



Bergen Amateur Radio Association

BARA Bulletin

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Our 54th Year

www.BARA.ORG

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FCC Form 605 License Application Being Revised

The FCC 605 Form Application is not just used for the Amateur Radio Service.

It's used for authorization in the Ship, Aircraft, Amateur, Restricted and Commercial Operator, and General Mobile Radio Services.

The Commission is revising the basic qualifications section of this form to include a question regarding whether an application has been convicted of a felony in any state or federal court.

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From the ARRL...

Urge the U.S. Senate to Support the Amateur Radio Parity Act

The Amateur Radio Parity Act was passed unanimously by the House of Representatives in January as H.R. 555. It provides a mutually satisfactory compromise reached between the ARRL and the Community Associations Institute (CAI, which represents home owners associations).

The Senate Bill, S. 1534, allows for effective outdoor Amateur Radio antennas for public service and emergency communications while protecting the prerogative of community associations.

Please take action and urge your Senators to pass S. 1534.

The ARRL has provided a convenient method to send your request to your Senators to approve S.1534.

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Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, today is God's gift, that's why we call it the present.

- Joan Rivers

ARRL Explores Entry Level License Options

The ARRL Board of Directors took steps to chart a firmer future for Amateur Radio by enhancing the value of the entry-level license and by providing ongoing support for new licensees.

A survey received over 8,000 responses with a clear majority favoring a revision to the Technician rather than a new entry-level license. This would require no change to the Technician examination, which already covers more material than necessary for an entry-level examination.

The committee suggested expanded digital access on 80, 40, and 15 meters, where Technicians already have CW access, as well as the addition of Technician phone privileges on those bands.

The goal here is to have an entry-level license that offers a way for a newcomer to experience multiple facets of Amateur Radio," the committee's report said, "encouraging them to get on the air, meet other licensees, and engage in a lifetime of learning while using Amateur Radio."

PUBLIC SERVICE**BC RACES NET**

2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month.
 7:45 PM on the W2AKR Repeater
 146.790 MHz; PL 141.3 Hz.
 Net control is NJ2BC
 Directed training net for all authorized
 Bergen County RACES stations and
 authorized liaison stations.

BC RACES**Communications Unit**

Any licensed ham operator in Bergen County, if not already a member, is asked to join the BCRACES team by sending an e-mail to:

bcraces@bcoem.org

with your name, callsign, e-mail, and municipality.

New HF Digital Net**Focused on EMCOMM**

The New Jersey Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System (NJ-NBEMS) Net meets every Sunday Morning at 9:30 AM on 7.073 MHz using OLIVIA-8-500. This net is NOT affiliated with RACES or ARES, so any Radio Amateur with appropriate operating privileges may participate.

FLDIGI is the preferred sound card software because FLAMP and FLMSG are used for message handling. This is a training net for new users, so operator error is expected and well tolerated.

For additional information contact Bill, KC2VUT at arrl.net, Rick, N2PHI at comcast.net or Karl, W2KBF at arrl.net.

VE EXAM SCHEDULE

The next Ham License test session is scheduled for:

September 15

at
Township of Washington
Senior Center
7 pm

The FCC has imposed a Testing fee of \$15.00 per exam/retest.

Required documents:

- Two forms of ID required for all transactions.
- Social Security Number if unlicensed or **FRN** Number if licensed.
- Original CSCE if prior test credit is claimed.
- If license upgrade, a signed copy of current FCC license

Calculators are permitted, iPhones and iPads are not permitted.

Questions may be directed to:

Don Younger, W2JEK
 201-265-6583

Question Pool Revision:

The Extra exam question pool was revised on Sepy 1, 2016.

Current Question Pool:

Technician, Element 2-Sepy 1, 2014
 General, Element 3 - Sepy 1, 2015
 Extra, Element 4 - Sepy 1, 2016

Practice tests and study guides available at QRZ.COM.

www.qrz.com/hamtest

Link of the Month

If you know what "DOS" is or loved Windows 95 when it came out, you must watch this. Careful though! You may feel a bit aged.

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=8ucXtgN6sc>

Tnx to Chuck, K2RRV

K2BAR NETS**SSB Net:**

Mondays 9:00 pm

10 Meters – 28.375 MHz
 Net Control: Jim, K2ZO

FM Nets:

Wednesdays 9:00 pm

2 Meters: 146.79 MHz.
 PL 141.3
 Net Control: Dan, WA2CLP

Thursdays 8:30 pm

70 cm: 444.100
 PL 141.3
 Net Control: Marco, KC2ZMA

Thursdays 9:00 pm

Technical Net

Pearl River
 NJ2BS Repeater
 2 Meters: 146.835 MHz. (-600 kHz)
 PL 151.4
 Net Control: Gordon, W2TTT

BARA Meeting Minutes July, 2017

Meeting called to order at 7:32 PM.
Minutes from the June meeting were approved (Gordon W2TTT, Chuck KC2SST).

