



W5PC

THE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OF PARKER COUNTY NEWSLETTER

ARCPC NEWSLETTER VOLUME 17, NO. 1

JANUARY 2007 ISSUE

ARCPC CHRISTMAS PARTY 2006

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The ARCPC Christmas Party was held on Tuesday December 12, 2006. Once again this year the location was at Bob & Audrey Park's home. A very good time was had by all present. In the above photo Bob Gill K5BG receives the annual hospitality plaque from ARCPC President Jim Spaulding WØUO.

**PARKER/PALO PINTO
INFORMATION NET**

Mondays at 7:00 pm on
147.040 (tone 110.9) Alt:
146.900 or 443.800

ARCPC VE TESTING

VE testing for all license classes and upgrades will be conducted on the third Thursday of each month, except November and December, at 7:00 pm at the Emmanuel Baptist Church, 1706 S. Main St. Weatherford. Enter side door of main building.

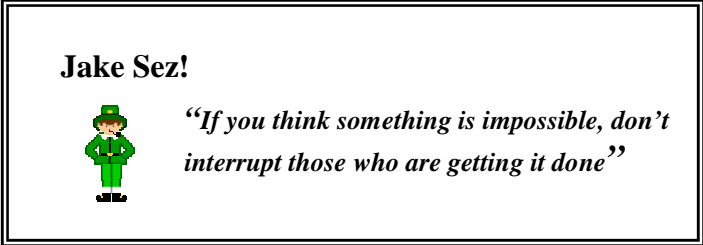
**ARCPC
ANNOUNCEMENTS**



**JANUARY 2007
PROGRAM**

Do you like to build your own antennas or would you like to learn how? If so don't miss. "2 Meter Antennas you can build."

Presented by Jim Spaulding WØUO.



FCC TO DROP MORSE TESTING FOR ALL AMATEUR LICENSE CLASSES

From: ARRL Bulletin ARLB030 dated December 15, 2006

In an historic move, the FCC has acted to drop the Morse code requirement for all Amateur Radio license classes. The Commission today adopted a Report and Order (R&O) in WT Docket 05-235. In a break from typical practice, the FCC only issued a public notice at or about the close of business and not the actual Report and Order, so some details -- including the effective date of the R&O -- remain uncertain. The public notice is located at, http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-269012A1.pdf.

Also today, the FCC also adopted an Order on Reconsideration, in WT Docket 04-140 -- the "omnibus" proceeding -- agreeing to modify the Amateur Radio rules in response to an ARRL request to accommodate automatically controlled narrowband digital stations on 80 meters in the wake of rule changes that became effective today at 12:01 AM Eastern Time. The Commission said it will carve out the 3585 to 3600 kHz frequency segment for such operations. Prior to the long-awaited action on the Morse code issue, Amateur Radio applicants for General and higher class licenses had to pass a 5 WPM Morse code test to operate on HF. The Commission said today's R&O eliminates that requirement for General and Amateur Extra applicants.

"This change eliminates an unnecessary regulatory burden that may discourage current Amateur Radio operators from advancing their skills and participating more fully in the benefits of Amateur Radio," the FCC said. The ARRL had asked the FCC to retain the 5 WPM for Amateur Extra class applicants only.

The FCC proposed earlier to drop the requirement across the board, however, and it held to that decision in today's R&O.

The FCC proposed earlier to drop the requirement across the board, however, and it held to that decision in today's R&O.

Perhaps more important, the FCC's action in WT Docket 05-235 appears to put all Technician licensees on an equal footing: Once the R&O goes into effect, holders of Technician class licenses will have equivalent HF privileges, whether or not they've passed the 5 WPM Element 1 Morse examination. The FCC said the R&O in the Morse code docket would eliminate a disparity in the operating privileges for the Technician and Technician Plus class licensees. Technician licensees without Element 1 credit (i.e., Tech Plus licensees) currently have operating privileges on all amateur frequencies above 30 MHz.

"With today's elimination of the Morse code exam requirements, the FCC concluded that the disparity between the operating privileges of Technician Class licensees and Technician Plus Class licensees should not be retained," the FCC said in its public notice.

"Therefore, the FCC, in today's action, afforded Technician and Technician Plus licensees identical operating privileges."

The wholesale elimination of a Morse code requirement for all license classes ends a longstanding national and international regulatory tradition in the requirements to gain access to Amateur Radio frequencies below 30 MHz. The first no-code license in the US was the Technician ticket, instituted in 1991.

The question of whether or not to drop the Morse requirement altogether has been the subject of often-heated debate over the past several years, but the handwriting has been on the wall.

A number of countries, including Canada, no longer require applicants for an Amateur Radio license to pass a Morse code test to gain HF operating privileges. The list has been increasing regularly.

