



The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon's

Counterpoise



Volume XLV

March 2004

Number 3

New License Structure Proposed

The ARRL will ask the FCC to create a new entry-level Amateur Radio license that would grant HF phone privileges without a Morse code test. The League also will propose consolidating all current licensees into three classes, retaining the Element 1 Morse requirement--now 5 WPM--only for the highest class. The ARRL Board of Directors overwhelmingly approved the plan January 16 during its Annual Meeting in Windsor, Connecticut. The proposals, put forth by the ARRL Executive Committee, were in response to changes made in Article 25 of the international Radio Regulations at World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03).

"Change in the Amateur Radio Service in the US, especially license requirements and even more so when Morse is involved, has always been emotional," said ARRL First Vice President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, in presenting the Executive Committee's recommendations. "In fact, without a doubt, Morse is Amateur Radio's 'religious debate.'" Harrison said the League's proposal would provide "a true entry-level license with HF privileges" to promote growth in the Amateur Service.

The League says its proposal would continue a process of streamlining the amateur licensing structure that the FCC began more than five years ago but left unfinished in its Amateur Service license restructuring Report and Order (WT 98-143) that went into effect April 15, 2000.

A new entry-level license class--being called "Novice" for now--would require a 25-question written exam. It would offer limited HF CW/data and phone/image privileges on 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters as well as VHF and UHF privileges on 6 and 2 meters and on 222-225 and 430-450 MHz. Power output would be restricted to 100 W on 80, 40, and 15 meters and to 50 W on 10 meters and up.

"The Board sought to achieve balance in giving new Novice licensees the opportunity to sample a wider range of Amateur Radio activity than is available to current Technicians while retaining a motivation to upgrade," said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ. The ARRL plan would grandfather current Novice licensees into the new entry-level class without further testing.

The middle group of licensees--Technician, Tech Plus (Technician with Element 1 credit) and General--would be merged into a new General license that also would not require a Morse examination. Current Technician and Tech Plus license holders automatically would gain current General class privileges without additional testing. The current Element 3 General examination would remain in place for new applicants.

The Board indicated that it saw no compelling reason to change the Amateur Extra class license requirements. The ARRL plan calls on the FCC to combine the current Advanced and Amateur Extra class licensees into Amateur Extra, because the technical level of the exams passed by these licensees is very similar. New applicants for Extra would have to pass a 5 WPM Morse code examination, and the written exam would stay the same. Sumner said the Board felt that the highest level of accomplishment should include basic Morse capability. Current Novice, Tech Plus and General licensees would receive lifetime 5 WPM Morse credit.

Among other advantages, Sumner said the plan would allow new Novices to participate in HF SSB emergency nets on 75 and 40 meters as well as on the top 100 kHz of 15 meters. The new license also could get another name, Sumner

(Licenses continued on page 4)

General Membership Meeting



Thursday, March 11, 7:00 PM

Santee Baptist Church - 9320 Prospect Ave, Santee CA

2004 Officers

President	KG6JCW	Mike "Stogie" Panger	263-4439
Vice-President	KC6NXZ	Tom Caudle	561-6678
Secretary	N6OPH	Mike Maston	296-9067
Treasurer	KF6WXA	Susan Kochel	445-6067
Past President	WA6MHZ	Pat Bunsold	593-1111

2004 Board of Directors

SANDARC	AE6AV	Larry Plummer	460-1818
Membership	KF6MPB	Joni Cranmore	443-6939
Club Attire	AI6O	Ed Felter	668-0928
Public Service	N6NKJ	Rich Beisigl	444-5465
Prizes	WA6PPG	Carl Ferree	265-5806
	KD6QB	Bill Callier	460-4754

2004 Standing Committee

ARRL Asst. Dir.	WA6MHZ	Pat Bunsold	593-1111
Counterpoise	NZ6T	Tuck Miller	434-4211
Education	KG6JRM	Jeff Davis	698-1144
Estate Sales	N6JOJ	Tom Myrick	449-3547
Field Day	KG6QCO	David Cyr	561-2049
Finances	N6OPH	Mike Maston	296-9067
Health & Welfare			
Historian			
Net Manager	N6WKB	Frito Samano	563-0514
Postmistress	N6EVE	Evelyn Miller	434-4211
SANDARC Delegate	K5WFW	Len Fullbright	258-1322
Social			
Swap Meet	N6JOJ	Tom Myrick	449-3547
Technical	W6RHH	Bob Boehme	448-4728
WAMO Chairman	W6LKK	Erich Bennett	401-7332

