



Anchorage Amateur Radio Club, Inc. – KL7AA
Radio Science and Operations Center – KL7G
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NEWSLETTER

May 7, 2023



AARC – 76 Years of Service

Our Mission

The mission of the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club is to vigorously promote, support, and lead amateur radio activities in a manner that honors and exemplifies the [radio amateur's code](#), builds esprit de corps within our membership, and serves our community's needs.

Our Vision

An inclusive community of engaged, trained, and prepared emergency communication volunteers

RSOC Motto

Learn, Teach, Serve

AARC Anti-discrimination Policy

Our Club does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations.

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club Inc is a 501(c)(3) IRS Tax Exempt Charitable Organization (EIN: 23-7225693)

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How to Keep Tabs on the AARC / RSOC

General Membership Meetings

Held on the 1st 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. We hope to restart modified meeting soon with in-person / Zoom participation. Go to the club's website to get the Zoom link. You can find our calendar listed on our main webpage at kl7aa.org, but you can go directly to our calendar at <https://kl7aa.org/events/>.

Monthly Newsletters

If you are a club member, you should be receiving notice of the posting of our monthly newsletter via e-mail when it publishes. If you are a member and you are NOT receiving these notices of the newsletter posting via e-mail, please let us know at editor@kl7aa.org. Of course, ANYONE can find our current and archived newsletters on our website at <https://kl7aa.org/newsletters/>

Webpage

Lots of information is located on our webpage. The home page is located at <https://kl7aa.org/>

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/>, or directly at <https://kl7aa.org/blog/>. 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.

Facebook

Our Facebook page is located at <https://www.facebook.com/kl7aa/>. 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 668 followers (+23 from last report).

Twitter

Yes, we have a Twitter account, @AnchorageARC. Our blog posts show up there for sure. Right now we have 60 followers (+ 4 from last report).

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 150 current subscribers on the list (- 3 from last report)! 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>

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.

Have You Seen the AARC / RSOC Video?

Check out our cool 5-minute video about the AARC and the Radio Science and Operations Center. Many thanks to Mark Sabel, WD6BMJ and others who worked so hard to make this a reality! [Click here to access the video](#)

Alternatively, visit the club website at: <https://kl7aa.org/>

Then hover on "About"


Then select "RSOC Story Video"

Donations – How To Support Us

The AARC / RSOC can't operate and maintain the resources we own without adequate funding. Expenses include rent for repeater sites, web and telephone services, Radio Science and Operations Center facility rent, insurance, vehicle and generator fuel, vehicle registration, etc.

We can accept tax-deductible donations as we are a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. We are happy to accept direct donations or contributions but are always exploring other ways to generate the needed income to fund our important activities.

Here are some ways you can support us:

- [Pick.Click.Give.](#) 
- Donate cash here: <https://kl7aa.org/donations/cash/>
- Send us a check written to "AARC" mailed to:
AARC
PO Box 190192
Anchorage, AK 99519
- Donate a vehicle (even a non-running junker), or a 4-wheeler, or a snowmachine, or a boat, or an RV, etc., etc. How? Check this page out: <https://kl7aa.org/donations/aarc-rsoc-vehicle-donation-program/>
- Link your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club under the Fred Meyer Community Rewards Program. How? Check this page out: <https://kl7aa.org/donations/fred-meyer-community-rewards/>

Our Board of Directors

Position	Name	Call	Term Ends	Contact
President	Richard Tweet	KL2AZ	12/31/2024	President (at) kl7aa.org
Vice President	TJ Sheffield	KL7TS	12/31/2023	Vicepresident (at) kl7aa.org
Secretary	Lara Baker	AL2R	12/31/2024	Secretary (at) kl7aa.org
Treasurer	Kent Petty	KL5T	12/31/2023	Treasurer (at) kl7aa.org
Director	John Lime	KL4OF	12/31/2024	Kl4of (at) kl7aa.org
Director	Keith Clark	KL7MM	12/31/2024	Trustee (at) kl7aa.org
Director	Kevin Opalka	KL1V	12/31/2024	Kevin.opalka (at) kl7aa.org
Director	Matt Ostrander	KL4QH	12/31/2025	Kl4qh (at) kl7aa.org
Director	Walter Yankauskas	KL7WY	12/31/2025	Waltery.yankauskas (at) kl7aa.org
Director	Riley Petty	KL4RP	12/31/2025	Riley.petty (at) kl7aa.org
Director	Dave Webb	N9AIG	12/31/2023	n9aig (at) kl7aa.org
Director	Matt Notte	WL4DX	12/31/2023	Matt.notte (at) kl7aa.org
Director	Louis Tozzi (Wigi)	KL0R	12/31/2023	Wigi.tozzi (at) kl7aa.org

From the Prez

Greetings to the membership of the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club (AARC). A **HUGE** thank you to Kent Petty KL5T for putting this newsletter together.

Today marked the beginning of this summer's Public Service events which involve the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club. I believe this was the first time we have participated in 2 events on the same chilly spring day. The Walk and Roll for Hope volunteers operated on the 146.94 Glenn Alps repeater while the MS Walk: Anchorage 2023 operated on the Anchorage simplex frequency of 146.49.

Upcoming radio club volunteer opportunities for the Gold Nugget Triathlon, Alaska Run for Women, The Dog Jog and The Runfest events are all available via the KL7AA.org home page. Scroll down the page to find contact information as well as a description of the event. Please consider volunteering as this is a great way to showcase your radio club and maintain an interest from major groups in the area.

Participation by the AARC is appreciated by the event coordinators and is a great opportunity to gain experience and training during a **fun** event while being appreciated at the same time. Please don't hesitate to sign up for these events. If you are a new ham and are hesitant, don't worry as you can be paired with an experienced volunteer to gain experience and learn the hobby.

And the end of Kent Petty, KL5T's, Treasurer term which ends 12/31/23, the AARC will have an open Treasurer position on the Board. This is a very important position for the club and does require a time commitment in order to provide timely QuickBooks reports, donation tracking, bill payment, etc. If anyone has experience and an interest in this position prior to the vacancy, please email info@kl7aa.org and we will contact you.

Just a reminder the Alaska Permanent Fund [Pick.Click.Give.](#) program allows for donations to be made through August 31st of this year. The Anchorage Amateur Radio club is a registered non-profit organization and is eligible to be selected as a recipient through this program. Please remember your local radio club this year. As most are aware, the regular income source for the AARC ended several years ago with the closure of Boniface Bingo, who was utilizing the AARC's gaming permit. Due to this, your club relies primarily on donations, and if successful, grants to continue operation. Your club was successful in receiving a grant from the American Radio Relay League Foundation (ARRLF) in September of 2022 which allowed for and was used for club utility/operating expenses.

I consider myself fortunate to serve as your current club President and welcome your comments and suggestions to help this club continue to grow and prosper. I can be reached via email at President@kl7aa.org.

Richard Tweet KL2AZ, AARC President

COVID-19 and AARC Meetings

Protective Measures

Masks – mandatory. Vaccinations and vaccination boosters – highly recommended.
Handwashing - Recommended

Meetings and Events

Group activities at the RSOC continue to be modified. Board meetings Zoom/In-person. General membership meetings, finance meetings, development committee meetings continue to be held via Zoom. Civil Air Patrol meetings are held under the guidance of current CAP guidelines. Contact info@kl7aa.org with any questions.

Operations and Procedures

Operations for SHARES, South Central Simplex Net, and working Saturdays continue. We are still mask-mandatory inside the RSOC. Contact info@kl7aa.org with any questions.

Public Service Activities

Members of the AARC provide communications and logistics support for a host of events throughout the year. Usually during the warm months. These events are usually a charity fund raising race.

What exactly do we do at these events?

- We support the charity that is running the event.
- Emergency Communications Training for us. There is almost no better practice available for disaster Emergency Communications (EmComm) operations than a live sporting event! Equipment is put to the test every year to keep it running well and to keep improving it. Each time an Anchorage Amateur Radio Club member deploys, he or she gains valuable experience on what works well, and what doesn't. We must be ready for the unexpected, the unusual.
- Situational awareness: A few minutes after the race starts, the race committee does not know what is happening on the course. We are their eyes and ears on the trail. The ham radio volunteers give updates as the leaders pass by. Should anyone have problems, they can report to a ham radio volunteer, and we can work to solve the problem. Sometimes racers drop out of the race. If they drop at an aid station, we can report the name and bib number in case family or friends are looking for them.
- Safety: We do not worry much about the elite athletes at the front of the pack. We are more concerned with the racers at the back of the pack that are not sure that they will even finish the race. We don't leave until every racer is accounted for. This being Alaska, there is a possibility of bears and moose on the trail.
- Public relations: Put on a safety vest, grab a clipboard and a handheld radio and you are now an expert. People will now ask you about the race, radios, the weather, geography, history, landmarks, bears, salmon, eagles, and even the "moose breeding grounds"!
- It's rewarding to volunteer your time. You will remember when a marathon runner that is more than 3 hours and more than 24 miles into the race smiles, waves and says "thank you for volunteering".
- It's fun!

What radio equipment do we use?

Generally you will use a 2 meter VHF handheld transceiver (HT). We encourage you to get a better antenna than the "rubber duckie" that comes with your radio. A better antenna, like from [Signal Stick](#) will improve your transmission and reception.

If you are at a noisy location (next to a highway, next to the PA system at a start or finish line, next to a band along a trail), you might want a headset with a boom microphone.



Another option is a Speaker Microphone.

If you are at a location on the road system, you can use a mobile radio with antenna mounted on your vehicle. You can also bring a spare large battery, a mobile transceiver, and a mag-mount antenna for your roof. Sometime people way out in the bush have brought a vertical antenna mounted high on a tripod, or even a Yagi antenna.

How do I prepare?

Use and be comfortable with your equipment. Participate in the [Southcentral Simplex net](#) with the same equipment that you will use during the event.

A day or three before the event, make sure that you have programmed all the frequencies that are published for the event into your radio. Test that your radio works on all the repeaters and frequencies. You will feel so much better when you find out your radio is mis-programmed at home two days before the event, rather than 15 minutes before the starting gun goes off.

It is a lot more reliable switching between memory channels than going to VFO mode and punching the frequency, offset and tone into your radio on the side of the trail.

Learn how to lock and unlock your HT keyboard. It is embarrassing to stick a perfectly performing radio into a pocket or chest harness, and all of a sudden the volume is way off, or the radio has mysteriously switched frequencies because you fat fingered the keyboard while handling it.

Charge your radio and phone batteries the night before!

Update the contacts on your phone with the phone number for Net Control and the event radio coordinator. Yes we are amateur radio, but if we need to get through, we will use whatever is available.

Look up on a map exactly where you will be positioned in case you need to call 911 in an emergency. Check to see if there are course mile markers near you. It will help the paramedics.

If you have time, go to your checkpoint ahead of time and do a radio test if repeaters are involved. Any issues with your RF path can be dealt with before that 15 minutes before the event starts.

What do I bring?

Like everything else here, it depends. It depends on where you are located, the weather, what stuff you already have.

- As we mentioned before, bring a charged, programmed radio with an antenna. Spare charged battery. Spare radio and battery. Headset or Speaker Microphone.
- Cell phone.
- Your radio manual or cheat sheets for programming it.
- High visibility safety vest. We prefer the lime green variety. The AARC has some amateur radio vests to loan.
- Notepad, pen, pencil.
- Course map, event frequencies on paper.
- A name tag is nice.
- Comfort for you. At the 2022 Gold Nugget Triathlon it was 32 degrees at 7 AM. By the middle of the afternoon it was t-shirt weather. It can range

from t-shirt, shorts, bug dope and sunscreen to windy, rainy, and spitting sleet. Wear layers, dress appropriately.

- Water, cold non-alcoholic drinks, hot drinks, snacks, maybe lunch.
- Folding chair, tarp, pop-up shelter, car, truck, van, RV as appropriate.
- Bear spray, air horn, whistle

How do I carry my HT?

There are a number of ways. Clipped on a belt is not the best because your body shields the antenna. You can hold it in your hand or use a chest harness. Maybe a chest pocket in a jacket. I have a pack with plastic “D” rings on the shoulder strap that I can clip a radio to. Drink pocket on the arm of your folding chair.

What happens on the radio?

There might be some chatter on the radio an hour before the event start. Feel free to check in.

About half an hour before the event starts, Net Control will start the Net. It will start with an announcement, and then a roll call. Finish line folks might not show up for another hour.

We usually use “tactical call signs” during an event. Use your tactical call sign. If you are done talking, you can finish with <your call sign> to signify that you are done.

You will usually go through Net Control for your transmissions.

Let’s say that you are at Goose Lake and the first runner with bib number 351 has just ran by.

“Net Control, Goose Lake”

“Goose Lake, go ahead.”

“Net Control, the first runner with bib number 351 just went by, <your call sign>”

“Bib number 351, Thank you Goose Lake”

If you are trying to keep track of bib numbers, write down the time and the bib number. If it’s been busy on the net you might have to call in with the time and bib number. I also had a case where a runner resigned from the race at the

location I was at. About three hours later I heard that they were looking for that person, because he never finished. Since I had the time and bib number written down, I was able to cancel the search, or at least limit it.

What if someone is hurt?

It is up to your judgment to determine if you are going to call Net Control or 911 first.



Most of our events have paramedics available on the course. They are available to treat an injury, but they do not do emergency transport. If it's a minor injury, we can call a paramedic in. If it's a major injury, call 911. If it's major, we call in the professionals. You are the one that can answer questions about the incident better than Net Control.

After calling 911, call Net Control we might be able to get our paramedics on scene faster than the Fire Department because we are closer. On the radio we will respect the privacy of the patient, no names, no bib numbers, no detailed descriptions "short female, purple hair, Barney the dinosaur t-shirt". Use a cell phone call to Net Control for private medical information.

When can I go home?

The end of the event is a bit tricky to predict. The red lantern might not be the slowest person on the course that day, but they are the slowest at the end of the day. On an all day event, if we have a ton of volunteers, we can schedule two people for the morning, and two people for the afternoon. Sometimes we only get

one person for a location. We usually have a sweep of some sort to follow the last person in. We want to make sure that everyone that started the event finishes.

