



# THE OHM TOWN NEWS

*Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club*

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

## November 2013

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ARRL Affiliated



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our club is always looking for operating events and opportunities that excite and motivate amateur radio operators to be active, especially on HF. The [ARRL November Phone Sweepstakes](#) will hit the airwaves for the 80th year this November! What started as a simple on-air exercise to wish Hiram Percy Maxim a happy birthday has continued into the 21st century. This year's November Phone Sweepstakes is on November 16-17. The Sweepstakes or "Sweeps" as it is usually called is a contest in which modest stations can do exceptionally well. There's no need for giant towers and antennas or legal-limit amplifiers, for simple antennas and a "barefoot" HF rig will do just fine. Sweepstakes brings out many US and Canadian operators, and there will be a lot of stations to work on the bands. More stations = more contacts = more fun!



Last year there was an administrative change at the Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) where the Ontario Section (ON) was split into four new sections: Ontario North (ONN), Ontario South (ONS), Ontario East (ONE) and the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). With the elimination of the Ontario Section and the addition of these four new Sections, the total number of Sections required for a Clean Sweep has increased from 80 to 83 ( $80 - 1 + 4 = 83$ ). Make sure you update your favorite contest logging software before Sweepstakes to ensure you can log the new Canadian sections properly. View a map of the new VE3 sections [here](#). (Courtesy Radio Amateurs of Canada)

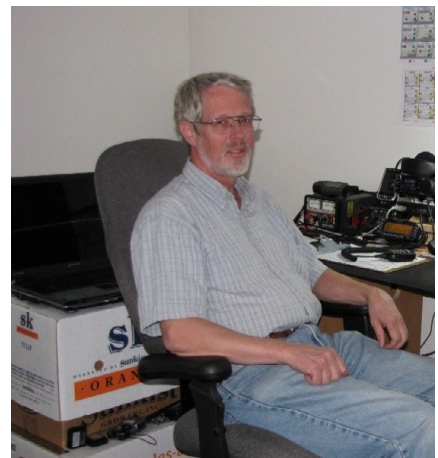
So get on the air during the sweeps and make contacts throughout the US and Canada. This is an excellent opportunity for you to get that [Worked All States Award](#) with lots of operators on the air and great band conditions.

If you'd like to know more about Sweepstakes, download the [Sweepstakes Operating Guide](#) – there are simple explanations of the rules and a list of resource articles and websites to help you get the most from your Sweepstakes weekend.

Don't have a HF rig and want to participate in the sweeps? No problem. BARC will be participating in the sweeps on November 16 at the club ham shack in the Engineering Lab Building room EL224 on the USU campus. The Sweeps start at 2100 UTC and we will be there until 0700 UTC (that's 2 PM MST to midnight). Drop by and we will get you involved with whatever you would like to do, making contacts, logging contacts, or just watching what goes on.

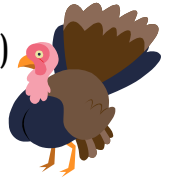
Hope to hear you on the air or have some fun operating an HF radio at the club ham shack.

73,  
Cordell  
KE7IK



# UPCOMING 2013 ACTIVITIES

- 13** November, 7:30 PM - ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Net IRLP Node: 9871
- 16** November, 10:00 AM — BARC Club Meeting — Club Elections for next year, Digital Modes (1 week late due to RACES conference)
- 16** November 8:00 AM — RACES HF Net 3920 KHz
- 4** December — Club Christmas Party and dinner at Coppermill Restaurant. Arrive at 6:00 PM, dinner served at 6:30. Two Entrees for \$17.50 Plus gratuity and tax for total of \$22.60 Roast beef & shrimp
- 7** December, **8:00 AM** — ARRL VEC-listed Local Radio test ([Info on web site](#)) (Note: Time changed from 7:00 PM to 8:00 AM)
- 11** December, 7:30 PM - ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Net IRLP Node: 9871
- 19** Dec, 8:00 PM — RACES VHF Net **447.00** IRLP **145.49** Promontory **147.18** Snowbird



