

# Anchorage Amateur Radio Club



**General Meeting  
February 3rd, 2012  
7:00 PM Carr-Gottstein Bldg.**



**Dave Heimke, AL7LD  
"Operating Maritime Mobile from Homer  
to Australia"**

**Dave says this is a discussion of a two year sailing trip with wife Jill (WL7BTT) and daughter Rachel (then 7 years old). He will review boat electronics, ham radio, PACTOR nets, etc.**

## **News & Notes:**

**From Mike O'Keefe, KL7MD, re Alaska Shield Exercise.**

Per Don Bush KL7JFT, I don't believe we are participating in the Alaska Shield exercise. The amateur radio community is supporting the American Red Cross on Friday and Saturday out in the valley. There is nothing planned for the City of Anchorage.

**Also from Mike O'Keefe:**

AARC will be teaching an Amateur Radio Class (primarily Technician level) for the APD.

Class will be from 6pm, to 9pm February 6, 9, 13,16, 20 and 23. Volunteers interested in assisting in teaching should contact Michael O'Keefe at 351-4038 or [mok@gci.net](mailto:mok@gci.net).

We will be charging for the Technician Books at a cost of \$25.00 each. Class will be held at the APD Union Hall. Contact for signing up for the class is Michael O'Keefe at 351-4038 or [mok@gci.net](mailto:mok@gci.net)

Mike is hoping for a special testing session the final night. It is unknown if any of the participants will try for a higher class license than Technician.

## THE AARC ANTENNA

### More News & Notes:

#### Research Effort in Barrow info from Craig Bledsoe — KL4E

We will be floating a buoy equipped with an APRS transponder from Barrow, Alaska in March.

Any hams up there to listen to it directly before the ice melts?

Then after it begins to drift, we will need AMSAT hams anywhere in Alaska to capture any packets on 145.825 via ISS. The ISS gets to 1.5 degrees elevation once a day up there.

If you know someone not on this list, can you please pass this along?

Bob Bruniga, WB4APR  
E-Mail: [wb4apr@amsat.org](mailto:wb4apr@amsat.org)  
U.S. Naval Academy  
Satellite Laboratory



#### More from Bob Bruniga:

ISS only gets to 1.5 degree above the Horizon in Barrow.

Plan B will be to receive the Buoy directly in Barrow on 145.825 and establish an IGate there. We are purchasing a 2m radio and TNC for that station if the local ham will volunteer to hook it up.

But I just learned that the buoy will be placed on the ice by a helo about 30 miles out on the ice. This will take an antenna in Barrow of 160' above sea level or more. I doubt there is any such ham antenna on any existing tower. But since I have ZERO knowledge of the topology up there, are there any 160 foot hills nearby? For some reason I'm thinking it is quite flat up there? But if there is a hill, a drive-up with a mobile will hear the buoy fine. We only need a status report every few weeks.

Plan C. In any case, this is a NASA project and they will be doing occasional aircraft overflights of the area. All we need on board that aircraft is a Kenwood TH-D72 HT acting like a digipeater. And then whenever the aircraft is in flight, the Barrow station will hear the digipeated packets. He will also see the position of the Aircraft on APRS since it will have the TH-D72 with built-in APRS GPS.

Plan D. Fortunately, PCSAT-1 overflies the area 5 times a day listening on 145.825. Unfortunately, the Buoy is set to digi via the ISS and will not digi via PCSAT-1 unless the PCSAT-1 is commanded to match the ISS alias of ARISS. This is a fundamental design of PCSAT, but when we set the ARISS digipeater alias, it only lasts until the next eclipse 30 minutes later, and so this command will have to be sent from Hawaii on EVERY pass where we want to check on the health of the Buoy. So we also need to train a Hawaii command station.

PLAN-E. Any ham flying into or out of Barrow with an APRS HT held to the window of the aircraft (with permission of the pilot) will be able to capture packets from the Buoy and can report when he gets on the ground. So all hams flying to Barrow, bring your APRS HT!

Anyway, so much to do and so little time. --- But we like the challenge.

Editor's Note. There is much e-mail traffic on this. Check with Craig Bledsoe, KL4E, [ak-prepared.com](http://ak-prepared.com) or Bob Bruniga, WB4APR, [wb4apr@amsat.org](mailto:wb4apr@amsat.org) to join in.

## THE AARC ANTENNA

### Report on RTTY Exercise — January 7 & 8, 2012.

Four Hundred sixty-six qsos for 28,892 claimed points.

We heated the amp up nicely as it tripped off for overheat. The fans arrived, one is installed and will be operational today. Just in time for RTTY season.

Control ops were Eric Thompson, N6SPP, Mike Baker, NL7J, and Rich Gillin, AL4S.  
Ops were Tom Ireland, KL3IJ, Shannon Methé, KL3JI, Stephen Bloom, KL7SB and Mike O'Keefe, KL7MD!

