Anchorage Amateur Radio Club



General Meeting
November 4th 2011
Carr-Gottstein Bldg., APU Campus
7:00 PM
Election Results
Election Committee



Reserve the Date: December 2nd. 7:00.



Be prepared for the AARC Holiday Potluck!!!

Chinese Auction — gifts limited to \$25.00.

Hawaian shirt contest. Bring out your best. Sandals optional.

Spouses and significant others welcome.

We are looking forward to lots of good food!!!





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KL7PL, KATHLEEN M FREEMAN, 20197 Sterling Highway, PO BOX 663, COOPER LANDING,

AK, 99572

Kathleen Freeman

Kathleen Mary Freeman, 66, passed away October 2, 2011 at Providence Alaska Medical Center. A Rosary will be held at St. John Neumann Mission, MI, 1 Snug Harbor Rd, Saturday, October 8th at 11:00 a.m. with a service to follow at 12:00 p.m. Kathleen will be laid to rest at St. John Neuman Catholic Cemetery at 1:00 p.m.

Arrangements are with Janssen's Evergreen Memorial Chapel. Published in adn.com from October 5 to October 6, 2011 http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/adn/obituary.aspx?n=kathleen-freeman&pid=153971380

I don't known if it is known at the club, but Ken Eggleston NL7SP (Life Member) has been in and out of the ICU at Providence Hospital in Anchorage since his accident 3 weeks ago. He fell out of a truck after losing his footing and suffering a very bad head injury, he has had 2 operations and 22 units of blood.

We are doing a fundraiser here in Bethel to help pay his monthly bills and hospital bills as he has no insurance.

73 Allen KL7AED

(Editor's Note: If you wish to contribute, please contact Allen DeSousa,

KL7AED@yahoo.com or 907-543-5080.)

Charlotte Rose, KL2TE, has also been ill. She is undergoing testing and surgery dates at this time are unknown. Although she has cut back on a lot of activities, she is still listening on 147.27.



Since there are few events (with all their pictures) during the winter, I thought it would be a good time to find out how some of our members became hams and about their adventures as such. Hopefully, I can talk several members into contributing to this column.

HOW I BECAME A HAM - AND OTHER IMPROBABLE TALES

- By Jim Wiley, KL7CC

I first became interested in electricity in the 7th grade. I grew up in Santa Maria, California – a much different place then than it is today. It was a semi-rural, agricultural base town. Not much in the way of "science based" opportunities, even though my dad was a chemical engineer at a local sugar mill. In that 7th grade class, there was a fellow student who had assembled a Tesla Coil, a sort of miniature lightning generator. He was scheduled to give a demonstration in science class. After the demonstration, I was hooked! I just had to make one of those things - and soon!

It turned out that the plans for the Tesla Coil, and hundreds of other things associated with electricity and electronics, were contained in a book written by one Alfred P. Morgan, titled "The Boy Electrician". This book was originally printed in 1915. The issue in our school library was the 1945 version, this being in 1956. The book was literally a "bible" for a radio beginner. I have a copy of my own now - ask to see it – and original versions (even the mid 40's versions) sell for over \$200 in good condition.

The author assumed that he was writing for a young person who had some basic skills with hand tools, and not much money. His book showed how to build all sorts of electrical devices from scratch - including things we take for granted today, such as dry cell and lead-acid storage batteries, dynamos, panel meters, transformers, rotary switches, a rudimentary slide projector, burglar alarms, home-made resistors and capacitors, even microphones and telephone receivers. His gadgets were shown assembled into backyard Morse telegraph stations (he had plans for a key, sounder, and even a line relay), telephone sets, complete with home-made bell and on/off hook switches, electric railways, a photocell relay, including plans of how to make the photo-sensitive selenium cell from scratch, and so on.

One section dealt with sparks and high voltage, starting with a "model T" ford coil, and moving on to that Tesla Coil. This section included a simple X-ray setup, and detailed how to build neon and argon glow-tubes, and other interesting stuff.

Also shown were several radio receiver circuits, including three or four different types of crystal sets, most of which I built. Actually, my first crystal radio was a failure. I didn't understand the difference between headphones and loud-speakers, and since I

had no headphones, I attempted to use a loud-speaker with my crystal radio. Not only was it the wrong impedance by several orders of magnitude but it of course was not nearly sensitive enough to hear anything.

My grandfather took pity on me and purchased a set of headphones for \$2.00 (!) at the local music store. In those days, music stores often sold radio sets and accessories. As soon as the headphones were connected to the crystal set, I immediately heard local radio signals. This was not too surprising, as one station, running a mighty 250 watts, was less than a mile away. In fact, unless that station was off the air they were the only station I could hear on that very simple set. When the "local" went off air at midnight, I could occasionally hear stations from Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Mr. Morgan's book also had a section on Morse code, including how to build a code practice buzzer. So, started to learn the code. I got together with a school chum who happened to live on the same block, and we conspired to build a telegraph hookup. We ran wires across the back fences of several yards to hook up our sets, and they worked, sort of.

One section of the book explained how the original radio systems were built with spark transmitters and simple receivers - and so I began to wonder if I could send signals from my "model T Ford" spark coil to my crystal set - from one side of my bedroom to the other - and (no surprise here) it worked! I probably wiped out TV and broadcast receivers for several blocks in all directions, but it worked. Fortunately, I never sent my name!

Morgan's book included plans for a regenerative one-tube short wave receiver, which I built. Using it, I began to hear signals from local hams, foreign broadcasting stations, and the mix of commercial and military stations that inhabited the short-wave bands. To tune a station in, you had to very carefully adjust the tuning, which used a direct-drive variable capacitor, then if you were lucky enough to find a station (any station), you had to hold very still to hear it. Any movement would change the "body capacity" effect and detune the receiver. Consider that one sweep (a half-turn) if the tuning dial could cover 6 to 18 MHz, and you can appreciate how sensitive the tuning was! There was no such thing as "band-spread" tuning on that set. One glorious night I even picked up WWV on the darn thing!

