

A Message from the Repeater Trustee

Every amateur radio club is required to have a trustee for an FCC issued club license/call sign. The person designated the license/call sign trustee has ultimate responsibility for the proper operation and content of communication of the club station, or repeaters. The license trustee ALONE, NOT the club, is the individual who has his own personal license placed in jeopardy should operations/communications in violation of FCC rules and regulations be conducted through transmitters carrying the club call sign. EAARS has appointed me, Joe Montierth, K7JEM, as trustee for the EAARS license and the call sign K7EAR, which is used to identify all of the club repeaters.

Each individual club can determine what things can or cannot be discussed, and proper procedure for repeater operation. Our club has a very open policy about what is proper, and what can be talked about. Basically, the conversation has to be legal, and not abusive to other users. Beyond that, there are not many restrictions. Licensees are responsible to make sure their own communications follow FCC Part 97, and are given a lot of latitude in making those decisions on their own. We don't have a "repeater police" group to enforce content or behavior. That is up to the individuals participating in the conversation.

That said, if you notice questionable behavior, or communications that you feel are in violation of FCC rules and regulations, please contact the officers at eaarsofficers@eaars.com. Let us know the date and time of the communication, and we will review the recordings and take appropriate action, based on club policy. You can also use this e-mail address to report technical problems like outages or other issues. Please don't get involved in discussions about what is or is not legal, or try to correct the actions of others. This seldom turns out well, and can result in hurt feelings and unintended consequences. The only people authorized to speak on behalf of the club are the club officers, so keep in mind that any arguments or discussions you have with other licensees are between you and that other person, and do not involve the club.

Use the repeater system as you see fit, and try to stay within the guidelines- but above all, have fun! Ham radio is welcoming to all, and there is room for everyone.

Joe Montierth, K7JEM, License Trustee of K7EAR