JUNEAU AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER
October 5, 2017
Kl7JRC
KL7JRC@gmail.com

An affiliated club of the American Radio Relay League
www.jarcjuneau.com

Jeff Deaner, KL7JVD, President Destiny Sargeant, KL4FQ, Vice-President Scott Novak, KL3JM, Treasurer Ernie Mueller, KL2UH, Secretary Rick Pearson, KL7PHB, Board Member at Large Bill Andre, NL3A Past President David Bruce, WL7BKA, Membership Chair Jeff Deaner, KL7JVD, Howard Shepherd, AL7I, VHF Co-Chairs	The Juneau Amateur Radio Club meets at 7:00 P.M. the first Wednesday of each month at the National Weather Service Juneau Forecast Office, 8500 Mendenhall Loop Road in Juneau. There is also an informal lunch meeting every Wednesday at noon in the dining area of the Juneau Safeway, 3033 Vintage Boulevard. The Juneau Amateur Radio Club has a fully equipped HF and VHF amateur radio station located in the Juneau Forecast Office. Club members wishing to operate this station must complete a briefing and comply with NWS visitor rules and JARC operating requirements. For further information email the Club or contact any Club officer.

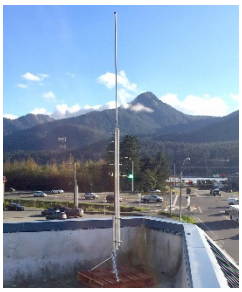
The next regular meeting of the Juneau Amateur Radio Club Will be 7:00 P.M. Wednesday November 1, 2017 National Weather Service Forecast Office 8500 Mendenhall Loop Road

Daylight Savings Time ends 2:00 A.M. Sunday, November 5

Voice Sweepstakes Event: Voice Sweepstakes begins 2100 UTC Saturday November 18 and ends 0259 UTC Monday November 20, 2017. This is a big event for the Juneau Amateur Radio Club and all Club members and guests are invited to participate. Once again the event will be held at the Juneau Fire Control Training Center using the Club's (supplemented by member loaned gear) and the tower trailer. There will be a potluck dinner and a lot of opportunities to hone skills under the tutelage of highly skilled contest operators. The Club has done well over the years in this event and everyone has had a lot of fun… More information will be made available as the dates approach. Mark it on your calendar.

JARC Hams are important part of the 2017 Juneau Emergency Preparedness Exposition. Every two years the City and Borough of Juneau sponsors a comprehensive, free exposition promoting emergency preparedness. JARC was a big part of the action in the September 15-16, 2017 event. Martha Palicka, Emergency Communications Coordinator led the effort. She thanks Sam Smith for setting up the equipment, and Rick Pearson, Glenn Sicks, Scott Novak, Bill Andre and Destiny Sargeant for their help in

organizing and staffing the booth. Many visitors to the Exposition had heard about Ham Radio but did not know the extent of its importance and activities in Juneau. Some expressed interest in becoming amateur radio operators and their names will be added to a list for future classes. At left are Sam Smith and Rick Pearson setting up the Club's booth and equipment display. Sam set his Buddipole antenna in the outside lawn and there were working demonstrations of Ham Radio, although the bands were miserable.. Martha reported that overall attendance at the Expo was good...



Scott Novak, KL3JM, installs new antenna for Red Cross. Pictured here is the new radio antenna Club Treasurer Scott Novak installed on the roof above the American Red Cross Juneau Office on Hospital Drive. This will enable the Red Cross to communicate on dedicated FM frequencies to its local vehicles and disaster responses. Thanks, Scott for supporting one of our important community partners.

FCC announces new Ham Radio Bands available as of mid-September.
The following information was provided by Pat Moore, AL7L:

The new 630-meter (472-479 KHz) and 2200 meter (135.7-137.8 KHz) bands are available to US hams as of mid-September, but with some caveats due to shared occupancy with electric utility communications systems.

Both bands are shared allocations. Power companies use frequencies between 10 and 490 KHz for communications via their power lines. To operate on either band, you have to register with the Utilities Technology Council 30 days prior to your first operation. Here's a link to the form:

https://utc.org/plc-database-amateur-notification-process/

To register on the website, you'll need your latitude and longitude to the second. There's a free app for Android phones called My Location which will give you the phone's exact location to the second. It's free.

Where am I at? is a similar app for IPhones. Currently free, but may charge in the future.

Your latitude and longitude in decimal degrees is on the Station Information page in N1MM if you have that program on your computer. There's a decimal-to-HMS converter in the form on the UTC website.

Takes about five minutes and you only have to do it once. Note the date you fill out the online form - you can't legally operate on 630 or 2200 until 30 days have elapsed.

UTC is supposed to notify you by email if you are located within 1 kilometer of a powerline which is carrying an electric company's communications; they will require you to acknowledge the notification.

I (Pat) have a call in to Erik Erickson, the engineer at AEL&P to find out if the local utility is using these frequencies, and where.

