

THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE JARC WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6TH AT 7:30 PM

NEWSLETTER of the Juneau Amateur Radio Club KL7JRC

2010 JARC Club Officers:

| | | |
|-----------|--------|---------------|
| President | KL1AS | Jack Gregson |
| V.P. | WL7BKA | Dave Bruce |
| Secretary | KL0KZ | Sam Smith |
| Treasurer | | |
| VHF Chair | KL7HFI | Jerry Prindle |

IN BRIEF:

- We held our last monthly meeting on September 1st at 7:30pm at the NOAA Weather Forecasting Office. Minutes for the September meeting are included in this Newsletter.
- Our next monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 3rd. There will be an election for Treasurer and for Member-at-Large. We have volunteers for both positions, but we can accept nominations from the floor.
- Eleven Club members participated in the airport emergency drill at the airport on September 18th. Our involvement was to support the Red Cross Chapter with communications under the auspices of ARES and the Juneau Red Cross Chapter. Larry Walter was net control and organized our effort. See the after action report.
- Anyone using the station at the weather forecasting office must sign in and out at the front desk. See the attached report from Eric Bailey concerning use of the Club's Station.
- We will have hard-copy versions of our membership lists available at the Club meeting. We will not be making electronic or other wide distribution of this list as the membership does not want e-mail addresses available to the world. If you do take a copy of the list we would like you to respect the wishes of the addressees and not include a list of member addressees in any e-mail messages that you send out. We request that you send any such e-mail messages to individuals and not to groups. The Newsletter is sent to a single individual with the remainder of the Newsletters sent to members of the group as "blind copies." This method seems to work satisfactorily. Please do not distribute this list outside of the Club and use it strictly for things related to Club business and issues related to ham radio! Thanks.
- The Club's non-profit status is in Good shape. See article.

Club Non-Profit Status:

Sam Smith reports that the Club has two separate IRS non-profit classifications. The Club had obtained IRS tax exempt status in June 1968, using an EIN of 92-6004433. This provides a 503(C)(7) non-profit classification, which applies to social organizations. It does not provide a tax deduction for donations. In 2006 we applied for classification as a 501(C)(3) charitable non-profit organization. This is associated with an EIN of 30-0363738. This classification allows the Club to accept donations from individuals or other organizations and allows the donor to claim

any such gift as a tax deductible donation. The IRS advises that we can maintain both designations, which is probably a good idea so we can become more social without being in fear of losing our 503(C)(3) charitable status. There is no cost involved to us to maintain both. We have to file a form 990N annually for each EIN. It is our intention to keep up both numbers, and our filings are both current. We suspect that the original Club officers applied for and obtained the 503(C)(7) status when the Club was formed in 1966. Their address changed sometime prior to 1999 as IRS has the former EIN listed as inactive on that date. Annual filings were not required until 2008, so it has just been sitting there. We were not aware of the original classification when we were working on our new IRS 501(C)(3) filing. It's existence was not discovered until the IRS put out a list showing that our 501(C)(7) status was in jeopardy.

The Club is also recognized as a Non-profit Alaska Corporation. This status also needs to be kept up to-date with periodic filings to the State, Corporations Section. This will be caught up during October. There is a fee associated with this filing.

The Club has a Non-profit Sales Tax Exemption Certificate from the City of Juneau Finance Dept.. The certificate number is: 736. This exempts the Club from paying sales tax on purchases and sales.

If you have any questions concerning this information contact your Club Officers.

Wednesday Lunchtime Meetings:

We have had 8 to 10 members at our Wednesday lunch meetings. The informal lunch meetings continue to take place at the Safeway Deli at noon every Wednesday. There is a great selection of sandwiches and soups. Come join us!

Membership:

Anyone that hasn't paid dues for the current year you can send a check or pay in person at a meeting. See the address below if you want to mail the dues. We will prorate the dues amount. Membership information is available at monthly meetings and on our web site.

\$36.00 for an individual membership including one autodial number, plus
\$12.00 for any number of additional family members;
\$10.00 for reverse patch and mailbox;
\$5.00 for each additional autodial numbers; and
\$10 for a youth membership.

Please bring your dues to the next meeting or mail to:

Juneau Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 35484
Juneau, Alaska 99803-5484
Attn: Treasurer

The Club needs your active participation and dues.

