Holiday Party

December 2nd. 7:00.
Carr Gottstein Bldg.

Be prepared for the AARC Holiday Potluck!!!

Bring your favorite dish to share!

Chinese Auction — gifts limited to $25.00.


Spouses and significant others welcome.

We are looking forward to lots of good food!!!
AARC Election Results

On the 2nd of November, the elections committee counted ballots at the CCV clubhouse. Committee members were Eric McIntosh, Paul Spatzek, Susan Woods and Kathleen O’Keefe.

Your 2012 Officers and Board Members are as follows:

President:    Randy Vallee, KL7Z, president@kl7aa.net
Vice President:  Paul Spatzek, WL7BF, vicepresident@kl7aa.net
Secretary:  Kathleen O’Keefe, KL7KO, secretary@kl7aa.net
Treasurer:  Ken Perry, AL7GA, treasurer@kl7aa.net
Activities Director:  Tom Ireland, KL7IJ, tom.ireland67@gmail.com

Three Year Board Members
    Tom Rutigliano, NL7TZ, nl7tz@arrl.net
    Eric McIntosh, KL2FM, kl2fm@arrl.net
    Lara Baker, AL2R, lara_baker@ieee.org

One Year Board Members
    Michael O’Keefe, KL7MD, mok@gci.net
    TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, kl7ts@hotmail.com
    Mike Baker, KL0AR, kl0ar@yahoo.com
    Susan Woods, NL7NN
    Jim Larsen, AL7FS, jimlarsen2002@alaska.net
    Rich Gillin, AL4S, richgillin@hotmail.com
    Doug Stowers, WL7CDC, doug37@gci.net
    Jim Wiley, KL7CC, jwiley@alaska.net

Other Contacts:
    Trustee:    Keith Clark, KL7MM, trustee@kl7aa.net
    Membership:  Fred Erickson, KL7FE, membership@kl7aa.net
    Webmaster:  Roy Sursa, KL2GV, webmaster@kl7aa.net
    Newsletter
    Editor:    Alice Baker, KL2GV, editor@kl7aa.net
Two interesting articles from the Frontiersman:
Thanks to Tom Rutigliano, NL7TZ, and John Lynn, KL7CY, for sending me these articles.

BY HEATHER A. RESZ

Frontiersman
Published on Saturday, October 29, 2011 11:44 PM AKDT

WASILLA - When Arlene "Buddy" Clay says she spends every night on the "net," she doesn't mean the Internet.

She was 32 and World War II was raging when she came to Alaska in 1944 with her husband, Earl, to work with the Civil Aeronautics Administration in Nome.

After serving their two-year commitment, the two moved to a new post at Aniak where they served another two-year term with the CAA, a predecessor to the Federal Aviation Administration.

But the young couple liked living within the Yup'ik village along the shores of the Kuskokwim River and stayed for a third year, she said.

The Clays retired from the CAA, but had grown to love the land, the food and the people in Aniak.

"We liked Aniak and decided to stay for a while, not realizing we'd stay forever," Clay said Saturday at the Mat-Su Public Safety Building in Wasilla.

She lived in the cabin they built three miles from Aniak overlooking the Kuskokwim River for 67 years - before health issues forced her to move into the Primrose Retirement Community in January.

Now 99, Buddy - as her friends know her - is the only Ham radio operator at the Wasilla retirement community.

"That's the reason I decided to come to Primrose, because they let me have my radio with me," she said.
Earl had a Ham radio license when the couple moved to Alaska. On the East Coast he was W1NOP. In Alaska, he was known as KL7EM and Buddy has been KL7OT since she earned her license in 1948.

"There aren't very many two-letter calls left," she said.

Earl and Arlene Clay came to Alaska after reading an ad in QST - a monthly magazine dedicated to amateur radio - that the CAA was looking for husband-and-wife teams to join the Civil Aeronautics Administration.

At first they were aircraft controls in Nome and later in Aniak.

"We applied for the job and were accepted," she said. "Next we went to Boeing Field in Seattle for six months of training."

And since the couple arrived in Alaska in 1944, Arlene has never left the state.

"I had no reason to go back home, so I just stayed in Alaska," she said.

When they arrived in Aniak, there were around 150 Yup'ik people and 15 white people there, she said. Now the village has about 500 people.

In those days, the only phone was at the airport office and the CAA owned the only truck, she said.

"It was Ham radio or nothing," she said of communication options in her early days in Aniak.

