

ARRL Board of Directors Convenes for Mid-July Meeting

Board panel to study license requirements, new UHF and above contest set, award winners named.

The ARRL Board of Directors held its mid-year meeting July 15 – 16 in Windsor, Connecticut. As a result of action taken during the session, a Board-appointed ad hoc committee will study the current Technician license exam requirements and recommend possible changes, which may eventually find their way into an FCC petition for rule making. These could include consideration of a new entry-level license class. The panel's recommendations to the Board would be aimed at developing "a more targeted examination with a more limited set of privileges that would attract a new generation of amateurs."

The motion by New England Division Director Tom Frenaye, K1KI, noted that the Novice license was discontinued in 2000, and the Morse code requirement lifted from all licenses a few years later, with the Technician ticket becoming the new entry point into Amateur Radio. It also cited "a considerable increase in difficulty for the new entry point" and new licensees who have been granted "extensive privileges not appropriate for all newcomers."

"[W]e need to improve upon our efforts to attract newcomers to Amateur Radio and pass along the tradition of emergency and communication support, developing interest in hands-on projects, and improving on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education," the motion asserted.

In his inaugural Board meeting report, new ARRL CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, told the Board that his current focus is on prioritizing resources to work within the recently adopted *Strategic Plan*. Gallagher said his goal is to position ARRL to address a new demographic of potential new licensees in the changing Amateur Radio market landscape.

Band Planning

With the International Amateur Radio Union Region 2 (IARU-R2) band plan set for review by delegates to the IARU Region 2 General Assembly in October, the Board adopted recommendations of the ARRL HF Band Planning Committee, for ARRL to present at the conference for possible inclusion in the Region 2 band plan. These include:

- Changing references to the 660 meter band to 630 meters, to more accurately describe the wavelength of the spectrum actually allocated for Amateur Radio use.
- Updating the 160 meter band plan to acknowledge AM operations commonly encountered within the band.
- Adding an exception to the band plan — appended to the definition of "USB/LSB" or appended elsewhere — to specify that, in the event a 60 meter Amateur Radio allocation is added to the band plan, upper sideband (USB) is permissible.

The ARRL HF Band Planning Committee, chaired by Second Vice President Brian Milesosky, N5ZGT, had issued two calls "inviting thoughtful feedback" from the Amateur Radio community regarding the current Region 2 band plan. The committee expressed its gratitude to everyone who provided input.

Legal Matters

ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, summarized "a very productive meeting" with FCC Special Counsel Laura



At the July 2016 Board meeting, from left to right: ARRL Chief Technology Officer Brennan Price, N4QX; ARRL Chief Financial Officer Barry Shelley, N1VXY, and ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD. [Sean Kutzko, KX9X, photo]



From left to right: ARRL Second Vice President Brian Milesosky, N5ZGT; ARRL First Vice President Greg Widin, K0GW; ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, and ARRL CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF. [Sean Kutzko, KX9X, photo]

Smith. He said their discussion focused on improvements in the Amateur Auxiliary/Official Observer program, especially in light of the FCC's closure of several field offices.

Imlay also called attention to a recently enacted Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) reauthorization bill that directs the FAA to develop new rules regulating the marking of certain antenna support structures between 50 and 200 feet. He told the Board that ARRL will participate in the FAA rule making proceeding, in an effort to minimize or eliminate any impact on Amateur Radio antennas.

Operating

The Board approved the ARRL 222 MHz and Up Distance Contest to replace the August UHF Contest, which was dropped from the contest calendar last year. The new ARRL 222 MHz and Up event will debut in 2017. Details are pending, but responding to suggestions from the contest community, the event will use a scoring format that puts a premium on the distance spanned in each contact.

The Board approved a Mobile DXCC Award as a "one-time, non-endorsable DXCC Award." Similar to the QRP DXCC, this award will be offered for contacts made from vehicles. In addition, the Board okayed an optional paper certificate to those achieving DXCC Honor Roll or #1 Honor Roll, in addition to the plaque and lapel pin already available to those individuals.

National Traffic System™

As a temporary measure, pending development of the Second Century Public Service Communications Delivery Plan, the Board agreed that National Traffic System Area chairmen "shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the ARRL President, aligned and consistent with the manner by which all other voluntary ARRL chairmen and coordinators of regional or national scope are authorized," and that NTS™ Area staff member shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of their respective Area chairman.

