked on 17 meters was KL7 and OH1. Many Ws and VEs were also worked on 15 and 17 meters. Both bands produced about the same results on signals mentioned above over the two-day period of tests. I am confident this antenna will produce good results on 40 and 80 meters as well. I know it tunes 40 and 80 meters quite fast! To give a better perspective on this versatile antenna, on December 29, 2001, I worked my buddy Rick KL7AK back-to-back on 15, 17, 12 and 40 meters! On 15 and 17 meters we both exchanged 59 +20 reports, on 12 and 40 meters we were up to 55 quality. Not bad for a piece of wire, eh?

I did learn however, both 300 watt manual tuners (MFJ and Vectronics) I used took some time to tune the loop, with a couple bands requiring a lot of patience! I did not try the auto-tuner on my TS-570D since my Tucker 1.5 kW tuner easily handled the job quite fast on all bands 80-10 meters. My tribander will remain stored in my garage as I work on a new loop design around 1200 feet long supported off of 60 foot tall power poles (but that's another article!)- when I tire of this antenna that is! I highly recommend this antenna. Good luck with your antenna experimenting! Any and all feedback is appreciated.

\*\*I worked all over the USA and Canada, including: KL7, KH6, JY4, V47, KH0, WP2, WP3, HP1, FO, PA2, 8R1, DS3, G3, LU1, ON7, JA (all), DU1, I2, ES1, UA9 and UA6 to name a few!

## References:

1. "The Loop Skywire", by W0MHS, QST Nov. 1985, page 20 and ARRL Antenna Book 16th edition, pages 5-16.
2. "The Droopy Loop" by KJ7MZ, QST July 1996, page 57
3. "Loop Antennas", ARRL Antenna Book, 16th edition, pages 5-1
4. "HO-HO-HOHPLs" by W4RNL ([www.cebik.com/at11.html](http://www.cebik.com/at11.html))

(Note: #1 is available to download from ARRL website, do "search" for "constructing loop antennas".

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## ARES Contact Information

District Emergency Coordinator:

Phil Mannie, KL0QW

Contact via Pager: 268-7609

Email via [kl0qw@alaska.net](mailto:kl0qw@alaska.net)

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

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

## Notes from ARES SEC

The Fairbanks Club is in the midst of running the communications for the International Yukon Quest which began Feb 14. There have been a number of problems with teams, injuries, and the cold. We have had the best conditions for crossing both Eagle Summit and King Solomon's Dome which tops out at 3800ft. At this writing we are in day 5 of the race. The week previous to the start of the Yukon Quest, we ran the comms for the Junior Yukon Quest, a 2 day race of 120 miles.

We continue to have amateurs within the state taking the ARRL Emergency Communications Course (ECC). The grant is still available to cover your costs for taking the course. As of January, the courses are required for ARES members and staff within the Alaska Section. The other training requirements are a working ability of NTS and the Incident Command System. FEMA offers a free on-line course on the ICS on their website. A big congratulations to **Jim Larsen, AL7FS**, who just completed Level III of the ARRL ECC.

The Fairbanks Hamfest has been scheduled for Sept 4 at Pioneer Park with a picnic on the grounds and bunny hunt.

We have a few changes in staff. **Nick Meecher, N3WWE**, has moved to PA to be with his family. In his place as EC of Juneau is **Joel Gilbert, KL1EF**. I hope everyone will make him feel supported and welcome.

--

**Linda Mullen, AD4BL**

ALASKA SEC STM

[ad4bl@mosquitonet.com](mailto:ad4bl@mosquitonet.com)

Fairbanks, Alaska



## A Bright Idea for Wrestling With SWR in the Field

By Richard Fisher, nu6SN

*The Sojourner* The LED-based standing wave ratio (SWR) bridge popularized

recently by Dan Tayloe, N7VE, and modified by Charles Lofgren, W6JJZ, continues to get quizzical looks and questions, it seems, wherever it is shown or mentioned.