## Starting in 2014

- 8** January, 7:30 PM — ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Net IRLP Node: 9871
- 11** January, 10:00 AM — Club Meeting
- 18** January 8:00 AM — RACES HF Net 3920 KHz

### Local Radio Nets:

The **Weekly BARC net** is for BARC members and anyone else that would like to check in, held **every Tuesday night at 9:00 p.m.** local time on the Mt Logan BARC Repeater and Linked Systems (146.720)

The **BARC Ladies Net** is every **2nd and 4th Tuesday at 8:00 p.m.** on the BARC Repeater and Linked Systems (146.720). All licensed lady amateur radio operators are welcome to check in.

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**BARC Club Meetings** are normally on the 2nd Saturday of the month at 10:00 A.M. on the 3rd floor of the Cache County Sheriffs Complex on 200 North and 1225 West, Logan, Utah.

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**ARES Meetings** are usually held on the Third Wednesday of each month at 7 P.M. at the Cache County Sheriffs Complex. Contact Tyler Griffiths for more information.

# Proxy (Absentee) Ballot and List of Candidates

For year 2014 Officers and Board  
Of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club

Voting held on Saturday November 16, 2013 at 10:00 A.M.  
On the 3rd floor in the Cache County Sheriffs Complex on  
200 North and 1225 West, Logan, Utah

**Important Instructions:** *If you are unable to attend the above meeting and wish to vote you may mail this ballot to any club officer in time to be in their hands before the meeting time noted above, or, you may seal the ballot in an envelope and send it with someone to be handed to a club officer at the meeting. If you need help, please contact any club officer.*  
**You need to be a current member of BARC to vote**

<b>For President</b>	
• Cordell Smart KE7IK	
•	
<b>For Vice President</b>	
• Ted McArthur AC7II	
•	
•	
<b>For Secretary</b>	
• Tammy Stevens N7YTO	
•	
<b>For Treasurer</b>	
• Kevin Reeve N7RXE	
•	
<b>For members of the board (Vote for three)</b>	
• Tyler Griffiths N7UWX	
• Theo Thomson K7TWT	
• Kelly Hansen KF7TDP	
•	
•	

*You **MUST** get approval from a write-in candidate before submitting their name for office. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor at the meeting, with the approval of the nominee. Ballot can be mailed to **BARC P.O. Box 111 Providence Utah 84332**. It must reach the post office box by November 15<sup>th</sup>. Send in your ballot or come in person.*  
*If mailed please put your name on the mailing envelope only.*

# **BYLAWS of THE BRIDGERLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC**

## **Article I – NAME**

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be **THE BRIDGERLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.**

## **Article II – PURPOSE**

Section 1: The purpose of this organization shall be to unite radio amateurs in fellowship, to aid those not licensed in learning code and theory, and to provide service to the community especially in times of emergency.

## **Article III – MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1: All persons having a bona fide interest in amateur radio, whether licensed or not, shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2: Application for membership shall be submitted to a club Officer. A member charged with conduct unbecoming a member of this Club may be expelled by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the members if the Board of Directors (Board) has found the charges are sustained by its investigations. An expelled member may not reapply for membership unless approved by the Board.

Section 3: A member shall be defined as one who has submitted an application for membership and paid the appropriate dues.

## **Article IV – OFFICERS AND BOARD**

Section 1: There shall be a Board of Directors which shall consist of the Officers, the immediate past President and two at large Board Members.

Section 2: The Officers of the club shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 3: All Officers and Board members shall be members of the club in good standing.

Section 4: Any person elected to the office of President shall have served at least one year as Officer or Board member of the club, whether before or after incorporation.

Section 5: The immediate past president shall serve the subsequent year as a member of the Board.

Section 6: Committee chairpersons of the various committees required shall be appointed by the Board. Additional members of said committees shall be appointed by the committee chairperson.

## **Article V – ELECTIONS**

Section 1: The Officers and Board members of the club shall be elected for the term of one (1) year and until such time as their successors shall have been elected and take office. Newly elected Officers and Board members shall take office the first day of January of the next year.

