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Linear Lines Jan-Mar 2019



843-608-4780

The new Officers for the 2019 year are.

- President Ron Davis K4TCP**
- Vice Pres – Jan Kauser KX4MI**
- Secretary – Linda Wilson KM4WBM**
- Treasurer – Brian Freedman W4BFZ**
- Board - Tom Chapman - KB1WEZ**
- Board – Steve Behr K4OPZ**



From the President

It's been an exciting year with plenty to look forward to in 2019. Along with the activities/events we normally schedule I am planning on

adding some classes on basic beginners soldering, Technician class licensing and some more "what's next" classes for the new hams. Make a resolution for 2019 to play a more active role in the hobby, you'll certainly get more enjoyment out of it and possibly help out a new ham by mentoring them on a topic you have already mastered. I look forward to seeing you at our next events!

73

Ron Davis - K4TCP
TARC President

Did you know there is a "For Sale/Trade" page on our web site tridenthams.org. There is lots of stuff available. Check it out.
Tridenthams.org/forsale.htm



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Linear Lines Jan-Mar 2019



843-608-4780



From the Vice President

As we enter the new year, there are several club events scheduled. Parks on the Air is an ongoing event which has been very successful and winter field day will be upon us shortly if it hasn't already occurred by the time of this printing of linear lines.

Van Herridge had suggested at one of the earlier meetings that other "activations" be considered in addition to the Parks on the Air events, such as lighthouses. I would urge the members to contact one of your club officers with your suggestions on which lighthouses, or other "activations" you may like to see the club have as an event.

In addition, if anyone has a "special

event" thought in which they would like the club to participate, please contact a board member or officer. I can be reached via email at: judgekauser@yahoo.com or 843-693-2544. There needs to be about three (3) months lead time to get the event organized, noticed and in QRZ.

Currently, I am thinking of a "special event in Oct. commemorating the attack on the Union ship "New Ironsides" in Oct. of 1863 by the "Little David". This was a semi-submersible cigar shaped boat assembled secretly in Berkeley County during the War Between the States along with other "semi-submersibles". In fact, the "Little David" rescued the Hunley and crews on some of its earlier trials. Its attack on the "New Ironsides" of course has been overshadowed by Hunley's attack on the "Housatonic".

At any rate, a full mock up of that sub is at Old Santee Canal Park 900 Stoney Landing in Moncks Corner. I will be working on arrangements to see if that event is even possible with the Park folks, but that is a project I am working on now for next fall. Any other such ideas are welcomed.

Happy, Healthful and Prosperous New Year to all

73 de KX4MI
Jan



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Linear Lines Jan-Mar 2019



843-608-4780



From the Secretary

"Happy New Year!

Wasn't 2018 a great year? So many new members getting involved. David Merritts and his SC POTA team proving that propagation isn't always as bad as they say it is!

That generous donation by Realtor Phillip Woody of \$1000.

I'd say that 2018 was a really great year.

But, now it's time to look ahead to 2019. Keep your eye on our calendar for a lot of events coming up.

We'll kick off January with Winter Field Day.

Do you know, we are already planning as far ahead as Field Day in June??

The more participants, the better. Please join us when you can and if you have any suggestions for an event, let me know.

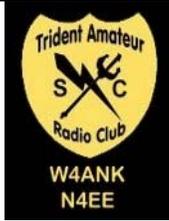
On a personal note: By the time you read this, I will be on the KETO life-style eating change diet. Forever. If you are doing this or even thinking about doing this, I would love to hear from you.

This KETO way of eating is reported to help with Dementia and Alzheimer's patients by helping mental clarity. It has also been reported to destroy any cancer cells that exist and prevent new cells from forming. I'm also hoping for a neat side effect- rapid weight loss. We'll see..."

Wishing you and yours a Merry Christmas

Linda KM4WBM

A New Year's resolution is just something that goes in one year and out the other.



www.tridenthams.org

Linear Lines Jan-Mar 2019



843-608-4780



From the Treasurer

Budget Ham Radio

The price for entry into ham radio can be very expensive between the cost of a radio and the right antenna. For the person with their tech license looking for all of this, it seems like you could spend hundreds of dollars just to get on the air for the first time. There is a solution though and it begins with acquiring a handheld aka HT to get on the air.

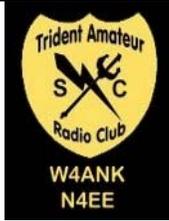
One of the least expensive ways to get your first HT, is to pick up a BaoFeng UV-5R5 Dual-Band VHF/UHF 136-174/400-480 MHz FM Two-Way Radio. At Amazon, you can get everything you need for under \$30!

