



THE OHM TOWN NEWS

Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club

September 2005

>>>>>>> <http://www.barconline.org> <<<<<<<

HAM PROFILE

by Boyd Humpherys W7MOY

Given the chance, BARC will import good Hams from near and far. Idaho, California, New York, Florida, Arizona, up and down the East Coast, you name it. We even managed to snare former VE7SLE from Quesnell up in BC, where the Sun does funny things and refrigerator salesmen don't really do well. Now we know him as KD7NVO, Robert Wells, who with his supervisor, Holley, live on the 14th. North Indy 500 just West of Main. It appears the metropolis of Nibley must have offered him some incentives and they will build a new Ham shack out there surrounded by such minor appendages as bedrooms, kitchen, bath, living room, garage and other extras according to local customs.

Robert indicates he was born up North of Coeur D'Alene in the hamlet of Priest River, Idaho. Get out your Atlas gents, that's where Idaho gets real skinny. At about 11 years of age his parents get the urge to rough it and shift up across the border to British Columbia and the hamlet of Quesnell. If you cool down your GPS unit over nite in the deep freeze and program the name Quesnell, it will start a seance and reveal that Quesnell is a few KM South of Prince George. Now you are on your own to find out where Prince George is.



If those two stump you, his parents are now living in Grand Prairie, BC. Try that one on for size. Not very far from Santa's abode.

Robert indicated some French and German was spoken in the home and he suggested

he needed to enlarge his vocabulary in this regard. That's a challenge, where most of us struggle a bit with English.

Robert sports a Yaesu FT 8500 for mobile and base,

(Continued on page 3)

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

As I sit here typing away the presidents' message for September, I cannot believe that my summer is shot. No, No, No, I want more time, to get all those projects done. My fence is not up, my landscaping is not complete, and my train room, well, so much for the July 1st goal to have trains running. I did manage to get to San Francisco and Lake Powell. My ham radio did make it to Lake Powell. The repeater on Navaho Mountain at 10,000 feet makes it out a long ways, covers most of the lake, and even the Grand Canyon, but I did not raise a sole.



This reminds me of my trips with my radio to the national parks. On my first trip to the Grand Canyon via the north rim, I was sitting on the ledge overlooking the beauty of the landscape and ended up talking to a ham (on the radio) who was a park official who worked on the South rim, mobile now via a 2 hour or longer journey to hook up with his girlfriend who worked on the North rim. A few miles across, but a long venture by vehicle. He usually catches a chopper across, but not this weekend, it was mobile. We had a great chat and even stopped on our way out of the park, to have a short eyeball.

On another trip to Yellowstone, I put out a CQ on 146.52 and enjoyed a few QSO's. One I especially remember chatting with someone who was stationed at the Northwest fire look-out tower in the back country. Occasionally seeing a scout troop hiking by, and a few bears and wolves. A hand held, a battery and a small solar panel. Food was brought in every few weeks. Ham radio, and a forest service radio is all he had to keep in company. What solitude, and a great reminder of the fellowship we enjoy as amateur radio operators.

(Continued on page 3)

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

September 8 - 6:30 P.M.
Club Meeting - Pot luck social
Hyrum Gibbons Mt. Logan Park

September 10 - LOTOJA

September 17 - Top-of-Utah Marathon

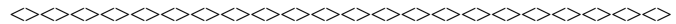
October 8 - Club Meeting
Club Web Site Information

November 12 - Club Meeting
Officers Elections

December - Christmas Party
More information coming

BARC Club Meetings are normally on Saturday mornings at 10:00 A.M. on the 2nd floor in the EOC at the Cache County Sheriffs Complex on 200 North and 1225 West, Logan, Utah

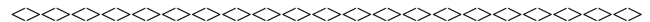
ARES Meetings are being held on the Third Wednesday of each month at 7 P.M. at the Cache County Sheriffs Complex. Contact Tyler Griffiths for more information or if you want to be involved



I would like to thank all of those who helped out with the Wasatch Back Relay:

