

SHORT CIRCUIT, NEWSLETTER OF THE ARCTIC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
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JANUARY 1988
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Officers for the 1987-88 club year are:
President, Hank Hove, KL7HPR
Vice-President, Jim Dixon, NL7HI
Treasurer, Jim Gilmore, KL7SW
Secretary, Lewy Overton, NOSN
The newsletter is published monthly

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*MEETING TIME IS HERE*

The Arctic Amateur Radio Club will hold its January meeting on Friday, January 8 at the Globe Room of the Geophysical Institute, UAF. Come on out about 7:30 for visiting. The brief business meeting, and then a program, begins at 8 PM. We know that noone came out on the first Friday of the month since it was New Year's Day (a time for retuning our antennas etc.)

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HAM FEST HAM FEST HAM FEST HAM FEST HAM FEST HAM FEST HAM FEST

The Arctic Amateur Radio Club plans to hold a *HAM FEST* on either Saturday, September 10 or Saturday, September 17, 1988. Club member Joan Soutar, NOAJW, volunteered to coordinate this event. More information will be available in future newsletters.

Contact Joan at 479-6224 (after 7 pm) if you have suggestions for making this event an interesting and enjoyable day.

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*CLOSING NOTICE\*\*LKJ ELECTRONICS OUT OF BUSINESS JANUARY 31*

One/half price on all Hustler antenna products. Owners want to sell business effective February 1. Asking price is \$10,000. Rent on the location cost about \$500 a month.

Call Lee at 452-7990.

Submitted by Craig Bledsoe.  
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**DO YOU NEED/WANT A NEW BADGE WITH YOUR NAME AND CALL SIGN**

Jim Dixon, NL7HI, will coordinate the order process. Please see Jim at the January club meeting or give him a call at 479-7515.

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Jim also says that if anybody is interested in obtaining some of the information Lousie (sp?) left to see him.

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**SOCIAL EVENTS**

Did you all out there notice that the Borealis Amateur Radio Club held a Christmas party/dinner at the Club 11? Should we all do something more exotic and tasty in the dining department than a weekly lunch on Wednesday at The Bakery? Maybe we should invite our spouses as well and have an evening out with friends??? Any volunteers for a planning session on this topic?

**A Message from your Editor**

Lewy, NOSN

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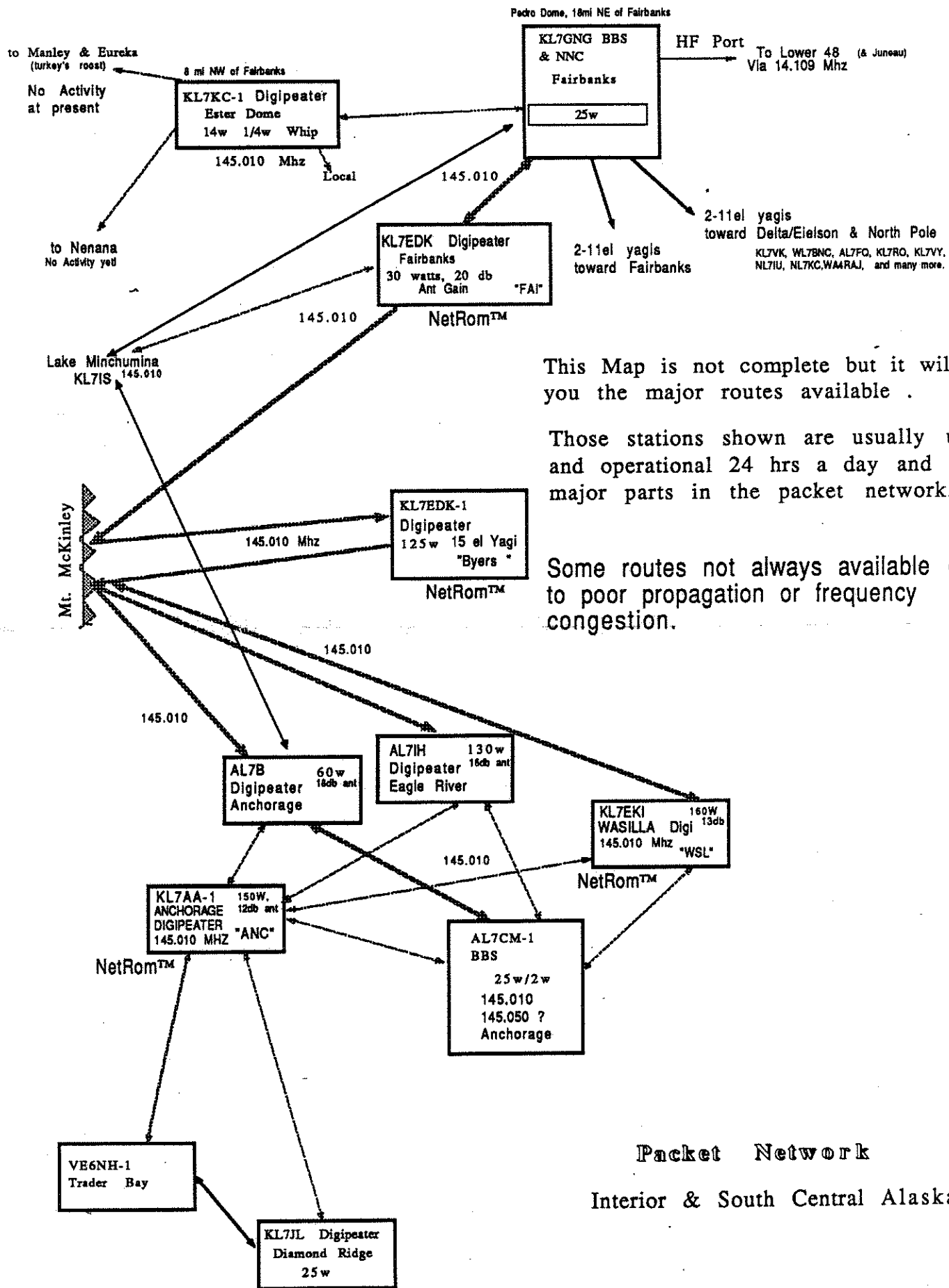
HAM BOWL '87 RESULTS

