

# Anchorage Amateur Radio Club

Radio Club Meeting, September 5th, 2008 7:00 PM, APU



**This month: Richard Block, KL7RLB** will be discussing the Anchorage Search and Rescue Team. He will also be bringing their SAR vehicle to the meeting for members to view. The SAR team received a grant from AARC in 2005. Come see where your grant money has been used to support emergency communications.

**National Preparedness Month  
KL7AA ELECTION NEWS**

## VHF PROXIMITY PINGERS NOW OFFER MORE RANGE

*By Gordon West, WB6NOA*

The next generation of VHF proximity pingers has just undergone a year of testing by ham radio operators throughout the country. What started out as a short range Part 15 asset tracking system now takes these tiny transmitters on to the 222 MHz ham band with CW id, 1 milliwatt of power into a 6 inch longer antenna, leading to 15 db improvement, yet nearly the identical size and 1 month battery life for your favorite friend's collar.

These low power proximity transmitters are the brainchild of wildlife tracking enthusiast, Spence Porter, WA6TPR, owner of Communications Specialists, Inc., in Orange, California. ([www.Comm-Spec.com](http://www.Comm-Spec.com))

For about ten years, the proximity transmitter was purposely down-powered to an abnormally short antenna to stay within Part 15 intentional radiator specs. The little transmitters were ideal for tagging small dogs, cats, or for wrist bands for kids at the park. Out in the neighborhood, these 216 MHz transmitters would go about 200 feet. Out in an open park, you might be able to receive these tiny transmitters up to 300 feet.

But as hams always wanting more range, Spence redesigned the entire proximity transmitter, added ham radio call sign capability, increased the power to 1 milliwatt, added a longer conductive thread in the pet collar antenna system and closed down the further marketing of Part 15 tags at 216 MHz.

Horrors to hams, not understanding these tags – tiny beacons on THEIR popular 222 MHz band? Not to worry – no tags are produced on the weak signal portion of the band; and there is no way that anyone with a normal FM transceiver would ever hear the interstitial frequency signals, even right on top of the tiny proximity tag.

You can't pick them up with a regular FM handheld, but balloon teams can track their payloads on 222 MHz near 95,000feet. The recovery crew can zero in on the 25 millisecond pulse nearly five miles away.

If you fly a radio controlled aircraft, these 222 MHz "pingers" may turn a lost glider into a fun T-hunt. The 50 mW signal is easily detected with a unity gain antenna, up to three miles away, much farther than you might expect an R/C to travel away from the "pilot" on the ground. Also, the 222 MHz band is far enough away from 53 MHz/70MHz R/C channels to keep from causing interference.

And for very small applications, such as tracking your Fido or furball, half milliwatt pint size transmitters are also available.

These tiny transmitters, combined with a narrow band CW channelized receiver, are a popular sideline with well known CTCSS tone boards from Communications Specialists in Orange, California. Spence Porter, WA6TPR,

Comm Spec's owner and avid ham, has been building wildlife tracking tag transmitters and receivers for over 20 years.

"If the equipment will play for two weeks, and is small enough to affix to a homing pigeon, there are plenty more applications for ham radio enthusiasts," quips Porter, showing off a variety of tiny transmitter tags intended for low power law enforcement frequencies. He also has tags with an expected range of a baseball field that could continuously stay on the air for over thirty days using the common CR 2032 button battery.

"But the hams wanted more range on frequencies within their band, so the new ham tags can run up to 10 days at 50 mW output with easy DF capabilities using our companion narrow band channelized receiver," Porter adds.

The ham tags may be ordered on any frequency from 222.000 MHz to 224.9975 MHz, in 2.5 kHz steps. The frequencies would be interstitial to repeater inputs, simplex, and other FM voice 222 MHz frequencies. The tags are generally NOT programmed for any weak signal CW/SSB portion of the 222.1 MHz band.

Each transmitter runs on its self-contained battery, and different power levels would dictate how long the transmitter operates. Some of the longer range equipment running 50 mW output will work off the larger cylindrical CR 123 batteries. Smaller size gear with a couple of mW out can run with the smaller CR 2032 lithium coin cells, running for about two weeks, and the smallest of tags, running less than a half mW output, can last for a month on this same battery.

“About 10% of the battery life is used to run the oscillator, which wakes up the processor. The rest of the juice is available for the transmitter. The unit beeps 25 ms, 50 times a minute. So the transmitter is turned on 1.25 seconds/minute. I am guessing a 20 WPM ID would be 4 seconds with a 50% duty cycle. If this ID goes out every 10 minutes, then it would add another average transmit time of 0.2 seconds. The battery life plays for about 25 days at 1 mw,” comments Mike Friese, KF6WRM, a fellow pet lover.

Pulse repetition rate is approximately once per second, with frequency held to 2 parts per million by a temperature-compensated crystal oscillator.

The pulse length at 20 milliseconds is so short that it is almost undetectable with a conventional FM receiver. The Comm Spec synthesized channelized SSB/CW receiver offers a GaAsFet front end, with so much sensitivity that you can hear the gardener’s lawnmower ten houses down the street!

The receiver uses eight pole crystal filters, tight enough to prevent swamping if you accidentally choose a frequency in between two local repeaters. Choose an interstitial channel to a repeater input, not the output.

Each tag transmitter on the 222 MHz band will also get preprogrammed with that ham’s call letters in CW. The CW id transmits automatically every 10 minutes when the transmitter is on.