Jacob Anawalt KD7YKO
Bob Wood WA7MXZ
Kevin Kessler KE7AAF
Ted McArthur AC7II
Kevin Reeve N7RXE
Bob Humpherys KD7BHB
Keith Thompson AC7ZJ
Nicholas, Lisa Maughan KE7CLS, KC7CLR
Charles Horn KD7SST
Tom Baldwin KD7TRN

If I missed someone I hope you will forgive me!
Once again Thanks!!!
Tyler N7UWX



Editors note: If anyone has pictures or articles of summer activities or other things that may be of interest to the club that they would be willing to share in the Ohm Town News, please forward them on to the editor at dbclfc@mtwest.net or get them the Dale Cox. Thank you.



Answers to questions on page 8:
1-A, 2-D, 3-C, 4-B, 5-B, 6-B

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(Presidents Message Continued from page 1)

For me, it's about the people.

It is time again to get our club meetings going. I have been energized by all the newly licensed hams, and those who have joined us again after a few years of other projects. A few of us went over to Montpelier to visit leaders of the radio club there. Over 90% of their club (about 30 members) have been licensed for just a few years. They are so fired up and eager to use their radios. They are helping us with LOTOJA again this year, and are real excited to work with us. Their enthusiasm is contagious.

Our club needs to be really proud of the many public service events we help out with each year. It rivals that of the larger clubs. It is so much fun to hang out with folks who love to get involved with community and service events. With LOTOJA this year, a team of 12 amateurs is leading an effort to organize more than 75 volunteers for this years LOTOJA. This includes working with 3 other clubs along the route. LOTOJA is the longest single day bike race in North America. The very next week we will be helping with the Top of Utah Marathon, another great event that happens here in Cache Valley. Most clubs and groups based on hobbies are pretty self-serving, Our club on the other hand, has a strong tradition of helping others. What a great group of people to hang out with. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Upcoming Events.

We will have a packed Fall. On September 8th at 6:30 PM, we will have our potluck social. A great event that is well attended. Bring the whole family and bring a potluck dish to share. This is a Thursday evening. In October we will show off the new club website using course management software that will allow for our own list serve, and discussion areas, and all kinds of features. It will allow for multiple persons to update content without knowing anything about the web.

In November we will have club elections. All offices are open. I hope you will consider running for an office and helping to keep the momentum growing. We may also have a presentation on old time radios. Something you will not want to miss.

In December we will have our Christmas Party, another great club event.

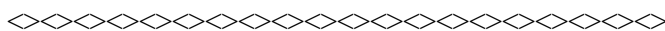
Final thoughts.

I would like to see our club members work together to offer amateur radio classes, and recruit more members and share our knowledge with others. It is exciting to see all the young hams that have come into the hobby. What can we do to help them continue to have fun.

Enough for this month and the XYL says it is time for bed. Thanks for all you do to make the club so awesome.

73's

Kevin N7RXE



(Ham Profile Continued from page 1)

mostly using a whip, as present quarters preclude everything but sincere covert efforts in antenna deception. He has participated in several club field day activities and has sported a ticket here in the lower 48 for about 5 years or so. He mentioned something that probably got him interested in the trade. Apparently several years ago up North, while getting involved in some emergency communications activities, the group was involved in seeing who could come up with the most unique "do it yourself project". Some of the home brew enthusiasts conjured up a key from an empty beer can and promptly pounded out a respectable CQ or two.

Robert attended schools in Quesnell, then college in Prince George. While in Quesnell, he happened to meet a native British Columbia gal by the name of Holly Pollichek, who was a native BCo. They decided to make it a two some, while Robert worked in the forest products area as a heavy equipment operator. He mentioned some interesting stories about logging in the wintertime, chopping off the trees at about the 30' level, the snow level, snaking the logs through the snow, then coming back when the snow melted and cutting down the stumps. Does that tell you anything about snowfall up there? Later they made a move to Boise and ultimately down to Cache Valley, to our gain, we might add. He now works for Wholesale Electric here in Logan and does all sorts of good things.

