



# ARASWF

## *Newsletter*



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## FCC Re-Structuring Docket Released 30 Dec.1999

On 30 December 1999 the FCC released the report FCC 99-412 ordering the reduction of new amateur licenses from six to three and the code proficiency examinations from three to one. The effective date for this change is 15 April 2000. After this date, no new novice, technician plus, or advanced licenses will be issued. The three license classes will be Technician, General, and Amateur Extra. There will be only one code proficiency, 5 wpm, for the general and extra classes. There will be new examinations for all license classes after April 15. Present novice privileges will be grand fathered until the expiration of the current license and will not be renewed. Present technician plus privileges will also be grand fathered until renewal and then reverted to the new technician class unless upgraded to general. General class, Advanced class, and Extra class privileges remain the same and will be renewed on their normal due dates. Advanced and General class license holders will be permitted to upgrade to Extra class by completing the appropriate written exam. Technician Plus license holders currently fall into two groups, those licensed prior 1987 and those post 1987. Those pre 1987 license holders will be permitted to upgrade to General class upon the presentation of a past license, a current license, a completed FCC form 605 and fee at a VE exam session after April 15. Those post 1987 technician plus licensees must complete section 3b of the general class exam. All licensees that propose to upgrade their license class will be required to present the FCC form 605, pay the appropriate fee, and complete the necessary examinations. **Note:** The written theory examinations may be taken prior to the April 15 date and a CSCE issued for the appropriate segments. They then may be presented for upgrade after April 15 in the same manner as for the pre 1987 Technician Plus upgrade to General Class.

Band privileges after April 15, 2000 for the three classes are as follows:

Technician – VHF privileges only (same as current Technician)

General – HF and VHF privileges the same as the current General class

Extra – All HF and VHF privileges the same as the current Extra Class

Novice and Technician Plus – no changes same as current privileges until expiration of current license.

Further information is available from ARRL on their home page <http://www.arrl.org> or from the FCC from the ARRL link. Members should consider the taking of the theory examinations dur-

## From the President

Happy New year and I hope none of you had any Y2K glitches. By now I am sure most of you have heard that the FCC finally acted on amateur radio restructuring. There will be 3 license classes after April 15th. The entry level ticket will be Technician and will require a written test with no code test. The middle class license will be General with a written test and 5 wpm code test. The last class license will be Extra with a written test and no additional code test. The exact rules will appear elsewhere in the newsletter. If I understand the rules correctly hams will be able to test between now and April 15th under the old question pools and be grandfathered in April 15th by submitting the proper form and a copy of their CSCE to the FCC. I strongly encourage anyone wishing to upgrade to do it now if possible. The new question pools will probably be made tougher to make up for the lack of CW requirements. The Ft. Myers club tests the 2nd Thursday of each month. For more information about their testing contact Len [kc4goa@juno.com](mailto:kc4goa@juno.com). We will be testing at our club meeting March 28th starting at 6:30 PM. For more information contact me at 455-4399 or via email at [ad4tr@earthlink.com](mailto:ad4tr@earthlink.com).

I want to remind the club members that we are looking for new ideas for club activities and projects. We have money in the treasury. We just need some good ideas and some people willing to participate. We are also looking for programs for the technical meeting. If you would like to or know of someone that could put on a program let us know.

See you at the meeting.

## Comments from V.P.

Congratulations. If you are reading this "on line" your system made it through Jan 1, 2000. The big problem is, "Will our club make it through Jan 1, 2001. We need a lot more action from a lot more people.

Field Day always brings out people-but always the same ones. What would happen if several people decided to do Field Day on their own? Look what happened when the "FREE LUNCH" Saturday stopped. Just look at the members that left upset that there was no FREE FOOD. You want to eat, you got to help!!!!!!!!!!!!!! You want food, go to the Wednesday dinners. I have never been to one, but as an officer, I will start attending to support another aspect of our club.

By Field Day I will have my new "general" privileges and I may want to operate from home to build up my WAS count on the new bands. That will take away one operator and station that has been there the last three years. Sure someone else will step up and volunteer, maybe.

