



THE SHORT CIRCUIT



January 2003

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ARCTIC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Arctic Amateur Radio Club (AARC), Alaska's first amateur radio club, was formed in Fairbanks in 1939 and was incorporated as an Alaska non-profit organization in 1966. We have about 121 members and we meet September through May at 7:00 p.m. on the first Friday of the month at the Geophysical Institute University of Alaska. All interested persons are invited to attend.

Officers and Board Members

- Linda Mullen AD4BL 488-7046
President

- Alex Cryan AL7EX 457-4040
Vice-President
- Debbie Treb AL1S 451-1911
Secretary
- Benny Benevento NL7XH 479-5203
Treasurer
- Kevin Abnett NL7WO 479-0370
Board Member
- Jim Baldridge AL1I 479-7185
Board Member
- Steve Estes KL7XO 479-5819
Board Member
- Larry Ledlow NL1TX 488-8399
Board Member
- Eric Nichols KL7AJ 488-0483
Board Member
- Rod Mitchel KL7YU 452-0584
Board Member
- Jim Movius KL7JM 452-6347
Board Member, Past President

Alaska Radio Nets:

- Alaska Sniper's Net 3.920 MHz 0300 UTC
(1800 L) daily
- Alaska Bush Net 7.093 MHz 0400 UTC
(1900 L) daily
- Alaska Motley Net 3.933 MHz 0600 UTC
(2100 L) daily
- Alaska Pacific Traffic Net 14.292 MHz 1900 UTC
(1000 L) daily
- Interior Net 146.88 MHz 0500 UTC
(2000 L) Sunday

January Club Meeting Minutes:

Jr. Quest and the Yukon Quest are both a go. The Jr. Quest still needs some help and the Yukon Quest needs a lot of help. Sign-up sheets for help at the Visitor's Center that include times so a person will know the time they are signing up for. Trail checkpoints are mostly covered already. There will be a training session before the Jr. and the Yukon Quest starts. The Jr. Quest is February 1st and 2nd. The Yukon Quest starts February 9th at Whitehorse.

Planning for the Hamfest is in gear for the 13th of September 2003. ARRL is having a forum on the Tanana Chief at noon the 12th of September 2003.

Steve Estes gave a very interesting as well as informative on earthquakes in general and on the 7.9 magnitude we had in the beginning of November 2002. He showed a lot of the damage the November earthquake caused. If you weren't there you missed a great talk.

It was announced that Benny NL7XH is in the hospital in Anchorage.

Next Ham Club meeting is February 7th. It is on the Yukon Quest.

March 7th club meeting will be given by the National Weather Service.

Our next Board Meeting will be at Jim Movius's home (KL7JM).

Deb Treb AL1S
Club secretary

Board Meeting Minutes:

January Board Meeting 2003

Members Present:

Linda Mullen AD4BL, Alex Cryan AL7EX, Steve Estes KL7XO, Jim Baldrige AL1I, Jim Movius KL7JM,
Rod Mitchel KL7YU

Also Present:

Diane Marshall AL7FG, Warren Tilman KL0RA, John Slater KL1AZ, Bill Mullen KE4ITP

Last months minutes, read, amended letter count, approved.

Old business:

20 to 24 newsletters were sent out.

501C3 Jim KL7JM is still working on it. It is a work in process.

Jr. Quest and Main Quest suggestions:

For HF have two or three people listen for Quest traffic at home and pass on info via VHF to Ham Club radio headquarters (Visitors Center) also called Net Control. Lots of work left for 3 weeks time.

Hamfest:

Sept. 12, 2003: Friday at noon on the RiverBoat Tanana Chief, ARRL forum and lunch Greg Milnes will be coming.

Sept. 12, 2003: Friday evening at Rivers Edge will be the Ham Club Banquet.

Sept. 13, 2003: Will be our Hamfest at (Alaskaland) now called Pioneer Park. It will be at the same place as last year in the park.

Ideas for next years Ham Club Banquet, cost does seem to be a big factor for people not coming: Chena Convention Center for 2003-2004, a nice dinner cost about \$10. The Boy Scout had an event there. It was very reasonable. This would allow more people to afford the event.

GVEA – RFI aren't able to handle it well though they are required to be able to handle problems. Also discussed though the club is not able to do anything about it is power outages/emergencies, etc. A simple AM radio station or something is needed to be addressed/commented to GVEA and their poor handling of the long power outage we had here in Fairbanks.

February 7th club meeting is on the Yukon Quest.

March meeting will be Tim Shy from the National Weather Service.

Another idea for a club meeting is Dirk Tordoff. He has done some very interesting talks on Fairbanks and on the first pilots in Alaska.

February 13 is the next board meeting. Jim Movius will have the meeting at his home on Chena Ridge.