I discovered on my own that the receiver would radiate a signal to other nearby receivers. A regenerative receiver, depending on how it is adjusted, will become a form of the Armstrong oscillator, the circuit that made much of modern electronics possible. I thought about this for a while and finally discovered that I could hook a carbon microphone in series with the 22.5 volt plate battery of the regen receiver. If the receiver was in an oscillating state, I could send weak but understandable voice mes-

sages around the house.

By now the year was 1957. My father, who was not a ham - at least not then - he later got his own license - took me to see a local ham radio operator, a fellow by the name of Harvey Taylor, K6URE (SK). Harvey showed me his set, and I listened as he worked a schedule with his brother in Nebraska. Harvey's station consisted of a WW-II surplus transmitter, in a 6 foot rack, with marvelous mercury vapor rectifier tubes, and lots of gas-discharge voltage regulator tubes. These tubes all have a beautiful blue-purple glow when operating. There were great big contactor relays that made a wonderful clanking sound when the transmit button was pushed. Very impressive! The transmitter had a marvelous collection of meters and knobs. and looked incredibly complicated to a kid. It ran perhaps 300 watts AM, using a single 813 tube as the PA. His receiver, a Hallicrafters S-76, was a miracle, at least when compared to my homemade one-tube regenerative set.

One week, Harvey invited me to come along on the local club's "Field Day" outing, which was a real eye opener. We picked a mountain top near Santa Barbara, CA. I wasn't allowed to operate, of course, but just listening to the other hams made me want to get my own license. I was fascinated by all the different types of radio gear in use. Heathkit DX-100's were the transmitter of choice, although one fellow had a Collins 32V-3 and another was using a home-made set. This was the time of the "boat-anchors" – great big vacuum tube transmitters and receivers, some weighing in at 100 pounds or more. There was no such thing as a "transceiver" – at least not for HF. A typical station consisted of a transmitter, a receiver, and an antenna tuner, plus a few accessories like loud-speakers, SWR meters, CW keys, and a microphone. A station-wagon type automobile could carry ONE complete radio setup.

For our VHF effort we had something called a Gonset "Communicator" – which was a 2-meter AM or CW transceiver that had a separate receiver, transmitter, and power supply + modulator all enclosed in one handy package. It produced about 8 watts RF from a crystal-controlled transmitter, and was considered the latest word in high tech at the time.

They put up all sorts of antennas, and I remember the effort they expended to put up something called a "vee-beam", which apparently worked very well. Yagi antennas of that day were mostly limited to VHF, and were not very common with HF operators. Most hams of that day preferred open-wire feed lines instead of coaxial cable for antennas, and that plus an antenna coupler would give several bands on one antenna.

As my interest continued to grow, one day my dad brought home an ARC-5 (WW-II surplus) aircraft receiver, which tuned, among other things, the 40 meter ham band. This was a 6-tube design that worked very well, and was the first "real" receiver I ever owned. I began listening to CW stations with more than a casual interest, and began

practicing my code again, this time with a home made tone oscillator that used one of the first "experimenter" transistors, the venerable Raytheon CK-722. After almost 2 years worth of effort, I finally became a Novice (WV6DRO) in 1959.

I was in high-school by then, and had met a true mentor, one Philip Wahl, W6YLD, who was the electronics instructor. Phil, by the way, is still active and on the air. I talk with him on 20 meters every few months. He was a US Army soldier during the Aleutian Islands action in WW-II, in the signal corps. Phil helped me by giving my Novice exam, and offered guidance on how to get on the air. Every kid in his electronics classes had to get his or her Novice ham license. Unfortunately, from a teenager's point of view, there were very few "hers".

My first station consisted of a Heathkit DX-20 CW transmitter, purchased by paper-route money, and assembled from a kit. It was crystal controlled, which was all a Novice licensee could use in those days, and probably capable of 25 watts output on a good day.

I had a 1930's type all band receiver (just the chassis, not the cabinet, and a 40 meter dipole antenna. The entire 40 meter ham band on that receiver was about 1/4 inch wide on the tuning dial - but it worked. The receiver had a "magic eye" tuning indicator, and Phil showed me how to "gimmick" one of the IF stages to provide a simple BFO for CW reception. Unfortunately, by then the ARC-5 had quit, and I couldn't figure out (then) how to fix it. Too bad, because it was technically a much better receiver. It was probably just a bad bypass capacitor, but I didn't know the slightest thing about how to make repairs.

Even though I had only one crystal for my transmitter, and that being just 2 KHz inside the low end of the 40 meter Novice band at 7152 kHz, I made several hundred contacts with that modest station. In those days, you called "CQ" and then tuned the whole band looking for replies. It was normal to work stations 30 or 40 KHz away, simply because no one could afford more than a few crystals.

California was a good place for a beginner, there being literally thousands of hams within a few hundred miles. One glorious day, after I had been on the air for about 6 months, I managed to work a ham clear over in Nevada - finally someone besides another W6!!!! We're talking real DX here!

I never tried any of the other bands, mostly because I had no room for an 80 meter antenna, and my receiver wouldn't reach to 15 meters, which was the only other Novice HF band except for 80 and 40 meters, at the time.

Even after I got a BC-312 WW-II surplus receiver, which was a world better than the set I started with, it still stopped at 18 MHz. I was not successful in my attempts to

build a converter to receive 15 meter signals, mostly because I had no test gear at all, and couldn't get the conversion oscillator to work properly.

The rest, as they say, is history.