The Bands these cover (Not all of these are legal to broadcast on, but listening should be fine – see FCC Part 95 Rules)

- 2 Meter
- 70 cm
- FRS (Family Radio Service)
- GMRS (General Mobile Radio Service)
- MURS (Multi-Use Radio Service)
- Marine VHF
- Public service Frequencies
- NOAA Weather Band
- FM radio (listen only)

Don't let the critics turn you away and try to convince you to spend hundreds for an ICOM, Yaseu, or Kenwood HT due to the cheapness or poor quality of the Baofeng, as it works great to get you started. For that matter, you could even buy multiples and still come in way under the price point of some of the bigger manufactures HTs. I am not saying that one day you might not need/want a better HT, but for the price it is hard to beat.

After you get your new Baofeng, the one upgrade you might consider would be a better antenna. Again, at Amazon for around \$17 you can pick up a Nagoya NA-771 15.6 Inch Whip



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Linear Lines Jan-Mar 2019



843-608-4780

Antenna and you will quickly double your range. Another nice upgrade is to pick up a mag mount antenna so you can use your Baofeng as a mobile rig. For under \$30, you can pick up a Nagoya UT-72 19-inch Antenna with the magnetic mount.

Any questions about the Baofeng HTs, you could almost ask any club member as most have at least one, but feel free to reach out to me as well as I have 3 of them and have been using them for years.

Thanks and 73,
Brian, W4BFZ
TARC Treasurer

Membership Chair

2019 MEMBERSHIP DUES are \$30 for a single member, \$35 for a Family and \$20 for Active Duty Military. We can now accept credit cards as well as checks and cash. There is a page on tridenthams.org/membership.htm where you can apply or renew your membership.

Jason KN4AEC

Monthly Speakers

February 18

Ohms Law

Dr. Johnston (John) Peeples
Professor at The Citadel
peeplesj@citadel.edu

March 18

FT8 and Digital

Tom Glabb, AJ4UQ
aj4uq@arri.net

April 15

BITX / IBITX

The QRP HF General
Coverage Transceiver
you can build



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Linear Lines Jan-Mar 2019



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I bought one of those tapes to teach you Spanish in your sleep. During the night, the tape skipped. Now I can only stutter in Spanish.

Steven Wright

Birthdays

January

Norm KM4ZGM
Max N4MLF
Bob AI4SX
Linda KM4WBN
Joe KJ4BNC
Bob NG4R
Joel KW4NO

February

Lionel KF4GLE
David AE4ZR
Jay W4MGR

March

Tommy AA4TB
Thelma K4MTJ
Denise KN4OMO
Lloyd WA4EFS
Ronnie KN4JYM

Is Amateur, aka Ham radio, still around?

You bet! Actually there are more licensed hams today than at any time in history. You may equate Amateur radio years ago to your strange neighbor down the street who had weird antennas outside and used huge radios. Connections were being made then around the world. Today's hams are still talking around the world, but most are talking with other local hams using small hand held radios. Not only have the radios changed over the years, but the license requirements have also. Morse Code is no longer required to get a license nor is going to an FCC office to take the exams. The exams are given locally by licensed operators,. Licensing classes are available locally as well. The opportunity to learn on your own is also available by obtaining a licensing



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Linear Lines Jan-Mar 2019



843-608-4780

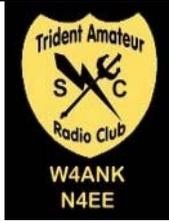
manual and then taking the exam. The uses of Amateur Radio today are as varied as the uses of a computer or cell phone. With smaller hand held radios contacts with other hams are more localized. Automobile versions are also available providing you the opportunity to stay in contact while traveling. Aside from the purely fun aspect of operating there are many other important functions or activities for hams to be involved in. With communications being the key, the need for hams is endless. From their function as communicators in disasters to their communicating in community activities such as walks, runs, bicycle races and even parades. Amateur radio operators have the opportunity to be front and center or behind the scenes. Age is definitely not an issue. The youngest licensed ham is five years old. There are

several local ham clubs in the area and even one at a local Middle school. Your ham ticket could be your ticket to adventure. For more information on classes, activities or events visit www.tridenthams.org

SCOPTA

If you are interested in operating HF and don't have the equipment or want to see various remote site antennas SCPOA is a great activity to get involved in. You can contact David AE4ZR to get involved.

Life is a
journey, and if you fall
in love with the journey,
you will be in love
forever.



