

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club

Next Meeting May 6th

May Program

Attention All Volunteers

by: Jesse L. Jones, KL1RK

The American Red Cross has a new State Volunteer Manager and is working to restructure its volunteers. Heather Adams will be speaking to us at the May General Membership Meeting about the role of volunteers in the Red Cross. Please plan to attend and see how this reorganization may affect you and your club!



TWO MONTHS TO FIELD DAY

Set-up begins Friday evening, June 24th and we will track the elapsed time it takes to set up each station.

Last year we tried to simulate a “real” emergency by setting up Saturday morning. Our goal was to check operational readiness.

We had problems:

- Power stability within the CCV
- Use of the spider boxes
- Computers not talking to radios
- Beam not adjusted for CW operation
- Beam with a bad balun
- SSB station came up at 11:30, however power was not stable until after 12:30
- CW station came up at 13:30
- GOTA station came up at 18:30
- Satellite station came up at 20:30
- Experienced significant mutual station interference
- Not effective on the low bands: Zero QSOs

All of these problems have been addressed for 2005.

This year we optimized the geographic layout

- Site layout aligns antenna pattern nulls
- Site layout provides maximum horizontal separation \
- Site layout allows the CCV to “draw a crowd”
- Site layout is an “easy sell” to Park Management

RF Exposure Calculation

This is the first year we’ve evaluated our RF exposure levels, using: University of Texas on-line calculator (uses the ARRL approach)

Maximum signal strength will be available to the GOTA and Alternative Power stations when they “hijack” the beam away from the high-power SSB station long enough to secure their bonus point QSOs and the operational schedule should optimize “antenna time” among the stations.

New this year: The CW station runs for 12 hours (half the event time) and the Digital station (co-located with the CW station) runs the remaining 12 hours. We believe there is a need to expand our digital communications capability and this will be our first “real” test of this mode.

Station Activity Will Be Scheduled

Next Month Newsletter: Watch for aerial views of the Field Day Site. Also, the full operating schedule will be published.

Volunteers Still Needed for Bonus Point Categories



The Infrared Station:
TBD (To Be Determined)

This is the food station – John and Edie will NOT be doing food this year. They have provided this service for the past TEN years.

1. Young Operators: Mike O’Keefe, KL7MD
20 points per valid contact initiated by an operator 18 years or younger, for a maximum of 100 points (assuming five operators).

2. Emergency Power, SSB: TBD
100 points for putting the SSB station on-the-air using generator power, plus one point for each QSO.

3. Emergency Power, CW / Digital: Mike Wood, KL1RO (digital)
100 points for putting the CW / Digital station on-the-air using generator power, plus two points for each QSO.

4. GOTA maximum achieved:
A 100-point bonus may be claimed by a group whose Get-On-The-Air (GOTA) station completes a minimum of 100 QSOs. Up to 400 of the GOTA station QSOs may be counted for credit by the main station.

5. W1AW Bulletin, SSB: TBD
33-1/3 bonus points for copying the special Field Day bulletin transmitted by W1AW during its operating schedule.
6. W1AW Bulletin, CW: TBD
33-1/3 bonus points for copying the special Field Day bulletin transmitted by W1AW during its operating schedule. This includes the special "West Coast" (CW only) Bulletin transmitted by K6KPH.
7. W1AW Bulletin, Digital: Mike Wood, KL1RO
33-1/3 bonus points for copying the special Field Day bulletin transmitted by W1AW during its operating schedule.
8. Satellite QSO: TJ Sheffield, KL7TS
100 bonus points for successfully completing at least one QSO via an amateur radio satellite during the Field Day period.
9. Alternative Power: Keith Clark, KL7MM
100 bonus points for Field Day groups making a minimum of five QSOs without using power from commercial mains or a petroleum driven generator. This means an "alternate" energy source of power, such as solar, wind, methane or water, and includes batteries charged by natural means (not dry cells).
10. Non-Traditional Mode Demonstration No. 1: TBD
100 points for each demonstration (up to three) for setting up a demonstration of a non-traditional mode of amateur radio communications. This includes modes such as APRS, ATV, and SSTV.
11. Non-Traditional Mode Demonstration No. 2: TBD
100 points for each demonstration (up to three) for setting up a demonstration of a non-traditional mode of amateur radio communications. This includes modes such as APRS, ATV, and SSTV.
12. Non-Traditional Mode Demonstration No. 3: TBD
100 points for each demonstration (up to three) for setting up a demonstration of a non-traditional mode of amateur radio communications. This includes modes such as APRS, ATV, and SSTV.
13. Message Origination to Section Manager: TJ Sheffield, KL7TS
100 bonus points for origination of a National Traffic System (NTS) style formal message to the ARRL Section Manager or Section Emergency Coordinator by your group from its site.
14. Message Handling: TBD
10 points for each formal NTS style message originated, relayed or received and delivered during the Field Day period, up to a maximum of 100 points (ten messages). Properly serviced copies of each message must be included with the Field Day report.
15. Site Visitation by an elected governmental official: Jim Larsen, AL7FS

A 100-point bonus may be claimed if an elected government official visits your Field Day site as the result of an invitation issued by your group.

