



850 radio

box 820

nome, alaska

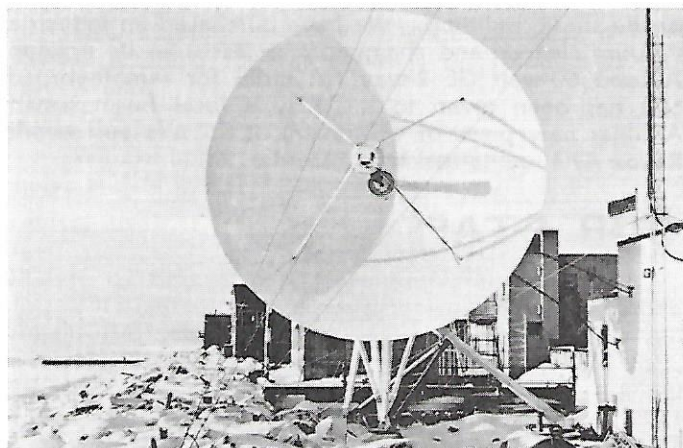
99762

SPRING 1975

VOL. XIV, NO. 1

# call letter

## HEADLINES . . .



RCA Alascom's Nome satellite earth station.

## EXTENSIVE LIVE NETWORK BEGINS . . .

Fifty years ago, serum to stop a diphtheria epidemic in Nome had to be delivered by dog team. On the anniversary of that serum run, people throughout the country heard Lowell Thomas, Sr. mention the event and welcome KICY to the CBS Radio Network family. This took place on January 27th as KICY commenced network news on the hour through the facilities of a new satellite earth station in Nome.

Drawing from both ABC and CBS, KICY is able to provide its audience with the voices of Paul Harvey, Harry Reasoner, E. P. Morgan, Robert Trout, Walter Cronkite, Douglas Edwards, Lowell Thomas, Phil Rizzuto, Win Elliot, Mike Wallace and the hundreds of correspondents located around the world where news is happening. With the network covering the national-international scene, we will be able to give more attention to gathering and preparing Alaska and local news programs. KICY is recognized as a leader in news coverage in Western Alaska.

By request, we have moved some of our Eskimo language programming into the evening hours and included more village produced music. The book of Acts has been added to our library of Russian Bible reading.

KICY played an important role during the recent storm that hit our area, disseminating information and conditions to keep people informed and to pass on instructions from Civil Defense and Disaster officials. This involved staying on the air around the clock for four days.

We are constantly evaluating our programming and asking God's guidance in what is done.

## SEVERE STORM HITS WESTERN ALASKA . . .

The National Weather Service issued the routine fall storm warning, predicting winds of 30-40 mph . . . normal autumn weather for the Bering Sea coast. But, what came to Nome was beyond anyone's expectations. For 20 hours on November 11th and 12th, winds gusted up to 69 mph from the south. The Bering Sea became a raging frenzy with a water level some 20 feet above normal high tide.

All night, seawater smashed into water-front buildings. Merchants along Nome's Front Street who thought the rock seawall (built in 1948) would protect their property soon realized their worst dreams. While their businesses did not wash out to sea, thirty foot waves poured over the seawall pounding everything in sight.

The next day, President Ford declared Alaska's west coast a Federal Disaster Area. Now, state and federal disaster officials estimate damage at over \$30 million. RCA Alaska Communications had just turned on its new satellite earth station. The storm flooded RCA's basement causing over \$250,000 damage. The city power plant and city hall will probably be replaced, costing millions of dollars.

With disaster all around, KICY suffered no damage whatever. However, sea flooding was within 50 feet of the generator building at KICY's transmitter site. KICY remained on auxiliary generator power at its studio for four days and at its transmitter location for five weeks until 18 flattened city power poles were replaced.

Greatest storm damage in Nome was total destruction of about thirty homes and other buildings in an area known as King Island Village. Federal agencies have teamed up to provide new replacement homes.

