

# Anchorage Amateur Radio Club

## Next Meeting on December 4 ! ←

### Officers

<b>President</b>	Richard Tweet, KL2AZ
<b>Vice President</b>	TJ Sheffield, KL7TS
<b>Secretary</b>	Dave Webb, N9AIG
<b>Treasurer</b>	Kent Petty, KL5T

### Three Year Board Members

John Lime III, KL4OF  
 Dave Webb, N9AIG  
 Keith Clark, KL7MM  
 Matthieu Ostrander, KL4OH  
 Kent Petty, KL5T  
 Wigi Tozzi, KL0R  
 David Nicolai, K1TAQ  
 Rebecca Weicht, Associate

### Board Appointees

<b>Station Manager</b>	TJ Sheffield, KL7TS
<b>Activities Chairman</b>	Vacant
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Keith Clark, KL7MM/Temp.
<b>Membership Chairman</b>	Vacant
<b>Trustee</b>	Keith Clark, KL7MM

~~~ *HOT LINKS* ~~

### **AARC web page & Email contact addresses:**

Homepage: <https://kl7aa.org/>  
 Email Reflector: [KL7AA@QTH.NET](mailto:KL7AA@QTH.NET)  
 Webmaster: [webmaster@kl7aa.org](mailto:webmaster@kl7aa.org)  
 President: [president@kl7aa.org](mailto:president@kl7aa.org)  
 Membership: [membership@kl7aa.org](mailto:membership@kl7aa.org)  
 Newsletter: [trustee@kl7aa.org](mailto:trustee@kl7aa.org)

### **Newsletter Submissions, Information or corrections:**

Submissions must be received 2 weeks before meeting.  
 Email: [trustee@kl7aa.org](mailto:trustee@kl7aa.org)  
 Mail: P.O. Box 91758, Anchorage, AK 99509

### **W1AW CODE PRACTICE SCHEDULE**

Schedule can be found at:

<https://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule>

### **Nets in Alaska:**

The following nets are active in South-central Alaska:  
 Alaska Sniper's Net 3.920 MHz 6:00 PM daily  
 Alaska Bush Net 7.093 MHz 8:00 PM daily moving to 3920 at 8:15 PM  
 Alaska Motley Net 3.933 MHz 9:00 PM daily  
 Alaska Pacific Net 14.292 MHz 8:00 AM M-F  
 No Name Net 146.85/.25 repeater Sundays 8:00 PM  
 South Central Simplex Net Wednesday at 1900 local, starting on 146.520  
 Moosehorn Net 147.84/.24 repeater Sunday 6:30 PM.  
 Eagle Node Packet 145.01 Wednesdays 7:00 PM local  
 ARES net 147.30/.90 repeater Thursdays at 8:00 PM local  
 Alaska Emergency Frequency Test the last Saturday of the month on 5167.5 MHz/USB

### **Anchorage & Mat Valley Area Coordinated Repeaters**

KL7AA systems at Flattop Mt., 2,200 ft  
146.94/34 MHz, 80 watts, no patch, 141.3 Hz PL

224.94/223.34, 25 watts, no patch, no PL

444.70/449.70, 25 watts, no patch, 141.3 PL

KL7AA at Mt. Gordon Lyon, 3,940 ft  
147.30/90, MHz - 80 watts, no patch, 141.3 Hz PL

KL7AIR Elmendorf AFB, EARS  
146.67/.07, 103.5 Hz PL

KL7JFU, KGB road, MARA Club  
146.85/.25, autopatch, 103.5 Hz PL

For a list of all Alaska State coordinated repeaters go to:  
<https://www.alaskarepeaters.kl7.net/>

### **South Central Area Simplex Frequencies**

146.52 MHz Calling and Emergency frequency  
 146.49 MHz Anchorage area simplex chat  
 146.43 MHz Mat Valley simplex chat  
 147.42MHz Peninsula simplex chat

## Internet Links, the favorites from our readers:

AARC <https://kl7aa.org/>  
EARS <https://www.kl7air.us/>  
MARA <https://kl7jfu.com/>  
Moose Horn ARC <https://al7le.org/>  
ARES <https://kl7aa.org/anchorage-ares>  
Fairbanks AARC <http://www.kl7kc.com/>  
Yukon Amateur Radio Association <https://www.yara.ca/>  
Delta Amateur Radio Club <http://www.kl7drc.org/>  
HAARP Project <https://haarp.gi.alaska.edu/>  
Amateur Radio Reference Library  
VOCAP <https://www.voacap.com/hf/>  
ARRL <https://www.arrl.org/>

*Please let us know if there are other clubs pages or good starting points that should appear here. Report dead links or bad info to trustee@kl7aa.org.*

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

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## Regular HAM Gatherings:

**Thursdays Coffee, 2:00 PM:** Join the gang for coffee and an eyeball QSO at Pizza Man in Eagle River. Attendance varies from 6 to 12 each week.

