



The QUARAE



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ARRL CEO to visit Sharon PA

The new Chief Executive Officer of the ARRL, Tom Gallagher, NY2RF will speak at the Penn State Shenango Auditorium on Wednesday, November 9th at 7 PM. Amateur Radio operators from all over the area will be invited to attend this program. After Tom's prepared speech he will take Q&A.

This will be a very special event that you do not want to miss.

73

Tim K3LR

Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.

Upgrades

Congratulations to Roger E. Pezdec, KC3HRG who upgraded to General.

If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.

Should U.S. ham tests be given abroad?


By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

A couple of weeks ago, I received an e-mail from a reader who wanted my opinion about a thread on the HamRadioHelpGroup mailing list. The e-mail that started the discussion was a message from an American living in Italy who wanted to take the Technician Class exam. In her e-mail, she told of her troubles finding a test session, and then when she did find one, what she perceived as

“irregularities” in the testing process. Reading the thread was a little disconcerting, and I blogged about this issue (<http://www.kb6nu.com/u-s-amateur-radio-license-exams-given-outside-u-s/>).

I understand why foreign national go to the trouble of taking the U.S. license exam. Some of them even buy my study guides. About a year ago, for example, I swapped some e-mail with a guy from Malaysia about why he purchased my study guide and why he wanted a U.S. license. He said that it was because a neighboring country offered reciprocal operating privileges to U.S. licensees, but not Malaysian licensees! He mentioned that he tested for the license in Thailand.

Basically, my Malaysian friend was using the U.S. licensing process to circumvent the Malaysian licensing process. Australians seem to do this, too. Apparently, according to one of the VKs who commented on the thread, getting a U.S. Tech license is easier than testing for an Australian Foundation license. So, some Australians get a U.S.



**Radio Association of Erie
Club Meeting at the Club
House on Wagner Road
Thursday October 6 at
6PM for Hot Dogs
Program: Video on Collins Legacy**

Tech license first, then get the Australian

government to issue them a VK Foundation license based on the reciprocal operating agreement between the U.S. and Australia.

Another reason that some outside the U.S. obtain U.S. amateur radio licenses is the challenge. That's the reason Martin Butler, M0MRB/W9ICQ, of ICQPodcast fame, gave when I spoke to him about this recently.

Are these reasons "good enough" to continue this program of licensing non-U.S. citizens? My first reaction was that no, it's not good enough, and I questioned whether or not the ARRL VEC should sanction non-U.S. VEs and whether or not the FCC should even allow testing outside of the United States.

I didn't see the need for conducting these test sessions or the desirability (to the U.S.) of licensing foreign nationals. I reasoned that not only was there a greater possibility of test fraud, this program could lead to foreign authorities claiming that the U.S. was meddling in their affairs.

This post garnered a lot of comments. Several of them took me to task for voicing this opinion and were in favor keeping the current licensing program in place. There were a variety of reasons.

One of the reasons in favor of using the U.S. licensing process is that in many countries, amateur radio license exam sessions are not very frequent. Another is that they often are quite expensive. This creates an artificial barrier to getting an amateur radio license. Using the U.S. licensing system breaks through this barrier and allows many more to enjoy amateur radio.

Of course, for everything to be on the up and up, the foreign authorities would have to condone the use of U.S. license tests. Apparently, this is the case in Thailand and Australia. I don't know about Italy,

but I'm guessing that the authorities there don't really care about Italians obtaining U.S. licenses.

Perhaps the best comment came from Thida, HS1ASC/KH6ASC. He noted that the tests in Thailand were administered very strictly, and says, "The U.S. may lose some call signs, but what the U.S. and U.S. hams get from us is goodwill, very positive feeling. Everyone who gets U.S. license is so proud, and others look at them respectfully." Since Part 97.1(e) lists as one of the purposes of amateur radio, "Continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international goodwill," I'm now all in favor of offering U.S. ham tests abroad.

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Dan, KB6NU, is the author of the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides, and blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com, and you can contact him by e-mailing cwgeek@kb6nu.com. When he's not pondering the vagaries of the U.S. licensing system, you'll find him working CW on the HF bands.