16. Site Visitation by a representative of an agency: Steve Jensen, KLØVZ

A 100-point bonus may be claimed if your Field Day site is visited by a representative of an agency served by ARES in your local community (Red Cross, Salvation Army, local Emergency Management, law enforcement, etc) as the result of an invitation issued by your group.

17. Media Publicity: Mike Wood, KL1RO
100 bonus points may be earned for attempting to obtain publicity from the local media.

18. Public Information Table: Mike Wood, KL1RO
100 bonus points for a Public Information Table at the Field Day site. The purpose is to make appropriate handouts and information available to the visiting public at the site.

19. Public Location: Keith Clark, KL7MM
100 bonus points for physically locating the Field Day operation in a public place (shopping center, community park, school campus, etc). The intent is for amateur radio to be on display to the public.

20. Submit Forms via Internet: TJ Sheffield, KL7TS
A 50-point bonus may be claimed by a group submitting their Field Day entry via the www.b4h.net/cabforms site.

Bonus points available: 1,750
Individual commitment: 1,200
Percent complete: 68 %

FIELD DAY CO-CHAIRMEN



Keith Clark – KL7MM: aksunlite at aol.com
HM: 243-0706
WK: 277-3545



TJ Sheffield – KL7TS: kl7ts at arrl.net
HM: 248-3864
WK: 265-2409

+++++

Alaska QRP Club meets the Third Friday of every month – 7:00 PM (Some show for dinner at 6PM); Hams with QRP (low power under 5 watts) and Homebrewing interests meet for a social meeting monthly. Meet at Dennys (in the back room) on DeBarr near Bragaw. Contact is Jim Larsen, AL7FS, [JimLarsen2002 at alaska.net](mailto:JimLarsen2002@alaska.net) or 345-3190.



KL7IPV
Frank Drake
AARC Life Member #29

Many of you may remember Frank Drake, KL7IPV, from earlier days in Anchorage. Frank is retired now and living in Las Vegas, NV.

He has taken up a fairly new type of hobby, that of walking around with his HF radio as well as his HF antenna on his back.

In Frank's own words, "It is me with the IC-706 backpack pedestrian mobile last Saturday (1 Apr 05). The backpack contains the IC-706MkII, a LDG auto tuner and a 12VDC 7Ahr battery. The antenna is a dipole mounted Iron horse 20 meter on the bottom with a Hamstick 20 meter on top. Band conditions were lousy when I was using it. I am writing an article for the World Radio magazine about the hows and whys of it.

73
Frank
KL7IPV

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club
Board Meeting, April 19, 2005

The AARC Board met Tuesday, April 19, 2005, at Hope Community Resources Administrative Building, 540 West International Airport Road.

Officers Present: President Jim Larsen (AL7FS), Vice-President Judi Ramage (WL7DX), Secretary Fielder G. Dowding (KL7FHX), and Treasurer Heather Hasper (KL7SP). Members Present Frank Pratt (KL7RX), Jim Wiley (KL7CC), Steve Gehring (NL7W), Steve Jensen (KL0VZ), TJ Scheffield (KL7TS), Mike Wood (AL2N), and newly elected One Year Board Member, Ed Moses (KL1KL). Visitors: KL7MD, KL7MM.

Reports

Secretary: Minutes approved as corrected and amended.
Treasurer: Presented written report accompanied by verbal comments.
VEC: Remote testing software: there is continued progress.

New Business

KL7AA: There is no planned activity in May for the Club's Call Sign.

Deaths of members: Judi Ramage (WL7DX) Need committee to decide what to do when these life events occur. Will come up with policy.

CCV Insurance: Heather Hasper (KL7SP) presented various points regarding policy after having renewed. There are other assets that it may be well to insure against loss. In the past, the club decided to self-insure.

Kits for Girl Scouts: Jim Wiley (KL7CC) presented concepts. Last year 200 was not enough. Jim Larsen (AL7FS) suggested label to identify how to get additional help in becoming a ham and to give credit to AARC. Edward Moses (KL1KL) moved 300 kits at \$8 per kit \$2400 unanimous.

Mike O'Keefe (callsign) Alternate Gaming Trustee, presented points regarding establishing fund to support CCV in by-laws.

Red Cross Recognition Breakfast: Jim Wiley (KL7CC) attended the Red Cross breakfast to pump ham radio. Jesse Jones, KL1RK, attended as the one who was saved.

HF Vertical: TJ Scheffield (KL7TS) proposed the purchase of an automatic transportable vertical to enhance HF capable (40 through 6). Steve Jensen (KL0VZ) moves \$1700 to cover the antenna and necessary incidentals to have a fully functioning antenna system. Passed, unanimous.

Frigid North purchasing account: Jim Larsen (AL7FS) will continue action. (Frigid North has been contacted. Awaiting approval)

Old Business

Tower for Club Station: At AARC's request, the CCV Property owner will have his crew erect the Power/Tower Trailer coverings. A Proposal was put forth to install the tower and base before erecting the coverings. Jim Wiley (KL7CC) proposed \$2500 to move project forward. Steve Gehring (NL7W) moved to erect tower \$2500.00 Frank Pratt (KL7RX) unanimous

ARES DEC position vacant: Jim Larsen (AL7FS) looking for volunteers. Richard Block (KL7RLB) has been recommended. He has completed the training. Heather Hasper (KL7SP) is willing to be the EC under the DEC.