The Board also expressed its thanks and congratulations to the National Traffic System for its outstanding service and assured the NTS of a continued role in the

League's public service communications plans.

Financial

ARRL Chief Financial Officer Barry Shelley, N1VXY, said that, from a balance sheet perspective, ARRL continues to be in good shape. Total revenues are generally on forecast but there is a troublesome decline of advertising revenues, which he noted is a problem throughout the publishing industry. Cash flow for the first 6 months of 2016 has been good.

Treasurer Frederick Niswander, K7GM, in his report said ARRL's portfolio slightly outperformed the benchmark market averages for the first half of 2016.

Other Business

President Roderick presented certificates indicating their new positions to Directors Kent Olson, KA0LDG (Dakota Division), and Dwayne Allen, WY7FD (Rocky Mountain Division); Vice Directors Matt Holden, K0BBC (Dakota Division), and Jeff Ryan, K0RM (Rocky Mountain Division), and Vice Presidents Greg Widin, K0GW, and Brian Mileschosky, N5ZGT.

Director Frenaye, as president of the ARRL Foundation, announced that the Foundation awarded some 80 scholarships this year, totaling nearly \$120,000.

The Board adopted a Programs and Services Committee recommendation to revise the terms of reference for the ARRL Joe Knight Distinguished Service Award, presented to a Section Manager of distinction. The terms of reference for the award were revised to stipulate a minimum of 8 years of service as a Section Manager in order to be eligible for the award.

Salutations

IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH, brought greetings from the IARU. He shared that protection of existing spectrum remains the focus of the IARU, and that goal was achieved at WRC-15. He noted the work of ARRL Chief Technology Officer Brennan Price, N4QX, and Technical Relations Specialist Jon Siverling, WB3ERA, in the hard-fought effort to secure an Amateur Service allocation at 5 MHz at WRC-15.

Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC)

President Glenn MacDonell, VE3XRA, brought greetings from the Radio Amateurs of Canada. RAC has made a major commitment to be actively involved working with the ARRL and other Amateur Radio organizations on WRC-19, he told the Board.

Award Winners

The Board named 13-year-old Christopher "Chris" Brault, KD8YVJ, to receive the 2015 Hiram Percy Maxim Award. Licensed since 2014 and active in a wide range of Amateur Radio-related activities, including antenna building and bicycle mobile operation, Brault, of Liberty Township, Ohio, is active in the recruitment and training of new amateurs by participating in such events as Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) and activities at the West Chester Amateur Radio Association/Voice of America Museum (WC8VOA), where he serves as a volunteer.



Hiram Percy Maxim Award winner Chris Brault, KD8YVJ.

The League's top award to a young radio amateur, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award goes annually to a current full ARRL member under the age of 21. Candidates are nominated by their Section Manager, and an award panel reviews the nominations received and selects the winner. The award carries a cash award of \$1500 and a suitably engraved plaque.

The Board named Thomas D. Ritter, WY7KY, of Cheyenne, Wyoming, as the 2016 Philip J. McGan Silver Antenna Award recipient. Ritter was cited for demonstrating outstanding volunteer public relations success on behalf of Amateur Radio throughout the state of Wyoming and the Rocky Mountain Division. He

has promoted licensing classes for the Shy-Wy Amateur Radio Club and others and actively sought to unify the Public Information Officers in their public relations efforts on behalf of Amateur Radio in the state of Wyoming.



Philip J. McGan
Silver Antenna
Award recipient
Tom Ritter, WY7KY.

Ritter was also recognized for regularly promoting Amateur Radio to the general public through print and radio interviews as well as through social media, and he routinely engages in public relations outreach during public service events and ARRL Field Day. The award's namesake, journalist Philip J. McGan, WA2MBQ (SK), served as

the first chairman of the ARRL's Public Relations Committee.

The Board honored Andrew J. Buckler, K2OP, of Wenham, Massachusetts, with the Doug DeMaw W1FB Technical Excellence Award for his article "A Solid State 1.25 kW Linear Amplifier," which appeared in the January 2015 issue of *QST*. The award is based on the recommendation of a committee of *QST* Technical Advisors.



