

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club

Next Meeting November 3rd, 7:00 PM



November Program

Club Business

- ♦ Election 2006 2007 Budget
- ♦ Grant Approvals

Grubstake Repeater

Ready for Air

By Jim Wiley, KL7CC

VHF: 147.330/147.930 PL 103.5 Hz

UHF: 443.900/448.900 PL 103.5 Hz

The long awaited Grubstake repeater should be installed and on the air by the time you read this. While the new system will be completely functional, it is not the final version. Because of time issues in getting the "full" version ready, it was decided to utilize the set of "spare" hardware that was purchased as backups for both the Mt. Susitna and Grubstake Peak systems. The "final" version will be assembled and installed at a later date, either later this year or in the first half of 2007.

The primary difference between the 2 versions is that this system will not include the on-site "hot standby" equipment – which means that if something should fail, a portion of the system will be inoperable until we can get the spare hardware on site. However, experience with the Mt. Susitna system indicates that it is reasonable to expect that the Grubstake system will run for some time before repairs are needed. Maintenance personnel make regular visits to the site, so in the unlikely event of a failure, downtime should not be a huge problem.

As the included photographs show, the system consists of a Kenwood TKR-750 VHF repeater, a Kenwood TKR-850 UHF repeater, plus required accessories (control units and duplexers). The site is near the top of Grubstake Peak, which is above Hatcher Pass in the Matanuska-Susitna borough. The repeater site is about 4800 feet above sea level, which makes it about 500 feet higher than the Mt.

Susitna site. Experience with the KL7CC special cross-band repeater, which will be moving to another location, has shown that good signals can be expected over Anchorage and Palmer-Wasilla areas, plus substantial coverage over parts of the Kenai Peninsula and the Parks highway North to Talkeetna and beyond. We also expect good signals along the Iditarod trail route to at least the Finger Lake / Rainy Pass area.

The repeater is powered from the main battery plant already installed on site, which has approximately 8500 ampere hours of capacity. The batteries are charged by a combination of solar panels, wind generators, and (as a last resort) a pair of conventional diesel engine driven AC generators. Under normal conditions, the diesel generators run very little, and are there primarily in case something goes wrong with the solar panels or the wind generator. Each repeater transmits with a power of 25 watts.

While no auto-patch is included in the present version, when phone lines are available (at some future date, possibly next summer) we plan to include the ability to access the 911 emergency reporting system and possibly connect to other numbers as well.



The repeater also includes the ability to play pre-recorded messages and announcements, such as net announcements or club meeting notices.

Continued on Page 3.

The Royal Order of the Wouff-Hong

The Wouff-Hong and the Rettysnitch:

Lost Traditions?

L. B. Cebik, W4RNL

Many of today's hams have no idea what a Wouff-Hong and a Rettysnitch look like. The two main pieces appear to be wood banded by metal strapping and by heavy wire. What the sketch cannot convey is the darkness at the upper end of the longer wood piece, as if stained by blood or purified for its grave duties in the fires of purgatory--or both.

Hiram Percy Maxim (*call sign W1AW, "The Old Man" and founder of the American Radio Relay League*) discovered the answer, or actually, a couple of answers. The Wouff-Hong is a mystical object of unspeakable terror, "amateur radio's most sacred symbol" which "stands for the enforcement of law and order in amateur operation." Its partner, the Rettysnitch, "is used to enforce the principles of decency in operating work." Physically, the Wouff-Hong looks like a couple of rough chunks of wood banded together in a forked configuration; the Rettysnitch is a pointy metallic probelike device.

"The Wouff-Hong is amateur radio's most sacred symbol and stands for the enforcement of law and order in amateur operation." "The Rettysnitch. . . is used to enforce the principles of decency in operating work." *The Radio Amateur's Handbook*, 1930, p. 11

In 1930, the Handbook had pictures of both instruments of enforcement. By 1936, only the Wouff-Hong appeared, and by 1947, the Handbook had deleted both photos. Just when we needed traditions of law and order and of decency in amateur operations to guide its growth in the post World-War-II explosion of technology and easier licensing, the symbols had disappeared from view.

In the 20s and 30s, many a reproduction of both instruments, but especially the Wouff-Hong, materialized across the country. (The photograph of the one above is one such replica of a Wouff-Hong, courtesy of Joe Holstein, N8EA.) A group of hams in Flint, Michigan, created the mystic society called

THE ROYAL ORDER OF THE WOUFF-HONG.

The society endures to this day, according to legends to which I have so far not been privy. And The Old Man has been given a name: Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW. At least, legend tells the story that way, perhaps based on the fact that T.O.M. glared at "Kitty" while reflecting on the "rotteness" of everything. Maxim did have a cat. However, true to feline nature, Maxim's cat never spilled the beans.



But what has become of the Wouff-Hong and the Rettysnitch? More important, what has become of their power to enforce both decency and law and order on the ham bands? Hams used to cringe at the thought, let alone the sight, of these dreadful tools of enforcement. But, we do not hear of them much anymore. Oh, a tremor of curiosity every now and again brings out a ripple of questions and speculation. But not much more than ripple.

You see, today, we have much more terrifying weapons, things like Oozies and H-booms and the like. They scare us in ways that seem to make the Wouff-Hong and the Rettysnitch tame and toothless. However, even in Maxim's day, objectively more powerful weapons were used in France, like tanques and gas more poisonous than that made by Texas chili. Why were the Wouff-Hong and the Rettysnitch so powerful to those early hams?

