



Di-Dah-Dit

Official Newsletter of the Parkersburg Radio Klub
P. O. Box 2112, Parkersburg, WV 26101

LEAGUE FILES "RESTRUCTURING" COMMENTS WITH FCC

The ARRL has filed formal comments in response to the FCC's proposed streamlining of the Amateur Radio rules. The League delivered its comments to the FCC December 1, the final day for comments in the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in WT Docket 98-143.

The League's filing promotes the ARRL Board of Directors' restructuring positions, adopted last July and fine-tuned at a special meeting in October. It also takes the FCC to task on a few points. The ARRL said the FCC's NPRM failed to contain "a comprehensive license restructuring proposal or even an overall review of license restructuring" and generally "missed the mark."

The League called on the FCC to adopt the ARRL Board's restructuring plans as the centerpiece of its streamlining efforts. Among other things, the League plan calls for eliminating the Novice and Tech Plus licenses to reduce the number of license classes from six to four. The ARRL plan automatically upgrades current Novice and Tech Plus licensees to General. The General license would become the entry-level ticket to HF. Existing Novice and Tech Plus HF CW bands would be "re-farmed" to provide additional phone spectrum for General, Advanced, and Extra class li-

censees.

The FCC also proposed a four-tier license structure, eliminating the Novice ticket and melding existing Technician and Tech Plus licensees into a common database while allowing current Novices and Tech Pluses to retain their current operating privileges. The ARRL said the FCC was on "the right track" in proposing to eliminate the Novice ticket. But the League said its "instant upgrade" plan for Novice and Tech Plus operators is a better approach because it permits "refarming" the underutilized Novice HF subbands. The League called refarming "critical to any comprehensive license restructuring proposal." The FCC's NPRM sought comments on the issue of Morse code testing and requirements but offered no specific proposals. The ARRL called for a reduction in the number of Morse code examination tiers from three to two--5 and 12 WPM--and changes in the written examinations to make them more relevant and with greater emphasis on current operating practices and newer digital technologies. The League also recommended that the number of written exam questions "increase incrementally" for all license classes above Technician.

The League said that Morse code should not be overemphasized in the licens-

ing process, but should be continued as a licensing requirement above the entry level. It has proposed that General class applicants pass a 5 WPM code test, while Advanced and Extra applicants pass the 12 WPM code test. Subsequent to release of its original restructuring plan, the ARRL Board also decided to ask the FCC to permit Technician operators to use Morse code on the General class HF

CW segments without passing a specific code examination. The ARRL said acknowledged abuses of the CW disability exemption process were an enforcement, not a testing, issue. For those claiming a disability waiver for the higher-speed CW test, the League urged testing accommodations as a preferable alternative. The League also urged an end to multiple-choice CW exams and rules specifying that a passing grade for a Morse examination be either 70 percent correct answers to 10 fill-in questions or one minute out of five of solid copy.

The League also praised the "new dawn" in amateur enforcement undertaken within the Compliance and Information Bureau by Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH. The ARRL suggested that it would be "reasonable to withhold any further [rulemaking] action on

amateur enforcement" for now and let the CIB continue its work. The ARRL's comments stressed the value of increasing participation in the hobby and making it available to more people. "By increased participation, Amateur Radio can provide even more service to the United States than it does currently, with a simpler licensing structure," the League asserted.

A complete copy of the ARRL's comments in WT Docket 98-143 is available on ARRLWeb at <http://www.arrl.org/news/restructuring/> (see "ARRL's Comments to the FCC on WT Docket 98-143"). Reply comments on the FCC's rulemaking proposals are due January 15, 1999. The FCC is not expected to take action on restructuring at least until sometime next spring.

