

# KICY Call Letter

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Toll-Free: 1-800-478-5429 e-mail: office@kicy.org web page: www.kicy.org May, 2006

## Manager's Mic

The days are now becoming extremely long with the sun rising before 6 am and setting well after we are in bed for the day. That means putting the black trash bags, duct taped to our screens, back in the windows so we can sleep. In western Alaska, it's referred to as breakup. That's the time when the rivers and streams begin flowing and the ice breaks up on Norton Sound.

If it's spring, summer work crews can't be far behind! The Smit family, at last count seven, will arrive on June 3. They will set the forms and rebar and pour the concrete for our new FM tower. We are all looking



Dennis Weidler

forward to the completion of the FM Upgrade this summer. As folks travel out from Nome to fishcamp, they will be able to take the FM station with them this summer for the first time.

Then, the Towers for Jesus team will arrive in late June to take down and rebuild our center AM tower, the one in danger of collapse from the melting permafrost. I am also hoping they will have enough time to paint all three towers.

Staff will also be changing as Irene departs for Bible Camp in Unalakleet as their camp naturalist and Adam London will accelerate his recruiting efforts for Alaska Christian College. ■



Thanks to the hardworking kitchen staff at Community Covenant in San Andreas.

## The Salmon are Running.

The salmon run has started. Not in local rivers or in the Bering Sea, but in communities like yours all over the Lower 48. This salmon is running to be an important part of our fund-raising efforts. I have just returned from Salmon Dinners in the Seattle area at Newport Covenant Church and in San Andreas, California at Community Covenant Church. The exciting part wasn't that we raised over \$21,000, which we did. Or, that we fed over 350 loyal KICY supporters, which we also did. The exciting part is being able to share the importance of KICY's daily broadcasts to our listeners on both sides of the Bering Strait.

In the Seattle area, Paul and Ellie Deardorf worked vigilantly to invite the curious and the hungry to enjoy Alaskan King Salmon. In all, over a

dozen area churches were represented. In San Andreas, Jordan and Evelyn Rapetti organized their dinner and folks came from far and wide. Patty Burchell, a



"We're going to need a bigger oven!"  
--Paul Deardorf

KICY volunteer from 1999 to 2001, brought in a contingent from her church in Sonora. And Bill Hartman, whose determination got KICY on the air in 1960, brought his wife, Arlene.

The only way we will be able to raise the necessary capital funding to repair our directional AM

system will be through salmon dinners just like these. We'd love to bring a load of salmon to your church. Let's set something up. Call Dennis Weidler at 907-443-2213 or toll-free 1-800-478-5429. The salmon are running! ■

## Leaving Nome, But Not Alaska.

I feel like I'm embarking on an impossible task, trying to write a *short* article about my experience here at KICY and in Nome. Even trying to limit my comments to highlights could take several pages.

Some words that I can think of to summarize my experience are: awesome, amazing, fun, frustrating, scary, busy and tiring. Of those, the main ones are awesome and amazing. What an experience to watch God provide for me in so many ways. He has provided financial and prayer supporters. He helped me adjust to the cold, the light, the dark, the small community and more. He has blessed me with new friends. He has provided energy when I didn't think I could keep going. Praise God for all He does for us!

Learning radio was frustrating at times. Going from an expert in my previous career to a beginner in radio was tough. There were times that I had to step out of my comfort zone. That can be scary, but it can be very rewarding as new skills are discovered and experience is gained. A prime example of this for me was calling high school basketball games. Those first games were very scary, but it became a whole lot of fun even though basketball season is also very busy and tiring.

Some other highlights include



*Irene ponders her upcoming camp experience.*

covering 2 Iditarods and 3 church conferences, visiting 5 villages and a fish camp, the Polar Bear Swim, and the Businessman's Sled Dog race. Some more meaningful highlights

include taking prayer requests and praying with listeners, meeting the listeners in the villages or in Nome, watching and listening to the Native people sing (they love to sing), and helping out with the Talking Christmas Card.

It has been a privilege to be a part of this wonderful ministry. Hearing from the listeners themselves about how much KICY means to them is confirmation of the work being done here. I have been here long enough that saying goodbye to the people and the ministry will be difficult.