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Linear Lines Jan-Mar 2019



843-608-4780

Charleston Hamfest

Charleston Hamfest

Date: February 2, 2019

Location: Armory Park Community Center, 5000 Lackawanna Blvd., N. Charleston, SC (32.885° N, 79.993° W).

Hours: 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

Sponsor: Charleston Amateur Radio Society

Talk-In: The WA4USN linked Repeater System (146.790- No Tone Charleston,

146.940- Tone 123.0 Summerville and 147.045+ Tone 103.5 St. George).

Other area repeaters are 145.450-, 146.760-, 147.180+, 147.270+, 147.300+, 147.345+, 443.800+, and 444.825+ (all with Tone 123.0) and 147.150+ Tone 91.5

Tables: Pre-registered - \$10.00 per 8ft table. At the door - \$12.00 per table, if available. Chairs - \$2.00 each.

Tailgating: Tailgating fee is \$8.00 (must purchase admission ticket).

**Why did the
capacitor kiss
the diode? He
couldn't resistor**

Congratulations to:

Ham of the year

David Merritts AE4ZR

Johnny on the spot

Brian Freedman W4BFZ

Linda Wilson KM4WBM

**A pig stands in front
of an electric socket:**



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Linear Lines Jan-Mar 2019



843-608-4780

“Oh no, who put you
into that wall?!”

**Have you heard of
that new band "1023
Megabytes"?
They're pretty good,
but they don't have a
gig just yet.**

FCC Roundup -

Amateur Radio Applications in Limbo as Partial Shutdown Continues

The FCC is not processing any Amateur Radio applications as the partial government shutdown approaches its fourth week. The FCC suspended "most operations" at mid-day on Thursday, January 3, although an appearance of activity continues. For radio amateurs, the shutdown means that, while the

Universal Licensing System ([ULS](#)) continues to accept applications for all valid purposes, the FCC will not review or act upon them until the funding stalemate is resolved. This includes Volunteer Examiner Coordinator test session batch files as well as modification, renewal, and vanity call sign applications filed by individual licensees. Amateur Radio newcomers who have passed the required examinations will have to wait until the shutdown concludes to receive a call sign and authorization to operate. License upgrades are also on hold.

"Due to a lapse in funding, the operations of the Federal Communications Commission will be limited with no system support. We regret any inconvenience," the FCC says on the ULS home page. This means very limited human intervention while the shutdown continues, and if a system breaks down, it will not be repaired until after employees are back on the payroll. At this point, 262 of 1,437 FCC employees (excepting contractors) remain on the job, as are FCC Commissioners. ARRL Letter

ARRL Petitions FCC to Incorporate Parity Act Provisions into its Amateur Radio Rules

12/19/2018



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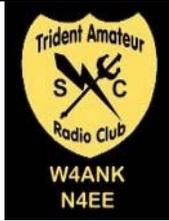
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The ARRL has filed a *Petition for Rulemaking* ([PRM](#)) asking the FCC to amend its Part 97 Amateur Service rules to incorporate the provisions of the Amateur Radio Parity Act.

The *Petition* has not yet been assigned a rule making (RM) number and is not yet open for public comment. In the past, the FCC has said that it would not take such action without guidance from the US Congress, but, as ARRL's *Petition* notes, the Congress "has overwhelmingly and consistently" offered bipartisan support for the Amateur Radio Parity Act.

"Private land use regulations which either prohibit or which do not accommodate the installation and maintenance of an effective outdoor antenna in residences of Amateur Service licensees are unquestionably the most significant and damaging impediments to Amateur Radio Service communications that exist now," ARRL said in its *Petition*. "They are already precluding opportunities for young people to become active in the avocation and to conduct technical self-training and participate in STEM [science, technology, engineering, and mathematics] learning activities inherent in an active, experiential learning environment. Without the relief in this *Petition*, the future of Amateur Radio is bleak indeed." The proposed amendments would have no effect on the FCC's limited preemption policy in §97.15(b), which pertains to state and municipal governing bodies, ARRL said.

Specifically, ARRL is proposing that the FCC amend Part 97 by adding a new subsection under §97.15, that prohibits and ceases the enforcement of, "Any private land use restriction, including restrictive covenants and regulations imposed by a community association," that either fails to permit a licensee to install and maintain an effective outdoor antenna capable of operation on all Amateur Radio frequency bands, on property under the exclusive use or control of the licensee; precludes or fails to permit Amateur Service communications, or which does not constitute the minimum practicable restriction on such communications to accomplish the lawful purposes specifically articulated in the declaration of covenants of a community association seeking to enforce such restriction. ARRL's proposed rule would not affect any existing antenna approved or installed before the effective date of a *Report and Order* resulting from ARRL's petition. The proposed provisions reflect the accommodation reached in the ultimate version of the Parity Act bill at the urging of federal lawmakers between ARRL and the Community Associations Institute (CAI), the only organization representing homeowners' associations. "That legislation was passed unanimously by the House of Representatives four separate times and has the support of the Senate Commerce Committee and the current Administration," ARRL stressed.