As the sweep goes by, report the red lantern and sweep to Net Control. Net Control will thank you for your service and release you to go home. Should you need to leave early, please check out with Net Control. Stuff happens, and we are volunteers.

Any other questions or comments?

73 – Walter Yankauskas – KL7WY – cell 907-351-3992
waltyak at gmail.com

Current Service Volunteer Opportunities

Contact: Walter Yankauskas – KL7WY Cell: 907-351-3992 waltyak@gmail.com



Gold Nugget Triathlon, Sunday, May 21, 2023, contact Walter Yankauskas at waltyak@gmail.com or [SIGN UP HERE](#).



Alaska Run for Women, Saturday June 10, 2023, contact Walter Yankauskas at waltyak@gmail.com or [SIGN UP HERE](#).



Field Day, Saturday, June 24, 2023. Contact Kevin Opalka, KL1V at kevin.opalka@kl7aa.org.



Friends of Pets Dog Jog, Saturday, July 22, 2023. Contact TJ Sheffield, KL7TS at vicepresident@kl7aa.org.



Anchorage RunFest, Sunday, August 20, 2023. Contact Keith Clark, KL7MM at aksunlite@aol.com.

Southcentral Simplex Net

Net Manager: TJ Sheffield, KL7TS

John, KL7CY started the Big City Simplex Net many years ago. This Net has evolved into the South-Central Simplex Net (SCSN).

Craig, KL7H suggested that the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club (AARC) take over as Net Control when John relocated to the Lower 48. Once the AARC began hosting the Net, various bands and modes have been added.

The Net begins at 7:00PM local Alaska time, each Wednesday evening, on 146.520 MHz. The Net changes frequencies and modes, but always returns to 146.520 MHz after each excursion. Listen for instructions from Net Control to see where the Net will move next.

The club has hosted the Net since June, 2020 without missing a single week of operation. Following is the net status for 2023:

SOUTH CENTRAL SIMPLEX NET - 2023																
No	Sessions Frequency	4 JAN	4 FEB	5 MAR	4 APR	5 MAY	4 JUN	4 JUL	5 AUG	4 SEP	4 OCT	5 NOV	4 DEC	AVG WK	AVG MO	YR/YR MTH Δ
1	146.52 FM	94	104	138	132									27.5	117.0	6.2%
2	144.2 USB	62	65	90	72									16.9	72.3	18.3%
3	145.67 D-Star	43	48	62	55									12.2	52.0	25.6%
4	446.0 FM	69	81	110	94									20.8	88.5	10.1%
5	432.2 USB	58	60	83	69									15.8	67.5	18.2%
6	441.0 D-Star	41	46	58	53									11.7	49.5	22.0%
7	1294.5 FM	26	31	40	35									7.8	33.0	43.5%
8	1296.1 USB	27	32	41	37									8.1	34.3	39.8%
9	1294.3 D-Star	26	31	35	34									7.4	31.5	39.0%
10	223.5 FM	40	43	67	61									12.4	52.8	11.1%
11	52.525 FM	40	48	62	52									11.9	50.5	11.8%
12	50.125 USB	55	56	75	62									14.6	62.0	16.6%
13	29.6 FM	41	50	65	58									12.6	53.5	9.0%
14	28.4 USB	53	56	75	64									14.6	62.0	14.6%
15	29.075 AM	47	52	70	62									13.6	57.8	17.1%
16	27.035 CB	34	33	42	43									9.0	38.0	7.3%
17	927.5 FM	13	22	26	24									5.0	21.3	32.1%
18	PACKET	28	34	56	36									8.9	38.5	66.8%
19	APRS	30	24	44	32									7.6	32.5	7.4%
20	TOTAL	827	916	1239	1075	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	238.1	1014.3	34.9%

Hamfest Happenings

There will be no Hamfest until we can find a new champion for such an event. Are will to step up?

From the Blog

Please note Items in this section may be obsolete at the time of publishing or reading this newsletter. They are published here as a record of happenings and communications via our website blog. Items are published in the order they were published on our blog.

We welcome contributions of “content” to our website blog and newsletter. In case you hadn’t noticed, anything that lands on the website’s blog also gets published in our newsletter. Oh, yes, and it also gets pushed out to our Facebook page and Twitter pages. Further, members receive an e-mail to let them know about the post, and we even send out a notice on the KL7AA reflector to let folks know about it.

That said, if you’d like to make a post/article on something you find interesting yourself and believe it might be useful for other members of the club, please send your writeup to editor@kl7aa.org ^[1]. Include photos, etc. if you’d like, but please try to have them appropriately sized (compressed).

We’ll review your submission, and so long it is focused on the many facets of our hobby, not offensive, etc., etc., we will be happy to publish it.

Thanks and 73

220 Repeater Awaiting Install

Posted By *Kent Petty* On May 6, 2023 @ 9:31 AM

Sure enough the finals were cooked on the new 220 MHz repeater. We sent it back for repairs and have new finals installed. The repeater is configured and awaiting installation.

It is currently running for testing purposes at the RSOC.

More to follow.

Membership Database Work – All Hands On Deck!

Posted By *Kent Petty* On April 30, 2023 @ 6:51 PM

As many of you know, the club has many life members. While the club was formed in 1947, Life memberships were not offered until September of 1980. Here is a timeline and some interesting history all of which is derived from AARC newsletter archives:

September 5, 1980 General Membership Meeting:

Herb Rosenthal, AL7G, proposed that the club make available a Life Membership for approximately \$100 to be paid either in a lump sum or in a series of payments. Sufficient interest was noted to refer the matter to the Board which will come up with a plan.

September 17, 1980 Board of Directors Meeting:

The Board moved to approve the concept of a regular or associate Life Membership in the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club, to be offered to individual members for \$100 to be paid in a lump sum or over a period not to exceed ten consecutive months, the payment records to be kept in whatever manner the Treasurer sees fit; upon receipt of the entire \$100, members to receive a certificate of lifetime membership, with names to be published in the newsletter; and in the event of default of entire payment, yearly dues to be prorated at prevailing rates. The proposal will be presented as an amendment to the Rules of Procedure at a General Meeting for vote of the membership. Wilse Morgan, KL7CQ, purchased Life Membership No. 1 and Herb Rosenthal, AL7G, put up partial payment on his.

October 3, 1980 General Meeting:

It was moved and seconded that the club institute a new classification for Life Memberships at a cost of \$100 payable either at one time or over a period of ten months, individual memberships to be subject to approval of the general membership. The motion was carried. The group then proceeded to vote individually to accept the following for Life Membership:

1. KL7CQ Wilse Morgan
2. KL7GNP John Bierman
3. KL7AM Bob Hisamoto
4. KL7ITI Bill Reiter
5. KL7FS Art Chase
6. KL7EB Dave Stevens
7. KL7IW Walt Burkevich

8. KL7JIG Herb Brasseur
9. AL7G Herb Rosenthal

November 7, 1980 General Meeting:

Life Membership certificates were presented to the first ten Life Members. The club voted to approve the following Life Members: Roy Hansen, KL7GQ, Les Callison, KL7GRT, and Steve Wilcox, KL7JIM.

November 19, 1980 Board of Directors Meeting:

Marian Arlin asked about the status of Faye Johnstone with respect to Life Membership. The four honorary Life Members will be presented with certificates bearing the word "Honorary" in lieu of a number. A heated discussion dealt with the issue of the numbering system and the question of whether general membership voting on Life Membership was necessary. A motion to substitute Board of Directors for general membership voting was defeated. A motion proposed by Steve Norrell, seconded and carried, read as follows: "Life members will be numbered sequentially on the basis of when the \$100 is paid in full. Life Membership will be voted on at the earliest regular meeting after the \$100 is paid."

January 1981 Newsletter:

The following is a list of new lifers voted on by the general membership with their respective life numbers. These memberships are still proving to be quite popular. If you have started paying on an installment basis, please remember that the \$100 has to be paid up by the end of 10 months or be forfeited and reapportioned as regular membership.

LIFE MEMBERS VOTED NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

10. Ed Tucker, KL7DU
11. Lloyd Fuller, KL7JGN
12. Roy Hansen, KL7GQ
13. Harley Steward, KL7IZZ
14. Lee Callison, KL7GRT
15. Steve Wilcox, KL7JIM
16. Betty Rhodes, KL7AP
17. Jim Moody, NL7C

January 2, 1981 General Meeting:

Three new life members were voted upon:

18. Hal DeVoe, KL7NF

19. Pat Beaugard, KL7EJ

20. Tim Pettis, KL7WE

Following newsletters list additional Life Members added each month. Yes, the record suggests that our Board of Directors needs to address our current process relative to Life Membership applications and processing.

The “OLD” Life Membership database I have includes 183 Life Members, plus 2 Honorary Life members. We have many new life members in a “current database”, but those “New” Life Members haven’t been assigned “Life Member” numbers. My effort now is to reconcile the old database with the new database, assign Life Member numbers to the “New” Life Members, and to secure good contact information for all Life Members. Hence the numerous e-mails many of you have received from me asking for information about legacy Life Members that we have lost track of.

There are a few things I am working on to help everyone know their Life Membership status and to give anyone a way to let us know of changes to member data and to report Silent Keys, etc. There are 2 specific things we will do:

1. We will post our Life Member roster on the website. [CLICK HERE TO SEE THE LIFE MEMBER ROSTER](#) ^[1]

2. We will provide a way to report contact info, Silent Keys, etc. via an online form. [CLICK HERE TO SEE THE FORM](#) ^[2]

This is certainly not a full-proof solution to the challenge of keeping up with everyone, but it should indeed help.

I ask that everyone please do their best to help with this effort. Together we can get our membership database up to speed and establish continuity with our members.

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!



AARC Challenge Coin – Pick Your Coin # Offering Status

Posted By *Kent Petty* On April 27, 2023 @ 8:18 AM

We've had quite a few folks pick out their favorite coin number during our initial offering of the beautiful AARC / RSOC challenge coins. There are still a few excellent numbers available including:

#047 – The year the club was formed (1947)

#088 – “hugs” or “hugs and kisses”

The lowest serial number currently available is #005.

I've updated the selection offering so that only those coins currently available are on the drop-down list. The cost to purchase the coin number of your choice is \$100. However, we will only let this premium offer run for a couple more days. After that, the coin price will revert to \$20 but the coins will be issued out in sequence (in other words, you won't be able to pick your desired serial number).

The coins:

Size: 2-inch diameter

Front: AARC graphics

Rear: RSOC graphics

Total coins produced: 100 (serial numbers 001 through 100)

The artwork for these coins was designed by one of your Board members, Riley Petty, KL4RP. All coins will be mailed via USPS unless you wish to pick them up at the RSOC. If you wish to pick up your coin at the RSOC, please be sure to send an e-mail to treasurer@kl7aa.org promptly after your purchase so your coins will indeed be held for pickup.

If you elect to pick up your coin at the RSOC, you can stop by the RSOC on Wednesday mornings from 0700 – 1100, Wednesday evenings from 1800 – 2100, or Saturdays from 0900 – 1200.

[Click here to purchase your coin!](#)

Another Look Back, and Forward, K1ZAT/NL7 — W1JD

Posted By *Kent Petty* On April 25, 2023 @ 7:49 AM

This article is targeted at our current team of 122 credentialed Volunteer Examiners (VEs), but hopefully, some others in the club remember this important individual. JD is currently CRITICALLY involved in our VEC program and was one of our original VEs. I stumbled across this nice little piece of recognition from an AARC Newsletter from February of 1984. JD, Thanks for your 40+ years of service to our club and 60+ years of service to the amateur community!

The following is an excerpt from that February 1984 AARC Newsletter....

*** H A M O F T H E Y E A R ***

JD Delancy, K1ZAT/NL7 was selected as the AARC "Ham of the Year for 1983" during the general membership meeting on 6 Jan 84. The selection for this honor is made thru a closed ballot vote without nominations or campaign speeches. The selection represents the spontaneous feeling of the general membership towards an individual and his/her contributions to the club.

JD has been involved in the AARC since he first arrived in Anchorage in January 1980. He fully supports all public service events that the AARC is involved in. The annual Messages-to-Mom project and the Iditarod dog sled race are examples of involvement. During the 1983 Mothers Day message project JD processed and transmitted over 1,600 of the approximately 3,000 messages collected.

JD is the older of an Extra Class license and has held an amateur license, with the same callsign, since 1961. He is a member of the Armed Forces with over 18 years active service in the Air Force and is a member of the AARC Board of Directors. JD is one of the control operators for the KL7AA repeaters and was the spark plug behind the establishment of the only open 220 Mhz repeater in Alaska. His contributions to the club and its activities reflect great credit upon himself and the AARC, and this is reinforced by your selection of him for the HAM OF THE YEAR award.



Witse G. Morgan, KL7CQ
President

A Look Back – Anchorage ARC VEC – 1984

Posted By *Kent Petty* On April 24, 2023 @ 12:43 PM

The following is an extract about Wilse Morgan, WX7P (formerly KL7CQ) from the Spokane DX Association (<https://sdxa.org/?p=3321> ^[1]) and the Anchorage ARC VEC — The publication date is unclear, but was likely sometime in 2013.

Note: Sadly, Wilse passed away on June 13, 2013

1984: Volunteer Examiner Program

In 1979, Wilse Morgan, KL7CQ wrote a letter on behalf of AARC to the FCC to become the first Volunteer Examiner in the country. 1983, He made a proposal to the FCC for the Volunteer Examiner program.