The Counterpoise is a publication of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). It is published once monthly and contributions are accepted from officers of the Club. We also encourage input from other Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon Members. **Opinions expressed are solely that of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC).** Articles may be submitted either by e-mail or mail to the editor:

Tuck Miller at:

**E-mail: nz6t@arrl.org or
3122 E. 2nd St., National City, ca**

Deadline is the **Sunday after the General Meeting.** For further information, please call (619) 434-4211

WEB SITE:

<http://www.qsl.net/wa6bgs>

From the President

"Stogie" KG6JCW



I would like to thank all who helped to clean out the shed. We located things that we had no idea existed. We still need to check and repair the antennas. Most look like they are all there. We have at least one that is just a pile of parts. The other thing I would like to do is to mark the antennas and make assembly instructions for the complete ones. I would like to have this evolution happen on the first Saturday of March.

As for field day I have been hearing some club member on the radio stating that we should move the event to a better location. As of the meeting Thursday the members in attendance voted to look into the possibility of the move for the 2005 field day. If anyone has any suggestions please contact Mike Maston, N6OPH. Please remember that this is a Social Event for the Club and is the only time we see some of the club members each year. The primary purpose of the event is to prove that we can assemble and operate station under simulated emergency conditions. It is not a contest for points; we cannot compete with the likes of the DX Club. In the past this has been a fun event and I would like to keep it this way. We have people come because they can park a camper on the site or use one of the cabins. With out these facilities we could lose some of the members. So if you propose a site please take into account all the members needs. Also remember the site has a good easterly view. The last several years the bands have not opened up completely and we have had some problems with conditions. 6 Meters one of the toughest band to operate on has had some contacts into Kansas and Arkansas during the past two years when the band was open. So lets see what happens this year.

Shed cleanup help:

Pat Bunsold WA6MHZ

Skip Prinsen W1NNI

David Cyr KG6QCO

Cal Tyler K6F

Al Guinup K6FQR

And those who didn't sign in.



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon
12 February 2004

The meeting of the general membership of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon was called to order by president Stogie Panger, KG6JCW at 1900hrs. After the pledge of allegiance visitors were welcomed.

This evening's program was given by Pat, WA6MHZ. His presentation was microwave devices within amateur radio. After the break, the meeting resumed:

SECRETARY'S REPORT It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes as published in the *Counterpoise*. The motion was carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT was given by Susan, KF6WXA. It was moved and seconded that the Treasurer's report be approved as read and filed for audit. The motion was carried.

PRESIDENT "Stogie" Panger, KG6JCW announced that the club still needs a Social chairman. Should there be no volunteers he would be forced to select a chairman. The Christmas Party of 10 December at the same location as club meeting site. A caterer still needs to be located for the party. The club field day shed was cleaned up.

TECHNICAL chairman Bob, W6RHV reported on the condition of the 220 machine and the rest of the club repeater equipment. A duplexer is needed for the 220 machine. The club also needs a few antennae for the repeaters. Duplexers will cost around \$800 or so. The water district has not decided yet on repairing the site for the repeaters.

VICE PRESIDENT Tom, KC6NXZ is still looking for a program for the March meeting. Field day will be the topic of the June meeting. Tom also reported that the US House of Representatives is considered HR1191 regarding PRB-1 nationwide. Chili cook off will be held on 20 March at La Mesita Park in La Mesa.

SANDARC report was given by Larry Plummer, AE6AV. He stated that SANDARC has moved its meeting location to the Kearny Villa Lodge and that the meetings will start at 1900 instead of 1830hrs. Mike, N6OPH will be attending the NVEC conference in July in Gettysburg, PA. Mike, N6OPH has also been appointed as the temporary chairman of the 2006 ARRL SW Division Convention. He is looking for subcommittee chairs for the convention. The team leader meeting will be held on 19 February at CoCo's restaurant

WELCOMING chairman reported that there are 52 members and 7 visitors present at this evenings meeting.