ARES ACTIVITIES: We had great participation by Club members in the Airport disaster drill in September. See the After Action Report. Participation in the ARES Net has been excellent. Let's keep it up through the winter months. The net meets on the Mt Roberts repeater each Tuesday at 7PM, or on Larry's repeater at 147.30. It only takes about 10 minutes and provides good practice for any events that could overwhelm our community. The Northern Southeast Alaska Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) net operates with participation from Haines,

Gustavus, and Juneau. 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! Because of problems with our repeater network, we have been using the universal simplex frequency of 146.52 and the repeater administered by Larry Walter at 147.30.

TELL US YOUR NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS: Sam Smith, KL0KZ, our Newsletter editor has been sending out our Newsletters electronically to the 95 percent of our membership who use Email. Please contact Sam at ssmith@ptialaska.net or at sam@borealcontrols.com if you obtain a new e-mail address.

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 or at sam@borealcontrols.com. 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: An archive of past Newsletters, Club Minutes and ARES information will be available on the site. It will also provide an excellent opportunity for selling used radio equipment. The URL is www.juneauradioclub.org.

REPEATER STATUS: Jerry has finished the new repeater manual and has passed out copies at the Wednesday noon meeting. We will make them available on line to Club members as soon as I have an electronic copy. There are still some problems with the Mt Roberts repeater. The linking systems are not working, but the individual repeaters are working. The phone patch works only through the Lena Point repeater.

| REPEATER LOCATION | H-T FREQUENCY | CONDITION |
|---|-----------------|--|
| Mt. Roberts Tramway | R146.82/T146.22 | Operating marginally – A new duplexer and antenna needs to be installed. |
| Lena Point | R147.00/T146.40 | Repeater is operating with some problems – repeater antenna is in final location. The old linking antenna is still being used. The new equipment has been installed. |
| Mendenhall Valley Repeater (formerly Heinzelman Ridge) | R146.64/T146.04 | System is located at Jerry's home in the Valley. There seems to be some problems. |
| Hoonah Mountain | R146.70/T146.10 | Repeater is now functioning. |
| Petersburg/Duncan Canal | R147.36?T146.76 | Equipment has not yet been installed |
| Haines Repeater | R147.06/T147.66 | Functioning, but with some problems. |
| Skagway Crossband | 440 mHz band | Functioning |

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

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE:

- Brand new never plugged in; Diawa SS505 switching power supply, variable voltage from 5 to 15 volts, 50 amps. \$300.00. Almost new; Titan DX vertical antenna. 10 through 75 meters. 95% assembled. \$200.00. Generac brand generator, 5000 watts, 6500 surge watts, 5 gallon fuel tank, Wheel kit, 10 HP Tecumsehah motor, Approximately 5 hours run time. Always stored inside. \$500.00. For this fine equipment contact Don Kirstine by e-mail: w17me2000@yahoo.com.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2010:

Call to order: 1930 hours By Jack Gregson

Attendance: Jack Gregson KL1AS, David Bruce WL7BKA, Sam Smith KL0KZ; Don Kirstine WL7ME, Charlie Gray KL7IG, Glenn Sicks KL0QZ, Howard Sheperd AL7BP, Joe Johnson KL2ZS, Estol Belflower KL7IVY, Larry Walter KL7IWC, Jim Cummins KL7IYD, James Zuelow KL2ZZ, Calvin Zuelow KL2ZY

Secretary's Report: Minutes for the May and June Newsletters were approved as read.

Treasurer's Report: Jack reported that there were no significant changes in the bank account since the last meeting.

Membership Report: There have been no changes since our last meeting of 43 paid members as reported by Bob Simpson at our noon meeting on this date.

VE Report: There was no VE report.

VHF Chair Report: Jerry Prindle is out of town. He is expected to be back in Juneau

Old Business:

- Glenn Sicks reported the following Field Day Scores: 226 CW contacts, 98 digital contacts, 112 phone contacts and 350 bonus points for a total score of 872 points.
- Larry reported that the Airport Disaster Drill is coming up on 9/18. ARES will be providing communication support to the Red Cross. Volunteers will meet at the Red Cross office at 8AM. Cell phones will not be used in the drill, which makes our involvement more important. It is planned that our primary frequency will be 147.30 +600. Secondary frequency will be 146.64 -600. Tertiary frequency will be the simplex frequency of 146.52. The drill will begin at 9AM.

