The Anchorage Amateur Radio Club News Bulletin

March, 1995 | Anchorage Amateur Radio Club Newsletter | Vol. 24, No. 3
Editor - Harvey Rookus, NL7DK

Contesting and Connectors!

- Alaskan Premiere of the hot new video, "Getting Started in Contesting!"
- Plus Bonus film: How to properly assemble BNC Connectors
- Films: Unrated - view at your own risk!

Friday, March 3rd 7 p.m. on the second floor of the Atwood Center at Alaska Pacific University

Inside

AARC GENERAL MEETINGS are held on the first Friday evening of each month on the 2nd floor of Atwood Center, Alaska Pacific University Campus. The campus is located at 4101 University Drive and Bragaw St. Parking is available in the lot in front of the building. The meetings begin at 7:00 PM and visitors are always welcome! The AARC legendary raffle is open to everyone!

AARC BOARD MEETINGS are held on the 2nd Wednesday evening of the month in Room 104 of the Carr Gottstein Building on the APU campus. The meetings begin at 7:00 PM and are open to all club members and visitors.

ANCHORAGE ARES NET The Anchorage area Amateur Radio Emergency Services Net is held each Thursday evening at 8:00 PM on the KL7ION repeater on 147.3 (+.600). Net control is Lt Marvin, NL7DL and alternate NCS is KL7IO. The Westlink Amateur Radio report, Swap N Shop and the PARKA Net follow the ARES Net on the same frequency.

THE KL7AA REPEATERS sponsored by the club are as follows:
KL7AA 146.94 (-.600) 100.0 or 141.3Hz tone. Anchorage area * + number for patch # to hang up. (5 min time limit)
Patch on 0600 - 2200 daily, 0700 - 2359 Fri/Sat, 0700 - 2200 Sundays. Emergency autodial enables 24 hrs a day. Emergency autodial numbers (10 minute resettable timer)

911 for life or death
912 Anch Police Dispatch
913 AK State Trooper Dispatch

hangs up Emergency numbers also
KL7AA 146.76 (-.600) 141.3HZ tone Mt. Alyeska, and Girdwood areas.
KL7AA 224.94 (-1.6) NO TONE Anchorage area.
KL7AA 444.70 (+5.0) 100.0Hz tone Anchorage area. Patch enabled 24 hour a day. * + number for patch # hangs up patch. (5 minute time limit) Emergency autodial enabled 24 hours a day. (10 minute resettable timer).

911 Life or death
912 Anch Police Dispatch
913 AK State Trooper Dispatch

chairman of the VHF/UHF committee hangs up Emergency numbers also
A reminder that not only is using an Amateur phone patch system to bypass the Long Distance carrier illegal, it can also result in the loss of the entire phone patch system. Prefix's outside the Anchorage dialing area are disabled.

The repeater trustee is William Reiter, KL7ITL Doug Dickinson, KL7IKX is chairman of the VHF/UHF committee.

KL7AA PACKET OPERATIONS The KL7AA Packet BBS. Callsign of the PBBS is KL7AA-7 (ANCBBS). Callsigns of the multi-frequency switch are KL7AA-8 (AARC), KL7AA-7 & KL7AA-8, and operate on user frequencies of: 145.010 and 147.960 (147.960 is the statewide ADES provided backbone). Linking from 145.050, and 440.050 is provided through multi-frequency switches throughout the city.

KL7AA operates a high power Node switch on 145.01 from the Rabbit Creek area, with the callsign of KL7AA-1 (Anc), as well as a Node switch on the top of the Arco building in downtown Anchorage, on 145.050 KL7AA-5 (Anc5).

KL7AA also operates an HF Gateway with the callsign of KL7AA-10 (HF80) on 3.685 Mhz. This gateway has acess to all local and statewide networks.

The AARC sponsors an Amateur <> Internet Gateway station, NL7NC-9 (AKGATE). This gateway is available from any of the local Node stations on 145.01. 145.05, 440.050, or 147.960.

