

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club

Next Meeting December 2nd

Program for December

Jim Wiley, KL7CC

Lee Wareham, KL7DTH, will speak about his adventures flying from Alaska to Norway and back over the pole in his Cessna 185 - this is the adventure where Ron Sheardown lost his Soviet built AN2 biplane through the ice. I saw the presentation a few years ago, just after the event, and it was absolutely fascinating.

Lee has some audio tapes excerpts of the conversations on the ham radio (between himself and Jerry Curry, KL7EDK, in Fairbanks), which kept up continuously for the whole flight, across and back. There will be time for questions.

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Do You Remember?

By Glen E. Zook, K9STH

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Every once-in-a-while, many amateurs like to take time to reflect, a time to remember. About 20 years ago I wrote a similar article which Wayne published in 73 which met with a favorable response from the readers. This one has been updated somewhat, but is still aimed at the over 25 crowd. Over 25 years as an amateur, that is, the QCWA crowd. However, newer amateurs might just get a "kick" out of trying to make sense of the following list. But, if you have to ask any questions, then you really don't remember.

So, without further ado: Do you remember?

- The "Sixer", "Twoer", and "Tener"?
- ARC5s?
- The "Dream Receiver" (the one I owned was more like a "nightmare"!)?
- The BC779?
- The "My QTH" QSL cards?
- When VO was a separate country from VE?
- When the "ideal" novice rig was a DX40 and an SX99?
- Controlled carrier modulation?
- DSB?
- The SX101A?
- The VF-1 VFO?
- The DX20, DX35, and DX60?
- The 30L1 transmitter (not the 30L1 linear!) by Collins?
- The KWM1?
- The original "Bandit"?
- The TBS50D (160 through 2!)?
- The HRO series?
- When an 807 was tube, not a drink?
- The 814?
- The G66 and G77?
- The one-eyed "Gooney Bird"?
- The second generation "Gooney Bird"?
- When Novices could operate 2 meter phone but not the Technicians?
- Crystal control and 75 watts?
- When the "Adventurer" and "Challenger" were not space vehicles?
- The Drake TV300HP?
- Using a BC459 or BC457 as a VFO?
- "Rice boxes" and "Japtracs"?
- The 16V and 30D?
- 8th MOs (and even earlier!)?
- The 41V and 80D?
- The 75A1?
- The AF67 (or even earlier, the A54H)?
- When a "Tribander" was a converter, not an antenna?
- The NC-2-40D?
- The NC183D (or even earlier, the NC173)?
- The "Sky Buddy"?
- The S40B?
- The S77?
- Globe Chiefs and Globe Scouts?
- The Apache, Mohawk, and Seneca?
- The Mohican?
- The KWS1?
- Leo?
- When Leo had hair?
- The orange QSL cards from Walter Ashe?
- The logbook QSLs from GE?
- HI HI HI HI from space on CW?
- The Invader and Invader 2000?
- Pedestals?
- The Quad at HCJB?
- The Central Electronics 10B and 20A?
- The CE 100V?
- Modifying a BC458 to use with a CE 10B or 20A?
- The Techcraft converters?
- International Crystal six meter rigs?
- The Lincoln?
- Knight Kits?
- The R100A?
- The Swan 120 (or 175, or 140)?
- The Swan 240?
- Heath monobanders?
- The HQ129X (or, even earlier, the HQ120X)?
- The SP600?
- Your first QSO?
- "Bugs", not keyers?
- The Vibroplex Champion and Standard?

- Astatic?
- When W9IOP (also W8IOP, W2IOP, etc.) won the Sweepstakes every year?
- W9VW (hint, look at W9IOP DX contest scores)?
- The 75A4?
- The S85?
- The HQ105TR?
- When Johnson built only ham gear?
- The AT-1 and AR-1 (I owned an AR-3)?
- 6AG7-807 (or even 6V6-6L6)?
- The 2E26 and 6146?
- When the 829B was the "cats meow" on 2 meters?
- The SCR522?
- ROWH (Royal Order of the Woulf Hong)?
- ROHO (Royal Order of the Hoot Owls)?
- "No lids, no kids, no space cadets....."?
- W2OY (I got on his "reserved" frequency once!)?
- W5IO ("I know this guy, he bought a donkey.....")?
- ZL2BE (and his 20 wavelengths on a side rhombics)?
- The rhombic?
- 100 North Western in Chicago?
- When Lafayette was across the street from Allied?
- When Radio Shack bought Allied?
- Olson?
- "California Kilowatts"?
- AGL Electronics?
- 6 Up Magazine?
- Western Radio Amateur?
- When W2NSD ran CQ, not 73?
- Cowan Publishing?
- Zepp Antennas?
- The T2FD?
- "Radiates equally as poor in all directions"?
- The DX100?
- The SB-10?
- The quad versus yagi debate?
- AR22 rotors?
- Prop pitch motors?
- Selsyns?
- The Communicator III?
- WR calls?
- When an "X" call meant experimental?
- QBE?
- The 310B?
- Any Hunter rig?
- The Drake 1A?
- Hammarlund, Hallicrafters, and National?
- ICE?
- Varitronics?
- Sideband Engineers, Gonset, and Central Electronics?
- Heathkit, Johnson, and Collins?
- The Swan 500?
- Twin Vs (not "Twin Peaks")?
- The "Outercom"?
- The 200V?
- When all major companies had QSL cards for their employees?

- The Warrior?
- The 2B (or was it "not to be")?
- The SW3?
- The Ocean Hopper?

I could go on for hours. But, all the "oldtimers" will get the point, and all the "newcomers" will scratch their heads. However, it is nice to take a look at nostalgia and just remember.

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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.

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Call for AARC Historical Documents

Heather Hasper, KL7SP, has taken on the activity of collecting and organizing our Club historical documents. She is looking for AARC documents that you no longer want to maintain in your house. These might include newsletters, membership rosters, flyers, photos, or any other item of historical interest.

Please contact Heather at KL7AA@ADNMAIL.com or via pager at 907-275-7474

QST QST QST

Iditarod 2006 is almost upon us and we are looking for 35 Hams to Cover the Start and another 35 for the restart. The following shifts need filling at HQ:

Sunday 5th March 1800-2400

Monday 6th March 2400-0600 & 1800-2400

Tuesday 7 March 2400-0600, 0600-1200 & 1800-2400

Wed 8 March 2400-0600, 0600-1200

Contact Gordon Hartlieb AL1W 243-8198

gordon@systems33.com
for the start

Jim Brutan KL7HJ 357-9165

hikingon@mtaonline.net
for the restart or myself

Mark Kelliher KL7TQ 695-3722

kl7tq@arrl.net

for HQ or all of the above

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A new antenna launcher I like it!

