



in the Classroom



APRIL 1999

Getting Ham Radio Approved

Schoolteachers aren't always sure how to make ham radio a part of the curriculum. Four years ago, Bob Lavin, K6BOB, began by asking his school administration to set up an elective class for ham radio. He says: "To make my pitch, I used a lot of ARRL's handouts about ham radio in the classroom. They're very strong and really get the point across, especially the one from the school administrator giving ham radio high praise." Bob got a lukewarm reception, but the head counselor checked to see if the school district had a classification for this subject. The answer was no; there was only a vague description of electronics in the curriculum guide.

Next, Bob began to work with an area high school principal who supported ham radio. Then a teacher at Bob's school

suddenly retired, and classes were left hanging. Finally, he was asked if he would like to teach a ham radio class. He reports: "I would not have had to wait several years if I had just wanted a ham club. The principal would have supported that unequivocally. But I wanted to break into the actual curriculum with the primary goal of getting kids licensed." His program is covered by the school board's insurance.

Bob gave a presentation to the parent-teacher group for having a \$3000 emergency radio station at the school, and they agreed to buy it. If they hadn't, he would have asked local businesses to donate, giving them the same presentation. For the administration's presentation, he advises: "Plan a good sales pitch, and bring your proposal to the principal along with an offer to help him or her become licensed as well."

SCR

We're receiving early reports that a lot of students enjoyed School Club Roundup (SCR)! We hams at ARRL HQ got on the air from W1AW during our noon hours, and worked students at 20 schools. The next operating event especially for kids—licensed and unlicensed—is Kid's Day, on Saturday, June 19. Watch June *QST* for details.

Teachers who are familiar with, and have checked into, the SCR e-mail list are discussing two issues. One idea is to turn the e-mail list into a meeting ground for all schoolteachers to exchange ideas about ham radio in school. The list currently has no advertising, but that might change. If you're interested in joining the e-mail list, the address is: SCR-L@onelist.com Some guidelines for the e-mail list will be established and published on a regular basis. The second idea that teachers are discussing on the email list is when and where is best to meet for a school net—put in your two cents' worth.

Decorating the Room

School club stations can apply for the ARRL Friendship Award if the trustee of the club is an ARRL member. All that's required is a simple application (and \$5 for shipping/handling). The application and rules are on our Web page <http://www.arrrl.org/awards>. Another way to get radio certificates that the kids can proudly decorate the room with, is for them to make contact with Special Events stations. Check the *QST* column, "Special Events," for each month's opportunities.

Errata

The previous edition of *Amateur Radio in the Classroom* told about teacher Sarah Cowan receiving a grant for radio activities at the Pajaro Middle School in Santa Cruz. We've since learned that the school is in Watsonville; we apologize for the error.

The FBI Wants You!

Jay Chamberlain, AE4MK, is trustee for K3FBI, the Federal Bureau of Investigation Amateur Radio Association (FBIARA), at Quantico, VA. Last November, the club was organized to celebrate the FBI's 90th anniversary. Club members have been on the air, talking to school students and teachers, and now want to set up daytime skeds. Jay says, "The club has a cross section of engineers, technicians and special agents who will be happy to share our Bureau experiences and what it takes to be part of the FBI. Contact me via email (ae4mk@aol.com) or the US Postal Service at 27 Fox Run Lane, Fredericksburg, VA 22405."

ARRL Training Materials

As always, here's the list you request of the current editions of ARRL training material. The edition number and printing number are listed in the first pages of each book—look for the copyright box. If the book is a new printing, it has minor updates. If the book is a new edition, it has gone through major revisions. Abbreviations are as follows: *Now You're Talking!* (NYT), *ARRL's Tech Q & A* (ATQA), *General Class License Manual* (GCLM), *Advanced Class License Manual* (ACLM), *Extra Class License Manual* (ECLM), *FCC Rule Book* (FRB), *ARRL Novice/Technician Instructor's Guide* (NTIG) and *ARRL General Class Instructor's Guide* (GIG).

- NYT 3rd edition: All printings (good through June 30, 2001)
- ATQA 2nd edition: (good through June 30, 2001)
- GCLM 3rd edition: (good through June 30, 2001)
- ACLM 4th edition: All printings
- ECLM 6th edition: All printings
- FRB 11th edition: All printings
- NTIG 3rd edition: Use with 3rd edition of NYT (good through June 30, 2001)
- GIG 4th edition: Use with 3rd edition of GCLM

Note: The VEC Question Pool Committee has suspended its revision to the Advanced Class Question Pool until the FCC's restructuring plans are released.