Rich Gillin - AL4S  
907.884.1404  
skype/ooVoo: rich.gillin  
VHF/HF email: [al4s@winlink.org](mailto:al4s@winlink.org)

Pictures courtesy of  
Mike Baker, NL7J.



From Craig Bledsoe, KL4E.

This article by U.S. Navy CAPT Marshall Hanson, the ROA Congressional Director of Legislation, appeared in a recent national defense magazine and discusses the devastating effect of a nuclear electromagnetic pulse (EMP) attack on American infrastructure. It starts out by summarizing the "Starfish Prime" detonation 400 KM over Johnston Atoll some 800 miles from Hawaii. Even at that distance the EMP wave from the blast decimated the Hawaiian electrical power grid and wiped out critical system command and control capabilities.

Also as described in the text, clearly the Chinese, Iranians, and others hostile toward American interests appreciate the usefulness of EMP electronic obliteration and appear quite willing to use this technology given the means to execute an attack. Furthermore note that Congress in its wisdom has seen fit to do little or nothing to prepare against such an eventuality.

## ACTING ON IMPULSE

CAPT MARSHALL A. HANSON, USNR (RET.)  
ROA DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATION

*EMP bill languishes in House subcommittee, despite threat.*

The United States has already fallen victim to an electromagnetic pulse (EMP) from a high-altitude nuclear explosion. Honolulu suffered the effects, with streetlights being blown and microwave telephone links to the other islands being shut down.

This attack occurred in 1962, and the aggressor was the United States, as it performed high-altitude tests 400 km over Johnston Island in the South Pacific, 898 miles from Hawaii. Known as Starfish Prime, the test was part of a series of nuclear tests called Operation Fishbowl, and the electromagnetic effects were greater than calculated.

"The azimuthal angle provided coherent build-up of voltage as the EMP swept over the transmission line," according to a 1989 Sandia National Laboratories report. "The rapid rise allowed substantial [electron] excitation before the cancelling effects of ground reflection limited the signals."

The Soviets performed a series of high-altitude EMP tests over the more-populated Kazakhstan in the early 1960s as well, causing greater damage than the Starfish Prime test, including a fire in a Karaganda power plant. These tests provided the Soviets with more EMP data than the United States collected from its own tests. This information was informally shared with the United States after the fall of the Soviet Union, as recorded in a 1995 Howard Seguire memorandum.

The damage in Honolulu, however, was not the first time that the United States suffered disruptions from an EMP. Havoc can occur from natural sources as well. A geomagnetic storm in 1858 sent EMP waves along telegraph wires, shutting down telegraph systems all over Europe and North America, setting fires, and in some cases even shocking telegraph operators, according to a National Academy report. Today, with the United States more dependent on more sophisticated but sensitive controls for its power grid, the threat is even greater.

At the CNN Presidential Debate on National Security last November, when all eight Republican candidates were asked what unaddressed threat might they face during their presidencies, presidential hopeful Newt Gingrich listed EMP as

an unrecognized threat.

Several members in Congress share a concern for this threat. The Secure High-voltage Infrastructure for Electricity from Lethal Damage (SHIELD) Act, H.R. 668, seeks to secure the U.S. electrical grid to allow for continued food production as well as water, sewer, and electricity utilities, despite the occurrence of either a manmade or natural EMP.

As of early December, only 36 House members had sponsored the bill, and it languishes in the Energy and Commerce subcommittee on Energy and Power. A similar bill passed the House in the 111th Congress, but it stalled in the Senate because of some cyber-security threat language, which has since been removed from the bill.

The SHIELD Act would empower the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to work with industry and other government departments and agencies to strengthen the national electric grid from EMP threats. FERC estimates that the cost for protecting the electric grid would add only 20 cents to the annual bill of the average ratepayer for a period of three years.

The threat is valid. Both China and Iran have published military articles about the effectiveness of an EMP attack. Iran has been working on miniaturizing a nuclear weapon that can be launched on a missile, which has created a concern on Capitol Hill of a SCUD missile launch from a commercial vessel in the Atlantic that could cripple infrastructure along the East Coast.

One of the SHIELD Act's sponsors, Rep. Roscoe Bartlett (R-Md.), tells the story about meeting three Russians on the Duma International Affairs Committee: "On May 2, [1999], the Russians chastised the United States for military aggression in the Balkans and warned that Russia was not helpless to oppose Operation Allied Force. Its chairman, Vladimir Lukin, said, 'If we really wanted to hurt you with no fear of retaliation, we would launch an SLBM [submarine-launched ballistic missile] and detonate a single nuclear warhead at high altitude over the United States and shut down your power grid and communications for six months or so.'"

**Both China and Iran have published military articles about the effectiveness of an EMP attack.**

### EMP Resistant Containers:

Nothing is 100% but something is better than nothing.

I have been looking at EMP protection for a while now. Click on the link below. I have big metal trash cans and some smaller ones I actually tried this experiment with a radio on the weather channel. What I do is take my (spare) radio and electronic equipment and wrap it in grocery bags to act as an insulator then wrap with tin foil a few times so it goes like.