Treasurer's Report: David K2DSL provided the current account balance.

President's Report: Jim K2ZO announced that the club did well at Field Day and gave a brief report about the event.

Net Reports: Jim K2ZO reported that the 10-meter net could use some more check-ins. Dan WA2CLP, and Gordon W2TTT reported that the 2-meter and Tech nets are both going well.

Family Picnic: August 6

Jim K2ZO stated that Ginny N2EYN would coordinate the event. The picnic starts at 10:00 at Wood Dale Park. Sign-up sheet was circulated.

Announcements:

No Kit Night on July 4.

No meeting on August 6 (Picnic).

Portable Day is September 23.

Holiday Dinner will be back at The Crow's Nest on December 3.

Gordon W2TTT announced that operators are needed for public service at the Passaic County Fair at Garrett Mountain August 16-20.

Program: Two presentations given. Tony K2AMI talked about the 13 Colonies event, and Jim K2ZO talked about antennas. Jim specifically diagramed ideas for a multi-band antenna for Field Day next year.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan, WA2ZZ
Secretary

(Continued from page 1)

Applicants' responses and explanations to the basic qualification question (felony question), will be used to determine eligibility to be a Commission licensee.

The question used to be on the old Form 610 amateur application and at some point that question fell off the newer forms.

FCC determined that they needed to add the question back to the 605 Form and it is the exact question used on the other FCC forms.

This action will correct its omission on 605 Form and bring FCC into compliance with the Communications Act.

If the answer to the felony question is 'YES', submit as an exhibit a statement explaining the circumstances.

The application will be held for a basic qualification review which FCC already does for other radio license services.

The Wireless Telecommunications Bureau's Mobility Division stated that the fact that an applicant answers 'YES' doesn't mean they will be denied a license.

Applicants are required to answer the question only if they are filing Form 605 for one of the following purposes: **New**, Amendment, Modification (**Upgrade or call sign change**), or Renewal/Modification.

The question does not have to be answered if the applicant is filling a renewal only or an administrative update to their license (change of address, name, email, etc.).

The FCC has indicated that all VEC's must begin transmitting this additional data to FCC starting on **September 7, 2017.**

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Go to the following web page and enter the information requested.

<https://arrrl.rallycongress.net/ctas/urge-us-senate-to-support-amateur-radio-parity-act>

A message to your Senators will be prepared. You may read the message and then release it for email delivery.

You may not be directly affected by homeowner association restrictions, but your support is still needed for those hams that are affected.

Amateur Radio Participation is Key to University Solar Eclipse Experiment

Virginia Tech electrical engineering professor Greg Earle, W4GDE, is heading up a National Science Foundation (NSF) funded solar eclipse experiment dubbed CEDAR -- Coupling, Energetics, and Dynamics of Atmospheric Regions. The experiment proposes to study the effects on the ionosphere of the August 21 total eclipse of the Sun, using a combination of GPS receivers, the university's SuperDARN (Super Dual Auroral Radar Network) radar system, HF Amateur Radio, and plasma modeling. Several graduate students and researchers, as well as the Virginia Tech Amateur Radio Association (K4KDJ) and the Amateur Radio community at

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BARA BULLETIN

The BARA Bulletin is published monthly by the Bergen Amateur Radio Association. Subscriptions are included in the annual membership dues. Membership is open to anyone interested in radio communication.

BARA RESOURCES

QSL Bureau:

Warren Hager, K2UFM

Public Service:

Club Contesting:

Phil Barber, WA2LXE

VE Exams:

Don Younger, W2JEK

Donnan917@at'aol.com

Hamfests:

Jim Joyce, K2ZO

Webmasters:

wm@at'bara.org

Tony Izzo, K2AMI

David Levine, K2DSL

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Interested in learning more about amateur radio and meeting new people? Then join the Bergen Amateur Radio Association (BARA). Dues are \$25 per year. Send your application request to:

David Levine, K2DSL

11 Mackay Ave.

Waldwick, NJ 07463

e-mail to k2dsl@at'arrl.net.

Please include your name, address, town, zip, call sign, license class, and phone number.