A reminder that 147.960 is the State sponsored ADES backbone link connecting Fairbanks, Anchorage, Homer, Kodiak, and Juneau together. User access for keyboard to keyboard activity is best accomplished between 1600 and 2200 daily, during this time, the Packet BBS stations will hold off from heavy bulletin forwarding.
ALL PBBS AND USER ACTIVITY IS SECONDARY TO EMERGENCY REQUIREMENTS OF THE ALASKA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY SERVICES (ADES)..

Calendar

March

VEC Tests 1st
AARC Meeting 3rd
AARC Board Mtg 8th
SCRC Meeting 10th
VEC Tests 11th
VEC Tests 15th
SCRC "Alaska QSO Party" 18th +

April

VEC Tests 5th
AARC Meeting 7th
VEC Tests 8th
AARC Board Mtg 12th
SCRC Meeting 14th
VEC Tests 19th

The Anchorage Amateur Club Radio News Bulletin is the monthly newsletter of the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club. Permission is granted for reproducing articles appearing in the Anchorage Amateur that do not indicate a copyright separate from the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club. Letters to the Editor and articles for publication should be submitted to Harvey Rookus, NL7DK, 3310 Checkmate Drive, Anchorage 99508. Telephone number (907) 333-4693. Articles and Notices for the paper should be typewritten or on IBM compatible formatted computer disks (5.25 or 3.5 inch). Graphic illustrations for articles are also welcome. Deadline is the 20th of each month.

History of Low Frequency

Once in a while there is a bit of radio history that seems worth passing along. Here is WK7A's story about the million Watt station at Jim Creek, Washington. The one that is used to send messages to submarines all over the world.

January 15, 1995

Dear Rob,

Sounds like you've had, and are having, an interesting life. I am somewhat familiar with the LF beacons since I am, or was, a flier. Gave it up recently as I felt I wasn't flying enough to keep up my proficiency at age 72. I particularly like the LF beacons for weather at our remote cabin in the San Juans. I was sorry to see them become almost a thing of the past. Last I knew the one in the Seattle area got moved and had the ERP very much reduced. I couldn't get it in the San Juans anymore.

Yes, I was the chief engineer for the Jim Creek 1000 KW VLF station for three years. Before that I worked for RCA for 7 years and was one of the design engineers for the transmitter. All of the forgoing was prior to 1958 when I went to work for Boeing full time until I retired. I'm sorry I can't recall the manufacturer of the antenna insulators, but they were huge. Everything associated with the antenna system had large diameter wire and very large insulators with four or five foot diameter corona rings at their ends.

The antenna lead coming out of the antenna tuning houses was a spar about 50 feet long and 40 inches in diameter. The voltage at that point was about 200 KV and rose steadily as you followed it out on the antenna system, up the down-leads and out the horizontal spans.

The antenna system consisted of two groups of five horizontal spans whose lengths ran from 5,800 ft. to about 9,000 ft. Each span had a downlead about 1500 feet long. Each group of five downleads were brought together in horizontal runs to each of the two antenna tuning houses where they were fed with 500 KW each. Each half at the antenna house looked like about 0.5 Ohms resistance and 200 Ohms capacitive reactance. Thus you can see that it took 1000 amperes to get 500 KW each side. The antennas were as you can see, vertical radiators with top loading. The horizontal spans were one inch diameter stranded copperweld, and the downleads were a very special hollow conductor made of sliding helical tongue-and-groove sections made of solid copper with a diameter of one inch.

The transmitter building with it's tuning houses was located in the middle with one spar sticking out of each end. The farthest downlead was turned 90 degrees and ran horizontally to the tuning house, and each successive downlead was added so that by the time they got to the tuning house there were five one inch leads in a circle to get an effective lead diameter of about 30 inches or so to spread the voltage gradient out. These horizontal antenna lead-ins were supported from hook shaped towers with long insulators and corona rings.

