

Radio Merit Badge and Amateur Radio Exam Training



To "**Be Prepared**" means being able to communicate with family and friends during an emergency. One way is to have an amateur "ham" radio, and a license to operate it. Earning your BSA Radio Merit Badge takes you well on your way to becoming licensed as a "ham" radio operator.

A free Loudoun Amateur Radio Group (LARG) sponsored class is being held this Friday evening (January 13th) and Saturday (January 14th). The class is designed for anyone desiring to take the required FCC exam to operate on amateur radio. There is no fee for the class, and all responsible youth and adults are invited. Scouts who attend can all but complete the requirements for the Radio Merit Badge by bringing the Radio Merit Badge worksheets and a signed Blue Card with them. Download the Radio MB worksheet at: <http://meritbadge.org/wiki/images/1/10/Radio.pdf>

A **BSA Radio MB Counselor** and other LARG members will help scouts with their worksheets and with requirement #7.

Class Details:

"Technician Class" license exam preparation training is being held this Friday and Saturday at Morven Park's Winmil Carriage Museum off of Old Waterford Rd. on Southern Planter Lane in Leesburg. The Morven Park Mansion and Winmil Carriage Museum address is: 17263 Southern Planter Ln., Leesburg, VA 20176. Go here for directions: <http://www.morvenpark.org/directions.php>

The training class runs from 6:30 pm until 9 pm on Friday, and 8:30 am until 4 pm on Saturday. The Friday session will be repeated at 1 pm on Sunday.

There is no fee for the class, but attendees should either bring a lunch or \$5-\$8 for carryout which will be ordered during Saturday's class. Please note: There will not be time for leaving and returning to Morven Park during the lunch break. LARG will supply bottled water.

Attendees can be dropped off at the Winmil Carriage Museum, however there is no parking at the museum itself. Park in lot #3. Signs to the "LARG Class" will be posted and a ride to the Museum (about 2-3 blocks walk) from the parking lot will be provided before class (please be prompt).

The 35 question "Technician Class" amateur radio license exam will be given at Morven Park on the following Saturday (January 21st). A donation of \$15 is requested for taking the exam. All exam questions can be previewed on-line, and practice exams can be taken on the Internet without cost. Learning Morse Code is NOT a requirement. (A 7 year old girl recently earned her license!)

Please refer to LARG's website under "Ham Training" for the latest info at <http://www.k4lrg.org/Training/index.html> > or have them email bob.rodriquez85@gmail.com