



K7LED

RELAY

AN
ARRL
AFFILIATED
CLUB

NEAR SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

VOLUME 12

SEPTEMBER 1984

NUMBER 9

CLUB OFFICERS

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Vice President	Karl de Jong	N7AMX	Trustee No. 2	John Rehnstrom	WA7HQG
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Treasurer	Mike Cross	WB7AYU	Trustee No. 4	Vern Nelson	W7ZLW
Activity Mgr	Hal Goodell	N7NW	Trustee No. 5	Ray Leslie	WA7EKH

CLUB RADIO OFFICER: KEN RAU K7YR

The K7LED RELAY is the official publication of the MIKE and KEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, 23206 SE 53rd, Issaquah, WA. 98027. The Club meets the third Saturday of each month at 10 AM at "The Good Neighbor Center", 305 S 43rd St. Renton, WA. All "Hams" invited.

The Mike and Key net meets each Sunday morning at 10 A.M. on 3930 kHz with Novice and CW check-in on 3730 kHz and VHF on 146.58 MHz and K7LED/R 52.37-53.37 MHz.

K7LED RELAY EDITOR
13517 117th Ave NE
Kirkland, WA. 98034

REPEATER FREQUENCY

147.08-68
52.37-53.37

First Class

BOARD MEETING

OCT 10 1930hr
QTH - WA7HQG

CLUB MEETS:
UGN CENTER
RENTON 10:00

15 SEPT 84
ACTIVITY EVENING

OCT 3RD 1830
H.D. HOTSPURS @
KENT WA

COFFEE AND DONUTS WILL BE READY AT 0930, SEE YOU AT THE MEETING

Here are the names, address and phone number of the Club Officials. See front of Relay for position.

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RAY LESLIE, WA7EKH, 13517 117th Ave NE, Kirkland, Wa, 98033, Phone 821-4188

FOR SALE OR TRADE

Have a Radio Shack TRS-80 Color Computer 2, 64K that I would like to trade for a Handheld Unit.

Call KA7SEH at 243-5862 and ask for Tom Jr.

When formatting this paper there usually is some space like this left over. If I am lucky I can find something to fill it up. I would appreciate it very much if you, the membership, would help me fill these spaces with something that you write, I need your assistance - WA7EKH

BITS FROM THE CLUB MEETING

At this meeting the Pres asked "If we need to find you on the radio where do we look for you? -- seems that we are spread out over all of the bands (don't think we could be found if we wanted to be found)

Looks like H.D. HOTSPURS in Kent again for the October ACTIVITY EVENING. This is a place for BBQ ribs (all you can eat on Wed evening) if you like them, if not order something else, but come - we will have a program of some sort. This eating place is great, if you haven't been there you sure don't want to miss it.

Those of you interested in the Auction, there will be a meeting immediately after the September Club meeting on the 15th of October at the UGN Center.

The Club voted to foot the bill for the making of the Silk screen for the Club LOGO that goes on the new jackets that a lot of us ordered. Hope you ordered yours!!!

The VP has conducted an in-depth investigation and examination of the available records of the Mike and Key Amateur Radio Club to ascertain the "charter" members of this club. When we talk of charter members we are referring to those people who were there when the club was "re-started" in 1970 and are still a member in good standing.

It is fully realized that this club was originally organized sometime in the 1960's, then at a later date the club went inactive due to lack of interest. At a later time these people will be recognized if they are still in the club.

If you consider yourself a charter member and your name is not listed by the VP, please inform the VP immediately and bring some substantiating evidence if you have any. The mystery of the "Charter" membership people needs to be settled once and for all and those people recognized.

Once upon a time in the desert land of Nacirema, a skilled carpenter named Yrral went into business building houses for the local population. Yrral was a true craftsman, and soon his work was praised far and near. As his reputation grew, so did his business. Yrral was forced to hire many people to assist him. With each new employee, Yrral was able to devote less personal attention to each house that his company built. And so it is.

Soon Yrral had an accountant, a purchasing agent and a construction chief. Yrral turned over most of the business to these hired hands and spent more time with his family and friends. The accountant, purchasing agent and construction chief began to talk among themselves about how foolish Yrral was for buying only the best materials for his houses. "If we can cut costs while maintaining the appearance of quality, we will be able to increase company profits," said the accountant. "Surely, Yrral will give us great bonuses if we can accomplish this," said the purchasing agent. "I know where we can cut back without anyone ever finding out," said the construction chief.

