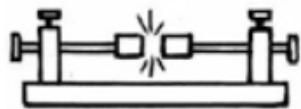
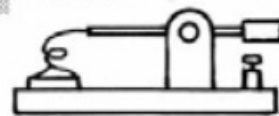


Spark-Gap Times



Published By
The Old Old Timers Club



VOLUME 53 NUMBER 2, SPARK-GAP TIMES

OOTC Inc

Phil Sager, WB4FDT, Exec. Secretary and editor

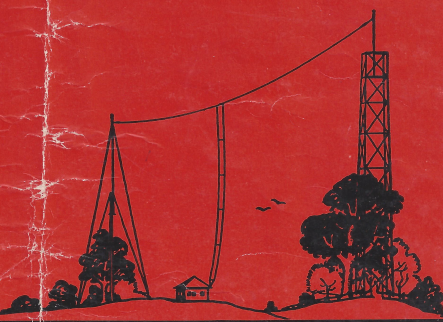
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BASED ON NEW REGULATIONS

THE RADIO AMATEUR'S LICENSE MANUAL

HOW TO GET YOUR LICENSES—INCLUDING
COMPLETE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
FOR CLASS A, B AND C EXAMINATIONS

PRICE 25 CENTS



Published by AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE • West Hartford, Conn.

VOLUME 53, NUMBER 2, SPARK-GAP TIMES
FALL, 2015

NEW domestic member \$26. (\$10 initiation + \$16 yearly sustaining fee).
NEW International member, \$28 (\$20 initiation + \$18 yearly sustaining fee).

Note that the Initiation fee is a one-time fee to new members. These fees include receiving the Spark-Gap Times via email or via the OOTC website.

Renewing USA members \$16 yearly, \$18 Canadian and foreign. These fees include receiving the Spark-Gap Times via email or via the OOTC website.

If you wish to receive the PRINT Spark Gap Times the additional fee is \$5.00 yearly for USA members, including Life Members, and \$7 yearly for Canadian and foreign members, including Life Members.

Life Membership dues: Under age 75-\$250.00. Ages 75-79-\$200. ages 80-85-\$150. 86-89-\$100. 90-94-\$50.00 95 and above—Free. Note that Life Membership dues do not include the print Spark-Gap Times. The \$5 yearly fee must still be paid for the print copy.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT. You are eligible if you had two-way wireless communication 40 (or more) years ago (eligible on Jan 1 of the 40th year) OOTC recognizes your first two-way communication by CB, Amateur, commercial or military operation. Provide proof if possible. If never ham licensed but had eligible 2-way communication, you may also join.

OOTC wishes to have extended information about each member, activities and background. This information becomes a permanent and important part of your record as a member of OOTC, making it possible for us to publish your life work and experiences. Information is saved in OOTC archives. We would a photograph. Send a biography and/or story suitable for publication in the Spark-Gap times on separate sheets of paper, or via email attachment to our Secretary.

ALL OOTC OFFICERS

Notice: Call letters shown were calls they used, subject to reissue since then.

PRESIDENT

1947-1949 IRVING VERMILYA	*W1ZE
1950-1952 GEORGE STERLING	**W1AE
1953-1955 IRVING VERMILYA	*W1ZE
1956-1958 WATSON GREENE	W1CPI
1959-1963 EARL CLINE SR	***W4PPZ
1964-1967 BERT OSBORNE	W4MF
1968-1969 RAYMOND F GUY	W4AZ
1970-1976 ANDREW SHAFER	W8TE
1977-1978 FRED ELSE	W6FB/KH6CZ
1979-1984 RAY MEYERS	W6M
1985-1986 LEWIS SIEK	K4NE
1987-1990 L. F. HEITHECKER	W5EJ
1991-1992 DUNCAN KREAMER(SK)	W1GAY
1993 HARRY GARTSMAN	W6ATC
1994-2004 LELAND SMITH (SK-in-office)	W5KL 1
2004-2005 DUNCAN KREAMER	W1GAY
2006-NOWTROY WIDEMAN	W6HV

