



Ham Chatter



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May 2002

Editor, Dave Langley, W4YDY - Email: w4amc@qsl.net

Contributing Editor: Murray Merner, K4MHM

Meet the Member John Schultz, W4FA

John is one of our rarely seen "phantom" members, but he did agree to surface long enough to write his own story. - K4MHM

My story is basically one of gratitude for having found the hobby of AR. As a fat, shy teenager in NYC, I haunted the public libraries. After reading some books on Amateur Radio I became "hooked". I studied the code and theory on my own and at age 15 in 1950 became W2EEY and got an Extra Class license in 1953. I started to build all sorts of tube-type gear, half of which never worked. My indulging parents didn't know what I was doing, but I guess they felt my activities at least kept me off the streets of Brooklyn! A few years later and after losing many pounds, I graduated

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John Schultz, W4FA, holding his 50 year old FCC Amateur Extra Class certificate.

Next Meeting - May 14

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its next regular meeting on May 14 at 7:30 PM at VFW Post Home 7032 at 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville. Field Day will be discussed by Murray Merner, K4MHM. Also a video will be shown. All members and guests are invited to attend. Map to the VFW in January Ham Chatter and on the Internet.

The next board meeting is set for May 21 (a week early) at 7:30. The meeting is open to all members.

Tour de Cure 2002

Members of BARC were part of the "Eastern Contingent" of hams supporting the 2002 Tour de Cure. The Tour de Cure is a bicycle event over two days that stretches from Zebulon to the Outer

Banks organized by the Diabetes Association. Ham radio operators provide communication support for the event by manning rest stops and Support and Gear (SAG) vehicles. It's a great way to demonstrate the benefits of amateur radio to the public and have a great time in the process. It's also an opportunity to

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Farmville Dogwood Festival Special Event Operation Deemed a Success

by Byron Highland K4BMH

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club made it's first ever appearance at the Farmville Dogwood Festival operating a Special Event Station. We asked for a beautiful weekend and received most of it. Preparations were begun Friday evening when several members of the club set up the club's trailer, the shelter and two sections of tower with a Mosley tri-band yagi on top. Our location was just about perfect. We set up between the Fire Station and the Post Office right on Main Street. The club's Cushcraft vertical antenna was mounted on the roof of the Fire Station, which made for an easy and short coax run. This must have been the perfect spot, because even though band

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BARC at the Farmville Dogwood Festival. Photo by KV4CN

President's Corner *Dave, KV4CN*

Practice, practice, practice was the reply of the old man when the young man asked him how to get to Carnegie Hall. So goes the old joke, but it's no joke when it comes to our skills as radio amateurs. Over the past several months, thanks to the efforts of club members we have had opportunities to set-up and operate radio stations outside of our own radio shacks. These opportunities present chances to practice and lessons

that are never covered in any ARRL license manual. I've always learned something by being a part of such an opportunity and challenge you to do the same.

One of the greatest learning opportunities is coming this June. It's Field Day. Murray will be this year's chairman, and he needs your support. Come to Field Day not to be just part of the event (which is fun by itself), but come to increase your skills. Whether it is equipment set-up or operating, Field Day offers hours of training and practice. To the more experienced hams in the club, "grab" a less experienced ham and teach him or her something. Pass on your skills and pass on the legacy of ham radio.

Practice, practice, practice...

I participated in the Tour de Cure on the second day of the event. Shortly after arriving at our assigned rest stop, the Diabetes Association volunteer arrived and upon seeing my radio said "great, the amateur radio operators are here." She had been part of the event on Saturday and realized the value of having radio operators at the rest stop. This type of positive exposure of the general public

to our hobby is invaluable to the continued use of "our" frequencies, and to the prevention of restrictive zoning (antenna restrictions). As a club, we need to seek opportunities to demonstrate our worth and gain positive public support. We can only do this if we are trained, skilled and professional when before the public. This leads to practice and learning; which are the topics of the paragraphs above.

Thanks to everyone for all that you do for the club and the hobby.

See you at the meeting!
73,

Dave KV4CN

Field Day 2002, K4MHM

I have volunteered to coordinate the FD. The coordinator only helps keep things organized and directed, but success depends on you.

This year FD will be held Jun 22 and 23. While we conduct our Field Day as a fun, social event and emergency preparation experience, we do try to be somewhat competitive. In 1998 we had 665 contacts and 2,702 points; in 1999 there were 507 contacts and 2,084 points and in 2000 there were 1,120 contacts and 3,522 points. I don't know about last year's data.

Taking a cue from when Bernie coordinated the FD, I have a binder which summarizes most of the things we have to do. They include: **shelter, antennas/feedlines, power, radio equipment, operators/loggers, food, safety/first aid, and publicity.** We need people to come forward and lead in the various areas. We have approval from the SurgiCenter to use their lot again if we want to. Dave, KV4CN, has purchased a router so we can log using a LAN. Much of the general wishes of the club will be discussed at the May and June BARC meetings.

The success and fun of the project will depend on people sharing the load. Usually, most members have not

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Happy Birthday

Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club members birthdays in **May**.