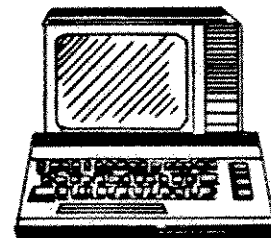
"It hasn't rained here in Nacirema in years," went on the construction chief. "Why should we continue to use expensive materials for the roofs? We can use cheaper roofing material, and no one will ever know." The others agreed.

Profits rose dramatically. Yrral was happy, and the customers who purchased the houses were happy. Life was good for a few years, until Mah, the farmer, moved to Nacirema. Mah was no ordinary farmer. He was also an accomplished wizard. But there are limits, even to wizardry. Without water, Mah's crops could not grow. So Mah began to devote all his powers to conjuring up rain. As Mah's power began to work the climate began to change, slowly but surely. First, it was just a drizzle over his own land. As he practiced, his powers increased. As his power increased, the rain increased. Mah's farm flourished.

Others saw the wonders of things growing on Mah's land and asked him for help. Mah was a generous man, and so he brought rain to other parts of Nacirema. Other farmers flourished, too. Life flowed through the land.

Unfortunately, not all was well. Yrral's houses leaked, and they leaked badly. Everyone knew that Yrral built quality houses, so it must not be his fault. The houses had not leaked before Mah and the farmers came. It was their fault. Neighbor was set against neighbor. Violence and strife ripped Nacirema apart. The accountant, purchasing agent and construction chief collected huge bonuses that permitted them to retire to Adirof, a land of sun and fun. And so it is. A silly fable? Yes, but it has a modern counterpart. TV sets, stereos and most other consumer electronic devices should have built-in filters to prevent radio waves from entering their circuitry and disrupting their functioning. Such filtering and shielding requires a few extra components and better construction materials and techniques. Such things raise the cost of producing each unit by a few cents. The accountants, purchasing agents and construction chiefs usually get their way (and their bonuses) and leave these protective devices out. After all, the consumer can't look at a TV set in the show room and tell if it is properly shielded and filtered against interference. The party line from industry is that few consumers live near a source of radio waves. It never rained in Nacirema either.

But the climate has changed in the last decade. Radio transmitters are everywhere. The rains have come, and the roofs have been found wanting. Neighbor is often set against neighbor. The solution is to build it right to start with. Meanwhile, the accountants, purchasing agents and construction chiefs have retired to sunny Florida on their fat bonuses. And so it is.



Land Mobile Takes Aim at 220 MHz

¶ The FCC has received two Petitions for Rule Making requesting that the 220-MHz band be shared with land mobile radio services. (Remember, these are Petitions for Rule Making and not FCC Notices of Proposed Rule Making. See QST, March 1982, page 66, for comment procedures.)

The first petition, RM-4829, was filed by the Land Mobile Communications Council (LMCC). LMCC asks the Commission to examine potential frequencies for future land mobile use. Besides 800 MHz, LMCC suggests that FCC explore potential use of UHF TV frequencies, government frequencies, 220-225 MHz and others.

With regard to 220-225 MHz, LMCC cites a report (Future Private Land Mobile Telecommunications Requirements, Final Report, Planning Staff, Private Radio Bureau, FCC, August 1983) that says "that this band [220-225 MHz] is only lightly used." However, LMCC goes on to say "Because of the limited number of channels that the 220-225 MHz band will provide, however, it is not anticipated that this spectrum can meet the immediate requirements of land mobile licensees. As noted above, approximately 32 MHz of spectrum is needed for Part 90 and 22 users. While these requirements may best be satisfied by making available spectrum from the 800-MHz reserve, the band 220-225 MHz may prove to be valuable for future land mobile operations." LMCC concludes by saying simply that they are asking the FCC to "allocate an additional 32 MHz of spectrum for immediate land mobile radio services."

The second petition, RM-4831, was filed by Sideband Technology, Inc., a manufacturer of Amplitude Companded Sideband (ACSB) equipment. STI proposes that 216-222 MHz be segmented into 5-kHz channels, and dedicated exclusively to private and government narrowband land mobile radio systems.