VICE PRESIDENT

1947-1952 ROLAND BOURNE	****W1ANA
1953-1958 CHARLES ELLSWORTH	*****W1TU
1959-1961 LAWRENCE DUNN	W2CLA/W2LP
1962-1964 MERRILL BEAM	K2BX
1965-1967 PERLEY B DUNN	W6WPF
1968 FRED ELSE	W6FB/KH6CZ
1969 EDWARD RASER	W2ZI
Assistant BERT GAMBLE	W5ZC
1970-1971 WILLIAM GOULD III	K2NP
1972-1976 FRED ELSE	W6FB/KH6CZ
1977-1979 GEORGE ELDRED	W9SG
1980-1984 LEWIS SIEK	K4NE
1985-1986 HOBART JOHNSON	W3AC
1987-1990 DUNCAN KREAMER	W1GAY
1991-2005 HARRISON MOORE	W2JQS
2006-2013 JOSEPH SCHROEDER	W9JUV

TREASURER

1947-1952 HUBERT INGALLS	W1NQ
1953-1958 EARL CLINE SR	***W4PPZ
1959-1964 EARL WILLIAMS	W2EG
1965-1966 EUNICE THOMPSON	W1MPP
1967-1968 T. FRANK SMITH	W5VA
1969 BERT GAMBLE	W5ZC
1970-1976 RAY MEYERS	W6MLZ
Assistant LEE MANN	K6KP
1977-1978 RAY MEYERS	W6MLZ
1979-1986 A. J. GIRONDA	W2JE
1987-1991 BERT AYERS	W6CL
1992-1993 WESLEY RANGLES	W4COW

TREASURER(continued)

1993-2008 LEE KNIRKO	W9MOL
2008-NOW JOSEPH WEHNER	W8KNO

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

1947-1953 HUBERT INGALLS(founder)	W1NQ
1954-1956 FRED MULLER (SK-in-office)	W4ZL
1956-1957 EARL CLINE SR	***W4PPZ
1958 RICHARD KLEINBERGER	W2AEC
1959-1964 EARL WILLIAMS	W2EG
1965-1967 EUNICE THOMPSON	*****W1MPP
1968 T. FRANK SMITH	W5VA
1969 BERT GAMBLE	W5ZC
1970-1978 RAY MEYERS	W6MLZ
1979-1986 A. J. GIRONDA	W2JE
1987-1988 BERT AYERS	W6CL
1989-1990 WESLEY RANGLES	W4COW
1991-1993 TED HEITHECKER (SK~n-office)	W5EJ
1994-2007 MILBERT WELLS	W5JNK
2008 WILLIAM CARTER	W6AJ
2009-May/2013 MILBERT WELLS	W5JNK
May/2013- PHILLIP "Pip" SAGER	WB4FDT

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Corporate Representative in Rhode Island: Janice Lentz, K4IJK

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Dist 6: Vacant

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Dist 8 Joseph Wehner, W8KNO, #4030
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Dist 9: Vacant

Dist 10: Douglas Tabor N7UA #4449
1861 Raven Av, Unit 13, Estes Park, CO 80517 dtabor@wright.co

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

OOTC must find replacements for the vice president position and for directors in districts 1, 6, and 9. Please notify OOTC if you are willing to serve in any of these capacities.

OOTC tries to acknowledge and report in the Spark Gap Times all members that have become Silent Keys. Its difficult to get information unless the members relatives, friends, or other sources provide the Executive Secretary the information. Please notify OOTC if you know of a member's passing that has not been shown in the SGT

I expect all are aware of the declining propagation as we are well past the high point of this past sunspot cycle. However, occasionally I have been pleasantly pleased to find an opening. One problem for the CW net that I act as net control has been the forty meter band. The band was virtually dead for several weeks until this past Sunday when it the net successfully ran. So, we are looking forward to improved conditions as we enter the Fall months. For those of you that are about to enter spring and summer, I hope you have better conditions than we have been experiencing.

73,

Troy, W6HV

HAMMING IT UP FOR 90 YEARS!!!

Today, the Quarter Century Wireless Association, Inc. (QCWA)—an international organization of amateur (“ham”) radio operators---presented a 90 Year Licensed Certificate Award (Serial #1) to Charles “Charlie” Hellman W2RP. Mr. Hellman is 105 years of age and is the oldest living amateur radio operator in the United States and possibly the world. Charlie was licensed in 1925 as a 15 year-old, and joined QCWA in 1975 and is also a member of local QCWA Chapter 181 (Hudson Valley).