#### Receiver (R-300) Specifications:

- ◆ Selectivity: 70 db down @ 4 kHz, 80 db down @ 10 kHz
- ◆ IF Filtering: 10.7 MHz 8 pole crystal filter, 455 kHz 8 pole ceramic
- ◆ Front End: dual MosFet, with 6 helical resonators, high side (eliminates de-sense from TV Channel 11 analog)
- ◆ Antenna jack: BNC, size 6.3 inches x 3.5 inches x 2.7 inches
- ◆ Frequency Coverage: 222 MHz – 224.990 MHz in 10 kHz steps
- ◆ Fine Tuning: + or – 500 Hz from channel center
- ◆ MDS Sensitivity: -150 dBm
- ◆ Attenuator: 3 step, 0 db, -30 db, -60 db
- ◆ Headphone Jack: 3.5 mm mono
- ◆ Built-in Speaker
- ◆ Battery: common 9 volt
- ◆ Weight: 19 oz
- ◆ Included Antennas: MOXON fold-up directional antenna, 5 db plus 0 db mini-directional 222 MHz rubber duck
- ◆ Channel selector: 3 position push wheel switch
- ◆ Battery test switch: On/Off
- ◆ Channel 60 – 09: 222.250 MHz – 223.290 MHz
- ◆ Channel 10 – 59: Alternate Tag 216 – 218 MHz Reception

The supplied collapsible pistol-grip MOXON rectangle is an amazing performer on this band. Simply dial in to the tag’s frequency, increase attenuation for a half-scale S meter reading, and do your 360 degree spin. The fold-up MOXON antenna will clearly point to the transmitting signal, with fewer signal strength bounces from nearby buildings. I use my DF system on a regular basis, tracking down flea-powered tags on my domestic animals around the neighborhood. One four-legged ended up in a closed garage, and another was found hiding down the street, under a house.

If you are into R/C model boats, you can dip some of the low power “pingers” in warm wax to weatherproof them. At our local county Fair, I put one of the 1 milliwatt transmitters inside a loaned 10 Grand HF rig, and I had piece of mind that I could track my equipment in case it got nabbed in the middle of the night! At ham fests, tag your harmonics (kids) and have fun T-hunting them down among the crowd. The included MOXON antenna has rounded corners so not to be a hazard like beams in a crowd.



Now comes the best part. Each individual transmitter, with your imbedded callsign, is less than \$99 each. The receiver is \$299, and includes both omni and MOXON directional antennas. The several battery options are all common drug store batteries, and there is virtually little to go wrong with the preprogrammed PLL transmitter. All sorts of range extending antenna techniques may be employed on the 222 MHz tags.

Any licensed ham radio operator with a Technician Class license, or higher, may operate these tiny proximity pingers, including the CW callsign id, to meet Part 97 rules. The pulse duration is so short that there will be absolutely no interference to FM communications.

Weak signal operators, using a sensitive SSB receiver, can tune up and out of their weak signal band, and maybe hear a tag up to a mile or two away. This is an ideal way for 222 MHz transverter operators to verify precise tuning of their equipment, and further

verify that their receiver is just as “hot” as the professional Communications Specialists portable receivers!

World famous T-hunters, like Joe Moell, K (zero) OV encourages T-hunt groups to try out hunts up on the less-crowded 222 MHz band. Joe and his T-hunters have thoroughly tried, tuned, and tested these tiny proximity transmitters and give them a “thumbs up” as one additional way to make great use of the under utilized 222 MHz ham band.

Technical questions?

Email [Sales@thecatlocator.com](mailto:Sales@thecatlocator.com)

Or check out [www.CommSpec.com](http://www.CommSpec.com) or talk directly with the inventor, Spence Porter, WA6TPR at (714) 998-3021.

Everything is made in the USA, and every one of OUR 4-legged kids has his own channel for an instant “paws report”! □



The KL7AA team ventures up the Dalton Highway to the WIAW/KL7 station. LEFT => Right Board Member, Caalex Gonzalez, KL2BT & XYL Kimi Gonzalez, KL2BQ, KL7AA club Secretary Richard Tweet, KL2AZ; Roger Gollub, WB0CMZ; Board Member, Michael O’Keefe, KL7MD; KL7AA Treasurer, Heather Hasper, KL7SP; Life Member Bruce McCormick, KL7BM and Life Member Bill Balzarini, KL7BB.

# KL7AA Club Business

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
BOARD MEETING  
August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
540 WEST INTERNATIONAL ROAD  
Anchorage, AK  
**(UNAPPROVED at Printing)**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by President Kathleen O'Keefe  
A quorum was established: (2 Officers, 7 Board members needed)

## **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

President Kathleen O'Keefe KL7KO, Vice President Jim Larsen AL7FS, Treasurer Heather Hasper KL7SP, Secretary Richard Tweet KL2AZ, Paul Spatzek WL7BF, T.J Sheffield KL7TS, Michael O'Keefe KL7MD, John Orella KL7LL, Susan Woods NL7NN, Tom Rutigliano NL7TZ

## **NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT**

Keith Clark KL7MM, Fred Erickson KL7FE

## **EXCUSED**

Calex Gonzalez KL2BT, Craig Severson KL2FN, Diane Olson KL1MY

## **UNEXCUSED**

Frank Pratt KL7RX, Mike Romanello KL7BK, Richard Kotsch WL7CPX.