They have three harmonics, a daughter, a son in Idaho Falls, and their youngest, with Canadian citizenship is working on some sort of diplomatic maneuver to fly airplanes for the US Air force. His determined efforts are be lauded and the parents are justifiably proud as well.

Holly is into floral displays for weddings, being a great homemaker and indicated solid support for hubby's hobby. She thought it was rather awesome and on occasions, an only source of communications. Good on ya!!

The family has enjoyed fishing and camping, relating an early hunting trip into the boonies of BC, where the water froze solid in the morning and it was down right chilly. Basically the boonies in BC means "beyond civilization", however those of you who have ventured up that way will appreciate the unmatched scenery of the Northern Rockies.

Welcome to Cache Valley and the mob with radios.
73s.

==>CW OPS WHIP WHIPPERSNAPPER TEXT MESSAGERS ON NATIONAL TV

It may have been Friday the Thirteenth, but it was a lucky day for Morse code—and particularly for veteran CW contest ops Chip Margelli, K7JA, and Ken Miller, K6CTW. During a May 13 appearance on NBC's The Tonight Show with Jay Leno, the pair was able to pass a message using good old fashioned Morse code more rapidly than a pair of teenaged text messengers equipped with modern cell phones. The victory, which replicated a similar challenge that took place recently in Australia, has provided immense encouragement to Amateur Radio's community of CW operators, who been ballyhooed the achievement all over the Internet. The text messaging team consisted of world text-messaging champ Ben Cook of Utah and his friend Jason. Miller said afterward in a reflector posting that the CW team won fairly handily. "Ben was just getting ready to start entering the last two words when I was done," he said on the Elecraft reflector in response to various questions he's received following the TV appearance. "I already knew that 28-30 WPM would easily keep us in front of even the current world [text messaging] record holder, and also it is the fastest speed that I can make nice readable copy on paper with a 'stick' [pencil]." Miller said it was decided he'd be on the receiving end because he wasn't distracted by the noise in the studio. Margelli recalls that he was sending at 29 WPM. "I believe the goods were suitably delivered," he told ARRL. "CW and old guys rule!" What the viewing public didn't know was that Margelli and Miller had, in Miller's words, "smoked 'em every time" during three pre-program rehearsals. Even so, during the real thing, when Miller raised his hand to signal he'd copied the CW message successfully, Jason's jaw dropped. None of the players had any idea of the text they'd be sending, Miller noted. The message? "I just saved a bunch of money on my car insurance." As with many Tonight Show bits, this one involved a member of the audience, a young woman named Jennifer who predicted—incorrectly as it turned out—that text messaging definitely would top 170-year-old Morse code. She walked away with a gift of restaurant tickets anyway. Margelli says the CW team used Yaesu FT-817 transceivers—one of his own and another owned by Dan Dankert, N6PEQ. Backup units—not needed—were provided by HRO; Margelli's wife Janet, KL7MF, manages an HRO store. They ended up using 432.200 MHz as an operating frequency in order to avoid RFI from the plethora of TV equipment in the studio and to avoid interfering with NBC's gear. They ran the little transceivers at their lowest power level and with the antennas disconnected—although they were mounted on the back of each unit—no problem given the close proximity involved. Margelli sent with a Bencher paddle. To add a little atmosphere to the affair, NBC producers attired Margelli and Miller to look like 19th-century-era Western Union or railroad Morse telegraphers. The costumes came complete with green visors, white shirts, sleeve garters, vests and bow ties. The teenaged SMSers wore T-shirts and jeans. Cook told Leno that he'd managed to send a 160-letter message to his friend using his cell phone's short message system (SMS)—the formal term for

