

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club

Newsletter



The next General meeting is
October 4, 2018
Radio Science and Operations
Center (RSOC) Building - 7:00pm
6721 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, AK



October 4th, 2018 General Meeting

By Dave, N9AIG

“Projects and a sincere thank-you” will be the subject of discussion. The picture on the front page indicating a lift to erect antennas was made possible through donations from our membership to rent a lift and install our Steppir antenna, a UHF/VHF log periodic antenna (thanks T.J.), and a vertical antenna (donated). This project would not have been possible without donations. Thank you! Attend the meeting and learn about other projects that have been completed or are currently underway.

By Mathew Notte, WL4DX

The tech talk will be about DMR (Digital Mobile Radio).

Completed Local Event Communications

By Dave, N9AIG

A sincere thank you to everyone who helped with the **Wild Land Fire mitigation Project with Team Rubicon**. A special thank you goes to Keith Clark, KL7MM and T.J Sheffield, KL7TS who set up our UHF portable repeater. A hearty thank-you goes to the participants for making this event a success!

Here is the area in red that was cleared by Team Rubicon: (October 29th and 30th):

The Wild Land Fire Mitigation Project participants included: Lara Baker, AL2R, George Wilkinson II, KL1JJ, Matt Ostrander, KL4QH, Walter Yankaukas, KL7WY, Dave Webb, N9AIG, Allen Abbott, KB1QCE, T.J. Sheffield, KL7TS, Keith Clark, KL7MM, Dave Bruchie, WL7FM, and Brandon Clark, KL7BSC. The weather both days was excellent.



I was really impressed with the warm welcome we received from Team Rubicon members. I was also impressed with their camaraderie. This was apparent as we were invited to their breakfast, lunch and dinner. We were treated as one of their team.

The photographers were out in force for The Wild Land Fire Mitigation Project. (October 29th & 30th). Thank you everyone for sending these photos to the editor.



photo by Dave, N9AIG



photos by Keith, KL7MM

Dave, WL7FM (above three photos) was one hard-working volunteer. I had to call him out of the woods to come and eat lunch. Thank you Dave for all your hard work.

Wild Land Fire Mitigation Project Photos (continued)



Photos by T.J. KL7TS

Wild Land Fire Mitigation Project Photos (continued)



Photos by T.J. KL7TS above and Allen, KB1QCE below



New ARES EC for Search and Rescue Liaison Appointed

By [KENT PETTY](#), KL5T

Tom Plawman, KL4RQ, has been appointed as our new Anchorage area Emergency Coordinator (EC) for Search and Rescue Organization Liaison. Tom is a relatively new ham but he has already upgraded to General Class and has been very active in the club and engaged in our emcom effort since coming aboard. He is even spearheading an effort to install a mesh node at the joint SAR facility in Anchorage.



Tom has over 30 years of experience in the local volunteer wilderness SAR community. He is a member of the Alaska Incident Management Team for SAR, has taken ICS-100, 200, 300, 400, 430-440, 700, & 800, and has worked on numerous Type 3 IMTs, mostly in the Planning Section. He has extensive first responder medical training (EMT-1, WFR, and OEC), and extensive training in wilderness SAR (SARTECH 2, MLPI, Search Incident PSC, etc). He is a member of the Anchorage Nordic Ski Patrol, and is the current president of the Alaska Search and Rescue Association (ASARA).

Tom will be a great asset to our team and has some great ideas as to how we as hams might assist these various groups.

Thanks, Tom for stepping up!

I also can't miss this opportunity to ask our fellow Anchorage-area hams to please get involved and to join the ARES team. [Simply click here to register with Anchorage ARES to get involved](#), or, [click here to learn more about local ARES](#), and find out how you can best help the local ARES effort.

73, Kent Petty, KL5T
DEC, Anchorage

Homer License Testing Session Scheduled

By [KENT PETTY](#), KL5T

Ken Adams, AE7ES, advises that a license testing session is planned for Homer on October 4, 2018 from 5 pm – 8 pm. The session will take place at the Homer Public Library at 500 Hazel Avenue in the first classroom on the right when you enter the building.

Contact Ken for more info at 907.299.7336 or ae7es.sparc@gmail.com

[Click here to purchase a "seat"](#) for this testing session.

73, Kent Petty, KL5T
Chairman, Anchorage ARC VEC

A Really Big Day, Up and Away!

By [KENT PETTY](#), KL5T

Saturday was a busy, busy day at the RSOC. A dandy crew of folks got together to tune up our AB-105 tower with a proper accoutrement of antennas, from 20 meters through 1.2 GHz.

This was a challenging project in that the mast on that tower inherited from the FCC is really tall and had 4 old FCC monitoring antennas mounted on it (not sure of the frequency range). That mast is too tall to reach those upper antennas, and I just didn't have the gumption to try to shinny up that thing (I'm a big scaredy-cat), so we elected to rent a 65' aerial lift (thanks to all who contributed \$\$\$ for the rental at the club meeting Thursday!).



The aerial lift really did the trick. The rental company showed up on time with the rig, and after a quick check out, we got to work. We had a crew on the ground prepping a SteppIr HF Yagi, a Comet VHF/UHF Dual Band GP-9 Vertical, and a log periodic good for 6 meters through 1.2 GHz. While the ground crew was prepping, I attacked the antennas up on that mast and didn't have too difficult a time getting them down. The toughest part was digging into the industrial strength wrap/sealant over the connections to the hardline and

Heli ax feedlines to get them undone.

After the old antennas were removed, we started installing antennas from the top of the mast down. First was the Comet GP-9 on top. This went up without a hitch. Then came the log periodic which we mounted as vertically polarized, then finally the big gun, the SteppIr yagi went up; and yes, we added the extra 6-meter element.



As is typical on these adventures, nothing ever goes exactly as planned. Let's see, first was the boom to mast plate for the SteppIr it had to be re-drilled. Then there was a dropped nut and/or washer or two (look out below!). Then there was the bad jumper installed on the log periodic to connect to the Heli-ax. Then lastly was our inability to find the blasted hardline feeds in the basement of the RSOC that run up the tower. We ended up installing a new feedline to service the yagi. We'll find that darn hardline eventually.