## **REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS**

T.J Sheffield KL7TS – Title 21  
Jim Larsen AL7FS – MARA Grant  
Bruce McCormick KL7BM – Arctic Circle Special Event Station  
Richard Tweet KL2AZ – HughesNet Satellite Operations  
Heather Hasper KL7SP – AARC Digital Projector

## **GUESTS**

Eric Macintosh KL2FM, Bruce McCormick KL7BM, Mark Kelliher KL7TQ, Ann Rutigliano KL7TZ, Mark Kelliher KL7TQ, Sharon Kay KL7IM, Rich Gillin KL2RG

Bruce McCormick reported on the successful Arctic Circle Special Event Station operation. Bruce reported on the great teamwork on this event with the Arctic Amateur Radio Club. The setup, operation, teardown

and hauling of equipment went extremely well and thanks to all that participated.

## **SECRETARY REPORT**

Previous Board meeting minutes for the July Board meeting were presented. Motion made John Orella KL7LL, seconded Michael O'Keefe KL7MD to accept the minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously. (Note: There were no August membership minutes presented as an August membership meeting was not held)

## **CORRESPONDENCE REPORT**

Richard Tweet reported on a letter and donation from Conoco Phillips for the 2008 ARRL convention/Hamfest.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Heather Hasper KL7SP presented the financial report for month ending July 2008. Heather reported on interaction with Account Ability to date. Heather is working with them on classifications, assisting with asset questions, project management tracking. Heather reported that Account Ability has noted the AARC accounting details provided are more advanced than most firms. Gaming income for the year is about 15% down from the previous year. 2 grants requests have been received, one from MARA and one from the Alaska Mountain Rescue Group. The AMRG request will be deferred to the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. Motion made Michael O'Keefe KL7MD, seconded John Orella KL7LL to accept the Treasurers report as given. The motion carried unanimously.

## **VE REPORT**

There was no VE report as Jim Wiley KL7CC was not in attendance. Heather Hasper noted Sean Jensen KL2CO has met with Alaska Pacific University to discuss the remote testing project.

## **TRUSTEE REPORT**

Keith Clark reported that on logbook recording at recent events and the need for training to provide complete logs. Keith noted that the AARC may convert to using N1MM logging software for simplification of logs

**AMATEUR RADIO**

## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Fred Erickson reported there are currently 290 active licensed individual memberships of the total 307 AARC memberships. Fred noted that there is some confusion with proration of dues. Dues are based on a calendar year and some are sending in dues for a full year during mid year which makes tracking a problem. Heather Hasper noted that use of PayPal may simplify accounting as payments would be calculated based on the month paid. Motion made Heather Hasper KL7SP, seconded Michael O'Keefe KL7MD to transfer the PayPal account used for the 2008 Hamfest to be used for AARC membership payments. The motion carried unanimously.

## **ARES TRAINING**

September ARES training will be on Mobile Radio Installations. This training will be held on September 20<sup>th</sup> at the CCV garage beginning at 9:30am and will be a great opportunity to assist operators who need help or guidance with the installation of rigs in their vehicle(s).

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **CAPITAL PROJECTS**

T.J. Sheffield reported that the Capital Projects Committee meeting for August was cancelled and an alternate meeting night for September is needed. The committee continues to meet each Wednesday night at the CV garage to work on projects. There were no status updates for the month. Discussion was held on upcoming projects including Mt. Susitna and Grubstake repairs.

### **TITLE 21**

T.J. Sheffield reported that 5 amendments were introduced on July 29<sup>th</sup> for chapter 5 including one being a total rewrite of the chapter. The amendments were still favorable to amateur radio. Deliberation of these amendments was to occur on August 18<sup>th</sup>. Chapter 14 will be dealt with next and is currently in Planning and Zoning where the definitions of amateur radio are still favorable. T. J. noted that Ric Marvin has been attending the committee meetings in the interest of amateur radio.

### **REAL ESTATE**

Keith Clark reported on the search for available suitable vacant properties.

## **STATEWIDE CONVENTION/HAMFEST**

Heather Hasper reported on the 2008 AARL Convention/Alaska Hamfest. The event proved to be a huge success based in remarks from attendees and vendors. \$2600 was raised for the YLRL Scholarship. Heather explained the difference of gaming vs. non gaming income. The HAARP tour was well attended and received and was recommended to be an AARC club event on a reoccurring basis. The T-hunt proved to be a challenging event thanks to Randy Vallee KL7Z. Randy has offered to provide T-hunt training to the club. Heather reported she is busy sending out thank you's to speakers, sponsors and vendors who assisted with making this a very successful event. The Alaska amateur radio clubs were well represented by their members as well as attendees from several states and foreign countries. General discussion was held on frequency of future similar events, event photographs (*if anyone has photos of any the events and is willing to share, please forward to [editor@kl7aa.net](mailto:editor@kl7aa.net)*), auction, Wouf Hong ceremony (97 people participated, and certificates are being finalized and will be mailed soon). Approximately 640 people were in attendance for the convention. Heather noted that each volunteer secured their own hotel accommodations and no club funds were spent on volunteer accommodations. Ann Rutigliano reported on the opening Barbeque. The event was very successful with many people in attendance and very positive feedback. An online feedback page has been setup on the [www.AKhamfest.com](http://www.AKhamfest.com) website for attendees, vendors and guests to submit their comments to assist with the planning for future events.