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Linear Lines Jan-Mar 2019



843-608-4780

“Private land use regulations are not ‘contracts’ in the sense that there is any meeting of the minds between the buyer and seller of land,” ARRL said. “Rather, they are simply restrictions on the use of owned land, imposed by the developer of a subdivision by recordation in the land records of the jurisdiction when it is first created. They bind all lots in the subdivision. If an Amateur Radio licensee wants to buy a home in a subdivision burdened by deed restrictions, that licensee has precisely two options: Buy the residence subject to the restrictions, or do not buy the residence. There is no negotiation possible because the restrictions are already in place and cannot be waived by a seller in favor of a buyer.”

ARRL noted in its *Petition* that an increasing number of homes available for purchase today are already subject to restrictive covenants prohibiting outdoor antennas, and that the Community Associations Institute data show that 90% of new housing starts in the US are subject to deed restrictions and other limitation that make installation of outdoor Amateur Radio antennas ineffective or impossible. Also, ARRL pointed out that the Telecommunications Act of 1996 gives the FCC jurisdiction “to preempt private land use regulations that conflict with federal policy and that private land use regulations are entitled to less deference than municipal regulations, because the former are premised solely

on aesthetic considerations rather than safety issues, whereas municipal regulations are concerned with both.”

ARRL Newsletter

“To an optimist, the glass is half full.

To a pessimist, the glass is half empty.

To an engineer, the glass is twice as big as it needs to be.

New Ham Bio

My path to becoming an amateur radio operator began back in the 1960s when our new next-door neighbor began putting up a steel pole in his back yard. I offered to help with raising the di-pole antenna he was putting up. Graham, K8PKF (SK), offered to show me his ham shack, with big radios, and collection of QSL cards. A couple of years later, I helped him again with the installation of a tower and multi-band Yagi antenna. He told me



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Linear Lines Jan-Mar 2019



843-608-4780

that our location on a hill made for great propagation. Years passed and as an U. S. Air Force pilot I used HF radios for long range communications as we flew over the oceans. After retiring from the USAF and getting hired by US Airways as a pilot instructor, I was caught up in the US Airways and America West Airline merger. In 2005 we moved from Imperial PA to Mesa AZ. It was there I learned the airline had its own radio club than met in the training center lunch room. Two pilots: Bob N7AW and Larry W7LDT encouraged me to get my 'ticket' and told me how to study for the technician exam. I passed the exam and was assigned KE7OPZ as my call sign. Larry said the last three letters sounded really good and that when I got my general a month later to keep the call. In Arizona I was mostly active on VHF repeaters until I retired from the airline in 2015. That is when I discovered a

volunteer opportunity at the Arizona Science Center ham shack (W7ASC). Every week I would meet Steve WB4ZSC and Mike KG7OSR(SK) to demonstrate amateur radio to school kids, teachers, and other visitors. The shack had two sets of HF radios used mostly for digital modes, two sets of VHF/UHF radios and even amateur TV. We also did a hands-on demonstration of Morse code where we would have visitors use a button to send their first name in code to a light and buzzer. Mike and Steve were my mentors while I studied for the Extra exam. When the floor was empty, they would quiz me on subjects that I had studied for the exam. The study and experience with different modes of operating paid off; nine years after passing the Tech exam, I passed the Extra exam. After moving to Summerville, I changed my call sign to K4OPZ. I'm mostly on VHF right now



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Linear Lines Jan-Mar 2019



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and do operate on HF during club activities.

Steve Behr K4OPZ

The guy who invented auto-correct for smart phones passed away today.

Restaurant in peace.

OHMS LAW WHEEL



UPDATING YOUR QRZ PAGE

When you are issued an Amateur Radio Call sign by the FCC you are automatically given an account on QRZ.com. Many hams use this resource to look you up when they hear your call on the air or see it somewhere. If you followed the instructions I presented for getting your SC Amateur Radio License tag they may see your call while driving down the road. Normally if you work someone on the air and they want to send you a QSL card they will look at your QRZ page entry for your full name and address.

