

TECHNICIAN LEVEL AMATEUR RADIO COURSE - - March 13, 2011

Sponsored by: Alcona County Amateur Radio Group

Location: Alcona County EMS/EOC Building; 2600 East M-72 (on the south side of M-72 just east of F-41)

Registration: contact Instructor

Course Cost: No cost for course; \$15 Standard FCC exam fee for All Non-Alcona School 4-H attendees applies

Instructor: Stan Darmofal, W8SZ; e-mail: w8sz@arrl.net; Phone: 989-724-5550

Alcona County Emergency Coordinator and Radio Officer;

ARRL Instructor and Certified FCC ARRL-VEC Examiner

4-H Program Manager: Les Thomas; e-mail: thoma322@msu.edu; Phone: 724-6478

Amateur Radio Support: Members of the Alcona County Amateur Radio Group & VE Team

Textbook: *Ham Radio License Manual*, 2nd Edition **ONLY** by the ARRL (American Radio Relay League); Available from the instructor at the discounted rate of \$22.50 (includes Exam Software CD)

Some Helpful Hints:

- Read the material **in the order** as shown in the Syllabus below. Be certain to go to the referenced test questions in the chapter you are reading when you see: "Before you go on, study test questions...."
- If you have any problem understanding a question, review the specific material referenced below the question's answer **only once!**
- If you don't understand the information after the review, make a note of your question(s) and have the instructor clarify the information for you in class - - don't waste your time re-reading - - chances are others have the same question and the instructor can get to the appropriate information quickly!
- Don't become discouraged if you don't understand the technical and mathematical material immediately - - the in-class videos, hands-on demonstrations and fun projects will go a long way to help you learn!
- Don't buy any equipment until you have a chance to see the various Ham gear in action in the class

Here are a few sites that will provide you information on Amateur Radio. The ARRL site is by far the best with many links to other sites:

<http://www.arrl.org/> - - The American Radio Relay League Site

<http://www.alconaradio.org/> - - The Alcona County Amateur Radio Group Site (See "Links" Page)

<http://www.heavens-above.com/> - - Amateur Radio Satellites, ISS, Astronomy, Shuttle and more!

<http://www.findu.com/> - - primarily an Amateur Radio database archiving weather, position, telemetry, and message data using the Automatic Position Reporting System (APRS)

<http://www.qrz.com/> - - A Ham Radio "Super Site"

<http://www.echolink.org/> - - Echolink allows licensed amateurs to communicate over the Internet

Here is an Internet site for the On-line FCC Amateur Radio Practice Tests (It randomly creates tests just like the exam you will take) - - be certain to read the "Help Page" information link in the first paragraph:

<http://www.aa9pw.com/radio/index.shtml>

SEE PAGE 2 for SYLLABUS

Class Syllabus**Date & Time:**

Prior to Mar 13th:	Read: Chapters 1 through 9 Review: All Chapter 11 questions referenced in the reading material above
Sunday, Mar 13th, 9 am – 9:30 am	Class Overview Hands-On Demo: 2 Meter Repeater; Repeater Phone Patch Video: “Amateur Radio Today” Review: Chapter 1: Welcome to Amateur Radio (Chapter 1 material is NOT on exam)
9:30 am – 11 am	Video: “Basic Electronics & Amateur Radio” Review: Chapter 2: Radio and Signals Fundamentals Review: Chapter 3: Electricity, Components and Circuits Hands-On Demo: Using Electronic Components & Measuring Devices Test: Chapters 2 & 3; Sample of FCC Questions; Review answers
11 am – 11:10 am	Break
11:10 am – 1 pm	Review: Chapter 4: Propagation, Antennas and Feed Lines Hands-On Demo: Building & Testing Antennas Hands-On Demo: Using a SWR Meter, Antenna Analyzer Review: Chapter 5: Amateur Radio Equipment Test: Chapters 4 & 5; Sample of FCC Questions; Review answers Review: Chapter 6: Communicating with Other Hams Video: “Match-Up: Texting vs. Morse Code” Video: “International Space Station Contact”
1 pm – 1:10 pm	Break
1:10 pm – 3 pm	Hands-On Demo: Operating a HF Station Hands-On Demo: Operating VHF/UHF/Packet/Digital Modes Chapter 7: Licensing Regulations Test: Chapters 6 & 7; Sample of FCC Questions; Review answers Review: Chapter 8: Operating Regulations Review: Chapter 9: Safety Hands-On Demo: Safety Practices, Limiting RF Exposure Test: Chapters 8 & 9; Sample of FCC Questions; Review answers
3 pm – 3:10 pm	Break
3:10 pm – 4 pm	Review: All Chapters Hints: “How to pass your Technician Level FCC Exam”
4 pm – 4:45 pm	Test: Sample of Actual FCC Exams; Review Exam Answers
4:45 pm – 5 pm	Break
Sunday, Mar 13th, 5 pm – 7 pm	FCC Exams for all license levels; <u>must pre-register at:</u> http://www.alconaradio.org/test.aspx