## **ELECTION COMMITTEE**

Richard Tweet reported on status of the 2008 AARC Election Committee. The Call Method of counting ballots will be used for this election. The committee will post its list of candidates at the September membership meeting when additional nominations will be made from the floor. A brief discussion was held regarding the Board positions affected by term limits.

## **CONNEX DISPOSAL**

Michael O'Keefe reported that the AARC connex he is researching resale value of the unit. The unit must be moved off the Fire Department property by month's end. Motion made Jim Larsen AL7FS, seconded John Orella KL7LL, that the AARC sell the connex at market value. The motion passed unanimously.



## **REPLACEMENT TREASURER**

Heather Hasper reported that due to the inability of the AARC to find a replacement Treasurer, she would be able to fill out her term. Heather noted the need for a review by the bylaws committee as to term limits for officer positions to prevent position burnout.

## **BYLAWS COMMITTEE DISCUSSION**

A discussion was held by the Board on the need for a bylaws review and /or rewrite. Jim Larsen suggested a group be formed to discuss the AARC bylaws. The Board agreed to have the committee consist of Jim Larsen AL7FS, Heather Hasper KL7SP, Richard Tweet KL2AZ, Michael O'Keefe KL7MD and Bruce McCormick KL7BM.

## **GUEST VISITORS**

Will Johnson KL7KT, a local HughesNet distributor and Guy Horton, vice president of Hughes Communications Inc. visited the Board meeting for a brief question and answer session with the Board. Will provided a HughesNet high speed satellite internet service at the recent Arctic Circle Special Event Station for club use and is also providing the service at the Alaska State Fair Amateur Radio Amateur Radio booth. Both installations are being provided free of charge for club assessment. HughesNet will be providing a Certified Installer Course in late September for those interested in becoming certified in the installation of this service.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **GRANTS**

A grant request from the Matanuska Amateur Radio Association was presented. The request is for \$569.19 for the replacement of a power supply to include battery, power supply and associated wiring. Motion made Heather Hasper KL7SP, seconded Paul Spatzek WL7BF to approve the request as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

### **BOARD MEMBER RESIGNATION**

Diane Olson KL1MY submitted her resignation to the Board President, Kathleen O'Keefe. Kathleen O'Keefe requested the Secretary to contact the individual receiving next highest vote count in the last election to see if the individual was interested in completing Diane's term. The Board will conduct an electronic vote on approval when a candidate is found.

## **PROGRAM FOR AUGUST MEETING**

There was no report as Richard Kotsch WL7CPF was not available. Discussion noted the need to contact Richard Block to confirm his availability to present for the September membership meeting.

## **APPROVALS, KL7AA IN THE NEXT MONTH**

None

## **ALASKA STATE FAIR**

Setup for the Fair was held on August 16<sup>th</sup>. Teardown will be on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. Contact John Lynn KL7CY to volunteer. Technician, General and Extra class training manuals and tapes will be available for purchase at the Fair this year. Discussion noted a Technician level training class will begin on September 8<sup>th</sup>. This training will be held on Monday and Wednesday nights at the Red Cross Headquarters Building from 6:30pm to 9pm until October 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **PROJECTOR**

Heather Hasper requested that the AARC digital projector be stored in the CCV garage facility in a locked area. This is requested as now we have a permanent facility and the projector has been needed on several occasions and until now did not have a permanent home and had been kept secure by Board members. The Board agreed and a sign out sheet will be made available.

## **CCV GARAGE ALARM**

A need for further CCV garage facility security alarm training is needed as noted by the recent false alarm at the facility. False alarm charges to the AARC by the Municipality were explained.

## **MOA EMERGENCY FAIR**

This fair will be held at the Loussac Library on September 6<sup>th</sup> from 11am to 5pm. AARC will have a display to promote and display amateur radio operations including satellite communications and IRLP.

## **MS150 BICYCLE RACE**

Heather Hasper noted the need for volunteers for this race from the Hope cutoff to Seward and return. This race will be held on September 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. Contact [KL7SP@arrl.net](mailto:KL7SP@arrl.net) to volunteer for this event.



## ASD EMERGENCY EXERCISE

The Anchorage School District will be holding an Emergency Exercise on October 4<sup>th</sup>. This coincides with the ARRL SET annual exercise and the ASD wishes to include amateur radio operators in this exercise. Contact Heather Hasper at [KL7SP@arrl.net](mailto:KL7SP@arrl.net) to volunteer for this exercise. Michael O'Keefe noted discussion with the Anchorage School District to provide amateur radio emergency communications for the Anchorage School District for 23 congregate care facilities.

## AARC CCV HF ANTENNA

Discussion noted the need for mobile HF antenna capability for the CCV. Mark Kelliher noted the HI-Q antenna sent to the Alaska Hamfest is available for purchase at a reduced cost. Motion made Michael O'Keefe, seconded Heather Hasper KL7SP that the AARC purchase the noted antenna, pending approval by the AARC Capital Project Committee, to be installed on the CCV as appropriate. Motion carried unanimously.

## CORRESPONDENCE

T.J. Sheffield presented a thank you letter from the Alaska Special Olympics for participation in the recent 10k Classic.

## ADJOURNMENT

Motion made Michael O'Keefe KL7MD, seconded Jim Larsen AL7FS to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:40pm.

Respectfully submitted as recorded on 8/19/08 by  
Richard Tweet, Secretary



## 2008 AARC Election Committee Report

Your election committee has held 2 meetings in preparation for the upcoming election in October. We have finalized the counting procedure/process for this election utilizing the Call Process.