Doug DeMaw W1FB
Technical Excellence
Award winner Andrew
Buckler, K2OP.

The 2015 ARRL Technical Service Award went to Donald Ohse, W5DRO, of Midwest City, Oklahoma. The Board credited Ohse with playing a leading role in advancing the

art and science of Amateur Radio in his local community by teaching licensing classes, as well as monthly night classes that focus on in-depth continuing education on technical topics. He is active in organizing operating activities and community service events, including serving as liaison to local officials in maintaining their outdoor emergency alert warning systems, and he is an Official Observer. Ohse has also served as a resource to amateurs in his community on RFI and related problems. His recognition came on the recommendation of the ARRL Laboratory.



ARRL Technical
Service Award
recipient Donald
Ohse, W5DRO.

W1AW Schedule

W1AW's schedule is at the same local time throughout the year. From the second Sunday in March to the first Sunday in November, UTC = Eastern US Time + 4 hours. For the rest of the year, UTC = Eastern US Time + 5 hours.



PAC	MTN	CENT	EAST	UTC	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
6 AM	7 AM	8 AM	9 AM	1300		FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE
7 AM- 1 PM	8 AM- 2 PM	9 AM- 3 PM	10 AM- 4 PM	1400-1600 1700-1945	VISITING OPERATOR TIME (12 PM-1 PM CLOSED FOR LUNCH)				
1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	2000	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE
2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	2100	CODE BULLETIN				
3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	2200	DIGITAL BULLETIN				
4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	2300	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE
5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	0000	CODE BULLETIN				
6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	0100	DIGITAL BULLETIN				
6 ⁴⁵ PM	7 ⁴⁵ PM	8 ⁴⁵ PM	9 ⁴⁵ PM	0145	VOICE BULLETIN				
7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	0200	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE
8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM	0300	CODE BULLETIN				

◆ Morse code transmissions: Frequencies are 1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0975, 21.0675, 28.0675, and 147.555 MHz.

Slow Code = practice sent at 5, 7½, 10, 13, and 15 WPM.

Fast Code = practice sent at 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13, and 10 WPM.

Code bulletins are sent at 18 WPM.

◆ W1AW Qualifying Runs are sent on the same frequencies as the Morse code transmissions. West Coast qualifying runs are transmitted by K6YR and other West Coast stations on 3590 kHz and other frequencies. Underline one minute of the highest speed you copied, certify that your copy was made without aid, and send it to ARRL for grading. Please include your name, call sign (if any), and complete mailing address. Fees: \$10 for a certificate, \$7.50 for endorsements.

◆ Digital transmissions: Frequencies are 3.5975, 7.095, 14.095, 18.1025, 21.095, 28.095, and 147.555 MHz.

Bulletins are sent using 45.45-baud Baudot, PSK31 in BPSK mode, and MFSK16 on a daily revolving schedule.

Keplerian elements for many amateur satellites will be sent on the regular digital frequencies on Tuesdays and Fridays at 6:30 PM Eastern Time using Baudot and PSK31.

◆ Voice transmissions: Frequencies are 1.855, 3.99, 7.29, 14.29, 18.16, 21.39, 28.59, and 147.555 MHz.

◆ Notes: On Fridays, UTC, a DX bulletin replaces the regular bulletins. W1AW is open to visitors 10 AM to noon and 1 PM to 3:45 PM Monday through Friday. FCC licensed amateurs may operate the station during that time. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur license or a photocopy. In a communication emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: voice on the hour, teleprinter at 15 minutes past the hour, and CW on the half hour.

W1AW code practice and CW/digital/phone bulletin transmission audio is also available real-time via the *EchoLink Conference Server W1AWBDCT*. The conference server runs concurrently with the regularly scheduled station transmissions. The W1AW Qualifying Run texts can also be copied via the *EchoLink Conference Server*.

During 2016, Headquarters and W1AW are closed on New Year's Day, Presidents' Day (February 15), Good Friday (March 25), Memorial Day (May 30), Independence Day (July 4), Labor Day (September 5), Thanksgiving and the following day (November 24 and 25), and Christmas (December 25). For more information, visit us at www.arri.org/w1aw.