



Tri County Radio Association

W2LI Since 1934



Tri County Radio operates repeaters on 147.255 (PL 141.3) and 449.975 (PL 141.3) using the W2LI memorial call sign / P.O. Box 412 Scotch Plains, NJ 07076 / Web Site: <http://www.w2li.org>

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

President	Jeff Regan	NJ5R
Vice President	Peter J. Tauriello	W2NJU
Secretary	Kymm L. Balinth-Regan	KY2MMM
Treasurer	Mike Graham	N2ZU
Trustee	Steve Ostrove	K2SO
Trustee	Robert H. Dietz.	KC2LMX
Trustee	Wayne DeBiasio	N2PSU
Trustee	Edward C. Grassmann	N2TDM
Trustee	James M. Brown	WB2EDO
W2LI Trustee	Robert E. Grassmann	KB2BBD

TCRA NEWS STAFF:

E-MAIL address W2LI@arrl.net

Editor	Robert E. Grassmann	KB2BBD
Editor	Edward C. Grassmann	N2TDM

TCRA LIFE MEMBERS:

AA2ZJ	Gerald E. Miller Jr.
KE2KX	Herbert D. Eldert Jr.
KK2ED	Eric S. Dobrowansky
N2ERN	Harris M. Ruben
N3DV	Richard M. Montgomery
W2EUF	Richard E. Franklin
W2OBJ	Albert A. Roehm
WA2OKZ	Kenneth J. Pietrucha
WB2RMH	Leonard T. Detlor
WB2RNJ	William C. Lambert
W5GP	Andrew W. Morrison

NPARC Annual Auction and Indoor Flea Market. Friday February 23, 2007

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; auction begins at 7:00 p.m. New Providence Municipal Center Gymnasium (a change from last year).

Further information is at:

<http://www.nparc.org/auction.htm>

A flyer that includes driving directions is at:

<http://www.nparc.org/flyers/AuctionNPARC.pdf>

February 2007

TCRA NEWS FEBRUARY 2007

TCRA News is published ten times a year, with no issues in August and December.

PROGRAMS/EVENTS FOR

FEBRUARY*

***Subject to change.**

February 5th: 'SHOW & TELL' Bring in your new amateur Christmas and Hanukkah toys and tell us about them. **(8PM AT THE UNION ELKS)**

February 10th: "VE TEST SESSION" 8AM at the Union County College Cranford Campus.

February 19th: Plans were not finalized at press time. It may be a social meeting or a topic you would not want to miss. **(8PM AT THE UNION ELKS)**

February 24th: "VE TEST SESSION" A special VE testing session sponsored by TCRA and the Union County O.E.M will be held at 9AM at the Union County OEM. See Note on page 3.

February 26th: "ON THE AIR MEETING" (9:30PM W2LI 2M 147.255 PL 141.3).

2007 DUES

Just a reminder: TCRA 2007 dues are due for 2007 membership. Dues are \$20.00. If you can't make it out to a meeting, you may send it to the club PO Box. Please note that although the dues are the same as last year the clubs expenses continue to rise. If you are able please add a donation to your dues payment. In advance thank you for your donation.

The ARRL Letter, Vol. 6, No. 4, January 26, 2007.

**IT'S OFFICIAL! MORSE CODE
REQUIREMENT ENDS FRIDAY,
FEBRUARY 23**

Circle Friday, February 23, on your calendar. That's when the current 5 WPM Morse code requirement will officially disappear from the Amateur Radio Service Part 97 rules. Effective that date, applicants for a General or Amateur Extra class Amateur Radio license no longer will have to demonstrate proficiency in Morse code. They'll just have to pass the applicable written examination. Federal Register publication January 24 of the FCC's Report and Order (R&O) in the "Morse code proceeding," WT Docket 05-235, started a 30-day countdown for the new rules to become effective.

"The overall effect of this action is to further the public interest by encouraging individuals who are interested in communications technology or who are able to contribute to the advancement of the radio art, to become Amateur Radio operators; and eliminating a requirement that is now unnecessary and may discourage Amateur Service licensees from advancing their skills in the communications and technical phases of Amateur Radio," the FCC remarked in the Federal Register version of the "Morse code" R&O. The League had asked the FCC to retain the 5 WPM for amateur Extra class applicants, but the Commission held to its decision to eliminate the requirement across the board. The rules that appeared in the Federal Register constitute their official version <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20071800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/pdf/E7-729.pdf>.