STI says that "The 220 MHz spectrum area is particularly attractive for re-allocation consideration for the following reasons: (a) The draft NTIA [National Telecommunications and Information Administration] report, 'Assessment of Narrow-

band Modular Technologies for Government Land Mobile Operations' (NTIA-TR-81-85), states that 'a spectrum resources assessment of the 216-225 MHz band points out that generally, the 216-225 MHz band is not extensively used throughout the United States . . . (b) One of the recommendations in the NTIA report is 'that the NTIA should pursue discussions with the FCC to consider planning of the 216-225 MHz band for shared Government and non-Government use of narrowband technologies by the Mobile and Fixed Services. The narrowband techniques would share this band with the Amateur Service"

STI goes on to say that the segment 216-222 MHz is "very attractive for narrowband authorizations, and it is currently not heavily used. Reallocation of part of this spectrum for narrowband use would be a very positive move towards incentivizing [sic] the use of narrowband technologies"

However, NTIA Report 81-85, "Spectrum Resource Assessment in the 216-225 MHz Band" says "the Amateur Service is the heaviest user of the 220-225 MHz band. The 3-MHz portion in 222-225 MHz is used for FM communications involving conventional land mobile communications techniques using repeaters, base stations and land mobile units. Communications are usually within a 60 km radius of the repeater. This portion of the band is channelized into 20-kHz channels and the modulation is 16F3 with a 5-kHz deviation (Pasternak, 1980). The heaviest use of the band by amateurs is in the larger metropolitan areas and in areas where there are concentrations of electronics industry. The Southern California area contains the heaviest concentration of activity.

"The 220-222 MHz portion of the band is used by the amateurs for point-to-point communications using single sideband (SSB) and FM modulation techniques. Experiments are conducted involving propagation and long-distance communications"

In summary, the spectrum usage measurements have indicated considerable activity in 220-225 MHz band in Los Angeles and to a lesser extent, San Diego.

The 216-220 MHz band is used less than the 220-225 MHz band. Radar usage was observed and can be expected in coastal areas where major ports are located."

Both petitions ask for additional spectrum space in the 220-225 MHz amateur band for land mobile use. Both petitions seek these frequencies on the premise that the 220 MHz band is lightly used. Although this may be true in some geographical areas, the two petitioners admit two things: (1) LMCC says that 220-225 MHz will not provide an adequate number of channels needed for land mobile systems. LMCC is simply looking for 32 MHz of spectrum somewhere, and their main suggestion is 800 MHz. (2) STI cites a draft report made by NTIA that says that 220 MHz is not heavily used; however, another study (the published version) says that amateurs are the heaviest users of the band.

ARRL will file timely comments opposing both petitions. Again, please be aware that these are Petitions for Rule Making and not FCC Notices of Proposed Rule Making. Comments may be filed by any interested party in this preliminary stage for thirty days after public notice (the deadline is August 29). Reply comments may be filed for fifteen days thereafter (September 13).

Then the Commission, most likely in its Spectrum Management Division, Office of Chief Scientist, will decide whether to ask the Commissioners to issue a Notice of Inquiry, to issue a Notice of Proposed Rule Making, or even to dismiss the petitions. Next, a draft Notice would have to be prepared, and sent to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration for coordination by the Interdepartment Radio Advisory Committee (IRAC), since these frequencies are assigned for Government use on a primary basis. As you are aware, amateur use of 220-225 MHz is secondary to Government radiolocation (e.g., radar) activities. It is by no means a foregone conclusion that IRAC would consent to new civil uses of the band, especially since the Government enjoys primary status in the band through 1989.

In any event, the process could stretch out for months or years. Amateurs outside the major metropolitan areas should follow the example of California amateurs and populate the band as quickly as possible with a variety of amateur services including wideband data transmission. They should also, of course, as a

first step, file comments with FCC opposing reassignment of 220-225 MHz in RM-4829 and RM-4831 before August 29. (At this stage of the game, it would be counterproductive for amateurs to feel that letters to Congress were more important than comments to FCC. Congress will be focussing on the Republican Convention and then on getting itself reelected; the early stages of an administrative matter like the 220 MHz allocation won't rate a high priority with many Congressmen right now.) If and when there is a Notice of Proposed Rule Making in the matter, amateurs should file comments again.