Another ARRL Member Benefit

ARRL now has a new free service for members—the ARRL E-mail Forwarding Service. Members subscribe to this service that provides them an e-mail address at ARRL.net (generally callsign@arrrl.net). Mail sent to this address will be forwarded automatically to a real e-mail address of the member's choosing. This service provides members the opportunity to be associated with the League by having an ARRL.net address, and solves the problem of changing e-mail addresses when changing service providers. The easiest, quickest way to subscribe is from the ARRL Members Only Web page, where there's a page of instructions. If members don't have Web access, they can still subscribe by sending an e-mail to subscribe@arrrl.net.

And soon for schools: ARRL-affiliated school clubs will soon have this e-mail forwarding service, too. Stand by for an announcement in ARRL media, such as on ARRL's Web pages, and in *The ARRL Letter*, in the next few weeks.



You Deserve a Break

ARRL recognizes the effort you put forth to integrate ham radio into your classes. One way ARRL can say "thank you" is through our Instructor Discount Program, which offers our most popular educational manuals at a discount to you. View our Web page at www.arrrl.org/ead/instructor/instructor/ or e-mail us to get a list of these discounts. Then save even more by placing an order for these best-selling materials with Jean, WB3IOS, at 860-594-0219; Margie, KB1DCO, at 860-594-0267; or Dan, K3UFG, 860-594-0340; and we will not charge shipping. You can save \$9.75 on one copy of *Now Your Talking!* And don't forget to tell us when your class is starting so we'll ensure that materials arrive quickly. Call for personal attention for your next class and start saving today!—WB3IOS



Here are two photos of school activities assisted by Bill Chaney, KK6WI, and the San Fernando Valley ARC. Top photo: Bill describes the layers of the ionosphere for students. Lower photo: Teacher Mrs. Gillespie, along with two students, experiment with Morse code.



Young Ham of the Year

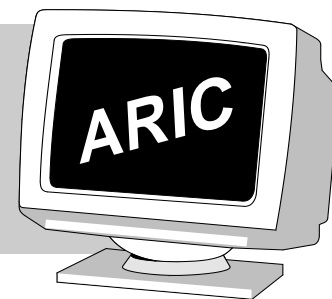
The nominating period is now open for the 1999 Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award. This award seeks to honor Amateur Radio-related achievements of hams age 18 or younger. The winner receives a trip to the 1999 Huntsville Hamfest and a week in Spacecamp Huntsville. Get full details and a nominating form at www.arnewline.org or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Young Ham of the Year Award, 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita, CA 91350.

ULS

The Final Order to implement the new Universal Licensing Service was published December 14, 1998, in the *Federal Register*. The new rules become effective soon, and we'll keep you posted. Among other things, the Form 610 series will be replaced with a new Form 605. Electronic filing of routine Amateur Radio applications will be encouraged but not required.

ARIC by E-Mail

If you wish to get your newsletter early, get it via e-mail. Send a message that you want the quick method, to Margie (kb1dco@arrl.org), and tell her your e-mail address. That's all there is to it!



ARRL Registered Schoolteacher Questionnaire

It's springtime—time for us to learn all about you! What new demonstrations are your students doing with you? What's your best teaching technique? Tell us, and we'll quote you in the next newsletter. How many ham grads can you brag about? Please fill in our survey (below) and return it via e-mail, US mail or fax. Our addresses can be found at the end of this newsletter. Thank you!



WHO ARE YOU?

THE 1999 ARRL-REGISTERED SCHOOLTEACHER QUESTIONNAIRE

Another year has gone by, and you've got another batch of prospective hams, and maybe some new licensees to be proud of. The first 10 instructors to report on their activities by returning this survey before June 1, 1999, will receive a free book, useful either to an instructor or to give to a student. Respond quickly!

Name/Call Sign _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

(Send EAF to my email address: _____)

3. I use: *Now You're Talking* ____ Yes ____ No
ARRL Tech Q & A ____ Yes ____ No
ARRL Tech Video Course ____ Yes ____ No
General Class License Manual ____ Yes ____ No
Other _____

Problems with books include: _____

1. My students' interests are:
__a. HF and/or DX __i. Packet Pals
__b. Radio Club __j. Public Service
__c. Rag Chewing __k. Amateur TV
__d. Getting licensed __l. VHF/UHF
__e. Fox/DF Hunts __m. RTTY
__f. Satellites __n. AMTOR
__g. Contests __o. other _____
__h. SAREX _____

2. a. In the Fall-1998 to Spring-1999 academic year, I taught # _____ ham radio licensing classes.
b. My graduates totaled:
_____ Novices
_____ Technicians
_____ Technician-Plus
_____ other
c. I didn't teach a licensing class this year, but I shared ham radio with # _____ students.

4. I want to continue receiving this newsletter.
____ Yes ____ No

5. I am an ARRL member. ____ Yes ____ No
(I'm not a member, but I'd like to receive your Free Membership Book Offer. ____ Yes)

6. My best motivational technique to get students to study for ham exams, or my best teaching technique to share with others is: _____

EDUCATORS: ARRL SERVICES JUST FOR YOU

Integrating ham radio into your school day takes time—recruiting students, ordering study materials, preparing demos. But you're not alone. We'd like to remind you of some services ARRL offers to educators.

