

## Ham 43 – Why Did You Get Licensed?

Dr. Marc & Rosemary © 220529

1. Why did you get licensed as a ham radio operator?
2. Exactly. Every person with a license had a reason. Has it gone away, been shifted because of life, or are you stymied?
3. Getting a license is no easy feat. You studied, a lot. What is next?
4. A common comment that we hear from newly licensed hams is to the effect, 'I don't know enough.' The federal government thinks you do. They granted you a license just the same as anyone else who did the exam.
5. For the exam you studied (memorized) a group of questions. To practice as a ham requires association and interaction with others. Regardless of background, on the first day after the license, EVERYONE is in the same place. No one has done it before! The Mom, the nerd, and the good ole' boy need to associate and learn the tools, techniques, and traditions.
6. You do not need to know technical stuff. Did you know technical to pass? That is all the FCC says you must know. The rest comes with doing. When you learned to ride a bicycle, did you know the physics of balance, the engineering of gears, or the mathematics of speed? What you did was trust your dad or big brother to keep you upright?
7. Unlike any group you have seen, ham is about someone helping you. We call the mentor an Elmer. Ask them to help you, get on the air, and have fun forever more. To have friends, you must show yourself friendly. So, don't be bashful.
8. They can show you how to use EchoLink to get going, without a radio. Then your Elmers will guide you in selection of equipment. Something is available to fit any budget.
9. The Evergreen Group does a Show-n-Tell, usually the second Saturday of each month at 9:00 AM. That is a casual time, we just look at stuff and visit. After a while, most folks relax and just start jivin'.
10. The Group gets on the radio on Monday nights at 7:00 PM. Just listen in if you want, until you see what is happening.
11. Our objective is to help everyone get on the air and have communications ability when nothing else works.

