



# THE OHM TOWN NEWS

*Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club*

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

## March 2016



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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The FCC established amateur radio as a voluntary, non-commercial, radio communications service. It allows licensed operators to improve their communications and technical skills while providing the nation, state, county, or community with a pool of trained radio operators and technicians who can provide essential communications during emergencies. Amateur radio operators must be licensed and pass an examination for the FCC license to operate on amateur radio frequencies.

Now here's the most important thing. One can't just get a license, wait for a disaster, and show up. You're a liability if you haven't had training. The guy behind the glass at the emergency operation center won't give you the time of day. This is not a decision you make and sit on until the stuff hits the fan.

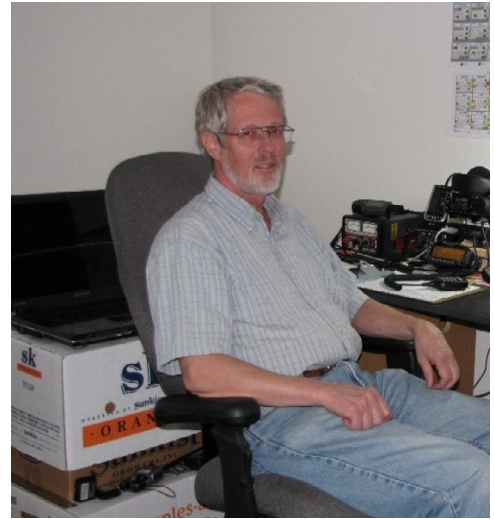
You have to work at it. If you are primarily interested in providing emergency help in your neighborhood, the best place to start is the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training. That's because it's more important that you and your neighbors work together to secure your home and neighborhood and collect some information about damage and injuries to communicate to the public safety people than that you show up and immediately get cluelessly underfoot.

There are also other organizations that assist in emergency communication. The classic is the Amateur Radio Relay League's (ARRL's) [Amateur Radio Emergency Service \(ARES\)](#) and [Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service \(RACES\)](#) organizations.

ARES consists of licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes. Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in ARRL or any other local or national organization, is eligible for membership in the ARES. The only qualification, other than possession of an Amateur Radio license, is a sincere desire to serve. Because ARES is an amateur service, only amateurs are eligible for membership. There are four levels of ARES organization—national, section, district and local. National emergency coordination at ARRL Headquarters is under the supervision of the ARRL Field and Educational Services Manager, who is responsible for advising all ARES officials regarding their problems, maintaining contact with federal government and other national officials concerned with amateur emergency communications potential, and in general with carrying out the League's policies regarding emergency communications. At the section level, the Section Emergency Coordinator is appointed by the Section Manager (who is elected by the ARRL members in his or her section) and works under his/her supervision. In most sections, the SM delegates to the SEC the administration of the section emergency plan and the authority to appoint District and local ECs. It is at the local level where most of the real emergency organizing gets accomplished, because this is the level at which most emergencies occur and the level at which ARES leaders make direct contact with the ARES member-volunteers and with officials of the agencies to be served. For more information on our local ARES, visit [BARCOnline.org/ARES](http://BARCOnline.org/ARES).

After World War II, when it became evident that the international situation was destined to be tense and the need for some civil-defense measures became apparent, successive government agencies designated to head up such a program called on amateur representatives to participate. In the discussions that followed, amateurs were interested in getting two points across: First, that Amateur Radio had a

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# UPCOMING 2016 ACTIVITIES

- 12** March 10:00 AM — BARC Club Meeting - Balloon Presentation
- 15** March 6:30 - 8:00PM — Elmer Night - Cache County Sheriff's Office
- 16** March, 7:00 PM — Cache County ARES meeting at the Sheriff's Office
- 19** March, 8:00 AM — RACES HF Net 3920 KHz
- 26** March, Longmont Amateur Radio Club LARCFest(Longmont, CO)([More Info](#))
- 09** April 10:00 AM — BARC Club Meeting - Intermountain Intertie
- 13** April, 7:30 PM — ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Net  
147.200/IRLP Node: 9871
- 16** April, 8 AM-5 PM—One Day Ham Class General Class License—including  
VEC License Test Session @ USU Eng. Bld (NEW) Rm 302
- 16** April, Sheridan Swapfest (Sheridan, WY) ([More Info](#))
- 19** April 6:30 - 8:00PM — Elmer Night - Cache County Sheriff's Office
- 20** April, 7:00 PM — Cache County ARES meeting at the Sheriff's Office
- 21** April, 8:00 PM - RACES VHF Net 147.180 Snowbird 147.20 IRLP 146.72 Mt. Logan
- 11** May, 7:30 PM — ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Net  
147.200/IRLP Node: 9871