MOVIE CW

CW in the cinema: Several ham-moviegoers have alerted ARRL HQ that the movie "Enemy of the State" contains a snatch of CW. In scenes depicting a spy satellite, the sound track includes a little Morse code: The satellite calls CQ! "As though pictures were sent from satellites by Morse," said Tom Bradbury, NU4G, who saw the movie in November with his daughter, Elizabeth, KE4IWN. "I broke out laughing, no doubt to the puzzlement of those around me," he said. "Somewhere in moviedom is a chuckling ham, I guess." Steve Kaufman,

VE2SKA/KB2SPH, says that characters in the movie also use what appears to be a Yaesu HF transceiver to break into police frequencies. "The frequency shown is in the 40-meter band," he says, "but they do speak to the police dispatcher." The movie stars Will Smith and Gene Hackman.-- thanks to Daniel Coates, N9XJF, Steve Kaufman, VE2SKA/KB2SPH, and Tom Bradbury, NU4G

FIFTEEN DAYS OF VIRTUAL FAME!

Imagine your feature article on the pages of our new Web publication, The ARRLWeb Extra! We invite your Amateur Radio-related non-technical, semi-technical, entertaining, informative, innovative, and even off-the-wall articles for consideration. Good-quality photographs and sound files to complement your article are encouraged.

Developing an idea or (better yet) a series of ideas you'd like to share with your fellow ARRL members? Maybe we can sign you on as a regular AWE contributor. Are you an unsung (and unparalleled) columnist for your local club newsletter seeking a wider audience? Let's talk! Have a useful ham radio tip you'd like to pass along? Send it! We compensate authors for material we use. You won't get rich, but you will get your name up in lights (in a manner of speaking, that is) for a couple of weeks.

We're also always looking for captivating and imaginative Amateur Radio-related photos, hard copy or elec-

tronic. Get in touch with Rick Lindquist, N1RL, Senior News Editor, ARRL HQ, e-mail n1rl@arrl.org or Tel 860-594-0222.

NEW SATS!!

Satellites get OSCAR assignments: Amateur Radio's two newest satellites, SEDSAT-1 and PANSAT, have been assigned OSCAR numbers by AMSAT. SEDSAT-1 now is SEDSAT OSCAR-33 or SO-33, while PANSAT is PANSAT OSCAR-34 or PO-34. Both were launched earlier this fall. AMSAT President Keith Baker, KB1SF, congratulated members of the SEDSAT and PANSAT teams on their success in placing their respective satellites into orbit. The assignment of consecutive OSCAR numbers to new ham radio satellites dates from the launch of OSCAR-1. To qualify for an OSCAR number, the satellite must successfully achieve orbit and one or more transmitters must be successfully activated in the Amateur Radio bands.--AMSAT News Service



NET CONTROL ROSTER FOR TUESDAY 2 METER NET

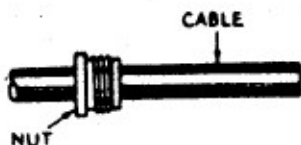
THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE HAVE INDICATED THAT THEY WILL SERVE AS NET CONTROL STATION FOR THE PARKERSBURG AMATEUR RADIO KLUB/WOOD COUNTY ARES 2 METER NET. THIS NET MEETS EVERY TUESDAY EVENING AT 2100 L. ON THE SCHEDULE BELOW, THE FIRST PERSON IS THE PRIMARY NCS, AND THE SECOND IS THE BACKUP. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PRIMARY STATION TO NOTIFY THEIR BACKUP IF THEY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO TAKE THE NET. IF THE PRIMARY AND SECONDARY-STATIONS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE, THEN THE PRIMARY SHOULD CONTACT N8YYS OR KB8MDN AND ARRANGE FOR SOMEONE TO TAKE THE NET. THIS SHOULD BE DONE AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE PRIOR TO NET TIME.

AA8UL	WHITE, LYDIA 422-5273	KB8EFB	LYONS, ROBERT 295-4114
WA8KAN	WHITE, DAVE 422-5273	KB8QPY	ANDERSON, PAUL 422-3424
WD8LKT	MILHOAN, JOHN	WA8IOE	AUVILLE, BLAINE 863-8283
KF8NW	DALE, LARRY 863-0073	WD8CYV	THOMPSON, DAVE 424-6275
K8UC	FOUSE, CURT 863-3597	N8YYS	MAULL, ROY 375-2212
KA8NJW	WHARTON, JERROLD 428-3395		