Because those hams cared about amateur radio in their hearts. They wanted what they knew they could never have: a perfectly law-abiding and decent radio service that would inspire young and old alike to become hams or, lacking the inclination to electronics, to become admirers of hams. Every minute of on-the-air time was a chance to show how noble a pursuit amateur radio was and should always be. They feared the Wouff-Hong and the Rettysnitch as instruments of their own consciences, as they strove to meet the standards they set for themselves.

And that is where today you will find both the Wouff-Hong and the Rettysnitch--deep in your own conscience. If they seem to hold no power, then you know it is time once more to elevate your standards a notch higher, and then to strive to achieve them perfectly. Each of us has a secret and private office where no one else may go. Above the door, facing our individual operating tables, hang two instruments, one of law and order, the other of decency. However much the outside world may neglect the tradition of these terrible reminders of responsibility, each of us posses our own Wouff-Hong and Rettysnitch. May you never deserve their sting.

Like all legends, this one, too, must end with special words: pass it on.

The R.O.W.H. initiation is an impressive ceremony at any amateur convention but should not be put on unless the parts have been thoroughly rehearsed so that a top-notch performance results. One effective method is to record all voices on tape ahead of time and then (after adequate rehearsal) simply pantomime the ceremony itself.*



Wouff Hong cont. Any state, Division or national convention of ARRL is eligible to put on the traditional initiation into the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong, and many do so. This event can be one of the highlights of a new ham's experiences. If interested, communicate with ARRL Headquarters for the ritual's details. The Wouff Hong initiation ceremony is performed before the audience by a cast of five characters (who have active speaking parts) and a "novice." The characters are known as The Old Man, Hi-Potential, QRM, QRN, and Xtal and the various roles require a lot of rehearsal to perfect. The Old Man and Xtal are the principal roles and their proper handling requires some study and work. Costumes are required but need not be expensive. When put on, the performance takes about 25 minutes. It is usually done at midnight. Only licensed amateurs who are members of the ARRL may attend the performance and be initiated as members of the



At the Convention Banquet Chris-KJ6ZH, Producer for the Midnight Ceremony of The Royal Order of the Wouff Hong presents Riley Hollingsworth -K4ZDH with a honorary Wouff Hong to help the FCC with its enforcement efforts.

R.O.W.H.

In addition to the ritual, League Headquarters also supplies very attractive R.O.W.H. certificates to be made out for each person attending the initiation. Some convention committees include the initiation in the regular price of the convention ticket; others make a separate charge of a dollar or so to help defray additional cost of costumes, rental of hall or other quarters for the initiation if some special location is selected, installation of special lighting effects, and so on.
*ARRL HAMFEST Convention PLANNER, pgs 12-13



Are You a member of The Royal Order of the Wouff Hong in ALASKA?

We have only been able to find two in the Anchorage Area. If YOU are a member of the ROWH and have been through the ceremony, have your certificate and would like to preserve this amateur radio tradition, please contact:

DEL SEAY, KL7HF at [deljan \(at\) att.net](mailto:deljan(at)att.net)

Grubstake Repeater cont.

The repeater also includes a special feature: It transmits a CTCSS (PL) tone at 123.0 Hz whenever one of the input receivers is active. Users who have radios that can take advantage of this feature can adjust their sets so no sound is heard unless the correct tone is present, which will remove most if not all of those annoying (and loud) intermod squawks and bleeps that occur whenever we drive through RF congested areas.

While the repeater will normally operate in cross-linked mode, it can be split into two independent systems should the need arise. In case of a major event, such as a forest fire, large flood, or other similar event, high volumes of traffic might be better handled by operating each system independently of the other. This is exactly the same as the Mt. Susitna system.



So, give the new machine a try. We think you will be pleased with the coverage. The Grubstake system is the third leg of the triad of machines, which together with Mt. Susitna, operating on both 147.270 and 443.300, plus Mt. Gordon Lyon (site summit) on 147.300 (VHF only), will provide the Anchorage area with what we sincerely hope will be a unbeatable system. The machines are spaced (roughly) 30 or 35 miles distant from one another in a sort of equilateral triangle, and hopefully no single calamity can befall all three!

The Mt. Susitna and Grubstake systems are owned by the Anchorage club, and managed by Anchorage District 7 ARES. The Mt. Gordon Lyon system is owned and managed by the Polar Amateur Radio Klub (PARKA).

KL7AA Club Business

2006 ELECTION

Greetings, fellow amateurs:

Ballots have been received. All ballots that have been received prior to October 31st, will be opened and tallied in accordance with the By-Laws at the November 3rd General Meeting.

Grants

The following is a list of organizations that have submitted grant applications to the AARC. The Grant committee and the Board of Directors have reviewed these applications and present them to the general membership for approval as defined in the Bylaws.

CATEGORY:

:Amateur Radio Clubs

ELMENDORF Amateur Radio Society (EARS):

Total: \$2,050.) Board Approved at October Board Meeting, Check has been sent and received.

Charitable Organizations:

Alaska Search & Rescue Dogs (Total: \$7406.00)

Organization plans to use the grant to purchase portable two-way radios for operational search and rescue teams.

Background: Alaska Search & Rescue Dogs is a volunteer organization dedicated to search & rescue. Our teams of handlers & dogs are highly trained & operate under the auspices of the Alaska State Troopers (AST), who have primary civilian authority for search & rescue operations in Alaska & to Alaska National Guard Rescue Coordination Center (RCC), the primary military SAR authority.

