

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club

Meeting on October 6th

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Are You a Worm Warmer
ARRL STATE CONVENTION
And Much Much More

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AARC web page & Email contact addresses:

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News Letter Submissions, Information or corrections:

Submissions must be received 2 weeks before meeting

Email: KL0EO@arrl.net Facsimile: 907-338-4791

Mail: 7013 Trafford Ave. Anchorage 99504

KL7G CODE PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Schedule: 7:00am, 10:00am, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm
AK time, every day Frequencies: 3575 kHz, 7075 kHz &
145.35 MHz: Sending Speeds: 22 wpm, 15 wpm, 7 wpm

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

Alaska Motley Net 3.933 MHz 9:00 PM daily

Alaska Pacific Emergency Preparedness Net 14.292 MHz
8:00 AM M-F

QCWA net 146.97/.37 repeater Sundays 8:00 PM local

850 No Name Net 146.85/.25 repeater Sundays 8:00 PM

Son of Sideband Net 144.20 USB Mondays 9:00 PM local

Big City Simplex Net 146.520 FM Tuesdays 8:00 PM local

ARES net 147.30/.90 repeater Thursdays at 8:00 PM local

PARKA net 147.30/.90 repeater Thursdays at 9:00 PM local

Anchorage & Mat Valley Area Repeaters

KL7AA systems at Flattop Mt., 2,200 ft

146.94/34 MHz, 80 watts, autopatch, 100/141.3 Hz PL

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

444.70/449.70, 25 watts, autopatch, 100/141.3 PL

KL7ION at Mt. Gordon Lyon 3,940 ft

147.30/90, MHz - 80 watts, no patch, no PL

KL7AA, Mt. Alyeska, 2,400 ft.

146.76/16 MHz, 25 watts, no patch, 141.3 Hz PL

KL7CC, Anchorage Hillside, SCRC & QCWA

146.97/.37 MHz, 30 watts, autopatch, 103.5 Hz PL

KL7DJE at Grubstake Peak, 4,500 ft.