Witse was the first certified VE in the country, and on April 14, 1984 AARC was approved as the FIRST VEC COORDINATOR PROGRAM in the nation. In 1984, the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club through the leadership of Wilse Morgan, KL7CQ the Federal Communications Commission appointed the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club as its first volunteer examiner coordinator (VEC) in the United States. This program authorized [on] December 1, 1983, allowed examinations for amateur radio operator licenses to be given by volunteer examiners drawn from the private sector. VE accredit volunteers administer the examinations and coordinate the entire program in a specific region. The Anchorage Amateur Radio Club was appointed the VEC for the State of Alaska, FCC Region 11. Today, the AARC VEC still plays an active role in the national NCVEC program through development of the Question pools used on the examinations and the AARC VEC continues to maintain the majority of the VE Examinations offered in Alaska. These programs are offered free of costs to all participating operators. The program has also been trying to prototype an online internet testing program to be available to remote Alaska.



Witse and Gimme with niece Anna Lee and her boys in Alaska at 2008 Ham conference in Anchorage



Raffle Started!!! – RAVN Alaska \$1,098 Flight Voucher

Posted By *Kent Petty* On April 21, 2023 @ 5:27 PM

One of our members has donated a RAVN Alaska ticket voucher valued at **\$1,098** to the club to Raffle off as a fundraiser. This voucher is valid until July 15th, 2023, but so long as it is used by July 15th it can be used to purchase tickets for travel after July 15, 2023. We have contacted RAVN Alaska directly to confirm that this voucher can indeed be easily used to pay for RAVN tickets. You simply “pay” by entering the voucher code.

RAFFLE – RAVN Alaska \$1,098 Flight Ticket Voucher

— Voucher must be used by July 15, 2023, but can be used to purchase flights for AFTER July 15, 2023.

Date of Drawing: May 15, 2023, 7 PM Alaska Time – Electronically Online

Permittee / Permit No: Anchorage Amateur Radio Club Inc / Permit 191

Price: \$5.00 per ticket

Winner does not need to be present to win.

Maximum tickets: 500

[LINK TO AARC PERMIT](#)

RAVN currently flies to Anchorage, Kenai, Homer, Valdez, Aniak, Unalakleet, St. Paul Island, Unalaska/Dutch Harbor, Cold Bay, Sand Point, and St. Mary's.

Important information:

Alaska Department of Revenue 2023 Charitable Gaming Permit Information:

Permit No: 191

Permittee: Anchorage Amateur Radio Club Inc, PO Box 190192, Anchorage, AK 99519-0192

Effective: 1/12/2023 – 12/31/2023 Raffle or Lottery

NOTE: Raffle ticket purchasers must certify that they are of legal purchasing age and that they are located in Alaska. They must further certify that they are not physically present in an area of Alaska that prohibits charitable gaming.

[**CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS NOW!**](#)

“Roving” in April

Posted By *Dave Webb* On April 21, 2023 @ 4:13 PM

Written by: Dave N9AIG
April 20, 2023

If you perform a search on this website and look for “To Go” cases, you will find an article that I wrote in November of 2022 and published here in February 2023. That case, as photographed, has been revised.



Here's a picture of the revised Gator case

I found that every switch, jumper, or fitting that I added contributed to SWR back to the radios. I used Amphenol connectors, LMR 400 factory coax jumpers, but UHF frequencies don't appear to like going through switches and around 90-degree fittings. So, I removed all of them; I went back to basics. That is, each radio has a coax that goes directly to a resonant antenna without fittings, jumpers, or switches.

The performance result was significant, but it did result in a portable antenna farm.



Here's a picture of my 4Runner with three antennas installed on a 25' mast

The top antenna is a Dimond X-6000 that tunes 2 meters, 440 MHz, and 1.2 GHz (O.K. there is a Dimond triplexer connected, but the IC-9700 seems to be happy with it). The next antenna down the mast is a M2 900-5 for the GTX radio and finally a M2-220-5 for the TYT 220 MHz radio. LMR 400 coax was used throughout the installation.



Here's another picture taken at Government Peak recreational area

The drive to Government Peak is about 50 minutes from Eagle River and setup time on the Red Rover is about 75 minutes. Take down time is about 45 minutes. During the South Central Simplex Net it was to hear call signs that I could not receive at my home QTH. I was also able to perform a service to the net by relaying in signals that could not be heard at the RSOC.

Because of the nice weather, I plan to rove on Wednesday evening as weather permits and the availability of my XYL to assist in setting up the portable antenna farm.

The next step is to add an IC-7610 to the mix. I have a trapped dipole by Dimond that should fit on the mast, but I may be going to a taller mast and a few guy ropes.

73s N9AIG



The Inaugural AARC / RSOC challenge coin is now available!

Posted By *Kent Petty* On April 20, 2023 @ 1:18 PM

The inaugural run of beautiful AARC / RSOC challenge coins is available for sale at a premium price of \$100. Under this premium limited-time initial offering, purchasers can choose a serial number of their choice, but first come first served! We expect to run this premium offer for about 2 weeks. Once the premium offering is over, the coin price will revert to \$20 but the coins will be issued out in the order received (in other words, you won't be able to pick your desired serial number).

Coins available are serial numbers 002 – 099. Coins #001 and #100 are being withheld to be installed on a shadow box at the RSOC.

The coins:
Size: 2-inch diameter
Front: AARC graphics
Rear: RSOC graphics
Total coins produced: 100 (serial numbers 001 through 100)

The artwork for these coins was designed by one of your Board members, Riley Petty, KL4RP. All coins will be mailed via USPS unless you wish to pick them up at the RSOC. If you wish to pick up your coin at the RSOC, please be sure to send an e-mail to treasurer@kl7aa.org promptly after your purchase so your coins will indeed be held for pickup.

If you elect to pick up your coin at the RSOC, you can stop by the RSOC on Wednesday mornings from 0700 – 1100, Wednesday evenings from 1800 – 2100, or Saturdays from 0900 – 1200.

[Click here to purchase your coin!](#)

NASA Names Three Hams for Artemis II Moon Mission Crew

Posted By *Kent Petty* On April 6, 2023 @ 1:26 PM

The following is an extract from the ARRL Letter, April 6, 2023 and republished here in accordance with their permission instructions. This is published for informational and educational purposes.

NASA and the Canadian Space Agency (CSA) announced the four astronauts who will venture around the moon on Artemis II. This will be the first crewed mission on NASA's path to establishing long-term moon science and exploration development. The agencies revealed the crew members on Monday, April 3, 2023, during an event at Ellington Field near NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. Three of the four crew members are amateur radio operators.

"The Artemis II crew represents thousands of people working tirelessly to bring us to the stars. This is their crew, this is our crew, this is humanity's crew," said NASA Administrator Bill Nelson. "NASA astronauts Reid Wiseman, Victor Glover, and Christina Hammock Koch, and CSA astronaut Jeremy Hansen, each has their own story, but together, they represent our creed: E pluribus unum – out of many, one. Together, we are ushering in a new era of exploration for a new generation of star sailors and dreamers – the Artemis Generation."

The crew will work as a team to execute an ambitious set of demonstrations during the flight test.

Their assignments are as follows: Commander Reid Wiseman, KF5LKT, Pilot Victor Glover, KI5BKC, Mission Specialist 1 Christina Hammock Koch, and Mission Specialist 2 Jeremy Hansen, KF5LKH. Koch had planned to study and take her amateur license exam in 2019, but her flight was suddenly rescheduled 6 months earlier than originally planned. She had to immediately begin preparing for her flight instead of studying.



The crew of NASA's Artemis II mission (left to right): NASA astronauts Christina Hammock Koch, Reid Wiseman KF5LKT, (seated), Victor Glover, KI5BKC, and CSA astronaut Jeremy Hansen, KF5LKH. Credits: NASA.

The Artemis II mission is scheduled to launch in November 2024. The approximately 10-day flight test will launch on the agency's powerful Space Launch System rocket, prove the Orion spacecraft's life-support systems, and validate the capabilities and techniques needed for humans to live and work in deep space.

For more information, visit the [NASA](https://www.nasa.gov) website.

AARC / RSOC Challenge Coin Designed and Ordered!

Posted By *Kent Petty* On March 30, 2023 @ 6:39 AM

We've put together a beautiful organizational challenge coin! These 2-inch diameter coins will each have a unique serial number on the KL7AA side of the coin. We expect to receive our order in 3-4 weeks and will put them up for sale on our website store as soon as we determine a sale price and determine what the individual coin mailing price will be.



We hope that this beauty will be a popular item as a keepsake and as gifts. More to follow!

Radio Club Info Page Added to Anchorage ARC Website

Posted By *Kent Petty* On March 24, 2023 @ 12:39 PM

The Anchorage ARC has added a radio club information page to its website. The page is focused on providing a listing of radio clubs in Alaska, but any club that wishes to be listed can submit their information to be listed.

How to get your club listed? Simply fill out an online form. Within a few days your club's information should be listed on our page. You can view the current page by [clicking here](#) ^[1]. You can submit the form to list or update your club's information by [clicking here](#) ^[2].

Please note that we will be listing an “as of date” on the table that lists your club. We will ask that club’s update their information periodically, so it is possible that you may receive an e-mail from us at the e-mail address you list for your page down the road. Please be sure that the e-mail address you provide is good and is attended to so that those wishing to contact you will have success! Thanks for participating!

Amateur Radio Elmers and AARC

Posted By *Kent Petty* On March 21, 2023 @ 2:01 PM

We all know the importance of mentorship, and in our world of amateur radio we call those mentors “Elmers”. The ARRL defines an Elmer as:

“Someone who provides personal guidance and assistance to would-be hams”.

I saw a better definition provided by Joe Sammartino, N2QOJ of the Queen Creek Amateur Radio Club of Queen Creek, Arizona:

Elmer – “Someone who provides personal guidance and assistance to would-be hams and also to hams that are seeking personal assistance in specific areas of the amateur radio hobby.” N2QOJ

Willing to be an Elmer is really a way to “Give Back” to the hobby, and could also be viewed as a way to “Pay It Forward”. I have sure had a long list of Elmers in my amateur radio “career”, and even though I’m an Extra class operator, I still have LOTS to learn, and learn I do, every day, from fellow hams I consider “Elmers”.

That said, we’ve made a lot of noise in the past about being Elmers and providing Elmers, but it seems as though there is a great opportunity to get a bit more organized in this regard. I’d like to start an “Elmer Registry”. The Elmer Registry will include HAMS (and non-hams) who are willing to indeed be Elmers to new and existing amateurs and will list the Elmer’s areas of expertise. Elmers might then be queried by new or prospective amateurs to help them out on their journey into amateur radio.

If you are willing to join the cadre of Elmers, please [CLICK HERE](#) to fill out our Elmer registration form.

If you need an Elmer, [CLICK HERE](#) to get to a listing of our Elmers.

Technician Exam Prep Course, March 27 – 30

Posted By *Kent Petty* On March 19, 2023 @ 6:15 PM

This from one of our VEs, Scott Rosenfeld, N7JI:
FCC Technician class license.

Online via Zoom

Open to all – please pass it on.

March 27 – 30, Monday-Thursday, 9 AM – 12 AM Pacific Time

A Special License remote license exam session has been set up with the Anchorage ARC VEC for Friday, March 31 at 10 AM Pacific Time

Free class.

Free book.

Free study materials.

Become a part of one of the world's most technical, flexible, and useful hobbies, providing endless opportunities to learn and experiment with new technologies, learn new skills, HAVE FUN, and serve your community.

Email Scott, N7JI to register at

ars.n7ji@gmail.com ^[1]

Thanks!

Battery Lab – Absolyte Battery Bank Fix

Posted By *Kent Petty* On February 27, 2023 @ 10:54 PM

Written by: Dave (Batman) N9AIG
February 24, 2023

The Anchorage Amateur Radio Club receives a variety of donations, and the challenge is to sort out what is usable (or repairable) and what needs to be recycled. Batteries are a donation that is always welcome, but they need to be assessed as to their condition prior to placing them into service. Our biggest battery bank is manufactured by Absolyte; a 12-volt lead-acid AGM type battery that is rated at 1200 amp-hours at a 20-hour discharge rate. The battery is kept on a float charge so that it is always ready in case of an emergency. Recently, this battery bank was exhibiting a leaky cell through the positive terminal. Its voltage was still acceptable, but because of the leak, it was decided to remove the leaky cell and replace it with one of our spare cells that was in better shape. Below is a photograph of the battery with its protective covers removed sitting on machinery rollers:



The task was to remove battery number 6 located on the top battery bank and replace it with battery number 9. Our club is fortunate to have a loaned engine hoist from TJ KL7TS that I was able to use to perform the heavy lifting.

The battery bank bus bar was removed, and the battery was rolled out to separate the two 6-volt sections. The top 6-volt battery was lifted off the bottom section and placed on a moving dolly that

was rated for 1000 pounds (keep in mind that each battery weighs 134 pounds). Below is a photograph of the top section being lifted with an engine hoist:



During the lift and subsequent to lifting, care was exercised to not swing the face of the battery into a conductor. The fault current of a battery of this size is in the thousands of amperes.

Next, the 6-volt battery had to be placed on end so that the bad battery cell could be removed. The following photo shows how the individual cell was removed using the engine hoist:



Note that the battery is lifted by its terminals. Two pieces of steel angle iron were fabricated and then carefully bolted across the battery's positive and negative terminals respectively.

The whole process is reversed to install a replacement cell.

The completed battery is shown below with replacement cell number 9 installed with the buss bar over the top:



The battery protective covers were reinstalled and placed back on a float charger. The whole process of replacing the cell took about 4 hours for one individual.

“To Go” Cases

Posted By *Kent Petty* On February 27, 2023 @ 5:56 PM

Written by: Dave N9AIG
February 25, 2023

The title says “to Go” cases, but I assembled these Gator cases to make it easier to go roving with my VHF/UHF gear. One of the activities I like to participate in is the South-Central Simplex net on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM (Alaska Time). I’ll have to admit that I’m more of a fair-weather rover not because of the cold, ice, snow, and darkness but because it can be frustrating when I drop stainless steel hardware in the snow in the dark. The hardware likes to melt down into the snow while I’m searching for it with a flashlight; it’s usually lost. I rove with an IC-9700, a TYT 220MHz radio, a 22’ Max-Gain Systems fiberglass mast, and a Create log periodic antenna (vertically polarized). For a feed line, I use LMR 400 (ultra-flex). This coax seems to perform O.K., but it is only 35 feet long. At 1.2 GHz I might be losing some signal in the feed line, but maybe the gain of the antenna makes up for it.

