

# Anchorage Amateur Radio Club

Next Meeting January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2009, 7:00 PM



## PLASMA TV

For the past 75 years, the vast majority of televisions have been built around the same technology: the cathode ray tube (CRT). In a CRT television, a gun fires a beam of electrons (negatively-charged particles) inside a large glass tube. The electrons excite phosphor atoms along the wide end of the tube (the screen), which causes the phosphor atoms to light up. The television image is produced by lighting up different areas of the phosphor coating with different colors at different intensities.

Cathode ray tubes produce crisp, vibrant images, but they do have a serious drawback: They are bulky. In order to increase the screen width in a CRT set, you also have to increase the length of the tube (to give the scanning electron gun room to reach all parts of the screen). Consequently, any big-screen CRT television is going to weigh a ton and take up a sizable chunk of a room.

A new alternative has popped up on store shelves: the plasma flat panel display. These televisions have wide screens, comparable to the largest CRT sets, but they are only about 6 inches (15 cm) thick.

A standard television or monitor is based on the information in a video signal, the television lights up thousands of tiny dots (called pixels) with a high-energy beam of electrons. In most systems, there are three pixel colors -- red, green and blue -- which are evenly distributed on the screen. By combining these colors in different proportions, the television can produce the entire color spectrum.

The basic idea of a plasma display is to illuminate tiny, colored fluorescent lights to form an image. Each pixel is made up of three fluorescent lights -- a red light, a green light and a blue light. Just like a CRT television, the plasma display varies the intensities of the different lights to produce a full range of colors.

### What is plasma?

The central element in a fluorescent light is a plasma, a gas made up of free-flowing ions (electrically charged atoms) and electrons (negatively charged particles). Under normal conditions, a gas is mainly made up of uncharged particles. The individual gas atoms include equal numbers of protons (positively charged particles in the atom's nucleus) and electrons. The negatively charged electrons perfectly balance

the positively charged protons, so the atom has a net charge of zero.

If you introduce many free electrons into the gas by establishing an electrical voltage across it, the situation changes very quickly. The free electrons

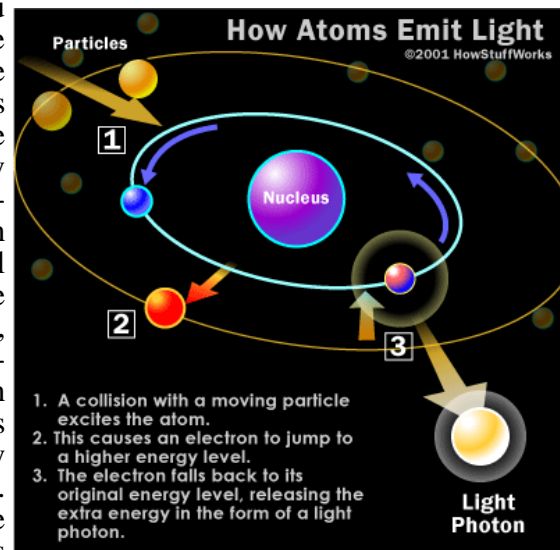
collide with the atoms, knocking loose other electrons. With a missing electron, an atom loses its balance. It has a net positive charge, making it an ion.

In a plasma with an electrical current running through it, negatively charged particles are rushing toward the positively charged area of the plasma, and positively charged particles are rushing toward the negatively charged area.

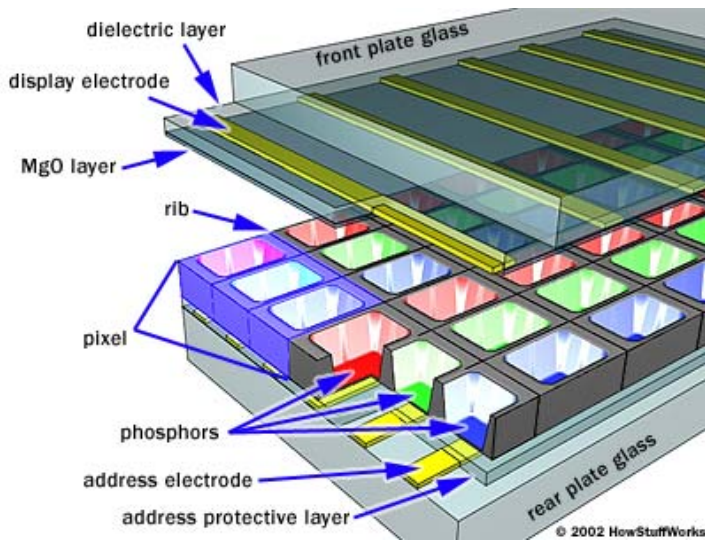
In this mad rush, particles are constantly bumping into each other. These collisions excite the gas atoms in the plasma, causing them to release photons of energy.