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## DECEMBER EVENTS

**VE License Exams:** These happen 6 days a week on line and occasional in person exams. See the link on the AARC website at <https://kl7aa.org/vec>.

**December 16: AARC Board meeting at 7:00 PM** 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month by video conference. Link on the AARC website calendar. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

**December 26: MARA meeting at 7PM** the last Friday of the month at locations announced on the website. These meetings are open to all who wish to attend. <https://kl7jfu.com>

## Delta Amateur Radio Club (DARC)

The Delta Amateur Radio Club (DARC) started in early 2020 with a small group of fellow hams in the Delta Junction area and has grown steadily since. Affiliated with the ARRL, The club has been active in our community by presenting a booth at the local Deltana Fair each year, accepting and refurbishing a donated tow-behind, tilt-up tower for emergency communications, providing Tech/General classes and conducting regular testing, resulting in over 25 new hams in the area over the past several years. In addition to ongoing club repeater expansion efforts, the club is also active with the City of Delta Junction and with the local Civil Air Patrol (CAP - Delta Composite Squadron). The DARC has about 25 members so far, and growing. Also, we run open WINLINK and APRS nodes, and manage an ARES net on the club repeater (147.035+ 103.5), Thursday evenings at 7pm.

## Why Do We Do Public Service Looking Forward to Next Year!

We support public service events for several reasons. It gives us a chance to practice our communication skills from time to time.

We get to exercise our equipment, and practice with, and learn about our equipment in different situations i.e. weather, noise, etc.

We are there in the event that newer technology breaks down in any manner.

If we are using local repeaters or simplex paths, we can find out where the holes are.

And sometimes we get a t-shirt or a ball cap!

We also can bank our participation to justify our use of the spectrum that we get for free.

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy Holidays to all,

I hope this holiday season is starting off, and finishes, well for you and your families!

Since my last article for the June Anchorage Amateur Radio Club newsletter, the AARC has completed its participation in the five Public Service events for 2025. Having said that, the planning meetings for the 2026 events have already started! I'd like to thank all that participated in this year's events and look forward to member's participation in the coming year's events. As a reminder, your club supports **Walk and Roll for Hope, Gold Nugget Triathlon, Alaska Run for Women, Friends of Pets Dog Jog** and the **Anchorage Runfest**. For each event your club participates in, an ARRL FSD-157 report is filed, which the ARRL can use to support Amateur Radio

issues with the FCC, Congress and other public officials. If you are not an ARRL member, please consider joining.

As many members are aware, the AARC was once a partner (using our state gaming permit) with Boniface Bingo which provided an impressive income for the club. This income provided for acquisition of quality equipment and rolling stock (e.g. power/tower trailers, MTV van, 1 ton pickup) for the club. Once Boniface Bingo closed its doors, the regular income stream for the club dissolved. Your Executive Board agreed that the club's General Account would only be utilized to maintain the regular operating expenses of the club. With no regular income this account is funded primarily by donations, grants, and club equipment sales. We have been blessed with a sizable donation by the estate of silent key Karen Walker KL7KW this year along with generous Qualified Charitable Donations (QCD's) by members of your Board of Directors. A rounded annual cost to maintain your club expenses (rent, utilities, insurance, electronics, etc.) is \$45,000 annually. With natural gas costs in 2024 at \$4450, an example of cost saving measures we implement is to keep the facility at 60 degrees in the occupied areas and 50 degrees in the normally unoccupied areas. While uncomfortable, it provides a substantial savings to the club.