AARC Board position vacant: Jim Larsen (AL7FS) called for volunteers and encouraged newer members. Judi Ramage

(WL7DX) moved Mike O'Keefe, KL7MD. Heather Hasper (KL7SP) second, passed, unanimous. Mike will be presented to the membership in May.

Field Day: TJ Scheffield (KL7TS) submitted a written document, entitled: "Two Months to Field Day" Procurement to finish the satellite station. Request \$2030.00. Steve Jensen (KL0VZ) moved Jim Wiley (KL7CC) seconded, passed, unanimous.

Door Prizes: Jesse Jones (KL1RK) needs replenishment. Judi Ramage (WL7DX) moves \$1200.00 per year Jesse Jones (KL1RK) seconded. Passed, unanimous

State Fair: Jim Larsen (AL7FS) has agreed to chair the state fair effort.

Flea Market : Jesse Jones (KL1RK) suggested date Oct 1, 2005. No objections.

New Hams List: Jim Larsen (AL7FS) will take action to contact Fred Erickson on this.

Fur Rondy Sign: Jim Larsen (AL7FS) asked Frank Pratt (KL7RX) to call Gladys Meacock (KL7JB) to begin the process for a new sign. Gladys had previously volunteered to help in this effort.

Display System for Ham booth

Mike Wood (KL1RO) reported on what he found so far. Lowest price \$240 outside but shipping is about \$170, equivalent to \$500 inside. Alternate shipping methods are still under investigation.

Board Member : Mike O'Keefe was approved subject to by-laws and gaming rules. (Appears there is no conflict 1May05.)

Capital Budget: Heather Hasper (KL7SP) requested include capital budget on next month's agenda.

+++++



KL7AA Mail Reflector

If you like to **stay in touch on KL7AA news** and other posts of local interest.

Step #1: First point your browser to (click the link below):
<http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/kl7aa>

Step #2: On the web page you will see a section titled "Subscribing to KL7AA". Enter your e-mail address in the "Your email address" entry box.

Step #3: Pick a password for your account and enter it in the box marked "Pick a password" and then enter the same password in the box marked "Reenter password to confirm".

This password will be used to change your settings on the list such as digest mode, etc.

Step #4: If you would like the e-mails in daily digest form click yes on the line marked "Would you like to receive list mail batched in a daily digest?"

Step #5: Click on the "Subscribe" button below the information that you just entered.

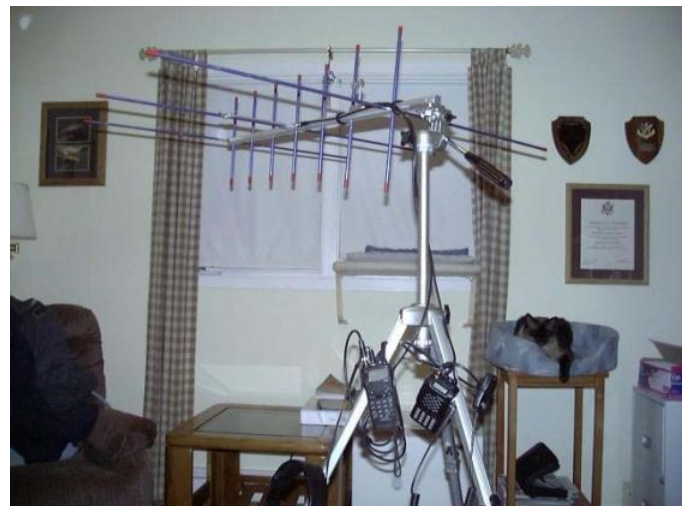
+++++

Working LEO Satellites from the Bedroom



Ron Keech, KL1PL, working AO-51 from his bedroom with his Arrow. Not only that, but Ron beat the rest of us on the Big City Simplex Net by checking in using the FM simplex frequencies on ALL of the bands, plus two packet frequencies plus relaying in via SO-50 satellite.

KL4E, Craig Bledsoe



Information on Low Earth Orbit Satellites at

<http://gahleos.obarr.net/>



ARES Contact Information

District Emergency Coordinator:
Position Vacant

Additional information on ARES can be found at the following URL:

<http://www.qsl.net/aresalaska/>

+++++

ALASKA MOUNTAIN RESCUE GROUP

Website: www.amrg.org

The Alaska Mountain Rescue Group (AMRG) is a mountain search and rescue group based in Anchorage, Alaska. AMRG consists of approximately 60 volunteers skilled in wilderness search and rescue techniques. This Profile is from the Mountain Rescue Monthly dated April 2005. (submitted by Deb Luper, KL1SI, who is a member of AMRG & AARC)

Member Profile

S1 Bruce McCormick

(KL7BM) AARC Life member #159



Photo: Bruce at the 2005 Interagency Avalanche Training at Hatcher's Pass. Still going strong after 32 years of service!!

Every month the Mountain Rescue Monthly will feature a member in a Q&A format so that we can start learning the dirty details of what we are all like in the "real world".

Inquiring minds would like to know...

MRM: Why did you decide to join AMRG and become active as a SAR volunteer?

Bruce: I was active with the CB Radio group and met AMRG on Jan 1, 1974 during an avalanche mission on Flattop which killed one and trapped about nine people from a local church group. I was the only one onsite with radios who could talk to the fire department, park ranger, AMRG, state troopers, and the Air Force. An Air Force C130 was dropping parachute flares so we could see to rescue most of the people and recover the victim.