Everyone who lived in the area relied on subsistence to feed their family and their dog team. The Clays used a fish wheel to harvest fish for themselves and their dogs, she said. The couple spent the next decade fishing for food in the summers and traveling the region by sled-dog team in the winter.

After Earl's death in 1956, she stayed in their cabin near Aniak and went to work to support herself and the dogs. She drove dogs for 35 years, she said.

"The lifestyle has changed. There are no dog teams. No fish wheels," Buddy said. "There are only two dog teams in Aniak now and they are racing teams, not work teams like we used to have."

To feed herself and her dogs after her husband died, Buddy said she worked half the day for the Post Office and the other half at the CAA office. In the winter, she traveled by dog team back and forth to work. In the summer, she used a 30-foot river-boat with a 40-horsepower motor.
"I miss the lifestyle and the diet," she said. "Alaska used to be a state of dog teaming and mining. It's not Alaska anymore. Now it's just like anywhere else state-side."

**A career in music:**

On the East Coast, during what Buddy refers to as her first career, she was a musician.

A graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music, she performed in an all-girls orchestra and did some stage shows, she said.

And music is how she met her husband, Buddy said. She played trumpet and piano, and Earl was first trumpet and later a conductor of the New Hampshire State Symphony when they lived in Manchester, N.H.

The two took their music with them when they began their new careers as aircraft controllers. Buddy said she also played organ in the Aniak church since 1947.

When they arrived in Aniak, from the west coast of Alaska to Anchorage and from the south coast to Point Barrow, the Clays were the only Ham operators.

Buddy describes Ham radio as a hobby, but perhaps it's more like a tether stretched back through time that connects her to her past, and Alaska's.

The couple's first Ham radio set was a "Homebrew" rig built on an aluminum cake pan running 10 watts powered by a 1.5-volt dry pack, Buddy said.

Every night you can still find her listening to the voices on the radio. She said she's still trying to sort out all the new people, voices and call signs of members in the Matanuska Amateur Radio Association.

And Thursday nights at 6 p.m., it's her voice you'll hear taking roll on the Snipers Net at 3920 kHz. It is a roll call net, but visitors from any part of the world are encouraged to check in after the roll, according to its website, snipersnet.kl7.net/.

"She checked me in last Thursday," said Charlotte Rose, secretary for the Matanuska Amateur Radio Association. "In fact, she was the only person who could hear me."

Tom Rutigliano is the man who delivers the current roster of net members to Buddy each week. He also helped install the antenna for her Ham radio at Primrose earlier this year.

"She's pretty amazing for someone that age," Rutigliano said.
A second career as a judge:

Arlene Clay's next career was as a magistrate for 18 years for the Alaska Court System. She traveled thousands of miles from village to village in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta region of Alaska providing services as a magistrate.

"I enjoyed it all. It's really been a wonderful life," she said. "The lord has been good to me. He gave me a wonderful life and a long one."

But her life nearly ended in 1986 when the stove in her cabin exploded and caught her and her house on fire. Although she kept two large fire extinguishers near the stove, she couldn't free the safety pin on either that day to dose the flames. So she grabbed a nearby pail of water and rolled the water across the floor into the flames. It took three more buckets of water to put out the fire.

"I put it out. If I hadn't, I'd have lost my cabin and my dogs. I had to," Buddy said.

Doctors at Providence Thermal Center spent 18 hours grafting the skin back on her scorched frame. Both her feet had third-degree burns, and as a result she uses a wheelchair now to get around.

While recovering in the hospital, she still managed to make history when she got a phone call patched in off the Ham radio from Blake Ward, KA3PLZ/KL, who had reached the top of Denali about midnight.

"We had a short QSO, as he had to call his mother in New York to let her know he had made the top safely," Buddy said.

Later, Ward sent her a picture of him taken at the top of Denali on chair made of ice cakes.

On the back of the picture he wrote, "Buddy, I really enjoyed talking with you. I hope this finds you healthy and happy. Blake.

"P.S. How does it feel to be the first person to receive a call from the summit of McKinley?"

Editor's Note: When I talked to Heather Resz to get permission to reprint this article, she told me that this article had been passed around the Ham community all across the country — and that she and Buddy were receiving lots of e-mails commenting on it, including one from Blake Ward, KA3PLZ/KL.
PALMER — Faced with an opportunity to institute new regulations on towers and other tall structures, the Mat-Su Borough assembly Tuesday decided instead to erase the rules already on the books.

“I think this amendment ... would eliminate all of the regulations for tall structures that the borough has,” borough planner Alex Strawn told the assembly when assemblyman Ron Arvin proposed amending a resolution to adopt a new tall structures ordinance.