New Business:

- The following resolution was moved, seconded and passed by the membership: **"It is Resolved that the Club Secretary, Samuel R. Smith, is the new Registered Agent for the Juneau Amateur Radio Club, Inc., Alaska Entity # 7580D."** The Secretary was directed to submit the proper forms to the State of Alaska, Corporations Section.
- Terry Gregson is currently acting as the interim Club Treasurer following the resignation of Paulette Sill. In order to comply with the Club Constitution and Bylaws it was moved, seconded and passed that we hold an election for Club "Treasurer" and "Board Member at Large" at the next Club meeting. We have volunteers for both positions, James Zuelow for Treasurer and Pat Moore for Board Member at Large.
- Glenn Sicks reported that there has been an average of 13 operators checking in on the ARES net each week.
- Dave Bruce requested that we make arrangements to facilitate VE testing while Jerry Prindle is out of town. Jack Gregson indicated that he is certified to conduct license tests in Jerry's absence. He does need to get some information from Jerry. There are three persons waiting to take tests.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:30 PM

Northern Southeast Alaska ARES

Juneau Airport Disaster Exercise 2010 – After Action Report

The Juneau International Airport held their FAA required Three Year Wheels Down Emergency Exercise on Saturday 18 September 2010 from 0900 to 1300 local time. The Northern Southeast Alaska ARES group supported the American Red Cross in this exercise. The following ARES stations participated in the exercise Dan Squires-KD7WN, Don Kirstine-WL7ME, Glenn Sicks-KL0QZ, Jim Cummins-KL7IYD, Howard Shepherd-AL7BP, Calvin Zuelow-KL2ZY, James Zuelow-KL2ZZ, Sam Smith-KL0KZ, Charlie Grey-KL7IG, Joseph Johnson-KL2ZS, and Larry Walter-KL7IWC. ARES members meet at 0800 at the American RED Cross Office for a briefing then proceeded to the staging area prior the beginning of the exercise.

Scenario:

The scenario was a light aircraft collided with a commercial passenger jet on a taxiway at the west end of the airport. Cell phones were not permitted; only hard land line and radios were to be used for communications. The weather was clear and sunny. The Red Cross was tasked with setting up a canteen to service the responders and to man a Family Reception Area, additionally; the Red Cross placed a representative at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). ARES members were to provide voice VHF communications between Red Cross officials. ARES stations were assigned to the Canteen, Family Reception Center, EOC Red Cross representative, and Airport Managers Office (acted as liaison for RED Cross) and to shadow the Red Cross District Disaster Response Specialist. An ARES staging area and net control station was setup just outside the airport perimeter at the Airport Shopping Mall. ARES members meet at the staging area and were assigned and dispatched to the various sites as needed by net control.

Communications Plan:

The communications plan called for a local HAM repeater (147.30/147.90 MHz) to be the primary frequency and 146.52 MHz to be the secondary frequency. The net control station was to coordinate the flow of radio traffic and assign and dispatch personnel. The net control station was to be located near the scene of the emergency at the ARES staging area.

Lessons Learned:

The operation went well as planned. Establishment of the net and deployment of personnel proceeded in a timely fashion. Some confusion as to when the Canteen was located occurred but was straightened out in a short period of time.

ARES personnel assigned to the EOC Red Cross representative were not allowed into the EOT facility (located inside the airport perimeter) nor allowed to bring a vehicle onto the airport to the EOC. No arrangements for chairs or other creature comforts had been made and there would have been a potential problem had there been inclement weather (fortunately the weather was sunny and warm). In the future, arrangements must be made for ARES members assigned to the EOC Red Cross representative to be able to bring a vehicle to the EOC or otherwise be sheltered.

Accessing the local repeater with hand held radios from the airport terminal and hangers, although successful, resulted in less than crystal clear communications. A better approach would have been to use 146.52 MHz as a primary frequency for the airport site and use the local repeated between net control and more distant outlying stations IE: Red Cross Office, Bartlett Regional Hospital, etc. Additionally, more simplex working frequencies should be assigned.

An ARES staging area and net control station should be setup and located near the scene of an incident.

The Assistant Airport Manager, as a test, successfully used the RED Cross radio net to access the EOC and pass traffic. She was very pleased at how well it worked.

Submitted by:
Lawrence Walter KL7IWC
ARRL Northern Southeast Alaska Liaison
19 September 2010

REPORT ON THE CLUB STATION LOCATED AT THE NWS OFFICE :

By: Eric Bailey, WL7CMT

The National Weather Service position is shaping up, and in the process there are some changes to be aware of regarding use of the WL7NWS station.

First, per the National Weather Service, it is now mandatory - not an option - for anyone entering the building to date, sign in, and note the time of entry and departure in the NWS front desk logbook.

