

18775 Armada Ridge Road
Armada, MI 48005

PUBLIC SERVICE DIV.
OMD-PIRS

WT Docket #
98-143

AUG 21 4 59 PM '98

Comment

August 18, 1998

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Federal Communications Commission

RECEIVED

SEP - 3 1998

To Whom This May Concern,

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Regarding the recent announcement made by the ARRL proposal, I'm offering my own suggestions as a dedicated amateur radio operator, "W8DMC".

It's basically elementary, reduce code proficiency for General class and above to ten words per minute. Eliminate the code for extra class other than the 10 WPM.

Group General, Advance and Extra as the new Class A. The Technician class should be at 5 WPM Class B. The Novice class as C, based on entry level status. With code at 10 WPM mandatory for class A and the increased HF spectrum privileges you should increase the testing requirements for all class A levels. Thus allowing such group broader privileges but increased proficiency and knowledge.

Do not lower the effort of those whom have obtained 13 WPM and the current General class license. It would be a serious moral problem to them all.

Group Extra, Advanced and General with increased master testing vs. code proficiency. The class B category at 5 WPM with additional testing. The lass C as Novice but with increased testing and no code based as entry level status.

Please work harder on implementing a national and state even a local level self-enforcement program for those that misuse the amateur bands. Provide standards by which one must adhere to or face sever fines and or loss of license.

As a member of ARRL, I'm also concerned the elected body has not come to the general membership prior to their recommendations to you. We

the body of the ARRL should have been allowed to make recommendations as this letter so states.

I thank you for reading this letter. It is a general consensus among many local radio operators here in the Detroit area of Michigan.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Douglas M. Casamer". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Douglas M. Casamer, W8DMC

Cc ARRL
Congressional Rep.

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

WT Docket #
98-143

From: "Dick Cota" <dikota@cyberportal.net>
To: B7.B7(BCROSS)
Date: 8/31/98 12:43am
Subject: amatuer class requirements

i'm concern about the purposal of lowering the standards of all the operating classes..
we've seen it in our high schools and colleges that lowering the education standards
only corrupts the system.

i don't think it is a good idea to lower the education standards so the dummies can
pass the test. and by doing away with the code requirements at 13wpm and above.
these lazy individuals that want to be able to use the voice portions that come with
general class and above, want it, without learning the code.

the arrl wants it to line there pockets from endorsements thru vendors.and also by making
the test easier they will get more membership. which they need as their membership is very
low compared to total number of hams.

ofcourse this is my opinion, and may or may not reflect the truth.
PLEASE HELP IN KEEPING THE AMATUER CLASSES THE SAME .
in the long run it will be worth it.

thank you for reading this. and your help on this matter is very much appreciated
n1cxk
richard cota

RECEIVED

SEP - 2 1998

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

_____ |

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RECEIVED

SEP - 2 1998

WT Docket #
98-143

Wm. T. Cross W3TN
Policy and Rules Branch
FCC, Room 8010, 2025 M St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554
Attention: Amateur Service Review

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In your address before the Dayton Hamvention you were quoted as saying, regarding possible amateur licensing restructuring, "I assure you we won't be taking away any privileges from anybody. We learned that lesson in the 1968 incentive licensing decision".

As the Commission considers restructuring I believe it is time to correct the inequities of the '60s. Mine is a case in point. I am an 81 year old amateur first licensed in 1933. As a pre-1952 Advanced class licensee (old Class A), incentive licensing of the '60s deprived me of my earned CW privileges in four amateur bands. I petition that these lower 25kh segments be restored to such licensees by grandfathering. There are so few of us left that our presence on these frequencies would scarcely be noticed. This comment, while admittedly personal, is based on the principle of fairness as promulgated by the Commission.

For the broader good of the amateur community, I believe that the United States has too many license levels and would like to see a structure more in line with the structures of other countries. The two level CEPT structure makes much sense, has wide usage and would eliminate the paradox of foreign amateurs, operating in the United States, having frequency privileges denied American amateurs with higher level licenses.

As a long time member of ARRL I do not agree with its board's proposal which was supported by a bare majority on the second vote when one director switched sides.

There is a world-wide trend to view CW as an outmoded practice and to reduce or eliminate CW proficiency as a licensing requirement. The majority of amateurs (I am in the minority) prefer voice to CW transmission and covet voice frequencies.

It is not logical to reward top class licensees, whose license is based on state-of-the-art technical proficiency, with exclusive use of CW frequencies. I believe that the United States is the only country who does so. It would seem more appropriate to provide exclusive voice and special mode frequencies as an incentive for the top class in a three level structure.

Thank you for considering my thoughts on this subject.

Charles A. Earp Jr. W3DKT

Charles A. Earp Jr. W3DKT
4 Turnberry Court
Lutherville, MD 21093

1