Damage caused by the great 1974 storm has been characterized in many ways. One of the most descriptive was from a utility lineman as he turned on to debris-strewn Front Street: "I've seen a lot of rodeos and round-ups in my day, but this is ridiculous."



Home damaged in November storm.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED . . .

Perhaps God has a place for you at KICY this summer. Our summer volunteer needs beginning in May and June include 3 people for "on the air" radio work (3rd Class FCC license preferred) and one person with "handyman" qualities—especially painting. We also need someone to cook for the crew.

We have an urgent need for a volunteer secretary-receptionist (for one year or more) beginning in June 1975. This person should have typing ability and some knowledge of simple bookkeeping and filing procedures.

If you are interested in applying for any of these positions, write to Manager Ralph Fondell here at KICY, or contact Rev. Paul W. Anderson, 5101 North Francisco Ave., Chicago, IL 60625 as soon as possible for details. We heartily encourage people from our local area to apply as well as those residing in the "lower 48" states.

The following is an excerpt from a letter recently received from one of our past volunteer helpers at KICY:

"I'm not sure exactly what or where the Lord has planned for me, but I do feel a definite call into full time Christian service of some kind. I often think of the great times I spent up there, and how the Lord seemed so close to me there. When I got home it hit me, how I was strengthened and enthused because of my experience in Alaska. One of the things I recall most vividly is the feeling that I was used and was needed somewhat. Even though I wasn't skilled, I did give of my time. I thank God for this opportunity I was given."

Five of KICY's nine permanent staff members have previously come to the station as short term volunteers and will definitely testify to the great value their volunteer experiences have had in their own personal growth and in God's direction for their lives.

Two very important local volunteers are presently helping at KICY. Student John Handeland has for the past several years faithfully given his help each Saturday afternoon answering the telephone to receive incoming messages to be given on our "Ptarmigan Telegraph" program. Mrs. Laurel Young has been helping each Monday evening this winter doing extra typing for us.

## THIS 'N THAT . . .

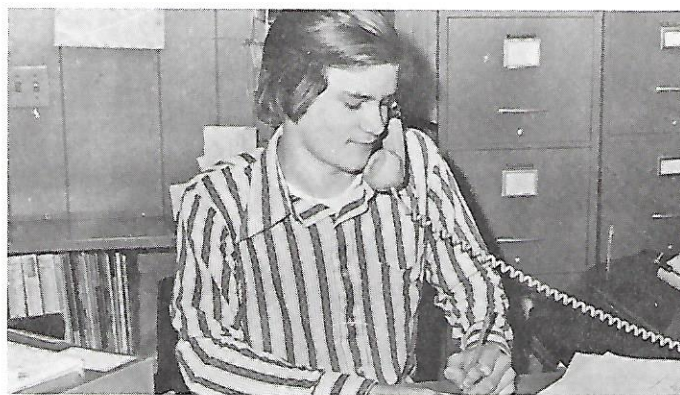
KICY will observe its **15th Anniversary** of broadcasting in April 1975. Special programming and promotion are being planned for the occasion.

The popular **KICY** gold long-sleeved **sweatshirts** have sold well and a new order has been placed. Because of increased factory prices, the cost (postpaid) to you will now be \$5.75. Please prepay and specify S, M, L, or XL.

A **1975 project list** is available to individuals and church groups by writing to KICY or Covenant Home Missions in Chicago. Included on the list are some items which will help furnish our recently remodeled volunteer staff house such as a hide-a-bed sofa, easy chair,



Part time volunteer Laurel Young.



John Handeland answers telephone on Saturday.

end table, wall mirrors, dressers and electric mixer.

The new **carpeting** has now been laid in the old part of the studio building. We have purchased an industrial vacuum cleaner and shampooer to assist in its upkeep. A used 60-watt GE **2-way FM radio** for remote broadcast has been given to KICY by a local businessman. Another new piece of equipment at KICY is our second **Revox A77 reel-to-reel tape recorder**.