Xenon and neon atoms, the atoms used in plasma screens, release light photons when they are excited. Mostly, these atoms release ultraviolet light photons, which are invisible to the human eye. But ultraviolet photons can be used to excite visible light photons.

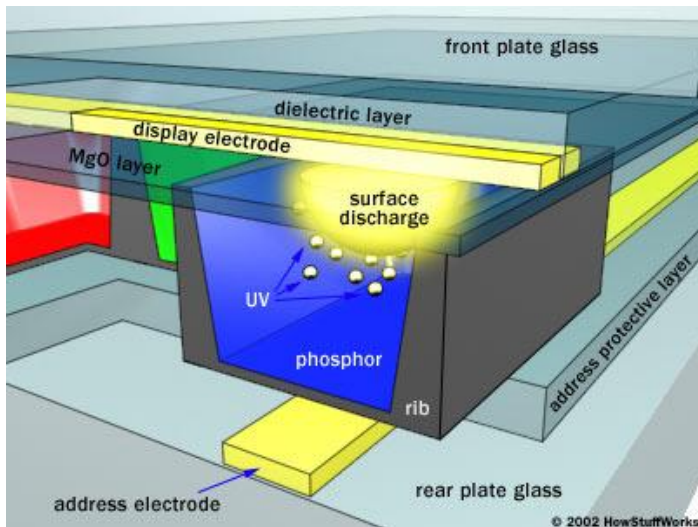
The xenon and neon gas in a plasma television is contained in hundreds of thousands of tiny cells positioned between two plates of glass. Long electrodes are also sandwiched between the glass plates, on both sides of the cells. The address electrodes sit behind the cells, along the rear glass plate. The transparent display electrodes, which are surrounded by an insulating dielectric material and covered by a magnesium oxide protective layer, are mounted above the cell, along the front glass plate.



Both sets of electrodes extend across the entire screen. The display electrodes are arranged in horizontal rows along the screen and the address electrodes are arranged in vertical columns. As you can see in the diagram below, the vertical and horizontal electrodes form a basic grid.



To ionize the gas in a particular cell, the plasma display's computer charges the electrodes that intersect at that cell. It does this thousands of times in a small fraction of a second, charging each cell in turn.



When the intersecting electrodes are charged (with a voltage difference between them), an electric current flows through the gas in the cell. As we saw in the last section, the current creates a rapid flow of charged particles, which stimulates the gas atoms to release ultraviolet photons.

The released ultraviolet photons interact with phosphor material coated on the inside wall of the cell. Phosphors are substances that give off light when they are exposed to other light. When an ultraviolet photon hits a phosphor atom in the cell, one of the phosphor's electrons jumps to a higher energy level and the atom heats up. When the electron falls back

to its normal level, it releases energy in the form of a visible light photon.

The phosphors in a plasma display give off colored light when they are excited. Every pixel is made up of three separate subpixel cells, each with different colored phosphors. One subpixel has a red light phosphor, one subpixel has a green light phosphor and one subpixel has a blue light phosphor. These colors blend together to create the overall color of the pixel.

By varying the pulses of current flowing through the different cells, the control system can increase or decrease the intensity of each subpixel color to create hundreds of different combinations of red, green and blue. In this way, the control system can produce colors across the entire spectrum.

The main advantage of plasma display technology is that you can produce a very wide screen using extremely thin materials. And because each pixel is lit individually, the image is very bright and looks good from almost every angle. The image quality isn't quite up to the standards of the best cathode ray tube sets, but it certainly meets most people's expectations.

The biggest drawback of this technology has been the price. However, falling prices and advances in technology mean that the plasma display may soon edge out the old CRT sets.

Many of the first plasma displays on the market weren't technically televisions, because they didn't have TV tuners. The television tuner is the device that takes a television signal (the one coming from a cable wire, for example) and interprets it to create a video image.

Like LCD monitors, these plasma displays were just monitors that display a standard video signal. To watch television on them, you had to hook them up to a separate unit that has its own television tuner, such as a VCR. Today, most of the plasma-screen devices you can buy at electronics stores are TVs and have digital television tuners.