Second, if you want to be able to operate the JARC operating position there it is now also mandatory that you bring a copy of your license and driver's license or photo ID to the station that will remain there in the station logbook. Xeroxing is fine, and three hole punched for the binder better if you can do it. The copy must be in the log before you operate. Please plan ahead and do this. If you show up to operate for SkyWarn, casual operating, or anything else you will not be able to participate until your license copy is in the log book. It's 5 minutes and a nickel's worth of paper ladies and gentlemen. Please make this tiny investment in time and money, and make it easy on everybody. Doing this gives both Federal Security personnel and the NWS staff a way to identify those who have permission to operate the station should that need arise.

Third, and equally important, if you operate the radio, the club states that it is mandatory that you sign into and out of the station log. You'll find it in a clearly marked binder in the storage cabinet above the position for the same reason as above – Federal facility requires paper trails, whether or not there is a law on the books. “Be prepared,” as the Boy Scouts say. Present laws on the books notwithstanding, it could mean losing the station license if we cannot show accountability should this country be hit by another emotional upheaval comparable to 911 or a similar event. At the very least it can sidestep a very large pain in the neck for a week or so dealing with the Feds.

Per David Bruce, from this point forward a QSL card for every contact from the station must be filled out before you leave the operating position. David has had designed and printed a full color QSL card for the station that covers both the NWS call sign and that of the club. You'll find them in the top drawer on the right side of the desk. Nice card. Thanks David.

Also per David, if you don't send it out with your own stamp, put it in the upper storage cabinet in the cardboard box on the right side. When a handful accumulates the club will send them to the ARRL outgoing QSL Bureau for distribution.

I've placed an image of the new card on the QRZ page for the station, and corrected typos in the address so it now reads accurately.

Please note that the books and materials in the overhead storage cabinet at the National Weather Service are not a lending library. All materials at the NWS operating position must remain there for the use of control operators. A binder marked something like Operating Aids has been removed from the station. If whoever borrowed it will return it I'd appreciate it. Sam and I have more materials to put into it that include propagation tables for this point in the sunspot cycle and a chart for beam headings for DX. These are materials I had made up at my own expense at a copy shop, on a durable, heavy stock paper so they'd last at least several years. The binder came out of my own pocket too.

I've found, printed, and placed at the operating position the manuals for the IC 2KL amplifier, and ICOM's alignment procedure for the 2KL. Some have said that misalignment might be why it doesn't put out the full 500 watts. Charlie Gray has said he will take a look at it to see if alignment is the problem. If not, per Charlie it will go to ICOM to be tweaked along with the ICOM HF radio.

The handful of sheets Charlie had when he assembled the Hustler vertical are there, and I have found and placed with it the full manual from Hustler for the antenna as well. After a little more than 14 hours of web research, e- and land mails, and multiple calls across the nation, the station now has a manual for all components including the Vibroplex at the operating position except the Transel watt meter, which is proving to be difficult. From what I can see thus far the company has folded or been bought out by someone else. I haven't been able to find it yet.

I installed a new set of feet on the Vibroplex key. The old rubber feet had hardened over the years, and the key slid around because of it. I thought it might be nice if it stays in one place, especially for the higher speed operators.

I've also rerouted wiring at the operating position to allow the A-B switch for the vertical/beam antennas to be used without having to get up out of the chair. Originally it was hiding behind the Kenwood 140 radio, and as such difficult for the operator to use. I'll mark the switch more clearly in the coming months if I can get out there, but for now the original taped piece of paper still says Vert on its coax, so one can differentiate between it and the beam.

I cleaned out all old materials from SkyWarn exercises of past years, placed all pencils and pads in the top drawer on the right side of the desk we use, and bought a box of pencils and sharpener and put them in the drawer as well.

I put other loose materials including awards in the second drawer down, and that coil of coax that was plugging up the National Weather Service filing cabinet top behind the back of the operator's chair is now with other components for a 2 meter in the bottom drawer. While organizing the paper I found a copy of station Trustee Kim Custer's license and added it to Dave Bruce's and mine in the back of the log book.

When Jerry Prindle shook the club's old IC 255A 2 meter down last year he found it to be working at least enough to light up. He and I bought some small parts for a power cord and thanks in part to some Elmering by him I'd planned on building one for it, installing it in the upper storage cabinet on the now cleaned out right side, and running the wiring out the back of the cabinet and down the cubicle wall joint seam on the far right so it is for the most part out of site. The parts, radio, and other gear are now at NWS, but my two jobs and the pro bono environmental work they underwrite are becoming more and more time consuming. As a consequence I'll not be able to put more hours of any magnitude out there for quite some time. Hopefully someone else will step in to fill the gap. For the short term, the 255A needs a power supply if the club has one in its collection of gear, but as you'll see in a few paragraphs below, I frankly don't recommend investing time or money in it.