A sample of expenses covered out of pocket by members of your Board include a \$6k amplifier for use by the club station, computers/monitors, fuel/maintenance/repair supplies for groundskeeping equipment, inverters/power supplies/batteries/UPS's for the club station/repeater sites, helicopter charges for repairs to the Grubstake repeaters, and equipment rentals for club tower repairs to name a few.

How can you help? An easy answer is DONATE! An example is the Grubstake repeater site. This site was down for an extended period of time due to the requirement of being accompanied by the lessor. We were fortunate this year to be able to visit the site twice in September which resulted in bringing the site back to an operational state. While additional work is required for the site, weather and lessor availability only allowed for these two visits. However, the rent for the site never stopped. This amount was recently increased to \$165/mo. The obligated fund account for this expense is currently in the red at \$-1,135.94. The club is currently covering this expense however I expect this should/could be covered by donations from those utilizing this asset. A few years ago, the AARC Board of Directors discussed shutting down this site and removing the equipment due to the funding being upside down. I'm hoping to avoid this discussion with the Board in the future. The AARC makes it very easy to make donations via the club website at [www.kl7aa.org/donations](http://www.kl7aa.org/donations).

Please remember our next Membership meeting is Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. I hope to see you there.

Richard Tweet, KL2AZ  
President, AARC

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## Alaska Section News October 2025

No information received this month.

David W Stevens KL7EB AK SM  
[KL7EB@arrl.org](mailto:KL7EB@arrl.org)

### Grubstake Repeater!!

The Grubstake repeater system is on the air on 147.33 with plus offset and a tone of 103.5 Hz, however with reduced output. It's really way up there so give it a try. This is a KL7AA repeater that is being operated for the benefit of South Central Alaska hams. It is currently awaiting a site visit for more upgrades. Please see [kl7aa.org](http://kl7aa.org) for a link for financial support this site.



### ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MEMBERSHIP MEETING

November 6, 2025  
Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC)  
6721 Raspberry Road  
Anchorage, AK  
**APPROVED**

#### Call to Order

The meeting (hybrid w/ Zoom and in-person attendance) was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ. A quorum was established.

#### Business

There is no official business tonight but Kent Petty KL5T indicated that he and Wigi Tozzi KL0R operated as a multi-single CQ worldwide from the RSOC. The results of the operation were over 3 million points and over 3,000 contacts using the KL7G callsign.

Just prior to that we did Noble Skywave, which was a 48-hour event. Other operations included:

- Richard Geiger KL5MM participated in an event from New Mexico with about **10** contacts at **100 watts**, reaching Kazakhstan, France, and Japan

- Craig Bledsoe KL7H operated the contest from Asheville, North Carolina in QRP category using IC-705 at 5 watts and made over 200 contacts

#### **Presentation**

Richard Tweet KL2AZ presented a video on the NATO alphabet. Everybody's familiar with the phonetic alphabet we use but I don't know if very many people know about the history of the evolution and development of it.

- Video clarified it's technically a "spelling alphabet" not a phonetic alphabet, and was developed by ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization), not NATO
- Professor Jean-Paul Vinay at University of Montreal created the alphabet through extensive linguistic research testing 2,400 words
- Ohio State University tests in 1950s proved ICAO alphabet dramatically outperformed previous Able Baker military alphabet under poor reception conditions
- Final version fixed in 1956 after years of international testing and refinement
- Craig confirmed from ICAO leadership at ISASI air safety convention that ICAO is unhappy NATO gets credit for their work
- TJ noted some older hams still use Able Baker Charlie Dog alphabet (like "sugar" instead of "Sierra") learned from World War II veterans

#### **Volunteer examiner recruitment**

- Kent Petty KL5T made an urgent appeal for extra-class licensed operators to become VEs
- Exam sessions start at 5:30 pm before the monthly club meetings
- A recent session required Zoom participation due to examiner shortage despite unstable internet connection

#### **RSOC Miscellaneous Topics**

- The club's new John Deere snowblower is scheduled for first use Saturday, November 8th
- Kent Petty KL5T requested video footage of the snowblower in operation. The video will help close out the Rasmuson Grant that funded the equipment.