STEP 1 grocery bag tin foil

STEP 2 grocery bag tin foil

STEP 3 TRASH BAG-Nothing touches the inside of the metal container

STEP 4 Lowes or Home Depot SMALL Metal can and maybe another liner

STEP 5 Big metal container.

If I had a metal shed the container would then go into that.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GqZmac2Bg5M&feature=related>

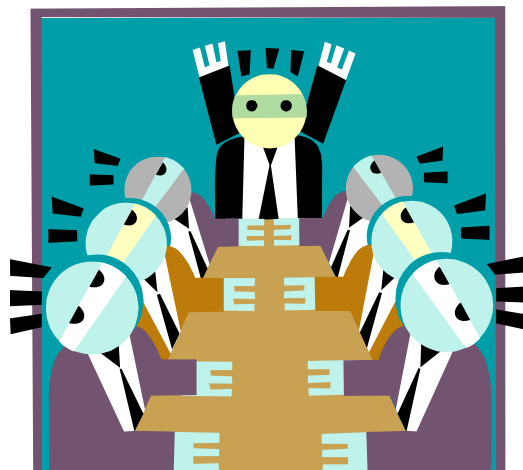
From Charles Haller, KL2GW, Charles.haller@us.army.mil.

### Meeting Dates:

February Board Meeting: February 21st, 7:00 PM, Hope Cottages.

February Finance Committee Meeting: February 14th, 7:00 PM, HamShack.

February Projects Committee Meeting: February 15th, 7:00 PM, HamShack.



## THE AARC ANTENNA

More from Craig, KL4E.

An interesting emergency response story for everyone interested in disaster preparedness...

----- Original Message -----

The need for emergency communications:

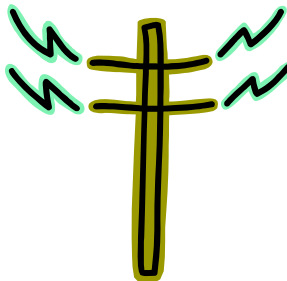
This story is very close to home. Last night at about 4 PM, my Internet went out. I tried to call customer service and found that I was unable to dial anyone outside of my exchange. I tried to use the cell phone and... Nada. I got on 2 meters and found that a fiber line was broken, and the guy at Cal Fire was monitoring the local repeaters. Today I found out the rest of the story.

A telephone pole failed and fell over. The police reported that there was no known cause for the failure, there was no wind, no accident, just a rotten telephone pole. Lines were across Hwy 49, the major route into and out of Nevada County. Traffic was blocked, so the police cut the cable. It appears that everyone contracts with AT&T for service, and cutting this line caused all communications to/from Nevada and Sierra County and the outside world to fail. 911 Service gone... cell phones gone... the ability to dial outside of the area, gone... Oops!

Amateur Radio service impact... none. Cal Fire radio established a radio link between Nevada Co ERC and Sacramento and was able to handle the calls... however there were few calls.... perhaps because cell phones didn't work.... and the public had no idea what to do. People dialing 911 with a serious problem wound up calling the Police... a local call that still worked (via land line) and they passed the traffic to Cal Fire.... and fortunately it was a quiet night.

So. For those who think that our communications is a redundant web, think again. One rotten phone pole falling down caused two counties to be disconnected for twelve hours. The failed pole is two miles west of me.

Jim Michener, K9JM



## THE AARC ANTENNA

A reminder about ARRL Scholarships — again, thanks to Craig, KL4E.

Dear Northwestern Division ARRL Members,

Please refer to the attached URL which discusses the upcoming ARRL Scholarship Program. Over 60 scholarships are offered. Some are general scholarships for all and some are unique for specific divisions, states, or locations.

The application process has gone completely electronic which makes it easier than ever for young people to complete the application, upload their transcript and send it before the February 1 deadline. Access to information on all the awards, selection criteria, application forms and instructions is on the web at [www.arrl.org/scholarship-program](http://www.arrl.org/scholarship-program).

In the past, a number of Northwestern Division youth have benefited from these scholarships. Please pass this information to those young hams in your respective areas who might qualify for a scholarship. Again, note that **the deadline to apply is February 1, 2012**. In the past few months, QST carried an article discussing this program.

73  
Jim Fenstermaker K9JF  
Director  
ARRL Northwestern Division.

From the ARRL Article. — but check the site for details.

Each year the ARRL Foundation awards more than 70 scholarships to young hams who are pursuing higher education. The awards range from \$500 to \$5000. All applicants must submit a full application and transcript to be considered.

**Important note: The application period for all ARRL Foundation Scholarship opens October 1 each year and closes promptly on February 1 the following year. Awards are usually announced to the winners by letter in mid-May.**

**Applications are due February 1. Transcripts and FAFSA document are due March 1 and should be sent electronically to [foundation@arrl.org](mailto:foundation@arrl.org). If necessary, paper transcripts may be mailed to ARRL Foundation, 225 Main Street, Newington CT 06111-1494.**

**IMPORTANT:** Applicants should review the scholarship descriptions. Some awards have specific geographic criteria or requirements as to course of study. Applicants should apply ONLY for those scholarships for which they qualify.