For more calendar information see the [barconline.org/calendar](http://barconline.org/calendar)

## 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.

*(Presidents Message Continued from page 2)*

potential for and capability of playing a major role in this program; and second, that our participation should, this time as never before, be in our own name, as an Amateur Radio Service, even if and after war should break out. These principles were included into the planning by the formulation of regulations creating a new branch of the amateur service, the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service, RACES. To transmit in RACES, an amateur station must be certified and registered by a civil defense organization or an FCC-licensed RACES station. RACES is administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and acts as the communications group of the government. Registered members of RACES are authorized to respond when a civil defense organization requests amateur radio assistance. Typically these activities occur during periods of local, regional or national civil emergencies such as hurricanes, earthquakes, floods or wildfires. RACES stations may only communicate with specified station. It is important to recognize that the amateur radio stations participating in RACES are certified by their local civil defense organizations for this specific purpose.

Frequently, individuals interested in providing emergency communications are registered in both ARES and RACES. Dual registration allows continuity of operations of normal amateur operations might otherwise be prohibited. RACES and ARES are collaborative services although they exist as separate volunteer entities.

An excellent opportunity exists within BARC for ongoing training in using your radio gear in a wide range of public service events to learn more of and practice your radio skills. For example, you have no idea how challenging it can be to participate in a networking operation until you have been involved in a runner marathon going through the mountain terrain. Or with a day-long bicycling event for thousands of participants over a hundred-mile course with sag-wagons, aid stops, assisting bikers, and terrain that challenges the use of repeaters. In addition to helping the community through such service, experienced and inexperienced operators alike can use such events to refresh and polish their emergency-response skills. For more information about the BARC public service activities, visit [BARC-Online.org/activities](http://BARC-Online.org/activities). Public service events are great for using our radios, helping others, and meeting a terrific group of hams.

73,  
Cordell  
KE7IK

## **On Saturday, February 6, 2016 BARC sponsored a one day Technician class followed by an exam session.**

### **The following individuals earned a Technician License:**

Jonathan Pugmire – KI7BEN  
Darron Kelley – KI7BEM  
Heather Dye – KI7BEL  
Zane Hendrickson – KI7BEK  
Todd Coburn – KI7BEJ  
Dallin Maughan – KI7BEI  
Ethan Maughan – KI7BEH  
Emily Clark – KI7BEG

Vincent Goldsberry – KI7BEF  
Sheldon Longhurst – KI7BEE  
Lane Parker – KI7BED  
Madison Taylor – KI7BEC  
Sally Wood – KI7BET  
Troy Teeple – KI7BEB  
Kathryn Sutton – KI7BDZ  
Richard Reeves – KI7BDX

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### **The following individuals passed both the Technician and General Exams:**

Chade Spackman – KI7BEA

Brandon Jorgensen – KI7BDY

### **The following individuals upgraded to a General License:**

Kendell Fabricius – KE7UQW

Andrew Titensor – KG7RCP

Matthew Wood – KG7OVH

Cameron Dockstader – K7CDD

### **The following upgraded to an Extra License:**

Jason Peterson – KG7YKZ (Passed General and Extra Exams)

Joshua Jensen – KD7WRC

### **A summary of the number of exams given and new licenses earned at this session:**

Technician License Exams Given:	18	New Technician Licenses Earned:	16
General License Exams Given:	12	New General Licenses Earned:	6
Extra License Exams Given:	4	New Extra Licenses Earned:	2
Number of Exams Given:	40	Number of New Licenses Earned:	24
Number of People Served:	30		

Welcome to the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club to those that earned their first Amateur Radio license on February 6<sup>th</sup>, and congratulations to all that earned a Technician, General or Extra license.

