

The Smokehouse

Where Country Hams Hang Out

January 2022

President, Larry Brumett, KN4IV

Vice President, Roger Given, K8RPG

Sec/Treas, Herb Hess, KJ4CMG



MCARC Meeting December 21st, 2021

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

KC4RGE made a motion, seconded by K8RPG, to dispense with reading the minutes. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Repeater Committee:

Moved the Fusion Repeater into the other room to get it out of the way.

Hamfest Committee:

Annual Hamfest is set to be held on Saturday, March 5th, 2022.

Field Day/Special Event Committee:

No report.

Webpage Committee: No issues with the website and it is being regularly updated.

Old Business: None to report at this meeting.

New Business:

KD4SS brought up about separating the office of Secretary/Treasurer into Secretary and Treasurer. We will work on amending the bylaws.

Officers selected for the 2022 year are as follows:
President, KN4IV; Vice President, K8RPG; Secretary, KJ4CMG; Treasurer, KD4SS.

W4RRK was awarded the Spirit of Amateur Radio Award. He has really contributed to the work in deploying the Yaesu System Fusion Repeater.

No further business to come before the meeting, KC4RGE made a motion, seconded by N4HCO to adjourn. Motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:30pm. There were 41 members and guests present for the annual Christmas Potluck.



**New Technician
Question Pool
Released, Effective
July 1, 2022**

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) Question Pool Committee (QPC) has released the **2022 – 2026 Technician Class FCC Element 2 NCVEC Question Pool Syllabus & Question Pool** into the public domain. It's available as a Word document or PDF. The three graphics required for the new Technician question pool are available within the documents, or separately as PDF or JPG files.

The new pool incorporates some significant changes compared to the 2018 – 2022 pool. Its 257 questions were modified slightly to improve wording or to replace distractors; 51 new questions were generated, and 62 questions were eliminated. This resulted in a reduction of 11 questions, bringing the total number of questions in the pool from 423 to 412. The difficulty level of the questions is now more balanced, and the techniques and practices

addressed have been updated.

The new 2022 – 2026 question pool is effective July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2026, and *must* be used for Technician-class license exams administered on or after July 1, 2022. — *Thanks to NCVEC Question Pool Committee*



ARRL Surveying Field Day Participants

The ARRL Programs and Services Committee is seeking input from stations and groups that participated in **ARRL Field Day 2020** and 2021 and has posted a survey. The committee said the survey results may help shape the development of Field Day rules for 2022 and beyond. The survey has already been sent via email to some 13,000 Field Day participants, more than 2,400 Affiliated Clubs, and to the CQ-Contest and VHF-Contesting Reflectors.

“Specifically, as we look toward 2022 Field Day, health and social-distancing

concerns may continue in June 2022 during the ongoing world pandemic,” said ARRL Radiosport Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ. “For 2023 and beyond, the assumption is made that the pandemic will be over, and COVID-related restrictions will be relaxed.”

Jahnke said the Programs and Services Committee invites participants’ insights, in advance of its January meeting, regarding what they consider appropriate for operating ARRL Field Day 2022 during the ongoing pandemic. The committee hopes to learn if participants prefer to continue Field Day under the pandemic accommodations afforded in 2020 and 2021, which included limiting home stations to the Low Power multiplier (150 W PEP), and whether stations in some classes or all other classes should be limited to 150 W PEP as well. Field Day stations operating at high power became the topic of some discussion in the wake of Field Day 2021, when some stations were reported to be running the legal limit on FT8 on crowded bands.

The committee is also interested in views on the 150 W versus 100 W change in the

Field Day Low Power category definition, which is being implemented across all contest platforms.

During 2020 and 2021, ARRL permitted a couple of basic accommodations in the Field Day rules during the COVID outbreak.

Participants who could not or did not want to be in a group were allowed to operate from their home stations and contribute their individual scores to their club's Field Day aggregate score. Members' scores were combined to achieve an overall final club score, which then appeared in the ARRL Field Day results summary in *QST* and on the ARRL website.