MEMBERSHIP chairman Joni, KF6MPB stated that there are 3 new members. The visitors are Earl, K6KEU, Joe, KG6IMC and Mike KG6TDP. The last WAMO issued was 1643.

EDUCATION report was made by Mike, N6OPH. The Technician class will conclude on the last Tuesday of February. The

General theory class will begin the second Tuesday in March (9 March).

NEW BUSINESS:

Rich, N6NKJ reported that the Hillsdale School is experiencing budget cuts and they may not be able to hold amateur radio classes or demonstrations at the present time.

Rich also reported on the Red Flag patrol basics.

OLD BUSINESS:

Stogie mentioned the Christmas Party. The club decided that the same basic menu as previous parties would be used.

Mike, N6OPH read the text of each of the proposed constitutional changes.

Change in the meeting day and time amendment was ready by the club secretary. There was no discussion. It was moved and seconded to accept this amendment. Motion was carried.

The amendment concerning the suspension of the officers and board members was read by the club secretary. It was moved and seconded that the amendment be accepted by the club. Motion was carried.

There were a club announcement regarding the sale of club apparel. The shirts will be \$10 and the caps are \$5. The jackets will be \$15.

Tom, KC6NXZ stated that there is considerable discussion regarding changing the location for Field Day. It was moved and seconded that the club study the possibility of changing the location of Field Day in 2005. An amendment was offered that the president appoint a committee of three to study this problem and report back to the board and membership before the end of the year. The amendment was carried. Another amendment was offered to conclude the study before field day 2004. This amendment was carried. The main motion was carried. Stogie appointed Bill, KD6QB, Mike, AE6CQ, Karl, W1NNI and Mike, N6OPH. Mike, N6OPH was appointed as chair of this committee. This committee will submit its report before field day 2004.

There was no further business before the general membership; the meeting was adjourned at 2040hrs.

Respectfully submitted

Michael P. Maston, N6OPH
Secretary
Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

Hey, Spread the word!!!



What? General Class
When? 9 March 2004
Time? 1900hrs

Where? El Cajon Fire station
Magnolia and Lexington

Instructor: Mike Maston N6OPH
Text: ARRL's Now You're Talking

A Great program is planned for the next meeting!! Be there!!

HELP WANTED!!!

The Club is in need of a chairperson!!

The Social Chair.

The duties are as follow:

REQUIREMENTS FOR SOCIAL CHAIRMAN

The Social chairman is responsible for the club's social activities. These activities include the acquiring of the foodstuffs needed for the field day, the club picnic and the club Christmas party. During the field day event he would provide the food to the venue and either help cook or distribute it make arrangements to have this done. With the leftovers he provides for the club picnic in August. He does most of the shopping required for the club food events and stores it before each event. He advises the club president on the manner of hosting club food events and other social activities. His social duties are not limited to just the food; however most of the work that he needs to do does involve food. In the past the social chairman has arranged for the catering or potlucks at the club Christmas party and other events.

If you would like to help out in this position, contact the Prez at 263-4439 or by e-mail at stogie@cox.net

**We all have an expiration date,
but it's not stamped on our behind,
So, live each day to the fullest,
'cause life doesn't come with "rewind"**
Pat Starkey Testa

(Licenses continued from page 1)

said. "We're trying to recapture the magic of the old Novice license, but in a manner that's appropriate for the 21st century."

The overall proposed ARRL license restructuring plan would more smoothly integrate HF spectrum privileges across the three license classes and would incorporate the "Novice refarming" plan the League put forth nearly two years ago in a Petition for Rule Making (RM-10413). The FCC has not yet acted on the ARRL plan, which would alter current HF subbands.

The ARRL license restructuring design calls for no changes in privileges for Extra and General class licensees on 160, 60, 30, 20, 17 or 12 meters. Novice licensees would have no access to those bands.

See "ARRL to Propose New Entry-Level License, Code-Free HF Access" on the ARRL Web site, <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2004/01/19/1/>>, for the specific subband allocations ARRL is proposing for each class.

The amateur community and other interested parties will have an opportunity to comment on the ARRL proposal once the League formally files a Petition for Rule Making and the FCC puts it on public notice.



Let me remind you of the Calendar of Events!!

