

# *The Smokehouse*

*Where Country Hams Hang Out*

*December 2022*

*President: Larry Brumett, KN4IV*

*Vice President: Roger Given, K8RPG*

*Secretary: Herb Hess, KJ4CMG*

*Treasurer: Chappy Rice KD4SS*



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## **MCARC's Own Charlie O'Neal KE4AIE New Section Manager**

Charles O'Neal, KE4AIE will begin his term as ARRL Kentucky Section Manager on January 1, 2023.

Charles O'Neal, KE4AIE, of Glasgow, Kentucky, has been appointed as the ARRL Kentucky Section Manager, starting January 1, 2023, after he was the only nominee for the position when the nomination deadline passed on December 9, 2022. Although O'Neal's elected 2-year term of office officially begins on April 1, 2023, Field Services Manager Mike

Walters, W8ZY, appointed him to start on New Year's Day because the position has been open for the past few months.

Kentucky Section Manager Steve Morgan, W4NHO, decided to step down this past July, before the current term of office concludes on March 31, 2023. Morgan, of Owensboro, has served as Section Manager since 2017. He has been serving simultaneously as the Section Traffic Manager and Affiliated Club Coordinator. Morgan was also the ARRL Kentucky Section Manager from 1991 to 1997.

## **MCARC Meeting November 15th, 2022.**

The meeting came to order at 7pm in the basement of the City Hall Building located in Glasgow, KY

KY4BC made a motion, seconded by KE4AIE, to dispense with reading the minutes. Motion passed.

KD4SS Gave the financial report. He reported \$XXXX.XX in the checking and X new CDs at \$XXXX.XX/ea. KC4RGE made a motion, seconded by KC4MIT, to accept the report. Motion passed.

## Committee Reports:

**Repeater Committee:** W4RRK has been working on installing a new Fusion radio that has enabled the footprint of the Fusion repeater.

No update on the tower project at Lohden Rd. The new antenna has arrived and has been taken out to the site.

**Hamfest Committee:** Everything is still a go for the hamfest in March.

Field Day/Special Event Committee: No report

**Webpage Committee:** No report.

**Old Business:** KJ4CMG gave a report on the upcoming Turkey Trot race that is scheduled for Saturday November 19th. The 5-mile race starts at 8am. Glasgow Parks and Rec has forwarded the map and assignment locations.

KE4AIE forwarded to KJ4CMG the people that responded to the postcards

he sent out to amateur radio operators in Barren and surrounding counties. KJ4CMG reached out to them via email and sent them the latest copy of the Smokehouse and information about the club and club meetings.

Voted on KQ4DRT and KE4WUP for membership. Both were voted in unanimously.

KC4RGE nominated KO4WFO for membership.

**New Business:** The members discussed the upcoming holiday potluck on December 20th, 2022. K8RPG will take care of the turkey and KJ4CMG will take care of the ham. Members are asked to bring side dishes and desserts.

No further business to come before the members, KC4RGE made a motion, seconded by KF4HNF, to adjourn. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.



## New General Question Pool Released for Ham Radio Licensing Effective July 1, 2023

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators' ([NCVEC](#)) Question Pool Committee ([QPC](#)) has released the [2023 - 2027 General Class FCC Element 3 Syllabus and Question Pool](#) to the public. The new General Question Pool is effective July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2027.

The new pool incorporates some significant changes compared to the 2019 - 2023 version. Its 432 questions were modified slightly to improve wording and to replace distractors; 51 new questions were generated, and 73 questions were eliminated. This resulted in a reduction of 22 questions, bringing the

total number of questions in the pool down from 454. The level of difficulty of questions is more balanced, and the techniques and practices addressed have been updated.

The [pool](#) is available as a Microsoft Word document and PDF. The single graphic required for the new General Question Pool is available within the documents, or separately as PDF and JPG file formats.

"The newly revised pool must be used for General-class license exams starting July 1, 2023," said ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, who is a member of the NCVEC Question Pool Committee. "New test designs will be available to [ARRL Volunteer Examiners](#) on that date. The ARRL VEC will supply its officially appointed, field-stocked VE teams with new General exam booklet designs around mid-June."

General class examination candidates preparing for their exams using the 9th

edition of [The General Class License Manual](#), and/or the 6th edition of [ARRL's General Q & A](#) are encouraged to test by, or before, June 30, 2023. New editions of ARRL licensing publications will be available in May, for exams taken on, or after, July 1, 2023.



### **Grimeton Station to Transmit Christmas Message**

On Christmas Eve morning, December 24, 2022, the Alexander Grimeton Friendship Association, in southern Sweden will be on the air sending out a special Christmas message to the world.

The event will begin at 08:30 CET (07:30 UTC) with the startup and tuning of the Alexanderson alternator transmitter through Grimeton Radio Station, call sign SAQ.

The transmission will begin at 09:00 CET (08:00 UTC) with the 98-year-old 200 kW Alexanderson alternator on 17.2 kHz CW.

Grimeton Radio Station, SK6SAQ, will be QRV (ready) on the following frequencies:

3.535 MHz CW

7.035 MHz CW

14.035 MHz CW

3.755 MHz SSB

7.140 MHz SSB

QSL reports can be sent to SK6SAQ via email at [info@alexander.n.se](mailto:info@alexander.n.se).

The event will also be live streamed on the Alexander SAQ Grimeton Friendship Association YouTube Channel.

The Alexanderson alternator transmitter is the only remaining example of early pre-electronic radio transmitter technology. The station, built in 1922 - 1924, has been preserved as a historical

site. From the 1920s through the 1940s, it was used to transmit telegram traffic by Morse code to North America and throughout the world during World War II.

More information about the December 24 Christmas Eve event and the transmitter can be found at the Grimeton Radio Station website.



### **Youth on the Air Camp 2023 Application Period Now Open**

Applications are now being accepted for campers interested in attending Youth on the Air (YOTA) Camp 2023.

Licensed amateur radio operators ages 15 through 25 are encouraged to apply online at [YouthOnTheAir.org](http://YouthOnTheAir.org). The Radio Amateurs of Canada will be the local host for the 2023 YOTA Camp. It is scheduled to take place July 16 to 21, 2023, at the Carleton University

campus in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

Applications will be accepted through May 31, 2023, but for the best chance at being selected, applications should be submitted by 2359 UTC on January 15, 2023.

The application process is free. However, a \$100 deposit is required upon acceptance. If a camper is unable to pay the deposit, they may be able to apply for a scholarship or waiver. Camp Director, Neil Rapp, WB9VPG, said campers are responsible for their transportation to the camp location, though some assistance may be available. Travel during camp events is provided.

Campers will be selected by the working group and notified by February 1. To encourage attendance from across the Americas, allocations for campers are being held open for various areas of North, Central, and South America. If countries do not use their allocation, or

should someone within an allocation decline acceptance, those positions will be filled from the remaining pool of applicants. As this will be an ongoing process, everyone will not receive notification of acceptance at the same time. Preference will be given to first-time attendees.

COVID-19 guidelines are still in effect and may have an impact on offering the camp. Currently, the outlook on offering the camp in July 2023 is positive. If the camp cannot be hosted, or would need to reschedule, all applicants will be notified as soon as possible. Appropriate requirements on masking and vaccination statuses will be announced as needed. A YouTube video is now available about the 2023 YOTA Camp. For details and additional information, contact the Camp Director Neil Rapp, WB9VPG, at [director@youthontheair.org](mailto:director@youthontheair.org).