text messaging—in 57 seconds. A member of the Morse Telegraph Club and a QRP enthusiast, Miller said he'd been using CW for 38 years. Margelli told Leno he'd been using Morse "for 43 years in ham radio," a phrase Leno echoed. That was the only plug Amateur Radio got during the appearance on the show's "Dinner for 4" segment. Miller says that during rehearsal, the pair had come up with a few lines to promote ham radio and telegraphy, but they were cut during the final dress rehearsal in the interest of making the segment fit its allotted time slot. During the Australian competition in April, a Morse team consisting of 93-year-old former post office telegrapher Gordon Hill—the sender—and 82-year-old Jack Gibson—the receiver—topped 13-year-old SMSer Brittany Devlin. In that event, Hill spelled out the message in full, while Devlin used text-messaging shorthand. In that competition, held at the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney, Hill took 90 seconds to send the message, 18 seconds faster than Devlin's message took to reach her friend's cell phone. Miller encouraged all who enjoyed the CW-vs-text messaging segment on NBC to contact The Tonight Show to let the producers know about it—with an eye toward having the network schedule a more elaborate segment "next time." "Thanks for the kind comments from all," Miller concluded, advising "let's keep on having fun!--It is a hobby after all." Commented Margelli to ARRL: "I completely agree with my fantastic teammate, Ken Miller. It was a lot of fun, just like ham radio, and the show also delivered an important, if subtle, message about the benefits of the 'basic' communication infrastructure that Amateur Radio provides."



==>DAYTON HAMVENTION REPORTS ATTENDANCE UP SLIGHTLY FOR 2005

Dayton Hamvention 2005 General Chair Gary Des Combes, N8EMO, told ARRL this week that attendance was up by 542 this year over last. The total "official" attendance was 20,411, compared to 19,869 for 2004. "We heard from many exhibitors who sold out of everything they had and were taking orders as early as Saturday noon," Des Combes said. "In fact I was told by several exhibitors that this was their best show ever." The ARRL 2005 National Convention, which Dayton Hamvention hosted, "pushed the bar way up," he added. "Virtually everywhere I turned, people were happy," Des Combes continued, while conceding that the vacancy level in the exhibits area and the flea market "were not what we wanted." He chalked that up in part to high gasoline prices—something beyond the control of Hamvention's planners—and a dearth of smaller computer vendors who no longer can compete with the big box stores. But Des Combes said he was heartened that the vast majority of his e-mail since the show has been positive, "thanking me and expressing how great the show was and they will be definitely be coming back next year," he said. Des Combes expressed confidence that 2006 General Chairman, Jim Nies, WX8F—this year's assistant general chair—will work hard to promote Dayton Hamvention and ARRL and Amateur Radio as well. "I sincerely will miss it, but it is time for me to pass the torch to a new leader," said Des Combes, who stepped into the top

job two years ago and guided Hamvention back to an all-volunteer show. "I have accomplished all the goals I set out to do and feel I am going out on top, so now is a good time." Dayton Hamvention 2000--the last year Hamvention hosted an ARRL National Convention—logged 28,804 attendees, up modestly from the previous year. The all-time attendance record for Dayton Hamvention reportedly was 1993, when 33,669 showed up.

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The ARRL Letter Vol. 24, No. 24 June 17, 2005

==>RILEY HOLLINGSWORTH: "GET INVOLVED IN THE GOOD THINGS IN AMATEUR RADIO!"

FCC Special Counsel for Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth told the Dayton Hamvention FCC Forum May 21 "all you need to know to enhance your radio service-in one simple lesson." Drawing upon his nearly seven years experience as the FCC's Amateur Radio enforcement point man, Hollingsworth told his audience "what I personally think you need to do to make the Amateur Radio Service thrive and to enjoy the incredible opportunity" to have fun and engage in public service activities. "Overall, amateur compliance, I think, is very, very good-I'm really happy with it," although, he said, "we still have a good distance to go" in certain areas. Complaints also have continued to decline steadily over the past year. "I think that's a good sign," he said, predicting the trend would continue. He advised hams to avoid ugly on-the-air situations and confrontations. "Just use the VFO and go somewhere else," he said. On the other hand, enthusiasm and happiness on ham radio are contagious, Hollingsworth asserted, and amateur licensees themselves are responsible for creating and maintaining a hospitable operating environment. Among the good things going on in ham radio, Hollingsworth elicited a round of applause by singling out Pennsylvania teacher Sean Barnes, N3JQ, whose classes have helped 60 youngsters to obtain Amateur Radio licenses over the past three years. The most high-profile recent enforcement case-involving former amateur licensee Jack Gerritsen in the Los Angeles-"is not technically an amateur case," Hollingsworth explained. He pointed out, however, that the FCC is looking to determine who supplied Gerritsen with Amateur Radio equipment and "encouraged him." His final admonishment: Good amateur practice means "not operating so that whoever hears you becomes sorry they ever got interested in Amateur Radio in the first place." He urged hams to look to the future and "get involved in the good things in Amateur Radio" and spread the word among to acquaint the public and even legislators, lawmakers and government officials. "It's not about enforcement. It's about your obligation," he said. Enforcement can't cure all Amateur Radio's ills. "It's all about you and what you're doing with [Amateur Radio]," he concluded. "Look beyond enforcement."

