

# Anchorage Amateur Radio Club



**Next General Meeting**  
**October 7, 2016**  
**Carr Gottstein Building - 7:00pm**



**There will be a service for silent key Neil Thalaker, KL7BGZ, at the Anchorage Senior Center on October 11th -- 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM.**

**Susan Thalaker, Neil's daughter, would like to see as many of his ham radio friends there as possible.**



# FOR SALE by Dennis Straight NL7DN



. 1) Drake TR-4C Transceiver and Drake RV-4C Remote VFO. I purchased, as a set, in April of 2015 for \$800, plus \$100 shipping. The Ebay listing stated that they were both working perfectly. I have never turned them on. After acquiring them I decided that "tuning up" a transmitter was too risky for a klutz, so I am putting them up for sale. My asking price is \$550.



2) Kenwood 830S and accompanying microphone. Purchased in September 2009 for \$580 on Ebay. Have only turned on to listen to the receiver side a few times. Have never attempted to tune up the transmitter side of the radio. Asking price is \$450.



# The Tough Times Glossary

Koko builds compound words, then uses it. Bees use it to signal distance and direction. The corvus are as good at it as dolphins. So, if bees, birds, apes, corals, trees and well, all life forms use it— what is it?

**Communication**, “the exchange of thoughts, messages, or information, whether by speech, writing, or behavior. Also, what is communicated; a message.”

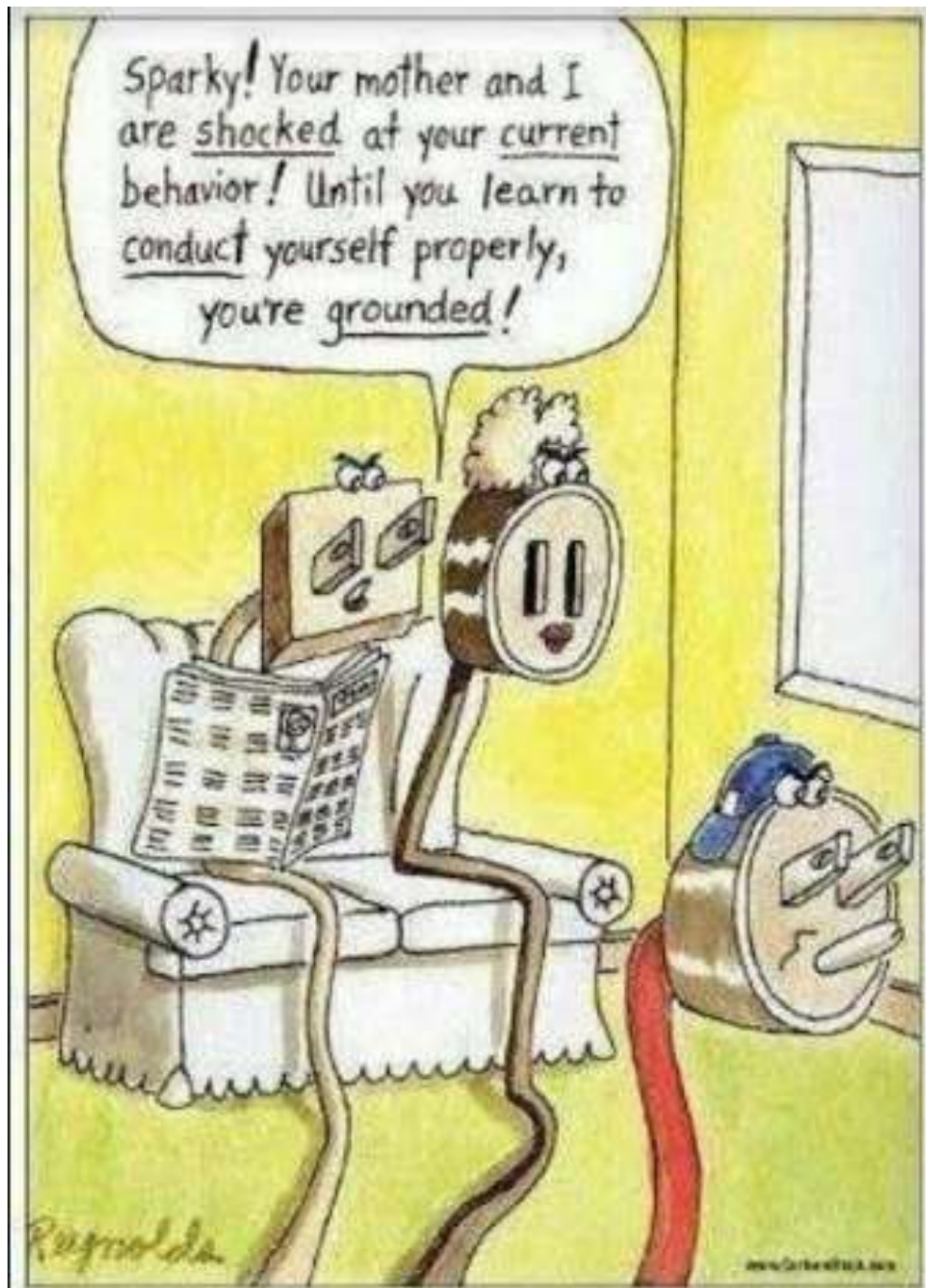
[Latin *communicare*, fr. *Communis* common]

