

# Anchorage Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

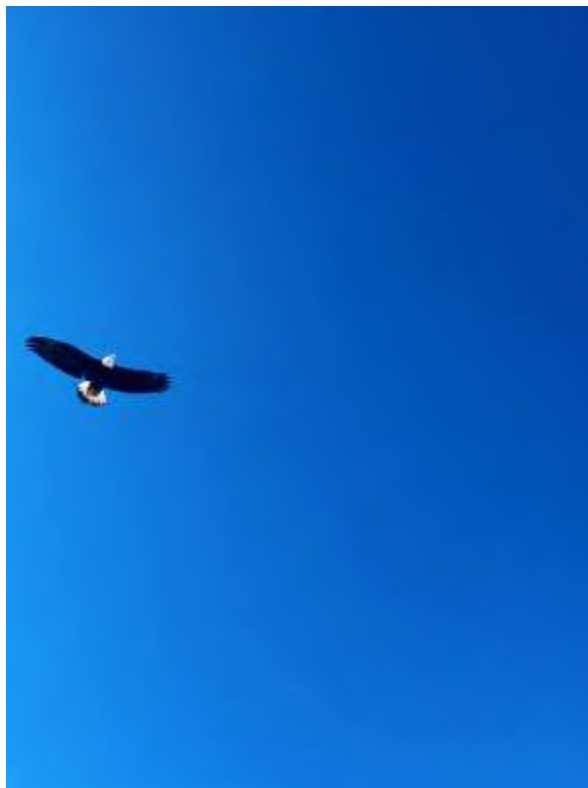


Radio Science and Operations Center  
6721 Raspberry Road  
Anchorage, AK



Keep up with the AARC at [www.kl7aa.org](http://www.kl7aa.org)

**Next General Membership Meeting:  
Thursday May 6th at 7pm via Zoom**



# The AARC Goes 'Zoom'



AARC Members and other friends:

Until this COVID stuff is over, the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club will be hosting their monthly membership meetings (first Thursday of every month at **7:00PM Alaska time**) with Zoom (an on-line video conferencing software system). We have found that Google Meet is difficult to use if you do not already have a Google account, and don't want one.

Zoom is used in the educational system for remote learning, community council meetings, and even on-line jury trials. Early on, there was concerns over the security of the Zoom software, but those concerns have been remedied. Please refer to the article in Forbes that compares Google Meet with Zoom:

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/kateoflahertyuk/2020/10/14/zoom-beats-microsoft-teams-google-meet-with-game-changing-new-features/>

Zoom works best with almost any modern desktop computer with a webcam and some combination of a headset and microphone or microphone and speakers. It also works with laptop computers, tablets, and phones, both Apple and Android.

The AARC VEC program has been quite successful administering remote computer-based on-line license testing using Zoom.

To log-on to an AARC membership videoconference using Zoom, please go to our web-site events page at: <https://kl7aa.org/events/> or go to the main page at: <https://kl7aa.org/> and click on "visit our calendar" (blue hypertext). Then go to the first Thursday of the month on the calendar and click on "General Membership Meeting." A window will pop-up with blue hypertext that says join meeting via Zoom. If you already have the Zoom client on your computer, you will then join the meeting, if not, Zoom will instruct you how to download the client and then you will join the meeting.

If your computer does not have a camera, you can still join us via voice only at:

- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

You will need the meeting ID to join which will be on the AARC calendar.

Thank-you

Dave N9AIG and Walter KL7WY

Note: Zoom logo is courtesy of Zoom see: <https://zoom.us/>



## BOARD VIDEOCONFERENCE

December 15, 2020

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 VIA TELECONFERENCE:**

Lara Baker AL2R, Dave Webb N9AIG, TJ Sheffield KL7TS, Walter Yankauskas KL7WY, John Lime III KL4OF, Kent Petty KL5T, Matt Ostrander KL4QH, Keith Clark KL7MM, Alice Baker KL2GD, Richard Tweet KL2AZ, Mathew Notte WL4DX

### **GUESTS/NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE:**

Morgan Schoenecker KG7SEQ

### **EXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:**

### **UNEXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:**

Wigi Tozzi KL0R, Rich Gillin AL4S

### **REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS/CHANGE IN ORDER:**

Kent Petty KL5T requested that we add an agenda item under new business entitled "Car Donation Program."

### **TIME CRITICAL ITEM(S):**

Alice Baker KL2GD indicated that this was her last board meeting and wanted to thank everyone for assisting her with communications programs that we support for Amateur Radio communications.