# THE AARC ANTENNA

## Installing external fans on the ACOM 2000A

Pictures from Rich Gillin, AL4S.



## HF Communication Impacts — Space Weather Event.

Perhaps some of you would like to assist in providing data to Tom Burgess. This info was provided via Ken Slauson.

Tom Burgess (WL7PN) [thomas.burgess@dhs.gov](mailto:thomas.burgess@dhs.gov) from Homeland Security infrastructure protection is asking for help from the ham community. Specifically, he is looking for reports on HF outages due to solar weather. He asked me for help in contacting hams active on HF that might be willing to provide such information, and we are building a mailing list. I'm sending this message before that list is established, because of the solar event this morning (details below).

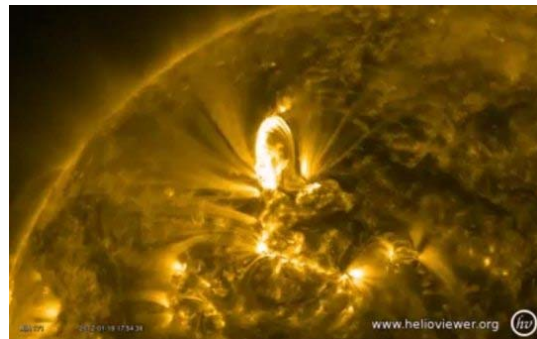
I know I don't have a complete list, so if you see someone that should be in on this, feel free to forward to them, and to let me or Tom know of them.

NOAA is predicting communications impacts starting Tuesday, so if you happen to work some HF, let us know about any problems you encounter.

----- Forwarded message -----

Via: Ken Slauson

Thomas Burgess MS CPP  
Protective Security Advisor  
Infrastructure Protection  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Work: 907-271-5149  
Cell: 907-351-3855  
Fax: 907-271-3727  
Anchorage Alaska 99513  
[thomas.burgess@dhs.gov](mailto:thomas.burgess@dhs.gov)



-----Original Message-----

From: Carven Scott [<mailto:carven.scott@noaa.gov>]

Sent: Monday, January 23, 2012 12:40 PM

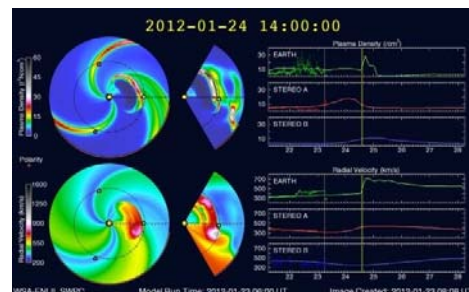
To: [thomas.burgess@dhs.gov](mailto:thomas.burgess@dhs.gov)

Subject: Space Weather Event

Space Weather Message Code: SUMXM5

Serial Number: 85

Issue Time: 2012 Jan 23 0622 UTC



## THE AARC ANTENNA

SUMMARY: X-ray Event exceeded M5  
Begin Time: 2012 Jan 23 0338 UTC  
Maximum Time: 2012 Jan 23 0359 UTC  
End Time: 2012 Jan 23 0434 UTC  
X-ray Class: M8.7  
Optical Class: 1n  
Location: N28W20  
NOAA Scale: R2 - Moderate



Potential Impacts: Area of impact centered primarily on sub-solar point on the sunlit side of Earth. Limited blackout of HF radio communication, loss of radio contact for tens of minutes.

"The solar radiation storm continued to strengthen overnight, reaching the S3 (Strong) storm level. This is the strongest radiation storm since May, 2005 and the enhanced conditions are expected to last through Wednesday. The geomagnetic storm is expected to kick off Tuesday and is likely to reach G2 (Moderate) levels, with a possibility of G3 (Strong) storms. High latitudes have a possibility of even stronger, isolated geomagnetic storming. No customer impacts have been reported and these storm levels will begin to feel 'normal' as the solar cycle continues. We have seen stronger geomagnetic activity as recently as October, 2010."

--

Chief, Environmental and Scientific Services Division  
NOAA/NWS Alaska Region Headquarters  
222 W 7th Avenue #23 Room 517  
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7575  
Office - (907)271-5131  
Fax - (907)271-3711

-----  
ARRL Alaska Section  
Section Manager: Jim Larsen, AL7FS  
[al7fs@arrl.org](mailto:al7fs@arrl.org)  
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Pictures from TechRepublic Gallery.