A Really Big Day, Up and Away! (continued)

As everything went up, TJ, KL7TS, ran the antenna analyzer and set up the SteppIR control box. In the end, everything is working as it should and we finally have our HF yagi in service.

There were a lot of folks that helped out throughout the day, so I hope I don't miss anyone here. In addition to TJ and me, other members of the crew included:

Keith Clark, KL7MM
Mike O'Keefe, KL7MO
Dennis Stevens, WL7AQ
Walter Yankauskas, KL7WY
George Wilkinson, KL1JJ and son
Kevin Opalka, KL2NV



73, Kent, KL5T

The RSOC gets New Gutters

By Dave, N9AIG

The RSOC was in really bad shape when it came to roof drains. Some of last winters building leak problems were due to their disrepair. It might not seem like a big deal to get new gutters, but when we're talking about a significant investment in equipment, both purchased and donated, we had to get this important project completed prior to the snow flying. The next time you're at the RSOC; look up, you can now admire the new antennas and the roof drains. Thanks T.J. for the following photos and for managing the RSOC during the gutter installation.



The RSOC has New Gutters (continued)



The RSOC Open House

By Dave, N9AIG

The RSOC was in much better order on September 22, 2018 than our last open house. One of the main dignitaries attending was the president of the Fairbanks Amateur Radio Club, John Antonuk, AL7ID. He flew down for the day to see the RSOC and talk with some of our members. We also had one Ham from Virginia that was passing through and makes it a point to visit different clubs in his travels. All in all, it was a good day with some treats for those attending.

Photo by Keith, KL7MM



The Alder Elimination Project Continues

By Dave, N9AIG

T.J., KL7TS, Keith, KL7MM, and Dave, N9AIG took the opportunity on September 22nd during the open house to continue our quest to remove the alder stumps from around the pad mount transformers that service the RSOC. We utilized a new choker and clevis (donated by Dave, N9AIG) plus two log chains lent to the club by Kent, KL5T. The final piece of equipment was the club's F-350 4x4 with an 800 pound ballast in the back (diesel generator set).

Good progress was made, but we're still not 100% complete. We're going to need another day.



Photos by Keith, KL7MM



Job opening / Radio Fairbanks

By Ruthann Bledsoe and Craig Bledsoe, KL4E

Programming & installing 2 way & CB radios

Part time – \$20-\$30 / hour , wage DOE

Must be:

- local
- mechanically inclined
- have current driver's license
- installing experience
- computer experience
- experience working on vehicles
- be able to maneuver in and around trucks, heavy equipment
- have a basic background in electronics or electricity

High school degree or equivalent required.

We are open daytime hours M-F but evening work can be arranged.

Resume & work references required

RADIO FAIRBANKS 452-1049

1010 College Road

Tips for Radio Operators Living in Condos

By Justin Havre

Ask any amateur radio operator about their setup and you might be able to tell right away if they live in a condo or apartment. How? Because they'll likely preface their comments regarding their equipment by telling you about their restrictions.

"Well, I live in an apartment, so... [insert creative setup]"

For amateur radio operators living in condos and apartments, the thought of access to a free-standing property with tall trees and neighbors that aren't at arm's length is something to dream about. But life happens and perhaps [living in a condo](#) or apartment becomes necessary or preferable for any number of reasons.

For many operators, however, the place they live won't keep them from pursuing their hobby. Amateur radio operators are a creative and inquisitive lot, and most learn to make the best of their circumstances. This may include working with (or around) HOA rules, dealing with unfamiliar construction, utilizing limited space and taking in consideration of the electronics of close neighbors. Here are some tips for amateur radio operators living in condos.

Know the Rules (And How to Get Around Them)

Working within the rules of your condo homeowner's association or apartment starts by reading and understanding those rules. Do they ban outside antennas or place restrictions upon them? Some HOA's are more focused on TV antennas and satellite dishes than specifically ham radio antennas. You may discover some leeway.

Know the Lay of the Land

Take a complete inventory of what you have, and don't have, to work with. Is there a balcony or patio space? Does the condo have an upstairs crawlspace or attic? Are there large metal framed windows that can impede your efforts? Is there a tree right outside?

Become an Expert in Indoor Antennas

While an indoor antenna may not be one's first choice, there are plenty of other satisfying solutions available. However, you may need to become more of an expert on the subject. There are a number of online [tutorials on indoor antennas](#) that can help enhance your knowledge in maximizing your equipment.

Get Creative

Condo owners and renters [have been known to become very creative](#) in making indoor or even outdoor antennas. They have been known to attach curtain rods to ceilings, place a vertical in a potted plant or tripod or even build a PVC "flagpole" with a vertical inside. Can metal Slinkys help? There can be frustrations involved when living in a condo as an amateur radio operator but there is immense satisfaction in finding creative solutions.

Lower Expectations

The reality is amateur radio operators living in restrictive areas may have to lower their expectations somewhat. Rather than that 100w rig with an antenna strung between 100-foot oaks users may have to get the most from a 15 or 20-watt setup with a portable indoor antenna. Operators may also consider going portable or digital to enjoy the hobby. Don't confuse lowering expectations with not making the most of what's available, however. That after all it is part of the fun and challenge of being an amateur radio operator.

Join a Local Radio Club

[Local amateur radio clubs](#) are a terrific resource for those looking to build an antenna in restrictive environments. You may even connect with other operators in similar living environments. They might even be dealing with or have figured out ways around similar rules or restrictions. While the ability to reach out across the world is amazing, sometimes finding someone to talk to within a few square miles can be extremely helpful.

There are over 750,000 licensed [amateur radio operators in the United States](#) and an estimated 3 million worldwide. There are operators in mountainous areas and in valleys. They are operating in frigid temperatures and icy winds and in deserts and steamy jungles. Amateur radio operators are located in modern cities full of steel and concrete. Every single one has their own challenges and opportunities. Living in an apartment or condo shouldn't deter anyone from enjoying this fascinating and rewarding hobby.