MRM: How long have you been active with AMRG?

Bruce: 32 years. I've been a Board member several times and the Communications chair the last 10 years.

MRM: Highest altitude?

Bruce: About 18,000 on McKinley. I spent five days at 14,000 due to weather and then made a push to the summit. But, the storm returned and we had to retreat and never had the chance to go higher. I've made three attempts in the last 30 years, but have always gotten blown off.

MRM: Heaviest pack?

Bruce: 80 - 90 pounds

MRM: What is your favorite/ most useful/ can't go without item in your winter rescue pack?

Bruce: #1 - My two way radio and extra batteries. #2 - dry socks.

MRM: How long have you been living in Alaska?

Bruce: I was born here Feb. 1942 and lived on a homestead north of Talkeetna. My dad worked for the railroad until we moved to Anchorage in 1956. Moved to Portland in '58 and graduated high school in Portland, Oregon in 1964. Went into the Air Force the summer of 1964, got out on April 1st, 1973.

MRM: What do you do for "real" (read paid) work?

Bruce: Private Fire Life Safety Inspector. I do system inspections, repairs, new system installation, and insurance investigations after major fires. My job requires travel all over the state and sometimes around the world with the parent company, Kidde International Fire Systems.

MRM: Were you involved in the MRA recertification five years ago? What advice would you give to those involved in this upcoming one?

Bruce: As part of the overhead team, I helped with planning, staging and transporting of gear and people, and communications. **The best advice would be to practice, Practice, PRACTICE!**

+++++

ARES Weekly Net

Thursdays, 8:00 PM on 147.27/87 103.5Hz

Emergency Response Communicators (ERC) Net

Sunday, 7:30PM on 147.27 Repeater (103.5 tone)

Sunday, 8:30PM on 3.880 MHz HF SSB

N2CQ QRP CONTEST CALENDAR

May 2005

Ten-Ten International Spring QSO Party (CW) ... QRP Category

May 7, 0001z to May 8, 2359z

Rules: <http://www.ten-ten.org/calendar.html>

Look Around in the Field (LAITF) (CW) ... QRP Contest!

May 7, 1600z to 2100z Rules: <http://w2agn.net/laitf.html>

FISTS Spring Sprint (CW) ... QRP Category

May 14, 1700z to 2100z

Rules: <http://www.fists.org/sprints.html>

Run For The Bacon (CW) ... QRP Contest!

May 16, 0100z to 0300z

Rules: <http://fpqrp.com>

Dayton Hamvention (QRP Event - FDIM)

May 20-22

Info: <http://www.hamvention.org/>

QRP ARCI Hoot Owl Sprint (CW) ... QRP Contest!

May 29, 2000z to 2400z

Rules: <http://www.qrparci.org/contest.htm>

Michigan QRP Memorial Day Sprint (CW) ... QRP Contest!

May 29, 2300z to May 30, 0300z

Rules: <http://www.qsl.net/miqrclub/contest.html>

72 de

Ken Newman - N2CQ N2CQ@ARRL.NET

+++++

A True Tale From The Iditarod Trail

JD Delancy, W1JD (ex-K1ZAT/KL7)

AARC Life Member #070

Every year, the first Saturday of March, the Iditarod Dog Sled from Anchorage to Nome AK starts. The trail is said to be 1049 miles long, it's closer to 1100. One year the trail goes Northern and the next it's a Southern trail, both ending up in Nome. Every year we were in AK, the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club (KL7AA) provided the communications support along the Iditarod Trail. One of the checkpoints is Rainy Pass, approximately 225 air miles northwest of Anchorage.

Rainy Pass during the summer months is a hunting lodge located on a lake between two mountain ranges. During the winter there is little activity at the lodge except for the Iditarod Race. Access to Rainy Pass, as well as the other 26 check points along the trail is either by bush plane equipped with skis or cross country hiking or skiing, snowmobile, ultra-lights or husky dog powered sled. There are no automobile accessible highways or roads leading to them. My wife April (AL7CV) and I usually managed to go to Rainy Pass.

The 1985 Iditarod race was one that went down in the history books with glory. We were both once again deployed to the Rainy Pass checkpoint and ready to do our "thing." checking the mushers and dog teams into and out of Rainy Pass. I was ready to relay race data. That information consisted of arrival and departure times, number of dogs each team arrived and departed with, whether a Veterinarian or Medical doctor was required, and if a team was declaring its rest period. Each team must take a 24 hour rest someplace in the race. That information went to the Iditarod Race Headquarters in Anchorage on high frequency (HF). April's job was to collect most of that information and provide it to me from the musher checkpoint via VHF hand-held radio. We had used this method in years past with excellent results since the actual checkpoint was located approximately one half of a mile (with 10-13 foot snow drifts) from the HF radio station we had set up. We also swapped positions every so often, she would operate the HF station and I would do the checkpoint.

