



G.A.R.S. Monthly Newsletter

Web Page: www.w4gwd.org

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2006

Greenwood Amateur Radio Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 2404
Greenwood, S.C. 29646

President

Dave Zugsberger KL7FO

Vice President

Earl Powell KC4AXY

Secretary

Betty Ann Cannon KF4BVK

Treasurer

Harvey Hill WB4KXE

Activities Manager

Alice Taylor KC4JWM

FEBRUARY MEETING

G.A.R.S. will meet Monday, February 19, 2007, at The Turner House on Bailey Circle, Greenwood, 7 pm for light refreshments and 7:30 pm for the meeting.

Club Dues for 2007 due January 1, 2007. Address is GARS, P.O. Box 2404, Greenwood, S.C. 29646. These must be paid by March 31, 2007.

Club Elections for 2007 coming up

A nomination committee was appointed at the January 15, 2007 club meeting. The committee will turn in nominations at the February 19, 2007 meeting. To make the club grow we need **ALL club members** input and support. All club members need to think about the election of club officers for 2007 and be present at this month's meeting.

The GARS Web page is up and running. Go to www.w4gwd.org and take a look. You can find this newsletter on the web site each month too.

The club meetings are now listed in the Index Journal on page 2A each month under "Community Calendar".

The GARS Hamfest was a great success. It was the best we have had in eleven years. Thanks to all of the members that gave a helping hand. The prize winners were:

- 1st prize, \$300 Jo A. Henry KC4UU of Abbeville, S. C...
- 2nd Prize \$100 George Neale K4GDN of Roebuck, S.C
- 3rd prize \$50 Al Grundy WA4JWC of Starr, S. C.

Some Pictures from January 2007 Hamfest

All the GARS club members wish to thank the many Amateurs and friends from all over that came out and made the January 2007 Hamfest a great success also a big thanks goes out to the Dealers and Flee marketers.

Without both we can not have a successful Hamfest





PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Once again the month has come and gone.

We had a very successful hamfest and the club is moving ahead on upgrading the trailer with all the new equipment. I hope everyone had a chance to see the club trailer at the hamfest. It really looks great and many thanks to the guys who put their time and work into getting it all together.

Also with this writing we are getting ready for the elections at the next meeting. I want everyone to be there for the elections and if you have any desire to be an officer, please let the nominating committee (Earl, Bert and David) know of your ideas. I would love to see an election with some real competition for the offices.

Change is always an exciting thing and I am sure that after the election we will move forward and grow toward a bigger and better club.

With that said, I bid everyone a fond farewell as my term of office ends. I have enjoyed my term(s) as your president and I have attempted to do my best and be fair and at the same time leave the club a better place while having a little fun along the way.

I also wish to thank my fellow officers, Earl, Harvey, Betty Ann, Miss Alice and to the membership for all the help and support given me during my stay as president. Being president is sometimes a real balancing act but with everyone's help, we made it work, thank you.

73's
Dave (KL7FO)

It's official! Morse code requirement ends Friday, February 23.

Circle Friday, February 23, on your calendar. That's when the current 5 WPM Morse code requirement will officially disappear from the Amateur Radio Service Part 97 rules. On or after that date, applicants for a General or Amateur Extra class Amateur Radio license no longer will have to demonstrate proficiency in Morse code. They'll just have to pass the applicable written examination.

Federal Register publication January 24 of the FCC's Report and Order (R&O) in the "Morse code proceeding," WT Docket 05-235, starts a 30-day countdown for the new rules to become effective. Deletion of the Morse requirement - still a matter of controversy within the amateur community - is a landmark in Amateur Radio history.

"The overall effect of this action is to further the public interest by encouraging 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; and eliminating a requirement that is now unnecessary and may discourage Amateur Service licensees from advancing their skills in the

UP COMING HAMFEST

12 Jan 2008 + Greenwood ARS

<http://www.w4gwd.org>

Greenwood Civic Center
1610 Highway 72 East

CHAT N' CHEW

*Every Friday at 11:30 am to 1 pm at George's Family Steak House, 713 Bypass 25NE, Greenwood, 223-2707, a group meets to have lunch or sip your favorite beverage and chat for a while, **(Dutch treat)**. Everyone is welcome to join.*

WEEKLY NET

Every Thursday night at 9pm on 147.165+, Ms. Alice holds the weekly, Greenwood Amateur Radio Society Net

Tell everyone that you see and talk to come by and check in with her. She is doing a fantastic job.

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

CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday February

Feb. 20 David McCall KG4BJX

Happy Anniversary February

None

Happy Birthday March

None

Happy Anniversary March

March 19 Homer Banks WB4MLU and wife

communications and technical phases of Amateur Radio," the FCC remarked in the "Morse code" R&O that settled the matter, at least from a regulatory standpoint.

The League had asked the FCC to retain the 5 WPM for Amateur Extra class applicants, but the Commission held to its decision to eliminate the requirement across the board. The R&O appearing in the Federal Register constitutes the official version of the new rules. It is on the web in PDF format at, <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20071800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/pdf/E7-729.pdf>.

Until 1991, when a Morse code examination was dropped from the requirements to obtain a Technician ticket, all prospective radio amateurs had to pass a Morse code test. With the change the US will join a growing list of countries that have dropped the need to demonstrate some level of Morse code proficiency to earn access to frequencies below 30 MHz.

The new rules also put all Technician licensees on an equal footing, whether or not they've passed a Morse code examination. Starting February 23, Technicians will gain C

privileges on 80, 40, 15 meters and CW, RTTY, data and SSB privileges on 10 meters.

Once the revised rules are in place, an applicant holding a valid Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) for Element 3 (General) or Element 4 (Amateur Extra) may redeem it for an upgrade. A CSCE is good for 365 days from the date of issuance, no exceptions. For example, a Technician licensee holding a valid CSCE for Element 3 may apply at a Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) test session, pay the application fee, which most VECs charge, and receive an instant upgrade.

The FCC R&O includes an Order on Reconsideration in WT Docket 04-140 - the so-called "omnibus" proceeding. It will modify Part 97 in response to ARRL's request to accommodate automatically controlled narrowband digital stations on 80 meters in the wake of other rule changes that became effective last December 15. The Commission designated 3585 to 3600 kHz for such operations, although that segment will remain available for CW, RTTY and data. The ARRL had requested that the upper limit of the CW/RTTY/data subband be set at 3635 kHz, so that there would be no change in the existing 3620 to 3635 kHz subband.

The ARRL has posted all relevant information on these important Part 97 rule revisions on its "FCC's Morse Code Report and Order WT Docket 05-235" Web page, <http://www.arrl.org/fcc/morse/>. NNNN/EX

CLASSIFIED

If anyone has anything they would like to sell or trade, that is Ham radio related, and wants to place it in this column, call me at 864-682-7374 or E-mail kf4byk@backroads.net.

Newsletter Deadline

March 9, 2007