

STATIC



October, 2006

FCC RELEASES LONG-AWAITED

“OMIBUS” AMATEUR RADIO REPORT AND ORDER

Ending a protracted waiting period, the FCC's Report and Order (R&O) in the so-called "omnibus" Amateur Radio proceeding, WT Docket 04-140, was adopted October 4 and released October 10. In it, the FCC adopted nearly all of the changes it had put forth in its 2004 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in the proceeding. The R&O the FCC released this week does NOT include action on the Commission's proposal to eliminate the Morse code requirement. A Report and Order in that proceeding, WT Docket 05-235, is pending. ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, expressed the League's gratitude to the FCC for acting this week in the wide-ranging proceeding.

The new rules are expected to become effective later this year. Among the highlights in the October 10 Report and Order, the FCC:

- "reformed" the current Novice/Tech Plus bands to expand certain phone
- agreed to allow Novice and Tech Plus licensees to operate CW in the General class CW subbands on 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters.
- implemented rules to discourage multiple vanity call sign filings on the same day from the same applicant;
- permitted auxiliary stations to transmit on portions of the 2 meter band;
- permitted amateur licensees to designate a specific Amateur Radio club to receive their call sign in memoriam;
- eliminated certain restrictions governing the manufacture, marketing and sale of external RF power amplifiers intended for Amateur Radio use;
- clarified that "amateur stations may, at all times and on all frequencies authorized to the control operator, make transmissions necessary to meet essential communication needs and to facilitate relief actions";
- deleted the requirement to publicly announce Amateur Radio examination locations and times, and
- deleted the frequency bands and segments specified for Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) stations.

In response to an ARRL Petition for Rule Making, the Commission agreed to "reform" the HF segments currently authorized to Novice and Technician Plus licensees. The reallocation will expand the phone subbands for General, Advanced and Amateur Extra licensees, although not all commenters agreed with the idea.

(Continued on Page 3)

LBARA MEETING SCHEDULE

MONTH	BOARD	REGULAR
OCTOBER	10/17	10/19
NOVEMBER	11/14	11/16
DECEMBER	12/19	12/21

Meet The Heckawe's

Perhaps you have heard of this nomadic tribe. They are said to wander aimlessly all over the southwest and ask each person they meet "Where The Heck Are We?" This explains how they got their name.

But seriously, if you ever need to know exactly where you are, there are a several ways to determine that. You can call one of your GPS owning friends. They will be happy to rush right over and try to impress you with their magic device that will give you your exact location in latitude and longitude. The other way, admittedly not as much fun, is to go to the website below and type in your address. It will provide you with your exact latitude and longitude.

The URL is as follows:

<http://www.nfipnextgen.com/NGLocation/address.do>

Give it a try and see if it agrees with the location listed in QRZ for you.

73 de N6BRH (Bruce)

FCC Releases.....(cont)

Monday Night Net (7 PM)

System	Location	Freq	Offset	PL
MCARS	Bullhead City	145.27	-	131.8
	Kingman	146.76	-	131.8
	Kingman	448.25	-	131.8
	Lake Havasu	146.62	-	131.8
	Willow Beach	147.12	-	131.8
CRRRA	Lake Havasu City	146.96	-	162.2
	Lake Havasu City	224.24	-	156.7
	Lake Havasu City	146.64	-	156.7
	Lake Havasu City	449.95	-	141.3
BARN	Lake Havasu City	447.54	-	136.5
	Las Vegas, NV	449.95		136.5
	Onyx(Palm Springs)	449.34	-	136.5
	Orange County, CA	447.54	-	100



"We are persuaded, however, by ARRL's contention that increasing the amount of spectrum for voice communications will reduce interference among stations using voice communications," the FCC said in its R&O, "thereby benefiting all licensees." The FCC said authorizing more phone spectrum would "more closely reflect licensees' operating preferences" and mean more efficient spectrum use.

On 75 meters, the FCC went well beyond the modest expansion the ARRL had proposed and the FCC had tentatively adopted in its 2004 NPRM. Generals will be able to operate on phone from 3800 to 4000 kHz, Advanced class licensees from 3700 to 4000, and Amateur Extras from 3600 to 4000 kHz – greatly reducing the amount of 80-meter spectrum available for RTTY and data (the only segment where automatically controlled digital stations may operate on 80 meters is 3620 to 3635 kHz).

The FCC said the amateur community wanted as much phone spectrum as possible. "Indeed, a number of commenters argue that the NPRM proposal to increase the amount of spectrum permitted for voice communications would still not meet the demand for voice communication spectrum in the HF bands, particularly in the 80 meter band," the FCC said.