The antenna system was designed by RCA Communications and it fell short some on having enough voltage handling capability for the lowest design frequency of 14.5 KHz. We found that we couldn't load to full power below about 16 or 17 KHz without the development of corona on the horizontal spans. When corona starts it effectively increases the capacitive reactance and detunes the system. It's like running into a brick wall. It did operate at it's assigned frequency of 18.6 KHz at full power just fine. At first when we were running the initial tests we didn't know what was wrong. We suspected corona so we went out at night and could actually see the ends of the horizontal spans alight with corona. Some fun, but very disappointing.

Well Rob, I wish I could help you more. Maybe it's enough to let you know that you are in good company fighting high voltages on fractional wavelength antennas. Use big insulators and corona rings. Just go down to the nearest Ham Radio Outlet and buy what you need! Hi Hi.

73 Rob and lots of luck with your design efforts,

Dave, WK7A, Snohomish, WA.

For Sale Wanted Misc

FOR SALE
YAESU FT 207A 2 meter handheld T/S; Mc-30S Speaker Mike; 2 FNB Batteries; NC-3 Delux 4 HR Charger W/Adapter. $95 Hardly used.
Call Walt KL7IW @ 277-0450

FOR SALE
ICOM 281 H, 144 mhz FM Transceiver, (Automobile Unit), New in the box - never used. $400. David Evans AL7JZ 349-7862 Home/267-1446 work.

From World Radio

Never too old

About a year ago, I decided I'd like to be an Amateur Radio operator. So I gathered the necessary material and began studying. In February, 1994, two days before my sixty-seventh birthday, I passed test elements 1A, 2, and 3A. While waiting for my "ticket" to arrive, I recognized that I had not really learned very much. Sort of like a guy who had been taught to fly, but not yet learned to land. So, I took another step forward and in April passed elements 1b and 3b, and was immediately operating as a General Class operator.

What's the big deal? None, really. It's just that I've been reading about some people wanting special consideration with respect to code testing because they were old. That's a whole bunch of bunk. You don't get old until you think you are.

I'm already studying for test element 4a, and it is pretty tough for me. But I'll make it one day. What about element 1c? I doubt that I'll be able to handle that one. But' I'll never be an airline pilot or a brain surgeon, either. We all have out limitations and must live with them. That's the way life is. You simply don't plead for relief from those limitations. You do the very best you can with that with which you've been endowed.

73

JOHN C. JOHNSON, KC5GDO
Geronimo, Oklahoma

Two Sides of the Coin -- CW

The following were taken from the AARC BBS by Harold Hitchen-KL7PG

From WA2RCB
Title: **So, We want CW. . .**
Right now, as you read this there exists telecommunications systems which can send the ENTIRE contents of the Encylopedia Brittanica, from Maine to Florida to California to North Dakota and back to Maine again, via RF links, in all of about 15 minutes. Fibre optics systems which will be introduced later this year will cut this time in half. Finally, there is a proposed cellular phone service which will probably be on line by 2000 (5 years away. . .) which will permit voice and data telecoms between any two (or more. .) people anywhere on Earth. (From Antarctica, to Outer Mongolia to Brazil . . . almost instantly). Here in Ham-Radio-Land we bicker and moan over finally retiring a 150 year old form of communications called Morse code or CW. If it were not so pathetic a discourse, it would be hysterically funny. As I am sure those who will shortly take over all our frequencies above 147 Mhz. know well and good . . 73s and have fun while you can. George WA2RCB

From WB8OGM
Title:**You say CW is useless, huh?**
Here's a little article from Feb QST
"Morse Saves The Day For Ships In the North."
This story via the long path - from the Thunder Bay (Ontario) Chronicle to the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club to the Radio Amateurs of Canada News Bulletin via the Internet (whew). According to the Canadian Press (A news service), electro- magnetic interference from the North Pole knocked out voice transmissions by both radio and satellite telephone from both the Canadian Coast Guard Icebreaker Louis St Laurent and the US Coast Guard Icebreaker Polar Sea, both which had reached the North Pole.

So what, you say? "For most of Monday," the report said, "the only communications with the two ships was by MORSE CODE. . . A Canadian Press reporter managed to receive a barely decipherable voice transmission . . . but could not make himself heard."