- 1 WB4PAC William Overton
- 12 KG4TBS Adrian Blanarovich
- 14 W4TEP Tom Parsons
- 19 KB3KR J. Lawry Bennetts
- 29 KV4RF Bob Fainter

Please let me know of any additions or corrections. - W4YDY

Well Wishes

Bobbie Parsons, (wife of Tom W4TEP), fell off the porch on April 18 and broke her leg just below the knee cap reports her daughter, Bonnie, KG4CZW. Everyone at BARC wishes her a speedy recovery.

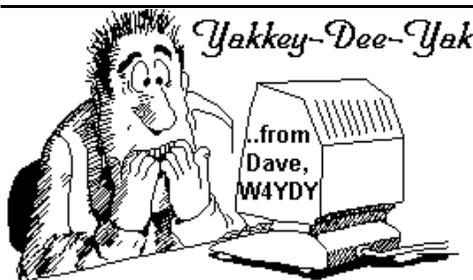
Editors note: I saw Bonnie on TV a few days later with one of the animals from the animal shelter. When is Tom going to take his turn?

Tractor mobile!

On May 5, K0LU mobile was plowing his field on his farm tractor and stopped at the end of the row for about 10 minutes to give out Hettinger County, North Dakota on the County Hunters Net on 14.336 MHz. Of course, I had to work him and we exchanged 59 signal reports for my first farm tractor QSO! He had a very good signal. - W4YDY

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Farmville Dogwood Festival Special Event Operation Deemed a Success

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conditions were not the best, more than 60 contacts, both SSB and CW were made. Message forms were available to let hams and non-hams alike send greetings from the 15th Annual Farmville, NC Dogwood Festival.

Although originally planned as a one-day event, discussion began early in the operation about possibly operating on Sunday. The decision was made shortly before it began raining Saturday afternoon.

Sunday morning found the sun shining and hams eagerly awaiting a chance to get on the air. This they did and operated until around three o'clock when everything was taken down and packed back in the trailer.

The following hams, most of whom are club members participated during the Dogwood Festival: Doug Ferris, K4ROK, Dave LeMoine, KV4CN,

Byron Highland, K4BMH, Scott LeMoine, KG4PZQ, David Nichols, KD4MTS, Paul Fletcher, KS4YF, Dave Pulver, KG4CZV, Bonnie Pulver, KG4CZW, Murray Merner, K4MHM, Jeff Hardee, K4RJH, Mike Langley, KD4MTT, Pat Williams, KG4NSC, Art Beaman, N4JWL, Bob Dilk, KG4QXT,

Bernice Turnage, WA4SLD, Ken Graff, N8FF, Harold Bailey, KD4NRB, Juanita

H u m b l e s ,

KE4JWK, Tod LeMoine, KG4CCX, Joe Melton, WB4SLF, Mac Manning, KD4AFL, and to the one non-ham (currently) that I saw, Karen LeMoine, Dave's XYL and Mom to KG4CCX and KG4PZQ.

Thanks to everyone who participated and especially to Cliff Kendall N3LEX. Had it not been for Cliff, we would not have been at the Dogwood Festival. *73 de K4BMH*

Thanks to everyone who participated

On page 7 of this newsletter, there is an article about the ARRL offering to help members file with the FCC their license renewal or change-of-address applications free of charge. You will have to file out Form NCVEC 605 and mail it to the ARRL VEC. That is the form used by the local VE's so you can get one from them or download one from the FCC if you have internet service. This service is free to ARRL members. There are several others that will do it for you but you will have to pay them, usually around six dollars or so.

I received a couple of letters from some offering to renew my license for a fee. On May 1, I went online to the

If your license does not have your present address listed, you do need to modify it.

FCC site and entered my ID and password. Then I clicked on "Renewal Only", signed it electronically and printed out the application in less than five minutes. For the first time, I didn't have to pay the post office to mail it to the FCC! On May 2, it was updated in the FCC database and posted on the private callsign servers on May 3. I should have the paper license from the FCC before May 10.

I will assist any club member in the above services. It should only take a few minutes over the phone and will be several days quicker since snail mail to the ARRL will not be involved and you will not need Form 605. If you have a computer, I can walk you through the procedure if you are not familiar with it or I can do it from my own computer. If

you don't have a computer, I can do it from mine and print the application for your files. You should received your license from the FCC in 7 to 10 days.

You will need to be registered with the FCC to use the ULS system. If you do not have the mandatory FCC Registration Number (FRN), I can help club members with the registration also. You can apply for the FRN and it will be assigned and be ready to use the next day for renewals and modifications. When you apply for the FRN, you will select a password at that time. Hopefully I can save some members some time and a few bucks! It works because I have help some BARC members with the registration and modifications.

If your license does not have your present address listed, you do need to modify it. The FCC has been known

to cancel license when they could not contact the licensee because of a bad address. Also it is a courtesy to other hams if they want to send a QSL and it bounces. The post office will not forward mail after a year and some use even a shorter time. I had one to come back a couple of weeks ago because the address was not correct. I was able to find the correct address in another source. The fellow had moved from Alabama to Florida months ago. He could modify his license in 5 minutes because he does have a computer!