A Hillside Dipole Story

By Walter Yankaukas, KL7WY

I've had an MFJ G5RV dipole for the past two and a half years or so. In the spring, one of the cables on the northern leg of the dipole broke. The "wire" for the dipole legs is a 7 strand twisted cable. It might be copper plated steel wire. At the point of the break, the cable unwrapped and unraveled. I cut some of the strands, put on a couple of copper crimp barrel connectors that are normally used for ground wires in household wiring. I wove the strands together, crimped, and soldered. I probably lost at least a few inches on that side of the dipole. I didn't bother measuring and trimming the other side. It was too much of a bother on the hillside, in the alders and devil's club.



A couple of weeks ago I lifted the center of the dipole higher on a new mast I made out of ABS plastic pipe I got from Lowe's. (That's another story...)

The propagation conditions haven't been all that great lately. I'd see what was being received at the club station, and then I'd turn the radio on back at home, and all I got was noise. Last Monday the wind picked up here on the hillside and we had winds gusting above 40 MPH for over 8 hours. The peak gust was 51 MPH.

On Saturday I went out to readjust the guy lines on my new mast. When I first put it up, I didn't put the pipe on a base. After all the wind action, the top of the mast was about a foot and a half lower after the mast had worked its way down through the peat. The mast was leaning, and I can't describe the 3-D shape that it made in the air. Some of the guy lines got tangled up in branches that were well clear of the guy lines in calm conditions. I've trimmed branches and I've got a base for the mast now.

When I looked up, I only had half a dipole. Is that a monopole? A solopole? A quarter-pole? I found out that it was a broken pole. When I looked at the middle of the "T" where everything is supposed to come together, the same wire that had broken earlier this year, more than twenty feet from the "T" had broken cleanly about an inch away from the crimp at the "T".

The other leg of the dipole is holding on with only 2 of the seven strands of the cable. I was also surprised to find out that the ladder line feeding the antenna had been separated entirely from both legs of the antenna. So the last time I turned my radio on, instead of a 102 foot long dipole, I had a 32 foot diagonal ladder line.

I haven't figured out yet if I'm going to try to fix everything out in the bushes, or if it will be easier to disconnect everything and drag it to my workbench.

Let's Man the RSOC!

By [KENT PETTY](#)

A long-term goal for our awesome Radio Science and Operations Center is to man operations floor 24 hours per day. Whoa! That's a tall order!

To get this rolling, we can start in a limited way by having someone on-duty each evening to participate in the evening state-wide and local nets. If you are a general or extra class operator, would you be willing to help? This, of course, would include checking into the Sniper's Net, the Bush Net, and the Motley Net on HF, maybe linking with AL7N on CW for the Alaska CW net, and then participating in the various VHF/UHF nets that take place throughout the week.



If you have an interest in taking a shift, are willing to get trained up on the current equipment capabilities, and just want to have some fun, please let us know.

Drop me a line at vicepresident@kl7aa.net so we can talk more about how you can help.

Thanks and 73,

Kent, KL5T

Volunteers – Please Log Your Time!

By Kent Petty, KL5T

Volunteerism is a huge part of our club's culture. It's probably the most important thing we do, and it really should not go unnoticed. One of the best ways to ensure that volunteer efforts don't go unrecognized or unrecorded is to record donated service at the time it is performed. This ensures that volunteer efforts are captured for financial reports, lessens the likelihood of the volunteer effort falling through the cracks and going unnoticed, helps identify and objectively rank volunteer service deserving of special recognition, and can actually help greatly when we apply for grants.

We should be tracking our volunteer time for a long list of club-related activities. Some include club board activities, emergency communications training and support, general club station support, public service communications support, VEC related activities, and more.

Go to: <https://kl7aa.org/> and click on the Volunteers-Please log your Time!

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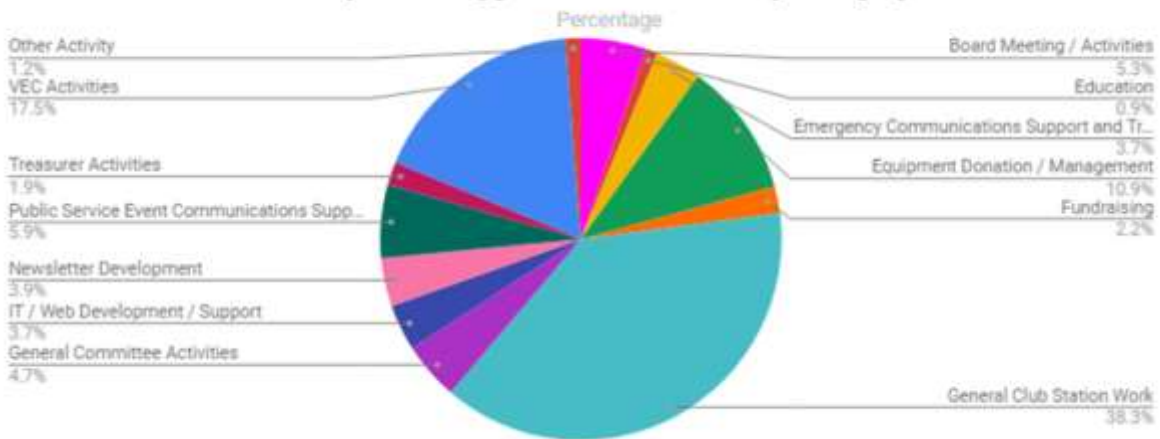
We should be tracking our volunteer time for a long list of club-related activities. Some include club board activities, emergency communications training and support, general club station support, public service communications support, VEC related activities, and more.

When you navigate to the volunteer time entry screen, you'll need to provide a valid e-mail address, then you'll need to select your name from the drop-down list. If you aren't listed, simply select "other", fill in the other fields, and provide your identity and contact info in the comments/notes fields; someone from the club will contact you to give you a permanent validation code. It's a pretty easy and self-explanatory process. You'll find that there are several options to categorize your volunteer time in the drop-down list. If in doubt about how to categorize your time, just pick what you think fits best and provide details of what you did in the narrative description. We review all entries and can edit if necessary.

