

Amateur Radio's Next Gen



Sterling Coffey, NØSSC

NOSSC's Testimony



You **Tube**



MISSOURI
S&T



The Real Issue(s)

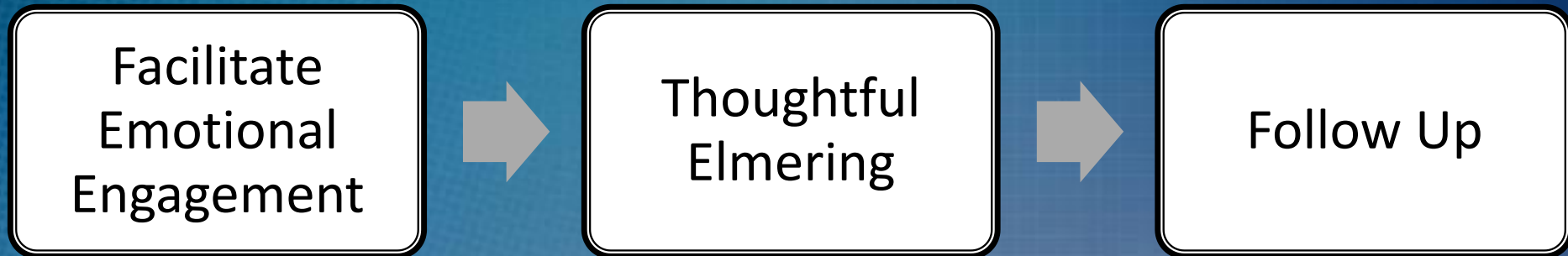
- High rate of attrition vs Low rate of young blood
 - Aging population
 - Silent Generation approaching finality
 - Radiomen from army and introduction of commercially viable radios
 - 80-90% Baby Boomers SK in next 25 years
 - Huge influx from CB/car phone/autopatch craze
 - Millennials
 - Emcomm and scouting interests, or “my dad was a ham”
 - Ham radio has been surpassed by the internet
 - Generation Z
 - Internet Born & Raised...how does ham radio keep up?

How to Fix It

Top Level (ARRL)



Lower Levels (SLSRC & You)

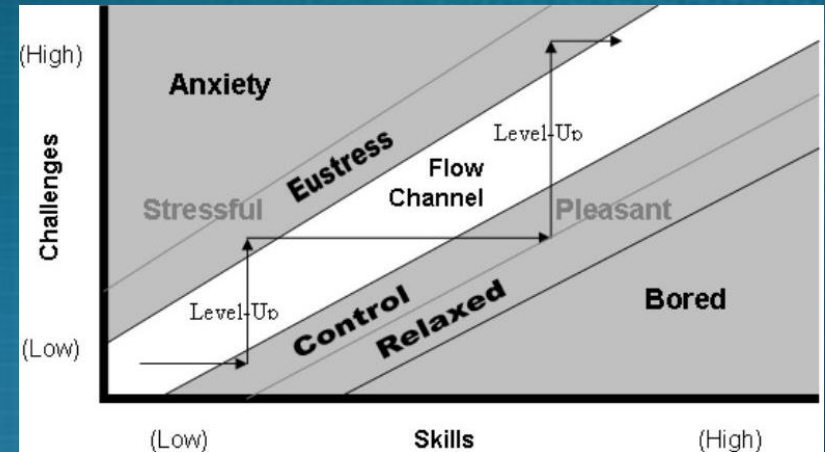


Emotional Connection

- Bewilderment + fascination + applicability = captivation
- It's friggin' magic!
 - Brooke Allen – N2BA
- Making it easy
- Making it rewarding

Gamifying Ham Radio Contesting

- Make contesting...
 - Accessible & Low Cost
 - By having a public or remote hamshack
 - Competing with \$5 – \$60 games
 - Intrinsically Rewarding
 - By creating contests and sprints that follow the “flow diagram”
 - Showing peer interest - use modern tools
 - Social media & Live Scoring
 - Livestreaming?