The gist is to make a concept, fact, or idea understandable to someone else, by some means, so that both the communicator and the receiver hold a common understanding.

Speaking of the means, let’s put an ‘s’ on the end to get **communications** and we have “the technology employed in transmitting messages.”

Now, what if a hospital’s phone system goes down? Yes, it’s one of those – a **communications emergency**, defined as “a lack of communication ability that can lead to harm to persons or property.” If the emergency isn’t resolved, perhaps with Amateur Radio Service emergency communicators, disaster can, indeed, ensue.

Remember in previous definitions we learned that an emergency need not end in disaster. Unless it’s a sea monster, then, yeah, you’re screwed. This is where I plug the next installment on Critical Infrastructure, because, you know, communications are since communication is.



HAHA! Thanks to Mark Sabel WD6BMJ for sending that to me for the newsletter!

# October 2016



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

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9	10	11 KL7BGZ memorial 2-4p	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 AARC Board Meeting	19	20	21	22
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30	31					

think  pink







# 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 147.33+ 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 688-0660.

**1st Thursday each month: Moosehorn Amateur Radio Club General meeting - 7:00 PM** Location is at Borough Emergency Response Center on Wilson Way in Soldotna (behind Soldotna FD. Call for directions on 146.88 repeater (no tone). Moosehorn ARC also holds a weekly luncheon every Thursday, locations and times change — contact George Van Lone, KL7AN: [donnav@acsalaska.net](mailto: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 688-0660.

**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 Wednesday of each month: EARS general meeting at 6:00 PM.** EARS meetings are held at the EARS shack location. Contact info - Ron Keech, KL7YK for information. EARS: 552-2664 (recording); Talk in on 146.67-. Email: [club@KL7air.us](mailto:club@KL7air.us) or [kl7yk@arrl.net](mailto: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](mailto:Ken.Slauson@gmail.com) or 907-376-8698.

**The last Friday each month: MARA meeting at 7:00 PM, Wasilla Fire Station 61.** Talk-in help for the meeting can be acquired on the 147.33 repeater. Further details can be found by contacting Don Bush, KL7JFT, [dbush@gci.net](mailto:dbush@gci.net).

**Every Monday at 11:00 AM: Meeting of interested Amateur Radio Operators** — and lunch at Denny's on DeBarr — across from Costco. Many code and HF operators attend this function. Come talk radio. For information, contact Kathy O'Keefe, KL7KO, [kokalaska@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:kokalaska@gmail.com).

# ACTIVE NETS IN ALASKA

## VHF

The local VHF Nets have a Packet side as well. Look for 2 meter Packet at 145.01 (Eagle) and 147.96 (Valley).

The Eagle and Valley Packet Nodes provide a "talk" or chat function. Also if you are unable to connect directly to onto the nodes, try digipeating through "EARS" on either frequency. Do this by typing "c eagle v ears" or "c vally v ears" on the appropriate frequency. See KL7AIR.US for more info on the digipeaters.

**ARES Net:** 147.33 103.5Hz - Thursdays at 8:00 PM local

**No Name Net:** 146.43 simplex 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 8:30PM local

**Alaska Morning Net:** The Alaska Morning net is held Monday through Saturday from 9am- 11am on the IRLP Reflector 9109. This net can be reached via several hosting nodes in the area. Please visit <http://status.irlp.net/index.php?PSTART=2&mode=3> to find the closest node. Also, the net can be reached via Echo Link on 9191 (WL7LP-R) and Allstar nodes 27133 and 29332.

The Alaska Statewide ARES net is held Thursday evenings at 8:30pm (following the Anchorage ARES net) on IRLP 9109, Echolink WL7LP-R and Allstar 27133 or 29332 as well as the Sunday evening Alaska Statewide Radio Link net at 8:30pm.