Strawn quickly added that some pockets in the borough that operate under what’s called a special use district will maintain tower rules put in place in the legislation creating those districts.

The assembly — which had two new faces at Tuesday's meeting, the first to include new members Steve Colligan and Darcie Salmon — asked Strawn why the ordinance it was facing included so many new rules regarding things like viewshed and setbacks from property lines.

“Planning staff is either a hammer or a screwdriver. They can pick it up and either start pounding nails or start ripping the siding off the house. We do what is the will of the assembly,” Strawn said. And, at the time the ordinance was being drawn up, there was a lot of concern from residents who seemed to suddenly have a tower blocking their views. “There were 100-foot towers going up and people were saying, ‘hey, why didn’t I have a say in this?’”

But the new assembly looked much less favorably on these new rules.

“I would vote to get rid of the damn thing right now,” Colligan said. “To me it's hideous.”

Salmon noted that while most people who testified Tuesday seemed to be asking for tweaks to the ordinance rather than beseeching the assembly to kill it outright, he said he felt they were probably making a calculation that tweaks were the more likely thing for the assembly to agree to.

“They’re probably of the impression that this is going to happen, that the assembly
is going to approve some variation of this,” Salmon said, arguing with Colligan in favor of killing it and eliciting a round of applause from the audience.

“Please maintain order,” mayor Larry DeVilbiss urged the crowd.

The amendment that killed the new regulations while also repealing the old ones came from Arvin.

“I want to send this back to the working group” that came up with the original ordinance, Arvin said. “My goal is to send a message to industry that they have a business-friendly assembly now and when they sit down and talk (it should be) about what they need for business model versus what they hope they can squeeze in and try to survive.”

Colligan added that putting another set of regulations on top of the communications industry where towers are concerned is unnecessary.

“There are engineering standards, national design standards,” Colligan said. “They’re heavily engineered, they meet all sorts of other standards without us being involved at all.”
Tom Ireland-KL3IJ and I had a great time introducing the Scouts of Troop 308 to Amateur Radio. We asked them if they knew about, or had any experiences with Amateur Radio. We then started with general radio theory, simple propagation techniques, the importance and use of the phonetic alphabet, basic allocations in the electromagnetic spectrum, and how world wide prefixes are used (using an Amateur Radio Prefix map).

After going through a Scout Radio Badge worksheet (provided by the Scoutmasters), we decided to Get On the Air!

I explained that the basic components of a "Ham" radio station were the radio, dc power source, and antenna. Tom and I connected the Yaesu FT-857D radio, power supply, Buddipole 2-40 meter antenna, and manual antenna tuner just before class, so we were almost ready to go. We wanted the scouts to see the antenna, so we all went outside. After a short explanation about coax cable, and how a dipole antenna works, we went back inside to operate!

We were able to make voice contacts with other stations in Australia, Japan, Russia, and the state of Michigan on 10 and 12 meters. A few of the scouts (Alex, Benji and William) said hello to "JF1SQC" - Seichi in Kanagawa, Japan, and "W8ERN" - Angelo in MI. They used the phonetic alphabet to spell their names, and exchanged signal reports with these stations.

Alex commented on some of the "strange" (psk31) signals that were present on the 12 meter band, and all of the scouts recognized
Morse code. So, after a quick pc to radio connection, we made two "psk31" contacts with Russia and Japan. I demonstrated Morse code by making a contact with Japan also.

We all had a great time, and look forward to future ham radio adventures.

73, Eric Thompson -N6SPP (Anchorage)
photos by n6spp

From a new member, Richard Helms, KL1NH.

Special Event Station WB5 and the Alaska Connection

My wife and I, along with some friends from Texas recently attended a portion of the 40th Annual Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta in Albuquerque, New Mexico. As is tradition, the Fiesta is held over nine days in October. The web page for the Fiesta may still be up at the time of this writing - check it out at http://www.balloonfiesta.com.

