



# The Listening Post



Dedicated to Community Service and All Central Florida Hams April 2018

## President's Message

Hi everyone – Happy Easter!! I hope everyone is having a very relaxing weekend. Enjoy this great weather as it will quickly become the typical Florida summer soon.

First let me say a huge thank you to everyone that assisted with the Tour de Cure this year. With over 1473 participants and a \$860,000.00 goal, so far at the time of this writing, \$892,858.24 has been raised to find a cure for diabetes. All participants arrived back to the start finish line. This year was mostly flat tires, thank goodness.

Don't forget the HamCation Picnic is next weekend. Please send an email to [picnic@oarc.org](mailto:picnic@oarc.org) to let us know you are coming. We want to make sure we have plenty of food. If you already have done this, thank you.

Our April meeting is our Annual meeting and Election. Please be sure your dues are paid. The officers were not challenged, and all 4 officers were running again. The secretary will cast a ballot to vote the officers in for a new one-year term. Members will be given a ballot on Wednesday night to elect 6 directors for a one-year term.

Info for the General class coming up in July has been posted on our website. Please check it out and refer anyone that is interested in upgrading to General.

**John Knott** President

### OARC MEETING

April 4, 2018, 7:30pm  
 Beardall Senior Center  
 800 Delaney Ave, Orlando, FL 32801  
 ARRL Testing: 5:30pm

For information & Updates  
 See [www.oarc.org](http://www.oarc.org)

### OARC Board of Directors

President: John Knott, N4JTK  
 Vice President: Michael Cauley, W4MCA  
 Treasurer: Ana Groe, KM4JVE  
 Secretary: Bob Nocero, W4KBW  
 Directors:  
 Bob Cumming, W2BZY  
 Ralph Betts, W4ORL  
 Tony Darnell, KK4VRP  
 Val Jacyno, AK4MM  
 James Deuel, NOXIA  
 Frank Tagliani, KD4EZW

The Listening Post is the OARC newsletter for OARC members. The LP will be distributed electronically via E-mail and the OARC web site ([www.oarc.org](http://www.oarc.org)).

Co-Editors: Thomas Husband KM4MAL and Ed Thralls NE4H.

Comments, suggestions and articles are welcome. Send to [editors@oarc.org](mailto:editors@oarc.org).

Contributing to this edition: John Knott, Michael Cauley

### OARC REPEATERS

Call	Freq	Shift	PL
KB4UT	146.760*	-600	103.5
N4UMB	147.015	-600	103.5

\* Fusion Repeater

### D-Star

K1XC C	146.820	-600	
K1XC B	443.275	+5MHz	
K1XC A	1275.00	-12 MHz	Voice
K1XC A	1255.00	-12MHz	Digital
W4PLB C	145.160	+600	
W4PLB B	442.300	+5MHz	

All D-star repeaters are connected

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## HamCation Appreciation Picnic

When: April 7, 2018

Where: Bill Fredrick Park at TurkeyLake  
3401 S. Hiawassee Road  
Orlando, Florida 32835  
Pavilion #6

Time: 1:00pm

On behalf of the Orlando Amateur Radio Club and the HamCation Committee you are cordially invited to our annual HamCation volunteer appreciation picnic.

We thank you for your devoted time and efforts with helping make HamCation the Huge success it is. Your contribution has allowed us to continue to grow every year and make the show better every year. We will be having Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Veggie Burgers, Potato Salad, Beans and lots more. I promise you will not go away hungry. We will have some great prizes to give away.

Please RSVP to [picnic@oarc.org](mailto:picnic@oarc.org) by April 1

When you come thru the main gate follow the road to the right. Then follow the signs to Pavilion #6. On the map below follow the red road.

The Park Charges admission. When you get to the Main Gate tell them you are attending the HamCation Picnic and it will be free to get in. OARC is covering the fee for everyone.

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## HAM RADIO CLASS, APRIL 21-22



Interested in becoming a Ham Radio Operator? Orange County ARES and Orlando Amateur Radio Club will be joining forces to host a Ham Radio Technician Class. Two day class with a test session immediately following. Visit either website to the right for more info.



