

# Anchorage Amateur Radio Club

## General Membership meeting September 6

### Officers

<b>President</b>	Randy Vallee, AL7PJ
<b>Vice President</b>	Jim Larsen, AL7FS
<b>Secretary</b>	Keith Clark, WL7CSR
<b>Treasurer</b>	Richard Block, KL7RLB
<b>Trustee</b>	Jim Feaster, KL7KB
<b>Activities Chairman</b>	TJ Sheffield, KL7TS
<b>News Letter Editor</b>	Edythe Lynn KL7EL
<b>Membership Chairman</b>	Fred Erickson KL7FE
<b>Past Past-President</b>	John Lynn, KL7CY

### Three Year Board Members

Lil Marvin, NL7DL  
David Stevens, KL7EB  
Pat Wilke, WL7JA

### One Year Board Members

Lynn Hammond, KL7IKV  
John Murray, NL7WW  
Steve Jensen, KLØVZ  
Mike Borer, WL7CKB  
Dan Horvath, WL7CLX  
Tony Gangi, NL7PB

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

146.52 Mhz Calling and Emergency frequency  
147.57 / 447.57 (crossband linked) HF spotters & chat, 103.5 HZ PL  
146.49 Mhz Anchorage area simplex chat  
146.43 MHz Mat Valley simplex chat  
147.42MHz Peninsula simplex chat

### **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 Net 14.292 MHz 8:00 AM M-F  
850 No Name Net 146.85/.25 repeater Sundays 8:00 PM  
Grand Son of SSB Net 144.20 USB Mondays 8:00 PM local  
Big City Simplex Net 146.520, 446.0, & 52.525 FM  
    With Packet 145.01 Tuesdays 8:00 PM local  
ARES net 147.30/.90 repeater Thursdays at 8:00 PM local  
PARKA net 147.30/.90 Thursdays at 7:00 PM local

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

KL7AA systems at Flattop Mt., 2,200 ft  
146.94/34 MHz, 80 watts, autopatch, 141.3 Hz PL  
224.94/223.34, 25 watts, no patch, no PL  
444.70/449.70, 25 watts, autopatch, 141.3 PL  
KL7CC, Anchorage Hillside, SCRC & QCWA  
146.97/.37 MHz, 30 watts, autopatch, 103.5 Hz PL  
KL7M Anchorage Hillside  
147.21/.81 MHz, on IRLP, 97.4 Hz PL

KL7ION at Mt. Gordon Lyon, PARKA 3,940 ft  
147.30/90, MHz - 80 watts, no patch, 141.3 Hz PL  
KL7AIR Elmendorf AFB, EARS  
146.67/.07, 107.2 Hz PL  
KL7JFU, KGB road, MARA club  
146.85/.25, autopatch, no PL  
KL7DOB, Alcantra (Wasilla Armory)  
146.64/.04, simplex patch, no PL  
KL7DJE at Grubstake Peak, 4,500 ft. <down >  
147.09/.69 MHz, 25 watts, no patch, 100 Hz PL  
444.925/449.925, 10 watts, no patch, 141.3 Hz PL  
KL7AA, Mt. Alyeska, 2,400 ft. ??down??  
146.76/16 MHz, 25 watts, no patch, 141.3 Hz PL

#### KL7G CODE PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Schedule: 7:00am, 10:00am, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

AK time, every day on 145.35 MHz @ 7 wpm

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

Homepage: <http://home.gci.net/~lawson/>  
Email Reflector: [KL7AA@QTH.NET](mailto:KL7AA@QTH.NET)  
Webmaster: [lawson@gci.net](mailto:lawson@gci.net)  
President: [vallee@gci.net](mailto:vallee@gci.net)  
Membership: [frederickson@iname.com](mailto:frederickson@iname.com)  
Newsletter: [edielynn@gci.net](mailto:edielynn@gci.net)

#### News Letter Submissions, Information or corrections:

Submissions must be received 2 weeks before meeting  
Email: [edielynn@gci.net](mailto:edielynn@gci.net) faxcsimile: 907-338-4791  
Mail: 7013 Trafford Ave. Anchorage 99504

#### ~~~ HOT LINKS ~~

Internet Web links, the favorites from our readers

QRP: <http://www.qsl.net/al7fs/>

QRP: <http://www.njqrp.org/data/links.html>

AARC <http://home.gci.net/~lawson/>

SCRC <http://www.KL7G.org>

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/aresalaska>

KL7J <http://www.alaska.net/~buchholz>

Fairbanks AARC: <http://www.kl7kc.com/>

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 clubs or good starting points that should appear here*

+ = + = + = + = + = + = + = + = +

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

+ = + = + = + = + = + = + = + = +

**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 computer disk, fax, or E-mail to the newsletter editor at the address listed on the cover. Submissions must be in the hands of the editor at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+

**Regular HAM Gatherings :**

**Tuesdays Lunch, 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 Breakfast , 7:30 AM:** Here is a good 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.

