

Pres Linda AD4BL

Minutes

Treasurers Report:

General Fund: \$774.98
Repeater Fund: 977.36
Total: \$1752.34

Old Business:

Quest Wrap-up and awards
HF Support Operator of the Year Rex AL7BJ
Checkpoint Operator of the Year Kevin Abnett NL7WO, Video done by Channel 11 on 101 checkpoint
Trail Operator of the Year Ken Severin WL7HU
Comm Center Operator of the year Bob Clark KL7EBF
Communications Operator of the Year Dan Wietchy KL1JP
Rookie of the Year MaryBeth Rivera KC0CWG

87 shifts at the Log Cabin 348 hours.
Jr. Quest man-hours and equipment provision \$21,286
Yukon Quest man-hours and equipment provision \$59,612

Hats: Quest Communications, donated by Brad Brooks

Kevin Abnett
Dick Sullivan
Carol and Dave DeVoe
Ken Severin
Brian and Lay Lawson
Mike Drury
Bob Clark
Dan Wietchy
Benny Benevento
Jim Movijs

New Business

Officers 2005
Two Rivers 200
Two Rivers 100 mile Youth run

Program Neal Brown

Benny describing repeater hardware

Next meeting April 2, 2004 Program?

Board meeting March 11

Board Meeting Report:

March 2004 Board Meeting:

Greetings: members present: KL7GL, KL1AZ, AD4BL, KL1JP, KL7YU, NL7XH[by proxy], KE4ITP

Minutes

Treasurers Report \$774.98 main \$977.36 repeater total \$1752.34

Expenses paid...\$69 for fax machine \$50 to reserve pavilions

For summer picnic and hamfest

Repeaters: see attached report

Newsletter

Old Business

Hamfest

New Business

New Members

Officers for 2005

Sept 4 Pioneer Park Hamfest and club picnic

August 14 summer picnic at Pioneer Park

No board meeting in June

Next Club Meeting April 2 Program

Next board Meeting April 8 Location?

Repeater Report:

Northway OK

Chena Dome OK

Porcupine Dome OK

Canyon Creek OK

Eldridge Unknown

Fairplay OK (link needs work)

McKinley Park OK

Healy OK (link problem)

Ester Dome OK (DVR problem)

Dot Lake OK (link problem)

Donnelley Dome DEAD

Manley DEAD

Details:

Donnelley Dome dead suspect wind generator bad and batteries are dead

Manley Hot Springs Dead. Suspect power supply or Kenwood 631A needs to be reprogrammed

Healy link to “88 system Dead Channel 9 to 13 translator is killing the 224.88 RX

Dot Lake problems. Suspect one of our transmitters is de sensing 444.90 RX System is working in a crossband mode at this time

Mount Fairplay link to Dot is poor. When Dot Lake is fixed we are going to change the link from 224.82 to two meters. We will link on 146.88 with 186.2 PL transmit from Dot and 192.8 PL RX from Fairplay

Ester Dome problems with DVR. Need to reload program and possibly send DVR back to Link communications.

Reindeer Mountain Cantwell. Dead. Unknown and I doubt that we will fix the problem any time soon.

I have again tied the 146.94 machine to Echolink. The repeater can still be used for local traffic and auto patch calls. If you hear a strange CQ call or some strange call sign calling and you have time please respond. I have talked to folks in New Zealand, all over the US and Europe. Finally got the sound card and computer working again.

Benny NL7XH

Events Schedule:

2 Apr 04 AARC Club Meeting
8 Apr 04 AARC Board Meeting
7 May 04 AARC Club Meeting (last meeting before summer)
13 May 04 AARC Board Meeting
10 Jun 04 **NO AARC Board Meeting**
June 04 events (dates to be announced)
 Montly Crew Annual Picnic
 Tour-de-Cure
 Yukon 800 Boat race
 Field Day
8 Jul 04 AARC Board Meeting
Jul 04 events (dates to be announced)
 Special event station Golden days
12 Aug 04 AARC Board Meeting
Aug 04 events
 2d Annual AARC picnic
9 Sep 04 AARC Board Meeting
Sep 04 events
 HamFest (**Chair person needed**)
 Freeze Up Canoe Race
1 Oct 04 AARC Club Meeting
14 Oct 04 AARC Board Meeting
5 Nov 04 AARC Club Meeting
11 Nov 04 Board Meeting
3 Dec 04 AARC Club Meeting
9 Dec 04 AARC Board Meeting

