



## AUGUST MEETING

G.A.R.S. will meet Monday, August 15, 2005, 7:30 PM at the Turner House on Bailey Circle, Greenwood, S.C.

Remember to bring can goods for the Turner House Soup Kitchen to the meeting.

At last month's meeting:

Brian Sugden (KR4SP), Affiliated Club Coordinator, was a guest visitor and made comments about speaking clearly on the nets. Speak directly into the mike and don't mix phonetics and letters. It was suggested that everyone use the standard phonetic alphabet. He also gave some pointers on membership. He also had a show and tell. He showed his MFJ J-914 Auto Tuner Extender.

Dave Zugsberger said that Abbeville County will have an emergency exercise on July 21st, but it was not especially ham related but he planned on being there and would like some check-ins to contact him. This did take place and Dave had a good number of check in from several counties.

Dave Zugsberger discussed making ARES cards and taking photos, possibly next meeting.

Buddy Willis gave sample Technician exams to two associates in another room while the meeting was in progress.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

August 13, Ellijay ARS Hamfest, Ellijay, GA

August 13, 7<sup>th</sup> CFARS Swapfest, Fayetteville, NC

September 3-4, Shelby ARC Hamfest, Shelby, NC

September 17<sup>th</sup> Paulding ARC Hamfest, Dallas, GA

[JANUARY 14, 2006.](#)  
**GREENWOOD HAMFEST 2006**

## "CHAT N' CHEW"

Every Friday at 11:30am to 1pm at George's Family Steak House, 713 Bypass 25NE, Greenwood, 223-2707, a group meets to chat and chew.

Everyone is welcome to join. It is Dutch treat. You can eat lunch or sip your favorite beverage and chat for a while. Come on in and see who might show up and join in the fun.

## WEEKLY NET

Don't forget Ms. Alice's weekly net, on Thursday nights at 9 PM on 147.165+. She is doing a great job.

The Repeater Committee is doing an outstanding job on keeping the equipment maintained. Keep the good job up guys.

Don't forget to drop in, check in, tell Alice what a good job she is doing and share with her and the net some thoughts about your day or week. Please pass the word around about the net.

## CALLISFIED

For sale 3 CRT computer monitors 2, 15" and 1, 19" all in good condition.

Make offer to, Buddy Willis W4DEW (864) 445-757 or E-mail- w4dew@arrl.net.

If you have anything that is ham related, that you would like to sell, swap or trade, I will be glad to put it in the newsletter, just be brief.

## CELEBRATIONS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to:

Ben Keck KJ4VJ Aug. 21

Brab Dukes WB4TRF Aug. 31

Darrell Manning KI4BST Aug. 31

HAPPY 43<sup>rd</sup> ANNIVERSARY to:  
Marion & Edna Elledge Aug. 17

If I have missed any ones birthday or anniversary please let me know where I can get them on my list.

## OTHER NEWS

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Buddy W4DEW and Gay Willis in the loss of their brother-in-law.

Also to Betty Ann Cannon in the loss of her Aunt Maberline DeLoach Fortner of Greenwood, on August 1.

## DATES To REMEMBER

August 2 Friendship Day

August 6 Forgiveness Day

August 6 Sister's Day

August 6 National Smile Week

August 8 Senior Citizens Day

August 11 Son's & Daughter Day

August 13 Left-hander's Day

August 15 Relaxation Day

August 12-19 Truck Drivers' Week

August 22 Be An Angel Day

Sept. 4 Labor Day

Sept. 5 Be Late for Something Day

Sept. 10 Grandparents Day

Sept. 10-16 Brainstorming Week

September is Nat. Chicken Month

## NOTE FROM THE

### EDITOR

If anyone, has anything that they would like to put in the newsletter please contact me by phone 864-682-7374 or E-mail [kf4bvk@backroads.net](mailto:kf4bvk@backroads.net)

[Newsletter deadline September 9.](#)

## ARRL NEWS

FCC Proposes to Drop Morse Code Requirement for All License Classes

NEWINGTON, CT, July 20, 2005-- 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 recommended the change to its Part 97 Amateur Service rules in a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in WT Docket 05-235. Any rule changes proposed in the NPRM would not become final until the FCC gathers additional public comments, formally adopts any changes to its rules and concludes the proceeding by issuing a Report and Order (R&O) spelling out the changes and specifying an effective date. That's not likely to happen for several months. The FCC declined in its NPRM to go forward with any other suggested changes to Amateur Service licensing rules or operating privileges beyond elimination of the Morse requirement.

"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 in its NPRM, released July 19. This week's NPRM consolidated 18 petitions for rule making from the amateur community--including one from the ARRL--that 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 the FCC's proposals in response to those petitions. The Commission said it believes dropping Element 1--the 5 WPM Morse examination--would "encourage individuals who are interested in communications technology, or who are able to contribute to the advancement of the radio art, to become amateur radio operators." The FCC said it also would eliminate a requirement it believes "is now unnecessary and that may discourage" current licensees from

advancing their skills, and that it would "promote more efficient use" of current Amateur Radio spectrum.

The FCC cited changes in Article 25 of the international Radio Regulations adopted at World Radio communication Conference 2003 as the primary reason to go forward with eliminating Morse code as an Amateur Radio licensing requirement in the future. Among other changes, WRC-03 deleted the Morse testing requirement for amateur applicants seeking HF privileges, leaving it up to individual countries to determine whether or not they want to mandate Morse testing. Several countries already have dropped their Morse requirements.

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, said he was not surprised that the FCC proposed altogether scrapping the Morse code requirement. The League and others had called for retaining the 5-WPM requirement only for Amateur Extra class applicants. Sumner expressed dismay, however, that the FCC turned away proposals from the League and other petitioners to create 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 would closely study the 30-page NPRM and plan to comment further after they've had the opportunity to consider the Commission's stated rationales for its proposals.

In 2004, the ARRL filed a Petition for Rule Making asking the FCC to amend

Part 97 to complete the Amateur Service restructuring begun in 1999 but "left unfinished." 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, 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 already can easily upgrade to General. "We also note that, if our proposal to eliminate telegraphy testing in the amateur service is adopted," the FCC continued, "a person who is not a licensee will be able to qualify for a General Class operator license by passing two written examinations, and that a person who is a Technician Class licensee will be able to qualify for a General Class operator license by passing one written examination." The FCC said it does not believe either path to be unreasonable.

The FCC also said that it's already addressed some of the other issues petitioners raised in its "Phone Band Expansion" (or "Omnibus") NPRM in WT Docket 04-140. In that proceeding, the Commission proposed to go along with the ARRL's Novice reforming proposal aimed at reallocating the current Novice/Tech Plus subbands to provide additional phone spectrum. Under the plan, Novice/Tech Plus licensees would be granted CW privileges in the current General CW subbands.

*Greenwood Amateur Radio Society*



# *G.A.R.S. MONTHLY NEWSLETTER*

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*A 60-day period for members of the public to comment on the FCC's NPRM in WT 05-235 will begin once the NPRM appears in the Federal Register. Reply comments will be due within 75 days of the NPRM's publication in the Federal Register.*