And a big thank you to all the VEs and other club members that helped with the exam session.

Richard Elwood  
KE7GYD  
VE Liaison



## **News Line**

News Line is now being replayed on Tuesday evenings on the 147.200 IRLP Repeater at 8:15 PM just a little while before the regular net.  
(Be sure and switch back to the regular frequency for the net).

## **Recent Silent Keys**

John Mabey, W7CWK, SK	17 February 2016
Vern Harris, W7GGM, SK	25 February 2016
Russell Tarbet, KJ7UP, SK	8 March 2016

## The ARES E-Letter for February 17, 2016

### New ARRL/Red Cross MoU Signed

The ARRL and the American Red Cross have signed a new *Memorandum of Understanding* ([MoU](#)). The document, signed in January, succeeds one agreed to in 2010; it will remain in place for the next 5 years. The MoU spells out how League Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) volunteers will interface with the Red Cross in the event that ARES teams are asked by the Red Cross to assist in a disaster or emergency response.

"Whenever there is a disaster requiring the use of Amateur Radio communications resources and/or facilities, the local Red Cross region or chapter may request the assistance of the local ARES organization responsible for the jurisdiction of the scene of the disaster," the *MoU* provides. Such assistance would include mobilization of ARES personnel in accordance with a prearranged plan, and the establishment of communication as necessary during a disaster or emergency. "Both ARRL volunteers and American Red Cross workers will work cooperatively at the scene of a disaster and in the disaster recovery, within the scope of their respective roles and duties" within the scope of the *MoU*, the agreement says.

Generally, the *MoU* sets the parameters of the partnership between the ARRL and the Red Cross to provide assistance to communities affected by disasters. It calls upon both organizations to encourage and maintain open lines of communication at the state and local levels, sharing current data regarding disasters, situational and operational reports, changes in policy or personnel, and any information pertaining to disaster preparedness, response, and recovery.

For its part, the League will encourage ARES units to engage in discussions with local Red Cross entities to develop plans for local response or disaster relief operations. The Red Cross will encourage its field units to engage in discussions with the ARRL Field Organization to develop plans for local response or disaster relief.

Facilitating this is a *Statement of Cooperation* to provide methods of cooperation between the two organizations on the local level in providing services to communities during or after a disaster event, "as well as other services for which cooperation may be mutually beneficial." The ARRL signatory is either the appropriate ARRL Section Manager or Section Emergency Coordinator.

The new *MoU* also clarifies that ARES volunteers assisting the Red Cross but not registered as Red Cross volunteers do not have to undergo a prior background check. Radio amateurs who register as Red Cross volunteers, though, must abide by the Red Cross's background check requirement.

Then-ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, signed the *MoU* on behalf of the League on January 7, while ARC Senior Vice President-Disaster Cycle Services Richard Reed, signed for the American Red Cross on January 22. -- ARRL

### Essay: I Don't Get No Respect

"Last Christmas I got no respect. In my stocking, I got an odor-eater." - Rodney Dangerfield

Arriving at a certain public service event for the first time and on time, I dismally found our team "organizer" absent. We had been instructed to arrive at 0630. He arrived at 0730, unprepared and scrambling, offering no apology, explanation, or guidance. I then realized our fate as volunteers was tied to an unfolding human disaster. Those of us who gave up a Saturday and arrived on time (everyone else), had been standing around shivering, checking our calendar (maybe the event was actually tomorrow), and checking our watches. What we should have been checking for was a *plan*.

What was our mission and role? Who do we report to? Not even cursory answers were provided by our leader. "He's always like this," one frequent volunteer told me. He added this advice: "Just work around him and make lemonade from the lemon." Still, I couldn't get the phrase "I get no respect" out of my head.

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Cables lacking proper connectors and no mains power hampered his setup of "net control" (another term used loosely in this grim context). I'd have thrown a life ring, but he was totally unapproachable. Amidst all the foundering he exhibited a strutting self-importance, guffawing with a small minded group of enablers, and ignoring the rest of us.