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The ARRL Letter Vol. 24, No. 25 June 24, 2005

==>PRESIDENT BUSH SENDS GREETINGS TO FIELD DAY 2005 PARTICIPANTS

President George W. Bush has sent greetings from the White House to everyone participating in ARRL Field Day 2005. "I send greetings to those celebrating the annual Field Day

for Amateur Radio, hosted by the American Radio Relay League. Across our country, radio plays a vital role in relaying important information to the public and emergency service personnel in times of need," the president said. "By providing emergency communications at the federal, state, and local level, licensed Amateur Radio operators help first responders and law enforcement officials save lives and make our country safer. Your efforts help ensure the right assistance gets to the right people at the right time. I appreciate all ham operators who give their time and energy to help make our citizens more secure. Your good work reflects the spirit of America and contributes to a culture of responsibility and citizenship that strengthens our nation. Laura and I send our best wishes." An annual exercise aimed at developing skills to meet the challenges of emergency preparedness as well as to acquaint the general public with the capabilities of Amateur Radio, ARRL Field Day takes place this year on Saturday and Sunday, June 25-26. Stations throughout the Americas may participate.

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HF saves the day after motor home breakdown: Well outside cell phone and ham repeater range, ARRL member Bob Johnson, W7LRD, his wife and their two dogs found themselves May 6 in their motor home broken down "in the middle of nowhere" 70 miles north of Las Vegas, Nevada. To the rescue came Johnson's trusty Icom IC-730 and some friendly fellow radio amateurs. "I found Bruce, VA7BEB, on 20 meters, and he started getting my information to my insurance company for road service," Johnson recounts. But the propagation gods were not smiling. Enter Phil, W7PDZ, and Larry, KA0MZL. "Phil continued where Bruce left off, while Larry notified the Nevada Highway Patrol," Johnson continues. "The highway patrol showed up and took note of our situation. A tow truck out of Pahrump, Nevada, came and took us to an RV park across the street from an auto parts store!" The next day Johnson was able to pin down the problem—a failed ignition coil. He picked up and installed a new one, and he and his family were good to go. "Without the assistance and perseverance of these gentlemen, it would have been a very long day and possibly night," he says.

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The ARRL Letter Vol. 24, No. 27 July 15, 2005

**==>FCC ISSUES REVISED FORM 605, OBSOLETE PREVIOUS EDITIONS**

A revised FCC Form 605, "Quick-Form Application for Authorization in the Ship, Aircraft, Amateur, Restricted and Commercial Operator, and General Mobile Radio Services," has gone into effect. The new form must be used for all receipts as of July 18. "Applicants can avoid filing outdated editions by submitting their applications through the Universal Licensing System (ULS) <<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>>, given that changes to the paper forms will be incorporated into the system automatically," the FCC said. The new Form 605 is available online from the FCC Web site <<http://www.fcc.gov/Forms/Form605/605.html>>. The revised form includes a new Question 13 (subsequent questions have been appropriately renumbered) that will affect amateurs applying for an administrative update (AU) to reflect a change in licensee name. Question 13 now asks: "If the licensee name is

being updated, is the update a result from the sale (or transfer of control) of the license(s) to another party and for which proper Commission approval has not been received or proper notification not provided?" Amateur Radio Service applicants should always answer "no" to Question 13. Not answering the question—which has nothing to do with the Amateur Radio Service—could result in dismissal of an application. For additional information or assistance, visit the FCC Help and Support Web page <<http://esupport.fcc.gov/index.htm>>. This change does not affect the NCVEC Form 605 that VECs and VE teams use.