From: Jay Bromley <jayw5jay@cox.net>

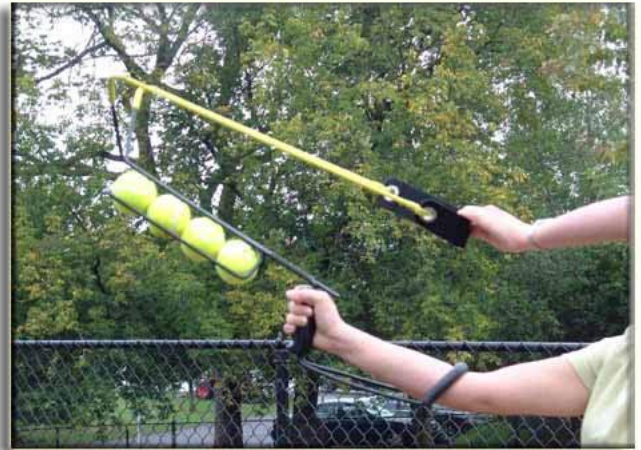
On the OKDXA net tonight I mentioned seeing a new wrist rocket (sling shot) that could be used like the EZ Hang antenna launcher and could be made much cheaper if built by you. It has DX appeal since it is much larger than a standard wrist rocket.

Launching fishing weights, arrows with a bow/crossbow, etc, are fine in the great outdoors, but in a crowded neighborhood these devices are kinda scary to use. So, take a look at this Hyper Dog wrist rocket.



This is a huge wrist rocket that is used for dog training, but the neat part is that it can launch a tennis ball up to 200 feet! I

don't think a tennis ball would hurt anyone or break a window falling down after a launch, however at point blank range anything is possible. That is a big plus in my book for anyone that has kids, cars, roofs, windows, and other animals nearby. So add a cheap Zebco fishing reel underneath the Hyper Dog, run a thin wire through the tennis ball, and add a snap swivel so you can unattached the ball after the launch while you pull back a larger rope through the tree limbs. End result equals big "SkyWire" that gets higher every year!



FYI, I don't have any ties with this particular business or product. I am just sharing information to those that might have a use for it. The Leerburg folks were very nice, but it did take a couple of days for the shipment to go out. I still got my order in under a week. I gave them my arrl.net email so I could track the shipment. The thing even comes with four tennis balls!! I did a "Google" on Hyper Dog and the prices on the internet varied from \$19 to just under \$40 plus shipping-handling. These have also been seen at TJ Max stores. Your mileage may vary.

Here is one link for Leerburg's Hyper Dog, for your Hyper SkyWires, hihi.

<http://www.leerburg.com/775.htm>



In some cities, wrists rockets, spud guns, etc, are not legal to use. So please check and do you homework with the locals

before using it. I don't want to be libel for misuse of this device. I can just see someone thinking if a tennis ball can go over a 90 foot tree, then a rock can-----well you get the idea. Use this device at your own risk and treat it like a weapon, because it is! This is not a toy for kids without supervision!!!

Now that is out of the way. Good luck on getting those SkyWires up high for DXing, hihi. After you get those high SkyWires up in the air use it to play with your dog. They will love you for it! :-)

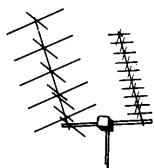
This is another idea I wish I could say was my own. However I got my information from my good friend Dave Yarnes, W7AQK. Thanks Dave!! Also in the 2005 Fall issue of ARCI's QRP Quarterly on page 58 shows Jerry, W5JH, getting ready to launch in those tall Arizona pines.

Good luck and have fun.

73 de jay/w5jay..

P.S. For a comparison here is the link for EZ Hang <http://www.ezhang.com/>
Also a very good product for field launching.

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Information on Low Earth Orbit Satellites at

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

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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.

Echolink *QRP* conference: Every Sunday at 5PM ADT. Connect to the QRP Conference.

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KL7AA.org is Out of Service

The AARC website may be reborn as KL7AA.net in the future.

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Election Results and New Board

PRESIDENT: 2004 – 2006

- Jim Larsen, AL7FS

Vice President: 2004 – 2006

- Judi Ramage, WL7DX

TREASURER: 2004-2006

- Heather Hasper, KL7SP

SECRETARY: 2004 – 2006

- Vacant

Activities Chairman 2004 – 2006

- Vacant

3 year Board Member: (3rd Year) 2004 – 2006

- JIM WILEY, KL7CC

3 year Board Member: (2nd Year) 2005 – 2007

- Frank Pratt, KL7RX

3 year Board Member: (1st Year) 2006 – 2008

- PAUL SPATZEK, WL7BF

1 YR. Board Members

- STEVE JENSEN, KL0VZ
- Edward Moses, KL1KL
- TJ SHEFFIELD, KL7TS
- Richard Kotsch, WL7CPX
- KATHY O'KEEFE, KL7KO
- MICHAEL O'KEEFE, KL7MD
- NICHOLAS CASLER, KL1XD
- ART MORTON, ALØU (shared with Bill Reiter)
- Bill Reiter, KL7ITI (shared with Art Morton)

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ARES Training

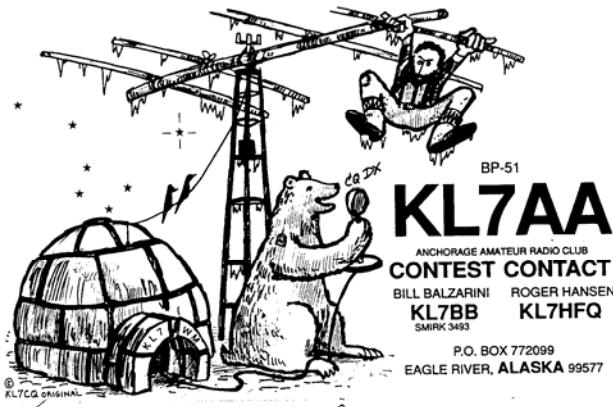
The ARES training event for **November Sweepstakes** was held on Saturday and Sunday November 19 and 20. Setup was on Saturday beginning at 9AM at Kincaid Park. The operation began at Noon and ran through Sunday at 6PM. A good time was had by all.