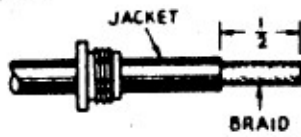
1/12/99	KA8NJW KB8EFB	4/13/99	AA8UL N8YYS
1/19/99	KB8EFB WD8LKT	4/20/99	N8YYS K8UC
1/26/99	WD8LKT AA8UL	4/27/99	K8UC WD8CYV
2/2/99	AA8UL N8YYS	5/4/99	WD8CYV WA8KAN
2/9/99	N8YYS K8UC	5/11/99	WA8KAN KF8NW
2/16/99	K8UC WD8CYV	5/18/99	KF8NW WA8IOE
2/23/99	WD8CYV WA8KAN	5/25/99	WA8IOE KA8NJW
3/2/99	WA8KAN KF8NW	6/1/99	KA8NJW KB8EFB
3/9/99	KF8NW WA8IOE	6/8/99	KB8EFB AA8UL
3/16/99	WA8IOE KA8NJW	6/15/99	AA8UL N8YYS
3/23/99	KA8NJW KB8EFB	6/22/99	N8YYS K8UC
3/30/99	KB8EFB WD8LKT	6/29/99	K8UC WD8CYV
4/6/99	WD8LKT AA8UL	7/6/99	WD8CYV WA8KAN

BNC Connectors

1.—Cut end of cable even.



2.—Remove vinyl jacket $\frac{1}{8}$ "—don't nick braid.



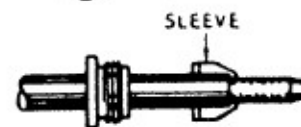
3.—Push braid back and remove $\frac{1}{8}$ " of insulation and conductor.



4.—Taper braid.



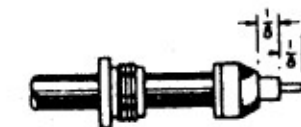
5.—Slide sleeve over tapered braid. Fit inner shoulder or sleeve squarely against end of jacket.



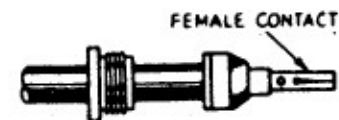
6.—With sleeve in place, comb out braid, fold back smooth as shown, and trim $\frac{1}{32}$ ".



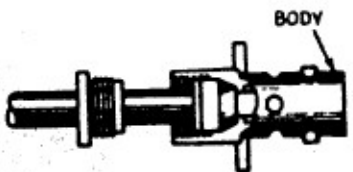
7.—Bare center conductor $\frac{1}{8}$ "—don't nick conductor.



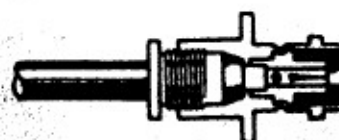
8.—Tin center conductor of cable. Slip female contact in place and solder. Remove excess solder. Be sure cable dielectric is not heated excessively and swollen so as to prevent dielectric entering body.



9.—Push into body as far as it will go. Slide nut into body and screw into place, with wrench, until it is moderately tight. Hold cable and shell rigidly and rotate nut.



10.—This assembly procedure applies to BNC jacks. The assembly for plugs is the same except for the use of male contacts and a plug body.



83-15P Plug

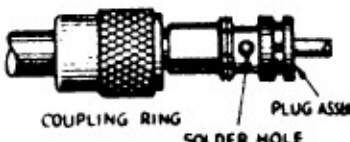
1.—Cut end of cable even. Remove vinyl jacket $1\frac{1}{8}$ "—don't nick braid.



2.—Bare $\frac{1}{4}$ " of center conductor—don't nick conductor. Trim braided shield $\frac{1}{16}$ " and tin. Slide coupling ring on cable.



3.—Screw the plug assembly on cable. Solder plug assembly to braid through solder holes. Solder conductor to contact sleeve.

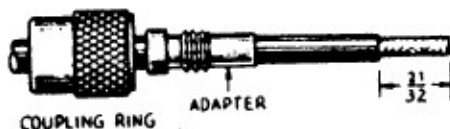


4.—Screw coupling ring on assembly.



83-15P Plug with Adapters

1.—Cut end of cable even. Remove vinyl jacket $2\frac{1}{32}$ "—don't nick braid. Slide coupling ring and adapter on cable.