+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+

**THIS MONTH'S EVENTS**

**September 3rd: VE License Exam 6:30 PM,** 1st Tuesday of the month at the Hope Cottage offices, 540 W International. Bring photo ID, copy of license (if any) and any certificates of completion.

**September 3rd: EARS general meeting at 6:30PM** 1st Thursday of the month, in the basement of Denali Hall (building 31-270) on Elmendorf AFB. Talk in on 147.67- repeater.

**September 6th: AARC general meeting at 7:00 PM** in the Carr-Gottstein Building, on the APU Campus. Talk in will be on 147.30+ repeater.

**September 13th The 31st Ham Fest/ State Convention Banquet** will be held at the Royal Fork South at 7:00 pm. Talk in frequency is 146.94 (minus) repeater.

**September 13th: SCRC general meeting at 7:00 PM** the 2nd Friday of the month at Denny's on Debarr & Bragaw. Talk in on 147.57 simplex. There will be **no meeting this month** do to the Ham Fest Banquet.

**HAMFEST September 14 Saturday** with the Banquet Friday night September 13 at Royal Fork South. Hamfest Chairman at to volunteer to help.

**September 14th: VE License Exams at 2:00 PM.** 2nd Saturday of the month at Hope Cottage 540 W. International . Be sure to bring photo ID, copy of license (if any) and any certificates of completion. Will **NOT** be given at Hope Cottage, but will be given at the HAMFEST.

**September 14th: PARKA Meeting at 11:00 AM.** 2nd Saturday of the month at Peggy's, across from Merrill Field

**September 17th: AARC Board meeting at 7:00 PM** 3rd Tuesday of the month at Hope Cottage 540 W. International .

**September 5th& 19th: Moosehorn ARC general meeting at 7:00 PM** every other Thursday in the Soldotna Borough Offices on North Binkley. Talk in on 146.88 repeater or 147.42 simplex.

**September 21st: ARES General meeting 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM.** 3rd Saturday of the month.

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

+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+

## Heath and Welfair

George W Stevens KL7AV SK passed away on August 8 2002, in Bellevue Washington. He was born in Spokane on June 18 1917, came to Seattle in 1924. Graduated from Cleveland High School, Married Eva Stanton May 23, 1942. Served Us Army WW II, employed by Boeing 10 years. Owner of Queen City Building Maintenance in Seattle and Anchorage Window Cleaners in Anchorage Alaska. He is survived by one daughter, Beverly Faultersack WL7AXI, (Robert Faultersack KL7SV son in law), four son Robin Stevens, Tom Stevens, David Stevens KL7EB, and Daniel Stevens KL7WM. Also survived by five grandsons, two granddaughters , and one great grand daughter and one great grand son. Services were held at Redmond Assemble of God on August 15, 3 PM. George was nicked named 'the rock man' because of the polished rocks he would hand out. Often he would take a afternoon, go to the hostel and find some one to show off Anchorage or Portage Glacier. George Stevens KL7AV Silent Key will be greatly missed.

David W Stevens KL7EB AK SM

Sorry to bring the sad news that Terry Preston died on Monday the 19th of August at about 5 pm. The immediate cause was pneumonia. Terry had been hospitalized since March.

As you know, Terry was the president of the Nenana club for the past several years. It was through his efforts that the facility developed so extensively. In this project he made many friends in other clubs, especially the Anchorage and Fairbanks clubs and he treasured these friendships. Amateur radio was Terry's chief interest and his talents and experience prepared him uniquely for the role of Club President.

Arrangements are pending and it seems likely that services will occur sometime this weekend in Nenana. Burial will be in Nenana. (I will provide details as soon as possible.) His gravesite and that of his late wife Lillian overlook the Tanana River.

We will miss him greatly.

Daryl Douthat,  
Secretary, Nenana Amateur Radio Club

+==+==+==+==+==+==+

## Parkas and friends,

The PARKA ladies will be holding another special meeting at the Alaska State Fair on Thursday, August 29th. That is GCI at the Fair Day and if you bring 3 cans of food for the Food Bank of Alaska you will get in at 1/2 price.

If you join us and you will be coming from Anchorage, and you want to go with us, meet us at the parking lot of Central Lutheran Church on the northwest corner of 15th Avenue and Cordova Street (1520 Cordova) at 10:30 AM, and please be prompt. We will leave the church directly at 10:30 and will either carpool or caravan to the fair.