Neat Rats Nest???





A Beginner's Guide to Making CW Contacts

Part 1

by Jack Wagoner WB8FSV
Used with Jack's permission

There are dozens of specialties or activities under the broad banner of Amateur Radio. Amateur radio is also known as ham radio, why, nobody knows for certain. From working DX, to building radios from scratch, to satellite communications, to slow-scan TV, to just plain rag chewing (or talking) with new and old friends all over the world; there is something for everybody.

As a true ham radio fanatic, my personal favorite ham activity is yakking with other hams in Morse Code, also called CW (for continuous waves). Morse Code has a mystique to it, it is an extremely cool method with which to communicate. In this **Beginner's Guide to Making CW Contacts** I am going to try and give those hams new to CW a better idea of how to start. How to find someone to talk with, what to talk about, how to deal with QRM, how to end a CW contact, how to get lots and lots of QSL cards, and much more useful and practical information.

I wrote this **Guide** from the perspective of hams in the United States. Many of my references, for example to frequencies and to radio propagation, pertain to amateur radio in North America, although most of the CW operating techniques I discuss apply to worldwide CW operation.

Learning the Code

Morse Code has a way of polarizing hams, they either love it, or can't stand it. CW (or Morse Code) has been decreasing in popularity over the last several decades as voice and other digital modes become more popular. But a listen across the CW portion of the ham radio bands will find thousands of hams still using this vintage communications technique. The FCC still requires a code proficiency test, just 5 wpm, as part of their license to use the HF amateur radio spectrum.

Besides, CW is way cool, but I'm prejudiced. HI. (HI is the telegraphic equivalent of a laugh)

I believe that learning and using Morse Code is very similar to learning a foreign language. Don't try to learn Morse Code the way I first did when I was a Boy Scout: don't memorize a list that tells you "A" is "dot dash" or "B" is "dash dot dot dot". This method will stunt your progress and lead to frustration. Ideally, when you hear the "dot dash" sound in your ear, your mind will immediately recognize that as "A". Inserting a third step, where your mind first translates the "dot dash" sound into the written dot dash you learned from a list, and **then** into the letter "A", is one thing that makes learning Morse Code so difficult for so many people.

There are a number of techniques suggested to help learn Morse Code. Among these are:

- Learn the code in groups, beginning with letters comprised of all dits first, then on to letters with all dahs next, then finally learning letters with both dits and dahs.
- Learn the code in groups of letters that have related sounds. For example, U (dit dit dah), F (dit dit dah dit), and the question mark (dit dit dah dah dit dit).
- Learn the more frequently used letters and characters first, and the more difficult ones last.
- Listen to the Morse Code characters sent at a high speed, with long pauses between each. This is known as the Farnsworth method.

Thanks to L. Peter Carron, Jr., W3DKV and his book, *Morse Code: The Essential Language*, The American Radio Relay League, 1991, for this partial list of techniques.

Learning CW from a practice tape is, I believe, one of the best ways. Many companies offer these audio tapes or CD-ROMS, although they can be a bit dry and boring, and I recommend a bit of live CW listening with a shortwave receiver. Try the US novice bands 40 meters 7100-7150 kHz and 80 meters 3675-3725 kHz for practice. Conditions on the 15 and 10 meter novice band are slowly improving these days, although the current sunspot cycle 23 is now slowly diminishing. Lots of beginning novices and technician-plus hams here using much slower CW (like 5 to 10 wpm) than you'll find on the US general CW bands. Learning CW with the personal help of another ham is also a great idea, as is taking a class in CW operation. Many amateur radio clubs offer classes for beginning hams in licensing, including Morse Code. The Morse Code used today by amateur radio operators is also known as the International Code. By definition, the duration of the dah is three times as long as that of a dit, and the space between dits and dahs inside an individual character (such as dit dit dah or U) is equal to the duration of one dit. The space between characters is equal to three dits, and the space between words is equal to seven dits. During a CW QSO nobody is checking to see if you are using the correct spacing, just do your best. It takes practice. Code sent with the correct spacing sounds better and is easier to copy. Forcing yourself to listen to Morse Code that is slightly faster than you are able to copy comfortably is a good way to

increase your code speed. You don't need to copy every letter, just concentrate on better learning the CW letters and symbols you already know, and the others will follow. When I was first learning CW I enjoyed listening to the CW speed demons(20 wpm plus) at the bottom of each ham band, just to see if I could get their callsign. Hams often send their callsigns several times at the beginning and end of a transmission, making it easier to copy. Everything else they sent was usually a blur. I then kept a running list of the different countries I had heard, just to see how many countries I could get. I'm sure this helped me increase my code speed.

Actual on-the-air CW contacts are probably the best way to increase your code speed and CW proficiency. And to have fun while practicing.

Finding Someone To Talk With

Answer a CQ

How the heck do you begin a CW conversation? How do you find another ham to talk with? My favorite method is to **answer a CQ**. Sending several CQs followed by your callsign indicates you want to start a contact with someone. Simply tune up and down the band searching for that familiar "CQ", zero beat your transmit frequency with that of the CQer(or as close as you can get), and call them when they finish their CQ. Normally a one by two call on your part is all that is needed, "N1XYZ de WB8FSV WB8FSV K". If band conditions are poor, or there is a lot of QRM(interference), perhaps a two by three or a one by four call is in order. One by two initial calls in response to a CQ are common these days, sending your call letters too many times marks you as a beginner.

Please do not reply to a CQ if the CQer is transmitting too close(within one kHz or so) to an ongoing QSO. Doing so will likely cause unnecessary QRM to the ongoing QSO, you may even drive them off the air. Not cool. Common ham courtesy says do your best not to cause unnecessary QRM.

Occasionally I will hear a CQing station that I would really like to answer, but the CQer is too close to an ongoing QSO, as I mentioned above. The best thing would be to not answer the CQer, but I have been know to answer the CQer at least one or two kHz away from the CQers frequency. My hope is that they will hear me and move their transmitting frequency to mine. Then I can have my contact and not cause QRM to the ongoing QSO. Sometimes this works, but likely the CQer will not even hear you, or will not change their transmit frequency when they answer you.

