

KICY Call Letter

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Manager's Mic

This month, KICY celebrates 46 years of broadcasting the Good News which Jesus asked us to share with the whole world. Today we continue to improve both our FM and AM signals. We work daily to keep our programming fresh, relevant and Biblically-based. CareForce and SingSpiration Time are our 'signature' programs.

Our staff has all shared in that collective sigh of relief now that Iditarod, basketball and the Spring Get-Togethers are finally all wrapped up.



Dennis Weidler

It is with regret that I must announce that the rebuilding of the AM

Directional system cannot be accomplished until next summer, 2007. The good news, and there always is good news, is that when completed, the new system will be capable of broadcasting a digital signal, both in non-directional and direction patterns. While American digital technology (IBOC) is still in its infancy, the future looks very promising. Like television, we may be mandated to broadcast in a digital mode in the near future. This will allow us to broadcast stereo, CD quality audio content on our AM station. The digital technology will also give us much greater fade-free range.

We pray that our short-term challenges will yield long-term gains. ■



Luda and Irene share broadcast duties.

A 'Bilingual' Finish.

Here's a most unusual situation. The winning Iditarod musher is just an hour away from crossing the finish line in and we're right in the middle of our Russian language programming at about midnight, Nome time. It's quite exciting to be able to solve a problem like that. Both Luda Kinok and Irene Houdek climbed up into the scaffolding at the Iditarod arch and provided play-by-play coverage as Jeff King and his team entered Nome. Irene would broadcast the English language coverage and then Luda would add her coverage in Russian.

Interspersed in the bilingual programming, we would switch to Lon Swanson conducting interviews with visitors from around the world, take calls from Bob and Carol Olson following King in from Farley's Camp, take a live audio feed from the Iditarod feed at the finish line and play Russian Christian music from Luda's music library mixed with music from our Southern Gospel library. It was a most interesting Iditarod broadcast, not

unlike juggling cats. We found out later that all of our web-based audio streams were being used, as well.

Things continued through the wee hours of the morning and by 7 am, when we normally begin our Breakfast Club and Coffee Crew Programs, everyone was exhausted.

Through the mavel of today's technology, I was able to host both AM and FM programs concurrently across the hall from each other. It honestly took about a week to catch up on our sleep from that marathon.

Iditarod always brings a lot of excitement and lots of guests. This year we hosted five mushers and dog handlers, a family of five musicians from the Seattle area, Bob and Carol Olson from Connecticut and Jake and JoAnne Smit and Tom and Karen VerHage from Kalamazoo.

It was a full house, even by Iditarod standards, but we all had a

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wonderful time.

This year saw the return of the Idit-A-Sing on the Friday and Saturday evenings before the winning musher arrived in Nome. The MacDonald family provided some of the music on Saturday



The MacDonald family from the Seattle area.

night and both nights were filled with great gospel music and hymns sung in both English and the Native languages. KICY was able to broadcast much of this year's Idit-A-Sing. We were also able to record much of it to add to our broadcast music library.

Irene Houdek traveled to Koyuk to broadcast the Regional Boys Basketball playoffs over our AM station and we were able to take a feed from Bethel for the Nome Boys and Girls playoffs which we aired over the FM station.

Adam London traveled to Unalakleet for this year's ECCAK Conference. When the conference is in a Norton Sound village, they try to schedule the meeting dates to coincide with Iditarod teams racing through the village.

It was a real delight to invite visitors to share a meal at The Brown House. One evening I made salmon chowder, created from local pink salmon Candace caught at Tom and BeeJay Gray's fishcamp on Mosquito Bar. Another time, we served a big cauldron of chili. The food is pretty basic, but the conversations are always lively!



Friends gather around the dinner table.

Iditarod is a time of non-stop activities. Yet, March is still my favorite month. There are nearly 12 hours of daylight and darkness and when the sun shines, it's cold and beautiful.

We're taking reservations for housing for next year, right now! ■

From The Alaska E-Mail Bag

KICY,

I am very surprised to learn of your service through the internet. I am listening to your station right now while I am e-mailing. I am from the mouth of the Yukon River, Emmonak, Alaska. At this time, I do live in Fairbanks. It's good to hear something that reminds me of home. All day today I turned on to internet to listen and think of home.