If you want to join us, and you will be coming either from Eagle River or the valley, then meet us at 12:00 PM in directly in front of the NORTH entrance to the fair. This is the entrance closest to the city of Palmer. Again be prompt, please, as we will probably make our entrance to the fair right at 12:00 PM.

We will eat our lunch at St. Michael's Parish's Slippery Gulch building. They have good hamburgers and hotdogs and homemade goodies. There will be no business conducted, just visiting and fun. Bring your significant others, kids, grandkids, etc. After we eat, we can break up into smaller groups and just do our thing at the fair.

If anybody has any questions, or think that they would like to join us, contact Lil Marvin NL7DL at the above email address or call her at 277-6741 (Anchorage). Hope to see you all at the fair.

Lil Marvin NL7DL

+==+==+==+==+==+==+

## Anchorage Amateur Radio Club 31st Ham Fest/ State Convention

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club is hosting our 31st Ham Fest/ State Convention This well be held at the Northway Mall in the old track and trail store on the Carrs side of the mall September 14TH @ 9:00 AM to 5:00PM. Admission: Free. Door prizes each hour, \$1.00 per ticket, **Grand** prize at 5:00 PM. Contact: Mike Romanello, KL7BK for more information. KL7BK@arrl.net

## Must be present to win!!!

Banquet Friday Night: 630 Royal Fork on the old Seward off Diamond Blvd. Featured Speaker is Bill Cross W3TN of the FCC'S Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. ARRL's QSL Manager Martin Cook, ARRL's NW Division Vice Director Jim Fenstermaker.

### Vendors:

HRO Anaheim, CA WS4ANA@HRO.NET 714-533-7373

NCG/Comet Antenna 714-630-4541 Bencher Keyers/ Antenna's/Idiompress www.Bencher.com/ www.idiompress.com

707-431-1286 Aventure: Aston power supplies/ batteries. www.aventure.com. Radio Depot Seattle, Washington:

[www.hammall.com](http://www.hammall.com). Frigid North: Anchorage, AK 907-561-4633. Vendor will also be going to Fairbanks for their HamFest on Sunday the 15th

### Events:

APRS Demo's, Leo Satellites, Amateur TV, HF Demo's for the public, Army Mars, PSK 31, Packet, Bill Cross of the FCC and Anchorage EOC, Gordon West will be there to speak on VHF SSB and UHF SSB long distant radio waves.

If any thing is needed from these vendors email them or call them to make sure you get what you want!!! Have your name put on your item, all freight is free from Washington to Anchorage. **NO TOWERS OR BEAMS!!!!** Freight free thanks to Fred Meyers in Washington State, so we don't want to wear out our free freight system for years to come. Talk in frequency is 146.94 (minus) repeater

Tables: \$25 individual, \$50 commercial – no added commission charges. To reserve table space, call John Lynn, KL7CY, at 337-1091. Tables may be paid at door, but space must be reserved before event start.

73's and hope to see you there

Mike KL7BK@ARRL.NET

+ = + = + = + = + = + = + = + = + = +

### Getting More from Your HT By Phill Mannie

Most ARES (1) activities involve 2 meter and/or 70-centimeter band HTs (2) as a vital operational component. All HTs are a compromise, trading off transmitter power, battery endurance and antenna size for portability. While our fine local repeater system does an excellent job of mitigating these circumstances, we are still left with the problems of getting into the repeater and the possibility that repeaters may be unavailable at certain times and locations. This throws the problem of overcoming the HT's inherent limitations back on the individual operator.

#### Get It Up

Perhaps the easiest thing you can do to improve HT communication is to keep your radio and antenna as high and as vertical as possible. Line of sight (LoS) distance in miles for a smooth earth is the square root of the antenna height in feet multiplied by two. An HT on my belt (about 3 feet high) yields about 2.5 miles LoS distance. Moving the antenna up to 6 feet (so that the radio is about face level) increases LoS distance to almost 3.5 miles. At 10 feet high LoS is about 4.5 miles. Of course the earth is not smooth, and local terrain is beyond our control, but small advantages can add up.

#### The Missing Link

The efficiency of an HT is directly dependent upon how much antenna it has and upon the quality of its ground plane (3). Most portables have poor ground planes and there are limitations on what can be done to improve this given that there isn't much metal to work with in an HT body. One thing you can do is adding a counterpoise. A roll your own counterpoise for the 2 meter band could consist of a 7/16th inch (ID) crimp-on ring style connector attached to a 19 inch length of insulated wire (stranded wire is most flexible) placed between your antenna and the radio body. The 7/16th inch connector fits snugly over the radio BNC jack and is electrically connected to the shell, or 'ground' side of the antenna connector; a bit of shrink wrap over the free end covers any bare wire that may protrude from the insulation. Like keeping your antenna high, this idea is not going to work any magic; rather it is a small bit of leverage that may be advantageous.