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## 2018 Elections Information

It's that time of the year again. At the March 2018 General Meeting, we'll be accepting nominations from the memberships for the elections that will be held at the April 2018 Meeting. All Board positions are up for elections.

Election of Officers and Directors. The Nominating Committee shall submit a slate of nominees for Officers and Directors for consideration at the General Meeting preceding the Annual Meeting. Nominations may also be made from the floor at that same meeting. Questions regarding eligibility for election must be raised at the Board Meeting preceding the Annual Meeting. Nominees deemed not meeting qualifications as specified in ARTICLE IV, SECTION 2 as determined by a majority vote of the Board, shall be notified in writing prior to the Annual Meeting. The Secretary or designee shall prepare a ballot with the names of all qualified nominees. This ballot shall be distributed to all eligible voters at the Annual Meeting. Absentee ballots shall be available from the Secretary by individual request and must be returned before the Annual Meeting. The ballot shall be cast in secret and counted by members of the Nominating Committee not running for office. The election shall be decided by a plurality. Upon vote of the membership, the ballots may be immediately destroyed. Persons elected, shall assume their office at the close of this meeting.

**Duties:**

1. President. The President shall be responsible for the coordination and supervision of the work of the other Officers and any employees, agents, professional advisors, and consultants. The President shall appoint a Property Manager and a Repeater Manager each having duties as defined in ARTICLE VIII. He/she may sign, execute, and deliver on the name of the corporation all deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts and other instruments when specifically authorized by the Board, except in cases where items are expressly delegated by these By-Laws or the Board to some other Officer or agent. He/she may perform such other duties as may be assigned by the agent. He/she may perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board. Unless otherwise provided by the Board or these By-Laws, he/she shall preside, when present, at all meetings.

2. Vice President. The Vice President shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the Board or the President. In the absence of the President, or in the event of his/her death, inability or refusal to act, shall perform all duties of the President, and when so acting, shall have all of the powers of and be subject to all of the restrictions of the President as set forth in these By-Laws.

3. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings, see that notices are duly given as required by law or these By-Laws, and be the custodian of the Corporate records. He/She shall see that the books, reports, statements and all other documents and records required by law are properly kept and filed and kept available to the Board on request

4. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall have charge and custody of and be responsible for all funds, securities, notes, contracts, deeds, and other indices of title and valuable assets of the Corporation. He/She shall receive and give receipt for moneys payable to the Corporation and deposit all moneys in such depositories as shall be selected by the Board. He/She shall cause such funds to be dispersed by check or draft, signed as the Board may require, and be responsible for the accuracy of the amounts of, and cause to be preserved proper vouchers for, all moneys dispersed. He/She shall have the right to require from time to time reports or statements giving such information as he/she may require with respect to any and all financial transactions of the Corporation. He/She shall keep or cause to be kept at such place as the Board shall designate, correct records of the moneys, business and transactions of the Corporation, and exhibit them to any Officer or Director. He/She shall render to the Board, whenever requested, an account of the financial condition of the Corporation and of all of his/her transactions as treasurer, and, as soon as may be possible after the close of the fiscal year, make and submit to the Board a like report for such fiscal year, and lay before each Annual Meeting, the financial statements of the Corporation. The Treasurer is to be bonded at Club expense.

Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting of the members of the corporation shall be held in the month of April in each year at such time and place as shall be stated in the notice of the meeting. The purpose of the Annual Meeting is the election of the Officers and Directors of the Corporation, and for other purposes as determined by the Board.

**Bob Nocero, W4KBW**

## **BikeMS**

Coming up on Saturday May 5 and Sunday May 6, 2018 The BikeMS Citrus Tour will commence. This is a charity bicycle ride for the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

The event on Saturday begins very early at Fantasy of Flight in Polk County. There are multiple routes the all end at the Omni Resort in Champions Gate.

There is a need for Rest Stop Operators, SAG units, ROVERS, GREENWAY Drivers, and more.

If you are interested in this event and would like to more information, contact John Knott or Michael Cauley.

