

Ham 77 – Jumpstart
Dr. Marc & Rosemary © 230118

1. Jumpstart - verb transitive: to impart fresh or renewed energy.
2. *Evergreen Communications Group* (ECG) is an association of hams: some new, some old, some inactive, some never quite got started, some wanting to get started but do not know how.
3. *ECG* is simply a team of people with similar interests and the common denominator is amateur radio.
 - a. We are not an organization, club, or a membership.
 - b. There are no officers and no dues or fees.
 - c. If you see something that needs to be done, you can take care of it or talk to others about getting their help.
 - d. The original idea of Dr. Michael has taken-off and grown to over 70 hams in the first year.
4. *Numerous opportunities* exist to be involved, ask questions, or learn.
 - a. Amateur radio is different for each, it is about your experience, experimenting, and expanding horizons.
 - b. Regardless of background, everyone started at the same place, so experienced Elmers can help others along.
 - c. Someone will help you learn, plan, build, and use your station. Let them. That is what hams do.
5. *Our mission is communications, classes, and camaraderie.*
All activities are open to anyone with similar interests.
6. *Communications:* Most people get into amateur for emergency communication, whether due to power, loss of phone, weather, travel restrictions, or other circumstances.
 - a. To have communications ability in an emergency, you must know who to call, where to call, and when to call.
 - b. Nets test the communications system, including equipment, skills, and contacts.
 - Weekly Net: Monday at 7PM.
 - Call ins and discussions welcome.
 - c. ECG operates a repeater, KI5UNR, on 145.250, negative offset, PL 141.3.
 - d. AllStarLink node is KI5UNR-R, node 584801.
 - e. The repeater is open for use to anyone with similar interests.
 - f. Find the schedule of other events and the Net Controller on Gab Community: <https://gab.com/groups/62710>.
7. *Classes:* Since everyone is still learning, ECG has a very active training and education program.
 - a. The entry level, *Technician*, class is every other month. In 4 weeks or less, you earn your license.
 - b. Other training assists those pursuing a advanced level General or Extra license.
 - c. All study material is provided.
 - d. You are strongly urged to develop your skills and license so you can support others.
 - e. We do not ask about your technical ability. We only want to know of your interest.
 - f. We know who passes the exams, everyone who diligently follows the directions.
 - g. Our instructors wrote the study guides. If you prefer print, these are available on Amazon.
 - h. Extra and General class licensees are the Volunteer Examiners (VE) who conduct the licensing exams on a regular basis.
8. *Camaraderie:* Each month, generally on the second Saturday, ECG has a Sho 'N Tell, an informal get together to see, ask, and do. These are great fun and friendship.
 - a. A topic is selected, then individuals participate in the way they desire.
 - b. This is absolutely the best way to find how to do things and to ask questions.
 - c. On occasion, we build and have demonstration of building projects you can use, if that is your interest.
9. *Continuing Ed:* An approximately weekly column dispenses facets of ham radio about which someone has asked a question.
 - a. Many articles aid in selection of appropriate equipment for your purpose.
 - b. If you have a question, we likely have an article in the archives. Ask.
10. *Equipment:* Radios are necessary to communicate in emergencies.
 - a. *Minimum equipment:* VHF/UHF cross-band radio with at least 50-watts; power supply; antenna; coaxial cable; back-up power. Icom 2730 is most common in the group.
 - b. *Suggested:* Build a separate AllStarLink node with Raspberry Pi, but a cellphone works.
 - c. *Optional:* Handi-talkie, go-box, meters, as much as your credit card allows.
 - d. Our location and terrain demands higher performance equipment than most areas.
11. Life happens. People come, people go, people wait. You determine what works for you at this time.
12. Life is good. Enjoy!



Ham exams are not to show what you know, they are to help you learn.