This committee encourages members to get involved with their organization and to help direct the future of amateur radio by being nominated for positions on the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club Board of Directors.

We have the following positions up for election this year.

- ⇒ President (2 Year term)
- ⇒ Vice-President (2 Year term)
- ⇒ Treasurer (2 Year term)
- ⇒ Secretary (2 Year term)
- ⇒ Activities Manager (1 Year term)
- ⇒ 3 year Board position (1)
- ⇒ 1 year Board Positions \*

\*(8 positions open, 7 if the current President's chooses to fill the Past Presidents position)

The Election Committee will, as required by the by-laws, present a list of candidates who have indicated a desire to be placed on the ballot to the membership at the September membership meeting, where additional nominations may then be made from the floor by AARC members and must receive 2 seconds and have the nominee's consent. The September meeting will be held on the 5<sup>th</sup> of September at the APU meeting location at 7pm.

Per the Rules of Procedure. **Only members in good standing as of the close of the September Member Meeting shall vote.** Ballots are mailed to each member paid in full by 10/01/08 whose address of record is within the state of Alaska. Watch for your ballots in the mail in early October and remember all completed ballots must be received by October 31st. If you do not have a current membership, please see Fred Erickson, KL7FE at the September meeting to renew or renew your membership by mail.

Thank you for your participation and good luck to those seeking office this term!

# KL7AA ELECTION:

## AARC Election of Officers and Directors

### ARTICLE VI PROCEDURE FOR THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

The Voting Members shall elect the officers and directors of the corporation by majority vote by submitting written ballots designating their choice of officers and directors prior to October 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. The procedure for election of the officers and directors shall be as follows:

Nominations. The Election Committee shall nominate individuals for the open officer and director positions at the regular meeting of the members in September. Members of the corporation may also nominate individuals to run for election as officers and/or directors at the September meeting. Such nominations must be seconded by two members and have the nominee's consent.

Eligibility. A member may not hold two elected offices concurrently.

Distribution of Ballots. The Secretary shall prepare and distribute one ballot to elect officers and directors to each Voting Member whose address of record is within the state of Alaska on or before October 1<sup>st</sup>. Voting Members shall not be permitted to vote by proxy.

Return of Ballots. Completed ballots must be returned to the Secretary on or before October 31<sup>st</sup> to be counted.

Tabulation. The Secretary shall present the sealed ballots to the Election Committee to open and tabulate.

Results. The Election Committee shall determine the results of the election and announce the new officers and directors at the November regular meeting of the members. In the event of a tie, resolution shall be decided by a coin toss.

### Timetable

#### **Anchorage Amateur Radio Club Rules of Procedure**

#### **Paragraph III: Elections**

**Section A:** Election of Corporation officers and Directors shall be by written secret ballot.

**Section B:** Nominations, election procedures, and timing of the elections shall be as follows:

July 15, 2008 - AARC Board Meeting. The election committee of Heather Hasper KL7SP, Craig Severson KL2FN, Eric McIntosh KL2FM, Paul Spatzek WL7BF, Calex Gonzalez KL2BT, Diane Olson and Richard Tweet KL2AZ was established with Richard Tweet as Chair.

August 1, 2008 - The election committee will be announced to the membership. Committee Chairman will address members on the procedures and timetable. This will be done via the AARC newsletter as approved by AARC Board of Directors as there will not be a membership meeting in August.

September 5, 2008 - Membership meeting. Election committee presents slate of candidates to the members. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor. After receipt of additional nominations, if any, nominations will be closed.

October - The Secretary shall prepare and distribute, by mail or otherwise, one ballot to elect officers and directors to each eligible member, as defined in the Bylaws, on or before October 1<sup>st</sup>. Ballots must be returned to arrive by October 31<sup>st</sup>.

November 7, 2008 - Membership meeting. Prior to the meeting, the Election Committee shall count ballots and determine the result of the election. In the event of a tie, the winner shall be determined by a coin toss. At the meeting, the Chairman of the Election Committee shall announce the new Officers and Directors.

November and December 2008. The newly elected Officers and Directors attend Board meetings as non-voting participants.

January 20, 2008. Newly elected Officers and Directors assume duties as of January 1

**Section C:** Election of Officers shall be by majority vote of members voting.

**Section D:** Only members in good standing as of the close of the September Member Meeting shall vote. The Membership Chairman shall notify the Secretary, prior to October 1, of the members eligible to vote.

**Section E:** Only ballots received by October 31<sup>st</sup> shall be counted. Ballots shall be delivered to the Secretary, by mail or otherwise, and submitted by the Secretary to the Election Committee.



# 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.

## Public Service Events:

**WHAT:** MS 150 BIKE RACE

**WHERE:** Bike from HOPE to SEWARD

**WHEN:** SEPT 6 & 7, 2008

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

To Volunteer, contact Heather, KL7SP; 275-7474 or by email: kl7sp@arrl.net



## Emergency Preparedness Fair

In honor of national preparedness month, the Municipality of Anchorage will be hosting an emergency preparedness day on SATURDAY, SEPT 6, 2008 at the LOUSSAC LIBRARY starting at 11AM. KL7AA will have a booth in place at the event and volunteers are needed to promote amateur radio and our role when disaster strikes and all else fails. This is also a great time to recruit potential students for the ham radio class starting the

following Monday at the American Red Cross office. For more information or to volunteer, contact KL2RG Rich Gillin for more information and schedule. kl2rg@arrl.net



## SEPTEMBER ARES TRAINING

September 20, 2008

### Learn how to install mobile radios!

If you were fortunate to purchase a new or used mobile radio at the hamfest or perhaps you have had a radio that you have wanted to install but did not know how to. Well here is your opportunity. Sure everybody gets cold feet about drilling holes in your vehicle, but that is not always necessary or the right option for your specific vehicle. We will discuss grounding, how to go through firewalls, how to wire your radio so not to drain your battery, antenna mounting techniques and if you do want to drill holes in your roof and install NMO mounts or other mounts we will have many NMO mounts available for you to choose from.