On hand to present the certificate, and represent QCWA President Ken Oelke VE6AFO and the membership were: Treasurer Charles Tropp N2SO, Directors Carole Perry WB2MGP and Pete Varounis NL7XM; along with QCWA Chapter 181 Secretary Mike Sturm, K2AE. Also on hand for the ceremony was Don Finkel, WA2OQM. The certificate reads: “The Quarter Century Wireless Association presents this 90th Anniversary Award to its Distinguished Member Charles “Charlie” Hellman, W2RP to commemorate Ninety Years of Service as a licensed Radio Amateur.”

In addition to the certificate, Charlie was also presented with a letter from QCWA president Ken Oelke VE6AFO which reads in part, “I would also like to say how proud I am that you have kept active for these many years, and to proudly celebrate what many will not be able to achieve in their entire lifetime. Congratulations to you on 90 years as a licensed radio amateur, and may you enjoy many more in amateur radio!”

The information pertaining to Charlie was discovered when the QCWA webmaster, Bob Roske NØUF, was updating member files and discovered that Charlie was still living in New York and was certainly

the oldest living member of QCWA. In recognition of his achievement the QCWA Board of Directors quickly voted to award Charlie the 90 year certificate, a first for the organization.

(Tnx September QCWA Journal)

A QSO WITH W3DF

Some of you readers out there may recognize this call sign. When I heard W3DF calling CQ on 80 meters CW a few weeks ago, I thought the name was “George” but I knew there was a lot more to this call. Turns out this is one of the calls of our second OOTC President, George Sterling, licensed as 1AE in the 1913 Department of Commerce listing of ham calls.

When I answered W3DF, it turns out that the station was only 10 miles from me in Westminster Maryland! Its owner, Dan Flanagan, has had the call since 1977 and is OOTC member 4523. Dan is well aware of its former owner's call, and is proud to use it. Dan was using gear from the 1960's; the transmitter was a HeathKit DX40 (your secretary's first transmitter) but I don't remember the receiver.

George Sterling, W1AE, ex-W2DF and W3DF, is listed as being on the air in 1908. In 1913 he received the call 1AE. He worked for both the Department of Commerce and the Federal Communications Commission. He first served as a Radio Inspector, and later Inspector in Charge of radio services in the Department of Commerce. During WWI, Sterling served in the early Signal Corps under General Pershing.

Perhaps he is best known for being Chief of Radio Intelligence Division of the FCC during WWII. He was responsible for locating over 200 Nazi spy radio stations. He also served as Chief Engineer of the FCC, and was appointed an FCC Commissioner. He represented the US in several International Frequency Allocation Conferences. He was the author of “The Radio Manual” which sold over 150,000 copies. Sterling died at the age of 96 in 1990.

ERROR IN LAST ISSUE

On page 5 of Volume 53 Number 1, we erroneously listed former OOTC President's call is W3F L. The call should have been listed as W5KL.

WIG-WAG

Both the Army and Navy used “Wig-Wag” signaling from prior to the Civil War until about 1912. This “signaling from motion” system was invented by a Dr. Albert Myer, who based it on a “tap” code he had developed for the deaf.

The system is based on holding a flag in 4 different positions to convey a message. These are:

- 1) Holding the flag straight up to start

- 2) a right motion down is a "2"
- 3) a left motion down is a "1"
- 4) a front motion down is a "3"

7

For example, "A" is a "22". "B" is "2112". "C" is a "121" and "D" is "222". The "3" is used to show the end of a word.



SILENT KEYS

Your secretary has been checking members whom we have not heard from for the past 5 years or more. This is why our list of SK's are larger than usual:

#4533 Stephen R. Fish, W1BG, 67, Cranston, RI. **OOTC Director of District 1.** First licensed in 1961 as KN1SGX, later K1SGX. He was the president of Nesoft Corporation until his retirement in 2011.

#2001 Arthur Westneat, ex-W1AM, 95, Durham, NH. First licensed in 1935 as W2KHA. MSEE from Purdue University. Principal Engineer for Raytheon Co, Sonar Environmental Technology. Also ex-W3MJQ, K2PWK and W1CNB.

#2137 John Gray, W6UZ, 95, Charlottesville, VA, First licensed as W5FZG in 1936. Joined OOTC in 1978!

