



This month we will continue the abbreviated look at the **History of Amateur Radio**. Maybe we have to understand where we came from to see where we are going. Today we will look at **Part 2** (*Part 1 is in the February 2010 issue*).

1921 – This was a huge transition year for Amateur Radio. The ARRL membership climbed to 6,000 transmitting members. Paul Godley 2ZE traveled from America to England with U.S. equipment. While operating from Ardrossan near Glasgow, Scotland, he identified signals from IBCG at Greenwich, Connecticut. Two days later the first QSO between two amateurs across the Atlantic took place.

1923 – A patent was granted for SSB (Single Side Band) and experimental contacts were made on LSB (Lower Side Band) between New York and London. WWV began broadcasting time and frequency information.

1924 – The quartz crystal was introduced to control the frequency of a transmitter, and the stability yielded a very clean signal to be transmitted. This brought the end to the spark gap transmissions.

1926 – Brandon Wentworth, 6OI, was confirmed to have worked all continents.

1926 – Hidetsugu Yagi and Shintaro Uda invented the beam antenna, providing a highly directional signal pattern.

1927 – The Radio Act of 1927 created the **Federal Radio Commission** (later changed to **FCC** in 1934).

1928 – The **Basis and Purpose of the Amateur Radio Service** is defined in **Part 97** of the FCC rules and regulations.

1929 – The screen grid element was added to the vacuum tube, changing the efficiency of both transmitters and receivers.

1933 – The first Field Day Contest was held. Now there are at least 1,200 companies producing radios of some kind.

1934 – Amateur licenses were reorganized into different classes, each requiring 13 wpm (words per minute) Morse Code.

1936 – Edwin Armstrong created a paper describing Frequency Modulation as a noise-free, high-fidelity mode that is the basis for FM broadcasting today.

1939 – There were now 51,000 amateurs in the U.S. and the War Emergency

Radio Service was put into place as the war came to Europe. Of the 250 countries, 121 went off the air. U.S. hams were prevented from contacting hams, except for the ARRL Field Day. The FCC gained 500 radio operators to staff listening and direction-finding stations from the Amateur ranks. Of the 51,000 hams in the U.S., 25,000 enlisted and 25,000 remained at home to teach radio and electronics and serve in the communications industry.

The War Years were a big industry changing event as well. That topic and the progress up to today will be covered in Part 3, coming in the future.

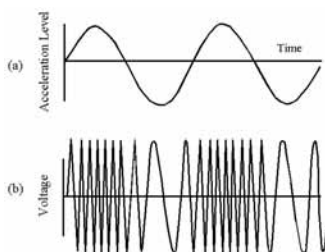
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Mark Your Calendars

- Saturday, September 25, for the next SYCARC Radio Rendezvous at Port Madison.
- Wednesday, October 13, for the next SYCARC Meeting at the Portage Bay Mainstation. 🗓️

W7SYC – For more information about the SYC Amateur Radio Committee or getting an amateur radio license, send an email to Dan Withers, dwithers@rodaxwireless.com or call (206) 947-2303.



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