

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club

Next Meeting April 3rd 2009, 7:00 PM



APRIL PROGRAM:

Lt. Col Timothy Bolin, with the Alaska Rescue Coordination Center will be providing a presentation about SARSAT, and emergency communications that are used in Search and Rescue.

Testing COAX 101

An ordinary ohmmeter cannot be used for measuring resistance of multimillions of ohms, such as in conductor insulation. To adequately test for insulation break down, it is necessary to use a much higher potential than is furnished by the battery of an ohmmeter. This potential is placed between the conductor and the outside surface of the insulation. An instrument called a **MEGOHMMETER** is used for these tests.

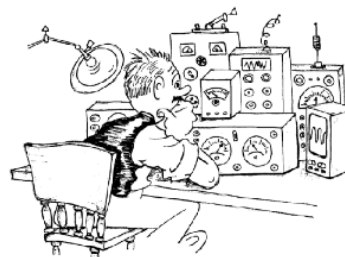
A **Megohmmeter** generates a high voltage, low current signals for testing the breakdown strength of electrical insulation. They are called megohmmeter because the insulating resistance of a properly designed product is expressed in megohms (MO). Insulation-resistance (IR) is the DC resistance between two defined points at a specific voltage in a controlled environment. Typically, the applied voltage is 500 VDC and the environment is 25° C with less than 50% relative humidity. EN 60204-1, a standard for machinery safety, states that for test voltages at 500 VDC, the minimum insulation resistance is 1 MO. EN 60335-1, a safety standard for household and similar electrical appliances, states that for test voltages at 500 VDC, the minimum insulation resistance is 5 MO.

Important specifications for a megohmmeter include DC output voltage, DC output current, current leakage rate, resistance range, and test time. The type of electrical safety test determines the level of voltage or current that is supplied. For example, hipot testing usually produces very high voltage outputs and very low current outputs. Current leakage, another important specification for a megohmmeter, is the rate at which current flows through a ground conductor and is borne away safely. Resistance range measures a material's opposition to the flow of electric current. Test time is the time required to complete the test.

Megohmmeters vary in terms of display and interface technologies. Analog meters display values on a dial, usually with a needle or pointer. Digital meters display values with a numeric readout. Light emitting diode (LED) and liquid crystal display (LCD) devices are common types of digital meters. In terms of interface technologies, several types are available. General-purpose interface bus (GPIB) is designed to connect computers, peripherals and laboratory instruments so that data and control information can pass between them. RS232 or ANSI 232 is used for serial communications between instruments and computers. Megohmmeters with printer ports and scanner ports are also available. Devices with storage capabilities can provide printouts of formatted information.

Megohmmeters provide many features. Remote controls permit control by computers or other instruments. Build-in calibration allows operators to calibrate test instruments without removing them from the test location. Warning indicator lights indicate pass/fail conditions and often work in conjunction with audible buzzers or alarms. In automated test environments (ATEs), megohmmeters are often interfaced with programmable logic controllers (PLCs). Rapid cutoff circuitry protects devices from excessively high levels of voltage or current. User-selectable output frequencies, typically 50 Hz or 60 Hz, are commonly available. Front panel lockouts enable users to password-protect megohmmeters. Some manufacturers call this tamper-proof operation.

There are a variety of applications for a megohmmeter. Some devices are used to test the insulation resistance of wires, cables, transformers, and electrical motors. Others are used to verify that devices such as aircraft fuel pumps meets manufacturer IR specifications. are also used to test the insulation-resistance of cable reels, rectifiers, solid-state diodes, and other electrical components. (cont. page 3)

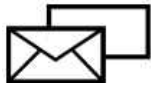


KL7AA HAMSHACK

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 operations. The station is fully integrated with a PC and soundcard to operate in many digital modes. There are weekly contests to participate in even if just helping Hams all over the world gain points and multipliers to win awards.

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

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



KL7AA Mail Reflector

If you like to **stay in touch on KL7AA news** and other posts of local interest.

Step #1: First point your browser to:
<http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/kl7aa>

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

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

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

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



Are you a member of ARRL?



ARRL is the American Radio Relay League. This is the national organization that advocates on behalf of amateur radio operators to

the FCC and the communications industry. **KL7AA** is an ARRL affiliated club with more than 50 years. Consider becoming a member of ARRL today.

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

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

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NEWSLETTER ARTICLES: All articles from members and interested persons are very welcome. If you wish to submit any articles, jokes, cartoons, please have it typed or neatly handwritten. It can be submitted by mail, computer disk or E-mail to the newsletter editor at the address listed above. Submissions must be in the hands of the editor **no later than the 10 days prior** to the meeting or it may not be included.

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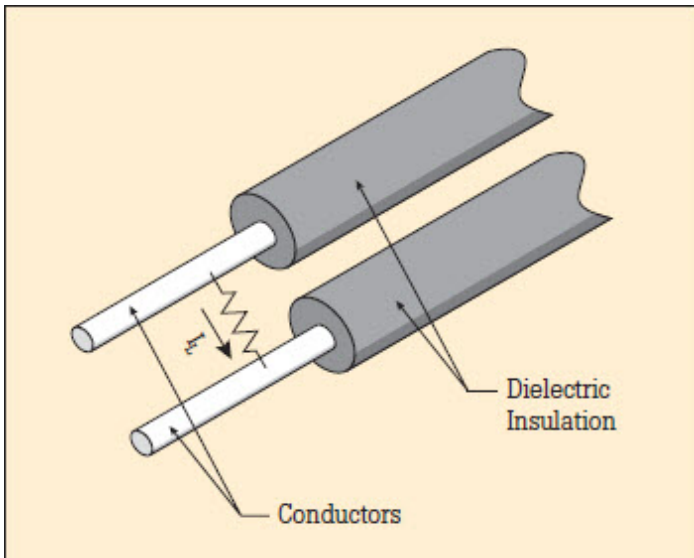
AMATEUR RADIO

What are insulation resistance and leakage currents?

During the testing procedure, the high dc voltage generated by pressing the test button will cause a small (micro-amps) current flow through the conductor and the insulation. The amount of current depends on the amount of voltage applied, the system's capacitance, the total resistance, and the temperature of the material. For a fixed voltage, the higher the current, the lower the resistance ($E=IR$, $R=E/I$). The total resistance is the sum of the internal resistance of the conductor (small value) plus the insulation resistance in $M\Omega$ s. The value of insulation resistance read on the meter will be a function of following three independent sub-currents.