A recent reference in *The ARS Sojourner* and the *Worldradio QRP* column brought several letters asking for details about the circuit -- how it is built and how it works.

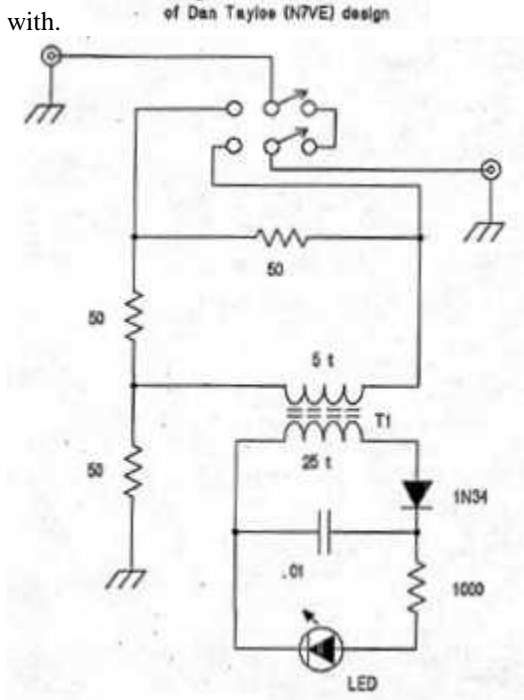
The short answers are: Easily and great!

What makes this circuit so popular among QRPers is its amazing sensitivity at low power output levels. When put in line with an antenna tuning unit, the bridge can accurately indicate reflected power into the microwatt region.

For low power enthusiasts, that's important. Operators out in the field have used this SWR indicator to help them get the very most out of the system and terrain they're dealing

T1 -- 5 turn primary, 25 turn secondary,  
on FT-37-61 or FT-50-61 core  
#28 enameled wire  
  
LED -- clear lens (non-diffused), red,  
20 ma. (RS # 276-302, wide angle,  
or RS #276-307 or #276-066 will do.  
Others, too, but avoid #276-045.)

W6JJZ, 10/23/97, SWR Indicator  
Using LED. Modification  
of Dan Tayloe (N7VE) design



The accompanying [SCHEMATIC](#) shows how basic the LED-based resistive bridge is: three 50-ohm resistance legs in the circuit are combined with the antenna system, which electrically constitutes the fourth 50-ohm leg. If the antenna is not 50-ohms, that's where the antenna tuning unit (transmatch, for example) comes to the rescue.

When the antenna is out of tune, the LED glows brightly. When the antenna is tuned to 50-ohms, all four legs are equal, and current nulls across the sensing unit. The LED goes out.

A double-pole, double-throw toggle switch places the unit in or out of line. This is important, because the circuit introduces significant loss, and is therefore only used during tune-up.

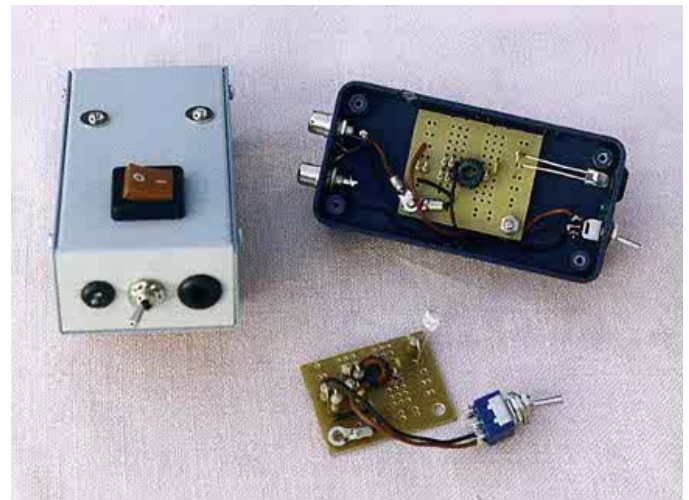
Two 100-ohm resistors are put in parallel to form each of the unit's three 50-ohm legs. A toroid with 5-turn primary and 25-turn secondary creates the path to the LED sensing unit. A germanium diode, 1,000-ohm resistor, .01 disc ceramic capacitor and LED available from Radio Shack complete the circuit.