So how about that? And despite what you have heard or read, all commercial sea going vessels HAVE NOT abandoned Morse Code. Some still use it on a daily basis when voice and other means of communications just won't cut it.
73 de Tim, WB8OGM

How long have you been a "Ham"?
Just a standard question when you make a contact on the air. When I have been asked that question, I answer with "I have been a Ham since 1984, but how many of you were caught "bootlegging" without a license in 1939? Yes in 1939, a few buddies and I built a Five meter rig. It worked fine. One day after school we were on the air at a friend's house when the door bell rang. I got the thrill of answering the door. A nice gentleman in a suit handed me his business card, "FCC Field Investigator". Gulp!! "We have traced a radio to this location, but there is no record of a license being issued for same. Do you mind if I look at it?" Sure, why not. "You fellows have done a nice building job, but may I suggest that you pull the plug until some one of you gets a license!" Needless to say that is what we did! It only took me 45 years to get licensed! Another Ham in the club had the same event happen only they stood by while he dismantled the rig. Oh well, we live and learn. Harvey NL7DK

News From Wilse KL7CQ

For those who have never met Wilse let me introduce him. He was the Club President when I joined the club in 1984. He is Life member #1. Wilse had a big station on the Hillside complete with big antenna farm. He was very active in contesting and anything else Ham related. Many Hams in the club and many hams in Alaska were in classes that he taught over the years. After retiring from the FAA, he moved to Camp Verde, Arizona and is deep into the Honey business with lots of Bees. He tells an interesting story in the following letter.

Amateur Radio Station

KL7CQ

** Life Member **
* Radio Amateur Satellite Corp.
* Anchorage Amateur Radio Club
* American Radio Relay League

Wilse Morgan
P.O. Box 2210
Camp Verde, AZ 86322

Myself and Jim Smith KA7APJ were invited to join the gang at JJ3YBB in Osaka, Japan for the CQWW contest phone section last October. Jim flew over from Seattle and I came from Phoenix. They usually only run multi-single but since Jim and I were going to be there they decided to go multi-multi. We ran up a score of about 5,300,000 points. On 20M we worked all but one zone. We had 2 check in the required 500 meter circle. Both had 100 ft towers with large antenna arrays on 10 thru 40M + 75M rotatable dipoles.

Have a complete list of equipment is on the enclosed letter

P.S. note new area code 73
using 8KW. You only need to make one call to get an answer

19944108 7B(土曜日) 23時12分 ELVIN JA3CZY PAGES. 01/01

FAX TRANSMISSION Oct. 7th, 1994

From: "Elvin" Yuji Miura J A 3 C Z Y
10-14 Ikebiraki, Nishinomiya, Hyogo, JAPAN 663
FAX: 81-798-43-0070, ☎: 81-798-41-2255,
To: Mr. James Smith / Presd. of Maidol USA.
FAX: (206)524-7826

WILSE- See ya in 2 weeks
Jim

Message: Dear Jim,

Thanks for your FAX dated on Oct. 5th. I'd appreciate you very much for your highly atention to my future car in 1995. I'm looking foward to receiving your letter come pretty soon.