Sometimes when you answer another ham's CQ, they may not hear you well enough to get all of your callsign. Or they may not hear you at all if the band conditions are bad. There is such a thing as one way skip: you may hear West Coast stations fine, but none of them hear you. Not uncommonly more than one station besides you will reply to the same CQ that you did. You may even hear the other station(s) answering the same CQer that you are, at the same time. The CQing station may hear a mixed jumble of several stations answering him or her

at the same time. The CQing station may then send "QRZ?" or "QRZ de N1XYZ?" Meaning, who the heck is calling me, please call again. Or the CQer may send nothing at all, perhaps they are just overwhelmed by more than one answer at a time, or by all the QRM. Many times I have found that if a CQer does not respond to my first reply and I hear only silence, if I call him(or her) again, they may well return to me.

Not uncommonly, when you begin to reply to another ham's CQ, you will hear other stations besides yourself calling the CQer at the same time that you are. I usually continue transmitting and then see if the CQer answers me or one of the other stations. If the CQer chooses you over the other stations, you can assume your signal was likely stronger or more interesting. If you do not have a competitive nature, then stop transmitting as soon as you hear other hams answering the CQer. Let them have the contact. Should you really want to make the contact yourself, continue calling and then drag out your call by sending your callsign once or twice after you hear the other answering station(s) finish their call. This trick, often used by DXers, sometimes works. Also, if while answering a CQer, you hear the CQer return to another different station, stop transmitting. You lost. Continue your search for another CQer. If you **really** want to contact this CQing station you could simply wait for them to finish their current contact and then tailend them.

Occasionally as I scan the band looking for a CQ to answer, I may come across a ham sending their callsign two or more times, before they sign, "N1XYZ N1XYZ K". I believe it is safe to assume this ham has just finished sending a CQ, and often, if I like their callsign, I will listen a second, then go ahead and call them. Since I heard only their callsign and not the actual CQ, it is possible that this is **not** a CQ(maybe they were calling another ham instead). Listen a few seconds to ensure you are not interrupting a QSO, then assume that it was a CQ. I have found that sometimes if I wait for this suspected CQer to send another separate CQ, by that time they will have attracted a few more replies to their CQ, and I may lose out on what could have been a good contact. In the same regard, you may be in contact with another ham and end one of your transmissions by sending your own callsign two or more times(perhaps you repeat your call a few times because the other ham has copied it wrong). Then as a result, in the middle of your contact, you may be called by a third ham, who incorrectly assumes you have called CQ. Simply ignore the interrupting third ham.

When answering a CQer you should zero beat the other ham's frequency, or set your transmit frequency as close to theirs as possible. Many hams today, in order to deal with the increasing QRM, make use of very narrow receive filters. The CQer may have their narrow filter turned on and not hear you answer if you are more than a few hundred cycles away from their transmit frequency. This is a quite common occurrence on the CW ham bands, and points to the importance of correctly zero beating with your ham rig. By the same token, should you be calling CQ, do so with your narrow CW filter turned off, or you may well not hear several answering hams. Many hams are uncertain how to correctly zero beat their rigs on CW.

If you are fortunate to have a newer transceiver that has dual VFOs, it can simplify your search for a CQ to answer. While scanning for a CQ, if you come across something interesting, such as someone tuning up(a potential CQer), a clear frequency(that you may wish to use later to call your own CQ), or an interesting QSO(that you might want to tailend when it finishes), then leave one of your VFOs on that spot. As you then continue scanning for a CQ, you can periodically, at the press of one button, switch to your second inactive VFO and see what's happening on your other interesting frequency. Having two VFOs built into your radio can greatly enhance the ease and convenience of your CW operation. Sometimes I wish my rig had three or four VFOs. HI. If your ham rig does not have dual VFOs, you can simply remember, or write down, any interesting frequencies you come across while scanning.

Call Your Own CQ

Tuning around searching for CQs can tend to be frustrating. At times there just don't seem to be many folks calling CQ, and the ones I do hear are jumped on by a much stronger or faster station than me. Never fear, there are other productive ways to find a CW contact. Obviously another method would be to find a nice quiet unused frequency and call CQ yourself. Before you fire up your transmitter and send a CQ, listen a few minutes to the frequency to ensure that you are not going to stomp on another conversation. It is very possible that another ham is transmitting on the same frequency but their signal is skipping over you. It is highly recommended that you send a "QRL?", or better yet send a "QRL de WB8FSV?" to see if the frequency is clear. Technically the FCC requires you identify each transmission, and an unidentified "QRL?" is frowned upon. Although everybody does it. Or, if you have the patience, an even better method is to simply listen to the frequency in question for at least 5 minutes. Even then I would still send a "QRL?" before I cut loose with my CQ.

An old fashioned and rarely heard equivalent of "QRL?" is "dit-dit dit", or the CW letters, "I E". It would be sent before a CQ to see if the frequency was clear. Just like "QRL?". The correct response is the same as that to "QRL?" If you happen to be listening and hear someone send an "I E", if the frequency is not busy the correct response is to say nothing or to perhaps send an "N" for "no". If the frequency is busy, like you are having a QSO on the frequency, the correct response would be to send a "C" or "yes". "C" is often used as a CW abbreviation for the word "yes".

If your CQ is answered by more than one station, usually the best practice is to reply to the strongest station. The strongest station is more likely to copy you stronger also, and you will be better able to copy each other should you both be attacked by QRM, QRN, or QSB. If you are able to copy the callsigns of both hams who answer your CQ, and the weaker station has a more interesting callsign, certainly you could answer the weaker/more interesting ham. Since the weaker station is answering your CQ, obviously they can hear you as well. Should two stations respond to your CQ, you can answer them both and try a three-way contact. Three-way contacts on CW are **difficult** to do.

Send your CQ at the speed you would like to be answered. A three or four by two call repeated twice should be sufficient, "CQ CQ CQ de WB8FSV WB8FSV CQ CQ CQ de WB8FSV WB8FSV K". There are many variations. You will hear some beginners sending 15 or 20 CQs before their callsign, not a good idea. If you scan the band and find it active and full of ham signals, a shorter CQ should work. At times when I know another ham is listening on the frequency(perhaps I just heard them tune up), I may get them to answer with a simple one by one, "CQ de WB8FSV K".