### TV Goes Digital

The term "digital TV" is used in many different ways right now, depending on who you are talking to. There is also the term "HDTV," which is the most advanced form of digital TV in use in the United States. The reason it gets confusing is because digital TV in the U.S. combines three different ideas, Digital Signal, Aspect Ratio and Digital Compression.

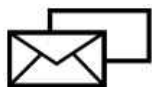
The type of signal, format and aspect ratio have all changed in the process of converting from analog TV to digital TV in the United States.□

## VOLUNTEERS BEHIND THE SCENES

The KL7AA station is available for training in HF operations. Learn from an experienced HF operator about propagation, voice and morse code modes as well as best practices and legal operations. The station is fully integrated with a PC and soundcard to operate in many digital modes. There are weekly contests to participate in even if just helping Hams all over the world gain points and multipliers to win awards.

Your club station is quite capable and has great ears. Club operators have made many QSO's with all modes on all continents. Recent activities have seen SSTV QSO with New Zealand, hearing a Fallujah Iraq operator on PSK, a 15 meter contact to Peru during the CQ WW Phone contest. Common contacts are made with the lower 48 states and Caribbean, Canada, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, China, Russia and islands in the Pacific.

Take advantage of this unique benefit! Arrange a session by contacting (ELMER) to meet at the KL7AA station on Rowan Street.



### *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:  
<http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/kl7aa>

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

Step #3: Pick a password for your account and enter it in the box marked "Pick a password" and then enter the same password in the box marked "Reenter password to confirm". This password will be used to change your settings on the list such as digest mode, etc.

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

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



### **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** is an ARRL affiliated club with more than 50 years. Consider becoming a member of ARRL today.

For more information about the ARRL DXCC Program check out: <http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/>

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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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The Alaska Hamfest and the Arctic Circle W1AW/KL7 special event station were mentioned twice during the presentations at the second Asia Pacific DX Conference (APDXC) held in Osaka, Japan Nov. 7, 8 & 9. I shared a hotel room with another ham from New Zealand, whom I had talked on the radio during the CQ SSB contest. He and I got to the conference hotel a day early and walked to the Osaka Castle. It had been rebuilt with concrete after the previous version of the castle had burned. It is now a museum, and pretty interesting. About 70 hams attended the conference from: Japan, USA, Australia, New Zealand, China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Brazil, Italy, Russia and maybe another country or two that I forgot. One of the hams was KL7YL, Vivien, who got the call in the normal rotation when she was in Anchorage. She now lives in Minnesota with her husband W0GJ

The first day of the conference was a tour of the Icom radio factory that was for non Japanese only. This was a 1.5 hour bus ride from the conference hotel. The Icom factory has 10 assembly lines where all of their radios and electronics are built. The quickest they can shift an assembly line to a different type of radio is five minutes. The automated circuit board assembly machines, take components from tape reels. Everything from grain of sand size diodes to small integrated circuits are delivered on mylar tape spool cartridges. The robot picks items off the tape on places the items on the circuit board that has been wiped with solder paste. Once all surface mount items have been stuck on, the entire board is heated and soldered.



*Machine assembling circuit board from components on Mylar tap cartridges.*



*One of the ten Icom assembly lines.*

The boards are placed in racks that are delivered by robot carts to the correct position on the assembly lines. After the factory tour the bus drove back to the Icom headquarters in Osaka where we met Icom's founder, Mr. Tokuzo Inoue, JE3FA, as he introduced the IC-7600 that should be delivered for sale next year. He had Icom's chief hardware engineer, chief of software programming, and marketing leader. They had a lengthy and detailed Power Point presentation of the IC-7600 with detailed specifications. JA3FA then asked for our comments, and there was a two hour question and answer session, that sometime was almost an interrogation as different hams asked about different details. Like many new Icom radios, the IC-7600 is very voltage sensitive, and transmission cuts out entirely at 11.7 volts. I asked why their new radios couldn't be designed to run down to lower voltages, especially when we often operate them directly from batteries in emergency or portable situations where a generator, DC voltage booster or power supply is not available. The engineers took lots of notes on our requests, but made no promises. JE3FA then hosted a pretty fancy reception for the conference. I thanked him for Icom's loan of equipment for the Arctic Circle station, and gave him one of the AK Hamfest patches. I told him we gave away an Icom 756 Pro III for the first prize in our raffle, and gave it to the head engineer of the HAARP, who was also a ham.