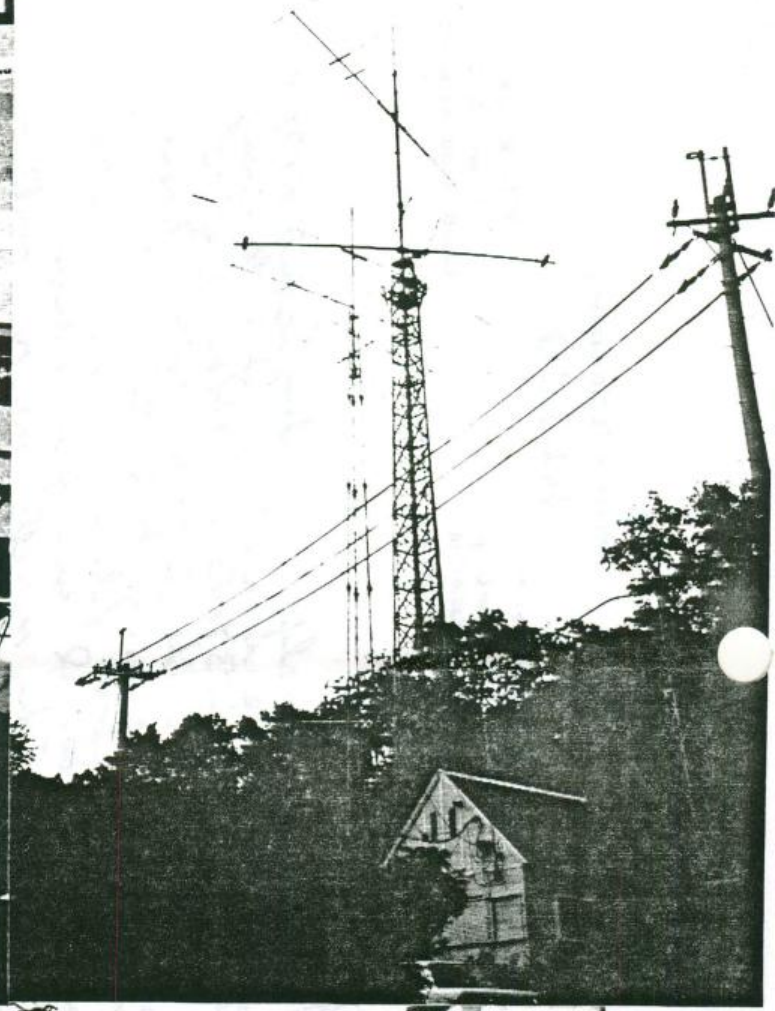
As JJ3YBB for CQ-WW this month, we had a nice meeting last weekend, then we decided to participate on Multi-Multi category, because we going to have superb operators this year, you both!
Mr. Kubokawa who owned JP3SJH, our neighbor as you remember, was joined our meeting and glad to let we use his staion durling the CQ-WW as No. 2 station for us. We are going to take all his old antennas down, then replace to a 4el YAGI for 20M and a rotatable semi fullsized dipole for 75M up his tower this weekend. Radio syatems might be,

1. FT-1000D with Henry 8K for 15M with 7el fullsize YAGI
2. TS-940S with Henry 5K for 40M with 3el fullsize YAGI
3. TS-930S with Henry 2K for 10M with 6el fullsize YAGI
   As No. 1 station for 10, 15 and 40M band as rechangiable.
4. FT-1000 with Alpha 77SX for 20M with 4el fullsize YAGI
5. TS-940S with TeTec Titan for 75M with rotatable dipole
   As No. 2 station for 20 and 75M band as rechangiable.