Oh yes, I finally did build that Tesla Coil - about 20 years later. It is truly marvelous. It makes about a 10" arc that snaps and bangs and roars, and stinks of ozone and makes your ears ring, it is so loud. What a hoot! Scares the hell out of the kids that come for trick-or-treat on Halloween.

- Jim, KL7CC

Two items of interest:

From our keynote speaker at the recent AARC Hamfest: Download the hi-res photo and magnify the orbital tracks for some really neat extra-terrestrial effects. See the Hollywood movie, "The Dish" starring Sam Neill for the true story of the critical role this fabulous Australian facility played in the Apollo 11 lunar landing in 1969.

73, Craig, KL4E

Message from Clint Bradford:

As the Aussies celebrate the 50th birthday of the Parkes radio-telescope, here's that incredible time-lapse photo of Parkes radio telescope, showing the space shuttle Atlantis which had just un-docked, and is about two minutes ahead of the ISS. Click on the photo to download a 3888 x 2592 5mb copy.

http://tinyurl.com/parkes-shuttle-ISS

Clint Bradford, K6LCS

There's a great new show that started in May called Ham Nation and is hosted by Bob Heil microphone fame. Guests include Gordon West and other ham luminaries.

The show is produced as a podcast that you can subscribe to in Itunes or watch directly on the website. I could even be persuaded to run off dvd copies for those with poor or no internet access. The URL is http://twit.tv/hn. Paul Spatzek WL7BF

ARES Training – APD Officers and Dispatch - Thursday, October 27, 2011

Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD, the ARES District Emergency Coordinator – Anchorage, was invited by Kevin Ehm, KL2RQ, to the Anchorage Police Department to give a presentation and assist with training for the APD officers who are licensed amateur operators and the licensed amateur radio APD dispatcher. Mike O'Keefe, KL7MD and Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO showed up with the CCV to show the officers what amateur radio operators are capable of operating on when using a multi band, multi mode communications command and control vehicle. Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO assisted with the exercise.

The liaison for APD was Kevin Ehm, KL2RQ. Kevin has been fairly active with AARC and is anxious to introduce the APD officers and the APD dispatchers to the hobby of amateur radio. APD officers and dispatchers, as well as members of the public, attended a training class two years ago at the APD Union Building. Of the three dozen or so officers and dispatchers who passed the Technician class test only a small handful check into the weekly ARES net or volunteer to work AARC functions.

Kevin Ehm set up the training scenarios, assigning each officer a location to check on and report in with the condition of their location. Each officer was given a typed task card with the phrases they were to use typed up for each location that they were sent to. After the initial report they then had to change locations and the APD dispatcher practiced calling each officer for a report on the new location. Also assisting in the exercise was Bruce McCormick, KL7BM. He gave the officers and dispatcher some "food for thought" when he came up with a scenario that was not on their scenario cards.

Several officers have not really turned their handheld radios on much so this was totally new to them. When operating as an amateur radio operator and not as an APD officer, the calling procedure is totally backwards from how they normally operate as APD officers and dispatchers. They were also instructed not to use their standard 10 or 11 codes, but to use plain talk. Getting the idea across that more is sometimes better in Amateur Radio than with less is sometimes best with APD was another obstacle to overcome.

The amateur radio station at APD is located in the dispatch center, so those who helped from the dispatch center had to confine themselves to a rather small area so we were out of the dispatcher's way as there was real emergency traffic being passed around us.

Prior to the officers departing the APD building Michael O'Keefe instructed them on

what frequencies we would be using. The officers used hand-held radios and discovered not all hand-held radios will reach all of our repeaters from specific locations. The importance of having higher powered mobile radios with external 5/8 wave antennas mounted to their patrol cars became very apparent.

Once the officers departed the police station Michael and Kathleen O'Keefe headed upstairs to the dispatch center to assist the dispatcher with her assigned task. Michael O'Keefe announced on both frequencies that this was an exercise at the beginning and end of each exercise. The frequencies were monitored so in the event someone didn't hear the beginning announcement that this was an exercise no one would become concerned with a "War of the Worlds" type scenario.

The officers thoroughly enjoyed their practice and are in hopes of doing additional training as a group. The Anchorage Police Department officers expressed an interest in continuing this type of training but with the addition of a amateur radio operator ride along in hope of getting more one on one mentoring.

Note: We did have other amateur operator's assisting and I don't wish to leave anyone out so if you were at the training, thank you for ALL your assistance in helping with getting hand-held radios working.

Respectfully submitted, Kathleen O'Keefe / KL7KO

Editor's note: Look for pictures from this event in the December newsletter.



Interesting history from Craig Bledsoe:

Train Station Watches Were Just the Beginning!

If you were in the market for a watch in 1880, would you know where to get one? You would go to a store, right? Well, of course you could do that, but if you wanted one that was cheaper and a bit better than most of the store watches, you went to the train station! Sound a bit funny? Well, for about 500 towns across the northern United States, that's where the best watches were found.

Why were the best watches found at the train station? The railroad company wasn't selling the watches, not at all. The telegraph operator was. Most of the time the telegraph operator was located in the railroad station because the telegraph lines followed the railroad tracks from town to town. It was usually the shortest distance and the right-of-ways had already been secured for the rail line.

Most of the station agents were also skilled telegraph operators and that was the primary way that they communicated with the railroad. They would know when trains left the previous station and when they were due at their next station. And it was the telegraph operator who had the watches. As a matter of fact they sold more of them than almost all the stores combined for a period of about 9 years.

This was all arranged by "Richard", who was a telegraph operator himself. He was on duty in the North Redwood, Minnesota train station one day when a load of watches arrived from the east. It was a huge crate of pocket watches. No one ever came to claim them.

So Richard sent a telegram to the manufacturer and asked them what they wanted to do with the watches. The manufacturer didn't want to pay the freight back, so they wired Richard to see if he could sell them. So Richard did. He sent a wire to every agent in the system asking them if they wanted a cheap, but good, pocket watch. He sold the entire case in less than two days and at a handsome profit.