## AMATEUR RADIO

# ASIA Pacific DX Conference

The next day was a bus tour to Nara, which is an ancient capital of Japan. We saw both the largest (Todai-ji) and the oldest wooden buildings (Nigatsu-do temple) in the world. There were too many stairs for my bum knees.



*Todai-ji Temple with a 15 meter high Buddha statue, is the largest wooden building in the world.*

Saturday evening there was the conference banquet. This was my only meal during my three weeks in Japan where I had a fork, spoon, and knife. I sat next to JA3FA, and he told me about starting his company. JA3FA is not an electrical engineer, but is an industrial engineer. His factory originally made electric motor power distribution systems. One client asked if he could make some circuit boards and he shifted an assembly line to make the boards. Then from there he hired radio designers and got into ham radios and eventually into marine and aircraft radios, VOIP hubs and distribution systems. Originally his company was Inoue Company, but one of his early American distributors changed the name they used to Icom because many Americans were not remembering Inoue. JA3FA liked the name Icom and changed the parent company's name.



*JA3FA, Tokuzo Inoue,  
The founder of Icom.*

The conference presentations were real interesting as many of the speakers described their DXpeditions to remote lands. They described the logistics, radios, power, antennas, and many of the hardships they endured on some of the DXpeditions. Some of the DXpeditions were extremely expensive, while others were well within many people's vacation budgets. They had a picture of the the W1AW/KL7 group in front of the trailer at the Arctic Circle with the big AK Hamfest logo poster, and described this as an example of a good DXpedition that was not too difficult to access. In the the International Hotel conference center there was a club ham radio station, that I used to call my XLY, Fran, KL7EG. We could just barely hear each other, but the signals were too weak to carry on a conversation.



*Amateur antennas on Icom's headquarters building.*

After the APDXC I spent another two weeks in Japan visiting some friends and seeing many more sights in this interesting land. I got home just before Thanksgiving, and just before the Thanksgiving guests arrived our water well quit. So life is still interesting. The third APDXC is scheduled to be held in 2010, to be either in Osaka, Japan or Beijing, China. □

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# KL7AA Club Business

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
BOARD MEETING  
December 16, 2008  
540 WEST INTERNATIONAL ROAD  
Anchorage, AK  
(**UNAPPROVED at Printing**)

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Vice President Jim Larsen AL7FS. A quorum was not established until 7:08pm: (2 Officers, 7 Board members required)

## **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Vice President Jim Larsen AL7FS, Treasurer Heather Hasper KL7SP, Secretary Richard Tweet KL2AZ, , Callex Gonzalez KL2BT, Paul Spatzek WL7BF, Eric McIntosh KL2FM, John Orella KL7LL, T.J. Sheffield KL7TS, Richard Kotsch WL7CPX

## **NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT**

None

## **EXCUSED**

President Kathleen O'Keefe KL7KO, Tom Rutigliano NL7TZ, Michael O'Keefe KL7MD.

## **UNEXCUSED**

Mike Romanello KL7BK, Craig Severson KL2FN, Susan Woods NL7NN.

## **REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS**

Gordon Hartlieb, AL1W – Iditarod Dog Race  
Remote Testing Software – Heather Hasper KL7SP  
Test Leads – Corny Eastman KL0FK  
Grubstake Update – Heather Hasper KL7SP  
Repeater Project – Jim Larsen AL7FS

## **GUESTS**

Gordon Hartlieb AL1W, T.J. Tombleson KB8JXX.

Gordon Hartlieb (AL1W) returned to discuss the involvement of the AARC with the Iditarod Trail Committee (ITC). Gordon spoke with Race Director Joanne Potts regarding AARC involvement. Joanne noted the need for better communications. Gordon noted Race Start volunteer coordinator Rick Calcote has held meetings regarding volunteers without involvement of the AARC. Rick noted the concern of emergency vehicle access by emergency vehicles and suggested the placement of the CCV at 3<sup>rd</sup> and A Street. Gordon that placement in that location may not be feasible.

Gordon recommended the Board approve the availability of the CCV for the event. Discussion noted that the CCV has always been made available and is not an issue, getting volunteers for the event is, ITC has not requested AARC involvement in a formal manner, location of the CCV should be in a place of prominence to promote the hobby and volunteerism, purpose of hams as communication volunteers and not just bodies for ITC use. Gordon will coordinate with Randy Vallee KL7Z (Incoming AARC president) as to the use of the CCV and use of volunteers.