AARL NEWS:

ARRL URGES "THOUGHTFUL, CONSIDERED COMMENTS" ON PROPOSED BPL RULES

Comments on the FCC Broadband over Power Line (BPL) Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in ET Dockets 03-104 and 04-37 are due by Monday, May 3. The deadline for reply comments--comments on comments filed by others--is Tuesday, June 1. The ARRL will comment by the deadline on the FCC's proposals to amend its Part 15 rules to adopt new requirements and measurement guidelines for so-called "Access BPL" systems that provide broadband access via electric utility power lines. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, says the League recommends that members read the NPRM and develop their own thoughtful, considered comments that specifically address the FCC's BPL proposals, reflect positively on the amateur community and, if possible, offer alternative recommendations. He asked amateurs to keep four things in mind, however.

"First, this is not a proceeding to 'permit' or 'authorize' BPL," he said. "BPL is already permitted under the existing Part 15 rules."

Second, Sumner pointed out, the NPRM reaffirms that licensed services must be protected from harmful interference and are not required to protect BPL systems. "This is good, but we can't take it for granted that the principle will be honored in practice," he said.

"Third," Sumner went on, "the NPRM proposes additional, new constraints on BPL to protect licensed services. The FCC did not go far enough, but at least the proposals aim in the right direction."

Finally, while the League continues to believe firmly that BPL is "a very bad idea," arguing that the FCC should ban BPL "will not get us anywhere," he concluded. Instead, Sumner says, amateurs must document beyond any doubt the levels of protection that must be given to over-the-air services, then leave it for others to decide whether BPL is feasible within those limits. "We need to prove that the risk of interference is significantly greater than the BPL proponents say it is," Sumner said.

He also asserted that the FCC's proposed "interference mitigation" requirements fall far short of providing real protection from harmful interference, and that the Commission is ignoring the practical problems that will arise when Amateur Radio transmissions disrupt BPL systems.

Carrier current systems like BPL are subject to the FCC's Part 15 rules governing unlicensed devices, and the FCC has acknowledged that "amateur operations are likely to present a difficult challenge" to BPL deployment, especially in the case of hams--an estimated 150,000 of them--who use high-gain antennas sited near power lines. The proposed rules remain silent on the issue of mitigating BPL interference to the estimated 70,000 Amateur Radio HF mobile stations.

Interference mitigation for mobile stations "is clearly impractical," Sumner asserted. "Since BPL systems operating at the present Part 15 limit cause harmful interference to mobiles, the only solution is an absolute limit on radiated emissions that is lower than the present limit." He said the ARRL was in the process of determining scientifically what the limit must be.

Sumner further noted that the NPRM does not mandate a publicly accessible BPL database to facilitate interference mitigation for fixed stations. In addition, the League wants the FCC to establish performance standards for BPL interference mitigation. "There must be severe enforcement penalties for failure to resolve a complaint in real time and for failure to maintain the database," he said.

The League encourages anyone, particularly radio amateurs, who has actually experienced BPL interference to file detailed comments documenting the interference. "BPL proponents claim they are not getting

interference complaints," Sumner noted. "If we let them claim their systems are 'clean' when we know they aren't, shame on us."

Interested individuals and organizations may file comments via the Internet, using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) <<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>>. In an unusual move, the FCC has added another docket number to the BPL proceeding. That could complicate filing comments and may lead to some confusion. Although the original FCC BPL Notice of Inquiry last April bore ET Docket 03-104, the recent BPL NPRM carries an additional docket number--ET Docket 04-37. The ARRL advises those posting comments to use the main ECFS page and file their comments on both proceedings--ET Docket 03-104 and ET Docket 04-37.