With this issue of Ham Chatter, I will be changing the format on the Internet version. I will be putting it online using the Adobe PDF format. I can do this in less than 10 minutes. The html version that I have been using takes 4 to 5 hours

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Meet the Member, John Schultz, W4FA

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from college with a Bachelors of Electrical Engineering degree and a 2nd Lt in the Army Reserve, Signal Corps since I had also been in ROTC during college. I had two years of active duty. In the reserves a lot of my time was involved in research and development. During one period of five summers I was assigned to London to see how the United Kingdom technology could be applied to Army use. Another assignments examined the application of telescopes on a\satellites to see earth and disposable radios for friendly populations. At one time I was to get training a Psychological warfare officer!

After military service at Ft. Monmouth, NJ I joined Radio Free Europe. I told them I wanted to do "hands-on" engineering. They obliged and sent me to Germany to assist in a transmitting antenna construction project. The workplace turned out to be a small trailer in a large antenna field during the middle of winter. RFE really believed in a do-it-in-house approach. They were even building their own 50 KW SW transmitter! I assisted a bit in that project and then became engineer-in-charge of two receiving/monitoring sites which had acres of rhombic antennas and 1/2 mile long Beverage antennas. A career twist took me to Groton, CT in May 1965 with the Navy to work on submarine communications and electronic warfare gear. The technical side of the job was fascinating, but the bureaucratic office atmos-

phere was stifling.

I got back into the international broadcasting field with Radio Liberty in Germany. RL was a quiet sister organization to RFE set up to broadcast only to the Soviet Union. As operations engineer I and a small staff would generated the broadcast schedules for three RL sites. All RL broadcasts were heavily jammed. Except for taking advantage of propagation anomalies there wasn't much that could be done in a SW broadcasting situation to combat jamming. Brute power was the usual approach. RL's

...enjoyed my share of being minor DX as SV0DX and J40DX...

brute power approach at selected times involved combining 250 KW transmitters at a site in Spain to form a 1,000 KW signal and feed it into curtain antennas having 15 to 17 db gain on the 15 or 17 MHZ broadcast bands!

RL and RFE were reorganized and combined in the early 1970's. Rather than take a position in NYC (of all places), I moved on to the VOA and was fortunate enough to get tours at their relay stations in Morocco, Germany and Greece. The engineering atmosphere at the VOA wasn't as freewheeling as that of RFE or RL, but one could exercise some initiative. I was manager of the

Rhodes (Greece) station for five years and then decided to retire in 1989 with 32 years of government service credit. I guess I also felt I had enjoyed my share of being minor DX as SV0DX and J40DX from the Dodecanese Islands (Greece). I didn't need to rotate my TH-7 beam very often to generate contacts galore with those calls. (I have no idea what opportunities exist today in the international broadcasting field, but RFE, RL and the VOA are still there. Younger amateurs who crave "hands-on" work in the field might want to check out the possibilities.)

My other "retirements" in the early 1990's were from the Army Reserve as a Colonel and from writing product reviews for the Amateur Radio magazines (mainly *CQ*) after having had some 120 plus articles published.

Today, the XYL Liz, N2BVN, and I enjoy our Greenville house and a beach condo. The two HF stations setups both use Icom Pro transceivers and ALS-600 solid state linears. I generally use a wire antenna in Greenville and a mobile whip type at the condo. Currently my preference is 17 meters "the gentlemen's band". - *W4FA*

We're glad the "phantom" has surfaced and invited John to join us at our meetings and events. John and some other members of BARC have continued to support the club even though they are not active - we appreciate that support. Come see us! - *K4MHM*

Next VE Session

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held on June 21. Exams will be held at St. Peter's School on 5th Street and will start promptly at 6:30 PM. Tom Parsons, W4TEP, 355-2815, tparsons@greenvillenc.com. Please bring the following:

- ◆ Photo ID (drivers license)
- ◆ Original Amateur Radio License
- ◆ Copy of Amateur Radio License
- ◆ Original CSCE's
- ◆ Copy of CSCE
- ◆ Test fee is \$10.00
- ◆ Proof of Tech Plus if before 3/21/87 and doing paper upgrade to General.

April 19 VE Testing Session Results

One applicant appeared at the April 19 VE session. Adrian Blanarovich from Greenville, passed the Technician exam and received his new callsign, **KG4TBS** effective May 1. Adrian also joined the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club after he passed the exam!

Tom Parsons, W4TEP, VE Liaison, headed the VE team. Assisting Tom were Dave LeMoine, KV4CN, Susan L. Jones, WA4AKB, from Raleigh, Gerry Clayton, K4IDD, Murray Merner, K4MHM and Dave Langley, W4YDY.

NC QSO Party results

Four clubs in North Carolina participated in the 2002 NC QSO Party. Several BARC members operated W1VOA at VOA site C. They came in third scoring 7,358 points and contacting 34 counties.

