

SHORT CIRCUIT: *AMATEUR RADIO NEWS*

Fairbanks, Alaska

October 1988

1988 CQ WW SSB DX CONTEST *CAN P4ØV BREAK THE WORLD RECORD?* *ARRIBA ARUBA!*

by Ed Hunstein (KL7XD)

In a well timed press release to radio clubs, Carl Cook (AI6V) has announced an attempt on the world record for contacts in the CQ Worldwide SSB DX contest. The group of amateur operators, using the call P4ØV, will make the attempt from the island of Aruba, just north of Venezuela. Carl writes:

"A group of 17 contest veterans led by AI6V will attempt to break the world record this year in the CQ worldwide DX contest. They will be on expedition to Aruba (a new separate country), formerly part of the Netherlands Antilles, and will use the call P4ØV for the October 29-30, 48-hour event. As incentive for amateurs to work them, P4ØV is offering A FREE, HANDSOME CERTIFICATE to those who work them on at least four bands! They will be active [on] all bands 160 - 10 simultaneously and listening especially for those who are trying to earn the certificate. The certificates will automatically be sent out in November 1988 to winners.

The group has also promised to QSL EVERY contact immediately after the event. To break the current world record, the P4ØV team must work at least 18,000 QSO's! That's a lot of contacts and your club members will be an important part of the record attempt."

That, folks, is one completed contact every 9.6 seconds, sustained for 48 consecutive hours! With multiple transmitters, no individual operator must run at that rate, but it still ain't easy. Neither will it be easy to work Aruba from interior Alaska. The island is just off the western coast of Venezuela. It is split by the 70th meridian, due south of Santo Domingo. The

direct heading from here to Aruba is 95 at 5,124 miles, our signals diagonally across the 48. On 10 & 15 meters, bands are presently open to Venezuela around 13:00-15:00 ADT, and on 20, around 14:00-17:00 ADT. On 40 meters, expect to find P4ØV probably around 7075 listening up the band, around 20:00-22:00 ADT. Look to work this station on the second day of the contest. On the first day, they are likely to be working lots of contacts in the states. They will have trouble hearing us through the clutter. On the second day, they are likely to be looking for multipliers. Adding zone 1 (that's us), may be worth 10,000 points as a multiplier.

Working P4ØV during the contest will take skill, effort and time. If you want to make the investment in effort, though, this might be a fun one, and a nice piece of paper for the wall. For those of you who succeed, Short Circuit would like to hear from you.

For those who want to undertake another challenge, Carl adds that "RTTY, Packet and 6 meters will be activated immediately after October 30th for those interested." Go get 'em, tigers!

A DX Tip for Novices (and others as well) by Ed Hunstein (KL7XD)

Listen between 5 & 6 pm local time on the high end of the novice band on 10 (and 15 meters if you can operate there) for China (BY1), Brazil (PY1), India (ATØJ), Hong Kong (VS6), Galapagos (HC8), New Caledonia (FK). All have recently been heard at 5x9 signal reports in the Fairbanks area.

Arctic ARC Annual Election of Officers at the October 7 General Meeting

The election of officers for the club will take place at the October meeting. The board of directors has nominated the following people. Nominations may also be made from the floor during the meeting. Remember, only those members who have paid their 1988-89 dues may vote or hold office.

For President No Candidate Nominated

The board was unable to confirm a willing candidate by press time. Nominations will be accepted from the floor.

For Vice-President Joan Soutar (NØAJW)

Joan has a technician class license, has been a club member since 1979, and is a member of ARRL. Joan is presently the librarian at the Geophysical Institute, operates a small business as a research consultant, and is active in several community groups. She is a former chair of the UWA fall recycle sale, and former editor of the UWA newsletter. Joan chaired the 1988 hamfest for the radio club. Joan is active on VHF.

For Secretary Sandy Hunstein (WL7BEH)

Sandy has a novice class license, has been a club member since 1985, and is a member of ARRL. She is the owner of her own business, Sonshine Bookkeeping Service. She is also a former camp director for the state of Alaska for her church group. Sandy has recently been active on 10 meters working DX.

For Treasurer Lynn Rice (NL7FT)

Lynn has a technician class license, has been a club member since 1984, and is a member of ARRL. Lynn is presently the fiscal officer for the UAF School of Career and Continuing Education. Lynn has been active in club activities, and in the community. Lynn is a

former chair of the UWA fall recycle sale, and is membership chairman for the International Bird Dog Association (a group of owners of L19 military spotter aircraft). Lynn is active on VHF.