When submitting a comment or viewing filed comments, ECFS users should type "03-104" or "04-37" (without quotation marks but including the hyphen) in the "Proceeding" field of the ECFS on-line form. Do not use the NPRM's FCC document number when filing or searching for comments. The ECFS permits attaching a file containing detailed comments prepared off-line.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, will discuss the various implications of BPL with overnight radio talk show host Art Bell, W6OBB, on the Saturday, March 20, edition of the syndicated interview and call-in program Coast to Coast AM <<http://www.coasttocoastam.com/>>. Their interview is scheduled to air during the show's first hour (Sunday, March 21, 0600 UTC). The toll-free call-in number for Western US listeners is 800-618-8255. For Eastern US listeners it's 800-825-5033. First-time callers may use 775-727-1222. The "Wild Card Line"--for any caller--is 775-727-1295. The popular program, distributed by Premiere Radio Networks, airs live nightly from 10 PM until 2 AM Pacific Time on 430 stations and is available in every state. It's also available via the Web <<http://www.coasttocoastam.com/streamlink/about.html>>.

Bogus ARRL.net messages still circulating:

E-mail messages purporting to be from the ARRL E-Mail Forwarding Service <<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/emailfwd.html>>, "The ARRL.net team" or some variation continue to show up in members' inboxes. The messages, which often carry a subject line along the lines of "Warning about your e-mail account," indicate that the recipient's ARRL E-Mail Forwarding Service <call sign>@arrl.net address will be closed within three days because of an alleged violation of acceptable practices. These messages are false and did not come from The ARRL Forwarding Service. They are the result of one of the variants on a number of viruses now permeating the Internet. A file usually is attached to these messages. As always, do not open any attachments that you cannot identify. Opening the file could result in your computer being infected by a virus. This is only one of the several virus-laden messages currently propagating across the Internet. The ARRL advises its members to be cautious in opening any message and/or attachment, even if it appears to be from someone you know. All of these viruses use e-mail addresses from the address book of an infected computer to falsify the "From:" address in the header to make it appear that the message is from someone the recipient knows.

National Weather Service:

It's been a good month at KL7FWX at the National Weather Service Office. The station participated in the March 6-7 International ARRL DX contest and logged 18 states. Surprisingly, not all of these were in the northwest, and quite a few were on the East Coast. This demonstrated that our station has the reach needed to put a signal into the Washington DC area if needed.

Ham radio reports will have a real "home" soon! The office will be issuing Local Storm Reports (or "LSRs" as they're known in the business) which will include spotter information received via ham radio. This emphasizes again the importance of a good spotter program, and I'm very proud of our many good spotters.

We've also benefited from some equipment upgrades. A new automatic tuner is on the way for our HF radio, along with a pair of 2-meter rigs needed to run our APRS and local-repeater-monitoring program. These should go a long way to ensure we have a vibrant and reliable ham radio program at the Weather Service for many months to come.

Have a great month! 73 es tnx. See you on the bands! de Tim KM4KS, (trustee KL7FWX).

National Traffic System:

Submitted by Linda Mullen:

Many amateurs think the NTS system is old-fashioned and of little use. The NTS is alive and well! It is a system where traffic is formal and handled in a systematic order all over the world by amateurs who volunteer their time to send, pickup, and deliver messages from priority to general greetings.

Alaska is one of the few places where we do not have a Section wide traffic net to handle formal traffic. Alaskans by and large are unfamiliar with NTS procedures and the guidelines for using it.

In an emergency situation, we need a way to handle traffic so that it doesn't end up like messages do in the game of "Telephone." The radiogram used by NTS has checks built in as well as methods of determining the authenticity of a message, all done in a simple format and amateurs all over the world recognize and work with.

Alaska emergency managers work under the Incident Command System. ICS also has a message format and the good news is that it is very similar to the NTS format so it is easy to translate between the two.

In a declared emergency, traffic going to EOC's, agencies, and other official places must be in formal written format ie the radiogram. Traffic can not be passed by "word of mouth" or informal means. Nets become controlled, formal nets with the Net Control managing the net and all calls going thru the NC.

March 14, we started working on what a radiogram consists of, on the Interior Net. I will repeat what I said here and we will also continue with the other parts of the radiogram on the Sunday Net.

A radiogram consists of 4 parts: the Preamble, the address, the test, and the signature.

The **PREAMBLE** is the housekeeping part of the message. With the information there you can trace the message, send it back if needed, authenticate it, and make sure the message sent is the one received.