Conductive leakage current (I_L)

Conductive current is a small (micro-amp) amount of current that normally flows through insulation, between conductors or from a conductor to ground. This current increases as insulation deteriorates and becomes predominant after the absorption current (see Figure 1) vanishes. Because it is fairly steady and time independent, this is the most important current for measuring insulation resistance.

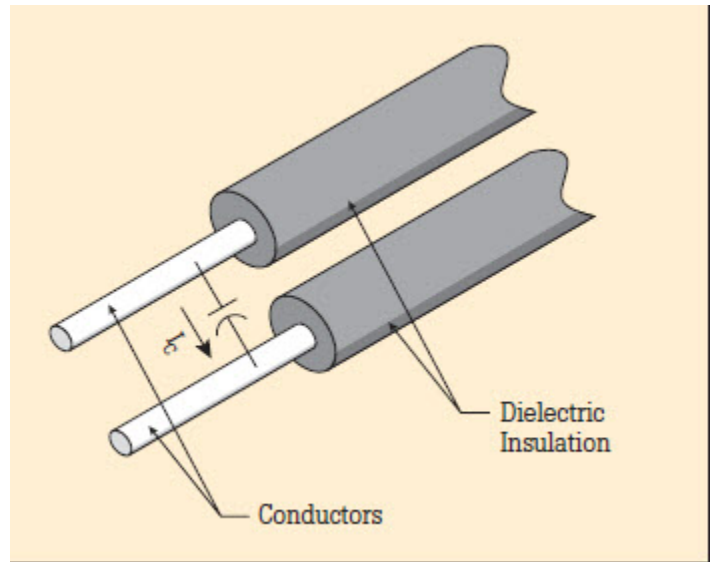


Capacitive charging leakage current (I_C)

When two or more conductors are run together in a raceway, they act as a capacitor. Due to this capacitive effect, a leakage current flows through conductor insulation. This current lasts only for a few seconds as the dc voltage is applied and drops out after the insulation has been charged to its full test voltage.

In low-capacitance equipment, the capacitive current is higher than conductive leakage current, but usually disappears by the time we start recording the data.

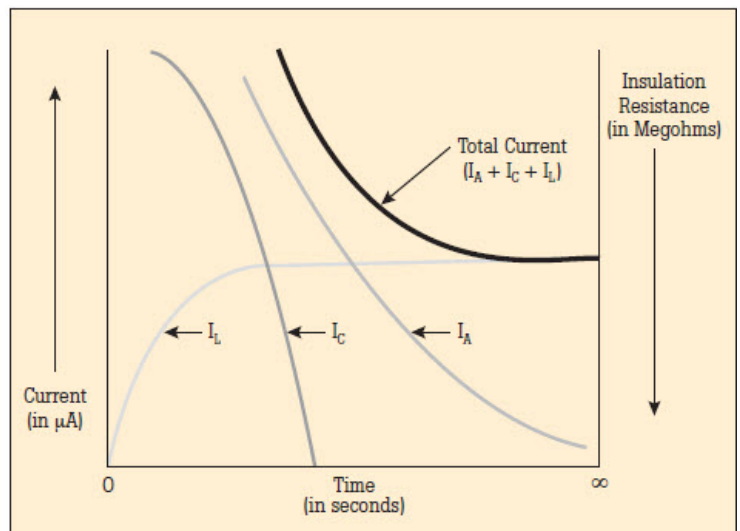
Because of this, it is important to let the reading "settle out" before recording it. On the other hand, when testing high capacitance equipment the capacitive charging leakage current can last for a very long time before settling out.



Polarization absorption leakage current (I_A)

Absorption current is caused by the polarization of molecules within dielectric material. In low-capacitance equipment, the current is high for the first few seconds and decreases slowly to nearly zero. When dealing with high capacitance equipment or wet and contaminated insulation, there will be no decrease in the absorption current for a long time.

During the short-time test, the MegOhmMeter is connected directly across the equipment being tested and a test voltage is applied for about 60 seconds. In order to reach a stable insulation reading in about one minute, the test should only be performed on low-capacitance equipment. The basic connection procedure is the same as for a proof test and the voltage applied is calculated from the dc test voltage formulas. When testing good equipment, you should notice a steady increase in insulation resistance due to decrease in capacitive and absorption currents.





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 ☆ The Alaska DX Club (KL7DX and ☆
 ☆ KL7CQ) has been granted a third call sign ☆
 ☆ which we will be using for a yearlong special ☆
 ☆ event (2009) in honor of the 50th Anniversary ☆
 ☆ of Alaska's Statehood. The call ☆
 ☆ sign is KL50. ☆

☆ Attached a picture of what the QSL card ☆
 ☆ will look like. ☆



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ELECTRONICS CLASS

CORNEY EASTMAN, KLOFK is offering a great Electronics Class on Friday evenings at the KL7AA HAMSHACK.

The classes are open for anyone wanting to learn more about electronics or test equipment used in radio applications, anyone who wants to test or troubleshoot radio or antennas.

This informal fun class discusses design and equipment options that might be used to build a radio. RADIO KITS are available to purchase and build. Bring your questions and projects to the KL7AA Radio shop on Friday Evenings at 530PM.

The class is currently scheduled to meet on the following nights:

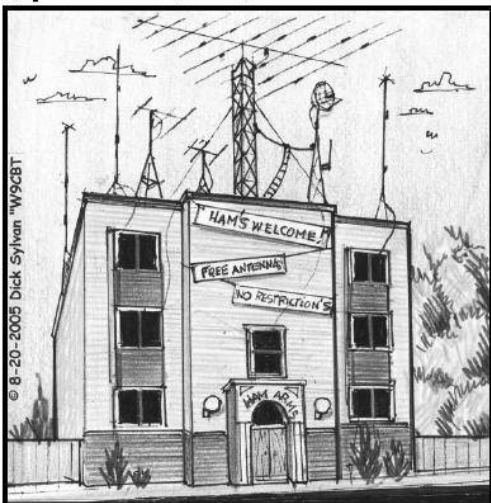
4/10, 4/17, 4/24

THANKS TO CORNEY

for offering this course

The toilet at the KL7AA hamshack was recently replaced to accommodate our aging members. A complete hamshack with full accommodations!