## **REPORTS**

### **VE PROGRAM**

Kent Petty KL5T had the following comments:

1. Brandin Hess AL6I resigned as Chairman effective December 1, 2020. President Lara Baker appointed Kent Petty (KL5T) as interim Chairman. Kent has worked with Brandin to ensure a smooth transfer of responsibilities since then. Kent believes that all necessary actions have been taken, aside from changing access information to affect Electronic Batch Filing (EBF) activities with the FCC. Kent has been working with the FCC to get this accomplished.... the hold-up is on their end. Kent's hope is to have this complete within the next week.
2. Brandin Hess "took" the Caribou, ME and Sunbright, TN teams "with him" when he left. For information, it appears he is offering exams under the ARRL VEC currently, specifically under the Aurora Amateur Radio Group (AARG). This is a club with an address located in Kodiak, Alaska. The club's callsign trustee is in Texas, one Director lives in Juneau, and the remainder of the board members reside in the lower-48 or Canada. Callsigns WL9Z and VO2AUR are club calls.
3. VE Guide: A couple changes are coming. This will include some policy changes, most notably:
  - a. All in-person exam sessions are suspended effective November 16, 2020. No in-person exams under the Anchorage ARC VEC banner will be conducted until the situation warrants. This is dynamic and fluid, but the risk is just too high at this point to allow for in-person exams.
  - b. VE currency – Changing to require one exam per year participation to maintain VE currency. The current requirement is participation in two sessions per 18-month period. This is difficult to manage. If a VE does not participate in one exam per year, they can maintain their accreditation by simply retaking the VE open-book examination.
  - c. We will allow an examinee up to three attempts to pass an examination. The current policy is one retry. We have had situations where a third attempt has proven successful. Regardless, it is always up to the Lead VE and the VE team if they believe a retry is warranted and will possibly be successful.
4. Remote Testing: Our processes continue to evolve. We are now using "Exam. Tools" exclusively as our testing platform and have moved our chat over to Discord. The team has been innovative in developing and enhancing how we present the examination experience. Many are learning how to generate EBF files, how to generate our Green Sheet (session summary), how to run Zoom, and how to run the testing platform on Exam.Tools.

Statistics:

- a. Total 2020 exam sessions: 345
- b. Total 2020 in-person exam sessions: 7
- c. Total 2020 remote exam sessions: 13
- d. Total 2020 mixed exam sessions: 325
- e. Total 2020 Examinees: 401
- f. Total 2020 Examinees passing at least 1 exam: 375
- g. Total 2020 examinees failing all exams: 26
- h. Total 2020 examinations passed: 425
- i. Total 2020 examinations failed: 146
- j. Total 2020 remote examination requests: 529

VE Team:

1. We currently have 27 VEs listed as “remote” VEs. We have another 73 VEs in our program that will need to get “tuned up” on our current testing methods, whether remote or in-person.

Lara Baker AL2R entertained a motion to formally appoint Kent Petty KL5T as the VE chairman. Richard Tweet KL2AZ made the motion and TJ Sheffield KL7TS seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **SECRETARY REPORT**

The December 3<sup>rd</sup> membership videoconference minutes and the board videoconference of November 17<sup>th</sup> minutes were presented. There were a few corrections made. Subsequently, a motion was made by Keith Clark KL7MM and seconded by John Lime III KL4OF to accept the meeting minutes as presented with minor corrections. The motion carried unanimously.

## **TREASURER REPORT**

Kent Petty KL5T indicated that the club is solvent, and all the bills are paid. The insurance is paid on our vehicles and building.

We need to start seriously thinking of other sources of revenue.

Nothing out of the ordinary to report from the treasurer.

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Keith Clark KL7MM indicated that the Mayor’s Grant was closed out, the CARES grant state money has been received, but not the federal money. We also had a discussion around how to process member donations and how to appropriately document them.

## **GRANT REQUESTS**

Lara Baker AL2R indicated that we have had no incoming requests.

## **GAMING**

Lara Baker AL2R indicated that we have not heard from Tudor bingo although from news reports there are cars in the parking lot. Craig Bledsoe KL4E (now KL7H) was looking into the possibility of a pull tab operation.

## **BYLAWS COMMITTEE**

Lara Baker AL2R indicated that he is working on revising the bylaws to modify them from a membership dues organization to a donation-based organization.

## **TRUSTEE REPORT**

Keith Clark KL7MM indicated there was not any use or requests for the KL7AA callsign. Dave Webb N9AIG indicated there have not been any requests to use the RSOC call sign (KL7G).

## **PROJECTS COMMITTEE**

TJ Sheffield KL7TS indicated that the projects committee, the development committee, and the finance committee have all changed the times of their meetings to Thursdays at 11 AM via Google Meet. Please review the club calendar on our website for specifics.

A list of projects has been created by Dave Webb N9AIG and it will indicate the projects currently under consideration and will ultimately have a priority assigned to each project. This listing was created from input from the projects committee and lists submitted to TJ Sheffield KL7TS for consideration.

On Wednesday mornings after the SHARES Net, net participants stay at the RSOC to work on projects. Last week we looked at the Dick Block donated equipment that was stored in the back of the pickup truck.