Some AARC members may remember when one could look up and see several hot air balloons in the skies over Anchorage on any given weekend. Unavailability of insurance I am told killed the hobby and business here. Now, imagine everything hot air balloon and hundreds of them. Special shape balloons such as bees, cows, and pigs. Yes, pigs do fly and penguins as well. Large balloons designed to fly 12-15 people, and many hundred sport balloons in a rainbow of colors. The Fiesta is an event that draws over 800,000 people from all the states and numerous countries. In fact it truly is an international event as it also serves for the gas balloon teams to qualify for the international competition.
Of course, what event could possibly be complete without Amateur Radio participation. While New Mexico has several ham clubs like Alaska, the High Desert Amateur Radio Club - NM5HD facilitated the Special Event Station WB5 at the Fiesta. They provided general information about amateur radio, provided assistance as needed, offered practice exams, and worked the special event station in various modes. I stopped in to their tent to say hello one night and just as quickly as the "KL" in my call gave me away, I learned of an Alaska connection to these hams in the high desert.

Dave Johnson N0LVA, is now an Albuquerque based pharmacist but in the late 1960's was stationed with the USAF at Shemya where the mission was monitoring space and missile activities and the aircraft of a former lease holder on the island, Northwest Orient Airlines. It was while stationed at Shemya when Dave decided to actively pursue amateur radio. There is no doubt many hams Dave spoke with back then had to go to a world map to find him. With the 1964 earthquake still fresh in the minds of many service personnel and others, Dave said ham radio was supported and encouraged as something both essential and fun to do. He looks back at his time in a unique location in Alaska with nostalgia.

Also in the tent that night was Albuquerque resident Bill Schwantes W7QQ (fka: KL7GHS). At the same time Dave was in the Aleutians, Bill was just outside of Sitka with the USGC. Bill got started in ham radio as an operator under a conditional license to do phone patches when he was not tending to the C-130 assets of the USCG Air Station. Bill told me of some atypical seasonal contacts on 6 meter simplex with Fairbanks and Southeast this year.

Sondra Lawson KE5JQG, an 8th grade science teacher, and her husband Jim Cook N5KY volunteered at the event.
The next day I ran into another ham and was told of a ham who used to live in Anchorage for years and works for the Fiesta each year. I did not have time to seek him out but it just goes to show you there is an Alaska Ham connection just about everywhere you might visit.

Richard Helms, KL1NH

Editor’s Addition:  (Richard kindly gave permission for me to add the following:)

My son and daughter-in-law live in Albuquerque and own and fly a balloon. The pictures below are from my collection.

Dawn Patrol

Wells Fargo Piggy Bank

David and Carol's Balloon. I believe that Lara, AL2R, was flying with Carol this trip.

The feelings of watching a mass ascension are indescribable.

Getting ready to fly.

Lara, AL2R, helping to inflate the balloon.

Setup

Every balloon has a crew of 5-6.
Field Day 2011

It’s in the record books – Field Day 2011 is gone but not forgotten!

The lessons learned during this simulated emergency communications deployment will guide our project planning and training regimes for the next twelve months.

How’d We Do?

We keep track of “points” because the ARRL offers them. The ARRL is our national association for amateur radio and is the sponsor for this event. Earned for making on-the-air contacts and for “telling our story” to the public, elected officials and served agencies, points are secondary to the learning experience, but are an indicator of the level of sophistication and effort the Club is willing to contribute to this annual event.

Standings

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<td>2,632</td>
<td>Nationwide</td>
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Club Records

Overall Score 3,599 New Club record
SSB Station 436 New Club record
20m SSB 349 New Club record
40m SSB 145 New Club record
GOTA Station Bonus 120 New Club record
NTS Message to SM 100 New Club record
80m CW 50 New Club record

Philosophy

Our philosophy and design goal for any communications system is to provide multi-mode operation, on multiple bands, and be “frequency agile” within those bands. This philosophy is reflected in the acronym “MBA”, which stands for Multi-Mode, Multi-Band and Agile.

SSB Station

The SSB station, located in the CCV, was set up as a “time share” with the Get-On-The-Air (GOTA) station.

A three element Cushcraft A3 yagi was used on the high bands, with the 500 watt SGC roof tuner feeding a full-size 80m loop for the low bands. On Saturday evening, the SSB crew “stole” the digital station’s ten (10) band SteppIR Mark III vertical so they could run high power on the low bands.

SSB operators racked up 436 points, a new Club record. Especially gratifying were the 145 QSO’s on 40 meters, eclipsing last year’s record.

This system has excellent potential to provide Near Vertical Incidence Skywave (NVIS) capability with a fairly rapid deployment time.

Eric, KL2NW snagged many of the SSB station low band contact
CW Station

The CW station had only two operators this year, yet they generated 1,782 points for the second highest CW score in Club history. Led by Kent, KL5T, along with Steve, KL7SB, it’s obvious that in the right hands this high-performance station can work wonders.