KL7AA graciously loaned me a 927.5 MHz radio that I will take along, but I did not build this Motorola GTX radio into the roving box.

One of the motivators in building these cases was seeing an IPortable 6U Pro case that Keith KL7MM purchased. When you go to their website and price the IPortable case, it can be a more cost-effective solution than building custom Gator box cases. However, I was impatient to wait until April 2023 (at the time) for the box to ship, so I built my own. (I think IPortable has improved shipping times as of the writing of this article. DX Engineering also sells IPortable cases.) Here’s a picture of the front of the radio box:



As the label indicates in the lower right-hand corner, the box is relatively heavy at 53.4 pounds.

Here's a picture of the front of the battery box:



I built a second box for the battery because a battery in the radio box would have made the radio box even heavier. The battery box weighs 36.4 pounds.

Here's the back of the battery box:



(Since I've taken this picture, I added two rope cleats to coil up the cord)

Here's the mast mounted on my 4Runner at Government Peak recreation park:



And of course, here's the bill of materials that details what is in each Gator case:

To Go Gator Cases						
No	Item	Price	Quantity	Total Price	Source	Notes
Radio Gator Case						
1	Gator 6U Case 19" Deep	\$234.95	1	\$234.95	Amazon	Gator Cases Pro Series Rotationally Molded 6U Rack Case with Standard 19" Depth; Made in USA (G-PRO-6U-19)
2	Icom IC-9700	\$1,749.95	1	\$1,749.95	Ham Radio Outlet	The price can vary from vendor to vendor; watch for specials
3	TYT 220 Mhz radio	\$145.99	1	\$145.99	Amazon	TYT TH-9000D 220-260MHz Mobile Transceiver
4	Daiwa CS-201G II	\$59.95	1	\$59.95	Ham Radio Outlet	Coax Switch 2 Positions 1500 Watts HF Gold Plated N Connectors - Good to 2000 MHz; Add shipping \$18.00
5	Amphenol Angle Jack	\$19.99	3	\$59.97	Amazon	*Amphenol RF 082-66-RFX connector, rf coaxial, n in-series adapter, cubic body, rt angle plug to jack.*
6	Coax Jumpers	\$43.00	2	\$86.00	DX Engineering	LMR400 ultra flex; shipping \$18.00
7	Gator 1U Plate	\$9.99	1	\$9.99	Amazon	Gator Rackworks Rack Mount Steel Flat Panel Accessory; 1U Size (GRW-PNLSTF11)
8	#4 Machine Screws	\$1.38	2	\$2.76	Lowes	Hillman #4- 40 x 3/4-in Phillips/Slotted Combination-Drive Machine Screws (12-Count)
9	#6 flat washers	\$5.98	1	\$5.98	Lowes	Hillman 100-Count #6 Zinc-plated Standard Flat Washer
10	Icom remote speakers	\$59.95	2	\$119.90	Ham Radio Outlet	ICOM IC-SP35
11	Rack Shelf	\$29.99	3	\$89.97	Amazon	AC Infinity Vented Cantilever 1U Universal Rack Shelf; 10" Deep; for 19" equipment racks. Heavy-Duty 2.4mm Cold Rolled Steel, 60lbs Capacity
Battery Gator Case						
12	3U Gator Case	\$169.99	1	\$169.99	Amazon	Gator Cases Pro Series Rotationally Molded 3U Rack Case with Shallow 13" Depth; Made in USA (G-PRO-3U-13)
13	Bioenno Power battery	\$569.99	1	\$569.99	Bioenno	12V, 60Ah LFP Battery (A05, BLF-1260AS); shipping variable; but they do ship to Alaska
14	Rack Shelf	\$29.99	1	\$29.99	Amazon	AC Infinity Vented Cantilever 1U Universal Rack Shelf; 10" Deep; for 19" equipment racks. Heavy-Duty 2.4mm Cold Rolled Steel, 60lbs Capacity
15	Victron Smart Charger	\$202.30	1	\$202.30	Amazon	Victron Energy Blue Smart IP22 12-Volt 30 amp 120V, Single Output Battery Charger NEMA 5-15, Bluetooth
16	RiGrunner	\$109.99	1	\$109.99	Powerwerx	West Mountain Radio RiGrunner 4006 USB; shipping \$12.50
17	Power meter	\$184.95	1	\$184.95	Ham Radio Outlet	West Mountain PWRCHECK Plus 58430-1564
18	Aluminum angle	\$13.98	1	\$13.98	Lowes	Steelworks 3/4-in W x 3/4-in H x 8-ft L Mill Finished Aluminum Solid Angle
19	Steel plate	\$12.48	2	\$24.96	Lowes	Hillman 3/4-in x 4-ft Interior/Exterior Plain Hot Rolled Steel Solid
20	45 amp Anderson connectors	\$24.99	1	\$24.99	Powerwerx	45 Amp Permanently Bonded Red/Black Anderson Powerpole Connectors 10 pair; \$8.49
21	#10 Twin lead	\$38.59	1	\$38.59	Powerwerx	Red/Black Bonded Zip Cord Easy ID Low Voltage Cable; 25 feet; shipping \$14.00
22	Battery terminal fuse block	\$22.35	1	\$22.35	Amazon	Blue Sea Systems MRBF Surface and Terminal Mount Fuse Block
23	Heat Shrink tubing	\$20.97	1	\$20.97	Polar Wire	1" HEAVY WALL HEAT SHRINK 4" BLACK ADHESIVE LINED
24	Rope cleats for charger cord	\$4.08	2	\$8.16	Lowes	National Hardware N100-314 4-1/2-in Rope Cleat in Nickel
25	Cable Zip Ties	\$3.47	1	\$3.47	Lowes	
26	Battery terminal fuse 40 amp	\$18.38	2	\$36.76	Amazon	Blue Sea Systems Terminal Fuses - one spare

Alaska Region RepeaterBook.com Administrator Steps Up

Posted By *Kent Petty* On February 27, 2023 @ 3:41 PM

From: Chris Hamman, KL5BF

Recently, RepeaterBook.com ^[1] posted that they were looking for a local admin for the Alaska region, someone with connections who would jump on board and take the bull by the horns if you will. So I decided that I would be willing to step up and apply for it. They have enthusiastically accepted me for the role.

Now what I need from you. If you have updates for a repeater, please submit them through the system, otherwise, we have no tracking data for updates to be applied. You must be logged in, and select the repeater that you are the trustee for, which needs an update. On the blue bar, select submit update and you can edit the repeater. When you submit an update I will make sure that you are credited with the update. We only accept updates on repeaters from the trustee.

Signal reports can be submitted by anyone signed on. And the more I know who you are by association, the better off I will be able to trust the reports. We do not want pollution in the database. So if you can get the repeater trustee or a club officer to confirm your contact details with me, that will go a long way toward my being able to accept your inputs for signal reports.

New Anchorage Senior Center Radio Station POC Needed

Posted By *Kent Petty* On February 4, 2023 @ 6:24 PM

Hi all,

Sid Atwood, KL7SID, has served as our Anchorage Senior Center Emergency Coordinator for quite some time. Unfortunately, life changes have forced Sid to step away from this position. We understand Sid, and thank you for your service and wish you and your family well. This is the nature of the amateur radio hobby, and it needs to take second chair when other priorities drive the train!

That said, we are in need of a new individual to be our primary Point of Contact for the Anchorage Senior Center amateur radio station. Are you a participant at the facility or know someone who is? If so, we ask you to please step up or refer someone to us so that we can keep this station alive.

Please contact emergency@kl7aa.org if you are able.

Regards,

Kent Petty, KL5T, Emergency Coordinator
Anchorage Amateur Radio Club
Radio Science and Operations Center

NOTE: Since this posting, Paul Fairchild, AL4F has stepped up to assume this role. Thanks Paul!

Emergency Preparedness – Youth Preparedness Council – Applications Open January 23

Posted By *Kent Petty* On January 20, 2023 @ 11:30 AM

Know any youth in your area interested in Emergency Preparedness?

Students who have a passion for disaster preparedness and helping others, are involved with their community, and enjoy meeting other engaged youth from across the country are encouraged to apply to the Youth Preparedness Council, a FEMA youth-led Council, comprised of 13 members and one chair.

The application period starts January 23, interested teens will be able to apply to join this unique and impactful program that offers an opportunity for teens to share their ideas and feedback with FEMA, improve their leadership skills, and develop preparedness projects. National YPC members also participate in an annual youth summit in Washington, D.C. with FEMA leaders and preparedness professionals to network and learn more about the field of emergency management.

FEMA will host two webinars for potential applicants to learn more about the YPC application process and to ask FEMA staff questions.

[Register for the Jan 30th at 5pm PT Session](#) ^[1]:

https://fema.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltd-GvqDgoHf_f-9OX_JBR7f6LVSW93Y ^[2]

[Register for the Feb 28th at 5pm PT Session](#) ^[3]

<https://fema.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltd-qurjMtHMIYax2T6NbEocKo3c4f9kY> ^[4]

[Read more from current YPC members and learn more about the YPC](#) ^[5]

<https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/individuals-communities/youth-preparedness-council> ^[6]

Rebecca

Rebecca Ligler, BSN, RN | Emergency Preparedness Nurse

Alaska Department of Public Health

Division of Public Health

Southcentral Region | 3601 C Street | Anchorage, AK 99503

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This is True – Last Gasp

Posted By *Kent Petty* On January 20, 2023 @ 11:20 AM

From Randy Cassingham, K0RCC

The Isle of Jersey's Coastguard scrambled a search plane and a lifeboat when it received an emergency distress beacon from somewhere south of the island. The Coastguard knew it had to be an old beacon since it didn't have a GPS component to give its location, and one of the crew had an idea: they contacted a ham radio group to see what they could tell about the signal. They quickly located it — at a recycling center in St. Helier, where there was a “pile of discarded electronics” which, an employee there confirmed, had just been “disturbed.” That apparently activated the device. The Coastguard plane flew over the center and confirmed that's where the signal was coming from, and the search was called off. (RC/Jersey Evening Post) ...*Who was smarter: the ham operators, or the Coastguardsman who thought to ask them?*

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Free Weekend Ham Radio License Prep Class Online

Posted By *Kent Petty* On January 16, 2023 @ 10:50 AM

FREE WEEKEND HAM RADIO CLASS

Get your Technician class license in a weekend!

(I truly don't have anything better to do than teach you radio!)

Feb. 4-5, 2023.

FREE and taught via Zoom.

Saturday 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. PST

Sunday 8 a.m. – noon PST

A remote exam license exam session is available immediately following completion of the class on Sunday.

How to Register? Email name, phone, and email for each attendee to ars.n7ji@gmail.com ^[1]

I'm also a BSA merit badge counselor.

Scott N7JI



Anchorage ARC VEC Resumes In-Person License Exam Testing

Posted By *Kent Petty* On January 8, 2023 @ 8:14 PM

Written by: Kent Petty, KL5T, Chairman, Anchorage ARC VEC
January 8, 2023

The Anchorage ARC VEC is resuming in-person license examination testing at the Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC) at 6721 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, Alaska. The next in-person examination is scheduled for Wednesday, January 25, 2023 at 6 PM.

Please visit the following page to learn more and to register for the exam:

[In-Person Testing Link](#)

Reminder: As of the writing of this post, masks are still required to be worn inside the RSOC. Please bring and wear a mask.

Thanks and 73.

2023-2027 General Class Question Pool Posted

Posted By *Kent Petty* On December 2, 2022 @ 11:23 PM

By: Kent Petty
Date: 12/2/2023

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) Question Pool Committee (QPC) has released the 2023-2027 General Class Question pool. It is available on the [NCVEC website](#) ^[1] and here is [direct link to the document in PDF form](#) ^[2].

According to the QPC Chairman, Rol Anders, K3RA, the final statistics on the new pool are:

Questions modified: 245
Questions deleted: 73
New Questions: 51
Question total 432 vs 454 on the previous pool

The new General Class Question Pool, or “Element 3”, will be replace the current pool of questions on July 1, 2023.

220 MHz Repeater – Giving us Fits

Posted By *Kent Petty* On December 2, 2022 @ 11:12 PM

By: Kent Petty, KL5T
Date: 12/2/2022

Some of you know we’ve been having issues with getting our new 220 MHz repeater online at our Hillside South site. We thought we might have had feedline issues.

We had some other work to do at the site today so we thought we’d give it another go with a different feedline. Unfortunately, that didn’t seem to do the trick. We said “Uncle”, and pulled all the gear (the repeater, the tuning cavities, and the antenna) out and brought it back down to the RSOC for testing and evaluation.

We’ll give everything a once over to see if we can find the issues and with luck, we’ll have this bugger on the air soon.

Hang in there.

73.

By the way, we can ALWAYS use help with keeping our repeaters and other systems online. Don’t be afraid to get involved. Thanks.

Lamp for Yaesu G-450/650 Rotator Controllers Available

Posted By *Kent Petty* On December 2, 2022 @ 10:41 PM

By: Pete Pritchard, KL7IS
Date: 12/2/2022

The Yaesu G-450/650 series of rotator controllers has a proprietary lamp that’s tough to get to. If it burns out I found this little helpful replacement:

<https://www.hamsupply.com/yaesu-illuminator-g-450-650-board/> ^[1]

They also have replacements for: Yaesu G-800/1000/2700 and 2800 Series Controllers

Pete/KL7IS

DeoxIT – Yes you CAN get a form of it shipped to Alaska

Posted By *Kent* Posted By *Kent Petty* On December 2, 2022 @ 10:35 PM

By Pete Pritchard, KL7IS
Date: 12/2/2022

When I've tried to buy and have shipped anything 'good', I always get the, "Not available in Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico..."

So in order to get DeoxIT (magical stuff if you haven't tried), it can be pretty tough.

Well, it so happens they make it in liquid form in a small bottle with an applicator brush, and will ship it to Alaska.