The IC 255A came to me without a Mike. A few weeks back Charlie Gray donated a brand new Yaesu MD100 microphone and desk stand to the 2-meter cause. Thanks a lot for that Charlie. The ARES net will think of you each time it is run from there.

Having the 255A's 25 watts output and a dedicated quality antenna for the 2-meter is an asset for ARES in that it will allow .52 communications for a lot of the area should the repeaters be damaged by a severe earthquake. Though the 255a will put out 25 watts if it works at designed capacity and doesn't die of old age - I'm not sure if Jerry checked that - it is a stop-gap measure at best simply because as far as I can see it does not have DTMF pad capability, something necessary for the Internet Radio Linking Project, usually called IRLP. We can use IRLP for SkyWarn as well as Field Day and JOTA, and it works to diversify our national communications ability should there be a disaster. As it stands now we rely entirely on propagation-dependent HF, where IRLP is crystal clear full duplex and relies on the fiber-optic cable at Fredrick's node, with 2m radio being the connection between NWS and his node.

I'll grant you the fiber-optic cable might be sheared in the pending class 8 to 9 quake and take IRLP out with it, but without diversifying for the possibility there's nothing to rely on but propagation, something that contrary to all the patter of the

uneducated pontificating populous, may not improve to any major extent for several years to come. Even if it were to improve it has a long way to go before it can be considered reliable in this entirely irregular – over 26 month solar minimum - sun cycle, and we have no idea when a large quake will hit. IRLP has the weakness of relying on data transmissions via satellite in some instances that can be vulnerable to a coronal mass ejection and gear/node failures, but by and large it is reliable, and it is duplex with audio quality better than cell phones.

The most reliable mobile/base 2 meter Icom makes is called an IC 2200H. This 65-watt unit is what the storm chasers, ARES nets and SAR people rely on in the field. The reliability reviews are very high for it in and outside of the Eham venue.

A new 2200 costs \$169.95 at Gigaparts. That's not much considering the extremely high reliability reputation and its wattage. It will need a power supply, but Jerry Prindle has a copper 2m Jpole that can be mounted on the tower that apparently works well enough, and there's at least some coax at the operating position that might be useable. If not that, a Larsen gain antenna might be something to think about simply because, again, the reliability of Larsen is extremely high, as is performance.

Jerry also has a laptop for PSK31. The machine will be dedicated to PSK only and stay at the NWS position as well with all cables in place, so it will take seconds to employ. The club will have to spend a little over a hundred dollars for a Tigertronics Signalink USB interface box, as well as some coax and ends to get PSK up and running, but PSK 31 can be used for Field Day, SkyWarn, Winter Field Day, and other special events throughout the year, as well as disaster work.

The very real value of keyboard transmissions for disaster work has been proven again and again. While CW can punch out even with poor propagation, it takes an honest skill set to send CW at useful speed that in a disaster may not be available at that operating position. With almost no training one can sit a kid down in front of PSK 31 and have them operational in minutes, (less with IRLP,) and at the same time have much of the broadcast punch of CW, and like CW, with significantly less power needs. Protocols don't need to be met in a disaster. All the kid has to be able to do is type to be able to get out. A basic checklist for getting on air is easy to put together. That and other basic checklists can be placed in a binder for NWS personnel to use should during an emergency a licensed operator not be able to get to the building.

With Charlie Gray now sending in the ICOM radio to be repaired, the operating position will have both that and the Kenwood 140 to work with. That allows the two to be used simultaneously for PSK or CW, and SSB via the two extant antennas should the need arise, and it well may.

Imagine that major earthquake hitting at peak avalanche conditions, with heavy snow pack, in early March, and with a lot of rain on top of the pack. The Mt. Juneau Channel side slide path has every possibility of pushing Behrends Avenue area housing into the harbor. Avalanche experts from around the world have predicted that event along with several other world class avalanche hazards, and are simply waiting for it to happen. If I remember right, the Behrends slide ranks in the top 5 avalanche disasters for potential in the world. Not much question that Thane wouldn't slide, probably in two places or more, and Thunder Mountain would slide in areas as well. Those easily seen large treeless or alder-covered spots are many times classic slide areas when conditions are right.