## OUR STAFF . . .

Even with temperatures staying around 20 and 30 degrees below zero for over a month, the KICY staff has managed to do some traveling to nearby villages. Such "village visitation" trips are always a big help in understanding what goes on at the "other end of the radio waves", and a real source of spiritual blessing. Recent trips included the DeVries family to St. Mary's, Jim Engwall to White Mountain, Chip Swanson to Kwigillingok, Chris Chamberlain to Elim and Wales and Doneetsa Anderson to Unalakleet. Manager Ralph Fondell traveled to Anchorage in January for a board meeting of the Alaska Broadcasters Assoc. of which KICY is a member.

Early in January Dave DeVries, Steve Fondell, David Shinen (KICY Russian language consultant) and his son David made a trip by truck and snowmobile about 75 miles inland hunting for moose. They returned late that night praising God for not only one, but **three** moose to provide over 1,000 pounds of delicious meat!

## 1974 KICY INCOME STATEMENT . . .

<b>REVENUE</b>	
Time Sales .....	\$ 49,052
Agency Commissions (cost of sales) .....	(1,252)
Contributions .....	10,739
Merchandise Sales .....	751
Interest on Investments .....	341
<b>GROSS REVENUE .....</b>	<b>\$ 59,631</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>	
Personnel .....	\$ 48,980
Buildings and Grounds .....	27,511
Vehicles .....	8,163
Program Dept. Operations .....	8,333
News .....	13,186
Technical Dept. ....	18,482
Administration .....	16,496
Accounting Dept. ....	3,435
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE .....</b>	<b>\$144,586</b>
<b>Expense over Revenue .....</b>	<b>\$(84,955)</b>



## OUR LISTENERS . . .

**From Dillingham, 450 miles away . . .**

"There just isn't another station like yours in Alaska . . . Thanks for many hours of enjoyment."

**From Kivalina. . .**

"I had heard rumors that KICY was the best source of news in NW Alaska and recently I have been able to substantiate it, thanks to a new antenna system."

**From Unalakleet . . .**

"Your continuing work is still blessed and sent of God. I Cor. 2:2. Thank you for your faithfulness."

**From St. Michael . . .**

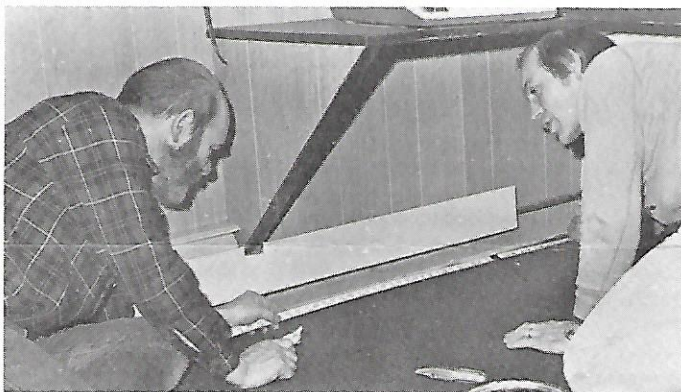
"I sure like to hear Sunshine Club . . . I like Big John and Sparky and Children's Bible Hour. Will you send your picture of Sunshine Club."

**From Palmer, 575 miles away . . .**

"This morning I was trying to get awake and found myself listening to Brer Rabbit . . . listened to KICY until 9 a.m."

**From Unalakleet . . .**

"We are appreciating the new programming — good news and of course I enjoy Paul Harvey."



Ken Wilder and Dave DeVries laying carpet.

## OUR DONORS . . .

**From Washington . . .**

"I've made a vow to our Lord, so you'll be getting a little something every now and then as long as I have a job."

**From Nebraska . . .**

"Enclosed find a check for . . . to cover one hour of programming."

**From Illinois . . .**

". . . and enclose herewith a small gift to help in the message you send to the many remote areas, where people do not have the same blessings we enjoy."

**From Nelson, B.C. . . .**

"The theme of our Vacation Bible School . . . was God's Good News. We read in one of your Call Letters of the need for a native helper and, using this as incentive, the children had a bottle drive and raised . . ."