#2270 Herbert Chambers, KE7K, 97, Arcadia, CA. First licensed in 1934 as W8LYP. He joined the

Civilian Conservation Corps in 1934 and was trained to copy code on the mill at 35 wpm. Operator at Army radio WUE for 18 months. Graduated from Toledo University, EE, and employed as engineer 15 years with Electric Auto Lite Company. Also spent 15 years at Bell and Howell.

#2411 William Gerber, W8CBH, 94, Rockford, MI. First licensed as W8CBH in 1941. Served in the Army 1942-1968 as a radio and radar technician. He was active in the Boy Scouts receiving the Silver Beaver Badge Distinguished Award of Merit. He was a life member of the ARRL and OOTC.

#2565 Harold Christiansen, WM7C, 95, Grand Junction, CO, first 2-way was via broadcast AM radio in 1926. Licensed in the 1970's as KA7LQL. Life member OOTC.

#2799 Josha J. Brehm, AE2L, 81, Rose Hill, NC. First 2-way radio transmission in 1949, First licensed as WN2CAJ in 1974. Became a SK in June, 2011.

#2921 Richard O'brien, NJ2J, 98, first licensed in 1936 as W6OEU. Worked as an Engineer for CBS in New York City. Retired as CBS Director of Engineering. Received an Emmy for his "Contributions to Broadcasting". Life member, OOTC.

#2949 William Deily, W8YA, 95, Greenville, SC. First licensed in 1934 as W3EYO. Ex-KK4ST.

#3261 Charles Kittell, W4LIF, 95, Orange Park, FL. First two-way in 1941. Licensed as W4LIF in 1951. He joined the US Army in 1939, and became a pilot in 1942. During WWII he was a B-25 pilot with the 13th Air Force, flying over fifty missions in the Pacific theater between 1942-44. His war service earned him several medals and honors, including the Air Medal with five Oak Leaf clusters. He retired in 1961 as a Lieutenant Colonel. He later worked in the insurance business, becoming a top sales leader for the Occidental Life Insurance company.

#3288 Blanche Randles, Amherst, MA. First licensed in 1954 as W4GXZ. For many years, she was the "Tape Coordinator" of the QCWA in charge of providing tapes of the QCWA Journal to the blind. She and her husband Wesley, W4COW (SK) were fixtures at QCWA and YLRL conventions over the years. The Randles also started several QCWA chapters in Florida and Massachusetts. Life member OOTC. Became SK in October, 2013.

#3421 David Goggio, W4OGG, 95, Memphis, TN. First licensed in 1940 as W9GHD. Served in WWII and Korea. Life Member OOTC.

#3471 Fred Hoffmann, KJ7HI, 98, Bothell, WA. First licensed in 1933 as W3LDR. Life member, OOTC.

#4221 Alfred Blackard, KA5CVA, 88, Ft. Worth, TX. First 2-way 1942, first licensed 1978 as KA5CVA. He was in the Army Air Corps from 1942-5, and worked for the FAA from 1945 until his retirement in 1983. Became SK in 2011.

#4329 Merrill "Buck" Lowry, KJ6YK, 79, Anza, CA. First licensed as K6KIW in 1958.

#4418 Lars Wahlin, W0RM, 85, Rollinsville, CO. First licensed as SM5BLG in 1949. Also held SM5BLQ.

#4419 Charles A. Bennett, N5CFN, 72, Hattiesburg, MS. Commercial 2-way in 1956. First licensed in 1980 as N5CFN.

#4533 James R. Harvey, AA3QR, 71, Merchantville, NJ. First licensed in 1955 as WN3BPX. Later KA0PGA. Life member OOTC.

#4556 Dr. Ronald Taylor, W3RJT, 71, Baltimore, MD. First licensed in 1956 as WN3GWE, later W3GWE and KB3SEZ. Life member of OOTC.

#4574 Clarence W. Wenzel, W9ILM, 91, Ajo, AZ. First licensed in 1941 as W9ILM. Also held W5TJW.

NEW MEMBERS

#4662 David Wood, Bristol, TN KB4PSF. First radio license private aircraft 1968, ham license 1985.

#4463 Lt Col Ronald Mertz, Ankulte, NY, K2POW. First licensed in 1977 as WA2TUD.