My next step is a short one, time wise and travel distance. I will be working at the Covenant Bible Camp in Unalakleet, Alaska this summer, starting May 31<sup>st</sup>. I will be the camp naturalist, teaching about God through his wondrous creation. I'm looking forward to the new challenges and the chance to spend more time outside. Where God takes me after camp is still a mystery to me. I know that He has been faithful and I'm glad my future is in His hands. ■

### Alaska Facts:

If you superimposed Alaska over the Lower 48, it would stretch from North Carolina to LA and from Minnesota to Texas.

## *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**

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**W**ith the departure of Irene for camp in Unalakleet, there now exists a void in our volunteer team. Lon has extended his stay until September 2nd. Adam will be leaving in August on his final trip out of Nome.

Keep praying. 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.

# Engagement Announced.

KICY volunteer and future village pastor, Adam London has announced his engagement to Shirleen Wong. They met while attending Alaska Christian College in Soldotna from



*Adam and Shirleen*

which they both graduated. She is currently a student at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and plans to pursue a teaching career, hopefully in a village

setting.

She traveled to Nome during the most recent Iditarod and the engagement was announced shortly after that visit.

“We’ve been good friends since ACC days and have been

communicating more and more frequently as time went on,” explained London.

A December wedding is planned in Fairbanks.

## A Critical Need: 100 New Monthly Financial Supporters.

Thank you, thank you to each one of you who continue to financially support this essential broadcast service to western Alaska and the Russian Far East.

The truth is, we need more of you. KICY is seeking 100 individuals, families, churches or Sunday School Classes to become financial shareholders at \$30 a month for one year. 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.

Fuel cost increases, certainly not unfamiliar to all of you, threaten our ability to continue broadcasting. Can you help?

## Memorials

In April, we received memorials in the name of:

**Tom Dotomain**

**Mr. Lattimore**

**Edward Winterlander**

Thank you for remembering a loved one with your gift.

## PLEASE NOTE!

-April Income-

**\$25,320.82**

-April Budget-

**\$26,180.00**

-April Expenses-

**\$27,433.14**

*Includes Sales & Programs but not designated funds.*



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

# *Operation 'Solid Foundation'.*

As you can see, we took in \$23,470 in April toward our Capital Campaign! Praise God! That means the AM rebuilding project is still on target to be completed next summer.

This summer, we will finish the FM Upgrade 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

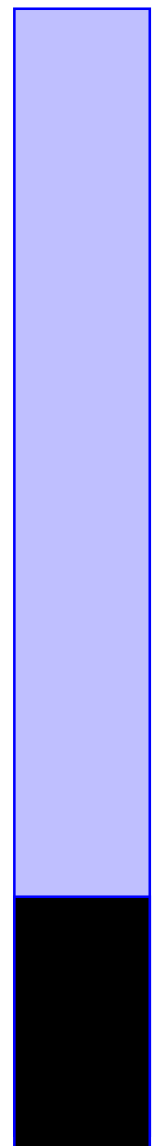
\$125,000

\$100,000

\$75,000

\$50,000

\$25,000



# Frances Breaks Leg in Fall.

In what is unfortunately becoming a nearly annual tradition, KICY volunteer, Frances Whitmore is the most recent staff member to break a bone in a winter fall. In the past collar bones, wrists, ankles, arms and knees have all fallen victim to the ice, often hidden under a layer of freshly fallen snow or made even more slippery with a thin layer of newly melted water on top.

In a phone interview from her apartment, Frances explained the mishap. "I was on my

way to church when I stepped on some freshly fallen snow. What I didn't see was the large patch of ice under it. And, I was carrying my solar-powered radio so I could listen to the Sunday

broadcast on KICY. That turned out to be a dangerous combination."

Frances tried to avoid a visit to the hospital, but by the end of that week she was experiencing sufficient pain to get her in for an examination. Yep, it was broken and she would need to stay off it for at least two weeks. That means no working the counter at Alaska Airlines and no volunteering at KICY. For Frances, this is extremely difficult.

Please keep Frances in your prayers for quick healing. ■



*Frances Whitmore on the road to recovery.*

*Nome, Alaska 99762  
P.O. Box 820  
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# KICY

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