At nu6SN, a garden variety Radio Shack experimenter's printed circuit board was used to mount the parts -- negating the need to use "ugly construction" or to etch a board specifically for the project.

Here's a complete list of parts, with their quantities listed in parenthesis:

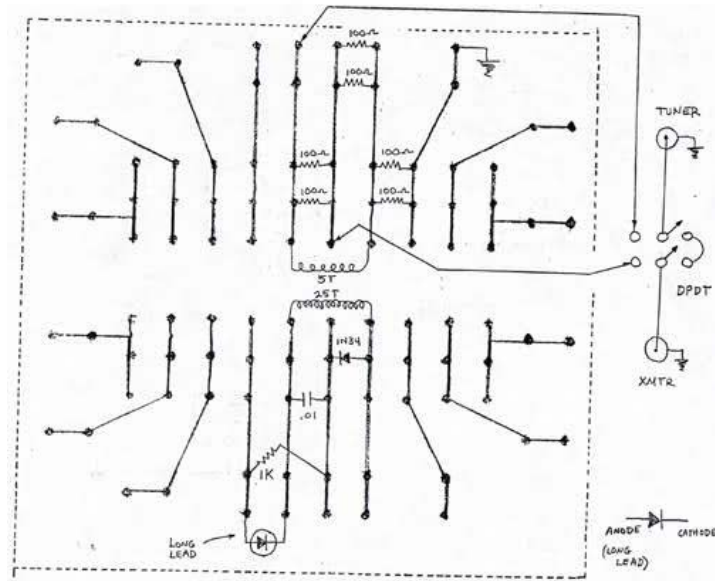
(6) 100-ohm 1/2 watt or larger resistors (brown, black, brown)  
(1) 1,000-ohm resistor (brown, black, red) (1) 1N34A germanium diode (1) .01 disc ceramic capacitor (1) FT-37-61 or FT-50-61 toroid (1) DPDT toggle switch (1) clear lens 20 milliamper LED (Radio Shack part No. 276-307, 276-309 or 276-066) (1) experimenter's prototype printed circuit board (Radio Shack part No. 276-159a)

While the LED glows very brightly when there is a mismatch, I was afraid that under brilliant sun in the field it might be a bit challenging to "read." So in the units here, I opted to recess the LED bulb inside the enclosure. A peep hole drilled in the side of the chassis allows the operator to see the LED in virtual darkness -allowing for the finest of tuning to put the LED out.



The accompanying [PHOTOGRAPH](#) shows the bare-bones unit without enclosure flanked by a basic version in a plastic box from Radio Shack, right, and a deluxe version with switchable LEDs -- one protruding through the front of the chassis, and another recessed inside the enclosure. I can switch between the LEDs depending on the lighting conditions that exist while I'm tuning for lowest SWR. If it's bright outside, I use the recessed LED. If it's dark outside, the LED protruding through the front panel works just fine.

The schematic shows the fundamentals of the circuit. [A HAND DRAWN PARTS DIAGRAM](#) shows the component layout on the Radio Shack experimenter's board. (Note: The drawing is viewed from the component side of the pc board.)



There is nothing very critical about the parts layout, and ugly construction or etching your own PC board are certainly options to consider if you don't want to use the Radio Shack experimenter's board.

**OPERATION:** When you've completed construction, connect the LED SWR Bridge between your transceiver and antenna tuning unit (transmatch). Toggle the bridge's switch to put the unit in line. Next adjust your transmatch for greatest band noise. Then key down your transceiver. Chances are, the LED will glow brightly. Carefully adjust the transmatch to progressively make the LED grow dimmer and dimmer. When the LED is complete out, you've got a matched antenna system.