by Jim, NL7HI

In a stunning performance, "QRA", lead by Mike (KL7YV) outscored "The Three". Undaunted by the threat of 40 wpm CW, Mike, Allen (KL7T) and Steve (KL7XD) racked up 205 points. They withstood a spirited rally in the waning hours of the contest by The Three (Eric, KL7AJ; Ed, KL7XD; and Ken, KB7UP). With a chance to complete the comeback on the last question, they fell short and dropped to 110 points. The frustration seen on The Three was evident when the master of ceremonies, Wigi Tozzi (AL7IF), said repeatedly before a bonus question dealing with DX, "Ed, you will be sorry your missed the toss up". Thanks goes to the following people who supplied questions for the 2nd annual Ham Bowl: Bob, AL7JA; Kurt, NL7GW; and Billy, AL7FQ and to the those who participated in the event. A token of QRA's achievement will be presented at the January club meeting.

Well, summers gone and the colder weather is now here. We have left only those larger antenna project which just weren't appropriate for hot sweltering sunny days. (Antennas you put up in December and January always stay up longer and better than those built any other time of year.) Winter is also a good time of year to get into packet radio. I see alot of new calls in my "MHEARD" list. Packet is a time consuming activity until you get the hang of it. Wrong commands, typing errors, and "temporary" connections used for testing are amongst our worst enemies when first getting started in packet....it's happened to all of us. One of the biggest helps that I found when getting started was to leave all the monitor functions on and "watch" and "listen". Don't worry about jumping right in and connecting to someone, just watch and listen to the audio for awhile. You'll learn alot about how it all works. Listen to your own transmitter too if you can. Alot of our own problems can be found with a receiver.

NetRom™.....Something new is being added. NetRom is a new type of TNC software that will reduce retries between "NODES" and improve digipeater throughput by up to 700%. Sounds impressive !! Once NetRom is installed and all the connecting nodes are equipped you'll see a big improvement in your attempts to work Anchorage. Once implimented you would connect to a "NODE" station. (KL7EDK for example). Once connected to KL7EDK you would just type "NODES" and it will give you a list of other NetRom stations. To connect with one, you merely type "connect ANC" (ANC will be one such station). The NetRom software will select the best route to get you to KL7AA-1 in Anchorage and establish a connection. You could then tell the ANC Node to "connect AL7CM-1" if you wanted to use the BBS. NetRom has 9 commands: CONNECT, CQ, IDENT, NODES, PARAMS, RESET, ROUTES, SYSOP, & USERS. Some commands are available only to the control operator. The "CONNECT" command is used to connect you to another station or another NODE. The "NODES" command is used to display a list of other known destination nodes. The "ROUTES" command is used to display a list of the node's routing table. Information about the reliability of a route is also displayed. (a maximum value of 255 indicates a perfect route.) The "USERS" command displays a summary of who is using the node. This is a short course and more will be explained once we get it all up and running. Other information will be available from NODE stations but we'll save some of that for next time. 73-Jerry- <D>



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
by Lewis Overton, Secretary
Arctic Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
December 2, 1988

OLD BUSINESS

Report from the repeater committee:

- * equipment for remote receiver for 28/88 has been ordered.
- * new duplexers have improved isolation, reduced noise on 88.
- * lockups on 94 are related to the battery backup. Disconnecting backup unlocks machine.
- * planned swap of 88 and 94 controllers.
- * Club policy requires a voice id both before and after patch usage to protect KL7KC license. People are urged to be sure the patch is down when they are done.

NEW BUSINESS

Moved: That the club loan club equipment, but not funds, to individual hams for use in the Yukon Quest. Failed.

Moved: That the board request the president to investigate Public relations problems between the club and the public organizations we interact with, and report to the board by February. Passed.

Moved: That the board request Wigi Tozzi to act as representative of the club in developing a plan for the acquisition of a trailer and land for emergency services and a clubhouse. Passed.

Moved: That the club reinstate the repeater committee and provide them an annual budget; the committee to consist of three members with Steve Estes as the organizational chair. Passed.

Moved: That the club accept Joan Soutar as sponsoring member for the September ham fest. Passed.

OTHER ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

Wigi Tozzi expressed concern over the pass rate for both ARRL and Anchorage VEC tests, and a concern that VE's are becoming discouraged at putting out the effort to give monthly tests with so little positive results. Wigi asked for the board's recommendation in consideration of reducing the number of tests to four per year, plus tests at the end of formal classes. The consensus of the board was that reducing the number of tests is not desirable, and that the current level of testing should continue if possible. The board recognizes that testing is not a club administrative function, however, and that the final decision rests with Wigi as the coordinator of the VE testing program.

CONTENTS: LIST OF CLUB MEMBERS BY CALL SIGN
PLANS FOR THE FALL HAMFEST
SURPRISES FOR ALL HAMS
SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Short Circuit is published monthly by the Arctic Amateur Radio Club of Fairbanks, Alaska. Opinions expressed in the newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the club, its officers or members. Permission is granted to reprint or quote from Short Circuit, provided credit is given to the newsletter and to the individual authors. Contributions to the newsletter are welcome from any source, but we reserve the right to edit articles as appropriate.

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