The rest of us decided to stick it out to offer what we could to the event officials, staff and volunteers. I befriended volunteers at a water stop who didn't expect me nor had any idea what my role was, but I enjoyed the day cheering everyone on, while resolved to dial 911 should we need help. (The "net control station" was useless).

Fast Forward to the present: Considerable experience as a volunteer and now as a leader have cemented in me the importance of approaching each and every volunteer with the greatest of respect and appreciation. It means not just showing up on time, but paving the way for success long before the event morning briefing. I tell my teams that a successful Amateur Radio effort on event day is a reflection of many months of pre-event communications.

Our mission and role should be no mystery to the organization we are serving. We need to abandon the often-seen and never loved "know-it-all" attitude, and approach event officials and other volunteers as our teachers. *We are there for them, not us.*

When volunteers report for duty, they have a plan in hand. They know what to expect. They are trained, follow a communications standard, recognize and support an ICS structure, know the boundaries, and therefore feel confident and - most importantly - respected for the communications quasi-professionals they truly are. "Anyone can push a button," I tell our teams. "We're communicators first, not operators. It is this distinction in which you should take great pride."

Ultimate success is a safe event, where those we serve - participants, staff and officials - have benefited from our presence. As this happens more and more, and as I encouragingly see it in the work of others, I lighten up and have some fun. As a team leader, express your respect and appreciation for volunteers through organization, planning, keeping your commitments, communication, delegation, trust, and by expanding your own knowledge and technique. As a volunteer, work with your leaders to bring these and other concepts into practice.

With every event served, up your game. If you're in a position of authority, remember that you represent not only yourself, but all of us. Don't blow it. Aim high and our unique and valuable Amateur Radio service will greatly benefit, and so will you. - *Mark Richards, K1MGY, Littleton, Massachusetts* [Richards serves as a member of the Boston Athletic Association Communications Committee, which supports the Boston Marathon.]

## The ARRL Letter for February 18, 2016

### Amateur Radio Parity Act Gets Favorable Subcommittee Report



On a February 11 voice vote, the US House Subcommittee on Communications and Technology sent the Amateur Radio Parity Act, [H.R. 1301](#), to the full House Energy and Commerce Committee with a favorable report for further consideration. The measure was among three bills the Subcommittee considered during a February 11 "markup" session. The Subcommittee is chaired by Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR).

"I'm optimistic that we can put the finishing touches on these bills in the weeks ahead and once again produce important, bipartisan legislation that protects consumers, small businesses, and access to the latest communications services," Walden said after the hearing.

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During the markup session, Walden and the bill's sponsor, Rep Adam Kinzinger (R-IL) made impassioned statements in favor of the legislation. Kinzinger said that while he can appreciate some of the concerns expressed by those who do not agree with his bill, he believes that the time has come to adopt a "reasonable accommodation standard" with respect to the erection of outdoor antennas in neighborhoods governed by private land-use restrictions.

Walden agreed. "You don't necessarily need to have a giant tower blocking everybody's view," he pointed out to the Subcommittee. He suggested that more modest antenna systems often are sufficient. He and Kinzinger noted that there is common ground between proponents and opponents of the measure and that "it's important to get this done." Rep Anna Eshoo (D-CA) also spoke to recognize the work all parties have been doing to ensure the bill's passage in the House.



H.R. 1301 sponsor Rep Adam Kinzinger (R-IL) at the February 11 subcommittee hearing.

H.R. 1301 would direct the FCC to extend its rules relating to reasonable accommodation of Amateur Service communications to private land-use restrictions, such as deed covenants, conditions, and restrictions. The bill has attracted 120 cosponsors from both sides of the aisle. An identical US Senate measure, S. 1685, has attracted three cosponsors. It cleared the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation last November.

[More information](#) about the legislation is on the ARRL Amateur Radio Parity Act web page. Read [more](#).

## Enthusiasm, Friendly Faces Abound at Orlando HamCation, Host of 2016 ARRL National Convention

New ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, led members of the ARRL team in greeting visitors to the [ARRL Expo](#) during Orlando [HamCation](#) February 12-14. HamCation hosted the 2016 ARRL National Convention. The event marked President Roderick's inaugural ARRL National Convention appearance since his election in January. The weather was pleasant, and the ample crowd friendly and enthusiastic.