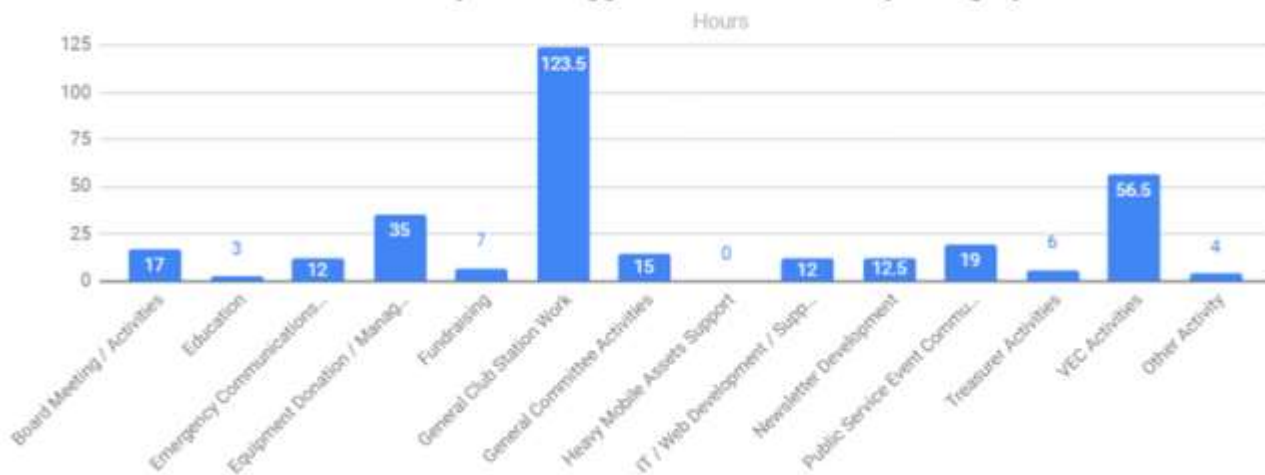
Kent Petty, KL5T, monitors and manages our volunteer hours tracking program. Please contact Kent at 907.632.3963 or vicepresident at kl7aa dot org with any questions.

Volunteers – Please Log Your Time! (continued)

July 2018 Logged Volunteer Time by Category



July 2018 Logged Volunteer Time by Category



VEC Report

By Kent Petty, KL5T

VEC Session Summary, September 2018										
Location	# Sessions	# Tested	Licensed / Upgraded	New License	Upgraded License	Passed Elem	Failed Elem	Tech	Gen	Extra
Anchorage	1	3	2	1	1	2	1	1	0	1
Caribou, Maine	2	2	2	1	1	2	0	1	0	1
Fairbanks	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Sitka	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	5	6	4	2	2	4	3	2	0	2

12 Month Summary

Tot Sessions 12 mths	54
# People Tested	167
# Exams Taken	204
# Exams Passed	132
# Exams Failed	72
# New Hams	64
# Upgrades	58

Please remember to check the “store” on our website to purchase your seat at a testing session. VEs are prohibited from accepting cash, checks, or other forms of payment at test sessions. Examinees need to be sure to show up with their “receipt” in hand, or otherwise present a copy of the receipt in electronic form to be permitted to test. To summarize, all purchases for testing must be made online at our website.

Our first two testing sessions were held in Caribou, Maine this month. Unfortunately, these will probably be the only session we conduct in Caribou as the club there has opted to use another VEC due to local logistic issues. Regardless, thanks to Brandin Hess, AL6I, for spearheading the effort.

Roger Garrett, KL4EC, is taking over lead VE duties while Mike Perry flies south for the winter.

Toby Reich, KL2T, is resigning as lead VE in Homer. Ken Adams, AE7ES has stepped up as the new lead. There is a session scheduled for Homer on October 4, 2018. Thanks Toby for carrying the torch while you were able.

Our VE application process and testing have gone online. There will be no more paper applications. Folks who want to join our VE team simply need to go to our website and apply. Once the application is reviewed and the applicant determined to be eligible to become a VE, the applicant is sent a link to complete the test online. Check out the AARC VEC webpage for more info.

Anchorage ARC VEC Website: <https://kl7aa.org/vec/>

Scheduled testing sessions are held in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Kodiak, and Sitka:

Anchorage, Alaska

AARC Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC)
 6721 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK
 When: Second Saturday of each month at 2:00 PM
 Contact: Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO, 907.351.3538, koalaska@gmail.com

Fairbanks, Alaska

Far North CB Radio Plus Building
 3451 College Road, Fairbanks, AK

VEC Report (continued)

When: First Saturday of each month at 1:00 PM

Contact: Roger Garrett (KL4EC) (907) 361-5109 / (907) 385-0203, arcticrph@hotmail.com

Kodiak, Alaska

Kodiak Assembly of God

3416 Woodland Drive, Kodiak, AK

When: Check with contact / check website

Contact: Brandin Hess, AL6I, 207.2496.8802, icebox86@arcticmail.com

Sitka, Alaska

Sitka Fire Department

209 Lake Street, Sitka, AK

When: First Saturday of each month at 12:00 PM

Contact: Darryl Ault, AL7BW, 907.738.4539, darrylault@yahoo.com

Testing teams are also available in Bethel, Cordova, Homer, Juneau, Kenia/Soldotna, Kodiak, and Valdez and are scheduled on an as-needed basis. Check our website for info and updates.

73,

Kent Petty, KL5T

Chairman, Anchorage ARC VEC

Have you signed up?

(Fred Meyer can be done via Internet)

Here are two ways you can help fund our Anchorage Amateur Radio Club. Both are really easy on your part. Please consider doing both options, if you haven't signed up, please do.

Fred Meyer will give us money!

All you have to do is shop there and sign up AARC as your non-profit beneficiary. Once you sign up, a portion of every purchase you make is donated to AARC. There is no increase to you for your purchase by declaring AARC as your beneficiary. Currently there are three individuals signed up for this worthy cause. Let's see if we can make it 100%.

You still earn your Rewards points, Fuel Points, and Rebates just as you do today.

The AARC's Fred Meyer non-profit number is 94846.

If you don't have a Fred Meyer Reward Card, they are available at their service desk.

Tell your family, friends and neighbors about this opportunity too.



Amazon Smile will give us money!

If you do shopping on-line at Amazon, you can designate AARC as your charitable organization. Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase to AARC. Log-on to:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7225693>

For more information.

AARC is Accepting Credit Cards!

