TARC Bulletin

W5LM Repeaters:
146.820- MHz (PL 123.0) — 444.700 MHz (PL 123.0)
www.tarc.org

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Bylaws Amendment on January Agenda

An amendment to the club's bylaws will be up for a vote at the January 1 meeting. The section to be amended currently says

> 8.02 The President has singular authority to authorize expenditures and make payments of $250 or less on his own authority. Amounts beyond this level must be approved by the Board of Directors or brought to the membership for a vote.

If approved, the amendment will change that section to read as follows:

> 8.02 The President has singular authority to authorize expenditures and make payments of $250 or less on his own authority. Amounts beyond this level must be approved by the Board of Directors.

The proposed amendment was read by President Kay Schlieper KB5DC at the Nov. 6, 2003 TARC meeting. The procedure at our January meeting will be to either approve or disapprove the amendment as is. Any changes to this amendment will require another 30 day wait before a vote is allowed

New Officers Take the Helm

TARC officers for 2004 were elected at our November meeting. In accordance with our bylaws, these folks take office as of Jan. 1, 2004.

Our new president is Oscar Houser, KD5DGJ; vice president is Mike LeFan, WA5EQQ; Steve Bosshard, NU5D, is secretary; and our treasurer is John Biles, AD5PQ.

Kay Schlieper, KB5DC, joins the board as immediate-past-president, replacing Roy Wells, N5HQR. She will serve a one year term. Charlie Schlieper N5TD, and Jim Shepherd, W5RYV, remain as board members. The new member of the board of directors is Garrett Hill, N5MPE.

AMATEUR RADIO—
A National Resource!

At Our Next Meeting

Our first program of 2004 will be Jan. 1. It is a slide show of mysterious Caddo Lake by the former chief photographer of Texas Parks and Wildlife. This program has been a big hit for several other local organizations. We will have a door prize, and lots of fun. We meet at 7:00 p.m. at the Western Hills Church of Christ in Temple. Come enjoy the refreshments and fellowship.

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FCC announces new Universal Licensing System interface

On Dec. 14 the FCC unveiled a new on-line filing interface for its Universal Licensing System (ULS), on the web at, http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls, which includes the Amateur Service.

Among other features, the ULS's new look will include easier-to-read on-screen forms that guide users through filing and simplify such routine tasks as applying for license renewal, address change or vanity call sign. The FCC says the introduction of its new system, called "ULS License Manager," concludes phase one of an ongoing ULS overhaul by the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

ULS License Manager will be compatible with most major Web browsers and computer platforms and no longer will require downloading Java and Java Script files. An FCC staffer involved with implementing ULS License Manager notes that all features may not be in place when the system debuts.

The ULS will require all filers to log into the system using an FCC Registration Number (FRN) and Commission Registration System (CORES) password. Taxpayer Identification Numbers (TINs) no longer will be accepted for log-in purposes, the FCC said.

Once the new system is up and running, all licenses and applications in the ULS database will be converted to the new ULS License Manager filing environment.

There's also a new paper version of FCC Form 605, dated December 2003. One change is that Form 605 no longer requests a date of birth and will only accept an FRN and CORES password. There are no Amateur Service-related changes to any Form 605 schedules. The FCC says Amateur Service applicants may continue to use the March 2001 (or later) edition of Form 605, although it encourages use of the newest version. The new FCC Form 605 now is available via the FCC Web site at, http://www.fcc.gov/Forms/Form605/605.html.

Normal hours for the ULS Technical Support Hotline staff are weekdays (except holidays) from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. Eastern Time. Technical Support is available via the FCC Web site at, http://esupport.fcc.gov, or telephone 877-480-3201 (TTY 202-414-1255).

ULS licensing support and forms information is available weekdays (except holidays) from 8 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time via e-mail at ulshelp@fcc.gov, or telephone 888-CALLFCC (225-5322), Option 2 (users also may call 717-338-2888).

—ARRL Bulletin 71

Congressional recess provides opportunity to promote bills

Just as the US House of Representatives was about to adjourn for the year, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act, HR 713, picked up three new cosponsors. The addition of Democrats Sander M. Levin of Michigan, Brad Sherman of California, and Chris Van Hollen of Maryland brings the cosponsor list to 77. The nation's lawmakers now have headed home and won't be back in Washington until January 20.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, suggests that League members take advantage of the opportunity—while members of Congress are on their home turf—to pay a visit at their local offices and urge support for the spectrum protection measure and for the so-called "CC&R bill," HR 1478.

"It wouldn't hurt to stop by and drop off a QSL card with a message asking for support," Haynie said. "That's what it's going to take. Cards and letters from individual voters do make a difference."

Judging by the number of cosponsors to date, Haynie says, the spectrum protection bill appears to be gaining the attention of lawmakers.

Identical versions of the Spectrum Protec-

(Continued on page 4)

Key Clicks From The Armadillo

...We plan to continue with the monthly breakfast gatherings, according to **Oscar KD5DGJ**. Mark your calendar for January 17th.

…"Thank you all for the support you have given me throughout this past year," says **Kay Schlieper, KB5DC**. "I wish each of you a very Happy Holiday."