Apartments For Rent

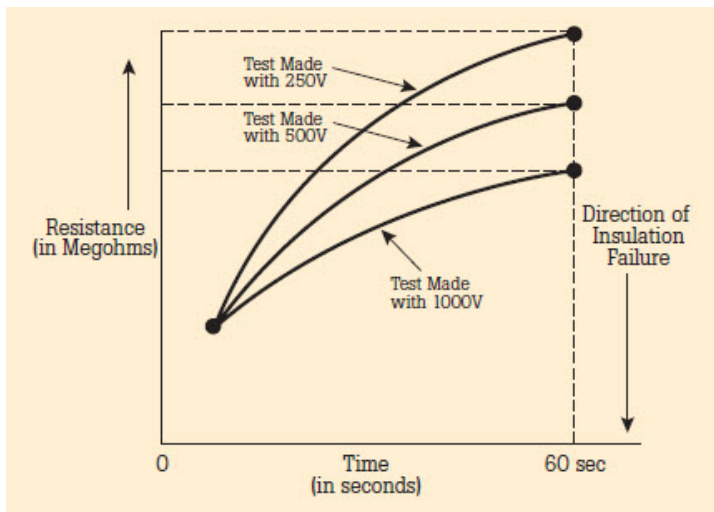


"Looking For an Apartment Where You Can Put Up an Antenna? — Dream On!"

Step voltage test

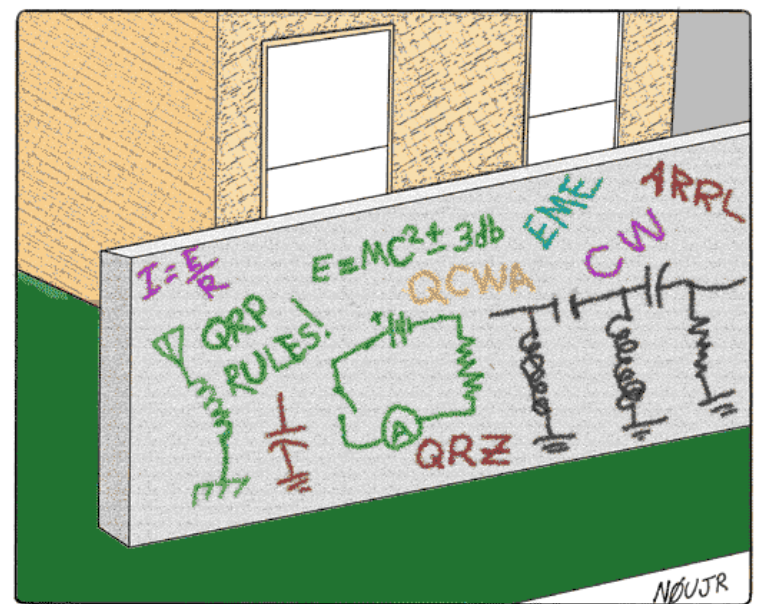
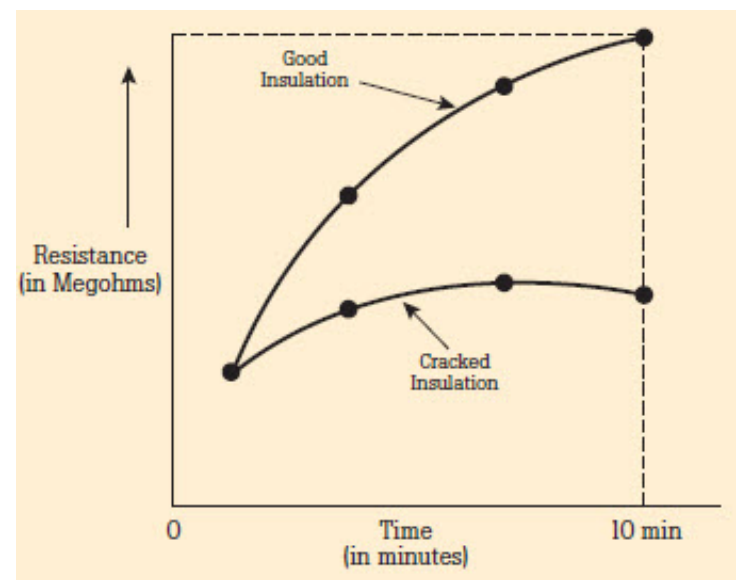
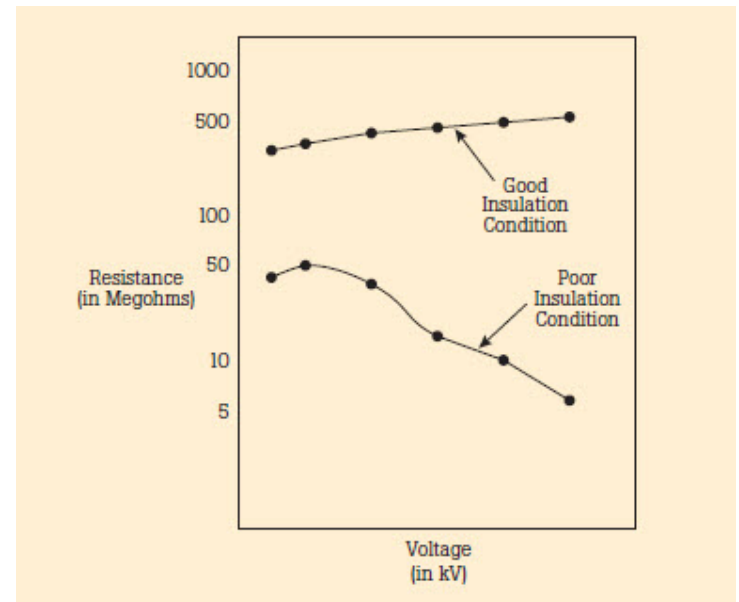
The step voltage test involves resistance testing at various voltage settings. In this test, you apply each test voltage for the same period of time (usually 60 seconds), graphing the recorded insulation resistance. By applying increasing voltages in steps, the insulation is exposed to increased electrical stress that can reveal information about flaws in the insulation such as pinholes, physical damage, or brittleness. Good insulation should withstand an increase in over-voltage stress and its resistance should remain approximately the same during testing with different voltage levels. On the other hand, especially at higher voltage levels, deteriorated, cracked or contaminated insulation will experience an increased current flow, resulting in a decrease in insulation resistance. This test is independent of insulation material, equipment capacitance, and temperature effect. Because it takes a longer time to run, it should be performed only after an insulation spot test has been inconclusive.