147.09/.69 MHz, 25 watts, no patch, 100 Hz PL

444.925/449.925, 10 watts, no patch, 141.3 Hz PL

KL7JFU, KGB road, MARA club

146.85/.25, autopatch, no PL

KL7AIR Elmendorf, EARS

146.67/.07, 107.2 Hz PL

KL7G West Anchorage & Events

449.65/444.65 MHz, patch, no PL

Anchorage & Mat Valley Simplex Frequencies

146.52 Mhz Calling and Emergency frequency

147.57 / 447.57 (crossband linked) HF spotters & chat

146.49 Mhz Anchorage area simplex chat

146.41 MHz Mat Valley simplex chat


~~~ **HOT LINKS** ~~~

Internet Web links, the favorites from our readers  
AARC <http://kl7aa.akconnect.com>

SCRC <http://www.home.gci.net/~worchester/scrc.htm>  
EARS <http://www.qsl.net/kl7air>  
MARA <http://www.obarr.net/mara/>  
Moose Horn ARC <http://www.alaksa.net/~kl7fg>  
ARES <http://www.qsl.net/alaskaares>  
KL7J <http://www.alaska.net/~buchholz>  
Fairbanks AARC:  
<http://ffdlm1mac.uafsom.alaska.edu/aarc/aarc.html>  
Yukon Amateur Radio Association:  
<http://www.klondike.com/yara/index.html>  
HAARP Project:  
<http://server5550.itd.nrl.navy.mil/projects/haarp/>  
<<Amateur Radio Reference Library>>  
<http://www.area-ham.org/library/libindex.html>  
Hamradio: <http://www.hamrad.com/>  
Solar Terrestrial Activity <http://209.130.27.95/solar/>  
ARRL <http://www.arrl.org/>  
Propagation Report Recording 566-1819  
*please let us know if there are other club pages or good  
starting points that should appear here*

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**ABACUS RADIO REPAIR**

Factory authorized service for: Kenwood, ICOM,  
Yaesu, Alinco, Amateur radio equipment.  
Call Jim Wiley, KL7CC (907) 338-0662

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**ALASKA HAM RADIO SUPPLY**

Ken Weldon, AL0R proprietor  
20950 Chickadee Lane in Chugiak, 688-4267

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**Regular HAM Gatherings:**

\* **Tuesdays, 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM:** Join the gang for  
lunch and an eyeball QSO at the Royal Fork, "South, on Old  
Seward Highway.

**Saturdays, 7:30 AM:** Here is a great way to get  
started on the week-end come and meet with some of the  
locals and have a great breakfast at Phillips Restaurant, at the  
corner of Arctic and International. Great Fun.

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**THIS MONTH'S EVENTS**

**October 6th: AARC general meeting at 7:00 PM** 1<sup>st</sup> Friday  
of the month in the Carr-Gottstein Building, on the APU  
Campus. Talk in will be on 147.300.

**October 3nd: VE License Exam 6:30 PM,** 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of  
the month, it has been changed to **Hope Cottage** at 540 W  
International in the Board Room. Bring photo ID, copy of  
license (if any) and any certificates of completion.

**October 3nd: EARS general meeting at 7:00 PM** 1<sup>st</sup>  
Tuesday of the month, in the basement of Denali Hall  
(building 31-270) on Elmendorf AFB.. Talk in on 147.67/.07  
simplex.

**October 13th: SCRC general meeting at 7:00 PM** the 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Friday of the month at Denny's on Debarr & Bragaw. Talk in  
on 147.57 simplex.

**October 14th: VE License Exams at 2:00 PM.** 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday  
of the month at Hope Cottage 540 W. International in the  
Board Room. Be sure to bring photo ID, copy of license (if  
any) and any certificates of completion.

**October 10th: AARC Board meeting at 7:00 PM** 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Tuesday of the month at **Hope Cottage** 540 W. International  
in the Board Room.

**October 21st: ARES Planning Committee 09:30 AM to  
12:00 PM.** 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month. Will be held at Alyeska  
Building.

**October 21st: PARKA Meeting at 11:00 AM.** 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday  
of the month at Peggy's, across from Merrill Field

**October 27th: MARA meeting at 7PM** the last Friday of the  
month at the MTA office in Palmer.

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***MISTAKES!***

*If you find any mistakes in our newsletter,  
especially in the spelling of words, please consider  
that they are there for a purpose.*

*We publish something for everyone to keep  
everyone happy, especially those who are always  
looking for mistakes.....Keep smiling, your Editor*

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## HAPPY COLUMBUS DAY!

On Monday, October 9th, we will celebrate Columbus Day to honor Christopher Columbus, who landed on San Salvador in 1492. People in parts of Canada, Puerto Rico, and Central and South America will, too -- it's the only non-religious holiday to span these countries.

A federal holiday since 1971, Columbus Day had a fitful beginning. A dinner to honor Columbus was held in New York in 1792, and Italians in New York threw the first celebration in 1866. The first event to really draw attention to Columbus, though, was the World's Columbian Exposition of 1892, also known as the Chicago World's Fair. Now, we celebrate Columbus Day the second Monday of each October, in honor of the October 12th discovery that eventually led to our country's founding.

Need a refresher course on Columbus' history or some tips on how to celebrate Columbus Day?

>>>GO TO

A refresher course on Columbus' history

<http://ww1.lfmm.com/actv/sr2.asp?u=6483964&v=4637&url=1&c=81058&p=752&cf=1&pa=0&e=S>

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### Chapter Field Day and Potluck picnic

by

Jim Tvrdy, KL7CDG