Arctic ARC Golden Anniversary 50 Years in Fairbanks

Golden anniversaries don't happen just every day, especially among radio clubs. This coming year (1988-89), however, is our 50th as an organized club, and deserves some recognition. We are looking for a few good ideas about how to show off the club a bit, and perhaps have some fun in the process.

If you have suggestions or thoughts on the subject, whether for activities, displays, events, or whatever, I urge you to get in touch with the editor of this newsletter. I *promise* that if you contact NØSN with your idea, you will not be drafted to run an activity. You can volunteer, of course, but that old nemesis of "If I suggest a project I'll get roped into running it!" simply will not happen.

Hamfest 88 Wrapup

by Joan Soutar (NØAJW)

The "big date for 88" has come and gone. The 1988 Hamfest is history, with a whole week of breathing space before plans for the 50th anniversary Hamfest 89 get started.

By most standards, this year's event was a success. We had about 125 paid admissions during the day. Fifteen exams were given, with a good pass rate. Set up and take down for the building were not arduous. Food sales seem to indicate that the menu was ok and prices were reasonable.

The dinner at the Gold Dredge was well attended, with 40 people present for dinner and conversation. Our "mystery speaker" turned out to be Al Weber (KL7AG), who talked about "the good old days" when he was first licensed. Al's conclusion was that the good old days weren't all that great by comparison with today.

When all the dust settled and the smoke cleared, the club had made a small profit of about \$150.

It isn't possible to thank all the people individually for their efforts, but Lynn Rice (NL7FT) deserves special mention for her telephone operation, her overall support and assistance, and for "being there" when needed. Dianne Marshall (AL7FQ) merits special mention for printing the banquet tickets, helping to sell them, and general support. And for all the others who helped, who attended, and who sent us their positive thoughts even when they couldn't be with us -- a heartfelt thanks to one and all.

Prez Sez

by Jim Dixon, NL7HI

Now that the summer is just about over, it is time to look forward to the projects and events that will occur this winter. One important event is the club's 50th anniversary. We should not let the opportunity in public relations that presents itself "get away". There need to be suggestions on how best to "sell" the club as there has been little growth the last few years. In the last year, several organizations which had used our talents in the past, but not the last few years, have asked the club for assistance, most notably the Open North American and the Yukon Quest.

To effectively be able to respond to the challenges of organizing such events we need growth in membership as well as new volunteers who are willing to spend a little time as an organizer. One such example of how to capitalize on the 50th year to stimulate growth once again in the club's ranks is display throughout the borough. An example is the Noel Wien Library where in January there will be a display emphasizing our commitment to public service. It will be in small projects presenting amateur radio as interesting and fun (as we all know), planned sufficiently ahead of time, which will help enable the much needed growth.

Hams Provide Communications Support for Bike Races

by Craig Bledsoe (K4TXK)

The U.S. Cycling Federation's Alaska District Championships were held in Fairbanks over the weekend of June 11th and 12th with the help of a number of Interior Alaskan amateur radio operators. At the request of the race's organizers ham operators were asked to provide two way radio capability at each of the three critical locations from a traffic safety and accident potential point of view. Lin Hopkins (WL7BHT) scheduled two separate teams of amateurs to work the junior events on Saturday and the adult races on Sunday.

The Saturday races featured wheel-to-wheel duels by ten youngsters and teenagers ranging in age from nine to seventeen up and down Old Steese Highway, Farmers Loop, and McGrath Road. The kids went full tilt for a maximum of eight laps totaling over 65 miles

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on rain-soaked roads already occupied by a variety of cars and trucks. Much like NASCAR stockers these racers draft one another only inches apart to cheat the wind and gain the maximum speed.

With the realization that accidents involving serious injury could occur at any moment during the four hours of racing, the cycle association management asked the three hams present to provide communications for race officials at the three most critical locations: the McGrath, Hagelbarger, Old Steese conjunction; the Farmers Loop, McGrath intersection; and the Old Steese power substation Start Finish Line. Saturday's volunteers consisted of David Williams (KL7JIZ); Charles Church (NL7IB); and Craig Bledsoe (K4TXK).

On Sunday the adult bikers turned out to mix it up for over 106 miles of rugged competition. A total of 6 women and 22 men went out to claim the state road racing championship on another day of heavy traffic and slick highway conditions. The sprint for the gold medal turned into a no-holds-barred railbelt showdown as the ultimate victor Bruce Gard made his break for the lead while his Fairbanks teammates blocked their Anchorage rivals from getting by to challenge Gard for the winner's circle. Amateurs working the Sunday finals included Communications Team Chief Lin Hopkins (WL7BHT); Bruce Hopkins (KL7JAF); and Linda Wheeler (NL7KR). An exciting and enjoyable time was had by all the volunteers from both Fairbanks area radio clubs.