## 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



# DATA YOU CAN USE

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
147.84 -	103.5	WL7CWE		Wasilla Repeater
<b>147.33 +</b>	<b>103.5</b>	<b>WL7CVF</b>	Cross linked to 443.900	Very Wide Area *
<b>443.900 +</b>	<b>103.5</b>	<b>WL7CVF</b>	Cross linked to 147.330	Very Wide Area **
<b>Note:</b>	<b>443.9 Grubstake UHF is currently</b>			

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>Frequen- cy</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
Anchorage AARC RMS	KL7AA-10	144.98



**M**embers of the North Country DX Association (NCDXA) will be active the entire month of March 2017 from several different locations in Alaska, Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavut and Greenland using all NCDXA "RST" fixed station calls **KL7RST**, **VY1RST**, **VE8RST**, **VY0RST** and **OX7RST** to further promote Amateur Radio up north. This is our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual **special event** with the addition of OX7RST, more rovers and fixed stations, new QSLs and certificates! All modes 6-160 meters and WARC bands are permissible. SWLs are welcome to participate. The object is to work or log (SWL) as many NCDXA "RST" stations as you can from their different locations. To participate you need to work each "RST" station only once per their QTH, band and mode. No cross band, cross mode or remote operating allowed. **Portable rover "RST" Stations** will also participate. Some of the portable stations are:



**KL7RST/KL7**, **VY1RST/VY1**, **VY1RST/KL7**, **VE8RST/KL7** and **VE8RST/VY1**. Watch the DX spots as we plan to have stations on from a Canadian research station near the North Pole on Ellesmere Island, a diamond mine in NWT, an Alaskan bush school and many other cities up north large and small. KL7YK is LotW administrator for Alaska, VY0CF for Nunavut, VY1MB for the Yukon, NA8B for the Northwest Territories and OX5T for

Greenland. Simply upload your logs to ARRL's LotW and the RST admins will do the same, or QSL direct to K7ICE.

Optional full color certificates are also available (email [JohnKL7JR@gmail.com](mailto:JohnKL7JR@gmail.com) for details) for working/hearing any of the "RST" stations. QSL manager is **K7ICE** (see instructions at [QRZ.com](http://QRZ.com))

**SPECIAL EVENT DURATION:** March 1 through March 31, 2017.

**SPECIAL EVENT EXCHANGE:** NCDXA "RST" stations send signal report and QTH (ie- 5x7 Anchorage, 5x9 Whitehorse etc.). Receiving stations send signal report and state, province or country.

**SPECIAL EVENT CERTIFICATES:** Beautiful full color certificates are available for: **Level 1...** Work any of the NCDXA "RST" stations. **Level 2...** Work all of the RST fixed stations (KL7RST, VY1RST, VE8RST, VY0RST and OX7RST). **Level 3...** For RST operators and those stations contacting them. RST ops work as many stations as you can, and all others to work as many RST stations, fixed/rover or portable as they can. Count 1 point for each QSO. First through fifth place certificates will be awarded for each level 3 category. All certificates will be emailed in pdf format. Thanks in advance for your DX spots!  
73 de "Yukon John", KL7JR

NCDXA "RST" stations are on Facebook. Check out the hams you worked and learn about them! <https://www.facebook.com/North-Country-DX-Assoc-K7ICE-1717462798496577/>





## ***ALASKA ARMY MARS***

By Ron Keech, KL7YK

If you were a ham in the 60's and 70's you knew the Military Auxiliary Radio Service as a group of Hams who were operating as volunteers in support of the Dept. of Defense. They relayed messages for Health, Morale and Welfare between military members and their homes. They ran phone patches between overseas GI's and stateside families. This was before the internet and email of course.

When email and all the bells and whistles of the internet became the standard MARS Members found they were doing fewer and fewer relays and phone patches. Today MARS still carries such traffic but its become quite rare.

The mission focus has changed, today the primary job for MARS is to handle DOD and Federal Agency traffic in and out of areas that have suffered a disaster. While CW is still used in the program 99% of the emergency traffic today is being sent using Digital Modes like MT63 and the newer Military PSK Mode M110. We use encryption to protect the information, when interfacing with our Active Duty counterparts we even use challenge and reply tables. Over the period between about 1980 and 2010 the program at large suffered from a bit of apathy by both the DOD and the MARS Program Management. This was due to the lack of a real mission. In 2010 new management in the program started pushing the program to the EMCOMM idea and DOD agreed that they needed the help. In these times of limited military budgets and reduced manpower the DOD has found itself in need of HF Operators to support the emergency communications needs in a crisis.