Pre-High School

- Technically Challenging to create interest
 - Requires a lot of elmering and facilitation
- Morse Code
- Science connections
 - Using amateur radio as a tool to demonstrate layers of the ionosphere
- Scouting!

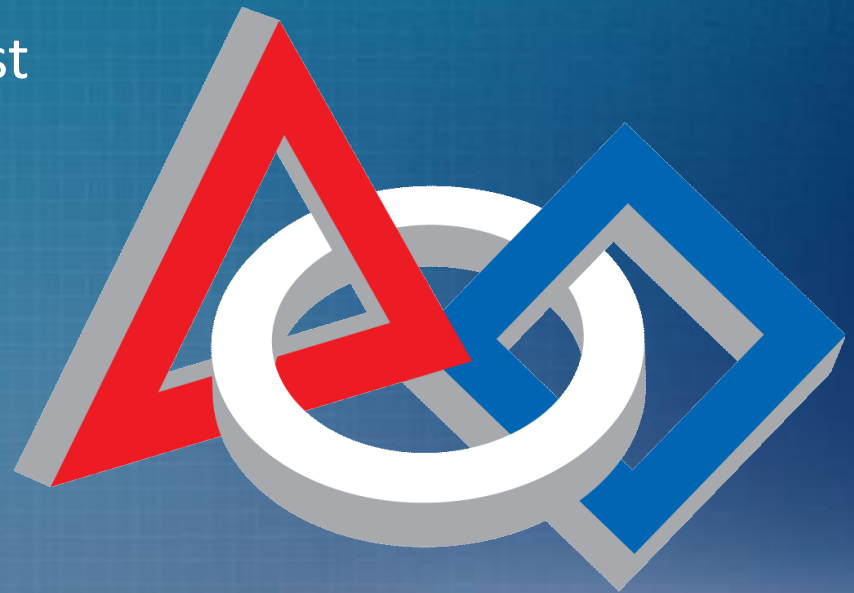
Scouting

- Extremely active & successful in amateur radio
 - Over 1M exposed to ham radio during JOTA!
- Keep it up!



High School

- Competing Interests (Girls & Boys, football, band, being cool etc)
 - Make ham radio an interest
 - If not a superficial interest
- FIRST robotics
- Competitive Ham Radio
 - Contesting Teams
 - Orienteering (ARDF)
- Ballooning



FIRST®

College

- Massive Potential
- Rivalry promotes competition
- Relevance to EE coursework
- Easy Networking
- Career Implications
- Collegiate Amateur Radio Initiative



See Sam Rose's "Advantages of College Ham Radio Clubs" presentation on YouTube [here](#), and his slides [here](#)

Post College

- Many large employers (especially in engineering industry) have amateur radio clubs
 - Motorola, Boeing, TRW, Rockwell Collins, Disney, Compaq, RCA, various broadcaster societies
 - Most of them are retirees only! ☹️
 - What can your company's club do to get younger membership?
 - Get the word out – internal & external social media, flyers, emails
 - Don't expect attendance at meetings, so keep everyone well informed
 - And don't expect everyone reads your website – use email!
 - Design youthful activities

Youngsters on the Air

- IARU Region 1 Youth Initiative
- Starts at the top...
 - IARU R1 Youth Working Group
 - 26 young hams from R1 member countries
- Annual YOTA Camp
- December Youth Month
 - Month long Youth QSO party
 - Special Event “-YOTA” call signs



YOTA in the US

- Sam Rose KC2LRC and Myself leading YOTA US movement
 - We're both employed, overworked, and underpaid engineers
 - Help? Help!
- Venues
 - Voice of America Museum
 - Contest Superstations
- Activities
 - Contesting, Special event operating, ARDF, antenna building, mesh networking, APRS, DSTAR, DMR, SDR, circuit design, Raspberry Pi, LTE/GSM informational, ISS contacts.....
 - Must also have non-ham radio events
 - Sightseeing, swimming, bowling, hiking, etc
 - And Social events
 - Teambuilding, icebreaking, dancing
- People!
 - And money.

Thank You!

This presentation and more at <http://n0ssc.com>