Next Meeting
Friday, 7 October 1988
7:30 pm in the Auditorium
UAF Geophysical Institute

Business meeting: election of officers.
Program: Mike Able on Search and Rescue.

Renew your Membership
for the 1988-89 Year

It's that time again. The Arctic ARC fiscal year begins in October. Memberships for the current year expire on September 30. To con-

tinue your membership, you need to send \$20 for individual members, \$25 for families to PO Box 81389, Fairbanks, AK 99708. Mark the outside of the envelope "Dues Enclosed." If you live outside the area of our repeaters, don't expect to attend meetings, but want to receive the newsletter, you need only pay one-half of the rate for local members.

The Arctic ARC is affiliated with the ARRL. To maintain our affiliation, we must report the the league the number of club members who are also members of ARRL. *Please* either fill out the form provided on the last page of the newsletter, or at least let the secretary know whether or not you are a league member.

There will be arrangements at the next few meetings for dues to be paid, and the appropriate information collected.



News About Members

Update on Bert Curwen
from Mike Drury via Lynn Rice
as of August 23, 1988

Bert is expected home some time in October. Until then, he is staying with his parents in Arizona. The telephone number there is (602) 327-4571.

The leukemia is now in remission. Bert was to go into the hospital Sunday, August 28, for more treatment, which will reduce the odds of recurrence by 50%.

To Mike and Lynn

We wish to extend our sympathy and that of the members of the club to Mike and Lynn Rice. Mike's father passed away on Saturday, August 27, after a long illness. Mike and Lynn flew to Michigan to be with him in his last days, and stayed to attend the funeral on Monday, August 29. Mike and Lynn, your friends missed you that weekend, and send you their best wishes.



**Amsat AO-13
Operating Schedule Changes**

Replace the operating schedule from the August issue of Short Circuit with the schedule below.

Drake in the ARRL Northwest Division Director. Bill Shrader is running unopposed for Vice Director.

If Rush Drake is reelected he has promised to send Bill Shraeder to Fairbanks for next year's hamfest. Coordination with the visit should be better than last year, with the visit and hamfest on the same weekend.

Operating Schedule for AO-13 from AMSAT Bulletin August 19, 1988			
Mode	From	Through	
Off	MA 241	MA 2	
Mode B	MA 3	MA 100	
Mode L	No current operation		
Model JL	MA 100	MA 150	may change soon
Mode B	MA 150	MA 240	
Mode S	(will commence when sun angles permit; likely in September)		
RUDAK	No current operation		
(Note:	Attitude is 180 longitude, 0 latitude)		

ARRL is continuing to fight the loss of 220 MHz. The lower 40% of 220 was removed from amateur service by the FCC. The league has petitioned the commission for reconsideration, and is contesting the action in court. No date for the change in service has been set while the battle is still raging.

ARRL has reached the half-way point in the campaign to rebuild the WIAW headquarters building.

ARRL has begun looking for funds to support efforts in the WARC meetings. These meetings are scheduled on-demand. Current expectations place the next conference in the early 90's. The WARC meetings were responsible for the introduction of our newer bands. WARC can, however, completely restructure frequency allocations world wide, and must be carefully monitored by the amateur community.

DX alert: Father Moran (9N1MM) will be back in Nepal in December.

Report from the ARRL National

by Dianne Marshall (AL7FG)

Larry Price, President of ARRL, will be in Alaska a year from now in September. Plans are already being made to induce him into talking with the club and participating in some of our activities.

Remember to vote for Mary Lewis or Rush

Arctic Amateur Radio Club -- 1988-89 Membership Renewal

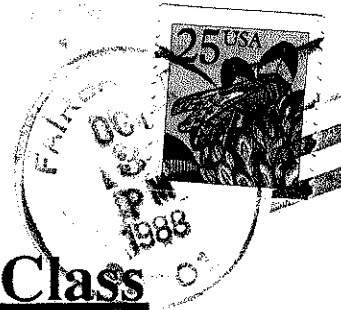
Family address (for mailing newsletter):	Family members:	license	day	ARRL
	name	call	class	phone ?
mail to: _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
street: _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
city, state zip: _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
home phone: _____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Dues are \$20 for individuals, \$25 for families. If you live outside the Arctic ARC "service area" (for club meeting, repeaters), dues are one-half the above rate. PLEASE tell us if you are an ARRL member so that we can continue our affiliation with the league.

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