In Alaska we have an active MARS component under the US Army. US Air Force MARS is also still alive and well in the lower 48. The Navy Program closed its doors in 2015, a victim of budget cuts.

I am the current State Director of Army MARS in Alaska and we need to recruit additional members.

We are all volunteer operators and use our own Amateur Station capabilities. At this time we can claim members in only these areas, Anchorage/Matsu, Kodiak and Seward. We need members in the interior, South East and Western Alaska. With operational MARS Stations in the other regions of the state we will improve our ability to relay messages within the state and in periods of poor propagation the ability to connect with our lower 48 counterparts. This invitation to join MARS is not limited however to any particular region of the state. You are all welcome and your involvement can only strengthen the program.

Do not confuse MARS with ARES, they are two completely different functions with similar missions. MARS is DOD/Federal and ARES is Civil. As an ARES Member you are working hand in hand with Civil Authorities. As a MARS Member you work with the Federal Agencies. In the last year major effort has been made to get ARES and MARS into a cooperative mindset to complement each other. Some success has been seen on that front. MARS Operators are Amateur Operators who volunteered to join MARS, as such we work with the Amateur Community (and thus ARES) on the Ham Bands. To that end we include the Amateur Operators in our Quarterly Exercises or COMEXs.

The next such exercise will be on 1 November. More info on that will be forthcoming, but know your assistance is important to the program even if you never join MARS itself. Nor do you have to be a members of ARES to participate in our exercises. The Federal Agencies and DOD treats Amateurs as trusted sources of critical information, and MARS seeks to get that information. You live in those possibly effected communities, who better to ask what the status of critical resouces are?. We in turn relay the information to DOD, DHS and FEMA etc....

If you are interested in joining the program or just want more information please contact myself or HHQs Army MARS. We have an unofficial website at "<http://akarmymars.net>", there you will find the basic info and links to both AF MARS, Army MARS and Army MARS region Ten.

If you feel the draw of serving your country as a volunteer, please join us. You do not need to be prior military or even a well seasoned Amateur Operator. We will train you in when we do. Basic requirement is you must hold an FCC Amateur Radio License and within a year of joining us upgrade to at least General Class. See the Alaska Army MARS Website for more info.

Contact me at "[ronkeech@armymarsregionten.org](mailto:ronkeech@armymarsregionten.org)".

***Message Through!***





# AARC SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING MINUTES



The AARC general meeting was held on Sept. 2, 2016 on the Alaska Pacific University campus in the Carr Gott-stein building. The meeting was called to order at 7:01pm by President Lara Baker AL2R. Introductions were made.

Twenty members were present and a quorum was established  
President Baker discussed election procedures.

The following were nominated for office:

President: Lara Baker (nominated by Allen Abbott, seconded by Richard Tweet.)

Vice President: Kent Petty (nominated by TJ Sheffield, seconded by Alice Baker and Craig Bledsoe.

Secretary: Richard Tweet (nominated by Kathy O'Keefe and seconded by TJ Sheffield and Dick Kotech)

Treasurer: Alice Baker (nominated by TJ Sheffield, seconded by Craig Bledsoe and Dick Kotech)

The following were nominated for board of directors.

Carl Knapp (nominated by TJ Sheffield and seconded by Craig Bledsoe and Kathy O'Keefe)

Lil Marvin (nominated by Alice Baker, seconded by Mike and Kathy O'Keefe)

Rich Gillen (nominated by Dick Kotech and seconded by Kathy O'Keefe)

The following subjects were discussed:

Allen Abbott was thanked volunteers for the MS walk.

Lara Baker discussed bringing in new people for public service events; and showing up for public service events when you are expected to show.

Craig Bledsoe discussed questions regarding repeaters.

Dave Heimke discussed the status of the 220 and 34/94 repeaters.

Mike O'Keefe explained that the 147.30/90 repeater was out.

Kathy O' Keefe stated that who does the repairs will need access to site summit and will need to get the key from Doug Dickinson. David Heimke could help w/ tech.

Door prizes were awarded. President baker closed the meeting at 8:10PM. Minutes were taken by Alice Baker.

There being no contested positions, nominations were closed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lillian Marvin KL7YF, Secretary.

# HAARP

## High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program

by Richard Dennis, KL7iol

The HAARP project, the brain child of the US Air Force, has been the subject of varied and numerous accusations since its inception. The conspiracy theorists were quite active. The brother of now former Senator Mark Begich, Dr. Nick Begich wrote a book entitled, "Angels Don't Play This Harp." Mind Control? The conspiracy theories abound. The UAF Geophysical Institute in Fairbanks says that "HAARP is the world's most capable high-power, high frequency (HF) transmitter for study of the ionosphere.