AARC can accept your credit card for payment (via Square Reader) of dues and donations. See Kent KL5T at the next club meeting, club working Wednesdays or board meeting. Note that accepting credit card payment via our web-site is still in progress.

Now may be the time to renew your membership; don't forget!

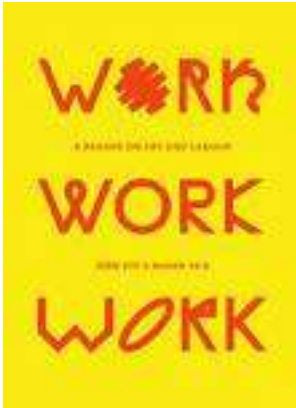
Thanks Kent KL5T, for setting this up



Time to sign-up to help with these projects!

Saturday Work Sessions 10AM to 3PM

(don't forget working Wednesdays too: 6:30PM to 9:00PM)



We need everyone's efforts for the following projects that have been identified. Contact the individual indicated to coordinate the work on these projects.

Project or Activity Need	Description	Contact
ARES - Anchorage Department of Corrections Emergency Coordinator	We need a lead person to coordinate support for the Anchorage area State of Alaska Department of Corrections emergency communications needs. An MOU is in place. We need a point person. Ready to get involved?	KL5T
ARES - Membership on Critical Resources Teams	Become a member of a team supporting a critical communications resource or served agency. We do need your help.	KL5T
Assist with donated tower take-downs and removals	Are you willing to assist with tower dismantling? We always need help. Are you willing to be a tower or ground crew member?	KL5T
Assist with removal and disposal of "dead lead" (old batteries)	These need to be hauled away periodically. Can you be the dead lead leader?	KL7TS
Build Worktop for Operating Table for MTV	The MTV uses a 2' x 4' portable table as a work top. It would be enlarged somewhat by building a 2' x 6' top that sits securely overtop. Do you have some woodworking skills?	KL7MM or KL5T
Cable Crimp Tool God / Goddess	We have a lot of crimp tools that need to be characterized, instructions provided, and training to be provided on their use. A worthwhile project. Are you up for it?	KL7TS or KL5T
Club Antenna Analysis, Characterization, and Repair	Evaluate antennas on the shelves for resonant frequency (ies), structural integrity, label, and store. Use the club's AIM antenna analyzer to characterize.	KL7TS or KL5T
Club Member Antenna Sweep and Analysis	Visit club member's home stations to sweep antenna systems with club's AIM antenna analyzer. Also check mobile systems.	KL7TS or KL5T
Club Work Shop Organization and Storage	We need to get the work shop area organized so it is more functional and looks like a professional shop. Are you a great organizer?	KL7TS
Document Scanning	Lots of club documents need to be scanned. Any help would be appreciated	AL2R or KL7GD

Continued on the next page

Project or Activity Need	Description	Contact
Equipment Inventory and Management	Assist Vice President with equipment inventory, labeling, and database management.	KL5T
Office Organization and Storage	The club's office needs to be organized. Shouldn't be too difficult a job, just needs to be tackled.	KL7TS
Garage Organization and Storage	Need some real help here. If we can get this space organized it will make a real difference being able to get work done.	KL7TS
Hand and Power Tool Organization	Organize all hand and power tools at the club station. Many tools need to be labeled with ID numbers and added to the inventory.	KL7TS
LCD Monitor Repair	An LCD monitor needs repair. It needs a couple capacitors replaced. An instructional video for the repair is available. This is a good novice project.	KL5T
Manager the Club's Facebook Page	Yep, we are on Social Media and really need someone to manage our Facebook page. Can you help?	AL4S, KL5T, or KL7M M
MESH Network - File Server	Develop a file server for the MESH network using a Raspberry Pi. Systems are in place as examples.	KL5T
MESH Network – PBX	Assist with MESH system Raspberry Pi telephone server (PBX).	KL5T
Mezzanine Organization and Storage	This is our primary long storage area and really needs to be cleaned up. Can you help?	KL7TS or KL5T
MTV Equipment Outfitting	We need to get our MTV Properly outfitted so it can deploy and operate on a moment's notice. Can you work with our Heavy Rolling Stock Manager to assist?	KL7M M or KL5T
Project or Activity Need	Description	Contact
Portable Deployable Kit Manager	We need someone to manager our deployable kits. These include simple portable voice stations, packet stations, crossband repeater units, and MESH units in the future. This is a cool job!	KL5T
Reprogram Portable 440 MHz Portable Repeater Morse IDer	We need to reprogram the Morse IDer in our portable 440 repeater. We've got the keypad to do the job, but need someone to champion the effort.	KL7TS or KL5T
RF Cable Labeling	Characterize and label all active and available antenna feedlines using club's cable labeler.	KL7TS
RFI Team Lead	The club has some excellent RFI detection equipment. We need to get it into service on a regular basis. How would you like to lead the effort to track down the countless sources of harmful interference in Anchorage?!	KL7TS or KL5T
WX3in1 Plus 2.0 APRS Digipeater / I-Gate	Configure hardware, set system parameters, and install the club's WX3in1 Plus APRS unit at AARC hillside site located at KL7QN's residence.	KL5T

Join us on “working Wednesdays” or **Saturday Work Sessions (10AM to 3PM)** for an opportunity to have “eye-ball” QSOs and get a project completed!

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
BOARD MEETING
August 21, 2018
Radio Science Operation Center (RSOC)
6721 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, AK

APPROVED

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Lara Baker AL2R

A quorum was established

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lara Baker AL2R, Alice Baker KL2GD, Richard Tweet KL2AZ, T.J. Sheffield KL7TS, Keith Clark KL7MM, Dave Webb N9AIG, Kent Petty KL5T, Matt Ostrander KL4QH, Lil Marvin KL7YF

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE:

Rich Gillin AL4S, Jill Heimke WL7BTT

NON-VOTING MEMBERS/GUESTS PRESENT

Allen Abbott KB1QCE, Steven Carraway KL4OX, Allen Carraway WL7LA, Mike O'Keefe KL7MO

EXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS

None

UNEXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS

Jim Wiley KL7CC

REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS/CHANGE IN ORDER

Airport Notice re: Insurance

TIME CRITICAL ITEM(S)

None

VISITOR FORUM

Allen Carraway WL7LA reported on the move to establish Fourth Avenue as the "*Anchorage Mushing District*" and fundraising efforts to date.