After sending your CQ you may get an instant response, or you may get no response at all. It may also take some hams a moment to respond to your CQ. They may need to tune up their rigs, zero beat your frequency, or take a few seconds to run to their desk from across the shack. These folks may answer you five or ten seconds after your CQ. Be patient. After sending a CQ myself, I may tune around my transmit frequency a bit using my receiver's RIT(receiver incremental tuning). Because some hams may have trouble zero beating my transmit frequency correctly. Perhaps they are still using crystal control - not uncommon with homebrew QRP radios.

If I get no response after a couple 3 by 2 CQ calls, or I can tell there is very little activity on the band, I may then send a 6 by 2 CQ. The more CQs you transmit, the greater the chance that another ham scanning by will hear and answer you. I believe a pair of 6 by 2 calls is more than enough CQs. Should you still get no response to your own CQs, maybe the band conditions are just plain lousy, maybe you are transmitting too close to another QSO that you can't hear, maybe no one wants to talk to you. Try another frequency, try another band, listen for someone else calling CQ, or turn off the radio and go feed the cat.

Tailend Another QSO

A third major way to find someone to talk with on the ham bands is **tailending**. To tailend a conversation is to wait until another contact is completed, and then call the participant you want to talk with. This may work about half the time. Not uncommonly you will get no answer. The station you call is probably not expecting a call, they may have already turned off their radio, or may simply have something else to do. But sometimes tailending works. As you scan across the band looking for CQs or for a clear frequency on which to call your own CQ, you may hear an interesting conversation that you wish to contribute to, or you may hear a ham friend you want to say hello to.

The polite way to tailend another QSO is wait until the other stations are completely finished. This is easy to determine if you are able to hear both of the stations talking. But sometimes due to radio conditions you will hear just one of the stations. For example, you hear the end of a QSO between KH6XYZ and WB8FSV. You would like to work KH6XYZ and are unable to hear WB8FSV. When you hear the first station send something like, "HOPE TO CUAGN 73 WB8FSV de KH6XYZ TU K", wait. Wait a minute or two until the first station KH6XYZ acknowledges WB8FSV's last transmission, perhaps by sending a final "73" or a "dit-dit". If instead you call KH6XYZ as soon as you heard them sign, "de

KH6XYZ TU K", you may well be transmitting at the same time and on the same frequency as WB8FSV, who KH6XYZ is trying to listen to. This is a good way to make KH6XYZ dislike you and decide not to answer you. This polite advice does not generally apply to tailending a rare DX station. Calling and working rare DX stations is usually a mean and cut throat procedure. Another reason I much prefer friendly domestic CW QSOs over fighting for rare DX.

At times you may be waiting to tailend a ham QSO, when the station you would like to talk to ends their last transmission with a "CL" for "closing" or "clear". This indicates that person is signing off and leaving the air, turning off their rig, and will accept no other calls. If you call the CLing station anyway, they may still reply out of politeness, but they are probably anxious to leave. If you just have to talk with them, don't keep them too long.

Breaking In

Breaking into an ongoing conversation is also possible, although rarely successful. Breaking into a QSO on CW is **much** more difficult than on phone. It is rarely done on CW. Some folks will think you impolite and ignore you, many newer hams will have no idea what's going on and consider you to be QRM. If you want to try, the standard method on CW is to wait between transmissions and then send "BK" for break, or better yet send, "BK de WB8FSV" if you have enough time. Allowing a third person to break into your contact can be confusing, especially for new hams. These "roundtable" QSOs are easier to manage on phone, or in the controlled environment of an organized net, like an NTS traffic net. But don't worry, breaking in is rarely encountered on CW. For those new hams who later move from CW to phone, be careful about using the word "break" on phone or SSB. On phone many hams use "break" to interrupt a net or a conversation when they have an emergency to report.

"Break in" has another meaning in CW. It refers to the time it takes your receiver to recover after you stop transmitting. Most modern transceivers have what is called full break in, meaning that you can receive instantly after transmitting on CW. You can even receive in between the dits and dahs of individual letters. Full break in CW even has its own Q signal, QSK. Years ago radio receivers had a several second delay before you could receive after transmitting, in order that your sensitive receiver was not overloaded by your nearby transmitter. Full break in CW is taken for granted today, but it is one of many technological innovations that today make ham radio so much easier. Such as dual VFOs, digital readout, automatic tuning, or one of my favorites: direct frequency keypad entry.

What Do You Talk About? The Art of Rag Chewing

Now that you have established contact with another ham via CW, what the heck do you talk about? Every ham contact, CW or phone, consists of at least three basic items: your name, your location or QTH, and a signal report(RST) for the other station. What order you send these three items is unimportant,

although commonly today you will hear signal report/location/name. When I started in ham radio 30 years ago, the order was almost always signal report/name/location.

The Standard name/location/RST/73 QSO

These three items are the essential minimum required for a QSO. While it is true that in working a DX station in a pileup you may only exchange callsigns and a signal report, in a "real" contact the name/location/RST are standard, and you continue from there. The next most commonly discussed subjects in CW QSOs are usually the weather(WX), the radio equipment people are using, the hams' ages and how long they have been hams. For many CW contacts that will be the extent of the contact. The other ham will sign off and end the contact. Most likely because the other ham is new to CW conversation making, and simply doesn't know what else to say. Or perhaps the short-winded ham isn't into making conversation. Personally I enjoy longer CW contacts, called "rag chews".

QSO Template for Beginners

When first starting out on CW, many new hams will often use a **template** or model, to make sure they send all the essential information. For example:

```
" _____ de WB8FSV TNX FER CALL BT MY NAME IS  
JACK JACK BT QTH IS HILLIARD, OH HILLIARD, OH  
BT UR RST IS ___ BT HW COPY?"
```

And perhaps on your second transmission:

```
" _____ de WB8FSV TNX _____(name) FOR NICE  
REPORT BT MY RIG IS A KNWD TS 450 ANT IS A  
DIPOLE BT WX IS _____ TEMP IS ___ BT HW  
COPY?"
```

Just fill in the blanks to fit the QSO, inserting your own callsign, name, QTH, and rig. And go on from there as a starting point if you choose. By the way, that strange BT is used in CW as a spacer, a device to separate your thoughts. Some folks will use a period instead. BT is sent in CW as (dah dit dit dit dah). The CW letters B and T sent together.