Last month the board indicated they would like to see building projects moved under the projects committee.

## **DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Kent Petty KL5T indicated that a GoFundMe was established to purchase new tires for the F350, and we were successful in obtaining enough money to put new tires on the truck. There is still additional money that needs to be spent on the truck such as a new steering damper and to resolve a surge issue.

## **BUILDING COMMITTEE**

Keith Clark KL7MM indicated that the SHARES Net is underway every Wednesday morning and TJ Sheffield KL7TS continues to go into the RSOC to check out the trap line in the building and review the building status several times a week.

Any building projects have now been documented in the project committee listing.

TJ Sheffield KL7TS thanked Kent Petty KL5T for once again plowing the RSOC parking lot.

## **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

Rich Gillin AL4S is not available tonight.

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Kent Petty KL5T indicated that he did receive an email regarding the two-day technician class.

## **EQUIPMENT REPORT**

TJ Sheffield KL7TS indicated that he swapped the battery chargers around on the ski patrol donated radios.

TJ Sheffield KL7TS also indicated that the equipment donated by Dick Block has been reviewed and partially dispositioned.

Kent Petty KL5T indicated the DMR repeater is apparently not receiving very well. However, it appears to be transmitting quite satisfactorily. In essence, the DMR repeater is having some challenges.

## **EMCOMM**

Kent Petty KL5T indicated the systems at the RSOC are working satisfactorily. There is no new news regarding the Tuttle Street warehouse location equipment move.

Matt Ostrander KL4QH indicated that they were having difficulty setting up that warehouse because the facility was never intended to be a warehouse. They are now in the process of maintaining two separate warehouses.

TJ Sheffield KL7TS indicated that the SHARES Net is an avenue to get individuals interested in HF radio. It is easier to get an individual on the SHARES Net because an amateur radio license is not required.

Kent Petty KL5T thanked Richard Tweet KL2AZ for his participation in the SHARES Net.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**01.** Adopt a room - A spreadsheet is posted at the RSOC. Please sign up. Please watch your areas because we do have different groups come into the RSOC periodically.

**02.** Job descriptions – Looking for someone to take this task.

**03.** Deceased members - Keith Clark KL7MM indicated that he has several names to add to the existing plaque but is looking for a contact that can engrave the plaque. Kent Petty KL5T indicated he may have someone who can do that engraving.

**04.** Harris Radio representation – TJ Sheffield KL7TS recommended that we move this to the January agenda and discuss it at that time.

**05.** There was a discussion around the logistics of moving the club from a dues-based organization to a donation-based organization.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**01.** The January general meeting will be a videoconference and Richard Tweet KL2AZ will try to contact Dr. Zink to discuss COVID-19 issues.

**02.** Car donation program: Kent Petty KL5T explained a program where the club has a potential to raise some money. An individual donates a car to the club and then it gets auctioned off and the club gets most of the money. A service company handles the logistics of picking up the car and getting it to the auction. It is the sense of the board that the development committee investigate this concept to produce funds for the club.

**03.** Open board seat: Richard Tweet KL2AZ reminded the group that we do have an open board seat as of January 1, 2021.

**04.** Signature cards: there was a short discussion regarding signature cards that must change due to the change in the board positions as of January 1, 2021.

Lara Baker AL2R thanked the entire board for their assistance with helping him be successful as club president over the years because this is truly the group that gets things done.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted as recorded on 12/15/2020 by Dave Webb N9AIG, AARC Secretary.





ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
MEMBERSHIP VIDEOCONFERENCE

January 7, 2021

Radio Science Operation Center (RSOC)

6721 Raspberry Road

Anchorage, AK

**APPROVED**



### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ. There were 22 attendees with 19 members in attendance.

A membership quorum was established.

### **Presentations**

Richard Tweet KL2AZ introduced Tim Duffy K3LR the CEO DX Engineering. DX Engineering is the fastest growing amateur radio company in the world and business has picked up during the pandemic. Tim Duffy K3LR has worked for DX Engineering for 7.5 years and will be discussing new products as well as the K3LR contest station.

#### New Product Highlights:

DX Engineering redesigned their entire Balun line to improve efficiency and effectiveness. They make 1:1 and 4:1 baluns. The Maxi 420, a 1:1 balun that can also be used as a feedline choke. It has a high common mode impedance and keeps RF off of the shield of coax. Lowers noise on receive and RFI on transmit. They supply all the hardware with brackets for mounting to Yagi antennas. They have a BN86 upgrade kit for high gain antennae MC20 1:1. A complete kit ready to go for high gain antennas. They have a custom cable builder and professionally install connectors. Recently added LMR 400 and 600. Custom cable builder is great. Recently added DXE 214 cables (a double shielded RG 213). Silver plated copper shields. Good RF isolation and good power handling.

Recently AM broadcast band builder to keep receiver from overloading if close to an AM station. (related to DX Engineering recent acquisition of Clifton labs).