That started it all. He ordered more watches from the watch company and encouraged the telegraph operators to set up a display case in the station offering high quality watches for a cheap price to all the travelers. It worked! It didn't take long for the word to spread and, before long, people other than travelers came to the train station to buy watches.

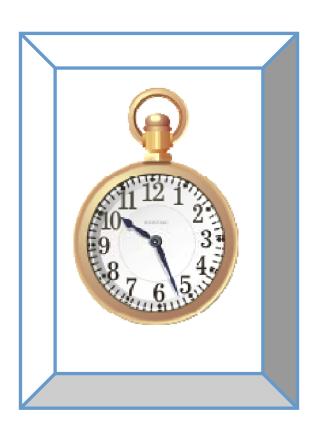
Richard became so busy that he had to hire a professional watch maker to help

him with the orders. That was Alvah. And the rest is history as they say.

The business took off and soon expanded to many other lines of dry goods.

Richard and Alvah left the train station and moved their company to Chicago -- and it's still there.

It's a little-known fact that for a while in the 1880's the biggest watch retailer in the country was at the train station. It all started with a telegraph operator: Richard Sears and his partner Alvah Roebuck!



Minutes of Previous Meetings



ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB BOARD MEETING MINUTES



September 20, 2011

Board Members Present – Randy Vallee, KL7Z, Paul Spatzek, WL7BF, Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO, TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, Lara Baker, AL2R, Richard Kotsch, WL7CPX, Susan Woods, NL7NN, Doug Stowers, WL7CDC, Jim Wiley, KL7CC, Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD

Guests Present –Keith Clark, KL7MM, Alice Baker, KL2GD, Mike Baker, KL0AR, Fred Erickson, KL7FE, Roy Sursa, KL2GV

Board Members Present via teleconference -None

Board Members Excused –Ken Perry, AL7GA, Tom Rutigliano, NL7TZ, Eric McIntosh, KL2FM, TJ Tombleson, KB8JXX, Sharon Kay KL7IM, Jim Larsen, KL7FS

Board Members Unexcused: No board members were absent without an excuse.

The Board Meeting was called to order by President Randy Vallee, KL7Z, at 7:05 pm. Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO, established there was a quorum.

Additions to the Agenda:

ALMR – Roy Sursa, KL2GV and Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD

Reports:

Secretary - Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO - Printed out both the Board meeting minutes and General Member minutes. August 23, 2011, Page 2, line 4, change to "budget"; Para 2 line 1, correction of word is "are"; Para 3 first line, should read "be received", Page 3, Hamfest, change call sign for Richard Kotsch to "WL7CPX", last page, Jim Larsen all sign correction, "AL7FS". Lara Baker, AL2R made the motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD, made the second to the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer – Ken Perry, AL7GA – Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD, Status on Gaming, and current year gaming income as of this date is \$27,086. Some confusion on where this figure is to be found in the packet supplied by Ken Perry, AL7GA. Randy Vallee, KL7Z, use the September 19. Last full month was August according to Keith Clark, KL7MM. Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD reported that according to Johnnie Gibbons, Boniface Bingo had a very poor summer; they operated for three months in the red. The club may receive an additional \$10,000 by the end of the year, but there are no guarantees. South Side Bingo opened for the summer and that really hurt the income. Baseline operation for the club is \$60,000. And we won't make that this year so we will be deficit spending.

Last expense is Ham Fest; incorrectly identified as Field Day. Looks like somewhat close to \$2,000.00 in income. There are figures that don't apply. Totals need to minus the \$300.00 seed money for the cash boxes; therefore we won't be breaking even. \$1,800.00 is the figure shown according to Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD. Richard Kotsch doesn't have an total expenditure number, yet. We spent \$900.00 for the building. Had \$500.00 extra and worked on \$300.00. Need to work out the numbers yet. Discussion followed. The account is not ready to show. Spend the day in Wasilla and couldn't get a hold of Charlotte Rose, KL2TE to work this out. Need another two weeks to get the report ready. Lara Baker, AL2R made the motion to accept the report as presented. Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

VEC Program – Jim Wiley, KL7CC – Proceeding as normal. No new events to report. What happens with the FCC will happen when it happens.

Trustee – Keith Clark, KL7MM - The club station is operating fine. Nothing new to report. No one called long distance to report problems. Mike Baker, KL0AR, was the last one seen operating the station, along with Eric, N6SPP, and he contacted Antarctica.

Membership – Fred Erickson, KL7FE - There are currently 255 members. Pay Pal questions. The account has been locked as of May of 2010. Is it our intention to reopen this? Pay Pal needs a copy of the cancelled check or bank statement and Articles of Incorporation. Need to work with the treasurer or CPA. Comments and discussion followed. Jim Wiley, KL7CC may be able to call them and see if resolution can be made this way. More discussion followed.

Projects Committee – TJ Sheffield, KL7TS – Last month the president tasked the Finance Committee and Projects committee to come up with a maintenance oversight committee. A hand out was provided explaining what is being worked on. Discussion followed. TJ Sheffield, KL7TSS, explained the how and why the procedure is being looked at and how things line out. Jim Wiley, KL7CC asked questions regarding line items and the budget. More discussion followed. No volunteers stepped forward dur-

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ing the meeting. Additional discussion followed as to what direction this is going to go. Randy Vallee, KL7Z thanked the committee for their well thought out presentation. There may need to be some re-working of accounts and restructuring from the treasurer. The treasurer has a handle on this. Also, TJ Sheffield announced the financial project proposals are moved to the second Wednesday of each month to follow the Finance Committee.

TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, presented the slides for financial information. This reflects gaming money from last year that needs spent this year. Discussion followed.