Digital Station

The digital station was located in the WeatherPort tent. The Yaesu Mark V radio was pressed into service for the digital station, and this older technology presented numerous challenges. Hardware / software configuration issues, along with mutual station interference from the SSB station, prevented the digital station from reaching its full potential.

Digital operators Rich, AL4S, Mike, NL7J and Eric, N6SPP resolved these issues in time to make a number of QSO’s using several modes. Digital modes are increasingly important to our emergency communications protocol and all of us need to become familiar with digital techniques and methodology.
Satellite Station

Eric, KL/N6SPP worked hard to set up the Field Day satellite station. Using primarily his own equipment, he was able to secure satellite QSO’s on several “birds” to provide the Club with QSO points, along with the ever elusive 100 Bonus Points for a satellite contact.

HughesNet

The HughesNet system supplies commercial satellite access that links our field deployed communications systems to the Internet. Richard, KL2AZ once again made sure this system was operational.

Since our last deployment, HughesNet has reconfigured some of their operating parameters. Changes on their end provided improved system performance but created some “headaches” for our field personnel.

There are many opportunities to expand our digital and wireless system capabilities, so get in touch with the Projects Committee if you are interested in learning about these high-tech systems.
Help Plan Field Day 2012

Please join us for Field Day 2012. You can begin your training experience using the Club’s high performance communications systems located in the CCV garage, on Rowan Street, off Dowling, near the new Seward Highway Round-A-Bout.

Experienced operators meet there every Wednesday evening at 7:00PM to work on projects. These operators can schedule training on the same equipment you will use for Field Day, or when we deploy for a real communications emergency.

Sincerely,

Keith Clark, KL7MM
TJ Sheffield, KL7TS
Field Day Co-Chairmen

(pictures courtesy of TJ Sheffield)
Minutes of Previous Meetings

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 18, 2011

Unapproved Minutes

Board Members Present - Paul Spatzek, WL7BF, TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, Lara Baker, AL2R, Richard Kotsch, WL7CPX, Doug Stowers, WL7CDG, Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD, Tom Rutigliano, NL7TZ, Eric McIntosh, KL2FM, TJ Tombleson, KB8JXX, Sharon Kay KL7IM, Jim Larsen, AL7FS, Ken Perry, AL7GA

Guests Present - Keith Clark, KL7MM, Alice Baker, KL2GD, Fred Erickson, KL7FE

Board Members Present via teleconference - Jim Wiley, KL7CC

Board Members Excused - Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO, Randy Vallee, KL7Z, Susan Woods, NL7NN

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

The Board Meeting was called to order by Vice President, Paul Spatzek, WL7BF, at 7:00 PM. A quorum was established.

Additions to the Agenda - There are no additions to the agenda.

Deletions to the Agenda - Kill By-Laws per Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD

Reports:

Secretary - Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO - (Excused) Minutes had been sent out by email for board members to print and bring to the meeting for review and approval. Board Minutes Page 2 first paragraph, 4th line, what is meant by that line. Income should be expenditures. There is an incorrect call sign for Jim Larsen, AL7FS. Page 2 September Board minutes, Project Committee TH Sheffield, KL7TS, - call sign has extra S in it; By-Laws Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD, check structure. Richard Kotsch, WL7CPX, had a comment, but determined it wasn't important at this time. TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, pointed out in Title 21 Mayor should be Mayor. Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD, made the motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Motion seconded by Lara Baker, AL2R. Motion passed unanimously.
**Treasurer** - Ken Perry, AL7GA - Prepared documents as in personal business. The club is in the Red. Start with Simple Profit and Loss. More important is Profit and Loss Year to Date. This is the actual figures. Did go ahead and input third quarter amount. Ken explained how he came by the figures in the reports. Keith Clark, KL7MM, had questions. The club is down $30,000.00 from last year’s income. TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, questioned reports from the gaming report incomes and what Ken Perry, AL7GA comes up with. Ken Perry, AL7GA, explained why there is a difference in the reports. More explanation followed. Hard to track on Cash Basis due to income being received the way it is. By the end of the year figures will be off another $5,000.00 due to the way income is posted. TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, would like to cover that further on in the meeting. Ken Perry, AL7GA, went into additional details and advised budget projections are off. Some is gaming income; right now gaming income is all we have. Some expenses are more than what was projected to be spent. Awards and prizes are over budget. Part of that was due to payment of invoices and how they have been paid to Frigid North. Things will look lopsided due to how most of the bills are paid. This will change as the committee gets a better handle on income and expenses. Some confusion has occurred that may not be able to be explained but this is changing as improvements are being made as well as classes where income and expenses are reported. More explanations followed. Classes were explained. There is one class now for investments. This simplifies things. More questions followed from Keith Clark, KL7MM, and TJ Sheffield, KL7TS. Michael O’Keefe, KL7MD, had questions on how to indicate or make refunds and mark documents for indicating which accounting codes to use an easier prospect. The plus is Ken Perry, AL7GA, has a working knowledge of Ham Radio and can always ask what the purchase was for if it isn’t clear. Paul Spatzek, WL7BF, also asked. Richard Kotsch, WL7CPX, is turning in Ham Fest expense and receipts. Those were turned over to Ken Perry, AL7GA. Michael O’Keefe, KL7MD, made the motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Richard Kotsch, WL7CPX, seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Lara Baker, AL2R, wanted it entered into record how difficult a time Ken Perry, AL7GA, has had in gathering and generating everything.