DISCUSSION ON FORMING A NEW ARRL SECTION

A discussion was held on current status/activity of the ARRL Alaska section and the possibility of creating a new Anchorage ARRL section. Discussion noted 41% of the state population is in Anchorage and 44% of the issued call signs in the state are in Anchorage, other areas forming individual sections include: Long Island NY, Los Angeles CA, and the Greater Toronto area. This idea will be presented for discussion at the general membership meeting.

REPORTS

SECRETARY REPORT

The minutes for the July 2018 Board meeting and the August Membership meeting were presented. Motion made by Keith Clark KL7MM, seconded by Alice Baker KL2GD to accept the Board meeting minutes and Keith Clark KL7MM, Matt Ostrander KL4QH to accept the Membership minutes. The motions passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jill Heimke WL7BTT reported that all bills are paid. With Jill's resignation coming in December, the decision was made to not open another bank account for tracking restricted funds, but they will be tracked separately in QuickBooks. Brief discussion held on the Airport's request for evidence of insurance coverage. Kent Petty KL5T has the documentation and will respond.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Keith Clark KL7MM reported that there is no new development in the restitution case, AARC asset list maintenance is ongoing, competitive bidding for accounting service will not occur as AARC currently has no gaming income, lease lot survey needs completed to satisfy the Airport lease and MOA tax rolls, Go-FundMe paint campaign will be closed, Finance Committee will work on the 2019 budget at the next meeting with presentation to the membership for approval at the October Membership meeting.

PROJECTS COMMITTEE

T.J. Sheffield KL7TS reported there are no current funded projects and presented the AARC finance chart.

GRANT COMMITTEE

Lara Baker AL2R reported on the \$5000 AARC grant request to fund 75% of the Fundraising firm fees.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Keith Clark KL7MM reported that Dennis Stevens WL7AQ is requesting status of the Fundraising grant as the individual cannot be engaged prior to the request being finalized. Fundraising meetings are published on the AARC calendar on KL7AA.org.

GAMING COMMITTEE

Lara Baker AL2R noted that interest continues for utilizing the AARC gaming permit for a local pull tab operation. Discussion was held on uses available for the gaming permit.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Keith Clark KL7MM reported on the committee "to-do" list and that he is pursuing a grant for LED lighting upgrades.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Rich Gillin AL4S reported on membership activity to date including 3 renewals since July, and membership list maintenance. Discussion was held on maintenance of the Silent Key list. Motion made Alice Baker KL2GD, seconded by Matt Ostrander KL4QH to award a life membership to Lil Marvin KL7YF. The motion carried.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Kent Petty KL5T reported he is working on RSOC placement on the vendors list for home schooling organizations, proposing a Tech class for home schoolers, Kit Building classes and the need for instructors for daytime Homeschool instruction. Motion made Matt Ostrander KL4QH, seconded by Keith Clark KL7MM to proceed with the process to become a venue with I.D.E.A. and other home school organizations. The motion carried unanimously.

ELECTION COMMITTEE

Richard Tweet KL2AZ reported on committee discussions to date and brought up the Board slate and election process for discussion. Motion made Richard Tweet KL2AZ, seconded by T.J. Sheffield to waive the term limit for the position of AARC President for this election cycle. Discussion noted this would complete the AARC Board slate of candidates, Lara Baker AL2R agreed to continue on in the position with assistance in Committee and regular duties, recruitment for the position will continue including nominations at the September Membership meeting. The motion carried with one abstention by the President.

EQUIPMENT REPORT

Kent Petty KL5T thanked T.J. Sheffield KL7TS for his contributions and assistance in repairs to the club gin pole, reported on the Baker estate contribution, Ken Perry tower dismantle, other donations and status of the Anchorage Senior Center station.

VE REPORT

Kent Petty KL5T reported on testing in Anchorage and Cordova resulting in 2 new licensed hams and 7 upgrades, Kodiak testing is nearing readiness, Caribou Maine use of AARC testing, online VE applications and VE exams are coming soon, and 15 testing kits are available. T.J. Sheffield KL7TS noted his appreciation of the modernization of the VEC Program and Lara Baker AL2R complimented Kathy O'Keefe KL7KO for her quantity and quality of work she has dedicated to the VE program.

TRUSTEE REPORT

Keith Clark KL7MM reported all logs are updated for Field Day. Keith noted that John Lynn KL7CY is moving out of state and approached the AARC regarding operating the Big City Simplex Net. Discussion was held on possibly obtaining the KL7G call.

ARES

Kent Petty KL5T reported on the upcoming September 8th *Finding Bullwinkle* statewide ARES exercise, operational status at the Tuttle Warehouse location, 5Ghz antenna upgrades, Alaska Native Medical Center (ANMC) VHF/UHF antenna issues, HF RMS capabilities at ANMC, ARES online registration, ARES Connect and IS-100 online course availability.

ACTIVITIES

No report

OLD BUSINESS

AARC Election –

Discussed during Election Committee report

Hamfest

Due to an AARC Board resignation, there is no longer a champion to lead the Hamfest scheduled for September. An Open House will be held in its place and will be noted in the newsletter.

AARC Program

The September Membership meeting program will be the 2018 AARC election and nominations. The meeting will be followed by a Tech Talk on DMR radio. The October Membership meeting program will be the 2018 Election.

NEW BUSINESS

AARC Board Director Vacancies

Discussion was held on the currently vacant Director position and the upcoming Officer (Treasurer) position vacancies and efforts to find volunteers to fill the positions.

AARC Board Member License Requirement - Discussion held on the possibility of allowing non-licensed Board member(s) to activate community interest/participation. This will be brought forward for discussion at the September Membership meeting.

Miscellaneous – Discussion held on QuickBooks licensing and the number of seats the license allows. Allen Abbott KB1QCE reported on a plaque presented to the AARC by the Alaska Run for Women, Rich Gillin AL4S reported on an upcoming HAARP podcast and T.J. Sheffield KL7TS reported on an upcoming HAARP experiment involving 440 MHz and 1.2 GHz.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:53pm.