4664 Jan Parker, Kearney, NE. WA0LST. First licensed in 1965 as WN0LST. Communication contractor until retirement in 2009. Worked in high power broadcast station construction, telephone and computer systems, underground construction, two-way installations and repair, tower maintenance and tower construction. Now back in tower business as Comsco. President of Midway ARC. Emergency Coordinator for Buffalo/Dawson county and active in the Civil Air Patrol.

AMATEUR RADIO RULES---1938 TO 1947

AMATEUR RULES IN 1938

Your secretary recently was given a pile of ARRL License Manuals, which began in 1938 and ended in 1964. Wow!! Things have changed in FCC rule making over the years. For example, today all amateur licenses consist of both a station license and a operator license. In 1938 the amateur station license appeared on one side of the license, and the operator license appeared on the other side. An amateur was **required** to have the license in their personal possession whenever they were operating. "Be sure to take it along with you whenever you happen to be operating some station other than your own"; the station license part is no good to you under these circumstances...but you will need it for the operator authorization." Now, if someone was going to operate your station in your absence, your license or a facsimile made of the station license side must be left at your station. As our readers can see, the differences between the operator license and station license can get confusing. For example, if

a Class A licensee was operating at a Class B or C station, they could not use their Class A privileges. The Class A operator could only use the privileges of the **station** they were using, regardless of their

operator license class.

Further complicating matters were those situations where the licensee wanted a **operator license only**. This could be done by just leaving blank all portions of the application form with respect to the station license application. The operator could then operate at other amateur stations, but would have no station of his/her own.

PORTABLE OPERATION

First, advance notice must be given to the Inspector in charge of the district in which such portable station is to be operated. Secondly, portable operation was only allowed for a period of one month. If necessary, advance notice could be given for no more than 4 one-month consecutive terms. Third: mobile operation from aircraft, automobiles, boats, etc were NOT permitted except on amateur frequencies **above** 28.0 Mhz. However, advance notice did not need to be given to the Inspector in the instance of mobile operation above 28.0 Mhz.

LICENSE TERMS

In 1938 the license term was 3 years. By 1947, the license term had expanded to 5 years. Of course, in the 1980's the FCC expanded the license term to 10 years. (In 1914, the license term was 2 years).

RENEWALS

The FCC required, as a condition for renewal, that all amateur stations work at least three other amateur stations, on any amateur band, phone or CW, during the three month period prior to the receipt for the FCC of application for renewal. Note that:

- 1) this 3-month period is NOT the period preceding the date of expiration. The FCC requires amateurs to submit applications for renewal 60 days before the license expiration date, which means that sometime during that period between 5 months and two months **before** the date of expiration appearing on your license, you must be sure to get on the air and work at least three other amateur stations.
- 2) The three stations must be USA stations, not foreign stations.
- 3) You can operate any amateur station to work the three stations necessary to renew your operator license. BUT in order to renew your station license, the three stations must be worked from your own station.
- 4) If you have been inactive, your licenses will not be renewed. You will have to take the code test and written examination again, and apply for a new license. You will have to wait two months after the expiration of your old license before a new station license will be issued. However, you will get your old call back, automatically.

LICENSE CLASSES

In 1938 there were three classes of licenses: A, B and C. Class A was sometimes referred to as the unlimited "phone" license, since, in addition to carrying the privileges authorized under the B and C licenses, it enables the holder to operate phone in the two restricted bands of 3900-4000Khz (75 meters) and 14150-14250 kHz (20 meters). An amateur must have been licensed for at least one year

as a Class B or C licensee to take the Class A license examination. The Class A license consisted solely of a 10-question written examination relating to amateur radio telephony.

The only differences between Class B and C was the method of examination. Both classes had the same privileges. Class B was any US Citizen who lived within 125 air miles of an FCC examination point, and who took the examination under an FCC employee or representative. A class C license was given when the proposed licensee was a US Citizen who lived beyond the 125 air miles to an FCC examination point, or was shown by a physician's certificate to be unable to appear for examination due to protracted disability, or was a member of the armed forces stationed at a military post and unable to appear for a Class B examination. The FCC then allowed the applicant to select a qualified examiner to give the code test and the written examination. The Commission reserved the right to require any Class C licensee, to appear at an examining point to take a Class B examination. If the licensee did not appear, or failed the examination, his/her license was canceled.