**VEC Program** - Jim Wiley, KL7CC - Running along smoothly. Bill Cross, extended conversation regarding lifetime element credit and remote testing, the indication of the lifetime element issue is moving forward and will eventually an order will be issued on that. Jim Wiley also filed a waiver to have this take effect immediately. ARRL objects to this waiver. Sometime in the month of November something will be issued on the lifetime element issue. Remote testing situation, at this time nothing is to be done regarding this but Bill Cross will eventually get this approved after the first of the year.

**Trustee** - Keith Clark, KL7MM - There is nothing new to report. Keith Clark, KL7MM, said he and SP5, who was visiting, worked the club station as well. Jim Larsen, AL7FS, made comment that Rich Gillin, AL4S, wants to add scheduling to reserve use of the club station. There may be links added to the web site. Discussion
on this issue of adding sub-domain names to the web site followed. Lara Baker, AL2R, and TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, had additional comments and suggestions. Jim Wiley, KL7CC, also had comments. Keith Clark, KL7MM, also made mention of if there is a cost, the board is to be notified.

**Membership** - Fred Erickson, KL7FE - 256 paid members at this time. 178 Life Time numbers have been issued; don’t have update on how many are still alive.

**Projects Committee** - TJ Sheffield, KL7TS - Last month discussed Maintenance Oversight. Good news, the Vice President agreed to be the Maintenance Oversight Manager. Jim Wiley, KL7CC, will take care of Susitna and Grubstake. Rich Gillin, AL4S, is the Project Manager for IT. Alice Baker, KL2GD, is responsible for office supplies. A budget cycle is coming up. The maintenance managers need to come up with a budget so things can be tracked. Discussion followed with input from Michael O’Keefe, KL7MD. The current office and building can't be used as a mini-EOC. The electrician who reviewed how the building is wired said it is not feasible. TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, had additional questions and comments. Lara Baker, AL2R, had additional questions and comments. Ken Perry, AL7GA, had additional comments and questions regarding the large door to be able to remove the CCV by raising the garage door. Lara Baker, AL2R, had additional comments and suggestions. TJ Sheffield, KL7TS had additional information. Alice Baker, KL2GD, asked when meetings will be held regarding setting up the budget. TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, showed slides and discussed information again regarding expenditures and how to finish spending the 2010 gaming funds. These figures are forecasts and how close we are to spending. Showed gaming income history for the past eleven (11) years. Richard Kotsch, WL7CPX, asked about what happened to the building search. Jim Larsen, AL7FS, asked for more detailed information regarding slide presentation and what the colors represent. What direction is this headed? TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, addressed their concerns and explained why things have happened the way they have. More in-depth discussion followed.

**Finance Committee** - Keith Clark, KL7MM – Michael O’Keefe, KL7MD, handed off a gaming income check for $8,700.00 check. The committee discussed the By-Laws and decided to recommend no changes. Discussion was made on how to classify assets and inventory items. Paul Spatzek, WL7BF, is still working diligently on the inventory. Ken Perry, AL7GA, researched the Reserve Account. The history of this account was discussed. However, the person who mismanaged the funds removed funds from this account. $18,000.00 was transferred without board approval in July and transferred to checking. $32,000.00 in October was removed without board approval to pay the Sheraton. About September 2009, this same person was concerned about Project spending; there are some board minutes that indicated $35,000.00 taken from this account but it is unclear if approval was given so it appears that without board approval this action was completed. These amounts are being discussed with the attorney. These amounts are in addition to the amount currently being sought from this individual in the law suit. More discussion followed regarding spending hab-
its and where the funds went. TJ Tombleson, KL8JXX, recommended further discussion should be terminated for now. A Profit and Loss overview has been provided to the committee. If your name is on this you should be receiving an email for additional discussion at the next Projects Committee meeting.