T.J. Tombleson asked to speak as a visitor on the subject of Use of Club Equipment. Vice President Larsen presented a draft talking paper on a Policy for Use of Club Test Equipment for the purpose of discussion. General discussion was held regarding the Technical Committee, Check out and training on club equipment, use of, and rules regarding, the AARC Service Monitor. Discussion noted the request of members to learn skills involving the club test equipment and the request of being able to use them. Motion made Heather Hasper KL7SP, seconded John Orella KL7LL, to nominate Corney Eastman KL0FK to chair and resurrect the AARC Technical Committee. Corney accepted the motion and by a show of hands the board approved the motion unanimously. Discussion noted that Bruce McCormick KL7BM is available and interested in serving on the committee

## **SECRETARY REPORT**

Previous Board meeting minutes for the November Board meeting were presented as well as the membership meeting minutes from the December membership meeting. Motion made John Orella KL7LL, seconded Richard Kotsch WL7CPX to accept the minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Heather Hasper KL7SP gave the financial report for month ending November 2008. The treasury is healthy. Heather noted the quality of product by the accounting firm performing the bookkeeping service for the AARC has been decreasing. It may be that now that we are an established client, they are not working as hard to satisfy the AARC. The firms product will be reviewed as part of the year end audit and the incoming Treasurer will be working with the firm to monitor progress.

Heather reported on Gaming income, Sale of AARC Connex, no grants are before the Board at this time, financial adjustments to the General Journal in regard to the line item Storage and also Remote Testing. Heather also reported on progress of Project Expenses documentation within the Capital Projects committee. Heather noted this will be her last report as Treasurer as she has completed two 2 year terms as Treasurer. Motion made John Orella KL7LL, seconded Richard Kotsch WL7CPX to accept the Treasurers report as given. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **VE REPORT**

No report given as the VEC was not in attendance

#### **TRUSTEE REPORT**

No report given as the Trustee was not in attendance

#### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

No report given as the Membership Chairman was not in attendance. Heather Hasper noted that the <http://www.kl7aa.org> website has been updated to accept PayPal payments for new memberships and renewals.

#### **ARES TRAINING**

Heather Hasper reported on upgrades to the ARES website (<http://www.aresalaska.org>). The calendar has been upgraded to include local, and soon, statewide events.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **TITLE 21**

T.J. Sheffield reported that Chapter 14 is available as a PDF file from the Municipality website and contains the definition of Amateur Radio. Chapter 14 is currently in Planning and Zoning review. Chapter 5 contained the main governing language.

##### **CCV TOILET**

John Orella KL7LL noted that the Toilevator is not available through local channels. It is available for purchase online though the manufacturer in Canada. The Toilevator raises the device by 3.1", Tall, handicap accessible commodes are available locally which provides a 1.2" lift which may suffice. John will continue to re-search this.

##### **REAL ESTATE**

Heather Hasper reported that the AARC Profit and Loss statement, '07 tax statements and Balance Sheets have been made available for bank review to determine the AARC's ability to obtain financing for a club property purchase.

#### **USE OF CLUB TEST EQUIPMENT – ONGOING DISCUSSION**

This topic was discussed in detail under the Guests forum.

#### **REMOTE TESTING SOFTWARE**

Heather Hasper reported that the AARC attorney had contacted the individual contracted to write the Remote Testing Software. The individual claimed past delivery of the product to the AARC, but also produced a disk with a zip file containing code for the project that may be useable. Current value of this asset is \$0.00 as it currently is an unusable product.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **PROGRAM FOR JANUARY MEETING**

No program for January has been scheduled. Richard Kotsch will pursue a speaker for January. Discussion noted the position of Activities Manager is vacant and until the position is filled, the Board needs to fill the duties of the Activities Manager.

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

None

##### **TEST LEADS**

Corney Eastman KL0FK, requested the ability to obtain test leads and associated equipment for the CCV garage. Motion made Randy Vallee KL7Z, seconded Richard Kotsch WL7CPX to approve not to exceed \$500.00 for the purpose as requested. The motion carried unanimously

##### **GRUBSTAKE UPDATE**

Heather Hasper reported that ArcticCom has been able to troubleshoot the equipment and has found that UHF/UHF and UHF/VHF was working and that VHF/UHF wasn't. ArcticCom will continue to troubleshoot the equipment as they are making regular trips to the site for other repairs.