A spot test deals with absolute resistance change (single reading) with respect to time, while the step voltage test looks for trends in resistance, with respect to varying test voltages.



Dielectric-absorption / time-resistance test

The time resistance test is independent of equipment size and temperature. It compares the absorption characteristics of contaminated insulation with the absorption characteristics of good insulation. The test voltage is applied over a 10 minute period, with the data recorded every 10 seconds for the first minute and then every minute thereafter. The interpretation of the slope of the plotted graph will determine the condition of the insulation. A continuous increase in graphed resistance indicates good insulation. A flat or downward curve indicates cracked or contaminated insulation. □



Ham graffiti.

FOR SALE

I have a list of Ham gear I want to sell, they will go on eBay soon if they don't sell here in Alaska. If you need any more info please ask. Home phone is 376-2857, email is nl7tz@arrl.net I can bring anything to town to the club meeting.

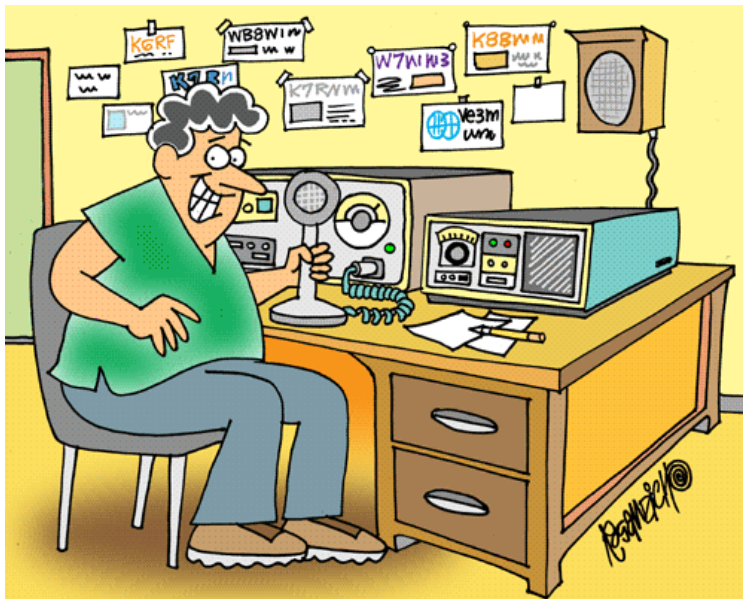
Thanks
73 Tom, NL7TZ

ICOM IC R7000 \$600.00

Description: 25 - 1000/ 1025 - 2000 MHz multimode communications receiver with 99 memory channels.
Operator's manual and service manual.

Have 3 of these, 2m/440 HT

- ⇒ Yaesu FT-530, FBA-12 (6 AA DRY CELL CASE), MH-29A2B LCD Display mic with remote functions, \$350.00
- ⇒ Yaesu FT-530, FNB-26S AND FNB-26 batteries, MH-29A2B LCD Display mic with remote functions, VINYL CASE, NC-42, QUICK CHARGER \$350.00
- ⇒ Yaesu FT-530, 3 EACH FNB-25, DESKHARGER \$250.00
- ⇒ Brand new Simpson 260-8 volt-ohm meter \$200.00
- ⇒ SGC SG-2000 HF Transceiver, no mic \$750.00
This is an extremely high quality 150 watt HF SSB, CW and AM Transceiver for Marine or Ham use



ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MEMBERSHIP MEETING

March 6, 2009

Carr Gottstein Building – APU Campus
Anchorage, AK

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Randy Vallee, KL7Z. Members and guests introduced themselves. Thirty-nine were in attendance

Presentation

Jerry Matthews of Municipal Light and Power gave a presentation on Power Distribution in South Central Alaska and Standby generator installations. Jerry's department is the Distribution Transformer Shop/Facility Maintenance. Jerry provided a layout of the 17 Distribution plants connected throughout South Central and Interior Alaska. These plants are between Delta Junction in the Interior and Bradley Lake across the bay from Homer and feed the large neighborhood substations. Several Power Dispatch centers are used to broker power throughout this section of the state and keeps power flowing to the customer. Power is then distributed throughout the distribution system by the use of transformers which regulate the voltage down from the high voltage transmission for distribution. In high density areas, the loop feed system is used with one switch in the loop locked open. This provides for redundancy in situations such as cable failures or downed lines and provides the ability to reroute power to the area and minimizing the affected users. Where the density is lower, the radial feed system is used. The drawback to this type of feed is that extended power outages may be experienced while repairs are made. Power linemen are reminded of their own safety in situations where they are focused and intent on getting the power back on. Jerry discussed the incident where a raven caused a flash over in a substation and the domino effect which caused 2/3 of South Central Alaska to go black as a result.

Jerry noted the use of hydro electric power from the Bradley Lake, Cooper Lake and Eklutna Lake facilities, coal at the Fairbanks and Healy plants, natural gas at the Chugach Electric and ML&P plants and diesel and bunker fuel generators at other facilities. Jerry noted that Delta Junction used to have a small nuclear power plant that is no longer in use.



KL7AA General Meeting Club Business

General discussion noted the age of the turbines in use in Anchorage which are 25-30 years old. Complete rebuilds of these units are done on regular intervals, coordination issues between utilities for transferring power, isolation capabilities during disasters, weak links in the power grid such as the Seward area due to avalanches, Whittier due to the tunnel, Hope due to fuel constraints.

The installation of standby generation for homeowners was discussed and a handout detailing the requirements of the 3 local utilities were provided as handouts. Jerry noted that an individuals location would have a major part in the decision of how much to spend on a standby system, what the standby load requirements would be, what the critical loads might be, what type of electrical/electronic equipment would be powered, is the generator permanently installed or cord and plug connected. Jerry noted that a permanently installed generator has more stringent requirements to satisfy Utility and Code enforcement agency rules. Transfer switches, if used, are required to be rated the same as the utility service is to the residence (i.e. 100 amp, 200 amp etc.), Multiple circuit switching assemblies are available locally which allow for switching critical circuits between utility and generator power without the installation of a transfer switch.