**By-Laws** - Michael O’Keefe, KL7MD - Item removed per request of committee chairperson.

**ARES** - Michael O’Keefe, KL7MD - Neighborhood Community Watch program is being pushed heavily by the Municipality. We need to sell Amateur Radio by attending Community Council meetings. This will be very helpful in the event of an emergency. At this time we are setting up talks with APD, Fire and other agencies of this type. It would be nice to gather other amateur radio friends to start selling amateur radio.

**Old Business**

**Title 21** - TJ Sheffield, KL7TS - Mayor is going to release amendments in a couple weeks. Planning and Zoning will be meeting about November 14th. Dan Coffey reviewed the documents and now it is a wait and see,

**HamFest** - Richard Kotsch, WL7CPX - Report has been given to Ken Perry, AL7GA. Last item for completion is to turn in expense report that will be done this evening. Charlotte Rose, KL2TE, is unable to help further so there is nothing further to add.

**Elections** - Kathleen O’Keefe, KL7KO - Not present. Paul Spatzek, WL7BF, reported ballots have been mailed and ballots are trickling in.

**Repairs to Club Property** - Michael O’Keefe, KL7MD - Expenses are at a minimum. Next year will not work on anything unless it breaks. What is the status on the battery for the truck? Paul Spatzek, WL7BF, will go and purchase it tomorrow.

**New Business**

**Program for November meeting** - Richard Kotsch, WL7CPX - There is no program for November. The program is elections.

**Approvals for KL7AA** - Keith Clark, KL7MM - TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, doesn’t know if the equipment will roll out of the club house; we may operate at the club house.

Lara Baker, AL2R, made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Tom Rutigliano, NL7TZ, seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:
Kathleen R O’Keefe KL7KO
AARC Secretary
Meeting opened at 7:02pm by Vice President Paul Spatzek. There were forty members present at the meeting. There was a brief introduction of members and visitors.

Election results were announced.
- Activities Director - Tom Ireland - KL3
- Three Year Board – Lara Baker, AL2R
- One Year Board - TJ Sheffield – KL7TS
  - Jim Wiley – KL7CC
  - Doug Stowers – WL7CDG
  - Michael O'Keefe – KL7MD
  - Susan Woods – NL7NN
  - Mike Baker – KL0AR
  - Jim Larsen – AL7FS
  - Rich Gillin – AL4S

Michael O’Keefe made an announcement for ARES. He asked who is prepared with emergency kits and prepared to be able to contact loved ones out of state in the event of a natural disaster. Don Bush has Win Link hooked up. This system is a way to send messages to family members living outside your residential area. He also stated KL7EDK is willing to give a class sometime in January 2012.

TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, did a Field Day Presentation and covered how well AARC performed in National Statistics. Only one station in our power category did better; W1AW. The rest of the areas for points AARC exceeded expectations.

Michael O’Keefe asked for volunteers for the Veteran’s Administration to operate the amateur radio at that facility in the event of a disaster. Our contact at VA is Scott and Mike just needs to give him names so a class can be set up.

Don Bush gave an update on the MARA trailer. They have a 20’ cargo trailer and are also waiting for the funds from a grant to get the insulation on and re-skin the sides. They hope to be fully operational in three months. Right now they use Go Kits to attend functions and exercises. He also reported on the Mat-Su Borough meeting in regards to Amateur Antennas and the new regulations. That body “killed” the proposal as the members decided the industry has been regulated enough by the Federal Government and State of Alaska and they should be more supportive of new business growth for the Valley, not regulate industry to death.
Jim Larsen said if there is enough interest in QRP they will once again be having regular meetings.

Door prizes were awarded to the following individuals:
KL3GZ    KL3JG    JL7FE    KL2FM
KL7DR    KL3IJ    KL7JFT   KL0IU
KL1IL    KL2XA    KL2GV    KL3IJ
KL0QK    NL7J     WL7BER   KL2TE
KL7KO    KL1UK    AL7FS    NL7TZ

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm
Respectfully submitted by
Kathleen R O’Keefe, KL7KO
Secretary, AARC

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

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

Three Year Board of Directors
3rd Year Doug Stowers WL7CDC doug37@gci.net
2nd Year Tom Rutigliano NL7TZ nl7tz@arrl.net
1st Year Eric McIntosh KL2FM kl2fm@arrl.net