On 40 meters, Advanced and Extra Class licensees will be able to operate phone from 7125 to 7300 kHz, and Generals from 7175 to 7300 kHz. On 15 meters, General class operators may operate phone from 21,275 to 21,450 kHz.

The FCC affirmed its intention to permit Novice and Tech Plus (or Technician with Element 1 credit) licensees to operate CW in the current General exclusive-CW allocations on 80, 40 and 15 meters and CW/data on 10 meters, where the FCC provided an additional 100 kHz for Novice/Tech Plus licensees. Novice/Tech Plus licensees still may run no more than 200 W PEP, but the Commission has done away with Novice band power limitations for higher-class licensees.

"We are persuaded that we should adopt rule amendments to discourage

"We are persuaded that we should adopt rule amendments to discourage multiple vanity call sign applications," the FCC said in the R&O, "and we believe that a one-application-per-day-per-applicant rule, as requested by ARRL and others, will eliminate multiple applications requesting the same assignable call sign on the same day." The FCC concedes that its one-application-per-day rule "will not prevent an individual from requesting multiple vanity call signs per se," because an applicant may request up to 25 call signs at a time.

The R&O also affirms changes to Part 2 and Part 97 rules the FCC had proposed regarding the manufacture, marketing and sale of external RF power amplifiers. Current FCC rules prohibit commercial manufacturers from marketing RF power amplifiers capable of transmitting on the 12 and 10 meter bands. The rules were put in place as a way to prevent use of such amplifiers by CBers.

"We agree with ARRL that the requirements imposed on Amateur Radio operators by the current rule are unnecessary because, under the present rules, 'the equipment, once authorized, can be modified to transmit on all amateur service frequency allocations,' and that revising the rule 'will enhance use of the 12 and 10 meter amateur bands,'" the FCC said.

To prevent the use of Amateur Radio amplifiers by CBers, the FCC says manufacturers of Amateur Radio amplifiers must design their products to avoid operation between 26 MHz and 28 MHz. They also must certify that amplifiers are not easily modifiable to operate between 26 MHz and 28 MHz prior to a grant of equipment certification.

The various rule changes become effective 30 days after their publication in the Federal Register

<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html>.

The ARRL is requesting member input concerning the FCC's Amateur Radio proceeding, WT Docket 04-140, released October 10. The Report and Order will not take effect until 30 days after publication in the Federal Register. This publication date is not yet known. The complete text is available for viewing as a PDF file on the FCC

Web site, http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-06-149A1.pdf.

A summary is available on the ARRL Web site, <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2006/10/11/100/>.

The ARRL is specifically seeking member guidance on how the changes will affect current operating activities on 80, 40 and 15 meters (see the current ARRL band plans, <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/bandplan.html>, and an ARRL FAQ, <http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt04-140/faq.html>, which includes a chart showing the band changes).

Comments may be submitted by e-mail to bandplan@www.arrl.org. All e-mails will be read and considered, but individual responses will not be possible due to the message volume expected. The deadline for comments is October 31.



TESTING COMMUNICATIONS

Through the years Lake Havasu City has gone through a lot of changes. Some of the long time residents can really attest to this. I have been visiting here for many years but have only lived here for the last 6, and I have seen a lot of changes. The city seems to be growing in two directions, to the north with the developments in Desert Hills and out by the airport as well as to the east with the new Foothills subdivision. I am concerned that we as an Amateur Radio Club have not done as much as we could to keep up with these changes.

When I was a visitor, I stayed at one of the local campgrounds. The one I stayed at the most was out in Desert Hills. At that time I could hit the '610' machine (now 146.620) with my HT. It was wonderful! Now even more campgrounds have been added out there and I wonder how many people try to work one of our local repeaters with their HT, but can't. Now I know someone would have a better chance of getting in to one of our repeaters with a 50-watt mobile, but that is not the point. Repeaters were designed to allow communications with our trusty HT's. I feel that the time has come that we need to evaluate whether we need to make some changes to our repeaters. Perhaps some of the irritating squawks and kerchunks we hear on the local repeaters aren't intermod, but some one trying and failing to get into the repeaters.

Currently our repeater coverage is skewed to the south and east, but as I said the growth seems to be more to the north. We have some coverage to the east, but I'd like to see how good the repeater coverage is all over town. In the next few weeks (after the London Bridge Days Parade), I'd like to conduct a communications test. I'd like to have a dozen or more people and send them all over town (and beyond) and see how well they can get into the various 2 meter, 70 cm and 1.25-meter repeaters. What do I expect to find? Well perhaps we'll find that a repeater we almost never use is the one that we should be using, or that we need another node on a linked system or perhaps we need a new high-level repeater. But to determine this, we need the data to analyze.