Estimated costs for the installation of standby generation are \$500 per kilowatt if the work is done by the homeowner and can range to the area of \$1500 per kW if installed professionally. Jerry noted the average home requires between 5 to 10kw to power standby equipment and circuits. Discussion noted the installation of equipment in the Municipality of Anchorage requires an electrical permit, a homeowner (not renters) may obtain the permit and do the work themselves with a diagram of the intended installation, all utilities have requirements for installation and will inspect the installation to verify the installation for safety and protection of the crews working on the utility power during an outage. Jerry noted that a generator supplying 120v to a residence that is improperly installed can produce 7200v by back-feeding a transformer and energizing the primary lines. Discussion noted that the less expensive the generator the lower quality of power provided, automatic vs. manual transfer switches, permanent vs. portable generators, site considerations, noise issues with generators, life safety issues for some, utility requirements are easier with manual

transfer switches vs. automatic, grounding issues, National Electrical Code article 702 requirements and the bottom line that the installation needs to be safe. Discussion was also held on co-generation, geo thermal, tidal, and in-river generation systems, legally required standby systems in hospitals, schools, assembly points, and other similar facilities, use of coal and emissions, dwindling natural gas supplies, wind farms, and the proposed new substation in Anchorage at International and Minnesota.

Business

Randy Vallee noted the open Activities Manager position on the AARC Board of Directors. Pat Wilke WL7JA volunteered for the position and was approved by the AARC Board of Directors at the February Board Meeting. Randy asked for a show of hands to approve Pat to the position. There was no opposition.

Randy Valley noted that T.J. Sheffield was going to be putting forth a proposal for the purchase of emergency response equipment and requests input from members at the weekly sessions at the Rowan Street ham shack. The meetings are held every Wednesday at 7pm. T.J requests input and thoughts regarding emergency preparedness and also thoughts about the upcoming Field Day.

OTHER

Heather Hasper, KL7SP made the following announcements:

- ⇒ Heather thanked the volunteers for the Fur Rondy event and handed out certificates for participating.
- ⇒ A statewide ARES training session will be held at the APU campus at 9:30am on March 21st. The training will be on Winlink and will be presented by the Fairbanks radio club.
- ⇒ A joint exercise will be held on UAA campus involving UAA, Red Cross and OEM on Monday, March 23rd. Two shifts of volunteers are requested. A 930am-3pm shift and a 230pm-8pm shift. Contact KL7SP at ARRL.net for information and to volunteer

Door Prize Drawing

WL7CPX, Nancy, KL2HC, KL2OS and KL7MM.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.

Submitted as recorded on March 6, 2009 by:

Richard Tweet, KL2AZ

Secretary

AMATEUR RADIO

KL7AA Club Business

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
BOARD MEETING
March 17, 2009
540 WEST INTERNATIONAL ROAD
Anchorage, AK
(UNAPPROVED at Printing)

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Randy Vallee KL7Z.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

President Randy Vallee KL7Z, Vice President Heather Hasper KL7SP, Secretary Richard Tweet KL2AZ, Treasurer Calex Gonzalez KL2BT, Activities Manager Pat Wilke WL7JA, Past President Kathleen O'Keefe KL7KO, Eric McIntosh KL2FM, Susan Woods NL7NN, John Orella KL7LL, T.J Sheffield KL7TS, Tom Rutigliano NL7TZ, Michael O'Keefe KL7MD, Sean Jensen KL2CO, Hugh McLaughlin KL7HM

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Keith Clark KL7MM

EXCUSED

Bruce McCormick KL7BM

UNEXCUSED

Craig Severson KL2FN

REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS

Travel and Unavailability - John Orella KL7LL

D-Star repeater availability - Tom Rutigliano NL7TZ

Membership Survey – Heather Hasper KL7SP

GUESTS

Bill Fults KL1UK

T.J. Tombleson KB8JXX

SECRETARY REPORT

Previous Board meeting minutes for the February Board meeting were presented as well as the membership meeting minutes from the March membership meeting. Discussion noted the misspelling of an Officer's name. Motion made John Orella KL7LL, seconded Michael O'Keefe KL7MD to accept the minutes as presented/corrected. The motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Calex Gonzalez KL2BT gave the financial report for month ending February 2008. Calex noted the treasury is healthy, no grants are before the Board and Field Day purchases have not been made yet. Motion made Heather Hasper KL7SP, seconded Michael O'Keefe KL7MD to accept the Treasurers report as given. The motion carried unanimously

VE REPORT

Eric McIntosh KL2FM reported that testing remains steady with two people passing the Technician exam, 1 passed the General exam and 1 passed the Extra exam at the last session.

TRUSTEE REPORT

Keith Clark KL7MM reported that there was nothing new to report

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

There was no membership report as Fred Erickson was not in attendance.

ARES TRAINING

Heather Hasper reported that the Fairbanks Arctic Amateur Radio Club would be presenting a statewide ARES training session on March 21st. The training will be hosted by the AARC at the Alaska Pacific University beginning at 9:30am in the Carr Gottstein Building. Heather also reported on the upcoming UAA/Municipality of Anchorage joint exercise which will be held on March 23rd as well as the upcoming Anchorage International Airport disaster exercise to be held on June 6th.

OLD BUSINESS

CCV TOILET

Michael O'Keefe reported that the new toilet had been installed at the CCV garage and was complete.

REAL ESTATE

Keith Clark KL7MM reported on the banks requiring a down payment of 40% instead of the normal 25% which would likely result in the AARC being able to purchase a \$400,000.00 building with current funds. Keith noted this severely limits appropriate property choices to accommodate the AARC's requirements. Keith noted he will continue to watch the market.

KL7AA Club Business

CLUB TEST EQUIPMENT

Heather Hasper KL7SP reported that the test equipment discussed at the last Board meeting had been purchased from Jim Wiley KL7CC and was in use at the AARC CCV facility. Heather reported that the policy for use of club assets was still in draft format and was still being developed.

AARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS TRAINING

Randy Vallee asked for input on the recent Foreaker Group Board of Director training provided to the AARC Board of Directors. General discussion was all very positive with the suggestion the training occur annually and additional training be sought in the Finance Committee and Project Management areas

CCV SECURITY

Michael O'Keefe KL7MD reported that the project is not complete and is waiting on installation of equipment and devices.

CCV VEHICLE

Michael O'Keefe reported that the leveler jack system is in need of repair as it is inoperative. Michael is working on finding a facility to repair it.

CCV CONFERENCE PHONE

Brief discussion was held on conference phone availability in the CCV facility. Discussion was held on the prototype multiple headset monitoring/mentoring INTERCOM station being tested by the club and the possibility of using off the shelf aviation type equipment to accomplish the same goal.