Section 2: The President shall appoint a nominating committee of three (3) members, at least one (1) of whom shall be a member of the Board. They will present their list of nominations by notification as specified in Article XII Section 6.

Section 3: Election of Officers and Board members shall be held at the November Club meeting. Nominations will be accepted from the floor. Those receiving the largest number of votes shall be elected.

Section 4: Vacancies occurring between elections must be filled by a special election at a general meeting after which the withdrawal or resignation is made known. Nominations for replacement shall be made by the Board. Nominations shall also be accepted from the floor. Voting shall be conducted per Article XII and the person receiving the largest number of votes will be the new Officer. The newly elected Officer shall take office immediately.

Section 5: Officers and Board members may be removed by a petition signed by at least ten (10) members and upheld by a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote.

#### **Article VI – DUTIES OF THE BOARD AND OFFICERS**

Section 1: The Board shall be the governing body of the Club and as such shall formulate and be responsible for all matters of policy. Decisions of the Board shall be reached upon majority vote; and thereupon the President shall execute the decisions so made or the policies so formed.

Section 2: The newly elected President shall call an organizational meeting of the old and new Officers and Board members within 30 days of the election meeting.

Section 3: The President shall preside at all meetings of this Club; shall enforce due observance of the by-laws; shall decide all questions of order; shall sign all official documents that are adopted by the Club; and shall perform all customary duties pertaining to the office of President.

Section 4: The Vice-President shall possess all the powers and assume all duties of the President in the event of the absence, disability, refusal, or failure to act, of the President. The Vice-President shall further assist the President in all functions of that office and shall perform such other duties as are properly assigned by the Board.

Section 5: The Secretary shall countersign all deeds, leases, and conveyances executed by the corporation; shall keep a record of all proceedings of all meetings; keep a roll of members and the current status of these members; shall keep a roll of members present at meetings; accept applications for membership; keep a copy of the Articles of Incorporation and By-laws present at all meetings; carry on all correspondence; read communications received at each regular meeting, and give notice of all meetings.

Section 6: The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all club funds, including dues from members; shall keep an accurate record of all such transactions; and shall give a financial report to the Board and members upon request.

#### **Article VII – MEETINGS**

Section 1: There shall be a general Club meeting held monthly. This meeting schedule may be changed, subject to a decision by the Board.

Section 2: Special meetings of the members may be called at any time by the President, provided the entire Club membership is notified in writing of such special meeting ten (10) days prior to the meeting. Notification may be done per Article XII, Section 6. The President shall be required to call a special meeting upon receipt of a written request signed by ten (10) or more members.

Section 3: The Board shall meet in a general or special meeting in order to transact business. The Board shall normally meet once a month. All meetings of the Board shall require ten (10) days notice to the Board members.

Section 4: All meetings of the Board shall be open to all Club members.

## **Article VIII – DUES**

Section 1: The annual dues will be recommended by the Board and approved by the members. The dues year shall be January 1 to December 31. Pro-rated dues will only apply to new licensees or those new in the area. The Board has the authority to accept dues paid from any valuable consideration.

## **Article IX – AMENDMENTS**

Section 1: The by-laws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at a general meeting, providing that members shall have been notified per Article XII, Section 6. Proposals for amendments shall be submitted in writing to a Club Officer.

## **Article X –RULES**

Section 1: Roberts's rules of Order shall govern all proceedings of this Club.

## **Article XI – BUDGET AND REPORTING**

Section 1: The Board shall give an annual report to the members on the activities of the Club with a financial report including the receipt and disbursement of Club funds. The Board shall present an annual budget after receiving input from committee members and members at large. The members shall vote upon said budget within the guidelines of said budget. A vote of the members will not have to be given again unless the budget is changed materially or exceeded in total.

## **Article XII –VOTING**

Section 1: Only members in good standing shall be entitled to vote.

Section 2: All voting shall be by majority vote of the members present, unless specially stated otherwise in these articles.