Called DeoxIT D100L and found on Amazon:



Around \$17.

Deoxit is an electrical contact enhancer, conditioner, & protector

[A Look Back](#)

See the Blog Post section of this newsletters for two "Looks back."

RSOC Operations

Radio Science and Operations Center

Operations Update: 2023-04

Station Manager: TJ Sheffield, KL7TS



ACOM AMPLIFIER REPAIR

One of the two ACOM amplifiers is non-operational.

After physically relocating the faulty ACOM amplifier to a work station, we pressed a Ten-Tec Hercules amplifier loaned to the club by KL7TS, into service. This amplifier is powered by 12vdc and draws 80 amps key-down. The DC power is obtained from a battery plant installed by Dave “Batman” Webb, N9AIG.

The Ten-Tec amplifier is located at the North East Operating Position (NEOP) and supports important SHARES (“SHARED RESources”) (i.e., Government) operations, although at a reduced power level of 500 watts, when compared with the legal-limit ACOM amp.

After removing the cover on the ACOM amp, and performing the required high-voltage discharge procedures, we began a visual inspection.

None of the components inside the case appeared compromised, but after discussion with Club President Richard, KL2AZ we both felt that shipping the amplifier to a qualified repair facility for a complete “tune up” would be an appropriate, if expensive, solution.

We contacted the repair facility, Array Solutions, in Texas. Unfortunately, their amplifier repair guy is unavailable and they did not want to take on an amplifier troubleshooting and repair project, so we began a more in-depth investigation on our own.

The two external 240vac input fuse holders were suspect. These devices were not seating properly and arcing was evident on one of them. The first challenge was to stabilize the 240vac input fuse holders.

As reflected by the world we live in, even BUSSMANN replacement products purchased out-of-pocket by KL2AZ, have a noticeably “cheaper” feel than the factory devices we are replacing. The wiring layout and original factory fuse holders are shown:



After further consultation with the owner of Array Solutions, his opinion was that we had one or more bad tubes. This was based on a grid bias reading of 0.000 volts as shown on the remote-control display head during boot-up. With the amplifier case open, we removed a pair of 4CX800A ceramic power tetrodes.

With some trepidation, I ordered a matching pair of tubes from Array Solutions, to replace both of the factory originals. This matching pair of tubes arrived on Saturday and we will begin the tube installation and bias adjustment procedures. The tube installation procedure, provided by Array Solutions, is five pages long.

Reading the installation procedure, phrases like CAUTION and WARNING HIGH VOLTAGE! and VERY HOT! and NO MORE THAN are frequently noted.





HENRY 3K AMPLIFIER NOW ONLINE (TESTING ONLY!)

Sticking with amplifiers, a while back the club received a very generous donation of a Henry Radio 3K Console amplifier.

This amplifier was in unknown condition when it came in the door, but it was assumed operational based on comments from the original owner.

Richard, KL2AZ did the 240vac wiring to bring dedicated power cables from the wall mounted distribution panel to all three high-power amplifier locations.

Kent, KL5T along with KL7TS and KL2AZ connected the power and threw the switch. The “magic smoke” stayed inside the cabinet, but some of the panel indicator lamps were out, so Kent purchased and installed replacement lamps as an out-of-pocket expense.

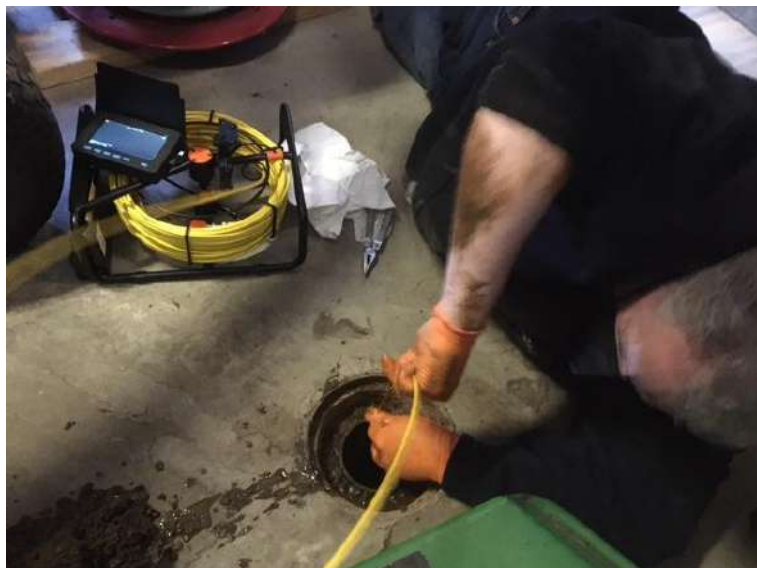
Testing has begun, and so far, the amplifier is working properly on 20 and 40 meters.

Approximately 60 watts of drive produced the legal limit of 1500 watts on 20 meters, and since the amplifier accepts between 60 to 100 watts of input, there may be some overhead available with this device.

Additional tuning solutions will be carefully obtained, tested and recorded on a “cheat sheet” that is being developed to assist qualified operators with the manual tuning process.

There are a variety of console amplifiers built by Henry Radio, using various tube compliments, and we may be lucky enough to have a model that uses a single 3CX1500A7 tube.

3K	1967-1970	3-500Z x 2	3.5-30 MHz	Console-HD supply
3KA	1970-1978	3-500Z x 2	3.5-30 MHz	Console-HD supply
3K Classic – 8877	1980-1984	8877/3CX1500A7	3.5-30 MHz	Console-HD supply
3K Classic X Mk II	1984 to 2004	3CX1200A7	3.5-30 MHz	Console-HD supply
3KD Premier	1985-1999	3CX1200D7	1.8-30 MHz	Desk-1 piece
3KD Premier – 8877	1999 to 2003	8877/3CX1500A7	1.8-30 MHz	Desk-1 piece
3KD Classic	1996-1998	3CX1200D7	3.5-30 MHz	Desk-1 piece
3K Premier	1985 to 2005	3CX1200A7	1.8-30 MHz	Console-HD supply
3K Ultra	1991 to 2005	3CX1200D7	1.8-30 MHz	2 piece-Remote Tune



ROOF DRAIN / FLOOR DRAIN INVESTIGATION

Richard, KL2AZ purchased an inspection camera, out-of-pocket, and generously brought it to the RSOC to obtain more information about the facility's operational characteristics. At the time the camera was first deployed, icing was encountered at about 75 feet down-pipe, so additional work on these systems is scheduled for the summer construction season.

RF EXPOSURE CALCULATIONS

All amateur radio operators are required by FCC rules to calculate safety information regarding the RF field strengths generated by their station. These calculations apply to both the Controlled and Uncontrolled environments surrounding their station.

Station Manager TJ Sheffield, KL7TS is doing the calculations for the RSOC Antenna Field. Useful information, such as an online calculator, is available from the National Association for Amateur Radio, the ARRL:

<http://arrl.org/rf-exposure-calculator>

Example calculations for the RSOC AB-105 tower are shown. These calculations are approximate at present, since an accurate coax length (and type inventory) needs to be obtained. We will use the AIM-UHF analyzer and its Time Domain Reflectometer (TDR) function to determine accurate lengths:

RSOC RF EXPOSURE CALCULATIONS: CONTROLLED & UNCONTROLLED ENVIRONMENTS																				
	TOWER	ANT HEIGHT	ANTENNA	INPUT POWER	FREQ MHz	ELE	dBi GAIN	COAX TYPE	COAX LENG	MATCH SWR	TOTAL LOSS, dB	PWR ANT	DUTY CYCL	ON TIME	OFF TIME	ANT DIST	MIN CNTL	MIN UNCN	RESULT C	U
1	AB-105	53	YAGI	1500	13.800	3	9.0	LMR-400	103	1.2	0.457	1350.1	100%	5	5	46.2	20.4	35.3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	AB-105	55	LOG PERIODIC	100	146.520	MULT	10.0	LMR-400	105	1.8	1.754	66.8	100%	5	5	48.1	11.0	19.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	AB-105	57	COMET GP9 VHF	100	146.520	1	8.5	LMR-400	107	1.8	1.786	66.3	100%	5	5	50.0	11.0	19.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4	AB-105	57	COMET GP9 UHF	100	446.000	1	11.9	LMR-400	107	1.8	3.136	48.6	100%	5	5	50.0	7.7	13.4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
For coax loss calculator see: https://www.qsl.net/co8sw/Coax_Calculator.htm																				
For RF exposure calculator see: http://arrl.org/rf-exposure-calculator																				
AB-105 tower base is measured at 14' from the tower base to inside the Operations Center, north wall. Assume a 6' tall person. Assume Ops Center floor is 3' above grade. Thru bearing tower height measured at 51' above grade.																				
Antenna distance is the "slant length" from feedpoint to area of exposure.																				
Uncontrolled exposure area is assumed to be a person touching the outside the chain-link perimeter fence.																				

For the SteppIR vertical, distance to the north and east chain-link fence will be needed to establish the effect of a 5-minute, 1500-watt RTTY transmission on a "dog walker" leaning on the fence.

Outside the chain-link perimeter fence is considered the Uncontrolled Environment, and in all cases, the boundary condition is assumed to be a 6-foot-tall passerby leaning directly on the fence.

Slant-height calculations (i.e., the hypotenuse of a triangle) are needed for tower mounted antenna systems, with the distance from antenna feed-point to the top of their head being used for the safe exposure distance calculations. These calculations are required for every operating frequency and maximum power level.

Heavy Rolling Stock

This area reserved for Heavy Rolling Stock Manager, Keith Clark, KL7MM

Battery Lab

Need a battery you have load tested? Click here: ["Request Battery Analysis"](#)

Two battery-related articles are provided in the Blog Post section of this newsletter.

LoRa System

This area reserved for LoRa System Manager, Matt Ostrander, KL4QH

HF APRS Robust Packet Gateway

This area reserved for Robust Packet Gateway Manger, Kevin Opalka, KL1V

Club Repeaters

The club owns and operates 6 voice repeaters, including 5 analogue and 1 digital voice repeater. Following is their info and status from south to north:

2-Meters – “Glen Alps” repeater site

- Location: Below Flat Top Mountain, just above the Flat Top trail parking area.
- Mode: Analogue FM
- Callsign: KL7AA
- Transmit Freq: 146.94 MHz
- Receive Freq: 146.34 MHz
- Tone: 103.5 Hz
- Status: Fully Operational

220 / 1.25 - Meters – “Glen Alps” repeater site

- Location: Below Flat Top Mountain, just above the Flat Top trail parking area.
- Mode: Analogue FM
- Callsign: KL7AA
- Transmit Freq: 224.94 MHz
- Receive Freq: 223.34 MHz
- Tone: None
- Status: New repeater is ready for install. The new antenna is installed and we just need to install a new feedline to bring this unit online.

440 / 70-Centimeters – “Glen Alps” repeater site

- Location: Below Flat Top Mountain, just above the Flat Top trail parking area.
- Mode: Analogue FM
- Callsign: KL7AA
- Transmit Freq: 444.70 MHz
- Receive Freq: 449.70 MHz
- Tone: 103.5 Hz
- Status: Operational but degraded due to use of an alternate antenna system.

440 / 70 Centimeters – “Hillside South” repeater site

- Location: On the south Anchorage hillside to the north of Flat Top Mountain.
- Mode: Digital FM - DMR and DStar
- Callsign: KL7AA
- Transmit Freq: 444.20 MHz
- Receive Freq: 449.20 MHz
- DMR Info:

- Color Code: 1
- Timeslot 1 (TS1): Open for any Brandmeister (BM) dynamic talk group
- Timeslot 2 (TS2): Static talkgroups are Alaska Statewide (3102) and Anchorage (311181) full time. Please do NOT activate any other talk groups on TS2.
- DStar info:
 - RPT1: KL7AA B
 - RPT 2: KL7AA G
 - Not linked to any reflector by default. Access to all reflectors and XLX modules is permitted.
- Status: Fully operational

2-Meters – “Grubstake” repeater site

- Location: Hatcher Pass
- Mode: Analogue FM
- Callsign: WL7CVG
- Transmit Freq: 147.33 MHz
- Receive Freq: 147.93 MHz
- Tone: 103.5 Hz
- Features: Cross-linked with the 443.9/448.9 repeater
- Status: Operational.

440 / 70 Centimeters – “Grubstake” repeater site

- Location: Hatcher Pass
- Mode: Analogue FM
- Callsign: WL7CVG
- Transmit Freq: 443.90 MHz
- Receive Freq: 448.90 MHz
- Tone: 103.5 Hz
- Features: Cross-linked with the 147.33/147.93 repeater
- Status: Operational.