This summer the Northern Lights Chapter of QCWA hosted two family picnics in the South Central portion of the state of Alaska. The first event on Saturday, June 10th was the traditional Chapter Field Day and potluck picnic held in the Anchorage Hillside district on the spacious domain of Chapter President, Jim Tvrdy, KL7CDG. This gathering of numerous Anchorage-area hams featured an outdoor banquet in his gazebo, followed by rounds of golf, badminton, and croquet on the grounds under the shadow of Jim's massive HF DX antenna arrays.

The second family picnic was a first for the Northern Lights Chapter. Responding to distance concerns expressed by several Chapter members who live an hour north of Anchorage in the Matanuska-Susitna Valley, the Chapter hosted an additional major event at the Alaska Transportation Museum at the new Wasilla Airport. This was a joint function conducted with the membership of the Alaska Regional Chapter of the International Society of Air Safety Investigators. The combined attendance peaked at more than fifty members and families from both organizations. The most significant moment for the QCWA attendees was the presentation of the QCWA 75-Year Plaque to Bob Hisamoto, 7L7AM, the founder of the Japanese Amateur radio League (JARL). This distinguished Amateur Radio operator (age 92) and his wife drove 600 miles round trip by Volkswagen bus

down from Fairbanks, Alaska to receive this momentous award.

There were numerous activities for the enjoyment of all at this entertaining event. The keynote speaker was the well-known Arctic explorer and ham, Lee Wareham, KL7DTH. Prior to his presentation Lee invited everyone out onto the flight line to examine his specially modified long-range Cessna 185 with which he has repeatedly flown to the ultimate destination - the North Pole. The topic of his lecture was his recent rescue mission from the lightly frozen seas at the North Pole of the crew and passengers of a giant Soviet-designed biplane, the Antonov AN-2, that was sinking through the icecap. Those people that he could not personally recover were subsequently picked up by a Canadian Forces rescue aircraft. As you might expect, Lee's communication via Amateur Radio with the base support station of Jerry Curry, KL7EDK, played a major role in the successful conclusion of this harrowing mission.

As a good host Chapter 92 was pleased to charter free admission to the Transportation Museum for our members and guests. The most enlightening exhibit inside - from an Amateur Radio point of view anyway - was an entire wall of exhibit cases filled with antique tubes and radio equipment used in Alaska's early Territorial days. These items were donated and labeled by the Northern Lights Chapter, and a QCWA banner is prominently featured within this extensive display. The food was mouthwatering as expected, primarily because Chapter President KL7CDG kept the barbecue grill tuned for maximum output. The most enjoyable portions of the picnic for many - particularly the younger set - were the complimentary train rides (paid for by Chapter 92) on the Transportation Museum's Live Steam Railroad. The extensive layout rambles for miles through the woodsy back country across trestles, down inside gorges, and through the locomotive maintenance yard, complete with a working turntable. We didn't see a bear or moose on this weekend excursion, but the staff assured us they are close at hand and have been previously observed on a regular basis.

In summary, both events were truly excellent opportunities for fellowship, education, and family enjoyment. Numerous QCWA national and Chapter renewals were received as a result of these activities. Once again the Northern Lights Chapter of QCWA has provided a public service to Alaska while promoting membership growth in this worthy organization.

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**This statement from AMRAD,  
sent buy Check, KM4NZ, is as follows:**

For Immediate Release: AO-27 will be returned to analog Amateur Radio use on the first North American daylight pass on Saturday, September 9, 2000. Unlink 145.850MHz. Downlink: 436.797 MHz. TEPR 4: 36 TEPR 5: 72.



Periodically, over the next several months, the analog repeater will be turned off for a few days at a time, to enable ground controllers to gather Whole Orbital Data (WOD), to verify the health of the satellite. A lot of work has saved AO-27 for many more enjoyable QSO's.

Signed, Chuck, KM4NZ

AMSAT's Bruce Paige, KK5DO, was one of the first stations active on the returning AO-27 pass and reported (via the AMSAT BB) "I just worked many stations on the 14:50 UTC pass of AO-27. It was sounding good as usual." Pedro, EB4DKA, also reported good signals from the satellite, as did Dave, N8KXA. He reported that "AO-27 saw 60 over S-9." In addition to hearing it with no fading N8KXA was able to get into the bird with one watt.

ANS congratulates the AO-27 ground control team on this outstanding effort! [ANS thanks AMRAD for this information]