What I am getting at is that with no new activity why waste our time, energy, and equipment so that you can sit around and complain about everything that a few are trying to do to keep the club running. We have a large club, but less than 10% are willing to do anything. Do we need the other 90%? Do we need their dues? Not really, the only thing we support is the 67 repeater, and most people only complain about it anyway. Field Day pays its own way with those that show up to work and have a great time. "IF YOU ARE NOW WILLING TO SUPPORT

(continued)

I have a few ideas that might work. First, do you really want programs that are really over your heads? How about a drawing for a large prize by tickets purchased “only” at meetings? One ticket per meeting per person. How about a Saturday brunch? We need more classes, but the same people have taught so much they are burned out—new help??

Now, a little about me. I was first licensed June 2, 1967 as WN0QON and WA0QON. I moved to Lock Haven, PA in 1972 and got my WA3TIH call. I moved to Iowa in 1978 and kept my call. I am a competitor, contester. From Iowa I have 50 MHz WAS #545, sorry Jordan, 10 Mtr WAS #42,134—DXCC 10 mtrs, --DXCC phone—DXCC mixed. I have about 260 countries worked on 10 meters as a Tech Plus. I have ARRL Sweepstakes award for 1<sup>st</sup> place Iowa Section Technician. 4<sup>th</sup> Place nationally 1988 Novice Roundup, and 1<sup>st</sup> place ARRL June VHF contest from Western Pennsylvania.. I also have a special award “Space Net Award” dated 7-17-77 for working Neil Armstrong at Tony’s QTH, K4AWS showing all the Apollo Missions.

I am willing to put 200% into our club, but if the others just sit around and complain, then I will put my time into other activities. We have a great membership, but they have gotten lazy. Typical Naples mentality—I’M important so wait on me!!!!!!!!!!

Let’s start by showing up at the meetings with ideas to improve the club and expand the hobby. I have seen so many internet messages about clubs closing, and this is exactly where we are heading. Please, please, don’t let this happen to our club

## From the EOC

The WB2WPA-5 BBS, and ENAP packet node are back on the air, thanks to the efforts of Ken, WA4UKB and his trusty magic soldering iron. A new power supply was squeezed into the case, and we added another 4 MB of RAM, for a total of 8 (monstrous for a 386/33!). Power was applied and the system came right up.

AE4IG in Ft. Myers has temporarily told his system not to forward while we were down, and I have advised him that we are back and expect mail to start flowing south shortly. Outgoing is already working.

As you may or may not know AA4RE (who created the BBS software we use) stopped updating several years ago. His software has chugged along very nicely, and we were faced with the possibility of having to switch to something newer: until Mike WA6ZTY came along. Mike (like us) has been running Roy's BBS software for years and also likes the easy hooks to servers, BPQ node s/w and other features including extensive automation. He has written an update which fixes a few old bugs, memory leaks AND a Y2k glitch that was about to rear it's ugly head. The new code has been loaded on our system, so it should continue running well past the last year of the 20th century (2000 that is!).

What appeared to be a gloomy

## **Attention Tech Plus**

Obtaining documentary proof of pre-1987 Technician ticket: The FCC says to send any requests for verification of a pre-March 21, 1987, Technician license in writing to FCC, 1270 Fairfield Rd, ATTN: Amateur Section, Gettysburg, PA 17325. The request must include name, address, telephone number, date of birth, call sign issued at that time, and when the Technician license was granted (if exact date is not known, give the approximate timeframe). The FCC asks those inquiring to include any information that may be helpful in researching these requests, but it does not need to know details of the examination session, such as where the test was administered or who gave it. "These requests must be researched on microfiche, so they will be very time-consuming," an FCC spokesperson said, add-

(visit <http://www.itsdocs.com/>). For a fee, ITS will research prior FCC licensing records and should be able to provide necessary documentary proof.--FCC