PROJECT: ASARD proposes to purchase 12 Motorola HT1250 portable VHF radios with A/C & D/C chargers, extra batteries, harnesses & remote mikes. The radios will be assigned to operational ASARD teams for emergency SAR response and for training. The radios are essential field tools for SAR missions. They provide the link among and between teams and IC, which is essential for completion of the mission and for safety of deployed teams.

ASARD is applying for a **65%** grant through the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club. The value of the grant sought is **\$7406.00** ASARD will budget the remaining \$3988.00 from available funds.

RECOMMENDATION: The board of directors has approved this grant request and recommends approval by the general membership. This item will be presented to the membership in the November 2006 meeting.

2007 BUDGET



While the election votes are being tallied, a two year spending plan including the 2007 and 2008 budget will be presented by the treasurer to the general membership for approval as required by the By-Laws.

We have an extensive amount of gaming revenue and have enjoyed several good years of investment returns. The budget that has been prepared has been approved by the Board of Directors and recommended to the general membership.

What is a budget?

A systematic plan for the expenditure of a usually fixed resource, such as money or time, during a given period

An itemized summary of estimated or intended expenditures for a given period along with proposals for financing them. www.dictionary.com

Why is a budget important?

- ◆ Financial Guideline - To plan in advance the expenditure of resources
- ◆ A method for bringing different values about money and financial resources together into one spending Plan
- ◆ To ensure that we do not spend more than the resources available to us and prevent unplanned debt against the organization



Board Meeting Minutes

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SEPTEMBER 19, 2006

HOPE COTTAGE

540 WEST INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ROAD
(not approved)

The meeting was brought to order by President Jim Larsen at 7:00 pm. A quorum was established.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President Jim Larsen AL7FS, Vice President Judi Ramage WL7DX, Treasurer Heather Hasper KL7SP, Secretary Diane Olson KL1MY, Frank Pratt KL7RX, Art Morton AL0U, TJ Sheffield KL7TS, Steve Jensen KL0VZ, Jim Wiley KL7CC, Edward Moses KL1KL, Paul Spatzek WL7BF, Nick Casler KL1XD and Membership Chairman Fred Erickson KL7FE.

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED: Michael O'Keefe KL7MD, Kathleen O'Keefe KL7KO and Richard Kotsch WL7CPX

GUEST: Susan Woods NL7NN

No additional agenda items.

Visitor Forum: Susan Woods will speak at New Business.

REPORTS:

Minutes were accepted.

Treasurer's report was accepted. Approximately \$715.00 was raised from the sale of Hamfest raffle tickets.

ARES Report: The Senior Center antenna project is done with lots of volunteer help.

OLD BUSINESS:

Convention 2008 discussion is still ongoing. Heather gave a short presentation on the SurveyMonkey.com survey. 20 people were invited to participate in this survey. There were 15 respondents. We discussed who else should participate doing the survey. **Judi made the motion "That the \$100.00 spent by Heather for SurveyMonkey.com be reimbursed."** Paul Seconded. Motion Passed.

2006 HAMFEST was discussed. Pros and cons were

discussed. Nick made the motion **"That the Sourdough Mining Company be our venue for the Christmas Banquet providing they can assure us either written or orally that service will be superior from our last banquet."** Frank Pratt seconded. Motion passed with 7 For and 4 Against.

Grubstake Repeater will be up and running hopefully by the end of September. The antenna and feed line from the repeater belongs to Jim Wiley. There is a goal to replace the equipment with AARC equipment by the end of summer 2007.

NWS installation: The equipment has been ordered.

State Fair: Judi spoke about the wonderful time everyone had. There were even extra volunteers. Pam of the State Fair had a discussion about possibly moving our location. Discussion about solar and or wind power.

GIS Maps: The December 31st deadline still good. \$1,000. Spent of the \$2,500 allotted.

NEW BUSINESS:

Election Committee: Will add Pat Wilke to ballot.

The program for the October meeting is Pam Jennings.

APU Endowment was discussed. Art made the motion **"To increase endowment from \$5,000.00 to \$10,000.00 and recommend passage to the General Membership."** Ed seconded. Motion passed.

Ham Class will start September 25th. Students will pay \$10.00 each for class. \$440.00 spent on books.

CCV Security Update: Heather gave Bruce a list of names. Jim Larsen and Judi Ramage will receive copies of the list.

EARS grant was briefly discussed. They are requesting \$2,050.00.

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Diane Olson, KL1MY
Secretary

FCC RELEASES LONG-AWAITED "OMNIBUS" AMATEUR RADIO REPORT AND ORDER

The ARRL Letter, Vol 25, No 41 (Oct 13, 2006)

American Radio Relay League



Ending a protracted waiting period, the FCC's Report and Order (R&O) in the so-called "omnibus" Amateur Radio proceeding, WT Docket 04-140, was adopted

October 4 and released October 10. In it, the FCC adopted nearly all of the changes it had put forth in its 2004 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in the proceeding. The R&O the FCC released this week does NOT include action on the Commission's proposal to eliminate the Morse code requirement. A Report and Order in that proceeding, WT Docket 05-235, is pending. ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, expressed the League's gratitude to the FCC for acting this week in the wide-ranging proceeding.

"On behalf of the ARRL and the Commission's licensees in the Amateur Radio Service I want to express appreciation for your release yesterday of the Report and Order in WT Docket 04-140 (FCC 06-149) amending Part 97 of the Commission's Rules," Harrison wrote October 11. "The Commission's action in clearing this pending proceeding will assist the Amateur Radio Service in meeting its objectives, particularly with regard to providing emergency and public service communications."