Section 3: Voting for the election of the Board and Officers; expulsion of a member; Board member or Officer; adoption or amendments of the By-laws; approval of the annual budget and dues; and other issues as designated by the Board shall be conducted as stated below in Section 4 through 6.

Section 4: Voting on matters specified in Section 3 of this Article shall be by secret ballot of members in attendance and by members Proxies.

Section 5: A Proxy shall be included with the notification as specified in Section 6 below. Proxies may be given to a Club Officer or any other member by mail or in person. Proxies may be specific or general. The form of the proxies, ballots and balloting procedures shall be determined by the Board.

Section 6: Notification to members of the subject matter of any vote to be taken shall be by publication in THE OHM TOWN NEWS the issue prior to the meeting in which the voting is to be done. The notification shall include the time, date and place of the meeting in which the vote will be taken. The notification shall be sent no later than seven (7) days prior to the scheduled meeting date.

# The ARES E-Letter for October 16, 2013

## Essay: Amateur Radio is an Application Mash-Up

During presentations on Amateur Radio contributions to emergency and disaster response, invariably questions arise from non-hams trying to understand how it is that Amateur Radio is such an effective and reliable communication system, available to the public at no cost, but is also an avocation. Hams invariably respond by emphasizing Amateur Radio's use of modern technology, the dedication of individual hams to their public service role, that hams bring their own equipment to the service, the non-pecuniary nature of ham radio, et cetera.

Yet the public remains puzzled. Except for the non-pecuniary aspect, those answers also apply to the commercial systems. And the public seldom understands the cost savings anyway. I offer the following as a better approach for explaining Amateur Radio value in emergency and disaster response radio communications services.

In today's Internet-savvy culture, Amateur Radio's distinguishing characteristic for emergency service communications is that it is an "Application Mash-up." It is a primary reason that Facebook, eBay, et cetera are so successful. Let's examine three principal characteristics of Amateur Radio under this moniker.

*Operating time.* Individual hams operate frequently. Thousands of hams practice their skills and ensure their equipment is fully operational every day of the week, not just during some pre-scheduled emergency communication test.

*Operating Interests.* Hams have diverse interests and a variety of talents. Some try to operate independently of the commercial power grid. Others operate at very low power, gaining practice in techniques to overcome adverse conditions. Some only use home-brewed antennas, learning exceptional antenna construction skills. Many operate nets where they control traffic flow, and routinely switch frequencies to overcome poor conditions. These and innumerable other examples develop thousands of special skills that contribute to instant value added to Amateur Radio and hence the public, over other systems.

*Self-sufficiency.* The skills hams acquire in all of the above allow overcoming the most adverse of conditions. Hams have no expectation that their "IT Department" will come and fix their computer, or that an electrician will restore their power sources, or some other repairman will arrive to fix failed equipment. Hams do it all themselves. The ham operating in an emergency situation is self-sufficient.

The web-centric definition of "Application Mash-up" is: "An application that combines data and/or functionality from more than one source." When an emergency occurs, what do hams do? They bring astonishing diversity of talents and assets to the table, in terms of capabilities, as the commercial infrastructure fails due to a number of factors. This is a human and equipment resource treasure that cannot be duplicated by any amount of money from any government or private resource. It is the essence of how Amateur Radio is the emergency communication service that never fails.

So when someone asks why Amateur Radio When All Else Fails? The answer is simple: "Because Amateur Radio is an Application Mash-up." -- *Charlie Ristorcelli, NN3V, Poway, California, [nn3v@arrl.net](mailto:nn3v@arrl.net)*



# The ARRL Letter for October 17, 2013

## *Your League: ARRL Designates Six Regional ARRL Centennial Events*



As part of its 2014 [centennial celebration](#), the ARRL has designated six major ham radio gatherings as "Regional ARRL Centennial Events." The action was approved October 5 when the ARRL Executive Committee met in Colorado. ARRL Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen developed a proposal for the concept as a way to, in effect, take the ARRL Centennial celebration to more radio amateurs across the US.