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Another long-distance FRS rescue: An 11-year-old Marysville, Washington, girl helped rescue a stranded and injured hiker 100 miles away on September 24 when she picked up his call for help on her Family Radio Service UHF H-T. Mikayala Whitley was playing Sunday with the little transceiver outside her home in north of Seattle when she heard the call for help and responded. She was able to keep in contact with injured hiker Michael Wyant, 49, throughout the afternoon. The girl's parents called authorities, who launched a rescue with the youngster acting as a communication relay between the hiker and rescuers. Wyant was picked up by a helicopter later that afternoon, treated at a hospital and released. He also called to thank his radio rescuer. The FRS units--which operate in the 462-MHz range--have a typical range of a couple of miles. In June, two young Oregon brothers were credited with quick thinking after they intercepted a plea for help transmitted via an FRS UHF transceiver by some injured mountaineers more than 80 miles away. Those hikers also were rescued as a result. REACT International has suggested the adoption of FRS channel 1 (462.5625 MHz) with the CTCSS tone disabled as a national call channel. REACT says it came up with the idea after lost hikers in Southern California spent 40 minutes calling on 14 different FRS channels using 38 different tones. In that case, an 11-year-old boy, Kristofer Moore, heard the distress call on his FRS H-T while camping with his family.—news reports; REACT

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FCC puts a new face on ULS home page: The FCC has spiffed up the Universal Licensing System home page at <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls>. But beyond the shiny, new fa?ade--which simplifies and clarifies navigation and minimizes confusion--it's the same ULS we have come to know and love--or hate. Check it out!

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UK abolishes age restriction: After discussions with the Radio Society of Great Britain, the UK Radiocommunications Agency has to drop the age restriction to obtain a "full" Amateur Radio license. Previously, applicants had to be 14 years of age or over, or to have held a Novice license for a least a year. Now, applicants who have passed the radio amateur examination and either the 5 WPM or 12 WPM Morse code test for a Class A/B or Class A license respectively, may apply for a full license.—RSGB

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Local TV stations provide repeater facility upgrade: The National Weather Service says two TV stations serving the Springfield, Missouri, area—KOLR and KDEB--have donated antenna and tower facilities valued at \$250,000 for use by Amateur Radio SKYWARN and other emergency groups. Quorum Broadcasting, parent company of KOLR and KDEB, provided the facilities, and the 145.49 repeater was scheduled to move to the new site on September 1. The 145.49 repeater trustee and club president Michael Blake, N0NQW, called the occasion "an important day, not only for the National Weather Service SKYWARN nets, but for the other emergency service groups in the region." The donation includes a five-year unlimited-use contract between the repeater group and the broadcaster, guaranteeing a location for Amateur Radio SKYWARN and emergency operations.--National Weather Service/Springfield news release

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All right Ladies and Gentleman here is a blast from the past. Norman R. McLaughlin, W6GEG, wrote it in what year? Answer to this question is at the end of the article.

### **Are You a Worm Warmer?**

**By**

**Norman R. McLaughlin, W6GEG**

How often have you been QSO some high-powered station, enjoying it 100%, when someone kicks on a low powered rig and covers you like a tent? Or how often has this happened to your signals at the other end? This often happens on very band. Sometimes it may be due to skip or some quirk of the ionosphere. But if it happens consistently then you are probably a "Worm Warmer".

Worm warmers has been going on for years and some how no one seems to be particularly concerned about it. The ironical part of it all is that no matter what powered rig you may have on the air it can and will take place. The higher the power, the more effective the job. With a California Kilowatt" it might even amount to "warm extermination". Worm warming is



something that takes place outside the shack and is no respecter of what kind of gear may be inside the shack.

Broadcasters warmed worms for years. But back in 1933 the old Radio Commission made measurements of many of these broadcasters and the results were startling. Of its findings the present FCC (Federal Communications Commission) says, "...that the efficiency of radiation systems varies from 5 to 60 percent, the location of the transmitter being in a large measure responsible for this variation.

Largely as a result of this survey, FCC Rule 131 came into being. To comply with Rule 131 and see that Santa Barbara's new 500 watt, KTMS, wasn't set up in some if guzzling location; exhaustive tests were made in this vicinity. It was while making these test that this business of worm warming became so evident. But, before getting into that, read carefully these following two sentences taken from the Sixth Annual Report of the Federal Radio Commission:

"If data were available on primary coverage of all broadcast stations and tabulated according to power, it would undoubtedly reveal that power alone is of minor importance in determining coverage and that there are other factors which are more influential. As a matter of fact, the percentage of modulation is more important than power and the effectiveness of the site and the efficiency of the radiating system are more important than either."

Most of us are too permanently located to be able to get up and move upon finding our location is not an effective transmitter site. But many sites now in use can be improved considerably as will be outlined later. Before getting to details, consider the following and then decide whether or not your site could stand a little improving.