The Class B and C examination consisted of a 13 wpm continental code exam, and ten written questions from an extensive list prepared by the FCC, answered by the applicant.

Class B and C licensees can only operate phone on 1800-2000 kHz (160 meters) and on bands 28500 kHz (10 meters) and above.

All classes could operate CW on:

- 1) 1715-2000kHz, 3500-3900kHz, 7000-7300 kHz, 14000-14150, 14250-14400 kHz, 28000 -28500 kHz

All classes could operate CW or phone on:

- 1) 56,000-60,000 kHz, 112,000-116,000 kHz, 224,000-230,000 kHz, 400,000-401,000 kHz

\

FAILURE TO PASS EXAMINATION

Failure to pass any FCC examination meant a **two month** wait before the applicant could retake the examination. However, applicants for the Class C license who failed the examination, could retake the examination at an FCC Field office or examination point without waiting the two month period.

Interestingly enough, there appears to be no FCC rule which would give “old-timers” some examination credit, or special call sign, at this time.

AMATEUR RULES DURING WWII

So what happened to amateur licenses during WWII? Amateur **operator** licenses issued from December 7, 1938 to December 31, 1944, and not suspended or surrendered, were kept alive by FCC Order NO. 115c. This order extended all licensees to the anniversary of their date of issuance, which fell in the calendar year 1948. The same order extends the **station** licensees.

So, to put it simply, if at any time since three years before Pearl Harbor you held FCC licenses, which had a term of three years (and have had no suspensions, or revocations or surrenders) and

haven't yet renewed, both of your licenses now expire in 1948 on the same day and month as the date of issuance shown on your operator license. Renewal applications may be filed any time within 120

days of that new expiration date.

\

In addition that same FCC Order made another temporary change of importance to the thousands of amateurs no longer operating at the addresses shown on their current licenses. The provisions for fixed-portable operation were temporarily suspended and a new procedure established. Such amateurs must send notices of their present location both to the Engineer of the district in which they were licensed and the Engineer of the district in which they operate. Monthly notices were no longer required and additional notices were not necessary unless the address is again changed. Amateurs would continue to sign their calls to indicate portable status, the indicator being in what ever call area the amateur is residing in, except when they have remained in the same call area.

CALL AREA CHANGES--1947

This brings up the biggest change for amateurs in 1947—call areas changed. The original call areas, first called in 1914 “administrative districts”, had remained the virtually the same until 1947. The original 9 districts were actually based on seaports, where the Department of Commerce already had a presence via its Bureau of Navigation. Because the 9 Districts were based on seaports, some states, such as New Jersey, were split into two different areas.

Northern New Jersey was close to New York City, so those counties were part of the Second call area. But Southern New Jersey was closer to Philadelphia, so some southern counties became part of the Third Call area. New York state had a similar split. Those New York counties in the western part of the state, were closer to Detroit and became part of the 8th call area. Western Pennsylvania also became part of the 8th call area. Virginia was put in the Third District so that district would control the Chesapeake Bay shipping and communications, but the rest of the South was in the Fourth district.

The Ninth call area was the largest, consisting of all of today's Ninth and Tenth call areas plus parts of Michigan and Kentucky. The Sixth call area consisted of Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Hawaii and California.

In 1947 the Commission decided that this system was antiquated and confusing. First, every state would be in only one district, no longer would states be split up. Each district should have approximately the same number of amateurs. Thus, Virginia and Kentucky joined the fourth call area. A tenth call area was conceived to break up the ninth district in the west. California's growing population led to Nevada, Utah and Arizona going to the 7th District.

The FCC attempted to give the same call sign suffix to amateurs going into new districts. Thus, W3BZE became W4BZE in Virginia. When the FCC did not have the same suffix, they attempted to give a similar suffix. For example, W3KU became W4KX. At the time, the FCC failed to realize the growth potential of what was then the rural south, and within a few decades, the fourth call area had become the largest call area.

13 OTHER RULE CHANGES--1948

Amateur rules were becoming a bit more liberalized. We have already mentioned the expansion of amateur license terms from 3 to 5 years. Another change involved the then-new Form 610. Apparently, the previous form required the amateur to show possession of equipment before obtaining a license. The "new" Form 610 no longer required possession of equipment. Another liberalized rule regarding FCC notification of portable operation. Instead of sending the FCC Inspector a notice each month up to four months, the new rules made the notification only necessary once, up to the four month period, but in addition, notification had to be made to the FCC in Washington as well.