"While ARRL has planned a premier national-level Centennial Convention for 2014 in Connecticut, organizing some regional events will encourage greater awareness for the anniversary and greater participation by members, for whom traveling to New England will be too far, too costly, or otherwise not practical," Inderbitzen suggested in his proposal to the EC.

The centerpiece of the League's centennial is the 2014 [ARRL National Centennial Convention](#) in Hartford, Connecticut, July 17-19. EC members approved six Regional Centennial Events to complement the National Convention.

[Orlando Hamcation](#)® -- Orlando, Florida, February 7-9, 2014

[Dayton Hamvention](#)® -- Dayton, Ohio, May 16-18, 2014

[SEA-PAC](#) -- Seaside, Oregon, June 6-8, 2014

[Ham-Com](#) -- Plano, Texas, June 13-14, 2014

[Huntsville Hamfest](#) -- Huntsville, Alabama, August 16-17, 2014

[Pacificon](#) -- Santa Clara, California, October 10-12, 2014

In addition to encouraging greater awareness of the ARRL's 100th anniversary celebration, sanctioning the regional centennial events is aimed at enhancing the all-volunteer ARRL Field Organization, generating greater interest in League membership, program, services and publications, and helping to promote the ARRL's [Second Century Campaign](#).

## *Your League: The ARRL Centennial QSO Party Starts January 1, 2014!*

In conjunction with the 100th anniversary of the ARRL, the [ARRL Centennial QSO Party](#) is set to kick off January 1 for a year-long operating event in which participants can accumulate points and win awards, as well as working new stations and making new friends. During 2014 W1AW will be on the air from every state (at least twice) and most US territories, and it will be easy to work all states solely by contacting W1AW portable operations. This marks the first ARRL-sponsored operating event where every member is worth at least one point. The event is open to all, although only ARRL members and appointees, elected officials, HQ staff and W1AW are worth [points](#). Working ARRL's president, for example, earns 300 points!

To qualify for points all contacts must be two-way (no cross-band or cross-mode contacts), using CW, phone (FM, SSB, AM, digital voice), digital (any digital mode, such as PSK31, RTTY) on 160, 80, 40, 30, 17, 15, 12, 10, 6, 2 and 1.25 meters, plus 70 centimeters and satellite.

Stations [exchange](#) signal report and ARRL abbreviation. Contacts do not have to be contest-style and it isn't necessary to give the ARRL organizational information. A centennial database will assign point values to all logs submitted electronically. Those not submitting electronically, however, will need to obtain the QSO information during the contact. This event is not a contest, so participants may make contacts in any fashion they prefer.



The Centennial QSO Party is scored by totaling the values of all eligible contacts. There are no multipliers or bonus points. Logs submitted via Logbook of the World ([LoTW](#)) will be scored automatically.

### **Awards**

Work W1AW operating portable from all 50 states. Working W1AW in Connecticut does not count for Connecticut, however. Participants can earn W1AW Connecticut credit only for working W1AW/1 in Connecticut. A W1AW WAS certificate and plaque will be available (pricing not yet announced). For an extra challenge, work all 100 W1AW portable operations -- essentially a double WAS with W1AW!

Endorse the W1AW WAS Certificate with the Territorial Stickers for working W1AW/KH2, W1AW/KP4, W1AW/KP2, and any others that may be active, and also endorse with W1AW/3 from the District of Columbia (stickers are \$1 each)

### **Centennial Points Challenge**

To compete in the Centennial Points Challenge, submit logs via Logbook of the World ([LoTW](#)). The system will automatically look for points-qualifying contacts from submitted logs and apply them to each participant's Centennial QSO Points table. QSOs do not have to be matched in LoTW for points to be achieved -- this is an honor-based event. No paper forms or information will be accepted for the Centennial Points Challenge, however. Some points worth noting:

Club call signs do not count for points.

Repeater contacts are not valid for credit.