The new rules are expected to become effective later this year. Among the highlights in the October 10 Report and Order, the FCC:

- ➔ "Reformed" the current Novice/Tech Plus bands to expand certain phone sub-bands;
- ➔ Agreed to allow Novice and Tech Plus licensees to operate CW in the General class CW sub-bands on 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters.
- ➔ Implemented rules to discourage multiple vanity call sign filings on the same day from the same applicant;
- ➔ Permitted auxiliary stations to transmit on portions of the 2 meter band;
- ➔ Permitted amateur licensees to designate a specific Amateur Radio club to receive their call sign in memoriam;
- ➔ Eliminated certain restrictions governing the manufacture, marketing and sale of external RF power amplifiers intended for Amateur Radio use;
- ➔ Clarified that "amateur stations may, at all times and on all frequencies authorized to the control operator, make transmissions necessary to meet essential communication needs and to facilitate relief actions";
- ➔ Deleted the requirement to publicly announce Amateur Radio examination locations and times, and
- ➔ Deleted the frequency bands and segments specified for Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) stations.

In response to an ARRL Petition for Rule Making, the Commission agreed to "reform" the HF segments currently authorized to Novice and Technician Plus licensees. The reallocation will expand the phone sub-bands for General,

Advanced and Amateur Extra licensees, although not all commenter's agreed with the idea.

"We are persuaded, however, by ARRL's contention that increasing the amount of spectrum for voice communications will reduce interference among stations using voice communications," the FCC said in its R&O, "thereby benefiting all licensees." The FCC said authorizing more phone spectrum would "more closely reflect licensees' operating preferences" and mean more efficient spectrum use.

On 75 meters, the FCC went well beyond the modest expansion the ARRL had proposed and the FCC had tentatively adopted in its 2004 NPRM. Generals will be able to operate on phone from 3800 to 4000 kHz, Advanced class licensees from 3700 to 4000, and Amateur Extras from 3600 to 4000 kHz -- greatly reducing the amount of 80-meter spectrum available for RTTY and data (the only segment where automatically controlled digital stations may operate on 80 meters is 3620 to 3635 kHz).

The FCC said the amateur community wanted as much phone spectrum as possible. "Indeed, a number of commenter's argue that the NPRM proposal to increase the amount of spectrum permitted for voice communications would still not meet the demand for voice communication spectrum in the HF bands, particularly in the 80 meter band," the FCC said.

On 40 meters, Advanced and Extra Class licensees will be able to operate phone from 7125 to 7300 kHz, and Generals from 7175 to 7300 kHz. On 15 meters, General class operators may operate phone from 21,275 to 21,450 kHz.

The FCC affirmed its intention to permit Novice and Tech Plus (or Technician with Element 1 credit) licensees to operate CW in the current General exclusive-CW allocations on 80, 40 and 15 meters and CW/data on 10 meters, where the FCC provided an additional 100 kHz for Novice/Tech Plus licensees. Novice/Tech Plus licensees still may run no more than 200 W PEP, but the Commission has done away with Novice band power limitations for higher-class licensees.

FCC "OMNIBUS" REPORT (cont.)

The FCC revised its vanity call sign rules to discourage the filing of multiple applications for the same call sign on the same day, and many commenters supported this concept. As implemented in §97.19(d) (1), if the FCC receives more than one application requesting a vanity call sign from a single applicant on the same receipt day, it will process only the first application entered into the Universal Licensing System. "Subsequent vanity call sign applications from that applicant with the same receipt date will not be accepted," the rule concludes.

"We are persuaded that we should adopt rule amendments to discourage multiple vanity call sign applications," the FCC said in the R&O, "and we believe that a one-application-per-day-per-applicant rule, as requested by ARRL and others, will eliminate multiple applications requesting the same assignable call sign on the same day." The FCC concedes that its one-application-per-day rule "will not prevent an individual from requesting multiple vanity call signs per se," because an applicant may request up to 25 call signs at a time.

When the FCC receives multiple valid applications from several individuals requesting the same vanity call sign as a first choice on the same day, it uses a lottery system to decide which application to process first.

The R&O also affirms changes to Part 2 and Part 97 rules the FCC had proposed regarding the manufacture, marketing and sale of external RF power amplifiers. Current FCC rules prohibit commercial manufacturers from marketing RF power amplifiers capable of transmitting on the 12 and 10 meter bands. The rules were put in place as a way to prevent use of such amplifiers by CBers.

"We agree with ARRL that the requirements imposed on Amateur Radio operators by the current rule are unnecessary because, under the present rules, 'the equipment, once authorized, can be modified to transmit on all amateur service frequency allocations,' and that revising the rule 'will enhance use of the 12 and 10 meter amateur bands,'" the FCC said.

To prevent the use of Amateur Radio amplifiers by CBers, the FCC says manufacturers of Amateur Radio amplifiers must design their products to avoid operation between 26 MHz and 28 MHz. They also must certify that amplifiers are not easily modifiable to operate between 26 MHz and 28 MHz prior to a grant of equipment certification.

In the pending FCC RO 06-149 which should become effective by 15 Nov. They have now agreed and permitted exercise traffic on 5.1675mhz which is the Alaska Emergency Freq.

The use of this freq is only for use by Alaskan Amateurs or stations within 92.7 km of the Alaskan Coastline. Primary use is still Emergency Traffic specific to Alaska. Now they will allow us to practice and operate exercises which were prohibited previously.



The ARRL and the FCC agree that we should be able to "conduct serious and extremely professional exercises and tests" on the 5.1675mhz freq in support of emergency communications in or near Alaska.