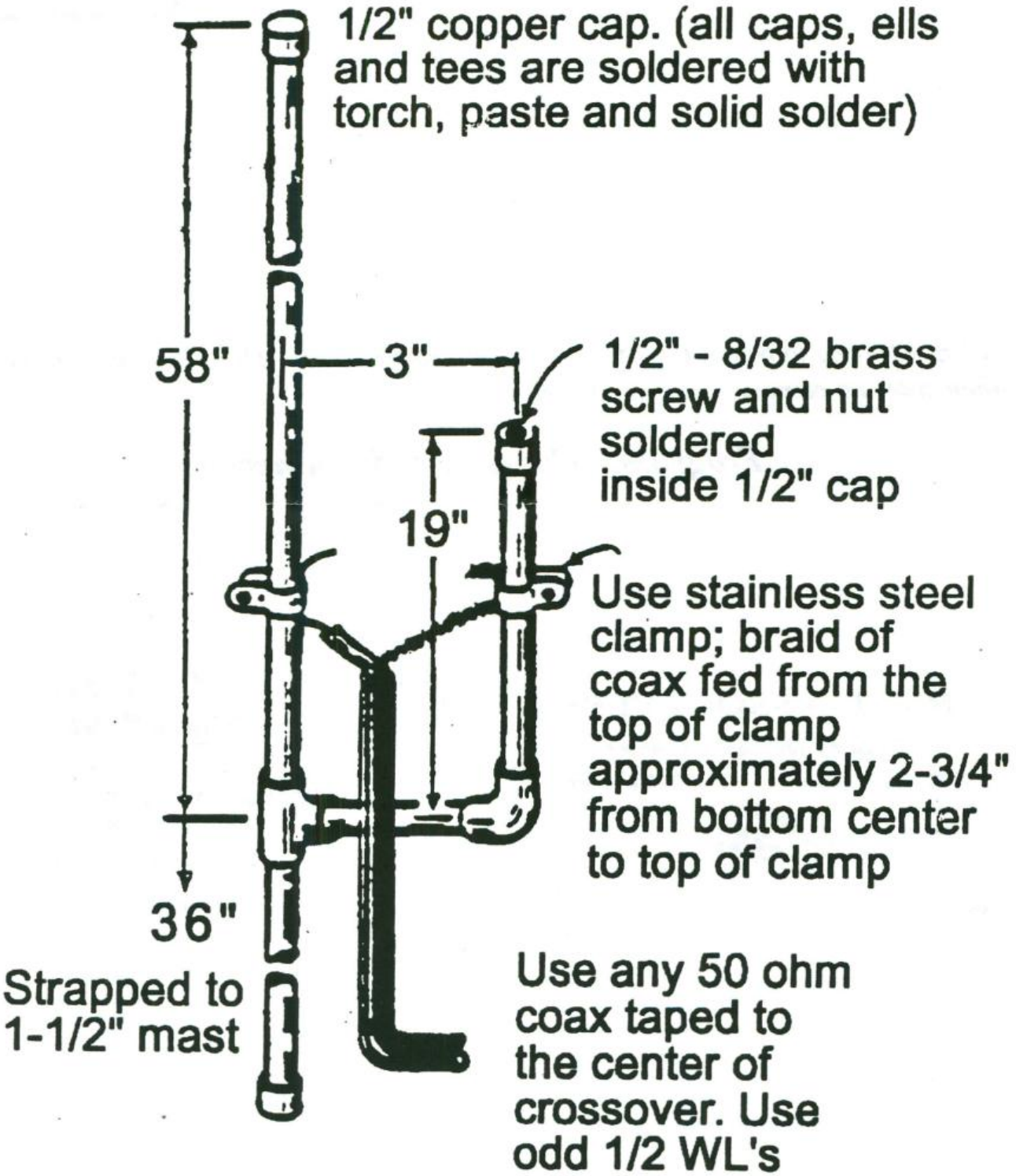
All radios should be connetcing with bus-line to each computers for CT and Packet crustor. Kenji JA3FHL will going to fixed them pretty soon. The operators will be, JA3PJL Yoshi, JA3FHL Kenji, JH3FQF Kai, JI3EEV Aki, JR3RIU, JE3TXA, ex 7Q7XX and myself. We guess will get another 2~3 operators join us, plus you two superb guests KA7APJ and KL7CQ. Ofcorse, we will have another 2~3 suporters for kitchen!
I'm guessing about 13 to 15 of HAMs get together that time, big event!
OK on comc friday night 28th up to YBB, I'll pick you up somewhere. You'll give me a buzz when you get Osaka.

See you later, Jim-san
73 de J A 3 C Z Y
Yuji Miura Elvin


KL7CQ
KA7APJ



TWO METER COPPER J-POLE ANTENNA



Edited and submitted by Jerry Bennion. WR7N

THANKS TO THE UARC Newsletter and to Jerry Bennion WR7N

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Anchorage, Alaska 99510-1987

Address Correction Requested

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BIG LAKE AK 99652

NOTE: Meeting to be held at Atwood Center second floor. Third building on the left when entering campus! See you there!!

Program: Contests and Connectors