Mobile and portable operations are okay but do not count for points in addition to home operation -- ie, a contact with KØGW counts for KØGW, whether it is made with KØGW/4, KØGW/m, or PJ4/KØGW.

Stations outside of the US may also count for points. More than 10,000 ARRL members live outside the US, and some of these are also volunteer examiners or DXCC card checkers.

ARRL appointees, staffers, and officers should choose for their contact exchange the appointment or office held that offers the highest point value (this is how the database will work also). For example, KI9XX is an ARRL Life Member (a LM is worth 2 points), a Volunteer Examiner (VE is worth 5 points) and a State Government Liaison (SGL is worth 30 points), so KI9XX should use "SGL," since that offers the highest point value. In any event, the database will give credit for the proper point value.

The top-scoring operator from each ARRL Section, Canadian Province and DXCC entity will receive a First Place certificate. The Top Five overall point scorers will receive awards. There is a charge for award certificates. For complete information, visit the [ARRL Centennial QSO Party](#) web page. [Contact us](#) if you have questions.

# The ARRL Letter for October 24, 2013

## Regulatory: FCC Readjusts Dates, Deadlines As Shutdown Ends

The FCC has extended or adjusted filing dates and deadlines in the wake of the partial government shutdown, during which Commission systems went dark. For radio amateurs, the biggest impact is for those with vanity call sign applications in the hopper. The Commission said in a October 17 [Public Notice](#) that because the Universal Licensing System (ULS) was unavailable for Amateur Service licensees to file vanity call sign applications, the Commission established October 22 as the receipt date for all vanity applications filed between October 1 and October 22.

"Ordinarily, vanity call sign applications are processed on a day-by-day basis, with a random selection procedure used to determine the processing order for applications filed on the same day," the FCC said. "In order to accommodate the orderly resumption of business, however, vanity call sign applications filed *via ULS* between October 17 and October 22 will all be processed as if they were filed on October 22, 2013. In addition, any vanity call sign applications that were filed *by mail* between October 1 and October 22 also will be treated as if they were filed on October 22, 2013."



The FCC went on to say, "All ULS applications and notifications filed in accordance with the Commission's rules...that were originally due on October 1, 2013, through and including November 4, 2013, are now due on November 4, 2013." With the ULS again available, the FCC was encouraging applicants and licensees to file any applications and notifications "as soon as practicable." Filings due between October 1 and October 6 were due on October 22, 2013, the FCC said. Filings due between October 7 and October 16 will be due 16 days after the original filing date, an extension equivalent to the period of the FCC closure.

This means, for example, that if a filing was due October 8, it now will be due October 24 -- an extension of 16 days. "To the extent the revised due dates for filings under this *Public Notice* fall on a weekend or other Commission holiday," the FCC continued, "they will be due on the next business day. [A]ny regulatory and enforcement filings that would otherwise be required to be filed between October 17 and November 4...will be due for filing on November 4, 2013 (the first business day following a 16-day period after the Commission's October 17 reopening)."

The FCC said it would not consider the Commission open for the filing of documents with statutory deadlines until Tuesday, October 22, 2013.

Because Amateur Radio testing was able to continue during the shutdown, exam session paperwork continued to flow into the ARRL VEC. Once the FCC was up and running again, it was not long before application processing resumed, and grants started showing up again, much to the delight of those who had been waiting for new licenses, upgrades, and vanity call sign grants.



ARR: VEC staffers Amanda Grimaldi, KB1VUV (left), and China Chaney work through the stacks of exam session paperwork that had piled up during the shutdown. [Maria Somma, AB1FM, photo]

"We had approximately 250 sessions and over 1500 forms in the queue," ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, said as the FCC reopened. By the end of the day, the VEC staff had dispatched its entire backlog to the FCC for processing.

## ***Regulatory: FCC Turns Away Petition to Expand Technician 10 Meter Privileges***



The FCC has dismissed a [Petition for Rule Making](#) that sought to expand Technician privileges in the 10 meter band. The Toledo Mobile Radio Association ([TMRA](#)) had asked the Commission last June to expand the spectrum available to Technician licensees on 10 meters to include operating privileges in the FM portion of the band, from 29.520 to 29.700 MHz. Novice and Technician licensees now may operate on 10 meters from 28.000 to 28.500 MHz.