1985 proved to be a different year. The first musher and his dog team (each team averaged 19 husky dogs) arrived about 6:30 AM on Monday morning. By 10 AM, Mother Nature had decided to change the weather up the trail for the worst; a complete "whiteout", featuring blizzard conditions so intense the mushers could not see their lead dog. The two or three teams that did check out of Rainy Pass, after a very brief stop, returned. It was three days before the white out subsided. It was the first time in the history of the race that such poor weather conditions forced a suspension by the race officials. In that three day period, April and I handled over 300 phone patches, countless messages requesting dog food, medicine, and supplies (air lifted by bush planes and helicopters), and more than 1450 written messages on health and welfare.

We'll never forget the nights during the race suspension, with 58 dog teams in the same place (approximately 1100 dogs), when they all decided that it was time to "sing" as only dogs can. What harmony (sic)! The 1985 race was finally restarted on the third day at about 10:30 AM when the weather started to clear. We relayed the departure times and other statistics in a "rapid fire" fashion with all teams departed Rainy Pass within one hour and forty minutes, the last team left at 12:10 PM. We had the site disassembled and were airlifted out (helicopter this time) and by 2:30PM were back in Anchorage.

That year, a woman named Libby Riddles, of Teller, Alaska won the race. She finished the race in 18 days, 20 minutes, 17 second and became the first woman to ever win the race.

JD, W1JD (ex-K1ZAT/NL7) and April, AL7CV

+++++



National Weather Service To Host Open House

by: Jesse L. Jones KL1RK

The National Weather Service in Anchorage will be hosting an open house on Saturday, May 7th from 0800 to 1700. Stop by and enjoy free refreshments and door prizes! A spotter training class will be held at 1100 and a weather balloon launch at 1400. This is a great event for those hams with kids! For more information contact KL1RK or contact Sam at the NWS 266-5117.

+++++



Note from the AARC Club Trustee – KL7MM

Hi – I'm the new Trustee of the club's callsign, KL7AA. My name is Keith Clark, KL7MM, and I've been licensed since 1996. I upgraded to Extra in the spring of 2004 and it's my responsibility to ensure proper operation when using the Club's callsign.

Please notify me of any planned use of the Club callsign. **If it's an HF event**, please provide an electronic copy of the logbook after the event. I can be reached at:

HM: 907.243.0706
E-mail: aksunlite at aol.com

Thanks for your consideration!

Keith

+++++

Traditions and Opinions within Amateur Radio.

Josh McDonald, KL7EA

I first tried to take the Technician test about 10 years ago, while in High School. I read somewhere that testing for my area was done at the VFW in Eagle River on such and such day at such and such time. I know exactly how long it will take to drive down there, so I arrive exactly 5 minutes early. I hang out for about 15 - 20 minutes, walk around the building a couple times and finally giving up on the hobby for 10 years.

It has been right about a year since I passed my Technician test. This time last year, I was going through boxes and found my old (brand spankin' new model when I bought it) Uniden Bearcat 3000XLT Scanner. I saved paper route money for 3 months just to save up the \$375 to purchase it. Finding this sparked my interest again, though the battery and charger were dead. Before ordering a new one, I did a little research and found out that in a few locations around the United States, possession of a device that can listen to police radio was a misdemeanor. Having a licensed 2m/70cm handheld radio that just happened to receive those same frequencies was ok as long as you were a licensed Amateur Radio operator. This and the idea of playing with IRLP finally started getting me into the idea of taking the Technician test.

I can easily see **the pros and cons of IRLP**. To HF Hams, IRLP may look to be just a Repeater Linking system on Steroids. IRLP takes all the science out of Amateur Radio they say. For a lot of people, IRLP combines two hobbies. While I'm not a real active ham, I am into using Unix or Linux to do cool things. Can you even imagine life anymore without email? In 1971, Ray Tomlinson invented email, just to connect a couple BBSs and it spread like crazy. People commented, saying "its not real mail, its not personal, I won't do it." Still, to this day, I get excited when I get a card via the USPS. I could even tell you who sent the first card I got to my first very own Street Number.

IRLP has its place and I doubt ever will replace HF. IRLP allows, for example, those who spend their whole day driving around in a company issued car, something to do. I'm pretty sure, that if I asked to install permanent antennas on a company car, I'd be declined. We also have those who have an Antenna Phobia (myself) and picked out a car that didn't even have an AM/FM antenna. All that is needed is a little Handy Talky and possibly a hi-gain antenna.

Now that IRLP is where it is, it will be popular amongst a lot of people for some time to come. It is a stepping stone into Amateur Radio. Almost any High School student can afford an HT, while having the dough for a HF rig with appropriate tuner, antenna and power supply might be difficult. I know that if IRLP were available 10 years ago, I wouldn't have given up as quickly on the test and would have already purchased my first HF rig.

These were opinions only; I have no experience with HF or IRLP yet. I presently have a commute of exactly 1 mile, parking spot to parking spot. If my commute were longer, I would be active. Over the next few weeks, as its finally warming up, I'll be installing antennas for HF and VHF/UHF that should get me to actually start operating.

Josh McDonald, KL7EA

+++++



From the desk of the SEC

Breakup is upon us and we are faced with the distinct possibility of overflowing rivers and floods. Keep your radios handy!

It is wonderful to see the return of the sun and warmer weather, turning the hearts of the amateurs to antenna work... More likely, fishing!

Amateurs typically disappear during the summer because of projects on hold during the long winter months, even more so here in the Fairbanks area because we had so much smoke last summer that we couldn't work outside.

