

Amateur Radio – A Short Story

What is Amateur Radio? Ham radio is a global fraternity of people with common yet widely diverse interests, able to interchange ideas

and learn more about each other with On-The-Air contact. Imagine the thrill of communicating with someone on the other side of the world who has interests the same as yours. Because of this, Amateur Radio has the ability to enhance international relations, as does no other hobby. The United States government has continued to recognize the purpose and importance of this well-established and organized hobby. Today radio amateurs continue to serve the public as a voluntary, non-commercial communications service, especially during natural disasters and other emergency situations.

Amateur Radio has existed since before World War 1, yet is as to date as tomorrow. Hams relay signals through their own space satellites, bounce signals off the moon, chat with other local hams on hand held radios, from transmitters in their homes, or from radios in their cars. They send pictures by television, tap out Morse code, communicate by Radio-Teletype and digital modes, and use computers connected to their radios. Other hams operate at the leading edge of technology and put remote theory into practical applications.

In order to operate as a radio amateur, one must be issued a license by the Federal Commission. This license requires passing a written test on the theory

and regulations relating to operating a radio station. In the past, Morse Code testing was also a requirement. These tests are now

administered by the voluntary and uncompensated services of licensed radio amateurs under the strict supervision of the Volunteer Exam Coordinator and the FCC. Radio amateur exams are held frequently in this and surrounding areas. The **TWO RIVERS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB** participates in this program.

TWO RIVERS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC.

The Two Rivers Amateur Radio Club, Inc. was organized in 1962 when three other organizations decided to combine resources. In addition to the monthly meetings, the club holds annual activities such as our 'Hamfest/ Computer Show', Family Picnic and Holiday Dinner. The club also participates in the ARRL (American Radio Relay League) sponsored event called 'Field Day' and licensing classes. On-The-Air meetings known as 'NETS' are held weekly in which all amateurs, whether members or not of the **TRARC**, are encouraged to participate. Our members are active in the Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) and participate in events such as 'Running Marathons' and 'Antique Car Races' by providing communication facilities during the event. In the past, demonstrations of Amateur Radio have been held at local shopping malls, yearly

and public outings. Our members actively display the many aspect of the hobby, using Voice, Code, or Computers to communicate.

Club members are always ready To assist anyone who may be interested in becoming a ham radio operator. Training classes have been held utilizing Club members as instructors. Many of the instructors, by trade, are Educators, or Engineers. Theory and Hands-On experience are part of each class. The class usually consist of multiple sessions.

Monthly meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. (except for August and December). Currently we meet in the Social Hall of the Blaine Hill VFD, 409 Oxford Avenue, Elizabeth PA. **TRARC** members or a Guest Speaker will often give a technical talk at our regular meetings. A question and answer session usually follows.

We also operate an internet web site 'www.trarc.net'. Our mailing address is **TRARC, P.O BOX 225, GREENOCK PA 15047-0225**