- TJ Sheffield KL7TS provided antenna specs to Craig Bledsoe KL7H: Create CLP-5130 log periodic antenna from Creative Designs manufactured in Japan. The antenna covers 105-1300 MHz range (club switched from CLP model covering 50-1300 MHz to remove 6-meter coverage). The antenna is available from DX Engineering for approximately \$379.00 for the antenna without 6 meters and \$519.99 with 6 meters. The antenna uses N-type connectors suitable for higher frequencies. Parts available through US representative but require restocking orders from Japan.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted as recorded by Dave Webb N9AIG  
(AARC Secretary) on November 6, 2025

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## **ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB ZOOM BOARD MEETING**

October 21, 2025

Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC)

6721 Raspberry Road

Anchorage, AK

**APPROVED**

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

#### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT (VIA ZOOM):**

Richard Tweet KL2AZ, , Dave Webb N9AIG, Wigi Tozzi KL0R, John Lime III KL4OF, Dave Nicolai K1TAQ, and Mathieu Ostrander KL4QH

#### **EXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:**

Rebecca Weicht, Keith Clark KL7MM, Kent Petty KL5T, and TJ Sheffield KL7TS

(note: TJ and Kent are available for the meeting but are currently operating Noble Skywave exercise using call sign US389: this is the first time that amateur radio operators can participate as players.)

#### **UNEXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:**

None

#### **REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS**

None

#### **VISITORS:**

None

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

None

#### **REPORTS:**

##### **SECRETARY REPORT**

Dave Webb N9AIG provided the September 16, 2025, AARC Board meeting minutes and the October 2, 2025, membership meeting minutes for approval. A motion was made by Dave Nicolai K1TAQ, to approve the minutes and was seconded by John Lime III KL4OF with several corrections. With no objections, the motion passed.

##### **TREASURER REPORT**

Richard Tweet KL2AZ indicated that Kent Petty KL5T was working on reconciling everything with the books and is making great progress.

##### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Keith Clark KL7MM was not available for the meeting but did distribute a finance report to the board of directors.

## **GAMING COMMITTEE**

TJ Sheffield KL7TS was not available for the meeting, but Richard Tweet KL2AZ noted that we have applied for participation with Lotto Alaska.

## **TRUSTEE REPORT**

Richard Tweet KL2AZ noted the KL7AA callsign was not used and Dave Webb N9AIG reported there was no use of the KL7G callsign.

## **PROJECTS COMMITTEE**

Richard Tweet KL2AZ indicated that our John Deere 1445 snowblower is ready for service and he has the backup light brackets installed. We are waiting to close out the snowblower grant until after the first snow. We would like to include some pictures of the unit in operation for the final report to the Rasmuson Foundation.

## **DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (includes ROP)**

TJ Sheffield KL7TS was tied up with operating and was unavailable.

## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Kent Petty KL5T sent out a membership report via email.

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Richard Tweet KL2AZ indicated that we have a considerable number of materials to teach classes, but no one to teach the classes.

## **EQUIPMENT REPORT**

Richard Tweet KL2AZ indicated that there was a considerable amount of donated equipment, and we have quite a bit of equipment in the basement that needs to be processed and placed on our website for sale. The equipment needs to be inventoried, photos taken, and bench checked (So, we know it's good equipment).

Mathieu Ostrander KL4QH has been instrumental in posting the equipment on our site, but we need someone to check the equipment out, take pictures, and write a description.

## **EMCOMM**

Richard Tweet KL2AZ indicated that Kent Petty KL5T was interested in hosting an iGate down in Nikiski a while back. But the status is unknown. Tyson KL2WX indicated that they may have a location on Hillside that can host an APRS iGate with an Internet connection if Kevin KL1V is interested. Antennas may be a challenge to procure but, KL2WX was wanting to donate a loop antenna and a 30-meter iGate for APRS as well as a 2 meter VHF radio iGate and antenna.