If you would like to go ahead and signup, go to: <http://www.citrustour.org/>

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## **EWEEphoria Net on REF037-C**

While attending Hamcation 2018, I ran across a female person dressed in what I thought was a bunny suit. Being concerned about heat exhaustion (it was hot that Saturday), I enquired if she was okay. That question appeared to already be on her mind and she was planning to leave and change. This left me with her companion to answer questions.

I met Bob Stille, KC8MLB and his wife, Carol, W8EWE. Carol was the one dressed as a sheep. Those ears had me fooled for the wrongly depicted furry animal. Bob and Carol are promoting a weekly net called the EWEEphoria D-STAR Net conducted every Monday at 8:00 pm on Reflector 037-C. You can go to this Videos By Mike, YouTube and look at the promo Carol did for EWEEphoria around the 7 minute -11 second mark, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vvDIVm73N-o>.

Reflector 037 is sponsored by the OARC and both the Orlando and Sanford D-STAR vhf repeaters are connected to REF037-C, 24/7. Other repeaters in central Florida connect to 37-C, which includes Marion County where the EWEEphoria Radio Club is located.

For those that have D-STAR, tune in and see if the EWEEphoria net leaves you with "a feeling or state of intense excitement and happiness!" Their enthusiasm clearly showed at Hamcation.

73,

James, N0XIA

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## **EWEEphoria D-STAR Net**

EWEEphoria: A feeling or state of intense excitement and happiness!

The purpose of the EWEEphoria Radio Club is to support amateur radio operators in Marion County and most importantly to have fun.

Membership is free! An Amateur License is not a requirement for membership in the club, nor is attendance at meetings.

The club's activities focus on educating and increasing the proficiency of its members in the science of radio communication and electronic technology, and to form a nucleus of communication personnel and equipment in case of emergency need.

If you think you have some interest in ham radio but would like to learn more or if you are a local ham operator looking for a great group of people to socialize with, we encourage you to come and join us. Everyone is welcome!!!

The club operates the K1EWE repeater covering Southern Marion County and the Villages on a frequency of 443.725 with a P L Tone of 123.0.

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If you would like more information, please come to a meeting the first Saturday of each month at 1pm in the Crest Club\*, or email Bob Stille at kc8mlb@gmail.com

\*March and April meetings will be backstage at the Community Center!

The club operates the EWEphoria D-STAR Net

Monday at 8:00 pm (01:00 UTC) on Reflector 037C

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## CQ Florida QSO Party

Hello Friends

The **2018 Florida QSO Party** will soon be here and; we sure hope you'll join us. All 67 counties will be active.

Please check out the details at our **Web Site:** <http://www.floridaqsoparty.org/>

### The Florida QSO Party

Object: Everyone works Florida, Florida works Everyone

Activate and work ALL Florida counties

Have as much FUN as possible!

When: **April 28 & 29, 2018**

Two ten hour operating periods, with a ten hour break:

Saturday, April 28 1600Z (Noon EDT) - 0159Z (9:59 PM EDT)

Sunday, April 29 1200Z (8 AM EDT) - 2159Z (5:59 PM EDT)

20 Hours total

Exchange: RST and County (Florida stations)

RST and QTH (State, Province or Country for non-FL)

Where: 10, 15, 20 and 40 Meters

CW : 28.035, 21.035, 14.035, 7.035 MHz

SSB: 28.485, 21.335, 14.260, 7.195 MHz

(Approximate center frequencies; lots of activity spreads out from there!)

At least 15 Mobile stations will be on and most can be found here:

**CW: 7.025-7.035, 14.040-14.050, 21.040-21.050, 28.040-28.050 MHz**

**SSB: 7.230-7.240, 14.265-14.275 MHz**

*If you are not mobile, \*please\* refrain from calling CQ in these windows.*

Categories:

Single Op, Multi Op, Multi-Multi, Mobile, Technician and School.

Three power levels: QRP, Low, and High Power.

Use CW, SSB or both.