This TechRepublic gallery features images from NASA on The Commons Flickr stream. There are photos from Apollo missions 4, 11, and 17, images of the Earth from the lunar surface, and more.  
<http://ct.techrepublic.com/clicks?t=1118275997-3cf79a996f164192258a52762ecbba8-bf&brand=TECHREPUBLIC&s=5>



## THE AARC ANTENNA



### ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

#### BOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 18, 2011

Approved Minutes



**Board Members Present** –Paul Spatzek, WL7BF, TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, Lara Baker, AL2R, Richard Kotsch, WL7CPX, Doug Stowers, WL7CDC, Michael O’Keefe, KL7MD, Tom Rutigliano, NL7TZ, Ken Perry, AL7GA, Kathleen O’Keefe, KL7KO, TJ Sheffield, KL7TS.

**Guests Present** –Alice Baker, KL2GD, Fred Erickson, KL7FE, Mike Baker, NL7J, Tom Ireland, KL3IJ, Rich Gillin, AL4S

**Board Members Present via teleconference** –Jim Wiley, KL7CC

**Board Members Excused** –Randy Vallee, KL7Z, Susan Woods, NL7NN, Eric McIntosh, KL2FM, Sharon Kay, KL7IM, Jim Larsen, AL7FS, TJ Tombleson, KB8JXX.

**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.

Alice Baker, KL2GD, as a guest, asked to go first and asked for articles for the newsletter. Craig Bledsoe, KL4E has promised to get an article in soon. Thanked members for photos provided. Tom Ireland, KL3IJ will ask the February speaker for an article on satellites.

Additions to the Agenda – None

Deletions to the Agenda – None

#### Reports:

**Secretary** - Kathleen O’Keefe, KL7KO – There are no minutes from the November Board Meeting as there was no quorum. The December 2011 General Meeting was the Holiday Party so no minutes were taken at that meeting either.

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**Treasurer** – Ken Perry, AL7GA – There are reports and financials on the rear table. All totals are as of yesterday. Previous month everyone slowed down on spending as we get closer to the end of the year. Not a lot going out at this time. Profit and Loss To Date report is a reflection of everything up to now. Questions from the board, ask Ken; general members with questions should go through a board member. Our income is predominately from gaming. Expenditures so far this year, \$73,894 and some change. Have changed how income is shown. Gaming Fund Residuals is all the income from other areas. This is interest and dividends. Ken, AL7GA explained financial reports in detail. Restaurant Income is different and there has been no income for this year. Discussion among board members followed. Investment accounts were explained. Discussion followed. The actual 2010 Gaming Account is \$66,045.00 is different from the actual amount to spend. The actual amount left to spend is either \$9,566.00 or \$23,155.00. The policy has always been, spend the amount of money for that year following when the funds came in. More discussion followed. Questions were asked and answered. Auditing concerns were discussed and discussion followed. The gaming account really needs set aside. Funds need to be moved from the gaming investment account to a savings account. Not put into investments. Anything not gaming needs to go into Investment accounts. Intense discussion followed with input and suggestions from several board members. The question on what still needs to be spent to be compliant with the rules as set forth by the State of Alaska for the spending of the gaming funds was discussed. An amount needs to be determined and approved for spending this evening. Discussion followed between the two amounts mentioned. The amount agreed upon that needs spent was around \$15,000.00 was decided on by the board members present. More discussion by the board followed with mention regarding APU and Hope Cottages to receive funds this year. The remainder of the funds should go to the ECCP account. More discussion followed with questions from the board members present. The 2012 Budget was discussed for approval by the board. This is strictly an expense budget for just what needs spent to keep going for the upcoming year. All extra expenditures are not budgeted for at this time. Discussion followed. A motion to accept the 2012 Proposed Budget and Treasurer's Report as presented to be approved was made by Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD. The motion was seconded by Lara Baker, AL2R. Motion passed unanimously.

**VEC Program** – Jim Wiley, KL7CC – Not too much change. Still talking to Bill Cross and the petition for Lifetime Element Credit is before committee. This needs sent to the FCC Commissioner's and they will look at it next. Then it needs sent out to public notice. There is not much done between Christmas and New Year's. Bill Cross is also working on the Remote Testing. There is a fellow in Buckland, about 70 miles from Kotzebue, the fellow is totally blind and he wants his license. The Extra Class Question Pool is finished and will be released to the public soon. We are now moving onto the next stage. Questions followed the presentation. Question regarding Pactor IV. Right now the bandwidth is too wide for HF and Bill Cross feels there will be no change anytime soon regarding this.

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**Trustee** – Keith Clark, KL7MM – Keith, KL7MM, was not present but there is nothing to report at this time.

**Membership** – Fred Erickson, KL7FE - There are 270+ paid members at this time. Some discussion followed.

**Projects Committee** – TJ Sheffield, KL7TS – Discussion regarding figures still to be spent was covered. No presentation was made at this time for expenditures of projects. At this time the project directors need to get their projects completed and billed out. Some discussion followed. Information was presented in regards to outstanding projects and expenditures expected to be billed out and spent before the end of the year. The totals were provided so Ken, AL7GA, could figure them into the figures he is working with for what is left to spend by the end of the year. More discussion followed. The amount expected to be spent by the end of the year is \$6,000.00. This figure was discussed further. At this point the board got off track.

