



# The MAARC EXCITER

Editor: Joshua Beeson, N9GQA

MAARC, PO BOX 1441 MUNCIE, INDIANA 47308

February 2007

## MAARC Officers:

- President:
- Gary Lee, KB9ZUV
- KB9ZUV@ARRL.NET
- Vice President:
- Robert Ullman, KC9CQZ
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- Secretary:
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- Treasurer:
- Steve Phillips, NX9N
- NX9N@comcast.net
- Station Trustee:
- Sonny McCoy, WA9DOL
- Membership Information:
- Membership in the Muncie Area Amateur Radio Club (MAARC) is open to all Amateurs. Applications should be submitted to the club secretary. The purpose of MAARC is to bring together, for their mutual benefit, persons interested in the various areas of the Amateur Radio Service. Any interested person is cordially invited to attend one or more of our regularly scheduled meetings. We meet on the third Sunday of the month at the Maring-Hunt school library in Muncie at 2 PM. February's meeting will be on February 18, 2007 at 2 PM.
- Please send general club correspondence to:  
MAARC President  
PO Box 1441  
Muncie, IN 47308

## What Are My New Privileges? What Do I Do With Them?

On February 23, 2007, all Technician class hams get a new set of privileges. I will discuss what these privileges are and what you can do on February 23 and afterward.

### 1. What are these new privileges?

To answer that, I must go through a bit of ham history. Before 1987, there were five classes of licensees: Novice, Technician, General, Advanced, and Extra. These had progressively more privileges respectively. The Novice had CW privileges on a portion of the 80, 40, 15, and 10 meter bands. In addition, phone operation was allowed on a small portion of the 10 meter band and power was limited to 200 Watts PEP.

The Technician class, gave the Novice privileges plus all VHF and higher access. Later, when the CW requirement was dropped for the Technician license, the distinction was maintained between the "no code" technician and a technician who had passed the CW test. This so called "tech plus" was effectively given the old tech privileges (VHF and higher) and the Novice privileges.

Enter February 23, 2007, and the end of the Morse code requirement. Under the new system, all technician class licensees are effectively "tech plus". Also, with the elimination of the Novice bands, the old Novice privileges have undergone dramatic expansion. Your new privileges are as follows: 80 Meters-- 3525-3600 kHz CW only; 40 Meters-- 7025-7125 kHz CW only; 15 Meters-- 21,025-21,200 kHz CW only; 10 Meters-- 28,000(continued pg2)

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-28,300 kHz CW/RTTY/DATA; 10 Meters-- 28,300-28,500 kHz CW/SSB. Power output is limited to 200 Watts PEP for all modes and bands.

## 2. So what can I do with this?

In a word, operate. You can now get a taste of RTTY, PSK-31, and other digital modes. Also, phone operation is now possible on HF. Finally, learn the code. This will get you a much wider choice of operating bands to suit all conditions. Hope to work all the Technicians in the coming months. 73's, Gary Lee, KB9ZUV

## The President's Corner

### FROM THE LITTLE BROWN SHACK

Well folks, another month has passed, and we've got a long list of things to get going. Bill Walker, N9RI, and I, are getting an inventory of all club equipment together. I have made contact with the new owners of the former home of WA1MKE. They are ready for us to get the tower out of there, so as soon as I can get enough help, we'll get that done.

Also, planning has begun for field day with the appointment of a committee. A committee has also been appointed to examine our Constitution and Bylaws and recommend any necessary changes.

Finally the date everyone is waiting for was announced. At 12:01AM, February 23, 2007, the Morse testing requirement will become history. So, all you techs use those privileges.



**Gary Lee, KB9ZUV**

**President**

## FCC Resumes Processing of Amateur Radio Vanity Call Sign Backlog

The FCC has started processing a large backlog of Amateur Radio Vanity Call Sign applications. The backlog began when the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, who is responsible for issuing the vanity call signs, stopped processing applications received on or after December 18, 2006. The WTB was preparing the Universal Licensing System vanity application software to accommodate a December 15, 2006, rule change that discourages the filing of multiple applications for the same call sign.

The FCC began working on the back log on February 8, 2007. Approximately 625 applications were waiting when the work began. The FCC expects to have the backlog completed by February 23, 2007, when they expect to receive an avalanche of applications after the elimination of the Morse code testing requirement. This will be due to a massive influx of license upgrades.

Typically, the vanity call sign application takes approximately 18 days for the FCC to issue the call sign after the application has been received or the application is denied. The current cost for a vanity call sign is \$20.80 for the 10 year license term.

If you have already submitted a vanity call sign application, good news, you should soon have your answer. If you have not already submitted an application, maybe it is time to think about a vanity call sign or maybe even a license upgrade..... Just something to ponder!  
73's , Josh Beeson, N9GQA

### For Sale/ Wanted List

It's free so contact me at N9GQA@ARRL.NET if you have anything you want to list before next month's newsletter deadline which is March 12, 2007.

## Editor's

## Notes

Greetings to my fellow club members! Just a quick reminder that it is already February and if you have not paid your club dues for this year they are now due. Be sure to see Steve, NX9N, at the meeting to pay up. I do need articles for the newsletter and website so please help me out and send me some articles, photos, or ideas. The deadline for next month's newsletter is March



Josh Beeson, N9GQA

12, 2007. I hope every one is doing well and enjoying all

the snow we have gotten lately. I have really enjoyed it myself and I have been putting the 4X4 through it's paces. It is always nice to know that I am never alone during bad weather because someone is always listening somewhere on the ham bands ready to assist me. My wish is that everyone spend five extra minutes monitoring the radio this week. Thanks and  
73's, Josh Beeson, N9GQA

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