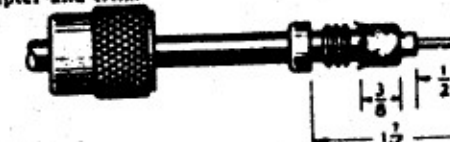
2.—Fan braid slightly and fold back over cable.



3.—Compress braid around cable. Position adapter to dimension shown. Press braid down over body of adapter and trim.



4.—Bare $\frac{1}{8}$ " of center conductor—don't nick conductor. Pre-tin exposed center conductor.



5, 6.—Same as 3 and 4 under 83-15P Plug.

Fig. 18-9 — Cable-stripping dimensions and assembly instructions for several popular coaxial-cable plug. This material courtesy Amphenol Connector Division, Amphenol-Borg Electronics Corp.

Minutes

PARK Minutes November 1998

President Wharton started the meeting promptly at 7:00 PM. The attendance sheet had been passed with 32 people signing the list.

The treasurer Jane, N8MOW reported the treasury stood the same as last month since no bills had been paid.

Mary Britton, KB8BOA sold the raffle, or lottery, tickets and due to some strange stroke of luck she was the winner of \$12.00.

Acting Secretary Curt, K8UC read the minutes of the October meeting and they were approved.

Old Business:

The Christmas party will be December 19, 1998 at the Washington Community Building.

Jerry said he was going to do a new net roster list and was also going to split up married couples. The latter statement caused a rash of comments that I failed to get down on paper.

Jerry opened the floor for discussion on the 97 repeater tone access. Curt, K8UC made a motion to not use tone access as it would cause some members including K8UC and visitors to our area, to be unable to access the repeater. Paul seconded the motion which then carried. Then the decision to put it on anyway (on one of the spares at Tim's) was made by Tim, W8CRW and Jep K8BOT. Curt suggested that when the repeater starts kerchunking, start talking on it and it is ok. Someone suggested we get George K8VAH to do the talking.

A presidential quote; "Raffle tickets were included in with the November news letter which increased the postage required, so we need to sell more tickets".

A note of appreciation from the John McGuffey family was read by Paul, KB8QPY. Paul then announced that he had placed copies of 'Now You are Talking' in local libraries and schools including Wood county, Belpre, Vienna, Williamstown, libraries. He then circulated a note of thanks from the Wood county Library.

New Business:

W8CRW made a motion to get N8NBL (John McGuffey's call) for the club and to keep it on the 97 repeater. K8BOT seconded the motion which carried.

W8LLM said he had been a life time member until w threw away our roster and announced that he wants to sign up additional ARES members and to get present members to also fill out a new form to get ARES back on track. Kenny refused to take the blame for the Wood County OEC creating the traffic jam on DuPont road each evening.

KB8QPY announced that we had a guest Vern Snell KC8HPO, someone else reminded us that Bill Hurte, K18CS was also a new guest. Vern lives in the Little Hocking area and Bill is from Marietta.

Roy Wilson KE8MS was in attendance for the first time in a long time.

Paul, KB8QPY volunteered to teach the entry level class.

Connie, WD8MIO thanked all who helped get word to her son when she had a very flat tire. I guess this is one that is flat all the way around. I missed what she said about oil on her leg.

Code sending equipment, new and old was brought in for show and tell by Glen, N8LVX, Roy, N8YY5, Archie, W8GWR, Art, W8PBO, Larry, KF8NW, Jep, K8BOT, and Curt, K8UC

Tim, W8CRW brought in his photo album with photos from past club events.

Someone made the motion to adjourn, I wonder who that was! and it was quickly seconded by Paul, KB8QPY. It passed.