I feel that a more professional CW technique is to limit the amount of punctuation used during a QSO. Some new hams may send four or five BTs in a row while they think about what they will send next. One or two BTs in a row should be enough. Here is what I mean by limiting punctuation, "TNX DAVE UR RST IS 579 579 MY NAME IS JACK JACK ES MY QTH IS HILLIARD, OH HILLIARD, OH BT HW? N1XYZ de WB8FSV K". There, I got away with using just one BT.

Other Stuff to Talk About

For some beginning hams, and for some experienced hams too, that is all the information they will willingly send to you. You may have to draw out more conversation from them. Kinda like pulling teeth. HI . When I work a new ham on CW I often end each of my transmissions with a question to give the other guy(or girl) something to talk about, to draw them into a conversation. For example, "How many states have you worked? Any DX?" or "Is it raining at your QTH also?" If the other ham mentions something such as their age and how long they have been a ham, you can take that as a hint they would like you to send them back the same information about yourself.

If you live in a small town, describe where it is in relation to a much larger city. Does the area where you live have any unusual characteristics that other hams might find interesting? I often tell other hams that I live on the edge of town - two blocks from cornfields. Or that central Ohio is a flat as a pancake due to glaciers scraping it level 15,000 years ago. Or that Hilliard is Ohio's fastest growing city. What is your town's population? Any famous or semi-famous people born there(besides yourself)? How large is your yard? Where is your radio shack located in your house?

Over the years I have developed a number of topics that I may bring into a CW contact in order to keep the conversation going. Even for me sometimes I just run into a wall, my mind goes blank, and I can't think of what to send next, so these commonly used topics of mine can come to the rescue at times. For example, I'll describe how my cat Rasta often naps on top of my TS 450 rig and I believe that after all these years I suspect my cat understands CW. Or I'll describe what I see at that moment out my basement window. Or talk about how I enjoy collecting stuff(stamps, baseball cards, radios, QSL cards). Or ask the other ham if they have access to the Internet to see if we share a common interest about computers.

I try to send the name of the other ham I am in contact with at least once during each of my transmissions. This frequent use of the other person's name makes for a friendlier QSO and tells them you care who they are. Don't get carried away with this personalizing your comments. Using the other ham's name once per transmission is enough.

When you first start out, any CW contact is fun. It's cool to see how far your equipment will reach, how many states you are able to work. After you have made a number of CW contacts you may discover that the best contacts are those that are different. Not the standard name/location/RST/rig/WX/age/73 type of contact. You may meet another ham who just loves to gab(like me) or who is involved in a different ham activity(such as satellite or packet) and would love to tell you about it, or another ham who may have a lot in common with you such as age, work, or other hobbies. One of the fascinating things for me about making ham radio contacts is you don't know what the other ham is like or how the conversation will develop until you begin.

Standard Operating Techniques

Correctly Reporting RST

Here I am including a few useful topics that didn't fit in elsewhere. For example, what is this **RST** thing? It is a method of giving another ham a signal report and stands for readability, signal strength, and tone. R is on a scale of 1 to 5, and both S and T on a scale of 1 to 9. An RST of 599 would be the strongest cleanest report possible. For really incredibly strong signals some hams will refer to a 20 or 30 over S9, reflecting an S-meter reading. Readability is self-explanatory, R5 is normal, R4 to me means you copy more than half of what is sent, and R3 to me means you only hear a word or two. I have **never** given another ham an R of 2 or 1. Signal strength is pretty subjective, just use your ears to judge. Some new hams use their rig's S-meter to determine the S they report. I don't think this is a good idea. Tone is the most misunderstood and misused report. Only rarely will I give a report less than T9, and then never lower than T8. For example, if someone has a bad AC hum on their signal, key clicks, chirp, or is drifting badly in frequency, I may give them a T8. Giving a tone report of less than T9 may really get the other ham worried about the quality of their transmitted signal, so be prepared to explain what you mean.

The RST report that one ham gives to another often influences the RST report that is received in return. If, at the beginning of a QSO, the other ham first gives me a good 599 report, I find myself more likely to send them back a good report also. I believe we do this subconsciously, it is human nature. As an optimist, my RST reports generally tend towards the positive. Even if it is a contact during which I send the first RST, I may well add an S point or two to the other ham's RST. An S point or so above what I might give if I were brutally honest. I want to begin the QSO on the right foot and make the other ham feel good about continuing the contact.

Not uncommonly when you hear a ham send an RST report, for example 599, they will send the letter "N" in place of the number "9". Or 5NN in this case. This number code is another time saving device used on CW. Or you may hear the letter "T" sent in place of the number zero, "MY POWER IS 2TT WATTS". Each "T" is usually sent several times in length longer than the actual letter T to distinguish it from a T. There is a number code for almost every number, even though the N and T codes are virtually the only ones you will **ever** hear. Although during the 1998 CQ WW DX Contest I heard many European CW stations report their zones as "a4" or "a5" instead of sending "14" or "15". It saved them several milliseconds of time I suppose. Here is the entire number code, for the interest of those old timers reading this. Its use probably dates back half a century in CW.

1 = a	6 = 6
2 = u	7 = b
3 = v	8 = d
4 = 4	9 = n
5 = e	0 = t

How to Zero Beat Another Station

CW stations should always try to **zero beat** each other. That means to adjust your rig's transmit frequency to exactly match the transmit frequency of the other ham you would like to talk to. Hearing two CW stations conduct a conversation a few hundred cycles apart is a waste of frequency space, and is inviting QRM. How does one zero beat another station? Easy to do on phone or SSB, just tune so that the other fellow's voice sounds normal. But trickier on CW because when you put your receiver exactly on a CW station's transmit frequency, you hear nothing, zero. In modern transceivers, in the CW mode, the receiver's BFO is offset from the displayed, transmit frequency in order to produce an audible tone. In other words, the transmit and receive frequencies are far enough apart for you to hear a pleasantly pitched tone when your transmitter frequency is tuned to exactly that of the ham you are listening to. This frequency offset is frequently about 600 Hz or Hertz.

Here is how I zero beat another CW station with my own rig, a Kenwood TS 450. I tune into, or sweep through, the other CW signal, the pitch going from high to low, until the other ham's CW signal disappears. Now my receiver is zero beat with the other ham's transmit frequency. But I want my **transmit** frequency to be zero beat with the other ham's transmit frequency. So then I tune again, with the other ham's pitch going from low to high, until I am 600 Hz away. For example, if the other ham's transmit frequency is 7137.90 kHz, I would tune my transceiver to 7137.30 (7137.90 minus .60 equals 7137.30.) to transmit exactly on his transmit frequency. The direction you tune or sweep, the pitch going either from high to low or going from low to high, is rig dependent. On Kenwood ham radios you would tune the pitch from high to low as you tune higher in frequency, to reach the 600 Hz offset and be zero beat with the others ham's transmit frequency.