## **VEC PROGRAM**

Richard Tweet KL2AZ thanked Dave Nicolai K1TAQ for stepping up and becoming a VE.

## **PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS**

Richard Tweet KL2AZ noted that the events are completed for the year, but coordination meetings with different organizations have started up.

The Gold Nugget Triathlon coordination meeting is scheduled for January. Keith Clark KL7MM has also received notice about a coordination meeting for the RunFest.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

01. Vacancies –Newsletter Editor, and Membership Coordinator remain vacant. The search for a new Treasurer continues.

02. KL7AA Repeater Site status. Both Glenn Alps and Site Summit need immediate attention to resolve access issues and lease verbiage.

03. AARC Weatherport sale – We are still looking for a buyer.

04. Postcard mailing to prospective hams. Richard Tweet KL2AZ to review Wigi Tozzi's KL0R information.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

01. Richard Tweet KL2AZ reported that he received an informative 20-minute video regarding phonetics and where they originated. It's called the NATO alphabet, but it's not all NATO. This would be a nice presentation at the next membership meeting.

02. Dave Webb N9AIG asked Mathieu Ostrander KL4QH if he still had a source for unwanted UPS units. Mathieu was going to check.

03. Richard Tweet KL2AZ if anybody knows anybody that has any Windows 11 machines that they just want to get rid of. Talk to us. I know TJ Sheffield KL7TS is working on a license extension for Windows 10. There might be surplus Windows 11 machines on the state website.

04. Mathieu Ostrander KL4QH volunteered to take on the GSA responsibility as Kent Petty KL5T is unable to continue.

## **ADJOURNMENT** The meeting adjourned at 7:33pm.

Respectfully submitted as recorded on 10/21/2025 by Dave Webb N9AIG, AARC Secretary.

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ARES Thoughts – Thinking about emergencies

To assist you when participating in emergency communications drills or actual emergencies. See the following Internet address for a complete checklist: [https://www.qsl.net/aresalaska/training/ARES\\_Emergency\\_communications\\_guide.htm](https://www.qsl.net/aresalaska/training/ARES_Emergency_communications_guide.htm)

## **From the Past - - (2005)**

### **A Quiz for the Old Timer (OT) Submitted by Craig Bledsoe, KL4E**

Here is a quiz that may stimulate the memories of those who used "hollow state devices" before they transitioned to solid state devices. The answers are later in the newsletter.

1. Rank the following in order of size: A.) 5894 B.) 832A C.) 829B What kind of tubes are they?



2. Rank the following in order of performance: A.) 417A B.) 6AK5 C.) 416B What kind of tubes are they? Who manufactured all three?
3. Fill in the blanks: 12BE6, \_\_\_\_\_, 12AV6, \_\_\_\_\_, 35W4 What was the common name for this set of tubes? Why do they go in an AC/DC radio?
4. Which of these is not a variety of vacuum tube? Loctal, Compactron, Acorn, Dymaxion, Nuistor, Lighthouse. Who was the creator of the one that isn't a tube?
5. Rank the following in order of size: A.) 813 B.) 5763 C.) 6146B D.) 2E26 E.) 811A What kind of tubes are they?
6. What can you see on the front of a Heathkit Signal Tracer or a Gonset II (but you won't see on a Gonset III)?
7. Some tubes have a silvery material deposited near the location where the air was removed. Other tubes have a white material in the same place. What is this material called, and what's the difference?
8. Portable tube operated radios required a variety of batteries. Which of the following is not a standard "B" battery voltage? 22.5, 33, 45, 78, 90. What is the common theme of the wrong answer(s)?
9. Tube voltage math quiz: What is the difference of a 1625 minus an 807 added to the difference of an 0A2 minus an 0B2?
10. Which of the following was not a source of high voltage for vacuum tubes in various applications? Vibrator, Flyback, Dynamometer, Inverter, Dynamotor. What did a synchronous vibrator and a dynamotor have in common

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## A Few Notes:

1. Remember the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club (AARC) **newsletter** can be read **online** at: <https://kl7aa.org/newsletters/>
2. An ongoing reminder, Kent Petty, KL5T has been successful in getting us signed up with Fred Meyer for their charitable donation programs. If you aren't signed up, please do so.