#### More Is Better

Aside from leaning over your car or standing on a big sheet of metal (both of which can be effective, by the way, if they happen

to be available) the counterpoise does pretty much what can easily be done to improve your ground plane, so let's have a look at that antenna. The only valid excuses for using anything less than a 1/4 wavelength antenna for emergency and public service communications are that roughly 16 inches (on the 2 meter band) of antenna will severely impede your primary activity or that you will be so active as to break the antenna off or place too much strain on your HT antenna connector. As an Amateur radio communicator this should seldom be a problem, but it does explain why police officers and firefighters favor those 2-inch stubby duck style antennae; their primary task is not communication.

The choice of antenna is another compromise dependant upon your environment, your mission, how much battery power you can afford to use to maintain reliable communication and how much antenna you can stick atop a small radio. For everyday use, I've chosen one of the highly flexible 1/16th-inch diameter 1/4-wavelength antennae, the Pryme RD-98; you could tie it in a knot (4). It matters little which 1/4 wavelength antenna you choose; the important thing is to maximize the amount of antenna on your HT and the 1/4 wavelength antenna is a pretty good compromise for the normal activity level an HT operator will encounter. 1/2 wavelength telescoping antennae are also available, an example being the MFJ-1714. These are rather delicate and, at 42 inches long can put unusual strain on your antenna connector, but should theoretically realize some gain (5). You can get more information about the Pryme RD-98 on the web at <http://radcomm.bizland.com/rad-comm/id15.html>. The MFJ-1714 is briefly described at <http://www.mfjenterprises.com/products.php?prodid=MFJ-1714>. Most antenna manufacturers produce HT antennae and many I have not tried appear durable and well suited to task.

#### Let the Buyer Beware

I should mention that I suspect that the gain figures you'll see in antenna advertising may sometimes be exaggerated. Since I don't have the facilities or frankly, the interest to objectively quantify the gain of various products I won't say that some of the figures you'll see are absurd. Rather, I'll merely suggest that there are many ways to cook data, and many confusing ways to present antenna gain figures. Choose a well made, durable 1/4 wavelength antenna and you won't go too far wrong. Naturally, if you have an interest in these matters and wish to objectively test various antenna products, I, for one, will be very interested in your results.

#### Gain Antennae

One other possibility to maximize the amount of antenna on your HT is a wire J-Pole. As a balanced feed antenna, J-Poles eliminates the ground plane problem, offer roughly 2dBi(6) gain and are usually hung from a tree or otherwise elevated by a non-conducting support. The disadvantage of a J-Pole is that your movement (as well as any gain in the system) will be limited by the amount of coax feed-line between your radio and the antenna. Keep the feed-line to 12 feet or less and you'll still realize a significant theoretical gain over a 1/4-wavelength antenna along with some advantage from elevation. Wire J-Poles is available commercially or you can roll your own; either way they are very portable and very useful for the HT operator. Equally portable and boasting roughly similar gain, a vertically hung 1/2 wavelength dipole is also an effective emergency and public service communications tool that is even easier to make than the wire J-Pole. Information on commercially produced wire J-Poles can be had at <http://www.mfjenterprises.com/products.php?prodid=MFJ-1730>, and <http://www.antennasmore.com/vhf-uhf.htm>. There are so many plans for home made wire J-Poles on the web that I'll simply suggest that you use a search engine. You probably already know all you need to make a dipole; remembering to take into account the velocity of propagation (7) in the medium you choose for your dipole will assist you in cutting near the correct length.

#### The Rest of the Story

There is certainly much more to be said about getting the most from your HT in emergency and public service communication. We solicit your suggestions, hints and kinks. The Alaska ARES web page is located at <http://www.qsl.net/aresalaska>

#### Notes

- (1) Amateur Radio Emergency Service: a group of licensed Amateur radio operators involved in emergency and public service communication.
- (2) HT: Hand-held Transceiver.
- (3) Ground Plane: An electrically conductive surface that serves as the near-field reflection point for an antenna.
- (4) Do not tie your antenna in a knot; it's not good for the antenna. If your antenna is not in good condition, all bets are off. Even the most flexible antenna should be stored and used straight. The flexibility merely makes it less clumsy and prone to damage.
- (5) Gain: The ratio of the power required at the input of a loss-free reference antenna to the power supplied to the input of the given antenna to produce, in a given direction, the same field strength at the same distance. Antenna gain is usually expressed in dB.
- (6) dB: decibel, one tenth of a bel, a logarithmic unit used to describe a ratio which may be power, voltage, intensity or several other things. dBi is the ratio between the gain of an isotropic radiator (an imaginary antenna that can be modeled mathematically and used for comparisons of this nature) and a real antenna.
- (7) Velocity of Propagation: The speed of an electrical or electromagnetic signal in a physical medium such as a coaxial cable or

optical fiber.