¶ The ARRL Volunteer Examining Office has sent a package to each VEC and all known Amateur Radio publishers containing 500 multiple choice Element 3 (General class) questions and answers. The ARRL as VEC will be using these questions in all Element 3 exams coordinated through the League. A cover letter with the package gives these other organizations and individuals explicit permission to "reprint or publish these questions as you wish." The answers and distractors have been edited to provide the most consistent and fair examinations for the amateur community. Each question has three distractors and only one correct answer. The percentage of correct answers is 25% -A, 25% -B, 25% -C and 25% -D. These questions reflect the new amateur bandplans that become effective September 1. Question pools for Elements 4A (Advanced) and 4B (Extra) are being prepared and will be mailed to the same list, plus any new VECs or additional Amateur Radio publishers within a month.

¶ Ed Stluka, W40AU, reports that the Marshall Amateur Radio Club Experiment (MARCE) was checked out at Kennedy Space Center on August 6 and passed with flying colors. (See Amateuradio, July 1984 and Stluka's article in September QST.)

The equipment was placed in its flight cannister and run through its paces. The cannister was installed in the orbiter Challenger on August 14. During a demonstration for the news media, Ed Stluka asked Dick Smith, Kennedy Space Center Director and the person who started the student experiment program, to turn on the experiment. Everything worked perfectly.

¶ The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Administrative Council has created two new endorsements for the Worked-All-Continents (WAC) award: FAX and ORP.

Amateurs who have achieved two-way facsimile (A3C, F3C or J3C) communication with all six continents may request FAX-endorsed WAC certificates. In honor of the pioneers in this mode who may be now engaged in other activities, contacts of any date are valid. FAX certificates will not be numbered, consistent with the practice for SSB, SSTV and RTTY certificates.

ORP endorsement will be available next year. The endorsement will be sent in the form of a sticker for affixing to a basic (CW or mixed-mode), SSB, SSTV, RTTY, FAX or 5-band certificate. ORP is defined as 5 watts output (10 watts input) or less. Only contacts made on or after January 1, 1985 will be valid. The applicant must make the six contacts while running ORP; there is no restriction on the power of the stations contacted.

The other endorsement stickers that are presently available are for 1.8 MHz, 3.5 MHz, 50 MHz, 144 MHz, 432 MHz and 6-band operation. Contacts on 10-, 18-, or 24-MHz will not count for the 5-band certificate or 6-band endorsement.

BLAKE ISLAND

And again, those of you who opt not to go on this event sure missed a good one - who knows - we might go again some day.

It is a good thing that I started out at 1645 instead of waiting to a more reasonable time. Those of us from the east side ran into a traffic jam on the Evergreen bridge due to the Mercer Island bridge being closed. (I happen to know a by-pass route so I made out alright) After you got on the bridge it thinned out so speed went back to normal. Got to the water front about 1730 and found the parking not to bad. Used one of the parking meters which cost 30 cents until 1800 and then it was free. Understand one of us couldn't find parking, anyhow he didn't show up on the boat.

The boat left a little late however, and it seemed to have just about a full load. The bar was opened as soon as we pulled away from the dock. Drinks seemed to be reasonable as far as the price was concerned.

The ride over took about an hour and we got somewhat of a tour of the south side of the harbour, needless to say the return trip also took about an hour.

We spent about two hours on Blake Island. Upon landing we were guided to some steamed clams for a starter (Little Jon says that I should comment on steamed clams at this point but won't). Next came the dinner of Indian baked Salmon and from what I heard it was enjoyed by all. After the dinner there was an exhibition of Indian dancing. The dances were from different tribes around the northwest. We got to look around after the dinner and dancing. There are some Indian items that could be purchased and there was a movie of some old time tribal activity.

Out of the 34 who signed up to go there were 22 that made the Blake Island Salmon dinner. To those of you who missed this one, better luck next time. WA7EKH

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

I have contacted some of the club members in regards to serving on the LONG RANGE PLANNING Committee. So far 6 members have volunteered their services. If you have a desire to serve on any committee this is the one to get on as we need all the help we can get.