Another new product is ladder line surge protector. Can withstand multiple surges and protect your radio equipment, bleeds off static discharge from snow and rain, popular with open wire users.

New galvanized steel piece used to mount 43 foot vertical antenna

50ohm terminations that can be used on splitters and feed lines and 75 ohm terminations with male connectors. Yaesu rotor cables now with connectors already installed in a variety of lengths.

Recently reduced shipping size of active whip antennas so package is only 36inches long instead of 102 inches which drastically reduces shipping costs.

High visibility antennae wire in 14AWG and 26AWG. As well as 26AWG stealth antennae wire. Antennae analyzer with Bluetooth capability

Richard Tweet KL2AZ asked about crimp vs solder connectors. Tim Duffy K3LR said DX Engineering has a good line of crimp connectors that he uses in his own shack. He also uses solder connections for outdoors. They carry all the stripping tools and he indicated you can't go wrong with either method.

Craig Bledsoe KL7H asked if DX Engineering carries NanoVNA analyzers. Tim Duffy K3LR stated that they do not carry them, and they are very cheap from China. The user interface is not as good as a rig expert and can be very tedious for new hams, though the price point is desirable. He has some friends that are happy with them and he looks forward to where the technology will go.

### **K3LR Station Presentation:**

The station is located in western Pennsylvania and has hosted multi-multi contesting since 1992. He has been a licensed amateur radio operator since age 12. He used a Mosley tribander.

K3LR is one of the furthest west stations in CQ zone 5, north of Pittsburgh south of Erie, a mile from the Ohio-Pennsylvania border. You can see photos and drone videos by going to K3LR.com. The station's 13 towers are visible from Interstate 80 as you drive by. It works well for DXing because it drops off approximately 300 feet to a river basin.

The 40 meter tower has three full-sized 4 element Yagi's on 40 meters. Each antenna weighs 400lbs and has 25 sq ft of windload. The booms are 50ft long. It is the largest 40 meter antenna system in the world at 260ft over 190ft over 120ft.

The 20 meter tower has 20 meter Yagi's and an 80 meter dipole on the top of the mast that's about 110 ft long. There are steps on the mast to be able to climb up to the 80meter dipole.

There are 2 stations on every band from 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters, and one station on 160. There are 11 stations and 11 antennae systems to support those stations. All towers manufactured by PiRod with solid steel legs.

He rebuilt and replaced all the 40m Yagis and used a 150ft high crane to replace the parts. The station has a large television dedicated to the geochron.

Use large heliacs for 15 and 10 meters. The 160 transmit array has 4 parasitic wires around the tower that can be used as free element vertical Yagi. The two yellow elements, one is a director and one is a reflector, by using relays at the bottom the two blue elements float, three element vertical Yagi toward Europe. Can be spun in 4 different directions using relays at the bottom of the parasitic wires. 120 radials at the bottom of the T wire.

They tune things using network analyzers to make sure everything is tuned correctly.

High Z 8 circle array allows 8 different directions. The base of the verticals 23 ft tall. In base box is a preamp and more chokes to make sure feedlines stay cold.

The house at K3LR was built during the civil war and finished in 1865. It has been restored and Tim Duffy K3LR has lived there for 34 years. He bought it specifically for the beneficial radio location. The house has a 50kw transformer. As well as a 50kw generator.

The shack has eleven operating positions. It is a 30ft x 30ft basement room. The room has two entrances where coax cables and control lines come in. Everything is marked and extremely organized. They host CW contests, phone contests, with operators from all over the world.

K3LR uses single band amplifiers, each one has its own 4000v power supply.

Eighty feet away from the shack is the DX Barn for operators when they are not operating. Inside the DX Barn is a complete kitchen, restrooms, shower, and sleeping for eight.

Tim Duffy K3LR has over 100,000 QSL cards in his collection and they are stored in the DX Barn as well.

K3LR tracks all QSOs and multipliers they work during contests. They've had over 100 multi-multi events. They use CW skimmers that you can go to the K3LR station website to see what the station is hearing on the skimmers.

They have no switching power supplies at K3LR at all. It is all a linear power supply which keeps noise very low. They have a chef Sal WM2H who takes care of the kitchen and prepares food for events and contests.

The station is open (during non COVID times) for amateur radio clubs to visit and learn.

## **Q & A**

TJ Sheffield KL7TS asked if harmonic filters are sufficient to mitigate mutual station interference while operating multi band. Tim Duffy K3LR responded that they use the 4 square receiving arrays. Transmitting station is on a horizontal antenna and receive on vertical. Give about 25dB of isolation.

TJ Sheffield KL7TS asked who does maintenance on the facility and towers. Tim Duffy K3LR replied that he is the chief engineer and does all electronics maintenance and W3YQ assists with maintenance projects. He also has a tower crew that come 3 times a week to keep up maintenance on over 50 antennas and 13 towers.