Your name and address are entered exactly as it exists in your FCC file. I highly recommend you check the entry on your QRZ page to insure it is correct. I see many entries with incorrect information. Remember someone copied the information from the FCC Form 604 you submitted at the test session. Also available is lots of information about your license. When it was issued or renewed, when it will expire, what class of license you were issued. Even the distance and bearing to another hams location when looking at their page (great for working DX).



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Linear Lines Jan-Mar 2019



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Many hams choose to add pictures and additional information to their QRZ page. This is very easy to do. You just go to your page and create an account. It's free

The following general rules apply to QRZ user accounts.

- One account per person
- One account per email address
- Registrants must be individuals, not clubs
- A call sign user name is required for database access
- No profane or indecent user names
- Impersonation, fraudulent postings, pirate activities will be dealt with by hanging. (*This is from the site I did not make it up*)
-

So what type of information do I put on this site?

You can look at several completed sites and see what you like about them. Pictures of your current station and pictures of family and pets are common. If you belong to an

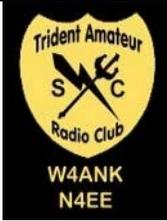
Amateur Radio Club you can post this with a link to the club web site. I have my email address and phone number on my page so that when I work a station on HF CW we can contact each other and add additional information. The sky is the limit.

The default message you will find on your page if you have not updated it is:

"This call sign record is unmanaged. No additional information is available"

So... Why not take five minutes and update your QRZ page.

Complete information on updating a page is available at <https://forums.qrz.com/support>



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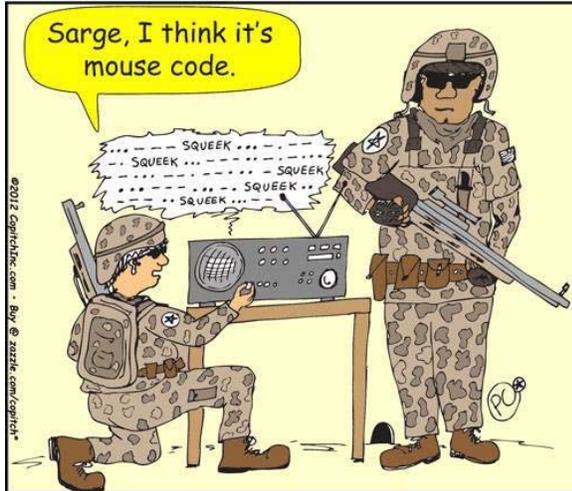
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copitch.com/free_cartoons

Number: 0299



FCC Reaches \$900,000 Settlement in Unauthorized Satellite Launch Case

01/02/2019

The FCC has settled an investigation into an alleged unauthorized launch and operation of small satellites by Swarm Technologies. The company agreed to a **Consent Decree** that included a \$900,000 penalty, an extended period of FCC oversight, and a requirement of pre-launch notices to the FCC, among other stipulations.

“We will aggressively enforce the FCC’s requirements that companies seek FCC authorization prior to deploying and operating communications satellites and earth stations,” FCC Enforcement Bureau Chief Rosemary Harold said. “These important obligations protect other operators against radio interference and collisions, making space a safer place to operate.”

In April 2017, Swarm applied for an Experimental license to deploy and operate two Earth stations and four tiny 0.25 U CubeSats called SpaceBEEs. The FCC denied Swarm’s application in December 2017 over concerns about the ability to track the satellites. Swarm nevertheless **launched the satellites** on January 12, 2018, on a vehicle that also carried an Amateur Radio satellite into space. After reports of the unauthorized SpaceBEEs launch surfaced, the FCC launched an investigation last March. The FCC determined that Swarm had launched the four SpaceBEEs from India and had unlawfully transmitted signals between Earth



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Linear Lines Jan-Mar 2019



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stations in Georgia and the satellites for more than a week. In addition, the FCC discovered that Swarm had also performed unauthorized weather balloon-to-ground station tests and other unauthorized equipment tests prior to the launch. All these activities required FCC authorization.

The December resolution requires Swarm to pay a penalty \$900,000 to the US Treasury and to submit pre-launch reports to the FCC for the next 3 years. The FCC said Swarm has committed to a strict compliance plan to prevent future FCC rule violations.

The FCC issued an **Enforcement Advisory** last April to remind satellite operators that they must obtain FCC authorization for space station and Earth station operations. The advisory cautioned satellite operators and launch companies against proceeding with launch arrangements following a license denial or prior to receiving an FCC authorization.

Please Note: Any and all mistakes or errors in this newsletter are provided for those who enjoy finding mistakes in the work of others. Hope you enjoyed.
Tom W4DAX