We will meet at the normal time, 0930 at the KL7AA shack at 5923 Rowan Street off of Dowling Road.

The ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Program, was approved by the ARRL Board in January 2000. Volunteers from all over the country assisted in pulling together information for the course. Because the topic of emergency communications is so diversified and so much information is available, the material is broken into three levels: [Introductory](#), [Intermediate](#) and [Advanced Emergency Communications \(Levels I, II and III\)](#).

Each on-line course has been developed in segments -- learning units with objectives, informative text, student activities, and quizzes. Courses are interactive and include direct communications with a Mentor/Instructor and other students.

Check out: <http://www.arrl.org/cee/> for more information.

### ARES District 7 Contact Information

Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD

[DEC7 at kl7aa.net](http://DEC7.at.kl7aa.net)



# Silent Key Earl Plumb - KL7EQX



Pioneer Alaskan Earl R. Plumb, 92, died July 31, 2008, at his home in Anchorage. A celebration of life for Earl and his wife Freddy was held at the Pioneers of Alaska Hall at 612 F St. Friends and neighbors attended and shared memories of Earl and Freddy. Earl Plumb was born Dec. 28, 1915, in Buffalo, N.Y., to Les

and Jewel Plumb. In his childhood, Earl traveled with his parents from Buffalo, N.Y., to Canada, Florida and Washington while his parents searched for a place that was right for their family.

They came to Alaska via steamship, arriving in Seward on Sept. 20, 1929. At 15, Earl worked in McKinley Park driving a baggage truck. He came to Anchorage the following year to attend school and graduated from Anchorage High School in 1936.

Earl was fascinated by radio and attended radio school in Los Angeles. By 1938, he was a licensed radio operator for the Federal Communications Commission and was working for the Alaska Railroad as a radio operator and freight clerk on the riverboat Nenana. He also worked on the Alice as a purser and bonded mail clerk responsible for gold shipments. He and his father were interested in aviation and owned several airplanes and a Cessna dealership over the years. He flew with Alaska pioneer aviators Noel Wien and Joe Crosson.

While working in Nenana he met Frieda

**The MODULATION TIMES** is the monthly newsletter of the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club, published by and for its members. The entire contents of this newsletter are copyright 2008 by the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club.

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"Freddy" Bruderlin at a dance. They married in 1941 and spent 65 years building their lives together and raising a family.

During World War II, Earl served his country by working for the FCC radio intelligence at the Anchorage monitoring station. They raised their three children in Anchorage and lived on H Street for more than 40 years. Earl began his electrical career as a journeyman wireman and was an IBEW Local 1547 member. He served on the examining board and as an election judge for the union. He worked on construction projects all over the state. Earl retired in 1979, remaining a staunch union supporter all his life.

He pursued his interest in radio beyond his riverboat days as a ham radio operator - KL7EQX. He and his wife enjoyed fishing and touring the state in their RV. He was a member of the Pioneers of Alaska Igloo No. 15. Earl also enjoyed remembering the days before statehood and adventures he shared with his family and friends through the state's pioneer years.

He was known to all as a modest man, with a kind and friendly nature, and for his devotion to his wife and family.

Earl is survived by his daughters, Laurie Adams and Linda and son-in-law Joe Flores; son, Roger Plumb and daughter-in-law Marlene Beam Plumb; grandchildren, Charles Smith, John Buckley and Kristal Buckley; great-grandchildren, Sierra, Mariah and Misty; sister-in-law, Mary Delaney and brother-in-law, Jim Verhaeghe, all of Alaska.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Freddy Plumb; and son-in-law, Stan Adams.

Earl was one of the longest surviving members of KL7AA. He had been a member since 1949. The Anchorage Amateur Radio Club sends our condolences to his family for their loss.

# Ham Radio Class

## Now Forming

As a Licensed Ham Radio Operator You Get To:

- Serve Your Community
- Talk To Other Hams On The Radio
- Meet New Friends
- Have Your Own Individual Callsign



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The **Anchorage Amateur Radio Club, KL7AA** will be holding a 4 week course where **YOU** will learn everything you need to earn your entry level FCC **Amateur Radio** license and begin to **talk on the radio with other hams** in the area.

Classes Begin on **September 8, 2008** at **6:00 PM**  
Pre-Registration is required to order materials.