Some operators have reported that their LED SWR Bridge is so sensitive, it refuses to go out on some bands. In that case, just tune for the dimmest LED reading. Chances are good that you're dealing less with an antenna mismatch, and more with some stray RF.

Also, some users have noted that the LED glows occasionally even when the bridge is switched out of line. This is not a problem, however. Consider it an output indicator in that configuration. It's certainly not doing any harm.

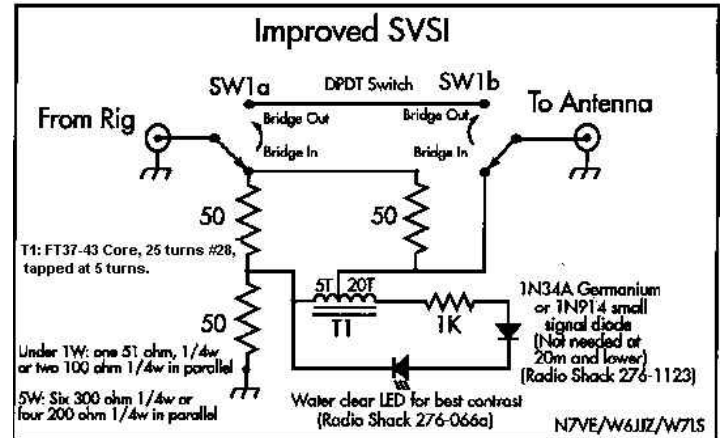
In any event, the LED-based resistive SWR bridge is a bright

idea for operators heading into the field.

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From *The Sojourner* Volume 1, No. 5 September, 1998 used with permission  
Richard Fisher, nu6SN, executive editor of The ARS Sojourner, is an avid QRPer, builder and experimenter living in Riverside, CA.

Editor's note:



Charlie, W6JJZ, found that the capacitance of the LED affected the frequency response of the bridge at 15 and 10m. Through experimentation, he found that this capacitance varied widely with different types of LEDs. The use of an additional small signal diode cured this problem. He used a 1N34a germanium diode, but a simple 1N914 should work well also, with a slight loss of detector sensitivity.

With a 5:1 turns ratio and a 1N914 diode, the effective minimum detection voltage will be  $(1.7 + 0.6)/5$  or about 0.46v. I think this minimum detection voltage would correspond to a reflected power of  $(2 * 0.46)^2 / 100$  or 8 mw. I am not sure of this calculation, but it corresponds well with the 5 mw someone on the net measure.

If you are using the circuit at 20m and below, the additional diode is not necessary. Just enjoy the additional sensitivity.

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### Anchorage Amateur Radio Club Board Meeting February 17, 2004 - (Unapproved)

The AARC Board met Tuesday, February 17, 2004 at Hope Community Resources Administrative Building, 540 West International Airport Road. In attendance were President Jim Larsen, AL7FS, Vice President Randy Vallee, KL7Z, Secretary Philip Mannie, KL0QW and Treasurer Steve Jensen, KL0VZ. Also in attendance were Directors Jim Wiley, KL7CC, Mike O'Keefe, KL7MD, George Wilkinson, KL1JJ, Pat Wilke, WL7JA and Jim Tvrdy, KL7CDG. Heather Hasper, KL7SP was also present.

A quorum being present, President Jim Larsen called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

## Reports

### Secretary

The minutes from the January 20, 2004 Board meeting were accepted as amended.

### Treasurer

Steve Jensen submitted a written report and mentioned that gaming revenue for January in the amount of \$9,100 had been deposited and that the Club had been notified that the annual auto insurance premium for the CCV might increase more than 10%.

### Gaming

There was no formal report.

### Club House

Mike O'Keefe reported that there was no new information. Some utilization issues remain to be resolved; Jim Wiley is working on them. A tour for those Board members who have not yet inspected the property is tentatively scheduled for Thursday afternoon, February 19.