**From Nebraska**

"Enclosed is . . . We know you are doing a great work and hope this will help in a small way to help spread the gospel of Jesus Christ."

**From North Dakota . . .**

"Enclosed find check for . . . as our contribution for the fine work you are doing in your area."



Housewife Clara Iyakitan, Gambell, Alaska.

## WHAT KICY MEANS TO ME . . .

"First of all I thank my God and His son Jesus, what He has done through KICY. Jesus is working through KICY for those who are hungry and thirsty in their soul and spirit from the living Bible words and from living water up there in our heavenly Father. He will give it to anyone who asketh in Luke 11:9 'And I say unto you, ask and it shall be given you, seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you.' I myself appreciated the KICY in my life. It has helped me a lot through songs and God's words. God bless each one of you, if you show His name of Jesus our Lord."

Clara Iyakatan  
Gambell, Alaska

## MANAGER'S MIKE . . .

Radio stations depend on two types of radio wave propagation. Ground wave propagation is determined largely by the conductivity of the soil and the water and determines how well the signal is heard during the day-time hours. Because the arctic tundra has very poor conductivity and salt water very high, radio signals from stations located on the coast in Alaska tend to follow the coastline.

The skywave is that radio signal which is projected skyward and reflected by the ionosphere. This signal can be received at greater distances and can be heard at night. It is not dependent on conductivity. Because the reliability of the skywave has been questioned for arctic regions, KICY has been conducting a study to learn of its dependability. A method being used is to monitor our skywave in the night-time hours with a receiver and recorder at various locations ranging from 130 to 440 miles distance from Nome.

Early reports indicate that KICY can be heard at night fairly consistently with a sensitive receiver and a good antenna. All of this information is needed to learn if it is feasible to boost the power of KICY. Will boosting power gain that much greater listening audience to warrant the cost of a more powerful transmitter and the continuing increased electricity costs?

We request your prayers that our Lord may give us guidance in all decisions that are made. We can have the most attractive and challenging programming available, but if people just can't hear us, they can not be helped . . . and that is what KICY is all about . . . helping people in many ways including their spiritual needs.

Ralph V. Fondell



# PAUSE FOR PRAYER . . .

## PRAISE . . .

- . . . That the Nome satellite earth station is making it possible for the first time for KICY to broadcast live network news and other features.
- . . . There were no deaths or injuries during the Nov. 11th disastrous storm that hit Northwest Alaska, and no damage done to KICY buildings and equipment.
- . . . For the opportunities of our village visitation trips and safety in travel.
- . . . For increased income in contributions and sales over the past year.
- . . . For 15 years of Gospel broadcasting, asking God to continue to bless its ministry.

## PETITION . . .

- . . . That God will supply the necessary summer volunteers (3 in radio, one cook, and one for maintenance work).
- . . . For a volunteer secretary-receptionist to work at KICY beginning in June 1975.
- . . . That people from our local area will apply as volunteers as well as those from the "lower 48".
- . . . For wisdom in programming during the next busy months of high school basketball and the big Anchorage-to-Nome 1,049 mile Iditarod Sled Dog Race.
- . . . That the information obtained by recorded village reception reports will help to give needed guidance as to a possible power increase.

The KICY Call Letter is published periodically by the Staff of Radio Station KICY, Nome, Alaska. KICY was built and staffed by the Evangelical Covenant Church of America, and is operated under a subsidiary corporation, the Arctic Broadcasting Association, in cooperation with the American Lutheran Church, the Alaska District Council of the Assemblies of God and the Alaska Yearly Meeting of Friends. Correspondence may be addressed to: KICY, Box 820, Nome, Alaska 99762, or to The Evangelical Covenant Church of America, Department of Home Mission, Rev. Paul W. Anderson, Executive Secretary, 5101 North Francisco Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60625.



Partial fruits of successful moose hunt.

## ARCTIC BROADCASTING ASSOCIATION

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