In addition, Class D (Home, commercial power) stations were allowed to contact other Class D stations for point credit.

In 2021, Class D and Class E (Home, emergency power) stations were limited to a maximum transmitter output power of 150 W PEP (Low Power). The idea here was to minimize the advantage of well-established home stations with superior antenna systems and running up to the legal 1,500 W PEP limit, so

they would not overpower Class A, B, C, or F stations on crowded bands.

Field Day participants may use this **survey link** or copy this URL into a web browser: **<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2022--ARRL-FIELD-DAY-SURVEY>**.

The survey will close on January 17, 2022. **Direct** any questions to the ARRL Contest Department.



The Volunteer Monitor Program Report for December 2021

The Volunteer Monitor (VM) Program is a joint initiative between ARRL and the FCC to enhance compliance in the Amateur Radio Service. This is the December 2021 activity report of the VM Program.

Operators in Center Hill and Coconut Creek, Florida, were issued notices for excessive signal bandwidth on 40 and 75 meters, in

violation of Section 97.307(a) of FCC rules. General-class operators in Hudson, Florida; Winterville, Georgia; Provo, Utah, and Bloomfield Hills, Jackson, and Howell, Michigan, received notices for out-of-band SSB operation on frequencies not permitted by their General-class licenses, in violation of Section 97.301 of FCC rules.

Technician-class operators in Baltimore, Maryland; Divernon, Illinois; Moore, Oklahoma; Bradenton, Florida, and Roseville and Rancho Cordova, California, received Notices for FT8 operation on unauthorized 20- and 40-meter frequencies, in violation of Section 97.301 of FCC rules.

Commendations for exemplary amateur radio operation were issued to licensees in these cities: Dahlonega, Georgia (for managing medical and technical issues during the Six Gap Century bicycle race in October); Riverside, California (for operation

during the October Earthquake Situational Emergency Test); Swansea, South Carolina (for operation on the SC HF ARES Net); Springfield, Indiana (for assistance to new operators in message handling); Mims, Florida (for exceptional efforts in correcting wideband issues), and Raymond, Mississippi (for exemplary operation during ARRL Field Day, statewide HF and VHF nets, and assistance to new operators).

The totals for VM monitoring in November were 1,901 hours on HF frequencies and 2,784 hours on VHF frequencies and above, for a total of 4,685 hours.

There was one referral from the FCC for enforcement assistance. — *Thanks to VM Program Administrator Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH*

Youth on the Air Camp to Return in June

After a successful pilot camp program in 2021, the next camp for Youth on the Air (YOTA) in the Americas has been set for June 12 – 17, 2022. The camp will return to the National Voice of America Museum of Broadcasting in West Chester Township, Ohio.

The application period will open online on February 11. Eligible participants are amateur radio operators between the ages of 15 and 25. A total of 30 campers will be accepted. Some of the 30 spots will be reserved for campers who reside outside of the US but still in the Americas. Priority will be given to first-time attendees. Returning attendees will serve as camp leaders.

“We know that changes in the COVID-19 pandemic status between now and June will have an impact on hosting the camp,” said YOTA Camp Director Neil Rapp, WB9VPG. “Should

we not be able to host the camp or need to reschedule, we will let everyone know with as much notice as possible.

Beginning in 2022, the camp will try to alternate scheduling each year between June and July. Rapp says the camp planning working group acknowledges that avoiding all scheduling conflicts isn’t possible, but hopes that alternating months will provide some diversity with school schedules, extracurricular activities, and major ham radio events.

Beginning in 2023, the location of the camp will rotate to various locations within the Americas. A system will be announced in which International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) member-societies and clubs will bid to serve as the host of the region-wide camp.

For details about the camp and/or to sign up for updates by email, visit the **Youth on the Air camp**

website or **contact** Rapp
for more information.