In testing for broadcast transmitter sites, pursuant to Rule 131, a portable transmitter is set up on each of the sites under consideration. Tests are made between 12:01 am and 6:00 am local time on the stations assigned frequency. An antenna is set up and its resistance measured so that watching the antenna meter may readily check the power output, thereby simplifying keeping the power output constant. The rig is put on the air and field intensity measurements made. These are made on not less than eight radials. Starting at the transmitter measurements are made on each radial at quarter mile intervals up to two miles and at half mile intervals from there out to six miles. To say that this is a tough job is to put it mildly. It is, however, through such thorough testing of transmitter sites that broadcast stations of today are able to provide the swell coverage they do.

The yardstick for antenna and site efficiency is the signal at one mile. Knowing this, through the use of Rolph's Graphs and Sommerfeld's Formula the coverage of any station can be calculated with the fair degree of accuracy. Since this method involves great gobs of math, a simpler but less accurate

method is more appealing. Without attenuation, a station's signal at any distance is equal to the signal at one mile divided by that distance. For example, a signal of 100 millivolts per meter at one mile would equal 1 mv/m at 100 miles without attenuation. If, however, the signal at 100 miles is 0.5 mv/m instead of 1 mv/m then you know that the attenuation is consuming 50% of the signal. Calculations by this method will give a fair idea of stations' coverage but it is a poor substitute for the accepted method. Since amateurs are only interested in attenuation rather than signal strength in actual millivolts per meter, this system is adequate.

With our particular test setup we had 5 mv/m at one mile. Compared to modern FCC requirements this is practically no signal at all for a 50-watt broadcast station. Our test lash-up was comparable to the average ham radiating system. In fact, in many respects its efficiency was undoubtedly higher than most amateur installations. Nevertheless, our signal at one mile was about one-fifth the FCC requirement under Rule 131. (FCC requirement, 50 watt station, about 25 mv/m at one mile.)

Now, to put out five times the signal with out lash-up we would have had to increase our power by twenty-five, or to 1,250 watts! With this increase, however, we would still have a signal only as strong as a 50 watt installed to meet FCC requirements. And, what's more, only 150 of those 1250 watts would be doing us any good! Such an installation is swell for angleworms during the cold winter months! It certainly keeps the ground a comfortable temperature. But even the ASPA won't give you a medal for cutting down a worm's fuel bill. Worms aren't on its list.

FCC Rule 131 requires that broadcast stations meet minimum antenna height and ground requirements. Minimum height requirements for local stations are about 50 feet less than a quarter wavelength, generally speaking. For other classifications they vary slightly. However, the minimum ground requirements are the same for all classes of broadcast stations. They call for not less than 70-quarter wave radials do (where a vertical radiator is used). Tower manufacturers recommend at least 120-quarter wave ground radials whereas many smart broadcasters use 140 or more and extend them to a half wavelength. Beyond a half wave, it seems, there is little to be gained.

Probably by now many are thinking, "I'm not in the broadcasting business, what's this mean to me?" It may mean a lot, read on. Remember that our test installation was an average ham antenna lash-up. And remember, that if you are in a good location, by the addition of a radial ground system with no less than 70 quarter wave radials, and maybe pushing your skypiece up a little higher, you can get the equivalent of 25 time power increase. Are you interested?

This may sound like a pipe dream, but it's not. According to a law of physics, energy can not be destroyed. Radio



frequency power is quite definitely energy. If it isn't in the air once it leaves your antenna, it must be in the ground. Where else could it go?

Some one is undoubtedly about to say, "But you're forgetting high angle radiation. If most of my power is in a sky-wave high angle lobe, you won't be able to measure much of it at one mile." That's partly true, but one point is being overlooked and that's the same thing we've been discussing, the *ground*. The ground, needless to say, acts as a reflector. It is the signal bouncing off the ground that gives you your angle of radiation, so far as the conventional radiating system is concerned. If the reflector is efficient there will be little loss as the rf bounces off into space. If it is inefficient and highly resistant to radiation, you'll make the angleworms happy. Heating the ground is the only other thing your rf can possibly do.

There are few directional arrays which afford a power gain of twenty-five. If they do, they're unusually unidirectional, take up a dozen acres of ground and break up in business paying for wire and poles required. Here, by the simple application of fundamentals you can obtain the equivalent of any all-directional beam with a power gain of twenty-five. The cost of putting in a radial ground system, is by comparison, chicken feed. The amount of real estate required is likewise insignificant.