**21st Anniversary Special Event Award- 2018 FQP Spelling Bee!**

Less than a week after the end of the 2016 FQP, Ron Wetjen WD4AHZ, who had been a 10+ year FCG officer and prolific FQP operator, lost a courageous battle with cancer. We dedicate our 2018 FQP Spelling Bee to Ron's memory. We will have a total of 18 1x1s stations, 2 per letter, to spell **WD FOUR AHZ**.

Contact at least 9 of these 1x1 stations whose suffixes spell "**WD FOUR AHZ**" to earn this award.

The callsigns and hosts are - TBA soon!

These stations will be on both modes full-time and should be very accessible. QSL these 1x1 calls active in FQP via W4AS direct or via bureau.

Prizes: Beautiful color Certificates for top participants

Plaques for top finishing entrants.

**Web Site:** <http://www.floridagsoparty.org/>

Detailed rules, mobile routes, past results, plaques, county maps and much more!

## ***ACTION REQUIRED!!!***

**Florida Stations of all types** – please go to the FQP website and register your fixed, mobile, rover and 1x1 Spelling Bee operations; just click on the “Counties” link and then the Activation Forms to get started – thanks! **THE FQP ACTIVATION FORMS ARE NOW UP AND RUNNING**

Logs to [logs@floridagsoparty.org](mailto:logs@floridagsoparty.org) or via US mail to: Florida QSO Party, c/o Ron Harps, K8NZ, 1997 Willow Glen Ln Columbus, OH 43229-1550.

Any questions or feedback? Please feel free to reply to my e-mail: [cqdenx4n@gmail.com](mailto:cqdenx4n@gmail.com)

THANK YOU in advance for making the 2018 FQP another terrific event!

73,

Chris, NX4N, on behalf of:

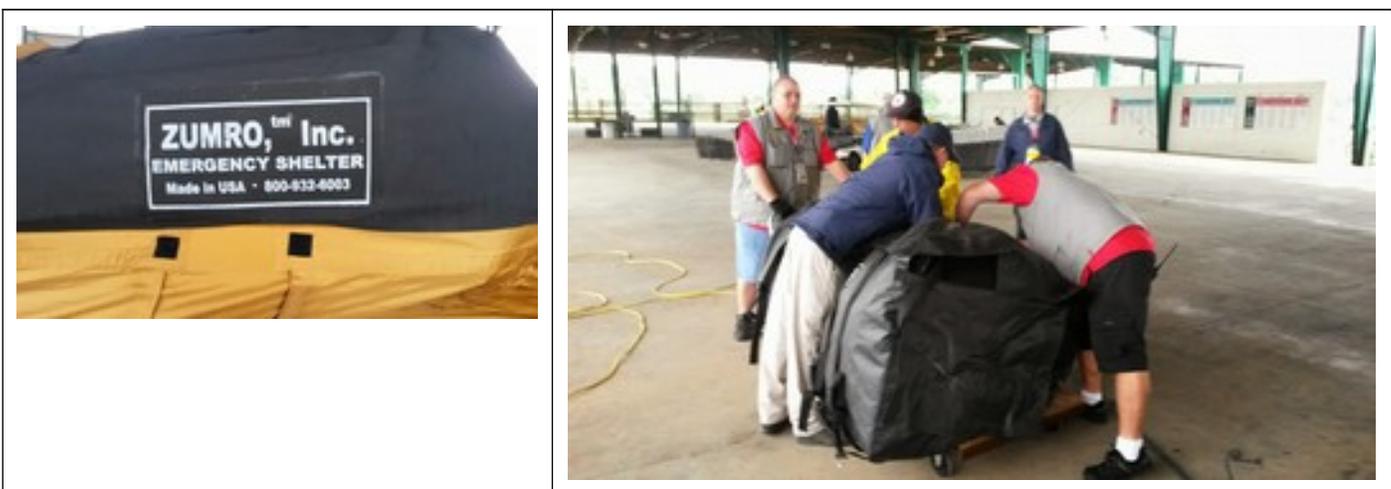
Chris, WF3C and Dan, K1TO – President and Past President  
Florida Contest Group, proud sponsors of the FQP since 1998

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## **Hamcation HIPS**

When I was cleaning the HIPS shelters and putting in chairs on the first Friday morning of Hamcation 2018, I observed several groups taking notes and pictures of the shelters. One group told me they were collecting data as a possible concept to employ back home with their public safety groups. Being the forums chairperson for Hamcation 2018, I thought I would take the time to explain the three portable shelter buildings that were constructed at the Lakeside Pavilion to house presentations given Saturday, February 10.