Upcoming Events

Aug 6 - BARA Family Picnic

Aug 8 - Kit Night

Aug 15 - Kit Night

Aug 19, 20 - North American QSO Party - SSB

Aug 21 - Solar Eclipse QSO Party

Aug 22 - Kit Night

Aug 29 - Kit Night

Sept 5 - Kit Night

Sept 9, 10 - ARRL VHF QSO Party

Sept 10 - BARA Business Meeting

Sept 23 - Portable Day

Oct 7 - BARA Hamfest

BARA KIT NIGHT

7:00 PM to 9:30 PM

Township of Washington Senior Center
350 Hudson Ave., Township of Washington, 07676

- ◆ Build a kit related to Amateur Radio (partial BARA funding available)
- ◆ Diagnose/repair a defective piece of equipment
- ◆ Discuss radio and computer problems
- ◆ Technical assistance available
- ◆ Seek/give technical opinions

Welcome New Member:

Robert Disiena, KD2NOG - Clifton

A Brief Encounter with APRS

Our family gathered for a family reunion last month at a rental vacation house in Las Vegas. Las Vegas was chosen because family members were traveling from 6 states and it was, more or less, convenient for airline travel.

My son Chris, KE0CAH, decided to drive from South Dakota. His truck has a VHF transceiver equipped for APRS transmission.

The Automatic Position Reporting System (APRS) is used to transmit real-time position information, weather data, telemetry and messages over the radio. A vehicle equipped with a GPS receiver, a VHF transmitter or HF transceiver and a small computer device called a tracker transmits its location, speed and course in a small data packet. The packet is received by a nearby iGate receiving site which forwards the packet on the Internet. Systems connected to the Internet can send information on the APRS-IS without a radio transmitter, or collect and display information transmitted anywhere in the world.

The website <https://aprs.fi> displays the APRS information from all available sources on a global interactive map. A mobile station may be tracked as it updates its position data.

Chris left three days before us to allow time to visit a few National Parks on his way. Using the APRS website I was able to periodically check his progress. The website holds data for six months so the entire trip could be displayed. His route from South Dakota crossed Wyoming, Colorado and Utah. Cell phone service and Wi-Fi were gen-

erally not available. I was impressed to see that the APRS signal provided a continuous track, even in the remote Park roads. Normal transmission of the APRS packet was every minute, however there were gaps of up to 30 minutes due to the mountainous terrain. When a transmission was received the map updated automatically.

On the last day in Las Vegas, Chris left a few hours before we did. He had broken a connector that held the "soft top" in place on his truck on the way to Vegas, and he was concerned the entire top may fly off on the return trip. I checked the APRS website from home the next morning and was relieved to see he was approaching Rapid City, SD.

Later that afternoon he was approaching his home in Brookings.

No matter how old they are, a parent always is concerned with safety and relaxes when all looks OK.

Thanks APRS.

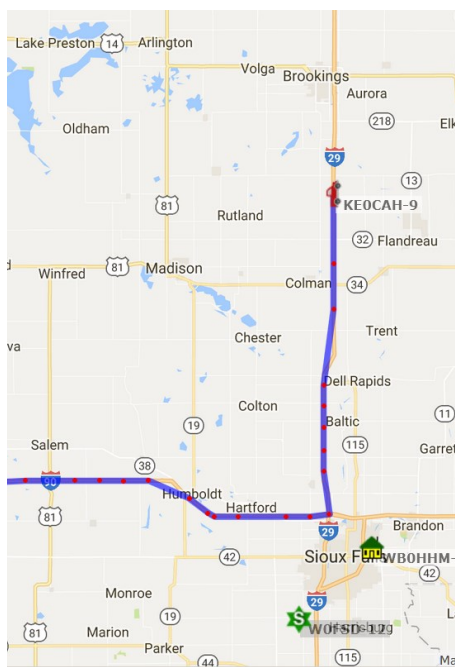


Figure 1

See Figure 1. Each red dot represents that an update packet was received. Figure 2 shows some detailed info on the speed, bearing and elevation as well as the listening frequency, 146.520 MHz.

Take a look at the website. Browse the map to view the active stations. I was surprised to see how many maritime stations were active, from recreational boats to commercial tankers. With some luck you may spot W2KBF, as I did.