QRZ.com offers look-up service for pre-1987 Techs: In response to numerous recent requests by amateurs seeking to obtain information regarding licenses that existed before 1987, QRZ has placed a copy of the March 1993 edition of the QRZ Ham Radio CDRom Ver 1 on line for public access. This collection, the oldest available from QRZ, contains listings of more than 195,000 licenses issued between 1983 and 1987. Call sign and name searches are available. Visit <http://www.qrz.com/search1993.html> .--QRZ.com/  
Fred Lloyd, AA7BQ

## **Coming Events**

**Jan. 29** -De Soto Hamfest, Arcadia

**Feb. 5&6** - Miami Hamfest

**Feb. 11-13** - Orlando Hamfest

**Mar. 11** - Englewood Hamfest

## Exam Session Scheduled

The club will be having a test session on March 28. at our regular monthly meeting. The test session will start at 6:30. This should be a big session with the new license change coming up so will probably need to run a code testing area and a written area so will need several VE'S for the session.

Hope this is enough notice for everyone to work this into your busy schedule. Have any questions let me know.

73"s David, kd9n@hotmail.com

## 10 meter Contest

I will give you the info I have so far. The estimates are from my memory that were reported via radio after the contest. You might be able to shoot them an email. To get exact figures. Stations participating include: AD4TR, Martin; WB2WIH, Jeff; WA8QYJ, Bob; WB2QLP, Jordan; N4AOE, Bruce; KE4JZT, AD; N3ISH, George; K1PJ, Pete, W8TWJ, ; WOMIA, ; WA3TIH, John; and W2JQ, Sigi.

There was at least 2 or 3 others in the contest but I am not sure of the info at this time.

## Dinner Meeting

The first dinner meeting in the new year was held on January 5.

There where 20 Persons present, and talk where around the new License structure, and about the CW portion off the band, and about the upgrade.

I could not give any answer about the whereabouts from the 67 repeater??

Is it down, or is the PL on again?? But for sure the repeater is quite now, not even back scatter from anybody.

The next meeting will be on February 2. 2000, Please make reservation with me, if anyone is interested. My phone # 598-1353 73 de Sigi w2jq.



Silent Key  
K A 2 E L I E

## **Club Information**

### **Meeting Time:**

**4th Tuesday at 7:30 pm at The  
Shepherd of the Glades Church  
Rattlesnake Hammock Road, Naples**

### **Club Repeater:**

**K4YHB – 146.670 MHz (-600)**

### **RACES/EOC Repeater**

**WB2WPA - 147.300 MHz (+600)**

### **Club Chat Node:**

**CHAT – 144.970 MHz**

### **ENAP Packet Node**

**WB2WPA-5 - 145.050 MHz**

### **Club Home Page:**

**<http://naplesfl.net/~araswf> or**

**<http://naples.net/clubs/amradio>**

### **Club Officers:**

**President – AD4TR – Martin**

**e-mail – [ad4tr@aol.com](mailto:ad4tr@aol.com)**

**Vice President – WA3TIH - John.**

**e-mail – [nfn06110@naples.net](mailto:nfn06110@naples.net)**

**Secretary/Treasurer – KF4MJJ - Fred**

**e-mail – [edwardf@crossnet.org](mailto:edwardf@crossnet.org)**

**Past President – KE4RGH – Bill**

**e-mail – [ke4rgh@mediaone.net](mailto:ke4rgh@mediaone.net)**

**Repeater Trustee – WB2QLP – Jordan**

**e-mail – [wb2qlp@aol.com](mailto:wb2qlp@aol.com)**

**Club Chat Node – N4VMT – Phil**

**e-mail – [n4vmt@aol.com](mailto:n4vmt@aol.com)**

**Newsletter Editor – K2ZEL – Bill**

**e-mail – [nfn06232@naples.net](mailto:nfn06232@naples.net)**

**Training Committee – AD4TR**

**Webmaster - KE4KTZ - Glenn**

## **Meeting Schedule**

**Jan. 25 - Club Meeting 7:30 pm**

**Feb. 2 - Dinner Get Together**

**Feb. 22 - Feb. Club Meeting**

**Mar. 28 - Mar. Club Meeting/ Exam**