Since 2013, the State Medical Response Team (SMRT) has provided Orange County ARES, OARC and Hamcation with the opportunity to use inflatable portable shelters for previous Field Days and Hamcations. Deploying them has not only been an asset, but good training for hams to learn how to put them up and take them down. The name HIPS, as seen on forums schedules, stands for Hamcation Inflatable Portable Shelter. They are manufactured by Zumro, Inc. You can visit Zumro’s website for the various models and applications at <https://zumro.com/>.



Hamcation uses three HIPS units. Once on site, it only takes four people to set up although more is better.



Once the shelter is “out of the bag”, you really only need one person to run the pump that inflates it.



It does not take long . . . for HIPS to inflate.



Once the pillars are pressurized and the shelter is secured so the wind will not make it airborne, it is ready for use. Two up and one more to go for Hamcation.



Number three almost done.

What I don't have are pictures on the manpower that was needed to take them down after Hamcation. The shelters need to be pumped out, folded and rolled up. This is where eight people are good to have. It takes at least six to get it lifted back on to the rolling platform they came off of. What I do have are pictures when the shelters were deployed for Field Day 2013.



Due to it being summer, the AC units were deployed to keep the operators cool.

You can see the inside with Field Day 2013 in full swing.



Field Day 2013 inside the shelters at night.

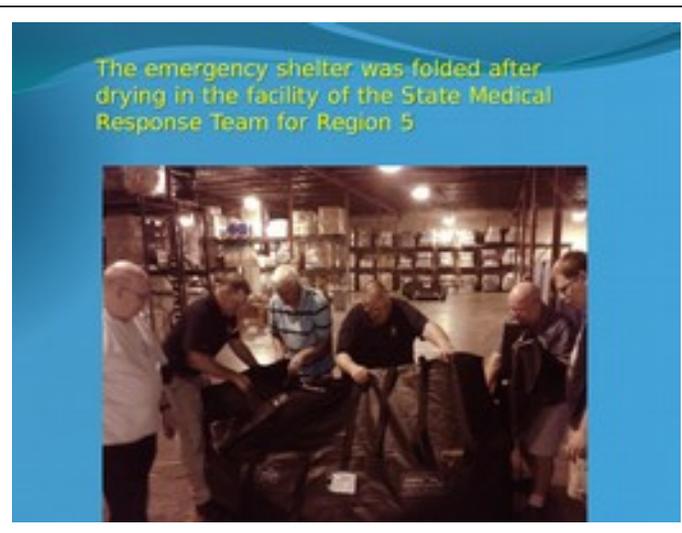


With so much equipment in use, a lot of help was needed to pack up and put it all away.



The more able bodies the merrier!





Sometimes they need to be redone, dried out and re-rolled at the warehouse.

Emergency portable shelters are a great asset that has many uses as demonstrated at Hamcation and previous field days. Our thanks go out to the State Medical Response Team for the opportunity to use them and experience the importance of teamwork dealing with deployment.

My thanks to all the volunteers providing their time to supporting Hamcation in various aspects of the event including making the forums possible. It really takes a village (of hams).

73

James Deuel, N0XIA  
Pictures provided by:  
Bob Nocero, W4KBW  
Peter Meijers, AI4KM  
Stanly Haimes, W3WK

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## North Florida Section Manager Candidate Kevin Bess, KK4BFN

Greetings!

My name is Kevin Bess, KK4BFN, and I am requesting your vote for NFL Section Manager. A little about myself, I have lived in Volusia County since 1988; first licensed March of 2011, now an Extra. I am a member of the Daytona Beach CERT Amateur Radio Team, Daytona Beach Amateur Radio Association, Volusia ARES, a VE, OO, and a member of Florida Contest Group.



