



# THE SHORT CIRCUIT

March 2002



## 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 250 members and we meet September through May at 7:30 p.m. on the first Friday of the month at the Geophysical Institute University of Alaska. All interested persons are invited to attend.

o	<a href="#">Jim Movius</a>	<a href="#">KL7JM</a>	452-6347 452-6349 FAX	President
o	<a href="#">Linda Mullen</a>	<a href="#">AD4BL</a>	488-7046	Vice President
o	<a href="#">Bill Beam</a>	<a href="#">NL7F</a>	457-2727	Secretary
o	<a href="#">Cliff Cullings</a>	<a href="#">AL7P</a>	479-6659	Treasurer (Nov 8,'01 board action)
o	<a href="#">Bob Ball</a>	<a href="#">KL7AH</a>	479-7785	Board Member
o	<a href="#">Rex Keirn</a>	<a href="#">AL7BJ</a>	457-4025	Board Member
o	<a href="#">Warren Tilman</a>	<a href="#">KL0RA</a>	474-9484	Board Member

o	<a href="#">Michael Drury</a>	<a href="#">KL7GL</a>	488-0660	Board Member
o	<a href="#">Eric Nichols</a>	<a href="#">KL7AJ</a>	488-0483	Board Member
o	<a href="#">Debbie Treb</a>	<a href="#">WL7CRG</a>	451-1911	Board Member
o	<a href="#">Myron Babcock</a>	<a href="#">AL7QY</a>	455-4925	Board Member, Past President

## Meeting Minutes submitted by secretary:

Bill Beam, NL7F

Minutes of Arctic Amateur Radio Club meeting Mar. 1, 2002

### PREMEETING ACTIVITY

Swap session.

### MEETING

Jim Movius, KL7JM, President, called the meeting to order.

Members reviewed their Yukon Quest Race experiences.

Bill Beam, NL7F, Secretary, read the minutes of the previous meeting (Feb. 1, 2002.)

Cliff Cullings, AL7P, Treasurer presented the treasurer's report:

Beginning balance 1/31/02 \$1,075.42

2/11/02 Members Dues \$25.00

2/20/02 Vehicle registration <\$5.00>

Vehicle registration <\$10.00>

Ending balance 2/28/02 \$1085.42

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Larry Ledlow, N1TX reports that the ARES Fairbanks emergency preparation

plan is in draft form. The next ARES meeting (at a time to be arranged) will address training opportunities.

Bill Beam, NL7F reported on progress with the communication trailer project. There has been no change since last month. Anyone interested in participating on the trailer preparations should contact Bill at 457-2727 or <[wbeam@gci.net](mailto:wbeam@gci.net)>.

Bill also reports on the HIPAS all Alaska monitoring project. In cooperation with Eric Nichols, KL7AJ, a prototype receiver is under development.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Linda Mullen AD4BL reports on activity with the Junior Quest Race. Linda distributed ARRL Public Service Commendation Certificates to participants.

Cliff Cullings, AL7P advises that he needs to determine the number of AARC members who are also members of ARRL. Send your status to Cliff <[al7p@gci.net](mailto:al7p@gci.net)>.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Linda Mullen AD4BL advises that she has received a request for a Ham Radio license class.

Jim Movius, KL7JM Advises that we need a coordinator for VE tests beginning in April, if interested contact Jim at 452-6347 or <[ajmovius@gci.net](mailto:ajmovius@gci.net)>.

Jim also advises that John Slater, KL1AZ is our new News Letter Editor. Anyone with any newsworthy items should contact John at 488-5209 or <[slaternorthp@mosquitonet.com](mailto:slaternorthp@mosquitonet.com)>.

Jim advises that we begin coordination with the Yukon Quest organization regarding their plans and expectations for next years race.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next Board of Directors meeting will be hosted by Jim Movius, KL7JM at 7 PM, Thurs., March 7, 2002 at 1088 Chena Ridge Road. The location is 1.9 miles west of the fire station on the south side of the road.

The main program was a presentation of formal written traffic procedures by Linda Mullen AD4BL.

Meeting adjourned.

## **Minutes of Board Meeting**

Minutes of AARC Board of Directors meeting March 7. 2002.

Meeting hosted by Jim Movius, KL7JM.

Board members in attendance:

Jim Movius, KL7JM Mike Drury, KL7GL  
Bill Beam, NL7F Bob Ball KL7AH  
Warren Tilman, KL0RA Linda Mullen, AD4BL  
Myron Babcock, AL7QY Deb Treb, WL7CRG  
Cliff Cullings, AL7P

Other club members in attendance:

Bill Mullen, KE4ITP John Slater, KL7AZ

Meeting called to order by Pres. Jim Movius, KL7JM.