One year Board of Directors
Lara Baker AL2R lara_baker@ieee.org
Sharon Kay KL7IM akmiss@gmail.com
Jim Larsen AL7FS jim7@jimlarsen.us
Michael O’Keefe KL7MD mok@gci.net
TJ Sheffield KL7TS kl7ts@arrl.net
TJ Tomblinson KB8JXX kb8jxx@wl7cwe.org
Jim Wiley KL7CC jwiley@alaska.net
Susan Woods NL7NN radiosuzq@yahoo.com

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

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

**Finance Committee:** Second Tuesday, 5:30PM at Hamshack.
Contact Keith Clark, KL7MM, trustee@KL7aa.net for info.

**Projects Committee:** Second Wednesday, 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.

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**For Sale**

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.

Ken Perry, AL7GA, Treasurer, will be taking orders for club badges and hanging tags. If anyone wants one, or one of the hanging bars (President, Board Member, Volunteer Examiner, etc.) the costs are $15.00 for the badges and $5.00 for the bars. Orders should be sent to treasure@kl7aa.net.
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.

Program for the General Meeting, January 6th.

Mike O’Keefe, “Everything you wanted to know about ARES”.
Anchorage Amateur Radio Club
PO BOX 101987
9510-1987
www.KL7AA.net

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

December 2011

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<th>Sun</th>
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<td>Mara Meeting 12 Noon</td>
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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: **AARC general meeting - 7:00 PM** in the Carr-Gottstein Building, on the APU Campus. Talk in will be on 147.27+ repeater.

1st Tuesday each month (except for holidays): **VE License Exam 6:30 PM**, at the Hope Cottage offices, 540 W International. Bring photo ID, copy of license (if any) and any certificates of completion. Contact: Jim Wiley, KL7CC 338-0662.

1st Thursday each month: **Moosehorn Amateur Radio Club General meeting - 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: **PARKA (Polar Amateur Radio Klub of Alaska) Meeting 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): **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.

3rd Tuesday each month: **AARC Board Meeting 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: **Valley VE Testing 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: **MARA meeting at 12 Noon,** 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, dbush@gci.net.

**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.
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
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.AL7F5.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 WWW.WINLINK.ORG for frequencies)
- Palmer (MATSU) VHF RMS KL7JFT-  10 145.19
- Fairbanks VHF RMS KL7EDK-  10 147.96
- Fairbanks HF RMS KL7EDK (multi-band scanning see WWW.WINLINK.ORG for frequencies)
- South Central Digipeater WL7CVG-  4 144.9 (Knik)
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.
### Data You Can Use:

#### WINLINK Callsign Frequency

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Tone</th>
<th>Call Sign</th>
<th>Features</th>
<th>Area</th>
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<tr>
<td>147.18 -</td>
<td>88.5</td>
<td>ADES</td>
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<td>Ft. Richardson</td>
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<td>Phone patch</td>
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<td>Anchorage</td>
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<td>146.67 -</td>
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<td>KL7AIR</td>
<td>MARS Station</td>
<td>Anchorage &amp; Highway North</td>
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<td>147.30 +</td>
<td>141.3</td>
<td>KL7ION</td>
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<td>Very Wide Area</td>
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<td>Mat Valley</td>
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<td>146.91 -</td>
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<td>KL7JL</td>
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<td>Homer</td>
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<td>147.15 +</td>
<td>107.2</td>
<td>KL5E</td>
<td>Phone patch</td>
<td>Eagle River &amp; Chugiak</td>
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### South Central Area Simplex Frequencies

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<td></td>
<td>National Calling and Emergency frequency</td>
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<tr>
<td>147.57 MHz</td>
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<td>DX Spotting frequency</td>
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<tr>
<td>146.49 MHz</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Anchorage area simplex chat</td>
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<td>146.43 MHz</td>
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<td>Mat-Su Valley simplex chat</td>
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<td>147.42 MHz</td>
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<td>Peninsula simplex chat</td>
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#### WINLINK

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<td>WL7CVG-10</td>
<td>144.9</td>
<td>Anchorage ARES RMS</td>
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<tr>
<td>KL7JFT-10</td>
<td>145.19</td>
<td>Palmer (MATSU) RMS</td>
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<td>KL7EDK-10</td>
<td>147.96</td>
<td>FAIRBANKS RMS</td>
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<tr>
<td>WL7CVG-4</td>
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<td>South Central Digipeater</td>
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</table>
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/

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

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.
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

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.

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.