Thank you for your station.

Rose L. Kameroff

A Prayer Request. *For each of our staff members.*

Maj. Gary Grennon

Irene Houdek

Luda Kinok

Adam London

Carol Morton

Dr. Phil Schobert

Lon Swanson

Candace Weidler

Dennis Weidler

Frances Whitmore

Why are we always so surprised when God answers our prayers? I guess I'm more thankful than surprised. But I do marvel.

We have had three new volunteer applications come into KICY since our last Call Letter. Two are from Nome and one is from the Lower 48.

Keep praying. As we mentioned last month, we are going to need full-time staff this fall. And, if you can think of anyone in your church or your community who may seek an opportunity to serve in a western Alaska radio mission, have them contact me, Dennis Weidler.

Fundraising Shifts to Overdrive.

AM Rebuilding Project Postponed Until 2007.

Following a series of setbacks, it was decided to postpone the rebuilding of the AM Directional system until next summer, 2007.



Here comes your reindeer dinner.

We are still awaiting the final resolution from our insurance provider and as you can see in the chart on the right, we are a long way from our Capital Campaign goal. Now, we have a year to raise the needed

capital. As we published last month, the Salmon Dinners are being scheduled from now until June 1 of next summer. That is our deadline. If you don't like salmon, we can also offer Musk Ox, provided by our ABA Vice President,

Sister Olson or Reindeer donated by Tom and BeeJay Gray, commercial herders in White Mountain. To schedule your fundraising dinner call Dennis Weidler toll free at 1-800-478-5429.

Needed: 100 New Monthly Financial Supporters.

First, let me express a very heartfelt thank you to all of you who continue to financially support this essential broadcast service to western Alaska and the Russian Far East.

Second, we need more of you. KICY is seeking 100 individuals, families, churches or Sunday School Classes to become long-term financial shareholders at \$30 a month. That could be in the form of 50 Arctic Ambassadors at \$42 a month and 50 Chukotkan Missionaries at \$21 a month, or any combination.

Operation 'Solid Foundation'.

As you can see, we took in only \$1,450 in March toward our Capital Campaign. That means the AM rebuilding project will not be completed this summer.

We will finish the FM Project with funding from a Murdock Foundation Grant. We will also take down and rebuild the Center AM Tower.

We have until June 1, 2007 to raise the needed funds.

\$150,000

\$125,000

\$100,000

\$75,000

\$50,000

\$25,000



Memorials

In March, we received memorials in the name of:

Tom Dotomain

Mr. Lattimore

Delos Barber

Bernice Dye

Thank you for remembering a loved one with your gift.

PLEASE NOTE!

-March Income-

\$22,135.15

-March Budget-

\$17,930.00

-March Expenses-

\$21,867.00

*Includes Sales & Programs but
not designated funds.*



Arctic Broadcasting Association is an affiliated corporation of the Evangelical Covenant Church.

Preserving Culture Through Inupiaq Recordings.

The Methodist Inupiaq Choir performs at nearly every event in Nome. Conferences, Get-Togethers, and Holiday Services are all times we enjoy the singing of familiar hymns, carols and gospel songs translated into Inupiaq, the Native language of most of the Seward Peninsula.

Now, the local choir has put together a CD, which KICY had the honor of recording for them, preserving the music and language of this unique region.

There are a variety of local dialects of Inupiaq and two other languages spoken in the region, including Yup'ik in the Yukon-

Kuskokwim area and Siberian Yup'ik, spoken on Saint Lawrence Island and in coastal Chukotka in Russia.

Locally, Inupiaq is quietly disappearing in spite of classes being offered through the University Campus in Nome and other programs.

In addition to producing the CD, KICY will include the Inupiaq songs as part of our daily Native language broadcasts.

Thanks to the Methodist Inupiaq Choir for their hard work and dedication.



The Inupiaq Choir at a recent recording session.

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AM-850 & ICY 100.3 FM*

KICY

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