Finance Committee – Keith Clark, KL7MM – There won't be a report until next month as Keith Clark, KL7MM was out of town.

By-Laws – Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD – Alice Baker, KL2GD helped Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO with putting out the By-Laws and Rules of Procedure. Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD would like to see the By-Laws move forward and get them reviewed and passed prior to the Rules of Procedure being passed. Jim Wiley, KL7CC mentioned there are still some grammatical corrections to be made. Also, the board of directors needs to review the documents first and then they go to the attorney. Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD, wishes to have the board take the documentation home to review it so next month if everyone is in agreement then see if this can be moved forward to the attorney. More discussion followed. Keith Clark, KL7MM, wishes to have the By-Laws committee have a working session to discuss the documents prior to the next board meeting. Randy Vallee, KL7Z, raised either questions or concerns that a few members have questions about and would like a session to figure things out. A phone bridge conversation is perhaps the best way to approach this. Intense discussion followed. TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, pointed out there are three changes in the documentation; Structure of how it's written, philosophy, etc. More discussion followed. Randy Vallee, KL7Z, hopes to get this done in the next week or two. Randy Vallee, KL7Z, will be out of town. Jim Wiley, KL7CC stressed not to rush this process.

ARES – Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD – Discussed maintenance. Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD performed maintenance on the vehicles and trailers. Equipment should be fully operational and functional. The pick-up truck was totally dead. The truck has the wrong battery and the correct battery needs to be purchased and replaced. One of the generators took two gallons of anti-freeze; diluted, to fill it up. Then I checked the radios. ALMR is totally dead because codes in the radios were not updated. The ARC radio Bendix King also won't transmit. It shuts off when transmission is attempted. The 635's in the motor home work. The SGC is offline, can't operate with power while on the move. These things are a true concern. Hughes Net system which is used for WinLink and VoiP is being pushed and these systems are non-functional. The updates are not being completed as the Hughes Net is not operational 100% of the time. These costs will be discussed in the Projects Committee meeting. Discus-

sion followed; Jim Wiley KL7CC offered input. TJ Sheffield, KL7TS asked about the airport drill in 2012. Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD stated this exercise in on hold. Richard Tweet, KL2AZ appears to be the contact point for this exercise. Roy Sursa, KL2GV, had an additional comment.

Old Business

Title 21 – TJ Sheffield, KL7TS – The October meeting was changed to November. The mayor is still sitting on the amendments to Title 21. So far the Amateur Radio language is still favorable.

HamFest – Richard Kotsch, WL7CPX - Very successful operation. Things went well. Glad it's over with. No speaker for October. Trying to get Robert Forgess to speak on Piracy on the High Seas. Lara Baker, AL2R was asked to be available to present in October for a more detailed Go Kit presentation. Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO made mention of donations, volunteers and letters to companies that donated items to the Ham Fest. Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO also requested books be ordered from W5YI to replace the books on loan from MARA and get books in the club house to sell at future meetings. Charlotte Rose, KL2TE has been out of contact with Richard Kotsch, WL7CPX. So the finances are not done. Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO will see the books get ordered. Randy Vallee, KL7Z thanked Richard Kotsch, WL7CPX for all his hard work.

Elections – Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO - Everyone has a copy of the ballot being mailed. Alice Baker, KL2GD has envelopes printed out. There is a need for 450 stamps that Paul Spatzek, WL7BF needs to purchase. The envelopes will be stuffed the following Wednesday evening. Discussion followed. Additions and changes to the ballot, Lara Baker, AL2R, explain how many to vote for in each position and add a blank line to each position for a write-in vote.

Grants – Paul Spatzek, WL7BF - Received a sheet of paper from Juneau but no formal proposal at this time. Pat More, the president of the Juneau Club was supposed to email the proposal. Randy Vallee, KL7Z advised him that a grant may not happen this year due to the financial picture of the club.

Holiday Party - Alice Baker, KL2GD – Party to be held at the normal day, time and place of the monthly meeting. There will be a Hawaiian shirt contest. The club will provide drinks and food will be a pot-luck.

By-Laws – Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO – Already covered in committee reports.

Rules of Procedure – Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO– Already covered in committee reports.

New Business

Cleanliness of Club House – Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD – Our club house entry way is the first thing people see who stop by. The CCV is another piece of equipment we always show off. These things show off our professionalism. If we don't keep these things clean we show ourselves off in a poor light and make us appear unorganized. Paul Spatzek, WL7BF and Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO helped organize the club house. Several items were found that could be sold at the Ham Fest. The members should feel more responsible at keeping the club house and the CCV clean. There are two dumpsters there, don't dump in the State of Alaska dumpster. Also, keep one area clear when parking at the club house. Randy Vallee, KL7Z stated that the club house could be closed to people using it if it can't be kept clean. Some further discussion followed. Ideas were presented. Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD commented on the fact that Pat Wilke, WL7JA resigned; does he still have a key to the club house? Discussion on keying the club house was discussed.

Collection phone call – Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO- This information has already been passed to Randy Vallee, KL7Z. It deals with Heather Hasper. Keith Clark, KL7MM will also work on this issue.

Program for October meeting – Richard Kotsch, WL7CPX – This was covered under the Ham Fest report.

Approvals for KL7AA - Keith Clark, KL7MM - There are none pending at this time.

Willow Library – Paul Spatzek, WL7BF, needs to order the library books. Charlotte Rose, KL2TE mentions this continuously. The club is to order the Library Set for the Willow Library and deliver the books to MARA so that this item can be closed.

ALMR (Alaska Land Mobile Radio) — Roy Sursa, KL2GV and Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD — This system is in danger of going down. Roy Sursa, KL2GV stated there is a letter coming out that has not been mailed out yet, that the ALMR system will have an annual fee. The Federal Government is planning on turning the program over to the State of Alaska. The State of Alaska may propose as much as \$800.00 per year per unit. Not too many agencies may be able to afford this. There is an article in "Alaska Contractors" in regard to this system. Roy Sursa, KL2GV has used this system with Don Leaderhouse on several events. The system has holes in communications. Agencies not able to afford the system will no longer use the ALMR system.