**Finance Committee** – Keith Clark, KL7MM – TJ Sheffield, KL7TS asked questions in regards to bills already paid and was asking if any additional monthly expenses are due to be paid in December. Some discussion followed.

**By-Laws** – Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD – This discussion is to be tabled at this time. This is to be postponed until after the first of the year.

**ARES** – Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD – There is no report at this time. A presentation will be made at the General Membership meeting in January 2012.

### Old Business

**Title 21** – TJ Sheffield, KL7TS – So far everything is in favor for Amateur Radio.

**Elections** – Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO – This item was already covered and will be removed from future agenda's. A welcome was made to Tom Ireland, KL3IJ, Rich Gillin, AL4S, and Mike Baker, NL7J.

**Hope Cottage and APU** – Jim Larsen- AL7FS – Jim, AL7FS was absent so this topic was covered by Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO. Ken Perry, AL7GA made a recommendation to spend available 2010 gaming funds to be spent is \$18,130.00. From this subtract \$4,000.00 as potential expenses still needing to be covered. Discussion followed.

A motion was made to award not less than \$4,000.00 and maybe \$5,000.00 for Hope Cottage and APU and put the rest in the ECCP account by Jim Wiley, KL7CC. The motion was seconded by Lara Baker, AL2R. Motion carried unanimously. Lara made a friendly amendment to make the funds for APU and Hope Cottage in the amount of

## THE AARC ANTENNA

\$7,000.00 each. The friendly amendment for funding APU and Hope Cottage to each receive \$7,000.00 was accepted by Jim Wiley, KL7CC. More discussion followed. Per Ken Perry, AL7GA, in 2010 \$2,250.00 was put into the APU endowment account. Additional discussion followed. Motion passed unanimously.

### **New Business**

**Program for January meeting** – Richard Kotsch, WL7CPX, turned over the reins to Tom Ireland, KL3IJ. The January program is Michael O’Keefe, KL7MD who will give an ARES presentation. February is a satellite presentation to be made by a gentleman who came to the club house and talked with people there. March will be a lady on Disaster Preparedness. Richard Kotsch, WL7CPX thanked the members present for their support this past year. Discussion followed regarding Ham Fest receipts. Suggestions were given on how to get copies of the receipts.

**Approvals for KL7AA** – Keith Clark, KL7MM – Keith, KL7MM, was not present but there are no requests pending at this time.

Alice Baker, KL2GD, asked for information regarding upcoming events and please email her with information.

Michael O’Keefe made an announcement that APD requested a Technician Class sometime after the first of the year when they have funding available again. This information will be made available through the newsletter.

A question about classes in the Valley was asked. At this time there are no classes scheduled but MARA will be asked if there are any classes pending.

Michael O’Keefe, KL7MD discussed insured drivers for the AARC equipment. Mike, KL7MD wants more drivers but needs the information to add them to the insurance. Mike wants driver’s license numbers and expiration dates listed beside the name.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Kathleen R O’Keefe KL7KO  
AARC Secretary



## ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



Meeting Minutes  
Carr Gottstein Building  
6 January 2012  
Unapproved Minutes

Meeting opened at 7:02pm by Vice President Paul Spatzek, WL7BF. There were thirty-four guests and members present at the meeting.

Ken Perry, AL7GA made an announcement there were copies of the approved budget for members to review on the back table as well as a thank you note from Hope Cottages for the donation made by AARC.

Lara Baker, AL2R made an announcement thanking Alice Baker, KL2GD and Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO for their efforts on the Christmas Party and Gift Exchange. He also thanked everyone who helped with the set up and tear down, Paul Spatzek, WL7BF was mentioned as one of the helpers.'

Allen L Abbott, KB1QCE read a thank you from MS to the members and guests present and handed out specific thank you notes to those members present who helped out.

Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD made an ARES presentation. He explained what ARES is and the role ARES members can expect to play in the event of a natural disaster or event. He also asked for anyone interested in volunteering at one of the several facilities set up around the city to see him after the meeting and he would get names and contact information from them.

Jim Larsen, AL7FS encouraged folks to take the on-line FEMA courses to better prepare themselves with procedures that will be used in a disaster.

Mike Baker, NL7J encouraged people to come by the club house this weekend for Digital Contesting.

