



The American Radio Relay League – Helping Hams Get Started Since 1914

The 170,000+ members of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) are among the most active and enthusiastic amateurs in the country. Headquartered in Newington, CT, ARRL speaks for its members in Washington and internationally as well as providing direct member benefits. To learn more about Amateur Radio and about the ARRL, explore the ARRL web site: www.arrl.org

The rules for earning an Amateur Radio license vary depending on which country you live in. In the U.S., there are three license levels, or “license classes” (Technician class, General class and Extra class). These licenses are granted by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

It’s Easy to Get Started

The most popular license for beginners is the Technician Class license, which requires only a 35 multiple-choice question written examination. The test is written with the beginner in mind. Morse code is not required for this license. With a Technician Class license, you will have all ham radio privileges above 30 megahertz (MHz). These privileges include the very popular 2-meter band. Many Technician licensees enjoy using small (2 meter) hand-held radios to stay in touch with other hams in their area. Technicians may operate FM voice, digital packet (computers), television, single-sideband voice and several other interesting modes. You can even make international radio contacts via satellites, using relatively simple equipment.

Getting started in Amateur Radio has never been easier. Start

by locating a radio club in your area. Some radio clubs offer ham radio licensing classes, or they can find a club volunteer to answer your questions. You may even be invited to attend a local radio club meeting.

ARRL publishes popular ham radio license study guides to help you learn the things you’ll need to pass your exam and have fun with Amateur Radio.

The Amateur Radio license examinations are administered by ham radio volunteers. When you’re ready to take your exam, you’ll need to locate an exam session near you.

Activity For Any Age, Gender or Physical Ability

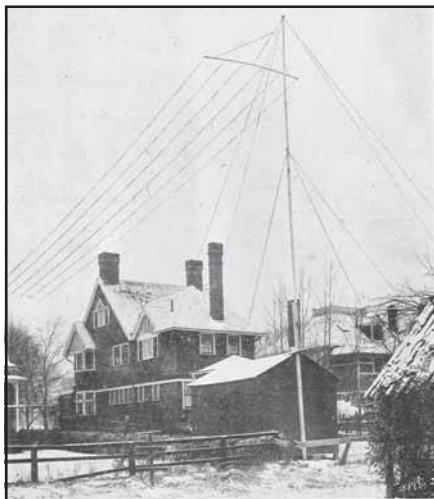
You can become an Amateur Radio operator no matter what age, gender or physical ability. People from all walks of life pass their entry-level exam and earn their Amateur (ham) Radio license. They all share the diverse world of activities you can explore with ham radio. We know you’ll enjoy this fascinating world of Amateur Radio, and we hope to have the chance of meeting you on the air – when you become an Amateur Radio operator. Ω

Hiram Percy Maxim—A Pioneer in Ham Radio

These photos and captions were submitted to *The Radiogram* in 1915 by Hiram Percy Maxim

Collected by John Dilks

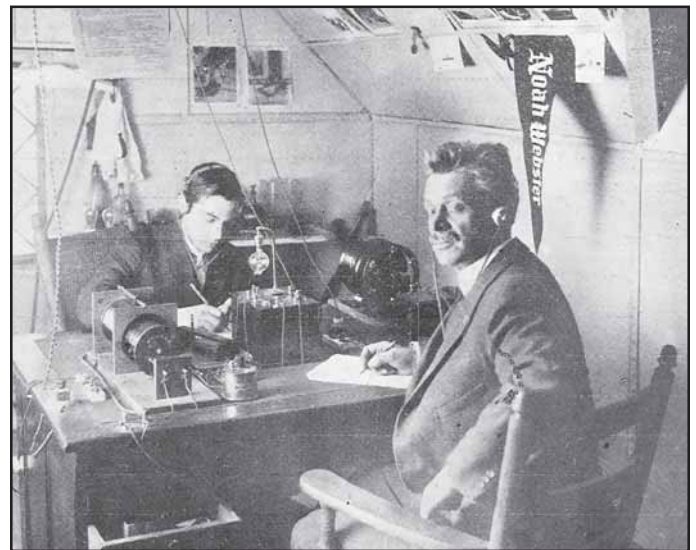
Photo (Left, below): “Two aerials are arranged, one for sending on 200 meter wave length for distances less than ten miles, and one for sending on 495 meter wave length for distances in excess of ten miles. Five plates of the condenser are used for



the 200-meter wave-length and ten plates added to this five for the 425-meter wave-length. The outdoor equipment consists of a 60-foot mast at one end and a 50-foot mast at the other, 100 feet apart. The spreaders are 18 feet long and have 11 wires of stranded copper between them. The ground connection is carefully soldered and connected to ground at three places. This station

can work points in southern New Jersey, northern Massachusetts and can receive Colon, Panama and ships at sea, when two or three days out of New York. The station holds a special license for the purpose of relay work in the American Radio Relay League. The call letters are IZM.”

Photo (Right, below): “The receiving station outfit consists of a large loose coupler by means of which I can get very accurate tuning, an Audion Detector and variable condenser. The two sets of phones are usually connected in.



The transmitting sets consist of a 1 K.W. specially made transformer, glass plate condenser, oscillation transformer, 1/4 H.P. General Electric Company motor running specially built quenched rotary spark-gap.” Ω