Here's hoping that we don't have a fire season like last year and we can actually enjoy our summer!

For those of you interested in emergency work, the grant that we have been getting our training under is set to expire very quickly (see article next page). If you are interested in any of the courses, NOW is the time. They will continue to offer the courses but you will have to pay for them when the grant expires.

Reminder of the Section training requirements for emergency work:

- Level I ARRL Emergency Communications Course
- NTS proficiency

- Working knowledge of the Incident Command System (ICS).

FEMA offers courses free on-line for the ICS

I am still looking for a willing victim to be the Emergency Coordinator for the Anchorage area. If you are interested, let me know.

My very best to each of you for a wonderful fun-filled summer!

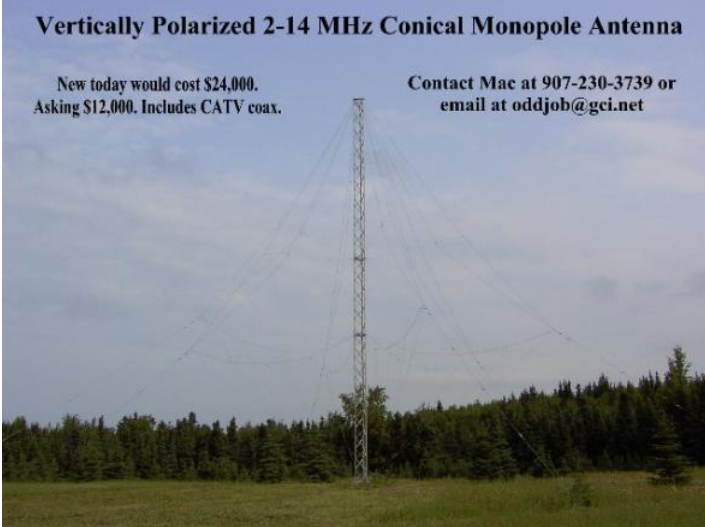
Linda Mullen AD4BL
ad4bl@arrl.net

+++++

Vertically Polarized 2-14 MHz Conical Monopole Antenna

New today would cost \$24,000.
 Asking \$12,000. Includes CATV coax.


Contact Mac at 907-230-3739 or
 email at oddjob@gei.net



Vertically Polarized 5-30 MHz Conical Monopole antenna

New today would \$18,300.
 Asking \$9,500. Includes CATV coax.

Contact Mac at 907-230-3739
 or email at oddjob@gei.net




Grant-sponsored Amateur Radio Emergency Communication Courses – The End is Near –

As you have likely heard in recent months, ARRL is now well into the final year of the grant-sponsored Amateur Radio Emergency Communication Courses.

With this grant, the \$45 registration fee paid upon enrollment will be reimbursed after successful completion of the course. At this time, it's only available to ARRL members.

Students need to enroll during the May or June Registration periods to be eligible for reimbursement under the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) grant. That also means that students will need to have completed their course work, and their Mentor/Instructor must upgrade their student status at the ARRL Mentor/Instructor Site to "Passed" by August 31, 2005, to qualify for reimbursement from the CNCS grant.

Registration for the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level I on-line course (EC-001) opens Monday, May 2, 2005, at 12:01 AM EDT (Already past). Level II (EC-002) registration opens the same time on the following Monday, May 9. Level III (EC-003) will also open at the same time, but on Monday, May 16.

On-line registration (and further information about the courses) is found at <http://www.arrl.org/cce>.

ARRL members will be able to register for the remaining on-line course seats at the ARRL EXPO area of the ARRL National Convention at Dayton. Applications and payment via credit card, check or cash will be accepted there.

Registration by mail is also an option. Make the check or money order out to ARRL, and mail it to 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111.

Please mark the envelope "ATTN: CCE." In the comment segment of the check or money order, write "CCE EC-00# Registration." # means the course number such as 1, 2, or 3.

Include your call sign, current mailing address, preferred e-mail address, age, gender and veteran status, and complete telephone number with your check or money order. Missing information will cause delays in registration, and there is no time left for delays.

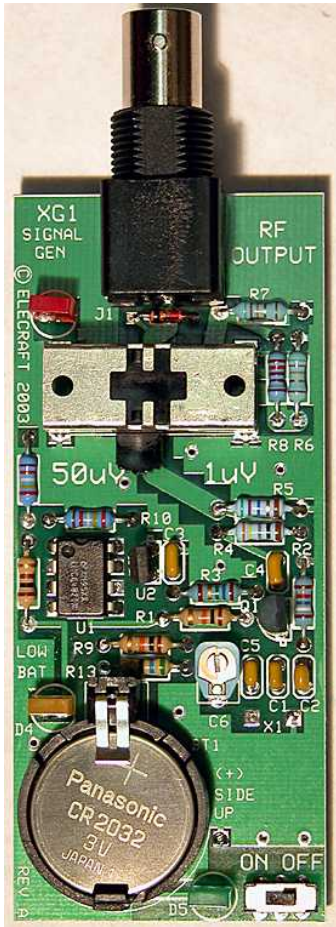
For more information, contact Emergency Communications Course Manager Dan Miller, K3UFG, 860-594-0340 or send your query to cce@arrl.org. Thank you.