Technology moves ahead! There are new rules concerning radio remote control. The remote control point must be inaccessible to other than duly authorized persons, must be on premises controlled by the licensee, and the control point must have continuous monitoring of the remotely controlled transmitter when in operation. If there is any deviation from the amateur rules at the remotely controlled transmitter, means must be provided at the control point to turn the transmitter off.

The amateur must apply for a modified station license requesting authority to operate a radio remote control station. Note that the controlling transmitter at the remote location would operate within the 420 MHz band or higher.

The bands have changed a bit. Now amateur frequencies are:

1750-2050 kHz	50-54 MHz
2500-4000 kHz	144-148 MHz
7000-7300 kHz	1215-1295 MHz
14,000-14400 kHz	2300-2450 MHz
28.0-29.7 MHz	5250-5650 MHz
	10,000-10,500 MHz
	21,000-22,000 MHz

Note that frequency modulation is allowed on most frequencies above 29 MHz.

A. R. R. L. RUDOLPH COUPPEZ, 23, Rue Elise, Brussels, Belgium.

RADIO : Belgian ²⁴⁴⁴ W2 to. 4 I CMP

YOUR : stn. wrkd. hr. at : . . . 0620 . . . G. M. T.

: crd. recd. date : . . . 24/12/24

QRK : VY9SA QRM : 0 . QRN : 0 . QSS : 0 . QRH : 80 .

RECEIVER USED : Det + 1 Low Freq.

TRANSMITTER USED : Circuit : Meissner

. 1 . valve (s). Type : EG . L. T. : . . . 10 . . . v./ 6'S amp.

H. T. 2200 . . . v./ 55 . . . milliamp. 600 v. AC . . . C.W.

AERIAL CURRENT : . 1.5 . . . amp. on W/L . 94 . . . metres

BEST TWO WAY WRKNG. : USA and all Europe.

PSE WHEN REPLYING QUOTE REFERENCE 99/404/308.

REMARKS U are the strongest

U.S.A. stn. I ever heard. F.B.

Pse grt. send y.r. crd OH.

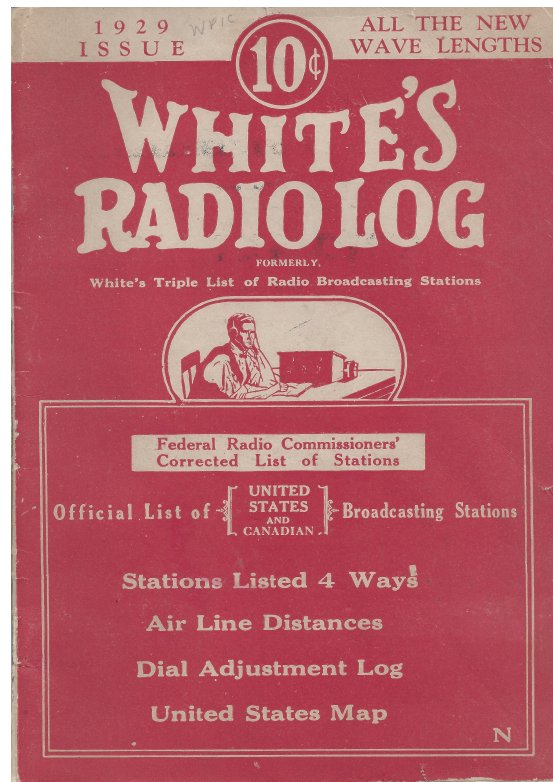
Hope Carl. often. Many 73's

MANY TKS & 73's

Operating : b-W2

RUDOLPH
24 DEC 1924
COUPPEZ

This is one of the earliest QSL cards I have found between Europe and the USA. The QSO is dated December 24, 1924 just a year after the first European to USA QSO's. This QSL is from Rudolph Couppez, call sign "W2", in Belgium to 1CMP in Massachusetts. Rudolph says "u are the strongest USA station I have ever heard. FB".