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 The ARRL Letter Vol. 24, No. 28 July 22, 2005  
 ==>FCC PROPOSES DROPPING MORSE CODE

**REQUIREMENT**

The FCC has proposed dropping the 5 WPM Morse code element as a requirement to obtain an Amateur Radio license of any class. The Commission included the provision in a July 19 Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order (NPRM&O) in WT Docket 05-235, but it declined to go along with any other proposed changes to Amateur Service licensing rules or operating privileges. Dropping the Morse code requirement or any other changes to Part 97 would not become final until the Commission gathers additional public comments, formally adopts any new rules and concludes the proceeding with a Report and Order specifying the changes and an effective date. That's not likely to happen for several months. "Based upon the petitions and comments, we propose to amend our amateur service rules to eliminate the requirement that individuals pass a telegraphy examination in order to qualify for any amateur radio operator license," the FCC said. The NPRM&O consolidated 18 petitions for rule making from the amateur community. Several petitioners simply asked the FCC to drop the Morse requirement, but some—including the ARRL—also proposed a wide range of additional changes to the amateur rules. The FCC said the various petitions had attracted 6200 comments from the amateur community, which soon will have the opportunity to comment again—this time on what the FCC calls "our tentative conclusions" in its NPRM&O. The Commission said it believes dropping the 5 WPM Morse examination would encourage more people to become Amateur Radio operators and would eliminate a requirement that's "now unnecessary" and may discourage current licensees from advancing their skills. It also said the change would "promote more efficient use" of amateur spectrum. To support dropping the code requirement, the FCC cited changes in Article 25 of the international Radio Regulations adopted at World Radiocommunication Conference 2003. WRC-03 deleted the Morse testing requirement for amateur applicants seeking HF privileges and left it up to individual countries to determine whether or not they want to mandate Morse testing. Several countries already have dropped their Morse requirements for HF access. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, said he was not surprised to see the FCC propose scrapping the code altogether, although the League and others had called for retaining the 5 WPM requirement for Amateur Extra class applicants. Sumner also expressed dismay that the FCC turned away proposals from the League and other petitioners to cre-

ate a new entry-level Amateur Radio license class. "We're disappointed that the Commission prefers to deny an opportunity to give Amateur Radio the restructuring it needs for the 21st century," he said. "It appears that the Commission is taking the easy road, but the easy road is seldom the right road." Sumner said ARRL officials and the Board of Directors will closely study the 30-page NPRM&O and comment further once they've had an opportunity to consider the Commission's stated rationales for its proposals. In 2004, the League called on the FCC to create a new entry-level license, reduce the number of actual license classes to three and drop the Morse code testing requirement for all classes except for Amateur Extra. Among other recommendations, the League asked the FCC to automatically upgrade Technician licensees to General and Advanced licensees to Amateur Extra. In this week's NPRM&O, the FCC said it was not persuaded such automatic upgrades were in the public interest. The FCC said it did not believe a new entry-level license class was warranted because current Novice and Tech Plus licensees will easily be able to upgrade to General once the code requirement goes away. The Commission also said it already addressed some other issues petitioners raised in its "Phone Band Expansion" (or "Omnibus") NPRM in WT Docket 04-140. The NPRM&O is on the FCC Web site <[http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/FCC-05-143A1.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-05-143A1.pdf)> A 60-day period for the public to comment on the NPRM&O in WT 05-235 will begin once the notice appears in the Federal Register. Reply comments will be due within 75 days.