73,

Steve Ewald, WV1X
 ARRL Field Organization/Public Service Team
sewald@arrl.org

Mini-Module Kits

Elecraft is pleased to announce their new line of easy-to-build, high-performance mini-module kits. They're inexpensive, ideal for first-time builders, and will serve many useful functions in your shack and at your electronics workbench. They can be built in a single evening, and include complete, illustrated assembly manuals.



Elecraft XG1 Receiver Test Oscillator / S-Meter Calibrator

Ever wonder how well an HF receiver is really working--or how one receiver compares to another?

One of the most important performance measurements is sensitivity. But measuring sensitivity (MDS or signal-to-noise ratio) usually requires an expensive, lab-grade signal generator.

The XG1 Receiver Test Oscillator is an inexpensive alternative. The XG1 is a fixed-frequency (7.040 MHz) signal source with

highly-accurate 1 microvolt and 50 microvolt output levels. Thanks to its precision, low-level crystal oscillator, the XG1 achieves **absolute output accuracy of better than ± 2 dB**, and an extremely small unit-to-unit variation of typically ± 1 dB. This ensures that measurements made with different XG1s can be compared, which can be helpful when evaluating used equipment found at flea markets or on the web.

The 1-microvolt level can be used to determine a receiver's **MDS (minimum discernable signal)**, as well as its **overall receive gain**. 50 microvolts is widely used as the standard "S9" reference, so this level can be used for **S-meter calibration**. Step-by-

step procedures are included for receiver performance measurement and S-meter alignment.

Additional features of the XG1 include an on-board 3-Volt battery (standard coin cell), low-battery LED (yellow), power-on LED (green), and reverse-transmit warning LED (red). The unit is diode-protected against brief accidental transmit, and has been tested at up to 10 watts for 2 seconds. However, the provided test procedures include warnings about disconnecting the key, mic, etc., so accidental transmit into the XG1 is very unlikely.

An output frequency of 7040 kHz was selected because nearly all multi-band HF transceivers, as well as many monoband transceivers, cover the 40 meter CW band. But the XG1 also provides reduced output levels at harmonics of 7040 kHz, so it can be used for **receiver alignment and qualitative tests** on 20, 15, and 10 meters.

Since the oscillator's output is only about 10 nanowatts, the unit requires no enclosure and no interstage shielding. Careful PC board layout and component selection ensure that RF leakage is virtually eliminated.

Like the other mini-modules, the XG1 is quite small: the PC board is just 1.5"W by 3.5"L. You can use a BNC male-to-male adapter such as our model BNC-MM to eliminate the coax cable and directly connect the XG1 to the back of a receiver or transceiver. Rubber feet are also included so the unit can be used on the workbench.

Price: \$39.00

Specifications

RF Output Level: 1 μ V (-107 dBm) and 50 μ V (-73 dBm) into 50 ohms

Output Accuracy: Typically Better than ± 2 dB at 25 deg. C

Frequency: 7040.0 kHz (± 200 Hz at 25 deg. C before optional calibration)

Reverse Protection: 5 watts for 4 seconds, 10 watts for 2 seconds (typical; not guaranteed)

Current Drain: About 2.5 mA from on-board 3-V, 220 mA-hr battery (est. life 80 hours)

For more information:

<http://www.elecraft.com/>



Data You Can Use:

Officers

President Jim Larsen, AL7FS jimlarsen2002 at alaska.net
Vice Pres. Judi Ramage, WL7DX damage at gci.net
Secretary Fielder George Dowding KL7FHX
Fgdowding at iceworm-enterprises.net
Treasurer Heather Hasper, KL7SP, kl7aa at adnmail.com
Trustee Keith Clark, KL7MM
Activities Chairman Jesse Jones, KL1RK
kl1rk at yahoo.com
News Letter Editor Jim Larsen, AL7FS
Membership Chairman Fred Erickson KL7FE
frederickson at iname.com
Past-Pres. Jim Larsen, AL7FS jimlarsen2002 at alaska.net

Three Year Board Members

Jim Wiley, KL7CC jwiley at alaska.net
Richard Block, KL7RLB, rlbblock at arctic.net
Frank Pratt, KL7RX kl7rx at arrl.net

One Year Board Members

Steve Jensen - KL0VZ, jensens at acsalaska.net
Steve Gehring - NL7W, steveg at mtaonline.net
TJ Sheffield - KL7TS, kl7ts at hotmail.com
Edward Moses - KL1KL, kl1kl at ak.net
Mike O'Keefe - KL7MD, mok at gci.net
Mike Wood - KL1RO, kl1ro at arrl.net
David Stevens - KL7EB, kl7eb at arrl.net
Carl London - N5XLI, carljondon at yahoo.com

AARC web page & Email contact addresses:

Homepage: <http://www.KL7AA.org>
Webmaster: AL1G_ak (at) yahoo.com
President: JimLarsen2002 (at) alaska.net
Vice President: damage (at) gci.net
Membership: Frederickson (at) iname.com
Newsletter: JimLarsen2002 (at) alaska.net

News Letter Submissions, Information or corrections:

Submissions must be received 2 weeks before meeting
Email: JimLarsen2002 (at) alaska.net
Mail: 3445 Spinnaker Drive, Anchorage 99516

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

ACWN (Alaska CW Net) 3534, 7042 Daily @ 0700 – 1000, and 1900 - 2400 Alaska Time - AL7N or KL5T monitoring.

