

Now that you have a ham license-what can you do with it?? Listed below are some of the more popular activities hams get involved with.

Rag-chew

Hams are noted for pontification to the highest degree!!!!!! This is called Rag-chew. Basic modes are voice communications and Morse code, however, there are many other modes including: automatic packet reporting system (ARPS) moon-bounce, meteor scatter, satellite communications, radio teletype and narrow band digital.

VOIP

VoIP stands for Voice over Internet Protocol which ham use in several different ways to use radios through internet gateways to other hams anywhere in the world. There are several methods with various names, IRLP, Internet Radio Linking Project being one of the oldest. You can use a 2 meter handheld in a US town with an EchoLink node or D-Star repeater to talk to another 2 meter handheld in Australia.



Digital Modes

Hams use several digital modes with Radio Teletype being one of the oldest. Station locations including mobiles in motion send positions through the internet using Automatic Packet Reporting System, APRS. Other digital systems are PSK31, Pactor I, II and III, AMTOR, GTOR, Clover, D-Star and may others. Each has advantages and disadvantages. WINLINK2000 is a system using Packet and other protocols to provide a complete messaging service. Some radios are controlled by computer forming a large group of radios with no front panel knobs or buttons. There are software defined radios where the actual radio is a computer program allowing very impressive radio performance.



Contesting is

An organized effort to contact as many of a particular type of station as possible. It could be states, countries, bands, grids or zones. The rules for the contests are found on the ARRL website. Contesting is a test of your skill and endurance levels and your equipment capability.

Emergency Communications: If you would like to help out in emergencies, you may be interested in becoming a member of ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service). For more information, inquire at a NOARC club.

Hams use several Satellites for communication. The Amateur Radio Satellite Corporation is an organization linking several countries to launch amateur radio satellites. With a simple antenna and handtalkie you can talk with the part of the world that is in the footprint of the satellite. There are free programs that will allow you to track these satellites. One is at: <http://www.heavensabove.com>

Thank you for interest in Amateur Radio and if I can be of any further assistance please contact me at ki5fr@mahnster.net

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President, North Okaloosa Amateur Radio Club (NOARC)



THINGS HAMS DO

Welcome to the North Okaloosa Amateur Radio Club. NOARC is dedicated to teaching new hams and sharing information with experienced operators. Monthly meetings are held on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm in Bldg. # "D" behind the Live Oak Baptist Church, 4565 Live Oak Church Rd. Crestview, FL.



Our Website is www.w4aaz.org Ham radio is a life-long learning process. Being involved in a club gives you the opportunity to connect with a more experienced ham known as an Elmer. An Elmer can help you find answers to questions and keep you pointed in the right direction.

Come to a monthly NOARC meeting and meet your ELMER or volunteer to help a new ham. Either way you will have a great time of fellowship and learn a lot too!