Door prizes were awarded to the following individuals:

|       |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|
| WL7SO | KL2TE | KLOHG |
| KL2GD | KL3IJ | KL7KW |
| N9RNL | AL2R  | KL7MM |
| KL7FE | KL2YG |       |

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen R O'Keefe, KL7KO

## THE AARC ANTENNA

### People to Help You!! 2012 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     | Tom Ireland      | KL7IJ | Tom.ireland67@gmail.com |



#### Three Year Board of Directors

|          |                |       |                     |
|----------|----------------|-------|---------------------|
| 3rd Year | Tom Rutigliano | NL7TZ | nl7tz@arrl.net      |
| 2nd Year | Eric McIntosh  | KL2FM | kl2fm@arrl.net      |
| 1st Year | Lara Baker     | AL2R  | lara_baker@ieee.org |

#### One year Board of Directors

|                 |        |                        |
|-----------------|--------|------------------------|
| Mike Baker      | NL7J   | kl0ar@yahoo.com        |
| Rich Gillin     | AL4S   | richgillin@hotmail.com |
| Jim Larsen      | AL7FS  | jim7@jimlarsen.us      |
| Michael O'Keefe | KL7MD  | mok@gci.net            |
| TJ Sheffield    | KL7TS  | kl7ts@arrl.net         |
| Doug Stowers    | WL7CDC | doug37@gci.net         |
| 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 Editor | Alice Baker   | KL2GD | editor@kl7aa.net     |
| 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:** Tuesday before Board meeting, 7:00PM at Hamshack.  
Contact Keith Clark, KL7MM, trustee@KL7aa.net for info.

**Projects Committee:** Wednesday before Board meeting, 7:00PM at HamShack  
Contact TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, kl7ts@arrl.net for info.

**VEC Testing:** Testing on 1st Tuesday and 2nd Saturday each month.  
Contact Jim Wiley, KL&CC, jwiley@alaska.net for info.

**VHF:** As needed (usually with a repeater in trouble and needing "aid").  
Contact Doug Dickinson, KL7IKX, kl7ikx@yahoo.com.

# For Sale



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



No Special Events this month that the editor knows about!!!!

### Who Do I Contact to Join AARC?

Fred Erickson KL7FE  
12531 Alpine Dr  
Anchorage, AK 99516-3121  
E-mail: [membership@kl7aa.net](mailto: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   |

THE AARC ANTENNA

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



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

# February 2012

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

|    |    |  |                           |    |  |                               |
|----|----|--|---------------------------|----|--|-------------------------------|
|    |    |  | 1                         | 2  | 3 AARC<br>General<br>Meeting<br>7:00PM | 4                             |
| 5  | 6  | 7 VE<br>Testing                          | 8 Mara Board<br>Mtg. 6 PM | 9  | 10                                     | 11 VE<br>Testing              |
| 12 | 13 | 14 Finance<br>Com. 7PM<br>EARS Genl. Mtg | 15 Projects<br>Com. 7PM   | 16 | 17                                     | 18                            |
| 19 | 20 | 21 AARC<br>Board<br>Meeting<br>7 PM      | 22                        | 23 | 24                                     | 25 Mara<br>Meeting<br>12 Noon |
| 26 | 27 | 28                                       | 29                        |    |  |                               |

**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

**1<sup>st</sup> Friday each month: AARC general meeting - 7:00 PM** in the Carr-Gottstein Building, on the APU Campus. Talk in will be on 147.27+ repeater.

**1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday each month (except for holidays):**

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

**1<sup>st</sup> Thursday each month: Moosehorn Amateur Radio Club General meeting - 7:30 PM**

Location changes monthly so call on 146.88-repeater for info. Moosehorn ARC also holds a weekly luncheon every Thursday, locations and times change — contact George Van Lone, KL7AN: donnav@acsalaska.net

**2<sup>nd</sup> 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+.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday each month (except for holidays):**

**VE License Exams at 2:00 PM.** at Hope Cottage 540 W. International. Be sure to bring photo ID, copy of license (if any) and any certificates of completion. Contact: Jim Wiley, KL7CC 338-0662.

**3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:club@KL7air.us) or [kl7yk@arrl.net](mailto:kl7yk@arrl.net)

**4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](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).

## THE AARC ANTENNA

### 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](mailto:membership@kl7aa.net)

Newsletter: [editor at kl7aa.net](mailto:editor@kl7aa.net)

### Internet Links, the favorites from our readers:

AARC <http://www.KL7AA.net>

SCRC <http://www.KL7G.org>

EARS <http://www.kl7air.us>

MARA <http://www.kl7jfu.com>

Moose Horn ARC <http://www.moosehornarc.com>

PARKA <http://www.parka-kl7ion.com>

ARES <http://www.aresalaska.org>

Practice Exams : <http://www.AA9PW.com>

Fairbanks AARC: <http://www.kl7kc.com/>

ALASKA MARS: <http://www.akmars.org>

Alaska VHF-Up Group: <http://www.kl7uw.com/avg.htm>

Béthel Amateur Radio Klub: <http://www.al7yk.org/>

Yukon Amateur Radio Association: <http://www.yara.ca/>

Links for Propagation: <http://www.harp.alaska.edu/>

QRP and Homebrew Links : <http://www.AL7FS.us>

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

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

ARRL <http://www.arrl.org/>

Propagation Report Recording 566-1819

Please let us know if there are other clubs pages or good starting points that should appear here.