Grubstake Repeaters Fund

Funded through date: @ October 1, 2023

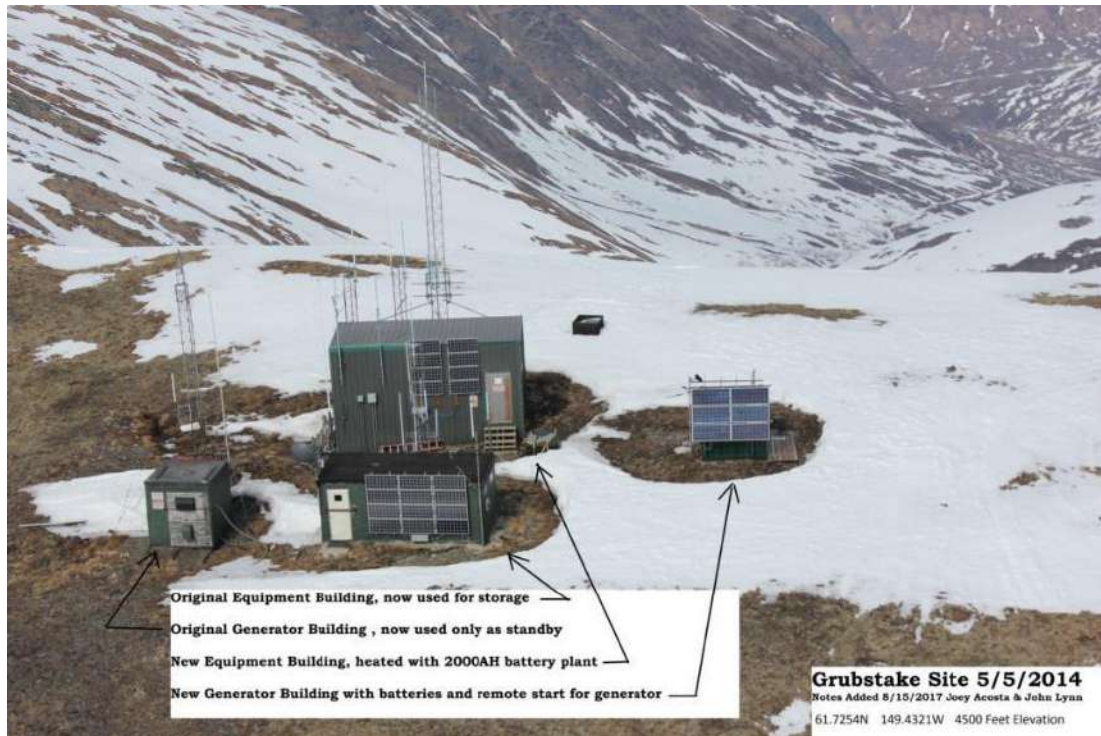
Donate to the Grubstake Repeater Fund: <https://kl7aa.org/product/grubstake/>

AARC currently funds the Grubstake wide-area repeaters, which provide coverage across the Matanuska-Susitna Valley and into Anchorage.

Frequency	Tone	Callsign	Features
147.33+	103.5	WL7CVG	Cross-banded to 443.900
443.90+	103.5	WL7CVG	Cross-banded to 147.33

As many of our members may know, these repeaters serve a very, very wide area. From far north in the Mat-Su Valley, to the Anchorage bowl, and even to the Kenai Peninsula, they serve us well. They are important for general ham service, but more importantly, they play a critical role from an emergency communications perspective. The weekly ARES net is even held on 147.33/83 repeater. If the repeaters are “turned off”, there’s no guarantee that they will be, or even can be, turned back on.

We ask for your support to keep the repeaters alive. We need on average about \$2,300 per year to operate these repeater systems (site rent is \$150 per month). So, if you believe these repeaters should be funded and kept alive, we ask you to contribute to help the effort. We also urge you to contact your friends and neighbors, hams and non-hams alike to help.



If sufficient funds are not available, the Grubstake wide-area repeaters will be shut down due to financial constraints. In addition to monthly rental charges, there is a premium charge for getting to the repeater site by helicopter when things go wrong or simply for annual inspection and maintenance.

A small group of club members has funded the purchase of a NEW 2-meter repeater to install at Grubstake. The repeater is configured and ready for installation. We are waiting for notification from the site owner that they will be traveling to the site so that we can accompany and swap out the equipment.

In the past, the AARC was allowed to visit the Grubstake site unescorted, but the new owner now mandates that each site visit will be accompanied by an owner representative.

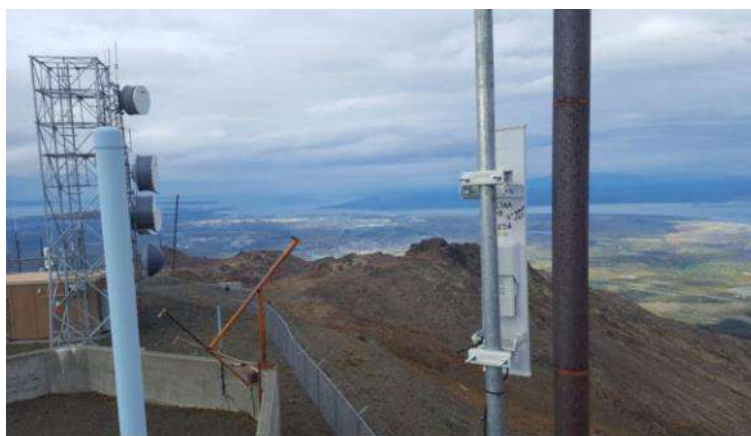
This means one less seat on the charter, and additional expenses for the owner representative's time.

Other Area Repeaters

Following is information regarding other repeaters in the area:

Frequency	Shift	Tone	Callsign	Location
146.67 MHz	- 600 kHz	103.5	KL7AIR	Elmendorf AFB
146.85 MHz	- 600 kHz	103.5	KL7JFU	Mat-Su
146.79 MHz	- 600 kHz	100.0	KL4RCS	Mat-su
147.30 MHz	+ 600 kHz	141.3	KL7ION	Anchorage
443.80 MHz	+ 5 MHz	DMR TG 3102 TS 1 CC 1	KL7JFU	Wasilla

AARC Mesh Network



Site Summit MESH Node Overlooking Anchorage

Our ARDN Mesh network continues to function exceptionally. However, we do have a node down at the former Fire Station 2 at Anchorage Int'l Airport. Replacement equipment is in hand, is programmed, and simply needs to be installed. Other than that, the Mesh continues to serve our Winlink RMS stations, our DMR repeater, our APRS I-Gate, and our VOIP telephone network, and our MeshChat/File server.

We urge you to visit the AREDN website at www.arednmesh.org to learn more.

DMR / DStar Repeater

The Anchorage ARC operates a DMR repeater located on the South Anchorage hillside. Actually, the repeater will ALSO operate on DStar. Here are the particulars:

Repeater Receive Frequency: 444.20 MHz

Repeater Transmit Frequency: 444.90 MHz

DMR Info:

Color Code: 1

Timeslot 1: Open for any Brandmeister dynamic talk group

Timeslot 2: Alaska Statewide (TG 3102) and Anchorage (TG 311181) full time. Please do not activate any other talk groups on Timeslot 2

DStar Info:

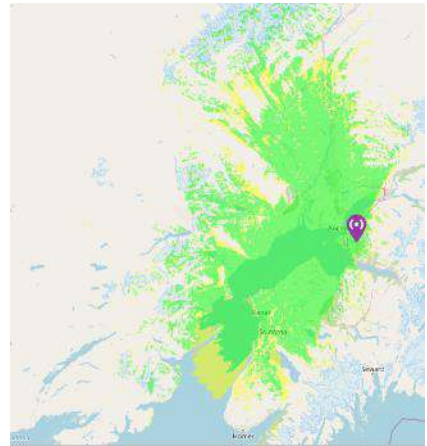
RPT1: KL7AA B

RPT 2: KL7AA G

Not linked to any reflector by default. Access to all reflectors and XLX modules is permitted

And here is an estimated coverage map for the repeater:

If you are interested in DMR gear, CQ Radios offers excellent deals on AnyTone radios as well as excellent hotspots. The AARC is an Affiliate Partner with CQ Radios. Use our discount code of "AARC10" at checkout to get a 10% discount. This will also benefit the club! Here is their main page: <https://cqradios.com/>



AARC Frequency Utilization Plan (FUP)

Many members, especially new members to the area, often ask about frequency usage here in Anchorage. They are typically most interested 2-meters and 440 MHz FM. The club has been using and updating a Frequency Utilization Plan, or "FUP", for quite some time to help us standardize operations and even memory assignments

on our radios. This plan is based on the Southeast Repeater Association (SERA) band plans.

Our current FUP for 2-meters and 440 MHz is available here as an Excel file and as a PDF (see the links below). Please note that in no way or form are we suggesting that this setup must be used by anyone; it is simply a guide we follow as a club (especially for local EMCOMM work) and have found it useful to help keep things organized in our area. If there are obvious errors noted, please let us know.

Current FUP in Excel format:

<https://kl7aa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/2021-10-26-AARC-144-and-440-MHz-Frequency-Utilication-Plan.xlsx>

Current FUP in PDF format

<https://kl7aa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/2021-10-26-AARC-144-and-440-MHz-Frequency-Utilication-Plan.pdf>

APRS Digipeater / Gateway



The AARC, EARS, and MARA all support [APRS](#) in our local area. The AARC operates an APRS Digipeater / I-Gate at our Hillside South site (KL7QN's residence) which is linked to the internet via our MESH network. EARS operates a Digi / I-Gate from their club station on Elmendorf AFB, and MARA operates a Digi in the Valley. As with all APRS activities, the operating frequency is 144.39 MHz.



Kevin Opalka, KL1V, has graciously agreed to be our APRS guru. Feel free to reach out to Kevin at [aprs \(at\) kl7aa.net](mailto:aprs(at)kl7aa.net).

Swap & Shop

For Sale – Icom HF/VHF/UHF Gear and Accessories – KL4TW

AT-100 Pro II tuner: \$200

Heil Pro 7 headset w iCom cable: \$240

MFJ 40a switching power supply MFJ-4245MV: \$190

MFJ Digital SWR/Watt Meter MFJ-849: \$150

Rigrunner 4004 w/USB complete: \$70

SP-38 External Speaker: \$100

iCom 7300 transceiver in box w hand mic/wiring/documentation: \$850

iCom 5100 transceiver like new, in box w hand mic/wiring/documentation: \$350 have an extra mounting bracket for the body too: \$25

Everything purchased last year at Ham Radio Outlet, I gotta raise some funds. Barely used. Everything is open for a rational OBO, especially if they buy multiple items.

Michael J. Hayward
haywardmj@gmail.com
Cell: (907) 529-4357
Work: (907) 222-5660
Work Fax: (907) 777-8660



VEC Report

We are still conducting twice-daily remote testing with our crew of VEs from across the country, and world! However, we have ALSO started in-person exams once a month at the RSOC. We had 3 applicants at our last in-person session a week or so ago at the RSOC, and even had one candidate go from zero-to-hero!

Here are the statistics for 2023 thus far (as of May 6, 2023):

- Number of Exam Sessions: 266
- Number of People Tested: 267
- Number of Passed Exams: 263
- Number of Volunteer Examiners: 122

Check out the following page to read more about becoming a VE and to apply:

<https://kl7aa.org/vec/become-accredited/>

Our Partners

CQ Radios

AARC is an Affiliate Partner with CQ Radios Communication Products. CQ Radios offers a great selection of the latest Anytone radios and accessories and DMR hotspots for a great price. Plus, if you use the discount code of "AARC10" at checkout, you'll get a 10% discount on your purchase and benefit the club as well!

<https://cqradios.com/>



SignalStuff

Signal Stuff provides the ExamTools system that we use to administer many of our exam sessions as well as the free study website HamStudy.org. All product sales go to support these products and sales using the affiliate link below also support AARC. Signal Stuff is the producer of the Super-Elastic Signal



Sticks for HTs, the Super-Elastic Signal Stalk for mobile use (NMO mount), and the Signal Staff Collapsible OSJ antenna for base use. They also have a small selection of high quality adapters.

<https://signalstuff.com/?ref=3935>

Board Meeting Minutes

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB BOARD VIDEOCONFERENCE

November 15, 2022

Radio Science Operation Center (RSOC)
6721 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, AK
APPROVED

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ. A quorum was established.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE:

Richard Tweet KL2AZ, Dave Webb N9AIG, TJ Sheffield KL7TS, John Lime KL4OF, Lara Baker AL2R, Kevin Opalka KL1V, Walter Yankauskas KL7WY, Keith Clark KL7MM, Riley Petty KL4RP, Matt Ostrander KL4QH, Kent Petty KL5T, Mathew Notte WL4DX, Wigi Tozzi KL0R

EXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

None

UNEXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

None

REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS

None

VISITORS:

George Wilkinson KL1JJ and John Meyer KL5HH

TIME CRITICAL ITEM(S):

None

REPORTS:**SECRETARY REPORT**

Richard Tweet KL2AZ provided the October 2022 AARC Board meeting minutes and the November Membership meeting minutes for review. Motion made Lara Baker AL2R, seconded by Keith Clark KL7MM to approve the minutes as presented. With no objections, the motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT

Kent Petty KL5T referred to the emailed report to the Board prior to the meeting. Kent noted prior that all bills are paid/current, reported on account balances, I Bond investment income and AARL Grant status.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Keith Clark KL7MM referred to the emailed report to the Board prior to the meeting and noted a response to the ARRL regarding the use of the grant to date was being worked on.

GRANT REQUESTS

Lara Baker AL2R reported there have been no incoming grant requests.

GAMING COMMITTEE

Lara Baker AL2R and TJ Sheffield KL7TS noted there has been nothing new on the gaming front.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

This committee meets during the Development Committee meeting and is currently on hold for completion of the ARDC and ARRL grant applications.

TRUSTEE REPORT

Keith Clark KL7MM reported there has been no request for use of the KL7AA callsign. Keith noted an issue with uploading the KL7AA casual log to get LOTW current. TJ Sheffield KL7TS noted the club was interested in purchasing a licensed copy of DX for Win for general logging use at the RSOC. Lara Baker volunteered to contribute to the purchase of the software. Dave Webb N9AIG reported that there has been no request for use of the KL7G callsign.

PROJECTS COMMITTEE

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on RSOC boiler maintenance for expansion tank and pressure valve replacement. Dave Webb N9AIG reported on battery maintenance projects including personal purchase and installation of a new battery and wiring harness on the blue power/tower trailer, service on the Kubota generator battery and connections, F350 battery service including an 175a external connection, the personal purchase of a tester coming to further maintain starting batteries, NWOP UPS failover testing, and testing of donated batteries to the club by Mathieu Ostrander KL4QH. TJ noted the donation by Richard Tweet KL2AZ of a CSN Technologies S.A.T. device to upgrade the RSOC Satellite station, reported on RSOC snowblower operation for the facility, well filtration equipment removal, and the Green Heron rotor controller donated by Kent Petty KL5T.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Kent Petty KL5T reported that as of today, the AARC has 212 members of which 81 are life members. TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on interest by the Red Dog Mine group who have started a club station KL7DOG, have begun SHARES affiliation, their working with the AARC with future project interest with TJ providing a suggested budgetary number for a station buildout. TJ also discussed succession planning, RSOC Building renovation planning, and noted the Grubstake repeater replacement ready to deploy.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Kent Petty KL5T reported on an upcoming Technician class provided by one of the AARC VE's.

