



CQ Chatter

WCARC MEETING
Monday
August 11, 2003
Wood Co. Fairground
Administration
Building

Volume H1, Issue #6

<http://wcarc.bgsu.edu>

July/August 2003

NET CONTROL ROSTER

Aug 12 KB8QEW
Aug 19 N8QMV
Aug 26 AA8XS
Sept 2 N1RB
Sept 9 WD8ICP
Sept 16 KC8RVB

Would you like be a net control operator?
Contact Shawn Hudson at kb8qew@wcnet.org



NCVEC Committee Studying Entry Level License Proposals

ARRL Newsletter Vol. 22 No. 31

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) has formed a committee to develop an FCC rule making proposal for a new entry-level Amateur Service license. The move came during the NCVEC's annual meeting July 25 in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, where attendees heard presentations on the possibilities for such a new ticket. At the same session, the NCVEC also approved plans to draft and submit a rule making petition to eliminate the current 5 WPM Morse code re-

quirement (Element 1) and to give Novice/Tech Plus HF privileges to all current Technician licensees. NCVEC Chair John Creel, WB3GXW, of the Laurel VEC presided over the gathering, which included representatives of 12 of the nation's 14 VECs.

NCVEC Question Pool Committee Chair Scotty Neustadter, W4WW, and Rules Committee Chair Fred Maia, W5YI, offered separate proposals for an entry-level license. Neustadter said while the current entry-level license, the Technician class, provides full VHF and UHF privileges, it does not offer a simple entry path. He recommended a 50-W maximum power output level, Novice/Tech HF subbands plus 12 and 17-meter privileges and a 20-question written exam.

suggested upgrading all current Tech and Tech Plus licensees to General and allowing their use of all bands. Beginner licensees should be granted call signs from the NA-NZ#xxx call sign block, he said. Both Maia and Neustadter suggested ways to streamline the number of license classes. Maia offered up the possibility of asking the FCC to eliminate the Morse testing requirement immediately, easing code exam format restrictions and giving serious thought to dropping CW-only subbands as well. Neustadter recommended no changes in CW/phone allocations, at least for now.

Maia, Neustadter, Jim Wiley, KL7CC, and John Johnston, W3BE, will serve on the entry-level license study committee. The panel is

Maia's proposal

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WCARC OFFICERS

President	Bob Boughton	N1RB
Vice-President	Shawn Hudson	KB8QEW
Treasurer	Bill Wilkins	WD8JWJ
Secretary	Chuck Dicken	WD8ICP

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to report back to the NCVEC within a few weeks.

The NCVEC representatives' approval to petition the FCC seeking the deletion of the Element 1 Morse code examination requirement for HF access was in reaction to the World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) decision to leave such requirements up to individual administrations. The ARRL-VEC abstained from voting on the issue.

Responding to a question, the FCC's Bill Cross, W3TN, told the group that he did not believe the Administrative Procedures Act would permit the FCC to drop the Morse code testing requirement on its own motion. He predicted a lively debate during any proposal-and-comment period.

In remarks at the meeting, FCC Special Counsel for Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth complimented the VECs for their efforts. He noted that complaints concerning the administration of amateur exams were at their lowest point in the five years he's been handling amateur enforcement. He also said VECs should not underestimate the FCC's concerns regarding examination integrity.

Members of the Licensing and Technical Analysis Branch staff at the FCC's Gettysburg office demonstrated a beta version of new Universal Licensing System <<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>> on-line filing software expected to go live in September. Among other features, the new, user-friendly software will incorporate

on-screen links to context-relevant "common questions" and ease the process of applying for a vanity call sign. It also will provide compatibility with screen-reading software employed by sight-impaired users.

The NCVEC unanimously approved an extension of an experiment to use videoconferencing technology to conduct Amateur Radio testing in remote areas of Alaska. The NCVEC had voted last year to back a one-year trial run to be conducted by the Anchorage Volunteer Examiner Coordinator. Jim Wiley, KL7CC, of the Anchorage VEC told his colleagues that, after unexpected delays, his VEC expects to be testing within three months.