### HF RMS's

- Anchorage VHF ARES RMS WL7CVG- 10 144.9 (Elmendorf Moraine)
- Anchorage HF ARES RMS WL7CVG (multi-band scanning see [WWW.WINLINK.ORG](http://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](http://WWW.WINLINK.ORG) for frequencies)
- South Central Digipeater WL7CVG- 4 144.9 (Knik)

## NETS in ALASKA:

The following nets are active in Alaska:

### VHF

- **ARES Net:** 147.27/87 103.5Hz - Thursdays at 8:00 PM local
- **No Name Net:** 146.85/.25 repeater Sundays 8:00 PM
- **South Central Simplex Net:** 146.52 FM, 144.2 USB, 446.0 FM, 432.2 USB, 223.5 FM, 927.5 FM, 1294.5 FM, 52.525 FM, 50,125 USB, 29.6 FDM, 28.4 USB, 145.01 packet (Eagle node) and 147.96 packet (Valley node).  
Tuesdays 8:00 PM local
- **Alaska VHF Up Net:** 144.200 USB Saturdays 9:00 AM local
- **Statewide LINK Net:** 145.15(-) PL 123.0Hz; Sundays 8PM local
- **Alaska Morning Net:** 145.15(-) PL123.0Hz; Daily at 9:00 AM

### HF

- **Alaska Sniper's Net:** 3.920 MHz 6:00 PM daily
- **Alaska Bush Net:** 7.093 MHz 8:00 PM daily
- **Alaska Motley Net:** 3.933 MHz 9:00 PM daily
- **ACWN (Alaska CW Net):** 3540 kHz, 7042 kHz, 14050 kHz Non-directed, CW calling and traffic watch for relaying NTS of other written traffic. AL7N monitors continuously. Receivers always on WL2K. (RMS connection available (AL7N@winlick.org))
- **Alaska Pacific Net:** 14.292 MHz 8:30 AM M-F
- **ERC HF Net:** 3.880 MHz—Sunday 8:30PM

### ANNOUNCEMENT:

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

# THE AARC ANTENNA



## 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     |
| <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>147.27 +</b>  | <b>103.5</b> | <b>WL7CVG</b> | Cross linked to 443.300 | Very Wide Area *          |
| <b>443.300 +</b> | <b>103.5</b> | <b>WL7CVG</b> | Cross linked to 147.27  | Very Wide Area *          |

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

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

## THE AARC ANTENNA



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



Are you an ARRL Member... Life Member?

[www.arrl.org/benefits](http://www.arrl.org/benefits)

### Are you a member of ARRL?

ARRL is the American Radio Relay League. This is the national organization that advocates on behalf of amateur radio operators to the FCC and the communications industry. Consider be-

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



## KL7AA Mail Reflector

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

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

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

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

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

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

Step #6: Follow the directions.

## THE AARC ANTENNA

### **ARES - Section 7, District 7 (Anchorage, ALASKA)**

#### **Mission statement:**

Dedicated to amateur radio as it pertains to disaster services. The history of amateur radio operators' involvement in sending life-saving information in and out of disaster areas [and] providing help during and after earthquakes, floods, hurricanes and tornadoes. "HAM's have been there to assist local, state, and federal agencies and relief organizations such as the American Red Cross and Salvation Army." When All Else Fails, Amateur Radio.

[www.ares.org](http://www.ares.org)

Emergency  
Management  
Institute



FEMA

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

<http://training.fema.gov/>

#### **ARES NETS:**

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

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

**"Alaska ARES and the Alaska Native Medical Center** have in joint effort stood up a HF Remote Messaging System (HF RMS) in Anchorage. This system provides HF Radio Email Service to the area. In an emergency this system will provide digital email capabilities if we lose the Internet. It is designed to accept connections from Amateur Operators who are using either PaLink 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](http://www.Winlink.Org) . "

## THE AARC ANTENNA

### 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](mailto:aksunlite@aol.com)) to meet at the KL7AA station on Rowan Street.

Notice: Any AARC sponsored repeater, with or without an auto-patch, will always be open to all licensed amateur radio operators in the area who are authorized to operate on those frequencies. **IRLP is not authorized on KL7AA repeaters except for special events as approved by the board and trustee.**

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

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#### **Newsletter Submissions, Information or Corrections:**

All articles from members and interested persons are very welcome. If you wish to submit any articles, jokes, cartoons, please have it typed or neatly handwritten. It can be submitted by mail, computer disk or E-mail to the newsletter editor at the address listed below. Submissions must be in the hands of the editor **no later than the 10 days prior** to the meeting. Email: [editor at kl7aa.net](mailto:editor@kl7aa.net)

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

Would you please e-mail "[membership@kl7aa.net](mailto:membership@kl7aa.net)" with a current e-mail address and current mailing address and phone numbers (home, work, and cell — as you choose).

If you have special needs or concerns please send your comments to [editor@kl7aa.net](mailto: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](http://www.KL7AA.net).

Thanks for your help in this.