+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+

**(Unapproved)**  
**Anchorage Amateur Radio Club Board Meeting, July 16, 2002**

The AARC Board Meeting was held on Tuesday, July 16, 2002, at Hope Community Resources Administrative Building at 540 West International Airport Way. President Randy Vallee, AL7PJ at 7:06 p.m, opened the meeting. The following officers were in attendance: President Randy Vallee, AL7PJ, Vice-President Jim Larsen, AL7FS, Secretary Keith Clark, WL7CSR, Treasurer Richard Block, KL7RLB, and Activities Manager T.J. Sheffield, KL7TS. The following Board Members were in attendance: Pat Wilke, WL7JA, Lil Marvin, NL7DL, David Stevens, KL7EB, Lynn Hammond, KL7IKV, John Murray, NL7WW, Steve Jensen, KLØVZ, Mike Borer, WL7CKB, and Dan Horvath, WL7CLX. AARC club member, VEC Chairman Jim Wiley, KL7CC, and Past President John Lynn, KL7CY, were present.

Minutes from the June 18 Board Meeting were reviewed. Richard Block, KL7RLB made a motion to accept with one minor change. It was seconded by Mike Borer, WL7CKB and passed unanimously.

**REPORTS**

**Health and Welfare:**

No news is good news.

**Membership Report:**

Fred Erickson, KL7FE, Sez we picked up some members at the last meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Richard Block, KL7RLB, has a written report available. He has two notes for the Board to review on the written report. He would like the Board to review project budget standings, and Insurance coverage limits.

**Gaming Committee Report:**

John Lynn, KL7CY, has nothing new to report. There is now new news on the State issue, and business at Boniface Bingo is down due to the summer months.

**VHF Committee Report:**

There is no written report at this time

**VEC Report:**

Jim Wiley, KL7CC, noted that the Extra Class exam pool has now changed. He also reported that the remote testing project is moving forward. Also that Someone at APU is working on a Beta test site for the Web.

**ARES:**

Mike Borer, WL7CKB, updated the calendar list of upcoming events. It was noted that the ARES Kits have received their circuit boards and building will resume. An update on the CCV indicates only two items left to complete, and then there was discussion about the public service radios to be used in the facility.

**Grant Committee**

Now news tonight.

**Old Business:**

No old business tonight.

**New Business:**

There was discussion about the repeater at Alyeska. A motion was made By Jim Larsen, AL7FS, to remove the equipment and discontinue the phone line service. Lynn Hammond, KL7IKV, seconded. A friendly amendment was accepted, to table the repeater equipment discussion till next month, but cancel phone service to save the \$150.00 per month fee. The motion passed with three opposing. (Voting record attached)

## BOARD VOTING RECORD 07-16-02

Vote to cancel telephone service for the Alyeska Repeater.

### FOR

Randy Vallee, AL7PJ  
Jim Larsen, AL7FS  
Keith Clark, WL7CSR  
Richard Block, KL7RLB  
TJ Sheffield, KL7TS  
John Lynn, KL7CY  
Jim Feaster, KL7KB  
Pat Wilke, WL7JA  
Lynn Hammond, KL7IKV  
John Murray, NL7WW  
Steve Jensen, KLØVZ  
Mike Borer, WL7CKB  
Dan Horvath, WL7CLX

### AGAINST

Lil Marvin, NL7DL  
David Stevens, KL7EB  
Tony Gangi, NL7PB

Lynn Hammond, KL7IKV, presented the following **motion for censure**:

Mr. Chairman :

It is with regret that I would like to present a motion for censure of board member Lil Marvin for unfair and improper conduct as a member of this Board.

In specific,

1. Ms. Marvin failed to support a board action, which was duly discussed, debated and voted on at the last meeting of this board.
2. Ms Marvin improperly solicited proxies from a select group of members, apparently chosen solely to support her position.

Failure to support a board action in which one has duly been heard and participated is contrary to good governance and a very fast way to destroy the board's effectiveness. The duty here was to explain the board's actions, perhaps pro and con, but not to lead a revolt. If Ms. Marvin felt so strongly that her actions were necessary, the proper course would have been to resign from the board and then take action.

Likewise, it is totally improper to solicit proxies from a select group. It is only right that proxies should have been solicited from *the entire membership* with full written disclosure of the arguments and the reasons for opposition thereof. The method in which proxies were actually solicited effectively disenfranchised other members of the club.