I wrote the above paragraph several years ago, and currently I zero beat using a different method. I still have my Kenwood TS-450, but now as I tune around looking for a station to contact, I leave my RIT(receiver incremental tuning) turned on. Leaving your RIT on while tuning goes against conventional wisdom, but I find it works for me. I leave my RIT on about 500 to 600 Hz up. When I discover another station I wish to zero beat, I tune by ear so that their CW tone drops down in tone to almost nothing, meaning that my transmit frequency is now approximately zero beat with theirs. Then I reset my RIT back up a few Hertz so that I can hear the other station. Takes me one or two seconds. Tuning by ear for an approximately 600 Hz tone just comes with experience. I have found that this method of zero beating works best for me. Recently I have become a DXing nut, and I find this new method faster for me. There is no one best method for zero beating. Whatever works best for you and for your rig.

This zero beat frequency stuff is pretty weird, it confuses me at times, and I hope I explained it correctly. The frequency offset for CW in most transceivers explains why when you are

listening to a CW signal in the transceiver's "CW" mode, and you switch to phone, to "LSB" or "USB," you loose the CW signal and have to go search a bit for it again.

Using CW Abbreviations and Q Signals

Abbreviations are **very** commonly used in CW. They save time and are, I think, one reason why CW is so cool. Once you have learned many of the abbreviations as well as CW operating techniques, you are "in", you're a member of the CW using fraternity. Knowing and using CW correctly is kinda like belonging to an exclusive club. Anybody can pick up a microphone and talk on the ham bands; doing CW requires skill and finesse.

Lists of abbreviations and Q signals used on CW are available many places, I will just mention a few of the most commonly used.

ADR	address	GN	good night	RIG	station equipment
AGN	again	GND	ground	RPT	repeat
BK	break	GUD	good	SK	end of transmission
BN	been	HI	the telegraphic laugh	SRI	sorry
C	yes	HR	here	SSB	single side band
CL	closing	HV	have	TMW	tomorrow
CUL	see you later	HW	how	TNX-TKS	thanks
DE	from (French)	N	no	TU	thank you
DX	distance	NR	number	UR	your
ES	and (French)	NW	now	VY	very
FB	fine business	OM	old man	WX	weather
GA	go ahead	PSE	please	XYL	wife
GB	good bye	PWR	power	YL	young lady
GE	good evening	R	received as transmitted	73	best regards
GM	good morning	RCVR	receiver	88	love and kisses

And the International "Q" signals, recognizable in any language:

QRL	Is the frequency busy?	QRT	stop sending
QRM	interference	QRX	wait, standby
QRN	noise, static	QSB	fading
QRO	increase power	QSL	acknowledge receipt
QRP	decrease power	QSY	change frequency
QRS	send slower	QTH	location

Don't get worried about using abbreviations when you are starting out with CW. It is perfectly OK to spell out every word during a QSO. It's just easier using abbreviations. There are **many** more CW abbreviations and Q signals, but those should keep you busy. There are also a whole series of QN_ signals for use on CW traffic nets. Also used commonly on CW are punctuation marks; the period, comma, question mark and BT being the most common. To separate thoughts or topics during a CW contact a period or a BT (dah dit dit dah) are commonly used. You'll hear the slash symbol sometimes (dah dit dit dah dit) to note portable or QRP operation for example. Like WB8FSV/9 or WB8FSV/QRP.

The "K" letter used at the end of each CW transmission indicates, "end of transmission - go ahead". When two hams engaged in a CW conversation do not wish to be disturbed by anyone else breaking in, they may send "KN" instead of "K" at the end of each transmission. Or if a ham wants to limit the extent of his CQ, he may also use KN. For example, "CQ VT CQ VT de N1XYZ KN" says this ham would like to be answered **only** by hams in the state of Vermont.

Here are a few other commonly heard CW expressions that are actually combinations of letters sent as a single character. You **will** encounter these CW symbols on the air.

Wait, stand by (AS)	dit dah dit dit dit
Slash (DN)	dah dit dit dah dit
End of message (AR)	dit dah dit dah dit
End of contact (SK)	dit dit dit dah dit dah
and of course, Break (BT)	dah dit dit dit dah

At the very end of a CW contact you may hear the two stations sending dits at each other, this derives from the old expression, "shave and a haircut, two bits". It sounds like dit dit-dit dit dit, dit-dit. The first station will send the dit dit-dit dit dit and wait for the second station to send dit-dit in return. This was more popular on CW years ago, but you will still hear it today. Today it may be shortened to sending just the final dit-dit, as in "73 N1XYZ de WB8FSV GN dit-dit". New hams more frequently use the full dit dit-dit dit dit, dit dit expression than more experienced hams. Not uncommonly when I end a QSO on the novice bands and trade dit dits with the other ham, I may hear a third, or even a fourth station add their own dit dit. They were listening along in silence to our QSO, and decided to add their two bits as well. This is an unprofessional operating habit. If the eavesdropping station wants to make their presence known with a few dits, I believe they should go ahead and tailend one of us, and start a

legitimate QSO. Just goes to show that as you transmit on the ham bands, there are likely more than just a few folks listening.

(More to follow next month. al7fs)



ARES Contact Information

Heather Hasper, KL7SP
747sp@arctic.net
 Pager: 907-275-7474

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

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

The "Other" Mode on 2 Meters Ed – KL7UW

Many hams are not aware of the use of SSB on the VHF bands or not sure how to start. I have included a good article written by Bob Witte, KØNR, about getting started with 2-meter SSB. Of course he gives information relevant to operation in Colorado so let me tell you what we are using here in South-central Alaska.

The Son of Sideband and now Grandson of Sideband Net have been active for many years on Monday nights at 2000 (8pm) on the frequency of 144.200 MHz USB. Current net control is NL7SK.

At the Anchorage Hamfest this year a few fellow members of the new Alaska VHF-Up Group* met to discuss ways to encourage activity on the VHF and UHF bands, specifically using SSB for making long-range VHF contacts (this is so-called "weak-signal" operation). We decided to start a new Net featuring the VHF bands from 6m to 1296-MHz. The Net meets every Wednesday at 2100 (9pm).