Expect we will be seeing an Emergency Communications Net starting up there soon, and further expect that other agencies will join in. Coast Guard for example should be interested in getting in on the action in some form. Perhaps CAP as well. Both have Amateur Licensed Operators on hand.

Go to the ARRL.ORG website and review for further information: www.arrl.org

WT Docket 04-140, was adopted October 4 and released October 10, 2006. In it, the FCC adopted nearly all of the proposed changes in the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking released back in 2004.

Note the issue of Morse Testing is still pending and thus was not addressed in this release.



VE Report

October 2006

An Anchorage Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) affiliated testing session was held at the American Red Cross Headquarters in downtown Anchorage on October 18, 2006 to conclude the Technician no code course sponsored by the AARC.

Twenty One people took exams for their initial ham license. Of those that tested, all 21 passed and received a new Ham license. Thanks to the Volunteer Examiners who came out and helped with this successful test session. Art Morton, AL0U, Randy Vallee, KL7Z, Doug Stowers, KL7CDC, Jim Wiley, KL7CC, Keith Clark, KL7MM and one other I can't remember.

Congratulations to all who participated. This was one of the best turnouts of new operators in Anchorage in a long time.



<u>NAME</u>	<u>CALL SIGN</u>
Pamela Trodden	KL2BA
Jordon Jeffries	KL2BB
Francis Jeffries	KL2BC
Kenneth Babtiste	KL2BD
Jerry A Wertzbaugher	KL2BE
Nancy L Wertzbaugher	KL2BF
Scott Ericson	KL2BG
Andrew Demos	KL2BH
Donald Smith	KL2BI
Richard J Cardenas	KL2BK
Ventis Plume	KL2BL
Rono Florio	KL2BM
Karen Jasper	KL2BN
Dale Hummel	KL2BO
Robert C. Lee	KL2BP
Kimberly A Heinrichs	KL2BQ
Shawn Florio	KL2BR
Marlene Cameron	KL2BS
Calex Gonzalez	KL2BT
John Combs	KL2BU
Lester Sabin	KL2BV

HAM RADIO CLASSES

Anyone interested in getting their license may contact instructor@kl7aa.net for assistance and a tutor. Anyone interested in performing one-on-one tutoring may also contact us. If you are a General or Extra willing to volunteer your teaching abilities to ELMER other operators, please feel free to contact us to coordinate your schedule.

GENERAL Course

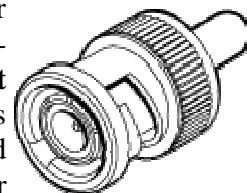
A General course is being scheduled for January 2007. In order to acquire materials and prepare for the class, pre registration is required. Please contact KL7KO, Kathy O'Keefe at instructor@kl7aa.net to sign up so we can get an estimate of the number wishing to attend.

EXTRA Course

We would like to offer an extra class, however we are in need of instructors and mentors for this course. If you would be interested in teaching this class, facilities, materials and classroom support is available. We have several operators who would like to upgrade and just need some good classroom instruction to be successful. Please contact KL7KO at instructor@kl7aa.net if you are interested in volunteering for this opportunity.

Connector of the Month

The **BNC connector** is a type of RF connector with a **bayonet** coupling mechanism for terminating coaxial cable. The connector was named after its **bayonet** mount locking mechanism and its two inventors. Invented by and named after Amphenol Engineer Carl Concelman and Bell Labs Engineer Paul Neill and was developed in the late 1940's.



This connector is available in 50 Ohm and 75 Ohm versions. This connector has a frequency range of DC (0 HZ) through 4 GHz (50 Ohm version) and DC (0 HZ) through 1 GHz (75 Ohm version). The BNC connector is available in standard and reverse polarity configurations.

The BNC connector is used for professional video connections, both for analog and Serial Digital Interface signals, amateur radio antenna connections, and on nearly every piece of electronic test equipment manufactured in the last 35 or so years.

Do you have a connector that you would like to contribute? Email us the connector name and we can include it in the newsletter.

Contact Us

Editor's Corner

Well our first newsletter was a success. Due to election mailings, many of the newsletters were received after the club meeting. We hope this will only be a one time occurrence. To assure that newsletters are delivered in a timely manner, we must have any articles that you wish to submit by the third Sunday of each month in order to complete the compilation and mailing in a timely manner.

Congratulations for the 21 students from the latest Tech-no-code class! A class of 27 whittled down to 21 taking the test; three will test later as they had to be gone for business reasons. All 21 in attendance passed the exam! Our youngest student, a 10 year old, is so excited by the hobby he is already talking General license and code. It was a wonderful class with very attentive students and outstanding instructors. Keep up the good work, lets get more folks into the hobby of Amateur Radio.

We sincerely hope that you continue providing newsletter articles and photos for your newsletter. If you would like to submit an article for the newsletter or have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [editor \(at\) kl7aa.net](mailto:editor(at)kl7aa.net).

Thank you,
Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO

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

News Letter Submissions, Information or corrections: Submissions must be received 2 weeks before meeting Email: editor@kl7aa.net
Mail: 2043 46th Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99517-3176

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

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.



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?"



AMATEUR RADIO

CLUB COATS

If you placed an order in October or earlier for one of the AARC club coats, they have arrived. They will be available for pick up at the AARC club meeting Friday November 3rd.

For those of you interested in purchasing a coat, the costs are \$50 per club member. This is a great price for a coat than can be used during summer amateur activities or as a winter coat during Sled Dog races or November Sweepstakes. With a removable liner, lots of pockets, and water-proof, the coat gives the radio club great publicity with a full back, club logo and a Name and Call-Sign Personalization on the left chest.