Club rules may permit these actions, but that does not make them right. I consider them to be a breach of ethics.

I would like to speak to this resolution after it is seconded. The board may add or substitute other names as appropriate.

I have been in this club for 27 years, but not active until recently. Here is part of the reason.

It appears to me as a newcomer that there is a turf war going on here.

It is also apparent that the Mt Susitna repeater project was proposed as a solution to problems. There never will be a perfect project or answer. This project got nothing like a fair hearing at the meeting. No airing of pros and cons, no reasoned discussion.

I felt that there were two valid objections.

1. Maintenance - these concerns were addressed, and with substantial funds in the bank, the true risk is small and manageable.
2. The other repeaters in town are not used much.



I think this is, in part true, because these repeaters perform poorly.

27 years ago, I could use 34/94 from inside a bus in Muldoon with a 2 watt handheld. Likewise I could hit it from my house which was in the shadow of a hillside bowl. When I moved to a location near Boniface Mall, I had a clear shot, but gradually performance deteriorated until I could no longer hit it. The 90/30 (KL7ION) machine has poor coverage in many areas south of Huffman road. Both it and 25/85 in the valley are over the lip of a hill from me. I can hit 25/85, but rarely 90/30.

Both of these need improvement - with or without Susitna - and Susitna has potential to provide far better coverage, and to be a much better resource. KL7M's set up is by far the best performer in the area. We need something better.

This club cannot serve the community if it sticks to the tried and true and is unwilling to attempt imaginative change. If all hams had behaved in this manner we would still be using spark gap. Risk taking is a part of the process, and those risks can be managed here.

In conclusion, if Ms. Marvin and others wish to circumvent the board and impose their own will, one must ask what is the purpose of the board. I have not been active in this club in part because I do not wish to spend my Friday evenings in a meeting with a club trying to do business as a committee of the whole, endlessly debating how many angels can dance on the head of a pin. It serves no purpose for the board to debate and decide if the same process must be rerun for everyone. This should have been easy - it wasn't.

If this process continues it will kill the club.

The motion was seconded by John Lynn, KL7CY. After much discussion, the motion and second were withdrawn.

Jim Larsen advises that progress on the inventory of Club equipment is progressing, but slowly. He is putting inventory stickers on all equipment for a permanent record.

There was discussion about storage location for the CCV this winter, and also a training program for Club members who may be either driving the CCV, or operating equipment in the CCV.

Richard Block, KL7RLB, stated that he feels a need for the Club to develop long range strategic planning for the Club to have a better defined structure for how we are going to use our funds to enhance our hobby and the community at large.

Dick also advises that he received from the State, a notice of involuntary Corporate Dissolution. He will do the research to find out what the solution is.

Jim Larsen reminded the Board that we still have a request to find a new newsletter editor.

There being no further business, Mike Borer, WL7CKB, moved to adjourn, Pat Wilke, WL7JA, seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

Submitted by H. Keith Clark, WL7CSR, Secretary

+ = + = + = + = + = + = + = + = +

Phil Mannie, KLØQW will demonstrate Amateur Television (ATV) during the September 06, 2002 club meeting. The demonstration may include transmitting from the rooftop of KTUU (Channel 2) to an "emergency portable" setup at the APU auditorium.

The purpose of the demonstration is to receive an ATV signal from a remote location, using a conventional television receiver, simulating our ability to place a portable ATV repeater in an advantageous location and deliver audio and video signals to Served Agencies equipped with conventional (cable ready) television sets.

+ = + = + = + = + = + = + = + = +

**Northwestern Division Director Northwestern Division Vice Director  
Greg Milnes, W7OZ, Jim Fenstermaker, K9JF  
July 29, 2002**

Jim and I are now back from the ARRL Board of Directors' meeting held near Newington, Connecticut on the 18th through 20th of July. Hot, humid, thunder showers...yep! That's summer in the east for you. You can find the Board minutes on the web: [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org). I'll hit some high spots. Good news first. During the meeting, we got word that the League was chosen to receive a large grant for emergency communications training. \$180,000+ will be coming through the Office of Homeland Security. More details will follow soon. The "big" issue for the ARRL Board this summer was a proposal to move Section News from QST to the web. It passed but there was a strong minority position (I was in that minority). Starting with the January issue, Section News will only be on the web. If you or someone you know doesn't feel comfortable with (or have) the