The new rules also mean that starting February 23 all Technician licensees, whether or not February 2007

they've passed a Morse code examination, will have CW privileges on 80, 40 and 15 meters and CW, RTTY, data and SSB privileges on 10 meters. Once the new rules go into effect Technicians may begin using their new privileges without any further action.

An applicant holding a valid Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) for Element 3 (General) or Element 4 (Amateur Extra) credit may redeem it for an upgrade at a Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) exam session. A CSCE is good for 365 days from the date of issuance, no exceptions.

For example, a Technician licensee holding a valid CSCE for Element 3 credit would have to apply at a VEC test session and pay the application fee, which most VECs charge, in order to receive an instant upgrade to General.

ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist Dan Henderson, N1ND, cautions that a license upgrade is **not** automatic for those holding valid CSCEs for element credit. "You must apply for the upgrade at a VEC test session, and you may not operate as /AG or /AE until you have upgraded and have been issued a CSCE marked for upgrade," he stresses. "A valid CSCE for element credit only does not confer any operating privileges."

Henderson also advises all radio amateurs to know and fully understand their operating privileges before taking to the airwaves. Some Technician licensees reportedly started showing up on 75 meters December 15 in the mistaken belief that they had gained phone privileges there.

The FCC R&O includes an Order on Reconsideration in WT Docket 04-140 – the so-called "omnibus" proceeding. It will modify Part 97 in response to ARRL's request to

accommodate automatically controlled narrowband digital stations on 80 meters in the wake of other rule changes that became effective last December 15. The Commission designated 3585 to 3600 kHz for such operations, although that segment will remain available for CW, RTTY and data. The ARRL had requested that the upper limit of the W/RTTY/data subband be set at 3635 kHz so there would be no change in the existing 3620 to 3635 kHz subband.

The ARRL has posted all relevant information on these important Part 97 rule revisions on its "FCC's Morse Code Report and Order WT Docket 05-235" Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/fcc/morse/>>.

VE TEST SESSION

Tri-County Radio Ass'n., in cooperation with Union County OEM, will sponsor a VE session at the Union County Office Building, 300 North Ave. East in Westfield NJ. The session will begin at 0900 thru 1100 AM on February 24th, 2007.

This facility is **NOT HANDICAP FRIENDLY**. The sessions will be held in the second floor conference room. This session is primarily designed for paperwork upgrades, however, testing for new or upgraded licenses will also be available.

Copies of licenses or CSCEs are needed for ARRL processing and will not be returned. **PERSONAL CHECKS ARE PREFERRED** and should be made out to **ARRL-VEC**. Note the current test fee is \$14.00.

Two forms of Identification are necessary and at least one must be a photo ID. For further information contact Gerry Miller, AA2ZJ at 732-283-2795 or at aa2zj@juno.com.



NPARC Annual Auction and Indoor Flea Market.

Friday February 23, 2007

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; auction begins at 7:00 p.m. New Providence Municipal Center Gymnasium (a change from last year)

"Some of New Jersey's most highly prized and valuable radio, electronic, audio, and computer items will be available."

Further information is at:

<http://www.nparc.org/auction.htm>

A flyer that includes driving directions is at:

<http://www.nparc.org/flyers/AuctionNPARC.pdf>

73,

Ralph Milnes KC2RLM
Auction Publicity
New Providence ARC

Any Ideas???

Do you have an article you'd like to submit for publication in the TCRA News? The TCRA News editors are always seeking articles for future issues. If you have any ideas, please contact Bob, KB2BBD at kb2bbd@arrl.net.

ADVERTISE YOUR EVENT HERE

If you belong to another organization and would like to list it in the TCRA Newsletter contact Bob, KB2BBD at kb2bbd@arrl.net.



February 2007

TRI-COUNTY RADIO ASSOCIATION EVENTS



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5 8:00 PM TCRA MEETING AT THE UNION ELKS "SHOW AND TELL"	6 8:30 PM SATERN NET 449.975 MHz	7	8	9	10 8:00 AM VE TEST UNION COUNTY COLLEGE CRANFORD
11	12	13 8:30 PM SATERN NET 449.975 MHz	14	15	16	17
18	19 8:00 PM TCRA MEETING AT THE UNION ELKS "TBA"	20 8:30 PM SATERN NET 449.975 MHz	21	22	23	24 9:00 AM "SPECIAL VE TEST SESSION UNION COUNTY EOC"
25	26 9:00 PM TCRA ON THE AIR MEETING - NJ5R 147.255 MHz	27 8:30 PM SATERN NET 449.975 MHz	28			