Eyeball qosos and show and tell continued for an extended period after the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, 73 Curt K8UC

Attendance: 32

Paul anderson KB8QPY
 Jerry Wharton KA8NJW
 Larry Dale KF8NW
 Susan Dale KB8JZE
 Beth Dale
 Glen Easterling N8LVX
 Joe Bolian KC8KAQ
 Jim Palmer K8BOT
 Millie Ellis N8GLB
 Art Ellis 8PBO
 Archie Carpenter W8GWR
 Carol Carpenter
 A E Phillips KB8TDK
 Peggy Phillips
 Curt Fouse

K8UC

Roy Maull N8YY5
 Gene Gildow W2INO
 Connie Hamilton WD8MIO
 Bill Hurte K18CS
 Roy Wilson KE8MS
 Tim Britton W8CRW
 Mary Britton KB8BOA
 Jane McGuffey N8MOW
 Vern Snell KC8HPO
 Charles Duncan KG8WR
 Carl Long K8OWL
 Jeff Newton N8WQO
 Ken Riffle KB8QPW
 Ray Bodie N8TWV
 Emily Bodie KB8YPB
 Ken Harris WA8LLM

December Minutes (or notes) December 19, 1998

This was our annual Christmas party and held at the Washington Community Building.

There were 52 that signed the attendance roster.

Thanks are in order for those on the committee and include the following, Mary W., Georgia M., Irene F., Blaine A. and others I'm sure.

Connie Hamilton led singing of Christmas Carols and sang a solo.

The annual service award was presented to Jerry and Mary Wharton.

The raffle for the Wal-Mart \$100.00 gift certificate was won by Connie Hamilton

Attendance:

Bruce Auville KB8CCO Estelle Wharton KC8HGH
 Peter Wharton Blaine Auville WA8IOE
 John Milhoan WD8LKT Georgia Milhoan
 Danny Graham & Pearl WB8YSM Paul Anderson KB8QPY
 Ellen Reed Wesley Reed
 Judy Peterson N8UFQ Ken Harris WA8LLM
 Dot Harris KC8HAI Cathy Harris KC8DJJ
 Mike Lott KC8JWR Libby Auville KA8FUA
 Connie Hamilton WD8MIO Jerry Hamilton N8HEO
 Jane McGuffey N8MOW A E Phillips KB8TDK
 Peggy Phillips KC8DRS Ed Slack KB8XX
 Betty Slack Lisa Hendershot K8SUER
 Anna Hendershot KC8JWW Paulette Sarvis
 Ryan Sarvis KC8IOG Roy Maull N8YY5
 Leslie Maull KB8ZSI Mary Wharton
 Art Ellis N8PBO Millie Ellis N8GLB
 Joe Bolian KC8KAQ Brenda Bolian
 Jennifer Bolian Jim Palmer K8BOT
 Lynn Palmer N8IIM Glenn Easterling N8LVX
 Ray Bodie N8TWV Emily Bodie KB8YPB
 Curt Fouse K8UC Irene Fouse N8KYP
 Mary Britton WB8BOA Tim Britton W8CRW
 Rosellen Whitney
 Tug Bob Lyons KB8EFB
 Jeff Newton N8WQO Jerry Wharton KA8NJW

The 1998 Service Award

The Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub awarded the 1998 Service- Ham of the Year Award to Mary and Jerry Wharton, KA8NJW. Curt Fouse, as chairman of the committee, stated the Jerry had volunteered to do about every job required of the Klub at one time or another over the past few years. And those on the committee also realized that many times it took Mary's help to get those jobs

dome. So instead of the Ham of the Year the Klub presented A Service Award to both Mary and Jerry. Thanks for the good work. It takes a whole team to get things done. Thanks

Upon receiving the Award Jerry said, "Gee I really appreciate this it is nice to be recognized but I think Mary wants a raise, Ha Ha."



1999 Classes offered

The Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub will again be offering introductory Radio classes for Klub members families at no charge and for the general public for a small fee. "The fee is just basically to cover the cost of extra materials." said acting Klub President, Jerry KA8NJW.

The classes will be offered the same place as last year, The Emmanuel Baptist Church at the corner of 23rd. And Liberty. The classes will start some time in February and will be taught by Paul Anderson, KB8QPY.

UPGRADE CLASSES WILL BE OFFERED IF THERE IS ENOUGH INTEREST AND ATTENDANCE TO KEEP A CLASS GOING.

Let any Klub member know if you are interested. You can also call Paul at 422-3424.