If you are interested in ordering a coat, a sign up sheet will be available at the club meeting or feel free to contact KL7SP@arrl.net.



714

WHAT IS MARS?

If you guessed a Ham station on the Red Planet or the 4th rock from the sun, you are not too far off. Come back to the third rock from the sun and place yourself inside any Military base and you might find a MARS amateur radio operator. MARS, stands for **MILITARY AFFILIATE RADIO SYSTEM**. Most MARS operators are civilians and are located off base. Some are Active Duty yes, but the bulk are retirees or former military

The Military Affiliate Radio System is a Department of Defense sponsored program, established as separate managed and operated programs by the Army, Air Force and Navy-Marine Corps.

A particular MARS responsibility will be to provide communication interoperability with local, state and national networks, such as the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) and Shared Resources (SHARES). A separate web of national and regional HF radio networks, SHARES links federal agencies under the DHS's National Communications System (NCS), of which MARS already is a primary participant.

The MARS program consists of licensed amateur radio operators who are interested in military communications. They contribute to the MARS mission providing auxiliary or emergency communications on a local, national, and international basis as an adjunct to normal communications. MARS has a long and proud history of providing world-wide auxiliary emergency communications during times of need. The combined three service MARS programs (Army, Air Force, and Navy-Marine Corps) volunteer force of over 5,000 dedicated and skilled amateur radio operators is the backbone of the MARS program.

In November, 1925, the Army Amateur Radio System (AARS) was initiated by a few dedicated pioneers in the United States Army Signal Corps led by Capt. Thomas C. Rives. His original intention was to enlist the talents of volunteer Amateur Radio operators as a source to train Soldiers in the then new technology of radio as well as pursuing radio research and development to improve radio equipment within the Army. His efforts were very successful.

This organization continued until the United States entry into World War II, at which time radio Amateurs were denied the use of the air waves. Therefore, the activities of AARS, as it was known, were suspended until 1946 when, once again, AARS was allowed to go back on the air.

During the years 1925 through 1942, the AARS functioned more or less as an extra curricular activity of the U.S. Army Signal Corps, its scope being necessarily limited by the meager budget of the pre-World War II depression years.



The best available figures indicate that as of the 7th of December, 1941, there were approximately 60,000 FCC licensed Amateurs within the United States and its possessions. Some 5600 of those Amateurs were members of the AARS. About 20% of the pre-World War II AARS members eventually entered the service of their country either in the Army or in a civilian capacity. The U. S. Army recognized the great importance of reactivating the AARS to train vitally needed communications personnel at a relatively inexpensive direct cost to the U.S. government. Therefore, in 1946, the AARS was reactivated and functioned as such until the creation of the Military Amateur Radio System in 1948, later renamed the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) with Army MARS and the newly formed Air Force MARS reflecting the creation of the Air Force as a separate service. In early 1963, the Navy-Marine Corps MARS was established.

Frequencies used in the Army MARS program are those assigned by the Joint Frequency Panel from U. S. government frequencies allotted to the military services. Frequencies are assigned to MARS throughout the High Frequency (HF) spectrum and selected frequencies in the VHF band. Because Amateur Radio equipment is limited to operation in the Amateur bands, minor modifications are needed to work the MARS frequencies. Many MARS frequencies lie close to the Amateur bands but never inside the Amateur frequencies.

MARS has grown in all of the services throughout the world. It relies on civilian and military MARS members to be available in case of emergency or disaster to provide communications support. At such times, MARS needs all of the support it can provide.

AIRFORCE MARS: Elmendorf AFB is once again operating an AF MARS station. The **Elmendorf Amateur Radio Society** maintains the Military Recreation Station **KL7AIR**. They now concurrently operate as **AGA9EL** as well. Functionally this gives the AF Program a fixed station for operations in Alaska. Anyone interested in getting involved in the MARS program please contact <http://www.qsl.net/kl7air/> Ron Keech at alm7bc@akmars.org.



Interested in joining us or becoming a MARS station
Contact one of the following for information:

[Bob Isbell, State Director ALM7AK](#)
[Larry Yerks, Deputy Director ALM7DAK](#)
[Rick Renaud, Administrative Officer ALM7AAK](#)
[Rod Mitchell, Emergency Operations Officer ALM7EAK](#)
[Ron Keech, Training Officer ALM7TAK](#)
[John Wolfe AA0NN, Alaska Air Force MARS](#)

ARMY MARS: <http://akmars.org/>

[Glenn Hansen, ALM7AR](#) [David Stevens, ALM7BD](#)
[Don Bush, ALM7AM](#) [Mary Mitchell, ALM7BI](#)

Alaska Navy/Marine MARS

[Howard Oakland NNN0TMI](#)

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club

Membership Application / Renewal

Membership Chairman: Fred Erickson, KL7FE
Email: Frederickson@iname.com
Phone Number: 345-2181

All annual memberships expire
on December 31st.

Mail - In Membership Application

NAME: _____ CALL SIGN: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE: _____ HOME _____
_____ WORK _____
_____ MOBILE _____

DUES:

Dues for the calendar year are as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| ◆ Individual Membership | \$12.00 (\$6.00 for each additional member at the same address) |
| ◆ Student | No Charge ¹ |
| ◆ Life Time Membership | \$250.00 ² |

I am enclosing payment for:

Subscription / Renewal for _____ year(s).

Total US Dollars Enclosed: \$_____.