The FCC said today's R&O in WT Docket 05-235 comports with revisions to the international Radio Regulations resulting from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03). At that gathering, delegates agreed to authorize each country to determine whether or not to require that applicants demonstrate Morse code proficiency in order to qualify for an Amateur Radio license with privileges on frequencies below 30 MHz.

Typically, the effective date of an FCC Order is 30 days after it appears in the Federal Register. That would mean the Morse requirement and the revised 80-meter segment for automatically controlled digital stations would likely not go into effect until late January 2007.

The ARRL will provide any additional information on these important Part 97 rule revisions as it becomes available.

MORSE CODE'S FADING SIGNAL

From: The New York Times Dec 27, 2007

Some Morse Code buffs, shaken by the news that the government will no longer require Morse Code proficiency as a condition for an amateur radio license, fear that their exclusive club has been opened to the masses — and that the very survival of Morse Code may be in question. Nancy Kott WZ8C, editor of World Radio Magazine, calls the move "part of the dumbing-down of America"



SECRETARY'S NOTES

Minutes of the December 2006 Meeting

The Amateur Radio Club of Parker County met on Tuesday, December 12, 2006 at Bob (WB5MSH) & Audrey Park's home for the annual Christmas party. President Jim Spaulding WØUO called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM. Joe Brinkley gave the invocation.

A motion was made by Dave Dunkley N5DWD and seconded by Al Warren WR5AW to eliminate old and new business. The motion was passed by voice vote.

ARPC President Jim Spaulding WØUO recognized Joe Brinkley for his support of the past year, including the donation to move the storage building. Jim presented Audrey Park with a gift certificate from the Container Store. Jim presented Bob Gill K5BG the annual Hospitality award. ARPC Secretary Jerry Thompson W7JT presented Bob Park WB5MSH, with a 2006 Field Day Pin.

A motion to adjourn was made by Will Teague W5CX and seconded by Beth Thompson K5BLT. The motion was approved by voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 PM.

Following the meeting, A delicious feast of turkey (donated by Jim Spaulding WØUO), ham (provided by the club), and great dips, salads, vegetables and desserts (provided by the members) were joyfully consumed.

The toys donated by the members were given to Manna (recommended by the Parker County Sheriff, who no longer distributes toys) for distribution to deserving children in Parker County.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Thompson W7JT
Secretary/Treasurer

MORE INFO JANUARY 2007 PROGRAM

Jim says, "If you have a 2 meter antenna that you have built and want to do a show and tell, bring it to the January meeting.

Jim will have his MFJ antenna analyzer available to check your antenna and let you know how it stacks up..

This should be a very interesting and informative program.



ARPC HOSPITALITY

January 9th Meeting

Red Beans, Corn Bread, Coffee, Soft Drinks and Cookies.



Judy
KB5JEY

THE POP'COMM TRIVIA CORNER

From: Popular Communications

Radio Fun And Going Back In Time

by R.B. Sturtevant, AD7IL

Q. Our military stopped using CW on the airwaves officially in September 1996. Who are the only military personnel in our armed forces still using Morse Code?

A. The sailors who work the blinker lights between ships. Their messages may be in the clear or coded, but they are always in Morse.

Q. I've heard that radio operators in combat areas sometimes try to insert traffic on the other side's nets. How does that work?

A. It was done by all sides, of course, but a good example comes from a trick the Germans played during the North African Campaign. Using short-range radio, which is often used unencoded during combat, conflicting orders would come in given by the voice of someone who sounded like a radio operator known to the operators at the receiving station. Using excellent English these orders would be directed by name to a specific officer who was about to go into action. Valuable time would be lost finding out that the new order was a hoax.

= NOTICE =

**The next club meeting will be held at 7:00 pm, Tuesday January 9, 2006
at the Weatherford Community Center 701 Narrow Street, Weatherford, TX
Talk-in 147.04 and Tone 110.9**

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OF PARKER COUNTY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: _____ CALL SIGN: _____
LICENSE CLASS: (E)(A)(G)(TP)(T)(N) ARRL MEMBER: (YES) (NO) STATUS: (NEW) (RENEWAL)
(CIRCLE APPLICABLE ANSWERS ON ABOVE LINE)
ADDRESS: _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____
CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP (plus 4): _____
PHONE: HOME: _____ WORK: _____

ANNUAL DUES: \$10.00. HAM FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: \$15.00 (+ 1 same household or full time college student) (Add an additional \$5.00 if you wish to receive a hard copy of the newsletter).

HAM FAMILY MEMBER NAME: _____ CALL SIGN: _____

Cut out and mail this application to the ARCPC Secretary/Treasurer along with you check or money order for the amount due. Or, bring it to the next regular club meeting.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE DUE IN JUNE

W5PC

**FIRST CLASS
MAIL**

**AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OF PARKER COUNTY, INC.
P.O. BOX 1795
WEATHERFORD, TX 76086**



www.qsl.net/w5pc