Employed in a job that sends me all over North and Central Florida, this gives me an excellent opportunity to experience different nets, operate on many repeaters, and meet with many other amateurs. I primarily operate voice, but do digital work and a little CW.

Being a project manager for my company, I bring all the experience that comes with the position, including managing others (including co-workers and sub-contractors), working under pressure, handling dead-lines, and communication skills. Also, in my job, I am often required to pass background checks, including Level 2, Jessica Lundsford Act, GSA, law enforcement, and others.

I am running for Section Manager because I believe in the concept of "If it is not broken, then don't fix it." Our incumbent SM, Steve Szabo, WB4OMM, has taught me a lot about the many diverse aspects of Amateur Radio and how to treat folks with respect and dignity – and to include EVERYBODY, EVERYWHERE – regardless of what part of the hobby they have interest in and regardless of where they live. His high visibility, common sense outlook, and easy to reach personality is one of the main reasons why I am running for SM.

I think the work that he has done for our hobby and section should be continued and I would dedicate my efforts in that same direction. One of the important things he has taught me is that EVERYONE COUNTS! Everyone! I want to see that everyone's voice is heard. I want to see more young people involved, those folks who are inactive get interested again, clubs flourish, EmComm grow and continue a "professional, and reachable image". Plus, Steve has assured me he will be available to guide me in my efforts as a new SM.

Let's keep it going – positive and EVERYONE COUNTS! Ballots will be mailed April 1<sup>st</sup>, and new term begins on July 1, 2018. 73 and Thank you - I hope I have earned your vote!

Kevin Bess  
KK4BFN

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## Northern Florida Section Manager Candidate Scott Roberts, KK4ECR

By way of introduction, my name is Scott Roberts and I am running for the ARRL North Florida Section Manager. I write to ask your favor in sharing this email with your amateur radio group or organization, either by forwarding or reading at your next meeting.

I believe that the future of amateur radio is bright. Exciting opportunities, changes and challenges for us to continue enjoying the hobby and contributing to society. This is evident in the growth of our Amateur Radio Emergency Service organizations here in Clay county, doubling membership and attendance in meetings and nets, responding during hurricanes Hermine, Matthew and Irma, providing communication support for the county emergency operations center and each shelter. I have seen firsthand the contribution amateur radio makes to society in my role as liaison to the emergency operations center, coordinating deployments during all three hurricanes. My role as section public information officer has allowed me to promote amateur radio through various television and print public interest stories.

As the North Florida Section Manager, I will scale-up Clay county's' success to the section through a three-pronged philosophy, embracing the challenges and changes facing amateur radio and its role in local communities...

First, by building supportive relationships between ARRL associated organizations, between those organizations and their civic leaders, and between individual amateur radio operators.

Second, through proven education programs utilized in Clay county as a model that will assist counties throughout the section recruit and equip amateur radio operators to experience the joy of amateur radio and the satisfaction of serving their communities. This includes opportunities for both adult training and strategic youth education in schools, Scouting, and other organizations, assuring strength in amateur radio for decades to come.

Finally, through recruiting, training, and standing-ready a group of amateur radio operators to respond to disasters. The lesson of hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico is clear that a group of operators, similarly vetted, trained and led is necessary to respond to the threat of regional destruction. It is imperative that a team of capable operators, trained in a wide range of skills, be ready to deploy to affected areas.

Again, thank you for your time in reading this email and for your thoughtful consideration of voting for me in the upcoming section manager election.

73,

Scott Roberts, KK4ECR  
Clay County ARES AEC / PIO  
NFL Section PIC  
(904) 759-7812  
[kk4ecr@gmail.com](mailto:kk4ecr@gmail.com)  
73, Brian N9ADG

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## ARRL Requests Expanded HF Privileges for Tech Licensees (Source: The ARRL Letter for March 1, 2018)

ARRL has asked the FCC to expand HF privileges for Technician licensees to include limited phone privileges on 75, 40, and 15 meters, plus RTTY and digital mode privileges on 80, 40, 15, and 10 meters. The FCC has not yet invited public comment on the proposals, which stem from recommendations put forth

by the ARRL Board of Directors' Entry-Level License Committee, which explored various initiatives and gauged member opinions in 2016 and 2017.



