

THE PLATTSMOUTH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Communicator

June 2017

FCC Personal Radio Service Revisions Will Affect GMRS, FRS, CB, Other Part 95 Devices

(ARRL 04/28/2017) In a lengthy Report and Order (R&O) in a proceeding (WT Docket No. 10-119) dating back 7 years, the FCC has announced rule changes affecting the General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS), the Family Radio Service (FRS), the Citizens Band Radio Service (CBRS or "CB"), as well as other applications that fall under the FCC's Part 95 Personal Radio Services (PRS) rules and regulations. Part 95 devices typically are low-power units that communicate over shared spectrum and, with some exceptions, do not require an individual user license from the FCC. As the R&O explains, common examples of PRS devices include "walkie-talkies;" radio-control cars, boats, and planes; hearing assistance devices; CB radios; medical implant devices; and Personal Locator Beacons.

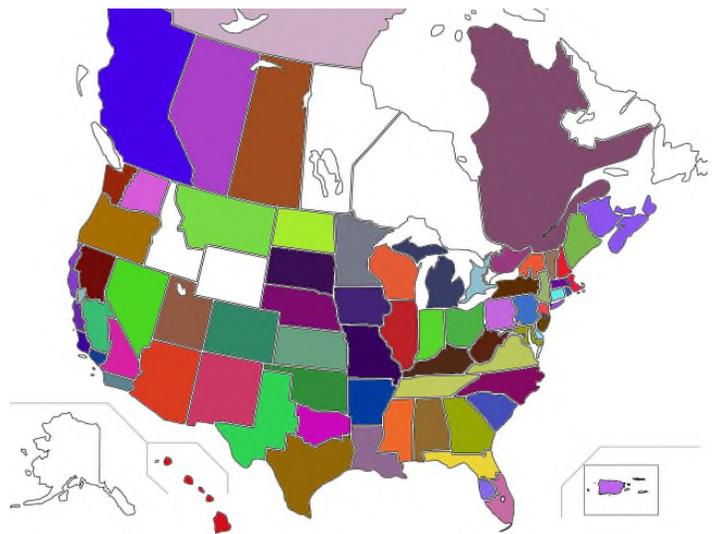
"This draft Report and Order completes a thorough review of the PRS rules in order to modernize them, remove outdated requirements, and reorganize them to make it easier to find information," the FCC said in a summary attached to the R&O. "As a result of this effort, the rules will become consistent, clear, and concise."

GMRS and FRS devices are used for personal communication over several miles; compact FRS handhelds, often sold in pairs, are widely available. While GMRS and FRS share spectrum, GMRS provides for greater communications range and requires an FCC license; FRS does not.

"The rules will increase the number of communications channels for both GMRS and FRS, expand digital capabilities to GMRS (currently allowed for FRS), and increase the power/range for certain FRS channels to meet consumer demands for longer range communications (while maintaining higher power capabilities for licensed GMRS)," the FCC explained.

The amended rules eventually will eliminate combination FRS/GMRS radios for the most part, but allow up to 2 W PEP output for FRS transceivers. "[M]any current users of GMRS/FRS combination radios do not obtain licenses to operate over the GMRS frequencies in those radios," the

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Field Day is June 24-25

Field Day is the fourth full weekend in June and everyone is invited to join us in the park in Murray for all or any part of the weekend for some operating, to learn or just to visit with others. Setup usually begins Saturday morning with operating starting at 1 pm and running for 24 hours.

The map above shows our results from last year when we contacted 47 states, six Canadian Provinces and Puerto Rico.

Meeting Calendar

8am, May 27, 2017

at Mom's Café

Field day is June 24-25

Meeting is at noon.

**2017
PAID MEMBERSHIP**

- AGØL.....Steve Loyd [E]
- AIØN.....Chuck Engberg* [E]
- K3CRFDave Smith [E]
- K5LBS.....Jerry Gault [E]
- KA0IJY Keith Keene [E]
- KBØFSIPat McCollum [T]
- KBØLFFred Ericksen [E]
- KBØOGO Roger Behrns* [E]
- KBØSJB.....Tom Katalenich [G]
- KBØZZT..... George Bellairs [T]
- KCØDTK..... Joan Bellairs [T]
- KCØHYD.....John Titsworth [G]
- KCØHYE.....Shirley Titsworth [T]
- KDØNMD.....Dudley Allen [G]
- KDØBxB Kim Allen [T]
- KEØXQ..... Bill McCollum [E]
- KGØKR Beth Engberg* [E]
- KIØPYKevin Faris [E]
- N5SEZ Ray McNally[E]
- NØLZHJohn Harrington[T]
- WØDBWDerek Winterstien [G]
- WØZY.....Dave McLaughlin[E]
- WØZYD Debbie McLaughlin[G]

**Charter Members #New Ham*

Note: Thanks to all who have paid their dues and many who have given additional donations. All donations are greatly appreciated. Please let me know of any corrections.

Meetings are 8am the last Saturday of most months at Mom's Café in Plattsmouth.

Tuesday night get-togethers at Plattsmouth Burger King at 7 PM



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443.45⁺ is located in downtown Omaha
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**MINUTES of
the
MEETING**

The April 29, 2017 meeting was held at Mom's Café. The meeting was called to order at 0811 by President Roger Behrns.

Those in attendance were Roger (KBØOGO), Kevin (KIØPY), Fred (KBØLF), Beth (KGØKR), Keith (KA0IJY), Dave (WØZY), Dudley (KDØNMD), Kim (KDØBxB) and Steve (AGØL).

The Minutes of the March meeting were approved on a motion by Steve and second by Kevin.

