

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES FORUM



AN IDEA EXCHANGE FOR AMATEUR RADIO INSTRUCTORS

March 1998

Weekend Success

The last issue of *EAF* reported on the Long Island (NY) Mobile Amateur Radio Club's (LIMARC) successful weekend licensing course, with 22 students ranging in age from 11 to 70. Here are more details on how the two-day event, starting on a Saturday morning, unfolded.

Students received a welcome and introductions, and **Rob Todaro, N2JIX**, taught basic rules. After lunch, instructors began imparting their own insight into the practical side of our hobby. **Norm Wesler, K2YEW**, taught Amateur Radio practices, which included an on-the-air demonstration where half the class visited the radio station and half went outside to see the antenna. After several QSOs were made, students switched places. Class ended after **Sid Wolin, K2LJH**, taught electrical principles, and **George Tranos, N2GA**, covered antennas, feedlines and RF safety. On Sunday, **Diane Ortiz, K2DO**, began with Technician-level rules. **Ray Larsen, N2ZEM**, demonstrated a working repeater system. At 4 PM, the class went to a VE session. All but one passed the Novice theory exam, and 15 passed the Technician exam.

Student registration was \$30, which included *Now You're Talking*, plus lunch (2-foot sliced hero sandwiches) and refreshments, and payment to the school to keep it open on Sunday. LIMARC broke even, and all instructors considered the course a huge success. LIMARC gave evaluations to students, who came from the local area, New Jersey and upstate New York. Their main comment was: "A lot of material in a short time; we would have benefited from a Friday evening session." (They were given flyers ahead of time on how to study prior to class.) "Their willingness to study and work inspires all of us. It is their spirit of achievement that will lead LIMARC and Amateur Radio into the future," said LIMARC President, George Tranos, N2GA. [Editor's note: The next *EAF* will cover information from **Karl Larsen, K5DI**, about yet another weekend class.]

Call for Articles

The Proceedings of the ARRL National Educational Workshop is a compendium of articles about Amateur Radio teaching hints for educators, and all other educational or recruitment topics pertinent to ham radio. If you have something you'd like to write about, send a note to Glenn Swanson, KB1GW, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington CT 06111 (gswanson@arrl.org), fax him at 860-594-0259, or call him at 860-594-0267, to get your Author's Kit. Authors receive a complimentary copy of the book when it's fresh from the printer.

Each new edition is \$16 including shipping/handling, but don't forget that educators can get a special offer: order three of the previous years' editions for just \$16!

Videos

EAD's newest video library selection is an ARRL Continuing Education Workshop. You might ask your club to purchase this tape for an evening seminar or for segmenting into four or more club programs. Then you could use segments in your licensing class, too. Volume 10 *Digital Signal Processing* — Order #6605 for \$21 (includes shipping in the US) — an in-depth 4.5-hour presentation on getting started in Amateur Radio digital signal processing projects, taught by ARRL Sr Engineer Jon Bloom, KE3Z.

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American Radio Relay League
225 Main Street
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telephone: (860) 594-0301
Rodney J. Stafford, W6ROD
President
David Sumner, K1ZZ



Rosalie White, WA1STO

Educational Activities Forum is an idea exchange and information newsletter for Amateur Radio instructors. Please contribute photos, stories and instructional ideas by sending them to the Educational Activities Department in care of the

EAF Electronically

Don't forget that you can contact us at EAD@ARRL.ORG to get this newsletter sent to you much more quickly via e-mail. Also, send us any comments, suggestions, good ideas, teaching techniques or stories that you'd like for us to share via this newsletter. If your e-mail address has changed, and you haven't told Jean, WB3IOS (jwolfgang@arrl.org), please send a note to her.



Flyers and Cards

Peter Stolbunov, KM4ZS, of Martinsville VA, sent samples of items that the Patrick Henry Amateur Radio Association uses for publicizing their licensing classes. The flyers highlight "Free Talk" using an HT versus using expensive cellular phones. Besides listing his telephone number in the publicity, Peter's email address was also included — that ought to get more people to respond.

Would you like to be a
Ham Radio Operator?


For information on amateur radio activities and license exams in the Martinsville, Va. area, please mail us a card with your name, address and phone number. We'll have an amateur call you.