The quake can be large enough to break up Egan Expressway in multiple areas and at the same time take out the Douglas bridge, while downing countless buildings, dropping hundreds upon hundreds of roofs and walls in residential areas, (its pouring down rain, remember) dropping trees everywhere, shutting down all power and potable water, and opening sewer mains to run raw and untreated down the streets.

I have no idea how many people were incapacitated in the Anchorage city quake, but one can be sure that need would within hours most probably outstrip ER/triage/blood, breath, and bones treatment capacity at the hospital. While it is possible Bartlett has on hand hundreds of units of blood, I doubt that is the case, so blood donors will have to be located in the wreckage and either transported to the hospital or blood taken on site and the blood itself transported, even if it must be by foot travel part or all of the way.

Within a day food would probably be short because the buildings housing it collapse, fire could be a major problem because of broken gas lines and storage tanks at both the Trucano location just across the Douglas bridge on the Island and the rock dump, and the chemical toxins that would permeate the winds from them would cause a host of health problems for people with lung imbalances in the short term, and potentially cancer in the long term because of chemicals released in the fires.

Families would be separated at the time of the event and for days stay that way because transiting the area would be almost impossible. Special needs people like the severely diabetic and kidney dialysis patients would be in crisis within a few hours in some cases, and a few short days in others.

The air strip could be severely damaged, requiring 24 hour crews for several days to make it useable for humanitarian aid to arrive, let alone get critical care

patients out, and that only if the crews are actually available in those first few critical days after the principal quake.

The Pioneer Home with its special medical needs, would quite probably be out of water, and unless they have backup generators, out of power to run whatever medical tools are necessary to keep people alive.

Looting and a host of other crimes will take place. Outlying villages and small towns would be cut off from any kind of useful medical services or verbal advice for at least 10 days and possibly more if not possible to be serviced by whatever float planes survive the quake, and fuel for them can quite possibly be extremely short because primary and secondary quakes can both break fuel feed lines and rupture the above and below ground tanks that feeds them.

Anything two stories or higher or on a tower stands a better than good chance of hitting the ground, which means cell, commercial radio, and television broadcast media go down and probably stay down for at least the first 24-36 hours, and quite possibly more than 4 times that.

Typical to ham radio in disaster work around the world, if we are prepared to do so, the work of hams will save lives first and foremost, and be critical in accomplishing humanitarian, fire, law enforcement, and infrastructure reconstruction work for at least the first week of the aftermath, and probably more. The NWS building will have power, heat, and the ability to prepare food. If we are prepared to work from there, we as people can make a very large contribution to multiple facets of community health in the short and long term. In the short term because of the asset of our communications skills, and both medium and long term because of the lives and property potentially saved because of that work and its outcomes.

For one to be prepared, planning has to be for the worst-case scenario. Doing so covers the lesser scenarios. Write off Charlie's field day antenna. He can't get across the bridge, and Egan won't allow anybody to get to the fire training area anyway. Write off Jerry's big generator. It got sucked underground along with half his house. Now what!

That's where Boy Scouts need to begin the thinking process of how to be prepared. The NWS operating position, with rapidly erectable antennas like the Par Endfedz half wave wires for HF that can be stored coiled on site with a simple extendable pole like those at the site below are worth considering.

<http://www.mgs4u.com/fiberglass-push-up-mast.htm#43ft>

A j-pole antenna taped to a window for the 2m in the short term and the above antenna system for HF won't take much now. It can, however, be a great deal in lives saved and misery assuaged in the community, and within our own group if even half the scenario I sketched takes place, and the full sketch and more is possible.

For those of you not familiar with the Anchorage quake, this link will give you a feeling for it. Note that serious damage took place more than 200 miles away from the city proper. That distance encompasses Petersburg, Haines and Skagway, Gustavus, Hoonah, Pelikan, Elfin Cove, and Sitka, should the Chatham Straits fault act up, or the Fairweather fault, for that matter.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1964_Alaska_earthquake

Please...think about this when you think about the hundred dollars for the PSK interface, the few hundred it will take to get the 2200H in place, and having the Icom and its 400 watt power supply restored to top operating position by Icom. These Southeast Alaska faults have been in my thoughts for more than 25 years. Recently, scientists have brought the subject of a serious quake from them to the fore again in the Press. There is no question whether it will happen. The one question is when. In the great scheme of things, investment in a small amount of gear like this isn't much compared to what it might mean when the chips are down.

Best regards,

Eric
WL7CMT