The treasurer reported \$75 in Dues and donations and the insurance payment of \$320 which leaves \$260 in the repeater fund and \$702.85 in the general fund for a balance of \$962.85.

Fred reported that the Nebraska QSO party in April had good participation, but bad conditions.

Fred has obtained a 1x1 call, N0A for the week of Field Day and offered it for Club use. No action was taken at this meeting.

It was noted that Kid's Day is June 18th.

Kevin is going to check with Spiral for internet access at Field Day.

The meeting adjourned on a motion by Kevin and second by Dave at 0827.

PLATTSMOUTH ARC MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM					
Name		Call Sign		Class	
Address		City		State	Zip
E-Mail			Phone #		
Spouse Name			Call Sign		Class
Membership Type <input type="checkbox"/> Primary(\$15) <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse (\$5) <input type="checkbox"/> Student (\$5) <input type="checkbox"/> New Ham	● Additional donations are gratefully accepted. ● New Hams are free during the year they receive their first license. ● Please give this form and dues to the club treasurer or any club officer.		Donation for: <input type="checkbox"/> Repeater fund <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> General		Amount: <input type="checkbox"/> I prefer my donation to be anonymous.
Any additional e-mail or cell phone #s?					



FCC (Continued from Page 1)

FCC said. “Much of this problem likely arises as a result of the mass consumer marketing of combination devices for sale to the public in large quantities to users who do not know about or do not understand the licensing requirements attached to such radios and obligations associated with operating in the GMRS.”

The FCC said it no longer will certify FRS devices that incorporate GMRS capabilities or capabilities of other services. Existing GMRS/FRS combination radios that operate at power levels of less than 2 W ERP will be reclassified as FRS devices; existing GMRS/FRS radios that operate above that power level will be reclassified as GMRS devices, requiring an individual license. Radios that can transmit on GMRS repeater input channels will continue to be licensed individually and not by rule.

“We believe the 2 W limit for FRS is appropriate, because many of the existing combination GMRS/FRS radios already operate under that level with no significant complaints about interference or other problems, and it provides a reasonable balance between the desire for increased range over the prior FRS power levels and battery life,” the FCC said.

The FCC said changes to the decades-old Citizens Band (CB) rules will remove outdated requirements, including certain labeling requirements. DXing on Citizens Band will become legal too. Once the new rules are effective, CBers will be allowed to contact stations outside of the FCC-imposed — but widely disregarded — 155.3-mile distance limit. The revised CB rules further clarify how hands-free devices can be used with CB radios and will allow the use of wireless microphones with CB radios. “We find the record persuasive regarding the consumer demand for this feature, and it will promote safety on the highways by reducing driver distraction for those using CB [radios],” the FCC said. The FCC left in place the current power limits for the CB Radio Service.

The rule changes will phase out the use of voice-scrambling or “obscuring” features in all Part 95 devices, and it will ultimately prohibit manufacture, importation, or sale of any devices incorporating such features, “regardless of whether the Commission has previously certified that radio.”

Overall, the FCC said, its action “achieves a thorough review of Part 95 rules and creates a new rule structure where common administrative rules are consolidated to reduce duplication, and individual subparts are structured with a common numbering scheme.” The FCC said the changes remove “outdated and unnecessary rules, while clarifying others.”

Most of the new Part 95 rules will become effective 30 days after their publication in The Federal Register.

https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-344617A1.pdf

<http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-personal-radio-service-revisions-will-affect-gmrs-frs-cb-other-part-95-devices>

Morsum Magnificat Available for Free Download

(ARRL 05/18/2017) All copies of the English-language version of *Morsum Magnificat*, the Morse Magazine, are now available for free download from the website of Lynn Burlingame, N7CFO. This includes the 89 issues published from 1986 to 2004. Mike Feher, N4FS, was able to provide the missing editions, which Randy Cole, KN6W, scanned for viewing. The 89 issues of *Morsum Magnificat* contain more than 4,000 printed pages, covering all aspects of Morse telegraphy.

The newly available downloads also include “The Story of the Key: The Best of MM-1,” by Louise Ramsey Moreau W3WRE, which includes a list of American telegraph instrument makers from 1837 to 1900, compiled by Roger Reinke. In addition, there’s “Key WT 8 Amp Worldwide Survey: The Best of MM-2,” by Tony Smith G4FAI, an updated and revised version of the 54-page booklet that provides information about the famous military Morse key, of which more than 100 versions were manufactured in six countries.

Also available: The MM Q & Z Codebook, (English), compiled by Rinus Hellemons, PA0BFN, and Dick Kraayveld, PA3ALM, publishers of the original Dutch version of *Morsum Magnificat*. The codebook lists all Q & Z codes in their original applications, including a copy of the original single-page Q-code guide of 1912.

All copies of *Morsum Magnificat* or associated publications downloaded from the N7CFO website are for personal use only and may not be downloaded or distributed for any commercial purpose. — Thanks to Southgate Amateur Radio News via Tony Smith, G4FAI, co-founder of the English edition of *Morsum Magnificat*

<http://www.n7cfo.com/tgph/Dwnlds/mm/mm.htm>

<http://www.arrl.org/news/missing-issues-of-morsum-magnificat-now-available-for-free-download>

Updated Band Charts Now Available

ARRL has revised and updated its “US Amateur Radio Bands” charts, and these now are avail-



able for download. These are PDF documents, available in color or grayscale presentations.

The revised charts reflect the new 630- and 2,200-meter bands, but also emphasize that these bands are not yet available for Amateur Radio use.

<http://www.arrl.org/graphical-frequency-allocations>