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05-235

Sandralyn Bailey

From: Andrew McNeal [andymcneal@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2006 9:11 PM
To: KJMWEB
Subject: Comments to the Chairman

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AUG - 7 2006
Federal Communications Commission

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Andrew McNeal (andymcneal@hotmail.com) writes:

Dear Chairman Martin,

My name is Andrew McNeal. I am an amateur radio operator from Ohio. I realize that you are a very busy man. I also realize that it may be FCC policy not to commit to taking a vote on a proposed rule change. With that said I will try to be brief and to the point. On July 15, 2005 the FCC issued a request for comments regarding a proposal to remove the Morse Code requirement in amateur radio. As of today, July 14, 2006, the FCC website is still accepting comments. I have been following this proposal since I first heard about it. I would like to be very blunt is stating that I am not asking for a commitment as to when the FCC will take action on this proposal. Instead, I am asking for a change in what the amateur radio community has heard. Since the proposal has been issued the amateur radio community has heard one thing from the FCC regarding this proposal and that is "no comment." What I am asking for is a simple status update. I am just curious what progress has been made on this proposal. If you offer a tentative date for a possible vote I would appreciate it although I am not expecting that kind of response.

Thanks for your time,
Andrew McNeal

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Remote IP address: 63.121.245.250

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SandraLyn Bailey

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From: MAUREEN WIKANDER [ericmaureen@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Sunday, July 16, 2006 12:57 PM

To: Jonathan Adelstein

Subject: FCC NPRM WT Docket ~~98-143~~

AUG - 7 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

ORIGINAL

Regarding "FCC NPRM. WT ~~Docket 98-143~~."

Dear Sir:

I would love to communicate on the HF bands. I will probably do so anyway, yet, I really have no interest in Morse Code. Please eliminate the code requirements on General and Extra class ham licensing.

Russell E. Wikander Jr.
KI6CEZ

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05-235

SandraLyn Bailey

From: VINCENT J. KLEMMER [K7VINNY@AOL.COM]
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2006 2:52 PM
To: KJMWEB
Subject: Comments to the Chairman

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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VINCENT J. KLEMMER (K7VINNY@AOL.COM) writes:

Mr. Martin,

Please consider dropping the code at your meeting on August the 3rd. There are thousands of people like me that can not pass the code because of disabilities.

In my case I have studied very hard but when it comes down to writting the code after hearing it I can't get it. I have an illness called systemic Lupus that can cause problems with the CNS. I have also had a small stroke due to a blood clotting disease due also to Systemic Lupus. I have a delay in my mind and this makes the morse code imposible for me.

Everyday I fear that I will never be able to get on HF even though I have passed the written General test. Please act on this as soon as possible. Having Systemic Lupus ,along with the other problems it brings I live day to day not knowing how it will effect me . I know you are busy and have dates planned but for people like me with disabilities it is different. As you know the code is not nessesary to operate a station and most Countries have allready droped the requirement.

I know you plan on dropping it also but but as each day passes people with disabilities are being hurt.

Thank You and good luck in your new job.

VINCENT JOSEPH KLEMMER
11457 EAST COVINA STREET
MESA, ARIZONA 85207

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05-235

SandraLyn Bailey

From: Gshennin76@aol.com
 Sent: Friday, July 21, 2006 12:55 AM
 To: KJMWEB; Michael Copps; Jonathan Adelstein; dtayloratateweb; Robert McDowell
 Subject: Morse Code thoughts from W8GS

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Dear Commissioners:

I am sure you receive more emails than you can possible read and hopefully an aide will download this and share it with you. It seems like there must be a dilemma or probably it more a low priority with deciding what to do with the CW requirement for the Amateur Radio license structure. I would like to take a couple minutes of your time to express my opinions on the subject.

I don't know why I feel compelled to write this as I did not participate in the original official responses to 98-143 or what ever the proposed rule making was, but here are my thoughts on the CW issue.

I have been licensed 49 years (July 19, 1957) and like many of my contemporaries got into this hobby as the result of CW. Yes, when learning Morse code was a requirement for the First Class rank in Scouting. I guess I could partially blame Amateur Radio for my dropping out of the Boy Scouts and thus never making it to the rank of Eagle, which I still feel is a coveted award today.

So, I feel that a CW exam, if even for 5 wpm, still should remain in the Amateur Radio license structure. I would make it a requirement for the Extra Class and the ONLY requirement. Do away with the theory for that class, incorporate some of it into the General class, if necessary, and then do away with the current Extra class sub-bands.

It only makes sense to me that, to this date, anyone who has achieved an Extra class license has had to demonstrate proficiency in CW (or had a medical wavier) and in order to have an Extra class license in the future would have to show the same proficiency. Those who do not care about CW can go to the General class (with CW eliminated) and have all the privileges enjoyed by Extras today.

Taking this a bit further would mean that anyone could operate CW, a novice, a no code General, a no code Technician and the coded Extra. Those who would want to try to become more proficient with code could do so and perhaps aspire to getting the Extra class certificate.

The Extra would then be, by definition, someone who has demonstrated a proficiency in CW. I believe that the lower CW sub-bands will continue to be frequented by Extras and perhaps the no code license classes would venture into the CW sub-bands to work on achieving an Extra class license.

I consider that Technicians have VHF privileges, Generals have VHF/ HF privileges and Extras have VHF/HF privileges with the distinction that they have earned Extra class after an

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exam by their peers.

Novices are in a kind of no-mans land and maybe they could operate CW on all bands too, with no voice privileges until they passed the Technician or General class exams and then receive the frequency privileges that go with those classes.

And another thought and unfortunately it is too late for this, but I would have kept some call sign format for the Extra licensee, such as 1x2 or 2x1. It wouldn't mean that you would have to change to that format, but at least having that would indicate that you were an Extra class licensee. Obviously it would probably mean that there would not be enough of those calls to go around, so it would be on an as available system that is presently in place today.

Anyway, I hope you are able to reach a decision soon. I certainly can understand the pressure to have an Amateur Radio license structure that does not require CW to get on the air as many of the world's nations seems to be doing. I see no reason why we can't continue to have a license that say's "I've demonstrated a proficiency in Morse code" and maybe with that carrot out there, more may strive to achieve it and end up bolstering the CW ranks.

In closing, let me say that when I was first licensed there was a fear of the FCC and a concern that my station be in full compliance, even with having an operating Conelrad receiver going while I was on the air. I still have a great respect for the FCC and feel your anguish with having to deal with so many issues today both in the Amateur field and probably more so with public broadcast and Internet issues.

Respectfully,

G. Scott Henninger W8GS

620 Woodsway Drive
Loveland, OH 45140-9150

gshennin76@aol.com

8/2/2006