About four months ago or even longer, when this committee was originally formed, there were 8 or 10 members that said they would serve on this committee. Seems that most of them forgot to attend the meeting, so we are trying to get some members that will keep interested.

This is a very IMPORTANT committee and the results of this committee will be the guide lines that will be followed in the future. This committee will make suggestions to the Executive Board and membership as to which direction we are going and what we are going to do. The survival of the Mike and Key Amateur Radio Club may depend on what this committee comes up with.

MAKE YOURSELF KNOWN AND HELP THE CLUB AND YOURSELF BY SERVING ON THIS COMMITTEE OR ABOVE ALL IF YOU HAVE AN IDEA AS TO WHAT THE CLUB SHOULD DO, LET US KNOW.

Of all the committees that have been appointed or formed this is the most important - WA7EKH

GENERAL MEETING AUG 18, 1984

Intro and "where do you hang out on the radio"?

Rcv'd Trustees approval of \$150.00 allotment to WA7RJT for generator wear and tear.

REPORTS

Vice-Pres: No new members; researched anniversary dates, had list of "Charter" members.

Sec: Motion to accept minutes in Relay, passed. Card sent to WA7TIB in sympathy.

Treasurer: Bal. \$4138.52. Motion to pay bills, passed.

Act Man: Blake Island, VHF contest, Oct. Activity dinner at HD Hotspurs, Auction, Christmas party.

Radio Off: Marrowstone dorms for rent at Field Day, Will explore the little one.

Most Valuable Field Day Member presented to KD7NM.

COMMITTEES:

Relay: W7ZLW to do the Sept edition while WA7EKH on vacation.

VEC: Flood of exams. Motion to give \$30 to continue VEC board work, passed.

Picnic: need checks for Norm's

LRP: WA7EKH to poll non-board members to sit on the committee.

Jackets: N7NM on samples and ordering. Motion to pay for pattern changes and art work of approximately \$40 on jackets, subject to Trustees approval. (Trustees reviewed and approved.) Passed. Motion to consider using white or silver for jackets, passed

NEW BUSINESS:

Club Call: W7VIH. VHF contest committee would like to use on contest.

Flag Standards: HC7MO made and delivered, looks great. Thanks.

Newsletters: WA7EKH to handle a reciprocal club newsletter exchange with other clubs.

Flea Market: N7NM wanted a planning meeting, members agreed to have a F.M. Members on committee: WA7EKH, N7NM, KD7NM, WA7HQQ, WA7UEW, N7AVO. Meet Aug 21 at WA7EKH QTH (also WB7VJA)

Motion to adjourn.

The Vice-President Speaks:

As of this date we have four associate members, one life member, and sixty full members. From the start of the year we have added four new members to the roster.

It has been requested that we recognize those members that were instrumental in the reorganization meeting of the Mike & Key back in 1970. They are: Pete, K7WTG; Chuck, WA7EBH; Carl, W7PRW; Jim, K7ND; Steve, K7KOT; Ken, K7PZX. We would like to make them charter members. It would take you to do this at a meeting.

The only member due in August is Mike, WB7AYU. There are only two in September, they are Ken, K7PZX, and Jack, KB7ZS.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!!!!! HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!!!!! HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!!!!!

The BACK-TO-SCHOOL September boys are Tony, KA7CYY, then Jim, K7ND and last of the month is Gib, W7JIE.

The TRICK-OR-TREAT kids of October are Warren, K7MRH, then Joe, KB7R, then Deborah, N7AVO, and last, but not least is Ralph, WA7GHZ.

Picnic Time, Again!!!



Date: Sept. 16th - Sunday

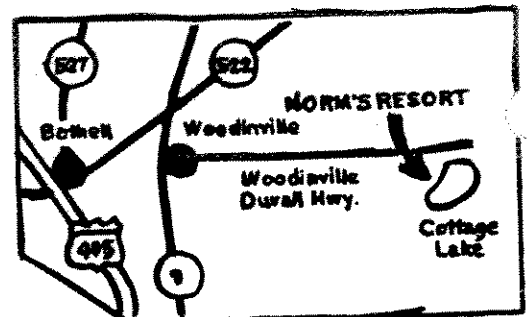
Time: 10AM - dusk

Food: Club provides hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, relishes & beer

You need: White ID card in your car window with all the names of occupants. This will be available at the meeting on the 15th

Directions: Take the Monroe-Wenatchee Exit off of I-495 to Woodinville. From Woodinville take the Woodinville-Duvall Road east approximately 4 miles to Norm's Resort located on the right at Cottage Lake.