Also, Byron Highland, K4BMH, operating mobile scored 6,730 points, worked 18 counties and operated from 2 counties. His soapbox comments were "I had a ball, just wished I had more time that weekend. I'm a member of the Brightleaf club in Pitt County, but did not operate with them. I hope you had as much fun as I did!!!"

ARRL gets in some prime face time at NAB confab

ARRL officials this month took advantage of the National Association of Broadcasters convention in Las Vegas to promote Amateur Radio among members of the broadcasting community--many of them already amateur licensees themselves. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, this year became the first League president to attend the annual NAB gathering since it's been held in Las Vegas. While there, he also met with local amateur leaders and spoke at the Las Vegas Amateur Radio Club meeting.

Other ARRL officials attending the April 8-12 convention included Pacific Division Director Jim Maxwell, W6CF, and Vice President Fried

Heyn, WA6WZO--the former Southwestern Division Director. "President Haynie, Director Maxwell and I covered a lot of ground," Heyn recounted.

The ARRL booth--larger than in years past--was managed by Bill and Carolyn Cornelius, K8XC and K9XC, with help from volunteers who included Nevada ARRL Section Manager Jan Welsh, NK7N. Heyn thanked NAB Vice President for Science & Technology John Marino, KR1O, for hosting ARRL at the show, which typically draws some 100,000 attendees.

Haynie also greeted those attending the popular Amateur Radio reception--sponsored by Kenwood Communications and CQ Communications. The reception drew an estimated 600 to

800 amateurs. Haynie briefly mentioned ARRL's Amateur Radio Education & Technology Program ("The Big Project") and said he hoped to be back again next year to promote it at the NAB gathering.

Heyn said the ARRL contingent found several of the NAB convention programs of particular interest. These included separate breakfast sessions hosted by FCC Chairman Michael Powell and by Sen. Conrad Burns of Montana and six members of the US House. Heyn noted Burns' pronouncement that Congress needs to provide better guidance in the radio spectrum allocation and management arena. The Montana Re-

publican told broadcasters he plans to file a spectrum reform bill, and he predicted a two to three-year battle. Burns sits on the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee--the same panel that now has the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act bill before it. He's the ranking minority member of the communications subcommittee.

The Senator also said he hopes to see the empty Democratic seat on the FCC filled soon. The White House nomination of Jonathan Adelstein is tied up in Senate political wrangling. Burns has said he backs Montana Public Utilities Commission member Bob Rowe for the job.

Heyn said after the show, "My general impression was that 'the digital age' is coming together." - *via ARRL Letter Online 4/26/02*

Yakkey-Dee-Yak

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to format. The real advantage of this format is that after it is downloaded, you can print it and you will have the same copy that is mailed. If you have a good color printer, your Ham Chatter should be better than the mailed version. With this format, those that have Internet access can get the same Ham Chatter as the mailed version so the club should be able to reduce the mailing and printing expenses. Presently we have about 70 on the mailing list. This could be reduced to much less than 50 per month. It will require the Adobe Reader that is free. The URL is <<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep.html>>. If any one has trouble with the new format, let me know and we can work it out. - *WAYDY*

Amateurs Invited to Participate in Armed Forces Day On-Air Event

Amateurs are invited to take part in the 52nd celebration of Armed Forces Day by exchanging contacts with Army, Air Force, Navy-Marine Corps and Coast Guard radio stations. This year's traditional Armed Forces Day Anniversary and Military/Amateur Cross-band Communications Test will take place May 11-12, starting at 1100 UTC. Armed Forces Day actually falls on May 18, but the traditional cross-band communications test was rescheduled to avoid a conflict with the Dayton Hamvention. During the cross-band test, military stations in the continental US, Germany and Hawaii will listen on amateur frequencies in the 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10-meter bands and transmit on selected MARS frequencies. Participating military stations will announce their listening frequencies. Thirteen military stations will be active on SSB and will exchange QSL cards. MARS has requested that contacts be limited to two minutes or less. Ten additional stations will transmit the Secretary of Defense's Armed Forces Day message via digital modes. Full details are on the Army MARS Web site <http://www.asc.army.mil/MARS/afd/mars_afd.htm>. - *Via ARRL Letter Online 5/4/02*

Tour de Cure 2002

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sharpen our skills in tactical public service communication. Members participating were Gary, AF4XV, John, KE4TZN, Dave, KV4CN, Scott, KG4PZQ, Tod, KG4CCX, Dave, KG4CZV, Bonnie, KG4CCW, Mike, KD4MTT, and Doug, K4ROK.

The ham support for the event was organized by The Central Carolina Helping Hams (check their web site at <http://www.hampublicservice.org>). Please consider being a part of next year's event. You won't be disappointed - *KV4CN*

Field Day 2002

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signed up for certain days or times, but they show up. This makes it really difficult to use our manpower in the most efficient manner. Sometimes we are short people or have too many. Please let us know ahead of time what you will be able to do. Of special interest is the overnight crew. We need to continue to operate if possible and, at least, we need to watch over the equipment.

