THE CODE OF THE WEST

UNIVERSITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
N7UW
P.O. BOX 3625
LARAMIE, WYOMING 82071
February 2004
http://picasso.uwyo.edu/uarc

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UARC MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the University Amateur Radio Club will be held Tuesday 3 February 2004 in room 2100 of the Engineering Building at 7:30 pm local time on the University of Wyoming campus. All interested persons are cordially invited to attend.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT / COTW EDITOR John KD7NAE

Thanks to Doug KD7W and Madeline for hosting a very enjoyable Bernie club for our 2 Dec meeting. A good time was had by all who attended and the food was excellent.

We have not heard from the Forest Service on the billing for the Beacon Hill repeater site lease. Last indication from Mike Winters with the Medicine Bow National Forest local office was that he had recommended that the site lease be exempted from annual fees. Hopefully the lack of a bill in the club's mail is an indication that this recommendation was accepted. I will get in touch with Mike to verify the lease status.

Meetings are being held to organize the Laramie Enduro mountain bike race scheduled for Sunday 1 August 2004 around the Happy Jack area north of I-80. Communications assistance is needed from local hams. I've been attending the planning meetings and have a map of the proposed route from organizer Rich Vincent from our meeting last week.

Ham communication assistance is also requested for the Dead Dog Classic bicycle road race to be held Saturday 26 June 2004. This is amateur field day, so the possibility of selecting a field day site adjacent to the highway 130 race route was discussed at our 2 Jan meeting. This would permit field day participation and

assistance with race communications.

Meetings were held last week for Registered Student Organizations outlining the procedure for requesting funding from ASUW. Attendance at one of the sessions is a requirement for RSOs wishing to obtain ASUW funding, so I attended to learn about the process. I don't know if UARC has requested funds from ASUW in the past. I will have the information at next week's meeting for discussion.

Hope everyone had a happy holiday season and a good start to the new year. Cheers and 73s. John KD7NAE

UARC CALENDAR

31 Jan – 4 Feb 2004 Buddy Holly Memorial Special Event 45th anniversary of the popular musician's untimely death 28.336 21.360 14.260 7.260 QSL W5B Buddy Holly QSL c/o Bryan Edwards, 3801 68th St, Lubbock, TX 79413 http://www.amcrc.com/W5B

15 Feb 2004 Aurora Repeater Association ARRL Hamfest in Brighton, CO http://www.qsl.net/n0ara/ contact Wayne Heinen N0POH n0poh@arrl.net 303-699-6335 PO Box 471802 Aurora, CO 80047-1802

3 Apr 2004 Longmont ARC ARRL Hamfest in Longmont, CO http://www.qsl.net/larc contact Brian Steege K0BRS larc@qsl.net 303-678-0406 PO Box 86 Longmont, CO 80502-0086

29-30 May 2004 Wyoming State ARRL Convention in Casper, WY http://www.wyohamfest.com contact Rev Morton WS7W ws7w@arrl.org 307-235-2799 1341 Trojan Drive Casper, WY 82609

upcoming ARRL contests include:

9-13 Feb 2004 School Club Round-Up
21-22 Feb 2004 International DX Contest

6-7 Mar 2004 International DX Contest

see http://www.arrl.org/contests/calendar.html for more info

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ARRL to Propose New Entry-Level License, Code-Free HF Access

ARRL E-mail bulletin sent 19 January 2004 – Mack WB7K suggested it be included in COTW. Thanks Mack for calling our attention to this important proposal. The bulletin is reprinted here in its entirety.

The ARRL will ask the FCC to create a new entry-level Amateur Radio license that would include HF phone privileges without requiring 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--developed by the ARRL Executive Committee following a Board instruction last July--are in response to changes made in Article 25 of the international Radio Regulations at World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03). They would continue a process of streamlining the amateur licensing structure that the FCC began more than five years ago but left unfinished in the Amateur Service license restructuring Report and Order (WT 98-143) that went into effect April 15, 2000.

"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.'"

The 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. Under the ARRL plan, current Novice licensees--now the smallest and least active group of radio amateurs--would be grandfathered to 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, but 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.

"This structure provides a true entry-level license with HF privileges to promote growth in the Amateur Service," Harrison said.

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 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, www.arrl.org/news/stories/2004/01/19/1/, for the specific subband allocations ARRL is proposing for each class. NNNN /EX

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UARC BERNIE CLUB MINUTES 2 December 2003

Call to Order:

The December meeting was called to order by President John Harrison KD7NAE at 7:25 pm as part of the burnie club at Doug Wheeler KD7W's home; all officers were present. Attendance was not taken.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report-Brent KC0FUP gave the treasurer's report:

Bills paid: Phone $21.73
Income: Club dues $140. 00
Regular account balance: $547.67
Maintenance fund balance: $688.67

Field Day:
Tony Arnerich KD7TA reported that the ARRL listing of Field Day participants did not include N7UW. He contacted ARRL and they said they had lost many club reports. ARRL will send new forms for resubmission. Bill AF7E has the log of the day's events and will provide Tony with a duplicate sheet so the data can be included in ARRL's database.