Volleyball!
Badminton!
Baseball!
Food!
Chatter!
Swimming!



PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

September 3rd	WA7EBH 747-7833	B Diamond	Black Diamond Parade
November 24th	K6DOW 271-5341	Seattle	Seattle Marathon
December 9th		Lk Wash	Boat Ride for the Handicapped
December 10th to 23rd	K7QMI 547-0404	Seattle	Santa Talks Program for Hospitalized Children.

CLUB EVENTS

September	8-9	- VHF Contest
	15	- Club meeting at UGN Center in Renton
	16	- Picnic at Norm's Resort
October	3	- Activity Evening at HD Hotspurs
	10	- Board Meeting, QTH of WA7HGG
	20	- Club meeting at UGN Center in Renton
	27	- Annual Club Auction at McMicken Heights
November	?	- Board meeting
	7	- Activity Evening ????????
	17	- Club meeting at UGN Center in Renton
December	?	- Board meeting
	8	- Christmas Party
	15	- Club meeting at UGN Center in Renton
	17-21-	Santa Talks

THE ACTIVITY EVENING FOR OCTOBER WILL BE AT H D HOTSPURS IN KENT ON THE 3RD OF THE MONTH (FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH) THIS IS AN ALL YOU CAN EAT TYPE OF A MEAL AND WE WILL HAVE ENTERTAINMENT OF SOME SORT. BRING ANYONE YOU WANT TO BUT BY ALL MEANS COME!!

● **HF Phone Bands Expanded**
 ● **ARRL Now a 13-Region VEC**

HF Phone Bands Expanded!

On July 20, the FCC released a Second Report and Order expanding the HF phone bands (P.R. Docket No. 82-83). The FCC also granted the Petition for Rule Making filed by Randall F. Soball, KH6XX, allowing phone operation on 7075 kHz-7100 kHz in Hawaii (RM-4228). In effect, the FCC has adopted ARRL's proposed band plan as filed during the comment period (see *QST*, October 1982, p. 51).

Last year, the commission had released a First Report and Order that authorized expanded phone operation on 20 meters. (See *QST*, June 1983, p. 59.)

Effective 0001 UTC, September 1, U.S. Amateur Radio operators may operate phone (A3 and F3 emissions, as well as slow-scan television and FAX [A4, A5, F4 and F5 emissions]) on the following frequencies:

- 3750 to 3775 kHz — *Amateur Extra*
- 3775 to 3850 kHz — *Advanced and Extra*
- 3850 to 4000 kHz — *General, Advanced and Extra*
- 21,200 to 21,225 kHz — *Amateur Extra*
- 21,225 to 21,300 kHz — *Advanced and Extra*
- 21,300 to 21,450 kHz — *General, Advanced and Extra*
- 28,300 to 29,700 kHz — *General, Advanced and Extra*

Consistent with past practice, RTTY (F1 emission) will not be permitted in the newly expanded phone segments.

With regard to the 40-meter band, FCC agrees with ARRL that phone-band expansion would be detrimental to CW operations; however, the Commission will allow phone operation on 7075-7100 kHz in Hawaii and other areas near ITU Region 3, including Alaska. The Commission agreed with most commenters that because of Hawaii's proximity to ITU Region 3, where phone operation is permitted, hams in this area would get relief from interference from Regions 1 and 3. Daniel K. Robbins, KL7Y, and Herbert C. Holeman, WL7BIL, noted that expanded 40-meter phone operation should include Alaska, because of its proximity to Asia.