(L-R) ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ; ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, and incoming ARRL CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF. [Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, photo]

Incoming ARRL CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, also was on hand, and the ARRL team that was helping members to write letters to members of Congress in support of the Amateur Radio Parity Act recruited him to sign a letter to his representative.

During a packed ARRL National Parks on the Air ([NPOTA](#)) forum, ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, and Field Services and Radio-sport Assistant Manager Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, outlined the ins and outs of the year-long operating event.

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Kutzko stressed three main points for National Park "Activators" to remember when venturing out to National Park units to operate:

- Cooperate with National Park Service staff
- Don't disturb other visitors
- Leave no trace.

In the Amateur Radio Public Service and Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) forum, ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, K11U, emphasized the value of keeping ARES volunteers engaged throughout the year. "ARES must constantly adapt," he said. "We can't keep doing things the same ways we've always done them." Even in times of calm, he advised, ARES team leaders must keep their members motivated, and team building is important.

Corey said that in 2015, the ARES program had 17,756 participants, up from 10,471 the previous year. They took part in more than 25,000 events -- most of them not emergencies but public service events.



ARRL Field Services and Radiosport Assistant Manager Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, explains how NPOTA works with Logbook of The World. [Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, photo]



ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, told the ARRL Member Forum that he's excited about the future and wants to "grow the hobby and grow the League."

"Getting on the air is the most important thing you can do as a radio amateur," Corey told his audience. "Amateur Radio requires constant learning and improving."

At the ARRL Member Forum, ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, said he was looking forward to the arrival of incoming CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, at ARRL Headquarters on February 29, and "raising ARRL to a new level."

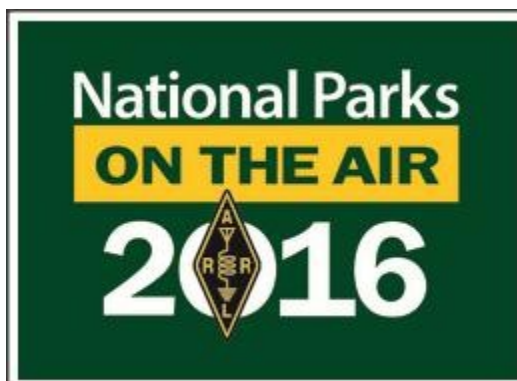
ARRL President Rick Roderick said the League's new [Strategic Plan](#) "is going to be our roadmap to the future." He said he wants to grow the League and Amateur Radio, and he challenged those in attendance to come up with incentives to attract younger people to ham radio. ARRL Hudson Division Director Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, updated the forum on the progress of the Amateur Radio Parity Act and its prospects on Capitol Hill. Lisenco, who chairs the Legislative

Advocacy Committee, said that although the bill's opponents have somewhat toned down their rhetoric, they still disagree with "reasonable accommodation."

## National Parks on the Air Update

President Barack Obama has designated three new national monuments -- all in California. The NPS will administer one of them, [Castle Mountains National Monument](#) (MN82), making it eligible to become the newest [NPOTA](#) unit. This means that there are now 484 NPOTA units to activate!

Before registering a NPOTA activation, be sure to check the sensitivity of the unit you want to activate. Some units are listed as "extremely sensitive" on the [list](#) of NPOTA units and require advance coordination with National Park Service ad-



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ministrators well before your activation. This is especially the case for units that are very small or in an urban area. Nobody wants an activation to be denied. Proper coordination with NPS staff at units listed as "extremely sensitive" will increase your chance of success.

There are 36 activations on tap between February 17-24, including the [San Antonio Missions National Historical Park](#) (HP39) in Texas and [San Juan National Historic Site](#) (NS63) in Puerto Rico.

[Details](#) about these and other upcoming activations can be found on the NPOTA Activations calendar.

Keep up with the latest NPOTA news on [Facebook](#). Follow NPOTA on [Twitter](#) (@ARRL\_NPOTA).