TJ Sheffield made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Susan Woods, NL7NN seconded the motion. Motion carried and meeting was ended.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen R O'Keefe, KL7KO, AARC Secretary.



ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB General Member Meeting

APU Campus – Carr Gottstein Building October 7, 2011



Meeting was called to order by Vice-President, Paul Spatzek, WL7BF.

Introductions of members and guests present at the meeting. There were thirty-one members and guests at the meeting.

Announcements:

Ron Keech, KL7YK, A Technician Class will be held at R1 North on Elmendorf AFB starting November 7 on Monday and Tuesday evenings at 6:00 pm. This will be open to dependents, active duty and DoD employees. Come through the Boniface Gate if you need access to the base and don't have a pass. On the last night of the class there will be a testing session.

Alan Abbott, KL1QCE listed off all the volunteers for the MS Bike Ride that occurred over a two day weekend. He also gave the Board of Directors T-shirts if they wanted them. The ride was successful and once again Amateurs showed their professionalism when there was an emergency by keeping traffic on the air to a minimum. Race sponsors wished the group could travel to Montana to provide communications for their event there. Cell phone coverage was sporadic in some areas of the event and the officials were pleased to have had Amateur Radio available for communications.

Volunteers were:

Allen Abbot, KB1QCE
Bruce McCormick, KL7BM
Alice Baker, KL2GD
Jim Wardman, N9RNL
Ann Rutigliano, KL7TZ
Tombleson, KB8JXX

Jan Abbott KB1QCD
Lara Baker, AL2R
Ray Hollenbeck, KL1IL
Tom Rutigliano, NL7TZ
Susan Woods, NL7NN
Gary (need last name and call sign)

Sherry Price KL2SM Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD

Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD, presented the ARES Minute as a lead in for Lara Baker, AL2R and his topic of go kits. Michael asked how many people knew where their neighborhood emergency or congregate care facilities are. His primary topic was emergency preparation and how to get there.

Mike tasked folks to find their community council meeting locations and possibly attend some.

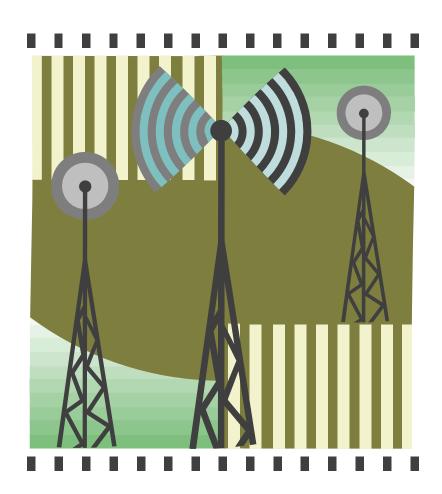
Lara Baker, AL2R gave an intensive and extremely informative talk and slide show presentation on Go Kits. He has offered to email the presentation to anyone interested. There was a sign-up sheet passed around during the presentation.

Richard Kotsch, WL7CPX presented thank you certificates to the volunteers and VE's who helped at the Ham Fest.

Door prizes were given out. No speaker was announced for the next month's meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO AARC Secretary



People to Help You!! 2011 Officers & Board of Directors

Officers

President KL7Z Randy Vallee president@kl7aa.net Vice President WL7BF Paul Spatzek vicepresident@kl7aa.net Secretary Kathleen O'Keefe KL7KO secretary@kl7aa.net Treasurer AL7GA treasurer@kl7aa.net Ken Perry Activities Richard Kotsch WL7CPX 907-658-7203

Three Year

Board of Direc-

tors

3rd Year Doug Stowers WL7CDC doug37@gci.net
2nd Year Tom Rutigliano NL7TZ nl7tz@arrl.net
1st Year Eriic McIntosh KL2FM kl2fm@arrl.net

One year Board of Directors

Lara Baker AL2R lara_baker@ieee.org Sharon Kay KL7IM akmiss@gmail.com AL7FS jim7@jimlarsen.us Jim Larsen Michael O'Keefe KL7MD mok@gci.net T.J. Sheffield KL7TS kl7ts@arrl.net TJ Tomblinson kb8jxx@wl7cwe.org KB8JXX Jim Wiley KL7CC jwiley@alaska.net Susan Woods radiosuzq@yahoo.com NL7NN

Other Contacts

Trustee Keith Clark KL7MM trustee@kl7aa.net KL7FE Fred Erickson Membership membership@kl7aa.net Alice Baker editor@kl7aa.net Newsletter KL2GD Editor webmaster@kl7aa.net Web Master Roy Sursa KL2GV

Regular Committee Meetings:

By-Laws Committee: Contact Mike O'Keefe, KL7MD, mok@gci.net for info.

Finance Committee: October 11th, 5:30PM at Hamshack.

Contact Keith Clark, KL7MM, trustee@KL7aa.net for info.

Projects Committee: October 12th, 7:00PM at HamShack

Contact TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, kl7ts@arrl.net for info.

VEC Testing: Testing on 1st Tuesday and 2nd Saturday each month.

Contact Jim Wiley, KL&CC, jwiley@alaska.net for info.

VHF: As needed (usually with a repeater in trouble and needing "aid").

Contact Doug Dickinson, KL7IKX, kl7ikx@yahoo.com.

For Sale

5

If you have equipment that you want to have listed for sale, please notify the editor at editor@KL7AA.net before the 20th of the month. Thanks for your help.

Items advertised will have a "date of first appearance" added — and they will be deleted after two months appearance on the newsletter unless we are otherwise notified.