The rules are in the May issue of QST on pages 108 and 109. Working together we can have fun and learn from the experience. *Murray, K4MHM*

ARES teams activate following fatal train wrecks

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) teams in California and Northern Florida activated recently to assist in the wake of separate train wrecks.

In Florida more than half the cars of an Amtrak "Auto Train" carrying 418 passengers and 34 crew members derailed April 18 near Crescent City. Putnam County ARES established emergency communication from the site--on the Putnam/Volusia county line--shortly after the wreck and also staffed a shelter and two hospitals. Four people died as a result of the mishap and more than 100 others were injured.

Billy Williams, N4UF, of Florida Crown District ARES, said the American Red Cross responded in the accident's immediate aftermath. Red Cross communications were set up on a VHF repeater with help from Duval County amateurs. Other amateurs pitched in to staff a Red Cross shelter and the Putnam County emergency operations center. ARES members also were deployed at a local hospital as well as at hospitals in Jacksonville that were put on alert to receive patients.

Within 15 minutes of the wreck, the Florida Crown Emergency Net activated on a linked repeater system. A third repeater served as a base of operation for Putnam County ARES, under the direction of Putnam County Emergency Coordinator Mark Bradford, WF3F. That repeater was linked to a Jacksonville repeater (W4IJJ) to handle Red Cross requests between the Jacksonville Red Cross Headquarters and the scene of the wreck some 60 miles away.

The shelter and triage center at Crescent City High School reported a peak population of more than 300 via Amateur Radio--most believed to be passengers who were able to walk away from the scene. Amtrak later bussed remaining passengers from the shelter to hotels for the night, and the amateur operation was able to shut down.

More than a dozen hams assisted in the ARES response. Additional details are on the North Florida Amateur Radio Society Balanced Modulator Web site <<http://home.earthlink.net/~bfwillia/>

FCC vanquishes vanity backlog

The longstanding vanity call sign application backlog that had built up as a result of mail problems last October is now history. The FCC issued another 328 vanity call signs this week. That completed the processing of applications received at the FCC's Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, office through March 25--right at the typical 18-day vanity application waiting period.

"We are back on track for vanity processing," an FCC Private Wireless Division Licensing and Technical Analysis Branch staff member told ARRL. While not ruling out any problems down the road, she indicated that everything was working fine now and that the FCC would resume its normal nightly vanity runs.

ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, congratulated the FCC's licensing staff on the accomplishment. "It's been a long time coming," he said. "A great deal of effort on the part of the FCC personnel in Gettysburg and some on the part of ARRL went into making this happen.

Among the latest happy customers was ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, who traded in her government-issue KB1HYD for K1MMH, reflecting her initials.

At its peak, the vanity backlog

was estimated at more than 2000 applications. Routine vanity processing resumed in early March. With the exception of a four-day hiatus to deal with a processing anomaly later that month, the FCC has been slowly but surely whittling away the application stack. The processing of routine Amateur Service applications was unaffected by the vanity problems.

The vanity holdup began after some two weeks of paper vanity applications sent off last October for anthrax decontamination were not returned to Gettysburg. Since FCC policy continues to give equal priority to paper and electronic vanity applications, vanity processing was halted when the paper applications didn't come back. FCC staffers--with help from the ARRL--used payment information to contact those who had filed and have them submit new applications. Last month, the FCC began receiving the applications that had been missing.

The FCC has proposed increasing the regulatory fee it charges vanity call sign applicants from \$12 to \$14.50 for the 10-year license term. Comments on the proposal are due April 23, and reply comments are due May 3. The new, higher fee likely would go into effect in September. The vanity fee is paid at the time of application for a new, renewal or reinstated vanity license. - via ARRL Letter Online 4/12/02

[_wsn/page4.html>](#).

In California, a freight train collided head-on April 23 with a Metrolink double-decker commuter train. Ironically, the mishap occurred just as hospitals and emergency responders in Orange County were about to hold a large-scale drill to test patient triage and transportation procedures for mass casualty incidents.

Two dozen members of the Hospital Disaster Support Communication System (HDSCS)-- a special ARES group that always participates in the drill--were awaiting assignments when word came in of the train collision. Two passengers were killed and more than 200 were injured--many seriously. Orange County ARES Emergency Coordinator and HDSCS Net Control April Moell, WA6OPS, immediately assigned the drill-ready hams to the 14 hospitals ex-

pected to receive crash victims. For the next 4-1/2 hours, 28 HDSCS members provided vital links among the hospitals, the county's ambulance dispatch center and the county's emergency medical service agency.

Net traffic included verifying victim dispatch and patient counts, providing hospitals with information for inquiring family members, and liaison with hams supporting the Red Cross. Within some hospitals, hams provided direct communication among triage areas, emergency departments, and command posts.