Net Purpose: Formal NTS traffic via CW.
No Name Net 146.85/.25 repeater Sundays 8:00 PM
Grandson 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 147.27/87 103.5Hz - Thursdays at 8:00 PM local
PARKA net 147.30/90 Thursdays at 7:00 PM local
ERC VHF Net 147.27/87 103.5Hz – Sunday 7:30 PM local
ERC HF Net 3.880 MHz – Sunday 8:30PM local

Any AARC sponsored repeater, with or without an autopatch, will always be open to all licensed amateur radio operators in the area who are authorized to operate on those frequencies.

Anchorage & Mat Valley Area Repeaters-a/o Mar05

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
****147.27/87 MHz, no patch, Mount Susitna 103.5 Hz**
****443.3/448.3, no patch, Mount Susitna 103.5 Hz**

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

KL3K, Girdwood
146.76/16 MHz, 25 watts, no patch, 97.4 Hz PL

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

VE Testing in the Valley

Valley VE testing sessions will be held at the Wasilla Red Cross at 7 pm on the fourth Saturday of each month unless it is a major holiday weekend. The address is 262 E Nelson St in Wasilla. Nelson Street is the extension of Bogard to the west from Main Street/Wasilla Fishhook, and the Red Cross is on the south side of Nelson about halfway from Main to Lucille. (eff. 9.25.04)

Internet Links, the favorites from our readers:

QRP and Hombrew Links <http://www.AL7FS.us>

AARC <http://www.KL7AA.org/>

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

EARS <http://www.qsl.net/kl7air>

MARA <http://www.kl7jfu.com/>

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>

Links for Homebrewers & QRPers

<http://www.amqrp.org/misc/links.html>

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 pages or good starting points that should appear here. Report dead links or bad info to [JimLarsen2002 at alaska.net](mailto:JimLarsen2002@alaska.net).

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

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, computer disk 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.

Regular HAM Gatherings:

Alaska QRP Club, Third Friday - 7:00 PM: Hams with QRP (low power under 5 watts) and Homebrewing interests meet for a social meeting monthly. Meet at Denny's on DeBarr & Bragaw in the back room. Hungry QRPers start showing up about 6PM. Info contact Jim Larsen, AL7FS, [JimLarsen2002 at alaska.net](mailto:JimLarsen2002@alaska.net) or 345-3190.

Tuesdays Lunch, 11:30 AM: Join the gang for lunch and an eyeball QSO at the Royal Fork, "South, on Old Seward Highway. Attendance varies from 8 to 24 each week.

Thursdays Brunch, 10:30 AM: Brunch at Lily's on Tudor Road just East of Tony Romas. A great bunch of folks attend this one.

Saturdays Breakfast, 7:30 AM: Here is a good way to get started on the weekend. 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

1st Friday each month - AARC general meeting - 7:00 PM in the Carr-Gottstein Building, on the APU Campus. Talk in will be on 147.30+ repeater.

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

1st Tuesday each month: EARS general meeting - 6:30PM in the club house/shack in the basement of Denali Hall (building 31-270) on Elmendorf AFB. Talk in on 147.67-repeater.

2nd Friday each month: SCRC general meeting at 7:00 PM at Denny's on Debarr & Bragaw. Talk in on 147.57 simplex.

2nd Saturday each month: VE License Exams at 2:00 PM. at Hope Cottage 540 W. International. Be sure to bring photo ID, copy of license (if any) and any certificates of completion.

2nd Saturday each month: PARKA Meeting at 11:00 AM. at Peggy's, across from Merrill Field.

3rd Tuesday each month: AARC Board meeting at 7:00 PM at Hope Cottage 540 W. International. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

3rd Friday each month: Alaska QRP Club. 7:00PM at Denny's on DeBarr in the back room. Info: Jim Larsen, 345-3190. Bring projects to share with the group. Some show up at 6:00PM to eat.

3rd Saturday each month: ARES General meeting 9:30AM to 12:00 PM. Call TJ Sheffield – KL7TS: kl7ts@arrl.net HM: 248-3864 for additional information. Also check for ARES Info at: <http://www.qsl.net/aresalaska/>

The last Friday each month: MARA meeting at 7PM Fire Station 61, located two blocks up Lucille Drive, from the Parks hwy. Talk-in help for the meeting can be acquired on either the 146.640 or 146.850 repeaters. Further details can be found by contacting Len Betts, KL7LB, [lclbak at yahoo.com](mailto:lclbak@yahoo.com) .

The last Saturday each month at 11:00 AM: Quarter Century Wireless Assoc - QCWA at the Royal Fork, South of Dimond on Old Seward Highway. You need not be a QCWA member to attend.

Who Do I Contact to Join AARC Or pay membership renewals?

Fred Erickson KL7FE
12531 Alpine Dr
Anchorage, AK 99516-3121
frederickson (at) iname.com
Phone number: 345-2181

Annual Dues are \$12 (prorated as appropriate)
Additional Member in same household is \$6
Full Time Student is no charge
Ask about Life Memberships

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club, Inc
Post Office Box 101987
Anchorage, Alaska 99510-1987

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Anchorage, AK
Permit No. 223



Field Day is coming. Join the fun! New hams are welcome and will be taught how to operate the station.