Minutes of last board meeting (February 7, 2002) presented by Sec. Bill Beam, NL7F.

Treasurer's report presented by Treasurer. Cliff Cullings, AL7P.

In summary:

Beginning balance 1/31/02 1,075.42  
2/11/02 Members Dues 25.00  
2/20/02 Vehicle registration <5.00>  
Vehicle registration <10.00>  
Ending balance 2/28/02 1085.42

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Deb Treb, WL7CRG reports for the Repeater Committee. The Porcupine repeater has been fixed. The

Cantwell and Mount Fairplay repeaters are out of service.

Linda Mullen, AD4BL reports for the Emergency Preparation Committee that Larry Ledlow, N1TX will be scheduling a training meeting.

Linda also reports that she is collecting data to summarize our activities with the Yukon Quest Race.

John Slater, KL7AZ our News Letter Editor is seeking items for publication. Contact John at 488-5209 or <[slaternorthp@mosquitonet.com](mailto:slaternorthp@mosquitonet.com)>.

## OLD BUSINESS

Jim Movius, KL7JM reports that we are still looking for someone to coordinate our VE testing activities with the Anchorage VEC. We are now working on a month-by-month basis and are covered through March. Jim and Marty Baldrige, AL1I and KL0ZD will do the VE work thru March. We are still seeking a Co-Chairman for the next Hamfest.

If interested Contact Jim at <[ajmovius@gci.net](mailto:ajmovius@gci.net)> or 452-6347.

## NEW BUSINESS

Linda Mullen, AD4BL has received a request for license preparation classes for prospective Hams. Bob Ball, KL7AH advises that we should plan a class for next fall after the Hamfest.

Jim Movius, KL7JM reviewed the history of the AARC participation with the Yukon Quest Race. Jim also reviewed our Quest activity between Dawson and Whitehorse.

Cliff Cullings, AL7P reviewed our Quest activity at Eagle.

Deb Treb, WL7CRG reviewed our Quest activity at Central, Circle City and Mile 101.

John Slater, KL7AZ reviewed our Quest activity at Angel Creek and North Pole.

There was a discussion of our past participation with the Yukon Quest Race and how we can improve our future participation.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next AARC general meeting will be at 7:30 PM, Friday, April 5, 2002 in the auditorium at the Geophysical Institute. The main topic will be a presentation by Jim Movius, KL7JM on computer modeling of antenna performance.

The pre-meeting activity will be another swap session at 6:30 PM.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be hosted by Warren and Linda Tilman, KL0RA and KL0TU at 7 PM, Thursday, April 11, 2002 at 1105 Coppet St. As usual, the Board meeting is open to all members.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by,  
Bill Beam, NL7F  
Secretary.



## SPECIAL THANKS



1. A special thanks goes out to all those folks who volunteered their time and equipment in helping the Junior Quest, Yukon Quest, and the Quest 250 turn out to be the success that it was, and a special thanks to the folks in Yukon Territory who opened their home and city to make the KL folks welcome.
2. Those folks out there that come in on the first Saturday of the month to help others become hams and administer the test.

### **Repeater Report:**

Benny NL7XH submits the following repeater report:

The following repeaters are operating normally.

Ester Dome 146.88 (OK)

224.88

444.80

Canyon Creek 444.90 Changed power supply 3/9/02

223.28 (Link)

Donnelly Dome 146.82 (OK)

449.80 (Link)

Porcupine Dome 146.70 (Solar regulator bad and batteries need to be changed this year.)

449.80 (crossband)

Dot Lake 146.88 (OK)  
224.82 (repeater & link)  
449.9 (link)

Manley Hotsprings 146.82 (OK)  
223,28 (crossband)

Geophysical Inst. 146.94 (OK)

Ski Boot Hill 147.09 (OK)

Eielson Hill 3265 147.120 (receiver sensitivity low ... needs receiver changed out)  
449.8 (link)

Mt Fairplay 444.70 ( down power problems at site)

Northway 146.82 ( down because Fairplay down)

Mt Eldridge 146.94 ( down because Fairplay down)

Healy Hill 144.88 (turned off because of interference to system)  
223.88  
444.40

Mt McKinley 146.76 (down because Healy is off)  
449.4 (link)

Reindeer Mt Cantwell 146.82 (do not know status. Have reported ok and reported out)  
223.28 (crossband)

A trip is planned to Hill 3265 to replace receiver.