## **New Amateur Extra Question Pool Puts Greater Emphasis on Digital, SDRs, Propagation**

The new Amateur Extra class license examination question pool, effective from July 1, 2016, through June 30, 2020, now is available at the National Conference of Volunteer Coordinators ([NCVEC](#)) website. The latest revision contains a few minor corrections that had been released in a February 5 errata of the initial January 8 release. NCVEC Question Pool Committee Chair Rol Anders, K3RA, said the new pool represents a fairly significant change relative to the current question pool, which expires on June 30.

"The primary change is modernization of the pool to place more emphasis on digital communications, digital test equipment, software defined radios, and propagation/space weather," he said. "Also, a number of other topics were added, including questions on some additional antenna types commonly used by radio amateurs." Anders said that room to cover the new topics was made in the question pool by dropping some questions that had been in the expiring pool. Read [more](#).

## **The ARRL Letter for February 25, 2016 FCC Seeks Comments on Petition to Grant Lifetime Amateur Radio Licenses**

The FCC is seeking comments on a *Petition for Rule Making* ([RM 11760](#)) that asks the FCC to grant lifetime Amateur Radio licenses. Mark F. Krotz, N7MK, of Mesa, Arizona, filed his request with the FCC last November. He wants the FCC to revise § 97.25 of its rules to indicate that Amateur Radio licenses are granted for the holder's lifetime, instead of for the current 10-year term. Krotz noted that the General Radiotelephone Operator License (GROL) already is issued on a lifetime basis, and he maintained that not having to renew licenses would lighten the FCC's workload.

"It would be mutually beneficial for the FCC and Amateur Radio operators to update Part 97 to grant operator licenses for lifetime," Krotz said in his filing. "The FCC would benefit by reducing administrative costs."



In 2014, the FCC granted lifetime credit for examination elements 3 and 4, but applicants seeking relicensing under that provision still must pass examination element 2.

Individuals may [submit](#) comments via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS).

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## "Ham Radio Now" Hosting 2015 ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference Video Presentations:

Full-length video of all major presentations at the 2015 ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference (DCC) is now online, courtesy of "[Ham Radio Now](#)." This includes the 16 individual talks on subjects ranging from making a *WSPR* transmitter from a Raspberry Pi to advances in HF receiver testing to building your own networked satellite ground station. Each talk runs about 45 minutes. The DCC Sunday "Deep Dive" -- 4 hours on a single topic -- covered 3D modeling for Amateur Radio. Saturday night banquet speaker ARRL Contributing Editor Ward Silver, N0AX, posed the question: "Ham Radio... Now What?" DCC videos are grouped in a YouTube [Playlist](#).

## FCC Invites Comments on ARRL Petition That Seeks 80/75 Meter Adjustments

The FCC has put the ARRL's January *Petition for Rule Making* ([RM 11759](#)) on public notice and invited interested parties to comment on what the League has called "minimal but necessary changes" to 80 and 75 meters. The ARRL petitioned the FCC to fix a "shortfall in available RTTY/data spectrum" that the Commission created when it reapportioned 80 and 75 meters 10 years ago. The League's petition asked the FCC to shift the boundary between the 80 meter RTTY/data subband and the 75 meter phone/image subband from 3600 kHz to 3650 kHz. The proposed change received strong support from ARRL members, and the ARRL Board of Directors adopted it as policy at its July 2015 meeting. At that time the Board also agreed to seek RTTY and data privileges for Novice and Technician licensees within their current 15 meter CW subband, and to do the same on 80 meters, depending on the outcome of the 80/75 meter subband revision.

The petition asks the FCC to make the following changes to the Part 97 Amateur Radio Service rules, with respect to 80/75 meters:

- Modify the RTTY/data subband, so that it extends from 3500 kHz to 3650 kHz.
- Modify the phone/image subband, so that it extends from 3650 kHz to 4000 kHz.
- Make 3600-3650 kHz available for General and Advanced Class licensees, as was the case prior to 2006.
- Make 3600-3650 kHz available to Novice and Technician licensees for telegraphy -- consistent with existing rules permitting Novices and Technicians to operate CW in the 80, 40, and 15 meter General and Advanced RTTY/data subbands.



Modify the rules governing automatically controlled digital stations (ACDS), to shift the ACDS segment from 3585-3600 kHz to 3600-3615 kHz, consistent with the IARU Region 1 and 2 band plans.