Projection Screen Wanted:

I am looking for a large portable roll-up projection screen on a tripod for doing AM-SAT and related presentations. I found out at the recent Hamfests this summer that things would have really been clearer if I'd had a better presentation target than just a bedsheet (MARA) or a blank wall (AARC) to shine on with my projector. In the end the results turned out okay in both cases, but I'm always trying to do a better job for the viewers.

Craig Bledsoe, KL4E, 907-694-4730

Craig_Bledsoe@ak-prepared.com



Upcoming Events



Holiday Party Potluck

December 2nd, Carr-Gottstein Building, 7:00 PM

Chinese Auction Gift Exchange — \$25.00 minimum. Hawaiian Shirt Contest

Bring your favorite food and prepare to have fun.



Who Do I Contact to Join AARC?

Fred Erickson KL7FE

12531 Alpine Dr

Anchorage, AK 99516-3121 E-mail: membership@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

Have you considered a Life Membership?

Life \$250.00

Senior >65 \$200.00 >70 \$150.00 >75 \$100.00 >80 \$50.00 >85 \$1.00

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club PO BOX 101987 9510-1987 www.KL7AA.net



ARES DISTRICT 7 & 5 KL7AA & KL7JFU www.aresalaska.org



November 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	に会	1 VE Testing	2	3	4 General Meeting 7:00PM	5
6	7	Finance Com.5:30 EARS Genl. Mtg	9 Projects Comm. 7:00PM	10	11	$12_{ m VE}$ Testing
13	14	15 AARC Board Meeting 7 PM	16 Mara Meeting 7 PM	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 renks siving	25	26 Mara Board Meeting 7 PM
27	28	29	30			

ARES NETS:

1st Thursday: HT / Portable 2nd Thursday: Mobile Madness 3rd Thursday: RED CROSS 4th Thursday: Emergency Power **ARES Net: Thursday Nights 8:00 PM**

147.27+ PL:103.5 or 443.30+ PL 103.5

MONTHLY EVENTS

- 1st Friday each month: <u>AARC general meeting</u> 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):
- <u>VE License Exam</u> **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.
- 1st Thursday each month: <u>Moosehorn Amateur Radio Club General meeting</u> 7:00 PM location changes monthly so call on 146.88-repeater for info. Contact George Van Lone, KL7AN: donnav@acsalaska.net
- **2nd Saturday each month:** <u>PARKA (Polar Amateur Radio Klub of Alaska) Meeting</u> at 11:00 **AM.** Polar Amateur Radio Klub of Alaska. All amateurs welcome. Denny's on Denali Street in Anchorage. Some business is discussed. Originally established as an all woman organization, membership now includes spouses or significant others. Talk in on 147.30+.
- 2nd Saturday each month (except for holidays):
- <u>VE License Exams</u> 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.
- 3rd Tuesday each month: <u>AARC Board Meeting</u> at 7:00 PM at Hope Cottage 540 W. International. All hams are invited and encouraged to attend.
- **2nd Tuesday of each month: EARS general meeting at 5:00 PM.** EARS meetings are held at the EARS shack location. Contact info Doug Myers, KL1DJ or Ron Keech, KL7YK for information. EARS: 552-2664 (recording); Talk in on 146.67-. Email: club@KL7air.us or kl7yk@arrl.net
- **4th Saturday of each month:** <u>Valley VE Testing</u> at **7:00 PM.** Sessions will be held at Fire Station 61, at 7 pm on the fourth Saturday of each month unless it is a major holiday weekend. Contact Ken Slauson, KL7VE, Ken.Slauson@gmail.com or 907-376-8698.
- The last Saturday each month: <u>MARA meeting</u> at 7:00 PM 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 Don Bush, KL7JFT, <u>dbush@gci.net.</u>
- **Every Monday at 11:00 AM:** Meeting of interested Amateur Radio Operators and lunch at Denny's on Denali. Many code and HF operators attend this function. Come talk radio with these fine folks. For information, contact Kathy O'Keefe, KL7KO, kokalaska@gmail.com
- **Every Saturday at 7:00 AM:** Meeting of a group of Amateur Radio Operators at Denny's on Denali for breakfast. Topics? Radio, photography, and upcoming events For information, contact Kathy O'Keefe, KL7KO, kokalaska@gmail.com.

AARC web page & Email contact addresses:

Homepage: http://www.KL7AA.net/

Webmaster: webmaster at kl7aa.net
Membership:membership at kl7aa.net
Newsletter: editor at kl7aa.net

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
Béthel Amateur Radio Klub: http://www.al7yk.org/
Yukon Amateur Radio Association: http://www.yara.ca/
Links for Propagation: http://www.haarp.alaska.edu/
QRP and Homebrew Links: http://www.AL7FS.us

Solar Terrestrial Activity: http://www.spaceweather.com

http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/

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.

HF RMS's

- Anchorage VHF ARES RMS WL7CVG- 10 144.9 (Elmendorf Moraine)
- Anchorage HF ARES RMS WL7CVG (multi-band scanning see <u>WWW.WINLINK.ORG</u> for frequencies)
- Palmer (MATSU) VHF RMS KL7JFTFairbanks VHF RMS KL7EDK10 145.19
 10 147.96
- Fairbanks HF RMS KL7EDK (multi-band scanning see <u>WWW.WINLINK.ORG</u> for frequencies)
- South Central Digipeater WL7CVG- 4 144.9 (Knik)

NETS in ALASKA:

The following nets are active in Alaska:

VHF

• ARES Net: 147.27/87 103.5Hz - Thursdays at 8:00 PM local

• No Name Net: 146.85/.25 repeater Sundays 8:00 PM

• South Central Simplex Net: 146.52 FM, 144.2 USB, 446.0 FM, 432.2 USB, 223.5 FM, 927.5 FM, 1294.5 FM, 52.525 FM, 50,125 USB, 29.6 FDM, 28.4 USB, 145.01 packet (Eagle node) and 147.96 packet (Valley node).

