

JARC MEETING TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY APRIL 6TH

NEWSLETTER of the Juneau Amateur Radio Club KL7JRC

April 6, 2005

JARC 2005 Club Officers:

President KL7DP Dave Palmer
Vice President KL1AS Jack Gregson
Secretary KL0KZ Sam Smith
Treasurer WL7WB Paulette Sill
VHF Chair AL7BP Howard Shepherd
Past President KL1AS Jack Gregson

The monthly meeting of the JARC will be held on Wednesday, April 6th at 7:30 PM at the Weather Service Building on the Back Loop Road .

In Brief:

- A VE exam was held on April 2ndth. Bill Heumann passed the exam for his General Class License.
- Southeast Alaska Regional Science Fair Special Club award winner is Sierra Gadaire.
- Pictures from Joel Gilbert in Iraq to be posted on Club Web Site.
- Discussion of the Communications Vehicle planned for our meeting on Wednesday evening.

Science Fair Winner: Our Club offered a \$100 prize for the best student project involving radio communications or electronics at the Regional Science Fair held at the Marie Drake Gym on March 5th. Mark Miles and Sam Smith attended the project judging and were pleased to award the Club prize to a young lady, Sierra Gadaire for her project entitled "How Atmospheric Moisture Affects Satellite Reception." We wish her the best in her continued interest in electronics and communications.

Joel Gilbert Iraq Report: Joel Gilbert has provided some very interesting pictures and his account of several events since his arrival in Iraq a couple of months ago. The pictures will be included on our web site at www.qsl.net/jarc.

Status of our Communications Vehicle: At our business meeting in March we discussed the communications vehicle that we received from the CBJ. As you recall we received the generous gift of the

used ambulance that was surplus to the needs of the CBJ. At the time we received title to the ambulance, it was our hope that it could be converted to a Club Communication vehicle for use at training events and during actual emergencies. As we considered the long-term possibilities and expenses, it began to look as though the expense of just maintaining insurance and regular maintenance of the vehicle could exceed our Club's financial capability even if we were able to obtain grants for conversion and equipping of the vehicle. Following are the main points and options offered by Club members:

! We can sell the vehicle and use the money from the sale to equip a small trailer. The trailer wouldn't carry the high annual costs associated with the truck and could be hauled by Club members to the location of use. Storage would be simplified and vehicle insurance wouldn't be needed.

! The money could be used for maintenance and upgrading of our existing repeater network that would directly benefit Club members and the CBJ.

! We could retain title to the truck and work at getting long-term grants to cover annual ownership expenses. This is possible, but no one to date has come forward to pursue this option. The question would still remain if this were a good use of the Club's scarce financial resources.

We will discuss this issue at the meeting on Wednesday evening and hope to make a decision at that time. If you can't be at the meeting contact Sam Smith on Tuesday or Wednesday. Sam's telephone number is 586-8367 during the day or 780-6676 in the evening. You could also send e-mail to ssmith@ptialaska.net.

Member Notes: As of the annual meeting Club membership stood at 34 paid members. This is a bit low compared to last year, so let's encourage the ham community in Juneau to continue to maintain their membership and help the Club to provide the current level of services.

Applications are available at monthly meetings and on-line at www.qsl.net/jarc. Annual membership dues are :

\$36.00 for an individual membership including one autodial number, plus
\$12.00 for each additional family member;
\$10.00 for reverse patch and mailbox; and
\$5.00 for each additional autodial numbers.

Wednesday Lunchtime Meetings: We've been having about 15 members at our Wednesday lunch meetings. The informal lunch meetings continue to take place at the Atrium Café in the Jordan Creek Mall at noon every Wednesday. This is a great way to keep in touch.

ARES Activities: ARES Net meets on the Mt Roberts repeater each Tuesday at 7PM, although you can check in through any of the operating repeaters. The Northern Southeast Alaska Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) net operates with good participation from Hoonah, Haines, Gustavus, and Juneau every Tuesday at 7:00 PM. The purposes of this net are to check on the readiness of ARES members and their equipment, to make announcements pertaining to amateur radio, to conduct informal training and to give members experience in managing a net. All are welcome to check in. We hope to see you on the radio!

Tell us your new E-mail Address: Sam Smith, KL0KZ, our Newsletter editor has been sending out our Newsletters electronically to the 90 percent of our membership who use Email. Please contact Sam at ssmith@ptialaska.net if you obtain a new e-mail address.

The Newsletter: The Editor of your Newsletter continues to search for interesting information from Club members that can be used in the Newsletter. We are frequently able to include articles and information by

Club members, which are far more interesting than the usual dry information produced by the editor. If you have time to put something together that would interest the membership, please send by e-mail to ssmith@ptialaska.net. We will edit it for you, so don't hesitate to send something to us. The appropriate length is less than one page.

Club Web Site: The Club's website is www.qsl.net/jarc The site is maintained by Mike Caughran. An archive of past Newsletters, Club Minutes and ARES information are available on the site. It also provides excellent exposure for selling used radio equipment.

Repeater Status: Following is the status of repeaters in the Juneau area, which are available for use by Club members and out of town guests. For additional information on the Club's network of repeaters see the 2004 JARC Repeater Guide.

REPEATER LOCATION H-T FREQUENCY CONDITION

Mt. Roberts Tramway R146.82/T146.22 Operating normally linking to Lena, although not a great signal.
Lena Point R147.00/T146.40 Operating normally antenna not in final location.
Heinzelman Ridge R146.64/T146.04 Operating normally
Hoonah Mountain R146.70/T146.10 Operating normally antenna not in final location.
Petersburg/Duncan Canal R147.36/T146.76 New equipment is nearly ready for installation.
Haines Repeater R147.06/T147.66 Functioning and linked to Juneau
Skagway Crossband 440 mHz band Frequencies not yet established

(Receive and transmit frequencies refer to your hand held transceiver)