"We conclude that TMRA has not presented grounds for the Commission to revisit the question of operating privileges for Technician class licensees," the FCC said October 17 in denying the petition. The FCC said that Technicians may transmit through repeaters licensed to a General class or higher licensee that have an output channel in the 29.5 to 29.7 MHz segment, as long as the repeater has a 2 meter or 70 centimeter input.

Further, the FCC pointed out that the current licensing structure was developed "with the expressed desire of the amateur community to provide an incentive, ie, additional frequency privileges, to motivate Amateur Radio operators to advance their communication and technical skills." The FCC noted that it increased Technician privileges in 2006 to include Novice and Technician Plus privileges. "A Technician class licensee can upgrade to a General class operator license and receive significantly more frequency privileges (including those at issue here) by answering correctly a minimum of twenty-six questions on a thirty-five question written examination," the FCC said. TMRA, the Commission concluded, had submitted no evidence that the FCC should depart from its "long-standing policy of providing additional frequency privileges as an incentive" for license advancement.

TMRA had asserted that amending §97.301(e) of Part 97 would extend Technician voice privileges on 10 meters to "coincide with today's technical advancement of the Amateur Radio Service."

## ***Public Service: Australia's WICEN Activates to Support Bushfires Emergency***



Australian Amateur Radio volunteers, operating under the [WICEN](#) banner, were activated to support communication in the aftermath of bushfires in the Blue Mountains of New South Wales. WICEN is Australia's equivalent of ARES/RACES. The incident controller has since asked WICEN volunteers to remain on standby until further notice.

"Thank you to the many WICEN members who have responded to the activation," said WICEN NSW President Compton Allen, VK2HRX. The official activation was to support the declared state of emergency in the Lithgow area, west of Sydney, leading to mandatory evacuations.

Some 200 homes have been lost have been lost in the dozens of fires, which have caused smoke to overspread the City of Sydney. The NSW Rural Fire Services had feared that up to four separate blazes could come together to form a huge fire front, but by midweek the crisis had eased, and evacuees were being allowed to return to their homes. New South Wales has been badly hit by bushfires after the hottest September on record, and officials predict conditions will worsen this week.

WICEN operates as a specialist support squad under the NSW State Disaster Plan. -- *Jim Linton, VK3PC, chairman of the IARU Region 3 Disaster Communications Committee; BBC*

## ***Public Service: Ham Radio Volunteers in India, Philippines Wrap Up Disaster Responses***

India's National Coordinator for Disaster Communication Jayu Bhide, VU2JAU, has expressed appreciation to the Amateur Radio community for keeping 7145 kHz clear so that ham radio volunteers could pass emergency traffic in the wake of a cyclone. Teams of radio amateurs responded October 13 to assist in the aftermath of powerful Cyclone Phailin, which came ashore at Odisha and Andhra Pradesh in the Bay of Bengal. The storm generated gusting winds and heavy rain, forcing the advance evacuation of some 500,000 residents.

"The main effect of the wind was seen in coastal areas, which were evacuated before the cyclone," Bhide said. "In spite of wind speed, all the telephone lines and mobile towers were working, and communication was not affected as we thought earlier." Bhide had asked that 7145 kHz be kept clear, as Dilip, VU2DPI; Mithilesh, VU3BHI, and Sameer, VU2AOR worked around the clock, passing essential messages and doing what they could to help.



The latest cyclone revived memories of a monster storm that hit the same region 14 years ago, killing 10,000 people. Better preparation and early evacuations kept the death toll to 21 this time. Thousands took shelter in public buildings ahead of the cyclone. Many mud homes and farms were destroyed, and uprooted trees blocked roads. Agricultural activity was expected to take a long time to recover.