Tuesdays 8:00 PM local

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

• Statewide LINK Net: 145.15(-) PL 123.0Hz; Sundays 8PM local

• Alaska Morning Net: 145.15(-) PL123.0Hz; Daily at 9:00 AM

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): 3540 kHz, 7042 kHz, 14050 kHz Non-directed, CW calling and traffic watch for relaying NTS of other written traffic. AL7N monitors continuously. Receivers always on WL2K. (RMS connection available (AL7N@winlick.org)

• Alaska Pacific Net: 14.292 MHz 8:30 AM M-F

• ERC HF Net: 3.880 MHz—Sunday 8:30PM

ANNOUNCEMENT:

AL7N is the Alaska Section Traffic Manager. Ed is looking for Code operators for passing formal NTS traffic throughout Alaska on the AK CW Net. For more information please contact: AL7N@arrl.net.



<u>Data You Can Use</u>:

Frequency	Tone	Call Sign	Features	Area
147.18 -	88.5	ADES		Ft. Richardson
146.88 -	no tone	AL7LE	Phone patch	Kenai Soldotna
146.82-	103.5	WL7CWE	IRLP	Anchorage
146.76 -	123.0	KL3K	IRLP	Seward
146.94 -	103.5	KL7AA	Phone patch	Anchorage to Wasilla
224.94 -	no tone	KL7AA		Anchorage
444.70 +	103.5	KL7AA	Phone Patch	Anchorage
146.67 -	103.5	KL7AIR	MARS Station	Anchorage & Highway North
147.30 +	141.3	KL7ION		Very Wide Area
146.85 -	no tone	KL7JFU		Mat Valley
146.91 -	no tone	KL7JL		Homer
147.15 +	107.2	KL5E	Phone patch	Eagle River & Chugiak
147.33 +	103.5	WL7CVF	Cross linked to 443.900	Very Wide Area **
443.900 +	103.5	WL7CVF	Cross linked to 147.330	Very Wide Area
147.27 +	103.5	WL7CVG	Cross linked to 443.300	Very Wide Area *
443.300 +	103.5	WL7CVG	Cross linked to 147.27	Very Wide Area*

South Central Area Simplex Frequencies				
146.52 MHz	National Calling and Emergency frequency			
147.57 MHz DX Spotting frequency				
146.49 MHz	Anchorage area simplex chat			
146.43 MHz	Mat-Su Valley simplex chat			
147.42 MHz	Peninsula simplex chat			

<u>WINLINK</u>	<u>Callsign</u>	<u>Frequency</u>
Anchorage ARES RMS	WL7CVG-10	144.9
Palmer (MATSU) RMS	KL7JFT-10	145.19
FAIRBANKS RMS	KL7EDK-10	147.96
South Central Digipeater	WL7CVG-4	144.9





The Anchorage Amateur Radio Club has been an ARRL Affiliated Club for more than 50 years



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. Consider be-

For more information about the ARRL DX Century Club Program check out: http://www.arrl.org/ awards/dxcc/



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.

Step #6: Follow the directions.

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.

www.ares.org

Emergency Management Institute



ARES South Central Alaska District Contact Information Don Bush, KL7JFT@arrl.net

http://training.fema.gov/

ARES NETS:

1st Thursday: HT / Portable 2nd Thursday: Mobile Madness 3rd Thursday: RED CROSS

4th Thursday: Emergency Power

ARES Net: Thursday Nights 8:00 PM

147.27+ PL:103.5 or 443.30+ PL 103.5

"Alaska ARES and the Alaska Native Medical Center have in joint effort stood up a HF Remote Messaging System (HF RMS) in Anchorage. This system provides HF Radio Email Service to the area. In an emergency this system will provide digital email capabilities if we lose the Internet. It is designed to accept connections from Amateur Operators who are using either PacLink or Airmail software and a Pactor 1-3 capable Terminal Mode Controller (TNC). If the Internet is lost to the area the RMS will forward messages to another RMS over HF Radio. Being HF Radio based, the coverage area is quite large. While it is intended for intra-Alaska use we have stations from as far away as Arizona using the HF RMS to pass email traffic to the internet on occasions.

ARES also hosts a VHF RMS which provides Radio to Email service on VHF Radio in the Anchorage area.

The WL7CVG RMS's frequency listings, etc. can be found on www.Winlink.Org . "

KL7AA HAMSHACK

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 operation. The station is fully integrated with a PC and soundcard to operate in many digital modes.

Take advantage of this unique benefit! Arrange a session by contacting the club trustee, Keith Clark, KL7MM, (aksunlite@aol.com) to meet at the KL7AA station on Rowan Street.

Notice: 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. IRLP is not authorized on KL7AA repeaters except for special events as approved by the board and trustee.

THE AARC ANTENNA is the monthly newsletter of the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club, published by and for its members. The entire contents of this newsletter are copyrighted 2011 by the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club.

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Newsletter Submissions, Information or Corrections:

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 below. Submissions must be in the hands of the editor **no later than the 10 days prior** to the meeting. Email: editor at kl7aa.net

Since THE AARC ANTENNA is no longer being sent out by US MAIL, we need some help from all the AARC members. We have gotten a large percentage of the e-mailed newsletters returned as undeliverable. Also we have no e-mail addresses for many of you.

Would you please e-mail "membership@KL7AA.net" with a current e-mail address and current mailing address and phones numbers (home, work, and cell — as you choose).

If you have special needs or concerns please send your comments to editor@kl7aa.net to bring to the attention of the board of AARC. Current and newsletters from years past can be found on the club website at www.KL7AA.net.

Thanks for your help in this.