"This action will enhance the available license operating privileges in what has become the principal entry-level license class in the Amateur Service," ARRL said in its [Petition](#). "It will attract more newcomers to Amateur Radio, it will result in increased retention of licensees who hold Technician Class licenses, and it will provide an improved incentive for entry-level licensees to increase technical self-training and pursue higher license class achievement and development of communications skills."

Specifically, ARRL proposes to provide Technician licensees, present and future, with phone privileges at 3.900 to 4.000 MHz, 7.225 to 7.300 MHz, and 21.350 to 21.450 MHz, plus RTTY and digital privileges in current Technician allocations on 80, 40, 15, and 10 meters. The ARRL petition points out the explosion in popularity of various digital modes over the past 2 decades. Under the ARRL plan, the maximum HF power level for Technician operators would remain at 200 W PEP. The few remaining Novice licensees would gain no new privileges under the League's proposal.

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ARRL said its proposal is critical to developing improved operating skills, increasing emergency communication participation, improving technical self-training, and boosting overall growth in the Amateur Service, which has remained nearly inert at about 1% per year.

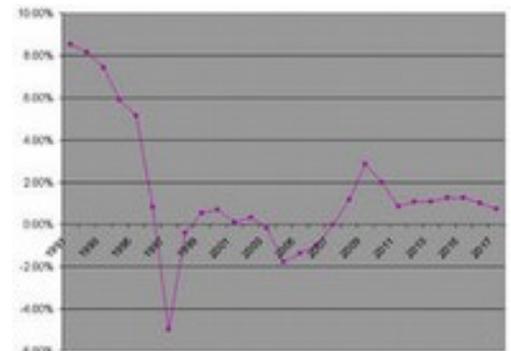
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ARRL's petition points to the need for compelling incentives not only to become a radio amateur in the first place, but then to upgrade and further develop skills. Demographic and technological changes call for a "periodic rebalancing" between those two objectives, the League maintains.

"There has not been such a rebalancing in many years," ARRL said in its petition. "It is time to do that now." The FCC has not assessed entry-level operating privileges since 2005.

The Entry-Level License Committee offered very specific data- and survey-supported findings about growth in Amateur Radio and its place in the advanced technological demographic that includes individuals younger than 30. It received significant input from ARRL members via more than 8,000 survey responses.

"The Committee's analysis noted that today, Amateur Radio exists among many more modes of communication than it did half a century ago, or even 20 years ago," ARRL said in its petition.



**Overall net growth in the Amateur Service has remained sluggish at about 1% per year over the past few years.**

Now numbering some 378,000, Technician licensees comprise more than one-half of the US Amateur Radio population. ARRL said that after 17 years' experience with the current Technician license as the gateway to Amateur Radio, it's urgent to make it more attractive to newcomers, in part to improve upon science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education "that inescapably accompanies a healthy, growing Amateur Radio Service," ARRL asserted. ARRL said its proposal is critical to developing improved operating skills, increasing emergency communication participation, improving technical self-training, and boosting overall growth in the Amateur Service, which has remained nearly inert at about 1% per year.

The Entry-Level License Committee determined that the current Technician class question pool already covers far more material than necessary for an entry-level exam to validate expanded privileges. ARRL told the FCC that it would continue to refine examination preparation and training materials aimed at STEM

topics, increase outreach and recruitment, work with Amateur Radio clubs, and encourage educational institutions to utilize Amateur Radio in STEM and other experiential learning programs.

"ARRL requests that the Commission become a partner in this effort to promote Amateur Radio as a public benefit by making the very nominal changes proposed herein in the Technician Class license operating privileges," the petition concluded.

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## OARC Meetings and Events for 2018

April 4, Wednesday	Meeting
April 7, Saturday	HamCation Appreciation Picnic
May 2, Wednesday	Meeting
May 2, Wednesday	Meeting
June 6, Wednesday	Meeting
June 23-24, Saturday/Sunday	Field Day
July 4, Wednesday	No Meeting (because of holiday)
August 1, Wednesday	Meeting
September 5, Wednesday	Meeting