March 2: Board Meeting

March 6: Swap Meet, Santee Drive in, 6:30 am

March 6: T-Hunt 6pm, Grossmont College parking lot

March 11: General Meeting

March 17: St. Patrick's Day

March 20: Chili Cook Off La Mesita Park

March:20Swap Meet, Santee Drive in, 6:30 am

March 20: T-Hunt 6pm, Grossmont College parking lot

Shed Cleanup



Chili Cook Off

Famous



Fun for All

Prizes

Saturday, March 20th, 2004

11:00 AM to ?

La Mesita Park, La Mesa
Fletcher Pkwy to Dallas St.

Visit: www.qsl.net/wa6bgs

Attention All Clubs!

Everyone Welcome!

Bring enough Chili for you and your guests & a small taste for the Judges.

Bring your own Cooking stove & Gear. The Club B-B-Q will be there.

Come Early if you want. Contact Tom, KC6NXZ for info
619-561-6678 or on 146.265 mHz.

March Birthdays

1391	KF6KYX	Bobby	Morris	March	2
1300	KE6UFO	Earl	Leeder	March	4
766	KJ6KL	Frank	Zwick	March	5
123	KS6L	Forrest	Hogue	March	5
1629	KG6SAD	Edward	Lyell	March	6
1590	KG6GQT	Dalene	Early	March	8
1566	AE6AV	Larry	Plummer	March	9
642	N9EPY	Roger	Coppock	March	12
1126	KD6WUL	Nancy	Paine	March	12
1631	KG6SDK	Walter	Buck	March	15
364	K6DIX	Dick	Sawders	March	16
1535	W3ALL	Arthur	Leveille	March	16
1617	KG6NDS	Jim	Culligan	March	17
1561	W6DEL	David	Lamb	March	17
602	WZ6K	Glenn	Boeck	March	19
		Mary Lee	Mansfield	March	19
489	WB6FWS	Dan	Floyd	March	20
536	W6INI	Art	Smith (L)	March	22
1405	KF6MPB	Joni	Cranmore	March	23
928	K6KG	Kerry	Kohl	March	26
177	WA6RBP	Bob	Wilson	March	27
384	WD6AXD	Frank	Sprinkle	March	28
907	WB0NPM	Rick	Gentz	March	29
1593	KG6EVA	Robert	Daily	March	31

Welcome to the following **NEW** members!!!

KG6STS Richard Bozovich

K6KEU Earl Townson

KG6TOP Jason Spring

The Counterpoise is also online in **FULL COLOR!!** Check out the newsletter and the rest of our club web site at:

www.qsl.net/wa6bgs

For any suggestions to the web site, contact the webmaster at kc6nxz@arrl.net

Change of Address

Moving??

Do not miss an issue of **Counterpoise**. Change of address form from:

Call _____ WAMO! # _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

New Address:

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send to Membership Chairman:

A.R.C.E.C., P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

ARCEC Membership Application

1. Amateur Call Sign

2. Class of License

3. First Name

4. Last Name

5. Street Address

6. City, State, Zip+4

7. Home Phone:

8. Work Phone (optional)

(May we list) Yes No

9. Date of Birth (year optional)

10. e-mail address

11. ARRL Member

Yes No

12. ARES Member

Yes No

12. RACES Member

Yes No

13. Other Interests

14. Family Membership with:

14. **Sponsored by:**

Return this form with check made payable to the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon or ARCEC for new or renewal membership. **Annual Dues \$12.00 for individual, \$20.00 for family. New members add \$5.00 per member.** Mail to Membership Chairman, **A.R.C.E.C., P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022.** *Please write your call on the check*

New Renewal

WAMO!! No. _____

Certificate Issued

Computer Database Updated

Paid Cash

Check No. _____

Check

Computer Roster Available

Want the roster sent to you via e-mail? Send an e-mail to Joni KF6MPB, and she will send you the database back as an attachment. She uses Excel, but may be able to convert to various formats if asked. Send your request to kf6mpb@hotmail.com

Amateur Radio...A National Resource



Is your membership ready to expire?

Take a look on your mailing label. Is the expiration date in **RED**? Does it say **EXPIRED**? That means it's time to mail in your yearly dues. Please take time to fill out the membership application elsewhere in this newsletter, and mail it in, or bring it to the next meeting !!

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