Old Business:

John KD7NAE has received additional information regarding the lease rate for the antennae site. The U.S. Forest Service has raised the rate to over $100 per year, but is offering a reduced rate if more than one year is prepaid. Club members discussed the fact that the Cheyenne club maintains the antenna, pays the electric and other costs of upkeep and UARC pays the rent. The Forest Service says the lease cannot be transferred. It was suggested that John contact the USFS to see if we can keep our current lease rate as a non-profit organization.

Brent KC0FUP has additional information and a possible donation of a Field Day equipment case and will update the club at the January meeting.

John suggested the topic of amateur television for a future meeting.

Meeting Adjourned:

John KD7NAE moved for adjournment with all agreeing at 7:45 pm.

Doris
KD7RQX

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UARC MEETING MINUTES 6 January 2004

Call to Order:

The January meeting was called to order by President John KD7NAE at 7:45 pm in room 2100 of the Engineering Building. 11 members were in attendance; all officers were present. Those attending were: William Wright AF7E, David Rush KY7DR, Wayne Sutherland NQ7Q, Suzanne Luhr AA7AY, Tony Arnerich KD7TA, Jerry Tastad N7JT, Bob Hansen WS7C, Lynn Hamblin KB7SGP, Brent Gurnsey KC0FUP, John Harrison KD7NAE, and Doris Hutcheson KD7RQX.

Minutes of the Last Meeting:

Minutes from the December 2nd burnie club were read. A motion to approve was made by Bill Wright AF7E and seconded by Wayne Sutherland NQ7Q, all approved.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report-Brent KC0FUP gave the treasurer's report:

Bills paid:
Phone $21.73.
Regular account balance: $504.21
Maintenance fund balance: $688.67

Communications Reports:
Wayne Sutherland NQ7Q reported making contact with a ham in the Falkland Islands.

VE Exams:
Doris Hutcheson KD7RQX reported receiving an e-mail from a student interested in the VE exam schedule. Jerry Tastad N7JT verified that there will be review sessions and an exam day this spring. He hopes to have a schedule for the next meeting.

Code of the West:
John Harrison KD7NAE pointed out that no COTW was done at the end of December, he will get something out in late January.

Field Day:
Tony Arnerich KD7TA reported that he contacted ARRL regarding the omission of June's UARC Field Day records from QST. He has resubmitted the data, bur ARRL does not intend to update the statistics in a future QST issue, although the figures should be posted to the ARRL website. John KD7NAE will publish those figures in a future Code of the West.

Old Business:

The case committee has received a donation of an old Silton case from Larry Dean K7UWR. Brent KC0FUP had the case for the club to look at. It should easily hold one radio and attachments. Lynn Hamblin KB7SGP moved and Wayne Sutherland seconded to accept the case, the motion passed unanimously.

John KD7NAE spoke with Mike Winters of the Laramie Ranger District of the U.S. Forest service regarding the lease for the tower site. It looks like a waiver of the fee may be approved. The club has not received an

official bill for the fee at this time. Tony KD7TA asked if the current fee classification was for non-profit organizations and John verified that it was and provided a lower rate than other classes. The waiver would be because of no profit being gained by the club for the site use and because of the community service that the club use provides. Bill AF7E suggested that we point out the club's specific community services due to use of the site.

New Business:

The club has been contacted by Rich Vincent to provide support for the Laramie Enduro Mountain bike race to be held August 1 at Happy Jack and have offered to make a donation to the club for our assistance. They would probably need hams to provide traffic reports where the trails used for the race intersect with the Happy Jack road. They also anticipate some injuries of downed riders. Tony KD7TA and Bill AF7E suggested that the club be included as a supporting organization on the T-shirts for the race rather than accepting a donation from the race committee.

Janice Gahagan has asked the club (or ARES) to test the status of the Albany County American Red Cross emergency radio gear carried in the Red Cross van. Bill AF7E says they have a Red Cross certified service radio, a Nicom 2 meter radio, a CB, and a deep-cycle battery. He suggests an antennae analyzer and a frequency analyzer would be helpful and will pass the request on to Mac MacDonald WB7K to see if it should be handled by ARES.

John KD7NAE had information from ASUW regarding requests for applications for a Community Service award to be given to this spring. The award is for Registered Student Organizations that provide positive and effective community service. He will complete the necessary paperwork and nominate the club.

John also had information for the Wyoming State Hamfest to be held at the Parkway Plaza in Casper May 29th and 30th.

Bill AF7E has been contacted by Cat Martin requesting support from area hams for the Dead Dog Classic bike race to be held June 26th. This year the road race will run from Ryan Park to Saratoga via Highway 130. They will probably need hams from 10am until about 6pm. There was discussion about the event being on the same day as Field Day. It was suggested that if a Field Day site were chosen near the race route that the club could more easily provide support. Bill AF7E moved and Wayne NQ7Q seconded that we agree to provide support, which was unanimously approved. Bill has volunteered to coordinate with the event sponsors.

Drawing:

This month's winner of the club drawing was Doris Hutcheson KD7RQX, winning a subscription to World Radio.

Meeting Adjourned:

John KD7NAE moved for adjournment with all agreeing at 8:34 pm.

Doris
KD7RQX

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LARAMIE SKY at sunset looking west over the high plains with the clouds seeming close enough to reach out and touch

Photo by John KD7NAE
Printed copies of this image and others are available up to 13”x19” size as well as printed COTW issues from John

Submissions to COTW are welcome from all UARC members, area hams and persons interested in amateur radio communications and activities.

Please contact

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