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 The ARRL Letter Vol. 24, No. 29 July 29, 2005  
 ==>CANADA DROPS MORSE REQUIREMENT

**AS SOLE ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT FOR HF ACCESS**

Industry Canada (IC) has adopted elements of the Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) "Proposal on Morse Code and Related Matters" and has essentially removed the requirement for Amateur Radio applicants in that country to obtain a "Morse Qualification" for access to bands below 30 MHz. "Morse code will no longer be the sole additional requirement by which Canadian radio amateurs will gain access to the HF bands, but it will remain as one valid criterion," Industry Canada said in its Notice announcing the regulatory change. Industry Canada said it will continue to include Morse code as a consideration in granting access to the HF bands. "However, this is only one criterion and the measure of HF operator abilities should not be limited to this one facet of operator skills," IC added. Effective immediately, amateurs certified with the Basic Qualification prior to April 2, 2002, and amateurs certified with both Basic and Advanced Qualifications may operate on the HF amateur bands. Licensees holding only the Basic Qualification who were certified after April 1, 2002, and who achieved a passing grade of at least 80 percent also are allowed to operate on HF. Amateurs certified with the Basic Qualification after April 1, 2002, who did not achieve a score of at least an 80 on the examination will either have to attain the Morse Qualification, write the Advanced test or rewrite the Basic



examination and obtain at least an 80 percent grade to obtain HF privileges. This last requirement is related to a decision to increase the passing grade for the Basic examination to ensure that candidates have been tested in all areas of the syllabus. Details of the Industry Canada decision are in the Canada Gazette Notice <<http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/insmt-gst.nsf/en/sf08435e.html>> and on the Latest News page of the RAC Web site <<http://www.rac.ca>>. FCC Amateur Service rules in §97.107(b) grant Canadian control operators "the operating terms and conditions of the amateur service license issued by the Government of Canada" but, in any case, not to exceed the control operator privileges of an FCC-licensed Amateur Extra class operator. §97.107 does not apply to US citizens who may hold Canadian amateur licenses, however.

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The ARRL Letter Vol. 24, No. 33 August 26, 2005

**==>AMATEUR RADIO AWARENESS DAY TO FEATURE EMERGENCY POWER OPERATING EVENT**

What makes Amateur Radio unique is its ability to communicate with one another anywhere in the world—and even in orbit—without having to rely on any outside infrastructure whatsoever. Hams can even do this without being plugged into the wall socket. Experienced radio amateurs take this capability for granted, but the general public is far less aware of it. So, an Emergency Power Operating Event (EPOE) on Amateur Radio Awareness Day, Saturday, September 17, will highlight Amateur Radio's ability to communicate worldwide without commercial mains, the Internet or a cellular telephone system. "What better way to mark Amateur Radio Awareness Day than by calling attention to this unique capability?" says ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ. "It is particularly appropriate since September is the Department of Homeland Security's National Preparedness Month." Amateur Radio Awareness Day activities typically focus on increasing public awareness. Past events have included public demonstrations, talks to community groups and getting local media coverage. According to DHS, National Preparedness Month is aimed at encouraging Americans to prepare for emergencies and to raise public awareness about the importance of being prepared. This Amateur Radio Awareness Day, September 17, the ARRL will sponsor a 15-hour Emergency Power Operating Event for stations operating off the grid. "It is not a contest," Sumner stresses. "It is simply a demonstration of what we amateurs can do without having to rely on the commercial mains, and what we will do whenever the need arises." An announcement in September QST (page 49) spells out the details. The event kicks off at 1300 UTC on Saturday, September 17, and wraps up at 0400 UTC on September 18. The ARRL is inviting home stations to operate from generator or battery power. Mobiles and portable stations also are welcome to participate, although unlike Field Day, the emphasis is not on setting up a temporary station, but rather on operating your regular station on emergency power. There is no set exchange; contacts may be casual, but operators are encouraged to share information on their emergency power sources in addition to the traditional signal report, name and location. ARRL Maxim Memorial Station W1AW will be on