##### **REPEATER PROJECT**

It was noted that Michael O'Keefe KL7MD wishes to utilize spare equipment currently on the shelf at the CCV garage to build a working repeater as a training exercise and which could be used as an emergency repeater.

##### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made John Orella KL7LL, seconded Richard Kotsch WL7CPX to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

Respectfully submitted as recorded on 12/16/08 by  
Richard Tweet, KL2AZ  
Secretary

ARES DISTRICT 7 & 5  
KL7AA & KL7JFU



### 1/3 & 1/4 Knik 200 Sled Dog Race.

Contact: Ray Hollenbeck, 373-6771  
KL1IL: [fuzz@mtaonline.com](mailto:fuzz@mtaonline.com)

### 1/17 - 1/18 Klondike 300

### 1/30 & 2/1 Don Bowers

### Sled Dog Race

Contact: Hal Morgan, 733-3145

To add to the Calendar please contact: John Lynn at [Johnlynn@gci.net](mailto:Johnlynn@gci.net)



### ARES NETS:

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

# January 2009

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club  
PO BOX 101987  
Anchorage, AK 99510-1987  
[www.KL7AA.net](http://www.KL7AA.net)

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 <b>KNIK 200</b>	5	6	7	8 	9	10 <b>PARKA meeting 11 AM</b>
11	12	13 <b>MARA Board Meeting 7PM</b>	14	15 	16	17 <b>EARS 3PM</b> 
18	19 <b>AARC Board Meeting 7PM</b>	20	21	22 	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 	30 <b>MARA meeting 7PM</b> 	31 <b>KNIK 200</b>

Parka, meets at Peggy's restaurant, 11AM Contact: Lil Marvin NL7DL, 277-6741  
EARS: R1 North, Contact: Ron Keech: KL7YK@arri.net

# PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES

## Public Service

It is that time of year again when we start planning for Sled Dog Races. Time to purchase those 2009 calendars and get them pre marked with all the upcoming 2009 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.

### **Knik 200 January 3-4, 2009**

Contact: KL1IL, Ray A. Hollenbeck: 373-6771

[fuzz@mtaonline.net](mailto:fuzz@mtaonline.net)

### **Klondike 300 Jan 17-19**

### **Don Bowers Memorial Dog Sled Race Jan 30, 31 & 2/1**

Contact Hal Morgan, KL0WX at 733-3145 or Christine at 495-6707

### **Fur Rondy Sled Dog Race February 22, 23 & 24**

Contact: **VOLUNTEER Needed to Coordinate**



### **Junior Iditarod February 28 - 3/1, 2009**

Contact KL7DY Richard Plack 745-5222

[kl7dy@arrrl.net](mailto:kl7dy@arrrl.net)

### **38th Annual IDITAROD START: March 7, 2009**

Contact: AL1W, Gordon Hartlieb [al1w@arrrl.net](mailto:al1w@arrrl.net)



Radio operators needed for the **Don Bowers Memorial Dog Sled Race**. Both the Senior Division and Junior Division Races are looking for operators on Jan 30, 31 and Feb 1, 2009. We need operators at the Willow Community Center for the start and finish of the races, plus operators along the trail at Deshka Landing for the senior race and Mile 15 and Mile 30 of the Junior Race. Please contact Hal at 733-3145 or Christine at 495-6707 for particulars.

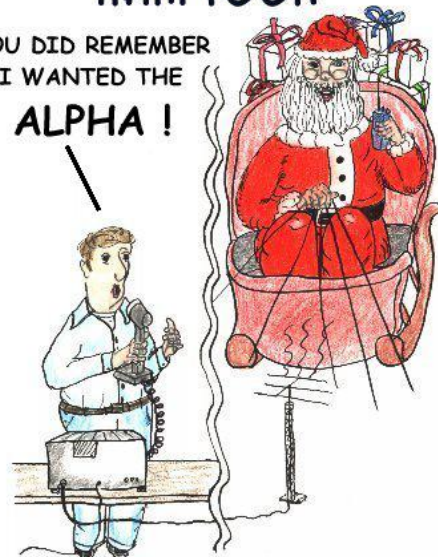
Thanks a million for your help.

Hal Morgan

(KL0WX)

## HAM TOON

YOU DID REMEMBER  
I WANTED THE  
**ALPHA !**



BY Woody Epp  
Thecartooner.com

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.arrrl.org/cce/> for more information.