50 watts into a 400 microhenry coil at the bottom of a 50-foot vertical wire with a 50-foot capacity hat wire off the top should get about 1 watt ERP on 630 meters. Antenna height is limited to 197 feet on both of the new bands.

Stations within 800 km of the Russian Federations's borders are limited to 1 Watt ERP on the new 630 MHz band. Juneau is about 2,000 kilometers from the nearest point in the Russian Federation, so we can run a full 5 watts ERP. Our friends in Bethel, Barrow, and Nome will be limited to 1 watt ERP. The maximum power on 2200 meters is 1 watt ERP for everyone.

Elecraft radios will tune down to both allocations. I'm not aware of any other rigs that transmit that low without modification.

If you ever anticipate operating on these new bands, you should probably register with UTC today.

Following up, Pat reports: “I've made contact with Erik Erickson, engineer at AEL&P. They do use some low frequency equipment, to read meters at some substations and to communicate with Snettisham. He's going to look into which circuits are affected and where. He also said that they were phasing out some low frequency equipment in favor of VHF. More when he gets back to me.”

Yes, Ham Radio is pitching in to help victims of Hurricane Irma: As you might have heard, a few weeks ago the American Red Cross requested that the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) deploy 25 teams of Ham Radio Operators and equipment to be sent to the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico to help with the Red Cross’ Safe and Well Program and to support its emergency communications. Almost immediately ARRL not only said yes, but had the fifty volunteers and the emergency communications equipment ready to go. This message from the ARRL Contest Update indicates what is happening and the creativity of our fellow hams:

“You've likely seen the hurricane Maria recovery coverage on the news, on the ARRL website, in the ARRL Letter. According to Fred Kleber, K9VV/NP2X, "Life is returning to some sort of normalcy in the VI while our neighbors in PR are well into the 'desperation state'. " Amateurs are contributing with pragmatic solutions to providing support to those who have been thrust back into the pre-electrification era. Fred notes that he's "part of a team which is slated to fly a plane with a tow banner over remote parts of PR. The banner will instruct anyone with a ham or FRS (the cheap walkie-talkies you can buy at Walmart or sports stores) on which frequencies to call for help. The plane will have a ham operator, GPS, and a repeater on it to obtain status and summon help, if needed. Low tech but effective in reaching remote parts of PR which still haven't received aid."

The ARRL in conjunction with the American Red Cross have sent a team of fifty Amateurs to Puerto Rico to assist with on-the-ground communications and relief. A number of Amateurs based in the continental US have been relaying traffic. Some are contesters, and no doubt their experience in operating and handling information quickly has benefited them. Amateur related businesses have answered the call for resources with equipment and support of their employees' time in service of this disaster. At least one contest has been rescheduled to avoid any possibility of interference with recovery related communications.

As the recovery progresses over the next few months, just being aware that the effort is continuing can help out in small ways - for example being aware of potential frequencies that can be in use, listening just a little more carefully before transmitting, and **remembering to support the aid organizations already there**.

According to Fred, the goal of the Virgin Island government is "restoration of power to 90% of St. Croix by Christmas." He points out that "the simple things in life, like the light switch, power, water, a toilet flushing, and so on, have taken on a whole new meaning."

Good Job, Guys, 73

Northern Southeast FM Network Repeater status:

Mount Roberts (146.820-)	Operating Normally	100 Hz sub audible tone
Lena Point (147.000-)	Operating Normally	100 Hz sub audible tone
Pederson Hill (147.300+)	Operating Normally	100 Hz sub audible tone
Hoonah Mountain (146.700-)	Not Operating	Equipment removed
		(plans for repair in progress)
Haines Repeater (147.060+)	Not Operating	Needs minor repairs
Skagway Crossband 444.060+/147.060+)		Equipment removed

Repeaters Connected to Yukon Amateur Radio Association Network

Chilly Ridge	146.940 (-0.6)	100 Hz sub audible tone
Eaglecrest	147.360 (+0.6)	100 Hz sub audible tone

Juneau Private IRLP Repeaters:

KL2ZZ	147.120 (+0.6)	123 Hz sub audible tone
WA6AXO	444.700 (+5.0)	141.3 Hz sub audible tone
WA6AXO	146.880 (-0.6)	100 Hz sub audible tone
KLØTN	147.420 simplex	100 Hz sub audible tone

HF Nets of interest to Alaska Ham Radio Operators:

Name	Website	Frequency	Days/times
Alaska Pacific Net	http://alaskapacificnet.org/	14.292 MHz USB	M-F 8:30 AM Alaska
Alaska Snipers net	http://snipersnet.kl7.net/	3.920 MHz LSB	Daily 6:30 PM Alaska
Alaska Bush Net		7.093 MHz LSB	Daily 8:00 PM Alaska
Motley Net		3.933 MHz LSB	Daily 9:00 PM Alaska