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Lawrence County Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 7

December 2004

Calendar of Events

Next LCARC Meeting night will be January 3rd 2005
7pm, at the Lawrence County Courthouse, Walnut
Ridge, Arkansas.

Lawrence County A.R.C. Information and Weather
Nets: 147.045 + Repeater, Time: 8 PM
December 14th and 28th 2004
January 11th and 25th 2005
February 8th and 22nd 2005

Lawrence County ARC Names 2004 Ham of the year at November Meeting.

Dale Stratton K5ZXH was named the Lawrence county Amateur Radio Club Ham of the year for 2004. Dale has volunteered a great deal of his spare time assisting in the installation and upkeep of towers, antennas and radio equipment. We would like to thank Dale for all his hard work in the Amateur radio community of Lawrence County and surrounding area.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 CALENDAR OF EVENTS
- 1 LCARC HAM OF THE YEAR
- 2 WE NEED YOUR HELP!
- 2 FCC DENIES BANDWIDTH PETITION
- 3 2005 CALENDAR



The Lawrence County Amateur Radio Club Ham of the year for 2004, Dale Stratton K5ZXH.

We Need your Help!

The 147.045 repeater is in great need of being upgrading, and we have an opportunity of doing so. We have a chance of purchasing some solid state Motorola radios that can be easily programmed and setup to replace our ageing repeater. Recently we have been having a number of problems with our current repeater that range from age issues, rodents building nest inside of the housing on the circuits, and lighting strikes. Each time we have a new problem it is becoming more difficult to repair, not to mention it uses tube pre-drivers and finals and it is becoming more difficult and expensive to get replacement parts. The radios we are looking at for replacement are Motorola Solid state units, 2 of them are required, one will be programmed up on our receive frequency and the other on our transmit frequency, it is believed that we can use our existing controller. What we need is help from our membership and other hams in the area to make a pledge so that we don't have to use any of the clubs current funds. We currently have \$100.00 promised so far, the cost for this replacement will be \$400.00 to \$450.00. We ask you pledge what you can afford, if there is any excess we can either split it back up among those that made the donations or place it in our checking account for future repeater needs. If you would like to help with this project, please Email or Contact our Club President (Don't send any money, just let us know what you're willing to Pledge. The Contact Information is:

Email - kb5fjx@arrl.net

Phone - 870-878-0052

Mailing address - Carl Richardson 139A Lawrence RD 2645 Smithville, AR 72466.

FCC DENIES AM, SSB BANDWIDTH PETITION

The FCC has turned down a Petition for Rule making that sought to establish specific bandwidth standards for full-carrier AM and SSB Amateur Radio emissions. Michael Lonneke, W0YR, and Melvin Ladisky, W6FDR, filed the petition, designated RM-10740, on May 27, 2003.

The FCC said a majority of the approximately 160 members of the amateur community who commented on the petition opposed the concept.

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"We conclude that petitioners' request for an amendment of our rules is inconsistent with the Commission's objective of encouraging the experimental aspects of the Amateur Radio service," wrote Public Safety and Critical Infrastructure Division Chief Michael J. Wilhelm, WS6BR. The FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau released the Order November 24. "The petition also fails to demonstrate that a deviation from the Commission's longstanding practice of allowing operating flexibility within the Amateur Service community is either warranted or necessary." Lonneke and Ladisky had asked the FCC to "remove the ambiguity" in Part 97--specifically §97.307(a) and (b)--and they referenced Enforcement Bureau letters sent to amateurs alleging overly wide SSB signals--sometimes called "Enhanced Single Sideband." Additionally, they said, some contesters purposely adjust their transmitters to exceed what they called "the de facto SSB signal width of approximately 3 kHz" to gain "elbow room" during contests.

On HF frequencies below 28.8 MHz, the petition recommended a maximum 2.8 kHz bandwidth SSB (J3E) emissions and a maximum 5.6 kHz bandwidth for AM (A3E) emissions.

Asserting that most radio amateurs "operate in a manner consistent with the basic purpose of the Amateur Service," the FCC said its existing rules are "adequate to address any noncompliant practices by amateur operators." Current FCC rules require that amateur transmissions not occupy "more bandwidth than necessary for the information rate and emission type being transmitted, in accordance with good amateur practice," and that emissions outside the necessary bandwidth not interfere with operations on adjacent frequencies. The FCC also said the petitioners failed to show that there is "a particular problem" with stations using AM.

The Order said the FCC's Enforcement Bureau will continue to monitor through its complaint process "nonconforming activities" of operators who fail to abide by its rules. "In instances of willful and malicious interference, the Enforcement Bureau will not hesitate to take appropriate action," Wilhelm pledged.

Lawrence County ARC 2005 Calendar

Some dates subject to change

January

3rd - LCARC Meeting
11th - LCARC Net
25th - LCARC Net

February

7th -- LCARC Meeting
8th -- LCARC Net
22nd -- LCARC Net

March

7th - LCARC Meeting
8th -- LCARC Net
22nd -- LCARC Net

April

4th - LCARC Meeting
12th - LCARC Net
26th - LCARC Net

May

2nd - LCARC Meeting
10th - LCARC Net
24th - LCARC Net

June

6th - LCARC Meeting Election Meeting
14th - LCARC Net
28th LCARC Net

July

Regular Meeting night falls on the 4th this year, so we will hold our meeting the following Monday the 11th

11th - LCARC Meeting
12th - LCARC Net
26th - LCARC Net

August

1st - LCARC Meeting
9th - LCARC Net
20th - Huntsville Hamfest
21st - Huntsville Hamfest
23rd - LCARC Net

September

Regular Meeting night falls on Labor Day, so we will hold our meeting the following Monday the 12th

12th - LCARC Meeting
13th - LCARC Net
27th - LCARC Net

October

3rd - LCARC Meeting
11th - LCARC Net
25th - LCARC Net

November

7th - LCARC Meeting
8th - LCARC Net
22nd - LCARC Net

December

5th - LCARC Christmas Party
13th - LCARC Net
27th - LCARC Net