web, write the ARRL or me and you will receive a hard copy of your Section News via mail. It was also voted to treat contest line scores similarly. We are now supposed to see more QST editorial content in the future, involving what's going on in the Sections and what's happen' in contests. The main words about the future harmonization of the worldwide forty-meter band are "cautious optimism. "As you know we have 7.0 to 7.3 MHz in the Western Hemisphere but the rest of the world only has 7.0 to 7.1 MHz. We're working hard internationally to get 300 kHz for everyone. I think it is still looking good for us to get a couple of new bands: around 5 MHz (60 meters) and the 136 kHz (sliver band). Likewise all things seem to be on track for upgrading some frequencies in the 2.4 GHz band to primary from secondary. Vice Director, Jim Fenstermaker, K9JF has now moved north to: 14508 24th Avenue West, Lynnwood, WA 98037-5919. He's trying to get something up to radiate RF. His phone is: (206) 930-9372. [k9jf@arrl.org](mailto:k9jf@arrl.org) I'm going to be out of the country visiting relatives for a few weeks. I leave for Amsterdam on the 7th of August, then go on to Nairobi, Kenya in East Africa. I'll be back on the 29th of August. Unfortunately the diplomatic climate in Kenya won't allow US hams to operate from 5Z4-land at this point. Remember to write your Congressman in support of H.R. 4720, a bill aimed at providing relief to amateurs faced with private deed covenants (CC&Rs) in erecting antennas. Go to the ARRL web page ([www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)) for more information, including a sample letter. I find it easiest to simply type 4720 in the Search Site box at the top of the page. Scroll down for lots of articles on this subject. I was pleased to bring to the ARRL Board the nomination of William Drummond, W7QT, as the 2001 ARRL Professional Educator of the year. My motion passed unanimously. Congratulations Bill! Upcoming hamfests and conventions:

Aug. 2-4, Pac. NW DX at Portland, OR;  
Aug. 10, Lower Columbia at Longview, WA;  
Aug. 17, Hellgate ARC at Missoula, MT;  
Sept. 14, RCT, at Tacoma, WA;  
Sept. 14, Alaska State Anchorage, AK;  
Sept. 15, Arctic ARC at Fairbanks, AK  
Sept. 28, Chehalis Valley at Chehalis, WA;  
Oct 12, E. Wash. at Spokane, WA;  
Oct 12, North Kitsap at Silverdale, WA;  
Oct. 26, Mid-Valley at Rickreall, OR  
73/Greg Milnes, W7OZ (the Oz)  
ARRL Northwestern Division Director  
740 SE 24th Avenue  
Hillsboro, OR 97123-7286  
[w7oz@arrl.org](mailto:w7oz@arrl.org)

+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+

NEWINGTON, CT, Aug 6, 2002--The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators has endorsed experimental use of videoconferencing technology to conduct Amateur Radio testing in remote areas of Alaska. Meeting July 26 in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, the NCVEC voted to back a one-year trial run to be conducted by the Anchorage Volunteer Examiner Coordinator.

Jim Wiley, KL7CC, of the Anchorage VEC told his VEC colleagues that tens of thousands of Alaska residents living in remote areas are at a distinct disadvantage under the current ham radio testing regime. "It is ironic that of all the people in Alaska who could best make good use of ham radio, these 'bush' residents are the very ones the present exam system discriminates against," he said.

The vote followed discussion on whether having a VE team remotely monitor a test session while an unlicensed individual proctored the exams on site would comply with FCC Part 97 rules. Section 97.509(c) calls for three VEs to be "present and observing" the examinees.

"It was a classic 'how to do something' discussion," the FCC's Bill Cross, W3TN, of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, told ARRL. Cross was among several FCC staff members attending the annual gathering. "I told them that the VEC and the VEs are responsible for the proper conduct of the exams and that no rule changes appeared to be necessary because the rules do not address the 'how to' of exam administration." Cross said VECs already have authority under Part 97 rules to determine the manner in which their VE teams conduct examination sessions.

During the conference discussion, Cross noted that colleges already use videoconferencing technology to present for-credit courses and that, once licensed, Alaskans living in remote regions could themselves become VEs. Cross pointed out to the conference that no VEC would be required to coordinate an exam session using a method of testing that it was not comfortable with. "The conference was willing to allow the Anchorage VEC to conduct a trial in Alaska of the program it has developed after it describes the program in further detail," he said.

Wiley said the average cost of sending a three-person VE team to remote Alaskan community's runs about \$2600, including

airfare and room and board. With only two to four candidates at a typical session, Wiley said, the per-person cost could be as high as \$1300. Travel by air from areas where there are no roads to a central testing site could set a candidate back more than \$800, he estimated.

Wiley said he believes ham radio tests can be administered using videoconferencing technology without compromising exam integrity while maintaining "the same level of confidence in the testing process that the present system provides." He agreed to provide progress reports to the NCVEC on the videoconferencing trial.