It consists of :

1: message number this is the number that the amateur who first sends it assigns to the message. Each amateur has their own numbering system. I start at "1" Jan 1 of each year. Some do more complicated systems but I like the "KISS" method.

2: Precedence how critical the message is, can be EMERGENCY [always-spelled out] PRIORITY [P] WELFARE [W] and ROUTINE [R]

3: Handling instructions only necessary if there are special needs in handling the message

4.: Station of Origin the station that first wrote the message

- 5: **Check** this is very important! It is the number of words in the message. When an operator receives a message, the first thing to do is count the words in the message and make sure it agrees with the check, if not then you get a re-send from the sending operator to see what is wrong.
- 6: **Place of Origin** this is the actual place where the message started from.
- 7: **Time Filled** not usually used unless it is important to know as in an emergency situation
- 8: **Date** the date the message was written

A preamble at the top of a radiogram looks like:

347 R G K7ABT 25 Phoenix, AZ 2300 Nov 6

It is read like that, there is no need to say Number 347 Precedence Routine Handling HXG Station of origin K7ABT etc. Any operator familiar with the radiogram knows what each of the items is in the radiogram and writes it just as it is above. You have all the housekeeping, routing, information in one short sentence.

ADDRESS this is the address where the radiogram is going. It needs to be as complete as possible with Name Street, City, State, Zip and the telephone number. The more complete the address, the easier to deliver it when it gets to its destination.

MESSAGE this is the actual message. Keep as short as possible. Generally no punctuation is used but there are 2 kinds that can be used. One is the "X" which signifies the "." It is never used at the end of the message. The other is "QUERY" for the "?". Practice writing each word on a line of 5 words to make counting easier. The number of words in the message goes in the "Check" "X" counts one word. CANNOT BE OF A COMMERCIAL NATURE!

SIGNATURE is not part of the word count. It is the signature of the person sending the message – NOT THE OPERATOR. In emergency service the signature should include the full name, the title of the person and the phone number. Even if the phones are not working, it is a way to authenticate the message. Very important when you are handling messages that are requesting material support from EOC or agency.

That is pretty much all there is to it. Not hard to do, just takes some practice. If you have any questions please get in touch with me at: ad4bl@mosquitonet.com

From the President:

I just got off the phone with Ken Treb. As you may know, Deb (AL1S) is at the Mayo clinic being treated for water on the brain. On Monday March 8th, an operation was performed to drain the fluid via the spinal cord. By Wednesday, she was doing much better and in good spirits. Late Wednesday, things took a turn for the worse when she suffered a cerebral hemorrhage. After performing many tests, the doctors have concluded that there is both good news and bad news. The good news is that the cerebral hemorrhage is not life threatening, and appears to be slowly getting better. The bad news is that she now has a long road to recovery. Please keep Deb in your thoughts and pass this on to others.

For Sale/Wanted:

1. New never used (excess shipment from HRO must sale or ship back) still in box: MFJ –269 HF/VHF/UHF SWR Analyzer, \$319 firm (save shipping cost). Contact John Slater, KL1AZ, 488-5209.
2. Ten Tec Omni V HF Transceiver with matching Power Supply \$800. Contact Jim Dixon at 4790-4306 or dixon@ieee.org
3. Hi All, Jane and I are writing this email looking for a little help in acquiring and few things and selling some others. We spent the pre-holiday season in the Reno area looking to relocate there this summer. We are looking to buy a few things;
 1. Two axle covered trailer suitable to haul motorcycles and household stuff.

We are looking to sell a few things;

1. For the Amateur radio guys; TenTec Paragon Transceiver 160-10 meters with matching TenTec legal limit Centurion amp. \$1600 will kick in 40' crank up tower.
4. AARC looking for: VP for club, Hamfest chairperson, and Refreshment chairperson.
5. Articles for Newsletter.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR COMMENTS:

All input and comments/articles are welcome. **If you are a member of AARL please contact one of the club officers and let them know it is time once again to certify with the AARL.** The AARC has once again participated in a number of public events this past summer, if you have a report about events that have not been reported that the club has provided communications for please send that report to me and it will be included in future letters. **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.