Please mail your payment and completed application to:

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club

c/o: Fred Erickson, KL7FE
12531 Alpine Drive
Anchorage, AK 99516-3121

1. **STUDENT** is defined as any individual enrolled Full-Time at any educational institution, using the criteria of Full Time enrollment for that institution
2. If Over 65, please contact Membership Chairman for pro-rated rates.



ARES - Section 7, District 7 (Anchorage, ALASKA)



Mission statement:

Dedicated to amateur radio as it pertains to disaster services. The history of amateur radio operators' involvement in sending life-saving information in and out of disaster areas [and] providing help during and after earthquakes, floods, hurricanes and tornadoes. "HAM's have been there to assist local, state, and federal agencies and relief organizations such as the American Red Cross and Salvation Army." When All Else Fails, Amateur Radio.



2006 ARRL November Sweepstakes

November 18 - 19, 2006

Objective: For stations in the United States and Canada (including territories and possessions) to exchange QSO information with as many other US and Canadian stations as possible on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meter bands.

The Anchorage ARES group will be having their winter training exercise during November Sweepstakes at Kincaid Park. For more information, please contact TJ Sheffield, KL7TS; KL7TS (at) hotmail.com.

The Elmendorf Amateur Radio Society (EARS) will also be operating a November Sweepstakes Station. This is strictly an effort to get the gang together and have an EARS event from the new and improved club shack. We would like to man the shack with at least two people between the hours of Saturday, 18 November at 1200 hrs, and Sunday at 1800 hours, minus the dead times. Please drop an email or call Randy Weiss, N3JUW at 622-1292 or raliweiss@yahoo.com to volunteer. The schedule is set up in minimum 1 hour blocks with no maximum at this time. Please send your request for operation times.

Public Service

It is that time of year again when we start planning for Sled Dog Races. Time to purchase those 2007 calendars and get them pre marked with all the upcoming 2007 events. Listed below are events that local radio clubs and event coordinators will be looking for communication volunteers to support these upcoming public service events. Your participation is appreciated.

Knik200 January 6-7, 2006

Contact: KL1IL, Ray A. Hollenbeck: 373-6771
fuzz@mtaonline.net

Copper Basin January 13-16, 2007

Contact Eric Lutz elutz@crsd.k12.ak.us

Klondike300 February 17-19, 2007

Contact KL1WG Bob Morgan 892-8910
bobm1@mtaonline.net

Goosebay 120 No info at this time

Fur Rondy Sled Dog Race February 24 - 26

(We have confirmed that this is planned weather permitting) Contact:

Junior Iditarod

Contact KL7DY Richard Plack 745-5222
kl7dy@arrrl.net

IDITAROD 35 START: March 3, 2007

Contact: AL1W, Gordon Hartlieb al1w@arrrl.net

Iditarod Restart March 4, 2007

Contact KL1IL Ray A. Hollenbeck 373-6771
fuzz@mtaonline.net

ARES District 7 Contact Information

Heather Hasper, KL7SP
[KL7SP \(at\) AARRL.NET](mailto:KL7SP(at)AARRL.NET)
907-275-7474















November 2006

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club

PO BOX 101987
Anchorage, AK 99510-1987
www.KL7AA.net

ANCHORAGE ARES
DISTRICT 7 & 5
KL7AA & KL7JFU

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Parka , meets at Peggy's restaurant, 11AM Contact: Lil Marvin NL7DL, 277-6741 MARA : Matanuska Amateur Radio Club meets at Station 61 in Wasilla. Contact: Tim Comfort, NL7SK			1	2 	3  AARC Meeting 7PM	4
5	6	7	8 MARA Board Meeting 7PM	9 	10  SCRC Meeting 7PM	11 PARKA 11 AM EARS 3:00 PM 
12	13	14	15	16 	17 QRP Meeting 7PM	18  SWEEPSTAKES
19 SWEEPSTAKES	20	21 AARC Board Meeting 7PM	22	23 	24  MARA Meeting 7PM	25
26	27	28	29	30 PET Emergency 	SCRC: South Central Radio Club & QRP club meetings held at the Denny's at Bragaw and DeBarr.	

ARES NET: Thursday Nights 8:00 PM 147.27+ PL: 103.5 or 443.30+ PL 103.5

Schedule of Events



11/18 - 11/20 : November Sweepstakes

KL7AA or ARES Contact: TJ Sheffield, kl7ts@hotmail.com
EARS Station: Contact: Randy Weiss: raliweiss@yahoo.com

To add to the Calendar please contact: John Lynn at Johnlynn@gci.net

ARES NETS:

- 1st Thursday:** HT / Portable
- 2nd Thursday:** Mobile Madness
- 3rd Thursday:** RED CROSS
- 4th Thursday:** Emergency Power
- 5th Thursday:** Pet Emergency Kits

Data You Can Use:



Officers

President Jim Larsen, AL7FS president@kl7aa.net
Vice Pres. Judi Ramage, WL7DX vicepresident@kl7aa.net
Secretary: Diane Olson, KL1MY secretary@kl7aa.net
Treasurer Heather Hasper, KL7SP treasurer@kl7aa.net
Trustee Keith Clark, KL7MM trustee@kl7aa.net
Activities Chairman Vacant
News Letter Editor: Kathleen R. O'Keefe, KL7KO
Membership Chairman Fred Erickson KL7FE
membership@kl7aa.net
Past-Pres. Jim Larsen, AL7FS pastpresident@kl7aa.net

Three Year Board Members

Jim Wiley, KL7CC jwiley@alaska.net
Paul Spatzek, WL7BF Paul.Spatzek@acsalaska.net
Frank Pratt, KL7RX kl7rx@arrl.net