According to the ARRL, the FCC *Report and Order* in Docket 04-140 released in 2006 departed substantially and without justification from the rules proposed in the FCC's so-called "Omnibus" *Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM)*, with respect to 75 and 80 meters. Among other actions, the resulting changes expanded voice privileges on additional frequencies in various bands, including 75 meters. The FCC shifted the phone/image subband from 3750-4000 kHz to 3600-4000 kHz, trimming the 80 meter RTTY/data subband from 3500-3750 kHz to 3500-3600 kHz and substantially changing "the entire dynamic of this band," the League said.

Although the Omnibus *R&O* had indicated that incumbent licensees would not lose any operating privileges, some clearly did, the ARRL has pointed out. The most substantial adverse effect of the "unexpected and vast expansion" of the 75 meter phone/image subband, the League said, was the elimination of access to 3620-3635 kHz by ACDS. Read [more](#).

## New Year's Resolutions for Your Favorite Hobby

I know that we are already a couple of months into the new year and it is a little late to be thinking about New Year's resolutions. I really don't care. You are allowed to do that when you get old and crotchety like I am. Plus, I am a little slow and it takes me a bit to get warmed up and running. It's kind of like those old linear sweep tube HF amplifiers those old guys use to run back in 60's.

I came across the idea of radio resolutions after reading a fellow radio amateur's blog recently. He lives across the big pond and is really big into QRP portable operations, building his own antennas, and mountain topping. In one of his blog posts, he stated that he sets goals for his amateur radio activities every year.

As I read through his ideas for the coming year, I figured that it would be a great way to enhance this great hobby of ours. Having set goals would help to focus my amateur radio activities for the year instead of just bouncing from one thing to another. It might even have the side benefit of concentrating the purchases that I make which would, in turn, help to save some of those elusive and precious green stamps (which would keep the XYL and my checkbook happy).

Here are some ideas that I came up with to help us get started:

Learn CW (that is short for Morse Code for you newbies). Always a good one to pick up and can enhance your enjoyment of the hobby especially if you are on the hunt for those elusive DXpeditions or looking for other ways to decorate your shack with neat wallpaper (or coupons as we called them in the fire service). Once you get proficient at it, it is almost like speaking a second language. They say, once you can speak two languages, the third gets easier and the next gets easier.

Work a contest or two. There are many out there. You don't have to be a General or Extra license class to participate in some of them. The ARRL contests are pretty good ones and Utah, because of its large geographic area and slim ham population, is considered rare in many of them. It is really fun to be on the working end of a pile up because many need Utah for a sweep or extra points. If you don't believe me, ask around.

Building some component of your station from scratch or from a kit. It could be something as simple (or complex) as an antenna or a radio go kit. There are kit radios out there that come with great how to instructions and are extremely fun and satisfying to complete. The nice thing is, you learn a lot while you build it. When it breaks, you know how to fix it. You get the side benefit of learning something new. The most important part is, you will have something you can talk (and brag) about on the air which is why this hobby exists in the first place. To communicate. Right?

Write an article for the local radio club's newsletter. Yep, that is the reason why, in part, this article exists. I really like seeing what the locals are doing, who they are, and what quandaries we are getting our selves into. I have missed that from our newsletters. So if I was going to complain about it, I had better provide a solution for it so I can walk the walk and talk the talk. You have had some neat experiences with radio, why not share a few with us. Don't worry about your writing style or the editing. Our awesome editor can make you sound good. He did me! After all, that is why the BARC board pays him the big bucks. Let's keep him busy and make sure he earns his keep.

Some other ideas for resolutions include teaching a section of a local amateur radio course, activating a new and high point SOTA, presenting at club meeting, learn to program microcontrollers, take a basic electronics course, start a radio blog, answer every call for a signal report on the local repeater, learn about WSPR, become an Elmer, research a new communications protocol, setup a beacon, raise funds to upgrade part of a local repeater, volunteer to be net control for the BARC net, etc.

The list is huge with lots of potential. So now that I have you thinking. What are your radio resolutions for 2016?