## Asset Reduction

The Club has a Weatherport Tent that was originally purchased for use at the State Fair. This tent was also deployed a number of years during Field Day exercises, but the effort to deploy and tear down for a short term event is not feasible and as such has not been used for quite a number of years. It is time to find it a good home. It is a 10' X 20' steel frame tent. For inquiries go to [info@kl7aa.org](mailto:info@kl7aa.org).

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## ARRL Division News Northwestern Division

Northwestern News  
Volume Two, November 2025

Greetings fellow Northwestern Division members. "PASS THE BILL" this campaign is still full steam ahead, even with the current (as of this writing) Government shutdown. If you have not done so, please visit the webpage at <https://send-a-letter.org/hoa> and take the five seconds to click in the box, enter your call, and hit "send my letters". For those with a GMRS license, or those you know with a GMRS license that are not Amateurs, we have a page for them as well. <https://send-a-letter.org/gmrs>. Support is support. Your club can also help by sending a letter on behalf of it's members. That information can be found here: <https://www.arrl.org/current-legislation#clubs>. Please encourage your club to help in this process.

### ARRL Foundation Scholarships

The ARRL Foundation Scholarship Program has opened the application window for 2026 scholarships. Applications will be accepted through December 30, 2025, at 12 PM EST. Students are encouraged to apply for more than 170 scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$25,000. All applicants must be active, FCC-licensed amateur radio operators. The scholarships were established by generous donors and are managed by the ARRL Foundation as a means to inspire youth to explore amateur radio and to pursue higher education and related career paths – and especially in wireless communications.

In 2025, the ARRL Foundation awarded 170 awards totaling \$800,000. More information and the online application are available [www.arrl.org/scholarship-program](http://www.arrl.org/scholarship-program).

ARRL has made 2026 the Year of the Club, a year-long celebration of ham radio clubs and everything they do for amateur radio. As just one way of honoring various clubs, QST will feature club photos in every 2026 issue. If your club wants a shot at being highlighted in the pages of QST, here's what to do: Get your club members together, looking their best — if you have a club t-shirt or ARRL shirts, this is a perfect occasion for wearing them.

Consider posing with your club's sign/banner. Take high-resolution images. If you're taking photos with a phone camera, please make sure it's set for "highest quality." Take photos in horizontal and vertical orientations, and please do not crop or otherwise edit the photos. Type up the names and call signs of any hams pictured, the name (and call sign, if applicable) of the person who took the photos, and the full name and call sign of the club. Send the information, along with one vertical and one horizontal photo, to [qst@arrl.org](mailto:qst@arrl.org). Read QST each month in 2026 to see if your club has been featured!

Another "Year of the Club" activity, will be a yearlong activation of W1AW/\* similar to the centennial, and VOTA

(Volunteers on the Air).

Each state will have two opportunities to host the W1AW/\* call and gather operators. ARRL Section Managers, and section ACCs will be working out the details for these operations. <http://www.arrl.org/year-of-the-club> We will also have a special WAS (Worked All States) award in 2026. Watch the ARRL.org web for further information.

Swaptoberfest, that Swapmeet that was,,,,, almost Unfortunately, at the last minute, Swoptoberfest in Rickreall OR had to be cancelled due to a major water leak discovered by the night guard around 2 in the morning, the night before the event. This left little to no way of effectively notifying attendees. I rolled in the parking lot to be met by the normal guard only to tell me it had been cancelled. A number of folks made due by tossing some items out in the lot with a make shift tailgate, but most folks simply went back home. This is always a well attended event, and I hope everyone can understand it was 100% out of the group's control.

FCC licensing and the current Government shutdown... Vice Director Sterba has addressed this below.