In summary, the FCC adopted the expansion plan as submitted in the ARRL's comments, with the addition of expanded phone operation at 7075-7100 kHz in certain geographic areas near Region 3. Remember that these new phone privileges are not available until 0001 UTC, September 1, 1984. — *Wayne T. Yoshida, KH6WZ*

ARRL NOW 13-REGION VEC

The American Radio Relay League is now a Volunteer Examiner Coordinator. On July 21, culminating more than two years of intensive planning and preparation, ARRL President Larry Price, W4RA, put his signature on the VEC Memorandum of Agreement at the ARRL Na-

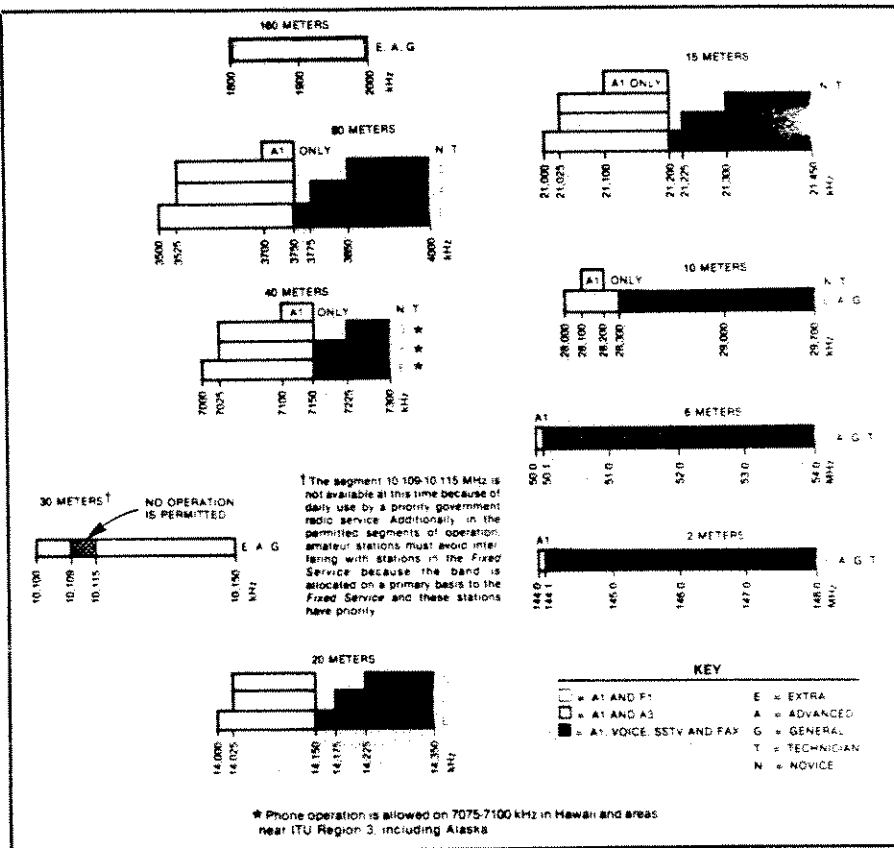


Fig. 1 — This chart includes the new HF phone-band privileges that become effective at 0001 UTC September 1, 1984. Until then, U.S. amateurs must follow the mode allocations depicted in the chart on page 51, January 1984 *QST*.

tional Convention in New York City. It had already been signed by FCC Managing Director Ed Minkle. The completed document was then returned to Private Radio Bureau Chief Bob Foosner, while several hundred amateurs looked on. The agreement authorizes the ARRL to accredit Volunteer Examiners and coordinate giving upgrade exams in each of the 13 FCC-defined regions.

On July 12, the Commission ruled on Docket 84-265, permitting recoupment of expenses by VECs. In anticipation of this, ARRL had filed its petition to become a VEC on June 27. The ARRL will now proceed on its announced course of action, coordinating Technician, General, Advanced and Extra Class exams at hamfests and conventions in September and October. Beginning in November of this year, ARRL will coordinate exams at any location. Sponsors must register with the ARRL VEC Office, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111, at least 75 days in advance.

The thousands of Advanced and Extra Class

licensees who have applied to serve as Volunteer Examiners with the ARRL are completing and returning their application materials to Hq. They will be accredited and sent credentials in time for the first ARRL-coordinated exam sessions in September.

To determine when exams will next be given in your local area, check hamfest and convention brochures for September and October. Your FCC field office has exam-schedule information for all VECs. An article on taking exams under the Volunteer Examiner Program appears elsewhere in this issue.