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Extra Class
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Proceeding Number: 12-283

Amendment of the Amateur Service Rules
Governing Qualifying Examination Systems and
Other Matters

Increasing the grace period for license renewal from two years to ten years is a reasonable. It is not reasonable to think that someone holding a license that expired over twenty years ago is current with today's technology and current FCC rules and regulations.

Any person wishing to renew an expired license must produce their original copy of their FCC issued license. The VE's and VEC's should not be held responsible to prove that a person held a license. Using any other proof on holding a license is open to fraud.

If a license holder failed to renew their license within a two year period, their old call would be available for reissue through the current Vanity Call System. If their old call was still available the original license holder could apply for it via the Vanity Call System.

Examination Administration

I do not see that changing the number of VE's from 3 to 2 will generate more VE's available for testing. Change the rules so that a VE can administer a test up to their current license class. This will make it possible for a VE holding a General call license test both Technician and General class license. This will allow more General class license holders to get involved with the VE program, there by giving us more VE's to do testing.

Change the rules so remote testing can be done. I think the ARRL has shown that with the current technology that a VE Team can monitor a testing secession remotely. The rules will have to be changed regarding the grading of the test. I also believe that one VE needs to be at the test site to administer the test and then collect all test material. Once completed it would then be mailed to the monitoring VE's for grading. CSCE would be issued and mailed to the candidate that successfully passed the exam.