Lara Baker AL2R commented that it was an incredible presentation and gave his thanks to Tim Duffy K3LR.

Walter Yankauskas KL7WY asked what kind of winds the station gets. Tim Duffy K3LR replied that top wind speeds are typically 70mph approximately once a year. The antennas are built to survive over 100mph.

Bob Griffin KL7BG asked what the station power bill is. Tim Duffy K3LR responded that a 48 hour multi multi contest is approximately \$200.

Tim Duffy K3LR was thanked for his presentation and subsequently left the videoconference.

## **Business**

Introductions were made for all attendees.

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM. Respectfully submitted as recorded by Morgan Schoenecker KG7SEQ (AARC Secretary) on January 7th, 2020.

### **Tech Talk**

There was no tech talk this evening.



ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO BOARD VIDEOCONFERENCE

January 19, 2021

Radio Science Operation Center (RSOC)

6721 Raspberry Road

Anchorage, AK

**APPROVED**



The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ.

A quorum was established.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE:**

Richard Tweet KL2AZ, Kent Petty KL5T, Morgan Schoenecker KG7SEQ, Lara Baker AL2R, Dave Webb N9AIG, TJ Sheffield KL7TS, Walter Yankauskas KL7WY, John Lime III KL4OF, Kent Petty KL5T, Rich Gillin AL4S, Matt Ostrander KL4QH, Keith Clark KL7MM, Wigi Tozzi KL0R, Mathew Notte WL4DX.

**VISITORS:**

**EXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:**

**UNEXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

7:02 PM The Board entered an executive session.

7:20 PM Executive session concluded.

**REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS/CHANGE IN ORDER:**

Lara Baker AL2R requested that "documents" be added under New Business.

**TIME CRITICAL ITEM(S):**

None

## **REPORTS:**

### **VE PROGRAM**

Kent Petty KL5T had the following comments:

- In 2020, 398 exams were administered. 449 passed examinations for the year.
- In 2021, 55 exams have been administered. 62 passed exams for the year so far.
- Currently have 104 credentialed VEs.

A motion was made by Lara Baker AL2R and seconded by TJ Sheffield to request documentation supporting a change of club call sign that comes through our organization. The motion carried unanimously.

### **SECRETARY REPORT**

The December 3<sup>rd</sup> membership videoconference meeting minutes and the board videoconference of December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were presented. There were a few comments and corrections. A motion was made by Lara Baker AL2R and seconded by Walter Yankauskas KL7WY to accept the minutes as corrected. The motion carried unanimously.

### **TREASURER REPORT**

Kent Petty KL5T indicated that the club is solvent, and all the bills are paid. Nothing out of the ordinary to report. Discussed filing the 990 form. Suggestion by John Lime III KL4OF about talking to Rodgers and Company to keep them in the loop. Kent Petty KL5T will contact them. SBA grant in process. Recent forms submitted and currently waiting on a determination.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Keith Clark KL7MM indicated that the airport lease remains the same. Discussed updating signature cards and working with development committee for IT process and video that needs to go out. Kent Petty KL5T is working on consolidating information about the club's accounts and passwords and adding redundancy. He suggests that the secretary be the primary keeper of the file.

### **GRANT REQUESTS**

Lara Baker AL2R indicated that we have had no requests.

### **GAMING**

Keith Clark KL7MM indicated no updates on Bingo. The possibility of pull-tabs at the airport is on hold for the time being due airport vendors currently shut down or not busy.

## **BYLAWS COMMITTEE**

Lara Baker AL2R indicated he is working on rewriting the bylaws to make adjustments related to changing structure of club. Richard Tweet KL2AZ requested that references to Boniface Bingo be removed in bylaws.

## **TRUSTEE REPORT**

Keith Clark KL7MM indicated there was not any use or requests for the KL7AA callsign. Dave Webb N9AIG indicated there have not been any requests to use the RSOC call sign (KL7G).

## **PROJECTS COMMITTEE**

TJ Sheffield KL7TS indicated that the airport has offered to donate 60 batteries. He and Dave Webb N9AIG will begin work shortly on the project.

## **DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Lara Baker AL2R indicated that the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) application for next year is in and current status is "in review".

Kent Petty KL5T suggested moving membership under the development committee. He indicated that we are still a membership organization, but the change will be whether we have paying dues members or another arrangement.

## **BUILDING COMMITTEE**

Keith Clark KL7MM reminded everyone that adopt-a-room continues. Not much activity in the building.

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported that the trap line has had about 5 customers and it seems to follow the weather.

## **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

Discussed in Development. Membership will be moved under the umbrella of development moving forward.

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Kent Petty KL5T indicated we have been selling technician study manuals consistently and sending them all over the country.