...The Christmas banquet was a tremendous success. Do we dare say "The best yet"? Thanks to **Jim W5RYV** for making arrangements at *The Meridian*. And thanks to **Kay KB5DC** for the awards ceremony and the door prizes. We had more than 60 people there to enjoy the good food, fun, entertainment, and fellowship.

...An "unofficial" and spontaneous breakfast bunch met at *Golden Corral* on Dec. 20—just because. Even in the holiday hubbub, there was a good time. The next one is **Jan. 17.**

...Remember the Net — Mondays at 7:00 p.m. on 146.820- MHz (PL 123.0).

...See you at the club meeting on Jan. 1.

FREQS TO MONITOR

TARC VHF Repeater
146.820 PL 123.0
TARC UHF Repeater
444.700 PL 123.0
Texas ARES Net
(Monday nights, 7:30) on 3.873 kHz
Texas ARES
(During emergencies) 7.285
Williamson County ARES
145.130 PL 162.2
McLennan County ARES
(*Bakers Dozen*) 145.150 PL 123.0

Your Dues Are DUE

Our next club meeting will be on the first day of the New Year, January 1st. This is to remind everyone that your dues for 2004 are due on Jan. 1, 2004.

Those dues are—
Full Member = $20.00
Senior Member = $15.00 (must be 65 or over)
Family Member =1/2 of the full member's dues

If you can't attend the club meeting, mail your dues to

TARC
P.O. Box 616
Temple, TX 76503

We had 13 workers for the Temple's annual Christmas Parade rolled down Central Avenue on the evening of Dec. 1. We had 13 TARC people assisting.

Roy Wells, N5HQR, reports that the parade went very well and was completed by 8 p.m. There were 112 parade entries this year. Jim Thigpen and the city Parks Department were highly complimentary again this year about our support.

As always there are a few actions that could have been done differently, but these are minor.

The following folks assisted: Ed N5RXD, Bill WD5ELK, Charlie N5TD, Eddie KD5UBP, Barbara Huntsman, Darwin K5DOA, Myron N5TFK, Allison Mesecke, Anthony WB5TTY, Jim W5RYV, Ron W5WRE, Oscar KD5DGJ, and Roy N5HQR.

Steve NU5D provided logistical support by loaning HTs and making his nearby shop facilities available to us.

Communications was conducted on WB5TTY's repeater on 145.490.

TARC BREAKFAST

We have reserved the North section of ***Golden Corral*** for the third Saturday of each month, at

9 a.m. Our next TARC Breakfast will be **January 17th** at 9:00 a.m. It is a Dutch Treat activity. Bring your wallet, an appetite, and come enjoy!

The National Conference of VE Coordinators has released a revised and expanded Amateur Radio General class (Element 3) question pool into the public domain. The new questions become effective July 1, 2004, and must be used to generate all General written examinations on or after that date.

"The pool has been expanded to 432 questions," said ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ. "The largest increase in questions...was in our Operating Procedures and Amateur Radio Practices sub-elements," he said. The General class pool does not contain diagrams or symbols. The new Element 3 question pool is available on the ARRL Amateur Exam Question Pools Web page at http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/pools.html in Adobe PDF and ASCII text format.

Tower Installation at the new QTH of Ron Thompson, W5WRE. Be Careful Up There! This was the scene on 27 Nov. 2003.

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Most Hams would be happy to have an antenna of this magnitude at their home station; however, this is the HF mobile antenna of Anthony WB5TTY.

TARC Bulletin

Temple Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 616
Temple, TX 76503

Temple Amateur Radio Club meets the first Thursday of each month from 7:00-9:00 p.m., at the Church of Christ in Western Hills, 210 N. General Bruce Dr., in Temple—across I-35 from La Quinta Motel. Refreshments are served, and guests are invited and welcome!

First Class Mail

Address Label

promote bills

(Continued from page 2)

tion Act have been introduced in the House and Senate. The number of cosponsors for the Senate version, S 537, remains at eight. Sponsored in the House by Rep. Michael Bilirakis (R-FL) and in the Senate by Sen. Michael Crapo (R-ID), the bill would require the FCC to provide "equivalent replacement spectrum" to Amateur Radio if the FCC reallocates primary amateur frequencies, reduces any secondary amateur allocations, or makes additional allocations within such bands that would substantially reduce their utility to amateurs.

Meanwhile, the cosponsor count on the CC&R bill—known formally as HR 1478, the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act of 2003—is holding at 29. Sponsored by Rep Steve Israel (D-NY), the CC&R bill would require private land-use regulators such as homeowners' associations to "reasonably accommodate" Amateur Radio antennas consistent with the PRB-1 limited federal preemption. The ARRL is seeking a sponsor for a companion bill in the US Senate.

The bills' texts, sample letters and information on how to write members of Congress is on the ARRL's The Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2003 Web page, www.arrl.org/govrelations/arspa.html and on the HR 1478, The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act of 2003 Web page, www.arrl.org/govrelations/hr1478/.

Those writing their lawmakers on behalf of the Spectrum Protection Act are asked to copy their correspondence via e-mail to specbill03@arrl.org. Those writing on behalf of the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act, HR 1478, are asked to copy their correspondence to ccr-bill@arrl.org. ***—ARRL Bulletin 70***

Amateur Radio—A National Resource