**WHEN: Monday & Wednesday Evenings (6:00 - 9:00PM)**  
**SEPTEMBER 8, 2008 – OCTOBER 1, 2008**

**WHERE: American Red Cross of Alaska, Anchorage Office**  
235 E 8th Avenue, Anchorage, AK

For more information please contact:  
Michael O'Keefe: (907) 351-4038  
E-mail: [instructor@kl7aa.net](mailto:instructor@kl7aa.net)





# Data You Can Use:



## 2007 Board of Directors

**President:** Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO [president at kl7aa.net](http://www.kl7aa.net)

**Vice Pres:** Jim Larsen, AL7FS [vicepresident at kl7aa.net](http://www.kl7aa.net)

**Secretary:** Richard Tweet, KL2AZ [secretary at kl7aa.net](http://www.kl7aa.net)

**Treasurer:** Heather Hasper, KL7SP [treasurer at kl7aa.net](http://www.kl7aa.net)

### Activities Chairman:

Richard Kotsch, WL7CPX [activities at kl7aa.net](http://www.kl7aa.net)

**Trustee:** Keith Clark, KL7MM [trustee at kl7aa.net](http://www.kl7aa.net)

### Membership Chairman:

Fred Erickson, KL7FE [membership at kl7aa.net](http://www.kl7aa.net)

### News Letter Editor:

Heather Hasper, KL7SP [editor at kl7aa.net](http://www.kl7aa.net)

### Three Year Board Members

Frank Pratt, KL7RX kl7rx at arrl.net (3rd year)

Paul Spatzek, WL7BF Paul.Spatzek at acsaskala.net (2nd Year)

Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD mok at gci.net (1st Year)

### One Year Board Members

Diane Olson, KL1MY, oldwoman\_69 at hotmail.com

TJ Sheffield - KL7TS, kl7ts at arrl.net

Craig Severson - KL2FN, chipman at clearwire.net

John Orella: KL7LL, kl7ll at arrl.net

Susan Woods: NL7NN, NL7NN4606 at yahoo.com

Richard Block: KL7RLB, kl7rlb at clearwire.net

Tom Rutigliano, NL7TZ, tomr at alaska.net

Mike Romanello, KL7BK, kl7bk at mtaonline.net

### AARC web page & Email contact addresses:

**Homepage:** <http://www.KL7AA.net/>

**Webmaster:** [webmaster at kl7aa.net](mailto:webmaster@kl7aa.net)

**Membership:** [membership at kl7aa.net](http://www.kl7aa.net)

**Newsletter:** [editor at kl7aa.net](mailto:editor@kl7aa.net)

### News Letter Submissions, Information or corrections:

Submissions must be received 2 weeks before meeting

Email: [editor at kl7aa.net](mailto: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 Feb 28, 2007

#### KL7AA: Flattop Mountain 2,200 ft

146.94/34 MHz, 80 watts, auto-patch, 141.3 Hz PL

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

444.70/449.70, 25 watts, auto-patch, 103.5 PL

#### WL7CVG: Mount Susitna 4,396 ft

VHF: WL7CVG/R1 147.270/147.870 PL 103.5, no auto-patch

UHF: WL7CVG/R3 443.300/448.300 PL 103.5, no auto-patch

#### 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)

#### KL7ION at Mt. Gordon Lyon: PARKA 3,940 ft

147.30 / 147.90, MHz - 80 watts, no patch, 141.3 Hz PL

KL7AIR Elmendorf AFB: EARS: 146.67/146.07, 107.2 Hz PL

#### WL7CWE: Cliffside Amateur Radio Association

#### KL7CC, Anchorage Hillside, SCRC & QCWA

146.97/37 MHz, 30 watts, auto-patch, 103.5 Hz PL

#### KL7M Anchorage Hillside

147.21 / 147.81 MHz, on IRLP, 97.4 Hz PL

KL5E Chugiak: 147.15/147.75, 123.0 Hz PL, auto-patch

KL7JFU, KGB road, MARA: 146.85/146.25, auto-patch, 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 / 146.16 MHz, 25 watts, no patch, 97.4 Hz PL

KL7AX: South Anchorage IRLP - 146.79/ 146.19 MHz, 100 Hz PL

#### WL7CWE Anchorage IRLP

2 Meter: 146.82/146.22MHz PL 103.5

6 Meter: 51.65 output / 51.15 input, PL 103.5Hz

70 cm: 444.85/449.850 MHz PL: 103.5 Hz (Node 3400)

#### South Central Area Simplex Frequencies

146.52 MHz Calling and Emergency frequency

147.57 MHz National DX Calling / Coordinating frequency

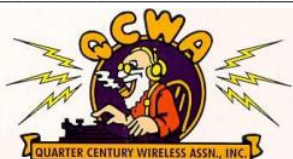
146.49 MHz Anchorage area simplex chat

146.43 MHz Mat-Su Valley simplex chat

147.42 MHz Peninsula simplex chat

## Nets in Alaska:

The following nets are active in South-Central Alaska:



### HF

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

Thursdays at 8:00 PM local

**Alaska Bush Net:** 7.093 MHz 8:00 PM daily

**Alaska Motley Net:** 3.933 MHz 9:00 PM daily

**ACWN (Alaska CW Net)** 3534, 7042 Daily @ 0700 -1000,

Net Purpose: Formal NTS traffic via CW.

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

**ERC HF Net:** 3.880 MHz - Sunday 8:30PM local



### VHF

**ARES Net:** 147.27/87 103.5Hz -

**PARKA Net** 147.30/90, 141.3 HZ Thursdays at 7:00 PM local

**No Name Net:** 146.85/.25 repeater Sundays 8:00 PM and 1900 - 2400 Alaska Time - AL7N or KL5T monitoring.

**Alaska VHF Up Net:** 144.200 USB Saturdays 9:00 AM local

**Big City Simplex Net:** 146.520, 446.0, 52.320 FM, 29.6 FM 28.400 USB

**Grandson of SSB Net:** 144.20 USB Mondays 8:00 PM local

**Statewide LINK ARES Net:** 147.27/87 103.5Hz

## Internet Links, the favorites from our readers:

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

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

EARS <http://www.kl7air.us>

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

Moose Horn ARC <http://www.moosehornarc.com>

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

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

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

ALASKA MARS: <http://www.akmars.org>

Alaska VHF-Up Group: <http://www.kl7uw.com/avg.htm>

Bethel Amateur Radio Klub: <http://www.al7yk.org/>

Yukon Amateur Radio Association:

<http://www.klondike.com/yara/index.html>

### Links for Propagation

<http://www.harp.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](mailto: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 about amateur radio in Alaska.