Six of the eleven VECs attending the session voted in favor of endorsing the videoconferencing experiment, while three were opposed and two abstained. ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, said he abstained from voting because he did not believe a vote was necessary, since the FCC's Cross had indicated that the concept could be applied under existing rules.

In other business, the NCVEC gathering turned back a proposal to bring back multiple-choice format Morse code examinations. The vote was 9-2. The NCVEC also decided unanimously to create a Web site over the next few months to post news, question pools and other exam-related information.

John Creel, WB3GXW, of the Laurel Amateur Radio Club VEC in Maryland chaired the NCVEC conference. Next year's conference will be July 25, 2003 in Gettysburg. Creel will remain chairman for the 2003 event.

+==+==+==+==+==+==+

## **ALASKA SECTION NEWS OCTOBER 2002**

**David W Stevens KL7EB**

**Alaska Section Manager**

The IOTA (Island on the Air), Deer Island Expedition on July 31 through August 5 to a remote eastern Aleutian Island was a great success. There were almost 10,000 contacts made by Rick Kaplan KL7AK, Larry Biederman KF6XC, Blain Berg KL7TG, Linda Berg NL7RE, and Jim Model K9PPY. Robert Wilson AL7KK has written a new book, ECONOMICAL ANTENNAS FOR LOW AND MEDIUM FREQUENCIES. It can be found CD ROM or pdf at [www.antennex.com?Sshack/loafer/loafer.html](http://www.antennex.com?Sshack/loafer/loafer.html) Venture Scouting need your help: contacts Anchorage Jim Wiley KL7CC 338 0662 or Craig Bledsoe KL7E 694 4730; Fairbanks Dianne Marshal AL7FG Wassilla Teresa Nunes KL0WW 373 5224. Fairbanks ARES Net 2000 Sunday KL7KC repeater, Anchorage ARES 147.30 Thursday 2000, Snipers 3920 at 1800, Bush Net 7093 at 200, Motley Group 3933 at 2100, and Alaska Pacific Net M-F 14.292 0830.

+==+==+==+==+==+==+

## **QRP CONTEST CALENDAR**

**September 2002**

Michigan QRP Labor Day Sprint (CW) \*\*\* QRP CONTEST! \*\*\*

Sep 02 - 2300z to Sep 03 - 0300z

Rules: <http://www.qsl.net/miqrpclub/rules01.htm>

"Extra Points for Homebrew & kit stations"

Adventure Radio Spartan Sprint (CW) \*\*\* QRP CONTEST! \*\*\*

Sep 03 - 0100z to 0300z (Monday Evening in US/Canada)

Rules: [http://www.natworld.com/ars/pages/spartan\\_sprints/ss\\_rules.html](http://www.natworld.com/ars/pages/spartan_sprints/ss_rules.html)

"Testing of lightweight radio gear for outdoor QRP expeditions"

End of Summer PSK-31 Sprint (14.070 mhz)\*\*\* QRP Contest \*\*\*

Sep 08 - 2000z to 2400z

Rules: <http://personal.palouse.net/rfoltz/arci/psk31.htm>

"Warble Away with QRP"

QRP Afield (All) \*\*\* QRP Contest \*\*\*

Sep 21 - 1500z to Sep 22 - 0300z (Enter your best 6 hours)

Rules: <http://www.qsl.net/wq1rp/qrpaf02r.htm>

"Granddaddy' of the outdoor QRP events"

Fall QRP Homebrewer Sprint (CW/PSK31) \*\*\*QRP CONTEST\*\*\*

Sep 23 - 0000z to 0400z (Sunday evening in US/Canada)

Rules: <http://www.njqrp.org/data/qrp-homebrewersprint.html>

"Prizes for the winner(s) and special certificates for all"

Thanks to K3WWP, SM3CER, WA7BNM, ARRL and others for assistance in compiling this calendar.

72 de

Ken Newman - N2CQ

N2CQ@ARRL.NET <http://www.NJQRP.org>

<http://www.N3EPA.org>

<http://www.qsl.net/cgrp/contests.html>

+==+==+==+==+==+==+==+

Luc Langehegermann LX2GT is pleased to announce the first release of ktrack, a Linux/KDE3 satellite-tracking program.

Some of its features include:

- + Automatically turns your antennas using an fodtrack interface
- + Doppler correction (IC-910 supported)
- + Tuning using the best user interface - the tuning knob of the transceiver
- + Create Prediction lists
- + Nice graphics (ktrack uses xplanet for the graphics)

You can get it at:

[http://sourceforge.net/project/showfiles.php?group\\_id=54337](http://sourceforge.net/project/showfiles.php?group_id=54337)