Rod Mitchel and his wife own a Bakery at 5th & Noble. He is willing to have the club meeting there sometime. It is called Desserts First – it is a purple colored building. The address is 412 5th Ave. The place serves soup, sandwiches besides cakes, pies, etc.

Meeting is adjourned.

Deb Treb AL1S

Club secretary

Events Schedule:

- February 7 AARC Club Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- February 9 The Yukon Quest
- February 13 AARC Board Meeting
- March 7 AARC Club Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- March 13 AARC Board Meeting

- April 4 AARC Club Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
 - April 10 AARC Club Meeting
 - May 2 AARC Club Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
 - May 8 AARC Board Meeting
 - June Motley Group annual picnic
 - September 13-14 Hamfest and annual election of AARC Club Officers/Board Members
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IN HOSPITAL/RECOVERING:

1. Frank J De Nardo, AL0W is in Anchorage Hospital and just under went Heart by pass surgery. Is doing well.
 2. Welcome back Bennie Benevento, NL7HX from his by pass surgery.
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AARL NEWS:

Copied from: The ARRL Letter Vol. 22, No. 05, January 31, 2003

"HYBRID" AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CLASSES BEST OF ALL WORLDS

You've heard of hybrid tomatoes and hybrid ham radios. Now, some "hybrid" ARRL Level I Amateur Radio emergency communications (EC-001) classes offer a mix of on-line and on-campus instruction.

"This marriage of teaching has been absolutely perfect," said ARRL Emergency Communications Course Manager Dan Miller, K3UFG. "Previously, these classes were either all on-line or anything but on-line. The implementation of hybrid classes offers the best of all available worlds."

Miller says each Level I hybrid course is a little different, as instructors take advantage of their particular strengths, access to varying materials and local interests.

Since the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) grant-sponsored Amateur Radio emergency communications classes began last September, 1277 students have signed up for the Level I course. To date, 723 have graduated and been reimbursed for their tuition. Miller hopes the hybrid classes will help to boost graduation rates.

Under the first year of the nearly \$182,000 CNCS grant, students can be reimbursed for the \$45 registration fee after they successfully complete the course. "When each student has a financial stake in completing the course, each dollar of the grant will have maximum impact," Miller explained.

The ARRL is strongly encouraging older amateurs to take advantage of the emergency communications training since they're a target of the CNCS grant. "Senior hams bring a wide variety of experience and knowledge to

the program," Miller said. "When they become active participants, they add more insight which then yields a better learning experience."

Miller said successful implementation of the grant-funded training program already has had some positive effects, including an increased awareness of Amateur Radio as a resource by government; the formation of new ARES/RACES groups; stronger ties between existing amateur emergency communication groups and local emergency operations centers; and an influx of new hams to emergency communication teams.

To learn more about the Amateur Radio emergency communications courses and other ARRL Certification and Continuing Education classes, visit the C-CE Course Listing Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html>>.

Word from the President:

There will be NO test session on Saturday Feb 1.

The next scheduled test session will be March 8 at 1PM at the Library. Please note that this is a schedule change. We had schedule conflicts with the room and moved the test session to the next week.

For Sale/Help Wanted:

1. Linda Mullen is looking for any AARRL certified VE. Please contact her at ad4bl@mosquitonet.com.
2. Free tower. It's located at 1648 College Road, between Alaska Feed Co. and Farmers Market, next to the Tanana Valley Fairgrounds parking lot, and across the street from Aurora Animal Clinic. It is surrounded by a padlocked chainlink fence so if you would like to take a closer look at it, please email me or call me at 388-7043 (cell), 474-1902 (wk) or 479-4765 (hm), to set up a time for me to meet you there to let you in.

I'm sorry, I don't have any information in writing on the tower other than what is on file at the Fairbanks North Star Borough. Apparently it was erected in 1946 or 1947 and at one time was the KFRB-AM radio station tower. There is a metal plate on the tower that indicates the manufacturer or brand name is "Wincharger."

I hope to have more information from New Northwest Broadcasting and FCC before the end of this month.

Please feel free to call me at the above numbers for more information.

Jeannie Creamer-Dalton [fnjco@uaf.edu](mailto:fjnco@uaf.edu) POB 81763, Fairbanks, AK 99708

NEWSLETTER EDITOR COMMENTS:

As a reminder the Club meeting time has change to 7:00 now. All input and comments/articles are welcome. If you have an e-mail address this is one way to save the club money, with the recent rise in postal rates it is going to become more expensive to mail out the newsletter. As a reminder if you wish to have something put into the newsletter you may e-mail me at slaternorthp@mosquitonet.com and be

sure to include your call sign in the subject so I will know it is from another ham, or it will be deleted, or you may call me at home 488-5209.