KL7UW

It was decided that starting on 144.200 MHz would work best as more stations have multi-mode VHF radio equipment for 2-meters. We also elected Mike, KL6M to be our net-control since his hillside location made him copyable over a large area including the valley and the Kenai Peninsula.

The net (which is as yet unnamed) was started with several stations checking in from the area (including three stations from the Kenai Peninsula and one from Glennallen). One night we even had KL7EDK from Fairbanks check in with about five stations working him via a bounce off Mt. McKinley!

Although the net starts on 144.200 we then progress to other bands: 50.125, 432.100, 222.100, and 1296.100 (all on USB). The net will occasionally hold an "FM night" to include stations that do not have VHF-SSB equipment.



KL1PL-mobile

There are a couple things we do different in Alaska than is described in the K0NR article. In Alaska we operate VHF SSB antennas in vertical polarity (the elements are aligned up and down) because so many stations migrate from FM activity. This permits any ham with a good 2-meter or 70-cm antenna to get on SSB with only the need for a multi-mode radio like the IC-706 (and others mentioned in the K0NR article). One exception is that most Alaskan 6-meter SSB stations are horizontally polarized.

On other thing that I would stress is to maximize the performance of a VHF-SSB station one should consider an antenna as high and in an unobstructed area as possible. Use of yagi antennas is desirable, and use of mast-mounted preamps makes possible hearing and working longer distances. Many stations also operate higher power using linear amplifiers (around 100 watts). But if all you have is a ten-watt 2-meter or 6-meter station and a whip why not try the Wednesday Net and join the fun! VHF is whole lot more than "repeaters"!

Now another way we are promoting VHF/UHF activity is by participation in the VHF Contests held several times a year.

Ask about operating as a VHF rover from a mobile VHF station on SSB!

*For more information about VHF-SSB, the Wednesday Net, VHF/UHF Contests, and the Alaska VHF-Up Group go to: <http://www.qsl.net/al7eb/avg.htm> read more from <http://www.k0nr.com/rwritte/2Mssb.html>

Or make a call on 147.27 MHz repeater and ask for information. Many of us hang out on the repeater, as well. Happy Holidays and 73s - KL7UW



From: John Raynsford
[<al7jk@yahoo.com>](mailto:al7jk@yahoo.com)

We do **CW** over the internet when propagation is lousy.

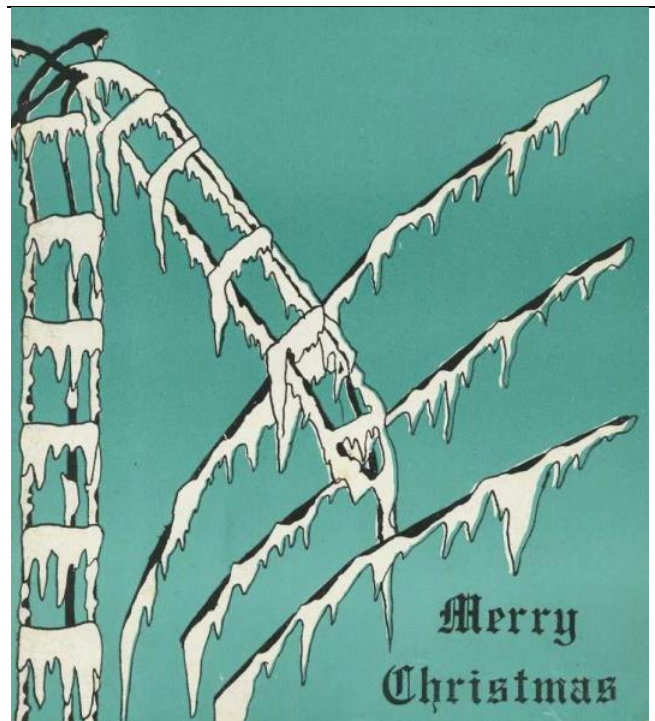
<http://www.mrx.com.au/>

Yeah, it ain't radio, but we still get to pound the straight key ... you can see who's "online" at:

<http://morsecode.dyndns.org/>

73 & Seasons Greetings ...

AL7JK, John





Data You Can Use:

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Membership: membership@kl7aa.net
Newsletter: editor@kl7aa.net

News Letter Submissions, Information or corrections:

Submissions must be received 2 weeks before meeting
Email: editor@kl7aa.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 auto-patch, 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 (problems)
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

Palmer IRLP

146.64/.04, simplex patch, no PL

Mile 58.3 Parks Highway IRLP

147.09/.69 MHz, 97.4 Hz PL

KL3K, Girdwood - IRLP

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

South Anchorage IRLP

146.79/19 MHz, 100 Hz PL

Anchorage IRLP – KB8JXX

146.82/22 tone unknown

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

147.42 MHz Peninsula simplex chat

146.58 MHz Simplex IRLP - Wasilla Lake

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. Wasilla Red Cross is in the Westside Mall, next to Speedy Glass...it's just a click up from AIH hardware

Internet Links, the favorites from our readers:

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

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

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>

Practice Exams : <http://www.AA9PW.com/>

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 editor@kl7aa.net.

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NEWSLETTER ARTICLES; All articles from members and interested persons are very welcome. If you wish to submit any articles, jokes, cartoons, please have it typed or neatly handwritten. It can be submitted by mail, 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 10 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@alaska.net or 345-3190.

Thursdays Brunch, 10:00 AM: Brunch NW corner of DeBarr and Bragaw. 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@yahoo.com.

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.

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

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Please check your label. All annual dues expire in December. Please renew as soon as possible.

Join Anchorage Amateur Radio Club for their
Annual Holiday Party

On Sunday, December 18th, 2005

At Sourdough Mining Company Restaurant

Located at 5200 Juneau Street

In Anchorage, Alaska 99518

Time: 4pm - 7:30pm

Gift Exchange

Menu:

Roast Turkey, Beef Brisket and Baked Alaskan Halibut served Family Style. This includes Green Salad, Garlic Buttered Potatoes, Kom Fritters, Non-Alcoholic Beverage and Desert Ice Cream Bar for \$21.95 per person (this includes gratuity),

Children under 12 are half price (\$10.50).

Please RSVP to David & Deloris Stevens KLEB@arrl.net

or call us at 345-6506 and please leave message



Ask about Life Memberships.