If you would like to help in this test, perhaps on a Saturday morning after breakfast let me know. You can contact me by phone at 928-453-1946 or by e-mail at n6brh@arrrl.net. We will need people to determine where the operators need to be, recorders to write down who is calling in and from where and their signal readings/power settings, and of course people to be driving around using their HT's.

73 de N6BRH (Bruce)

2006 London Bridge Days Parade

The annual London Bridge Days Parade is coming up the end of the month and I am still looking for about 6 operators. This year's parade is Saturday October 28, 2006. We will meet about 7:00 for assignments and everyone should be done by noon.

If you would like to volunteer, please give me a call at 928-453-1946 or by e-mail at n6brh@arrrl.net.

Thanks and hope to see some of you there.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND HAMFESTS

TUCSON HAMFEST— sponsored by the Old Pueblo Radio Club, Tucson Repeater Association, and the Radio Society of Tucson, Kino Sports Park, 2500 East Ajo Road, October 21

W7ZR SETS WORLD RECORD!

At least that is what we are all hoping for! Dick Zalewski, W7ZR will be operating from Morocco as CN2ZR in the 2006 CQ World Wide DX Contest, October 28-29 . Dick will be working as a single operator on a single band—20M SSB.

Look for him and give him a contact.

FOR SALE/TRADE

ALINCO DX70 MOBILE TRANSCEIVER - 100 w, 166-6m, CW filter, Removable Face Plate, Jim Varner, AE6N, 680.7259

YAESU VX-6R - 144/220/440 handheld, new in the box, \$235, Jim Gould, KF7X, 680.7705

KENWOOD TM-241A—144 Mhz FM Transciever w/mobile mount. This rig was donated to LBARA by Cleo Parker for her husband, Bob (SK). Works great. Asking \$65 OBO. See Jerry France, K7LY, 855.7941 or 855.3081(wk)

LARSON 2m ANTENNA—NMO-150 and the NMO-MM mag mount. This item was also donated to LBARA by Cleo Parker for her husband, Bob (SK). Asking \$15 OBO. See Jerry France, K7LY, 855.7941 or 855.3081 (wk)

WORK CONTINUES ON THE EOC

Work on our Emergency Operations Center near completion as the antenna work is finished up. Bruce Hunt, N6BRH, Dick Jernigan, W7DXJ, Reiner Schick, KD5MBA, Russ Nyblom, K7RUS, and Bob Gilbertson, K6BBB braved the heights above the LHC Police Station to install a VHF/UHF antenna, the 146.64 repeater antenna, and the HF antenna. Also they installed the power supply donated by Cleo Parker for her husband, Bob (SK). (A great big thank you should be given to these members.....editor)



Reiner and Russ work on the .64 antenna. We're not sure what Dick is doing...guess he likes to pose!



I don't know about you, but doesn't that look like they're unloading a case of beer? Hope this was after they finished the antenna work!



Russ and Reiner setting up the UHF/VHF antenna. What a great view, huh?



As you can see....Bob did a lot more than just take pictures.



No...you dropped it, so you have to go down and get it!



I can't find the darn nut!

ARIZONA'S NEW HAM LICENSE PLATE



This is the first Ham plate issue of the prototype. It will be available in December, 2006. The cost will be \$25 with a \$25 renewal fee. Work is continuing on an attempt to change the law to eliminate the extra cost for this plate.

The two hams who have made this happen are Ingo Radicke, Wa7KUM and John Lanza, KC7IM. We owe a great big thank you for their efforts.

LBARA OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Bruce Hunt	President
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John Hunter	Sgt-at-Arms
Dave Holm	Web Master
Jerry France	Static Editor

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.lbara.net

FROM THE EDITOR

If you have anything you would like to see included in these issues, please let me know. I'm always looking for articles, news items, construction articles, or anything that might be of interest to our readers. You can contact me at 928.855.7941 or email at grf@unedspeed.net or francej@ajsinsurance.com.

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STATIC

ATTENTION READERS

Please note that this issue represents a “work-in-progress” and there are a number of changes to be made in subsequent issues. I would greatly appreciate your comments, both good and bad, as well as any suggestions for future issues. This issue also begins our first attempt to deliver the **STATIC** to your doorstep electronically. Please keep me abreast of any email address changes you may have and I promise to have this delivered promptly and accurately. Also, I still have a number of articles awaiting publication and will do so in the future. This is your newsletter, so keep the articles, letters, and pictures coming. I can be reached at home (855.7941), at work (855.3081) or via email at grf@uneespeed.net .

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

EDITOR'S NOTE: List your items for sale here. Ham radio related only, please. Include a picture if you like (please use a jpg format). Email all to me at grf@uneespeed.net) along with your name and phone number.