WILEY TEST GEAR

This was discussed as noted above. Heather Hasper noted that Corny Eastman KL0FK will be out of town on business until the beginning of April.

NEW BUSINESS

BOARD POLICY ON USE OF PERSONAL CREDIT CARDS

Discussion was held on the AARC Board Policy regarding the use of personal credit cards for club purchases. It was noted that the AARC Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation prohibits the personal gain by any officer of the club and the club's policy is that no personal credit cards will be used for the purchases of the AARC. Discussion

was held on the use of debit cards by club members for club purchases for repairs and improvements to club assets and the reimbursement policy of the club. Randy Vallee noted the AARC Bylaws Committee will review the policy.

BOARD MEMBER TRAVEL

John Orella KL7LL noted that he will be travelling from the 7th of April until the middle of June and will be unavailable for AARC business. Tom Rutigliano reported that he would be gone during May and June and would also be unavailable.

D-STAR REPEATER AVAILABILITY

Tom Rutigliano NL7TZ reported that Mike Romanello KL7BK was interested in selling his D-Star repeater. Discussion was held on AARC interest in obtaining this system, use and equipment requirements for D-Star, and current status of the system. Sean Jensen KL2CO noted this was appropriate for the Technical Committee to pursue. Tom will find out particulars on the equipment and sale price and report back to the committee.

MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

Heather Hasper inquired as to the status of the AARC membership survey discussed at the February Board Meeting. Hugh McLaughlin reported that he had not initiated the survey yet.

ARES HF EQUIPMENT PURCHASE

T.J. Sheffield KL7TS gave a presentation of a Capital Projects funding request for additional club equipment. This was in addition to the presentation during the February AARC Board meeting and was intended to be more detailed and address questions raised by the Board. T.J. noted this proposed matrix of equipment would allow for deployment without tearing down of club station equipment or borrowing personal equipment and could be available for use at Field Day. Equipment proposed for purchase consists of:



KL7AA Club Business

- ⇒ 4 Laptop computers with external mouse, keyboard, and monitors. These will allow for portability and rapid deployment. One would be used for the satellite station, one for the training station and 2 for the primary transmitters. These higher end laptops would allow for multiple applications to be open in an emergency.
- ⇒ 3 MicroHAM micro KEYERS. One for each of the proposed Elecraft stations and one for the GOTA station. Micro KEYERS provide multi-mode capability. T.J. noted the new ARRL Triple Play award for Voice/CW/Digital contacts.
- ⇒ 2 Elecraft K3 transceivers
- ⇒ 1 SGC mobile amplifier (would be wired into CCV permanently)
- ⇒ 200' control cable
- ⇒ Guy ropes to allow for 2nd guy connection on towers
- ⇒ Shipping and contingency

T.J. provided a view of the proposed layout, noted this was a legacy system, noted the fundamental question was the capability to provide communications, provided a history of AARC purchases to improve the deployment/portable capabilities, noted the 2 Elecraft radios would be used as the primary transmitters for DX capabilities and the use of a regional/statewide training station using multi-mode capability at 150 watts and a SteppIR antenna, the GOTA station would be a duplicate of the CCV facility club station using a Mark V and a Micro KEYER, provided a cost comparison of AARC costs associated with the ownership of VHF/UHF repeaters as compared to this purchase, noted the availability to provide wireless and HinterNET support to agencies, noted training opportunities available at CCV facility during contests,

Board discussion of the proposal included; 2 K3's would be needed to provide both DX and NVIS communications, K3's are portable and more robust per the reference material presented, Why laptops vs. desktop pc's, Could existing club assets be used in lieu of purchasing new, What is the minimum needed to operate on Field day, Project would be for ARES communication response and tested on Field Day and Sweepstakes events, Who will provide ARES training for use of equipment acquired, Purpose is for commonality of equipment, What operator training will be provided to the membership and who will be providing the training, Training opportunities other than contesting, Wise use of club finances, Past purchases not used.

This proposed \$26,000.00 purchase was approved by the AARC Board during the February Board meeting and will go the membership for a vote on the April 3rd general membership meeting. President Vallee expressed his appreciation to T.J. Sheffield and Keith Clark for their work on the presentation and Field Day preparations.

T.J. TOMBLESON PRESENTATION

T.J. Tombleson KB8JXX gave a presentation to the Board detailing the Cliffside Amateur Radio Association's (CARA) project for a Statewide Linked Radio Project. T.J. noted this project will provide for 24 linked repeaters and is proposed to be installed in 3 phases. AT&T Alaska has partnered with CARA and will provide for free hosting of the equipment as well as installation by their technicians. T.J. noted that it will cost CARA approximately \$8,000.00 per site in support equipment to bring online. Discussion included frequency pairing, control operator availability, control link via leased lines, project budget, support personnel and equipment, sites included per phase, repeater interconnection, project engineering, grant availability, requirements and procedures, ArcticCom experience in development, inter-operative agreement, project timeline, use of system for ARES, 501c3 non-profit requirements. T.J. noted that details and site plots are available on the www.WL7CWE.org website.

MISC. DISCUSSION

Heather Hasper KL7SP reported that the Kenwood repeater removed from Grubstake for repair is being sent back to Kenwood USA for repairs due to undocumented modifications and will be returned to its original configuration

Michael O'Keefe KL7MD noted the missing TNC and radio from the CCV facility has been returned to the facility and is back in place in its kit.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made Tom Rutigliano NL7TZ, seconded Michael O'Keefe KL7MD to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.

Respectfully submitted as recorded on 03/17/09 by
Richard Tweet, KL2AZ
Secretary

Great Volunteers



HAMS provide communications for RED CROSS Muni Exercise, Mass Care Feeding



FUR RONDY 2009



NEW Fur Rondy Board!



