### ARES

Philip Mannie briefly reported on February ARES activities. Red Cross First Aid training for ARES and AARC members is scheduled for Saturday March 20, 2004. The cost will be \$27 per person. Contact Heather Hasper or Philip Mannie for reservations.

### VEC

Jim Wiley reported that the program was operating normally. He is seeking a volunteer to work on the remote testing software project.

### Membership

There was no formal report.

### VHF

There was no formal report.

### CCV and Portable Equipment

Philip Mannie reported that the leveling jacks and rear camera had been installed in the CCV. The surge brakes have been installed on the trailer and the fuel tank is being investigated for possible replacement.

### Old Business

#### Corporate Documents Revision

Jim Larsen reported that the final corrections from the Board review are in progress and that the newly revised documents can then be sent to the attorney for legal review.

### Field Day

Philip Mannie reported that ARES would coordinate 2004 Field Day activities.

### ARRL Convention

Jim Larsen reported that volunteers are being sought as organizers for the event and that necessary forms were already

overdue. Jim Wiley mentioned that speaker invitations should also be made as soon as possible.

### Club Phone

The Club phone line and message machine are now working. Jim Wiley reported receiving a few calls.

### Credit Cards

Steve Jensen reported that he has received Tesoro credit cards with a \$300 monthly limit. ARES was directed to formulate procedures for use and control of the cards to be presented to the Board in March.

### Committees

Jim Larsen appointed Philip Mannie head a CCV Maintenance and Operation committee as ARES DEC, which has been designated as primary user of the CCV. He went on to mention that the RFI committee needs to be reconstituted and appointed a committee composed of Jim Wiley, Randy Vallee, Mike O'Keefe and Philip Mannie to propose a technical committee structure to the Board in March. Jim also reported that an electronic mail list was planned to assist in elmer and volunteer coordination.

### AARC Patches

Heather Hasper reported that the AARC patches are ready. A motion to make a patch available gratis to new members and available for sale at \$5.00 was approved with one opposing vote.

### State Fair

George Wilkinson reported that the tent has been ordered and that when delivered, floor and electrical connections are to be fabricated. He went on to say that we are first on the new fair vendor list and are expected to get a spot.

### New Business

#### Software

Heather Hasper reported that new MoA GIS data was available; the matter was turned over to ARES. She also mentioned that NLSA was willing to donate a copy of the Nova satellite antenna control software to the Club upon application to NLSA.

### Directorship Vacancy

Kyle Sandel, AL7J, has resigned from the Board due to a work related relocation. Jim Larsen requested candidates for the position be nominated to the Board for recommendation to the membership in March.

### Unplanned Expenses

The Board discussed strategies for dealing with unplanned expenses. No actions were taken.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Philip Mannie, Secretary.



## Ham Data You Can Use:

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**President**  
**Vice President**  
**Secretary**  
**Treasurer**  
**Trustee**  
**Activities Chairman**  
**News Letter Editor**  
**Membership Chairman**  
**Past-President**

### Officers

Jim Larsen, AL7FS  
Randy Vallee, KL7Z  
Phil Mannie, KLØQW  
Steve Jensen, KLØVZ  
Jim Feaster, KL7KB  
Craig Bledsoe, KL4E  
Jim Larsen, AL7FS  
Fred Erickson KL7FE  
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### 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](mailto: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

### **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

### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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

**1<sup>st</sup> 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. **NO general meeting in Dec.**

**1<sup>st</sup> 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.

**1<sup>st</sup> 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.

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

**2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

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

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

**3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday each month: ARES General meeting 9:30AM to 12:00 PM.** Call Phil Mannie ([kl0qw@alaska.net](mailto: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, [lclbak@yahoo.com](mailto:lclbak@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](mailto: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

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

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**KL7IKV – Elecraft K1 and Yaesu FT-817 QRP Rigs (<http://www.elecraft.com>)**