the air for the event, running on emergency power from its 60-kW emergency backup diesel generator. W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, says the whole point is to show-case that Amateur Radio is prepared during National Preparedness Month—"and any time, for that matter," he adds. A special QSL will be available to stations contacting W1AW while running from an emergency power source. Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with all QSL card requests, and indicate on your card the emergency power source used. (Address cards to W1AW, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.) "I hope we can work stations operating on emergency power in all 50 states," says Sumner. "It should be a lot of fun, and we may even learn something!" The League is encouraging participating radio amateurs or groups to invite local Citizen Corps leaders to see Amateur Radio installations in emergency power mode. "The two events offer great opportunities for Amateur Radio to show-case its valued service to the nation," said outgoing ARRL Field and Educational Services Manager Rosalie White, K1STO. She urged ARRL-affiliated clubs and Field Organization volunteers to take advantage of the occasion to set up public demonstrations of Amateur Radio and to present or even demonstrate—under the banner of National Preparedness Month—the free services Amateur Radio provides to the community. ARRL Club/Mentoring Program Manager Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, believes a public Emergency Power Operating Event offers a great opportunity to recruit prospective hams for licensing classes clubs that may be forming this fall.

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==>HIGHER VANITY CALL SIGN APPLICATION FEE NOW IN EFFECT

The application fee for an Amateur Radio vanity call sign rose to \$21.90 effective for applications received by the FCC on or after Tuesday, August 23. The FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau released a new Fee Filing Guide <http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-260618A1.pdf> this week, and WTB personnel have confirmed that the new vanity fee is in effect. In a Report and Order and Order On Reconsideration (R&O) in the assessment and collection of regulatory fees for fiscal years 2004 and 2005 released July 7, the FCC raised the vanity application fee for FY 2005 from \$20.80 to \$21.90 for the 10-year license term. The FCC said it had adjusted FY 2004 "payment units" for each service to better reflect expected FY 2005 payment liabilities. The fee went up from \$16.30 to \$20.80 a year ago. A reevaluation in the number of anticipated vanity call sign applications—or "payment units"—accounts for this latest fee hike. The FCC says it anticipates 7600 vanity applications—up only slightly from a year earlier. The fee applies to applications for new vanity call signs as well as to license renewals for current vanity call sign holders. Vanity call sign licenses issued in 1996 when the FCC resurrected its vanity program will be coming up for renewal starting in mid-2006. Under current rules, Amateur Radio licensees may only file renewal applications within 90 days of their license expiration date. More information on vanity call signs is available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/vanity.html>>.

Questions for Technician Class License

1. (T1A04) When is an amateur station authorized to transmit information to the general public?
 - A. Never
 - B. Only when the operator is being paid
 - C. Only when the broadcast transmission lasts less than 1 hour
 - D. Only when the broadcast transmission lasts longer than 15 minutes
2. (T2B07) What emission types are Technician control operators allowed to use on the amateur 1.25-meter band in ITU Region 2?
 - A. Only CW and phone
 - B. Only CW and data
 - C. Only data and phone
 - D. All amateur emission privileges authorized for use on the band
3. (T5A10) If you own a dual-band mobile transceiver, what requirement must be met if you set it up to operate as a cross-band repeater?
 - A. There is no special requirement if you are licensed for both bands
 - B. You must hold an Amateur Extra class license
 - C. There must be a control operator at the system's control point
 - D. Operating a crossband mobile system is not allowed
4. (T7A21) If you have a hand-held transceiver with an output of 500 milliwatts, how many watts would this be?
 - A. 0.02
 - B. 0.5
 - C. 5
 - D. 50
5. (T8D13) What does horizontal wave polarization mean?
 - A. The magnetic lines of force of a radio wave are parallel to the Earth's surface
 - B. The electric lines of force of a radio wave are parallel to the Earth's surface
 - C. The electric lines of force of a radio wave are perpendicular to the Earth's surface
 - D. The electric and magnetic lines of force of a radio wave are perpendicular to the Earth's surface
6. (T0A06) For best protection from electrical shock, what should be grounded in an amateur station?
 - A. The power supply primary
 - B. All station equipment connected to a common ground
 - C. The antenna feed line
 - D. The AC power mains

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