One Year Board Members

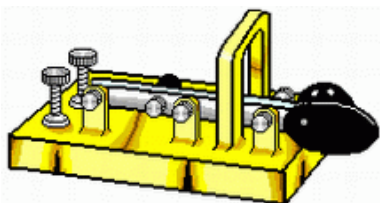
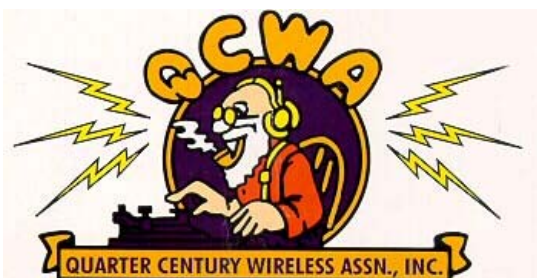
Steve Jensen - KL0VZ, jensens@acsalaska.net
Richard Kotsch - WL7CPX, richardkotsch@yahoo.com
TJ Sheffield - KL7TS, kl7ts@hotmail.com
Edward Moses - KL1KL, kl1kl@ak.net
Mike O'Keefe - KL7MD, mok@gci.net
Kathleen O'Keefe - KL7KO kok@woodscross.net
Nick Casler - KL1XD ncasler@tertiary.net
Art Morton - ALØU, Jam443@Chugach.net
Bill Reiter - KL7ITI, wwryter@cs.com

AARC web page & Email contact addresses:

Homepage: <http://www.KL7AA.net/>
Webmaster: webmaster@kl7aa.net
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



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 Nov 2006

KL7AA: Flattop Mountain 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

WL7CVG: Mount Susitna 4,396 ft
VHF: WL7CVG/R1 147.270/147.870 PL 103.5, no autopatch
UHF: WL7CVG/R3 443.300/449.300 PL 103.5, no autopatch

WL7CVF: Grubstake: Hatcher Pass 4,536 ft
VHF: WL7CVF/R1 147.330 / 147.930 PL 103.5 Hz (no patch)
UHF: WL7CVF/R3 443.900 / 448.900 PL 103.5 Hz (no patch)

KL7CC, Anchorage Hillside, SCRC & OCWA
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: 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—**KL7AX:** 146.79/19 MHz, 100 Hz PL

Anchorage IRLP - **KB8JXX:** 146.82/146.22MHz PL 103.5
6Meter: 51.65 output / 51.15 input, PL 103.5Hz
70cm **WL7CWE** 444.85/445.450 MHz PL: 103.5 Hz (Node 3400)

South Central Area Simplex Frequencies

146.52 MHz Calling and Emergency frequency
146.49 MHz Anchorage area simplex chat
146.43 MHz Mat Valley simplex chat

Nets in Alaska:

The following nets are active in South-central Alaska:

Alaska Sniper's Net 3.920 MHz 6:00 PM daily

Alaska Bush Net: 7.093 MHz 8:00 PM daily

Alaska Motley Net: 3.933 MHz 9:00 PM daily

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

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

Internet Links, the favorites from our readers:

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.haarp.alaska.edu/>

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

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

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**

Regular HAM Gatherings:

Tuesday Lunch, 11:30 AM: Denny's on Denali behind Sears. Several old timers show for this and have lots of stories to share.

Thursdays Brunch, 9:30 AM: Brunch NW corner of Debarr and Bragaw at Birch Tree Dining. 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 American Diner, at the SE corner of Arctic and International. Great Fun.

Who Do I Contact to Join AARC

Fred Erickson KL7FE

12531 Alpine Dr

Anchorage, AK 99516-3121

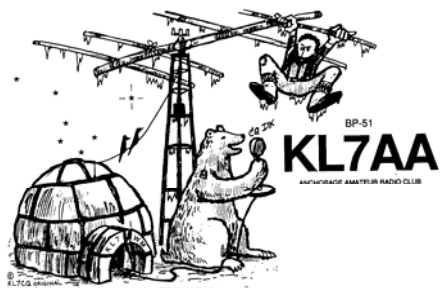
frederickson (at) iname.com

Phone number: 345-2181

Annual Dues are \$12 (prorated as appropriate)

Additional Member in same household is \$6.

Full Time Student is no charge.



MONTHLY 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 147.27+ repeater.

1st Tuesday each month (except for holidays):

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. Contact: Jim Wiley, KL7CC 338-0662.

2nd Friday each month: SCRC general meeting at 7:00 PM at Denny's on Denali Street. Talk in on 147.27+.

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

2nd Saturday each month (except for holidays):

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. Contact: Jim Wiley, KL7CC 338-0662.

2nd Saturday of each month: EARS general meeting at 3:00 PM. Meetings are held at R1 North, next scheduled meeting is Saturday, November 11, 2006 at 1500. Contact info - PO Box 7069, Elmendorf AFB 99506 or email Ron Keech, KL1PL for information. (Home) 349-2442

Email: kl7air@qth.net or ronkeech@kl1pl.us

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 meeting 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. Bring projects to share with the group. Hungry QRPers start showing up about 6PM. Info contact Jim Larsen, AL7FS, JimLarsen2002@alaska.net or 345-3190.

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

4th Saturday of each month: Valley VE Testing at 7PM. 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.

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, lelbak@yahoo.com.

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club, Inc
Post Office Box 101987
Anchorage, Alaska 99510-1987
www.kl7aa.net

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Anchorage, AK
Permit No. 69



AMATEUR RADIO