The open house on Saturday, 27 August was preceded the evening before by a Friday night lecture focused on HAARP. This presentation was presented at the National Park Service amphitheater south of Glennallen at the Wrangell-St.Elias NP Visitor Center. That facility filled to capacity, with some standing.



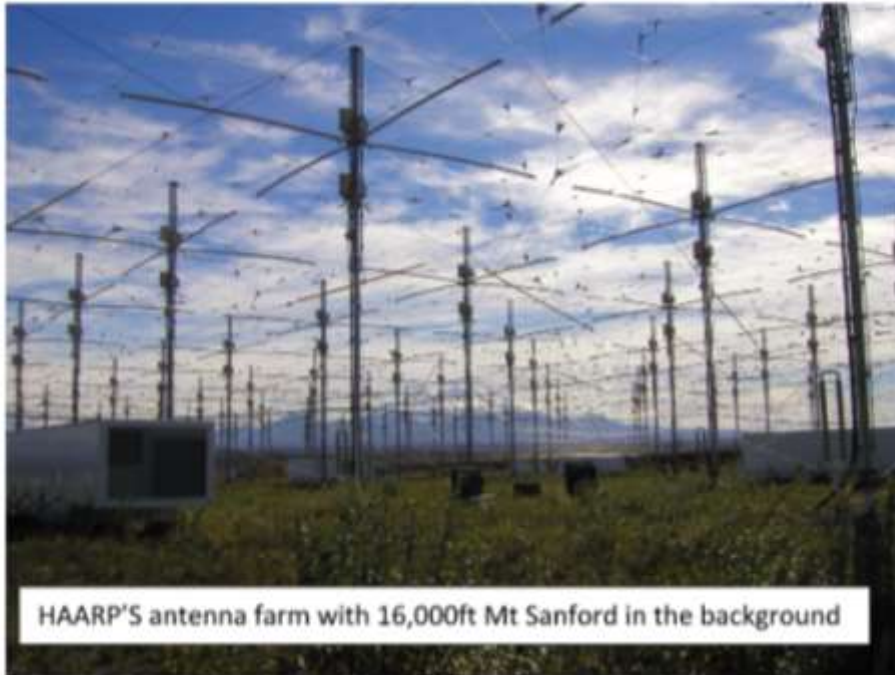
HAARP as seen from the Tok Cut-Off East of Gakona, Alaska

There, Dr. Chris Fallen gave a general rundown of HAARP'S history answering many questions. Dr. Fallen shared that he is only aware of one classified project ever conducted at HAARP. That classified project (think secret) was a study of submarine communications. He noted that he was well aware of the many and numerous theorists who advance conspiracy theories. And then he noted that all of science cannot prove that something does not exist. It is simply not possible.

The interesting info presented included nuggets like:

- The green colored Aurora that we see is up 60 miles, and the red aurora that we see is up 300 miles.
- Nicola Tesla was the inventor of the drone. It was a submarine and the US Navy was not interested.
- Following Marconi's first transatlantic communication, 12 Dec 1901, he hypothesized that there must be a reflective layer surrounding the earth.
- The HAARP antenna farm is 30 acres.
- There are 180 Crossed Dipole antennas there.

- There are five(5) locomotive size generators and when set at full power, they use 600 gallons of diesel an hour.



HAARP'S antenna farm with 16,000ft Mt Sanford in the background

With the cutbacks of the US Government, dollars used for research have perhaps become scarcer. The 290 million dollar HAARP facility looked like it was to be shut down, but a lobbying effort by some and with the help of Lisa Murkowski now has transferred the operation to the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) in August 2015. This was the first open house of a series planned annually for the facility. Plan now to journey to the Copper Valley next summer. Plan to attend next summer's HAARP open house firsthand. *Photos and article by Richard Dennis. Richard, KL7iol, lives at Red Eagle Lodge, a lodging facility up the highway 20 miles in Chistochina.*





If you have any questions or would like anything included, please email me at [swmarie96@gmail.com](mailto:swmarie96@gmail.com)!

-KL4DG

Hello! Hope everyone is well!

I am unable to attend the general meeting this month due to the extraction of my wisdom teeth. Hope everybody is enjoying the newsletters so far, thank you for all of the nice comments and suggestions every month, I really appreciate it! See you at the next meeting!

-Syd

KL4DG