Sponsored by the
Patrick Henry Amateur Radio Association
P.O. Box 3455
Martinsville, VA 24115

Does your club produce flyers to hang on bulletin boards of libraries, churches, senior centers, schools, electronics stores and other public places? Here is a model to use for ideas — it emphasizes "Free Talk" rather than cell phones. The back of the business card has the club's voice mail telephone number printed on it.

FREE TALK!



HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO CHAT WITH FRIENDS AROUND THE WORLD OR IN TOWN WITHOUT MONTHLY SERVICE CHARGES?

YES, YOU CAN WITH HAM RADIO!

REGISTER NOW FOR A WEEKEND HAM RADIO LICENSE COURSE.
LICENSE IS FREE!

CLASS STARTS SATURDAY FEB. 21.

CALL 540-638-7274 FOR MORE INFO.

E-MAIL: kb5ylf@airmail.net

ARRL Training Materials

As always, here's the list you request of the current editions of ARRL training material. The edition number and printing number are listed in the first pages of each book—look for the copyright box. If the book is a new printing, it has minor updates. If the book is a new edition, it has gone through major revisions. Abbreviations are as follows: Now You're Talking! (NYT), ARRL's Tech Q & A (ATQA), General Class License Manual (GCLM), Advanced Class License Manual (ACLM), Extra Class License Manual (ECLM), FCC Rule Book (FRB), ARRL Novice/Technician Instructor's Guide (NTIG) and ARRL General Class Instructor's Guide (GIG).

- ★ NYT 3rd edition: All printings (good through June 30, 2001)
- ★ ATQA 2nd edition: (good through June 30, 2001)
- ★ GCLM 2nd edition: All printings (good through June 30, 1998). New 3rd edition (good through June 30, 2002) will be available in May)
- ★ ACLM 4th edition: All printings
- ★ ECLM 6th edition
- ★ FRB 10th edition: All printings
- ★ NTIG 3rd edition: Use with 3rd edition of NYT (good through June 30, 2001)

Benefits of the Community

David Johnson, KB5YLG, of Azle, TX, wrote to us about how he uses community resources to assist with his educational projects. He has developed a partnership with the Community Education Department of the Azle Independent School District, which allows his class to meet in the high school where AV equipment and classrooms are quite nice. The Education Department widely publicizes classes in newspaper ads, radio spots and course catalogs for 10,000 local citizens. The Education Department also does all photocopying of handouts and provides supplies. He suggests you call your local community education office to find out how you might become their partner in education.

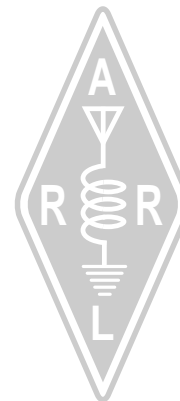
David also contacted the local Boy Scout troops, and asked them to spread the word to other area troops that a special licensing class for Scouts would soon be offered. Soon, he had enough students to begin a class. David's club, TriCounty Amateur Radio Club, will host a demonstration at a Girl Scout regional event called "Hot Stuff," which attracts 300 girls and their families. The club's demo will feature on-the-air audience participation, plus highlight packet, satellites, HF, RDF, and so on. The club has posters describing various aspects of ham radio. You might wish to ask your club to participate in similar events, in order to get youths into your classes. David says contact him for more information at kb5ylf@airmail.net or telephone at 817-922-1081.

Similarly, James Alderman, KF5WT, of Athens, TX, is working with a local eighth grade class. He set up an ATV transmitter to carry live NASA-TV to local schools and hams. Next, he began talking to an eighth grade teacher who wanted to use ATV in the classroom to stimulate interest in science and technology. James wrote a letter to her describing ways ham radio could be used in class — HF, school nets, ATV balloon launches and so on. The teacher read the letter to each of her classes, and students voted that they wanted to try all of these things. It will soon be time for James to start a licensing class for the youths!

Instructors: ARRL Services Just for You!

Teaching an Amateur Radio class takes time — recruiting students, finding a classroom, obtaining study materials, practicing demonstrations and so on. ARRL supports ham radio instructors, and would like to remind you of some of our services to you. If you'd like details on any of these services, please contact ARRL EAD at 860-594-0301, Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM Eastern.