Power remained out this week in the Ganjam District of Odisha, where the entire power system reportedly was blown away. The power outage has caused an acute water shortage.

Two days later in the Philippines a 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck the islands of Bohol and Cebu, causing casualties and severe infrastructure damage. Philippine Amateur Radio Association volunteers responded. Ramon Anquilan, DU1UGZ, said the earthquake occurred just as work crews were about to clean up the debris left by Typhoon Santi. He asked that 7095 kHz be kept clear for emergency traffic.

According to messages via HF, on 2 meters and via *EchoLink*, many buildings were damaged, bridges collapsed, power knocked out and schools closed. Hams also passed reports on weather conditions and aftershocks. The earthquake hit on a national holiday in the Philippines, at the beginning of the Muslim festival of Eid al-Adha. Media accounts reported landslides in some areas, with more than 8500 homes destroyed. The death toll topped 180 by week's end. -- *Jim Linton, VK3PC, IARU Region 3 Disaster Communications Committee chair; media reports*

## Questions for Extra Class License



1. (E1A05) What is the maximum power output permitted on the 60 meter band?
  - A. 50 watts PEP effective radiated power relative to an isotropic radiator
  - B. 50 watts PEP effective radiated power relative to a dipole
  - C. 100 watts PEP effective radiated power relative to the gain of a half-wave dipole
  - D. 100 watts PEP effective radiated power relative to an isotropic radiator
2. (E2D05) Which of the following techniques is normally used by low Earth orbiting digital satellites to relay messages around the world?
  - A. Digipeating
  - B. Store-and-forward
  - C. Multi-satellite relaying
  - D. Node hopping
3. (E3C01) Which of the following effects does Aurora activity have on radio communications?
  - A. SSB signals are raspy
  - B. Signals propagating through the Aurora are fluttery
  - C. CW signals appear to be modulated by white noise
  - D. All of these choices are correct
4. (E4C14) On which of the following frequencies might a signal be transmitting which is generating a spurious image signal in a receiver tuned to 14.300 MHz and which uses a 455 kHz IF frequency?
  - A. 13.845 MHz
  - B. 14.755 MHz
  - C. 14.445 MHz
  - D. 15.210 MHz
5. (E5C14) What coordinate system is often used to display the phase angle of a circuit containing resistance, inductive and/or capacitive reactance?
  - A. Maidenhead grid
  - B. Faraday grid
  - C. Elliptical coordinates
  - D. Polar coordinates
6. (E6D05) What is a liquid-crystal display (LCD)?
  - A. A modern replacement for a quartz crystal oscillator which displays its fundamental frequency
  - B. A display using a crystalline liquid which, in conjunction with polarizing filters, becomes opaque when voltage is applied
  - C. A frequency-determining unit for a transmitter or receiver
  - D. A display that uses a glowing liquid to remain brightly lit in dim light
7. (E7E01) Which of the following can be used to generate FM phone emissions?
  - A. A balanced modulator on the audio amplifier
  - B. A reactance modulator on the oscillator
  - C. A reactance modulator on the final amplifier
  - D. A balanced modulator on the oscillator
8. (E8C11) What spread-spectrum communications technique uses a high speed binary bit stream to shift the phase of an RF carrier?
  - A. Frequency hopping
  - B. Direct sequence
  - C. Binary phase-shift keying
  - D. Phase compandored spread-spectrum
9. (E9E08) Which of the following measurements is characteristic of a mismatched transmission line?
  - A. An SWR less than 1:1
  - B. A reflection coefficient greater than 1
  - C. A dielectric constant greater than 1
  - D. An SWR greater than 1:1
10. (E0A07) How may dangerous levels of carbon monoxide from an emergency generator be detected?
  - A. By the odor
  - B. Only with a carbon monoxide detector
  - C. Any ordinary smoke detector can be used
  - D. By the yellowish appearance of the gas

(For answers to test questions see page 15)



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Answers to questions on page 14: 1-C, 2-B, 3-D, 4-D, 5-D, 6-B, 7-B, 8-B, 9-D, 10-B