- *Amateur Radio in the Classroom* newsletter
- License study materials and instructor guides
- ARRL Instructor/Dealer Publications Discount Program
- Recruitment brochures, posters, and handouts for all ages
- Practice exam computer software
- Graduation certificates and First Contact Awards
- Educator forums and the book, *Proceedings of the ARRL National Educational Workshop* (articles on ham radio instruction and recruitment – authors get a complimentary copy)
- Annual educator awards and Elmer certificates

If you'd like more information about any of these services, please send a note to ead@arrl.org or give us a call. All ARRL members help support the programs enjoyed by all Amateur Radio instructors, recruiters and their students. ARRL members also receive the monthly journal *QST*. Besides the news, feature stories, and projects you'll find in *QST*, the "New Ham Companion" section is devoted to stories and assistance. Here's what you missed using with your students, the past six months, if you weren't receiving *QST*:

- September *QST*, p 28, "Sunspots, Moonbeams and Earth Sites"—around the world on VHF
- October *QST*, p 50, "A Battery-Voltage Indicator"—a quick project to keep tabs on your battery
- November *QST*, p 62, "*QST* Compares Dual-Band FM Mobile Transceivers"
- December *QST*, p 34, "FREQ-Mite—A Programmable Morse Code Frequency Readout"—a quick project
- January *QST*, p 76, "Can You Do that Using FM?"—what students can do with FM
- February *QST*, p 55, "An Introduction to Op Amps"—an intro for students

An advocate for hams: For over 80 years, ARRL has been the organization steering Amateur Radio through exciting times, and securing the frequencies we enjoy from being taken by commercial or government interests. Our government turned over these frequen-

cies to hams, who in turn, pioneered shortwave communications. Today, amateurs continue to make contributions to radio. Who knows?...One of tomorrow's pioneers may be in your next licensing class. YES, I want to support Amateur Radio education by becoming an ARRL member, today!

Dues are \$34 in US (\$47 elsewhere, US funds). If you are age 65 or over, reside in the US or possessions and upon submitting one-time proof of age, you may request the dues rate of \$28.

Payment enclosed

Charge to (please circle): MC, VISA, AMEX, Discover

No. _____

Expiration Date _____

Cardholder Name _____

Cardholder Signature _____

Dues subject to change without notice. If you do not wish your name made available for non-ARRL mailings, check this box .


Return to ARRL Field & Educational Services

225 Main Street

Newington CT 06111-1494

(860) 594-0301; fax (860) 594-0259; email: ead@arrl.org

Tapestry of World Cultures

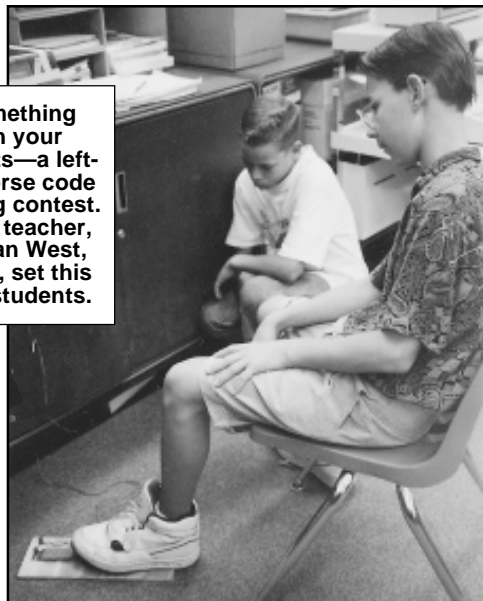


Bel Air High School
SPECIAL EVENTS STATION
K5FZH
El Paso County

To celebrate the cultures of the world we proudly send you this certificate. (No. ____)

To: _____ Confirm QSO of _____ Frequency _____ Report _____
UTC _____ Mode -Two way - Rig _____ Operator _____

Joe Barnes, Trustee




Try something fun with your students—a left-foot Morse code sending contest. Retired teacher, Phyllisan West, KA4FZI, set this up for students.

Want an idea for a good-looking certificate? Your special events station can be the anniversary of the founding of the school, the town or the state, or to honor QSO that help students learn about different cultures.

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Rod Stafford, W6ROD
President

David Sumner, K1ZZ
Executive Vice President

Rosalie White, WA1STO
Editor

Margie Bourgoin, KB1DCO
Assistant



Amateur Radio in the Classroom is an idea exchange and information newsletter for Amateur Radio instructors. Please contribute photos, stories and instructional ideas by sending them to Field & Educational Services in care of the address above.