Moell is founder and Emergency Coordinator of the ARES group. More information is available on the HDSCS Web site <<http://www.hdscs.org>>-- thanks to Billy Williams, N4UF and Joe Moell, K0OV. - via ARRL Letter Online 4/26/02

Draft Element 2 syllabus released for comment

The Question Pool Committee of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators has released a draft syllabus for the Element 2 (Technician) Amateur Radio examinations. The QPC is inviting comments on the document.

The syllabus is an outline of 10 question topic areas--called "subelements"--from which actual examination questions will be developed. For Element 2, these include FCC rules, methods of communication, radio phenomena, station license duties, control operator duties, good operating practices, basic communications electronics, good engineering practice, special operations, and electrical, antenna structure and RF safety practices. Subelement T0, Electrical, Antenna Structure and RF Safety Practices, has been expanded to include all safety issues--electrical, antenna/tower and RF.

A question pool based on the revised syllabus will be released later this year to take effect July 1, 2003. The QPC

will invite public input on the Technician questions as well.

A new Amateur Extra class question pool released last November takes effect in the exam room on July 1 of this year.

QPC chairman Scotty Neustadter, W4WW, requested comments to the committee by May 9. The draft Technician (Element 2) syllabus <<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/tech-syllabus.html>> is available on the ARRL Web site, which also includes all current question pools <<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/pools.html>>. The amateur community may e-mail comments to the Question Pool Committee at qpc@arrl.org.

Commenters also may e-mail individual members directly: Scotty Neustadter, W4WW, w4ww@arrl.net; Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, w9jj@arrl.org; Fred Maia, W5YI, fmaia@texas.net and John Johnston, W3BE, johnston.john1@worldnet.att.net. - *via ARRL Letter Online 4/12/02*

Commenters also may e-mail individual members directly

ARRL will process members' license renewals, address changes

ARRL members daunted by the FCC's Universal Licensing System <<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls>> can ask Headquarters to file their license renewal or change-of-address applications free of charge. ARRL members wishing to take advantage of this service should download Form NCVEC 605 (that's the form used by volunteer exam coordina-

Free service to ARRL Members

tors) from the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/fcc/ncvec605c.pdf>>, print it, fill it in and mail it to ARRL VEC, 225 Main St, Newington CT 06111. The response of those wanting ARRL to process renewals has been very positive. For the first three months of 2002, ARRL handled 1721 applications for members--up from 514 for the same period in 2001. The ARRL VEC staff now can process any member's FCC license application request, except for a vanity call sign application. Remember: Renewal applications may only be filed within 90 days of your license expiration date. - *via ARRL Letter Online 4/26/02*

Roanoke ARS - RARS SWAP FEST MAY 18, 2002

FARMER'S MARKET, WILLIAMSTON, NC. 8AM to 3 PM. FREE ADMINSION - FREE TAILGATING. FCC Exams. Details in April *Ham Chatter*.

Tedi Bear walk rainout

The 2002 Tedi Bear walk for the Children's Advocacy Center was called off due to rain on May 4. Gary Gasperini, AF4XV, coordinated the Amateur Radio participation and handed out T-shirt to the operators that were ready to brave the elements. They were Paul Fletcher, KF4YF, Ken Graf, N8FF, Juanita Humbles, KE4JWK, Brain Hardee, KF4MTL, Marlin Hardee, KF4MHV, Dave Langley, W4YDY, and John Johnson, KE4TZN.

BARC member scores well on RTTY contest

Rick Parker, W4UEF, made 621 contacts for a total score of 534,192 to earn a certificate in the 2001 CQ WW RTTY DX contest. Congratulations Rick.

BARC members traffic activity

Rick Parker, W4UEF had a February count of 123 and Bill Finch, W4EHF had a count of 7 listed in the May QST North Carolina Section News.

K4KBB



J & P Machine Works, Inc.

4291 US 264 East
Greenville, NC 27834
252-758-1719 Fax 758-9031

Manufacturer of Swiss Screw Machine Products.
Pins, Shafts, Rods and Spacers.

BARC Monthly Minutes - April 2002

BARC Monthly Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 9, 2002
7:30 pm at the Foreign Legion Hall

Meeting was opened by Dave LeMoine, KV4CN. Members and visitors introduced themselves.

The previous minutes were approved. The secretary and treasurer both gave reports.

OLD BUSINESS

EQUIPMENT: Mike Langley, KD4MTT, reported. He is looking for a flat bed trailer to put the tower sections on. We need an antenna tuner (one that is simple and light to carry with multiple coax inputs). Could use a screwdriver antenna for attaching to the trailer. Need tables & chairs. Mike is compiling a list.

PUBLICITY: Pat Williams, KG4NSC, reported. He has contacted the Daily Reflector, public radio in New Bern and the Chamber of Commerce for clubs & organizations.

VE SESSIONS: 5 people took the test and passed on March 23rd. 2 of these new Hams are present at tonight's meeting. Next session is scheduled for 19 April.

HAM CLASS: Murray Merner, K4MHM, reported. Course evaluations from students were shared with club members. A certificate was awarded to Bernie Nobles WA4MOK for helping with the class.

PAST PRESIDENT: A plaque was given to Wayne Ross, WD4JPQ, in recognition of being past president.