- *Educational Activities Forum* newsletter for volunteer instructors
- Recruitment brochures, posters and flyers
- License study materials and instructor guides — and at ARRL Instructor Discount Program prices
- Practice exam software
- Graduation certificates and First Contact awards
- Education forums at conventions
- The annual *Proceedings of the ARRL National Educational Workshop*, a book of articles on ham radio instruction and recruitment (authors of articles get a complimentary copy)
- Student referrals to you and your club
- Annual instructor and recruiter awards, and Elmer certificates
- Continuing Education Units program for your graduates
- Education-related articles in *QST*



All ARRL members help pay for ARRL's support enjoyed by all Amateur Radio instructors, recruiters and their students. All ARRL members also receive *QST* each month. Besides the news, feature stories and projects you'll find in each *QST*, there's the "New Ham Companion" section, particularly "The Doctor is IN" and "Test Your Knowledge," to use in your classes with your students. Here are articles you missed if you weren't receiving *QST* in the past half year:

- March *QST*, pp 46-49, "Helping New Hams Get Started" — ideas for teaching theory
- March *QST*, p 57, "Understanding UTC"
- February *QST*, p 54-55, "Build Your Own Code Keys" — out of just about anything!
- January *QST*, pp 64-65, "AO-27: An FM Repeater in the Sky" — a motivational piece for students
- December *QST*, pp 32-35, "A Computer Keyboard W Encoder" — a project to build with students
- November *QST*, pp 52-54, "A Six-Channel Distribution Amplifier" — for sending code in class
- October *QST*, pp 61-62, "The Doctor is IN" — to teach your students to decipher resistor color codes
- xSeptember *QST*, pp 49-50, "BARC Juniors" — excellent teaching ideas

An advocate for hams for over 84 years, ARRL has been the organization steering Amateur Radio through difficult times and insuring that the frequencies we enjoy are not taken away by commercial or government interests. Over 80 years ago, our government turned over these frequencies to hams, who in turn pioneered shortwave communications. Today, amateurs continue to make great contributions to radio. Who knows?...One of tomorrow's pioneers may be in your next license class!

Yes, I want to support the Amateur Radio instructor program by becoming an ARRL member today!

Dues are \$34 in the US (\$47 elsewhere, US funds). If you are age 65 or over, reside in the US or possessions and upon submitting proof of age, you may request the dues rate of \$28. Immediate relatives of a member who receives *QST*, and reside at the same address may get family membership at \$5 per year.

- \$34.00 payment enclosed
 Charge \$34 to MC, VISA, AMEX, Discover

Cardholder Name _____

Expiration Date ____/____

Cardholder Signature _____

Rates subject to change without notice.

If you do not wish your name made available for non-ARRL mailings, check this box .



WHO ARE YOU?



1998 ARRL-Registered Instructor Questionnaire

The first 12 instructors to return this survey before May 1, 1998, will receive a free book, useful either to an instructor or to give to a student. *Respond quickly!*

Name & Call Sign

Address

City, State & ZIP

If you'd like EAF sent via email, print your e-address:_____

1. In the Fall-1997 to Spring-1998 academic year, I will have taught #____ classes.
 2. In that same time frame, I had a total of #____ students begin my classes, and #____ students graduated.
 3. My graduates totaled: Novice #____ Tech #____ Tech+ #____
General #____ Advanced #____ and Extra #____.
 4. My students use: Now You're Talking ___Yes ___No.
Tech Exam Review Guide ___Yes ___No.
General Class License Manual ___Yes ___No.
Other_____
- Problems with books:
5. I want to continue receiving this newsletter. ___Yes ___No.
 6. I am an ARRL member. ___Yes ___No.
 7. About ____% of my graduates join ARRL.

We thank you for teaching, and for telling us about yourself and your many successes! If you have any additional comments about your teaching ideas or related topics, please add them here!

Please fold, tape and return to ARRL EAD at the address below, after recording YOUR name and address in the blanks intended for your return-mail address.—THANK YOU!!

From: _____

Affix proper postage here

ARRL EAD
 225 Main Street
 Newington, CT 06111