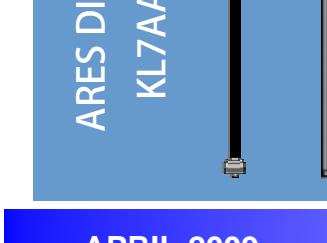

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club
 PO BOX 101987
 Anchorage, AK 99510-1987
www.KL7AA.net

April 2009

ARES DISTRICT 7 & 5
 KL7AA & KL7JFU



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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Parka, meets at Denny's on Denali at 11AM Contact: Lil Marvin NL7DL, 277-6741 EARS: R1 North, Third Saturday of each month. Contact: Ron Keech: KL7YK@arrl.net	HAM CLASS	HAM CLASS	MARA Board Meeting 7PM HAM CLASS	  	 AARC Meeting 7PM	 PARKA meeting 11 AM
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	HAM CLASS	HAM CLASS	HAM CLASS	  American Red Cross	 ARES Training 930 EARS	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	HAM CLASS	AARC Board Meeting 7PM	HAM CLASS	 	 MARA meeting 7PM	
26	27	28	29	30		
	HAM CLASS		HAM CLASS	 PET Emergency		

3/18 ARES TRAINING

COAX Testing

Alaska Pacific University; 0930
 Contact Heather, kl7sp@arrl.net
 kl7sp@arrl.net or 275-7474

4/6 - 4/29 HAM RADIO Class

Alaska Pacific University; 0930
 MON & WED Evenings
 6PM - 9PM
 APDEA Union Hall

www.aresalsaska.org

ARES NETS:

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



PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Public Service

Listed below are events that local radio clubs and event coordinators are looking for communication volunteers to support these upcoming public service events. Your participation is appreciated.

Volunteers!



While April is a quite month for public service activities, Spring is just around the corner and Summer events will soon be here. Here are some of the dates and events in May that we will be looking for volunteers.

5/2 WALK FOR HOPE

Contact: John Lynn, KL7CY, johnlynn@gci.net

5/17 GOLD NUGGET TRIATHLON

Contact: Heather Hasper, KL7SP, kl7sp@arrl.net

6/20 MAYORS MARATHON

6/28 FIELD DAY

EMERGENCY EXERCISES

This spring will bring many opportunities to practice emergency communication scenarios with multiple agencies.

On **Saturday, June 6, 2009**, **Anchorage International Airport** will be practicing a disaster operations exercise. Due to the size of ANC International, the airport is required to complete this exercise every 3 years as part of the recertification of the airport under Federal Aviation Regulations Part 139. This training exercise will involve a **simulated aircraft crash** on or near airport property. This training exercise will help the airport prepare for it's response to an aircraft accident.

This is a multi-agency exercise. Many client agencies will be participating including Anchorage Office of Emergency Management, AFD, APD, State Troopers, Providence Hospital, Regional Hospital, Kulis Air National Guard, USFW, USCG, Port of Anchorage as well as many other Non Government Organizations. More details about volunteer opportunities in future newsletters. There are plenty of opportunities for operators who enjoy all modes of amateur radio to get involved in your club activities.

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.

ARES TRAINING

WHEN: APRIL 18, 2009

SUBJECT: COAX Maintenance

Do you have coax laying around in piles wondering if it works or if it is still good? Perhaps the connectors are rusted out and you need help in changing the connectors.

On Saturday April 18, 2009 we will have test gear setup and soldering irons set up at Alaska Pacific University to allow participants to bring their coax to the training and learn how to put on connectors and how to test the resistance of your coax.

Multiple stations will be set up to allow for many operators to use the equipment. Be sure to LABEL any of your coax so not to get them confused with others that may be there testing as well.

Corny Eastman, KLOFK will be providing the training.



ARES District 7 Contact Information

Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD

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





Data You Can Use:



2009 Board of Directors

President: Randy Vallee, KL7Z [president at kl7aa.net](http://www.kl7aa.net/president)
Vice Pres: Heather Hasper, KL7SP [vicepresident at kl7aa.net](http://www.kl7aa.net/vicepresident)
Secretary: Richard Tweet, KL2AZ [secretary at kl7aa.net](http://www.kl7aa.net/secretary)
Treasurer: Calex Gonzalez, KL2BT [treasurer at kl7aa.net](http://www.kl7aa.net/treasurer)
Activities Chairman: Pat Wilke, WL7JA [activities at kl7aa.net](http://www.kl7aa.net/activities)
Trustee: Keith Clark, KL7MM [trustee at kl7aa.net](http://www.kl7aa.net/trustee)
Membership Chairman:
 Fred Erickson, KL7FE [membership at kl7aa.net](http://www.kl7aa.net/membership)
News Letter Editor: Heather Hasper, KL7SP [editor at kl7aa.net](http://www.kl7aa.net/editor)

Three Year Board Members

Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD mok at gci.net (3rd Year)
 Eric McIntosh - KL2FM, kl2fm at arrl.net (2nd Year)
 Bruce McCormick, KL7BM kl7bm at arrl.net (1st year)

One Year Board Members

TJ Sheffield - KL7TS, kl7ts at arrl.net
 Craig Severson - KL2FN, chipman at clearwire.net
 John Orella: KL7LL, kl7ll at arrl.net
 Susan Woods: NL7NN, NL7NN4606 at yahoo.com
 Tom Rutigliano, NL7TZ, tomr at alaska.net
 Sean Jensen, KL2CO, sean.jensen at gmail.com
 Hugh McLaughlin, KL7HM kl7hm at arrl.net
 Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO (Past President) kok at woodcross.net

AARC web page & Email contact addresses:

Homepage: <http://www.KL7AA.net/>
Webmaster: [webmaster at kl7aa.net](mailto:webmaster@kl7aa.net)
Membership: [membership at kl7aa.net](http://www.kl7aa.net/membership)
Newsletter: [editor at kl7aa.net](mailto:editor@kl7aa.net)

News Letter Submissions, Information or corrections:

Submissions must be received 2 weeks before meeting
 Email: [editor at kl7aa.net](mailto:editor@kl7aa.net)

Any AARC sponsored repeater, with or without an auto-patch, will always be open to all licensed amateur radio operators in the area who are authorized to operate on those frequencies.