## **EQUIPMENT REPORT**

TJ Sheffield KL7TS indicated we would possibly have a flea market (selling equipment) sometime this year. The idea is to take radios off the shelf, check for power output, functionality, then inventory and consider putting them up for sale.

## **EMCOMM**

Kent Petty KL5T indicated that the main focus is SHARES. National nets will be active tomorrow and he will make sure we are available. Windows updates that have created issues for the Alaska Native Medical Center winlink gateway. He indicated they stopped by the Anchorage Emergency Operation Center two weeks ago to update some equipment.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

01. Adopt a room - A spreadsheet is posted at the RSOC please sign up.
02. Job descriptions – Looking for someone to take this task.
03. Deceased members - Keith Clark KL7MM reached out a contact for an engraver. He will try again and by next month select someone to engrave the names for this project.
04. Dues based organization- Lara Baker AL2R indicated he will have a draft of revisions by next board meeting.
05. Harris Radio Representative- TJ Sheffield KL7TS said there has not been any traction on this concept but keep it on the agenda.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### 01. Membership Meeting Guest Speaker

- a. February – Bob Heil of Heil Sound – would like a sound check prior to meeting.
- b. March – TBD
- c. Elecraft

02. Documents – Lara Baker AL2R requests that all documents submitted to the board be at least 12 pt font.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted as recorded on 01/19/2021 by Morgan Schoenecker KG7SEQ, AARC Secretary.





ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
MEMBERSHIP VIDEOCONFERENCE

February 4, 2021

Radio Science Operation Center (RSOC)

6721 Raspberry Road

Anchorage, AK

**APPROVED**



### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ. There were 16 attendees with 14 members in attendance.

A membership quorum was established.

### **Presentations**

Richard Tweet KL2AZ introduced the guest speaker Bob Heil K9EID of Heil sound.

Bob Heil reviewed his start both in amateur radio as a musician playing the organ. His experience as a ham and an organist and helped him develop crucial skills that served him throughout his career as a sound engineer. He began developing some sound systems for local bands which led him to work with bands including (but not limited to) the Grateful Dead, ZZ Top, The Who, Joe Walsh, Peter Frampton, Charlie Daniels, and many others.

Some highlights include creating a quadraphonic sound system for The Who, developing the Heil Talk box, and the first equalizer for amateur radio.

Bob Heil K9EID cites ham radio as having a large impact on everything he did.

### **Q&A**

Mark Sabel (WD6BMJ) asked about television audio. Bob Heil K9EID discussed what he learned building home theaters. TJ Sheffield KL7TS commented that he uses multiple Heil Sound products and appreciates the products Heil has developed for amateur radio.

Kent Petty KL5T thanked Bob Heil K9EID for his talk and extended an invitation to visit the AARC someday.

Morgan Schoenecker KG7SEQ asked about his thoughts on the future of amateur radio and how to make it accessible to more people. Bob Heil K9EID discussed the digital aspects and remote use of amateur radio as the future and his book and teaching activities.

### **Business**

Richard Tweet KL2AZ reminded everyone there is still an opening on the board. Kent Petty KL5T is accepting applications to be VE for the remote testing program.

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 PM. Respectfully submitted as recorded by Morgan Schoenecker KG7SEQ (AARC Secretary) on February 4th, 2020.

### **Tech Talk**

There was no tech talk this evening.

# FIELD DAY in the COPPER RIVER BASIN

Consider this year a real **FIELD DAY** in the Copper River Valley. Consider a **Field Day** experience at Red Eagle Lodge (RedEagleLodge.com) in Chistochina, Alaska on the Tok Cut-Off. Set up your station with plenty of room for your camp, and antennas.

Field Day is June 26-27, 2021, next month. Put a special camping experience on your calendar. Consider tent camping, RV camping or even renting a log cabin. Utilize perhaps the nicest bath-house North of the 49<sup>th</sup> parallel, with unlimited hot water and a laundry, picnic tables, fire rings (movable) and free firewood available. Call Richard Dennis, KL7iol at Red Eagle Lodge, (907) 822-5299 for the Field day Special.

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## Gold Nugget Triathlon – Sat May 15 & Sun May 16

Posted By *Walter Yankauskas* On May 1, 2021 @ 3:48 PM In Events, Public Service, Volunteer, Volunteer Opportunity



### Gold Nugget Triathlon

Saturday, May 15 and Sunday, May 16, 2021

The [Gold Nugget Triathlon](#)<sup>[1]</sup> is one of the largest women's triathlons in the US.

On Saturday, a 3.1 mile (5 K) run will be held at Bartlett High School.

The full triathlon will be held at Chugiak High School on Sunday with only 400 participants.

The Anchorage Amateur Radio Club needs volunteers to help out on both days.

<https://kl7aa.org/public-service-activities/gold-nugget-triathlon-2021/><sup>[2]</sup>

### Please sign up for Gold Nugget Ham Radio Volunteer Positions

We're using SignUp.com (the leading online signup and reminder tool) to organize our upcoming activity.

**Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:**

1. **Click this link** to go to our invitation page on SignUp.com: <https://signup.com/login/entry/157007715038516071><sup>[3]</sup>
2. **Enter your email address:** (You will NOT need to register an account on SignUp.com)
3. **Sign up!** Choose your spots – SignUp.com will send you an automated confirmation and reminders. Easy!

Walter Yankauskas – KL7WY Cell: 907-351-3992 [walteryak@gmail.com](mailto:walteryak@gmail.com)<sup>[4]</sup>



## New Swap & Shop

Posted By *Kent Petty* On June 29, 2020 @ 5:51 PM In Swap & Shop | [No Comments](#)

We've got a new way to post members' items they'd like to sell or trade on our site. Simply e-mail [swapandshop@kl7aa.org](mailto:swapandshop@kl7aa.org)<sup>[1]</sup> and your listing will get posted as a blog post on the website, pushed out to our Facebook page, Twitter page, and also to the KL7AA Reflector. Oh...yes, and the listing will be included in our monthly newsletter.

Be sure to include:

- Your Name
- Your Callsign (if you have one)
- Contact info – you **MUST** provide either a good telephone number or e-mail address (or both!)
- A clear listing of the equipment or items you have for sale or trade and the prices of each.

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## AARC/RSOC Now Accepts Donated Vehicles of All Types!

GREAT NEWS! The Anchorage Amateur Radio Club (AARC) / Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC) has partnered with Vehicles for Charity. What does this mean? Well, now you have an opportunity to part with unwanted cars, trucks, motorcycles, RVs, campers, ATVs, UTVs, snowmachines, airplanes, heavy equipment, etc. at no cost to you! All proceeds benefiting the AARC / RSOC! Vehicles can be running or not!

Vehicles can be donated at any time and the process is easy. The proceeds of each donation benefit the AARC / RSOC, an organization devoted to supporting our community through emergency communications and STEM education.

The AARC / RSOC will use support from the vehicle donation program to help fund many worthy initiatives, including operation of the RSOC itself, repeater sites, purchase of new emergency communications and training equipment, resources for our training room, test gear, operation of our heavy emergency communication heavy rolling stock, etc. For example, a recent fundraising event outside of the vehicle for donation program enabled us to purchase a badly needed new set of tires for our Ford F-350 communications support/response vehicle.

## HOW TO DONATE

The process is simple and you can donate by going to vehicle donation page at: <http://www.vehiclesforcharity.org/Donate/AARC.html> <sup>[1]</sup>.

The donated vehicle is usually picked up in 3-5 days at the donor's convenience. Please provide a clean title (if applicable) and make sure the vehicle has no major damage. A receipt for the donation will be sent as a follow-up in the mail which can be used for tax purposes.

Maybe it's time to let go of that clunker you'd had in the driveway, or maybe even a herd of vehicles on the back of the property! We could sure use your help!



# How to Keep Tabs on the AARC / RSOC

What are the various ways we attempt to keep our members informed about the ongoings of the club and maybe other interesting topics related to amateur radio? Well, we've got more than one! Let me list the ways!

1 **General Membership Meetings:** Held on the 2nd Thursday of every month at 7 pm. If it weren't for COVID-19, we'd be having these meetings in-person at the RSOC. Until COVID-19 resolves, we're holding these meetings via ZOOM. The next meeting is scheduled for January 7. Go to the club's website to get the Zoom link. You can find our calendar listed on our main webpage at [kl7aa.org](http://kl7aa.org), but you can go directly to our calendar at <https://kl7aa.org/events/> <sup>[1]</sup>.

**Monthly Newsletters:** If you are a club member, you should be receiving our monthly newsletter via e-mail when it publishes. If you are a member and you are NOT receiving the monthly newsletter via e-mail, please let us know at [editor@kl7aa.org](mailto:editor@kl7aa.org) <sup>[2]</sup>. Of course, ANYONE can find our current and archived newsletters on our website at <https://kl7aa.org/newsletters/> <sup>[3]</sup>

1 **Webpage:** Lot's of information is located on our webpage. The home page is located at <https://kl7aa.org/> <sup>[4]</sup>

**Blog Posts:** We put out blog posts on our website. These can be found on our home page on the website at <https://kl7aa.org/> <sup>[4]</sup>, or directly at <https://kl7aa.org/blog/> <sup>[5]</sup>. Typically, our blog posts also get inserted in our newsletter and are also "pushed" out to our Facebook and Twitter pages. More on Facebook and Twitter below.

1 **Facebook:** Our Facebook page is located at <https://www.facebook.com/kl7aa/> <sup>[6]</sup>. As mentioned above, most activity is related to blog posts we put out, but there is some other action if you are into that sort of thing! We have 344 followers.