Upcoming Division events: (If your group would like to promote your upcoming event, please let me know)  
Upcoming ARRL sanctioned Hamfests and Conventions can be found at the always updated webpage of Assistant Director Burlingame at [n7cfo.com](http://n7cfo.com)

This list is only inclusive of those events that have applied for ARRL sanctioning. If you are looking to sanction your event this year, or in the future, please review the rules [HERE](https://www.arrl.org/files/file/Rules%20for%20Hamfests%20Trunkfests%20Conventions.pdf).  
[https://www.arrl.org/files/file/Rules for Hamfests Trunkfests Conventions.pdf](https://www.arrl.org/files/file/Rules%20for%20Hamfests%20Trunkfests%20Conventions.pdf)

73..

Mark J. Tharp KB7HDX  
ARRL Director  
Northwestern Division  
[kb7hdx@arrl.org](mailto:kb7hdx@arrl.org)  
509-952-5764

And now some words of wisdom from Vice Director Sterba:

Hello Northwestern Division!

It's been quiet here in the division the last couple of months yet busy behind the scenes.

It's great to report a surge in community activity surrounding the Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act. If you haven't looked into this please visit <https://www.arrl.org/current-legislation> and take advantage of the automated form to send a letter to your representatives. There is an extra opportunity for clubs to get involved separately by placing additional weight to our voices. Directions for club endorsements are available at

<https://www.arrl.org/files/file/Clubs/Completing%20the%20Club%20Letters%20for%20Congress.pdf>.

As of this writing, we are facing impacts surrounding both initial and renewal of amateur radio licenses. The online FCC systems have been suspended until further notice impacting

everyone who is trying to accomplish an update. For additional information, please refer to <https://www.arrl.org/news/amateur-radio-licensing-update-during-us-government-shutdown>.

Answer the Call — Strengthen Our Clubs, Strengthen Our Community!

As we prepare for the upcoming "ARRL Year of the Club," Director Tharp and I invite every amateur radio operator to take part in a movement that honors the true spirit of our service... connection, mentorship, and community.

Our local clubs are the heartbeat of amateur radio, where newcomers find guidance, friendships are fostered, and innovation thrives. Yet many of these clubs are feeling the strain... stretched thin, struggling to grow, and fighting to stay strong.

Here in the Northwestern Division, I've seen their challenges up close. Now is the time to rally together. Step forward. Recommit your time, energy, and passion to the clubs that have given so much to all of us. Together, we can restore their strength, renew their purpose, and ensure that amateur radio continues to inspire and unite generations to come.

Read more about the ARRL Year of the Club at <https://www.arrl.org/year-of-the-club>

As I wrap up this writing, I want to take a moment to thank the leaders and membership for the warm welcome to the 2025 Matanuska Amateur Radio Association (MARA) Hamfest at Wasilla, AK. This was a fun family style event which included demonstrations, presentations, VE Testing, and lunch barbeque. Special thanks to Scott (KL7SLM), Shelia (KL3SRO) and Don (KL7JFT) for introductions, history, and tours of the ARES communications trailer.

Populations at the time of this writing (Lagging Indicators):

Northwestern Division Membership:

\* 10,285 (Decrease from 10,345)

\* 40 (New)

\* 161 (Lapsed that re-joined)

National Membership:

\* 130,357 (Decrease from 130,978)

License Counts:

\* 72,094 (Division total)

\* 137(New)

\* 743,112 (National total)

As I mentioned in my opening, it's been quiet in the Division. Director Tharp and I are always open to input, good and bad, (we prefer good) from members. If you have anything you would like to talk about, shoot us an email or call on the phone. In addition, we are always looking for information to share with the Division. If you have a news item you would like to offer, please send us a note and we would be glad to include it here. It is always great to hear from members. Enjoy Amateur Radio... Be Active, Be Positive, Be Safe, as your voice carries  
Respectfully your servant,

Michael A. Sterba, KG7HQ  
ARRL Vice Director  
Northwestern Division  
kg7hq@ARRL.org

### ANSWERS to KL4E Quiz:

1. B, C, A. Dual tetrode transmitting tubes commonly used in VHF homebrew and commercial FM transmitters.
2. B, A, C. Low noise figure receiving tubes used in the front-end of VHF and UHF receivers. Western Electric manufactured these tubes for commercial communications circuits, and they could be hard to find other than as telephone industry pulls.