WCARC Meeting Minutes

July 14, 2003

The meeting was called to order by President Boughton at 1932 hours.

Our guest speaker Eric Larson was unable to attend tonight's meeting. The treasurer's report was given and the figure of \$432. was netted from this year's hamfest.

The secretary was not able to make this meeting, so I would like to say thank you to the person who took the notes and to Esther for the audio tape she provided.

Tech. report: N1RB reported that the WX radio interface is ready to be installed.

Old Business: Discussion of this years

hamfest was the main topic. Although reaction to the fest was generally favorable, the "mall atmosphere" did not seem conducive to our event. Confusion about the day (Saturday vs: Sunday) also may have hurt us. N1RB suggested that the club return to the fairgrounds. N1RB reported that the club is penciled in for July 2004 for using the fairgrounds for the hamfest. Bill, WD8JWJ offered a bargeque set for raffle- donated by Charter-One Bank. Club members who were present at the meeting were given a chance to buy tickets for a raffle of the bar-b-que. The winner was Mark Rice N8GVF.

New Business: N1RB would like to postpone the fox hunt until September. Eric Larson has stated to Bob B. that he would try to make the August meeting.

Also it has been reported that the ICOM 706 and a dual bander vhf/uhf radio has been ordered, however there is no confirmation.

Esther, N8QMV moved to adjourn and it was 2nd by John, AA8XS.

Chuck Dicken WD8ICP
Secty, WCARC



K8TIH Receiver Antennas

PHOTO GALLERY



147.78 Mhz &
447.475 Mhz
Receivers and tuned cavity



K8TIH CAT-1000 Controller

WCARC Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the Wood County Amateur Radio Club
June 9, 2003

The meeting was held in the Administration Building at the Fair Grounds. With 20 members and guests present, Pres. Boughton called the meeting to order. A quick introduction of ourselves along with call-signs started the evenings proceedings.

Our guest speaker was Ross Mergenthaler NS8C along with his wife Lana. Ross's topic of discussion was about using the NTS traffic handling form and procedures.

We learned the A.R.R.L was founded or based on message handling. A quick outline and discussion about the form was given. Several frequencies were displayed on the black board showing some of the more common net frequencies in the area.

The business meeting was brought to order and the minutes of the previous month as printed in the newsletter were approved. Deb KC8RVB moved and 2nd by Bill WD8JWJ.

Treasurer reported that there is approximately \$2726 plus in the account. Bob WB8NQW moved to accept and Shawn KB8QEW 2nd.

The president responded to the question about the weather radio interface, and said "it is ready to be soldered together".

Old Business included the upcoming hamfest preparations. The post-cards are in the mail to previous vendors and it was stated the ticket prices are still \$5.00 each with 2 stubs before July 12 and one stub after July 12.

The president would like help to show up for work at 6 am on Saturday July 12.

Bill Wilkin will be doing the talk-in, and Mike Stacklin will take care of sign placements.

Pres. Boughton then told us about our proposed club room at the fair grounds. K3RC Bob Johnson is the official liaison with the Wood County EMA and the WCARC.

The proposed layout of the room showed several shelves being installed that were removed from the old radio room down the hall. There should be room for several radios being proposed and very little else. The radios that are being considered should cost approx \$1800 and the cost is being picked up by the EMA office. There is to be a VHF/UHF radio and a HF radio and appropriate antennas. Pres. Boughton

was scheduled to have a meeting with the EMA Director and learn of the policies that may direct us in the future. A fox hunt was suggested for the August meeting along with the annual picnic.

Field Day as an organization with the WCARC was tabled but participation with the FRAT club was suggested. There was a motion to adjourn and 2nd (I missed the names sori).

Respectfully submitted,

Chuck Dicken Secty. WCARC