Respectfully submitted as recorded on 08/21/2018 by Richard Tweet KL2AZ, Secretary

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
September 6, 2018
Radio Science Operation Center (RSOC)
6721 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, AK

APPROVED

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by President Lara Baker AL2R. A quorum was established (22). Members and guests introduced themselves.

Business

The 2018 Election nomination process was opened. Richard Tweet KL2AZ introduced the Election Committee and offered the following slate of candidates for the open Officers and Directors positions for consideration;

President – Lara Baker AL2R

Secretary – Dave Webb N9AIG

Director – T.J. Sheffield KL7TS

Director – Keith Clark KL7MM

Director – Richard Tweet KL2AZ

Motion made by Richard Koch WL7CPX, seconded by Kent Petty KL5T and Walter Yankauskas KL7WY to accept the slate as presented. The motion carried with no opposition. Lara Baker AL2R opened the floor for further nominations, after 3 calls for additional nominations and none being offered, the nominations were closed and as there are no contested seats, the 2018 election for officers is considered complete.

The membership was reminded of one current, and one upcoming Board vacancy to be filled by the appointment process and encouraged any interested member to contact a Board member to be considered for the position.

A discussion was held on current status/activity of the ARRL Alaska section and the possibility of creating a new Anchorage ARRL section. Discussion noted 41% of the state population is in Anchorage and 44% of the issued call signs in the state are in Anchorage. The membership was asked to give consideration to creation of an Anchorage section which will be brought up for further discussion at the October Membership meeting.

Dennis Stevens WL7AQ reported on Fundraising Committee activities and the successful Alaska Community Foundation grant request to fund 75% (\$5000) of the selected fundraising consultant's services.

A discussion was held on the AARC Bylaw requirement of an AARC Board member to have a current license and the thought of allowing a non-licensed individual(s) on the Board.

DOOR PRIZES

3 Door prizes were awarded

The meeting adjourned at 8:01pm and was followed by a 30 minute Tech Talk.

Respectfully submitted as recorded on 9/6/18 by: Richard Tweet KL2AZ, Secretary



Monthly Events



1st Thursday each month: AARC general meeting - 7:00 PM in the Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC) Building at 6721 Raspberry Road, Anchorage. Talk in will be on 147.33+ repeater.

1st Thursday each month: Moosehorn Amateur Radio Club General meeting - 7:00 PM Location is at Borough Emergency Response Center on Wilson Way in Soldotna (behind Soldotna FD. Call for directions on 146.88 repeater (no tone). Moosehorn ARC also holds a weekly luncheon every Thursday, locations and times change — contact George Van Lone, KL7AN: donnav@acsalaska.net

2nd Saturday each month: PARKA (Polar Amateur Radio Klub of Alaska) Meeting at 11:00 AM. Polar Amateur Radio Klub of Alaska. All amateurs welcome. Denny's on Denali Street in Anchorage. Some business is discussed. Originally established as an all woman organization, membership now includes spouses or significant others. Talk in on 147.30+.

2nd Saturday each month (except for holidays): VE License Exams at 2:00 PM. at RSOC 6721 Raspberry Road. Be sure to bring photo ID, copy of license (if any) and any certificates of completion. Contact:

Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO, 907.243.4675, koalaska@gmail.com

3rd Tuesday each month: AARC Board Meeting at 7:00 PM at the Radio Science and Operations (RSOC) building. All hams are invited and encouraged to attend.

1st Tuesday of each month: EARS general meeting at 6:00 PM. EARS meetings are held at the EARS shack location. Contact info - Pat Patterson WL7PP for information. EARS: 552-2664 (recording); Talk in on 146.67-. Email: club@KL7air.us or kl7yk@arrl.net

4th Saturday of each month: Valley VE Testing at 7:00 PM. Sessions will be held at Fire Station 61, at 7 pm on the fourth Saturday of each month unless it is a major holiday weekend. Contact Ken Hudson, KL2HF, Kenputer@hotmail.com or 907-354-0206.

The last Friday each month: MARA meeting at 7:00 PM, Wasilla Fire Station 61. Talk-in help for the meeting can be acquired on the 147.33 repeater. Further details can be found by contacting Don Bush, KL7JFT, dbush@gci.net.

Every Monday at 11:00 AM: Meeting of interested Amateur Radio Operators — and lunch at Denny's on DeBarr — across from Costco. Many code and HF operators attend this function. Come talk radio. For information, contact Kathy O'Keefe, KL7KO, kokalaska@gmail.com

Every Saturday at 7:00 AM: Meeting of a group of Amateur Radio Operators at Village Inn on Spenard Road for breakfast. Topics? Radio, photography, and upcoming events For information, contact Kathy O'Keefe, KL7KO, kokalaska@gmail.com.

Active Nets in Alaska

VHF NETS

The local VHF Nets have a Packet side as well. Look for 2 meter Packet at 145.01 (Eagle) and 147.96 (Valley). The Eagle and Valley nodes provide a talk” or chat function. Also, if you are unable to connect directly to one of the nodes, try digipeating through EARS on either frequency. Do this by typing *c eagle v ears* or *c valley v ears* on the appropriate frequency. Check www.KL7AIR.us for more information on the digipeaters.

ARES Net: 147.33 w/ 103.5Hz tone (Backup 147.30 w/ 141.3Hz tone) —Thursdays at 8:00PM

No Name Net: 146.43 simplex—Sundays 8:00PM

South Central Simplex Net: 146.52 FM, 144.2 USB, 446.0 FM, 432.2 USB, 223.5 FM, 927.5FM, 1294.5 FM, 52.525 FM, 50.125 USB, 29.6 FDM, 28.4 USB, 145.01 Packet (Eagle Node), 147.96 Packet (Valley Node) - Tuesdays 8:00PM

Alaska VHF Up Net: 144.200 USB—Saturdays 9:00 AM

Alaska Morning Net: The Alaska Morning Net is held Monday through Saturday from 9:00 AM—11:00 AM on the IRLP Reflector 9109. This net can be reached via several hosting nodes in the area. Please visit www.status.irlp.net/index.php?PSTART=2&mode=3 to find the closest node. Also the net can be reached via EchoLink on 9191 (WL7LP-R) and Allstar nodes 27133 and 29332. The Alaska Statewide ARES net is held on Thursday evenings at 8:30pm (following the Anchorage ARES net) at the same locations and also the 8:30pm Sunday evening Alaska Statewide Radio Link.