**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 Northeast corner of Arctic and International. Great Fun.

### Who Do I Contact to Join AARC

Fred Erickson KL7FE

12531 Alpine Dr

Anchorage, AK 99516-3121

E-mail: [membership \(at\) kl7aa.net](mailto:membership(at)kl7aa.net)

Phone number: 345-2181

Annual Dues are \$12 (prorated as appropriate)

Additional Member in same household is \$6.

Full Time Student is no charge.

Ask about Life Memberships



## MONTHLY EVENTS

**1<sup>st</sup> 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.

**1<sup>st</sup> 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.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday each month: PARKA Meeting at 11:00 AM.** Polar Amateur Radio Klub of Alaska. All amateurs welcome. Denny's on Denali Street in Anchorage. Talk in on 147.30+.

**2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each Quarter month: EARS general meeting at 3:00 PM.** EARS meetings are held formally each Quarter during the first month: Jan, April, July, and October. Meetings are held informally each month at R1 North. Contact info - PO Box 6079, Elmendorf AFB 99506 or email Ron Keech, KL7YK for information. EARS: 552-2664 (recording); Talk in on 146.67-. Email: [KL7AIR@arrl.net](mailto:KL7AIR@arrl.net) or [KL7YK@arrl.net](mailto:KL7YK@arrl.net)

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

**3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday each month: ARES General meeting 9:30AM to 12:00 PM.** Call Michael O'Keefe, ANC DEC: [dec@kl7aa.net](mailto:dec@kl7aa.net) HM: 243-4675 for additional information. Also check for ARES Info at: <http://www.qsl.net/aresalaska/>

**4<sup>th</sup> 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 Tim Comfort, NL7SK, [NL7SK at arrl.net](mailto:NL7SK@arrl.net).

# AARC BADGES

## KL7AA BADGES are AVAILABLE!

The badge comes with your Name and Callsign engraved, the club logo on an arch 3 inch dome as well as the option of purchasing individual name plates for each position you have served for AARC. If you are interested in purchasing an AARC badge, the costs is \$20.00 per member for each badge and \$2.00 per customized name plate. Badges have the option of a pin or magnet attachment.

For more information about this project or to order your badge today in time for the convention and outdoor public activities, please contact Michael O'Keefe, KI7MD at 907-351-4038 or via email at: [mok@gci.net](mailto:mok@gci.net).

When ordering, please indicate your name, Callsign and if you wish to have any additional name plates added.

Orders take approximately 10 days for printing and our made locally in Anchorage. Thanks to Frank Pratt, KL7RX for helping us track these down. Also thanks to KI7MD for picking up this project.



### Are you a member of ARRL?



ARRL is the American Radio Relay League. This is the national organization that advocates on behalf of amateur radio operators to the FCC and the communications industry. **KL7AA** has been an ARRL affiliated club for more than 50 years. Consider becoming a member of ARRL today. [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)

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**News Letter Submissions, Information or corrections:** Submissions must be received 2 weeks before meeting Email: [editor@kl7aa.net](mailto:editor@kl7aa.net)  
Mail: PO BOX 101987, Anchorage, AK 99510-1987

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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.

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**OPINIONS** expressed in The Modulation Times are not necessarily those of the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club. **MEMBERS** and **non-members** are invited to submit articles of interest. AARC assumes no responsibility for contributed items or their return without a self addressed stamped envelope. Sources of the items must be provided and ALL material is subject to editing required to conform to space limitations.



# CLUB COATS

With a removable liner, lots of pockets, and waterproof, 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. 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. Must have a current club membership.

If you are interested in ordering a coat, a sign up sheet will be available at the club meeting or feel free to contact Craig Severson, KL2FN; [chipman@clearwire.net](mailto:chipman@clearwire.net)



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# Anchorage Amateur Radio Club

## Membership Application / Renewal

Membership Chairman: Fred Erickson, KL7FE  
Email: [membership@kl7aa.net](mailto:membership@kl7aa.net)  
Phone Number: 345-2181

**All annual memberships expire  
on December 31<sup>st</sup>.**

Mail - In Membership Application

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CALL SIGN: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ HOME \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ WORK \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ MOBILE \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of ARRL?

YES \_\_\_\_\_

NO \_\_\_\_\_



**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<sup>1</sup>
- ◆ Life Time Membership \$250.00<sup>2</sup>

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.

# THE MODULATION TIMES

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club, Inc  
Post Office Box 101987  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510-1987  
[www.kl7aa.net](http://www.kl7aa.net)

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*ARRL Affiliated  
Club for more  
than 50 years*

## AMATEUR RADIO



HAM Operators visiting the HAARP facility north of Glenallen after the ARRL Alaska Convention.

IOTA DXpedition, KL7DX, Bernie, KB8QBR and our own, KL2GY, the voice of amateur radio.