Back in the spark days, many of you undoubtedly recall, instead of putting in beam antennas, (unheard of then) we put in "Rounds Grounds" and whoops went out signal! No one ever stopped to figure out why, apparently. If he did, he probably would have discovered, as we have since, that there was no need for the rubber tubing insulation that covered the underground radials from the shack to the galvanized wash tubs, copper wash boilers, or whatever was buried in the ground at the end of each radial. Nevertheless, the Rounds Ground was a big improvement over the water pipe. The writer recalls the thrill he got when his system was installed. With a half kilowatt, rotary gap and all, he worked stations one hundred and fifty miles away on good nights like nobody's business!

But it seems that just about the time we were finding out that the ground played a mighty important part in radio transmission, somebody worked a thousand miles with a pesky little light bulb that made no roar when you stepped on the key. Those of us who didn't give up in disgust after being deprived of our "roarin' rotary gaps" were too busy fussin' with these new fangled gadgets to pay much attention to the ground. After all, about this time didn't we discover that Hertz antennas were the business for "Short Waves" and that "a ground was not necessary with a Hertz antenna"? That's what we've been dreaming for years and it's about time we woke up.

Broadcasters and hams have much in common, in that there is no place in either game for high angle radiation. Some will argue that it's great stuff for 160 and 75 meters, but they're the same people who complain about selective fade, screwy signal reports, losing contacts and QRM. If we must go to one extreme let's concentrate on getting our angle of radiation too low. We'd be better off. But don't worry about it ever getting too low these days. Broadcasters have been trying for years and they can't even get it low enough.

Doubtless there are many disbelievers in this writing. It does seem to be a bit too much to expect from mere fundamentals. But before you're too convinced that you are right why not making this check:

Using your present radiating system, measure your signal at two wavelengths distant. Any one of a number of simple intensity meters written about in current radio journals will do. After all you're mainly interested in the comparative increase, rather than the actual mv/m measurement. Then directly under your antenna start laying out plenty of quarter wave radials (or longer ones if space is available) oriented with the center of your antenna as the center of your signal at the same spot again. If after doing this, you still think the writer is all wrong, drop him a line and he'll sent by return mail, a neatly handknitted bed jacket for your angle worm's comfort.

If you find that you can't honestly write for a bed jacket, then get yourself some more wire and keep laying'em down. The more the merrier. If you can lie half wave radials instead of quarter wave do that and check your signal again when you're through.

In installing the ground permanently, do not put radials deeper than 12 inches. The nearer the surface the better. Salvage wire will do nicely and its size need not be over #14. In fact any size wire will be better than none at all.

*The date was: July 1937*







## ARRL STATE CONVENTION HAMFEST 2000

by  
David Stevens, KL7EB

The much-anticipated hamfest was a big success. The LEO (Low Earth Orbiting) Society met on first day at noon at the Thai Kitchen. Jerry Smith, KK5YY, dazzled everyone with his satellite wisdom. John Burn, KL7QZ, had enough society new papers for every one. When I got to Ben Boeke arena on Saturday there was a line of over seventy-five people waiting to get in to the Alaska State hamfest. There was the Mars group with Rex Keirn WL7BJ from Fairbanks, the State Defense Force with Craig Bledsoe KL4E, Greg Milnes K7OZ with ARRL Mike Boor WL7CUS with ARES, Jim Wiley, KL7CC, with his VE's, and many more. Radio Depot from Seattle, sold a lot of new radios. From T-shirts to solar panels, computer monitors to old phones, and even a 27" TV in kit form. I heard one man named Steve say "I wish I was here 15 minutes earlier. I missed that 60' of rohn 45 tower for only \$300.00"

The banquet on Saturday night went well. Gordon West, WB6NOA, didn't get to fry any pickles. The real pickle fry was what Jerry Smith told about. Jerry works at the nuclear research lab in Palo Alto California. When the forest service's 'controlled burn' got away; repeater, cell phones, and many telephones went down. Towns were evacuated; hillside burned, and homes destroyed. But the hams, equipped with radio with APRS (Automatic Poisoning Radio System) came to the rescue in many ways. Amateurs put their differences aside to assist in the fire fighting effort, traffic control, evacuating of the towns and many more communication issues. We were glued to our seat watching the pitcher and listening to Jerry's story of a job well done.

Sunday was a lot slower at the hamfest. One thing to note was that every one who took the VE's test on Sunday passed. That made the VE's feel good. Susan Woods NL7NN ran the concession booth with a lot of help. Over all I think that all that attended went home with a little more junk, oops I mean treasures then they had before. I want to thank Rick Marvin, KL7YF, for coordinating this year's hamfest.



Mike AL1A, still trying to figure out his new Kenwood TH-7DA



Susan, NL7NN in shock, no excuse not to take the test after winning the SG2020



Excellent help in the concession for the Hamfest, Hanna, Susan and others.



Anchorage Amateur Radio Club, Inc  
Post Office Box 101987  
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Bulk Rate  
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AUTO



STRETCH, AT THE STATE FAIR, IS ABOUT TO CONTACT THE HAM BUDDY WHO "RECOMMENDED" HE TRY OUT THE NEW FAIR FOOD SENSATION: "SUSHI ON A STICK"