



KL7RA

Contesting in severe weather

Hints and tips

WW Phone -34

WW CW -40

ARRL TEN -44

ARRL DX CW -57 (70 below zero)

WPX -30

Contesting From the Arctic

KL7RA

- Very cold weather, station is in the interior and far from the ocean.
- Station is used for all CQ and ARRL contests. About ten contests a year or more since 1979 as Multi-op.

Contests I

- Contest in three major directions, West towards Japan, North to Europe, and East to USA. Nothing South.
- WW contests some antennas must turn for mults. CW contest often -40° C. Low temp grease is used in rotators and special low temp coax for rotation loop.

Contests II

- ARRL TEN meter contest can be too cold to move antennas. Eight antennas are used to prevent rotation.
- ARRL CW record low temp -56° C. All antennas turned East before contest.



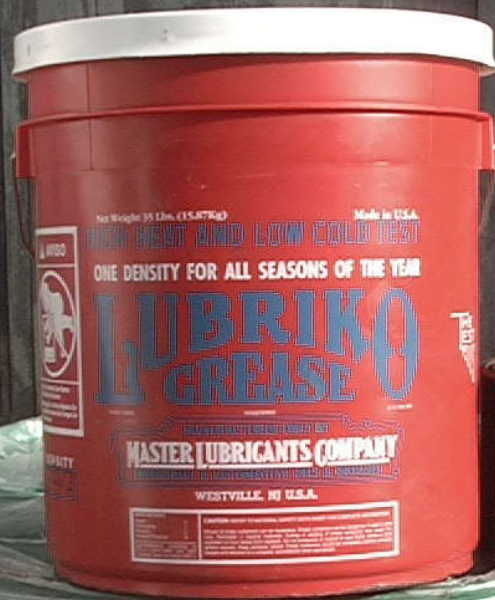












Station Construction

- 15 cm of insulation.
- Arctic vented roof to prevent moisture buildup.
- Electric heat (60 amps) around all outside walls.
- Sound insulated walls.

Equipment Layout

- Solid shelves to hold heavy amps. Heat goes up.
- Radio to the left. KL7RA mostly run station.
- Monitor at eye level and below and to the right of amps to prevent “wobble”.
Monitors are old IBM 15 inch and do not cause birdies.

Heat Removal

- Automated system using attic fan and remote outside air intake.