### **ARES District 7 Contact Information**

Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD

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





## Data You Can Use:



### 2009 Board of Directors

**President:** Randy Vallee, KL7Z [president at kl7aa.net](http://president.at.kl7aa.net)  
**Vice Pres:** Heather Hasper, KL7SP [vicepresident at kl7aa.net](http://vicepresident.at.kl7aa.net)  
**Secretary:** Richard Tweet, KL2AZ [secretary at kl7aa.net](http://secretary.at.kl7aa.net)  
**Treasurer:** Calex Gonzalex, KL2BT [treasurer at kl7aa.net](http://treasurer.at.kl7aa.net)  
**Activities Chairman:**  
 VACANT [activities at kl7aa.net](http://activities.at.kl7aa.net)  
**Trustee:** Keith Clark, KL7MM [trustee at kl7aa.net](http://trustee.at.kl7aa.net)  
**Membership Chairman:**  
 Fred Erickson, KL7FE [membership at kl7aa.net](http://membership.at.kl7aa.net)  
**News Letter Editor:** Heather Hasper, KL7SP [editor at kl7aa.net](http://editor.at.kl7aa.net)

### Three Year Board Members

Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD mok at gci.net (3rd Year)  
 Paul Spatzek, WL7BF Paul.Spatzek at acsalaska.net (2nd Year)  
 Bruce McCormick, KL7BM kl7bm at arrl.net (1st year)

### One Year Board Members

Eric McIntosh - KL2FM, kl2fm at arrl.net  
 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  
 Tom Rutigliano, NL7TZ, tomr at alaska.net  
 Sean Jensen, KL2CO, sean.jensen at gmail.com  
 Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO (Past President) kok at woodscross.net

### AARC web page & Email contact addresses:

**Homepage:** <http://www.KL7AA.net/>  
**Webmaster:** [webmaster at kl7aa.net](http://webmaster.at.kl7aa.net)  
**Membership:** [membership at kl7aa.net](http://membership.at.kl7aa.net)  
**Newsletter:** [editor at kl7aa.net](http://editor.at.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 JAN 1 2009

#### 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

#### 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: Cliffside Amateur Radio Association

#### WL7CWE Anchorage IRLP

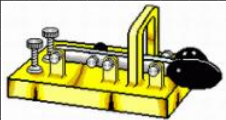
2 Meter: 146.82/146.22MHz PL 103.5

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  
 146.58 MHz Simplex IRLP - Wasilla Lake



### VHF

The following nets are active in South-Central Alaska:

**ARES Net:** 147.27/87 103.5Hz - Thursdays at 8:00 PM local  
**PARKA Net** 147.30/.90, 141.3 HZ Thursdays at 7:00 PM local  
**Morning Road and Weather Report:**  
 147.27/87 103.5Hz - Daily at 9:00 AM  
**No Name Net:** 146.85/.25 repeater Sundays 8:00 PM  
 and 1900 - 2400 Alaska Time - AL7N or KL5T monitoring.  
**Big City Simplex Net:** 146.520, 446.0, 52.320 FM, 29.6 FM, 28.400 USB  
 With Packet 145.01 and 147.96, Tuesdays 8:00 PM local  
**Grandson of SSB Net:** 144.20 USB Mondays 8:00 PM local  
**Alaska VHF Up Net:** 144.200 USB Saturdays 9:00 AM local  
**Statewide LINK ARES Net:** 147.27/87 103.5Hz  
 Sunday 8:00 PM local: Echolink: KL7TQ

## Nets in Alaska:

### HF

⇒ **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  
 ⇒ **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



## 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>  
PARKA <http://www.parka-kl7ion.com>  
ARES <http://www.aresalaska.org>  
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.yara.ca/>

## Links for Propagation

<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](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: [www.aresalaska.org](http://www.aresalaska.org)

**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).

## THE MODULATION TIMES

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club, Inc  
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than 50 years*

## AMATEUR RADIO



**LIDS Cartoons** are the creation of NL7SK, Tim Comfort and are available for purchase on CD for only \$15. All sale proceeds go to support the Matanuska Amateur Radio Association. [www.kl7jfu.com](http://www.kl7jfu.com)

## ONLINE MEMBERSHIP is now Available.

If you would like to pay by credit card to renew your membership, please go to [www.kl7aa.net](http://www.kl7aa.net) and select **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION** and complete the online membership renewal/application form.