3. 12BA6 - 50C5. All American Five (there was an earlier version that used octal tubes; these are 7-pin miniatures.) There is no power transformer - the series filaments and the rectified B+ both come directly from the wall plug, so the circuit will work on either AC or DC power mains.
4. Dymaxion. This was a streamlined family car designed by Buckminster "Bucky" Fuller, creator of the geodesic dome. You can see an original Dymaxion at the Harrah's Auto Museum in Reno if you're interested.
5. B, D, C, E, A. Tetrode power amplifier tubes used singly or in groups ranging in power output from a just few watts to over a kilowatt.
6. A "Magic Eye" tube used as a tuning indicator or a meter. Because of their fast reaction time (compared to a panel meter) they were preferred for audio measurements and modulation adjustments.
7. The common name is "getter" because it is supposed to "get" the last remaining atmospheric molecules out of the vacuum inside a vacuum tube. It turns white when the tube leaks and the "getter" becomes contaminated with outside air.
8. 33 and 78. These numbers, along with 45, are the approximate RPM values that phonograph record turntable platters were capable of rotating.
9. 51 volts. The 1625 and the 807 are essentially the same power amplifier tube except for the filament voltage (12 volts minus 6 volts = 6 volts.) The 0A2 and the 0B2 are voltage regulators at 150 volts and 105 volts respectively (150 volts minus 105 volts = 45 volts.) 6 volts plus 45 volts = 51 volts.
10. Dynamometer. This is a device for measuring horsepower and is used for tuning up race car engines. Synchronous vibrators and dynamotors both used mechanical rectification to convert the (roughly) square wave high voltage AC back to DC for the tubes' B+ circuits. When I was a new USAF 2nd lieutenant I made spending extra spending money by rebuilding dynamotors for local 2-way radio shops around Sacramento.

### As an Ongoing Reminder 5167.5 kHz Alaska Emergency Frequency Test

The last Saturday of each month, at 1000 local time,  
Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Auxiliary Station

NNAØLP hosts a test of the Alaska Emergency Frequency on 5167.5 kHz. Use only upper sideband USB (J3E or R3E). Continuous Wave CW (A1A) and digital modes (F1B, J2B, etc.) are not authorized on this frequency. Maximum power is 150 watts PEP. There are no restrictions on types of antennas.  
**NOTE:** Government stations often use procedures taken from the United States Coast Guard (USCG) Radiotelephone Handbook, for example USCG Force Readiness Command (FORCECOM) CGTTP 6-01.1B, available on-line: [https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/CGTTP\\_6-01\\_1B\\_Radiotelephone\\_Handbook.pdf](https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/CGTTP_6-01_1B_Radiotelephone_Handbook.pdf)<sup>[1]</sup>  
Each month, a summary report regarding this test is sent to the State of Alaska Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region X staff are copied in.  
Thanks very much,  
TJ Sheffield, KL7TS  
Vice President, AARC  
Station Manager  
Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC)  
Anchorage, Alaska

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### Swap and Shop Photos for listings can be found at: <https://kl7aa.org/category/swap-shop/>

#### Telescoping tower for sale

Cushcraft 3 element 10, 15, 20 band with 40 m add on. Plus roof mount tower 'kit'. \$100 or best offer Contact: Andy Kmak WE9H 661-992-9224 20610 Jayhawk Drive Chugiak,...

An older ham who is retiring his station has a number of items to sell. Anyone interested in any of the items lease contact the Club at [info@kl7aa.org](mailto:info@kl7aa.org).

Ameritron AL80B  
Ameritron SPS75MV  
Ameritron ALS500M  
Kenwood TS890S  
Yaesu FT 857D  
Yaesu FT 2900R  
Mosley TW-32  
Hygain Tailtwister  
Hygain TH3MKY  
LDG AT-600 Pro II  
MFJ 9390Y  
MFJ941E  
MFJ 962C/D  
ACR Terra Fix (GPS)  
Pixel RF Pro-1b

Older listings can also be found on the Club website.