EQUIPMENT REPORT

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on the Alaska Clean Seas donation to the AARC, estate donation retrieval by Kent of donated station equipment to the AARC, donations of large screen monitors and speakers by Mathieu Ostrander KL4QH.

EMCOMM

Kent Petty KL5T reported on communications with the Red Dog group and the VA on interest in associating with the AARC and the ongoing project to work with emergency email communications with PiGate.

VEC PROGRAM

Kent Petty KL5T reported that the program is running a bit slow which is normal for this time of year. We have had 1094 sessions to date, total volunteer hours to date are 7268 for the year. 111 VE's available.

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Walter Yankauskas KL7WY reported on the first Gold Nugget Triathlon meeting for the year, attendance at local wildfire egress meetings, Run For Women update,

Lara Baker noted this month's article by Wigi Tozzi KL0R in QST. Kent Petty suggested the agencies requesting assistance tour the RSOC.

OLD BUSINESS

Open AARC positions –Newsletter Editor. No interested parties to date.

Grubstake repeater status – Nothing new to report, Still waiting for notice from Articom for availability for a site visit.

Bylaw Committee and Policy review. ON HOLD FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS. Will start up again soon.

ARDC/ARRL grant updates – No new developments. ARDC grant application to start in early 2023.

NEW BUSINESS

Board approved budget for presentation to membership on 12/1/2022

GMRS repeater availability. John Lime KL4OF and John Meyer KL5HH initiated discussion on the availability of GMRS repeaters in the area.

December Membership meeting speaker. Kent Petty KL5T will reach out to Rol Anders to see if he will speak on the Question Pool Committee.

Wigi Tozzi KL0R noted that now is the time to do presentations to prospective legislators.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 8:23pm

Respectfully submitted as recorded on 11/15/2022 by Richard Tweet KL2AZ, AARC President

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

BOARD VIDEOCONFERENCE

December 20, 2022

Radio Science and Operation Center (RSOC)

6721 Raspberry Road

Anchorage, AK

APPROVED

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ. A quorum was established.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE:

Richard Tweet KL2AZ, Dave Webb N9AIG, TJ Sheffield KL7TS, Walter Yankauskas KL7WY, Keith Clark KL7MM, Riley Petty KL4RP, Matt Ostrander KL4QH, Kent Petty KL5T, Mathew Notte WL4DX.

EXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

Lara Baker AL2R, Kevin Opalka KL1V, John Lime KL4OF, Wigi Tozzi KL0R.

UNEXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

None

REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS

None

VISITORS:

None

TIME CRITICAL ITEM(S):

None

REPORTS:

SECRETARY REPORT

Richard Tweet KL2AZ provided the November 2022 AARC Board meeting minutes and the December Membership meeting minutes for review. Motion made Walter Yankauskas KL7WY, seconded by Keith Clark KL7MM to approve the minutes as presented. With no objections, the motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT

Kent Petty KL5T referred to the emailed report to the Board prior to the meeting. Kent noted prior that all bills are paid/current.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Keith Clark KL7MM referred to the emailed report to the Board prior to the meeting. Discussion was held on the development of an AARC Endowment Fund.

GRANT REQUESTS

Lara Baker AL2R reported there have been no incoming grant requests.

GAMING COMMITTEE

Lara Baker AL2R and TJ Sheffield KL7TS noted there has been nothing new on the gaming front.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

This committee meets during the Development Committee meeting and is currently on hold for completion of the ARDC and ARRL grant applications.

TRUSTEE REPORT

Keith Clark KL7MM reported there has been no request for use of the KL7AA callsign. TJ Sheffield KL7TS thanked Lara Baker AL2R for funding the purchase of a licensed copy of DX4WIN for general logging use at the RSOC. Dave Webb N9AIG reported that there has been no request for use of the KL7G callsign.

PROJECTS COMMITTEE

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported multiple facets of antenna work at the RSOC needing to occur this summer, most of which require the rent/use of an aerial lift. TJ noted continued, albeit stalled, work on the PiGate project and RSOC maintenance including boiler repairs, Bay 1 unit heater, and snow blowing and plowing. TJ reported on a tuner purchased (by KL7TS) for use at the Northwest operating position.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Kent Petty KL5T reported that as of today, the AARC has 221 members and will provide a count of Alaska voting members at the end of the month to establish the new quorum for membership meetings. TJ Sheffield KL7TS provided follow up on interest by the KL7DOG Red Dog Mine group, which were provided a suggested equipment list and budgetary number to work with.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Kent Petty KL5T reported on interest in license education classes by an EOC within the state. Kent is proposing a 16-hour prep class.

EQUIPMENT REPORT

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on the Starlink installation at the RSOC and ongoing testing of the service. The system is now in service with a failover providing Starlink as

the primary service and ACS as secondary. The AARC is in the 1-month free period. TJ also reported that the replacement Grubstake repeater is ready to go awaiting a trip to the site with Arcticom.

EMCOMM

Kent Petty KL5T reported on the State EOC radio room. TJ Sheffield noted the State Emergency Frequency Test on the last Saturday of each month at 10am.

VEC PROGRAM

Kent Petty KL5T reported that the program is running swimmingly well. Discussion was held on the possibility of reducing rates and also establishing a donation account to aid those needing help with exam costs.

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Walter Yankauskas KL7WY reported that there have been no additional meetings for the Run for Women or the Gold Nugget Triathlon and attendance at the local wildfire egress meeting and its scheduled wrap up meeting to be held in January. Walter also recommended the Netflix show Fire Chasers.

OLD BUSINESS

Open AARC positions –Newsletter Editor. Kent Petty KL5T reported that a Yale student (AARC member) has volunteered to be the Newsletter Editor. Kent is in discussions with him.

Grubstake repeater status – See Equipment report.

Bylaw Committee and Policy review. To start in early 2023 by Development Committee.

ARDC/ARRL grant updates – ARDC grant application to start in early 2023 by Development Committee

NEW BUSINESS

January Membership meeting. No speaker to date

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 7:48pm

Respectfully submitted as recorded on 12/20/2022 by Richard Tweet KL2AZ, AARC
President

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
BOARD VIDEOCONFERENCE

January 17, 2023

Radio Science and Operations 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, Dave Webb N9AIG, TJ Sheffield KL7TS, Walter Yankauskas KL7WY, Keith Clark KL7MM, Riley Petty KL4RP, Matt Ostrander KL4QH, Kent Petty KL5T, Lara Baker AL2R, Kevin Opalka KL1V, John Lime KL4OF.

EXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

Mathew Notte WL4DX, Wigi Tozzi KL0R.

UNEXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

None

REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS

None

VISITORS:

None

TIME CRITICAL ITEM(S):

None

REPORTS:**SECRETARY REPORT**

Richard Tweet KL2AZ provided the December 2022 AARC Board meeting minutes and the January Membership meeting minutes for review. Motion made Lara Baker AL2R, seconded by Keith Clark KL7MM to approve the minutes as presented with minor grammatical corrections. With no objections, the motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT

Kent Petty KL5T referred to the emailed report to the Board prior to the meeting. Kent noted prior that all bills are paid/current. Kent reported on the Grubstake Repeater Fund, I bond return to date, and he has sent a current P&L to AARC Board members which includes the ARRLF Grant use to date.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Keith Clark KL7MM referred to the emailed report to the Board prior to the meeting. Discussion noted the need for a Treasurer candidate whose term will begin in January 2024. Kent Petty will have served two terms in the position and per the bylaws is term limited.

GRANT REQUESTS

Lara Baker AL2R reported there have been no incoming grant requests.

GAMING COMMITTEE

Lara Baker AL2R and TJ Sheffield KL7TS noted there has been nothing new on the gaming front. Kent Petty KL5T noted that the AARC Gaming Permit has been renewed.

Discussion was held on feasibility of the AARC developing a raffle or lottery. Gaming income reporting and thresholds were touched on.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

This committee meets during the Development Committee meeting and has begun the process of AARC Bylaws and Rules of Procedure review.

TRUSTEE REPORT

Keith Clark KL7MM reported there has been no request for use of the KL7AA callsign. Dave Webb N9AIG reported that there has been no request for use of the KL7G callsign.

PROJECTS COMMITTEE

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on several projects on the horizon including AB105 tower work and it possibly being a grant funded enhancement, researching the availability of tower climbing contractors. TJ also reported on RSOC activities including furniture relocation, carpet cleaning, maintenance as a result of the snow/wind apocalypse, Contractor (Shannon Wilson) requesting North gate access to do surveys for a new fire training facility to the West of the RSOC.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported that each Development Committee meeting usually includes Finance, Projects, and Development concerns. The group is looking into participation in local Community Council meetings to introduce the AARC and development of a 'leave behind' document for the council's use. TJ also noted the committee is researching the recent infrastructure bill and possible opportunities for the AARC, Endowment Fund progress and grant availability to benefit the AARC.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Kent Petty KL5T reported on development of a Technician license preparation class. The use of recently donated equipment which will allow for group participation and instructors will be able to judge the retention/understanding by the group as a whole.

EQUIPMENT REPORT

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on the Fldigi and FT8 interfaces with the K3's are now working properly. An intermittent hot mic issue is being looked into when operating Fldigi. TJ also reported on equipment donated by Dave Webb N9AIG. Excess equipment available for sale was discussed and is needed for space. Mathieu Ostrander KL4QH reported that the replacement network switch for the RSOC arrived today and also that he is continuing to look into Mobile Beacon LTE equipment.

EMCOMM

Kent Petty KL5T reported on SHARED RESOURCES (SHARES) participation and PiGate development. TJ Sheffield noted the State Emergency Frequency Test on the last Saturday of each month at 10am. The Grubstake repeater replacement is ready for deployment minus gathering the tools to accomplish this on site and TJ has contact information for Articom. Kent will be contacting BridgeCom regarding the failed 220 repeater. Discussion noted that Providence Hospitals DMR system is not operating correctly and AARC may be conducting a site visit to assess as a show of Emcomm goodwill.

VEC PROGRAM

Kent Petty KL5T reported that the program conducted 1168 sessions in 2022, up 50 from 2021. The program now has 112 VE's and Kent indicated in-person testing will begin scheduling for January 25th.

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Walter Yankauskas KL7WY reported on the Run for Women and the Gold Nugget Triathlon meetings and attendance at the wrap up local wildfire egress meeting to be held this month. Keith Clark KL7MM reported that meetings have not begun to date for the Walk/Run/Roll for Hope, The Runfest and the Lake Hood Walk for MS. TJ Sheffield KL7TS noted that a pre-event training would be very beneficial for KL7AA volunteers for these events. Kevin Opalka KL1V briefed on upcoming planning meetings for Field Day.

OLD BUSINESS

Open AARC positions –Newsletter Editor. Kent Petty KL5T reported that a Yale student (AARC member) has volunteered to be the Newsletter Editor. There is an active request for articles for the next newsletter.

Grubstake repeater status – See Equipment report.

Bylaw Committee and Policy review. This has begun and is being addressed during the weekly Thursday committee meetings.

ARDC/ARRL grant updates – ARDC grant application to start in early 2023 by Development Committee. The 180-day report to the ARRLF will be due in February and will be accomplished by the Development Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Bylaw Committee to review Membership Meeting quorum requirements.

February Membership meeting. A presentation for the meeting is being researched.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 8:11pm.

Respectfully submitted as recorded on 01/17/2023 by Richard Tweet KL2AZ, AARC President

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
BOARD VIDEOCONFERENCE

February 21, 2023

Radio Science and Operations 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, Dave Webb N9AIG, TJ Sheffield KL7TS, Walter Yankauskas KL7WY, Keith Clark KL7MM, Riley Petty KL4RP, Matt Ostrander KL4QH, Kent Petty KL5T, Kevin Opalka KL1V, John Lime KL4OF, Mathew Notte WL4DX, Wigi Tozzi KL0R.

EXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

Lara Baker AL2R

UNEXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

None

REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS

Legislative Assistant contact – Kent Petty KL5T

VISITORS:

None

TIME CRITICAL ITEM(S):

None

REPORTS:

SECRETARY REPORT

Richard Tweet KL2AZ provided the January 2023 AARC Board meeting minutes and the February 2023 Membership meeting minutes for review. Motion made Kent Petty KL5T, seconded by Keith Clark KL7MM to approve the minutes as presented. With no objections, the motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT

Kent Petty KL5T referred to the emailed report to the Board prior to the meeting. Kent noted prior that all bills are paid/current. Kent reported on the ARRLF Grant balance, Grubstake Repeater Fund balance (\$513.24), and the process/progress to date to become a Veterans Administration vendor as RSOC Services.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Keith Clark KL7MM referred to the emailed report to the Board prior to the meeting. Discussion again noted the need for a Treasurer candidate whose term will begin in January 2024.

GRANT REQUESTS

There have been no incoming grant requests.

GAMING COMMITTEE

Kent Petty KL5T reported on the discovery process of the AARC developing a raffle or lottery. Gaming regulations/requirements were touched on. Matt Ostrander KL4QH reported that accommodating this online was a straightforward process.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Richard Tweet KL2AZ reported on this Committee's progress during the Development Committee portion of the weekly meetings.

TRUSTEE REPORT

Keith Clark KL7MM reported there has been no request for use of the KL7AA callsign. Dave Webb N9AIG reported that there has been no request for use of the KL7G callsign.

PROJECTS COMMITTEE

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on Dave Webb N9AIG's progress with the battery lab and Dave reported on the AARC Absolyte batteries, TJ reported that the ARRC is looking into having two Tail Twister rotors serviced (one is 1994 and one 2006 models), discussed security upgrades to the RSOC facility and a Video of the RSOC break in and attempted burglary was shown to the Board.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported that the 180-day report to the ARRL Foundation Grant committee is nearing its due date and the report narrative is being worked on. TJ noted the Committee is also working on the AARC Bylaws during their weekly meetings.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Kent Petty KL5T reported on development of a Technician license preparation class and the class will have use of equipment to allow group participation in Q&A sessions.