Anchorage & Mat Valley Area Repeaters-a/o JAN 1 2009

KL7AA: Flattop Mountain 2,200 ft
 146.94/34 MHz, 80 watts, auto-patch, 141.3 Hz PL
 224.94/223.34, 25 watts, no patch, no PL
 444.70/449.70, 25 watts, auto-patch, 103.5 PL
WL7CVG: Mount Susitna 4,396 ft
 VHF: WL7CVG/R1 147.270/147.870 PL 103.5, no auto-patch
 UHF: WL7CVG/R3 443.300/448.300 PL 103.5, no auto-patch
WL7CVF: Grubstake: Hatcher Pass 4,536 ft
 VHF: WL7CVF/R1 147.330 / 147.930 PL 103.5 Hz (no patch)
 UHF: WL7CVF/R3 443.900 / 448.900 PL 103.5 Hz (no patch)
KL7ION at Mt. Gordon Lyon: PARKA 3,940 ft
 147.30 / 147.90, MHz - 80 watts, no patch, 141.3 Hz PL
KL7AIR Elmendorf AFB: EARS: 146.67/146.07, 107.2 Hz PL
KL7CC, Anchorage Hillside, SCRC & QCWA
 146.97/.37 MHz, 30 watts, auto-patch, 103.5 Hz PL
KL7M Anchorage Hillside
 147.21 / 147.81 MHz, on IRLP, 97.4 Hz PL
KL7E Chugiak: 147.15/147.75, 123.0 Hz PL, auto-patch
KL7JFU, KGB road, MARA: 146.85/146.25, auto-patch, no PL
 Palmer IRLP: 146.64/.04, simplex patch, no PL
 Mile 58.3 Parks Highway IRLP: 147.09/.69 MHz, 97.4 Hz PL
Winlink VHF RMS 145.190 MHz, mode is Packet.**KL7JFT-10**
KL3K, Girdwood - IRLP
 146.76 / 146.16 MHz, 25 watts, no patch, 97.4 Hz PL
KL7AX: South Anchorage IRLP - 146.79/ 146.19 MHz, 100 Hz PL
WL7CWE: Cliffside Amateur Radio Association
WL7CWE Anchorage IRLP
 2 Meter: 146.82/146.22MHz PL 103.5
 6 Meter: 51.65 output / 51.15 input, PL 103.5Hz
 70 cm: 444.85/449.850 MHz PL: 103.5 Hz (Node 3400)

South Central Area Simplex Frequencies
 146.52 MHz Calling and Emergency frequency
 147.57 MHz National DX Calling / Coordinating frequency
 146.49 MHz Anchorage area simplex chat
 146.43 MHz Mat-Su Valley simplex chat
 147.42 MHz Peninsula simplex chat
 146.58 MHz Simplex IRLP - Wasilla Lake

Nets in Alaska:

VHF

ARES Net: 147.27/87 103.5Hz - Thursdays at 8:00 PM local
PARKA Net 147.30/.90, 141.3 HZ Thursdays at 7:00 PM local
Morning Road and Weather Report:
 147.27/87 103.5Hz - Daily at 9:00 AM
No Name Net: 146.85/.25 repeater Sundays 8:00 PM
 and 1900 - 2400 Alaska Time - AL7N or KL5T monitoring.
Big City Simplex Net: 146.520, 446.0, 52.320 FM, 29.6 FM, 28.400 USB
 With Packet 145.01 and 147.96, Tuesdays 8:00 PM local
Grandson of SSB Net: 144.20 USB Mondays 8:00 PM local
Alaska VHF Up Net: 144.200 USB Saturdays 9:00 AM local
Statewide LINK Net: 147.27/87 103.5Hz Sunday 8:00 PM local
 Echolink: KL7M

The following nets are active in

South-Central Alaska:

HF

⇒ **Alaska Sniper's Net**
 3.920 MHz 6:00 PM daily
 ⇒ **Alaska Bush Net:** 7.093 MHz 8:00 PM daily
 ⇒ **Alaska Motley Net:** 3.933 MHz 9:00 PM daily
 ⇒ **ACWN (Alaska CW Net)**
 3534, 7042 Daily @ 0700 -1000,
 Net Purpose:Formal NTS traffic via CW.
 ⇒ **Alaska Pacific Net:**
 14.292 MHz 8:00 AM M-F
 ⇒ **ERC HF Net:** 3.880 MHz - Sunday 8:30PM



Internet Links, the favorites from our readers:

AARC <http://www.KL7AA.net>
SCRC <http://www.KL7G.org>
EARS <http://www.kl7air.us>
MARA <http://www.kl7jfu.com>
Moose Horn ARC <http://www.moosehornarc.com>
PARKA <http://www.parka-kl7ion.com>
ARES <http://www.aresalaska.org>
Practice Exams : <http://www.AA9PW.com>
Fairbanks AARC: <http://www.kl7kc.com/>
ALASKA MARS: <http://www.akmars.org>
Alaska VHF-Up Group: <http://www.kl7uw.com/avg.htm>
Bethel Amateur Radio Klub: <http://www.al7yk.org/>
Yukon Amateur Radio Association:
<http://www.yara.ca/>

Links for Propagation

<http://www.haarp.alaska.edu/>

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.

Report dead links or bad info to editor@kl7aa.net

Regular HAM Gatherings:

Tuesday Lunch, 11:30 AM: Denny's on Denali behind Sears. Several old timers show for this and have lots of stories to share about amateur radio in Alaska.

Saturdays Breakfast, 7:30 AM: Here is a good way to get started on the weekend. Come and meet with some of the locals and have a great breakfast at American Diner, at the Northeast corner of Arctic and International. Great Fun.

Who Do I Contact to Join AARC

Fred Erickson KL7FE
12531 Alpine Dr
Anchorage, AK 99516-3121
E-mail: [membership \(at\) kl7aa.net](mailto:membership(at)kl7aa.net)
Phone number: 345-2181
Annual Dues are \$12 (prorated as appropriate)
Additional Member in same household is \$6.
Full Time Student is no charge.
Ask about Life Memberships



MONTHLY EVENTS

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.

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

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

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.

3rd Saturday each month: ARES General meeting 9:30AM to 12:30 PM. Call Michael O'Keefe, ANC DEC: dec@kl7aa.net HM: 243-4675 for additional information. Also check for ARES Info at: www.aresalaska.org

4th Saturday of each month: Valley VE Testing at 7PM. sessions will be held at the Wasilla Red Cross at 7 pm on the fourth Saturday of each month unless it is a major holiday weekend. Wasilla Red Cross is in the Westside Mall, next to Speedy Glass...it's just a click up from AIH hardware.

The last Friday each month: MARA meeting at 7PM Fire Station 61, located two blocks up Lucille Drive, from the Parks hwy. Talk-in help for the meeting can be acquired on either the 146.640 or 146.850 repeaters. Further details can be found by contacting Tim Comfort, NL7SK, [NL7SK at arrl.net](mailto:NL7SK@arrl.net).

THE MODULATION TIMES

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club, Inc
Post Office Box 101987
Anchorage, Alaska 99510-1987
www.kl7aa.net

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AMATEUR RADIO



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

**THE EASTER BUNNY BORROWED RAY'S TRAILER FOR HIS DELIVERIES.
HE DECORATED IT FOR THE HOLIDAY & CALLED IT THE ETHER EGG !**