When conditions permit a trip to Healy is scheduled to put it back on line. We think that there is a possibility that the 223.88 transmitter is getting into the Dot Lake 223.82 receiver. Healy transmits a 186.2 PL tone to

Ester. 186.2 PL is used at Dot Lake for the link from Mt Fairplay. We are planning a trip to Dot Lake to change the PL tone from the 186.2 Hz to 192.8 Hz. When Fairplay is serviced we will change the PL generator at that site to 192.8. This should stop any possible input from Healy.

When the next helicopter trip to Mt Fairplay is scheduled we will put the system back on line. The 449.4

receiver has sensitivity problems ... We have checked the receive out and it seemed ok will have to replace it when we make the next trip up there. When we had power on the system Northway, and Eldridge both worked.

## **Humor:**

This was copied from [www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com)

### **The "Die Hard" DX'erÉ**

By: *Clinton Herbert* -- **AB7RG**.

**5:00 AM - Fellow DX'ers arrive. Crawl out of nice warm bed.**

**5:30 AM - Toss all gear into truck.**

**5:45 AM - Get gear out of neighbors truck, and put it in own truck.**

**6:00 AM - Get speeding ticket while hurrying to get to the mountains.**

**7:15 AM - Get to "The Site", near top of mountain.**

**7:16 AM - Start unloading gear.**

**7:20 AM - Get poked in eye with 20M vertical by fellow DX'er.**

**7:50 AM - Arrive at hospital to get eye patched up.**

**8:30 AM - Get another speeding ticket while heading up to mountains.**

**8:45 AM - Arrive back at site. Unload antennas alone this time.**

**9:45 AM - Hike up to mountain top. Pass out from exhaustion.**

**9:50 AM - Wake up to smelling salt, and laughter from fellow DX'ers.**

**10:00 AM - Put up antennas, and set up rigs.**

**10:15 AM - Fire up rig, call CQ for half an hour; no replies.**

**10:46 AM - Hook up coax to rig...**

**10:48 AM - Realize that finals are wasted in main rig.**

**10:50 AM - Hook up back-up rig, this time with coax.**

**11:00 AM - Yell CQ, rare P5 comes back; antenna falls down...**

**11:15 AM - Wake up to smelling salt, fellow DX'ers shaking heads.**

**11:30 AM - Guy antennas.**

**12:05 PM - See long list of QSO's made by fellow DX'ers.**

**12:06 PM - Notice rare P5 in logbook.**

**12:07 PM - Beat fellow DX'er over head with logbook.**

**12:09 PM - Restrained by rest of DXpedition team.**

**12:30 PM - Back to rig for another attempt.**

**12:35 PM - Nearby lightning strike kills receive. Notice wet pants...**

**12:36 PM - Look for shelter.**

**12:38 PM - Find cave!**

**12:41 PM - Watch antenna get struck by lightning while hiding in cave.**

**12:42 PM - Wish it was fellow DX'er's antenna, or fellow DX'er that was struck...**

**12:45 PM - Realize not alone in cave...**

**12:46 PM - Pick up really big rock...**

**12:47 PM - Mauled by large angry bear.**

**12:50 PM - Get pulled out of cave by fellow DX'ers.**

**1:05 PM - Finally get talked into receiving medical treatment.**

**1:30 PM - Arrive back at hospital.**

**1:55 PM - Receive series of painful rabies shots, and multiple stitches.**

**2:30 PM - Get out of hospital and return home.**

**2:35 PM - "Explain" stitches and eye patch to wife.**

**3:00 PM - Realize gear is still up on mountain, with bear.**

**3:01 PM - Wish fellow DX'ers were still up on mountain, with bear...**

**3:03 PM - Consider taking up drinking.**

**7:00 PM - Get phone call from DX'er buddies.**

**7:05 PM - Agree to go on DXpedition again tomorrow...**

**73 Clinton AB7RG**

## **Notes from Editor:**

Hello everyone this is a new endeavor that I embark on and with the help of the club members this newsletter will develop into what the club would like. Things that I am looking to include in this letter are:

⟨Notes from last club meeting

⟨Notes from Board Meeting

⟨For sale/swap/give-a-ways

⟨Words of wisdom

⟨Some radio humor (need lots of help here)

⟨Technical (in simple language for those of us who are just starting out) info on things to help solve problems we are having or expand our knowledge

⟨Comments from the President

⟨Info about different events coming up in the amateur radio community (both here in Fairbanks and other places of interest)

⟨Info on the different nets and when they meet

All advise will be take with an open mike and if possible added to the info passed on the this letter.

**When contacting me by e-mail (slaternorthp@mosquionet.com) please include in the subject line that this is info for the newsletter/you are a ham.** Because of viruses and junk mail I do delete e-mails from people I do not know/can identify, thanks.

73Ôs John KL1AZ