— de WA2LXE

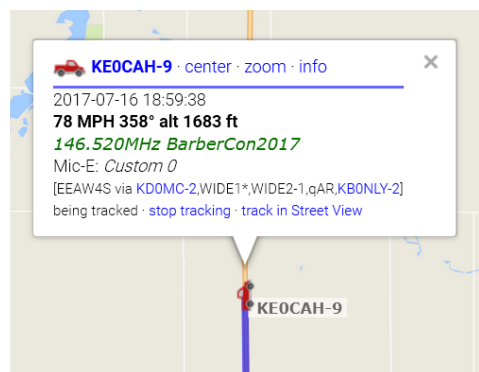


Figure 2



Dr. Chris Barber, KE0CAH

**MEMBER REPORTED CONTEST SCORES
SUBMITTED
FOR AGGREGATE CLUB SCORE**

ARRI June VHF Contest

	Power	QSOs	Pts	Grids	Score
N2DXT/R	Low	315	389	118	45,902
K2BAR *	High	370	408	100	40,800
* Multi-Op with K2AMI, WI2W, WA2PNI KO2OK and W2SE					
W2JEK	Low	60	61	27	1,647
K2ZC	Low	27	27	17	459
WA2CLP/R	Low	23	37	6	222
WA2LXE	Low	10	11	5	55
K2ZB/R	Low	5	5	6	30
WA2ZZ	Low	3	4	1	4
KC2QYM	Low	1	1	1	1
KC2VRY	Low	1	1	1	1

Rover Grids include originating grid multiplier.

CQ WW VHF Contest

	Power	QSOs	Pts.	Grids	Score
K2AMI	Low	45	61	22	1,342
W2JEK	QRP	21	22	7	154
WA2PNI	Low	2	2	1	2

North American QSO Party - RTTY

	Power	QSOs	Pts.	Sect.	Score
K2DSL	Low	200	200	70	14,000

FIELD DAY FINAL RESULTS

Band/Mode QSO Breakdown:

	CW QSOs	Digital QSOs	Phone QSOs	Points
160m	14		2	30
80m			348	348
40m	687		110	1,484
20m	233	6	308	786
15m	8		17	33
6m			54	54
Sat		2		4
GOTA			26	26
TOTAL	942	8	865	2,765

Power Multiplier = 2X = 5,530

Bonus Points (Earned/Available)

100% Emergency Power	500/500	500
Public Location	100/100	100
NTS Message to ARRL SM	100/100	100
W1AW Field Day Message	100/00	100
Formal Messages Handled	10/100	10
Satellite QSO completed	100/100	100
Natural Power QSOs	100/100	100
Visit by elected official	100/100	100
Visit by served agency	100/100	100
Youth Participation	40/100	40
Submitted via WEB	50/50	50
Educational Activity	100/100	100
Safety Officer	100/100	100
Media Publicity	0/100	0
Public Info Table	0/100	0
Social Media	0/100	0
GOTA QSOs	20/500	20
GOTA Coach	20/500	20

TOTAL BONUS POINTS 1,540

GRAND TOTAL 7,070



K2BAR was awarded a certificate for First Place in the Eastern New York Section in the June 2016 VHF contest.

K2BAR operated from Nike Park in the ENY Section.

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large have been recruited to help.

"We want to understand how the ionosphere is affected by blockage of sunlight over a relatively short interval (~2 hours), understand how man-made systems are affected by the changes in the ionosphere, and use the data to improve our numerical models," Earle told ARRL.

During the Solar Eclipse QSO Party ([SEQP](#)), sponsored by ARRL, radio operators will actively communicate throughout the eclipse interval over paths that transect the eclipsed region of the ionosphere. "These data will include information on the signal strength and maximum usable frequency in various HF bands, which are directly related to the density and altitude of the ionosphere

The Solar Eclipse QSO Party on August 21 runs from 1400 until 2200 UTC. Stations will exchange a signal report and six-character grid locator on 160 through 6 meters (excepting 60, 30, 17, and 12 meters). Participants may work the same station again after 10 minutes have passed. Preferred modes are CW, RTTY, and PSK31, because automated receiving networks will record the contacts, but phone and digital contacts are okay too.

For more information on the Solar Eclipse QSO Party see:

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/QST/This%20Month%20in%20QST/August2017/Silver.pdf>

September VHF Contest

The September VHF Contest begins 1800 UTC Saturday and runs through 0259 UTC Monday (**September 9-11, 2017**).

Set up your mobile or fixed station to participate. Set a goal of a minimum of 10 contacts, but any number will help. This is a Club Competition contest and all member scores are aggregated for a club score.

Contact WA2LXE with any questions.



Tony, K2AMI, Received a "Clean Sweep" certificate in the 2017 13 Colonies event. He worked all 13 "colonies" plus the two special stations.

Congratulations Tony.



Since I wasted a lot of space in this issue on my family, I may as well introduce the 4th Barber Ham, my son Doug, KC8YWR/6.

Left to right are; WA2LXE; Susan, WA2ZZ; and Doug KC8YWR/6 at our Las Vegas vacation house.

Next Business Meeting
Sunday, Sept 10th
at the
Twp. Of Washington
Senior Center

President

Jim Joyce, K2ZO
K2ZO 'at' ARRL.NET

Vice-President

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K2AMI 'at' ARRL.NET

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