EQUIPMENT REPORT

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on recent donated equipment currently in the Operations Center in the RSOC.

EMCOMM

Kent Petty KL5T reported on progress with the Veterans Administration with their equipment and possible involvement in SHARES. Kent also reported on assistance to

the Red Dog Mine for their development in a robust station and continuing efforts on development of a deployable PiGate solution. TJ Sheffield KL7TS noted the Statewide Emergency Frequency test held on the last Saturday of each month at 10am on 5167.5 Khz.

VEC PROGRAM

Kent Petty KL5T, AARC VEC Program Chairman, explained that the VEC is an entity/organization, not a person, and that the AARC was the first VEC recognized in the country and whose purpose is to coordinate Volunteer Examiners (VE's). Kent reported on remote testing, in person testing and the availability of a 'test me now' solution. Kent reported that recently, an individual/group wished to offer exams under the AARC umbrella. Research noted concerns with an individual and the club's association with a political persuasion at a state level. With this knowledge, AARC association with the individual/group was not allowed via the AARC VEC program. Motion made John Lime KL4OF, seconded by Kevin Opalka KL1V to accept and concur with the action taken by the AARC VEC Program Chairman. The motion passed unanimously.

Kent noted that currently, dues current AARC membership is currently 168.

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Discussion noted known events for this year include the Hope Community Resources Walk for Hope, MS Walk around Lake Hood, The Anchorage Runfest, Dog Jog, Gold Nugget Triathlon, Alaska Run for Women. It was noted that volunteer sign up's for these events can be accessed at the KL7AA.org homepage.

Kevin Opalka KL1V reported that planning for this summer's Field Day event have been slowed due to work responsibilities.

TJ Sheffield KL7TS again noted that a pre-event training would be very beneficial for KL7AA volunteers for these events.

OLD BUSINESS

AARC Newsletter - There is an active request for articles for the next newsletter. Please submit articles to editor@kl7aa.org.

Grubstake repeater status – Still the same. Waiting on site visit access to repair.

220 repeater status. Waiting on RMA to return to BridgeCom for repair.

ARDC/ARRL grant updates – The 180-day report to the ARRLF is being finalized for submission in late February and will be accomplished by the Development Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Starlink – Kent Petty KL5T reported that the charge for Starlink service has dropped \$20/mo.

Kent Petty KL5T reported on a conversation with Senator Lisa Murkowski's legislative assistant James Lundquist where he explained the AARC, its mission and vision and invited the Senator to the RSOC for a tour of the facility.

Wigi Tozzi KL0R noted there would be a one-day W1AW/KL7 ARRL on the air event coming up. More information to follow.

February Membership meeting. Vincent Ledvina, a UAF Graduate Student will give a presentation on space weather and aurora effects.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

Respectfully submitted as recorded on 02/21/2023 by Richard Tweet KL2AZ, AARC President

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
BOARD VIDEOCONFERENCE

March 21, 2023

Radio Science and Operations 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, Dave Webb N9AIG, TJ Sheffield KL7TS, Walter Yankauskas KL7WY, Keith Clark KL7MM, Riley Petty KL4RP, Lara Baker AL2R, Kent Petty KL5T, Kevin Opalka KL1V, John Lime KL4OF, Mathew Notte WL4DX, Wigi Tozzi KL0R.

EXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

Matt Ostrander KL4QH

UNEXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

None

REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS

Legislative Assistant contact – Kent Petty KL5T

VISITORS:

None

TIME CRITICAL ITEM(S):

None

REPORTS:

SECRETARY REPORT

Richard Tweet KL2AZ provided the February 2023 AARC Board meeting minutes and the March 2023 Membership meeting minutes for review. Motion made Keith Clark KL7MM, seconded by Walter Yankauskas KL7WY to approve the minutes as presented. With no objections, the motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT

Kent Petty KL5T referred to the emailed report to the Board prior to the meeting. Kent noted prior that all bills are paid/current. Kent reported on the ARRLF Grant balance, I Bond account balances, Grubstake Repeater Fund balance (\$363.24), and a donation to the endowment account of \$1000 by Keith Clark KL7MM. Lara Baker AL2R noted he would contribute to 2 months of Grubstake rent. TJ Sheffield KL7TS noted training on QuickBooks online to continue for the AARC President, Vice-President and Trustee in anticipation of a Treasurer vacancy in 2024.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Keith Clark KL7MM referred to the emailed report to the Board prior to the meeting. There was no discussion.

GRANT REQUESTS

There have been no incoming grant requests.

GAMING COMMITTEE

Kent Petty KL5T reported that the process of the AARC developing a raffle or lottery continues.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Richard Tweet KL2AZ noted this would be covered under the Development Committee report.

TRUSTEE REPORT

Keith Clark KL7MM reported there has been no request for use of the KL7AA callsign and noted the upcoming Public Service events season where KL7AA will be utilized. Dave Webb N9AIG reported that there has been no request for use of the KL7G callsign.

PROJECTS COMMITTEE

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on ongoing RSOC maintenance and upcoming summer improvement projects involving the AB105 tower, the Heights tower and the East fiberglass mast. Dave Webb N9AIG reported on the donated 200ah Dakota Lithium-Ion battery.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Richard Tweet KL2AZ noted the Committee is working on the AARC Bylaws during their weekly meetings and has completed language revisions in Sections 1.2, 2.1 and have started review of Article 14 and thanked TJ for his leadership on this. TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported that the 180-day report to the ARRL Foundation Grant committee is complete and submitted. Discussion noted work on the ANTHC radio equipment and Walmart Cyber grants program. Kent Petty KL5T reported on progress regarding SAM.gov issues and the goal to become a VA recognized vendor under the name of RSOC Services. A brief discussion was held on insurance requirements to become a VA recognized vendor.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Kent Petty KL5T reported on development of a Technician license preparation class, recent KL7AA blog post regarding Elmers and his progress on developing a general public presentation for target audiences.

EQUIPMENT REPORT

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on recent review of the ANTHC and Alaska Regional radio equipment and testing of the TS480 radio, status of the NW Operating position ACOM amplifier troubleshooting, reconfiguration of equipment to allow for operation of both NW and NE stations, possible use of the Henry 3K amplifier. TJ noted the opportunity for an ARDC grant for equipment upgrades.

EMCOMM

Kent Petty KL5T reported on progress with ANTHC and CAP's SHARES Form 1 submittals, ANMC HF RMS Station with antenna issues and its upcoming move to 88th street, Red Dog Mine SHARES authorization progress, possibly will be contacting ASARA regarding radio use in the back country and possibly offering civilian radio classes. The board was reminded of the monthly Alaska Emergency Frequency test on March 25th at 10am. Kent noted he would be participating in a Starlink presentation to the State EOC.

VEC PROGRAM

Kent Petty KL5T, AARC VEC Program Chairman, referenced his report sent by email to the Board and noted the program is testing Monday-Saturday 2 and sometimes 3 times a day and that there have been 2 in person exams held at the RSOC.

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Discussion again noted known events for this year include the Hope Community Resources Walk for Hope, MS Walk around Lake Hood, The Anchorage Runfest, Dog Jog, Gold Nugget Triathlon, Alaska Run for Women, and the need for volunteers. Kevin Opalka KL1V reported that he had nothing new to report for Field Day. TJ Sheffield KL7TS will be presenting a tech talk at the April membership meeting on public service events radio use and tips for optimum Rx/Tx.

OLD BUSINESS

AARC Newsletter - There is an ongoing request for articles for the next newsletter. Please submit articles to editor@kl7aa.org.

Grubstake repeater status – Still the same. Richard Tweet KL2AZ will assume responsibility in contacting Arcticom for site access to try to get this complete.

220 repeater status. On bench at RSOC, ready for installation.

ARDC/ARRL grant updates – Discussed under Development Committee report.

Legislative Aide update – Kent Petty KL5T reported there has been no additional from Senator Murkowski's office.

W1AW/KL7 ARRL On The Air event. Wigi Tozzi KL0R reported the event will be held May 3rd through 10th.

NEW BUSINESS

April Membership meeting. TJ Sheffield KL7TS will present Radio Operation during Public Service events and best practices.

KL7AA website structure for events. Walter Yankauskas KL7WY recommends these be at the top of the KL7AA homepage. Referred to webmaster.

Publish Membership meetings to the KL7AA website. Walter Yankauskas KL7WY requested. Referred to webmaster.

Secondary fencing at RSOC. Walter Yankauskas KL7WY suggested secondary fencing to allow the front gate to be left open. Cost and efficiency vs. benefit to be reviewed.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 8:16pm.

Respectfully submitted as recorded on 03/21/2023 by Richard Tweet KL2AZ, AARC President

General Membership Meeting Minutes

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MEMBERSHIP VIDEOCONFERENCE

December 1, 2022

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 26 attendees, and a membership quorum was established.

Presentation

Roland 'Rol' Anders K3RA, Chairman of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) Question Pool Committee gave a great presentation on the development of the Amateur Radio licensing question pool.

Rol gave a great example that the Technician question pool is developed around operation of the radio from the front panel, the General question pool adds the depth of understanding down to the block diagram level and the Extra question pool adds the complexity down to the circuit level.

The question pool consists of 350 questions for the Technician and General exams with a group of 35 used for the exam. The Extra question pool consists of 500 questions with a group of 50 used for the exam.

Business

Kent Petty KL5T, AARC Treasurer, presented the 2023 budget for review and approval by the membership. Motion made Keith Clark KL7MM, seconded by Mike Baker NL7J to approve the budget as presented. The motion passed with no objection.

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 PM. Respectfully submitted as recorded by Richard
Tweet KL2AZ (AARC President) on December 1st, 2022.

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
MEMBERSHIP VIDEOCONFERENCE

January 5, 2023

Radio Science and 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 8 attendees, including 5 Board members. As Membership reports that 12/31/2022 Alaska resident AARC voting membership is at 172, the 10% requirement for a quorum for a membership meeting for 2023 is 17 members. A quorum was not established, and no business was conducted.

Presentation

Richard Tweet attempted to present a Montana Public Broadcasting System video on amateur radio, however a technical problem with a shared screen video occurred and was not resolved and the video was not shown. The video can be seen at <https://www.montanapbs.org/programs/ham/>

Business

None conducted.

Discussion

General discussion was held and Walter Yankauskas KL7WY reported on his attendance at Public Service Event preparation meetings for the Alaska Run for Women and the Gold Nugget Triathlon. A brief discussion was held on a recommended HT for a soon to be licensed ham.

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 PM. Respectfully submitted as recorded by Richard Tweet KL2AZ (AARC President) on January 5, 2023.

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
MEMBERSHIP VIDEOCONFERENCE

February 2, 2023

Radio Science and Operations 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 9 attendees, including 4 Board members. As Membership reports that 12/31/2022 Alaska resident AARC voting membership is at 172, the 10% requirement for a quorum for a membership meeting for 2023 is 17 members. A quorum was not established, and no business was conducted.

Presentation

Richard Tweet presented 2 videos from Rohde & Schwarz. The first was *Understanding Propagation*, a 20-minute introduction to the fundamental concepts of HF propagation. The second video was *Understanding NVIS*, also a 20-minute video describing NVIS operation and technical/operational aspects. Both videos were by Paul Denisowski KO4LZ and can be found at www.rohde-schwarz.com under the Knowledge Center tab.

Business

None conducted.

Discussion

General discussion on the videos was held and they seem to be a great segway into the March membership meeting presentation on propagation to be given by Vincent Ledvina. It was noted Kevin Opalka KL1V will be spearheading Field Day for the AARC this summer. Walter Yankauskas KL7WY reported on his attendance at Public Service Event preparation meetings for the Alaska Run for Women and the Gold Nugget Triathlon.

The meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM. Respectfully submitted as recorded by Richard
Tweet KL2AZ (AARC President) on February 2, 2023.

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
MEMBERSHIP VIDEOCONFERENCE

March 2, 2023

Radio Science and Operations 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 18 attendees, including 5 Board members. A quorum was established.

Presentation

Vincent Ledvina, a UAF Graduate Student gave a fantastic presentation entitled Intro to Space Weather (and how it may affect amateur radio operators). Vincent introduced himself as an Aurora chaser, photographer, citizen scientist and student. Topics in his presentation were - What is Space Weather, The Sun and its Solar Cycles, Sunspots, Solar Wind, Coronal Holes, High Speed Streams, Solar Flares, CME's, and Solar Energetic Particles. These were followed by a discussion on how space weather affects us including radio bursts and blackouts, geomagnetic storms and aurora. Vincent noted helpful resources as follows; Solarham.com, Spaceweatherlive.com, Spaceweather.com, Dxmaps.com, Hamwaves.com and @TamithaSkov on Twitter.

Vincent will be attending the HamSCI Workshop 2023 on March 17-18 and noted that presentations will be available on YouTube. More information on HamSCI is available at <http://hamsci.org>.

This presentation was followed by a question-and-answer session with great participation.

Business

None conducted.

Discussion

It was noted Kevin Opalka KL1V will be spearheading Field Day for the AARC this summer.

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM. Respectfully submitted as recorded by Richard Tweet KL2AZ (AARC President) on March 2, 2023.

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
MEMBERSHIP VIDEOCONFERENCE

April 6, 2023

Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC)
6721 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, AK
APPROVED

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ. A quorum was established. The AARC Board members in attendance were introduced.

Presentation

TJ Sheffield KL7TS gave a very timely presentation on Radio Operation during a Public Service event. With multiple upcoming events scheduled, the Walk and Roll for Hope and Walk: MS Anchorage start the season on May 6, TJ's presentation provided excellent information on proper operating procedures, suggested equipment, volunteer visibility, physical radio placement, wildlife awareness, public and event official interaction, and training along with many other informative and useful topics.

Business

None conducted.

The meeting adjourned at 8:24 PM. Respectfully submitted as recorded by Richard Tweet KL2AZ (AARC President) on April 6, 2023.