-Gary Roberts, AG1T



Membership in **The Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club, Inc. (BARC)** is open to anyone interested in Amateur Radio. You do not need an amateur license to join. Learn more online at <http://www.barconline.org/> or by emailing [membership@barconline.org](mailto:membership@barconline.org).

The Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club provides the following to its members:

- A repeater system that covers northern Utah from Bear Lake to Salt Lake Valley.
- Events where you can practice your radio skills in a fun learning environment.
- Club meetings are held the second Saturday each month from October to May. An opportunity to meet and learn from other amateur operators.
- Social activities where members can make friends and interact with other members.



Your tax deductible membership supports club activities and the BARC repeater system.

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## The Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

### Membership application for the year 2016

*Dues are in effect January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016*

*Please indicate if you or family member is an American Radio Relay League (ARRL) member*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_ Date Paid \_\_\_\_\_

☐ ARRL member

P.O. Box \_\_\_\_\_ Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

(The club's newsletter, THE OHM TOWN NEWS, is sent to the E-mail Address)

☐ Individual Membership - \$25 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Addition Family members in same household - \$3 ea \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Donation for Repeater upgrades / equipment purchases \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Names and Call Signs of additional family members

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

☐ ARRL member E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

☐ ARRL member E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

☐ ARRL member E-mail \_\_\_\_\_



Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club  
is an ARRL affiliated club

Mail your completed form and a check to: B.A.R.C., P.O. Box 111, Providence UT 84332-0111  
or pay online at <http://www.barconline.org/join-barc> via PayPal

*B.A.R.C. is a non-profit organization*



## Questions for Extra Class License

- 1.(E1A09) What is the first action you should take if your digital message forwarding station inadvertently forwards a communication that violates FCC rules?
  - A. Discontinue forwarding the communication as soon as you become aware of it
  - B. Notify the originating station that the communication does not comply with FCC rules
  - C. Notify the nearest FCC Field Engineer's office
  - D. Discontinue forwarding all messages
2. (E2A07) Which of the following types of signals can be relayed through a linear transponder?
  - A. FM and CW
  - B. SSB and SSTV
  - C. PSK and Packet
  - D. All of these choices are correct
3. (E3C07) How does the radiation pattern of a horizontally polarized 3-element beam antenna vary with its height above ground?
  - A. The main lobe takeoff angle increases with increasing height
  - B. The main lobe takeoff angle decreases with increasing height
  - C. The horizontal beam width increases with height
  - D. The horizontal beam width decreases with height
4. (E4B01) Which of the following factors most affects the accuracy of a frequency counter?
  - A. Input attenuator accuracy
  - B. Time base accuracy
  - C. Decade divider accuracy
  - D. Temperature coefficient of the logic
5. (E5D10) How can the true power be determined in an AC circuit where the voltage and current are out of phase?
  - A. By multiplying the apparent power times the power factor
  - B. By dividing the reactive power by the power factor
  - C. By dividing the apparent power by the power factor
  - D. By multiplying the reactive power times the power factor
6. (E6D06) What core material property determines the inductance of a toroidal inductor?
  - A. Thermal impedance
  - B. Resistance
  - C. Reactivity
  - D. Permeability
7. (E7E05) What circuit is added to an FM transmitter to boost the higher audio frequencies?
  - A. A de-emphasis network
  - B. A heterodyne suppressor
  - C. An audio prescaler
  - D. A pre-emphasis network
8. (E8D07) What is an electromagnetic wave?
  - A. Alternating currents in the core of an electromagnet
  - B. A wave consisting of two electric fields at right angles to each other
  - C. A wave consisting of an electric field and a magnetic field oscillating at right angles to each other
  - D. A wave consisting of two magnetic fields at right angles to each other
9. (E9B04) What may occur when a directional antenna is operated at different frequencies within the band for which it was designed?
  - A. Feed point impedance may become negative
  - B. The E-field and H-field patterns may reverse
  - C. Element spacing limits could be exceeded
  - D. The gain may change depending on frequency
10. (E9H04) What term describes station output, including the transmitter, antenna and everything in between, when considering transmitter power and system gains and losses?
  - A. Power factor
  - B. Half-power bandwidth
  - C. Effective radiated power
  - D. Apparent power



(For answers to test questions see bottom of page 15)

# BARC Club Officers

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