1. **Twitter:** Yes, we have a Twitter account, @AnchorageARC. Our blog posts show up there for sure. Right now we have 42 followers.

2. **KL7AA Reflector:** What does the reflector do? Well, if you send an e-mail to it from your registered e-mail address, that message will be distributed to the 151 current subscribers on the list! It's a great way to get info out to the group, and a great way to keep up with some of the current happenings. Further, as a registered member of the list, you can get a list of the other registered members (well, at least those who don't opt to conceal their identity in the options), can set the system to give you daily messages, and set a number of other options. To join the reflector go to <http://www.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/kl7aa> <sup>[7]</sup>

There, you can subscribe and get started. It's pretty simple and straight forward, but if you need help, give us a shout at [info@kl7aa.org](mailto:info@kl7aa.org) <sup>[8]</sup>.

Happy New Year!

# Have you signed up to support YOUR Radio Club?



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 UB064.

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.

(Fred Meyer can be done via Internet)

## **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 of dues and donations. See Kent Petty KL5T at the next club meeting, club working Wednesdays or Board meetings.

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

Thanks Kent KL5T, for setting this up!!



## 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](http://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:** Meets on 146.52 FM then shifts to 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) - Wednesdays 8:00PM

**Alaska VHF Up Net:** 144.200 USB—Saturdays 9:30 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](http://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](mailto:AL7N@winlink.org))

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

**ERC HF Net:** 3.880 MHz 8:30pm Sundays



## Update from TJ Sheffield, KL7TS (Net Manager of South Central Simplex Net):

The order of operations have changed to better fit the equipment available at the club.

After each excursion to a different band/mode, they return to 146.520 FM simplex and ask for questions, comments, late check-ins or one-way signal reports before moving on to the next frequency/mode:

146.520 FM

144.200 USB

446.000 FM

432.200 USB

223.500 FM

52.525 FM

50.125 USB

29.600 FM

28.400 USB

29.075 AM

27.035 USB—Citizens Band (CB) Channel 7

927.500 FM

1294.500 FM

1296.100 USB

145.010 Eagle Node (packet)

147.960 Valley Node (packet)

144.390 APRS (text message check-in). Listen for instructions from Net Control with regard to APRS callsign/SSID



If you squint you can see the new RSOC logo flag

**REMINDER** that the South Central Simplex Net is every **Wednesday** starting at **2000 (8pm AST)**

Per TJ, KL7TS, in September there were 5 operating sessions with 530 individual band/mode check-ins, for an average of 33.1 per week.

<b>DATA YOU CAN USE</b>				
<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Tone</b>	<b>Callsign</b>	<b>Features</b>	<b>Area</b>
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		Anchorage, Wasilla, Northern Kenai
224.94-	no tone	KL7AA		Anchorage, Wasilla, Northern Kenai
444.70+	103.5	KL7AA		Anchorage, Wasilla, Northern Kenai
146.67-	103.5	KL7AIR	MARS station	Anchorage & Highway N
147.30+	141.3	KL7ION		Anchorage, Wasilla, Northern Kenai
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	KL7PM		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

<b>South Central Area Simplex Frequencies</b>	
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

<b>WinLink Information</b>		
144.91	WL7CVG-10	Anchorage Area RMS, 1200 baud
145.19	KL7JFT-10	Palmer/Mat-Su RMS
144.91	WL7CVG-4	South Central Digipeater, 1200 baud
144.97	KL7AA-10	Anchorage Area RMS, 1200 baud
223.66	WL7CVG-10	Anchorage Area RMS, 9600 baud
441.175	WL7CVG-10	Anchorage Area RMS, 9600 baud



# Support Amateur Radio in Anchorage, Alaska

Donate online or mail this coupon to AARC, PO Box 190192, Anchorage, AK 99519

Online donation is convenient and secure at <https://kl7aa.org/> , select donations at the top right of the home page.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

I want to make a one-time general donation

\$25  \$50  \$75  \$100  \$250  \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I want to make regular monthly donations. *Thank you for your ongoing support! Indicate the monthly amount:*

\$25  \$50  \$75  \$100  \$250  \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I want to sponsor a specific project/program.  
*Sponsorships are \$25 monthly*

Please send me a supply of donation envelopes

Please charge my credit card below



Why donate? The Anchorage Amateur Radio Club is a nonprofit organization (501C3) that supports community program communications such as the Anchorage RunFest, Walk and Roll for Hope, the Dog Jog, Tour de Cure, Alaska Run for

Women, The Women's Gold Nugget Triathlon and Team Rubicon. We also periodically practice our emergency communication skills in case of a major disaster such as an earthquake. Our equipment is both battery and generator backed up. We are run only by donations and volunteers. Please donate to this worthy organization.

Total donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check or money order enclosed

VISA  MasterCard Exp: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV code: \_\_\_\_\_

Account # \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to be kept up to date on AARC activities; please send me your monthly newsletter