ARRL SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB: BARC's status as a special service club has been renewed.

NEW BUSINESS

HURRICANE AWARENESS TRAINING: Todd LeMoine, KG4CCX, reported that there will be a Hurricane Awareness Training presented by Jeff Orrock of the National Weather Service on Saturday, May 11 in the Belk Building from 9am to Noon. All interested are invited.

DOGWOOD FESTIVAL: Byron Highland, K4BMH, reported about setting up a station at the festival on April 27. BARC's location will be in front of the Fire Department. Our power will be supplied by the Fire Department. A meeting was held after the general meeting to discuss set up, operation and take down.

TOUR DE CURE: Sag and rest stop help is needed for Sunday, April 21st. There are 9 rest stops from Williamston to Manteo that need to be manned by a Ham operator. Doug Ferris K4ROK accepted names of those who could volunteer to help.

BARC BROCHURE: Bonnie Pulver, KG4CZW, completed the brochure. New brochures were handed out to all members.

FIELD DAY: Murray Merner, K4MHM, volunteered to be chairman.

BUILD YOUR OWN TRANSMITTER CLASS: The kits have been made. A time, date and location still needs to be set. Everyone needs to bring their own soldering iron.

VOA SITE C: 78 of the 98 towers on site are scheduled for removal.

Meeting was closed.

Program was presented by Doug Ferris, K4ROK, on ARES.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Pulver, KG4CZW

BARC Board Minutes - April 2002

BARC Board Minutes - April 2002

Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club Board Meeting
Tuesday, April 30 at 7:30 pm
Mark's Marine

Those in attendance: Dave LeMoine, KV4CN, Dave Pulver, KG4CZV, Bonnie Pulver, KG4CZW, Dave Langley, W4YDY, Jeff Hardee, KG4HMF, Mike Langley, KD4MTT, and Murray Merner, K4MHM.

The secretary and treasurer's reports were given.

Committee Reports:

HEALTH AND WELFARE: Bobbie

Parsons (wife of Tom Parsons, W4TEP) fell and broke her leg.

HAM CHATTER: Dave, W4YDY, reports that he is now using PDF format (Adobe reader) on the BARC web site. Future newsletters will be PDF only on the site. A link to downloading PDF Reader will be available when accessing this data. The possibility of publishing a complete Membership listing was discussed and it was decided to further discuss this information at the general meeting.

HAM CLASS: Murray Merner, K4MHM, reported that a new class will probably start in September. There are several people already showing interest.

VE SESSION: The next VE session will be June 21st.

EQUIPMENT: Mike Lanley, KD4MTT,

is compiling a list of equipment needed to be presented at the next general meeting. The list includes:

- Hinged base plate
- Tuner
- 6 foot table and chairs
- TNC & cables
- Collapsible mobile antenna for trailer
- Screwdriver antenna for trailer
- Headsets
- Assorted tools
- Open trailer for antenna sections

A gift of an MFJ Deluxe HF Peak Reading SWR/Wattmeter was donated by Eve Aleksa in memory of Joe Aleksa (SK), KQ4BN.

PUBLICITY: A new display board is needed. Designs and construction were

(Continued on page 9)

Ham Ads

Commercial Ad Rates

1/8 page, Business Card Size
 \$10 per Month - \$100 per Year
 Send ads to: **Ham Chatter, PO Box 8387, Greenville, NC 27835**
ATTN: Dave Langley or email **w4ydy@arrl.net**
 Help support *Ham Chatter*. **Donations accepted!**

Ham Ads will be run, free of charge in Ham Chatter for three months for each renewal. Ads must be received by the last week of the month to be included in the following issue. Send ads to: **Ham Chatter, PO Box 8387, Greenville, NC 27835, ATTN: Dave Langley** or email to: **w4ydy@qsl.net**

For Sale:

Joe Aleksa, KQ4BN, SK, Estate.
1. Ten Tec Omni VI Plus Transceiver, \$1500, Power Supply PS 960, \$150, Ten Tec desk mike, \$40, all for \$1650.
2. Icom 820H, all mode 2M-440 transceiver, \$700, Icom SM6 mike, \$60 820H service manual, \$20 and SP-20 speaker with audio filters, \$150 or all for \$850.
3. Cushcraft R7 Vertical Antenna, \$200
 All of the equipment is like new and in outstanding condition. Original boxes and instruction books. Will discuss prices. Contact Dave Langley, W4YDY, 321-2525 or email w4ydy@arrl.net

For Sale:

Johnny Williams, WA4VMZ, SK, Estate.
1. Transceiver Kenwood TS-520
2. Speaker SP-520
3. VFO-520S
4. Modulation Scope SM-220
 Total package estimate is \$450 but will discuss it. Contact Bernard Nobles, WA4MOK, 756-0020 or email bnobles@unctv.org

Wanted:

Back issues of QST, CQ and 73 Magazines to replace ones lost in Hurricane Floyd. Also AES & HRO, etc. catalogs 1986 to 2000.
 Neal Sumrell, nc4rr@arrl.net