Hard work pays off in the future; laziness pays off now

Amateur Radio Classes Coming Soon to Corry

Amateur Radio classes are scheduled to start on Monday October 3 and continue through November 28 at the Corry Hi Ed building from 6:30– 8:30 PM. The cost of the course including the book is \$49, which includes the ARRL Ham Radio Licence Manual 3rd Edition. For more information, contact Peter Albright at peteralbright1@gmail.com.

The sooner you fall behind, the more time you'll have to catch up

September General Meeting Minutes

Minutes General Meeting : September 1, 2016

Began at: 7PM

Board Members and Officers Present: AD4UL, KB3ZVH, K1ZIK, K3PLV, N8WQX

Program: None

New hams: None

Silent Keys: None

Visitors: None

Treasurer's report: \$1,257.93

Membership report: 59

Facilities Report: Ramp construction in progress

Repeater Report: No problems/ Echolink still down

Contesting Report: PA QSO party coming up, 3RD weekend in Oct

Old Business: Fuel Oil taken care of by Adam KB3THU

New Business: Board meeting scheduled for September 29, Red Cross, 7PM

Meeting end at: 7:30PM Motion by K3PLV, 2nd by KC3GBD

If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you

IRS Letter of Determination

Does anyone know where the club's IRS Letter of Determination? We need it to get a hot spot for the club house. If you know its whereabouts, let me know. John Lindvay 455-1061

My people skills are just fine. It's my tolerance to idiots that needs work.

LOCAL NETS VHF/UHF

Courtesy of Ron Siebolt WA3DOM

DAY	TIME	FREQ	MODE	COMMENTS
SUN	7PM	50.190	USB	6 MTR SSB net
SUN	9PM	146.61/.82	FM	ARES/RACES trng

SUN	9PM	146.70	FM	ARES/RACES trng
MON	8PM	144.450	AM	2 MTR simplex
TUE	7PM	50.40	AM	6 MTR AM net
WED	6:30PM	146.61/82	FM	NBEMS net
FRI	8PM	144.210	USB	210 Round Up
DAILY..	8PM	146.70	FM	Mailbag Net
DAILY	9PM	146.61/82	FM	Rag Chew Net

LOCAL HF NETS

DAILY	8 AM	14.340	USB	Fort Pierce Connection
DAILY	6:30PM	7.233	LSB	Erie Connection
WED	8PM	28.410	USB	Novice/Tech Net
SUN	8PM	29.000	USB	Lake Erie Emergency Net

Where there's a will, there are relatives.



Handicap ramp is coming along

The Handicap ramp is about half done. The Boy Scouts and some club members are working on it every Sunday. Gene Brinig KB3JZL is the chief architect and master builder who designed the ramp.

Some other members that have been putting in time are Doug Sweet AD4UL, Rick Cutter WA3MKT, Joe Ponchak KA3CPV, and Adam Kernohan KB3THU

The purpose of the ramp is to give handicap members in wheel chairs access to the meeting room during meetings. Lets face it. The club membership is not getting any younger. In a few years it will be the only way in for some of us.

I and my wife Debbie KB3RUD took some photos of the men hard at work. It was a hot day and all were sweating profusely.

The hardness of the butter is proportional to the softness of the bread.

Amateur Calendar

October 1 - California QSO Party. See www.cqp.org/Rules.html

October 4 – Corry Amateur Club Meeting

October 6 – RAE Club Meeting

October 8 - SKCC Weekend Sprintathon. See www.skccgroup.com

October 8 - Pennsylvania QSO Party. See www.nittany-arc.net

October 8 - Arizona QSO Party. See www.azqsoparty.org

October 10 – Columbus Day

October 11 – Wattsburg Club Meeting

October 12 - NAQCC CW Sprint. See naqcc.info/sprint201610.html

October 13 – Union City Club Meeting

October 15 – VE Session at Greene Township Bldg.

October 16 – Conneaut Club Hamfest.

See <https://www.facebook.com/events/1109527472432186/>

October 15 - Iowa QSO Party. See www.wa0dx.org/IAQSO

October 15 - New York QSO Party. See www.nyqp.org

October 15 - South Dakota QSO Party. See www.kb0wsw.com/SDQP

October 16 - Illinois QSO Party. See www.w9awe.org

October 17 – Conneaut Club Meeting

October 21 - Halloween