HF Nets

Alaska Snipers Net: 3.920 MHz 6:00pm daily

Alaska Bush Net: 7.093 MHz 8:00pm daily

Alaska Motley Net: 3.933 MHz 9:00pm daily

ACWN (Alaska CW Net): 3540 kHz, 7042 kHz, 14050 kHz Non-directed, CW calling and traffic watch for relaying NTS of other written traffic. AL7N monitors continuously receivers always on WL2K. (RMS connection available— AL7N@winlink.org)

Alaska Pacific Net: 14.292 MHz 8:30am M-F

ERC HF Net: 3.880 MHz 8:30pm Sundays



DATA YOU CAN USE				
Frequency	Tone	Callsign	Features	Area
147.18-	88.5	ADES		JBER
146.88-	no tone	AL7LE	Phone patch	Kenai/Soldotna
146.82-	103.5	WL7CWE	IRLP	Anchorage
146.76-	123.0	KL3K	IRLP	Seward
146.94-	103.5	KL7AA	Phone patch	Anchorage to Wasilla
224.94-	no tone	KL7AA		Anchorage
444.70+	103.5	KL7AA	Phone patch	Anchorage
146.67-	103.5	KL7AIR	MARS station	Anchorage & Highway N
147.30+	141.3	KL7ION		Very Wide Area
146.85-	103.5	KL7JFU	Cross Banded to 444.600	Mat Valley
444.6+	103.5	KL7JFU	Cross Banded to 146.85	Mat Valley
146.91-	no tone	KL7JL		Homer
147.15+	107.2	NL7S		Wasilla
147.84-	103.5	WL7CWE		Wasilla repeater
147.33+	103.5	WL7CWF	Cross linked to 443.900	Very Wide Area
443.900+	103.5	WL7CWF	Cross linked to 147.33	Very Wide Area

South Central Area Simplex Frequencies	
146.52	National Calling and Emergency Frequency
147.57	DX Spotting Frequency
146.49	Anchorage Area Simplex Chat
146.43	Mat-Su Valley Simplex Chat
147.42	Kenai Peninsula Simplex Chat

WinLink Information		
144.9	WL7CVG-10	Anchorage Area RMS
145.19	KL7JFT-10	Palmer/Mat-Su RMS
147.96	KL7EDK-10	Fairbanks RMS
144.9	WL7CVG-4	South Central Digipeater
144.98	KL7AA-10	Anchorage AARC RMS



October 2018

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1 7pm Fundrais- ing Committee	2	3 6 PM AARC Working Wed. at RSOC	4 AARC Membership Mtg ARES Net	5	6 AARC Working Saturday at RSOC 10-3
7	8 6PM- Finance 7pm Fundraising Committee	9	10 6 PM AARC Working Wed. at RSOC	11 ARES Net	12	13 AARC Working Saturday at RSOC 10-3
14	15 7pm Fundrais- ing Committee	16 7 PM AARC Board Meeting	17 6 PM AARC Working Wed. at RSOC	18 ARES Net	19	20 AARC Working Saturday at RSOC 10-3
21	22 7pm Fundrais- ing Committee	23	24 6 PM AARC Working Wed. at RSOC	25 ARES Net	26	27 AARC Working Saturday at RSOC 10-3
28	29 7pm Fundrais- ing Committee	30	31 Halloween 6 PM AARC Working Wed. at RSOC			

Swap 'n Shop

Please watch the AARC web-site for new information between newsletters:

<http://kl7aa.net/swap-n-shop>



I have two items for sale. Prices are firm

Icom706 MK2G Radio is in good shape. It does show signs of wear \$500.00

Ameritron 811H Amp. This amp maybe has 6 hours on it. There are some scratches on the top \$625.00

Not sure if I Have the manuals for both items. I will look.



Mathew Notte

Contact notte142@gmail.com

Phone Number 907-885-1185

Swap 'n Shop (continued)



Kenwood TS-450S. Tested: 100 watts output. Fully adjustable down to zero watts for QRP and digital modes. This radio has the built in antenna tuner. Mike and power cord not included.

Features

- 160-10 meters
- AF Notch
- CW Reverse
- 100 Memories
- Dual Mode NB
- XIT/RIT
- IF Shift
- Keypad Entry
- All Mode Squelch
- RF Speech Processor

Latest Update from Jim, AL7FS

I have found the **microphone, now included**. Also this package will include a DVD with the Operators Manual AND the Service Manual.

The **Kenwood TS-450S** is a formidable transceiver covering 160 through 10 meters including the WARC bands with 100 watts input (40W AM). The TS-450S supports many advanced features such as keypad entry, VOX, 100 memories, XIT, RIT, Notch, IF Shift, Squelch and digital meter. This radio has a carry handle. Requires 13.8 VDC at 20.5 Amps.

\$400 with pickup only in Anchorage.

Jim Larsen, AL7FS

1-907-223-3548

If you have anything you'd like included in the next newsletter such as items for sale, articles, questions, etc. email *editor(at)kl7aa.org*

Your current AARC Board/Officers

President	Lara Baker AL2R	president@kl7aa.org
Vice-President	Kent Petty KL5T	vicepresident@kl7aa.org
Treasurer	Jill Heimke WL7BTT	treasurer@kl7aa.org
Secretary	Richard Tweet KL2AZ	secretary@kl7aa.org
Board 2019	Lillian Marvin KL7YF	No email
Board 2019	Rich Gillin AL4S	Rich.gillin@kl7aa.org
Board 2018	T.J. Sheffield KL7TS	Tj.sheffield@kl7aa.org
Board 2018	Keith Clark KL7MM	trustee@kl7aa.org
Board 2020	Alice Baker KL2GD	Alice.baker@kl7aa.org
Board 2020	Jim Wiley KL7CC	Jim.wiley@kl7aa.org
Board 2020	Matt Ostrander KL4QH	kl4qh@kl7aa.org
APRS	Kevin Opalka	
Activities	Allen Abbott KB1QCE	activities@kl7aa.org
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