NETS

VHF

- ◆ BARC Net, Mondays, 2000 on 147.09 MHz, W4GDF Repeater.
- ◆ Pitt County Emergency Communications Net, Mondays, 2100 on 147.09 MHz. (131.8 Hz Tone)
- ◆ Kinston Amateur Radio Society Net, 1,3,4 Tuesdays, 2000 hrs. on 145.47 MHz., W4OIX repeater in Kinston.
- ◆ Eastern North Carolina Traffic Net, Every night, 2030 on 146.685 MHz.
- ◆ New Bern Amateur Radio Club/ Eastern NC 220 Association for the WD4JMS & WA4DAN Net, Monday, 2000 on 146.61 and 224.84 MHz
- ◆ Wilson Amateur Radio Club Net, Monday 2030 on 146.76 MHz.
- ◆ Piedmont Coastal Traffic Net, Nightly 2030 on 146.88 MHz.
- ◆ Newport WFO SKYWARN Net, Tuesday, 2100 on 145.21 MHz
- ◆ Carteret County ARS (CCARS) Emergency Net, Tuesdays, 1930 on the Newport 145.45 (-) MHz.
- ◆ Coastal Emergency Linking Net, Wednesday, 2100 ET on Williamston 145.410 & 444.250, Columbia 146.835 & 443.300, Rocky Mount 147.120, Ahoskie 146.910, Franklin, VA 147.300, Farmville 145.270
- ◆ Beaufort County Emergency Communications Net, Thursday 2000 on 147.345 MHz. Preceded by Newsmen at 1930.

HF

- ◆ Tar Heel Emergency Communications Net on 3923 kHz Nightly 1930.

NTS CW Nets

- ◆ 3.695 2000 hours, slow speed (5-8 wpm) Carolinas Slow Net
- ◆ 3.573 1900 hours, high speed (20 wpm)
- ◆ 3.573 2200 hours, slow speed (12-14 wpm), South Carolina/North Carolina

Amateur Extra class population tops 100,000

For the first time ever, the population of Amateur Extra class operators topped 100,000 licensees. According to figures available from the FCC Amateur Radio Statistics Web site <<http://ah0a.org/FCC/index.html>> compiled by Joe Speroni, AH0A, there were 100,153 Extra; 85,690 Advanced; 138,980 General; 319,768 Technician (including Tech Plus); and 38,574 Novice licensees. As of

the end of April, there were 683,165 total Amateur Service licensees in the FCC database. According to Speroni's statistics, 1888 new licensees came aboard during April 2002--1800 of them as Technicians. - *via ARRL Letter Online 5/3/02*
Editors note: Fifty years ago in 1952, there were about 100,000 total licensees and in 1968 there were about 10,000 Amateur Extra class licensees. - *W4YDY*

BARC Board Minutes - April 2002

(Continued from page 8)
 discussed.

DOGWOOD FESTIVAL: 20 Hams showed up. The festival was a success and everyone present had a good time.

FIELD DAY: The Surgi-Center site is available. Murray Merner, K4MHM, will be recruiting members to help with various tasks.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Any interested BARC members are invited to at-

tend the May board meeting. It will be held on Tuesday, May 21st at 7:30 pm at Mark's Marine (please note that this date is a change from the regularly scheduled board meeting date).

Respectfully submitted by
Bonnie Pulver,
 KG4CZW

BARC

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 14.	Regular Meeting	Aug 3.	<i>Ham Chatter</i> Deadline
May 25-26	CQ WW CW WPX Contest	Aug 13.	Regular Meeting
May 21.	Board Meeting	Aug 16.	BARC VE Session
June 1.	<i>Ham Chatter</i> Deadline	Aug 27.	Board Meeting
June 11.	Regular Meeting	Aug 31.	<i>Ham Chatter</i> Deadline
June 21.	BARC VE Session	Aug 31– Sep 1.	Shelby Hamfest
June 22-23.	ARRL Field Day	Sep 10.	Regular Meeting
June 25.	Board Meeting	Sep 24.	Board Meeting
June 29.	<i>Ham Chatter</i> Deadline	Sep 28.	Ham Chatter Deadline
July 9.	Regular Meeting	Sep 28-29.	CQ WW RTTY Contest
July 13-14.	IARU HF Contest		
July 20.	Cary Hamfest		
July 30.	Board Meeting		

Regular Meeting - 2nd Tuesday @ 7:30 PM
Board Meeting - Last Tuesday @ 7:30 PM

Printing courtesy of Xerox

BARC 2 METER NET - MONDAY NIGHTS AT 8:00 PM - 147.09 W4GDF REPEATER - 131.8 Tone
PCEC 2 METER NET - MONDAY NIGHTS AT 9:00 PM - 147.09 W4GDF REPEATER - 131.8 Tone
BRIGHTLEAF AMATEUR RADIO CLUB STATIONS

W 4 A M C - W I V O A

May 2002
Next Meeting
May 14

To:



PO Box 8387
Greenville, NC 27835

Ham Chatter