WHITE'S RADIO LOG

I wonder if any of our remembers remember White's Radio Log. Issued quarterly, it contained the latest list of US and Canadian broadcasting stations, arranged alphabetically by call letters, by frequency, and by city or state, and gave approximate air line distances between larger cities. This 1929 issued listed over 600 US broadcast stations, and 90 Canadian stations.

White's Radio Log began in 1924 and was issued for over 50 years, until the late 1970's. It reappeared irregularly several times in the late 1970's and the last edition I can find is dated 1984. Many thousands of AM radio listeners used White's for DXing or just finding out what station they were listening to. Many folks would take them on automobile trips to find the nearest stations.

“CAN I BE CALLED UPON....?”

John Johnston, W3BE

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Q. As an amateur, could I be called upon by State or local authorities to provide public safety communications during a civil disturbance?

A. Not under any obligation brought about by your FCC amateur service license [grant](#). If you are enrolled in a [RACES](#) civil defense organization, you might want to check with that organization as to any commitments to which you may have agreed.

Q. Under [Section 97.403](#) *Safety of life and protection of property*, could I use my amateur station to voluntarily provide emergency communications during civil disturbances?

A. Possibly. No provision of [Part 97](#) *prevents the use by an amateur station of any means of radio communication at its disposal to provide essential communication needs in connection with the immediate safety of human life and immediate protection of property when normal communication systems are not available*. Public safety authorities normally rely upon [Part 90](#) radio systems. During a public disturbance, therefore, those systems would have to be unavailable in order for amateur stations to become directly involved.

Q. Could my amateur station transmit communications for an employer during a civil disturbance?

A. Only to provide essential communication needs in connection with the immediate safety of human life and immediate protection of property when normal communication systems are not available.

Q. But doesn't [Section 97.113\(a\)\(3\)\(i\)](#) exempt professional communicators during communication emergencies?

A. No. That rule only authorizes a station licensee or station control operator to participate on behalf of an employer in an emergency preparedness or disaster readiness test or drill. Unless the controlling authority calls such a test or drill during a civil disturbance, amateur stations with *bona fide* amateurs or professional communicators are bound by [Section 97.403](#) which only authorizes providing essential communication needs in connection with the immediate safety of human life and immediate protection of property during times when normal communication systems are unavailable.

Q. As a FCC-licensed amateur, am I under *any* obligation to provide public service?

A. Yes, but chances are you are already providing that public service just as long as your radio communicating activities are in full compliance with [Part 97](#). [Section 97.1](#) says the rules and regulations in [Part 97](#) are designed to provide an amateur radio service having a fundamental purpose

as expressed in five principles, the first of which is: (a) *Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.*

Q. But [Section 97.3\(a\)\(4\)](#) defines our amateur service as: *A radio communication service for the purpose of self-training, intercommunication and technical investigations carried out by amateurs, that is, duly authorized persons interested in radio technique solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest.* So, which is it?

A. [Section 97.3\(a\)\(4\)](#) is consistent with SEC. 3. [47 USC 153](2) of the Communications [Act](#) as well as [No. 1.56](#) of the international Radio Regulations (RR) and the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Title 47 [Section 2.1\(c\)](#).

The text in [Section 97.1](#), in contrast, sets forth a promise for our regulators to satisfy, rather than for us - the regulated - to implement: As long as we comply with the rules in [Part 97](#), our regulator's expectations for our amateur service should be achieved to its satisfaction.

Q. Why are there two purposes codified?

A. [Section 97.3\(a\)\(4\)](#) sets out the purpose of our amateur service. [Section 97.1](#) states our regulator's desires for its rules. It came along post WWII when we lost a hotly contested argument with our regulator over its codification. Since then, it has become the topic of countless after-dinner speeches and is the time-proven handy-dandy easily remembered reference espoused by pontificators unfamiliar with the details in the main body of our rules.

The add-on phrase *particularly with respect to providing emergency communications* in [Section 97.1\(a\)](#), moreover, is often cited to rationalize a makeover of our amateur service into a low-cost junior version of the [Part 90](#) Private Land Mobile Radio Services. Those rules establish a Public Safety Radio Pool and provide for the licensing of non-federal governmental entities - including law enforcement and fire protection - as well as medical services, rescue organizations, veterinarians, persons with disabilities, disaster relief organizations, school buses, beach patrols, establishments in isolated places, communications standby facilities, and emergency repair of public communications facilities.

